

2012-2013 Alternative Program

Changing family structures, drugs, alcohol, poverty, crime, teenage sex and pregnancy, mental health, and relocating housing are all risk factors for students in becoming unsuccessful in school. As our students experience these barriers, they often need an alternative educational setting with extra support to ensure their success-college and career readiness when they graduate.

It is no longer acceptable to be a Henderson County School graduate; it is acceptable to be a college and career ready Henderson County School graduate. Early intervention is a key for students who struggle. Our proposal to restructure our alternative programs is based on the need to have our students college and career ready with 21st century skills when they graduate.

Central Academy:

Our new philosophy is one of proactive intervention. Central Academy will blend the former CLC program (under a new philosophy) and HCA (with new criteria). Although students may be placed there because of frequent disciplinary issues, once they are at the alternative school, they may stay until graduation. Students will no longer be placed there for 9 weeks and sent back or placed for 18 weeks and sent back to their home school. As a Central Academy completes the 8th grade, it will be recommended for them to begin at the high school their freshman year, however, a transition committee will review each student's case.

Students will receive direct instruction and self-paced courses. Electives will be available to the students through the CTE unit, HCC, and Odysseyware. Twenty-four credits will be required for graduation. A completion letter will be given to the student upon the completion of the 24 credits and a Central Academy diploma given when the student's class graduates. Graduation ceremonies will be held at Central Academy.

Every student will receive one period a day of character education curriculum taught by a guidance counselor. The curriculum will teach students problem

solving, how to positively respond to other adults and kids, how to be a productive citizen, how to treat others with respect, civility, etc. Central Academy will be staffed according to current staffing numbers. No new staff will be needed.

The Day Program:

- Allow for 30 middle school students and 60 high school students.
- Students will be placed there for repeated disruptions in the learning environment and may have mental health concerns.

The Performance Based Program:

- Can take an unlimited number of students
- Will only take students that under 21 years of age.

Night School:

- Hour of operate 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm (compulsory)
- Drug and Alcohol violators will be placed in night school
- Instruction will be computer based and/or direct teacher instruction
- Therapy/counseling provided on a weekly basis

Intensive Classroom:

- Self contained classroom
- Students of grades 6-12
- Half day therapy/half day academics
- Specific collaboration with mental health providers

The referral process will occur through the DPP office. No longer will principals automatically place a student at CLC (Central Academy). Evidence of interventions, parent contacts, and student conferences will need to be completed at the home school before the referral is made.

Process

Conversations began in November and December to revisit the structure of our alternative programs (CLC and HCA). Discussions occurred about the entrance criteria, length of stay, reason students were returning to their home school, number of "slots" available to each school, test data, scores, dropouts, etc.

A decision was made to research high performing model alternative schools in the state of Kentucky. Steve Steiner, Jo Swanson, Darrell Daigle, and Marganna Stanley went and visited Boone County and Oldham County. Next step was to include more people, so we asked Lisa Horn, Lesli Werner, Chad Thompson, Ryan Reusch, and Lisa Crook to join Steve, Jo, and Marganna to travel to Jessamine County and spend a day at Providence School. Providence School holds the award for the Model Alternative School in 2009 and 2010. We learned much and it confirmed many of our ideas for change were the right thing to do for our kids.

That group then met on Wednesday afternoons, with three elementary principals, Rob Carroll, Brian Gardner, and Kasey Farmer, and Jeff Coursey, and Sally Sugg in March through May (10 meetings) to develop new philosophy and guidelines for CLC and HCA. We decided to blend the two programs, add an Intensive Classroom, and open up more "slots" for students at the alternative school (all with the same amount of money).

A district meeting was held in May with Keegan O'Daniel, James Taylor, Mike Brunner, Sabrina Jewell, and Cindy Cloutier to discuss food service, transportation, building and grounds, and technology needs.

Physical Changes that we know must happen:

- Three elementary EBD classrooms will need to be located in another elementary school (South Heights)
- PASS programs implemented at Jefferson, Bend Gate, East Heights, and South Heights
- HCA classrooms and labs will need to be relocated at CLC.
- One classroom at CLC will be designated as an Intensive Classroom

Summer Work:

- Review Universal Behavioral expectations (Tier I) at North, South and the High School, along with Tier II, and Tier III
- Align Odyesseyware curriculum with our curriculum maps, so that lessons and unit are taught in the same sequential order.

