

Alternative Education Proposal



JANUARY 26, 2009



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All projected costs are estimated.

Current Program Overview



The WCSD Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth (AEDY) Program provides a combination of intense, individualized academic instruction and behavior modification counseling in an alternative setting to assist expelled students to return successfully to the regular classroom.

Daily Schedule



Period	Time	7 th & 8 th	9 th & 10 th	11 th & 12 th
HR	8:00-8:29	7 th – 9 th		10 th – 12 th
1	8:29-9:11	Social Studies	Language Arts	Math
2	9:15-9:57	Reading	Math	Social Studies
3	10:01-10:43	Language Arts	Science	Language Arts
4	10:47-11:20	Science	Social Studies	Science
Lunch	11:20-12:03	7 th -9 th		10 th -12 th
5	12:07-12:49	Math	PE	PE
6	12:53-1:35	Counseling/Character Education/Nova Net		
7	1:39-2:00	Counseling/Character Education/Nova Net		
8	2:25-3:00	To be added SY09/10		

Student Enrollment



2006-
2007

- Middle School – 13%
- High School – 87%

2007-
2008

- Middle School – 13%
- High School – 87%

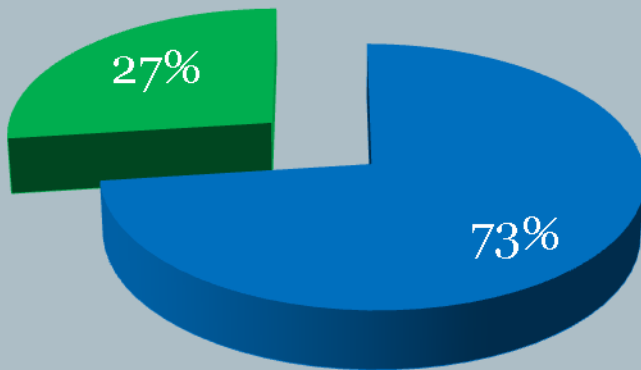
2008-
2009

- Middle School – 19%
 - High School – 81%
- *Specific to 8/25/08 – 11/28/08

Socio-Economic Status

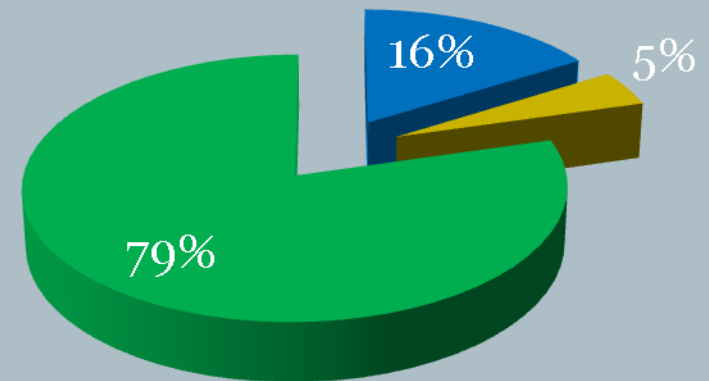
2007-2008

■ Free - Reduced ■ Paid



2008-2009

■ Free ■ Reduced ■ Paid



Population Receiving Special Education Services



•36%

2006-2007

•27%

2007-2008

•12%

2008-2009



WCCC Enrollment



- **2007-2008**
 - 63% (17/27) of eligible 10th, 11th & 12th grade students enrolled in the WCSD AEDY Program participated at WCCC.
- **2008-2009**
 - 33% (4/12) of eligible 10th, 11th & 12th grade students enrolled in the WCSD AEDY Program participate at WCCC.
 - ✦ Machine Technology – 1
 - ✦ Welding Technology – 1
 - ✦ Power Equipment – 1
 - ✦ Computer Information Specialist – 1

AEDY Program Enrollment



Percentage of AEDY Program Student Enrollment

School	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
BWMS	11%	6%	8%
EHSMS	18%	26%	42%
SAMHS	8%	5%	4%
WAHS	49%	45%	27%
YEMS	2%	-	4%
YHS	12%	18%	15%

