

San Mateo County Schools
Comprehensive School Safety Plan
Part One: Public Component
2024-25 School Year



EST. 1997

NORTH STAR
ACADEMY

School District: Redwood City School District
Address: 400 Duane St.
Redwood City, CA 94062
School Site: North Star Academy
School Address: 400 Duane St., Redwood City, CA 94062

CDS Code: 41-69005-6115026
School Covered in Document North Star Academy
Address of School Sites

Date of Adoption: October 28, 2024

Approved by:

Name	Title	Signature	Date
Erin Kekos	North Star Principal		
Jill Schmidt	Site Council President		

Table of Contents

Comprehensive School Safety Plan Purpose.....4

Safety Plan Vision.....5

Components of the Comprehensive School Safety Plan (EC 32281).....5

 Assessment of School Safety.....5

 Student Threat Assessment Policy and Protocol 5

 Suicide Prevention Policy and Protocol.....6

 Naloxone for Schools Toolkit to Reverse Opioid Overdoses (Optional).....7

 Child Abuse Reporting Procedures (EC 35294.2 [a] [2]; PC 11166).....7

 Disaster Procedures (EC 35295-35297; GC 8607 and 3100) 8

 Big Five: Immediate Action Emergency Response for Schools Protocol and Hazard Response Protocol 8

 Procedures to prepare for active shooters or other armed assailants 8

 School Suspension, Expulsion and Mandatory Expulsion Guidelines 10

 Procedures to Notify Teachers of Dangerous Pupils (EC 49079) 12

 Sexual Harassment Policies (EC 212.6 [b]) 13

 School-wide Dress Code Relating to Gang-Related Apparel (EC 35183).....13

 Procedure for Safe Ingress and Egress of Pupils, Parents, and Staff to and from School (EC 35294.2) 14

Safe Routes to School Program (Optional Section) 15

 A Safe and Orderly School Environment Conducive to Learning (EC 35294.2).....15

 School Discipline Rules and Consequences (EC 35291 and EC 35291.5).....16

 Hate Crime Reporting Procedures and Policies 17

 Procedures for Preventing Acts of Bullying and Cyber-bullying.....18

Safety Plan Review, Evaluation and Amendment Procedures 19

Safety Plan Appendices.....20

Comprehensive School Safety Plan Purpose

The California Education Code (sections 32280-32288) outlines the requirements of all schools operating any kindergarten and any grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to write and develop a school safety plan relevant to the needs and resources of that particular school.

The historical requirement of the Comprehensive School Safety Plan (CSSP) was presented in Senate Bill 187. This legislation contained a sunset clause that stated that this legislation would remain in effect only until January 1, 2000. Senate Bill 334 was approved and chaptered in 1999 and perpetuated this legislation under the requirement of the initial legislation. In 2004, the Legislature and Governor recast and renumbered (SB719 & AB 115) the Comprehensive School Safety Plan to support California public schools as they develop their mandated comprehensive safety plans to include strategies aimed at the prevention of, and education about, potential incidents involving crime and violence on school campuses.

Effective January 1, 2019, Assembly Bill 1747 became law, requiring that the school site council or safety committee consult with a fire department and other first responder entities in addition to currently required entities. It requires the CSSP and any updates made to the plan to be shared with the law enforcement agency, the fire department, and the other first responder entities. This bill requires the CSSP to also include procedures for conducting tactical responses to criminal incidents. In January 1, 2019, AB 2291 became law. This bill requires local educational agencies (LEAs) to adopt, on or before December 31, 2019, procedures for preventing acts of bullying, including cyberbullying.

Comprehensive School Safety Plans are required under SB 719 & AB 115 and contain the following elements: Assessment of school crime committed on school campuses and at school-related functions; child abuse reporting procedures; disaster procedures; suspension and expulsion policies; procedures to notify teachers of dangerous pupils; discrimination and harassment policies; school-wide dress code policies; procedures for safe ingress and egress; policies enacted to maintain a safe and orderly environment; rules and procedures on school discipline and hate crime reporting procedures.

Districts and County Offices of Education are encouraged to include clear guidelines for the roles and responsibilities of the following positions (if used):

- Mental Health professionals, school counselors
- Community Intervention Professionals
- School Resource Offices, police officers on campus

The guidelines are encouraged to include strategies to create and maintain a positive school climate and mental health protocols for the care of students who have witnessed a violent act at any time.

The Comprehensive School Safety Plan may include procedures for responding to the release of a pesticide or other toxic substance from properties located within in-quarter mile of a school.

The Comprehensive School Safety Plan for the current school year will be reviewed, updated, and submitted to San Mateo County Office of Education by October 15th for review and approval. The District will ensure that the CSSP is approved by their board annually by March 1st. In July of every year, the school will report on the status of its school safety plan including a description of its key elements in the annual School Accountability Report Card (SARC).

A copy of the Comprehensive School Safety Plan – Public Component is made available for review at the District Office and on the District Website

District Office Address	District Website
400 Duane St.	https://www.rcsdk8.net/

Safety Plan Vision

This Comprehensive School Safety Plan analyzes current safety conditions and school climate. In doing so, the plan describes programs in place at our schools, and defines the strategies and programs in place for continued improvement in providing a safe, orderly, school environment that is nurturing and conducive to learning. Appendices follow the action plan. These Appendices include specific, mandated policies and protocols connected to the safety strategies and programs described within the narrative of this document.

Components of the Comprehensive School Safety Plan (EC 32281)

North Star Academy Safety Committee
NSA School Site Council.

Name	Agency	Title	Membership Role
Erin Kekos	North Star	Principal	Lead
Jill Schmidt	North Star	Site Council President	Member

Assessment of School Safety

Current Status of School Crime (EC 32282.1)

CSSP shall include an assessment of the current status of school crime at the school and the school related functions. This may be accomplished by reviewing one or more of the following types of information:

- Office Referrals
- Attendance rates/School Attendance Review Board
- Suspension/Expulsion data
- California Health Kids Survey
- School Improvement Plan
- Local law enforcement juvenile crime data
- Property Damage data

Describe the data reviewed and key analysis points, and table of findings. Document how this information was shared with your SSC/planning committee and date shared:

Data reviewed came from the California School Dashboard for 2024 (<https://www.caschooldashboard.org/reports/41690050000000/2024>). This information was shared with our SSC during the January 2024 meeting. The 2024-2025 California Health Kids Survey will be administered in February 2025. The California Health Kids Survey data will be reviewed by the Site Council March 4, 2025.

