

EDB—Special Programs: At-Risk Students/Dropout Reduction

At-Risk Coordinator

The District shall designate one or more at-risk coordinators to collect and disseminate data regarding dropouts in the District and to coordinate the District's program for students who are at high risk of dropping out of school.

Dropout Reduction Plan

Each school year, the at-risk coordinator(s) shall prepare a dropout reduction plan that identifies:

- 1) The number of District students who dropped out in the preceding regular school term;
- 2) The number of students in grades 1-12 who are at risk of dropping out;
- 3) The District's dropout rate goal for the next school year; and,
- 4) The dropout reduction programs, resources, and strategies to be used during the school year.

The Board shall review and approve the plan and shall make it available to the public.

Exception

The District is not required to prepare a dropout reduction plan if fewer than 5% of its students are identified as "at risk" of dropping out, unless the District had 100 or more students drop out of school in the preceding school year.

At-Risk Students

In determining whether a student is at high risk of dropping out of school, the District shall consider the student's academic performance as well as whether the student is adjudged delinquent; abuses drugs or alcohol; is a student of limited English proficiency; receives compensatory or remedial education; is sexually, physically, or psychologically abused; is pregnant; is a slow learner; enrolls late in the school year; stops attending school before the end of the school year; is an underachiever; is unmotivated; or exhibits other characteristics that indicate the student is at high risk of dropping out of school.

Programs and District Plan

The District shall provide a remedial and support program for any student who is at risk of dropping out of school.

The District shall have a plan designed to retain students in a school setting. The District plan shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent or the designated at-risk coordinator(s) and shall:

- 1) Emphasize a comprehensive team approach that includes the Superintendent, Principal, parent/guardian, teacher, student, community service provider, business representative, or others;
- 2) Include objectives designed to meet the identified needs of at-risk students and to retain those students in school;
- 3) Be designed to use community resources that are available to serve at-risk youth;
- 4) Provide for parental involvement, such as participation in developing student academic plans and training programs for parents; and,
- 5) Provide for review of individual student data and development of individual profiles for at-risk students.

The District plan may also:

- 1) Provide for the referral of students who drop out to programs such as adult basic education, Job Training Partnership Act programs, or other options.
- 2) Provide an exemption for campuses that have an annual dropout rate of 5% or less.

Campus Level

The Principal of each campus shall implement the District's plan with due consideration for the unique characteristics and circumstances of that campus.

"Dropout" Defined

"Dropout" means a living student:

- 1) Who does not hold a high school diploma or the equivalent;
- 2) Who is absent from the school in which the student is enrolled for a period of 30 or more consecutive school days or who fails to re-enroll during the first 30 consecutive school days in the following semester or school year; and
- 3) Whose attendance within that period at another public school or a private or parochial school cannot be evidenced.

Utah Admin. Rules R277-419-5 (August 5, 2003)