

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY MANUAL

SECTION: 6000
CATEGORY: Instruction
POLICY CODE: 6172/Alternative Education Programs

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Policy Statement

The Trumbull Board of Education is dedicated to providing educational options for all students within available financial constraints, recognizing that there will be students in the District whose needs and interests are best served by participation in an alternative education program.

“Alternative education” means a school or program maintained and operated by the Board that is offered to students in a nontraditional educational setting and addresses the social, emotional, behavioral, and academic needs of such students. For purposes of this policy and the guidelines of the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE), “alternative education” does not include private schools, home schooling, “School Choice,” adult education, approved private special education programs, gifted and talented programs, and schools or programs within the Connecticut Technical High School system.

The Board shall provide alternative education to students in accordance and compliance with the “Guidelines for Alternative Education Settings” established by the CSDE. Each alternative education program, subject to Board approval, will have a transparent and defined purpose, including a description of the types of students who may benefit most from such alternative education program. Clear and objective admissions criteria, consistent with stated program guidelines, will be evident. Clear and explicit criteria and procedural exit frameworks will address a student’s return to the traditional school setting. As required, information about each alternative education program will be maintained on the District’s website.

Students, upon parent/guardian request, may be placed in an alternative education program within available financial resources if the District determines that the placement serves the student’s educational needs and interests and assists the student in achieving district and state academic content standards. Determination of enrollment shall be made by the student support team constituted in accordance with the guidelines of the CSDE. A family who disagrees with the placement decision of the student support team may appeal in writing to the Assistant Superintendent of Schools. The decision of the Assistant Superintendent would be final.

The Board recognizes its responsibility to give all children in the District who receive alternative education as nearly equal advantages as may be practicable compared to other children in the District. All students in alternative education programs shall receive instruction based on curricula aligned to Board-approved curriculum guides, unless modified by the goals and objectives of an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Adopted: 7/11/2017

References

- Connecticut Public Act 15-133, “An Act Concerning Alternative Education”
- Connecticut General Statutes §§ 10-15, 10-16, 10-158a, 10-220

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- Connecticut State Department of Education, “Guidelines for Alternative Education Settings”