

NUSD Handbook

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NATOMAS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Noel Mora, Area 1
Ericka Harden, Area 2
Micah Grant, Area 3
Scott Dosick, Area 4
Sumiti Mehta, Area 5

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.

Safe Haven

We want all NUSD students to know they are safe and welcome, so the Board of Trustees has declared the district a safe haven committed to acting within legal bounds to protect students and families threatened by hate crimes or deportation based on immigration status.

Passed unanimously on February 8, 2017, the resolution is consistent with existing Board-approved commitments that all students have a right to attend public schools and receive equal access to educational programs, diversity is a strength, parent participation is encouraged, and that a key District goal is to create safe and welcoming learning environments.

Our resolution calls for NUSD to act within legal bounds to prevent and mitigate the collection of information about immigration status, the disclosure of such information, and to support students if immigration enforcement authorities seek to visit a school to interrogate or take a child into custody.

On February 19, 2025, the Board reaffirmed their commitment to the Safe Haven Resolution with a revised version. That resolution can be viewed [here](#). This Safe Haven resolution is consistent with our Core Values.

NUSD is one of the most diverse school districts in the United States with more than 85 countries represented among our student population.

Every NUSD student is a valuable part of our district family, and providing 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 is NUSD's mission, regardless of immigration status.

For Additional information, please visit the district website at [Safe Haven District](#)

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						
August							February						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1		1	2	3	4	5	6
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28						
30	31												
September							March						
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
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
27	28	29	30				28	29	30	31			
October							April						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3					1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31			27	28	29	30			

Attendance Information

Importance of Positive Attendance

Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success starting in kindergarten and continuing through high school. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school safely every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and on the job.

Students who have habitual attendance issues (unexcused or unverified absences) may experience a negative impact on their grades as well as limited access to traditional school activities such as dances, sports, drama performances, field trips, etc.

Parents are highly encouraged to check their student's attendance status online via Infinite Campus and support their students arriving at school on time each day. For inquiries regarding Infinite Campus, or if an Infinite Campus password is needed, please feel free to contact the main office.

Facts about Attendance

- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.
- Absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other potentially serious difficulty.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, regular attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.
- Missing 10 percent, or about 18 days, of the school year can drastically affect a student's academic success.
- Students can be chronically absent even if they only miss a day or two every few weeks. Attendance is an important life skill that will help your child graduate from college and keep a job.

Excused Absences

The Education Code lists the following as the only legal excuses for absences from school:

1. Personal illness (Education Code 48205)
2. Quarantine under the direction of a county or city health officer (Education Code 48205)
3. Medical, dental, optometrical, or chiropractic appointments (Education Code 48205)
4. For the purpose of attending the funeral services or grieving the death of either a member of the pupil's immediate family, or of a person that is determined by the pupil's parent or guardian to be in such close association with the pupil as to be considered the pupil's immediate family, so long as the absence is not more than five days per incident (Education Code 48205).

5. Jury duty in the manner provided by law (Education Code 48205)
6. The illness or medical appointment during school hours of a child to whom the student is the custodial parent. (Education Code 48205)(cf. 5146 - Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students)
7. Upon advance written request by the parent/guardian and the approval of the principal or designee, justifiable personal reasons including but not limited to: (Education Code 48205)
 - a. Appearance in court
 - b. Attendance at a funeral service
 - c. Observation of a holiday or ceremony of his/her religion
 - d. Attendance at religious retreats for no more than four hours per semester
 - e. Attendance at an employment conference
 - f. Attendance at an educational conference on the legislative or judicial process offered by a nonprofit organization (cf. 6142.3 - Civic Education)
8. Service as a member of a precinct board for an election pursuant to Election Code 12302 (Education Code 48205)
9. To spend time with an immediate family member who is an active duty member of the uniformed services, as defined in Education Code 49701, and has been called to duty for deployment to a combat zone or a combat support position or is on leave from or has immediately returned from such deployment (Education Code 48205). Such absence shall be granted for a period of time to be determined at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee. (Education Code 48205) (cf. 6173.2 - Education of Children of Military Families)
10. Attendance at a naturalization ceremony to become a United States citizen. (Education Code 48205)
11. Participation in religious exercises or to receive moral and religious instruction at the student's place of worship or other suitable place away from school (Education Code 46014) (cf. 6141.2 - Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs)
 - a. Absence for student participation in religious exercises or instruction shall not be considered an absence for the purpose of computing average daily attendance if the student attends at least the minimum school day as specified in AR 6112 - School Day, and is not excused from school for this purpose on more than four days per school month. (Education Code 46014) (cf. 6112 - School Day)
12. Work in the entertainment or allied industry (Education Code 48225.5)
 - a. Such absence shall be excused provided that the student holds a work permit authorizing such work and is absent for a period of not more than five consecutive days and up to five absences per school year. (Education Code 48225.5)
13. Participation with a nonprofit performing arts organization in a performance for a public school audience (Education Code 48225.5)
 - a. A student may be excused for up to five such absences per school year provided that the student's parent/guardian provides a written explanation of such absence to the school. (Education Code 48225.5)