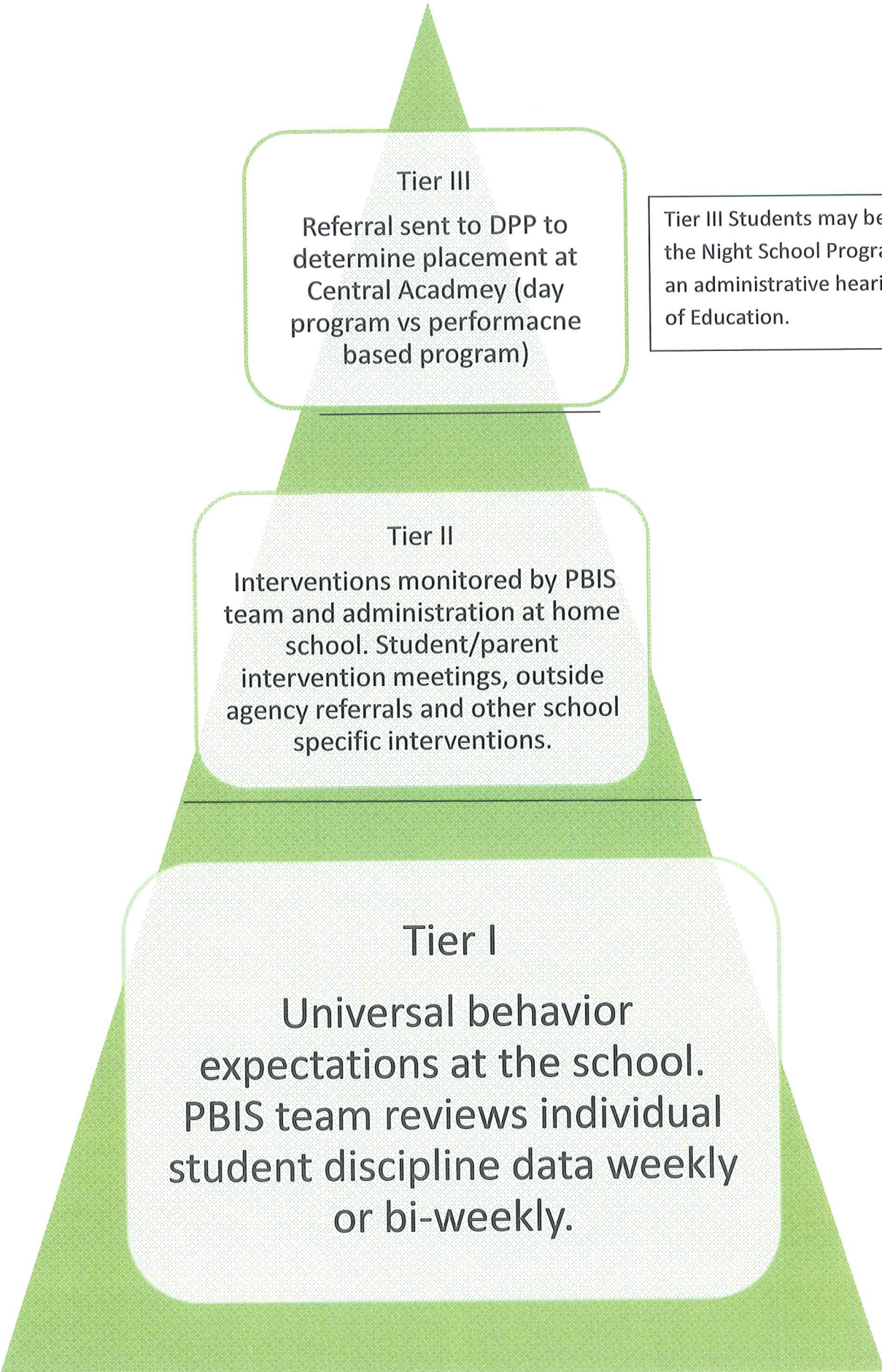
Student struggles with behavioral expectations at home school which is determined by the PBIS team reviewing individual student behavior data weekly or bi-weekly.

Student is placed in Tier II interventions at home school and monitored by the administration and PBIS team. Student conferences and parent meetings are documented. Outside agency referrals are made (if needed). Student not successful then...

