

# ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS



## EXPECTED SCHOOLWIDE LEARNING RESULTS (ESLRS)

### EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATORS

- Convey significant messages to others both verbally and in writing
- Utilize technology tools
- Receive, interpret and use the messages of others in a variety of situations

### CRITICAL AND CREATIVE THINKERS

- Identify, assess, analyze, integrate and use available resources and information
- Use logical and effective decision making processes and competencies to develop something new

### SELF-DIRECTED, LIFELONG LEARNERS

- Assess their needs and apply appropriate strategies to learn the identified concepts and skills
- Use effective goal setting strategies to create a positive vision for themselves and their future in order to set priorities and achievable goals
- Establish and adhere to standards of behaviors that will aid positive moral, physical and emotional development and exhibit self-discipline and overcome obstacles by effective application of positive social and interpersonal skills
- Use self evaluation while implementing ideas, plans and projects

### COLLABORATIVE WORKERS

- Use effective leadership in group skills while establishing and accomplishing significant goals
- Develop cooperative relationships within culturally and organizationally diverse settings
- Contribute and function in various group roles
- Demonstrate teaching and learning in collaborative settings

### GLOBAL CITIZENS

- Create and adapt to change and diversity
- Develop and acknowledge the world's various viewpoints, belief systems and cultures
- Contribute to the welfare of self, community, nation, world and the environment
- Demonstrate skills in resolving personal and world conflicts through positive, non-violent alternative actions

### QUALITY PRODUCERS

- Organize, analyze, combine and assess essential data in order to create and construct models
- Develop, create and support intellectual, artistic and practical works
- Establish and use benchmarks for quality standards
- Implement and use advanced technology
- Create a product that illustrates understanding of basic reading, writing and math skills

**A**lternative Education is an option for students who are not finding success in the traditional high school.

Students enrolled in alternative education include students that: have adjustment problems; are seriously down credits; have parental responsibilities; or have special needs or must work. Alternative Education offers a flexible environment that provides an opportunity for these students to be successful. Each of the five Continuation High Schools and Independent Study have a broad-based curriculum that includes personalized instruction, work experience, vocational classes, counseling, service learning and varied delivery systems.

Classes are small with Independent Study (IS) being one-on-one. Alternative Education is an individualized open-entry/open/exit system with competency-based curriculum. Graduating students must meet minimum competencies established by the school district and state mandated graduation requirements.

Alternative Education in the ESUHSD is designed to meet the unique personal and educational needs of students who may have been unsuccessful in previous educational settings. The five high schools and the IS option have well-trained staffs and offer flexible programs. Each student has a Personalized Learning Plan (PLP) that allows for meeting the needs of his/her learning style and rate of achievement.

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# APOLLO HIGH SCHOOL

**“Family of Learners”**



**A**pollo High School is located on site at William C. Overfelt High School. It has a diverse ethnic student population of 80 juniors and seniors. Half of the students attend morning classes and half attend afternoon classes. Two multimedia presentation classrooms make learning exciting and interesting. Students are also offered concurrent classes, CCOC, Adult Education and many other choices for earning credits.

Apollo staff invite students to come to the school to get a quality education and to graduate.

Apollo High School offers students a challenging, integrated curriculum with lots of caring attention and positive support. The students are soon committed to helping themselves progress toward graduation.

Apollo is an alternative high school with the goal of graduating competent and successful young adults. The school is very proud of their “family” and their success in getting students back on track in their education.

Apollo offers 11th and 12th grade students who are down credits for graduation an opportunity to make up credits that the traditional high school cannot.

Students must be referred. They need to make an appointment to speak with the Associate Principal or counselor at their school of residence to obtain a referral.

All credits earned while enrolled at Apollo Continuation High School are applied towards a high school diploma and are transferable to any accredited institution.

#### ATTENDANCE AND CREDIT

Attendance is critical for Apollo students. Students must be on time and in class every day. Four hours must be completed daily in order for students to receive full credit. Loss of time due to lack of attendance equals loss of credit. A recovery time is assigned for those students needing to make up classes missed.

## APOLLO HIGH SCHOOL

### OFFERS STUDENTS....

- A high school education
- A chance to earn high school credits towards graduation through a variable credit program
- Self-discipline and responsibility
- Classes that build self-esteem and self-awareness
- Career and college planning
- Family conferencing
- Home family strengthening services as identified through our Multi-Service Team providers
- The opportunity for public service

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# GENESIS HIGH SCHOOL

## “High Academic Standards”

Located on the campus of Evergreen Valley College and working in partnership with the college, Genesis High School offers a unique opportunity for mature students.

The goal of the Genesis High School staff is to assist each student in earning a high school diploma by successfully completing the East Side Union High School District course curriculum and proficiency tests, while simultaneously challenging students to begin their college course of study and prepare for life in the 21st Century.

