

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Utah State Board of Education

FROM: Aaron Brough
Data and Statistics Coordinator

DATE: February 4-5, 2016

ACTION: Designation of an Alternative School by the State Board

Background: S.B. 245 *School Grading Amendments* (2015 Legislative Session) defines rules for school grading. In addition to accountability calculations, the law defines an "Alternative School" to mean a school:

- (a) Established to serve youth who are not succeeding in a traditional school environment; and (b) ***designated as an alternative school by the State Board of Education.***

An Alternative School or a special needs school can request a school grading accountability exemption from the State Board and, instead, have the school evaluated using the alternative accountability provision. The Data Governance Policy Board discussed options and is seeking direction from the Board in setting up the process a school would need to follow to apply for this designation.

Key Points: There are schools assigned as alternative and special needs before the legislation was enacted that do not have the State Board designation. Staff will present a proposal to the committee outlining a process for schools to obtain authorized Board designation.

East Hollywood High School has submitted an application to be designated as an Alternative School, and Board approval is needed.

Anticipated Action: The Board will consider approval of the process for designating an alternative school under the school grading system. The Board will also consider the designation of East Hollywood High as an alternative school.

Contact: Aaron Brough, 801-538-7922
Rich Nye, 801-538-7550

Item 1:

Schools currently designated as exempt from School Grades Accountability System
(See Notes from 2015 SB0245)

Alternative Schools

	District	School	School Type
1	ALPINE DISTRICT	POLARIS HIGH SCHOOL	Alternative School
2	ALPINE DISTRICT	SUMMIT HIGH	Alternative School
3	BOX ELDER DISTRICT	DALE YOUNG COMMUNITY HIGH	Alternative School
4	CACHE DISTRICT	CACHE HIGH	Alternative School
5	CANYONS DISTRICT	DIAMOND RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL	Alternative School
6	CARBON DISTRICT	LIGHTHOUSE HIGH	Alternative School
7	DAVIS DISTRICT	MOUNTAIN HIGH	Alternative School
8	DAVIS DISTRICT	RENAISSANCE ACADEMY	Alternative School
9	DORIUS ACADEMY	DORIUS ACADEMY	Alternative School
10	FAST FORWARD HIGH	FAST FORWARD HIGH	Alternative School
11	GRANITE DISTRICT	GRANITE CONNECTION HIGH	Alternative School
12	GRANITE DISTRICT	YOUTH EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT SCHOOL	Alternative School
13	IRON DISTRICT	SOUTHWEST EDUCATIONAL ACADEMY	Alternative School
14	JORDAN DISTRICT	VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL	Alternative School
15	NEBO DISTRICT	LANDMARK HIGH	Alternative School
16	NORTH SANPETE DISTRICT	NORTH SANPETE SPECIAL PURPOSE SCHOOL	Alternative School
17	OAKGROVE SCHOOL	OAKGROVE SCHOOL	Alternative School
18	OGDEN CITY DISTRICT	GEORGE WASHINGTON HIGH	Alternative School
19	PROVO DISTRICT	INDEPENDENCE HIGH	Alternative School
20	SALT LAKE DISTRICT	HORIZONTE INSTR & TRN CTR	Alternative School
21	SEVIER DISTRICT	CEDAR RIDGE HIGH	Alternative School
22	TOOELE DISTRICT	BLUE PEAK HIGH	Alternative School
23	UINTAH DISTRICT	ASHLEY VALLEY EDUC CTR	Alternative School
24	UINTAH RIVER HIGH	UINTAH RIVER HIGH	Alternative School
25	WASHINGTON DISTRICT	MILLCREEK HIGH	Alternative School
26	WEBER DISTRICT	SUMMIT VIEW	Alternative School
27	WEBER DISTRICT	TWO RIVERS HIGH	Alternative School
28	YOUTH VILLAGE ACADEMY	YOUTH VILLAGE ACADEMY	Alternative School

