
HORIZON SCHOOL DIVISION**POLICY HANDBOOK**

Policy Code: HGBHA
Policy Title: Alternative Programs
Cross Reference:
Legal Reference: *Education Act, 19*
Alberta Ed. Policy 1.1.5
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Affirmation Date:

POLICY

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF HORIZON SCHOOL DIVISION SUPPORTS ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN A SYSTEM THAT IS FLEXIBLE AND PROVIDES A VARIETY OF LEARNING PROGRAMS AND MODES OF DELIVERY.

DEFINITION

Alternative program - an education program offered by the board that
(a) emphasizes a particular language, culture, religion or subject-matter, or
(b) uses a particular teaching philosophy.

GUIDELINES

1. When considering creating or closing an alternative program, the board shall consider:
 - 1.1. level of demand,
 - 1.2. student achievement,
 - 1.3. impact on financial resources, or
 - 1.4. impact on human resources

REGULATIONS

1. Alternative programs must comply with the Education Act, provincial regulations, and board policy.
2. Alternative program proposals shall be in alignment with Alberta Education's Alternative Programs Handbook.
3. The proposal for an alternative program may originate either with parents, community groups or with school division staff.
 - 3.1. The program proposal may be written by parents, the proponent group or the jurisdiction's administrative staff or with the groups working together.

Policy HGBHA – *Alternative Programs, Cont’d.*

4. Parent and community group proposals shall be submitted to the Superintendent at least one year prior to the anticipated implementation date.
 - 4.1. The superintendent may request additional information prior to proceeding with considering the proposal.
5. The Board shall review the proposal and may, by motion, approve the alternative program.
6. The Board shall, within sixty days of receiving the request, provide a copy of its decision along with conditions as determined by the Board.
7. If a parent enrolls a student in an alternative program, the Board may charge that parent fees for the purpose of defraying non-instructional costs incurred for the program that are in addition to the costs in providing education programs other than the alternative program.