

ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS

Background

An alternative program is one that emphasizes a particular language, culture or subject matter or which uses a particular teaching philosophy.

The Division will consider the development and implementation of alternative programs provided they are in:

- Keeping with the goals and objectives of the Division;
- Response to documented needs and/or interests of students and parents;
- Keeping with sound educational principles; and
- Keeping with the Division's financial capabilities.

Procedures

1. Proponents shall submit a proposal to establish an alternative program to the Superintendent a minimum of twelve (12) months prior to the requested "start up" date.
2. The proposal must include the following program elements:
 - 2.1. Philosophy and objectives;
 - 2.2. Organization (variations from other schools);
 - 2.3. Curriculum (specific emphasis);
 - 2.4. Finances;
 - 2.5. Staffing (variations from regular staffing);
 - 2.6. Evaluation; and
 - 2.7. Projected student population.
3. The Superintendent will determine the appropriateness of the proposal and may arrange for the proponents to make a presentation to the Board.
4. If the Board gives approval in principle, the Superintendent will have established a set of administrative requirements to initiate the program. All system policies and procedures apply unless specifically exempted by the Board.

5. If the Board approves the administrative requirements, the detailed preparation for the program will be directed through the Superintendent or designate.
6. If the per student non-instructional costs of an alternative program exceeds that of a regular program, the Board may charge a fee to parents who wish to enroll their students in the alternative program.

Reference: *Education Act*, SA 2012, c E-0.3, ss. 3, 11, 13, 18, 19, 33, 52, 53, 55, 197, 222
Guide to Education ECS to Grade 12
Alternative Program Handbook