



NATOMAS MIDDLE SCHOOL
STUDENT/FAMILY HANDBOOK

3200 North Park Drive
916-567-5540
<https://natomasunified.org/nms/>

Show Your CLAW

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NATOMAS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

1901 Arena Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95834
(916) 567-5400

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Micah Grant
Scott Dosick
Sumiti Mehta
Noel Mora
Ericka Harden

NUSD Vision

"NUSD will provide an engaging and safe learning community where all students will demonstrate responsibility, achieve academic and social emotional growth, embrace diversity, and are prepared to make decisions about their college and career success."

NUSD Core Values

We value learning and achievement for each of our students.
We value our families as partners in the education of their students.
We value diversity, equity, and inclusion.
We value our committed, collaborative, caring and exemplary employees.

Welcome to the 2026-27 School Year!

Dear Panther Families,

Welcome back to our returning NMS panther students, and a warm welcome to our new Natomas Middle School students. Despite the challenges we have all faced this past year, we want to assure you of our commitment to creating a positive, collaborative, and creative environment as well as tending to each other's social and emotional well-being as we demonstrate patience, caring and kindness for one another. We are eager to engage our students in learning and achievement to help them develop and grow.

Areas of Focus:

At Natomas Middle School, we are focused on using inquiry to engage students in authentic learning. We also continue to utilize many inclusive practices: Restorative Justice, Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS), Team Teaching, and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) strategies to connect with our students. As part of our learning community, we want all students engaged in our school through world language, athletics, art, or music. We are excited to continue our many traditions, support student achievement, and maintain a school culture of acceptance and academics with a focus on literacy through writing.

First day of school: Thursday, August 13th. Instruction starts daily for all grades at **8:30 am**. Gates will open at 8:00 am. Information on how the first day will work along with supply lists will be emailed home in the weeks prior to the start of the year. Please also mark your calendars for **Back to School Night on August 26, 2026 from 5:30-7:00 pm**.

Attendance: Attending school regularly helps scholars feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit early so students learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Eventually good attendance will be a skill that will help them succeed in high school and college. Scholars can still fall behind if they miss just 1 or 2 days every few weeks. Missing 10%, or about 2 days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder for a scholar to learn and retain information. Being late or absent to school can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help tardy scholars catch up. So, please make sure that your scholar is at school every day and on time everyday.

For access to updated information about Natomas Middle School, you may also access the Digital Backpack by following this link: [Digital Backpack](#):

Our office opens for the new school year on August 3, 2026 at 1:00PM. If you need support prior to that date please feel free to contact NUSD Constituent and Customer

Service or refer to the NMS Digital Backpack (located on the NUSD website) for resources and information. The office will be open from 8:00am to 4:00pm daily and can be contacted by calling 916-567-5540. Again, welcome to the 2026-2027 school year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pat B.", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Principal of Natomas Middle School

NATOMAS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mission

Natomas Middle School's mission is to educate, and inspire all students to become caring, contributing global citizens able to be successful in an ever-changing world. We are committed to focusing on instructional rigor, cultivating individual academic success, and creating a community of respectful and responsible problem solvers.

Section 1: School Site Information

Contact Information

Office Hours	Monday - Friday, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Main Office	916- 567-5400
Attendance	916- 567-5550

Administration Contact Information

Patrick Birdsong
Principal
pbirdsong@natomasunified.org
916-567-5400

Alex Gutierrez
Assistant Principal
agutierrez@natomasunified.org

Elian Atachian
Assistant Principal
eatachian@natomasunified.org

Counselors Contact Information

The staff in the counseling office is responsible for coordinating a comprehensive system of support that will promote student connectedness to our academic program, extracurricular activities, work-based learning, academic peer counseling and health services. All the counselors are available via appointment. Referrals from parents, staff, or caring peers are encouraged.

LaToya Lee
916-567-5400 x 70058
@natomasunified.or

Teacher Contact Information

Natomas Middle School teachers can be contacted through email or phone. To find your teacher's email address, please refer to the school website at <https://natomasunified.org/nms/> or call the school office at 916-567-5400 and let the office staff know you would like to leave a message for the teacher.