AEDY Program Enrollment



Percentage of Home School Student Population

School	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
BWMS	1%	1%	0.4%
EHSMS	3%	3%	2%
SAMHS	1%	1%	0.3%
WAHS	4%	3%	0.8%
YEMS	0.2%	0%	0.2%
YHS	2%	3%	1%

Academics



- The WCSD AEDY Program offers science, math, social studies, language arts, reading, Physical Education, Health-9 and high school electives via Nova Net.
 - Core subjects are taught in compliance with Chapter 4 regulations.
- Nova Net
 - SY2007-2008
 - ✦ 46 Nova Net courses were completed throughout SY2007-2008
 - SY2008-2009
 - ✦ 28 Nova Net courses have been completed to date

Counseling



- The AEDY Program offers 2.5 hours of intensive and extensive counseling per week.
- The AEDY Program has...
 - developed a partnership with Adagio Health.
 - implemented Character Education within the curriculum.
 - provided 632 hours of counseling services thus far SY2008-2009.
 - ✦ 270 hours of Character Education
 - ✦ 280 hours of group counseling
 - ✦ 82 hours of individual counseling

Teacher Comments



“The students enjoy getting one on one attention from teachers.”

“Some students are afraid to return to the home schools due to fear of failure.”

“We get to know the students on a personal level and truly understand who they are.”

“There is more emphasis on providing quality education.”

“The physical facilities are not conducive to providing effective educational opportunities.”

“An assignment that serves as alternative education should be housed in a building separated from any contact with currently enrolled WAHS students.”

Student Comments



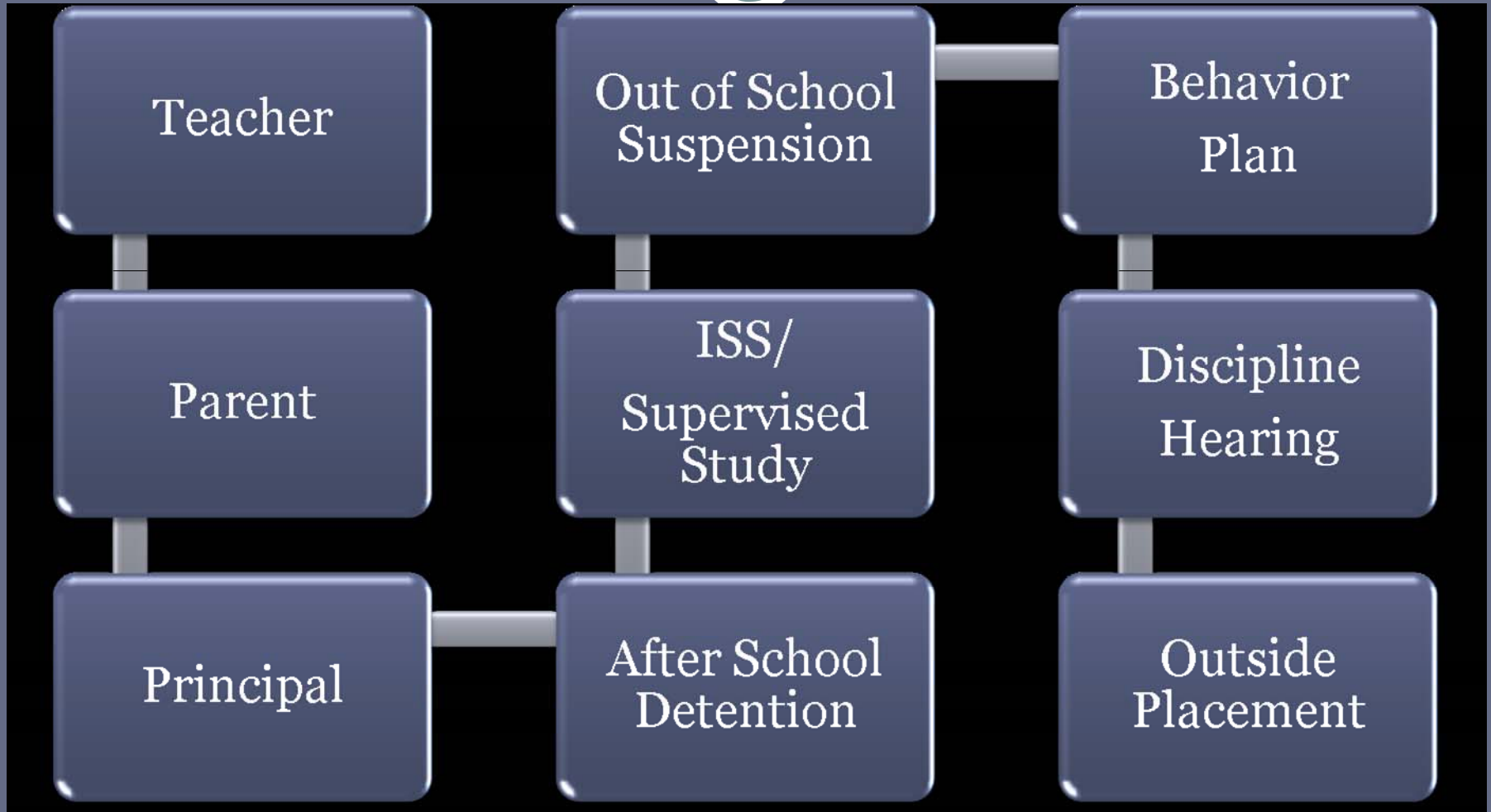
“The Alternative Education Program and its wonderful staff really turned my academic achievement around.” – Student

