

FCS Alternative Learning Program (ALP) Update





Objective

- To provide overview of current alternative learning plan and program participation
- To provide considerations for future plan as we look to next year





In consideration of COVID-19, instruction is being provided to students who are long term suspended through a virtual instruction format for the 2021-22 school year.

Alternative Learning at a Glance

Alternative Learning Program (ALP)

- Instructional Delivery is through APEX and/or NC Virtual Public School
- Staff includes Director/Facilitator, counselor
- Instructional support from school as needed
- EC placement-students are taught and instructed by EC Staff
- Disciplinary placement (EC and non EC) taught through ALP
- As of this presentation, all Long Term Students have been offered ALP.
- Enrollment, intake, and transition process is established
- Total of 20 students offered ALP thus far (6 have transitioned back to base school)
- 15 students currently enrolled



ALP Academic Participation (APEX) to Date

- Middle School-There are currently 5 Middle School students enrolled.
- High School-There are 9 High School students enrolled.
- High School students are experiencing more academic success than Middle School students. Several high school students finished their first semester courses for full credit. Students enrolled and working on second semester.
- Our Instructional Facilitator has provided guidance, pacing guides, resources, monitored progress, and encouraged participation.
- New students are in the process of enrolling currently.
- We are following up with the students and parents that did not enroll to encourage them to do so.



Pre-Pandemic to Present Placement Comparison
Note-These numbers represent Long Term Placement Only

Vine Academy (2018-19 entire year)	ALP (2021-22 to date)
17 Long Term Accepted Placements	15 Long Term Accepted Placements

Six (6) parents refused ALP placement. We are contacting them to ask them to reconsider. There are students in the Long Term/ALP process now that we are hoping to bring on board.





Statutory & Policy Requirements for Alternative Program

State Requirement-§ 115C-105.47A. Proposals to establish alternative learning programs or alternative schools. [Policy](#)

FCS Board Policy-3470/4305-[Policy](#)

Note: Policy requirements do not stipulate that instruction must be provided in an in-person environment





General Description/Instructional Delivery

- Students who are long-term suspended have the opportunity to participate in a virtual instructional program through Apex Learning.
- The district coordinator is responsible for assisting students in onboarding, enrollment in courses, monitoring their progress, organizing counseling and support sessions for students, and facilitating a plan for student re-entry to face-to-face instruction at the base school at the end of a semester or school year. The district coordinator will contact schools and principals as needed for support and follow up.
- Core classes (ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies) at the middle and high schools are managed through additional duty stipends for a district-designated, highly-qualified teacher who will monitor progress, grade assignments, etc. through Apex Learning. Additional courses such as enhancements, CTE, or highly specialized courses are not available to students in ALP depending upon the ability to provide virtually.
- Students in the Exceptional Children's (EC) program participate in instruction provided through the EC teacher at their base school via a virtual format.





Staffing

- Director (Based at CO)
- Counselor (Based at FHS but serving FCSAL)
- Teachers from base schools are available as needed for academic assistance
- Social Worker/Mental Health support is available as needed from base school





Contract Outlining Expectations:

Families (students, parents) must sign a contract for participation in the program.

This includes attendance and participation expectations. Students will be enrolled by semester and will transfer back into the school at either the end of semester or end of academic year, dependent on their individual circumstance.





Student Management/ Accountability

- Students who are enrolled in the program are coded to their base school for attendance purposes.
- We have established a mechanism for staff to track attendance and participation if enrolled in Apex Learning.



Next Steps

- We will evaluate the effectiveness of the current and previous model.
- We will develop the model of Alternative Learning for FCS.
- We will present that model to the Board of Education in time for implementation in the 2022-2023 school year.

