



Administrative Regulation 6500

Advanced Placement / International Baccalaureate Classes

Responsible Office(s): Office of Academics

REGULATION

1. Access

- a. All high school students in the Washoe County School District shall have access to Advanced Placement (AP) / International Baccalaureate (IB) classes.
- b. At a minimum, AP/IB Calculus, at least one AP/IB English class, at least one AP/IB social studies class, and at least one AP/IB science class will be taught at every comprehensive high school. High schools will be encouraged to offer AP/IB courses in all content areas. For any comprehensive high school with a total grade 9-12 enrollment less than or equal to 300 students, at least one AP/IB class in one of the four core academic subjects will be taught each year.
- c. Sections of AP and IB courses may be combined. No other combination of AP and non-AP students will be permitted except for art and foreign languages. When a course is designated as Advanced Placement, no honors section may be offered in the same course at that school.
- d. New comprehensive high schools are expected to open with at least two AP classes available to students. New comprehensive high schools are expected to offer at least the minimum selection of core subject AP classes by their second full year of operation.

2. Examinations

- a. Each student enrolled in an AP class will take the AP examination in that subject at the end of the year. Each school site shall inform students and parents of this requirement at the time of course selection. If for any reason a student enrolled in an AP class does not take the examination, the AP designation will not appear on his/her transcript for either semester; an exception could be made for students repeating a foreign language AP exam.
- b. A student not enrolled in an AP class may elect to take an AP examination in any subject at the end of the year.
- c. Each student enrolled in an IB class will take the IB examination in that subject at the end of the course of study. If for any reason a student enrolled in an IB class does not take the examination, the IB designation will not appear on his/her transcript for either semester. Students are expected to pay for their own IB examinations. The International Baccalaureate Organization does not

- allow students who are not enrolled in an IB class to take the IB examination in that subject.
- d. Students are expected to pay for their own AP/IB examinations. High schools and the district will make every effort to provide funding for a test fee reduction for students who meet the requirements for Free and Reduced Lunch.
3. Enrollment
- a. The District will develop strategies to increase AP/IB enrollment with the goal of at least two-thirds of all graduates of each comprehensive high school having taken at least one AP/IB class/exam by 2020.
 - b. Students will be actively encouraged to challenge themselves by enrolling in AP/IB classes. The District will develop methods to provide such encouragement to each student by:
 - i. encouraging the development of rigorous preparatory classes to prepare students for Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate work;
 - ii. providing students with a nationally recognized college readiness examination as well as a report on the student's potential for success in AP/IB classes;
 - iii. providing professional development for counselors and teachers with the express purpose of encouraging student participation in AP/IB classes; and
 - iv. Providing professional development for teachers with the express purpose of improving quality of instruction and student success in AP/IB and preparatory classes.
 - c. Grades in AP and IB classes will be weighted in the computation of a student's grade point average for the Millennium Scholarship, Advanced Diploma, and Honors Diploma [see Administrative Regulation 5127].
 - d. Deliberate efforts will be made to encourage diversity in AP and IB enrollment with the intention that the ethnic, gender, and socio-economic enrollment in those classes will mirror that of the high school's student body as a whole.

4. Annual reports on enrollment and performance of students in AP and IB classes shall be provided to the Board of Trustees. In addition, progress toward the goals will be reported to the Board of Trustees annually.

DEFINITIONS

1. Advanced Placement - The Advanced Placement (AP) program, created by the College Board, offers college-level curriculum and examinations to high school students. Colleges in the United States often grant placement and credit to students who obtain above the required score on the examinations.
2. International Baccalaureate - The IB Diploma Programme is an academically challenging and balanced program of education with final examinations that prepare students for success at university and life beyond.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Two-thirds of graduates will have taken at least one Advanced Placement class/exam by the year 2020.
2. All students will graduate from high school ready to pursue college or a highly skilled career.

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES & ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

1. This document reflects the goals of the District's Strategic Plan.
2. The document aligns with the following WCSD governing documents:
 - a. Board Policy 6505, Pathways to Early College Credit
 - b. Administrative Procedure 6637 – Advanced Placement

REVIEW AND REPORTING

1. This administrative regulation shall be reviewed as part of the bi-annual review and reporting process, following each regular session of the Nevada Legislature. The Board of Trustees shall receive notification of any required changes to the guiding policy as well as an audit of the accompanying governing documents.
2. Additional administrative regulations and/or other associated documents may be developed as necessary to implement and support this administrative regulation.

REVIEW HISTORY

Date	Revision	Modification
5/11/2004	1.0	Adopted
1/27/2014	2.0	Revised