2026-2027 NUSD Student Calendar

2026-2027 Student Calendar																																		
180 Instructional Days																																		
July							January																											
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa																					
			1	2	3	4						1	2																					
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9																					
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16																					
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23																					
26	27	28	29	30	31		24	25	26	27	28	29	30																					
							31							First Day of Class										August 13										
August							February							Last Day of Class							May 28													
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	No School																				
						1		1	2	3	4	5	6	July 3							Independence Day (observed)													
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	September 7							Labor Day													
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	November 2							District Staff Development Day													
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	November 11							Veteran's Day													
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28							November 23							Certificated Holiday													
30	31													November 24							Certificated Holiday													
September							March							November 25							Local Holiday													
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	November 26							Thanksgiving Day													
		1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5	6	November 27							Local Holiday													
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	December 21 - January 4							Winter Recess													
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	December 24							Christmas Eve													
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	December 25							Christmas Day													
27	28	29	30				28	29	30	31				January 1							New Year's Day													
														January 18							Martin Luther King Jr. Day													
October							April							February 8							Presidents' Day (Lincoln)													
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	February 15							Presidents' Day (Washington)													
				1	2	3					1	2	3	March 29 - April 2							Spring Recess													
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	May 31							Memorial Day													
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	June 18							Juneteenth (observed)													
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	18	19	20	21	22	23	24																					
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	29	30																						
November							May																											
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa																					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7							1																					
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	2	3	4	5	6	7	8																					
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	9	10	11	12	13	14	15																					
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	16	17	18	19	20	21	22																					
29	30						23	24	25	26	27	28	29																					
							30	31																										
December							June																											
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa																					
		1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5																					
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	11	12																					
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19											1st Quarter: 10/9/2026										
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26											1st Trimester: 10/30/2026										
27	28	29	30	31			27	28	29	30														2nd Quarter: 12/18/2026										
																								2nd Trimester: 2/26/2027										
																								3rd Quarter: 3/12/2027										
																								3rd Trimester: 5/28/2027										
																								4th Quarter: 5/28/2027										

