

GRANITE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Alternative Education Program

2022-2023

Student Handbook



LAKE EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES CENTER

3201 East 23RD Street

Granite City, IL 62040

Website <https://www.gcsd9.net/10/home>

School Phone Number: 618-452-7864

Office Hours: 7:00 AM – 3:30 PM

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mr. Dennis Wilmsmeyer, President
Mrs. Zack Nunn, Secretary
Mrs. Linda Knogl, Treasurer
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Mr. Eric Stacy, Member
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Mrs. Micki Watkins, Executive Dir./Special Education/Region 1
Mr. Bradley Ervay, Direction of Information Systems/Student Services
Mr. Steven Mathes, Covid Renewal and Innovation Coordinator

JAMES J. GREENWALD ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Granite City CUSD #9
3200 Maryville Road
Granite City, Illinois 62040
618.451.5800
www.gcsd9.net

General Information

Hours of Operation

Alternative Education Program
Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Contact Information

Dr. Don Harris, Ed.D Principal donj.harris@gcsd9.net	618-452-7864
Christina Hill, Secretary christina.hill@gcsd9.net	618-452-7864
Officer Brandon Hartin School Resource Officer brandon.hartin@gcsd9.net	618-452-7864
Jeanne Burke School Nurse jeanne.burke@gcsd9.net	618-452-7864
Carissa Warfield School Social Worker (Intern) carissa.warfield@gcsd9.net	618-452-7864
Emilee Gilley AEP 5 th /6 th Grade Teacher edna.sinn@gcsd9.net	618-452-7864
Natalie Roy AEP 7 th /8 th Grade Teacher natalie.roy@gcsd9.net	618-452 -7864
Edna Sinn AEP 7 th /8 th Grade Teacher emilee.gilley@gcsd9.net	618-452 -7864
Eric Mitchell AEP 9 th – 12 th Grade Teacher eric.mitchell@gcsd9.net	618-452 -7864
Kyle Kozer AEP 9 th – 12 th Grade Teacher kyle.kozer@gcsd9.net	618-452 -7864

Jayma Shrum 618-452 -7864
AEP 9th – 12th Grade Teacher
jayma.shrum@gcsd9.net

Joe Valencia 618-452 -7864
AEP 9th – 12th Grade Teacher
joe.valencia@gcsd9.net

Staff

Lisa Jones:	5/6 Paraprofessional
Maryann Woodson:	7/8 Paraprofessional
Tisa Denzmore:	7/8 Paraprofessional
Kathy Miles:	9-12 Paraprofessional
Stacey Pfister:	9-12 Paraprofessional
Frank Haynes	Monitor
Franzy Pickerell:	Lead Cook
Robert Weathers:	Lead Custodian
Marc Mason:	Custodian
Bill Fithen:	Custodian

Mission and Goals for the Alternative Education Day Program

The primary purpose of the Alternative Education Public Day Program is to deter out-of-school suspensions and expulsions or removal from district so that a student's educational process is not interrupted. At the same time, this program is designed to hold students accountable for their behavior and equip them with a toolbox of coping mechanisms. Moreover, The Alternative Education Program is an in-district program designed to improve communication along with problem solving skills while addressing social/emotional aspects in the learning environment.

While attending the Alternative Education Program, students would continue to work on curriculum that aligns with their home school grade level curricula while receiving direct instruction from the teacher and paraprofessional at the center. Home school's will provide the same textbooks that are utilized in the classrooms of their respective buildings. Students will earn credit for completed work. The weekly social/emotional lessons will be incorporated and designed to:

- a. Improve communication skills
- b. Improve social skills
- c. Improve decision-making skills
- d. Prevent bullying/violence
- e. Instill a sense of responsibility and ownership for behaviors and actions.
- f. Learn Mindfulness techniques and how to regulate when dysregulated.

Program Guidelines

- Students MUST complete a Required Intake/IOEP Form.
- Students will learn in an environment where they are respected.
- Students will be responsible to respect others.
- IOEP Plans will address: academics, attendance, behaviors & transition to adulthood.
- Students are expected to adhere to District 9's behavioral rules and expectations, which are outlined in their home school Handbook. Placement at GC Alternative Education Day Program is determined on an individual student basis.

