

Student and Parent Handbook

School Year

2025-2026

Revised 8/5/25

Welcome

Welcome to North Star Online School! North Star Online School is a public, accredited, online school for Kindergarten through twelfth grade students in the Washoe County School District (WCSD). North Star offers students a quality online education with a flexible schedule under the guidance of WCSD teachers. North Star Online School offers independent learners the opportunity to have a flexible schedule and work at their own pace (within certain parameters). North Star students have access to all WCSD resources and can participate in extracurricular activities at their local zoned school. North Star students must be enrolled as a full-time student and no concurrent enrollments in another school is allowed.

Our Mission

We empower independent learners with an individualized and flexible online learning experience supported by local teachers committed to preparing students for college and/or highly skilled careers.

Our Vision

To create an educational system where all students achieve academic success, develop personal and civic responsibility, and achieve career and/or college readiness to become productive members of society in the 21st Century.

School Location and Contact Information

North Star Online School
5450 Riggins Ct. Suite 6
Reno, NV 89502
Phone: 775.353.6900
Fax: 775.689.2537

Office Hours: Monday – Friday: 8:00 am to 3:30 pm (following the WCSD Balanced calendar)

WCSD Website: http://www.washoeschools.net
North Star Online School Website: http://www.washoeschools.net/northstar
Facebook: www.Facebook.com/NorthStarOnline
Instagram: @Northstarhswcsd

Nondiscrimination Policy

North Star Online School is committed to a policy of educational and workplace equality. North Star does not exclude, deny benefits to, or otherwise discriminate against any person on the basis of ethnic group identification, race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, religion, physical or mental disability, or age in the admission to, participation in, or receipt of the services under any of North Star's educational programs and activities, or in its employment practices.

This statement is in accordance with the provisions of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendment of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004.

FERPA Reminder

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that gives parents/legal guardians and students over eighteen (18) years of age and emancipated minors (Eligible Students) certain rights regarding the student's educational records. These rights include the ability to review and correct educational records and the protection of a student's educational records and "personally identifiable information" from unauthorized disclosure.

FERPA rights are extended to both the custodial and non-custodial parent unless the school is provided with a judicial court order, state statute, or legally binding document that specifically revokes a non-custodial parent's FERPA rights.

The school also complies with the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (see Appendix 5 – Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) Notification) and the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 ("COPPA") (see Appendix 3 – Privacy Policy).

Communication

Success at North Star is dependent upon a partnership among students, parents/guardians, teachers, and staff. We maintain on-going communication to enhance our partnership. Please return phone calls, emails, and other messages (Webmail for Connexus users and messenger for Edgenuity users) in a timely manner. Please also plan to check for messages from North Star on a regular basis. Email is our primary method of communicating with our families, given the nature of online school.

Enrollment

To enroll at North Star Online School, new families must enroll for the upcoming school year during the "School of Choice" enrollment periods offered Districtwide in Spring. Please visit WCSD page for additional information about School of Choice https://www.washoeschools.net/schoolofchoice.

Transportation

Students/families are responsible for providing transportation to and from North Star Online School as there is no District sponsored transportation. Students must come to North Star for all mandated testing and when attendance is requested by the teacher.

North Star Open Campus Notification

North Star Online School serves students in multiple capacities. Most often, students work online from home.

Students also attend on campus and/or off-site school sponsored activities including field trips, open lab on campus, Riggins Days, and other by-appointment teacher support sessions.

When students are on the North Star campus, it expected that the WCSD dress code and technology agreements are followed. Additionally, due to the nature of our open campus, families must have a plan in place for drop off/pick up of students, as well as agreed upon rules for leaving campus during school hours (high school students only). The student and/or a parent will sign-in upon and departure.
Please refer to the Waiver of Liability below for additional information.