Strategies and Programs to Provide and Maintain a High Level of Safety (EC 32281(a)1, items A-J)

Include in this section appropriate strategies and program that provide and maintain a high level of school safety and address the school’s procedures for complying with existing laws related to school safety.

Student Threat Assessment Policy and Protocol

Sections 49390 through 49395 of the California Education Code requires that a school official of a local educational agency that serve pupils in any grades from six through twelve as part of a middle school or high school of any school district, county office of education, or charter school shall immediately report homicidal threats, or perceived homicidal threats, they have observed or been alerted to, directly to law enforcement. Upon receiving notification of a threat by a school official, law enforcement must conduct an investigation and threat assessment. The investigation and threat assessment must include a review of the Department of Justice’s firearm registry and a search conducted at the school site, but “only if the search is justified by a reasonable suspicion that it would produce evidence related to the threat or perceived threat.” LEAs must support law enforcement with investigating the threat and conducting a threat assessment.

The San Mateo County Office of Education operates the San Mateo County Student Threat Assessment Center that oversees the Student Threat Assessment Protocol/Process for all school districts in the county. The Student Threat Assessment Protocol and Process is designed for use with students who are engaged in circumstances that suggest the potential for aggression directed at other people, including procedures related to students bringing weapons on school campuses and at school related functions. The San Mateo County Student Threat Assessment Protocol is designed for Districts and/or school sites to oversee the site based multi-disciplinary Level 1 Threat Assessment team. A County-Wide Level 2 Student Threat Assessment Team that is Multi-Disciplinary Team made up of Leaders from San Mateo County Office of Education, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, the Office of Consumer and Family Affairs, Juvenile Probation, Child and Family Services, Members of Law Enforcement and the County Attorney's Office. This team meets regularly and as needed to provide support to school sites and districts is assessing, responding to and providing services to student who make targeted threats of violence or suggest the potential to do so.

Annual updates and training on the protocol and process are provided by the San Mateo County Office of Education.

<https://www.rcsdk8.net/our-programs-and-services/educational-services/student-services/california-law-regarding-safe-storage-of-firearms>

Notification to Parents/Guardians of Safe Storage of Firearms

Section 48986 of the California Education Code (EC) requires that all kindergarten through grade twelve school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools shall annually inform parents and guardians of California's child access prevention laws and laws relating to the safe storage of firearms at the beginning of the first semester or quarter of the regular school term. School districts are encouraged to use the California Department of Education Template of Memoranda regarding Safe Gun Storage, or create their own.

Redwood City School District provides the following information regarding Safe Storage of Firearms to all Parents/Guardians annually at the beginning of the first semester/quarter or trimester of the regular school term.

Suicide Prevention Policy and Protocol

Suicide is a leading cause of death among youth and that school personnel who regularly interact with students are often in a position to recognize the warning signs of suicide and to offer appropriate referral and/or assistance. The San Mateo County Suicide Prevention Protocol for Schools provides schools/districts with a comprehensive approach to prevention, intervention and postvention strategies for students struggling with suicide and self-injurious behavior.

Measures and strategies specifically address the needs of students who are at high risk of suicide, including, but not limited to, students who are bereaved by suicide; students with disabilities, mental illness, or substance use disorders; students who are experiencing homelessness or who are in out-of-home settings such as foster care; and students who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning youth. Prevention and Intervention strategies are developmentally appropriate for the student population that is being served. San Mateo County Suicide Prevention Protocol for Schools addresses the following:

- Strategies to help promote a positive school climate
- Staff development on suicide awareness and prevention for all K-12 staff
- Instruction to students in problem-solving and coping skills as well as instruction in recognizing and appropriately responding to warning signs of suicidal intent in others
- Information to parents/guardians regarding risk factors and warning signs of suicide, basic steps for helping suicidal youth and school and community resources.
- Encouragement for students to notify appropriate school personnel or other adults when they are experiencing thoughts of suicide or when they suspect or have knowledge of another student's suicidal intentions
- Crisis intervention procedures for addressing suicide threats or attempts
- Counseling and other postvention strategies for helping students, staff, and others cope in the aftermath of a student's suicide.

Naloxone for Schools Toolkit to Reverse Opioid Overdoses (Optional)

Recent increases in opioid overdose-related deaths span across adult and youth populations, indicating that schools should develop and implement additional safety nets to protect students and school staff. In addition to drug awareness and education programs, schools and districts in San Mateo County can implement the [Coalition for Safe Schools and Communities Naloxone Protocol for Schools](#) to reverse opioid overdoses on campus.

San Mateo County Office of Education is partnering with the State of California to offer the Naloxone Distribution Project (NDP) to San Mateo County schools and districts. The NDP aims to reduce opioid-overdose deaths through training and the provision of free Naloxone. All TK-12 public school districts, charter schools, and private schools may participate. School Districts, Offices of Education and Charter School Entities shall establish minimum standards of training for the administration of naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist that satisfies the requirements of California Education Code 49414.3.

The Naloxone for Schools Toolkit is a set of protocols and resources that comply with Education Code requirements detailing how to train staff, obtain, and administer Naloxone. San Mateo County Office of Education offers training on the Naloxone Toolkit to all school in San Mateo County.

Phoebe Reid-Chambers has been trained in the use of Naloxone and the Naloxone Toolkit for Schools and is implementing the protocol in Redwood City School District Schools.

Child Abuse Reporting Procedures (EC 35294.2 [a] [2]; PC 11166)

Teachers and support staff are mandated reporters and are required by the State of California to report any known or suspected instances of child abuse or neglect to the county child welfare department or to a local law enforcement agency. No proof of abuse or neglect is needed, only "reasonable suspicion" that child abuse or neglect may have occurred. Any concern about the possibility of child abuse or neglect must be reported. Investigations will be conducted by law enforcement and/or the county child welfare department to determine if abuse or neglect has occurred.

