

INSTRUCTION

Special Education

The Superintendent recognizes the importance of planning, implementing, and evaluating the instructional programs and shall provide the resources necessary for ongoing review and improvement of those programs.

The Superintendent supports the concept that every individual with disabilities who is eligible to receive special education instruction shall receive a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment. Programs shall be in compliance with state and federal laws regarding the referral, identification, assessment, instructional planning, placement, program, and review of students with disabilities.

Instruction is based on each student's Individualized Education Program (IEP). Every student will be reviewed at least annually and reassessed at least triennially. A student may be reviewed at any time upon the request of the parent.

Non-public Service

Non-public, non-sectarian services may be provided under contract with the County Superintendent of Schools in the case of students with disabilities placed by court order in a licensed children's institution.

Non-public, non-sectarian school services, including services by non-public agencies, may be utilized to provide the appropriate special education facilities and/or services required by an individual with disabilities as specified in an Individualized Education Program when no appropriate public education is available in the El Dorado County Special Education Service Region.

There shall be compliance with state and federal laws and regulations regarding placements in non-public, non-sectarian schools.

Charter Community School and Home Study Academy

The Charter Community School's and Home Study Academy's philosophy is to encourage, engage and support individual student needs not currently being served within traditional school settings. The Charter Community School and Home Study Academy program is designed as a creative way to further serve those students who, for whatever reason(s), choose not to participate in traditional school programs. El Dorado County Office of Education has been a forerunner in broadening options for families to include, but not be limited to:

- Families choosing to homeschool;
- Students suspended, expelled or truant;
- CARE (Community Action for Responsive Education); a school-based

intervention program supporting students in need of additional emotional/ social and education support;

- Independent Study;
- Opportunities for Pregnant and/or Parenting Teens (O.P.) (Cal-SAFE)
- Pro-Teens – School-to-Career exposure program;
- Gifted and Talented programs.

The primary focus of our program is the client, with a constant dedication to continuous educational improvement. The program is community-based, serving individual students in a variety of environments augmented with a blended community service/school-to-career component.

Charter Community Day School TREC I and Charter Community Day School TREC II (Transitional Reporting Educational Centers)

These two charter programs are the result of an interagency collaboration between the El Dorado County Office of Education, El Dorado County Probation and Health Departments, and Tahoe Youth and Family Services. These programs are designed as an alternative to and/or a transition from incarceration for students in grades seven through twelve. TREC I is located in South Lake Tahoe; TREC II is located in Placerville.

Charter Extended Day

Charter Extended Day programs are designed to meet local community needs as reflected by requests from El Dorado County school districts and/or residents. Programs are offered before, during and/or after the regular school day, as well as during intersessions and/or summers. Programs included: educationally-based child care programs, enrichment classes, and summer day camps for school aged populations.

Child Development Program

The Superintendent recognizes the importance of the early years of development on future school readiness and success and shall provide the resources necessary to assure there are systems in place to provide for responsive, continuous improvement.

The Superintendent supports the core framework of child development theory that states that parents are a child's first teacher, children grow and develop in predictable milestones at various ages and stages, and that all children need to cultivate all domains of development (physical, cognitive, and psycho-social) in order to achieve their best potential. Programs serving young children and their families shall be in compliance with state and federal laws regulating health and safety, best practices for providing child development services, and funding terms and conditions.

Instruction is based on sound principles of appropriate educational practices for young children and curriculum models will be chosen that are grounded in research success. All children will be screened, assessed, and evaluated to assure early intervention services are accessed when needed.

All children will have an appropriate educational portfolio identifying current levels of development to help with transitions to other educational programs. Parents will be partners in the screening, assessment, and evaluation process of their children.

Juvenile Court School

The Superintendent is charged with the responsibility of governing a system of schools for the education of wards of the court in El Dorado County. The Superintendent will assume shared responsibility with the juvenile probation department for the physical, social, ethical, and moral development of the students. The County Superintendent of Schools will maintain schools and classes within the confines of El Dorado County juvenile hall and provide appropriate educational experiences for juvenile wards. To achieve that purpose, in concert with the rehabilitation goals of the El Dorado County Juvenile Probation Department, the County Superintendent of Schools will provide programs designed for the optimum educational development and career preparation of juvenile wards including wards with disabilities.

Rite of Passage

In addition, the Superintendent oversees a program called Rite-of-Passage. This program serves adjudicated youth ages 14 to 18 many with active IEP's. El Dorado County Office of Education ensures that these students are receiving a curriculum which includes K-12 basic skills, proficiency requirements, secondary course credits, GED (General Education Development) Test, and vocational training. The educational program objectives are the modification of attitudes and a strengthening of academic skills while focusing on their IEP goals so as to facilitate the return to school and society in a successful manner, as well as receiving certification in one of seven career paths.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

56000-56885 Special Education Programs

56300-56303 Identification

56040 Costs of educational instruction or services

56342 Duties of individualized education program team; review by local governing board; time limit, waiver

56365 Non public, non sectarian school services; contracts; allowances for services; tuition; report; out-of-state programs

56366 Non public, non sectarian schools; legislative intent; alternative special education service; contracts; warrants; certification; standards

56303 Referral for instruction and services; consideration and utilization of resources of regular education program

WELFARE AND INSTITUTION CODE

856 Establishment of schools; school facilities

881 Establishment; commitment; operation and administration

Title V, California Code of Regulations

Section 300 et seq. Handicapped Children

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq.

34 C.F.R § 300.1 et seq.