



NYE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Trustees
Policy Committee Agenda

A Policy Committee of the Board of Trustees of Nye County School District will be held on Thursday, January 3, 2008, beginning at 6:00 PM at the Southern District Office Boardroom, 484 S West Street, Pahrump, NV 89048.

The subjects to be discussed, considered, or acted upon are listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the order presented below and the Board may combine two or more agenda items for consideration at any time. The Board may also remove any items on the agenda or delay discussion relating to any item listed on the agenda at any time. Unless removed from the Consent Agenda, items identified within the Consent Agenda will be acted on at one time.

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PUBLIC COMMENT, INFORMATIONAL ITEM
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PAST MEETING, ACTION ITEM
4. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE DECISION REGARDING CHANGES TO EXISTING POLICIES & REGULATIONS, ACTION ITEM
 - A. 1200 - Parent Involvement & Empowerment
5. ASSIGNMENT OF FUTURE POLICY RESEARCH, ACTION ITEM
6. ADJOURNMENT, ACTION ITEM

This Meeting will be streamed live online via the link <https://livestream.nyeschools.org/ViewStream.html> on the Nye County School District website. Click on the following link if you have difficulties with the live streaming: <https://bit.ly/ncsdbotmeetings>.

Public input may be accepted live via email for the duration of the Meeting and shared during the public input designated timeframe (all rules and timelines as listed in the Agenda still apply). Public comments made by members of the public attending the meeting virtually must be emailed to publiccomment@nyeschools.org and must include:

- a. The author's first and last name
- b. The author's phone number (will not be read with comment)
- c. Date of the Meeting for which the comment is intended

Nye County School District (NCSD) will empower students to learn at their highest level in an environment of mutual respect.

The NCSD BOT Goals are as follows:

Culture

Improve and sustain a culture of learning for all through:

- ◆ Recruiting, selecting, inducting, supporting, evaluating, and developing staff.
- ◆ Fostering a safe and respectful learning and working environment.
- ◆ Promoting ongoing family and community engagement in pursuit of our vision.

Academic

Elevate achievement and support lifelong learning for all through:

- ◆ Creating and sustaining a results-focused learning environment; establishing measurable goals for all.
- ◆ Creating and sustaining an instructional framework and common language to ensure essential content standards drive instruction.

The notice for this posting was posted on the NCSD Website (<https://www.nye.k12.nv.us>), Nevada's Notice Website (<https://notice.nv.gov/>), at the main physical location of the meeting, and has also been provided to all persons who have made a specific request of a copy of the Agenda by US Mail or electronic mail. A Public Binder will be available for viewing at the scheduled location at the time of the Meeting.

NYE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Nye County School District (NCSD) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, disability, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other category protected by applicable state or federal law in its program and activity, including employment. In keeping with requirements of federal and state law, NCSD strives to remove any vestige of discrimination in accommodating the public at public meetings.

The Nye County School District is pleased to provide reasonable accommodations for the disabled. Members of the public who are physically handicapped and require special accommodations or assistance to attend the meeting are requested to notify the Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Trustees in writing at 484 S West Street, Pahrump, NV 89048, email Iliana Garcia at igarcia@nyeschools.org, or call 775-727-7743, ext. 239 at least one week before the meeting.

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
November 29, 2007

Present: Dennis Keating, Chair; Harold Tokerud, Tracie Ward and Dr. William Roberts, Members; Rod Pekarek, Dale Norton, Jerry Hill, Ray Ritchie, John Kiley, Lisa Mays and Kerry Paniagua.

The committee meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. in the Pahrump boardroom with a videoconference link to the Tonopah boardroom. Public input is noted under Policy 6144 below. Mrs. Ward moved approval of the August 24 minutes. Dr. Roberts seconded, and a unanimous vote was recorded.

1500 – Community Use of School Facilities Regulation. Dr. Roberts explained that the law allows public use of facilities when that use doesn't impact instruction or activities and as long as insurance and other requirements are met. He explained that the District cannot discriminate against religious organizations who wish to rent facilities. There was some discussion on whether the fees collected actually cover the costs and how long it's been since the costs were evaluated. There was also discussion on athletic camps. Mr. Tokerud made the motion to approve the changes to the regulation. Mrs. Ward seconded, and a unanimous vote was registered.

