

Obion County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in April	Descriptor Term: Alternative School Programs	Descriptor Code: 6.319	Issued Date: 09/13/07
		Rescinds: 6.319	Issued: 12/04/06

1 The Board shall operate an alternative school program for students in grades 7-12 who have been sus-
2 pended or expelled from regular school programs.¹ Students in grades 6 and below may be placed in
3 the Alternative School on a case-by-case basis when other disciplinary options have been exhausted and
4 proven unsuccessful or when, in the discretion of the principal, as approved by the director of schools,
5 it is deemed appropriate.

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7 Students may be remanded to Alternative School for 5, 10, 20, 30 and/or 45 school days. Placements
8 will increase incrementally per occurrence. Previous disciplinary measures utilized and their results
9 shall be documented prior to initial Alternative School placement. Any Alternative School placement
10 exceeding ten (10) days will require a disciplinary hearing.³ Students who commit a zero tolerance
11 offense may be remanded to the Alternative School program for one (1) calendar year by authority of
12 the director of schools.

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14 Teachers in alternative schools shall be certified by the state and shall be selected on the basis of inter-
15 est and ability to work in alternative situations. Student-teacher ratios shall be small enough to allow
16 for adequate instruction, but shall be determined by the age, behavior and academic achievement of
17 students in the program.

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19 Sufficient textbooks, equipment and supplies shall be provided by the home school. The home school
20 shall provide at least five (5) days of assignments upon initial placement.

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22 Alternative school programs shall be operated in accordance with the rules of the State Board of Educa-
23 tion² and instruction shall proceed as nearly as practicable in accordance with the instructional programs
24 at the student's home school. All course work completed and credits earned in the alternative school
25 shall be transferred to and recorded in the student's home school. Credit earned and progress made shall
26 be granted as if the work were performed in the home school. No student may graduate based solely
27 on attendance in alternative schools.¹

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29 Except students who are eligible for special education, such change in a student's program shall be
30 determined by the disciplinary hearing authority in accordance with the suspension policy of the Board
31 and based upon recommendations of the school principal, with or without the parents being present.

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33 The student shall be subject to all rules of the school and violations of such rules may result in the student's
34 removal from the school for the duration of the original intended suspension or expulsion. Violation of
35 school rules shall not constitute grounds for extension of time spent in the alternative school; however,
36 such violation(s) will be dealt with as a separate disciplinary offense with separate punishment(s). The
37 final decision concerning the removal of a student from the alternative school program shall rest with
38 the chief administrator of the alternative school.

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Students found to be eligible for special education in related circumstances shall be placed and served in accordance with the law and rules relating to special education.

Legal Reference:

1. TCA 49-6-3402; OP Tenn. Atty. Gen. 93-43 (May 12, 1993)
2. TRR/MS 0520-1-2-.09
3. TCA 49-6-3401 (c)(4)

Cross References:

- Special Education 4.202
- Suspension/Expulsion/Remand 6.316
- Disciplinary Hearing Authority 6.317
- Special Education Students 6.500