

# Dallas County Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program

Memorandum of Understanding

Dr. Karin Holacka

# Purpose

Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code (TEC) requires that in counties with a population of 125,000 or more residents, juvenile boards and independent school districts must work cooperatively to provide alternative education programs. It is the responsibilities of school districts and county juvenile boards as to the operation and funding of such programs must be outlined in a joint memorandum of understanding pursuant to Texas Education Code Section 37.011(k).

Additionally, the educational spectrum available for youth provided under Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code requires the creation of alternative education programs in each independent school district operating in Dallas County and the creation of a Dallas County Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (DCJJ AEP).

# Our Goal

We wish to reach an agreement with the Dallas County Juvenile Board as to the placement of students expelled from school under the provisions of Texas Education Code Section 37.007(b), (c) and (f).

The partnership between the Dallas County Juvenile Board, Dallas County Schools, Region 10 Education Service Center and the Duncanville Independent School District will agree that the goals of this Memorandum of understanding is to:

1. Establish consistency, predictability, and appropriateness of curriculum options and student placement following expulsion from school;
2. To return students to school setting when appropriate;
3. To impress upon youth that there are progressive sanctions for misconduct in the public school setting;
4. To provide educational options for the juvenile courts, consistent with the progressive sanctions in the juvenile justice system where appropriate; and
5. To comply with the requirements of Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code.