



Developing a Strict Discipline Academy

Why go this route?

- Schools and communities face the problem of how to provide educational services to students that are expelled or given long-term suspensions.
- Schools and communities may wish to respond to the needs of a certain targeted population of students with a Strict Discipline Academy.
- Strict Discipline Academies provide school districts the ability to provide another educational option for students.
- For some students, a strict discipline academy is a more appropriate placement than a county detention or treatment center.

You'll know you've arrived when...

- Your community has established educational program options for students that have been expelled or given long-term suspensions.
- School districts that have expelled or suspended students are able to offer an optional educational and behavioral improvement program.
- Representatives from various appropriate community agencies have agreed to be part of the governing body.
- Financial resources or in-kind contributions have been committed from the various agencies.

Construction Zone

It's about TIME

- The process should be considered a long-term commitment. Establishing a Strict Discipline Academy may take two or more years.
- If you are applying for a state start-up grant, state requirements and time-lines need to be considered.
- Adequate time for significant planning sessions, data gathering, awareness, and cooperative initiatives will need to be agreed upon and scheduled.
- The governing board must be willing to commit the necessary time and focus for short and long term success.

Potential COSTS

- Obtaining a building site
- Building infrastructure needs... from building heat and water to handicap accessibility and maintenance support
- Preliminary budget needs to include
 - Staff salaries and benefits
 - Training
 - Student transportation
 - Instructional materials
 - Testing and evaluation
 - Technology
 - Supplemental materials
 - Food services



The Process

*A step-by-step
guide to developing
a Strict Discipline Academy*

NOTE: Steps marked with a  are accompanied by one or more inserts, included in this packet.

- 1 Identify the need** for providing students options for their education after they have been expelled. See INSERT for Step 1.
 - 2 Establish a planning committee**
 - Determine who will lead the team
 - Identify who the participants will be
 - Convene an initial meeting to identify purpose, norms, and timeline
 - 3 Determine** whether the prospective venture will be the project of one school district or a consortium of districts.
 - 4 Identify and survey** what non-school partners might want to be involved and ultimately be part of the development plan. Typically various family support agencies, community mental health, and the local court system have been willing to become partners.
 - 5 Become familiar** with the Strict Discipline Academy State Legislation (INSERT A for Step 5) and the Revised School Code Section 380 (INSERT B for Step 5).
 - 6 Contact the Office of Public School Academies** for guidance on writing the planning grant for establishing a Strict Discipline Academy.
 - 7 Contact various authorizers and submit** Phase 1 Charter Applications. *You cannot open a Strict Discipline Academy, or any public school academy (charter school) without a charter contract from an authorizer and a school code from the Michigan Department of Education.*
 - 8 Visit existing Strict Discipline Academies** and other similar school programs in order to determine which features and practices best fit your vision.
 - 9 Develop a grant writing** team charged with providing the vision and the planning procedures for your Strict Discipline Academy.
 - 10 Determine** who will be the members of the Strict Discipline Academy Board and select the administrator who will guide the process.
 - 11** After the grant has been awarded, **develop partnerships** with existing Strict Discipline Academies for guidance and mutual support.
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Getting more mileage from developing a Strict Discipline Academy

Developing a Strict Discipline Academy benefits your school in regard to the following initiatives:

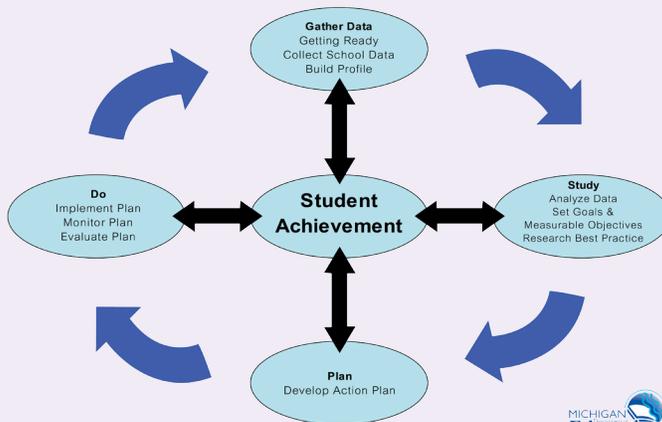
Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)

- Strict Discipline Academies have been established to enroll and provide educational programs for certain targeted populations of students that have been expelled or given a long-term separation.
- They provide an option not only for education but also for individual programming so students can successfully return to their local school districts if they choose.

State Accreditation System

- The development of a Strict Discipline Academy can be the response that schools and local communities need to consider for providing educational options that allow students to remain in their same residence, return to public school, and become successful students.

Michigan Continuous School Improvement Process (Mi-CSI) Michigan School Improvement Framework



Providing educational options for all students is critical to student success and should be part of the continuous improvement process of a school. This option should be monitored and evaluated frequently and data gathered to revise instructional practices.



Resources

Books, Articles, Websites

Public Act 23 of 1999

Public Act 21 of 2007

www.michigan.gov

People

For more information, contact:

Michigan Department of Education

Office of Education
Improvement and Innovation
517-241-3147

School Improvement Unit
517-373-8480

Curriculum and Instruction Unit
517-241-4285

Office of Assessment
and Accountability
517-373-0048

Office of Early Childhood
and Family Services
517-241-3592

Office of Field Services
517-373-3921

Office of Professional Preparation
and Teacher Certification
517-373-6505

Office of Special Education
and Early Intervention Services
517-373-9433

Associations

Michigan Association of Charter
School Boards (MACSB)
<http://www.macsbs.org>

Michigan Association of Public
School Academies
<http://www.charterschools.org/>

National Charter Schools Institute
<http://www.nationalcharterschools.org/>

Michigan Council of Charter
School Authorizers
<http://www.mccsa.us/>

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Compliance With Federal Law

The Michigan Department of Education complies with all Federal laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination, and with all requirements and regulations of the U.S. Department of Education.



www.michigan.gov/mde