NATOMAS MIDDLE SCHOOL Bell Schedule

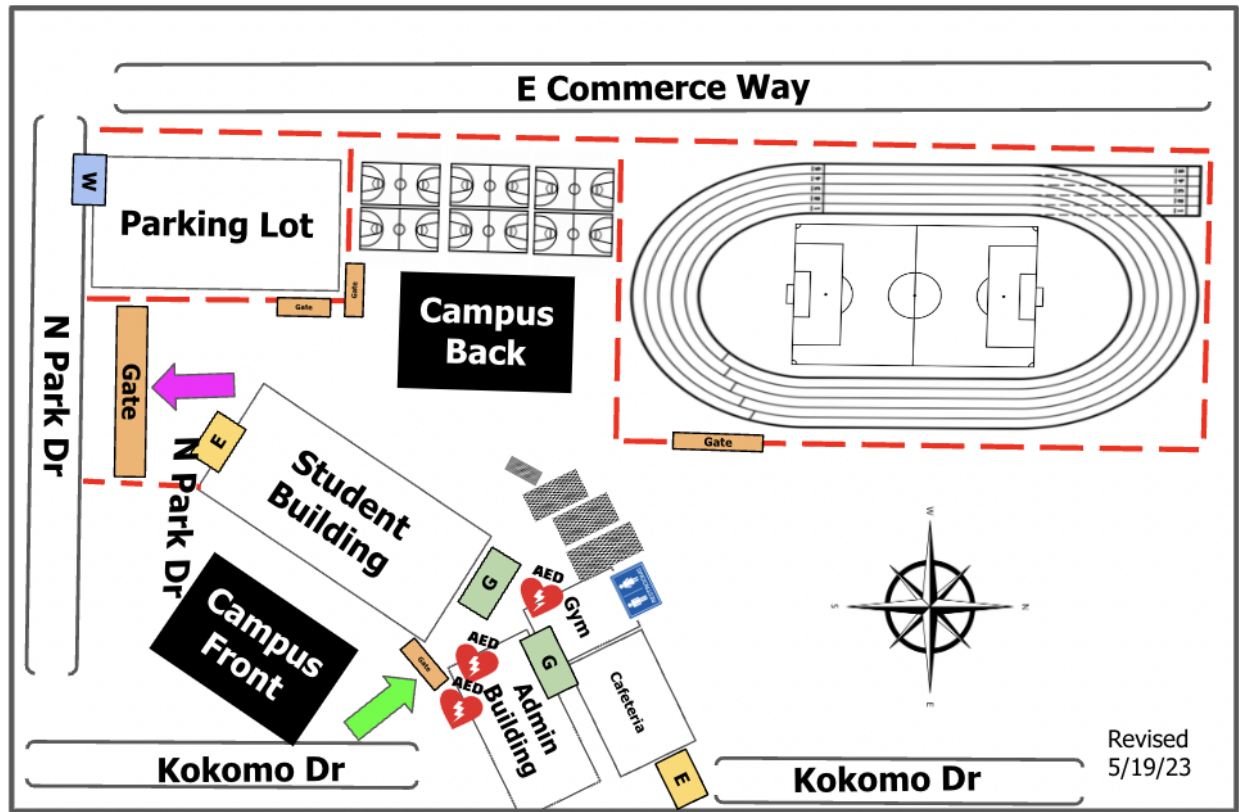


2026-2027

NMS Bell Schedule

Bell Schedule
Per 1- 8:30-9:22 (52 min, 3 minutes for announcements)
Per 2- 9:26-10:15
Per 3- 10:19-11:08
Per 4- 11:12-12:01
Lunch 12:01-12:36
Recess 12:21- 12:36
Per 5- 12:40-1:29
Per 6- 1:33-2:22
Per 7- 2:26-3:15
Minimum Day
Period 1- 8:30-8:58
Period 2- 9:02-9:30
Period 3- 9:34-10:02
Period 4- 10:06-10:34
Period 5- 10:38-11:06
Period 6- 11:10-11:38
Period 7- 11:42-12:10
Lunch 12:10-12:30
Recess 12:30-12:45

School Map



Arrival and Dismissals

Student Pickup/Drop Off (Parking Lots)

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL

The morning bell rings at 8:26 a.m. for students to report to class. Instruction begins promptly at 8:30 a.m. Please refer to the bell schedules included in this handbook for specific start and end times for each period. Supervision is provided only during the school day starting at **8:00 a.m.** **Students should not arrive on campus before 8:00 a.m.**

Dismissal time for all students is **3:15 p.m.** on a regular school day. All students should go home directly at the end of the school day unless they are involved in an after-school activity. Parents who wish to have a student excused early must come to the office and the student will be called to the office and released to the parent. Students will not be allowed to wait for parents in the front office for pick-up.

- Late Arrival to School: Students who arrive 30 minutes past the beginning of the school day need to check in at the attendance office for a pass to class. Students who arrive late to school shall have a written note explaining the reason for their tardiness.
- Early Dismissal: Attending school is vital to student success. Please ensure that appointments are made outside of school hours whenever possible. Early dismissal during tests or final exams can negatively impact a student's grade. Please be aware of when testing is happening and make every effort to ensure that students are present to take their assessments. If a student needs to be picked up early, please follow these procedures:
 - Only listed parents or guardians are allowed to pick up students, UNLESS a parent/guardian has notified the school of other arrangements. Emergency contacts ARE NOT allowed to pick up students without notification from a listed parent/guardian.
 - Appointments: To leave the school during class time or between classes, a student should bring a note from the parent/guardian, prior to the beginning of the school day, stating the reason for leaving and the time to be dismissed from school and the school staff must be able to reach the parent/guardian by phone in order to secure permission to leave school.
 - Unscheduled Early Dismissals:
 - A parent/guardian listed on the student's emergency card, must be present to sign out a student from the front office. ○
 - Inform the front desk that you are picking up a student for early dismissal ○
 - Have a valid I.D. ready for verification ○
 - The front desk will contact the classroom and the teacher will send the student up to the office ○
 - Complete the "Sign Out" sheet with parent information, student name, and check out time
- Illness at School: Receive permission from a teacher to go to the health office, the Health Assistant will call home to obtain permission for the student to leave. COVID protocols will be in place.
- Students who leave campus or skip a class, without obtaining clearance as described above, will receive a "cut" for each period missed. Disciplinary action may follow.

