

COUNTYWIDE EXPELLED YOUTH PLAN 2006-2009

Educational programs within Shasta County provide numerous opportunities for students who are in need of traditional and/or alternative education programs. Individual school districts offer a broad spectrum of services and the County Office of Education offers additional options. This combination provides a continuum of alternatives to at-risk and expelled students.

A student whose behavior has resulted in expulsion is given a rehabilitation plan that is designed by the district of residence. This plan may involve several educational options, recognizing that California Education Code, Section 48916.1 states “The district or county program is the only program required to be provided to expelled pupils as determined by the governing board of the school district.”

A student who is simply in need of an educational alternative may also access various programs through a district and/or county referral process. The Shasta County Office of Education will continue to provide an educational option for expelled students. The philosophy of each school district or consortium affects how the Shasta County Office of Education Court and Community School program will meet the needs of that particular school district or consortium. Some school district or consortiums use the Shasta County Office of Education programs as educational options for those students expelled under district “no-tolerance” policy, while others use this program as a student assistance or placement alternative. The Community School is a permissive educational program that provides the local school districts with another educational option for their expelled youth.

Existing Alternatives for Expelled Youth

School districts located within Shasta County offer the following options for expelled youth, depending on the specific offense and Education Code violation:

- 1) Suspended expulsion with placement on the same school campus;
- 2) Suspended expulsion with placement on a different school campus within the district;
- 3) Suspended expulsion with placement on district Independent Study, if all parties agree, and other appropriate educational options are available;
- 4) Expulsion with referral to a district or consortium Community Day School program; or
- 5) Expulsion with referral to the Shasta County Office of Education Court and community School Program.

Existing Educational Alternatives for
Expelled Youth in Shasta County

The Shasta County Office of Education Court and Community School programs currently offer the following options for at-risk and expelled youth;

- 1) Educational programs located at:
Oasis Community School
Educational Resource Center
- 2) Phoenix program, a community school designed to meet the special needs of students with identified alcohol or drug issues.
- 3) Educational programs for incarcerated youth located at:
Richard B. Eaton School
Crystal Creek Regional Boys Camp
- 4) Independent Study program as an educational option, if all parties agree, and other appropriate educational options are available.

Districts and district consortiums offer the following options for expelled youth;

- 1) *Community Day School operated by districts and district consortiums located in the Anderson Union High School District, Cottonwood Elementary School District, Enterprise Elementary School District, Eastside Consortium (Bella Vista Elementary School District, Black Butte Union Elementary School District, Columbia Elementary School District, Junction Elementary School District, Millville Elementary School District, North Cow Creek Elementary School District), Fall River Joint Unified School District, Gateway Unified School District, Redding Elementary School District, Shasta Union High School District and the South County Consortium (Cascade Union Elementary School District, Pacheco Union Elementary School District, Happy Valley Union School District).*
- 2) Independent Study program as an educational option, if all parties agree, and other appropriate educational options are available.

County and District Gaps and Strategies in Educational Services

Through a countywide collaborative process, the following gaps have been identified in respect to providing educational services to expelled pupils. Following each gap is the suggested strategy for addressing the gap:

- 1) Smaller school districts within Shasta County generally expel very few students during the course of a school year; so few students are expelled that having a special class or program for such students, located in each district, is not financially or geographically possible. In addition, students who are expelled by individual small school districts within Shasta County, vary as to age, grade level, and expulsion offenses. The wide range of age, grade level, and seriousness of offense make it difficult to provide appropriate programs.

County/District strategy for addressing this gap:

- The Shasta County Office of Education will continue to provide a continuum of educational services to those eligible students placed or referred to the Court and Community School programs.
- Consortium or regional Community Day School programs may be developed to reflect geographical or limited numbers.
- Interdistrict agreements with clearly defined parameters will be explored.
- Private/public partnerships will be investigated.
- Independent Study, if all parties agree, and other appropriate options are available, may be offered.

- 2) Students in grades one through six who are expelled do not have the same educational options available as do expelled youth who are in grades seven through twelve, due to the limited number of students who are expelled in these lower grades. These younger students cannot attend the programs designed for middle and high school students. The numbers are growing, but generally are not enough to develop an elementary school classroom or program in each district.

County/District strategy for addressing this gap:

- Consortium or regional Community Day School programs may be developed to address limited numbers.
- Interdistrict agreements with clearly defined parameters will be explored.
- Private/public partnership will be investigated.
- Independent Study, if all parties agree, and other appropriate options are available, may be offered.

- 3) At the time an expulsion of a pupil is ordered, the governing board of the school district shall ensure that an educational program is provided to the pupil who is subject to the expulsion order for the period of the expulsion. The governing board is required to recommend a plan of rehabilitation. For expelled students who fail to meet the terms and conditions of their rehabilitation plan, who commit another expulsion offense, or who pose a danger to other students, the school district of residence continues to maintain responsibility for developing a rehabilitation plan for the student, ensuring that an educational program is provided either within or outside the school district.

County/District strategy for addressing this gap:

- A new rehabilitation plan may be developed, building on the strengths of the original plan, while maintaining the educational placement called for in the original plan.
- A new rehabilitation plan may be developed, building on the strengths of the original plan, but using a different educational placement than what was called for in the original plan.
- Private/public partnerships will be investigated.
- Independent Study, if all parties agree, and other appropriate options are available, may be offered.