

July 1, 2021
Thru
June 30, 2024

Colusa County Consortium Plan

For Serving Expelled Students

BETWEEN

Colusa County Superintendent of Schools Office

Colusa Unified School District

Maxwell Unified School District

Pierce Joint Unified School District

Williams Unified School District

Colusa County Consortium Plan for Serving Expelled Students

Introduction

Education Code 48926 requires a countywide plan, which shall include the following provisions:

- a. Enumerate existing educational alternatives for expelled youth
- b. Identify gaps in educational services to expelled pupils
- c. Identify strategies for filling those gaps in services
- d. Identify alternative placement for pupils who are expelled from districts within the county.

Educational programs within the County of Colusa provide a variety of opportunities for students who need traditional and/or alternative education programs. Individual school districts offer a variety of program options within their respective schools. The Colusa County Office of Education-Educational Services Department operates a Community School.

A student whose behavior has resulted in expulsion is given a rehabilitation plan that is designed by the district of residence. The rehabilitation plan may involve one or more of the options outlined. A student who is simply in need of an educational alternative may also access these programs through a Parent request, District and/or County referral process.

Education Code 48926:

Each County Superintendent of Schools in counties that operate a community school pursuant to Section 1980, in conjunction with superintendents of the school districts within the county, shall develop a plan to provide education services to all expelled pupils in that county. The plan shall be adopted by the governing board of each school district within the county and by the County Board of Education.

The plan shall enumerate existing educational alternatives for expelled pupils, identify gaps in educational services to expelled pupils, and strategies for filling those service gaps. The plan shall also identify alternative placements for pupils who are expelled and have been placed in district alternative education programs, but who fail to meet the terms and conditions of their rehabilitation plan or who pose a danger to other district pupils, as determined by the governing board.

Each county superintendent of schools, in conjunction with the superintendents of the school districts, shall submit to the Superintendent of Public Instruction the county plan for providing educational services to all expelled pupils in the county no later than June 30, 2021, and shall submit a triennial update of the plan to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, including the outcome data pursuant to Section 48916.1, on June 30th, thereafter.

Education Code 48916.1:

- a. At the time an expulsion of a pupil is ordered, the governing board of the school district shall ensure that an education program is provided to the pupil who is subject to the expulsion order for the period of the expulsion. Except for pupils expelled pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 48915, the governing board of a school district is required to implement the provision of this section only to the extent funds are appropriated for this purpose in the annual Budget Act or other legislation, or both.
- b. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any educational program provided pursuant to subdivision (a) may be operated by the school district, the county superintendent of schools, or a consortium of districts or in joint agreement with the county superintendent of schools.
- c. Any educational program provided pursuant to subdivision (b) may not be situated within or on the grounds of the school from which the pupil was expelled.

- d. If the pupil subject to the expulsion order was expelled from kindergarten or grades 1 to 6, inclusive, the education program provided pursuant to subdivision (b) may not be combined or merged with educational programs offered to pupils in any of the grades 7 to 12, inclusive. The district or county program is the only program required to be provided to expelled pupils as determined by the governing board of the school district.
- e. Each school district shall maintain data as specified in this subdivision and report the data annually to the State Department of Education, commencing June 1, 2021, provide data to the CCOE, on forms provided by the State Department of Education. The school district shall maintain the following data:
 - 1. The number of pupils recommended for expulsion;
 - 2. The grounds for each recommended expulsion;
 - 3. Whether the pupil was subsequently expelled;
 - 4. Whether the expulsion order was suspended;
 - 5. The type of referral made after the expulsion; and
 - 6. The disposition of the pupil after the end of the period of expulsion.
- f. When a school district does not report outcome data as required by this subdivision, the Superintendent of Public Instruction may not apportion any further money to the school district pursuant to Section 48664 until the school district is in compliance with the provisions of this subdivision. Before withholding the apportionment of funds to a school district pursuant to this subdivision, the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall give written notice to the governing board of the school district pursuant to this subdivision, the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall give written notice to the governing board of the school district that the school district has failed to report the data required by paragraph (1) and that the school district has 30 calendar days from the date of the written notice of noncompliance to report the requested data and thereby avoid the withholding of the apportionment of funds.
- g. If the county superintendent of schools is unable for any reason to serve the expelled pupils of a school district within the county, the governing board of that school district may enter into an agreement with a County Superintendent of Schools in another county to provide education services for the district's expelled pupils.

Existing School District Alternatives for Expelled Students

Each school district will take steps to see that services are provided for students who have an expulsion hearing. A student whose behavior has resulted in expulsion shall be given a rehabilitation plan that is designed by the district of residence. Any recommended placement should be monitored, and appropriate documentation maintained. This plan may involve one or more of the options outlined below.