Traffic Safety

- Please be patient with the traffic when picking your child up at school.
- Please pull forward in the fire lane to pick your student up at the front gate of the middle school.
- Do not stop on the elementary side as you will hold up traffic onto the street.
- There is no parking in the staff lot.
- Do not use the front parking lot for student drop off.

Buses/Transportation

Bus pick up and drop off are provided to students in the Special Education program.

BUS PROCEDURES AND EXPECTATIONS

Students riding the bus will:

- Remain seated, face the front of the bus, and keep the aisle clear

- Stand up only when getting on or off of the bus
- Keep body parts and all objects inside the bus
- Promptly and respectfully obey all bus drivers instructions
- Wait at and walk to all bus stops in an orderly and respectful manner
- Cross the street only when escorted by the bus driver
- Avoid loitering around the bus stop on the way home
- Use your regular bus stop at all times unless your parent gives you written permission that has been approved by a school authority

Students riding the bus will not:

- Distract bus drivers
- Create loud noises
- Deface or tamper with any part of the bus or bus stops
- Purposely touch others or their possessions without permission
- Use offensive language or gestures
- Eat, drink, chew gum or throw objects
- Behave in any way that is illegal or dangerous

Students who do not follow all bus safety rules will be issued a citation. Repeated failure to follow bus rules will result in suspension from the bus and may result in the revocation of your child's transportation privileges. Parents will then need to provide transportation to and from school. Please teach your child that bus services are a privilege and to make good choices.

Student Safety/Safe Routes

Natomas Middle School is committed to student safety. We reinforce the use of crosswalks when students are walking to and from school. There should be no jaywalking and/or students running across the street without using the crosswalks. Please do not park in any crosswalk path during arrival and dismissal times. This is at the request and partnership of the Sacramento Police Department.

Bikes/Skateboards/Scooters

1. Bicycles, scooters and skateboards should always be walked or carried on campus. In-line skates and Heelys are not allowed on campus.
2. Lock the bicycle through the frame and at least one wheel with a suitable cable or chain to prohibit simply removing a locked wheel and taking the bicycle.
3. All bicycles MUST BE PARKED in the bike area. The only time a pupil should be near the bicycle parking area is when he/she is parking or removing his/her own bike.
4. Pupils riding bikes to school MUST obey all regular traffic rules.
5. California State Law requires that helmets be worn for safety reasons. If your child is in need of a helmet please see the front office.

Closed Campus

Natomas Middle School is a closed campus. Students are not permitted to leave campus without proper authorization.

Attendance Information

Procedures for Notifying School of Absences

Parents/guardians must clear all absences **in advance** of the absence or **upon return to school** by calling the attendance office at (916) 567-5400, or by writing a note including the following information:

- Student's full legal name (please print name clearly)
- The day(s) and date(s) of absence(s)
- Reason for the absence
- Parents/Guardian name and the relationship to the student
- Home and work phone numbers

Late Policy: Late Arrival to School or Class

As a school we want students to know and learn the value of being on time, the importance of it, and the expectation of being ready to engage, and of honoring the professional relationship between teacher and student. It is critical that students practice and learn the habits and life lessons of punctuality and commitment because they are essential as students move onto college, a career, and life as a part of a larger community. As a school dedicated to educating young people, students deserve a clear, consistent practice.

Students who are 1-30 minutes late to class will be marked tardy. Students who are more than 30 minutes late to class will be marked truant.

