

Santa Barbara Unified School District

Board Policy

Instruction

BP 6182

OPPORTUNITY SCHOOLS OR CLASSES

The Governing Board recognizes that Opportunity Education schools and classes provide a supportive environment with specialized curriculum, instruction, guidance and counseling, psychological services, and tutorial assistance to help students overcome barriers to learning. In order to provide comprehensive academic programs that facilitate positive self-esteem, confidence, resilience and personal growth with the goal of helping students return to traditional classes and programs, the Board shall continue to operate its Opportunity Education program established prior to 2004 at a district alternative school or program of choice to provide additional support for students in grades one through twelve who are habitually truant from instruction, irregular in attendance, insubordinate, disorderly while in attendance, or unsuccessful academically.

The minimum day in an opportunity school or opportunity class shall be no less than 180 minutes. (Education Code 46180)

Assignment

The Superintendent or designee may assign identified students to an Opportunity Education school or class at a district alternative school or program of choice in accordance with Board Policy 5118.1.

An Opportunity class assignment shall include a daily schedule for an Opportunity student that provides at least 180 minutes of daily instructional time in the Opportunity environment. The intent of the Board in maintaining Opportunity Education is not to limit students with identified greater academic, social and developmental needs to only 180 minutes of instructional time, either in opportunity education or for the overall school day. Students may be in the opportunity class for more than 180 minutes of instructional time. Students may as appropriate, also be assigned to the regular classes and/or offered voluntary participation in independent study and/or provided other educational options where the additional full support provided by opportunity education is not needed for the student to be successful.

Curriculum and Classroom Learning Strategies

Students in Opportunity Education shall receive instruction in the core academic subjects as offered in the regular program, however, delivery to students shall be through a variety of instructional strategies that allow students to improve self- image and resiliency, acquisition of better skills for scholastic success, and increased ability to assume responsibility for their own learning and behavior in the regular school program.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

46180 and 48630 to 48641 Opportunity Schools

SANTA BARBARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
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