

MIDDLETOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

ADOPTED: March 24, 2003

REVISED:

<p>1. Purpose</p> <p>2. Authority</p> <p>3. Definition SC 1901-C(5)</p> <p>Pol. 218.2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">132. ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION</p> <p>The Board of School Directors has established an alternative education program for disruptive students who have been unsuccessful in the regular education program and students who have been expelled from school. The purpose of this policy is to ensure the alternative education program complies with the rules and regulations of the Department of Education.</p> <p>The district’s alternative education program options include placement in an alternative education program outside of the district or alternative education program operated by the district. The decision for the placement of the disruptive students rests with the Superintendent or designee and the Alternative Education Screening and Review Committee. The decision of the placement of expelled students rests with the Board of School Directors.</p> <p>The intent of the Board is to provide alternative education program for disruptive students and expelled students to meet their educational needs, ensure the safety and effectiveness of the regular school environment and comply with the compulsory attendance laws.</p> <p>For the purposes of this policy, the term disruptive student shall mean any student who has exhibited to a marked degree any or all of the following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disregard for school authority, including persistent violation of school policy and rules. 2. Display of or use of controlled substances on school property or during school affiliated activities. 3. Violent or threatening behavior on school property or during school-related activities. 4. Possession of a weapon on school property, as defined under 18 P.A. C.S. Section 912 (relating to possession of weapon on school property).
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<p>Pol. 233</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 14.143</p> <p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Commission of a criminal act on school property. 6. Misconduct that would merit suspension or expulsion under school policy. 7. Habitual truancy. 8. Behavior that materially interferes with the learning of other students or disrupts the overall educational process. 9. No student who is eligible for special education services shall be deemed as a disruptive student except as permitted by 22 Pa. Code Section 14.143. <p><u>Responsibilities of the Student</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend all class sessions. Any absence must be in accord with school district attendance policy. The school must be notified no later than 7:30 a.m. on any day that the student will be absent. 2. To complete all assigned work in manner satisfactory to the teacher. 3. To obey all school rules and regulations. 4. To participate in any required counseling sessions. <p><u>Responsibilities of the Teachers</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To designate the content area instruction through consultation with the subject area teachers. 2. To meet with the student according to the prepared schedule and to provide the instruction as planned. 3. To notify the student about the schedule of classes. 4. To evaluate the assigned work and the progress of the student. 5. To report student progress, along with any recommendations, to the Screening and Review Committee, at minimum, every semester or such other times as may be deemed necessary. <p><u>Responsibilities of the Parents</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To meet with the teacher or counselor as requested.
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<p>5. Guidelines</p>	<p>2. To transport the student each day from school to home or community service when recommended by the Screening and Review Committee.</p> <p>Identification of students - Before any disruptive student is placed in an alternative education program, the student and his/her parents will be given an opportunity for an informal hearing with the building principal to determine if the placement is appropriate.</p> <p>Expelled Students - Students expelled from school, who are subject to the compulsory attendance laws, will be placed in an alternative education program unless otherwise directed by the Board of School Directors. The Board may, in its discretion, place an expelled student who is not subject to the compulsory attendance laws, in an alternative education program.</p> <p>Students enrolled in alternative education programs will be provided with minimum of fifteen (15) hours of teacher instructed education and regular counseling sessions each week.</p> <p>Alternative education programs will operate during the normal school day according to the approved school district calendar. Evening or Saturday classes may be recommended upon the approval of the Superintendent or designee.</p> <p>The content material and the expected student level of performance will be planned through consultation with their respective content area teachers, in order to meet this necessary educational requirement, and the teachers of the alternative education program.</p> <p>Student academic work will be evaluated regularly by the teacher and reviewed by the building principal, at minimum, at the end of every semester.</p> <p><u>Evaluation</u></p> <p>The progress of disruptive students will be evaluated by the teacher according to the standards generally considered to be educationally acceptable.</p> <p>The Alternative Education Screening and Review Committee will review the disruptive student's progress at the end of each semester, or at such other times that might be deemed necessary.</p> <p>If a disruptive student is found to be noncompliant with the alternative education program on two (2) occasions, then such noncompliance may form the basis for disciplinary action against the student, up through and including, expulsion from school and removal from the alternative education program.</p>
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If an expelled student is found to be noncompliant with the alternative education program on two (2) occasions, then such noncompliance may result in further disciplinary action against the student, including the possible removal from the alternative education program.

Procedures and Programs

1. The Superintendent, in consultation with building administrators and staff, shall develop procedures for identification of disruptive students, the assignment of disruptive and expelled students to alternative education programs, and the removal of disruptive and expelled students from alternative education programs.
2. The Superintendent, in consultation with building administrators and staff, shall develop procedures for the review of disruptive student's performance in alternative education programs and determine whether or not the student is ready to return to the regular school environment.
3. Current Alternative Education Programs Include:
 - a. Middletown Area High School Alternative Education Program.
 - b. Capital Area Intermediate Unit Alternative Education Program.
 - c. Wordsworth Academy Alternative Education Program.