



Responsible Office: Office of the Ombudsman and Strategies Officer

BOARD POLICY 5625
STUDENT HEALTH and WELFARE

PURPOSE

The Board of Trustees (“Board”) is committed to having established protocols in place related to health concerns, ill and injured students, immunizations, and reasonable accommodations. Through this policy and any accompanying governing documents, the Washoe County School District (“District”) is committed to providing students with a safe physical environment and nursing and counseling services for students.

DEFINITIONS

1. “Physician” means a person who is licensed to practice medicine pursuant to Chapter 630 of Nevada Revised Statutes (“NRS”) or osteopathic medicine pursuant to NRS Chapter 633.
2. “Advanced practice registered nurse” means a registered nurse who holds a valid license as an advanced practice registered nurse issued by the State Board of Nursing.
3. “Provider of health care” means a physician licensed under NRS Chapter 630 or 633, a physical therapist licensed under NRS Chapter 640, or an athletic trainer licensed under NRS Chapter 640B.
4. “Registered nurse” means a person who is licensed to practice professional nursing under NRS Chapter 632.
 - a. Practice of professional nursing” means the performance of any act in the observation, care and counsel of the ill, injured or infirm, in the maintenance of health or prevention of illness of others, in the supervision and teaching of other personnel, in the administration of medications and treatments as prescribed by an advanced practice registered nurse, a licensed physician, a physician assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 630 or 633 of NRS, a licensed dentist or a licensed podiatric physician, requiring substantial specialized judgment and skill based on knowledge and application of the principles of biological, physical and social science, but does not include acts of medical diagnosis or prescription of therapeutic or corrective measures.

5. "Medication" means any medicine prescribed by a physician or advanced practice registered nurse for the treatment of anaphylaxis, asthma or diabetes, including, without limitation, asthma inhalers, auto-injectable epinephrine and insulin.
6. "Self-administer" means the auto-administration of a medication pursuant to the prescription for the medication or written directions for such a medication.

POLICY

1. Through this policy, the Board delegates to the District Superintendent to establish and implement a comprehensive set of student health guidelines and guidance for the District's students. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Treatment and/or handling of student health conditions, illness, and/or injury including, but not limited to, concussion and head injuries; cardiac emergencies and sudden cardiac arrest; asthma, respiratory distress, allergies, and anaphylaxis; diabetes; head lice; pregnant and parenting students; and sexual health and infectious diseases;
 - b. Administration and/or self-administration of medication including, but not limited to, prescription and non-prescription medications; asthma and allergies/anaphylaxis treatment, and the use of an epinephrine device (epi-pen);
 - c. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Use and Instruction. In accordance with state law, the District shall develop and implement the delivery of instruction in CPR and AED to certain required employees and using recognized and established guidelines and protocols;
 - d. Immunization requirements for students, including medical and religious exemptions;
 - e. Health screenings, to include vision, hearing, scoliosis/spine, and other state of Nevada mandated screenings;
 - f. Counseling and psychological services to improve and support the mental, emotional, and social health of students; and
 - g. Reasonable Accommodations under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
2. The District's health professionals, to include school nurses and clinical aides, counselors, social workers, and psychologists, are dedicated to keeping students healthy and learning-ready. The services provided by the District are designed to encourage parents/guardians to devote attention to child health, discover health problems, and encourage the use of the services of physicians, dentists, and community health agencies as needed.

3. The Board encourages a planned, sequential, K-12 curriculum that addresses the physical, mental, emotional, and social dimensions of student health and well-being. Such curriculum and associated initiatives shall not and are not intended to supplement or replace parental responsibility related to student health. The curriculum is designed to motivate and assist students to maintain and improve their health, prevent disease, and reduce health-related risk behaviors.
4. The District shall cooperate and collaborate with the Washoe County Health Department, state or federal health organizations, and appropriate local health providers in providing medical supervision in school health matters and as required by state and federal laws.
5. District staff shall comply with state and federal laws and regulations related to student health information and records. This includes maintaining student confidentiality in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), and the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act (IDEA).
6. The Superintendent is delegated the authority to adopt administrative regulations and procedures necessary to implement the provisions of this policy. Such regulations and procedures may include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Protocols for health care, emergency medical services, and refusal of care;
 - b. Medical and religious exceptions for immunizations and health screenings;
 - c. Consultation with a student's parent/guardian regarding the need for health attention by a physician, dentist, or other specialist, as necessary;
 - d. Handling of contagious or infectious diseases, to include a student's potential exclusion from school and referral and follow-up with the Washoe County Health Department related to suspected or confirmed health problems;
 - e. Procedures for handling inclement weather conditions such as extreme cold or heat and the impact on recess, physical education classes, athletic teams, etc.;
 - f. Protocols for the maintenance and review of student health records in keeping with state and federal laws, to include maintenance of records on incidents of health problems, corrective measures taken, and such other information as may be needed to plan and evaluate health programs;
 - g. Health concerns related to student travel; and,
 - h. Development of community partnerships that will provide students in grades Pre-K-12 with access to mental health services. This include professional staff development to improve early detection and appropriate referral for mental health assessments and treatments for students when indicated.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS & ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

1. This policy reflects the goals of the District's Strategic Plan and aligns with the governing documents of the District, to include:
 - a. Board Policy 5345, Prevention and Treatment of Sport Related Injuries
 - b. Administrative Regulation 5140, Student Health and Welfare
2. This policy complies with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC), to include:
 - a. Chapter 388, System of Public Instruction
 - b. Chapter 392, Pupils
3. This policy complies with federal laws and regulations, to include:
 - a. 29 USC 794, Nondiscrimination under Federal grants and programs.
 - b. Family Education Right to Privacy Act (FERPA).
 - c. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA).
 - d. Americans with Disabilities Act, Title II Regulations as amended in 2010, 29 C.F.R. Part 35.

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Revision	Modification
2/18/2009	1.0	Adopted
6/28/2011	2.0	Pursuant to change in federal law, <i>Policy</i> No. 4(a) was revised regarding service animals
10/29/2019	3.0	Revised: Deleted Board Policy 5038