



**Responsible Office:** Office of Strategies

**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 Board Policy and any accompanying governing documents, the Washoe County School District (District) is committed to providing students nursing and counseling services.

**DEFINITIONS**

1. "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.
2. "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.
3. "Physician" means a person who is licensed to practice medicine or osteopathic medicine pursuant to Nevada law.
4. "Provider of health care" means a physician, a physical therapist, or an athletic trainer licensed under Nevada law.
5. "Registered nurse" means a person who is licensed to practice professional nursing under Nevada law.
  - 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, 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.

6. "Self-administer" means a person is able to take or administer their own medication per written direction without supervision.

## **POLICY**

1. Through this Board Policy, the Board delegates to the Superintendent or designee 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; and
  - f. Counseling and psychological services to improve and support the mental, emotional, and social health of students.
2. The health 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. The Board hereby directs the Superintendent to adopt an Administrative Regulations to implement and maintain the purpose of this Board Policy. The Superintendent shall include in the Administrative Regulation the following provisions:
  - 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 includes professional employee development to improve early detection and appropriate referral for mental health assessments and treatments for students when indicated.

## **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 5345, Prevention and Treatment of Sport Related Injuries.
2. This Board Policy complies with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC), to include:
    - a. Chapter 630, Physicians, Physicians Assistants, Medical Assistants, Perfusionists and Practitioners of Respiratory Care;
    - b. Chapter 632, Nursing;
    - c. Chapter 633, Osteopathic Medicine;
    - d. Chapter 640B, Athletic Trainers;
    - e. Chapter 388, System of Public Instruction; and
    - f. Chapter 392, Pupils.
  3. This Board 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); and
    - 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 No. 4(a)</i> was revised regarding service animals |
| 10/29/2019 | 3.0      | Revised: Deleted Board Policy 5038  |
| 03/29/2022 | 4.0      | Revised: Formatted per BP 9070, clarify language and definitions.                               |