North Star Open Campus Waiver of Liability

North Star Online School serves students in multiple capacities. Most often, students work online from home or other environments in which Wi-Fi/internet service is available. Students sometimes attend on campus and/or off-site school sponsored activities including mandatory testing, in-person student support opportunities, field trips, and working in the labs. Our campus is open Monday-Friday 8:00am-3:30pm. Due to the nature of our open campus, families are encouraged to have a plan in place for drop off/pick up of students, as well as rules for leaving campus during school hours. The student and/or a parent will sign-in on arrival using the District's computerized system. Upon departure, the student and/or parent will sign out using the District's computerized system. If a student fails to sign out when they leave campus, school administration may not know the time the student left campus; however, the student is still bound by the rules and regulations pertaining to personal conduct as outlined in the student handbook and will be subject to disciplinary action for violations.

Waiver of Liability: By signing this agreement, the student and parents agree to release North Star Online School, an online school with the Washoe County School District, from all liability for a student's actions during his or her exercise of the open campus privilege. Furthermore, this signed agreement also releases North Star Online School for any personal injury or loss of life while the student is exercising his or her open campus privilege. In consideration of permission to participate in open campus at North Star Online School today and on all future dates, I, on behalf of myself, my spouse (if applicable), my heirs, personal representatives, or assigns, do hereby release, waive and discharge Washoe County School District and North Star Online School, (including its officers, employees, and agencies) from liability from any and all claims resulting from the inherent risks, associated with the open campus from negligence, strict liability, breach of contract, or any act or omission. I also agree to hold harmless, defend and indemnify Washoe County School District and North Star Online School, its officers, employees, and agencies (that is, defend and pay any judgment and costs, including investigation costs and attorney fees) from any and all claims of mine, my spouse (if applicable), family members, or other third parties arising from my student's participation in open campus at Washoe County School District and North Star Online School (including those arising from in the inherent risks or negligence, strict liability, breach of contract, or any act or omission). I covenant not to sue Washoe County School District or North Star Online School, its officers, employees, and agencies for any present or future claims arising directly or indirectly from my participation in this event.

Assumption of Inherent Risk: I understand that it may be impossible to list all the inherent risks associated with an open campus, but some are listed to give the parent a better idea of the risks involved. These include student abduction, damage to property, personal injury, or death to the student due to pedestrian accidents and/or vehicular accidents.
This list is not inclusive and extends to damage and/or loss of personal property as well.

I understand the inherent risks associated with an open campus. I have read the previous paragraphs and I understand the nature of an open campus. I hereby assert that I knowingly assume all the inherent risks of the activities, waive all liability, and that by signing below, I authorize my student to participate in the open campus environment at North Star Online School.

Is the Student 18 or older?

YES

NO

If I am signing this release on behalf of my minor child, I agree and understand that I will be giving up rights for the minor as if I had signed it on my own behalf. I acknowledge that I have reviewed and understand all the above.

Printed Name of Participant/Student:
Printed Name of Parent/ Legal Guardian:
Signature of Parent/ Legal Guardian: Date:

Athletic Policy

Student athletes attending North Star Online School may choose to participate in sanctioned sports offered at their zoned school as an extra-curricular activity.

Parent/Guardian Involvement and Learning Coach Expectations

Learning Coach support is an integral part of online learning for all students. Parents/Guardians are the in- home learning coach, which is characterized by providing academic and emotional support for the online learner. Involvement requires working with your student to make sure they are successfully completing all scheduled lessons, checking on attendance weekly, working closely with the teachers, and regularly communicating with the school.

Parent/Guardian involvement time requirements are estimated and recommended as:

- Grades K-5: Three to six hours daily (the younger the student, the more time is necessary)
- Grades 6-8: Two to five hours daily
- Grades 9-12: At least five to eight hours weekly

It is especially important for families who have students in the elementary grades to fulfill Learning Coach duties daily. These duties include, but are not limited to:

- Following the guided discussion related to lessons (found on parent portal).
- Checking and discussing student responses to ensure understanding and the submission of quality work.
- Checking webmail/email, attendance progress, gradebook and lesson progress daily.

North Star Attendance Policy and Withdrawal Information

Attendance for Initial Enrollment

All students are expected to attend a virtual meeting with their Advisory teacher on the first day of each semester to meet the online school enrollment guidelines.

