

Coffee County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in April	Descriptor Term: Alternative School Programs	Descriptor Code: 6.319	Issued Date: 06/09/14
		Rescinds: 6.319	Issued: 08/14/06

1 **General**

2 The Board shall operate an alternative school program for students in grades ~~seven~~ **six** through twelve
3 (~~7-6~~-12) who have been suspended or expelled from regular school programs.¹

4 ~~Attendance in~~ Alternative school programs shall be ~~mandatory and students attending an alternative~~
5 ~~school located other than at their home school shall provide their own transportation~~ operated in
6 accordance with state laws and the rules of the State Board of Education, and instruction shall proceed
7 as nearly as practicable in accordance with the instructional programs at the student's home school.²

8 ~~Teachers in alternative schools shall be certified by the state and shall be selected on the basis of~~
9 ~~interest and ability to work in alternative situations.~~

10 ~~Student teacher ratios shall be small enough to allow for adequate instruction but shall be determined~~
11 ~~by the age, behavior and academic achievement of students in the program.~~

12 ~~Sufficient textbooks, equipment and supplies shall be provided by the home school.~~

13 ~~Alternative school programs shall be operated in accordance with the rules of the State Board of~~
14 ~~Education² and instruction shall proceed as nearly as practicable in accordance with the instructional~~
15 ~~programs at the student's home school. All course work completed and credits earned in the~~
16 ~~alternative school shall be transferred to and recorded in the student's home school. Credit earned and~~
17 ~~progress made shall be granted as if the work were performed in the home school. No student may~~
18 ~~graduate based solely on attendance in alternative schools.¹~~

19 ~~Except students who are eligible for special education, such change in a student's program shall be~~
20 ~~determined in accordance with the suspension policy of the Board and based upon recommendations~~
21 ~~from a team composed of the principal, the school counselor and the student, with or without the~~
22 ~~parents being present.~~

23 ~~Students found to be eligible for special education in related circumstances shall be placed and served~~
24 ~~in accordance with the law and rules relating to special education.~~

25 The director of schools shall develop procedures that provide appropriate educational opportunities for
26 all students assigned to an alternative education program. These educational opportunities shall utilize
27 Tennessee's academic standards, incorporate innovative teaching strategies, deliver research-based
28 instructional techniques, and provide the resources necessary to foster student learning and
29 achievement.³

1 Annually, the director of schools/designee shall submit the following information to the Department of
2 Education:³

3 1. Alternative school(s) or program(s) currently in operation in the district;

4 2. Number and grade level of students served in an alternative education program;

5 3. Primary reason for student assignment to an alternative education program; and

6 4. Number of faculty and staff serving each alternative education program.

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10 **ASSIGNMENT³**

11 Prior to the assignment of the student to an alternative school program, the director of schools/designee
12 shall provide written notice to the student’s parent/guardian stating the reason for the student’s
13 placement.

14 Placement in an alternative education setting shall be reserved for students who significantly disrupt
15 the educational process. If a student has an active Individualized Education Plan, a 504 plan, or is
16 suspected of having a disability, all state and federal laws, rules, and regulations related to special
17 education shall be followed. The director of schools/designee shall develop procedures regarding
18 placement of students in the program, taking in to consideration the impact of exclusionary discipline
19 practices.

20 Attendance in alternative school programs shall be mandatory, and students attending an alternative
21 school located outside of the school district shall provide their own transportation.

22 The director of schools/designee shall monitor and regularly evaluate the academic progress of each
23 student enrolled in an alternative education program.

24 **TRANSITION PLANS³**

25 The director of schools/designee shall develop procedures regarding the implementation of transition
26 plans for the integration of students entering and exiting the program.

Legal References

- 1. ~~TCA 49-6-3402; OP Tenn. Atty. Gen. 93-43 (May 12, 1993)~~
- 2. ~~TRR/MS 0520-1-2-.09~~
 - 1. TCA 49-6-3402(a); State Board of Education Policy 2.302
 - 2. TCA 49-6-3402(b); TRR/MS 0520-01-02-.09
 - 3. State Board of Education Policy 2.302

Cross References

- Special Education 4.202
- Suspension/Expulsion/Remand 6.316
- Disciplinary Hearing Authority 6.317
- Special Education Students 6.500