

## Some Example Alternative to Suspension Programs in North Carolina Sponsored by Public Schools and Community Initiatives

Program	Description
<b>Community Service Programs - NC Dept. Public Instruction</b>	This initiative is aimed at innovative and successful strategies targeting students without supervision and structured activities during long-term suspension and expulsion from school. The Community Services Grant program will fund meaningful volunteer activities that enable youth to give something back to the community while learning to appreciate helping others and deterring them from delinquent activities. Placement sites for the community service component will provide structure, safe environments and non-academic learning experiences. It is hoped that the programs will create opportunities to establish model Community Service Program approaches capable of replication. Pilot Counties include Beaufort, Catawba, Carteret, Cumberland, Guilford, McDowell, Rutherford, Wake, and Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools
<b>Students Serving Our Community/ Students Online for Success, Wake County</b>	This program is one of the ten NC DPI Community Service Programs. Wake County was able to secure funding from Wake County Schools to add an academic component to their program. The program offers primarily high school students who have been long-term suspended the opportunity to perform volunteer work while continuing their education. During their 5 day week, students spend 2 of those days volunteering with a non-profit organization. For the remaining 3 days, the students are able to continue the courses that they were enrolled in while they were in the public school system through a computer based Curriculum Resource called Nova Net. The curriculum is based on the Standard Course of Study for North Carolina and contains all of the courses offered through Wake County Public Schools. It is self-directed and self-paced, giving the students the opportunity to move on to the next course level after showing mastery of the current course, if they choose to do so. However, since this is a pilot program and it is certified, the principal has the discretion of whether to accept the course credits when the student returns to school.
<b>BATS - Burke Alternatives to Suspension</b>	BATS, in Burke County has been recognized nationally as a program to discourage students from dropping out. Burke Alternatives to Suspension helps keep suspended students off the streets and in the classroom. If a student is suspended in Burke County, school officials bring both the parents and the student together and offer them two options. The first is the traditional suspension and the second is BATS. Students in BATS have the opportunity to choose between 14 nonprofit agencies to perform volunteer work during their suspended school days. They also devote a portion of their day to completing school assignments.
<b>Glenn Center- Cabarrus County</b>	Students in grades six through twelve suspended (out-of-school) for three or more days from schools in Cabarrus County are given the opportunity to serve their suspensions at the Glenn Center. In this program, students provide their own transportation and report to the Glenn Center for normal school hours. During these hours, students spend time completing homework assigned by their classroom teachers. The Glenn Center, operated as a division of Cabarrus County Schools, allows students the opportunity to receive one-on-one academic attention from certified teachers located on-site. Students participating in this program also receive full credit for completed assignments as well as for attendance.
<b>Project Stride – Wilson County</b>	Project Stride which began as a collaborative effort between Wilson County Schools and a community counseling agency and has since been developed into a school system program, is an example of an alternative to short-term (out-of-school) suspensions program with a counseling focus. Project Stride is located on the campus of a local counseling agency and serves students in grades six through nine. Students are given the opportunity to complete assigned homework each day and are awarded credit for both homework and attendance. The focus, however, of Project Stride is on behavior modification. Each day efforts are made to develop problem solving, decision-making, and other life skills.

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<b>Stay Up While You Are Out of Eastern North Carolina – Pitt County</b>	Stay Up While You Are Out of Eastern NC is an example of a program offering students alternatives to short-term (out-of-school) suspensions but operated solely by a community organization. This program, operated by a local faith-based organization, allows students in kindergarten through twelfth grades to earn partial academic credit for work completed during program participation. Attendance credit is awarded only if the student is at risk of failure due to numerous absences. The program operates with an academic focus, offering one-on-one attention for students. This specific program operates with an informal agreement with Pitt County schools. While students may be awarded academic or attendance credit, the school system is not responsible for students participating in the program.
<b>Alternative to Out-of-School Suspension Program at the Warlick Alternative School, Gaston County</b>	The Alternative to Out-of-School Suspension Program at the Warlick Alternative School in Gaston County is a school-based in-school suspension model funded solely by Gaston County Schools. While the program operates as a self-contained classroom, it is housed in the Warlick Alternative School, the school system's alternative learning program. The program has two school system staff members, one full-time teacher and one full-time teacher assistant, responsible for monitoring student academic progress while participating in the program. Students in grades six through twelve are awarded academic credit for attendance and completion of assignments if they choose to participate in the program as opposed to being suspended (out of- school).
<b>Behavior Intervention Center- Burns Middle School, Cleveland County</b>	The Burns Middle School's Chill Out/Time Out Program sends disruptive students to chill out/timeout classrooms, instructed by licensed teachers or other school staff, for the duration of the class period in which they were disruptive. The Center is used when students have gone to numerous time outs and their behavior has failed to change. A licensed school counselor oversees BIC in a small isolated classroom located inside the school. The students remain in BIC for the duration of the school day. The focus of instruction while in BIC is changing behavior patterns of students while continuing their school work.
<b>Project Re-Direct – Emma B. Trask Middle School, New Hanover County</b>	This program addresses the needs of short term suspended students. The program meets for half a day in an isolated on campus classroom under the instruction of a licensed teacher. While in Project Re-Direct, students focus on both academics and behavior. Because the program is so small, the teacher is able to give individualized instruction to the students. The students discuss the behaviors that caused him/her to be in the program and alternative actions they could have been taken.
<b>Genesis-Perquimans High School, Perquimans County</b>	This program addresses the needs of students that have been short-term and long-term suspended. Genesis is housed in a mobile unit and is coordinated by a school staff member. While in Genesis, students receive one-on-one instruction from the coordinator or with the assistance of a computer education program, Nova Net, which helps students improve their academic skills. The Genesis coordinator and the student meet one-on-one to discuss how the student's behavior can be modified so suspensions can be avoided. The students also take career aptitude tests, research various career fields, and complete a project in the career field they select.
<b>Community - Short Term Opportunity Program (C-STOP) - Isothermal Planning and Development Commission</b>	<p>C-STOP provides a non-punitive response to students identified as behaviorally "at risk" through out of school suspension: Priority to serve Juvenile Court referred or supervised, short and long term suspended students if no other educational placement is available. Staff assists each student in completing a risk assessment, and implementing an Individual Services Plan (ISP). Each student nominates a staff mentor at their "home school" who will support pursuit of their ISP goals. C-STOP embraces the "opportunity" to assist each student through successful return to their "home school" or by identification of an appropriate alternative learning program.</p> <p>C-Stop sites have been initiated in the following school systems: Cleveland, Henderson, Iredell-Statesville, McDowell, Polk, Rutherford, and Transylvania.</p>

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