

Students
AT-RISK YOUTH

The School Board believes that the academic achievement of at-risk youth can be improved and that, with adequate intervention, the number of students “at-risk” will decline. Warning signs for the various at-risk categories must be taken seriously. District personnel must be concerned for the social, emotional, and academic development of students.

The Superintendent shall investigate and recommend programs which will address the needs of at-risk youth. At-risk youths include, but are not limited to, those students who abuse drugs or alcohol, exhibit suicidal ideation, exhibit serious attendance problems, are homeless, drop out of school, are abused, or are economically disadvantaged children.

The following guidelines are adopted in order ensure that at-risk youth receive the best benefit from the available educational system:

1. At-risk youth should have equitable access to educational opportunities, including appropriate and necessary support.
2. Adequate and equitable funding should be available to meet the needs of at-risk youth.
3. To the extent possible, the school staff should reflect the diversity of the student population.
4. School and community groups should stress the importance of education, the well-being of the individual, and respect for education and academic achievement.
5. Resources should be provided to eliminate inhibitors to positive academic performance of all at-risk youths.
6. Classroom learning experiences and the integration of primary prevention programs should be integrated into the classroom for all students, including those at risk.
7. Board policies and administrative procedures should support programs which are designed to reduce the number of at-risk youth.

8. All policymakers should participate in training sessions and/or information sessions to become aware of the issues surrounding at-risk youth and current programs which are designed to reduce the number of at-risk youth.

Roles and Responsibilities

Principals have responsibility for ensuring that all staff members are familiar with the early signs that a student may be at risk.

Staff members should alert the principal immediately in cases of concern and work together with the principal to address the problem, keeping the student's welfare as the first priority at all times.

A student deemed at risk will be contacted, along with their parent/guardian, advising them of their at-risk status, strategies to increase academic performance, possible consequences, and services available to students for advice, learning support, and assistance.

Arrangements will be made for the student to attend a compulsory meeting with a teacher. The meeting will provide the student with an opportunity to identify barriers to satisfactory performance and implement an action plan that will help achieve success.

Interventions and supports may include the following:

1. Mentoring programs;
2. Tutoring programs;
3. Earning high school credit through demonstration of subject area competency;
4. Adjusted curriculum options;
5. Career-technical options;
6. Mental health services;
7. Physical health services;
8. Family engagement and support services

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Adoption Date: