

SADDLEBACK VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT PLAN FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR ALL EXPELLED STUDENTS

General Provisions

As required by Education Code 48926, the Orange County Superintendent of Schools has developed an expulsion plan in conjunction with the Superintendents of the school districts in Orange County. The plan provides for educational services to all expelled students in the county for school years 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21. A student whose behavior has resulted in an expulsion is provided a rehabilitation plan which ensures placement in an educational program and establishes the criteria for return to the Saddleback Valley Unified School District. All educational alternatives provided by Orange County school districts are not available to all expelled students. The type of offense, location of offense, grade level and nature of the student's individualized needs all have the potential to affect the educational alternatives available to the student during the period of expulsion. Students expelled for any of the offenses listed in subdivision (a) or (c) of Section 48915 of the California Education Code shall not be permitted to enroll in any district-operated program during the period of expulsion unless it is a community day school (E.C. 48915.2).

Educational programs with the Saddleback Valley Unified School District provide numerous opportunities for students who are in need of traditional and/or alternative educational programs. Although the Saddleback Valley Unified School District offers a broad range of services, the Orange County Department of Education may offer additional options not available in the District. This combination of programs provides a continuum of alternatives to expelled students.

A student whose behavior resulted in expulsion is subject to a rehabilitation plan designed by the Governing Board. This plan is personalized to provide the utmost opportunity for continued educational, social and emotional growth during the period of expulsion.

The Governing Board will provide the following options for expelled students dependent upon the nature of the expulsion offense. As indicated in the Orange County Expulsion plan, the options available to Saddleback Valley Unified School District after an expulsion decision include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Suspended expulsion with placement on the same school campus [E.C. 48917 (a)].
2. Suspended expulsion order, with placement on a different school campus within the district [E.C.48917 (a)].

3. Expulsion with referral to the Orange County Department of Education, Alternative, Community and Correctional Education Schools and Services (ACCESS) (E.C.1981).
4. Expulsion with subsequent transfer to another district.
5. Students who are identified as Special Education students, and who are expelled, will have their continued educational placement determined by the Individualized Education Program (IEP) team in accordance with Education Code requirements.

There continues to be a potential gap existing in providing educational services to some expelled students; the District and the Orange County Department of Education are working to develop strategies to address this potential discontinuity. This identified gap and the strategy used to address it is listed below:

Students in grades K-6, who have been expelled, have few educational options available to them outside the District due to the small number of students involved. The District and the Orange County Department of Education are addressing this gap through a study of regional programs designed to meet educational needs for this small number of students.

The Saddleback Valley Unified School District continues to maintain responsibility for developing a rehabilitation plan for the student, referring the student to an appropriate educational setting, and ensuring an educational program is available within or outside the District. In the event a student fails to meet the terms and conditions of the District rehabilitation plan, the student may be referred to a district school/program, or to an Orange County Department of Education operated program.

Saddleback Valley Unified School District Prevention Activities

District activities relating to the prevention of expulsions are outlined in the following chart:

Title of Activity	Description of Activity	Grade Level
Alternative to Suspension Classroom (ATS)	Off site on campus suspension program designed to address social emotional development, substance abuse intervention, life skills and academic progress during suspension.	7-12
Behavior Expectation Assemblies	Explanation of school rules and policies to students	7-12
Brief Intervention Counseling	Counseling strategy provided by Intervention Counselors/Counselors for students who are using or at risk of using alcohol or drugs.	7-12
Every 15 Minutes Program	Drinking and Driving prevention program	9-12
Gang Resistance Intervention Partnership (GRIP)	Gang prevention and intervention program	7-8
Grad Night Activities	Graduation activities sponsored by parents	12
Intervention Class	Students serve suspension with Intervention Counselor/teacher who can assist with addressing social/emotional and academic issues	7-12
Online Classes and Credit Recovery Opportunities	Online/Credit Recovery classes offered through Adult Education/Ingenuity	7-12
Positive Behavioral Intervention Support (PBIS)	Behavior management program	K-12
Parent Notification and Rights	Start of the year communication regarding policies	K-12
Parent Education	Parent information nights and classes (ex. Preparing for College, At Risk Parent Night, Parent Project, ATOD Prevention, Adolescent Trends, Mental Health Wellness)	K-12
Pepperdine Research Youth Diversion Education (PRYDE) Program	Counseling services for students who engage in alcohol, tobacco, other drug, and violence offenses on school campuses.	7-12
Red Ribbon Week	Parades, art contest, lunch time activities	K-12
Student Study Teams	School site teams that address students' academic and behavior issues	K-12
Signs of Suicide (SOS) Curriculum	Suicide prevention curriculum for secondary students.	7-12
Tobacco Use Prevention Program (TUPE)	Tobacco, Vaping and other drug education and prevention activities	7-12

Truancy Response Program (TRP)	Program coordinated with District Attorney's office to address truancy following the SARB process.	K-12
Wayfinders Presentations	Prescription drug abuse prevention education with students, staff, and parents.	7-12
Western Youth Services	Outreach and Engagement life skill presentations to students at ATS and other student groups to prevent bullying, drug use, peer pressure etc.	7-12

Service Gap 1

Expelled Students in Grades K-6

Students in grades K-6 who are expelled do not have as many educational options available as do expelled youth in grades 7-12. The separation of students in these grades does not apply to community day school. The number of community day schools in the county is limited.