Nutrition Services

For information regarding school menus; applying for free/reduced price meals, online lunch payments please visit the Nutrition Services Department page on the Natomas Unified School *District website at*
<https://www.natomasunified.org/departments/nutrition-services>.

Nutrition Service Hours of Operation

- Breakfast: 8:00 AM - 8:25 AM
- Lunch 12:01 PM - 12:36 PM
- Supper 3:15 PM - 3:45 PM

Nutrition Services Expectations/Rules

- Outside food delivery is prohibited. Deliveries will be turned away, and food will **NOT** be delivered to the student. In addition, for safety and security reasons, students are **not permitted to order food deliveries** to any school gates or campus entrances. Deliveries made to be picked up by students at gates are **not allowed**.
- Selling outside food on campus is prohibited, without administrative authorization.

Student Academic Monitoring

Before and After-School Care

School gates will be open for students to enter campus at 8:00 AM. Parents are encouraged not to drop off their children earlier than this due to lack of supervision.

Natomas Middle School offers several learning opportunities after school. Many of our teachers and staff provide additional tutoring or enrichment services after school, and we are continuing to add more programs. Currently, the following programs are available:

- **Sacramento Chinese Community Service Center**, the Center's Expanded Learning Mission: The mission of our expanded learning programs is to provide innovative, youth-driven, high-quality out-of-school-time opportunities that include building school-community partnerships, engaging families to participate in their children's learning, and learning through project-based enrichment that complements the school day.
- **Improve Your Tomorrow (IYT)** A program dedicated to enhancing and supporting young men of color. The program fosters mentorship and college and career readiness opportunities.

Section 2: Site Specific Programs and Information

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

The purpose of our PBIS team is to support Natomas Middle School in being an effective, safe, healthy, nurturing, equitable and respectful learning environment for all students. We will provide this through:

- Developing clearly defined and consistent student expectations which reflect our core values of being responsible, respectful, and problem-solvers.
- Maintaining an open-ended flexible approach through the use of a data driven informational system.
- Using educationally sound methods that foster student character, safety, academic excellence, and individual citizenship.
- Recognizing students for doing the right thing (students earn Panther Bucks, award ceremony inclusion, events, etc.)

PBIS Behavior Expectations



- Natomas Middle School practices **Restorative Justice** as a means to address behavioral issues on campus. Instead of taking harsh punitive approaches to discipline, such as suspensions and expulsions, Restorative Justice is more focused on prevention — addressing students’ underlying issues before they act out — than punishment. Restorative circles and conversations are focused on students understanding the impact of their decisions on the school community and repairing the harm done by their behavior.

Acknowledgement plan

It is important for both students and staff to be consistently acknowledged for positive or outstanding behavior so that we can feel invested in the work we do, build positive school culture and climate, and increase buy-in from students, staff, and families.

Staff and students are encouraged to acknowledge behavior that expresses the values on which the community is based. Whether daily, weekly, or monthly, acknowledgements should be made regularly.

Acknowledging Students

- Positive Incentives in Classroom
- Verbal praise
- Positive note home
- Positive phone call home
- Positive Panther Postcard to student (student goes to office for recognition from administration/counselor)
- Classroom incentives

Panther Store

At the discretion of teachers/staff and following student instruction in CLAW values (Be Responsible, Be Respectful, Be a Problem Solver), students will earn Panther Bucks if they exhibit behavior embodying CLAW values. With Panther Bucks, students can purchase:

- Front of the line pass
- Pass to upcoming dance
- Pass to upcoming staff v. students game (basketball, volleyball, etc.)
- School supplies
- Candy, chips, snacks
- Panther swag
- Raffle for Pizza with the Principal, Kings tickets, etc.

Campus Culture

- Positive Participation on the NMS campus, including virtually.

Behavior Achievement

For certain events and activities, there will be no go list compiled based on the criteria listed below. The list will not be arbitrary. Unless you student

- No Suspensions after Tuesday, January 5, 2027
- Maximum Number (3) of classroom referrals/detentions, including virtually.
- Natomas Middle School Students are expected to follow the CLAW to participate in the promotion ceremony.

