

204 Alternative Programs or Schools

Revised: September 25, 2001

Revised: March 1, 2006

Policy

Since some students may have intellectual, social and/or behavioural needs that require a learning situation not provided in existing schools or School District programs, the Board may establish programs or schools that will serve as alternatives to those which serve the general population of students.

Administrative Procedures

Establishing and Maintaining Alternative Programs or Schools

- The following criteria shall be considered when evaluating the need for and the viability of a proposed or existing alternative program or school:
- The overall responsibility for the educational programs of all students enrolled in the program or school shall reside with the Board
- The educational program of each student in the program or school shall be under the supervision of a member of the BC College of Teachers
- The program or school shall meet the requirements of the *School Act, Regulations, Ministerial Orders*, School Board policies, and Provincial and School District prescribed curriculum
- The program or school shall have a written statement of philosophy and objectives
- The program or school shall be open to application by any student in the School District
- The program or school shall be open to application by any student from outside the School District, pursuant to *Policy 605: Admission of Students to School*
- Where the nature of the program or limitations of space require the selection of students, the criteria and process for selection shall be clearly stated and consistently applied
- The program or school shall maintain enrollment without students receiving special transportation assistance from the School District
- The program or school shall be sustained with a level of funding consistent with the average per student funding of the students enrolled
- The program or school shall be planned for within the regular planning timelines of the School District
- The organization of the proposed program or school shall be consistent with the Board's extant contractual commitments with its unionized employees
- The Board shall determine whether the program or school can be accommodated in suitable facilities.

Evaluation of Alternative Programs or Schools

Alternative programs or schools established under this Policy shall be evaluated following the initial year of operation and at least every five (5) years. Evaluation reports shall be submitted to the Board for review.