
HOUSE BILL 2190

State of Washington 56th Legislature 1999 Regular Session

By Representatives Quall, Dunshee, Talcott, Haigh and Lantz

Read first time 02/17/1999. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to alternative learning experience parent
2 partnership programs; and adding a new section to chapter 28A.150 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.150
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 An alternative learning experience parent partnership program may
7 be counted as a course of study. An alternative learning experience
8 parent partnership program is an individualized course of study for a
9 student who is not homeschooled under RCW 28A.225.010(4), a private
10 school student under RCW 28A.225.010(1)(a), or an adult education
11 student. The alternative learning experience is provided in accordance
12 with a written alternative learning experience plan that is implemented
13 pursuant to the school district board's policy for alternative learning
14 experience parent partnership programs. The school district board
15 policy must have been adopted in a public meeting. The alternative
16 learning experience is provided by the school district and may be
17 conducted in part outside of the regular classroom. A portion of the
18 alternative learning experience may be provided by the student's parent
19 or guardian under supervision by the school district. An alternative

1 learning experience parent partnership program may be counted as a
2 course of study if the following requirements are met:

3 (1) Each school district claiming basic education funding for
4 alternative learning experience parent partnership programs shall have
5 written policies on file that:

6 (a) Require a written plan for each student participating in an
7 alternative learning experience that meets the minimum criteria under
8 subsection (2) of this section;

9 (b) Require that all alternative learning experience curriculum and
10 course requirements be approved by the school district;

11 (c) Describe how student performance will be supervised, evaluated,
12 and recorded by school district staff;

13 (d) Require that each student's educational progress will be
14 reviewed at least once during the first twenty school days and
15 afterwards at least once every forty-five school days and that the
16 results of each evaluation shall be communicated to the student and if
17 the student is in grades K-8, the student's parent or guardian. If the
18 school district determines that a student is not substantially
19 successful in completing the learning activities described in the
20 written alternative learning experience plan, a revised written plan
21 may be implemented. Any revised written plan shall be designed to
22 enable the student to be substantially successful in completing the
23 learning activities described in the revised written plan within ninety
24 school days from the date that the district first determines that the
25 student is not substantially successful in completing the assigned
26 learning activities included in the original written plan. If the
27 school district determines that the student is still not substantially
28 successful in completing his or her assigned learning activities after
29 ninety school days from the date that the district first determines
30 that the student is not substantially successful in completing the
31 learning activities included in the original written plan, or sooner at
32 the discretion of the school district, a plan to remove the student
33 from the alternative program shall be devised. Such plan shall specify
34 that the student shall be removed from the alternative program no later
35 than the end of the current school year for a period of at least one
36 school term. Students removed from the alternative program shall be
37 offered the opportunity to enroll in another course of study;

38 (e) Require that the alternative learning experience plan for each
39 student and all records of enrollment, attendance, and total hours of

1 participation in educational activities for the student are maintained
2 and available for audit in the appropriate school building;

3 (f) Ensure that board policies, student instruction, and the
4 instructional materials referenced in the alternative learning
5 experience plan are consistent with the United States and Washington
6 state Constitutions and RCW 28A.600.025; and

7 (g) At the discretion of the school district board, the policy may
8 describe responsibilities of the student's parent or guardian
9 including, but not limited to:

10 (i) Approval of the written alternative learning experience plan;

11 (ii) Responsibility for the parent or guardian to provide or
12 supervise a portion of the student's alternative learning experience if
13 the parent or guardian agrees; and

14 (iii) Requirements to meet with district staff for purposes of
15 evaluating the student's performance and/or receiving instructions on
16 assisting with the student's alternative learning experience. The
17 school district board may also prescribe requirements for appointing a
18 person to provide or supervise a portion of the student's alternative
19 learning experience in the event the student's parent or guardian will
20 not or can not be a participant in the student's alternative learning
21 experience;

22 (2) The alternative learning experience plan for a student shall be
23 a written plan of instruction designed to meet the individual needs of
24 the student, and shall be approved by a school district official and
25 any other person as required or allowed by school district policy. The
26 written plan shall include, but not be limited to, the following
27 elements:

28 (a) A schedule of the duration of the program, including beginning
29 and ending dates;

30 (b) A description of the learning activities the student is
31 expected to successfully complete. Such description shall be
32 sufficient in detail to guide and advise the student of the
33 expectations;

34 (c) A description of the teaching component of the program,
35 including where and when teaching activities will be conducted by
36 school district staff;

37 (d) A description of the responsibilities of the student including
38 a requirement that if, on average, the student attends school fewer
39 than five hours a week, the student shall meet one-on-one with