“Alternative Education angers me but I have done better here and I love the staff.” – Student

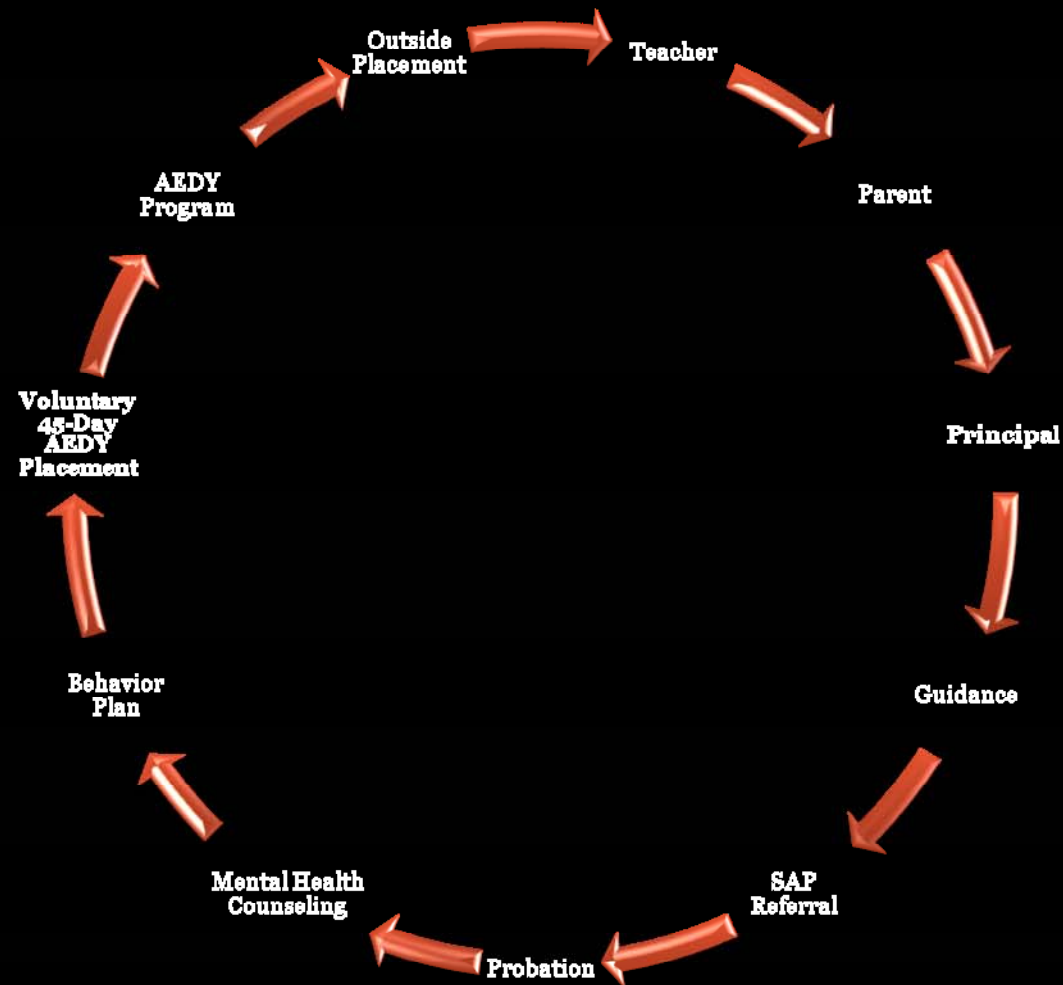
“It’s not bad in small doses but I am not looking forward to any more of it.” – Student