Administration will complete referral form for Central Academy. The Henderson County School DPP will review the referral and discuss possibilities with Central Academy and the sending school for best placement of student (day program or performance based).

Student will be placed at Central Academy. Day Program: student may ask to return to his/her home school at the semester breaks, pending academic and behavioral expectation progress. Student may ask to stay at CA until graduation. Performance Based Program: Student stays until graduation. Student not successful in the day program or performance based program not appropriate then...

Students are placed in Night School by the Board of Education or through an administrative disciplinary hearing. Drug and alcohol policy violators will be placed on a Diversion Contract OR directly in the Night School Program.



Tier III

Referral sent to DPP to determine placement at Central Academy (day program vs performance based program)

Tier III Students may be placed in the Night School Program through an administrative hearing or Board of Education.

Tier II

Interventions monitored by PBIS team and administration at home school. Student/parent intervention meetings, outside agency referrals and other school specific interventions.

Tier I

Universal behavior expectations at the school. PBIS team reviews individual student discipline data weekly or bi-weekly.

Graduation Requirements

Students must complete a minimum of twenty-seven (27) credits in order to graduate from Henderson County High School beginning with the class of 2014. Students must complete a minimum of twenty-four (24) credits in order to graduate from Central Academy beginning with the class of 2013.

In addition to Carnegie units, students may earn credit toward high school graduation through the District's standards-based, performance-based credit system that complies with requirements of Kentucky Administrative Regulation. Procedures for the developing and amending the system shall address the following:

1. Conditions under which high school credit will be granted under the system that allow students to demonstrate proficiency and earn credit for learning acquired outside the normal classroom setting, outside of school, or in prior learning;

Performance-based credit may be earned while the student is still "in school," but the instructional setting will look different from a traditional "seat time" environment.

2. Performance descriptors and their linkages to State content standards and academic expectations;

At the high school level, performance descriptors and evaluation procedures shall be established to determine if the content and performance standards have been met.

3. Assessments and the extent to which state-mandated assessments will be used;
4. An objective grading and reporting process; and
5. Criteria to promote and support school and community learning experiences, such as internships and cooperative learning, in support of a student's individual learning plan. Such experiences shall be supervised by qualified instructors and aligned with State and District content and performance standards.
6. Students taking performance-based courses for credit toward graduation must be enrolled in at Central Academy the Henderson County Academy, CLC Evening Performance Based Program, or in the Credit Recovery Program at Henderson County High School or make application to the Principal/designee of Henderson County High School.

DIPLOMA PROGRAMS

All high school graduates of the District shall meet the requirements as written in one of three (3) career paths and the requirements of [704 KAR 003:305](#).

OTHER PROVISIONS

Students shall complete an individual graduation/learning plan that incorporates emphasis on career development.

Central Academy students will receive a letter of completion upon receiving twenty-four (24) credits and receive their diploma at graduation services.

The high school student handbook shall include complete details concerning specific graduation requirements.

Upon the Principal's request and District approval, a student may be granted the permission to receive credit for a successful completion of a performance based course at Henderson County High School.

Graduation Requirements**OTHER PROVISIONS (CONTINUED)**

When a student successfully completes a KVHS course, the credit shall apply toward graduation requirements and the grade received shall be used in calculating the student's grade point average. Students in grades 5, 6, 7 or 8 who score a "3" or higher on an advanced placement examination or earn a grade of "B" or better in a high school equivalent or a KVHS course shall receive credit toward graduation. (Please refer to Policy 08.1131 concerning prior approval for KVHS courses.)

PARTICIPATION IN GRADUATION

No pupil shall be permitted to participate in graduation exercises until all specified graduation requirements have been fulfilled, as determined by the Principal and staff.

DIPLOMAS FOR VETERANS

In keeping with statute and regulation, the Board shall award an authentic high school diploma to an honorably discharged veteran who did not complete high school prior to being inducted into the United States Armed Forces during World War II, the Korean conflict, or the Vietnam War.¹

REFERENCES:

¹[KRS 40.010](#)
[KRS 156.160](#); [KRS 158.140](#); [KRS 158.622](#), [KRS 158.860](#); [KRS 158.645](#); [KRS 158.6451](#)
[013 KAR 002:020](#); [702 KAR 007:125](#); [703 KAR 004:060](#); [704 KAR 003:303](#)
[704 KAR 003:305](#); [704 KAR 003:340](#); [704 KAR 007:140](#); [OAG 78-348](#); [OAG 82-386](#)
[Kentucky Core Academic Standards](#)

RELATED POLICIES:

08.1131, 08.1132, 08.136, 08.14, 08.22

09.126 (re requirements/exceptions for students from military families)

Adopted/Amended: 09/26/2011

Order #: 240

Alternative Credit Options

In addition to regular classroom-based instruction, students may earn credit through the following means.