To be fully enrolled at North Star, students must:

- Participate in a meeting (in person or virtually) or a phone call with a certified faculty member to discuss all courses.
- Complete and submit a lesson or assessment for all classes within the online learning platform.

After initial enrollment, student weekly attendance is determined by course progress as defined below.

Weekly Attendance Expectations

Attendance is measured by the progress made in each class every week. To be counted as "present" for the week, North Star students must meet the following:

- Login and demonstrate progress (work completion and submission) in each class every week.
- The attendance week starts at Midnight on Friday and ends at 11:59 PM on the following Friday night.
- Progress for a class is demonstrated by completing and submitting a lesson or assessment for each class within the online learning platform.
- It should be noted that completing one assignment or taking one assessment weekly is not enough for a student to complete or pass the course. Students must complete 6-8% of a course weekly, depending on the length of the semester, to stay on track to complete the course by the end of the semester.

It is expected that parents/guardians ensure students' regular attendance and participation in state and district required assessments. Please plan vacations to coincide with the Washoe County School District Balanced Calendar, so students do not fall behind in coursework.

As per the School of Choice attendance guidelines, students who do not adhere to the attendance policy will be required to return to their zoned school for the following school year.

Attendance Probation

Should a student be absent from a class for an entire week, the student may be placed on attendance probation. Students who enroll at North Star and were chronically absent the prior school year may also be placed on attendance probation. Attendance probation will include a required meeting with the student and parents/guardians to discuss a support plan. Attendance probation may include a requirement for daily attendance checks, meaning a student will be required to make daily progress in classes to be marked "present". Progress for a class is demonstrated by completing and submitting a lesson or assessment for the class within the online learning platform.

Withdrawal due to Non-Attendance

If a student does not attend one or more classes for 10 consecutive school days and the whereabouts of the pupil are unknown, the student will be withdrawn from North Star Online School. The effective date of withdrawal is the day immediately after the 10th consecutive school day that the student failed to attend the class or classes. Additionally, if a student does not attend any one class for 20 consecutive school days, meaning progress in the class has not been made for 20 consecutive school days, the student will be withdrawn from North Star Online School. The effective date of withdrawal is the day immediately after the 20th consecutive school day that the student failed to make progress in the class.

In cases where students are withdrawn from North Star due to non-attendance, a referral will be made to WCSD reengagement specialists who will work with the student to determine a plan. To re-enroll at North Star after withdrawal due to non-attendance, the student and parents/guardians must meet with North Star administration to establish a support plan for the student. Students who re-enroll will automatically be placed on attendance probation.

As per the School of Choice attendance guidelines, students who do not adhere to the attendance policy will be required to return to their zoned school for the following school year.

Contacting North Star

Parents/guardians are asked to contact the North Star office to inform the school of any known absences. If a student is absent and the school has not been contacted, the parents/guardians may receive both automated phone calls and/or phone calls from the North Star staff to confirm the absence.
Please reach out to the North Star office for support or with any questions regarding attendance expectations.

Voluntary Withdrawal from North Star

Once a student has been enrolled at North Star, s/he may voluntarily transfer back to the zoned school if circumstances arise that prevent the student from continuing at North Star. To withdraw a student from North Star, the parent/guardian must notify the school in person, verbally, or in writing and at that same time, provide the name of the school the student will be attending. If the school is out of the Washoe County School District, an address will also need to be given.

Change of Address

Parents/Guardians are requested to notify North Star Online School as soon as possible of any changes to phone numbers, email address, and/or physical address for parents and students. This will assist in ensuring we can reach you when needed.

Monitoring Student Progress

Infinite Campus (IC):

IC is a tool for parents and students to track quarterly progress grades, semester grades, attendance, and behavior.

- Please contact the North Star Online School office for assistance with accessing IC.

Connexus:

Kinder through 8th grade students have access to their classes, webmail, and planners through their Connexus login. Parents can also view the same information through their parent/guardian Connexus logins. Connexus is updated each time staff or faculty make an entry. It is an up-to-the-minute tool that can be used to maintain a connection with school performance and communication.

