

## 2010 Alternative Options Evaluation Recommendations and Responses

Recommendation 1: Increase the capacity for serving students district wide by creating more alternative options for students

Exploring opportunities to increase the capacity of alternative school students had already begun prior to the finalized report. Actions that are currently underway include:

- *An expansion of on-site services to students “at risk of suspension” at three high schools*
- *The exploration of increasing coordinated on-site services to students “at risk of suspension” to all high schools*
- *The exploration of coordinating current ISS efforts with staff training and program development at the middle school level*
- *A discussion of community/agency delivered services to hard to serve students*
- *The repurposing of SCORE to provide dual enrollment, eliminating unnecessary long term suspensions*
- *The submission of a business plan to increase alternative services K-12 for the 2011-2012 school year.*
- *The exploration of school and community services by the Prevention of Suspension PLT.*

Recommendation 2: Make information about the alternative education options more readily available and accessible and clearly specify the purpose and target population served.

*During the 2010-2011 school year, we will develop a link from the CaSS web page directly to in order to facilitate information regarding alternative schools and programs. Full development of program/school descriptions including target population, program focus and program delivery. The website will include links to alternative school websites to include referral process.*

Recommendation 3: Increase communication to base schools regarding the services available and student progress and establish a more standardized transition process.

*In order to provide increased and consistent communication to school staff, parents and interested community partners, common characteristics for all alternative schools and programs, as well as unique tiered services for specific sites will be articulated and published district-wide and on the alternative schools website . In addition, anticipated length of service will be published with program/school descriptions.*

*Transition to base services will be more fully explored, developed and deployed. Consistent recommendations for base school staff will assist schools as they serve students returning to their campus. Consistent guidelines for “re-entry” for successful students will be developed and base school staff will be identified for follow up and implementation.*

Recommendation 4: Frequently review and adjust alternative school allotments.

*Beginning with school year 2010-2011, distribution of non-instructional funds has been reviewed. As a result, schools have been provided a fixed dollar amount that takes into consideration supplies, materials fixed costs that are necessary to support the infra structure of each school. The amount will be reviewed annually.*

Recommendation 5: Increase the intentional building of protective factors at alternative schools to increase resiliency among students facing life challenges.

*Current supervision of existing alternative schools and programs, as well as the development of future schools and programs will incorporate systems, structures and activities that encourage the growth of protective factors and resiliency in students. Anticipated student outcomes will include improvement in reading and the development of relationships with at least one adult in the school/program.*