Positive Attendance

Attendance is one of the greatest indicators of student achievement. Making sure your student is at school on time every day and attends classes every day, maximizes their ability and opportunity to connect with the school, teachers and gain the skills needed to move into their future successfully.

Students are expected to:

- Maintain above 90% positive attendance or better..
- Have minimal tardies.
- Attend all classes on time.

Parents are expected to:

- Call to inform the school of absences.
- Sign up for independent study if their child will be absent for more than 5 consecutive days.
- Attend SART or SARB meetings if there are excessive absences or tardies.

Parents with questions and/or concerns about eligibility are urged to contact the NMS Administration/Counseling department, or Athletic Director.

Section 3: Student Expectations and Supports

Yondr Bags

To support a focused, safe, and engaging learning environment, Natomas Middle School uses the Yondr program to enforce our cell phone policy. Upon arrival each day, students must place their phone in a secure, school-issued Yondr pouch, which remains in their possession but locked until the end of the school day. This program is a tool to help students disconnect from their phones during instructional time while maintaining control of their property.

Why Yondr?

Research and real-world use have shown that restricting cell phone use during the school day improves:

- Focus and academic performance
- Student safety and well-being
- Social interaction and communication skills
- Responsibility and time management

Violation Policy:

- 1st Violation: Phone confiscated; returned to a parent/guardian; documented.
- 2nd Violation: Phone confiscated; consequence assigned; parent pick-up; documented.
- 3rd Violation: Phone confiscated; parent meeting; daily phone check-in may be required.
- 4th Violation: Phone must be checked into the office daily.

Damaged or Lost Yondr Pouch: Students are responsible for the care of their Yondr pouch. Lost or damaged pouches may result in disciplinary consequences and/or a \$30 replacement fee.

Students who need to contact home may use the office phone. Parents may reach students by calling the front office at (916) 567-5540. For full program details, please visit [NMS Yondr Policy](#).

Dress Code

Weekly Dress Code: Students need to dress appropriately for school. At Natomas Middle School, it is essential to learn and model etiquette and appropriate attire in preparation for the outside working environment. Clothing and hairdo is individual and personal; however, at Natomas Middle School a concern arises when styles are extreme, detract from or disrupt learning, or contribute to unsafe conditions. The dress and grooming code has been adopted to maintain the focus on educational excellence and safety, in accordance with NUSD Board Policy 5132, Administrative Regulation 5132.

- Closed toed shoes are recommended for safety reasons. Athletic shoes must be worn for PE.

Site administration has discretion at any time to revise the Dress Code policy to ensure the safety and security of the school academic environment.

- No pajamas or other sleepwear. No blankets. Students must not bring stuffed animals to school.

Due to the frequency of changing styles in clothing, *NMS reserves the right to adjust the dress code as needed*. The dress code will be reviewed periodically by staff, parents, students and the School Site Council. Exceptions to the above may be made by the Principal for special days or special events. Questions regarding the dress code due to medical or religious reasons should be directed to the assistant principal.

****Site administration has discretion at any time to revise the dress code policy to ensure the safety and security of the school academic environment.**

Spirit Day Dress Code: Spirit Day Dress code is driven by a theme that is selected by each year's Leadership class. That theme, and guidelines will be announced in the weeks before Spirit Weeks.

Lost and Found

Students should carry all belongings in their backpacks and never leave items unattended. Be sure to put your name and room assignment in all books issued. NMS has a lost and found bin in the main office. Items from the bin will be purged each semester and donated. Be sure to list your textbook barcode number on your textbook record sheet. It is also a good idea to put your name in jackets and sweaters. If you lose something, look for it immediately. See a P.E. teacher in YOUR locker room immediately when you believe you have lost something in the P.E. area or locker room.

Here are a few tips:

- Check the room/area where you last had the item and ask a teacher for help.
- Check the lost and found items in the Multipurpose Room and the main office.
- Check the library for lost books.