- Problems with Connexus access should be directed to the North Star Online School Main Office for assistance at 775-353-6900.
- Problems with the technical side of Connexus should be directed to the Connexus Technical Support team at 888-679-7740.

Edgenuity:

High school students will use the Edgenuity platform for the majority of their coursework, and the Canvas platform will be used for PE and Computer Science. Students can access both platforms through the WCSD website, under the tab titles “Students and Parents”.

- Problems with Edgenuity access should be directed to the North Star Online School Main Office for assistance at 775-353-6900.

- Problems with the technical side of Edgenuity should be directed to the Edgenuity Technical Support team at 877-202-0338

Contacting Teachers/Staff

In grades K-8, Webmail is the most effective way to initiate contact with teachers, receive simple answers, or share pertinent information about your students. Webmail contacts for teachers can be found within your Connexus account (envelope icon at tope right of screen). In grades 9-12, or for students in special programs, we recommend the use of the district email system. Teacher contact information (phone number and email addresses) can be found on the North Star website under the heading "Staff Directory". You may also call the main office for assistance.

Student Conduct

While on campus, all individuals are expected to assist the North Star team in maintaining a positive and respectful environment. Please adhere to the following:

- Respectful Interaction: Treat all staff, students, and fellow visitors with courtesy and respect.
- Appropriate Behavior: Follow all instructions from school representatives and remain in designated areas during the visit.
- Technology Use: Use personal devices responsibly and not while receiving assistance, or attending a meeting. No recording or taking photos without permission.
- Participation: Engage fully and positively in activities and discussions, maintaining a professional demeanor throughout the visit.
- Safety First: Report any safety concerns or issues to a staff member immediately.

Electronic Mail, Real-Time Conferencing, Participation in Teams Meetings:

Students will conduct themselves as is expected in an educational setting during all live sessions and webmail correspondences.

Expectations:

- Appropriate language is expected at all times.
- Abusive messages are prohibited.
- Harassment is prohibited. Harassment is conduct which is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it adversely affects, or has the purpose or logical consequence of interfering with a user's educational program, or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment. Behavior that continues after an individual is informed of its offensiveness may constitute evidence of intent to harass. If told by a person to stop sending messages, the sender must stop.
- Students should not reveal personal information such as addresses, phone numbers, passwords, or financial information to others. Private information may not be posted about another person.

Students who do not conduct themselves appropriately during live sessions while using real-time chat features, including video conferencing, will be dismissed from the session. If the behavior is not corrected by the following session disciplinary actions will take place. All use of computer network technology resources shall be consistent with all Washoe County School District policies and regulations.

Administrative Disciplinary Action

The action taken will be determined by administration and/or school police and will depend on a number of factors including, but not limited to; state law, school district regulations, the nature of the offense and the student's repeated offenses.

Dress Code

The WCSD student dress code can be found by following this link: Student Dress Code / Student Dress Code (washoeschools.net)

Bullying, Harassment, and Discrimination

The Washoe County School District seeks to ensure a learning environment for its students that is safe and respectful, in accordance with state and federal laws. The District is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin or ethnic identification, marital status, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic information, religion, age, mental or physical disability, military or veteran's status in educational programs or activities, and employment as required by applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

Please find the governing documents related to the process utilized to file a formal student complaint based on allegations of bullying, harassment or discrimination here: Notice of Non-Discrimination / Student Complaints - Bullying, Harassment, Discrimination (washoeschools.net)

Grading

Students will be graded for academic achievement. These grades will be expressed in letter form:

- Grades Kinder through 2nd: S/U Grading
- Grades 3rd through 5th: Letter grades for core classes and S/U grades for electives
- Grades 6th through 12th: Letter grades for all courses

Students who have endured extenuating circumstances and require more time to complete their coursework will be eligible to request additional time. In cases where the extension is approved, an INC will be issued in place of the students' actual grade. Incomplete (INC) is a temporary grade and must be made up within six school weeks after the grades have been issued. Failure to make up incompletes may result in a failing semester grade.

Final Exams

Students in grades 9-12 are required to take their final exams prior to the end of the term. Additionally, finals must be taken within two weeks of course completion. If a student does not complete the final exam, a grade of zero will be issued and the student risks not passing the course as final exams are weighted heavily.

