

## Area Learning Center Program Descriptions

ALC programs draw on proven educational practices, adapting elements of those practices as appropriate to the specific program and student need. Not static, programs change and grow to meet the diverse needs of enrolled students.

### **Area Learning Center (ALC)**

Some students find more success within a small, supportive community. In many ALC programs students work cooperatively within a comfortable inclusive setting and feel part of a community where they are encouraged to take responsibility for themselves and the success of the group. Along with academics, students develop the skills, attitudes and behaviors necessary to enter the working world or to continue their education. ALC programs generally serve students in grades 9-12.

### **ALC Plus**

ALC Plus programs serve students who are eligible for Area Learning Center enrollment and are receiving Hennepin County Services. Students are served in small, safe educational settings with counseling and care coordination support. ALC Plus is a collaborative educational program supported by Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health Department, Intermediate District 287, and its Member Districts.

### **Middle School Programs**

Middle School Alternative programs help students regain confidence and self-esteem and ease fears. These programs have a low staff ratio and safety is a foremost concern. Middle School programs are located within middle school buildings and offer multiple supports.

### **English Learner (EL)**

ELL programming is for new immigrants to build English skills and work toward earning a high school diploma. In addition to academics, job seeking skills and life skills are taught.

### **Independent Study (IS)**

Independent Study is a credit recovery program for students who have fallen behind in their graduation plan and are self-motivated to complete specific high school graduation requirements. IS has over 18 locations.

### **Pregnant and Parenting Teens Educational Opportunities**

Teens who are pregnant or are parents have unique educational and social support needs. These programs teach students about childcare, nutrition, health and family systems in addition to academic skills. Daycare is provided, as well as guidance and support through access to public service agencies.

### **Targeted Services Program (TS)**

Targeted Services programs, serving students in grades k-8, give an educational boost through extended day and extended year programs. The mission of TS programs is to assist students to be successful and remain in traditional school.

### **Recovery Programs**

Designed for students who have had traumatic life experiences such as childbirth, chemical dependency, exclusion or expulsion and more. Students in these programs need understanding and support to reclaim their self-respect and resume their academic career. Onsite daycare is available at NECA and SECA. Recovery Programs are located at: West Education Center Alternative (W-Alt), North Education Center Alternative (NECA), Gateway to College (GTC), and South Education Center Alternative (SECA)