Entrance Criteria for GC Alternative Education Day Program

Student placement into the GC Alternative Education Day Program will be determined by school personnel in cooperation with the student's parent/legal guardian.

Determination of Placement at GC Alternative Day Program

- Collaborative meeting with administrator and parents/legal guardian
- Administrator recommendation

Reason for Placement at Alternative Education Day Program

- Failing grades and/or behind on credits
- Attendance issues - Truant
- Discipline – culmination of misbehavior and gross misconduct
- High potential for dropout

Length of Stay

- Students will remain at the Alternative Education Program per student's Academic Plan. Students may only return at semester break or at any time as determined by administration. Students will be required to meet the terms of the Individualized Optional Education Program goals and objectives.

Parent Communication

- Progress reports, quarter report card and semester report card
- E-mail and phone calls may be utilized to report progress or concerns
- Skyward
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- End of Year Student/Guardian/staff meeting

Attendance

Parents are responsible for notifying the school office of their child's absences. A report on each absence must be made by a parent or guardian within 72 hours of the absence before a student may be excused for an absence. If absent, please call the Lake ESSC office at 618-452-7864

Breakfast/Lunch

A free breakfast and lunch will be provided to all students. Breakfast will be served upon arrival and Lunch will be served from 11:20 a.m.-12:40 p.m.

SUICIDE AND DEPRESSION AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

Youth suicide impacts the safety of the school environment. It also affects the school community, diminishing the ability of surviving students to learn and the school's ability to educate. Suicide and depression awareness and prevention are important goals of the school district.

The school district maintains student and parent resources on suicide and depression awareness and prevention. Much of this information, including a copy of school district's policy, is posted on the school district website. Information can also be obtained from the school office.

National Suicide Prevention Hotline

Dial 988

Crisis Text Line

Text HOME to 741741 to reach a volunteer Crisis Counselor

Centerstone of Illinois, Inc. 24-Hour Crisis Line

(618) 465-4388

Chestnut Health Systems 24-Hour Crisis Line

(618) 877-0316

Students Responsibility

1. Door to door Transportation will be provided to the Alternative Education Program. Students will be picked up at their home, by bus, between 6:45 and 7:45 a.m. and will be returned home between 1:30 and 2:15 p.m. **Note: Students are not permitted to drive themselves to school.**
2. All students are required to eat lunch at the Alternative Center. Students may eat school lunch or they may bring a sack lunch from home. Drinks are limited to water or milk or anything the cafeteria offers.
3. While in attendance at the Alternative center, students will be expected to follow and obey all rules that are in the Student Handbook of their home school. **Cell/Smart phones may be brought to school, but must be completely powered off during school hours. To ensure phones are not a distraction, phones will be placed in a student's assigned zip lock bag and placed in classroom bins. The bins will be stored in a secure location in the classroom during school hours and returned to students prior to dismissal.** In addition, students will be expected to abide by all rules set by the staff at the Lake ESSC. Infractions may result in extended time in the Alternative Educational Program, out-of-school suspensions, or expulsion. Rules and consequences are posted in the classrooms.
4. While at the Alternative Education Program, students will receive assignments and tests provided by the alternative education teacher. Curriculum provided is aligned with the student's home school. Students will earn credit for assignments and coursework completed.

5. All students will be required to ride the school bus. If students arrive after 9 a.m. by some other means, the student will be counted as tardy and checked-in by parents at the office.
6. Students will be given restroom breaks at designated times throughout the day, escorted by program staff.
7. Students who are dismissed during the school day must be picked-up by a parent or guardian from the office.
8. During the time students are assigned to the Alternative Program, they may not participate in extra-curricular activities at their home school, unless approved by program staff and home school administrator. Students must be accompanied to all events by a parent.
9. Students beginning the Alternative Education Program will begin with at least a 59% in each class and receive a clean slate for academics.
10. Students will be required to address all program staff in a respectful manner and understand these teachers and paraprofessionals are equal to their home school teachers and staff.
11. Students will attend weekly support group/counseling sessions with a school social worker.

The information contained in the GC Alternative Education Day Program Handbook is supplemental to the rules and expectations of the student's Home School Handbook.