The governing board of each school district will determine which educational alternatives are appropriate and available. Educational alternatives throughout Colusa County for students recommended for expulsion include, but are not limited to, the following options:

- 1. *Expulsion, suspended order, with placement on a different campus within the district;*
- 2. *Expulsion, suspended order, with placement in District Independent Study, if the parent consents;*
- 3. *Expulsion, suspended order, with subsequent transfer to another district following inter-district request processes;*

School Program;

5. *Expulsion with subsequent transfer to Community Day school within another district; or*
6. *Expulsion with referral to the Colusa County Office of Education Community School Program.*
7. *Because the goal of the community school is to reunify students to their home schools as timely as possible, districts could consider expulsion on a semester/case by case basis as well as a Resource Specialist to monitor the Rehabilitation Plan.*

Colusa County Consortium Plan for Serving Expelled Students

The Colusa County Board of Education and the Governing Boards of each school district within Colusa County believe that all students are entitled to an appropriate public education. Access to educational services will assist students to achieve their educational, career, and life goals; minimize future involvement with the Juvenile Court System for those students at risk; and maximize the opportunity for a higher quality of life.

The Colusa County Board of Education, the Colusa County Superintendent of Schools, and the Governing Boards for the four Colusa County School Districts shall make every effort to keep all students in a school where an appropriate education can be provided, including those students who are expelled.

Educational programs within Colusa County provide numerous opportunities for students who need traditional and/or alternative education programs. School districts in Colusa County offer a broad spectrum of educational alternatives, including, but not limited to:

- Counseling Services
- After school Tutoring
- Alternative Educational Programs, i.e. Continuation/Alternative High Schools, Independent Study, Home Schooling, In-House Suspension and Home Suspension
- DART/SARB Referrals
- Parent Contacts

The Colusa County Office of Education programs include:

- Colusa County Community School at the Education Village in Williams. (Hereinafter referred to as the “**S. William Abel Academy**”).
- Special Education Services
- Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Strategies embedded into curriculum
- Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) Framework, Tiers I-III
- Opportunity or Remediation/Tutoring during school hours
- Individual Learning Plan (ILP) meetings
- Public Transit Passes
- Nutritious breakfast and lunch
- Mental Health Services and Social Emotional Supports
- Intervention Strategies to Support Social Emotional Learning
- Educational Fieldtrips
- Career Technical Education (CTE)

- Community College Concurrent Enrollment
- Parent Contacts and Home Visits when necessary
- Collaboration with Colusa Behavioral Health
- Collaboration with Colusa County District Attorney
- Independent Study
- Collaboration with Colusa County Probation Department
- Collaboration with Colusa County Sheriff's Department

Collaboratively, the four Colusa County School Districts and the Colusa County Office of Education offer a significant continuum of services providing alternatives to students prior to expulsion and services for expelled and at-promise students. In the event, a district requires additional services beyond what CCOE has the financial capacity to provide, the district will be financially responsible for those specific services.

Colusa County Office of Education Overview

The Colusa County Office of Education Educational Services Department will offer an educational option for expelled and at-promise students through the Community School, provided ADA is adequate to support the program. The S. William Abel Academy program is a permissive educational program that provides the four local school districts with an educational option for expelled and at-promise youth.

Colusa County Office of Education Guidelines for Countywide Programs Serving Expelled and At-promise Students:

- Students will successfully complete an individualized learning plan that will enable the student to return to their home school or graduate from the S. William Abel Academy.
- Students will exhibit appropriate behavior and have good school attendance.
- Students will be provided a learning environment that is accepting of all students, increases resiliency and enhances self-esteem. This learning environment may include in-person instruction, distance learning, independent study, or a hybrid program.
- Students will be provided an academic program of instruction that is aligned to State standards and incorporates skills that will help them be socially and emotionally successful.
- Students will be assisted in making a smooth transition back to their home school.

Colusa County Educational Alternatives for Expelled and At-promise Youths

The Colusa County Office of Education offers the following options for expelled and at-promise youth:

- S. William Abel Academy at the Educational Village in Williams

Gaps in Educational Services

Six major gaps exist in respect to providing a comprehensive system of educational services to expelled students. Expelled students in grades 7-12 will be referred to the S. William Abel Academy at the Educational Village in Williams.

