

“FINDING OUR GREATNESS”

2.0

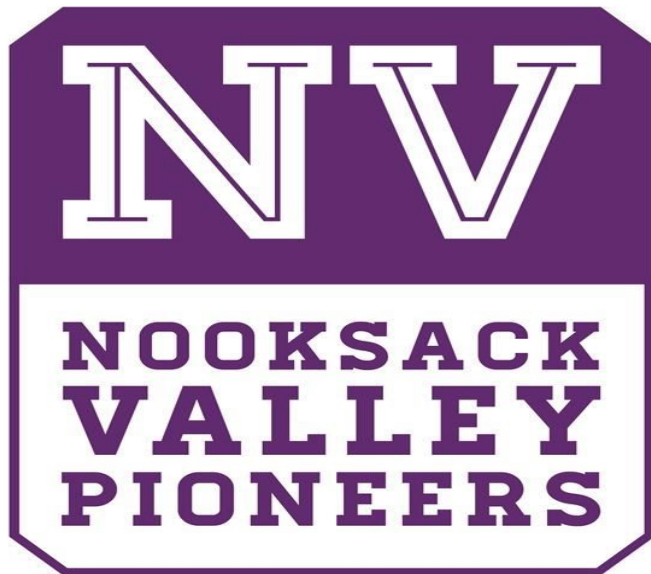


STUDENT HANDBOOK

**NOOKSACK VALLEY
MIDDLE SCHOOL**

2020-2021





#NV PRIDE!

Student Information / Privacy

At the middle school level, images of an individual student or of a group of students may be added to a web page. Images may contain legible text or identifiers of the person or persons in the image, identifying first name only. Captions or accompanying text may contain the first name of students within a shot but never a last name or other personal information.

First and last names of individual students may be posted on web sites in list or table form without identifying pictures to denote such accomplishments as awards or athletic achievement and may be included in linked building newsletters. At the beginning of each school year parents of grade PreK-8 students will be given the opportunity to sign an opt-out form asking that images of their child not be posted on any NVSD web site.



Nooksack Valley Middle School Mission

Nooksack Valley Middle School is committed to providing a developmentally responsive middle school program that is characterized by:

educators committed to young adolescents,

a shared vision,

high expectations for all,

an adult advocate for every student,

crafting family and community partnerships, with a positive school climate.

Principal: Joel VanderYacht

Assistant Principal/Athletic Director: Tom Harmon

Counselor: Maryann Holbrook

Administrative Assistant : Liz Heeringa

Administrative Assistant : Michelle Clawson

Administrative Assistant/Attendance: Maria Sanford

School Nurse: Liza Diaz

Nooksack Valley Middle School
GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESS

Guidelines

- 1. Be Respectful**
- 2. Be Responsible**
- 3. Be Safe**

Nooksack Valley Middle School students are subject to a code of behavior, not only for their own benefit, but for the benefit of others as well. Education in the classroom and a proper climate throughout the building is dependent upon students, staff members, and parents being accountable.

Nooksack Valley Middle School is alcohol, drug, and tobacco free. Every effort will be made to ensure a drug and alcohol free environment.

Nooksack Valley Middle School students are responsible for their own actions and are accountable for all rules and responsibilities outlined in this handbook, the Nooksack Valley School District Board of Director's policies, and other rules set forth by the Nooksack Valley Middle School Administration. Students who do not meet expectations will be subject to consequences in order to promote accountability. It is important to remember that while our guidelines establish rules and limits, it also encourages, promotes and recognizes specific, positive behaviors.

Arrival to School School begins at 7:45. Students should not arrive prior to 7:25. On late arrival days, school begins at 10:00. Students should not arrive prior to 9:40

Dismissal from School Dismissal is at 2:15. Students must leave campus by 2:25 daily unless participating in a scheduled and supervised school activity. On early release days, dismissal is at 11:45.

