

Myths...

Students earn a lot more credit at Alternative School

Student at Eastside Alternative completed an average of 7 to 8 semester courses last year. That is about 4.0 credits compared to the 6.0 credits that a student would earn if they pass all of their course at a traditional high school in our District.

Students at Alternative school only have to do 2 hours of school work per day.

While student are only required to attend our school 2 hours per day, Monday through Thursday, those who are successful do more than the required 25 hours of school work per week.

Classes are much easier at Alternative school (they just give you "packets"?)

With no lecture and very little direct instruction, core courses like World History and Biology are very difficult. Math is done as a group with direct instruction. There is less time in class with your teacher. Lack of due dates and work at your own pace cause students to procrastinate and fall further behind. District adopted textbooks are used for the courses offered. We don't offer honors or AP courses at this point, but the courses may or may not be easier for you.

Myths...

If I have talked with a counselor or administrator at Olympic High and told them I am interested in Alternative, I am on the waiting list

No, there is more to the process of getting on the Alternative school waiting list. A student must actually come into our school before that happens. We must have a current application, your up to date transcript, and you must have taken entrance tests in Reading, Language, and Math at our school before you are put on our waiting list.

If I go to Alternative school I don't have to do the WASL test, (the High School & Beyond Plan, or the Culminating Project)

We hear all of the above, but you can be certain that all of the same requirements for graduation are in effect for Alternative school as well. You will be required to complete all of the same requirements that you would have at Olympic High School.

It's easy to go back to the regular high school at any time.

It can actually be difficult once you've entered the Alternative program to transition back to the traditional high school. It is very possible, but only at the beginning of a semester and some of the courses you need may not be offered during the semester that you return.

Frequently Asked Questions

& Myths

about

Eastside Alternative High School



Call us....662-2870

Eastside Alternative High School
Richard Arena - Principal

Questions...

If I enroll at Eastside Alternative, can I...

...Graduate from Olympic High School?

You may still walk with your class at Olympic High as long as you are in good standing and meet all of the District requirements for graduation. Our school has a separate ceremony that we encourage you to attend, but you may do both.

...Earn a diploma from Olympic High?

Alternative school does not have its own diploma. You will receive a diploma from the traditional high school you attended previous to enrolling in our school.

...Play sports or be involved in Olympic High activities?

You may still take part in all of the sports and activities at your attendance area school as long as you continue to meet District and State eligibility requirements for your chosen activities. This includes the ability to attend dances as long as you are in good standing with the school.

...Continue to take classes at Olympic?

A student who enrolls at Eastside may still take up to 3 classes per day at Olympic High. There are restrictions that apply to being a dual student and each student's situation may be different.

Questions...

After I'm on the waiting list, how long until I am enrolled?

This is one of the most difficult questions to answer. We have no control over how quickly the waiting list "moves". Openings happen as a result of students graduating or being withdrawn. We try not to withdraw anyone and how many credits our students need to graduate is different for every student every year. We estimate that only about 4 or 5 openings happen per month and sometimes less.

Does Alternative have school on Fridays?

There is no regularly scheduled sessions on Fridays, but do attend once per month for advisory meetings. Students also attend on Fridays by appointment to get in extra work, or at the teacher's request if they need extra time in class.

How many classes can I take at Alternative school?

We generally allow student to be taking three courses at one time, but they are given another course immediately upon completion of another. Again, there are exceptions to this when circumstances warrant a student taking more or less.

Eastside Alternative High School
Richard Arena - Principal
Robin Campbell - Coordinator
662-2870

Questions...

**Can I stay in all of my classes at Olympi-
cand just take the extra classes I need
through Alternative school?**

No, it is not possible to fund our school if we allowed students to stay in all 6 classes at Olympic High. A student may only be full time in one school.

Can I take the bus to school?

Transportation is not available to meet the Eastside Alternative session schedule. You can ride the school bus in the morning to Olympic High if you attend 1st Session at our school. There is no District transportation at the end of your school day at our school. If you are a dual student and you have a 6th period at Olympic, you may ride the school bus home.

Can I choose to attend any session I want?

We offer our math courses by session, so you may only choose the session that works for you based on what math course you need. If you are taking math at Olympic High it opens up each session to you. If you are a dual student your session choice will have to work with your Olympic High schedule.

You have three sessions, can I stay more than one session at Alternative School?

As a result of space, it is not possible to let students attend more than one session except by special permission.