

**Progress****EDUCATIONAL ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS**

As a primary educational goal, it is the policy of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida to provide educational alternative programs for those students who (1) demonstrate lack of sufficient involvement in a traditional school program to achieve success because their interests, needs, or talents are not being addressed; or (2) show unsatisfactory academic progress and the effort to provide assistance is either rejected or is ineffective.

**I. Definition of Educational Alternative Programs**

Educational alternative programs are programs designed to meet the needs of students who are disruptive or unsuccessful in a normal school environment. Such programs shall be in one or more of the following forms:

- A. Learning centers specializing in subject areas, such as occupational skills, communication, and the performing arts, which students may attend on either a full-time or a part-time basis;
- B. Crisis intervention centers and inschool suspension programs which provide a temporary intervention program for students who experience difficulty in the normal classroom environment due to behavioral problems and for whom teachers are unable to provide an appropriate educational program;
- C. Learning centers coordinated with private agencies, the Department of Children and Family Services, or other governmental agencies; and/or
- D. Any alternative to suspension or expulsion approved by the School Board.

**II. Eligibility of Students for Placement in Educational Alternative Programs**

Students who have demonstrated one or more of the following are eligible for placement into these programs:

- A. Behavior which substantially disrupts the orderly educational process;
- B. Lack of academic skills which would reasonably be expected to

result in academic failure;

- C. Unsuccessful academic, English-speaking, and/or behavioral progress in the regular school environment;
- D. Disinterest in the regular school environment as demonstrated by grades, achievement test scores, referrals for suspensions or other disciplinary actions, and/or rate of absences.

III. Review of Placement

Pursuant to provisions of Florida Statutes, Chapter 120, the parents or guardians of a student administratively assigned to an educational alternative program shall be entitled to an administrative review.

Specific Authority: 230.22(2) F.S.

Law Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: 230.2316 F.S.

**History: THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

New: 12-12-79

Technical Change: 5-1-98