



Responsible Office(s): Office of Academics

**BOARD POLICY 6600
COURSE OF STUDY**

PURPOSE

The Board of Trustees (Board) establishes this Board Policy to support Washoe County School District (District) students in graduating college-and career-ready, through effective instruction, an accountability system, and balanced assessment.

DEFINITIONS

1. "College and Career Ready" requires more than just obtaining a high school diploma. It means that a high school graduate is ready to pursue preparation for a highly skilled career and is admissible to and prepared to succeed in first-year, credit-bearing classes without remediation, at a 2- or 4-year college, technical or trade school, or apprenticeship program. A "career" differs from a "job" in that a career offers the opportunity to advance and develop professionally.

POLICY

1. To meet Nevada's academic standards in the core academic subjects, all high school students in the District will be enrolled in the following four-year high school course of study:

English	4 years (4 credits)
Mathematics, including Algebra 1, Geometry or Formal Geometry, Algebra 2 or Algebra 2 H, and one additional math class from available courses	4 years (4 credits) *
Science, including at least two laboratory sciences of which, one must be Biology and the other either a course in physical science, chemistry, or physics	3 years (3 credits) *
Social Studies, including U.S. History, U.S. Government, World History or World Geography and Economics	3 years (3 credits)

Physical Education/JROTC	2 years (2 credits)
Health/JROTC	1 semester (1/2 credit)
Computers	1 semester (1/2 credit)
Art, humanities, CTE, or JROTC (level III or IV)	1 year (1 credit)
Electives to complete diploma credit requirements	

* Exceeds the state graduation requirement of 3 credits of mathematics and 2 credits of science

- a. Students will be enrolled in a full academic load during their freshman, sophomore, and junior years.
 - b. Students who have an approved exemption for merit or cause will be enrolled in a minimum 2/3 of the academic load (rounding up to the nearest whole class) in their senior year. Students who do not have an approved exemption for merit or cause will be enrolled in a full academic load in their senior year.
 - c. An annual report on the percentage of graduates who have completed this course of study will be made available to the Board.
2. The following Board Policy and its accompanying Administrative Regulation do not impact the District requirements for graduation. The Board Policy above describes the course of study in which all high school students will be enrolled unless they meet one of the exceptions described in the administrative regulation.
- a. A student is not required to enroll in the course of study and credits required by this subsection if the student, the parent or legal guardian of the student, and an administrator or a counselor at the school which the student is enrolled mutually agree to a modified course of study for the student and that modified course of study satisfies at least the requirements for a standard high school diploma or an adjusted or alternative diploma, as applicable.

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.

2. This Board Policy aligns with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 389, Academics and Textbooks, and specifically:

- a. NRS 389.018, Designation of core academic subjects; minimum units of credit required in high school; exception; additional subjects to be taught.

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Revision	Modification
12/7/2004	1.0	Adopted
7/29/2014	2.0	Revised: Formerly entitled "The Gateway Curriculum"
06/14/2022	3.0	Revised: Update format per BP 9070 and clarify language