

## Instruction

### Alternative Education Program

The Board of Education (Board) is dedicated to providing educational options for all students. The purpose of this policy is to recognize the need for alternative education programs for some District students.

"**Alternative education**" as defined by P.A. 15-133 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."

The Board may provide alternative education to students that will operate in accordance with the guidelines established by the State Board of Education. Such guidelines shall include, but not be limited to, a description of the purpose and expectation of alternative education, criteria for student eligibility, and criteria for how and when a student may enter or exit alternative education. Such programs must comply with state laws pertaining to the number and length of school days in an academic year and shall be subject to all other federal and state laws governing public schools. Students in the District who receive alternative education shall have learning opportunities as equitable as may be practicable compared to students enrolled in a traditional educational setting.

The Board may form a cooperative arrangement with other boards of education, to provide alternative education pursuant to C.G.S. 10-158a.

There shall be an annual evaluation of alternative education programs.

The Board, as required, will post on its website information about any alternative education offered including purpose, location, contact information, staff directory, and enrollment criteria. The Board shall annually submit to the Commissioner of Education a strategic school profile report for each alternative school or program under its jurisdiction.

Students upon parent request may be placed in an alternative education program, 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.

Legal Reference:        Connecticut General Statutes  
                                  10-4p(b) Implementation plan to achieve resource equity and equality  
                                  of opportunity. Assessment. Reports. (as amended by PA 15-133)  
                                  10-15 Towns to maintain schools.  
                                  10-16 Length of school year.  
                                  10-158a Cooperative arrangements among towns. School building  
                                  projects. Student transportation.  
                                  10-220 Duties of boards of education (as amended by PA 15-133)  
                                  10-223h(c) Commissioner's network of schools. Turnaround  
                                  committees. Operations and instructional audit. Turnaround plans.  
                                  Report. (as amended by PA 15-133)  
                                  PA 15-133 An Act Concerning Alternative Education