Special Needs Schools

	District	School	School Type
1	ALPINE DISTRICT	DAN W. PETERSON	Special Needs
2	ALPINE DISTRICT	HORIZON SCHOOL	Special Needs
3	AMERICAN HERITAGE AT SOUTH JORDAN	AMERICAN HERITAGE AT SOUTH JORDAN	Special Needs
4	AMERICAN LEGACY ACADEMY	AMERICAN LEGACY ACADEMY	Special Needs
5	AUTISM BEHAVIOR TREATMENT CENTER	AUTISM BEHAVIOR TREATMENT CENTER	Special Needs
6	CACHE DISTRICT	SPECIAL SERVICES	Special Needs
7	CACHE VALLEY LEARNING CENTER	CACHE VALLEY LEARNING CENTER	Special Needs
8	CANYON SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS	CANYON SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS	Special Needs
9	CANYONS DISTRICT	CANYONS TRANSITION ACADEMY	Special Needs
10	CANYONS DISTRICT	JORDAN VALLEY SCHOOL	Special Needs
11	CANYONS DISTRICT	SOUTH PARK ACADEMY	Special Needs
12	CARBON DISTRICT	CASTLE VALLEY CENTER	Special Needs
13	CARITAS ACADEMY OF CLASSICAL CHRISTIA	CARITAS ACADEMY OF CLASSICAL CHRISTIAN EDUC	Special Needs
14	CARMEN PINGREE SCHOOL	CARMEN PINGREE SCHOOL	Special Needs
15	CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN SCHOOL	CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN SCHOOL	Special Needs
16	CLEAR HORIZONS	CLEAR HORIZONS	Special Needs
17	DANCING MOOSE MONTESSORI	DANCING MOOSE MONTESSORI RIVER PARK	Special Needs
18	DAVIS DISTRICT	STAR TRANSITION	Special Needs
19	DUCHESNE DISTRICT	CON AMORE SCHOOL	Special Needs
20	EVERGREEN MONTESSORI ACADEMY	EVERGREEN MONTESSORI ACADEMY	Special Needs
21	GRANITE DISTRICT	HARTVIGSEN SCHOOL	Special Needs
22	JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER	JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER	Special Needs
23	JORDAN DISTRICT	KAURI SUE HAMILTON	Special Needs
24	JORDAN DISTRICT	RIVERS EDGE SCHOOL	Special Needs
25	JORDAN DISTRICT	SOUTH VALLEY SCHOOL	Special Needs
26	KIDS WORLD	KIDS WORLD	Special Needs
27	MONTESSORI AT RIVERTON	MONTESSORI AT RIVERTON	Special Needs
28	MONTESSORI LEARNING CENTER	MONTESSORI LEARNING CENTER	Special Needs
29	MURRAY DISTRICT	MURRAY ADULT TRANSITION	Special Needs
30	NEBO DISTRICT	BRIDGES NEBO TRANSITION CENTER	Special Needs
31	NEBO DISTRICT	OAKRIDGE SCHOOL	Special Needs
32	NEW HORIZONS ACADEMY	NEW HORIZONS ACADEMY	Special Needs
33	OGDEN CITY DISTRICT	CONTRACTED SPECIAL EDUCATION	Special Needs
34	OGDEN CITY DISTRICT	SPEC EDUC ATC	Special Needs
35	OGDEN VALLEY MONTESSORI SCHOOL	OGDEN VALLEY MONTESSORI SCHOOL	Special Needs
36	PROVO DISTRICT	EARLY CHILDHOOD ED CNTR	Special Needs
37	PROVO DISTRICT	EAST BAY POST HIGH	Special Needs
38	PROVO DISTRICT	OAK SPRINGS SCHOOL	Special Needs
39	SALT LAKE DISTRICT	CHILDREN BEHAVIOR THERAPY UNIT (CBTU)	Special Needs
40	SALT LAKE DISTRICT	COLUMBUS COMMUNITY CENTER	Special Needs
41	SALT LAKE DISTRICT	PRIVATE SCHOOL	Special Needs
42	SEPS LEARNING CENTER	SEPS LEARNING CENTER	Special Needs
43	UTAH AUTISM ACADEMY	UTAH AUTISM ACADEMY	Special Needs
44	UTAH AUTISM ACADEMY	UTAH AUTISM ACADEMY AT CLEAR HORIZONS	Special Needs
45	UTAH CATHOLIC SCHOOLS	UTAH CATHOLIC SCHOOLS	Special Needs
46	UTAH SCHOOLS FOR DEAF & BLIND	BLIND REGION 2	Special Needs
47	UTAH SCHOOLS FOR DEAF & BLIND	CENTRAL REGION DEAF	Special Needs
48	UTAH SCHOOLS FOR DEAF & BLIND	JEAN MASSIEU SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF	Special Needs
49	UTAH SCHOOLS FOR DEAF & BLIND	NORTH REGION BLIND	Special Needs
50	UTAH SCHOOLS FOR DEAF & BLIND	NORTH REGION DEAF	Special Needs
51	UTAH SCHOOLS FOR DEAF & BLIND	SOUTH REGION DEAF	Special Needs
52	WASATCH CHRISTIAN SCHOOL	WASATCH CHRISTIAN SCHOOL	Special Needs
53	WASHINGTON DISTRICT	POST HS SELF-CONT	Special Needs
54	WEBER DISTRICT	CANYON VIEW SCHOOL	Special Needs

Recommended steps for requesting an alternative school or special needs designation:

1. Charter School or District submits a letter of request to USOE staff:
 - a. Utah State Superintendent
 - b. Chief Privacy Officer
 - c. Director of Assessment and Accountability
 - d. Director of Student Advocacy Services
2. Application reviewed by Data Governance Policy Board which will forward application to the State Board of Education (Board) with recommendations.
3. The Board reviews the application and makes a determination:
 - a. Standards and Assessment Committee
 - b. Full Board (Consent Calendar)
4. Designation of School Type updated in USOE warehouse database

Questions for consideration:

- How long should designation last?
- What is the process for Charter School/District to re-apply if designation expires?
- How often should the Board review the list of schools?