Ongoing Strategies for Addressing This Gap

Students in grades K-6 who are expelled, may be served through the following District or County options:

- Transfers within the home district which may include district community day school.

The Orange County Department of Education has in the past reviewed the need for an elementary level regionalized Alternative Academy, Community School program. To date, an insufficient number of elementary students have been referred. This type of facility could be pursued in the future, with sufficient district buy-in and commitment to referrals. In the event such a program would be developed, students not living in close proximity to the regionalized program would require transportation arranged through the district of residence.

It is also suggested that districts support one another and offer alternative placement options whenever possible, taking non-mandatory expulsions (EC 48915) especially in larger districts with Community Day School provisions or Special classrooms on their sites.

Service Gap 2

Limited Special Education Placements in ACCESS

The county office is committed to expanded program options for students with exceptional needs that have been expelled from District programs. As identified through communication with SELPA and District-Special Education Directors, programs for emotionally disturbed and dual diagnosis (Emotionally Disturbed and Developmentally Delayed) students have been developed. In addition, the Division of Alternative Education (ACCESS) is continuously improving services for the lower ability, special education student to participate in community day school settings. When appropriate special education services cannot be accommodated through existing county office alternatives, the District of Residence will continue to facilitate placement to meet the needs of individual students through district and non-public agency/ school placements.

Ongoing Strategies for Addressing This Gap

District efforts to provide services to students within their attendance area have reduced the need for placements in ACCESS. Districts and ACCESS will provide ongoing monitoring of need for additional Special Education services for expelled students. The ACCESS program will respond to increased demands as conditions warrant in the future.

Programs for students in the Therapeutic Behavioral Intervention Class (TBIC):

- Continued expansion of cost effective programs for students is contingent upon location of school sites that can accommodate such programs.
- Continue the development of additional programs for students in TBIC.

Programs for low cognitive ability Special Education Students:

- Expanding program options for low-ability special education students are continuously being addressed through OCDE - Division of Alternative Education.
- The development of regional hubs to assess and provide basic skill instruction for students with low reading abilities is currently underway.

Service Gap 3

Rehabilitation Failures

Students sometimes do not meet the provisions of the expulsion rehabilitation plan and fall behind in their academic studies.

Ongoing Strategies for Addressing this Gap

- Districts need to utilize and expand existing collaborations to ensure student success with their rehabilitation plan. Districts need to develop the use of community non-profits and private programs to assist in carrying out individual student expulsion plans.

- Districts need to develop a procedure to communicate student success and concerns between the district of residence and the district of attendance.
- Smaller Administrative Units in ACCESS were developed to help promote communication between ACCESS and districts. Enhanced communication can promote student success and early intervention when students are not meeting the terms of the rehabilitation plan. In addition, communication is vital between the districts and ACCESS regarding the status of students who are returning to the district.
- ACCESS has a SARB process and will utilize strategies for dropout recovery including the Truancy Response Program to reach students who are marginalized during the expulsion process.
- District efforts to provide services to students within the attendance area have reduced the need for placements in ACCESS.
- The ACCESS program will respond to increased demands as conditions warrant in the future.

Service Gap 4

Mental Health Resources

There is concern of how to utilize Orange County Health Care Agency-Mental Health Services for expelled students, particularly during the summer months.

Ongoing Strategies for Addressing this Gap

Past efforts focused on improving communication between Mental Health services and districts. With new legislation, districts now have funding for Special Education services and can work with ACCESS to ensure that expelled students have access to their needed educational services.

PLAN FOR PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL SERVICES TO ALL EXPELLED STUDENTS IN THE SADDLEBACK VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

As required by Education Code 48926, the Orange County Superintendent of Schools has developed an expulsion plan in conjunction with the Superintendents of the school districts in Orange County. The plan provides for educational services to all expelled students in the county for school years 2024-2025, 2025-2026, and 2026-2027. A student whose behavior has resulted in an expulsion is provided a rehabilitation plan that ensures placement in an educational program and establishes the criteria for return to the Saddleback Valley Unified School District. All educational alternatives provided by Orange County school districts are not available to all expelled students. The type of offense, location of offense, grade level, and nature of the student's individualized needs; all have the potential to affect the educational alternatives available to the student during the period of expulsion. Students expelled for any of the offenses listed in subdivision (a) or (c) of Section 48915 of the California Education Code shall not be permitted to enroll in any district-operated program during the period of expulsion unless it is a community day school (E.C. 48915.2).

Saddleback Valley Unified School District Prevention Activities

As indicated in the Orange County Expulsion plan, the options available to the Saddleback Valley Unified School District after an expulsion decision include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Expulsion, suspended order, with placement on the same school campus [E.C. section 48917 (a)].
 2. Expulsion, suspended order, with placement on a different school campus within the district [E.C. section 48917 (a)].
 3. Expulsion with referral to a district community day school program, if available [E.C. section 48660].
 4. Expulsion with subsequent transfer to another district subject to acceptance by the district of proposed enrollment [E.C. section 48915.1].
 5. Expulsion with referral to the Orange County Department of Education, Division of Alternative, Community and Correctional Education Schools and Services (ACCESS) [E.C. section 1981].
- **What are the current educational alternatives for expelled pupils?** Students expelled in SVUSD can opt for a stipulated expulsion agreement. Those students typically are transferred to another comprehensive site within the school district. Students whose expulsions are enforced are typically referred to the county's ACCESS program for the remainder of the existing semester plus another full semester. Students are eligible to return to SVUSD upon completion of the required re-entry plan formulated with family and Student Services.
 - **Identify gaps in educational services to expelled pupils.** Students going through the expulsion process are offered Alternative to Suspension. The ATS teacher works directly with the school sites and teachers to receive assignments for students, as well as assist students with their work. However, an obstacle we face is Special Education services through ATS. While most students' specialized academic instruction can be met in ATS, a student who has speech or counseling services may not have access to those specialized services.
 - **Outline strategies for filling those service gaps.** Students who are in ATS that receive specialized services through their IEP are offered compensatory education through the Special Education office

and any services missed may be offered at an alternative date/time. This has been a successful option for these students.

Actual referral to a district alternative suspension/expulsion classroom or county community school is made by the Saddleback Valley Unified School District governing board with recommendations from the district discipline review board, School Attendance Review Board (SARB), or by another established district referral process as required by statute.

District activities relating to the prevention of suspensions and expulsions are outlined in the following chart:

Title of Activity	Description of Activity	Grade Level
Alternative to Suspension (ATS)	Off-site on-campus other means of correction programs designed to address social-emotional development, substance abuse intervention, life skills, and academic progress during the suspension.	7-12
ATS Connects	Upon completion of ATS, the teacher will continue to monitor the progress of attendance, academics, and behavior. Parental communication is done by the teacher to update on progress.	7-12
Behavior Expectation Assemblies	School sites participate in school-wide assemblies where school policies and expectations are covered	K-12
Brief Intervention Counseling	Counseling programs are provided by Counselors for students who are using or at risk of using alcohol or drugs.	7-12
Crisis Response Teams	SVUSD has dedicated staff members to assist students who are experiencing crisis. Our team pushes into school sites to assist students who are experiencing crisis. The team aims to provide social-emotional support to students and give them the tools necessary to adequately adjust to a potential loss or crisis.	K-12
Expanded Learning Opportunities Program	SVUSD provides an extended learning program for eligible students through The Learning Connection Plus, in a collaborative partnership with our Extended Learning Services Department. TLC+ is a structured after-school program designed to help children develop social, physical, and mental skills in a safe and nurturing environment. This program offers children in Transitional Kindergarten through 6th grade	TK-6
Friday Night Live	The Orange County Friday Night Live Partnership (OCFNLP) program involves youths in preventive endeavors within school campuses and community-based organizations. With the support of an advisor, young individuals concentrate on creating a positive influence regarding substance abuse prevention and addressing other issues impacting their schools and communities.	4-12

Gang Resistance Intervention Partnership (GRIP)	Gang prevention and attendance intervention program with the Orange County Sheriff's Department and the District Attorney's Office	K-8
Intervention Class	Students are directed to a dedicated class on campus where an Intervention Teacher is available to help address social/emotional and academic concerns.	7-8
Link Crew	Link Crew's goal is to provide schools with a structure in which students make real connections with each other thus increasing school safety and reducing the incidence of bullying with anti-bullying education. Through this program, freshmen learn that people at school care about them and their success, and leaders experience increased self-esteem as well as overall character development.	K-12
New Administrator Supervision Training	All new administrators receive training before starting their new assignment with the Student Services team. The training emphasizes using other means of correction to address problematic behavior.	K-12
Parent Education	Parent education nights are provided by the district. Areas covered included Fentanyl use, Internet Safety, and E-Bike Safety.	K-12
Parent Notification and Rights	At the beginning of every year, families are required to review the Annual Notification to Parents, as well as acknowledge they reviewed all material.	K-12
Pepperdine Research Youth Diversion Education (PRYDE) Program	Counseling services are provided to students involved in alcohol, tobacco, other drug, and violence incidents on school campuses in collaboration with the Orange County Sheriff's Department	K-12
Multi-tiered systems of Support SEB (PBIS)	District-wide behavior management program	K-12
Red Ribbon Week	Drug awareness and education program geared towards informing students of the physical and legal consequences of drugs and alcohol.	K-12
Restorative Practices and Community Circles	Emphasis is placed on perspective-taking, building community, and fostering strong classroom and schoolwide relationships to promote a sense of unity, rather than taking a punitive approach to behavior correction.	K-12
Secondary Assistant Principals of Supervision Meetings	Student Services organizes monthly meetings focusing on legal updates and best practices related to supervision, discipline, and attendance. During these meetings, regular reviews of schoolwide and district-wide suspension/expulsion data are conducted.	7-12
Signs of Suicide (SOS)	Suicide prevention curriculum for secondary students.	7-12
School Resource Officer (SRO) Intervention	Through our partnership with the Orange County Sheriff's Department SVUSD has 6 dedicated SROs	K-12

