

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

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### What is WASC?

WASC stands for Western Association of Schools and Colleges. “WASC accreditation is a process schools use to monitor student learning and set school improvement goals. The Accrediting Commission of Schools (ASC) WASC accreditation is an ongoing cycle of quality” ([www.acswasc.org](http://www.acswasc.org)). In addition to fostering ongoing improvement of the school's programs and operations to support student learning, accreditation validates the integrity of the school's program and transcripts which are important for college acceptance.

### Is Coachella Valley High School accredited?

YES! CVHS is accredited through June 2030. The school and staff have made great progress and will continue to strive to improve student achievement.

### When is the WASC Visiting Committee coming to review the school and who is coming?

We will have a mid-cycle, one day visit, in school year 2025-2026. In 2030, the Visiting Committee normally consists of seven (7) educators from California. They will arrive midday on a Sunday and complete their visit by the end of the day on Wednesday to provide the school community a review of their findings.

### How are CVHS and the District ensuring the visits goes well?





- CVHS English and Math teachers have developed courses of study that align with Common Core Standards and Science teachers are making shifts towards Next Generation Science Standards. This work was already underway and we appreciate everyone's hard work and dedication!
- Teachers are collaborating and working together to continually improve their practice with a focus on learning during Wednesday Collaboration Days.
- The District has committed resources including training for all teachers in student engagement, rigor and relevance in addition to professional learning teams, Common Core Standards, funding for collaboration and professional development, data collection, and coordination of educational services.

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- Community involvement in the CVHS Strategic Plan process has been fantastic with participants also serving on School Site Council, Parent Teacher Organization and Boosters. We have also met new families and community members. CVHS Strategic Plan is a long-term plan with learning centered goals and will help us to monitor progress together.

### How are the Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) goals and WASC related?

WASC is looking for an ongoing, long term plan to continuously improve student learning and the school. They also want to see how school goals are connected to the community. SPSA goals are mirrored in our new WASC Schoolwide Action Plan. Students, families, staff and community members have given valuable input into a vision for school experiences that promote authentic collaboration and real-world learning. Together, we identified enduring qualities that will enable all our students to flourish in life. These Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) are referred to as the CVHS Graduate Profile. The action plan describes what we will do and how we will measure impact on student achievement. We will regularly review our plans, including qualitative and quantitative data analysis, and make adjustments when needed. This is a snapshot of the CVHS Strategic Plan and WASC Goals:

| <div></div> <div>Coachella Valley High School</div> <div>Strategic Plan</div> <div>2023 - 2027</div>   |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <b>Vision</b><br>Coachella Valley High School strives to educate students and assist them in realizing their full potential as responsible, productive, contributing members of society by providing an educational environment where students are challenged, excellence is expected and differences are valued.  |   | <b>Mission</b><br>Through collaboration between all Coachella Valley High School stakeholders, we strive to unlock students' educational growth and individual progress so that they may become productive community members and leaders.   |  |
| <b>Portrait of a CVHS Graduate Competencies</b>  |   |   |  |
| <b>Communication:</b> Clearly and effectively exchange ideas or information with others by using a variety of formats while being able to interpret meaning from others' communications, adapt to their responses and apply their understandings.  | <b>Critical Thinking &amp; Problem Solving:</b> Analyze information from various sources, including experiences and perspectives to solve unique and complex problems.  | <b>Digital Literacy:</b> Engage with other people and their ideas utilizing technology in a safe, ethical, and responsible manner.  | <b>Wellness:</b> Apply self-awareness to monitor their needs, set goals, and self-advocate for their needs as they develop balanced social-emotional well-being. |
| <b>Mighty Arabs RISE</b><br>Student Behavior Expectations  |   |   |  |
| <b>RESPECT</b><br>Show a high regard for self, others, and property.   | <b>INTEGRITY</b><br>Have the moral courage to do what is right.   | <b>SCHOLARSHIP</b><br>Strive for deeper understanding and knowledge of a greater world.   | <b>EXCELLENCE</b><br>Push past adversity to reach full potential.  |
| <b>Goals and Outcomes</b>  |   |   |  |
| <div></div> <div><b>GOAL 1</b></div> <div><b>ACADEMICS</b><br/>Prepare students to leave with the academic, college &amp; career, and social-emotional skills needed to achieve their personal &amp; professional goals.</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>★ <u>A-G Eligibility Rate</u></li><li>★ HS Graduation Rate</li><li>★ Literacy Skills</li><li>★ Mathematical Skills</li><li>★ EL Progress</li><li>★ Instructional Coaches</li><li>★ Freshman Academy</li><li>★ After-School Credit Recovery</li><li>★ SST Process Support</li><li>★ ASCA Framework</li><li>★ Intentional PDs</li><li>★ State Seal of Biliteracy &amp; County Seal of Multiliteracy</li><li>★ Focus Groups</li></ul></div> <div><b>Additional Focus:</b><br/>★ Provide Targeted Professional Development to improve student achievement.</div> <div>By 2027, CVHS will increase the A-G Eligibility Rate by 10% from 30% to 40%.</div> | <div></div> <div><b>GOAL 2</b></div> <div><b>CULTURE</b><br/>Ensure a safe, positive, &amp; respectful school environment and culture for all students &amp; staff.</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>★ <u>Student/Parent - Staff Handbook</u></li><li>★ Student Behavior &amp; Outcomes Guide</li><li>★ Reboot of Transformational Learning</li><li>★ PBIS</li><li>★ Guest/Motivational Speakers</li><li>★ SUPER Peer Counseling Program</li><li>★ College &amp; Career Ambassadors</li><li>★ Restorative Practitioner</li><li>★ Wellness Center</li><li>★ Latino Commission</li><li>★ Safety Committee</li><li>★ Site Base Safety Protocol</li><li>★ Remind App</li><li>★ Parent Square</li></ul></div> <div>By 2027, CVHS' chronic absenteeism will decrease by 15% and suspensions will reduce by 2%.</div> | <div></div> <div><b>GOAL 3</b></div> <div><b>ENGAGEMENT</b><br/>Increase engagement &amp; collaboration among students, parents, staff, and community members.</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>★ Parent Liaison</li><li>★ Panorama Survey</li><li>★ Parent Workshops</li><li>★ Java with Admin</li><li>★ ELAC/SSC</li><li>★ Community Tours</li><li>★ <u>Community Asset Mapping</u></li><li>★ Promote school events</li><li>★ Parents to CAFE</li><li>★ Continued Communication</li><li>★ Transformational Learning</li><li>★ Parents as Partners</li><li>★ Grade Level Informational Nights</li></ul></div> <div>By 2027, CVHS will Increase Parent &amp; Community Partners' engagement/involvement by 40%</div> |  |