Genesis High School serves students who are in their junior and senior years of high school, but have not experienced success in the traditional high school programs. Genesis High School provides a small-school setting with high standards for each student and many opportunities for students to individualize their course work through the varied opportunities available at Evergreen Valley College.

The Genesis staff includes four academic teachers, an academic counselor, secretary/registrar and principal/coordinator. Staff members are experts in their academic field and committed to working personally with each student enrolled in the school. In addition, students are enrolled in college classes and will have various college professors for instructors.

Students major in areas such as:

- art
- automotive
- business, computer technology
- law enforcement
- music
- nursing

While enrolled in Genesis, students are enrolled in high school and college courses of study simultaneously. School work is rigorous and requires maturity and a commitment to graduate and pursue a higher education. Each Genesis graduate will be well on his/her way towards an Associate of Arts degree in college by the time he or she graduates from high school.



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### COUNSELING

Evergreen Valley College counselors are available to assist Genesis students in making wise choices for their future college course work, as they work towards completion of their AA degree.

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### ATTENDANCE AND CREDIT

Excellent attendance is crucial for success in both high school and college classes. All students must successfully complete one college class and earn a minimum of 30 Genesis credits each semester. Genesis classes are held from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Students are expected to also complete Advancement Placement (AP) projects every six weeks. College classes are taken in the morning or evening.

In addition, all students prepare an exit portfolio and participate in an exit interview prior to graduation.

All credits earned while enrolled at Genesis High School are applied toward a high school diploma and are transferable to any accredited comprehensive high school.

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### PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parents/Guardians are expected to attend an initial interview with the child. They are required to participate with the Genesis staff in supporting their student in achieving academic and personal success. Parents/guardians are expected to encourage and support daily attendance and call the school immediately to advise of illness or other emergencies. They are asked to volunteer to help by attending parent nights and parent conferences, participating on the school site council, and helping in the classroom and with special occasions.

Students must be referred. Parents/guardians need to make an appointment to speak with the Associate Principal or counselor at their student's home school of residence to obtain a referral.

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# PEGASUS

# HIGH SCHOOL

## “Another Road to Success”

An alternative high school, Pegasus serves students ages 16-19 who are at risk of not graduating because of missing credits. Started in 1991 as a separate ‘alternative’ school in the East Side Union High School District, Pegasus is located on the Independence High School campus. Pegasus has 120 students, six teachers, one counselor, one registrar/secretary, and one coordinator/principal. Each standard school day is three-and-a-half hours long, with 60 A.M. students attending from 7:50 A.M. to 11:25 A.M. and 60 students attending from 11:40 A.M. to 3:15 P.M. All Pegasus students are expected to do more than just attend the daily school session. Students are also expected to participate in at least one of the following: adult education classes, junior college classes, vocational training, CCOC, ROP, and/or community service.

Pegasus accepts students who may have dropped out or who have significantly fallen behind in credits necessary for graduation. Every student comes to Pegasus needing to make-up credits and “to get back on track.” Graduation from high school is the driving force behind Pegasus.

Students receive direct instruction in English, social studies and science/math. In their social studies class, students may receive credit in U.S. History, Civics and/or Economics. In English class, the focus is on becoming proficient in writing, speaking, reading, and listening. In math, students are given instruction in Algebra and Geometry. In the Integrated Science class, topics include scientific theory, time, cosmology, quantum mechanics, computer systems and networking. In all classes, projects, class participation and consistent improvement are the keys to success. The supportive environment that Pegasus provides encourages all students to accept personal responsibility and, once successful, to move productively forward to the next stage of their lives.

## STUDENT SERVICES

### HEALTH OFFICE

Pegasus students are allowed to use Independence High School’s free medical attention. Students use this service for everything from Band-Aids to advice on family planning.

### CHILDREN’S CENTER

Independence High School also offers free day care for young moms and dads. The ability to offer Pegasus students free day care removes one of the barriers that



may keep young moms and dads out of school.

### CLINICAL COUNSELING

Pegasus students can take advantage of Independence High School’s free one-on-one personal and crisis counseling. Students may obtain counseling on a wide array of topics, including how to deal with a difficult relationship and learning how to grieve the death of a loved one.

### ON-SITE-COUNSELING

Pegasus is extremely fortunate to have a full-time counselor on staff. The counselor provides support and counseling on a myriad of topics, including career planning, scholarships, credits, student loans, testing, and personal and academic counseling. All Pegasus students are encouraged to take advantage of this service.

### ENROLLMENT PROCESS

In order to enroll in Pegasus, a referral must be made. A counselor, a villa principal, or an administrator usually completes this referral. Then, the student and his/her parent or guardian attends a one-hour orientation with the Pegasus principal. All expectations are explained and both student and parent or guardian sign an agreement. This ‘Enrollment Agreement’ is the basis for success at Pegasus. After the one-hour orientation, each student takes a reading assessment test. Students will be expected to

complete some coursework independently and their reading ability is directly connected to their ability to successfully complete assigned work. Finally, all students will have a one-on-one interview with one of the Pegasus staff. Once accepted, the student withdraws from his/her home school and starts attending Pegasus High School.

