

OUTREACH EDUCATION

Background

HPSD believes in offering flexible outreach education programming through its Outreach Programs as an alternative for junior and senior high school students who, due to individual circumstances, find that traditional school settings do not meet their needs.

Procedures

1. Each Outreach program:
 - 1.1. has a unique Alberta Education school number;
 - 1.2. if in a standalone building, meets Alberta building, health and safety standards for schools; and
 - 1.3. utilizes only Alberta Education authorized curricular programs of studies.
2. Outreach Programs are funded to serve the needs of students:
 - 2.1. who are enrolled in grades 10-12; and
 - 2.2. who have difficulty with regular education programs such as at-risk students, teenage parents, students with unique medical or health challenges, working students and others with unique needs or learning styles.
3. When determining eligibility, the best interests of the individual student will be the deciding factor. Student acceptance will follow:
 - 3.1. consultation with the student, parent/guardian and principal to determine that the Outreach is the appropriate placement for the student;
 - 3.2. written consent from the student's legal guardian
4. The primary purpose of an Outreach program is to assist students to complete high school. Once accepted into the program, students will have a responsibility to work toward that goal.
5. Given space and resources at the Outreach, students may be able to blend their programming with a HPSPD high school.
6. The Education Act requires student to:
 - 6.1.1. attend school regularly and punctually (or as per the student's individual program plan);
 - 6.1.2. be ready to learn and actively engage in and diligently pursue the student's education;
 - 6.1.3. conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a safe and caring environment that fosters and maintains respectful and responsible behaviors;
 - 6.1.4. refrain from engaging or assisting in any type of violence and assist in violence prevention;
 - 6.1.5. comply with the rules of the school and the policies of the board;
 - 6.1.6. co-operate with everyone authorized by the board to provide education programs and other services, be accountable to the student's teachers and other school staff for the student's conduct; and
 - 6.1.7. positively contribute to the student's school and community.
 - 6.2. In addition, Outreach students:
 - 6.2.1. set learning goals to guide their studies;
 - 6.2.2. work on and complete courses at an agreed-upon schedule;
 - 6.2.3. meet the attendance requirements of the program;
7. Outreach program students will;
 - 7.1. have access to a certified teacher for the number of hours indicated in the *Guide to Education*;
 - 7.2. through the school or community agencies, have access to educational supports and services that are in addition to the Programs of Study such as:
 - 7.2.1. personal counselling,
 - 7.2.2. career counselling,
 - 7.2.3. time management, study skills, and learning strategies

8. Students may blend their programming with the Outreach while maintaining enrollment at a HPSD high school.
9. Students, in consultation with professional staff, will have the primary responsibility to develop and implement their individual programs.
10. The school leadership will be provided by a designated school principal, who may simultaneously share the principalship of another school.

References

Education Act, Sections 3, 11, 19, 31, 32, 33, 53

Outreach Programs Handbook 2009, Government of Alberta Education