- Decrease credit deficiency rate and increase GPA averages yearly until June 2027.
- Improve school climate by increasing student awareness and practice of appropriate school behaviors.

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3. Increase communication and opportunities for parent involvement in all school activities including students' academic progress and the WASC process.
4. Continue to build upon professional development training which will strengthen the PLC process and practices to include analyzing data in order to modify instructional and assessment practices to guide instruction and provide interventions to support all students.
5. Through the current use of PLCs and Learning Walks, CVHS should normalize the level of rigor in all subjects through implementing research-based best practices for student engagement, such as the current use of CVHS's Literacy Cycle and Academic Discourse, as guided by common formative assessment analysis and data-informed instruction.

### What will happen when the Visiting Committee tours CVHS?

The Visiting Committee will meet with CVUSD and CVHS leadership, students, staff, families and community members. They will also be visiting classrooms and reviewing evidence and samples of our work.

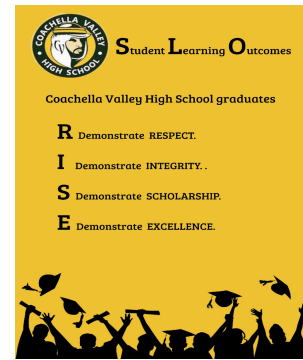
### How can students and families help?

Engage in learning as a community whether in class, in a meeting, participating clubs, playing sports or reading the Mighty Arabs Newsletter and The CVHS Parent & Community Parent Square Messages. Reflect on and actively develop qualities in the CVHS Graduate Profile. Show appreciation and confidence in our CVHS community. We are committed to doing our best for students and your support will help us reach our goals.



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## When will we know the results of the visit?

We may not know the final answer until Spring of our visit, as WASC recommendations go to a committee for approval. We will keep our community updated throughout this process.

Thank You.

Dr. Mike Williams  
School Principal

#OneTeamOneGoal

## Additional WASC Background

- In December 2002 UC faculty approved a policy that requires all California public and private high schools to be WASC-accredited (or a candidate for accreditation) in order to establish and/or maintain an "a-g" course list.
- Accreditation is required with respect to the Cal Grants.
- The WASC/CDE (California Department of Education) process serves as the basis for the Single Plan for Student Achievement.
- Colleges and universities examine transcripts to determine if the students have attended accredited institutions.
- Teachers will not receive credit for the years during which they taught at a non-accredited school by many schools/districts nationwide. WASC receives calls from school personnel who are recruiting applicants for teaching positions with respect to their prior schools of employment.
- The military recruiters expect the applicants to be from accredited schools.
- Many districts have policies to accept credits only from WASC accredited schools or schools accredited by other regionals with whom WASC has reciprocal agreements.