5530 – Textbook Selection. Mr. Tokerud thought the board should be notified when textbook selection and curriculum adoption are taking place. Mr. Hill said NAC 390.010 deals with formation of the committee and references any other member the Superintendent wants to be appointed. Dr. Roberts felt it would be more appropriate for the board to make that decision. Mr. Tokerud made the motion to add a sentence to allow a board member to participate in the committee. Dr. Roberts seconded, and a unanimous vote was cast.

5660 – Promotion, Retention & Acceleration of Students. Ms. Paniagua stated "student" was replaced by "pupil" to match statute wording, and other changes dealt with retention. Mrs. Ward made the motion to approve the revision, and Mr. Tokerud seconded. There was a discussion on absences. Mr. Norton explained the 90% attendance relates to unexcused absences. Mrs. Ward amended her motion to change the word "minutes" to "days" in the first paragraph, and Mr. Tokerud amended his second. Mr. Norton felt #2 should specifically identify eighth graders so that elementary principals don't think this applies to them. He suggested putting K-7 in the third paragraph under "retention" and to add "eighth graders" to #2 and #3 for clarification. He said the 90% attendance applies to grades 1 through 12. Mrs. Ward amended her motion again to include those changes. Mr. Tokerud amended his second, and a unanimous vote was recorded.

6144 – Employee Dress. Mr. Kiley said the District has gone through this process a couple times and thought the present policy is conservative and flexible enough for administrators to make judgments. He urged the committee to keep in mind they're dealing with a different population each year and asked that any changes made be just as conservative. Dr. Roberts said the majority of the draft regulation is in the current policy. The changes are in some of the examples. Mrs. Ward thought ear lobes should be specified. Mr. Tokerud said when he walks into a school, he'd

like to be able to tell the teachers from the students. Mr. Keating liked splitting it into a policy and a regulation. Mr. Tokerud was concerned about the 4” above the knee. Dr. Roberts asked Mr. Kiley for his suggestion, and he thought “knee length” might be easier for supervisors to handle. Mr. Tokerud said he’s seen PE teachers come to school and leave school in short shorts. Mr. Hill advised keeping it general; the intent is in the document, and the burden falls on the supervisor. Mr. Pekarek said it is an enforcement issue. Mr. Norton said the standard is set in the policy. If principals don’t do their duty, then their supervisors step in. Mrs. Ward thought 2” above the knee might be easier for supervisors than 4”. Mr. Tokerud pointed out that a lot of the other districts use the 4” standard. Mr. Tokerud made the motion to approve the policy and regulation as presented. Mrs. Ward seconded, and a unanimous vote was registered.

7621 – Physical Examination. Mrs. Ward moved approval, and Mr. Tokerud seconded. A unanimous vote was recorded.

5060 – Empowerment Schools. Mrs. Ward made the motion to approve the new policy, and Mr. Tokerud seconded. Dr. Roberts said the requirements for a design team will be difficult to meet in the smaller districts because of membership requirements. He felt the team could be called something else, such as “school improvement team for empowerment.” The statute was worded to be specific to Clark and Washoe. He intends to send a letter out to principals to see if any want to apply because there are a lot of commitments a school would have to meet. There can only be one in the district. The vote to approve the policy was unanimous.

5401 – Small Learning Communities. Mrs. Ward made the motion to approve the policy, and Mr. Tokerud seconded. The vote to approve was unanimous.

5601 – Academic Plans. Mrs. Ward moved approval. Mr. Tokerud seconded, and a unanimous vote was recorded.

6239 – Exchange Time. Mrs. Ward made the motion to approve, and Mr. Keating seconded. Mr. Pekarek pointed out the timing was bad due to negotiations. Mrs. Ward withdrew her motion, and Mr. Keating withdrew his second. Dr. Roberts made the motion to table the policy. Mr. Tokerud seconded, and a unanimous vote was cast.

6303 – Administrators in the Classroom. Mrs. Ward moved approval, and Mr. Tokerud seconded. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Assignment of Future Policy Research. Mrs. Ward said a revision of the attendance policy will be brought forward soon.

Mrs. Ward moved to adjourn at 6:24 p.m. Mr. Tokerud seconded, and a unanimous vote was registered.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT AND EMPOWERMENT

The Nye County School District Board of Trustees recognizes that greater parental involvement generally results in higher academic achievement, improved behavior and reduced absenteeism. Therefore, parents are encouraged to take an active role in their children's education in order to enhance the attitudes, behaviors and achievement of their children. The term "parent" refers to any caregiver/guardian who assumes responsibility for nurturing and caring for his/her children.

