

## **Instructional Organization for Traditional, Alternative, and Innovative Programs**

### Traditional Programs

The basic organizational pattern of the schools shall be grades PK-5 (elementary school), grades 6-8 (middle school), and grades 9-12 (high school). Within this basic pattern, alternative forms of organization should be considered when they are in the best interests of the educational program and the needs of the students. All modifications in the basic organizational structure shall be subject to approval by the Board of Directors.

### Alternative and Innovative Programs

In compliance with Iowa Administrative Code and federal accountability measures, alternative and innovative programs may be established to meet the needs of students who, because of abilities, interests, learning styles, or situational factors, can be served more effectively outside the conventional school program. Alternative and innovative programs that involve a modification of the organization for instruction, resident attendance area assignments, or state and federally mandated curriculum shall be implemented only with the approval of the Board in accordance with state and federal regulations. Eligibility for participation in such programs shall be determined through criteria established by the administration. The effectiveness of the alternative and innovative programs shall be evaluated regularly by the District to ensure that the programs are meeting state and federal requirements, and that the achievement gains of the students are comparable to those of similar District students not enrolled in alternative and innovative programs.

Iowa Administrative Code 12.2(256) Definitions: Alternative Program, Alternative School

Iowa Administrative Code 281-41.51(8) General Education Environment

Iowa Code section 280.19A Alternative Options Programs

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