Closed Campus Nooksack Valley Middle School is a closed campus. The following expectations are in effect and will be strictly enforced: All students must sign out in the attendance office prior to leaving campus and must have specific permission from the office to leave. This permission may be obtained with a note from a parent or telephone call home. Leaving school without permission will be considered truancy.

Nooksack Valley Middle School
STUDENT COMPUTER
USE AGREEMENT

I further agree that access to the district network and the Internet from the Nooksack Valley School District must be in support of education and research. As a condition of my right as a student to use the Nooksack Network, I agree to abide by all of the above.

I understand that network administrators have the right to review any material stored on the Nooksack Network and to edit or remove any material, which they, in their sole discretion, believe, may be unlawful, obscene, abusive, or otherwise objectionable and I hereby waive any right of privacy, which I may otherwise have, to such material.

I understand that the Nooksack Valley School District will not be liable for any direct or indirect, incidental, or consequential damages due to information gained and/or obtained via use of the Nooksack Network.

I understand that the Nooksack Valley School District will not be liable for any direct or indirect, incidental, or consequential damages (including lost data or information) sustained or incurred in connection with the use, operation, or inability to use the Nooksack Network.

I understand that use of the Nooksack Network is a privilege given to students and staff. It may be revoked by network administrators at any time for violation of the Nooksack Network Acceptable Use Policy.

In consideration for the privilege of using the Nooksack Network, I hereby release the Nooksack Valley School District and its operators from any and all claims and damages of any nature arising from my use, or inability to use, the Nooksack Network.



Nooksack Valley Middle School

STUDENT COMPUTER

USE AGREEMENT

Computer Use

1. I will not lend or reveal my account or password to others.
2. I will not access any network account but my own.
3. I will not access any email account without a teacher's permission.
4. I will not reveal personal information on the Internet, including the name, address, and/or telephone number of myself, or others, without prior approval by a supervising member of the teaching staff.
5. I will not use inappropriate language (obscenities, etc.) or threaten and/or harass via any communication on the network. I will report immediately to supervising staff the receipt of any of the same.
6. I will not access movies, videos, games, music, radio stations and/or other recreational online media without supervising teacher permission.
7. I will not access any news group, chat room, message board, link, without teacher permission.
8. I will not access school computers in areas not supervised by adult staff. If adult supervisor leaves the area for more than 5 minutes, I will log off the network.
9. I will not attach peripheral hardware (scanners, earphones, zip drives, mice, keyboards, etc.) to school computers or use software devices (CDs, floppies, etc.) without supervising staff permission.
10. I will not take food or beverages into labs or near computer hardware.
11. I will not remove identifying labels or stickers from computer hardware and/or cause any harm to such equipment by snapping off parts, removing protective panels, probing equipment with sharp devices, etc. I also agree not to write or mark on any equipment such as mouse pads, keyboards, tables, chairs, etc.
12. I will not attempt to "hack" into the Nooksack Valley School District Network or cause it harm in any way.

I understand that doing any of the above constitutes an act of vandalism and makes me subject to placement on the Second Offense Violators' List or higher, and that I may face fines and/or suspension as determined by the District Network Administrator and Building Administrator.

Nooksack Valley Middle School

GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESS

Dress Code Students' clothing must not be disruptive to the educational process or cause health/safety problems. Appearance should be consistent with the following;

Shoes are required to be worn at all times.

Shorts, skirts, and dresses must be no shorter than approx. a 4 inch above the knees. Spaghetti strap tops are not permitted unless a shirt, blouse or vest is worn over them. All clothing must cover undergarments at all times. Bare midriffs, Cut-away shirts, and excessively tight clothing are not permitted.

Clothing, and other items that promote the following are not allowed:

Gangs, Drugs, Tobacco, Alcohol, Weapons, Sexual connotation, or anything related to these.

