



San José
Unified
School District

Plan for Expelled Students
2024-2027
Education Codes 48916.1 and 48926

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SAN JOSÉ UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT PLAN FOR EXPELLED YOUTH

San José Unified School District believes in a multi-tiered approach to interventions that support students' success in a comprehensive school setting. In addition to our tiered interventions approach noted below, we provide staff with professional development to improve their ability to work with all students; these training offerings include but are not limited to Trauma-Informed Practices, Gender Spectrum, Grace Dearborn Conscious Classroom Management, Restorative Practices Training, and Safety Care De-escalation Strategies. We continue to expand our community partnerships with organizations that support our students, such as the Santa Clara County Office of Education and Department of Family and Children's Services, School-Based Intervention Teams, Restorative Response Teams, and agreements with outside providers that support behavioral and mental health for students. Additionally, we are in the process of implementing wellness centers on our secondary school campuses to help eliminate barriers to receiving mental health services for our students.

District Overview and Intervention Practices

San José Unified School District is the largest K-12 school district in Santa Clara County, serving 26,000 students and families throughout the San José area. San José Unified School District uses a multi-tiered approach to a positive school climate and culture as a primary intervention to ensure our students' success. SJUSD provides many early intervention strategies at the comprehensive and alternative school sites. In order to minimize the number of both suspensions and expulsions, the district provides intervention strategies for all grade levels, TK-12, which include, but are not limited to:

Tier 1 Interventions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)/Culture and Climate Teams • School Currency or Token economy for recognition of positive behavior • Reteaching of expectations based on the current year's discipline data. • Social Emotional Learning Curriculum for all students in grades TK-12 • District Wide student Presentations based on data from the previous year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 24-25 Sexual Harassment, secondary only ○ 23-24 Student Handbook, secondary only • Community Meetings that reinforce expected behaviors based on current behavior observations and data at individual sites. • Coaching around PBIS/Culture and Climate
Tier 2 Interventions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counseling referrals to School Linked Services (SLS) and Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) providers. • Counseling groups run by school site counselor. • Student Support Team (SST) interventions for students. • Crisis Team observations and supports. • Parent Project • Weekly virtual parenting classes for elementary families in English and Spanish • Restorative Circles • Alternative to Suspension • Intake Meetings for students returning from Suspension. • RISE: Restorative Intervention Supporting Elevation • No Contact Contracts • Behavior Contracts
Tier 3 Interventions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crisis Team observations and supports. • Referral to School Based Intervention Team program • 10-week behaviorist supports for sites with high numbers of Tier 3 needs • Referral to Child Welfare and Attendance Counselor • Referral to Safe Schools through the city of San José • Parent Project • District Level Intervention Meetings with Families and Sites

San José Unified provides a multi-tiered support system for students to proactively prevent behavior incidents from occurring, resulting in suspension and or expulsion. When a student is expelled from the San José Unified School District, the student must complete a rehabilitation plan, including 10 hours of counseling, 10 hours of community services, grade, attendance, and behavior expectations. These expectations include students attending school at least 75% of the time, a GPA of 2.0 or higher, and no behavior incidents that result in suspension. Once a student completes the rehabilitation plan, a meeting is held prior to readmittance into San José Unified with Sunol Community School Staff, San José Unified School Staff, and family to discuss student placement, interventions, and next steps to ensure a successful reentry into San José Unified. Students who fail to meet the rehabilitation plan remain at Sunol Community Day School or Non-Public School per the IEP team until they meet their rehabilitation plans; this is evaluated each semester.

San José Unified School District acknowledges the disproportionate expulsions of Hispanic males. To mitigate this data point, intervention practices are implemented to ensure the explicit teaching of expected behaviors and the use of data to determine interventions that provide access to welcoming, supportive, and safe classrooms and school campuses. The Student Services Department and site administrators work collaboratively to analyze student discipline data throughout the school year to determine interventions which address emerging trends in the data.

Educational Services for Expelled Students

Students who are expelled from San José Unified School District are referred to Sunol Community Day School through the Santa Clara County Office of Education with a rehabilitation plan. Students who are expelled and have instructional needs beyond the capacity of Sunol Community Day School are referred to Non-Public Schools through our Special Education Department and their IEP team.

Students who are on a suspended expulsion are conditionally placed at an alternative comprehensive school site. If students fail to meet the conditions of their placements, they are then referred to the Santa Clara County Office of Education, Sunol Community Day School, or an appropriate Non-Public School as determined by the special education department and IEP team.

San José Unified School District is responsible for developing a rehabilitation plan for every expelled student and ensuring that an educational program is provided and completed before students return to a comprehensive school campus.

San José Unified has identified gaps in alternative educational programs for our expelled students for students with IEPs, as non-public school options are currently limited.

Strategies for these service gaps include continued collaboration between Student Services and Special Education Departments regarding options for alternative placements that meet the needs of all students.

In 2021, the San José Unified School District identified “education of administrators” and “proper use of interventions” as educational services gaps. San José Unified has continued to work towards educating its administration by offering summer training sessions for all new and current administration around the expulsion process, training for all assistant principals of student services around expulsion and interventions, and coaching for site administration around expulsions and interventions. These strategies were successful at educating staff about processes and best practices, but more work needs to be done around the calibration of intervention practices at the sites.