Gaps in Educational Services	Colusa County/District Strategies for Addressing Gaps
<p>1. The school districts in Colusa County are small and generally expel a small number of students during the course of a school year. Developing programs for such students, located in each district, is not financially possible. The districts and the Colusa County Office of Education must work to develop solutions that are both educationally sound and financially possible.</p>	<p>A. Depending on the Education Code violation, students may be placed on a suspended expulsion and allowed to remain on the school site with a mandatory behavior contract, terms and conditions.</p> <p>B. Depending on the Education Code violation, a student may be placed on a suspended expulsion and placed at a District Alternative/Continuation High School or in Independent Study, with a mandatory behavior contract, terms and conditions.</p> <p>C. An expelled student may possibly attend another district under a mandatory behavior contract, as determined by established inter-district agreements.</p> <p>D. Districts will continue to explore other possible means of discipline in lieu of expulsion when a student commits an expellable offense. Districts <u>will continue to explore other means of discipline prior to expelling a student.</u></p>
<p>2. The district-operated Community Day School option for expelled students, as described in current California Education Code, is difficult for the local districts to develop due to the following reasons:</p>	<p>A. The six (6) hour, or 360-minute day exceeds the required hours for a minimum school day (240 minutes), the required hours for a continuation school day (15 hours per week), and the required hours for students enrolled in the various elementary and secondary school programs.</p> <p>B. The District Community Day School program limits the available instructional strategies which can be used, such as contracted study, which limits the program flexibility required for success.</p> <p>C. The separation of students in grades K-6 from students in grades 7-8 also creates boundaries that will be financially and/or geographically difficult.</p> <p>D. The cap on the number of students able to be served by small districts severely limits the availability for each individual school district to operate their own Community Day School.</p>
<p>3. A student could be expelled from the District under Education Code 48915 and referred to either a Community Day School (if available), or the S. William Abel Academy. This student could then commit another violation of Education Code 48915, or simply not attend, and ultimately be referred to the original District. If the student fails the program or commits another expulsion type offense, there may not be any viable alternative remaining.</p>	<p>A. The S. William Abel Academy will develop, in collaboration with the Colusa County Probation Department, alternative strategies for those expelled students who commit another violation of Education Code 48915 while attending the S. William Abel Academy.</p> <p>B. The truancy notification process will begin on students with three (3) unexcused absences or three (3) tardies of thirty minutes or more. Probation will be notified immediately for those students on probation and not attending school.</p> <p>C. A Student Study Team may be established to evaluate the student's needs and suggest alternative placements.</p> <p>D. When all educational options available to Colusa County have been exhausted, placement in a contiguous county will be explored. Colusa County Office of Education will establish a reciprocal consideration relationship with surrounding counties to address the service gap.</p>

4. Students who are expelled by the individual small school districts within Colusa County vary as to age, grade level and expulsion offenses. The wide range of age, grade level and seriousness of the offense makes it difficult to provide appropriate programs for these districts.	A. Expelled students will be referred to the S. William Abel Academy. Academy staff will develop alternative strategies for working with these students. S. William Abel will offer curriculum for grades 7-12.
5. There are significant geographical distances between local small districts, thus the county operated Community School for districts would require either extensive busing, which is not financially feasible for the districts, or parent provided transportation, which is often impossible for the parents.	A. Colusa County Transit will be available at a minimum cost to transport students, a school van may be utilized for transporting students depending on enrollment numbers, and/or parents will be responsible to transport their children to school. Special Education Students may access transportation through the IEP process. B. Other transportation options continue to be explored.
6. Students in Kindergarten and grades one through six who are expelled will have to be served by their district of origin.	A. Elementary students may not be housed at the same campus as students in grades 7-12. Current Colusa County Office of Education programs for expelled students are all housed on a single site. B. A student may possibly attend another district under a mandatory behavior contract, per existing inter-district agreements. C. The elementary districts will use all their local alternatives in providing educational programs for their expelled students.

Process for Referral to the Colusa County Office of Education Community School

When a district determines that an appropriate educational option does not exist within the district for an expelled pupil or otherwise at-risk pupil, the district may refer the student to the Colusa County Superintendent of Schools' community school program (S. William Abel Academy), a different district school, another district program, a district Community Day School (if available). It is the responsibility of the district that communication be maintained with the parent and student until enrollment in the Community School or other school chosen occurs. The county will review the district Rehabilitation Plan and referral to develop an individual learning program for each student based on their individual needs and circumstances. Parents will be included and expected to work cooperatively in addressing the needs of their children.