Dress and/or appearance which constitutes a clear and present danger to student or staff health, safety, or which causes interference with work creating a classroom/school disruption, will not be permitted. Students will be requested to change improper attire. Repeated violations will be treated with progressive discipline steps regarding failure to comply with school rules.

Communication Home Parental involvement is an important key in helping students be successful at school. Students are given the responsibility of bringing home , all written communication from the school, their teams, and/or teachers.

Notes Home is a newsletter that the middle school sends home monthly. It is a constant source of information for events, dates, and opportunities for both the student and the parent. The newsletter is also available online on our school web site, www.nooksackschools.org. Grades and missing assignments can be viewed online through Skyward on the Family Access Code. Please contact office for login info if needed.

Visitors/Volunteers Parents are encouraged to visit the school as our partners in education. If you want to conference with a staff person, please try to make an appointment prior to your visit to help ensure the meeting takes place. All visitors are required to please check in at the office upon their arrival. Student visitors will not be permitted at any time. These are part our NVMS Safety Plans. Thanks for your cooperation.

Nooksack Valley Middle School

GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESS

Behavior Expectations: Common Areas Common areas such as hallways, bus area, the cafeteria, the gym, the library, etc. are considered to be extensions of the classrooms. Students are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner in those areas of the school. The following expectations will be adhered to:

- 1) Students will walk in the hallways, no running will be allowed.
- 2) Students will use appropriate language, tone, and level. Foul, abusive, or obscene language will not be allowed.
- 3) Students will interact respectfully. No inappropriate Public Displays of Affection which include kissing, hugging, hand holding.
- 4) Students will eat and drink in the Cafeteria/The Commons area. No food or drinks will be allowed in the hallways or gym. **No pop or energy drinks are allowed at all.**
- 5) Students will use all school equipment properly and safely. Please take PRIDE in our facilities and treat them respectfully.

Our school hallways are for traveling from classroom to classroom. Students are asked to socialize in other supervised common areas at the appropriate time, (lunch, before and after school). During scheduled lunches, students are expected to remain in the cafeteria or may participate in activities outside on the playfields or in the shed. Students may also visit the library. Hallways are closed at lunchtime. The library and gym may only be used by students when supervised by a staff member. Student behavior in the cafeteria is expected to be safe, respectful and responsible. this means:

- Walk to the cafeteria and be courteous to others while waiting in line
- Eat while seated at tables
- Visit with friends, refraining from shouting or disruptive behaviors
- Return trays and leave area clean, assist with spills or other messes
- Respectfully follow directions of cafeteria staff

Nooksack Valley Middle School

EXTRACURRICULAR

CONDUCT CODE

Attendance Participants will be full attendance each class in order to participate that day. Pre-approved appointments, medical and dental appointments, are allowable exceptions, as long as there is proof of appointment upon return. Athletes in physical education classes will suit up and participate in order to count as full attendance.

Election Requirements for ASB Office The ASB constitution provided the following guide lines for office positions:

- Students must be members of the ASB, purchase an ASB card and sign the Extra-curricular code if elected.
- Officers must be enrolled full time during the school year
- Students shall have been enrolled at Nooksack Valley Middle School for at least one year previous to the year they are running for office

Administrative Decision Administration discretion may be utilized in situations or circumstances not covered by this conduct code.

Parent Consent/Assumption of Risk

Participation in athletics in the Nooksack Valley School District is a voluntary, extra-curricular activity. Participation in interscholastic athletics can be a potentially dangerous activity involving multiple risks of injury. Such injuries can range from abrasions, bruises, sprains to catastrophic injuries resulting in crippling conditions, paralysis, brain damage, and even fatality. Severe injuries can impair a student's ability to earn a living, to engage in social and recreational activities, and to generally enjoy social life. Careful consideration should be given to the risks and dangers associated with interscholastic athletics before making decision to participate.