North Star Online School Academic Integrity Expectations

Why:

The academic standards of North Star Online School are designed to promote a quality education through honesty, ownership, and self-respect in all aspects of schoolwork. The pursuit of Academic Integrity involves all members of the North Star Community in the learning process. Cheating impedes this fundamental process and compromises the integrity of students, parents, teachers, administrators, and North Star Online School.

What:

Cheating and plagiarism both involve taking information from another and presenting it as one's own. Some examples of cheating are:

- Copying someone else's homework, classwork, or test answers from any source.
- Googling questions (tests, quizzes, assignments) and then submitting the results as your own response.
- Copying printed work of another person from books, magazines, or the internet without using proper citation of the source of the information.
- Allowing someone else to copy your work or test answers.
- Using AI tools to create a response to a writing prompt or test/quiz question.
    - Please note that the appropriate use of AI tools is encouraged when utilized to embellish or improve a student's original work or response.

      Examples of appropriate use of AI tools consist of:
        - Asking for feedback or suggestions for improvement of a writing piece.
        - Asking for assistance with organizing one's original ideas and content.
        - Asking for clarification or assistance in understanding challenging concepts or content.
        - Disclosing the use of AI for any work submission where AI is used, and being prepared to submit the full transcript if requested.
    - If the authenticity of a work submission is questioned by a teacher, the teacher may ask for a student to submit the transcript of the AI tool's use. For example, if an essay is submitted and AI tools are suspected, a teacher can request the student submit the full transcript to better understand how the tool was used. If the teacher deems the tool was used improperly, they may deny issuing credit.
- Possessing or viewing a copy of an exam without prior teacher approval.
- Sharing test information with students who have not taken an exam without prior teacher approval.

How:

If the validity of a student's work is flagged as plagiarized or nonauthentic, the student will need to provide feedback to validate that s/he is the one completing the work. When questioning the validity of a student's work, teachers may do any of the following:

- Use an online program, such as Check My Work to run a plagiarism or AI use report of a student's assignment.
- Ask for a student to submit the transcript of the suspected tool's use.
    - For example, if an essay is submitted and AI tools are suspected, a teacher can request the student submit the full transcript to better understand how the tool was used. If the teacher deems the tool was used improperly, credit will not be issued.
- Speak to the student regarding the assignment or test in question. The student should be able to articulate in his/her own words what has been learned in the assignment and be able to answer questions posed by the teacher about the content.
- Compare student's writing samples. The writing submission in question will be compared to previous work submitted by the student.
- The student may be asked to come to the North Star campus to resubmit the assignment or retake the test in a proctored setting.

If it is determined that the academic integrity expectations have not been followed, the following actions will

take place:

First overall offense:

- Student will receive a zero with the opportunity for resubmission after a reteaching of expectations/meeting with the teacher of the course.
- Incident will be entered into Infinite Campus as a "Minor Behavior" and will include details of incident, intervention used, and contact made.
- Teacher will contact parent/guardian via email/webmail or phone call.

Second overall offense:

- Student will receive a zero with the opportunity for resubmission after a reteaching of expectations/meeting with the teacher of the course.
- Incident will be entered into Infinite Campus as a "Minor Behavior" and will include details of incident, intervention used, and contact made.
- Teacher will contact parent/guardian via phone to:
  - Offer academic support for student.
    - *Example:* Required student check-ins or mandatory office hours attendance.
  - Inform that the next offense will result in further disciplinary action as well as a zero on the entire assignment with no opportunity to resubmit.
    - *Example:* Mandatory on campus proctored work submissions, test taking, and final exams.

Third overall offense:

- Student will receive a zero with **NO opportunity for resubmission**.
- Incident will be entered into **Infinite Campus as a "Minor Behavior"** and will include details of incident and contact made.
- Teacher will contact parent/guardian via phone to let them know of the third incident.
- Teacher will report third offense to the administrative team for further guidance.

