

POLICY NO. 6700
Adopted: 7-10-96
Replaced: 2-8-06
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ALTERNATIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE PROGRAMS

POLICY:

The Lake Stevens School Board of Directors authorizes the creation of alternative learning experience (ALE) programs and courses. The District will make available to students enrolled in ALE courses educational opportunities designed to meet their individual needs. The District will comply with all program requirements necessary to count an ALE as a course of study and ensure state funding for ALE students.

ALE programs may include, but are not limited to:

- A. Online programs as defined in RCW 28A.250.010;
- B. Parent partnership programs that include significant participation and partnership by parents and families in the design and implementation of a student's learning experience; and
- C. Contract-based learning courses.

The Board will adopt and annually review written policies authorizing ALE courses, including each ALE course and course provider. The policy must designate, by title, one or more school district official(s) responsible for overseeing the District's ALE courses.

The District establishes the following alternative programs and courses(s) provided on site or over the internet or by other electronic means, as defined in WAC 392-121-182:

Lake Stevens School District Alternative Learning Experience Programs:

- Homeschool/Parent Partnership – HomeLink,
- Alternative Mid-High School, and
- Online programs approved by OSPI.

The school district officials responsible for these programs are the Administrator for Alternative Learning Experience Programs and the Executive Directors for Teaching and Learning.

The school district officials responsible for overseeing each ALE course will report at least annually to the Board. This annual report will include at least the following:

- A. Documentation of ALE student headcount and full-time equivalent enrollment claimed for basic education funding;
- B. Identification of the overall ratio of certificated instructional staff to full-time equivalent students enrolled in each ALE course and the number of certificated staff in each ALE program;
- C. A description of how the course supports the District's overall goals and objectives for student academic achievement; and
- D. Results of any self-evaluations.

The District will submit an annual report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction detailing the costs and purposes of any expenditures made to purchase or contract for instructional or co-curricular experiences and services that are included in an ALE written student learning plan, along with the substantially similar experiences or services made available to students enrolled in the District's regular instructional program.

The Superintendent is directed to develop procedures consistent with WAC 392-121-182 to govern the administration of the District's ALE courses.

Cross References:

No. 6710: Online Learning

No. 6008: Course Design, Selection, and Adoption of Instructional Materials

Legal References:

RCW 28A.150.305 Alternative educational service providers - Student eligibility.

RCW 28A.232.010 Alternative learning experience courses - Generally - Rules - Reports.

RCW 28A.250.050 Student access to online courses and online learning

programs - Policies and procedures - Course credit - Dissemination of information - Development of local or regional online learning programs.
WAC 392-121-107 Definition-Course of study
WAC 392-121-182 Alternative learning experience requirements
WAC 392-121-188 Instruction provided under contract

ALTERNATIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE PROGRAMS

PROCEDURES:

General Guidelines

- Alternative learning experience (ALE) means a course or, for grades kindergarten through eight, grade-level course work that is a delivery method of basic education and is provided in whole or in part independently from a regular classroom setting or schedule, but may include components of direct instruction;
- ALE courses are supervised, monitored, assessed, evaluated, and documented by a certificated teacher employed or contracted by the school district.
- ALE courses are provided in accordance with a written student learning plan.
- ALE students are provided with instructional materials consistent in quality with those available to the general student population. District adopted and approved curriculum shall be utilized when appropriate.
- ALE courses and programs are implemented pursuant to the District's policy and WAC 392-121-182.

Student Eligibility

- ALE courses will be available to all students, including students with disabilities.
- All students in grades K-12 are eligible to participate in ALE programs.
- Students are eligible for the HomeLink Parent Partnership Alternative Learning Experience program if they have successfully met the requirement of 90 consecutive days of documented home-based instruction, within two years of application for enrollment. Any variance must be approved by an ALE administrator and district-level administrator.

Student Performance

- Students participating in an ALE will be evaluated monthly by a certificated instructional staff member; or for students whose written student learning plans include only online classes, a school-based support staff member will track progress toward completion and to establish whether an intervention

plan should be developed in accordance with WAC 392-121-182.

- The methods for determining satisfactory progress shall be outlined in the written student learning plan and may include:
 - Progress grades;
 - Assignment completion rates;
 - Nonacademic factors such as attendance, attitude, and behavior; and
 - Local school expectations.

Student Responsibilities

- Students enrolled in an ALE program must meet the contact requirements defined in WAC 392-121-182.

Parent Responsibilities

- Upon receipt of the District's description of the difference between home-based instruction and an ALE, the parent must sign documentation attesting that he/she understands the difference.
- Parents of students at HomeLink must remain on campus with their students. Any variance must be approved by the ALE administrator.

District Verification of Student Work

- The District will use reliable methods to verify a student is doing his or her own work. These include, but are not limited to:
 - Proctored examinations,
 - Proctored projects,
 - In-person presentations,
 - Real-time presentations using videoconference technology.