Appeal of Suspension The initial interpretation of the code can be appealed if desired by contacting the athletic director or principal within three (3) days of the initial decision. When an appeal is requested an athletic board consisting of three to five coaches, the principal and athletic director will be assembled. Their decision may be appealed to the Nooksack Valley School District School Board.

Nooksack Valley Middle School

EXTRACURRICULAR

CONDUCT CODE

Consequences May Include:

1. *First offense of any nature:*
Suspension from 40% of contests, Drug and alcohol evaluation.
2. *Second offense of any nature:*
Suspension for the equivalent of one complete season
Drug and alcohol evaluation.
3. *Third offense of any nature:*
Suspension from all activities for one calendar year
Drug and alcohol evaluation

Honesty Being honest with the athletic director or designee when first questioned regarding a possible violation may reduce the suspension for first offenses.

Infractions will be cumulative from the 7th – 8th

An infraction will result in the removal of students from ASB and class leadership

Students must finish the season in order for a suspension to be satisfied

Suspensions will be carried over to the next sport season if necessary

Coaches may impose procedures or penalties that go above and beyond the code



Nooksack Valley Middle School

GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESS

Valuables In School We have no insurance to cover loss or theft of valuables. Students are cautioned not to bring valuables of any kind to school. Use of Skateboards, personal listening devices, cameras, Ipods, and other electronic equipment are not allowed during school hours and could be subject to confiscation. We encourage students to mark P.E. clothes, shoes and jackets with their name to reduce the number of lost and stolen items. *At the discretion of the classroom teacher, personal listening devices may be permitted under certain circumstances and are only for classroom use.

Telephones Students may use the school phone for school business or emergencies. Cell phones may used before and after school, and at lunch in the cafeteria or outside play areas. This does not include the main halls or the gym, nor during any passing time between classes.

Any cell-phone used improperly, could be confiscated and may result in an Honor Level Drop.

1st time– Student will need to pick up phone at the end of the day.

2nd time - Parent/Guardian will need to arrange to pick up phone.

3rd time - All Cell Phone privileges revoked.

ASB Cards ASB cards may be purchased at the office at lunch, before, or after school. The revenue from the sale of ASB cards is expected to partially finance the Activity/Athletic program. Benefits of holding an ASB card are:

- *Free admittance to all Home HS athletic events.
- *Reduced admission prices to other schools' athletic events. (Adult prices charged without ASB card.)
- *Required to run for office or to participate in activities and athletics.

School Leadership, Activities, and Athletics. Involvement in extracurricular activities at Nooksack Valley Middle School is a privilege, not a right. Students have the opportunity to be involved in extracurricular activities such as ASB Class Officers, and athletics. Seventh and eighth graders have the opportunity to participate in athletics during four different sports season.

1. 1st season offers Football, Boys' Soccer, Cross-Country, and Softball
2. 2nd season offers Boys Basketball and Girl's Basketball.
3. 3rd season offers Wrestling and Girls Volleyball
4. 4th season offers Track (Co-ed) Girls Soccer, and Baseball

Students involved in athletics must also have office clearance before being allowed to participate. This includes a physical, proof of insurance, ASB card, and parent permission card. The activity coordinator may establish additional requirements and expectations. Students who participate in extracurricular activities must sign and agree to the School Conduct Code. The code presents the school's expectations, rules, procedures, and requirements for involvement. Coaches may impose procedures or penalties that go above and beyond the code.

Nooksack Valley Middle School

GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESS

Pioneer Level System NVMS promotes an atmosphere where students are free to learn. We encourage students to display appropriate behavior with special recognition incentives. The Pioneer Level system is not a discipline system in itself, it is a system to motivate positive, responsible behaviors and to discourage negative actions by our students. It is in support of our general policies and procedures. The Pioneer Level system is composed of two levels: Pioneer Level One: All students start each trimester on Pioneer Level One. Students remain on this level if they maintain a 'clean slate' and receive no honor level infractions. Pioneer Level One students are eligible for special activities and events.