The referring district shall provide the following documentation at the time of referral for enrollment:

- a. Completed SWAA referral form
- b. CSIS Number (California Statewide Student Identifier Number)
- c. Expulsion Rehabilitation Plan
- d. Attendance and discipline information
- e. Current transcript

- f. Most recent assessment data (SBAC, ELPAC, etc.)
- g. IEP/504 Plan (if applicable)

Educational Services will provide districts with progress reports and notification of a student's change in residence, termination from the program or completion of requirements for graduation.

Special Education

Any pupil referred to S. William Abel Academy that has an active (Individual Education Plan) IEP, must present a copy of his/her most recent IEP upon registration. The referring district will hold a change of placement IEP prior to sending the pupil and invite the appropriate S. William Abel Academy Staff. At the meeting, the IEP team will determine how the provisions of the IEP will be implemented at S. William Abel Academy. The Colusa County SELPA Local Plan will be followed for Special Education students enrolled in the S. William Abel Academy. SELPA coordination will be necessary to ensure that the pupil's needs can and will be addressed by appropriately credentialed staff. Every effort must be made to ensure compliance with PL 101476 in the event of a special education student expulsion. It is anticipated that S. William Abel Academy staff and CCOE SELPA staff will coordinate efforts to ensure continuity of IEP implementation.

Revenue

Revenue generated by the student ADA while in attendance at the S. William Abel Academy and any special one-time funds, constitute the source of funding for the school. In the event the costs of operating programs that have been requested by the districts should exceed revenue generated by ADA and associated funds, excess may be billed back to the districts based on their share of program use and upon agreement between districts and county office.

Districts agree to notify the county office by February 1, of the school year prior to implementing alternative programs of any decision that would result in a significant loss of ADA for the S. William Abel Academy. The notification would allow the county office to adjust staff size for the following year and present March 15 notification as required by Ed Code.

The monthly meetings of the Superintendents Council will provide a structure to facilitate dialogue between the Educational Services Department, S. William Abel Academy, and the districts to address curriculum coordination, graduation requirements, standardized testing, courses of study, and other topics of mutual interest.

Student Violations

Violation of Education Code 48915, section (C)

If a student enrolled in a Colusa County Office of Education Community School program violates any of the following sections of Education code 48915, section (c),

- a) Possessing, selling, or otherwise furnishing a firearm.
- b) Brandishing a knife at another person.
- c) Unlawfully selling a controlled substance.
- d) Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault.
- e) Possession of an explosive.

Program personnel will:

- Refer to the SWAA [Student Handbook](#) and based on the offense, apply consequences that may result in contacting the police department, probation, and/or recommendation for expulsion.

- Inform and work with the home district to find an appropriate placement.
- Inform the family of the option of attending a charter school in or out of the County.
- Offer the student the option of enrolling in another program operated by the Colusa County Office of Education if available.

Additionally, if a student enrolled in the S. William Abel Academy violates any of the following sections of Education code 48900,

- a) Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person.
- b) Possessed, sold or otherwise furnished any firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object.
- c) Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, or otherwise furnished, or been under the influence of, any controlled substance.
- d) Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any controlled substance.
- e) Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.

Program personnel will:

- Refer to the SWAA Student Handbook and based on the offense, apply consequences that may result in contacting the police department, probation, and/or recommendation for expulsion.
- Inform and work with the home district to find an appropriate placement.
- Inform the family of the option of attending a charter school in or out of the County.
- Offer the student the option of enrolling in the independent study program or other school program operated by the Colusa County Office of Education.

A student may choose to enroll in a different district, a charter or a private school at the parent's expense. The different district, charter, or private school, however, is under no obligation to accept or serve the expelled student.


Colusa County Educational Plan for Expelled Youth (AB922 Plan)

Section 48960 of the California Education Code requires each County Superintendent of Schools, in conjunction with the superintendents of the school districts within the county, to develop a plan for providing educational services to all expelled pupils in that county. It further requires that the plan be adopted by the Governing Board of each school district within the county and the County Board of Education. Finally, this Section requires that each county superintendent of schools, in conjunction with the superintendents of the school districts submit a triennial update to the plan. To demonstrate compliance with this legal mandate, the California Department of Education requires that the signatures of both the county and district superintendents be included with the plans to demonstrate that this process has occurred.


Your signatures below serve to verify that your AB922 plan has been updated and approved by your boards.


Michael P. West, Superintendent
Colusa County Office of Education

6-4-2021
Date


Jeff Turner, Superintendent
Colusa Unified School District

6/3/21
Date


Summer Shadley, Superintendent
Maxwell Unified School District

6/3/21
Date


Carol Geyer, Superintendent
Pierce Joint Unified School District

6/4/21
Date


Bill Cornelius, Superintendent
Williams Unified School District

5-20-21
Date