Responsible Office: Office of the Deputy Superintendent

BOARD POLICY 6111

SCHOOL CALENDARS AND SCHEDULE TYPES TO RELIEVE OVERCROWDING

PURPOSE

The Board of Trustees (Board) believes that there is a benefit for all members of the community when the schools in the Washoe County School District (District) are on the same calendar. When overcrowding exists to the point that the benefit of one calendar is diminished, the Board recognizes the need for school calendars and schedule types to change so that those benefits may again be realized. This Board Policy establishes the protocols related to the establishment of school calendars and schedules to relieve overcrowding.

DEFINITIONS

1. "Balanced Calendar" is a school calendar designed to end the semester before the winter break, add periods of intensive intervention for schools, and to lessen learning loss by shortening the summer break. This calendar has a one-week fall break, a two-week winter break, and a two-week spring break.

2. "Base Design Enrollment Capacity is the maximum enrollment capacity for a school (not including portable classrooms).

3. "Calendars" include the balanced calendar, construction calendar, and multi-track year-round (MTYR) calendars.

4. "Construction Calendar" The start of the school year is delayed from the Balanced Calendar to allow for an extended summer break, facilitating the safe completion of construction or repairs at a school. This time is then made up through the elimination of the one week fall break and possibly the elimination of one week from spring break if two weeks at the beginning of the year are necessary. The decision when the calendar will start is made in January of the year prior to the beginning of the calendar so that families are aware. The end of the school year will coincide with the Balanced Calendar.

5. "Double Sessions" Two "schools" are operated out of one building; the school is divided into two separate groups which start and end the day at different times, with no overlap. Double Sessions can relieve overcrowding by as much as 50%.

6. "Multi-Track Year-Round Calendar (MTYR)" The school is divided into four groups (tracks) which start and end the school year on different dates, with only three tracks attending school at any one time. This can decrease overcrowding by as much as 25%.

7. "Schedule types" include flex scheduling and double sessions.

POLICY

1. The Board shall establish school calendars and schedule types to provide a program of instruction for its students. School calendars shall indicate beginning and ending dates, legal and local holidays, vacation periods, and other pertinent dates.

    a. As needed, the Board shall establish an advisory committee for the purpose of making school calendar recommendations to the Board.

    b. The annual school calendar and schedule types shall be adopted with the intention of meeting the requirements of law as well as the needs of students, parents/guardians, the community, and the work year as negotiated for all employees.

    c. The Board recognizes that frequent changes in calendars are not in the best interest of students or the community and, therefore, future enrollment growth and/or loss will be considered when calendar changes are made.

2. Initial changes to school calendars and schedule types for the purpose of alleviating overcrowding require the approval of the Board.

    a. The Board recognizes the need for alternative schedule types to address overcrowding. Alternative schedule types may include, but are not limited to, the multi-track year-round calendar in an elementary school and double sessions in a middle or high school.

        i. Consideration of calendaring or other significant interventions to relieve overcrowding, including conversion to multi-track, year-round or other alternative schedules, for elementary schools will occur when the projected enrollment of a school for the following school year exceeds 120% of base design capacity.

        ii. Consideration of calendaring or other significant interventions to relieve overcrowding, including conversion to double sessions or other alternative schedules, for middle and high schools will occur when the projected enrollment of a school for the following school year exceeds 120% of base design capacity.

iii. Any school that is scheduled for conversion to a Multi-Track Year-Round school calendar or a Double Session school calendar that has not completed a School Overcrowding Management Plan (SOMP) will have the opportunity to complete a SOMP.

1) The SOMP is intended to evaluate specific factors relative to the school, to include growth and safety issues, by getting feedback from the school community prior to consideration of converting a school to an alternative calendar or schedule type.

iv. If a school has not completed a SOMP, the school will be allowed to write a SOMP, and the Board may grant a one-year deferral from conversion to Multi-Track Year-Round or Double Sessions.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

1. This Board Policy reflects the goals of the District's Strategic Plan and complies with the governing documents of the District, to include:
    a. Board Policy 7105, School Capacity Management and Attendance Zones.
2. This Board Policy complies with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) to include:
    a. Chapter 387, Financial Support of School System, and specifically:
        i. NAC 387.120 – 387.153, School Schedules and School Days in Session; and
    b. Chapter 388, System of Public Instruction, and specifically:
        i. NRS 388.080 – 388.110, School Year; Minimum Number of Days; Holidays.

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Revision	Modification
8/26/1997	1.0	Adopted
4/14/2015	2.0	Revised: Include schedule types.
1/10/2017	3.0	Revised: Document the Board established conversion threshold for elementary schools.
8/22/2017	4.0	Revised: Clarify automatic conversion.

03/29/2022	5.0	Revised: Update formatting pursuant to BP 9070, added definitions for balanced calendar and construction calendar.