

Opportunities:

Credit recovery

Ability to diversify curriculum options

Counseling: individual, group, outside agency, equine therapy, mental health services

Students bond like a family

Attending career tech center: construction/woodshop, heating/air, carpentry

Variety of credits: service learning, work-study, life skills, internships

Smaller school setting

Flexible schedules

Grants

Vocational rehabilitation

Ability to attend main campus activities

Community participation: state tribes like the Choctaws, regional food bank

Cooperative availability

State resources: Youth and family resources, OK arts council (artists in residence)

Student-teacher ratio

Flexibility in meeting student needs

Certification: adjunct teachers, alternative education state law

SDE facilitate sharing of current students schedules/transcripts (My Data, EWI)

Five and 6-year graduation cohorts

PR for alternative education

New Skills of Youth

Pathways Middle College design

Differences in alternative education programs

Charter and virtual educational options

Better use of new technology, tools, and data

Design early intervention and prevention programs

Sharing best practices through OAEA

Connect legislators to local alternative education programs

Providing students a voice in their education path

Challenges:

Attendance

Lack of parental support

Dysfunctional student home life

Instructors for all courses

Differences in alternative education programs

Funding

Transportation

Mental health needs on the rise: drug/alcohol issues, depression, and anxiety

Teacher turnover

Homelessness

PLATO

Dumping ground

Lack of nutrition programs in career tech alternative education programs and alternative education programs

Lack of transcripts/records

Definition of an alternative education student

Separation from traditional school campus

Lack of opportunities for programs like internships in small communities

Community and traditional setting teacher/administration perception

Training in traditional setting to better support at-risk learners as prevention

Multiple academic needs/levels in alternative education setting with limited resources

Ability to serve middle school students

“18” age limit when we serve through “21”

Limited counseling resources

More Information:

Pathways Middle College system

Future Ideas:

More internships/mentorships

Middle school student services and programs

More grade-specific services

Specialized teacher training for alternative education

Administrator awareness/perception