“I highly dislike the program and the rules but I like the staff.” – Student

Current Discipline Process



Proposed Discipline Process



PA Department of Education Recommendations



- **Components that Promote Strong Programs**
 - Positive, small, supportive school environment
 - Safe learning community
 - Intensive and extensive counseling services (individual, group & family)
 - Successful transition to the regular classroom with ongoing support
 - Career & job skills
 - Challenging, relevant curriculum
 - Student Assistant Program
 - Home Visitors to ensure students attend school
 - Staff development
 - School/community partnerships

Program Options



1. Current Program
2. Separate Building
3. BWMS & WAHS programs
4. Beacon Light
5. Evening Program

Option 1: Current Program



- The current AEDY Program is maintained in two classrooms at WAHS and operates from 8:00a.m. – 2:00p.m. serving a maximum capacity of 30 students in 7th – 12th grade.
 - Students are provided instruction by HQT in language arts, science, social studies, math and Physical Education.
 - 2.5 hours of counseling services are provided each week for every student. Counseling is intensive and extensive and can occur in individual, group or character education setting.
 - Students exit the program upon completion of the WCSD BOD approved expulsion and meeting their behavioral, academic and attendance goals.

Option 1: Current Program Costs



• Teachers	\$101,074.50
• 0.5 FTE HSV/SW	\$ 29,570.00
• 2 Paraprofessionals	\$ 33,026.00
• Supplies	\$ 4,000.00
	\$167,670.50

*Approximated cost of benefits \$14,800/FTE

Option 1: Current Program Pros



- Access to teachers, curricular materials and administration
- Access to WCCC
- Lunch/breakfast on site
- Nurse on site
- Technology infrastructure in place
- Secretary/custodian available
- Reading specialist available

Option 1: Current Programs Cons



- Placement of middle school students with high school students.
- Responsibilities placed to WAHS
- Assistant principal duties divided between AEDY & WAHS
- WAHS culture
- Limited space...inadequate to suffice the needs of de-escalation, counseling, office spaces, and separation of middle school students from high school students.
- Continue to mix expelled students with regular school population
- AEDY expenses are the responsibility of WAHS (staff/office supplies)
- Limited paraprofessional support
- Restrooms in general student population
- Impact of morale of WAHS staff
- Public view of discipline
- SY09/10 – WAHS will be limited to one computer lab and one teacher 's classroom will be via a cart due to AEDY Program use of space

