

## 2480 ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Board of Education may operate an alternative education program in accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-9.1. The program shall be approved by the Commissioner of Education and shall be separate and distinct from the already existing programs operated by the Board.

- An alternative education program will fulfill the program criteria for both a high school and middle school program as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-9.2. A program will have a maximum student-teacher ratio of 12:1 for high school programs and 10:1 for middle school programs. An Individualized Program Plan (IPP) shall be developed for each general education student enrolled in the program in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-9.2(a)3. For a student with a disability, the alternative education program shall be consistent with the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP), pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14, Special Education.

- Individualized instruction to all students shall address the Core Curriculum Content Standards. Academic instruction sufficient to fulfill graduation requirements, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1, shall be provided to high school students. Comprehensive support services and programs shall address each student's health, social, and emotional development and behavior. Instructional staff in an alternative education program shall be appropriately certified.

- Students in the alternative education program shall comply with attendance policies, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-7.8 and 6A:32-8.3. Case management services including, but not limited to, monitoring and evaluating student progress and coordinating instructional and support services shall be provided as required in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-9.2(a)10. Services to facilitate the transition of students returning to the general or special education program from the alternative education program shall be provided. A minimum student enrollment period of not less than two complete marking periods shall be required pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-9.2(a)12.

- Student placement in an alternative education program shall be made pursuant to N.J.A.C. 16A:9.3(a). If the district places a student in an alternative education program operated by another district Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-9.1(a), or another approved agency, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-9.1(b), the sending school district shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:16-9.

- Decisions regarding continued placement in an alternative education program or a change to a student's placement shall be made for general education students in accordance with



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~~N.J.A.C. 6A:16-9.3(c)1 and for students with disabilities in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-9.3(c)2.~~

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~~N.J.A.C. 6A:16-9.1; 6A:16-9.2; 6A:16-9.3~~

~~High school graduation requirements that satisfy the credit year curriculum provisions set forth and approved by the New Jersey Department of Education may be met by students through the program completion option authorized under New Jersey Administrative Code which allows academic credit to be awarded through alternative learning experiences. The Board of Education provides a nontraditional program for students, and credits are awarded based on specific instructional objectives and demonstrated outcomes rather than on time spent in the program.~~

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~~Credit year requirements may be met in whole or in part through program completion as follows:~~

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- ~~1. The Board determines and establishes a set number of curricular activities or programs for promotion and graduation purposes;~~
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- ~~2. The program is planned for individual students or groups of students based upon specific instructional objectives;~~
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- ~~3. The Principal certifies completion of curricular activities or programs based upon specific instructional objectives;~~
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- ~~4. A group program based on specific instructional objectives is approved in the same manner as other approved courses. Individual programs will be on file in the school and subject to review by the Commissioner of Education and/or designee.~~

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~~The Superintendent has submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education an application seeking approval of an alternative school program and/or an individualized program plan. The review and approval of the program application has been made by the Office of the County Superintendent of Schools in accordance with State law and the pertinent State Board of Education regulations and guidelines.~~

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~~New Jersey Department of Education—A Guide For The Operation and Approval Of Alternative Schools/Programs—Spring 1992~~



# POLICY

SOUTH ORANGE MAPLEWOOD  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Program  
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ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Adopted: 2 April 2001

First Reading: December 20, 2021

Second Reading:

Adopted:

