

Santa Barbara School Districts

Administrative Regulation

AR 6184

Instruction

CONTINUATION EDUCATION

The Santa Barbara High School District, in order to provide a program for high school students whose needs are not being met by the District's large comprehensive secondary schools, has established two small specialized facilities which meet the requirement of Education Code 48401. The continuation schools should be viewed as positive alternatives to meet the social and educational needs of students who come to the schools seeking help and assistance. The smallness of the schools provides for a close relationship among students and teachers providing equal emphasis on academic instruction and personal guidance.

The programs of these schools are flexible enough to accommodate the individual's learning modes and the academic/social needs of the students. The primary goals of the continuation programs are:

1. To help students gain a high school diploma;
2. To help students gain the skills necessary to pass the State high school proficiency test;
3. To help students improve in the basic skills;
4. To help students develop positive attitudes and related characteristics;
5. To help students in the realization of their individual goals;
6. To help students in the development of effective human relationships;
7. To help students develop intercultural and interracial appreciation and understanding;
8. To help students gain necessary skills for admission to higher education, vocational training and/or employment;
9. To help students explore various career paths and opportunities.

ADMISSION TO CONTINUATION PROGRAMS

1. General

Any student who is eligible to be enrolled in one of the secondary schools in the high school district is eligible to attend continuation high school. Enrollment in the continuation schools will be voluntary except as limited by the Board Policy and Administration Regulation. Continuation schools should not be viewed as a routine placement for students with poor attendance or who enroll late, but should be a positive educational alternative for students with specific needs that can best be met at a continuation high school. Compulsory placement at the continuation schools will be upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools or the School Board. No student shall be involuntarily assigned to a continuation program by either the Board or the Superintendent unless the Superintendent has first offered the student and the parent or guardian the right to appeal the assignment at a hearing before the Superintendent or his designee (Education Code 48904.5). Such involuntary transfer to the continuation high school shall be subject to annual appeal by the student or the parent or guardian (Education Code 48905). Ninth grade students will be enrolled at Las Alturas where they will receive small group and individual instruction in the basic required ninth grade courses. Tenth through twelfth grade students will enter La Cuesta High School.

2. Procedures

- A. A student, student's parent/guardian or the school of attendance may make referral or request for enrollment. The school of current enrollment must endorse referral.
 - B. Student and parent/guardian will make an appointment to meet with the continuation counselor or principal.
 - C. This conference will include:
 - 1. Introduction to school;
 - 2. Evaluation of student's past school history;
 - 3. Discussion of student's education and personal goals;
 - 4. Suitability of this placement and discussion of other educational options.
4. If it is determined that admission to La Cuesta is appropriate, the student and family will fill out enrollment forms to be returned at a three-day orientation which consists of:
- A. introduction to staff and the program offered at La Cuesta;
 - B. familiarization with the rules and regulations of La Cuesta;

- C. diagnostic testing in math and English for the proper class placement.

After concluding this orientation program, students will enter the regular La Cuesta program.

5. If admission to Las Alturas is determined to be appropriate, the student and parent/guardian will meet with the head teacher at Las Alturas where the program will be more fully explained and the student will be enrolled at Las Alturas.

MINIMUM WEEKLY HOURS OF INSTRUCTION

The hours of continuation school attendance established by law are a minimum of 180 minutes (Education Code 46170). The actual programs are tailored to meet the individual student's needs and students are encouraged to attend more than 180 minutes per day. There are several options open to students attending continuation high school. The options are:

1. A four-hour daily program, which may be augmented by either, an early bird (before school) period or an afternoon class.
2. A minimum of four hours per week of classes for full-time work students.
3. Independent study.
4. Student's schedules will be adjusted to allow concurrent enrollment in R.O.P. or at S.B.C.C.
5. Additional flexible scheduling will be developed when needed.

SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS

Students who are currently identified as special education students will be directed to the Supervisor of Special Education before being considered for placement in the continuation school.

READMISSION TO THE REGULAR SECONDARY SCHOOL

Students may request readmission to their regular school of attendance at the end of any semester, unless the Superintendent or his designee denies such readmission in writing.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

To receive a high school diploma from the continuation high school, a student must complete the same requirements that exist for students in other secondary schools.

UNITS OF CREDIT

Units of credit are given at a rate of one credit for the equivalent of fifteen classroom hours of work.

STAFFING

Teaching in a continuation school is a very demanding job that requires a great deal of personal involvement with students. The necessity for a strong emphasis on guidance and a high degree of individualization of instruction requires a substantial commitment of time and energy. At the same time, there is the need to maintain instructional standards in terms of the scope and sequence of subject matter, the quality of instruction, and the expectations that are held for students. Consequently, the continuation school must place a strong emphasis on staff maintenance, renewal and development activities.

Legal References:

EDUCATION CODE 48904.5, 48904, 48401, 46170

Regulation: SANTA BARBARA ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS
Approved: August 19, 1976
Revised: June 3, 1982, September 8, 1999