



Board Policy

Responsible Office: Office of Operations

BOARD POLICY 7086 **SCHOOL CLOSURE**

PURPOSE

The Board of Trustees (Board) is committed to the effective and efficient management of all school facilities. If conditions arise that warrant the temporary or permanent closure of a school, this Board Policy establishes the guidelines to be followed for any closure of schools in the Washoe County School District (District).

POLICY

1. The Board has the primary responsibility to operate the facilities of the District in an effective and fiscally efficient manner while maintaining the highest levels of academic opportunities for all students in a safe educational atmosphere.
2. In fulfilling this responsibility there may at times be conditions requiring the Board to consider the closure or consolidation of a school including:
 - a. Declining enrollment;
 - b. Age and/or physical condition of the school facility which impacts annual operating costs and/or the cost to bring a school up to current educational building facility standards;
 - c. Changing the use of a school; and/or
 - d. Changing the location of a school.
3. As a result, the Board may wish to consider the closure or consolidation of one or more schools to better meet the educational and fiscal goals of the District. Closure consideration due to a school's academic performance shall be addressed under a separate policy.
4. The Board recognizes that the permanent closure and/or change of use of a school is a difficult proposition for the students, parents, employees, and the school's neighborhood. The Board shall consider pertinent facts and outcomes associated with the possible closure of a school and involve the community in each phase of the closure process while maintaining compliance with adopted District procedures and applicable sections of the Nevada Revised Statutes.

5. Should a school undergo a closure or Change of Use to a function other than a K-12 school, the Board also wishes to consider the history of the school within the community in which it has resided and served for many years when considering options for the future use(s) of the building and grounds. In order to best inform such future uses, the Staff will engage with the current families and community members for input on the location to repurposed. Additionally, Staff will also consider options for future uses within a framework outlined as follows:
 - a) The facility's value for the purposes of any other academic program operated by the District in direct service to our students;
 - b) The facility's value for the purposes of any other non-academic central services program or department operated by the District;
 - c) The facility's value for the purposes of serving youth in our community with or by another Governmental Entity or Non-Profit Organization;
 - d) The facility's value for the purposes of serving adults, including WCSD staff, in our community with or by another Governmental Entity or Non-Profit Organization; and
 - e) The facility's value on the open market for sale through a public process.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

1. This Board Policy reflects the goals of the District's Strategic Plan and aligns/complies with the following governing documents of the District, to include:
 - a. Administrative Regulation 7087, School Closure.
2. This Board Policy complies with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC), to include:
 - a. NRS Chapter 393, School Property, and specifically:
 - i. NRS 393.080, General powers of board of trustees; notice required to close school or change location or use of school; and
 - ii. NRS 393.085, Decision to close or change use of school: Hearing for reconsideration by board of trustees; judicial review.

POLICY HISTORY

| Date | Revision | Modification |
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| 06/23/2009 | 1.0 | Adopted |
| 05/07/2012 | 2.0 | Revised: Changed from BOT-P085 to 7086, under the Office of Logistics and Operations |
| 08/19/2015 | 2.1 | Revised: Changed responsibility to Office of Operations |
| 07/26/2022 | 3.0 | Revised: Update format and clarify language to align with NRS and NAC |
| 09/26/2024 | 4.0 | Revised: fixed typographical errors, updated masthead |
| 07/29/2025 | 5.0 | Revised: added change of use framework |