Pioneer Level rewards will be handed out at the end of each month for those students on PL 1 for the entire month.

Students who maintain this status for an entire trimester will be eligible for a PIONEER HONOR LEVEL activity at the end of the term.

Pioneer Level Drop: Students drop from Pioneer Level One for an infraction of the NVMS Guidelines for Success or any policy outlined in this handbook. Students on Pioneer Level Drop are restricted from all Pioneer Level One events and may be restricted from all other school activities and athletics. Those on Pioneer Level Drop have the opportunity to work their way back to Pioneer Level One by observing classroom and school expectations and by maintaining a 'clean slate' for two weeks. Students will be notified regularly of their honor level status. Students who remain on Pioneer Level Drop for an extended period of time will be placed on an individual behavior contract; violation of the contract could result in long-term suspension.

Retention Policy Students who average 14 points or less per trimester will be retained for the following school year. Those students who have averaged 14 points or less have not demonstrated a mastery of their grade level content and are in need of additional schooling. Those students will have the opportunity of moving on to the next grade level if they complete and pass the summer school program. Students who average from 14 to 16 points per trimester will be on the recommended list for summer school. These students have performed below grade level standard and would benefit from additional schooling. The point averages are calculated by adding up the scores for each trimester and dividing them by the total number of classes.

Nooksack Valley Middle School

EXTRACURRICULAR

CONDUCT CODE

School Leadership, Activities & Athletics

Expectations: in order to maintain the fine tradition of Nooksack Valley Middle School, participants are expected to conduct themselves, on and off campus, in such a way that will bring honor to them, their families, the school and our community. The NVMS Code is in effect during the entire school year, from the first day of fall practice until the last day of the school year, regardless of the initiation date of sport or activity.

For ASB and Class Officers the code will be in effect from the date of election until the end of term. Any dishonorable behavior will be subject to interpretation of the code by school officials.

Rules Participants will follow these rules of training and conduct:

- A. No use or possession of tobacco products, illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia
- B. No use or possession of intoxicating beverages
- C. Commit no unlawful acts that result in a misdemeanor or high penalty
- D. Participants are not to be present more than five minutes at any functions where alcohol and/or illegal drugs are being consumed/ used or have been consumed
- E. Harassment: Racial, Sexual or Discriminatory, will not be allowed.
- F. Serious and/or repeated violation of school rules
- G. No excessive use of profanity
- H. Participants are to be off the streets on school nights at a reasonable time. Times are left to the discretion of the coach/advisor.

Academic Requirements All students participating in middle school athletics will be current with all assignments and homework. Any athlete with three or more missing assignments will stay after school with the instructor starting at 2:25 until 3:00. If the work completed in that time is not satisfactory in quality or quantity, the athlete will stay until 4:00 or until the work is satisfactory.

Nooksack Valley Middle School

HOMEWORK POLICY

*Guidelines for the Assignment of Homework
and Responsibilities of
Students, Staff and Parents*

Purpose The purpose of homework at Nooksack Valley Middle School is to provide students with the opportunity to apply learned information, complete unfinished work, and develop independent study skills. Homework assignments include practice exercises, preview assignments, extended projects and/or creative activities.

Time Students should expect daily homework of 60 to 120 minutes a night, including assigned independent reading. Actual time required to complete assignments will vary with each student's study habits, academic skills, and selected course load. If your child is spending an inordinate amount of time doing homework, you should contact your child's teachers. Teachers try not to give homework over the weekend. Major Projects include research reports, book reports, major essays, and other assignments teachers designate as major projects. Work on these projects may exceed the maximum minutes per night.