Mandated reporters must report to the County Child Welfare Department or to local law enforcement immediately by phone. A written report must then be sent within 36 hours by fax, or it may be sent by electronic submission, if a secure system has been made available for that purpose in the county. Written reports must be submitted on the California Suspected Child Abuse Report Form 8572. Telling a supervisor does not meet the mandated reporting requirement. If a decision is made that the supervisor will complete and submit the report to the county child welfare department or law enforcement agency, then one report is sufficient.

For mandated reporters, Penal Code 11172 (a) provides absolute immunity from state criminal or civil liability for reporting as required. This immunity applies even if the mandated reporter acquired the knowledge or reasonable suspicion of abuse or neglect outside of his or her professional capacity or scope of employment. However, mandated reporters will only have immunity under federal claims if the report was made in good faith.

Legally mandated reporters can be criminally liable for failing to report suspected abuse or neglect. The penalty for this misdemeanor is up to six months in jail and/or up to a \$1,000 fine. Mandated reporters can also be subject to a civil lawsuit and found liable for damages, especially if the child victim or another child is further victimized because of the failure to report.

A. Child Abuse Reporting Procedures District Policy: All certificated employees and any other employees designated by law as mandated reporters of the district are directed to report known or suspected incidents of child abuse in accordance with state law and district regulations. Mandated reporters are required to report if a "reasonable suspicion" of child abuse is suspected. Reports must be made immediately or as soon as practically possible and in writing within 36 hours. Mandated reporters shall call the local CPS agency, police or sheriff and make a verbal report with the following information: 1. Name of person making report 2. Name of the child 3. Present location of the child 4. Nature and extent of the injury 5. Any other information requested by CPS, police or

sheriff. Employees reporting child abuse are encouraged, but not required to notify the site administrator or designee as soon as possible after the initial verbal report by telephone. Administrators shall provide any assistance necessary to ensure that reporting procedures are carried out according to state law and district regulations. Mandated reporters have absolute immunity and are not civilly or criminally liable for filing a report. Mandated reporters who fail to report child abuse are guilty of a misdemeanor and can be held civilly liable for damages for any injury to the child after a failure to report. No supervisor or administrator may impede or inhibit reporting duties of employees. CPS, police or sheriff may interview a suspected victim at school and the child has the choice of being interviewed in private or in the presence of any adult school employee or volunteer aide. If the child is released to a peace officer, the principal shall not notify the parent or guardian but rather shall provide the peace officer with the address and telephone number of the child's parent or guardian and law enforcement must notify parent or guardian of the situation. Peace officers will be asked by school personnel to sign an appropriate release or acceptance of responsibility form. Training in child abuse identification, reporting and confidentiality rights for all mandated reporters of child abuse shall be provided by the Superintendent or designee. Reference: RCSD Board Policy 5141.4 RCSD Administrative Regulation 5141.4 (a-f) EC 35294.2a Site Implementation: Suspected or actual child abuse must be reported to the office as soon as possible. There is a form in the office that must be filled out and mailed to Child Protective Services if a teacher suspects a child has been a victim of child abuse. The teacher is responsible for making certain that the suspected abuse is reported. Steps for teachers are as follows: 1. Notify Principal and obtain appropriate forms 2. Fill out forms 3. Phone CPS to report abuse. You will need to speak to an intake worker. They will usually have to call you back. Record the name of the intake worker on the form and the time you spoke to them. 4. Mail form to: Child Protective Services, 400 Harbor Blvd. Belmont, CA. 94002 5. Place yellow copy in file folder in front office Phone numbers: Child Protective Services: 595-7922 If possible, consult with the principal before making the report, both to inform her, and to ascertain if other reports have been filed or if there is additional information, which you should know.

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030397&revid=o6Flw64lqunERplusSCWXBdJA==&ptid=amlgTZiB9plushNjl6WXhfiOQ==&secid=9slshUHZTHxaaYMF6zKpJz3Q==&PG=6&IRP=0&isPndg=false>

Disaster Procedures (EC 35295-35297; GC 8607 and 3100)

Big Five: Immediate Action Emergency Response for Schools Protocol and Hazard Response Protocol

The San Mateo County Office of Education, in collaboration with Local Law Enforcement, County Government and Local Fire Departments created the Big Five Immediate Action Emergency Response for Schools Protocol for all Public, Private and Charter Schools in the County and update the protocol annually. The Big Five Immediate Action Response is a protocol that can be implemented in a variety of different emergency situations. The Protocol is consistent with the guidelines established in California's Standardized Emergency Management System and shall integrate the procedures of the National Emergency Management System. All employees of the District are Disaster Service Workers, as defined by the California Emergencies Services Act, and are subject to such disaster service activities as may be rightfully assigned to them and that all employees shall be required to subscribe to the oath or affirmation required by the Act.

When an emergency occurs, it is critical that staff members take immediate steps to protect themselves, their students, and other people on campus. With an Immediate Action Response, staff can follow specific directions without having to learn extensive protocols for each of several dozen different emergency situations. Staff, certificated and classified, will be given multiple opportunities annually to be trained on the Big Five School Emergency Guidelines Immediate Action Response and Hazards Response Protocols. These trainings specifically include training on the following:

- Earthquake preparedness, response, and recovery actions. Including Drop, Cover, and Hold On response protocols.
- Fire and Smoke, bomb threat or explosion, dangerous wildlife, bioterrorism and hazardous material spill or leak procedures which may result in a Shelter-In-Place
- Evacuation/Relocation procedures and Student Release to Family for Reunification procedures
- Secure Campus procedures for act of violence or danger of violence in the surrounding community
- Lockdown/Barricade procedures for a violent intruder on school premises

Staff members must learn and train on each Big Five Immediate Action Response and be prepared to perform assigned responsibilities. All students must be familiar with actions to take in the event that a Big Five response is implemented. It is highly recommended that school staff and students participate in the Big Five trauma-informed, developmentally appropriate emergency drills monthly. Table top exercises, walk-through drills, and social stories are examples of trauma-informed and developmentally appropriate training and drills to be used by school sites. Big Five signage and instructions are publicly displayed at all school sites.

