



Responsible Office(s): Office of Academics

BOARD POLICY 6600 COURSE OF STUDY

PURPOSE

The Board of Trustees, through its Core Beliefs, is committed to ensuring all students graduate college-and career-ready, through the consistent application of high-quality effective instruction, balanced assessment, and a rigorous accountability system. The Board of Trustees is further committed to closing the achievement gap by implementing culturally responsive practices throughout the district, as well as engaging families and the community. The following policy, guiding principles, and practices support these commitments.

The Board of Trustees, consistent with the District practices, recognizes that explicit emphasis on preparing its graduates ready to pursue college or a highly skilled career having taken the recommended course of study.

POLICY

1. Guiding Principles

- a. The following policy and its accompanying administrative regulation do not affect the Washoe County School District **requirements** for graduation. The policy below describes the course of study in which all high school students will be enrolled unless they meet one of the exceptions described in the administrative regulation.
- b. NRS 389.018 states: A pupil is not required to enroll in the course of study and credits required by this subsection if the pupil, the parent or legal guardian of the pupil and an administrator or a counselor at the school which the pupil is enrolled mutually agree to a modified course of study for the pupil and that modified course of study satisfies at least the requirements for a standard high school diploma or an adjusted diploma, as applicable.

2. Guiding Practices

- a. To meet Nevada's academic standards in the core academic subjects, all high school students in Washoe County School District will be enrolled in the following four-year high school course of study:

English	4 years (4 credits)
Mathematics, including Algebra 1, Geometry or Formal Geometry, Algebra 2 or Algebra 2 H, and one math class beyond Algebra 2 at a minimum	4 years (4 credits)*
Science, including at least two laboratory sciences of which, one must be Biology and the other either a course in physical science, chemistry or physics	3 years (3 credits)*
Social Studies, including U.S. History, U.S. Government and World History or World Geography	3 years (3 credits)
Physical Education/JROTC	2 years (2 credits)
Health/JROTC	1 semester (1/2 credit)
Computers	1 semester (1/2 credit)
Art, humanities, CTE, or JROTC (level III or IV)	1 year (1 credit)
Electives to complete diploma credit requirements	

* Exceeds the state graduation requirement of 3 credits of mathematics and 2 credits of science

- b. Students will be enrolled in six (6) credits of classes in their senior year.
- c. Students may be granted exceptions on a limited, case-by-case basis.
- d. An annual report on the percentage of graduates who have completed this course of study will be made to the Board of Trustees.

DEFINITIONS

1. "College and Career Ready" requires more than just 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.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. All students will graduate from high school ready to pursue college or a highly skilled career having completed, at a minimum the recommended course of study.

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES & ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

1. This policy reflects the goals of the District's Strategic Plan.
2. This policy aligns with the following WCSD governing documents:
 - a. Administrative Regulation 6600, Course of Study
 - b. Administrative Regulation 5127, High School Graduation Diploma Requirements
3. This policy aligns with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 389, Examinations, Courses, Standards and Graduation, and specifically:
 - a. NRS 389.018, Designation of core academic subjects; minimum units of credit required in high school; exception; additional subjects to be taught.

REVIEW AND REPORTING

1. This document 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 policy as well as an audit of the accompanying governing documents.

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Revision	Modification
12/7/2004	1.0	Adopted
7/29/2014	2.0	Revised: formerly entitled "The Gateway Curriculum"