Staff Responsibilities

*Assign relevant, challenging, and meaningful homework that reinforces classroom learning. Give feedback and/or correct homework in a timely manner
Give clear instructions and make sure students understand the purpose .
Communicate with other teachers.
Involve parents and contact them if a pattern of late or incomplete homework develops.*

Parent Responsibilities

*Set a regular, uninterrupted study time each day, establish a quiet, well-lit study area.
Monitor student's organization and daily list of assignments in their agenda.
Help student work to find the answer, not just get it done.
Be supportive when the student gets frustrated with difficult assignments.
Contact teacher to stay well informed about the student's learning process.*

Student Responsibilities

*Write down assignments, and make sure assignments are done according to the given instructions
Be sure all assignments are clear, don't be afraid to ask questions if necessary .
Set aside a regular time for studying, and find a quiet, well-lit study area.
Work on homework independently whenever possible, so that it reflects student ability.
Produce quality work that is completed on time. If requested, come in at lunch, and finish work. Failure to do so requested could result in a office referral and honor level drop.*

Nooksack Valley Middle School

GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESS

Building and Classroom Behavior /Discipline guidelines and process :
As part of our restorative behavior process at NVMS, the following steps will be used by staff for any issues or actions that are considered disruptive to the educational process or behavioral violations to NVSD, and State policies.

- **Step 1 - Conversation** between student and teacher utilizing a Think Sheet , which is a self reflective writing piece for accountability , ownership, and next steps.
- **Step 2 - Revisit Think Sheet** with a second conversation and collaboration by student and same teacher to rectify issues or actions.
- **Step 3 - Administrative assistance** with 3rd conversation with the same teacher. Pioneer Honor Level Drop, Parents notified, All 3 sheets mailed home with referral.
- **Step 4 - Administrative referral**, parent contact and meeting arranged .

Note: These steps are part of a process with the same teacher, same class during one trimester, not multiple classes, teachers, or trimesters.

Repeated poor or disruptive behavior whether in the same class, or school wide may result in a parent coming to spend the day with the student in some or all of their classes. As a last resort, classroom exclusion of some sort may be required to remedy the disruptive behavior.

Misconduct/Insubordination Students are required to obey the reasonable requests of all staff members. Willful disobedience, dishonesty, vulgarity and profanity, obscenity, cheating or any other inappropriate behavior, shall be referred immediately to school administration.



Nooksack Valley Middle School

GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESS

NVMS Attendance Policies and Procedures

For further information please visit our NVMS web page.

Reporting an absence: The parent or guardian is responsible for accounting for all student absences and notifying the school as soon as possible. This can be accomplished by:

Calling the attendance office, and sending a written note is required for each day absent.

Notes must include the student's first and last name, the current date, the dates of the day(s) absent, the reason of the absence and it must be signed by the parent or guardian. These can also be in sent in, via e-mail.

Absences must be excused within **three days** upon the students return, or the they will be considered unexcused.

Excused absences: The following reasons are recognized as excused absences with proper contact from a parent/guardian.

Illness or health concerns (Having a fever over 100 degrees, vomiting, and or diarrhea each require students to stay home.) Family emergencies, Religious observances, Medical appointments (parents/guardians are encouraged to schedule appointments during non-school hours if possible). Students are responsible to get all assignments missed, from their teacher.

Unexcused absences: The following reasons are not recognized by NVMS as excuses to be absent. Each unexcused absence will result in lunch detention, two Unexcused absences will result in a Pioneer Honor level drop, and three will result in a parent conference. Oversleeping, missing the bus, truancy, and more than 10 minutes late to class are all examples of unexcused absences.

Attendance notification:

Attendance letters will be mailed home regularly when students meet certain absence thresholds of excused and unexcused absences

When a student is marked absent for a period, an automated phone call is made to notify parents/guardians of the student's absence.

Attendance Recognition: Having excellent attendance is a reason to celebrate! Outstanding attendance will be celebrated and rewarded with Recognition Boards, as well as weekly and monthly raffles.

Students with a 10% or higher absentee rate will not be eligible for that trimesters Honor Level activity. (This includes any absences of nonmedical reasons.) 10% or higher is considered Chronically Absent in the State of Washington by OSPI.