Procedures to prepare for active shooters or other armed assailants

School site staff should participate in action-oriented Lockdown/ Barricade (active shooter) drills when students are not present. The use of Think on Your Feet Peet Book, which teaches young students what to do during a Lockdown/Barricade, Table-Top exercises or Walk-Through Drills are to be used with in lieu of violent intruder drills or simulations when students are present.

Immediate Action Responses

ACTION	DESCRIPTION
SHELTER IN PLACE	For environmental hazards: Go inside immediately. Close doors, windows, and vents.
DROP, COVER, & HOLD ON	For earthquakes and explosions: Protect from falling debris. Drop to the floor. Take cover and hold on.
SECURE CAMPUS	For potential threats of violence nearby: Go inside the nearest building. Close and lock all doors. Remain inside until threat has passed.
LOCKDOWN/BARRICADE	For immediate threats of violence on premises: Go inside. Lock and barricade all doors. Cover windows and turn off lights. Remain quiet and alert.
EVACUATION	When conditions outside are safer than inside: Employ “Look, Listen, and Leave”. Exit the building and move to a safe location.

The Big Five Immediate Action Response Protocol for School Administrators and Hazard Response Protocol is found in the appendix of this plan.

Site Specific Emergency Response plans can be found in the Comprehensive School Safety Plan; Part 2: Internal Components, for each school site.

District Policy: The safety of the students and school staff is of paramount importance. All actions taken shall bear in mind the safety and well being of both students and district employees. The Emergency Procedures Plan for the Redwood City School District is prepared in compliance with Section 560, Title 5 of the California Administrative Code, which makes it mandatory for all public schools to have a written emergency plan. The Katz Emergency Procedures Bill of 1984 added the requirement that earthquake preparedness plans be developed in all public and private schools. The Site Emergency Plan represents the mutual concerns of parents, students, and staff for the safety and welfare of all. The plan will be reviewed and revised annually and appropriate drills and training provided to help all persons become familiar with their responsibilities. Emergency preparedness also includes close cooperation and planning with police or sheriff, fire, civic emergency agencies and school/parent groups. Information regarding school district emergency procedures must be disseminated to parents and community members. Each school site is provided with an Emergency Preparedness Plan binder prepared by the Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Support. The Plan provides instructions for handling emergencies, emergency plan checklists and copies of annual documentation and handouts. The principal or site director of emergency services shall: 1. Review, revise and update the Emergency Plan by the last day of September each year and devote one staff meeting by the last day of October to reviewing the Site Emergency Plan. 2. Provide maps or diagrams of evacuation routes and other designated areas needed in a major emergency. 3. Provide an effective internal communication system that is not reliant on public utility power. 4. Ensure that the Site Emergency Plan is tested at least twice each year in addition to legally required fire drills. 5. Provide parents each year in the first mailed notice after school opens with the district policies regarding the release of students in case of a major disaster. 6. Implement the Site Emergency Plan when directed by Superintendent, report in person to assigned site after any major emergency and initiate a recall to duty of site personnel. 7. Inventory and monitor all supplies, equipment and furniture used in a declared emergency. Teachers shall: 1. Provide care and supervision to students as Disaster Service Workers under the direction of the site director of emergency services. 2. Be knowledgeable of their responsibilities for emergency preparedness and for implementing the site emergency plan. 3. Include earthquake education in the curriculum and present instruction to students about emergency preparedness plans for the school. 4. Conduct drills for fire evacuation and earthquakes. Reference: RCSD Emergency Preparedness Plan Site Implementation: An earthquake/ fire escape plan has been established and is reviewed at the start of each year by staff before the school year begins. Annual district wide drills are held campus-wide. [All drills are cancelled until COVID restrictions are lifted.] Staff members have designated roles and responsibilities outlined in their “Emergency” binder. Each year we review lockdown procedures and implement school wide practice drills. [All drills are cancelled until COVID restrictions are lifted.] Monthly drills occur each school year. [All drills are cancelled until COVID restrictions are lifted.] Safety guidelines are also outlined in the Staff Handbook, which is

updated yearly. Parents will be given a "Reunification Plan" at Maze Days at the start of each year. It will also be available by parent request. <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030397&revid=IE4ZuzlKSdWXgUgZ8LLLGQ==>

Public Agency Use of School Buildings for Emergency Shelters

Redwood City School District shall make school buildings, grounds, and equipment available to the Department of Emergency Services or other disaster related public agencies, including the American Red Cross, for mass care and welfare shelters during a disaster or other emergency affecting public health and welfare.

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030397&revid=IE4ZuzlKSdWXgUgZ8LLLGQ==>

School Suspension, Expulsion and Mandatory Expulsion Guidelines

Redwood City School District desires to provide students access to educational opportunities in an orderly school environment that protects their safety and security, ensures their welfare and well-being, and promotes their learning and development. Rules and regulations set the standard of behavior expected of students and the disciplinary process and procedures for addressing violations of those standards and therefore adheres to California Education Code 48915(a)(1) for grounds for suspension or expulsion.

- **C. Policies Regarding Suspension and/or Expulsion Actions**

District Policy:

In consonance with Section 35291.5 of the Education Code, the district will notify the parent or guardian of every pupil enrolled in grades 1 through 12, inclusive, of the fact that the district's regulations concerning student discipline are available on request at the principal's office in any district school.

The principal of each school shall ensure that every pupil and parent/guardian of the district's regulations concerning student discipline at the beginning of each school year and for transfer students at the time of enrollment. It shall be the responsibility of each principal to inform all students of the grounds for suspension annually.

Pupils have the right to due process of law and all staff members are expected to accord due process rights to all students. A pupil may be suspended for any acts listed in AR 5114.1 (c-d) while on school grounds, while going to or coming from school, during lunch period or during, going to or coming from a school-sponsored activity.

When a student is suspended from a class, the teacher of that class may require the student's parent/guardian to attend a portion of a school day in that class. If a teacher imposes this procedure, the principal shall send a written notice to the parent/guardian stating that law requires attendance.

