



TEHAMA COUNTY PLAN FOR ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION INCLUDING SERVING EXPELLED STUDENTS IN COMMUNITY DAY SCHOOLS / COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Introduction

Community Day Schools (CDSs) are operated by school districts and county offices of education. CDSs serve mandatorily and other expelled students, students referred by a School Attendance Review Board, and other high-risk youth. CDSs are expected to operate in an environment of high-level expectations from staff and students. The 360-minutes minimum instructional day includes academic programs that provide challenging curriculum and individual attention to student learning modalities and abilities, and school-to-career and other “real world” connections. CDS programs also focus on the development of pro-social skills and student self-esteem and resiliency. CDSs are intended to have low student-teacher ratios. Students benefit from learning support services that include school counselors and psychologist, academic and vocational counselors, and pupil discipline personnel. Students also receive collaborative services from county office of education, law enforcement, probation, and human services agency personnel who work with at-risk youth. CDSs are supported by supplemental apportionments for CDS attendance, in addition to base revenue funding. The laws specific to CDSs are in Education Code Section 48660-48667. More information is available online at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/ed/eo/cd/> and at <http://www.cdsnetwork.org>. The Tehama County CDS Plan is available online at <http://www.tehamaschools.org>.

Increasingly, there are needs for alternative programs to serve students who cannot or will not fit into the regular school program. The absence of funding in the past has kept the county office of education and local school districts from adequately addressing the needs of this student population. Some districts have been able to generate some resources to address alternative student needs while others have been able to do very little. This plan developed cooperatively by the school districts and county office of education in Tehama County with input from public and private human services organizations, seeks to ensure that all students are served equitably. It incorporates existing services, but adds critical new ones to address student needs.

Consortia

Each of the three districts in Tehama County operating regular high school programs will operate a community day school to serve the needs of its expelled students (grades 9-12).

These districts are:

1. Los Molinos Unified School District
2. Corning Union High School District
3. Red Bluff Joint Union High School District

To serve the needs of elementary K-8 students in Tehama County, we have created eight (8) clusters which serve the approximately 3000 square miles of this county. Tehama County is larger than at least one New England state. The districts organized themselves as follows with the first named district in each line below operating a community day school program for themselves and the other district(s) listed being served by the program. Each of the elementary school programs would be funded under provisions of the Education Code providing for Necessary Small Schools as no combination of school districts exceed 2500 ADA:

1. Evergreen, Bend (K-5; 5-8)
2. Gerber, Reeds Creek (4-8)
3. Corning Elementary, Kirkwood, Flourney, Elkins, Richfield (5-8)
4. Red Bluff Elementary, Mineral (K-5) (5-8)
5. Antelope Elementary, Manton, Plum Valley (K-8)
6. Los Molinos Unified, (6-12) - Waiver
7. Tehama County Department of Education
 - a. Community Day School (K-12)
 - b. County Community School (K-12)
8. Lassen View (K-8)

Curriculum and Instruction

It is our plan to continue to develop a quality instructional program on a collaborative basis with all participating school districts to address the needs of expelled students and those not being able to function in the traditional school program. This will utilize community resources, new instructional technology and a variety of quality instructional materials. Our collaborative staff recruitment and training efforts will be focused on securing teachers and support personnel who can work with these students and yet enable them to move forward with positive learning so they can be returned at the appropriate time to the regular school program with reasonable assurance that they will be able to productively function there. To the extent that we can secure

teachers who have certification to provide special education services, we will address the needs of students having current IEP's who might be placed in such a program. The district of residence will be responsible for special education services. The normal instructional day for students in this program will be 360 minutes in length. A variety of instructional approaches will be utilized to ensure the engagement of student's attention and energies with positive learning.

Access to Program

Students will be assigned to the Community Day School Program only if they meet one or more of the following criteria:

- 1) They are expelled from school for any reason; or
- 2) They are court/probation referred pursuant to WIC Sections 300 and 602; or
- 3) They are referred by the County School Attendance Review Board or a district SART where such exists.

The first priority for assignment to the community day school program will be given to students expelled pursuant to EC 48915 with second priority being given to students expelled for other reasons. Non-expelled students may be served, if eligible under special circumstances, but service to expelled students will have highest priority. Districts in the county are committed to the development and adherence to common procedures for the involuntary transfer of students to the community day school program.

Procedure for Placement of Students Expelled from District CDS

For the purpose of determining capacity at individual CDS sites, the following criteria will be used (non-expelled students may be served but shall not be used to determine capacity) (EC48662(b)):

- Must be expelled from students LEA
- Must be expelled from District CDS or Consortium CDS

A District CDS will be considered to be at capacity when the number of students expelled exceeds 14.

Students placed in CDS for the criteria listed in "Access to Program 1-3" who have subsequently been expelled from CDS will be SARBed. The SARB will make recommendations for placement in another consortium operated CDS. Every effort will be made to transfer students to the consortium CDS nearest to the student's residence.

For the purposes of districts not operating CDS, while receiving CDS funding under current State Categorical Flexibility, a daily fee of \$50 shall be charged by the providing district to supply necessary CDS services.

County CDS Placement

Students being transferred to the County CDS program must meet the following criteria:

- Have been expelled from a District CDS and another consortium CDS or had a SART hearing and was referred to the County SARB; and
- Have been before the County SARB and transferred to the County CDS program by SARB action; and
- Is a student of a district who is part of the county-wide consortium.

Addressing Individual Needs of Students

An individual rehabilitation plan will be developed for each student. It will describe those program elements that students will receive during their term of expulsion or placement. For students with an open term of suspension or expulsion, it will provide a description of what steps must be taken for that student to return to the regular school program. To foster positive attitudes and academic progress, it is anticipated that those districts operating community day schools will give students substantial individual help with their problems. Community day school staff shall collaborate with district counselors, psychologists and school health personnel. Additionally, they shall collaborate with the county department of education, law enforcement, probation, health, drug and alcohol prevention and mental health agency staff who are assigned to work with at-risk youth. Community day school programs shall provide a low student-teacher ratio as well as provide individualized instruction and assessment. In order to ensure that students have the skills and attitudes necessary for success when they are returned to the regular school environment, districts may require students to attend school for up to six days each week. It is possible that a student may be transferred involuntarily to another community day school program in the county if he or she cannot function safely in the community day school program which would normally serve his/her district. This transfer will be made through a request and action by the county SARB.

Location and Facilities of Community Day Schools

All Community Day School programs are housed in a Field Act compliant building. In some instances, it will be necessary to place students on regular school campuses (given appropriate

annual action by 2/3 of the membership of the local governing board). In cases where this is done, efforts will be made to ensure separation of community day school students from those in the regular program.

The identified districts above have agreed to the provisions of this consortium agreement, including the willingness to accept students outside of the district.

County Community Day School Address and Contact Information

Name: Tehama County Community Day School / County Community School

Address: 900 Palm Avenue, Red Bluff, CA 96080

Contact Information:

- Sarah Kania, Program Manager/Administrator of Record (.05 FTE)- 527-5811
skania@tehamaschools.org
- Scott Yeager, Teaching Principal (.5 FTE) - 527-5811
syeager@tehamaschools.org
- Probation Assistant (1.0 FTE) – to be determined
- Instructional Assistant (1.0 FTE) – to be hired
- Teacher (.3 FTE) – to be hired
- Teacher (.2 FTE) – to be hired