

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS/PROGRAMS OF CHOICE

Notifications

At the beginning of each school year, the "Notice of Alternative Schools" shall be sent to all parents/guardians as set forth in Education Code 58501. During the entire month of March of each year, a copy of this notice shall be posted at each school in at least two places normally visible to students, teachers, and visiting parents/guardians. (Education Code 58501)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

Copies of the law providing for alternative schools or programs of choice (Education Code 58500-58512) shall be made available in the Mendocino County Office of Education office and each school office to any interested parent/guardian, teacher, or student. (Education Code 58501)

Proposals

All proposals for the establishment of an alternative school or program of choice shall:

1. Address the County Office vision, goals, and academic standards

(cf. 0000 - Mission/Beliefs and Roles/Philosophy)
(cf. 1200 Vision: Goals and Priorities)

2. Demonstrate that the number of students interested in enrolling in the alternative school or program of choice is sufficient to meet desired student-teacher staffing ratios

(cf. 6151 - Class Size)

3. Demonstrate that teachers are willing to work within the school or program

4. Demonstrate that the proposed operational plan conforms with district timelines and makes equitable use of district staff, facilities, and resources

5. Provide a statement of the specific anticipated costs of implementing the proposal as well as funding sources, including outside funding sources and/or district support

6. Include a comprehensive plan for an annual evaluation of the school or program to be carried out by the county office of education

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)
(cf. 6190 - Evaluation of the Instructional Program)

The Mendocino County Superintendent of Schools or designee may establish an advisory committee of staff, parents/guardians, and community members to evaluate proposals for alternative schools or programs of choice and make recommendations to the Mendocino County Board of Education.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

Enrollment

Students enrolled in alternative schools or programs of choice shall be selected entirely from volunteers. (Education Code 58503)

Alternative schools and programs of choice shall comply with state and federal law and County Office policy regarding nondiscrimination in district programs.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in County Office Programs and Activities)

Operations

Course credits earned in an alternative school or program of choice shall be equivalent to the credits earned in other district schools. Students enrolled in such schools or programs shall be expected to complete all district graduation requirements and shall earn a regular diploma.

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)
(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)

MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Adopted: August 26, 2021