ALTERNATIVE COURSES

Henderson County High School students may earn a maximum of three (3) units of initial academic credit to be applied toward graduation requirements by completing any combination of summer classes offered by the school, correspondence, Odyssey Ware and/or online-courses offered through agencies approved by the Board, ~~such as the Kentucky Virtual High School (KVHS).~~ Alternative credit may be earned only in the following circumstances:

1. The course is not offered at the high school;
2. Although the course is offered at the high school, the student will not be able to take it due to an unavoidable scheduling conflict that would keep the student from meeting graduation requirements;
3. The course will serve as a supplement to extend homebound instruction;
4. The student has been expelled from the regular school setting, but educational services are to be continued;
5. The Principal, with agreement from the student's teachers and parents/guardians, determines the student requires a differentiated or accelerated learning environment; or
6. Students taking such courses must be enrolled in the District and may take the courses during the regular school day at the school site only with Principal approval. Under ordinary circumstances, the student will take the alternative credit course outside of the school day.
7. Upon the Principal's request and District approval, a student may be granted the permission to exceed the maximum three (3) credit limit.
8. **The student is enrolled at Central Academy.**

As determined by school/council policy, students applying for permission to take an alternative course shall complete prerequisites and provide teacher/counselor recommendations to confirm the student possesses the maturity level need to function effectively in an alternative learning environment. In addition, the express approval of the Principal/designee shall be obtained before a student enrolls in a virtual course. The school must receive an official record of the final grade before credit toward graduation will be recognized.

Under ordinary circumstances, students or their parents/guardians shall pay for approved alternate credit courses the student chooses to take. However, the District will pay for the tuition and textbook cost for one (1) **KVHS virtual learning** course for full-time students, provided the **KVHS-virtual learning** course is part of the student's regular school day coursework and within budgetary parameters, of funds that have been allocated to the school. The Superintendent shall determine, within the budget adopted by the Board, whether additional funding shall be granted, based on supporting data provided by the Principal. The Board shall pay the fee for expelled students who are permitted to take virtual courses in alternative settings.

Through its policies and/or supervision plan, the school shall be responsible for providing appropriate supervision and monitoring of students taking virtual courses.

Early Graduation

Students may graduate early when required credits have been earned and when all other requirements have been satisfied.

CRITERIA

All students attending Henderson County High School must complete eight (8) full semesters of high school to graduate. Any early graduate must have the recommendation of **Henderson County High School Principal or Central Academy Principal** and the senior guidance counselor AND the approval of the Board.

Any student attending ~~Henderson County Academy~~ **Central Academy** will receive a letter of **completion** upon fulfilling the program's graduation requirements **and may attend graduation ceremonies at Central Academy at the end of the school year.**

RELATED POLICIES:

08.113

08.136

Adopted/Amended: 11/19/2007

Order #: 75

Alternative Education**ASSIGNMENT**

For conduct that disrupts the educational process, ~~a student may be assigned to the alternative education program by the Principal or the Principal's designee. The duration of assignment shall be fixed by the Principal, the Principal's designee, or a committee appointed by the Superintendent.~~ the Principal may refer a student to Central Academy through the district DPP office.

NOTIFICATION

The Principal or the Principal's designee shall notify the parents of their child's pending assignment to the alternative education program. The final decision will be communicated from the DPP office.

The notification shall include length and reason for assignment, expected behavior of the student, and notification that assignment may be extended or shortened depending upon the attitude and cooperation of the student.

SUPERVISION

The student shall be isolated from the regular school schedule and counseling services shall be provided when needed to address school-related problems.

REFERENCES:

[704 KAR 007:050](#)

[Student Discipline Guidelines](#), Kentucky Department of Education.

[OAG 77-419](#)

RELATED POLICIES:

08.13

09.123

09.426

09.434

Adopted/Amended: 08/09/1988

Order #: 34