

The ability to offer an alternative program that would meet the needs of students who cannot thrive in the traditional school setting would allow our at-risk students to prosper under a learner-centered program that features individualized instruction.

Bulldog Online Academy Mission Statement

All facets of the Bulldog Opportunity Academy will be planned and designed with the Centerville Abington Community School's corporation vision, "Educated for Success," in mind. The mission of the Bulldog Opportunity Academy is to provide students with a non-traditional academic program that will increase the number of students earning credits to obtain a high school diploma.

Program Description

Beginning in the fall of 2012, the Bulldog Opportunity Academy will operate in a classroom within Centerville Senior High School. Students in the academy will have a separate entrance and flexible hours. Students will be provided a laptop and internet access while in the school building. Students will be placed in a morning session that will meet from 8:30-11:00 AM and/or an afternoon session that will meet from 12:00-2:30 PM. The Bulldog Opportunity Academy will be staffed by licensed teachers who will facilitate the implementation of an online program called PLATO Learning. PLATO Learning provides researched-based online courses that are available anytime, anywhere and are designed to increase student achievement. All PLATO courses are aligned with Indiana State Standards and Common Core Standards. PLATO is accredited by the Northwest Accreditation Commission, which is a division of AdvancED. Centerville-Abington Community School Corporation is a district accredited by AdvancED. The courses are designed to enhance 21st Century Skills through an engaging and interactive curriculum. Students in the Bulldog Opportunity Academy will be allowed to attend the Whitewater Technical Career Center half of the day if they are pursuing vocational certification. Students may also earn credit for work experience and community service. Students in the Bulldog Opportunity Academy who are pursuing a general diploma must earn 40 credits to receive a diploma. Any student pursuing a Core 40 diploma must earn 48 credits.

Centerville Senior High School may use PLATO for students who meet the following criteria:

- Disruptive in the traditional school setting
- Withdrawing or has withdrawn from high school
- Academic problems
- Underachiever
- Credit recovery
- First time credit
- Attendance problems
- Truancy
- Teen parent or expecting mother
- Employment is necessary to support family
- Emancipation
- Alternative to suspension or expulsion

Process for Program Evaluation

The administrative team responsible for implementation will evaluate the program each semester. It will be essential to identify any problems with implementation and correct them in a timely manner. All teachers who are a part of the Bulldog Opportunity Academy will be evaluated as well. Each goal that has been identified will be assessed each semester and a full report will be given to the Centerville Abington Community School Board at the end of each school year. It is critical that the data be analyzed and adjustments made to successfully reach stated goals and help support students as they earn credits towards a high school diploma. As part of the grant requirements, the IDOE will visit within 90 days of program implementation to gain full grant approval. Once approved, the school becomes eligible for annual alternative education funding. The school will also invite other schools to view the program and offer suggestions for improvement.

Data Instruments

We selected the following instruments to collect data regarding student performance:

- Attendance & Graduation Rates
- Percent of Core 40 and Academic Honors Diplomas
- ISTEP+ End of Course Assessments: Algebra I and English 10
- NWEA: Measurement of academic progress
- PSAT Reading Score and Composite Score
- SAT and ACT composite score and reading score
- Advanced Placement results
- Locally developed vocabulary pre-test and post test results