



Responsible Office(s): Office of Academics

BOARD POLICY 6700

CHARTER SCHOOLS

PURPOSE

The Board of Trustees (Board) supports parent choice and student success by sponsoring charter schools that adhere to Nevada Academic Content Standards and provide innovative learning opportunities for the students in the Washoe County School District (District).

DEFINITIONS

1. "Charter Application" is submitted to the District for the proposition of opening a new District sponsored charter school.
2. "Charter School" is a tuition free public school funded by the state and sponsored by the state or a local school district but is organized and operated independently by a committee with the desire to provide a different educational opportunity for Nevada families.

POLICY

1. The District shall promote educational options for students and families to allow students opportunities for academic engagement and to assist in their path to graduate college-and career-ready.
2. Through its commitment to work with families and community partners, the District will sponsor charter schools that provide a variety of educational options to students and families in the Washoe County community.
3. District sponsored charter schools shall use data to drive accountability to meet the academic and fiscal standards required by Nevada laws and regulations. The District shall:
 - a. Adopt a performance framework and incorporate it into the charter contract.
 - b. Negotiate and execute charter agreements between the District and the District sponsored charter schools. Such agreements shall state the obligations of both the District as a sponsor of the charter school and the obligations of the charter school.

- i. An initial written charter contract must be for a term of 6 years; and
 - ii. A charter contract may be renewed for not less than three years and not more than ten years. At the completion of the charter contract, the charter school will need to seek renewal through the District.
 - c. Provide a District administrator who will serve as a District liaison to District sponsored charter schools. The District administrator will be responsible for coordinating:
 - i. Annual monitoring/auditing of the performance and compliance of District sponsored charter schools; and
 - ii. The renewal process for District sponsored charter schools.
 - d. Offer technical support and inclusion in District professional learning to District sponsored charter schools.
 - e. Reconstitute the governing body of a charter school, revoke a written charter or terminate a charter contract before the expiration of the charter should the District determine the charter school is in violation of state law.
4. Each District sponsored charter school shall:
 - a. Maintain a minimum two-star classification on the Nevada State Performance Framework annually.
 - b. Maintain a stable and sustainable financial condition.
 - c. Maintain sound governance practices in reporting and administration and comply with the requirements of Nevada state laws and regulations, to include those of the Nevada Department of Education.
 - d. Meet the needs of diverse student populations, including but not limited to English Learners, students with disabilities, students on Section 504 Plans, Gifted and Talented students, and students with behavior concerns.
5. The Board will receive an annual monitoring report for each District sponsored charter school at a Regular Meeting of the Board.

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 complies with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC), to include:
 - a. NRS Chapter 388A, Charter Schools.

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Revision	Modification
11/18/2014	1.0	Adopted
6/27/2017	2.0	Revised: Include the basic structure of the District's responsibilities for sponsorship of a charter school
10/15/2019	3.0	Revised: Comply with Senate Bill 451 (2019) related to renewal terms
06/14/2022	4.0	Revised: Update format per BP 9070 and clarify language