Nooksack Valley Middle School

GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESS

Bus Transportation District/school expectations or rules apply to behavior on all buses (activity and tutorial) or while waiting for or disembarking from the school buses. Failure to adhere will result in Administrative referral

1. *Keep the bus safe*
2. *Obey the driver's instructions*
3. *Remain Seated*
4. *Respect others and their property*
5. *Keep your hands to yourself*
6. *Keep noise level down*

Bus Behavior Consequences

1st Notice – Verbal Warning./Incident documented / Parent Contact

2nd Notice – Parent Contact / Loss of riding privilege for 1 week

3rd Notice – Parent contact / Loss of riding privileges for 1 month

4th Notice – Parent contact / Loss of riding privilege for rest of trimester.

5th Notice – Parent contact / Loss of riding privilege for remainder of school year.

Extreme insubordination or behavior that endangers the safety of those on the bus will result in immediate referral to School Administration with loss of riding privileges.

General Grading Guidelines

The following grading and assessment practices are intended to more closely match the NVSD K-5 report cards as well as state reporting systems like the Smarter Balance.

At NVMS, report card grades report academic achievement regardless of effort or extra credit. Student progress is reported on a 1-4 numerical scale for daily work, assessments, projects and report card grades. All grades can be viewed on the Skyward web site using the Family Access Code.

4– Exceeds grade levels standards***3– Meets grade level standards******2– Below grade level standards******1– Significantly below grade level standards***

Report card grades emphasize student academic achievement as demonstrate on classroom based assessments (projects, tests, presentations etc.) Report card grades de-emphasize daily work to encourage student practice toward gaining mastery of required skills and content. On most assessments, students are permitted to retake them until they have satisfactorily met the standard. Participation, study habits and attendance are reported separately.

Nooksack Valley Middle School
GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESS

Harassment Intimidation Bullying Consequences Policy review and clarification upon receiving student handbook.

1st Offense: Warning, note in file

2nd Offense: Responsibility contract, one to three days detention and parents notified. Incident documented.

3rd Offense: Possible short-term suspension; incident investigated, Incident documented, and parents notified.

4th Offense: Possible Short or Long-term suspension; incident investigated, Incident documented, and parents notified.

5th Offense: Long Term Suspension, and parents notified.

Appeals Process

Due process must be adhered to in any disciplinary proceedings.

Appeals of disciplinary actions may be initiated by the student and his/her parents (if student is a minor). Appeals must be directed to the principal within three days of the date of disciplinary action taken. The appeal must state the adjustments being requested and reason therefore.



Nooksack Valley Middle School
GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESS

Tardies Students who arrive late to class, disrupt the educational environment for students and staff. Reporting to class on time means being in your seat, prepared and ready to begin class. Staff will “sweep” hallways for tardy students each period. Students tardy for a class will not be admitted without a signed pass from the office or a teacher. Tardy students are expected to make up for time missed. After 10 minutes of class time has passed, a tardy becomes an absence.

If a teacher or staff member causes a student to be tardy, the student is expected to ask the teacher to write him/her a note. That tardy will be removed from the school records.

Chronic tardiness is subject to administrative referral.

Three Tardies in a Trimester Letter sent home, Pioneer Honor level drop, Lunch detention for 1 day. Students may also choose a restorative option instead of an HL drop and detention.

Six Tardies in a Trimester Letter sent home, Pioneer Honor level drop, Lunch detention for 2 days.

Nine Tardies in a Trimester Letter sent home, Pioneer Honor level drop, Lunch detention for 3 days.

Continued Accumulation of Tardies General Administrative Consequences with Progressive steps, Parent contact and meeting set up.

Truancy Policy Definition—truancy is defined as any unexcused absence or a student being in an unassigned area during the normal school day. Students are required to check out through the office if they need to leave campus during the school day. Failure to do so is a truancy violation. Students will not be allowed to make up missed classroom work for truanies.

