

ALTERNATIVE LEARNING PLANS

In an effort to reduce the number of students who do not complete the requirements to graduate from high school and earn a diploma, the Board establishes a program for alternative learning plans for students to obtain a high school diploma or its equivalent. The District, through an Alternative Learning Plan team comprised of teachers, administrators, and school counselors, are directed to identify students who may be at risk for dropping out of high school, for developing alternative learning plans consistent with this policy, and for assisting students who are participating in alternative learning plans.

Alternative learning plans may include, but are not limited to, extended learning opportunities, independent study, private instruction, performing groups, internships, community service, apprenticeships, online courses/distance education, or other opportunities approved by the Superintendent or his/her designee, in conjunction with Board policies.

The purposes of alternative learning plans are to provide students with educational experiences that are meaningful, to provide students with opportunities to explore and achieve at high levels, and to meet State and District requirements to obtain a high school diploma or its equivalent. In order to maximize student achievement, this policy permits students to employ alternative learning plans that fulfill or exceed the expectations set forth by State minimum standards and applicable Board policy.

Alternative learning plans may include extended learning opportunities taken for credit or taken to supplement regular academic courses. If the alternative learning plan includes extended learning opportunities taken for credit, the provisions of *Policies IMBC Alternative Credit Options* and *IHBH Extended Learning Opportunities*, will apply. The granting of credit shall be based on a student's mastery of course competencies, as defined by *Policies ILBA Assessment of Educational Programs* and *ILBAA High School Competency Assessments*. Highly Qualified Teachers and the Principal must authorize the granting of credit for learning accomplished through extended learning opportunities. If credit is not granted, the extended learning opportunity may be used to fulfill prerequisite requirements for other courses.

The Superintendent and/or designee shall establish a definition of "at-risk of dropping out" and the scope of students served by this policy. The Superintendent shall establish rules/procedures for the implementation of this policy in cooperation with the high school Principal.

Legal References:

RSA 193:1, Duty of Parent; Compulsory Attendance by Student
Ed 306.04(a)(13), Alternative Means Of Earning Credit Toward A High School Diploma
Ed 306.04(a)(14), Alternative Means Of Demonstrating Achievement Of Competencies
Ed 306.21, Alternative Programs

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