Suspension shall be preceded by an informal conference conducted by the Principal, her designee or the superintendent of schools between the pupil, and whenever practicable, the teacher or supervisor who referred the pupil to the principal. At the conference, the pupil shall be informed of the reason for the disciplinary action and the evidence against him/her and shall be given the opportunity to present his/her version and evidence in support of his/her defense. This conference may be omitted if the principal, principal's designee or superintendent determines that an emergency situation exists. The conference shall be held within two school days.

At the time of the suspension a school employee shall make a reasonable effort to contact the parent/guardian in person or by telephone. A notice of suspension must be mailed to the parent/guardian stating the reasons for the suspension and date and time when the student may return to school. No penalties may be imposed on the pupil for the failure of the parent/guardian to attend such conference, nor may readmission of the pupil be contingent on the attendance of the pupil's parent/guardian at such conference.

Parents have the right to request a meeting with the superintendent or designee to review all written documents, review the evidence and the appropriateness of the penalty. A decision will be rendered within two school days.

A student may be suspended for no more than five consecutive school days unless suspended by the governing board for any number up to 20 school days in a school year.

A pupil shall be suspended for no more than 20 school days in a school year. Up to 10 additional school days of suspension may be used if reassigned to another school or an opportunity class for adjustment purposes. If the governing board is considering an expulsion of the suspended student, the suspension may be extended until such time as the governing board has rendered a decision. Specific procedures for extended suspensions pending an expulsion hearing are described in AR 5114.1(i).

The principal or superintendent of schools is required to recommend a pupil's expulsion for any of the following acts unless the principal or superintendent files a written report with the governing board reciting the facts of the incident that make expulsion inappropriate:

1. Causing serious physical injury to another person, except in self-defense.
2. Possession of any firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object of no reasonable use to the pupil at school or at a school activity off school grounds.
3. Unlawful sale of any controlled substance as defined in Section 11007 of the Health and Safety Code, except for the sale of not more than one avoirdupois ounce of marijuana, other than concentrated cannabis.
4. Robbery or extortion.

Note: Complete procedures for expulsion are further defined in AR 5114.1 (l-t)

Special Education students may only be expelled under certain circumstances, following strict guidelines and procedures and then only when an IEP team has determined that (1) the misconduct was not caused by a or a direct manifestation of the identified handicap; (2) the misconduct was not the result of an inappropriate program; and, (3) the misconduct warrants expulsion. Designated officials may, according to law and governing board policy, have access to student lockers when evidence suggests that the welfare of students and other personnel may be threatened. The decision to search shall be made by the principal or the principal's designee. The search shall be made in the presence of at least one witness who is an employee of the District after which each such participant in the search shall sign a dated register attesting to what each found.

Discovery of illegal or dangerous materials shall be reported to the office of the superintendent.

Reference: RCSD Board Policy 5114.1 and 5131.7

RCSD Administrative Regulation 5114.1 (a-u)

Site Implementation:

Staff reviews discipline of students on a regular basis. Power School tracks any student who has been suspended and that information is available to all teachers. More severe discipline cases are also recorded in Power School for the district to review more serious behavior problems.

SUSPENSIONS

Suspendible behavior is characterized by unruly, harmful, violent or unlawful activity that may pose a danger to people or property, where the student is in flagrant or willful violation of the school rules and/or where the student is a chronic or obstinate offender. The following behaviors are grounds for suspension, and could possibly lead to expulsion. These behaviors include but are not limited to:

Willfully causing, attempting to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person;

Persistent or severe harassment of students, staff or other members of the school community;

Extortion

Blatant stealing, destruction or misuse of property belonging to the school, its personnel or other students;

Fighting

Pulling of a fire alarm;

Disruption of school activities or willful defiance of supervisors, teachers, administrators or other school officials and personnel;

The following offenses are in violation of the California School Code and will lead to expulsion:

These behaviors include but are not limited to:

Possession, sale or use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or illegal substances;

Carrying or possession of any dangerous object including but not limited to imitation firearms, real firearms, knife,

weapons of any sort, explosive or a facsimile thereof.

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030397&revid=e6MBcZK2UONEOGUNZJUKpw==&PG=6&st=expulsion&mt=Any>

Procedures to Notify Teachers of Dangerous Pupils (EC 49079)

The North Star Academy shall inform the teacher of each pupil who has engaged in, or is reasonably suspected to have engaged in, any dangerous acts as described in EC sections 48900, 48900.2, 48900.3, 48900.4, or 48900.7 (excluding 48900[h]).

The North Star Academy shall provide the information to the teacher based upon any records that the district maintains in its ordinary course of business, or receives from a law enforcement agency, regarding a pupil described in this section. An employee of North Star Academy who knowingly fails to provide information about a pupil who has engaged in, or who is reasonably suspected to have engaged in, the acts referred to in subdivision (a) is guilty of a misdemeanor, which is punishable by confinement in the county jail for a period not to exceed six months, or by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or both.

Any information received by a teacher pursuant to this section shall be received in confidence for the limited purpose for which it was provided and shall not be further disseminated by the teacher.

D. Procedures to Notify Teachers of Dangerous Pupils

District Policy:

EC 49079 requires that the district advise teachers of students assigned to them who have committed any of the acts identified in Section 48900 as grounds for suspension and/or expulsion with the exception of subsection (h), dealing with the use of tobacco. Teachers are given directions by site and district administration in order to research this information on the district Power School database. It is updated regularly so teachers can see those students who have been identified, as well as a description of the incident(s).

Reference: RCSD Board Policy-in progress

RCSD Administrative Regulation-

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/Policy/ViewPolicy.aspx?S=36030397&revid=ksPwZEOvhmLoYjfWnBYEg==&PG=6&st=notify%20teachers&mt=Exact>

Site Implementation:

All teachers who are in contact with said student, are notified of student suspensions or of students who may pose a danger to our community through written paperwork or verbal conversations. This happens at the beginning of the year and as incidents occur.

Firearms on Campus

The North Star Academy committed to providing a safe environment for students, staff, and visitors on campus. The Superintendent or designee shall consult with local law enforcement, insurance carriers, and other appropriate individuals and agencies to address the security of school campuses.

District policy regarding the possession of firearms and/or ammunition on school grounds shall be included in the district's comprehensive safety plan and shall be communicated to district staff, parents/guardians, and the community.

Only those persons specified in Penal Code 626.9(l)-(o) and 30310 is authorized to possess a firearm and/or ammunition on school grounds. School grounds include, but are not limited to, school buildings, fields, storage areas, and parking lots. The Superintendent or designee shall not grant permission to any other individual to carry a firearm or ammunition on school grounds.

Sexual Harassment Policies (EC 212.6 [b])

The Redwood City School District is an equal employment opportunity employer and is committed to implementing a policy of nondiscrimination in all aspects of employment.

Redwood City School District provides equal opportunity to all applicants and employees without regard to race, color, religion, pregnancy, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or perceived sex or gender, genetic information or characteristics (with respect to the applicant, employee, or a family member), national origin, ancestry, age, physical or mental disability, medical condition, family care status, marital status, veteran's status, uniformed service, or other basis protected by state or federal law.

Redwood City School District does not unlawfully discriminate based on the perception that anyone has any of those characteristics or is associated with a person who has or is perceived as having any of those characteristics.

E. Sexual Harassment Policy District Policy: To promote an environment free of sexual harassment, the principal or designee shall take appropriate actions such as removing vulgar or offending graffiti, establishing site rules, and providing staff in-service or student instruction and counseling. Teachers shall discuss this policy with their students in age-appropriate ways and shall assure them that they need not endure any form of sexual harassment. The Board shall not tolerate the sexual harassment of any student or District employee by any other student or District employee. Any student or employee who is found guilty of sexual harassment shall be subject to disciplinary action. The Board encourages students or staff to immediately report incidences of sexual harassment to the principal or designee. The Superintendent or designee shall promptly investigate each complaint of sexual harassment in a way that ensures the privacy of all parties concerned. In no case shall any individual be required to resolve the complaint directly with the offending person. Board policy defines sexual harassment as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment when submission is a condition of academic status, basis of academic decisions. Other types of conduct which are prohibited in the district and which may constitute sexual harassment include: 1. Unwelcome sexual flirtations/propositions. 2. Verbal abuse of a sexual nature. 3. Graphic verbal comments about an individual's body. 4. Sexually degrading words used to describe an individual. 5. Display of sexually suggestive objects or pictures in the educational environment. 6. Any act of retaliation against an individual who reports a violation of the district's sexual harassment policy or who participates in the investigation of a sexual harassment complaint. Reference: RCSD Board Policy 5145.8 RCSD Administrative Regulation 5145.8 Site Implementation: Staff members review district policy annually.

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School-wide Dress Code Relating to Gang-Related Apparel (EC 35183)

A school-wide dress code established pursuant to this section and Section 35183 shall be enforced at Redwood City School District and at any school-sponsored activity by the school principal or person designated by the principal. Students' clothing must not present a health or safety hazard or a distraction which would interfere with the educational process. Redwood City School District expects students to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to wear clothes that are suitable for the school activity in which they participate. Students are prohibited from wearing gang-related apparel when there is evidence of a gang presence that disrupts or threatens to disrupt the school's activities.

F. School-Wide Dress Code District Policy: The expression of a student's uniqueness and individuality by means of the student's dress is sanctioned by the governing board as being consistent with stated purposes of the school. Students and parents/guardians shall be informed about a school's dress procedures at the beginning of the year and when revised. Restriction on freedom of student dress will be imposed whenever the mode of dress in question: 1. Is unsafe either for student or those around the student. 2. Is disruptive of school operations and the education process in general. 3. Is contrary to law. School sites shall request Board approval for a required uniform dress procedure. Implementation of a school-wide uniform procedure should take place six months following approval by the Board of Education. A source of funding shall be available for students whose parents/guardians cannot afford to pay for them. Parents may choose not to have their children comply with a school uniform procedure adopted by a school site

council. Students shall not be penalized academically, otherwise discriminated against or denied attendance to school if their parents so decide. Administration is encouraged to establish any needed regulations consistent with this policy through cooperative planning with staff, students, and parents. Reference: RCSD Board Policy 5132 (a-b) Site Implementation: Dress Code 1. Appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment. NSA is committed to partnering with parents to teach students how to dress age appropriately at all times. Students' clothing should show respect for themselves, their families and the school. Students and parents are encouraged to work together to choose clothing for the student that is modest, in good taste, and suitable for the school activities in which they participate. 2. The dress code applies anytime during school hours and at such activities as performances, dances, Student Government activities, field trips, graduation, etc. Exceptions are made for students appropriately attired for sports, performances, and spirit days. 3. Undergarments should not be visible during school hours at any time.

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Procedure for Safe Ingress and Egress of Pupils, Parents, and Staff to and from School (EC 35294.2)

In an effort to ensure the safety of students, staff, parents and campus visitors specific policies and procedures have been enacted at Redwood City School District

G. Procedures for Safe Ingress and Egress of Pupils

District Policy:

Although the District is not liable for the safety of pupils who are not under school supervision, the school district can, and does, hold students accountable for their behavior from the time they leave their homes for school, until they return to their homes from school. Students are accountable on the playgrounds, during recess, and at any time they are on school premises and/or under supervision of school district personnel.

Principals, teachers or bus drivers to whom they may delegate their authority are responsible for the conduct and safety of students enrolled in their schools from the time they come under school supervision until they leave school supervision, whether on school premises or not.

It is the responsibility of the principal to provide for adequate supervision of playgrounds and other school facilities at all times they are in use by students. Special attention should be given to the prevention of accidents, and to the development of habits of good citizenship.

The principal should make full use of the cooperative services of local and county organizations, which provide safety services, such as fire, law enforcement and county agencies.

Reference: RCSD Board Policy 5142

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RCSD Administrative Regulation 5142

Site Implementation:

After School Supervision: Students need to leave school grounds immediately after school is dismissed unless they are participating in a structured after school activity. Children are told to come to the office for assistance if they do not have a safe method of transportation home. Students who are regularly left unsupervised or not picked up within 30 minutes of dismissal may be reported to Redwood City Police Department for safety reasons once the school has made a reasonable attempt to solve the problem. Parents will be notified in person, by phone or by letter if their child is regularly picked up late after school.

(Optional) Other Programs, Procedures or Policies for Safe Ingress and Egress Include:

- Student Transportation Procedures (optional)

- Student Drop Off & Parking Procedures (Optional)
- Other relevant Procedures or Policies (Optional)

Safe Routes to School Program (Optional Section)

The San Mateo County Office of Education and Redwood City School District participates in the Safe Routes to School Program which results in less traffic congestion around schools; improved air quality; a greener, healthier community; and an increase in self-reliance among San Mateo County children who walk and bike to school. The San Mateo County Safe Routes to School Program performs walk and bike safety audits assess the walkability and bike ability of a school and its surrounding environment. These audits include analyzing traffic patterns and travel to and from a school. Walking and biking route maps are also generated to support safe and efficient travel flow to and from a school. San Mateo County Safe Routes to School program places particular emphasis on providing access and support for students whose families have limited financial means, students of color, students of all genders, students with disabilities, and others and works to provide additional resources to schools in low-income communities, particularly technical assistance for schools serving low-income communities with higher rates of traffic collisions involving pedestrians and cyclists.

A Safe and Orderly School Environment Conducive to Learning (EC 35294.2)

The Redwood City School District works to enhance student learning by providing an orderly, caring, and nurturing educational and social environment in which all students can feel safe, connected and take pride in their school and their achievements. Positive relationships between all members of the school community is paramount.

Positive School Climate:

School climate refers to the quality and character of school life. School climate is based on patterns of school life for all stakeholders, including students, parents, and staff. A school's climate reflects norms, goals, values, interpersonal relationships, teaching and learning practices, and organizational structures. A positive school climate fosters positive youth development and supports a high-quality learning environment that provides young people with the foundation to pursue productive and rewarding lives.

Evidence of a positive school climate includes the following:

- Norms, values, and expectations that support social, emotional, and physical safety
- Respectful and engaging interactions and relationships
- A shared school vision that includes students, families, and educators working together
- Educators who lead by example and nurture positive attitudes
- Meaningful participation in the operations of the school and care of the physical environment by all stakeholders

Goal #1 The Staff will increase their knowledge through trainings and specialized programs to increase healthy peer relationships at school and online. Goal #2 The Staff will continue to work on safety protocols for all school emergencies and site council will focus on a specific topic in the emergency protocol at each of 5 meetings. Goal #3 The Site Council will analyze effective tools for both Social Emotional learning and Cyber education at all levels.

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Programs/Procedures to Address Mental Health Care for Students Who Have Witnessed a Violent Act (Optional)

Students who have witnessed a violent act at school or at a school sponsored activity, while going to or coming from school or a school sponsored activity, or during a lunch period on or off campus, will need attention to address their mental health. Witnessing violence and being a victim of violence at school have been found to both positively and significantly associated with psychological

trauma symptoms. Schools should work to identify these students and provide appropriate and timely linkage to mental health services.

Mental Health Supports and School Resource Officers on Campus (EC 32282.1)

Optional

Redwood City School District recognizes that to maintain a positive school climate, promote school safety, and increase pupil achievement, mental health and intervention services, including restorative and transformative justice programs, and positive behavior interventions and support must be prioritized.

The following procedures, protocols, and board policies pertain to how the mental health professionals, school counselors, and school resource officers (if utilized) work directly with students to create and maintain a positive school climate for students:

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School Discipline Rules and Consequences (EC 35291 and EC 35291.5)

North Star Academy is committed to providing a safe, supportive and positive school environment which is conducive to student learning and to preparing students for responsible citizenship by fostering self-discipline and personal responsibility. High expectations of student behavior, use of effective school and classroom management strategies, provision of appropriate intervention and support, and parent involvement can minimize the need for discipline measures that exclude students from instruction as a means for correcting student misbehavior.

H. School Discipline District Policy: Discipline based on faith in the worth and dignity of each individual is a positive form of guidance rather than a punishing device. Any form of discipline that impairs the students' self-respect should be avoided. This concept defines discipline as the process of teaching students to accept responsibility for a given action. Through this process children will annually be provided with guidelines for appropriate behavior and the opportunity to achieve positive change in their behavior and their attitudes. Discipline will be achieved when students are provided with a chance to grow toward self-management through: 1. Clearly defined rules and regulations. 2. Effective communication with parents, teachers, students, administrators. 3. Consistent use of discipline procedures. 4. Reinforcement of positive behavior. 5. Provision of due process. The minimum standards for a student in the Redwood City School District are: 1. Respecting the authority of teachers, principals, and other school personnel to enforce District and school rules. 2. Behaving in classrooms and on school campuses without disrupting or interfering with the rights of other students and staff. 3. Following the standards of behavior and obeying rules of the classroom, school and District. 4. Attending assigned classes daily and on time. It is the role of the Board of Education to adopt policies designating standards of student conduct and regulations governing disciplinary action procedures, to support the consistent implementation of policies in all schools, to encourage staff cooperation with community agencies and to make final decisions in all cases involving the involuntary expulsion of students from regular school attendance. It is the role of administration: - To work with student, staff and parents to clearly define and explain discipline standards. - To cooperate with teachers, students and parents in trying to solve problems. - To exercise good judgment in determining the need and extent of disciplinary actions. - To contact parents of students who are experiencing unusual difficulties. - To follow suspension procedures - To assist teachers who need help with discipline problems. It is the responsibility of teachers to develop classroom rules and regulations, instruct students in classroom, school and district regulations, to insure proper and adequate control of students and to supervise all students assigned to their class or subject to their control (playground, etc.) It is the responsibility of classified personnel to be familiar with discipline policies, exercise good judgment in handling behavior problems, and to refer students with continuing problems to the principal or classroom teacher. Parents/guardians are responsible for the willful misbehavior of their children and are expected to cooperate with school authorities and be familiar with discipline policies. The district considers public education a right of our youth. However, it does not consider it an absolute right, but a privilege with definite responsibilities on the part of both the student and the parent. Pupils must comply with all the rules and regulations as defined in the CA Education Code, the CA Administrative Code and the RCSD rules and regulations. The principal of each school shall take steps to insure that all rules are communicated to students at the beginning of each school year and to transfer students at the time of their enrollment in the school. Classroom teachers are given the authority to act in the place of the parent during the time the student is under the teacher's direction. To insure suitable control, the teacher

