**HANCOCK CENTRAL SCHOOL 4328**

**ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

The district will offer alternative school programs for those students who are unable to benefit from the learning experiences offered within the regular school program.

The alternative programs will be staffed by personnel skilled in dealing with students who have difficulty in adjusting to traditional school routine. The alternative programs will include opportunities for students requiring various approaches to learning, and will provide for the student’s participation in determining his/her individual educational program.

Students between the ages of 16 and 17 can, with parental permission, attend the district’s high school equivalency program. This program is designed for students who will not receive a high school diploma, but will, instead, prepare for the GED test. Such classes will meet in accordance with New York State law. Students enrolled in this program will have the opportunity to attend occupational educational programs. Students in this program will not receive a high school diploma since all courses are non-credit.

Students will also have the opportunity to be included in the district’s New Challenges Program, which is an objectives and activities program, designed to enable students to direct themselves toward obtainable goals starting with the completion of high school. Students enrolled in this program will meet with groups of four to nine for six to seven half-day sessions. This is also a non-credit program.

Selection of students to participate in the alternative school programs will be made according to state requirements and to criteria established by the program staff with the approval of the Superintendent of Schools and parent/guardian. At the secondary level, those criteria will reflect the urgent needs of students who have dropped out or are about to drop out of school.

A student in an alternative school program may return to the regular program when he/she and the program staff agree that he/she is ready to do so.

Cross-ref: *5100-R,* Student Attendance Regulation

ADOPTED: 9/27/93