Parents and families provide the primary educational environment for children. Consequently, parents are vital and necessary partners with the educational communities throughout their children's school career. Although parents come to the schools with diverse cultural backgrounds, primary languages and needs, it is assumed that parents share a common interest in an excellent education for their children. Nye County schools, in collaboration with parents, teachers, students and administrators, shall develop and promote strategies that enhance parental involvement and reflect the needs of students, parents and families.

The Nye County School District believes that staff members are willing to communicate with any parent who has a concern regarding the educational process and the educational success of his/her child. The Board of Trustees encourages parents to initiate such contacts. The board believes that parents can become involved through:

- **Fulfilling basic parental responsibilities for their children's education and social development at home, such as:**
 - Ensuring that children arrive at school well rested;
 - Ensuring that children are appropriately clothed;
 - Ensuring that children are well fed;
 - Ensuring that dedicated space and time are provided for homework; and
 - Signing, returning, complying with, and having children comply with, the Educational Involvement Accord and Code of Honor that are distributed annually.
- **Working with their children, such as:**
 - Providing home-based learning activities for their children;
 - Showing their children how they, themselves, value education;
 - Monitoring homework; and
 - Providing tutoring to their children and others.
- **Participating in and supporting school events, such as:**
 - Attending meetings and parent/teacher conferences;
 - Attending school programs and sporting events;
 - Volunteering time;

- Being a classroom aide;
- Serving as a chaperone for field trips or other school events; and
- Fundraising.
- Serving as an advisor or decision maker, such as:
 - Serving on a committee (School Improvement Plan Team, District Improvement Plan Team, Parent-Teacher Organization, etc.); and
 - Helping in the governance of the school as part of a planning and implementation team.
- Being an advocate for the school and its programs in the community, such as:
 - Vocally supporting efforts to increase school funding;
 - Encouraging local businesses to form partnerships with schools; and
 - Serving as part of a district-organized committee at community and legislative forums.

In order to enhance parental involvement, six essential elements shall be promoted:

1. **Communication between Home and School is Regular, Two-Way and Meaningful.** Effective communication requires school-initiated contact with the parent as well as parent-initiated contact with the school so that both parties provide vital information about a child's strengths, challenges and accomplishments. To communicate effectively, both parties must be aware of and address issues such as cultural diversity, language differences and special needs. Appropriate steps shall be taken to allow clear communication among participants.
2. **Responsible Parenting is Promoted and Supported.** The family plays a primary role in a child's education, and schools must respect and honor traditions and activities unique to a community's cultural practices and beliefs. School staff shall support positive parenting by respecting and affirming the strengths and skills needed by parents to fulfill their role. Wherever necessary, parents shall be linked to community programs and resources that provide essential support services.
3. **Parents Play an Integral Role in Assisting Student Learning.** Educators shall recognize and acknowledge parents as the integral and primary facilitators of their children's education. Schools shall provide opportunities for parents to learn effective ways to support their children's educational needs, including information on how parents can support student behaviors such as punctuality and regular attendance.
4. **Schools are Open and Inviting to Parents and Families and Actively Seek Parental Support and Assistance for School Programs.** Parents are made to feel safe and welcome in their children's schools and will be invited to

volunteer at all educational levels, capitalizing on their skills and interests in order to strengthen the family, school and community partnership.

5. **Parents are Full Partners in the Decisions that Affect Children and Families.** Parents and educators have a mutual responsibility to make informed decisions related to all aspects of the education provided to District students. Schools shall actively enlist parent participation in decision making. Efforts shall be made to recruit and support participation by parents representing diverse student groups such as limited English proficient, special needs, gifted and talented, and homeless. The role of parents in shared decision making shall be continually evaluated, refined and expanded.
6. **Community Resources are made available to Strengthen and Promote School Programs, Family Practices and Student Achievement.** Schools and parents will cultivate synergistic relationships with additional members of the community in order to identify community resources and innovative programs that increase educational opportunities for children.

A primary goal of Nye County School District is to provide all students with equal access to quality education. It is vital that all partners (parents, educators, businesses and communities) have the opportunity to provide input and offer resources to meet this goal. These partnerships are mutually beneficial. Developing cooperative efforts and linking access to resources will ensure improved academic achievement for all students, as well as quality schools.

This policy is subject to annual review.

Reviewed: February 22, 2005
Adopted: July 24, 2002
Revised:

NEPN/NSBA Classification: KC
Legal Reference: NRS 392.457