Fourth +overall offense:

- Student will receive a zero with no opportunity for resubmission.
- Incident will be entered into Infinite Campus as a "Minor Behavior" and will include details of incident and contact made.
- Teacher will report fourth + offense to the administrative team for further guidance and disciplinary action.

District and State Mandated Testing

North Star students are required to attend all state and district mandated exams on site. Families will be notified by mail approximately one month prior to any mandated test. North Star staff will also notify families through email/webmail and ConnectEd messages of important dates and times for mandated testing on the North Star campus.

Assessments by Grade Level:

- **Kindergarten:** Kindergarten Screening in Fall (and within 30 days of initial Kinder enrollment)
- **K-3:** Reading MAP Assessment in Fall, Winter, and Spring

- **K-8:** Math and Reading iReady assessments in Fall, Winter, and Spring
- **3-8:** SBAC Assessments in Math and ELA in Spring
- **Grades 5, 8 and 9/10:** Nevada Science Assessment in Spring
- **10th Grade:** PSAT in Fall
- **11th Grade:** ACT + Writing (Graduation requirement) in early Spring (also required for any senior who has not yet taken the ACT + Writing)

North Star Student Identification (ID)

North Star students may obtain a North Star Online School Student ID card by making an appointment with the front office.

Courses of Study, Graduation, Dual Credit, and College Entrance

Middle School Course of Study

State of Nevada Middle School Promotion Policy

Pursuant to Nevada Law, the Nevada State Board of Education ruled that current seventh grade students must earn passing grades (A, B, C or D) in the following subjects during their seventh and/or eighth grade years to be promoted to high school:

- Three semesters of Mathematics = 1.5 Credits
- Three semesters of English or Reading = 1.5 Credits
- Two semesters of Science = 1.0 Credits
- Two semesters of Social Studies = 1.0 Credits

High School Courses of Study

The High School Course of Study is designed to provide all students with skills they need to be successful upon graduation from high school, especially in math and science. Research shows that whether students leave high school and enter the workplace, the military, or a college or university, they will need similar skills to meet the demands of their chosen path.

Specific graduation requirements and diploma types can be found here:
Student Accounting / Graduation Requirements & Diploma Types (washoeschools.net)
https://www.washoeschools.net/Page/3301

Graduation from North Star (AP6264)

North Star students who have earned all of the credits required for graduation will earn a diploma from North Star Online School. Credit Requirements:
Student Accounting / Graduation Requirements & Diploma Types (washoeschools.net)
https://www.washoeschools.net/Page/3301

Valedictorian and Salutatorian are selected following the District's accepted practices during the seventh semester:

- Students must have attended North Star High School for two of the four years, and all their senior year. Students must be from the current senior cohort, not and early/late graduate from another cohort school year. GPA will be calculated as of the 3rd quarter progress grades of their senior year.

Credit by Exam and Mastery Exams

Students needing to recover credit after failing a course, or students interested in challenging a course, may be eligible to take an exam for high school credit. Course options are limited and eligibility requirements must be met. Interested students must meet with their high school counselor to discuss options and request permission to take a Mastery Exam (after failing a course) or Credit by Exam (if challenging a course not previously taken).

Mastery Exams are available in core subject areas of English, math, science and social studies. Students who have failed a course may take a mastery exam to recover the credit. Each mastery exam must be passed with a minimum score of 70% to earn credit. Interested students must meet with their high school counselor.

Credit by Exam (CBE) provides an opportunity to earn high school course credit in which no prior formal instruction was completed. CBEs are available in Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, World Languages, Computer Literacy, and Health subject areas. CBE is only offered to students enrolled in a WCSD high school. Each CBE is pass/fail and credit is ungraded although the minimum passing score is a 70%. Interested students must meet with their high school counselor.

Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship

The Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship (GGMS) initiative was enacted into law by the Nevada Legislature in 1999, creating the Millennium Scholarship trust fund to be administered by the State Treasurer. The Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) Board of Regents adopted policy guidelines for the administration of the scholarship.