Truancy violations will result in Lunch Detentions, and possible referral to our Community Truancy Board.

Becca Bill-Truancy Law : An unexcused absence means not meeting the definition of “excused absence” set by the school and failing to attend school for the majority of hours or periods in a school day, or failing to meet a more restrictive school attendance policy. Upon 5 unexcused absences in month, or 10 in a year, a petition will be filed with the juvenile court system.

Nooksack Valley Middle School

GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESS

Behavioral Violations Student behavior that violates NVSD and State Discipline policies, will result in the student being referred to administration and appropriate action will be taken. In all cases parental contact will be made by school officials.

The following activities are among those defined by state laws as being criminal acts and are included in Nooksack Valley School District Board Policy. The penalties are a possible suspension, Pioneer Level Drop, and potential contact by local law enforcement. Alternative forms of discipline interventions other than suspensions will be utilized if possible.

- **Arson:** The intentional setting of fire.
- Assault:** Physical threats or violence to person or persons.
- Explosives:** Explosives are not permitted on school property or at school sponsored activities.
- Extortion:** Obtaining money or property by violence or threat of violence.
- Blackmail/Coercion:** Forcing someone to do something against his/her will by force or threat of force.
- Larceny:** Theft.
- Vandalism:** Property damage (school or personal).
- Robbery:** Stealing from any individual by force or threat of force.
- Trespass:** Being present in an unauthorized place or refusing to leave when directed to do so.
- Emergency equipment:** Purposely setting off a fire alarm or inappropriate use of emergency equipment.
- Tobacco:** Smoking, possession or use of tobacco in any form on school premises or at school-sponsored activities (any area within 100 feet of school property) is not permitted. Electronic Cigarettes, Personal Vaporizers and Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems are included in this.
- Weapons: Firearms-**Any student who is determined to have carried or possessed a firearm: On school property, school vehicles, or at school sponsored events shall be removed from school as required by OSPI discipline guidelines.

Dangerous Weapons-Possessing a dangerous weapon on school property is considered exceptional misconduct and could result in emergency expulsion and contact of law enforcement.

Illegal Drugs: The use or possession of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, or controlled substances on school premises or at any school sponsored function is in violation of state and NVSD guidelines, and will result in contact of local law enforcement

Nooksack Valley Middle School

GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESS

HIB – Harassment – Intimidation – Bullying

Harassment: persistently disturbing a student.

Sexual Harassment: unwanted and uninvited sexual attention

Intimidation: making someone feel afraid through the force of one's personality or personal strength.

Bullying: Intentional repeated negative acts (physical, emotional, verbal) by one person (s) towards another.

Harassment, intimidation or bullying will not be allowed. Harassment, intimidation or bullying means any intentional written, verbal or physical act, including but not limited to one that shows to be motivated by race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability or other distinguishing characteristics**, when the intentional written, verbal or physical act:

Physically harms a student or damages the student's property or ;

Has the effect of substantially interfering with student's education or ;

Is so severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment or ;

Does not require the affected student to actually possess a characteristic that is a basis for harassment or ;

Has the effect of substantially disrupting the operation of the school.

Sexual Harassment Sexual harassment includes all unwanted and uninvited sexual attention as well as the creation of an intimidating, hostile, or offensive school environment.

This can include:

Sexually suggestive looks or gestures.

Sexual jokes, pictures or teasing.

Sexually demeaning comments.

Deliberate touching.

**Other distinguishing characteristics may include but are not limited to: physical appearance, clothing or other apparel, socioeconomic status, gender identity and marital status. Harassment, intimidation or bullying can take many forms including: slurs, rumors, jokes, innuendos, demeaning comments, drawings, cartoons, pranks, gestures, physical attacks, threats or other written, verbal or physical actions. The following discipline steps will be followed regarding harassment, intimidation or bullying.