

EXPULSION PREVENTION PROGRAM

The Colorado Springs School District 11 Board of Education (the Board) is committed to the creation of an atmosphere in schools which is safe, conducive to the learning process, and free from unnecessary disruption. The Board's primary goal is to provide all students access to a high-quality education focused on student performance and achievement. The Board further believes it is primarily the responsibility of the student, supported by the student's parents/guardians in conjunction with the community, to maximize the use of that opportunity and come to school ready to learn. Thus, it is the policy of this Board, working with parents/guardians, and the community as appropriate to help students conduct themselves so as to avoid expulsion.

A. Identification of Students at Risk of Suspension or Expulsion

The Board directs the Superintendent to develop procedures to identify students who are potentially at risk of suspension or expulsion. As a minimum, students who have been or are likely to be declared habitually truant, or who are likely to be declared habitually disruptive should be considered as "at risk" for the purposes of this policy. Other factors at the local school or Colorado Springs School District 11 (the District) level, historically having a positive correlation to suspension and/or expulsion should also be considered. The failure of the District to identify a student for participation in an expulsion prevention program or the failure of such a program to remediate a student's behavior shall not be grounds to prevent school personnel from proceeding with appropriate disciplinary measures or used in any way as a defense in the expulsion proceeding.

B. Services for at-risk Students - Agreements with State Agencies and Community Organizations

The Board directs the Superintendent to provide support services to students who have been identified as "at risk" pursuant to Section A above, as required by state law. It is not the Board's intent to require the development of additional programs or services to the extent such services already exist and are being provided to at-risk students. To provide such support services, the District, subject to applicable law, may enter into agreements with appropriate local or state governmental agencies, with community-based and faith-based nonprofit organizations, with non-public, nonparochial schools, with the department of military and veteran affairs, and with public and private institutions of higher education to work with the student's parent or guardian to provide services: a) to any student identified as being at risk of suspension or expulsion and b) to the student's family. The primary focus should be on proactive programs aimed at educational enrichment, academic achievement, and prevention of suspension and/or expulsion. Services provided may include but are not limited to:

- (1) Tutoring services
- (2) Programs that encourage parent/guardian participation and involvement
- (3) Programs that use new instructional, counseling, or disciplinary concepts
- (4) Counseling services
- (5) Drug or alcohol-addiction treatment programs
- (6) Family preservation services
- (7) Programs that provide behavioral modification or anger management techniques
- (8) Career and technical educational programs
- (9) Alternative educational programs

At a minimum, each agreement entered into pursuant to this section shall specify the services to be provided under the agreement, the entity that will coordinate and oversee provision of the services, and the responsibilities of each entity entering into the agreement. The agreement should also provide for local school or District oversight, assessment procedures, and a process for considering discontinuation of an existing program. In addition, each agreement shall require each entity entering into the agreement to contribute the services or funds for the provision of the services specified in the agreement.

C. District or school sponsored “in house” programs

The development of innovative District and school-sponsored “in house” proactive programs focused on prevention to include such things as tutoring programs, peer-to-peer student support programs, etc., is also encouraged. Such programs should follow the guidelines of Section B above.

D. General Considerations

The Superintendent (or his/her designee) shall review the cost and effectiveness of programs implemented in response to this policy on an annual basis and shall file a report with the Board summarizing the review.

Adopted October, 1996
Revised September, 1998
Revised December, 2008
Reviewed June 5, 2012
Reviewed January 13, 2016
Reviewed May 8, 2019
Reviewed May 25, 2022

LEGAL REFS: C.R.S. § 22-33-201 thru 204
C.R.S. § 22, Articles 37 and 38

CROSS REFS: JHB, Truancy
JK, Student Discipline
JKD/JKE, Suspension/Expulsion and Denial of Admission
JKF, Educational Alternatives for Expelled Students