



School Board Briefing/Proposed Action Report

☐ **Informational** (no action required by Board) ☒ **Action Report** (Board will be required to take action)

DATE: September 26, 2016
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I. TITLE

Annual approval of the written plans of programs or schools using the alternative learning experience model

For Introduction: November 2, 2016
For Action: November 16, 2016

II. WHY BOARD ACTION IS NECESSARY

State regulation WAC 392-121-182 requires that school boards annually approve each school or program that is using the alternative learning experience model and their Annual Report. School Boards must also review the district policy authorizing alternative learning experiences.

III. FISCAL IMPACT/REVENUE SOURCE

Fiscal impact to approve these plans is negligible; failure to approve the plans would result in the loss of state funding for each of these schools. For the 2016-17 school year, state apportionment to Seattle Public Schools for Alternative Learning Environments is estimated at \$3,796,189.25.

The revenue source for this motion is N/A.

Expenditure: ☐ One-time ☐ Annual ☐ Other Source

IV. POLICY IMPLICATION

This action is being proposed pursuant to School Board Policy No. 2255, Alternative Learning Experience Schools or Programs, which reflects the requirements of WAC 392-121-182. Staff is not recommending changes to the current Policy No. 2255, as no new alternative programs or schools are being proposed.

V. RECOMMENDED MOTION

I move that the Board approve the Alternative Learning Experience of the Cascade Parent Partnership Program, Interagency Academy School, Nova High School, and Middle College School in the form of the Plans and Annual Reports for each school attached to the Board Action Report, with such minor additions, deletions and modifications as the Superintendent deems necessary, and directs the Superintendent to implement such plans; and Pursuant to the School Board review conducted, agree to make no changes to Policy No. 2255, Alternative Learning Experience Schools or Programs.

VI. BOARD COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

This motion was discussed at the Curriculum & Instruction Policy Committee meeting on October 10, 2016. The Committee reviewed the motion and moved it forward to the full Board with additions for consideration.

VII. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

As indicated in School Board Policy No. 2255, an annual School Board review and approval of the programs or schools using the alternative learning experience model and their plans is a regulatory requirement of Washington Administrative Code Section 392-121-182. WAC 392-121-182 also requires the School Board to annually review written policies authorizing alternative learning experiences.

The regulation contains a number of requirements that the programs or schools must meet, including:

- A written student learning plan for each student
- Direct personal contact for each student with a certificated teacher each week
- Evaluation of the progress of each student at least once a month, with a determination that the student is making satisfactory progress, or development of an intervention plan for the student
- Documentation of the number of students enrolled
- Identification of the overall ratio of certificated staff to students
- A description of how the program supports the district's overall goals and objectives for student academic achievement
- Programs that are accessible to all students
- Providing students all curricula and course materials listed in the student learning plan
- Curricula and course materials must be consistent in quality to those available for the district's overall student population
- Providing parents with a description of the differences between home-based instruction and the program selected
- Instituting reliable methods to verify the student is doing his or her own work
- On-line programs that are accredited by the Northwest Accreditation Commission or other approved programs, if used
- Satisfying the requirements of Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction's (OSPI) requirements for courses of student learning.
- Satisfying the requirements of the State Board of Education for any classes offering credit
- Assessing each student at least annually using the state assessment
- Maintaining documentation of the policy, annual reports, the student learning plans, evidence of direct student contact and other requirements

The attached Plan for each ALE meets the requirements to satisfy these provisions.

Under WAC 392-121-107, an Alternative Learning Experience (ALE) may be counted as a course of study for the purpose of student enrollment counts. An ALE is an individualized course of study that is provided in accordance with a written ALE plan. All programs utilizing the ALE model must comply with procedures which are set forth in WAC 392-121-182. Any District

school that is an ALE program or school provider must annually present their written plans to the School Board for review and approval.

In August, the School Board approved adding Nova High School and Middle College as ALE Schools. The plans for these two ALEs have not changed from what the Board reviewed in August. Furthermore, because these two have just started as ALEs, they do not have an annual report for the previous school year.

VIII. STATEMENT OF ISSUE

Whether to approve the Alternative Learning Experience programs or schools of the Cascade Parent Partnership Program, Interagency Academy School, Nova High School, and Middle College School in the form of the Plans and Annual Reports for each school attached to the Board Action Report

IX. ALTERNATIVES

Do not approve the plans of these ALE schools. This is not recommended because of the negative fiscal impact to the District of failing to get state funding for these programs.

X. RESEARCH AND DATA SOURCES / BENCHMARKS

Prior year approval of ALE program documents were reviewed, as were the current plans and annual reports of each of the ALE programs.

XI. TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Upon approval of this motion, the District will report to OSPI the fact that the plans have been approved so that we can continue to receive funding for these programs.

XII. ATTACHMENTS

- Alternative Learning Experience plans for:
 - Cascade Parent Partnership Program
 - Interagency Academy School
 - Nova High School
 - Middle College School
- Alternative Learning Experience Annual Reports for:
 - Cascade Parent Partnership Program
 - Interagency Academy
- Policy No. 2255 (for reference)