



**RDPSD Alternative Programs**  
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Parents, Guardians and Students,

We have had a large number of students leaving early over the last two weeks so I wanted to take a second to remind everyone of the attendance expectations at the Alternative School Centre. Our policy hasn't changed in the last three years: students who have committed to attending our school are expected to arrive before 9am and leave during general dismissal at 11:55am. The bus schedules this September made things difficult, but the new schedules are now in place and buses leave from the main terminal once again at 12:15pm daily.

The three hour expectation is primarily in place to ensure that we can get kids through enough curriculum over the semester and year. Two hours of daily work simply isn't enough. And when students leave early it causes major disruptions in our building, and often results in other kids being pulled with them. It's very important that we are consistent and have common expectations for students to ensure the daily operations of our building are smooth and predictable.

If you have any questions or concerns about the following attendance policies, please contact me so we can address any extenuating circumstances.

- ASC is not a place that kids come to "hang out". They are here to do school work and follow the routines (lights) and rules of the building.
- ASC students choose to either attend or work from home. If attending students cannot commit to our attendance expectations, they will be transitioned to our online program.
- Students who **CHOOSE TO ATTEND** are expected to arrive before 9am and to stay until dismissal at 11:50am. While we aim for 100% daily attendance from our students, we also know this is not a realistic expectation for some. We do, however, expect all students to commit to three hours on the days they do attend.
- If a student needs to leave early, parents should call and let our receptionist know.
- Medical and dental appointments should be made in the afternoons whenever possible.

Thank you for your time and support.

Stephen Pottage  
Principal

**Principal:** Stephen Pottage  
**Vice-Principals:** Shelley Lower

