

Kuna School District No. 3 elected to provide special instructional courses and services to eligible at-risk youth to enable them to earn a high school diploma via an alternative secondary program. The district's secondary alternative program will utilize course offerings, teacher/student ratios, and teaching strategies which are specially designed to serve the educational needs of at-risk youth.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM

An at-risk youth may qualify for participation in the alternative program if he/she meets the following criteria:

1. The student is a resident of the district and is eligible to attend grades six through twelve (6 - 12).
2. The student meets three (3) of the following criteria:
 - a. Has repeated at least one (1) grade.
 - b. Has absenteeism that is greater than ten percent (10%) during the preceding semester.
 - c. Has an overall grade point average that is less than 1.5 on a 4.0 scale prior to enrolling in the alternative secondary program.
 - d. Has failed one (1) or more academic subjects in the past year.
 - e. Is below proficient, based on local criteria or standardized tests, or both.
 - f. Is two (2) or more credits per year behind the rate required to graduate or for grade promotion.
 - g. Has attended three (3) or more schools within the previous two (2) years, not including dual enrollment.
3. Or the student meets one (1) of the following criteria:
 - a. Has documented or pattern of substance abuse.
 - b. Is pregnant or a parent.
 - c. Is an emancipated youth or unaccompanied minor.
 - d. Is a previous dropout.
 - e. Has serious personal, emotional, or medical issues.
 - f. Has a court or agency referral.
 - g. Demonstrates behavior that is detrimental to their academic progress.

PLACEMENT DETERMINATION

The evaluation and determination to place a student in the alternative school will be made by the district in consultation with the student’s parents / guardian. In making the placement determination, the district will consider a student’s qualification for participation in the alternative program based on the criteria identified above. Placement is based on available space.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTION AND SERVICES

The district’s alternative program will meet or exceed the state’s minimum academic standards and will include instruction in language arts and communication, mathematics, science, and social studies/personal finance. Additional instruction in the following components may be provided: personal and career counseling; physical fitness/personal health; career and technical education approved by the state division of career technical education; and parenting, and child care.

Graduation credit may be earned in the following areas: academic subjects, electives, and approved work-based learning experiences. Nonacademic courses do not qualify for credit unless they are approved work-based learning experiences.

The district will provide an academic counselor(s); and all services in accordance with the student’s Individualized Education Program (IEP).

The district may provide other services, where appropriate, including a qualified day care center for parents who are students; direct social services that may include officers of the court, social workers, and counselors/psychologists.

LOCATION OF SERVICES

During the school year, the district’s alternative high school programs will be located at a separate site from the regular high school facility or scheduled at a time different from the regular school hours.



LEGAL REFERENCE:

Idaho Code Sections

33-1002 – Educational Support Program

33-1002C – Summer School Program Support Units – Alternative Secondary School –
Juvenile Detention Facility

33-1002F – Alternative School Program

IDAPA 08.02.03.110 – Alternative Secondary Programs

ADOPTED: May 11, 2004

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