Student Supports and Resources (Differentiated Layers of Support)

Multi-Tiered Student Support (MTSS)

The NMS MTSS Multi-Tier Team will be asked to intervene for those students who continue to exhibit inappropriate behaviors and who are unable to follow school wide expectations and rules. Natomas Middle School follows the Natomas Unified School District Student Code of Conduct. Please refer to this handbook and/or the NUSD Student Code of Conduct to review the Discipline Matrix, that describes the range of consequences for violating California Education Codes pertaining to student conduct.

Safe and Welcoming Learning Environment

The Governing Board is committed to providing equal opportunity for all individuals in district programs and activities. District programs, activities, and practices shall be free from unlawful discrimination, including discrimination against an individual or group based on race, color, ancestry, nationality, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, ethnicity, age,

religion, marital status, pregnancy , parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, or genetic information; a perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

All individuals shall be treated equitably in the receipt of district and school services. Personally identifiable information collected in the implementation of any district program, including, but not limited to, student and family information for the free and reduced-price lunch program, transportation, or any other educational program, shall be used only for the purposes of the program, except when the Superintendent or designee authorizes its use for another purpose in accordance with law. Resources and data collected by the district shall not be used, directly or by others, to compile a list, registry, or database of individuals based on race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, ethnicity, national origin, or immigration status or any other category identified above.

Student Council

NMS Student government is an active group, which is composed of three student body officers: President, Vice President, and Secretary. The student body elects the officers. The Student Body Officers help to plan and carry out many student activities at NMS. The Student Government members play an active leadership role and help to set examples. Associated Student Body Officers and class officers must maintain a 2.5 grade point average, exhibit Panther PRIDE, and meet all other eligibility requirements.

Student Recognition

Academic Awards

Natomas Middle will have school wide celebrations, along with quarter awards and recognition. Our aim is to celebrate good behavior and academics, allowing students to share their successes with their peers and families.

Each quarter students will be academically recognized in the areas listed in the chart below. An academic award ceremony will be scheduled to present students with their certification of accomplishment.

Quarterly Academic Achievement Awards

GPA 3.0-3.49 Blue	GPA 3.5-3.99 Gold	GPA 4.0 Principal's Honor Roll	Raise GPA by .5 from the previous QTR Academic Improvement
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Attendance Awards

At year end, students with positive attendance will be recognized in the following areas:

- Perfect Attendance- no tardies, early or late arrivals, dismissals, absences (excused or unexcused)

CLAW Awards

NMS staff is committed to recognizing appropriate behavior inside and outside of the classroom. Each quarter all teachers will recognize students who have demonstrated the CLAW.

NUSD Behavior/Discipline Protocols and Guidelines

The NUSD Behavior/Discipline Protocols and Guidelines describes the range of consequences for violating California Education Codes pertaining to student conduct. The range of consequences include, interventions, suspension (other other means of correction if applicable), expulsions, and/or arrest by law enforcement. Please click on the link below to see the updated [NUSD Behavior/Discipline Protocols and Guidelines](#).

Applicable Board Policies and Administrative Regulations

The District's nondiscrimination policy, sexual harassment policy, and Title IX grievance procedures can be located at <https://www.natomasunified.org/title-ix>

Reporting Conduct/Filing a Complaint

All individuals are encouraged to report conduct that may constitute sex discrimination, including but not limited to sex-based harassment.

All employees, except for designated confidential employees, are *required* to report conduct that may constitute sex discrimination, including but not limited to sex-based harassment, within one day of learning of the same.

To report information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination or make a complaint of sex discrimination under Title IX, please contact the District's Title IX Coordinator.

Additional Resources

Additional resources may be found at:

- California Department of Education ("CDE"):
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/eo/genequitytitleix.asp>
- California Civil Rights Department ("CRD"): [CRD | Civil Rights Department \(ca.gov\)](#)
- U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC"):
<https://www.eeoc.gov/sex-based-discrimination>;
<https://www.eeoc.gov/sexual-harassment>
- United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights:
<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html>
- United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights Complaint:
<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/complaintintro.html>
- United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights Contact Information:
1-800-421-3481 or ocr@ed.gov

Student Photo Identification Cards

Students must provide their Student ID card to enter after school events, including dances. Student ID cards are also used to check out sports equipment during lunch breaks.