For more information, please visit the following website:
https://www.nevadatreasurer.gov/GGMS/GGMS_Home/

Nevada Promise Scholarship

The Nevada Promise Scholarship provides coverage of tuition and other mandatory fees not met by federal or state aid for up to three years. There are no income or high school GPA requirements, and it is open to all Nevada high school students graduating between August 1 and June 15 who begin classes at an eligible institution in the fall immediately following graduation.

For more information, please schedule an appointment with your high school counselor.

College Entrance Requirements

College entrance requirements vary. For information as to whether a course you wish to take will be accepted at a college or other school, it is strongly suggested that you contact the post-secondary institution(s) that you might be considering.

College bound students should choose courses which challenge them and which are designed to prepare them for the rigors of college study. Remember that some high school courses will meet a high school graduation

requirement but may not be accepted as an academic credit by your post-secondary institution or by the NCAA. Some colleges accept weighted GPAs, some do not weight, and some have their own method of weighting grades. Your GPA in CORE COURSES (usually English, math, science, social studies, and world language), the strength of the curriculum you have chosen to take, college entrance examination scores (SAT and/or ACT), and extracurricular activities all contribute to your acceptance into college. Successful college students are usually those who have worked to their fullest potential during all their high school years, developed good study habits, and been involved in their school and community.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact your high school counselor.

Dual Credit with Post Secondary Institutions

WCSD students may enroll in a course at Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC), Western Nevada College (WNC), University of Nevada (UNR), or Great Basin College (GBC) and receive both high school and college credit. The process for receiving high school credit for a college course is governed by NRS 389.160.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact your high school counselor and visit this website:
Student Accounting / Dual Credit (washoeschools.net)
https://www.washoeschools.net/Page/1976

NCAA Eligibility

Playing a sport in college?

You will need to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center, linked here: http://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/

- The timeline for student-athletes is often accelerated. The NCAA recommends that student-athletes register for eligibility at the beginning of their sophomore year in high school. However, you can wait until the beginning of your junior year to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center, but there are disadvantages to waiting. You must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center before going on an official visit and receiving an official scholarship offer.
- **Website Registration Checklist:** Registration_Checklist.pdf (ncaa.org)
- Take your first step to becoming an NCAA student-athlete at eligibilitycenter.org. Choose from NCAA's two account types to get started:
    - Certification Account: You need to be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center to compete at an NCAA Division I or II school. You also need to be registered with a Certification Account before you can make official visits or sign a National Letter of Intent in Division I or II.
        - For Certification Accounts, please allow between 30 to 45 minutes to register completely. If you need to exit and come back at a later time, you can save and exit once your account or profile is created. Reference the Help section located in the top task bar at any time to answer your questions as you work through registration.
    - Profile Page: If you plan to compete at a Division III school or are currently unsure in which division you want to compete, create a Profile Page. If at any time, you wish to pursue a Division I or II path, you will be able to transition to a Certification Account.

Below is a list of items we recommend you have before beginning your registration with the NCAA Eligibility

Center:

- **Valid Student Email:** You need a valid email address that you check regularly to register. This is important for updating prospective student-athletes about their account. For more information about accepted emails, please reference our FAQ.
- **Basic Student Personal Information**: This includes information such as your name, gender, date of birth, primary and secondary contact information, and address.
- **Basic Student Education History:** Please include details about all high schools or secondary schools you have attended in the United States or internationally, and additional programs you have attended. Check if your school has a list of NCAA-approved courses.
- **Student Sports Participation History:** For Certification Accounts, this includes details for any expenses or awards you received, any teams you have practiced or played with or certain events in which you participated outside of the traditional high school season. It also includes information about any individuals who have advised you or marketed your skills in a particular sport. This information helps the Eligibility Center certify your amateur status when it is requested by an NCAA school.
- **Payment:** For Certification Accounts, nonrefundable registration fee for U.S., U.S. Territories* and Canadian students: $90 *U.S. Territories include American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands.
- Nonrefundable registration fee for international students: $150
- The NCAA Eligibility Center accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express. For payment questions, look here. Some individuals may qualify to apply for a fee waiver.
- **Next Steps:** Stay on track in high school and understand these quick tips to help in your eligibility process.

For more information, please visit: http://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/