	to assist with intervening in student behavior. The SROs are actively engaged in the school culture and build rapport with students, families, and faculty to enhance student experience and learning.	
Student Study Teams	School site teams that address students' academic and behavioral issues.	K-12
Tobacco Use Prevention Program (TUPE)	Education and prevention activities concerning tobacco, vaping, and other drugs	7-12
Truancy Mediation	Program coordinated with the District Attorney and the Boys and Girls Club of Garden Grove to address truancy following the SARB process	K-12
Phoenix House, Orange County Health Care Agency, and Wellness and Prevention Center	Presentations on life skills for outreach and engagement are conducted for students at ATS and other student groups, aiming to prevent bullying, drug use, and peer pressure. The program comprises Tier 1 social-emotional classroom lessons, Tier 2 small group skill-building workshops for students, and Tier 3 parent/family intervention and support.	7-12
Second Step	A social-emotional curriculum rooted in evidence-based practices that instruct skills for conflict resolution, collaboration, fostering healthy relationships, and making sound decisions.	K-8

**RESOURCES/REFERENCES PAGE--
EDUCATION CODE - EDC**

TITLE 2. ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION [33000 - 64100]
(Title 2 enacted by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1010.)

DIVISION 4. INSTRUCTION AND SERVICES [46000 - 65001]
(Division 4 enacted by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1010.)

PART 27. PUPILS [48000 - 49703]
(Part 27 enacted by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1010.)

CHAPTER 6. Pupil Rights and Responsibilities [48900 - 49051]
(Chapter 6 enacted by Stats. 1976, Ch. 1010.)

ARTICLE 1. Suspension or Expulsion [48900 - 48927]
(Article 1 repealed and added by Stats. 1983, Ch. 498, Sec. 91.)

48926.

Each county superintendent of schools in counties that operate community schools pursuant to Section 1980, in conjunction with superintendents of the school districts within the county, shall develop a plan for providing education services to all expelled pupils in that county. The plan shall be adopted by the governing board of each school district within the county and by the county board of education.

The plan shall enumerate existing educational alternatives for expelled pupils, identify gaps in educational services for expelled pupils, and strategies for filling those service gaps. The plan shall also identify alternative placements for pupils who are expelled and placed in district community day school programs, but who fail to meet the terms and conditions of their rehabilitation plan or who pose a danger to other district pupils, as determined by the governing board.

Each county superintendent of schools, in conjunction with the superintendents of the school districts, shall submit to the Superintendent of Public Instruction the county plan for providing educational services to all expelled pupils in the county no later than June 30, 1997, and shall submit a triennial update to the plan to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, including the outcome data pursuant to Section 48916.1, on June 30th thereafter.

(Added by Stats. 1995, Ch. 974, Sec. 8. Effective January 1, 1996. Operative July 1, 1996, by Sec. 9 of Ch. 974, which was amended by Stats. 1996, Ch. 937.)

Program Summary: Program Summary - Countywide Plans for Expelled Students (CA Dept of Education)

Countywide Plans for Expelled Students - Educational Options (CA Dept of Education)

Countywide Plans for Provision of Educational Services to Expelled Students: Countywide Plans for Expelled Students - SSPI Tony Thurman

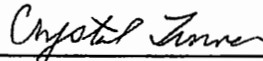
EXCERPT FROM BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

April 18, 2024

At the Regular Board of Education Meeting on March 7, 2024, on a motion of Trustee Swartz, seconded by Trustee Walsh and carried 5-0, the Board of Education for the Saddleback Valley Unified School District approved:

**14.b.4. Approval: Saddleback Valley Unified School District 2024-2027
Expulsion Plan**

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing is an excerpt from the Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting on April 18, 2024.



Crystal Turner, Ed.D
Superintendent