Section 5: Student and Family Acknowledgement Form



Natomas Middle School Student and Family Handbook Received Acknowledgement Form

This document is available on our school website, and we will always have additional copies in the front office as well. To save printing costs, we will not be printing the document for every student, but we ask that you **sign and return this Natomas Middle School Student and Family Handbook Received Acknowledgement Form** after your family has had a chance to review and discuss the information. Students will be held accountable for the expectations outlined in this handbook. Therefore, teachers will also review the handbook during the first 3 days of school and again in January 2026. However, to ensure clear communication, it is important that the family also review the handbook with your student.

My student and I have reviewed the 2026-2027 Natomas Middle School Student and Family Handbook, and we understand and agree to follow the Policies and Procedures established by the school.

Student Name (Print) _____ Grade: _____

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print) _____ Relationship: _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____



Natomas Middle School School-Parent Compact

Natomas Middle School receives funding under Title 1, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Act (ESEA) and must develop a written school-parent compact jointly with parents for all children participating in Title 1, Part A activities, services and programs. The compact is part of the school's written parental involvement policy developed by the school and parents under section 1118(b) of the ESEA. This compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help the students achieve the State's high academic standards.

As a Parent I will...

- Attend personalized learning conferences (Parent Teacher Conferences) for my child and then carry out my part of the plan with my child at home. Specific academic strategies will be discussed at the personalized learning conference.
- Read the materials my child brings home and return all requested correspondence.
- Send my child to school regularly and on time.
- Expect my child to follow school rules and support the school's efforts to ensure a safe learning environment.
- Provide a safe and supportive environment for the student to grow and develop.
- Discuss report cards, behavior reports, and other assessments of performance or achievement with my child.
- Attend quarterly school functions to show support and commitment of my child's education.
- Become actively involved in the school through volunteering in my child's classroom, PTA, and attending parenting workshops and family night activities.

As a Student I will...

- Always do my best in my work and in my behavior.
- Attend school regularly and arrive on time.
- Bring needed materials to class and complete assignments on time.
- Assist in keeping my school safe and clean.
- Respect the personal rights and property of others.
- Demonstrate life skills by being safe, being kind and being productive in all areas of my academics and school, that is the CLAW.
- Make sure to give important papers/documents to my parents and return items to my teacher that require parental signatures.

As a Teacher I will...

- Know the content standards that students must master in my class for on-grade level performance.
- Use instructional models and teaching strategies to meet the needs of all learners in my class.
- Assess student achievement regularly and communicate progress of areas of concern to students and parents through frequent progress reports, interim reports and report cards.
- Parents will have access to me before school, during my planning time, after school, by telephone, or email.
- Provide a print-rich environment in my classroom.
- Create conditions for learning in my class and establish procedures for effective classroom management. Help each child grow to his or her potential.
- Show respect, care, and concern for each student.
- Demonstrate professionalism in all areas of my work.
- Take an active role in communicating with parents and engaging them in their child's learning.
- Enforce class and school rules fairly and consistently.
- Encourage parents to attend quarterly activities at the school with their children.
- I will provide classroom activities that engage parents in student learning both during and after school hours.

As a Principal I will...

- Provide staff with the proper tools needed to help move children in their academic development and success to be college and career ready..
- Provide staff development and training for all staff members in academics, discipline and parental involvement.
- Be an active presence in classrooms.
- Monitor students' progress reports, interim reports, and report cards.
- Make sure parents have reasonable access to the administrative team as well as all staff members.
- Encourage and provide parents with quarterly activities at the school to participate in with their children.
- Encourage community involvement within the school and foster networks with local businesses to help enrich the school environment.

Teacher's Signature:

Principal's Signature:

Parent/Guardian's Signature:

Student's Signature:
