



Alternative To Suspension Program

"It is not only what we do, but also what we do not do, for which we are accountable"
Jean-Baptiste Moliere

Alternative to Suspension Program

Goals:

- Provide a supervised alternative to an out of school suspension to students
- Handle infractions in non-judicial manner
- Help students understand the consequences of their behavior

Eligible Students:

- Students that are under the age of 18
- Parent/guardian willing to provide transportation
- Students that have had ongoing intermediate school incidents and have progressed through in school suspensions and/or detentions or have had a major school incident

Program Services:

Certain infractions of school rules can result in a student being suspended. The Alternative to Suspension Program has been designed to offer a supervised environment, which helps the student learn the consequences of their behavior while offering a non-judicial resolution.

Appropriate referrals would be minor drug and alcohol offenses on school grounds, minor weapon offenses, attempted theft, repeated personal conduct violations, battery between students, gang affiliated behavior (signs, colors, graffiti), gross disobedience, inappropriate use of school property (school phones, school computers) and other incidents as deemed appropriate by the home school and the Reporting Center Officials.

Acceptance into the program will reduce initial suspension by half or more, as we will round up. Example: A five day suspension will be reduced to three days at the Alternative to Suspension Program.

While the student is participating in the Alternative to Suspension program he/she may not attend or participate in any school activity or event and is prohibited from being on school district property.

Depending upon school policy the student will receive full credit for all work completed that is handed in on the first day the student returns to their home school.

All students are encouraged to complete cognitive worksheet(s) and will have the opportunity to discuss the seriousness of their actions with Alternative to Suspension Staff.

If the program is not completed successfully, the original suspension will be enforced by the school and the school is allowed to pursue any additional action. Special Education Students will follow home school guidelines.

Expectations of the schools:

- Confirm parent/guardian interest in program and willingness to provide transportation
- Complete written referral and required paperwork for each student, fax to 815-562-5653
- Provide homework assignments by 9:00 a.m. each day of the student's attendance, fax to 815-562-5653

Expectations of Reporting Center:

- Respond to initial referral on the day received and confirm homework status
- Review expectations with student upon arrival and answer any questions
- Contact school with any concerns and report all violations of the program rules

Expectations of Parents and juvenile:

- To provide or arrange transportation for students back and forth from the program
- To review dress code and guidelines with student and assist them in compliance
- Provide lunch for the youth attending the ATS program.
- To assist student in coming prepared with needed textbooks, assignments, and alternative reading