



Responsible Office: Office of Student Services

BOARD POLICY 5340

DISTRICT-SANCTIONED INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

PURPOSE

The Board of Trustees (“Board”) recognizes the importance of District-sanctioned interscholastic athletics as an important part of the total school experience of students. Participation in such programs enriches the educational and social development of students and the Washoe County School District (“District”) encourages student participation in athletics, and other activities. Such programs can constitute an integral component of the educational program, providing students with an opportunity to promote physical well-being, enhance self-confidence, build school spirit, and promote a positive school climate while learning values such as teamwork and sportsmanship. Athletic programs shall be designed to meet students' interests and abilities and be varied in scope to attract wide participation.

POLICY

1. Guiding Principles

- a. The Board supports the ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play and commits the District to providing an environment which promotes good sportsmanship.
- b. In implementing and maintaining student athletic programs, District staff and volunteers shall comply with the policies and regulations of the District, as well as any applicable state and federal laws and regulations. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - i. Policies prohibiting bullying, harassment, and/or discrimination. The Superintendent shall ensure that equivalent opportunities are provided for boys and girls, as well as students with disabilities; and
 - ii. The rules and regulations of the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA).

2. Governing Practices

- a. District-sanctioned interscholastic athletic teams are sanctioned by the

Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (“NIAA”). The District shall maintain membership in the NIAA, the governing body of high school athletics in the State of Nevada. The NIAA, in accordance with state laws and regulations, shall control, supervise and regulate all interscholastic athletic events in member schools.

- i. The District’s Coordinator of Student Athletics and Activities, as part of his/her designated responsibility, shall:
 - 1) Serve as liaison between school site administrators and the NIAA. This shall include, but not be limited to, oversight of school compliance with the policies and regulations of the NIAA; and communication with the NIAA on behalf of schools.
 - 2) Serve on the NIAA Board of Control.
- b. No additional athletic programs will be considered for District sanctioning without the approval of the Board of Trustees.
- c. The Superintendent may create administrative regulations and procedures related to the organization and management of District-sanctioned athletics.
- d. Disclaimer
 - i. The District is not responsible or liable for non-District-sanctioned athletics that are owned, organized, promoted, or participated in by staff members operating outside the course and scope of their employment with the District.
 - 1) District staff who are involved with non-sanctioned activities or organizations during their personal time must understand that employment with the District does not extend to the granting of benefits or privileges not available to non-employees (i.e. use of a school facility).
 - 2) Staff should be aware of District rules related to conflict of interest and ethical responsibilities. (See Administrative Regulation 4530, Ethical Standards / Conflict of Interest) District staff, to include coaches/advisors and volunteers, shall avoid any conflict of interest between his/her employment or volunteer opportunity and the non-sanctioned activity; and comply with ethical responsibilities by maintaining separation between the duties as a District staff member and the duties to the outside organization. This includes use of District email,

communication with students and other staff during work hours related to the outside organization, and other use of District resources.

- ii. The District is not responsible for nor does it control or incur liability for summer and/or out-of-season activities.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Through this policy, the Board seeks to ensure that:
 - a. All participants and teams, to include students and coaches/advisors, will represent the school and community in a positive manner and will reflect the dedication and hard work that will be required to participate and be successful;
 - b. The ability to try out and/or participate in the activities and events of the District shall be accessible to all students;
 - c. District protocols are established related to:
 - i. Eligibility requirements for student participants in co- and extra-curricular activities;
 - ii. Organization and management of each sponsored activity for administrators, coaches and advisors;
 - iii. The safety and welfare of student participants in activities; and
 - iv. The instruction in the essential skills and attitudes needed for participation.
2. Success will not be measured by records that are achieved but rather by the knowledge that each participant gave his/her best effort and prepared for each contest to the best of his/her ability and demonstrates positive, personal growth.

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

1. This document reflects the goals of the District's Strategic Plan and aligns/complies with the governing documents of the District, to include:
 - a. Board Policy 5345, Prevention and Treatment of Sport Related Injuries
 - b. Board Policy 7120, Community Use of School Buildings and Facilities
 - c. Board Policy 3100, Financial Services
 - d. Board Policy 4505, Standards of Professional Practice

- e. WCSD Activity / Athletic Handbooks
 - f. WCSD Student Travel Manual
 - g. WCSD Student Activity Funds Procedures Manual
2. This document complies with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC), to include:
- a. Chapter 385B, Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association
 - b. Chapter 392, Pupils
3. This document complies with federal laws and regulations, to include:
- a. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 et seq., and the implementing regulations, 34 C.F.R. Part 106,

REVIEW & 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.
- 2. Administrative regulations, and/or other associated documents, will be developed as necessary to implement this policy.

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Revision	Modification
6-26-2018	1.0	Adopted: Replaced Board Policy 5305, Interscholastic Activities, Athletics, ...