



Responsible Office: Office of Academics

BOARD POLICY 6605

ACADEMICS: CURRICULUM AND CONTENT STANDARDS

PURPOSE

The Washoe County School District (District), through adoption and implementation of the Nevada Academic Content Standards, shall challenge all students to become college and career ready by specifying what students are expected to know and be able to do at each grade level and in each area of study.

DEFINITIONS

1. "Career and College Ready" requires more than a high school diploma. It means that a high school graduate is ready to pursue preparation for a highly skilled career and is admissible to and prepared to succeed in first-year, credit-bearing classes without remediation, at a 2- or 4-year college, technical or trade school, or apprenticeship program. A "career" differs from a "job" in that a career offers the opportunity to advance and develop professionally.
2. "Curriculum" is written as part of a formal instruction of the schooling experience. It may refer to curriculum documents, texts, and support materials that are overtly chosen to support the intentional instructional agenda of a school in meeting grade level standards. Successful curriculum models are coherent at each grade level as well as vertically aligned and provide meaningful learning for students in all content areas.

POLICY

1. The individual needs of diverse student populations, including students with disabilities and English Language Learners, shall be considered in curricular decisions so that academic standards are attainable.
2. Content Standards
 - a. Standards used in the District shall meet or exceed the Nevada Academic Content Standards adopted by the Nevada State Board of Education.
 - b. The District shall provide teachers and school administrators with professional development to ensure their understanding of the content standards and to discuss instructional methods in preparing students to meet the standards.

3. Curriculum Philosophy

- a. The District shall strive to provide all students with equal access and opportunities to progress through a curriculum that sets expectations consistent with the Nevada Academic Content standards.
- b. District wide curriculum planning shall be coordinated to create goals and objectives that are aimed at giving students the knowledge and skills needed to progress along the pathway to graduation.
- c. Curriculum shall reflect current research, best practices, and technological advancements across all content areas and all levels. Students with disabilities shall be afforded the same expectations when participating in an instructional program based on their individualized education program (IEP).

4. Curriculum Development

- a. The District's curriculum development shall address the following:
 - i. An aligned, written, taught, and assessed curriculum;
 - ii. Periodic review of subject and course curriculum by stakeholders;
 - iii. Vertical articulation and horizontal coordination for all grades;
 - iv. A diversity of materials aligned to the curriculum;
 - v. Employee training and evaluation of all District curriculum; and
 - vi. Multi-faceted assessment to drive informed curriculum decisions.
- b. The annual budget shall be linked to curriculum priorities and data-driven decisions shall be made to provide learning environments supported by adequately trained personnel.
- c. The District shall establish a procedure for the addition of new courses which adheres to state guidelines and meets the needs of special populations.

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 4600, Professional Learning;
 - b. Board Policy 6200, Literacy;

- c. Board Policy 6300, Mathematics;
 - d. Board Policy 6400, Assessment;
 - e. Board Policy 6505, Pathways to Early College Credit; and
 - f. Board Policy 6600, Course of Study.
2. This Board Policy aligns with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC), to include:
- a. NRS Chapter 389, Examinations, Courses, Standards and Graduation;
 - b. NRS Chapter 391, Personnel; and
 - c. NRS Chapter 392, Pupils.

REVISION HISTORY

| Date | Revision | Modification |
|------------|----------|---|
| 9/22/2015 | 1.0 | Adopted |
| 06/14/2022 | 2.0 | Revised: Update format per BP 9070 and clarify language |