



PURPOSE

Planning Centers were developed by the District's Humanware Executive Committee, which includes members of the District leadership team and members of the Cleveland Teachers Union Executive Board. Planning Centers are designed to replace the Alternative to Suspension Program. The Planning Center provides support and interventions for students, teachers and families. These supports and interventions will help prevent the escalation of inappropriate student behaviors by addressing academic, emotional and/or behavioral issues before they become crises.

The Planning Center will serve as an alternative space within the school to provide a temporary cooling down period, as well as provide intervention/ alternative coping strategies and resources for students.

ERIC S. GORDON

Chief Executive Officer

Cleveland Metropolitan School District
Board of Education

Denise M. Link, Chair
Louise P. Dempsey, Vice Chair

Patricia Crutchfield
Robert M. Heard, Sr.
Shaletha T. Mitchell
Willetta A. Milam
Dr. Lisa Thomas
Eric L. Wobser

Dr. Ronald M. Berkman, Ex Officio

Dr. Jerry Sue Thornton, Ex Officio

PLANNING CENTER EXECUTIVE TEAM

Sandra Bennett
Carolyn Burrus
Bridget Holloway
Michael Jester

Donna Thomas
Cherylane Jones-Williams
Michael G. Williams

Denine A. Goolsby – Executive Director
Humanware/Social Emotional Learning

*with the support of
American Institutes for Research
Collaborative for Academic
and Social Emotional Learning*



The Cleveland Metropolitan School District
is committed to providing safe and supportive schools where
students can succeed and thrive.

A GUIDE TO USING THE PLANNING CENTER



Office of the Chief Academic Officer
1380 East Sixth Street
Cleveland, OH 44114 • 216.858.1244
cmsdnet.net

Frequently Asked Questions



Goals of the Planning Center

1. Decrease out-of-school suspensions
2. Improve grades
3. Improve attendance
4. Improve social and emotional skills
5. Increase instructional time, due to fewer behavioral interruptions
6. Decrease office referrals

Roles of the Planning Center Instructional Aides

- Monitor and interact with students
- Help students learn and use appropriate behaviors
- Keep data and monitor progress
- Make referrals through the administrator
- Communicate with teachers
- Communicate with families
- Communicate with outside agencies
- Communicate with principal
- Provide support for and receive support from school team



What is the difference between an Alternative to Suspension Room and a Planning Center?

The Planning Center is a proactive setting designed to help students problem solve, develop appropriate school and classroom behaviors, and reduce the need for classroom removal. It can provide social-emotional support, interventions and remedial supports for academics while the students are supervised. The Planning Center Instructional Aide (PCIA) assumes the role of a supportive resource to help students improve their conduct; to develop their self-esteem; to encourage them to achieve and behave positively; and to experience a respectful environment with firm behavioral expectations.

Who can refer a student to the Planning Center?

The student must be referred to the Planning Center via the Building Administrators in one of three ways:

- a. self-referral** – a student may be anxious about a problem at home, school or the community
- b. staff member referral** – right of removal, student safety, tutoring and/or class disruption
- c. parent referral through the principal/teacher** – student safety or special arrangement

The Planning Center is the last stop before a student is removed from the building and the first stop when a student returns from being suspended or involuntarily transferred from a school. This initial visit may consist of a 15-minute meeting between the PCIA and the student, which is an important

part of transitioning students from suspension or as new enrollees to a school. Students will receive supports that will help prepare them to return to a cohesive learning environment. If a student continues to experience difficulties, the PCIA may refer the student to the Student Support Team.

Why is my child being sent home and not to the Planning Center?

The principal is responsible for assigning the student to the Planning Center or out-of-school suspension. Parents should contact the principal for an explanation.

How long is a student assigned to the Planning Center?

Students may be assigned to the Planning Center for up to five days at one time.

