

Standards For Discretionary And Alternative Learning Programs

Discretionary and alternative learning programs are those, which provide a distinctive learning environment with the degree of substance and impact that identify them as a focal point of the school.

A proposed discretionary or alternative learning program shall meet the following five standards to be considered for development. The extent to which proposals meet these standards can also be utilized to select from among multiple proposals.

1. The program's vision shall be consistent with the goals of public education and the mission of the district. In addition, all programs shall abide by all federal and state laws, the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and the policies and procedures of Wenatchee's Board of Directors. Exception shall be made in those instances where permissible waivers are requested and approved.
2. The program shall enhance student learning, especially the achievement of the Washington State Essential Learnings and the Wenatchee School District Curriculum Standards by all district students.
3. The program shall be open to all district students allowing all students to enroll in a fair and equitable manner. Information about the program shall be thoroughly communicated to all district students.
4. Expansion and/or replication of the program must be possible. Program developers shall commit to the development of a plan, "A Success Plan", for expansion and/or replication if district student and parental demand so warrants.
5. The district supported budget for a program shall not exceed the per pupil cost of educating other students at the same school level. The source of any additional human or financial resources required for program development, implementation and maintenance must be identified so that resources are not drawn from other district students.

Legal References:

RCW 28A.320.15 School Board Directors – Powers –
Notice of Adoption Policy
RCW 28A.320.140 School with Special Standards

Adoption: 02.24.98

Classification: Discretionary

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