5.26—ALTERNATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

The district shall have an alternative learning environment (ALE) which shall be part of an intervention program designed to provide guidance, counseling, and academic support to students who are experiencing emotional, social, or academic problems.

The superintendent or his/her designee shall appoint an Alternative Education Placement Team which shall have the responsibility of determining student placement in the ALE. The team should consist of at least a school counselor, the ALE director or principal, a parent or legal guardian, and a regular classroom teacher.

Students who are placed in the ALE shall exhibit at least two of the following characteristics:
- Disruptive behavior
- Drop out from school
- Personal or family problems or situations
- Recurring absenteeism
- Transition to or from residential programs

For the purposes of the ALE, personal or family problems or situations are conditions that negatively affect the student's academic and social progress. These may include, but are not limited to:
- Abuse: physical, mental, or sexual
- Frequent relocation of residency
- Homelessness
- Inadequate emotional support
- Mental/physical health problem
- Pregnancy
- Single parenting

The teachers and administrator of the ALE shall determine exit criteria for students assigned to the district's ALE on which to base the student's return to the regular school program of instruction.

The district's ALE program shall follow class size, staffing, and expenditure requirements identified in the ADE Rules Governing the Distribution of Student Special Needs Funding.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-508, 509
                      A.C.A. § 6-20-2305(b)(2)
                      ADE Rules Governing the Distribution of Student Special Needs Funding for
                      School Year 2004-2005 and Additional Teacher Pay – 3.01, 3.05, 4.00, and 8.0

Date Adopted: 07-27-06
Last Revised:

5.26.1—ALE PROGRAM EVALUATION

The ALE program shall be evaluated at least annually to determine its overall effectiveness.

Date Adopted: 07-27-06
Last Revised: