

# Marion County Board of Education

Monitoring: <b>Review: Annually, in April</b>	Descriptor Term: <b>Alternative School Programs</b>	Descriptor Code: <b>6.319</b>	Issued Date: <b>04/24/01</b>
		Rescinds: <b>6.319</b>	Issued: <b>12/15/97</b>

1 The Board shall operate an alternative school program for students in grades 7-12 who have been suspended  
2 or expelled from regular school programs.<sup>1</sup> Attendance in alternative school programs shall be mandatory  
3 and students attending an alternative school located other than at their home school shall provide their own  
4 transportation.

5  
6 Teachers in alternative schools shall be certified by the state and shall be selected on the basis of interest  
7 and ability to work in alternative situations.

8  
9 Student-teacher ratios shall be small enough to allow for adequate instruction but shall be determined by  
10 the age, behavior and academic achievement of students in the program.

11  
12 Sufficient textbooks, equipment and supplies shall be provided by the home school.

13  
14 Alternative school programs shall be operated in accordance with the rules of the State Board of Education  
15 and instruction shall proceed as nearly as practicable in accordance with the instructional programs at the  
16 student's home school. All course work completed and credits earned in the alternative school shall be  
17 transferred to and recorded in the student's home school. Credit earned and progress made shall be granted  
18 as if the work were performed in the home school. No student may graduate based solely on attendance  
19 in alternative schools.<sup>1</sup>

20  
21 Except students who are eligible for special education, such change in a student's program shall be  
22 determined by the disciplinary hearing authority in accordance with the suspension policy of the Board  
23 and based upon recommendations from a team composed of the principal, the school guidance counselor  
24 and the student, with or without the parents being present.

25  
26 The student shall be subject to all rules of the school and violations of such rules may result in the student's  
27 removal from the school for the duration of the original intended suspension or expulsion. Violation of  
28 school rules shall not constitute grounds for extension of time spent in the alternative school. The final  
29 decision on such removal shall be made by the chief administrator of the alternative school.

30  
31 Students found to be eligible for special education in related circumstances shall be placed and served in  
32 accordance with the law and rules relating to special education.<sup>2</sup>

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36 Legal Reference:

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

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40  
41 Cross References:

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