



**Responsible Offices:** Office of the Deputy Superintendent

**BOARD POLICY 6000**  
**SHARED DECISION-MAKING**

**PURPOSE**

The Board of Trustees (Board) encourages shared decision-making in order to enhance student achievement through improvement of the instructional program and delivery of support services, as well as the efficient management of the Washoe County School District's (District) operational systems. The purpose of shared decision-making is to improve transparency, strengthen staff morale, and build collaboration between administration, employees, students, and the community.

**DEFINITIONS**

1. "Shared decision-making" is a collaborative process in which people affected by a decision may have the opportunity to participate in the process by providing input.

**POLICY**

1. The District shall establish and maintain an atmosphere of shared decision-making between the Board, the Superintendent, the Superintendent's Leadership Team, administrators, faculty, employees, and the community.
2. Employees who work in individual schools should use their expertise and competence to encourage increased input into decisions from employees, students, and parents/guardians.
3. Efforts reflected through the shared decision-making process shall include, but not be limited to:
  - a. Collaboration with District administration, school administration and other employees, students, parents/guardians, and the community;
  - b. Coordination with the District's Strategic Plan, to include the vision, mission and core beliefs of the Board;
  - c. Compliance with Board Policies, state and federal laws and regulations, the approved curriculum, and existing contracts and agreements;

- d. Communication of decisions and the decision-making process to promote employee understanding and acceptance of the decision;
- f. Shared decision-making may not be appropriate when decisions are delegated by law or policy to the Board, Superintendent, or school principals; however, the District shall encourage input from affected parties to the extent possible;
- g. When possible and depending on the subject matter, such as curriculum adoption, evaluations and other matters substantially impacting the classroom environment, the Board, Superintendent, principals, and other employees are encouraged to utilize advisory committees, groups, and/or task forces comprised of employees, students, parents/guardians, and other members of the community to engage diverse viewpoints, access expertise in particular fields of interest, and improve their understanding of the needs of students, their families, and the community; and
- h. The Board hereby directs the Superintendent to adopt an Administrative Regulation to implement and maintain the purpose of this Board Policy. The Superintendent shall include in the Administrative Regulation the following provisions:
  - i. Clear lines of communication necessary for the efficient conduct of District/school business. This includes communication within an individual school community between employees, students, and their families.
  - ii. Procedures which ensure that curriculum adoption, professional learning, evaluation, and other matters substantially impacting the classroom/school environment includes input from administrators, faculty and employees, students, and parents/guardians as is appropriate.

## **LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS**

1. This Board Policy reflects the goals of the District's Strategic Plan and aligns/ complies with the governing documents of the District, to include:
  - a. Board Policy 1160, Communications, Community Relations, and Public Engagement;
  - b. Board Policy 5310, Student Voice;
  - c. Board Policy 9100, Public Bodies;

- d. Board Policy 9050, Board of Trustees' Governing Mission; and
  - e. Board Policy 9085, Delegation to the Superintendent.
2. This Board Policy aligns with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC), to include:
- a. Chapter 388G, Alternative School Management, and specifically:
    - i. NRS 388G.300 – 388G.320, Programs of School-Based Decision Making for Public Schools Within District.

**REVISION HISTORY**

Date	Revision	Modification
9/28/1993	1.0	Adopted
4/9/2019	2.0	Revised
03/29/2022	3.0	Revised: Update formatting pursuant to BP 9070, update purpose, update responsible office to Deputy Superintendent.