1 qualified district staff for an average minimum of sixty minutes every
2 five school days for instruction, review of the student's assignments,
3 testing, and/or other learning activities. If more than one student
4 meets with a qualified district staff member at one time, the required
5 time is increased proportionately, for example, the requirement becomes
6 one hundred twenty minutes if two full-time equivalent students meet
7 with the staff member at one time. Students enrolled in board-approved
8 distance learning programs are exempt from the requirements of this
9 subsection (2)(d); and

10 (e) A reasonably accurate estimate of the average number of hours
11 per month that the student will be engaged in learning activities to
12 meet the requirements of the alternative learning experience plan.
13 This estimate may be used in reporting enrollment in compliance with
14 subsection (3) of this section and must be based upon the criteria in
15 subsection (3)(a)(i) of this section;

16 (3) The full-time equivalency of students enrolled in alternative
17 learning experiences shall be determined based upon both (a) and (b) of
18 this subsection as follows:

19 (a) The number of hours that each student engages in learning
20 activities as determined by either (a)(i) or (ii) of this subsection as
21 follows:

22 (i) The total number of hours that the student engages in learning
23 activities under the written alternative learning experience plan
24 including:

25 (A) Those hours in which a student is engaged in teaching and
26 learning experiences conducted by school district staff;

27 (B) Those hours of work-based learning calculated that counts one
28 hour per scheduled school day as four hundred five hours of scheduled
29 work experience per school year;

30 (C) Those hours of learning activity other than those specified in
31 (a)(i)(A), (B), and (D) of this subsection that are provided by the
32 student's parent or guardian, or other person as designated by the
33 written plan, under the direct supervision of the district's qualified
34 instructional staff; and

35 (D) Those hours that the student participates in learning
36 activities other than those specified in (a)(i)(A), (B), and (C) of
37 this subsection. Such learning activity shall be pursuant to the
38 student's alternative learning experience plan and if the student is in
39 grades K-8, only includes those hours the student is supervised by the

1 student's parent or guardian or other person designated by the written
2 alternative learning experience plan;

3 (ii) The district may use the estimated average hours per month the
4 student is engaged in learning activities as stated in the alternative
5 learning experience plan that meet the requirements of (a)(i) of this
6 subsection. However, for any count date on which the student has
7 averaged, for the immediate two prior months during the current school
8 year, a number of hours engaged in learning activities that differ by
9 more than five hours a week from the alternative learning experience
10 plan estimate under subsection (2)(e) of this section, the district
11 shall adjust the full-time equivalency of the student for such count
12 date to the lesser of one or the full-time equivalency calculated using
13 the two-month average;

14 (b) The district shall exclude students meeting the definition of
15 enrollment exclusions or students who have not met with appropriate
16 district staff for twenty consecutive school days. Any such student
17 shall not be counted as an enrolled student until the student has met
18 with appropriate district staff and resumed participation in his or her
19 alternative learning experience or participated in another course of
20 study;

21 (4) The district shall keep on file in the appropriate school
22 building and have available for audit, documentation of all hours of
23 learning activities used to determine the student's full-time
24 equivalency including documentation of the following:

25 (a) For students in grades K-8, written statements from the
26 student's parent or guardian or other person as designated by the
27 written alternative learning experience plan. Such statements shall be
28 submitted to the district on a monthly basis or more often at the
29 discretion of the district and shall list those hours that the student
30 has engaged in planned learning activities while not in the presence of
31 district staff. Reported hours shall be used to determine the full-
32 time equivalency of the student under subsection (3) of this section;

33 (b) For students in grades 9-12, the student shall submit to the
34 district written statements on a monthly basis or more often at the
35 discretion of the district. Such statements shall list those hours
36 that the student has engaged in planned learning activities while not
37 in the presence of district staff. Reported hours shall be used to
38 determine the full-time equivalency of the student under subsection (3)
39 of this section; and

1 (c) Each student's educational progress in grades two through ten
2 shall be assessed at least annually using either the state assessment
3 provided the student's grade level or another assessment selected by
4 the school district if the state assessment is not provided;

5 (5) The school district shall either:

6 (a) Maintain a ratio of full-time equivalent certificated
7 instructional staff serving the annual average full-time equivalent
8 students reported for basic education funding under this section that
9 is at least equal to the district's basic education funding ratio for
10 the grade band of the students being reported for basic education
11 funding pursuant to this section; or

12 (b) Separately account for, document, and have available for audit,
13 evidence that the alternative learning experience parent partnership
14 program expends during the school year at least seventy percent of the
15 basic education entitlement claimed for students enrolled in
16 alternative learning experiences during the school year. Such
17 expenditures shall be direct expenditures in the following programs as
18 defined in the *"Accounting Manual for Public School Districts in
19 Washington State"* for the school year:

20 (i) Program 01, basic education; and/or

21 (ii) Program 31, vocational, basic, state; and/or

22 (iii) Program 45, skills center, basic, state.

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