may use the following means of control: a. Confer with student and explain behavior policy b. Take away privileges enjoyed by other students. c. Lower a student's citizenship rating. d. Assign special tasks to be completed at specified times e. Contact parents so concerted action can be taken to mutually correct abnormal behavior patterns of the student. f. Detain a student after school for not more than one hour at the end of the school day, with notification of parent. g. Refer student to school administration for correction and control h. Consider suspension Reference: RCSD Board Policy 5114 (a-b) RCSD Administrative Regulation 5114 (a-d) Site Implementation: District policies are signed by students at the beginning of each school year. **STUDENT BEHAVIOR Safe Behaviors** -All students are to maintain an appropriate attitude at all times. Students are responsible for the attitudes they choose. Students should show respect in classes, in all activities and with guest speakers. No student will be permitted to ridicule or mock other students or staff. This is considered a serious offense. If improper attitudes persist after parents have been contacted, disciplinary action will result. -Each student is expected to exercise common courtesy at all times, both in and out of the classroom. In order to help the student establish good habits, certain rules are necessary. The primary reason for school rules is to ensure student safety and to provide an environment that promotes learning. The goal is for students to behave in a manner that demonstrates respect for people and property. Hopefully, the school rules reflect the standards of the community as a whole so that the school prepares students to be good adult citizens. Every attempt is made to enforce rules consistently and with a loving understanding of children and their needs. -Vandalism is the willful or malicious defacement or destruction of any property belonging to NSA, its employees, or its students. It includes such things as graffiti and tampering with computers. Any student found to have committed vandalism, either individually or as part of a group or a class prank, will be punished. Such punishment may include suspension or expulsion, and possible police intervention in severe cases. The full cost of repair and /or replacement may be charged to the family. -A discipline referral can be given for misbehavior in the classroom. Action on referrals may be taken by an administrator and recorded in the students personal file.

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Hate Crime Reporting Procedures and Policies

Discrimination and Harassment Policies Including hate crime reporting)

Redwood City School District believes all students are entitled to a safe, orderly, caring, and equitable learning environment that promotes academic achievement, school connectedness, and meaningful participation for all students.

- Protect the right of all students, staff, and parents/guardians to be free from harassment or any activity that degrades the unique qualities of an individual or association with a person or a group with one or more actual or perceived protected characteristics, to include students' parental, family, or marital status, ancestry, color, race, gender, gender identity, gender expression, ethnicity, age, culture, heritage, sexuality, physical/mental/intellectual attributes, or religious beliefs and practices.
- The Redwood City School District expressly prohibits discrimination, intimidation, bullying, cyberbullying, or harassment of any student or employee by any employee, student, or other person on any school campus or at any school activity whether on or off campus.
- School personnel will take immediate steps to intervene when it is safe to do so and when he or she witnesses an act of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying.
- The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all students receive age-appropriate information on sexual harassment.
- For students in grades 4-12, disciplinary action may include suspension and/or expulsion provided that, in imposing such discipline, the entire circumstances of the incident(s) shall be taken into account. Any staff member found to have engaged in sexual harassment or sexual violence toward any student shall be subject to discipline up to and including dismissal in accordance with applicable policies, laws, and/or collective bargaining agreements.
- The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of all reported cases of sexual harassment to enable Redwood City School District to monitor, address, and prevent repetitive harassing behavior at Redwood City School District schools.

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Procedures for Preventing Acts of Bullying and Cyber-bullying

Redwood City School District recognizes the harmful effects of bullying on student well-being, student learning and school attendance and works towards providing a safe school environment that protects all students from physical and emotional harm. No student or group of students shall, through physical, written, verbal or other means, harass, sexually harass, threaten, intimidate, cyberbully, cause bodily injury to, or commit hate violence against another student, group of students or school personnel.

In compliance with ED Section 32283.5 Redwood City School District makes available the [California Department of Education's online training resources](#) to address and prevent bullying and cyberbullying to certificated staff and all other school site employees who have regular interaction with pupils.

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Safety Plan Review, Evaluation and Amendment Procedures

The Comprehensive School Safety Plan is reviewed and amended annually by the School Site Safety Committee and shall be submitted to the (district) Board for approval. The Completed CSSP and related policies are available for public review at the (District) office. The approved Comprehensive School Safety Plan shall be submitted to the San Mateo County Office of Education prior to March 1 of the current school year. All San Mateo County School Districts plans associated board policies and county wide protocols are available at the San Mateo County Office of Education for public review.

School District: Redwood City School District

School Site: North Star Academy

Safety Plan Appendices

[Coalition for Safe Schools and Communities](#)

[Disaster Response: The Big Five Webpage](#)

[Big Five Administration Packet](#)

[Hazard Response](#)

[Incident Command Cards](#)

[Fire Watch](#)

[Air Quality Guidance](#)

[School Closure Guide](#)

[Student Threat Assessment Page](#)

[Student Threat Assessment Protocol](#)

[Suicide Prevention Page](#)

[Suicide Prevention Protocol](#)

[Commercially Sexually Exploited Children Resource Page](#)

[Commercially Sexually Exploited Children Resource Protocol for Schools](#)

[Sexual Assault/Sexual Harassment Resources](#)

[Student Sexual Abuse Response Guidelines for San Mateo County Schools and Law Enforcement](#)

[Naloxone for Schools Program and Toolkit](#)

[Naloxone Toolkit](#)

[Violent Release](#)

[Student Release](#)

[Facilities Guide](#)

[TOYFP Book](#)

Lesson Plans

Grade: [1-3](#) [4-5](#) [Middle](#) [High](#)