**Lakeland Board of Education**

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<th>Monitoring:</th>
<th>Descriptor Code:</th>
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<td>Review: Annually, in March</td>
<td>6.319</td>
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**Descriptor Term:** Alternative School Programs

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1. **General**

   The Board shall operate or contract with another LEA which operates an alternative school program for students in grades 6-8 who have been suspended or expelled from regular school programs.

   Alternative school programs shall be operated in accordance with state laws and the rules of the State Board of Education, and instruction shall proceed as nearly as practicable in accordance with the instructional programs at the student’s home school.

   The Superintendent shall develop procedures that provide appropriate educational opportunities for all students assigned to an alternative education program. These educational opportunities shall utilize Tennessee’s academic standards, incorporate innovative teaching strategies, deliver research-based instructional techniques, and provide the resources necessary to foster student learning and achievement.

   Annually, the Superintendent shall submit the following information to the Department of Education:

   1. Alternative school(s) or program(s) operated by or contracted by the district;
   2. Number and grade level of students served in an alternative education program;
   3. Primary reason for student assignment to an alternative education program; and
   4. Number of faculty and staff serving each alternative education program.

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**ASSIGNMENT**

Prior to the assignment of the student to an alternative school program, the Superintendent shall provide written notice to the student’s parent/guardian stating the reason for the student’s placement.

Placement in an alternative education setting shall be reserved for students who significantly disrupt the educational process. If a student has an active Individualized Education Plan, a 504 plan, or is suspected of having a disability, all state and federal laws, rules, and regulations related to special education shall be followed. The Superintendent shall develop procedures regarding placement of students in the program, taking into consideration the impact of exclusionary discipline practices.

Attendance in alternative school programs shall be mandatory, and students attending an alternative school located outside of the school district shall provide their own transportation.
The Superintendent shall monitor and regularly evaluate the academic progress of each student enrolled in an alternative education program.

TRANSITION PLANS

The Superintendent shall develop procedures regarding the implementation of transition plans for the integration of students entering and exiting the program.

Legal References

1. TCA 49-6-3402(a); State Board of Education Policy 2.302
2. TCA 49-6-3402(b); TRR/MS 0520-01-02-09
3. State Board of Education Policy 2.302

Cross References

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