



Responsible Office: Office of Academics

BOARD POLICY 6140

SEXUALITY, HEALTH, AND RESPONSIBILITY EDUCATION (S.H.A.R.E.)

PURPOSE

The Board of Trustees (“Board”) endorses the need for a comprehensive approach to the education of human sexual health and reproduction that is applied consistently to students throughout the Washoe County School District (“District” or “WCSD”). The District will provide students with a factual, comprehensive, abstinence-based instructional program to assist students in making informed choices and avoid behaviors that put them at risk in areas such as HIV/AIDS, and related sexually transmitted infections, and sexual responsibility.

POLICY

1. Guiding Principles

- a. The focus of the District’s Sexuality, Health, and Responsibility Education (S.H.A.R.E.) program is to assist students in making informed choices and avoid behaviors that put them at risk. The District’s Sexuality, Health, and Responsibility Education (“S.H.A.R.E.”) program has been developed to:
 - i. Be developmentally appropriate;
 - ii. Be medically accurate;
 - iii. Be culturally sensitive;
 - iv. Provide strategies to support all students, regardless of gender, race, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity;
 - v. Be consistent and compliant with state and federal laws; and
 - vi. Provide a foundation of knowledge and skills related to human development, relationships, decision-making, consent, abstinence, contraceptives, and disease prevention.

2. Guiding Practices

- a. The S.H.A.R.E. program shall be offered in grades 4-8 and in high school. In high school, the S.H.A.R.E. program shall be offered to students enrolled in a health or equivalent class.
- b. At each grade level, the instructional program teaches developmentally appropriate, medically-accurate information that builds on the knowledge and skills that were taught in the previous grades.
- c. Opportunities will be available to provide parents/guardians information on the comprehensive sexual health education provided to students, to include preview nights and WCSD developed, non-copyright protected curriculum materials to the District's website.
- d. Parents/guardians shall be offered multiple opportunities to either provide consent for their students(s) to participate in the District's comprehensive sexual health education lessons or decline to do so, in accordance with state law.
 - i. On an annual basis, during the online student registration process, each parent/guardian of a student in grades 4-12 shall have the opportunity to review the posted curriculum and opt the student into or out of the S.H.A.R.E. program.
 - ii. During the school year, parents/guardians shall be notified by the school in advance of the start of the program. Such notification may be by telephone, email, or in writing.
 - iii. If a student is opted out of the program, he/she will be excused from participation without any penalty.
- e. The subjects within the Sexuality, Health, and Responsibility Education (S.H.A.R.E.) program will only be taught by a teacher, counselor, or school nurse whose qualifications have been previously approved by the Board of Trustees.
 - i. In grades 4, 5, and 6, the program will be taught by a school counselor or certified teacher of the District who has received appropriate training in the subject area and is approved by the school principal and District's S.H.A.R.E. Coordinator.
 - ii. In grades 7 and 8, the program will be taught by a science teacher, school counselor, or other certified teacher of the District who has received appropriate training in the subject area and is approved by

the school principal and District's S.H.A.R.E. Coordinator.

- iii. In high school (grade 9, 10, 11, or 12), the program will be taught by the health teacher or other certified teacher.
- f. Sexuality, Health, and Responsibility Education (S.H.A.R.E.) Advisory Committee
 - i. In accordance with state law, the S.H.A.R.E. Advisory Committee shall review and advise the Board of Trustees:
 - 1. concerning the content, concepts and topics discussed and materials to be used in the Sexuality, Health, and Responsibility Education (S.H.A.R.E.) program; and
 - 2. Regarding the ages of the students who will participate in the program.
 - ii. The Board of Trustees shall have final approval of the Committee's recommendations concerning the content, concepts, and topics discussed and materials to be used in the course of instruction.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

- 1. Through the creation of a Sexuality, Health, and Responsibility Education (S.H.A.R.E.) Program and Board Policy, the District seeks to help students:
 - a. Focus on health promotion and risk reduction within the context of the world in which students live;
 - b. Learn about the health and safety of the human reproductive system;
 - c. Understand the nature of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome and Sexually Transmitted Infections to prevent, limit, and control the development of these diseases;
 - d. Promote abstinence and learn skills to include, but not limited to:
 - i. Knowing boundaries;
 - ii. Recognizing consent or lack thereof; and
 - iii. How to refuse or defuse a situation.
 - e. Develop positive attitudes and healthy consensual relationships, in all life settings;

- f. Gain a positive view of sexuality and to provide them with developmentally medically accurate information about their sex lives now, and in the future;
 - g. Learn strategies related to sex crime prevention.
2. Through adoption and implementation of this policy, the Board states its commitment to maintaining an advisory committee for the purpose of:
- a. Monitoring comprehensive sexual education issues on a regular basis to enable the appropriate implementation of the policy; and,
 - b. To ensure compliance with state law related to the District's S.H.A.R.E. program.

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES & ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

1. This policy reflects the goals of the District's Strategic Plan and aligns/complies with the governing documents of the District, to include:
- a. Administrative Regulation 6142.1, Sexuality, Health, and Responsibility Education (S.H.A.R.E.)
 - b. Board Policy 5700, Safe and Respectful Learning Environment
 - c. Board Policy 9200, Harassment and Discrimination Prohibited
2. This policy complies with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC), to include:
- a. Chapter 389, Examinations, Courses, Standards and Diplomas, and specifically:
 - i. NRS 389.036, Establishment of course or unit of course of instruction concerning acquired immune deficiency syndrome, human reproductive system, related communicable diseases and sexual responsibility; appointment of advisory committee; notice to parent or guardian; consent of parent or guardian required; materials to be made available to parents or guardians of pupils.

REVIEW AND REPORTING

1. This document shall be reviewed as part of the bi-annual review and reporting process, following each regular session of the Nevada Legislature. The Board of Trustees shall receive notification of any required changes to the policy as well as an audit of the accompanying governing documents.

2. Administrative regulations, and/or other associated documents, will be developed as necessary to implement this policy.

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Revision	Modification
9/22/1992	1.0	Adopted
11/18/2014	2.0	Revised
4/11/2017	3.0	Revised to reflect membership on the committee in accordance with state law.
11/27/2018	4.0	Revised to update parent permission, teachers of SHARE, committee protocols. Was BP 6142