

Board of Trustees Douglas County School District

OBJECTIVES

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY AND GOAL STATEMENTS

Philosophy

The Douglas County School District exists to provide every student with an equitable, rigorous, and supportive educational experience that develops the whole person — academically, socially, and civically. The District recognizes the important role of families in their children's education and is committed to a partnership between home, school, and community. Consistent with Nevada law and the District's obligations under federal and state statute, the District bears an independent responsibility to ensure that every student has access to a quality education, regardless of background, ability, or circumstance.

Instructional Goals:

Douglas County School District instructional programs shall be guided by the following goals:

1. **Academic Excellence:** Students will be placed in learning environments where they are actively engaged in rigorous, challenging tasks aligned to the Nevada Academic Content Standards (NRS 389.550). Instructional time is a valued resource, and both students and staff are expected to use it purposely.
2. **High Expectations for All Students:** The District believes that all students can achieve at high levels when provided with effective instruction, appropriate support, and consistent encouragement. Standards, expectations, and progress shall be communicated clearly to students and their families.
3. **Continuous Monitoring and Improvements:** Student progress shall be monitored using stated, District, and classroom assessments consistent with Nevada's statewide assessment system (NRS 389.550). Assessment results shall be used to inform instructional decisions and improve student outcomes.
4. **Safe, Orderly, and Inclusive School Environment:** The District shall maintain schools that are safe, welcoming, and conducive to learning for all students, including students with disabilities, Multi-Lingual Learners, and students from all backgrounds. The rights and responsibilities of students, staff, and families shall be clearly communicated and consistently upheld.

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5. Strong Educational Leadership: Site administrators and District leaders shall provide instructional leadership that supports effective teaching, data-informed decision making, and continuous school improvements consistent with Nevada's accountability framework (NRS 385A) and Federal guidelines.
6. Equity and Access: The District is committed to eliminating barriers to achievement and providing the supports necessary for every student to succeed, consistent with all applicable federal and state civil rights obligations, including those under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and Title III of the Every Student Succeeds Act.

Performance-Based Achievement Objectives:

The Superintendent shall establish and implement a system of performance objectives aligned to the Nevada Academic Content Standards and Nevada's school accountability framework. Site administrators shall annually develop school improvement goals in accordance with procedures established by the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall report annually to the Board on District-wide student achievement and progress toward established goals.

Legal References:

NRS 385A.600 (Nevada School Performance Framework);
NRS 386.350 (Board powers and duties);
NRS 388.070 (Equal rights and privileges);
NRS 388.405 et seq. (English Learners);
NRS 388.440 et seq. (Pupils with Disabilities);
NRS 389.520 (Content Standards);
NRS 389.550 (Statewide Assessment);
20 U.S.C. § 1400 (IDEA);
20 U.S.C. § 1681 (Title IX);
20 U.S.C. § 6311 (ESSA);
29 U.S.C. § 794 (Section 504)

Date Adopted: 8/12/80
Date Revised: 9/10/85
Date Revised: 5/19/2026