

STRAND: At Risk Students

OBJECTIVE: To provide experiential learning curriculum and workshops to those students designated “At Risk”

Overview:

Students designated “at risk” have a higher drop out rate, are more inclined to use drugs and to commit crimes. Because of the need to serve all the students, a workshop designed to address the specific needs of the “at risk” student has been initiated. Focusing more on behavioral outcomes than on academic learning, this strand helps to provide “at risk” students with a platform from which they can experiment with new models of behavior. Focusing on problem solving skills, this workshop provides students with an opportunity to try new behaviors in a non - threatening environment. These new skills can then be generalized back into the school buildings. “At risk” students respond well to perceived high risk tasks, making the Challenge Course and the “at risk” student a natural fit.

This strand is also providing “at risk” students an opportunity to learn constructive strategies with which to deal with anger. Through skills in anger management, students are able to see that there are several alternatives to dealing with a confrontation, instead of the usual hit or run. Problem solving as an alternative to violence is a national agenda item and fits well within the strands of Southern Exposure.