



THE NYE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT'S VISION FOR THE CREATION OF A HIGH-PERFORMING DISTRICT

PREAMBLE

The Nye County Board of Trustees is a county-wide elected body with governance responsibility for public schools across Nye County School District in the communities of Amargosa, Beatty, Duckwater, Gabbs, Pahrump, Round Mountain and Tonopah. Nye County is the largest geographical school district in the contiguous United States. It is our board's responsibility to do the following:

- Set a clear direction for the district;
- Empower and hold the superintendent responsible for implementing our direction and managing district operations;
- Develop and adopt policies that support and implement the board's direction;
- Adopt budgets that direct resources necessary to adequately support educational goals; and
- Model the professionalism and degree of effort expected from students, parents, community and staff.

The board expects a high-performing district that achieves exceptional results. We believe a process of continuous improvement and reform can be consistent over time, transcending board membership and superintendents.

MISSION

Every child a success.

VISION

An educated citizenry, career and college ready.

GOALS

- Improvement in student achievement and proficiency levels.
- Sustain practices in the Nye County School District that increase the graduation rate and decrease the dropout rate.
- Maintain safe learning and working environments for all students and staff.
- Utilize educational technology and parent involvement in pursuit of these goals.

CORE VALUES AND BELIEFS

❖ ***POTENTIAL: Every student deserves the opportunity to achieve his or her potential.***

To best serve all students, the board believes schools, families and the community should provide every student the opportunity to reach his or her potential. We believe students learn differently, and as such, each classroom and/or school must teach the curriculum in a way that meets the needs of each child. Our district must provide opportunities that include a highly effective educator in each classroom, differentiated instruction and high-performing community and alternative schools. We believe we must close the achievement gap while moving all students forward.

❖ ***HIGH EXPECTATIONS: The district will foster a culture of high expectations.***

To achieve high performance, the board believes the district must foster a culture of high expectations for everyone: students, parents, educators, staff and the board. High expectations require adopting an attitude that does not make excuses for a child's academic performance. High expectations also require high performance standards for each employee, including an expectation of collaboration.

❖ ***ACCOUNTABILITY: The district will be open, transparent and accountable to the public.***

The board believes the district should be open, transparent and accountable to the public, ensuring a high-quality education while remaining fiscally responsible. Our budget, policies, guidelines, curriculum and district performance data will be easily accessible (unless protected by law) and understandable. Parents will always have access to what their children are learning and how they are progressing. The district will promote strong community partnerships and public involvement.

❖ ***SAFETY: All schools and departments will be safe and supportive.***

The board believes all schools and departments will have safe and supportive environments by providing safe facilities, being intolerant of bullying and discrimination, and ensuring respect for all. This belief includes the promotion of skills necessary to create positive relationships and to handle confrontational and challenging situations constructively and ethically.

❖ ***RESPONSIVENESS: Public education should be responsive to an ever-changing world.***

The board believes the district must be responsive to the changing educational requirements of students for meeting the challenges of an ever-changing world. Every graduate should be ready for his or her next step in life and be a productive member of a democratic republic.

BOARD COMMITMENTS

Based on our core beliefs and values, the board is committed to the following:

- A collaborative and respectful governance relationship with the superintendent;
- A rigorous core curriculum of language arts, mathematics, science and social studies;
- A well-rounded educational program that integrates career and technical education, arts and athletics;
- Instruction and early interventions that meet the needs of each student and moves each forward at least one year's academic growth annually;
- Effective public school choice options;
- Parents and the community as informed partners; and
- Cost-effective and efficient operations.

OPERATING PRINCIPLES FOR INSTRUCTION

To implement our vision, the board sets forth the following operating principles the district will be guided by in order to move our district towards high performance:

- **Managed Instruction** – The district will use a Managed Instruction System approach, which includes consistent content, grade-level expectations, and performance standards and instruction across grade levels and schools. Instructors will follow Components of an Effective Lesson, analytical writing traits and other current practices to present the most effective lessons to their students. The main driver for this principle is the mobility of our district.
- **School Innovation** – The district will encourage creativity, innovation and reform, including allowing schools to request flexibility in the form of pilot programs so the school can best meet the needs of its students, while following a rigorous curriculum in integrated classrooms. Educators will actively participate in Professional Learning Communities to share best practices.
- **Principal Priorities** – Principals will implement board policies and vision, focusing on three priorities: (1) a safe and secure learning and teaching environment, (2) serving as the instructional leader in ensuring quality education, and (3) serving as the liaison with the school community.
- **Instructional Differentiation** – As a best practice, the district will ensure instructional strategies and early interventions to meet the needs of each student through the use of common assessments and data analysis to guide instruction, in order to move every child forward at least one year’s academic growth annually.
- **Educator Accountability** – Teachers, principals and all educators will be held accountable for complying with district policy and procedures and state and federal laws; implementing ~~Common Core~~ **Nevada Academic Content** Standards into the curriculum; and direction to meet the district’s mission, vision, core beliefs, commitments and performance measures.
- **Effective Communication** – The district will establish effective communications (including feedback loops) with parents, students, educators and the community.
- **Research-based Curriculum and Best Practice Instruction** – The district’s curricula will be research-based with the expectation of and accountability for best practices with instruction.
- **Technology Integration** – The district will integrate technology into all classrooms and curricula to provide each child the opportunity to fully engage in a twenty-first century learning environment.

IMPLEMENTATION

To implement our vision, the board will work with the Superintendent each year to determine strategic initiatives, annual board projects and performance measures.