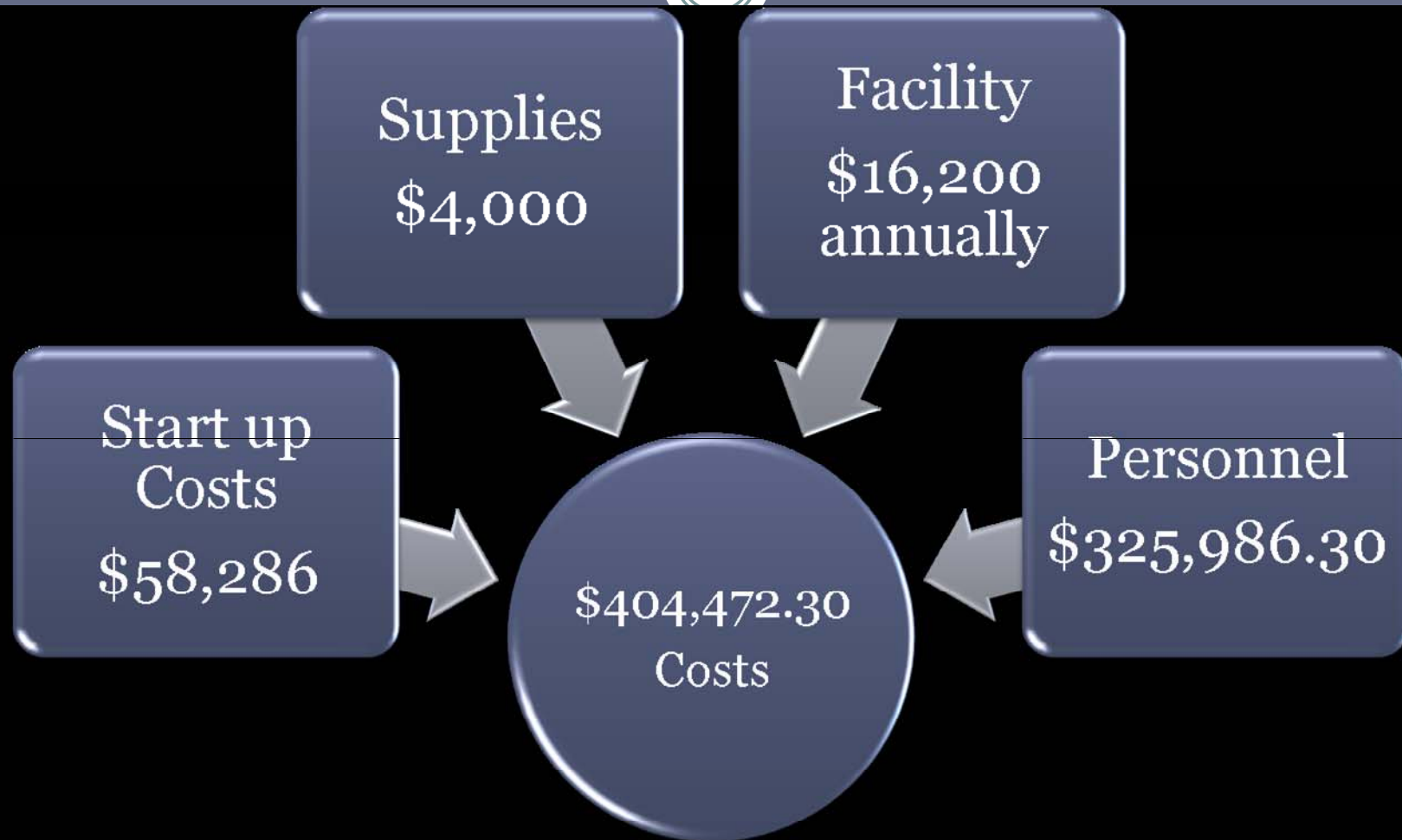
Option 2: Separate Building



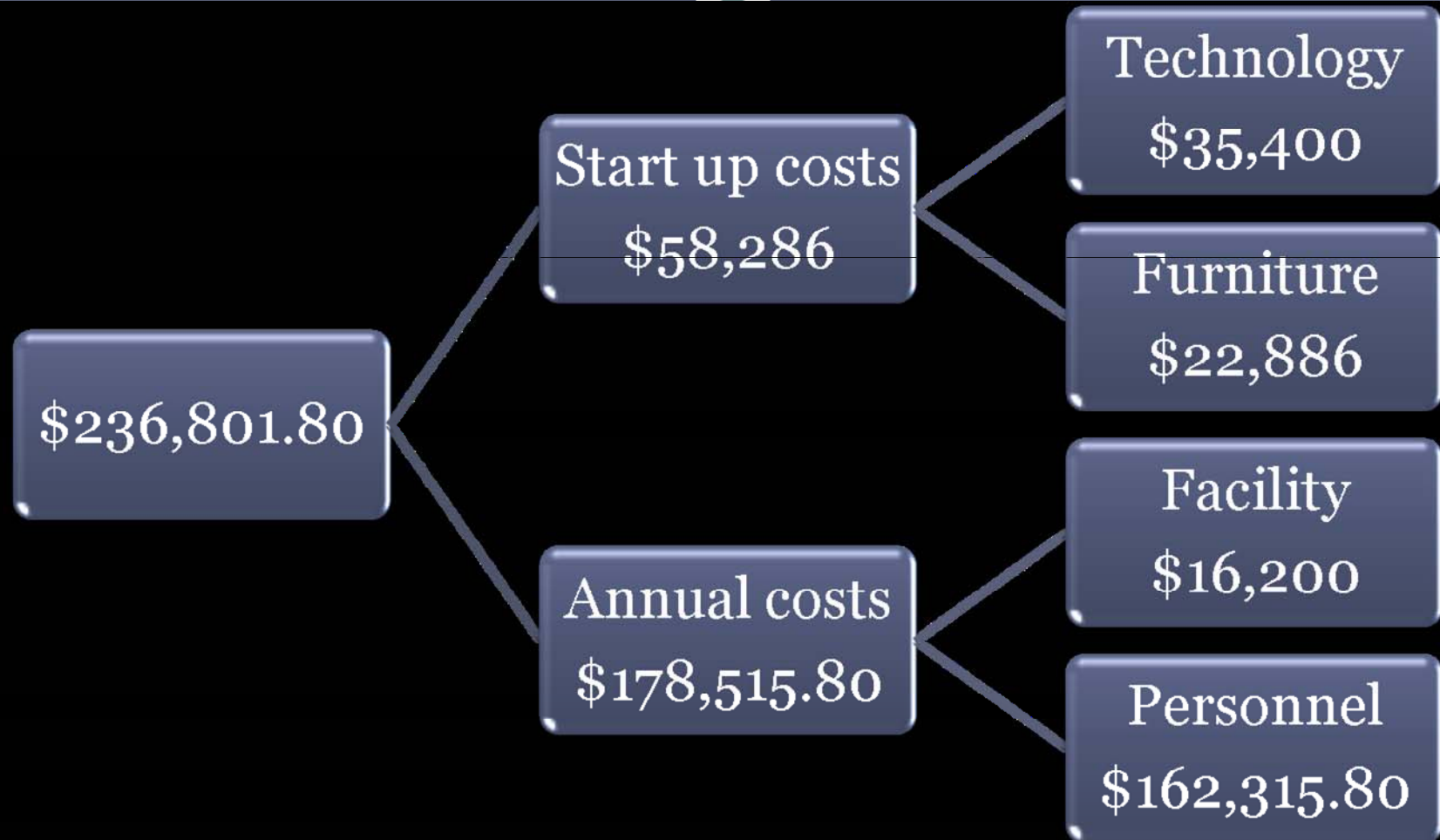
Separate Building (This option will require additional funds to support facilities, transportation, materials, equipment, cafeteria and personnel.)

- The potential for program development is as follows:
 - ✦ Increase in enrollment for the WCSD AEDY Program to service a capacity of 30 to 60 students. Enrollment could be expanded as a prevention transition component for students in jeopardy of expulsion prior to expulsion for conduct & truancy.
 - ✦ Develop and maintain a location within the WCSD AEDY Program to offer on-site Cyber School for at-risk students. This would lower the drop-out rate while striving to accomplish the WCSD Mission for the at-risk student population.
 - ✦ Create collaboration with outlying districts for AEDY attendance and with community organizations to expand programs with the WCSD AEDY Program.