Notes from 2015 SB0245

Line

11 Highlighted Provisions:

12 This bill:

- 13 ▶ allows the State Board of Education to exempt certain schools from school grading;
- 14 ▶ requires the State Board of Education to evaluate a school that is exempted from
- 15 school grading in accordance with an accountability plan;

36 (1) "Alternative school" means a school:

37 (a) established to serve youth who are not succeeding in a traditional school

38 environment; and

39 (b) designated as an alternative school by the State Board of Education.

86 (5) (a) The board may exempt a school from school grading if the school:

87 (i) (A) is an alternative school; or

88 (B) is a special needs school, as defined by rules made by the board in accordance with

89 Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act; and

90 (ii) requests the exemption with the approval of:

91 (A) the school's governing board; or

92 (B) for the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, the school's advisory committee.

93 (b) If the board exempts a school under Subsection (5)(a), the board shall annually:

94 (i) evaluate the school in accordance with an accountability plan established by the

95 board through rules made in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative

96 Rulemaking Act;

97 (ii) report the results on a school report card; and

98 (iii) electronically publish the school report card in the same manner and at the same

99 time as other school report cards under Section 53A-1-1112.

November 4, 2015

Aaron Brough
Data and Statistics Coordinator
Utah State Office of Education
P.O. Box 144200
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Dear Aaron:

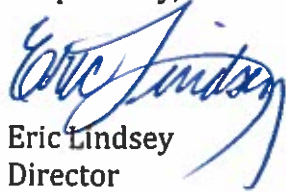
In a recent conversation with Ann White, she suggested I write you with a formal request that East Hollywood High School (EHHS) be given alternative school status. When EHHS was chartered, it was chartered with the express mission and purpose of being an alternative school that works with an at-risk population of high school age students. Since our charter was granted 11+ years ago, we have been true to that charter. Nearly all of our students are and have been considered at-risk of not graduating from high school. Our special education population averages between 20 and 25 percent. Well over 50% of our students are living in poverty. We are a Title I school.

Other than this letter of request, I am not certain exactly what is needed in this process. I am citing below quotes from the original EHHS Charter Application dated March 16, 2004. I am also enclosing minutes of the State Charter School Board meeting held on July 15, 2004, as well as the minutes of the State Board of Education meeting held on August 6, 2004. You will see in these minutes that our mission, as stated from day one, is to work with an at-risk population of students. Both boards unanimously voted to charter the school and board members were enthusiastically supportive of an alternative charter school, particularly one located on the west side of the Salt Lake valley.

Please give me a call or drop me an email with questions, or to let me know what else you might need in order to facilitate this request. My email address is ericwlindsey@gmail.com. My cell phone number is 435-881-2410.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Eric Lindsey
Director
East Hollywood High School

cc: Ann White, Director of ESEA and Special Programs
Utah State Superintendent Brad C. Smith

Quotes from East Hollywood High School original charter application:

“As a group of educators, business professionals and concerned community members, we have come together with the common goal of opening and operating a charter high school for at-risk students in the Salt Lake City area. Many of the students we will be serving have dropped out or are in danger of dropping out of the public school system. Others are seriously behind, many of age to be juniors or seniors with insufficient credit to graduate by the age of 19. We desire to provide a positive and exciting learning experience in an inviting, safe, and stimulating atmosphere.”

“Mission Statement: It is the mission of East Hollywood High School to provide a continuously challenging curriculum in a safe and nurturing learning environment for students who have been identified as being ‘at-risk’, and to prepare them for high school graduation. Our primary goal is to help students learn how to learn, to love learning, and to become responsible citizens and productive members of society.”

“For many reasons too many youth are becoming discouraged in their pursuit of a high school education and are dropping out of school. Every year in the Salt Lake Valley more than 3,600 high school students drop out of school, as shown in the Enrollment and Dropout Report submitted each year to the Utah State Office of Education by each school district in the state. It has been estimated that as many as three times that number are seriously ‘at risk’ of not completing their high school education. Many end up on the streets, contributing to a rising crime rate, drug abuse and gang-related problems. It is clear that populations with high at-risk characteristics are rapidly growing. This alarming trend only promises to worsen in the future unless positive steps are taken to reverse it. In an effort to help these students to complete their secondary education, to prepare them for adult responsibilities, and to reverse the trends cited above, we [are requesting] to establish a charter high school targeting at-risk students in the Salt Lake City area.”