## KEYS TO SUCCESS AT PEGASUS

Students must:

- attend school every day on time
- follow directions in class and complete class assignments at a “C” level or higher
- work independently at home on assigned homework (advancement period)
- be willing to manage their behavior to meet accepted levels of self-control
- demonstrate positive attitudes towards Pegasus, schoolwork and other students and staff
- avail themselves to educational opportunities outside of Pegasus (for example: CCOC, Adult Education classes, junior college classes)

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# PHOENIX HIGH SCHOOL

## “Personalized Instruction Leads to Success”

Phoenix is a small school of approximately 80 students that provides an alternative educational program. The school is physically located on the Santa Teresa High School campus, but is administratively separate and autonomous. The population is diverse both ethnically and academically. The professional staff consists of four teachers, one counselor, one part-time resource specialist teacher, a coordinator/principal, and a registrar/attendance secretary.

In general, students are juniors and seniors in high school who are significantly behind in their progress toward graduation. The curriculum consists of the core classes of English, social science, science and math. There are approximately twenty-five course titles available to students for credit toward graduation.

At Phoenix the primary goal is to graduate students who normally would not be expected to earn a diploma from the comprehensive high school. This goal is attained by individualizing and personalizing the instruction of each and every student at Phoenix. Students are re-connected to the academic life, to their families, and to their communities by pertinent, personalized, persistent interventions by the staff.

Phoenix’s mission is to provide students with educational skills, social skills, and social consciousness, through step-by-step accomplishments and to build student self-esteem, self-motivation, and self-determination to succeed in an adult world.

Students may earn 25 or more credits in one semester. Active adult guidance, supervision and intervention is provided for each student daily. Class size averages about



20 students. “Personalized instruction offers the opportunity for students to develop close relationships with staff members and progress toward high school graduation.” In this environment students are supported in their development of self-esteem and learn how to make commitments and keep them. Parents are invited to be positively involved with the school and the student thus greatly enhancing student achievement.

### WORK RELATED PROGRAMS

Phoenix students participate in a variety of work-related programs that improve job readiness. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in classes at Central County Occupational Center (CCOC).

### ATTENDANCE AND CREDIT

Attendance is critical at Phoenix. Students need to be on time and in a class each day. The school day is 3.5 hours long and must be completed in order to receive full credit for the day. Recovery time is required for students needing to make up absences and tardies.

### HEALTH SERVICES

Health Services, (including clinical counseling and mental health services), are available through the Student Family Center at Santa Teresa.

### **IN ORDER TO BE SUCCESSFUL AT PHOENIX, STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO DO THE FOLLOWING...**

- Be on time and in class every day
- Come to class prepared and ready to work
- Complete all assignments on time
- Be cooperative and respectful of students and staff
- Be a positive participant in all your activities
- Dress appropriately for school

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# EAST SIDE CADET ACADEMY

**“Providing Another Chance  
for Success”**



The East Side Cadet Academy (ESCA) is a unique public school option blending traditional educational goals with a military-type disciplinary structure.

The school is developed and funded by East Side Union High School District in partnership with the California National Guard and California Youth Outreach.

The school is located at the Family Life Center on the Cathedral of Faith campus.

Students/cadets attend a daily six-hour academic instructional program and an additional daily two-hour developmental and life skills enrichment program. They are in uniform from the raising of the flag at 9:00 a.m. to its lowering at 3:30 p.m. with an additional two hours of adjunctive education that is optional for all cadets attending the Alternative Placement Academy.

The students are under the direct supervision of credentialed teachers, instructional aides, youth outreach specialists and two military education instructors.

The primary mission and emphasis of the Alternative Placement Academy is to develop and produce students/cadets with a strong sense of personal self-worth, respect for self and others and who have the ability to accept personal responsibility. Students must also demonstrate basic academic and life skills and have the ability and desire to graduate from a traditional or alternative high school and/or complete the GED.

The ESCA Community Day School provides:

- Personalized learning plan for each student
- Adult/student ratio 5:30
- Co-educational

- Class size 15:1
- Age group 14 to 18 years old
- 6-hrs per day of educational & vocational programming
- Optional 2 hrs per day of leadership life skills, computer literacy
- Evening counseling and or recreational activities

The academic curriculum includes the core subjects of mathematics, science, social studies and English, as well as computer literacy skills and reading skills. The curriculum is based on the expectation that youth will be re-integrated into mainstream educational programs. Students who remain in the program may receive a high school diploma, complete the General Education Development (GED) requirements, pass the California High School Proficiency Exam (CHSPE) or develop a career plan for vocational training.