

<b>Category:</b> <b>8000 STUDENTS</b>	<b>Policy Number:</b> <b>8160</b>
<b>Policy Title: Placement of Secondary Students at Independence High School</b>	<b>Effective Date:</b> <b>December 18, 2019</b>

Snake River School District No. 52 has 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 or unaccompanied youth.
  - 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.

**DISRUPTIVE STUDENT BEHAVIOR**

Disruptive student behavior is behavior that continually interferes with school discipline or the instructional effectiveness of the school. Disruptive student behavior may include, but is not limited to:

1. Physically or verbally intimidating, threatening, abusing, or assaulting any person(s).
2. Consistently being disruptive or inappropriate in the regular school environment.
3. Stealing, destroying, or defacing district property or the property of another individual located at a school site.
4. Use, possession, and/or distribution of illegal or controlled substances on district grounds.
5. A history of multiple suspensions and/or expulsion(s).

**PLACEMENT DETERMINATION**

The evaluation and determination to place the disruptive student in the alternative school will be made by the district. 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.

**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. Additional instruction in the following components will be provided: personal and career counseling; physical fitness/personal health; career and technical education approved by the state division of career technical education; and personal finance, parenting, and child care.

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

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

**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**

- 33-1001 - Definitions
- 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: 05/15/2007**

**AMENDED: 12/18/2019**