



**Responsible Office:** Office of the General Counsel, Department of Civil Rights  
Compliance

## **BOARD POLICY 5700**

### **SAFE AND RESPECTFUL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

#### **PURPOSE**

The Board of Trustees (Board) seeks to create a safe and respectful learning environment free from race discrimination, bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment, and power-based violence (referred to collectively as “bullying and other prohibited conduct”) in order for students to achieve success. The Board hereby adopts this Policy to create a safe and respectful learning environment, as outlined in state law.

#### **POLICY**

1. The Washoe County School District (District) is committed to providing an environment in which persons of differing beliefs, characteristics and backgrounds can realize their full academic and personal potential. The prohibition against bullying and other prohibited conduct applies to any individual on Washoe County School District (District) property, to include District-provided transportation, at District-sponsored activities and events, and/or while acting on behalf of the District. This includes outside entities using District facilities.
2. The act of bullying does not apply to a student enrolled in prekindergarten, or between two or more adults regardless of whether one or more of the adults is a District employee.
3. The Board hereby directs the Superintendent to adopt Administrative Regulations to implement and maintain the required purposes of this Board Policy. The Superintendent shall include in the Administrative Regulations the following provisions:
  - a. Specific protocols on reporting incidents of bullying and other prohibited conduct;
  - b. Upon receiving a report of bullying or other prohibited conduct, an administrator or designee shall immediately take any necessary action to stop such conduct and ensure the safety and well-being of the reported victim or victims;

- i. Specific protocols must be adhered to when responding to a report of harassment or power-based, including trauma-informed procedures and a plan to deliver supportive measures to any victims no later than 3 days after receiving the report.
- c. Investigations of bullying and other prohibited conduct must be conducted in accordance with the requirements outlined in state law;
- d. An administrator or designee who conducts an investigation of bullying or other prohibited conduct shall provide written findings and a conclusion of the investigation to the parents or guardians of all students directly involved in the reported conduct; and
- e. Prohibition on unlawful retaliation against an individual who reports an act of bullying or other prohibited conduct, or against any person who testifies, assists, or participates in the investigation of a report.

## **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 5100, Student Behavior; and
  - b. Board Policy 0100, Nondiscrimination and Equal Opportunity.
2. This Board Policy complies with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) to include:
  - a. Chapter 200, Crimes Against the Person, and specifically:
    - i. NRS 200.571, Harassment and Stalking; and
    - ii. Chapter 200.900, Bullying by Use of Electronic Communication Device;
  - b. Chapter 388, System of Public Instruction, and specifically:
    - i. NRS 388.121 – 388.1459, inclusive, Provision of Safe and Respectful Learning Environment;
  - c. Chapter 392, Students, and specifically:
    - i. NRS 392.461 – 392.4675, inclusive, Behavior and Discipline; and
    - ii. NRS 392.900 – 392.920, inclusive, Unlawful Acts.

- d. Chapter 396, Nevada System of Higher Education, and specifically:
  - i. NRS 396.1285, Power-Based Violence.
- 3. This Board Policy complies with federal laws and regulations, to include:
  - a. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, as amended;
  - b. The Civil Rights Act of 1964; and
  - c. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

### **REVISION HISTORY**

Date	Revision	Modification
4/03/2012	1.0	Adopted
2/11/2014	2.0	Revised: Pursuant to changes during the 2013 Legislative Session (SB164, SB414, SB427)
7/14/2015	3.0	Revised: Pursuant to changes during the 2015 Legislative Session (SB504)
12/13/2016	4.0	Revised: Changed number from 9031; added "harassment;" added additional definitions
5/22/2018	5.0	Revised: Changed from 9205 (moved to Student Series); changes compliant with 2017 Senate Bill 225
03/29/2022	6.0	Revised: Clarify language, update definitions
08/26/2025	7.0	Revised: Pursuant to changes during the 2025 Legislative Session (SB277)