



**Responsible Office:** Office of Operations

**BOARD POLICY 7400**  
**CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY**

**PURPOSE**

The Board of Trustees (Board) is committed to sustainability and conservation of the environment and natural resources through its initiatives and programs. The Washoe County School District (District) shall implement programs and practices that protect natural resources, accepts fiscal responsibility for these goals, enhances building/facility performance, and fosters a sense of citizenship in students by encouraging a focus on conservation and sustainability.

**DEFINITIONS**

1. "Sustainability" means protecting the environment from harm or not depleting natural resources in order to support long-term ecological balance.
2. "Conservation" means protection and preservation of the environment and natural resources.

**POLICY**

1. Sustainability and conservation efforts impact the public, health, safety and welfare of students and employees as well as the community, and they are critical to future generations.
  - a. The District is committed to being an active participant in sustainability and conservation in the areas of:
    - i. Air and Noise Pollution;
    - ii. Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy;
    - iii. Facility Condition;
    - iv. Chemical and Environmental Contaminant Hazards;
    - v. Recycling;
    - vi. Water;
    - vii. Landscaping and Gardens; and

viii. Capital Construction.

2. Successful sustainability and conservation practices rely on the active participation of all District employees. The District shall provide training and resources to ensure that employees understand their roles and how they contribute to the success of sustainability and conservation programs.
3. All District properties shall implement a waste-reduction, reuse, recycling, and energy conservation plan. This plan shall provide information on each facility's recycling and waste reduction activities and energy consumption. The Office of Facilities Management will support schools in drafting a plan which is specific to their school.
4. 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 Administrative Regulation the following provisions:
  - a. A curriculum to introduce students to sustainability and conservation as well as environmental health issues encountered in schools and how they can contribute to sustaining a school environmental health program;
  - b. Clean Fuel Vehicles;
  - c. Safe Routes to Schools. The District shall identify safe routes to schools and encourage walking and riding bikes to school;
  - d. Reducing Vehicle Emissions through Idle Free Zones;
  - e. Indoor Air Quality;
  - f. Outdoor Activities and Air Pollution;
  - g. Renewable Energy;
  - h. Energy Efficiency;
  - i. Facility Health;
  - j. Chemical and Environmental Contaminant Hazards;
  - k. Recycling;
  - l. Water;
  - m. Landscaping and Gardens; and
  - n. Capital Construction.

## 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 7100, Capital Projects and Facilities Management.
2. This Board Policy complies with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) to include:
  - a. NRS Chapter 386, Local Administrative Organization, and specifically:
    - i. NRS 386.4159 – 386.418, Recycling of Materials; Use of Recycled Products; and
    - ii. NRS 386.419 – 386.4195, Environmentally Sensitive Cleaning Products for Floor Surfaces in Public Schools.
3. This Board Policy complies with the following federal laws and regulations, to include:
  - a. National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. § 4321 et seq.);
  - b. Clean Air Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. § 7401 et seq.);
  - c. Clean Water Act of 1972 (33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq.);
  - d. Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. § 13201 et seq.); and
  - e. Executive Order (EO) 13045, Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks.

## REVISION HISTORY

Date	Revision	Modification
06/06/2017	1.0	Adopted
09/13/2022	2.0	Revised: Deleted unnecessary language, clarify to align with Nevada Revised Statutes and Nevada Administrative Codes