

Education Programs

Alternative Educational Services

I. Purpose

This policy recognizes the benefit of alternative educational services to meet individual learner needs.

II. General Statement of Policy

The school district recognizes the importance of alternative educational service options. Educational service options will be made available for students that may enhance their opportunity to learn in a different environment and through a different learning approach.

III. Definition

“Alternative educational services” may include, but are not limited to, special tutoring, modified curriculum, modified instruction, other modifications or adaptations, instruction through electronic media, special education services as indicated by appropriate assessment, homebound instruction, supervised homework, or enrollment in another district or in a state-approved alternative learning center selected to allow the student to progress toward meeting graduation standards, although in a different setting.

IV. Responsibility

- A. Any student who is 17 years old who seeks to withdraw from school, and the student’s parent or guardian must attend a meeting with school district personnel to discuss the educational opportunities available to the student, including alternative educational opportunities and sign a written election to withdraw from school.
- B. It will be the responsibility of the director of teaching and learning to identify alternative educational service options to be made available to students, to recommend such alternative programs and services to the school board for approval, and to familiarize students and parents with the availability of such alternative programs and services. The superintendent will, through cooperative efforts with other schools, agencies, and organizations, periodically recommend additional or modified alternative educational services to the board.
- C. The director of teaching and learning will have discretionary authority to develop

guidelines and directives to implement board policy relating to alternative educational services.

V. Request for Modified Learning Experience

School district families may request a modification on their child's learning experience beyond the child's scheduled school day. The request could be a defined number of full days or a defined amount of time during the school day for a defined number of days.

The request will be made to the building principal and consideration for approval will be limited to the following reasons:

- Students desire for a performance acceleration
- Extended family travel schedule
- Attendance challenges associated with unique learning needs

Families seeking approval of a modified learning experience must do so six weeks prior to the experience's beginning date. The district review and decision of the proposal will be completed within four weeks of the received proposal. The modified proposal can be found in Appendix I.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. § 120A.22, subd. 8 (Withdrawal from School)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations and Graduation Requirements for Minnesota's Students)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.41, subd. 11 (Definitions – Alternative Educational Services)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.45, subd. 1 (Provision of Alternative Programs)
Minn. Stat. § 123A.05 (State-Approved Alternative Programs Organizations)
Minn. Stat. § 123A.06 (State-Approved Alternative Programs and Services)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.66 (Assurance of Mastery Programs)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.68 (Graduation Incentives Programs)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.74 (American Indian Educational Programs)
Minn. Stat. § 125A.50 (Alternative Delivery of Specialized Instructional Services)

Cross References:

Policy 603 (Curriculum and Program Review and Development)
Policy 604 (Grade Level Configuration and Enrollment at School Sites)

Policy
adopted: 06/22/09
Revised: 03/16/14
Reviewed: 01/13/20
Revised: 12/02/24

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 273
Edina, Minnesota

Appendix I to Policy 605

Family Proposal for a Modified Learning Experience

Student's Name: _____ Grade: _____ School: _____

Date of Submission: _____

Experience Begin Date: _____ Experience End Date: _____

Experience School Day Adjustment: _____

Family Need/Rationale for Modified Learning Experience (describe reasons for proposal):

Customized Learning Experience:

Subject(s)	Modified Instructional Approach	Assessment Process

Requirements of Modified Learning Experience:

- Meets state and district attendance requirements
- Meets state and district academic advancement requirements, including grade level standards and high school course credits
- Does not require specialized services or instructional support of district staff

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature(s): _____ Date: _____

District Administrative Approval:

___ Approved ___ Denied

___ Approved with the following modifications:

District Administrative Decision-Makers:

Director of Teaching & Learning

Building Principal

Date

Date

Appeal Request Date: _____

Decision of District Task Force:

___ Approved ___ Denied

(__/25)