Option 2: Separate Building Costs



Option 2: Separate Building New Costs to WCSD



Option 2: Separate Building Pros



- Separation of expelled and regular education students
- Support research based best practices for alternative education programs
- Provide ample space for educational and counseling needs
- Expand program offerings to WCSD at-risk student population
- Provide alternative education services to outlying school districts
- Enhance program collaboration with community based service providers
- Focus on vocational skills as part of program curriculum
- Provide expelled students with equitable educational opportunities and environment
- Program responsibilities removed from WAHS (scheduling, fiscal and administrative)
- Enhance WAHS School Culture
- Eliminate the need for program to occupy WAHS classrooms

Option 2: Separate Building Cons



- Fiscal responsibilities
- Transportation
- Technology infrastructure
- Secretary/custodial staff
- Food services
- Nurse care



Option 3: BWMS & WAHS

**AEDY Program
for high school
students at
WAHS.**

The high school program would require the following:

- ✦ Administrator
- ✦ Special Education Supervisor
- ✦ Special Education teacher
- ✦ Personnel for two classrooms times eight periods each
- ✦ One paraprofessional per classroom (2)
- ✦ Home school visitor/social worker
- ✦ Guidance counselor
- ✦ Two classrooms isolated from WCSD student population
- ✦ De-escalation area
- ✦ Office for administration
- ✦ Office for home school visitor/social worker
- ✦ Office for guidance counselor
- ✦ Counseling room suitable for individual and/or group counseling sessions
- ✦ Cafeteria
- ✦ Gymnasium
- ✦ Community Service Office
- ✦ Computer lab
- ✦ Restroom facilities
- ✦ Janitorial staff
- ✦ Transportation
- ✦ Curricular material & educational supplies
- ✦ Access to WCCC



Option 3: BWMS & WAHS

**AEDY Program
for middle school
students at
BWMS.**

A middle school program would require the following:

- ✦ Administrator
- ✦ Special Education Supervisor
- ✦ Special Education teacher
- ✦ Personnel for one classroom (eight periods & homeroom)
- ✦ One paraprofessional
- ✦ Home school visitor/social worker
- ✦ Guidance counselor
- ✦ One classroom isolated from WCSD student population
- ✦ De-escalation room
- ✦ Office for administration
- ✦ Office for home school visitor/social worker
- ✦ Office for guidance counselor
- ✦ Counseling room suitable for individual and/or group counseling sessions
- ✦ Cafeteria
- ✦ Gymnasium
- ✦ Probation officer office
- ✦ Computer lab
- ✦ Restroom facilities
- ✦ Janitorial staff
- ✦ Transportation
- ✦ Curricular material & educational supplies
- ✦ Character Education curricula (\$1,629)

Option 3: BWMS & WAHS Costs

WAHS

\$163,670.50

2 classrooms
2 paraprofessionals
0.5 HSV/SW

BWMS

\$122,500.80

1 classroom
1 paraprofessional
0.5 HSV/SW

Options 4: Beacon Light



Beacon Light strives to provide a learning environment that will increase the students' academic achievement, as well as address any behavioral difficulties to enable the students' return to a public school setting.

Educational staffs provide opportunities for growth through individualized academic instruction, behavioral management programs, social skills groups, and counseling. The emphasis is placed on the positive strengths of each young person while providing structure, supervision, and skill development in the areas of need.

Option 4: Beacon Light Costs



Start up
\$76,227.14

Year 1
\$550,522

Costs

Year 3
\$589,732.66

Year 2
\$569,790

Option 5: Evening Program



Alternative Education for students whose behavior interferes with their ability to be successful in the regular school setting.

Hours of operation
3:30-7:30p.m.

12:50p.m. – 3:30p.m. for WCCC students

Option 5: Evening Program Costs



• Supplies	\$ 4,000.00
• Salaries	\$182,733.10
○ Teachers	\$91,443.50
○ Paraprofessionals	\$16,012.80
○ HSV/SW	\$39,140.00
○ Secretary	\$ 9,136.80
○ 0.5FTE principal	\$27,000.00

\$ 186,733.10

✦ Approximated cost of benefits \$14,800/FTE

Option 5: Evening Program Pros



- Separation of general student body from AEDY student population
- Separation of middle level and high school students
- Guidance and social work services
- School & community collaboration
- Enhance WAHS school culture
- Enhance WAHS morale
- Improve community perception

Option 5: Evening Program Cons



- Transportation
- Staffing
- WAHS assumes responsibilities of program operation, including fiscal
- Equal educational opportunities
- Special education services

WCSD BOD Timeline



**January
Committee**

**March BOD
Action**

**February CIT
committee
recommendation**

**Summer
2009
Implement**