14. Other reasons authorized at the discretion of the principal or designee based on the student's specific circumstances (Education Code 48205, 48260)

A pupil absent from school under this section shall be allowed to complete all assignments and tests missed during the absence that can be reasonably provided and, upon satisfactory completion within a reasonable period of time, shall be given full credit therefore. The teacher of the class from which a pupil is absent shall determine which tests and assignments shall be reasonably equivalent to, but not necessarily identical to, the tests and assignments that the pupil missed during the absence. A student shall not have his/her grade reduced or lose academic credit for any excused absence if missed assignments and tests that can reasonably be provided are satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time. (CA Ed. Code 48205)

Chronic Absence and Truancy - AR 5113.1

Chronic absentee means a student who is absent for any reason on 10 percent or more of the school days in the school year, when the total number of days the student is absent is divided by the total number of days the student is enrolled and school was actually taught in the regular schools of the district, exclusive of Saturdays and Sundays. (Education Code 60901)

Truant means a student who is absent from school without a valid excuse three full days in one school year, or tardy or absent for more than any 30-minute period during the school day without a valid excuse on three occasions in one school year, or any combination thereof. (Education Code 48260)

Parents of chronically truant students are asked to attend a Student Attendance Review Team (SART) meeting to address truancy. If truancy continues, students can be referred to the Student Attendance Review Board (SARB). Parents will receive notice when their child is identified as truant by mail after the student meets the threshold for truancy.

School Attendance Review Board (SARB) - BP 5113.12

The Governing Board recognizes that poor school attendance and behavior problems negatively impact student achievement and put students at greater risk of dropping out of school. The Superintendent or designee shall establish a comprehensive and integrated system for the early identification of attendance problems and shall implement strategies to encourage students' attendance. After other interventions have been exhausted, students with a pattern of unexcused absences may be referred to a school attendance review board (SARB), in accordance with applicable law, in order to receive intensive guidance and assistance.

School Attendance Review Board (SARB) reviews student attendance and disruptive behavior at the district level. Students may be referred to SARB for habitual truancy and/or irregular attendance:

- SARB may involve the district attorney or the county probation department in a student's case.
- SARB may transfer the student to another school or to an alternate education program

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:** Check out with the Health Office; the school will call home to obtain permission for the student to leave. The student will remain at school until a parent/guardian is contacted to take responsibility for the student. Students are not to call a parent to alert them of an illness before meeting with the Health Assistant. Please obtain a pass from your teacher to make this call from the Health Office. Students who leave campus without obtaining clearance as described above will receive a "cut" for each period missed.

Please help school staff keep all students safe and accounted for by following the check-out procedure. Students should not be called out of class by an adult via the student's cell phone. Students should always exit campus through the front office instead of through a gate to meet a parent. Students who exit campus without being properly checked out will receive a "cut" (unexcused absence) for each period missed.

Early Dismissals over the phone: Parent/Guardian must come into the Office and show valid ID to sign a student out of school. To ensure student safety, parents cannot call from the parking lot or from around the corner to dismiss their student and have them meet them outside. Students will not be dismissed to any parent/guardian without valid ID or not listed on our contact information for that student unless approved by Administration.

Early Dismissals during PE: Pulling a student from PE can take a significant amount of time. If a student needs to be checked out of school during their PE class they should come to the Front Office before going to PE and wait in the office for their parents to come in and check them out.

Independent Studies - Board Policy 6158

The Governing Board authorizes Independent Study as an optional alternative instructional strategy for eligible students, whose needs may be best met through study outside of the regular classroom setting. Independent Study shall offer a means of individualizing the educational plan to serve students who desire a more challenging educational experience, whose health or other personal circumstances make classroom attendance difficult, who are unable to access course(s) due to scheduling problems, and/or who need to make up credits or fill gaps in their learning. As necessary to meet student needs, independent study may be offered on a full-time basis or on a part-time basis in conjunction with part- or full-time classroom study. The minimum period of time for any independent study option shall be three consecutive school days.

For the current school year and thereafter, the Superintendent or designee may continue to offer and approve independent study for an individual student upon determining that the student is prepared to meet the district's requirements for independent study and is likely to succeed in independent study as well as or better than the student would in the regular classroom setting.

Because excessive leniency in the duration of independent study assignments may result in a student falling behind peers and increase the risk of dropping out of school, independent study assignments shall be completed no more than one week after assigned for all grade levels and types of programs. When necessary, based on the specific circumstances of the student's approved program, the Superintendent or designee may allow for a longer period of time between the date an assignment is made and when it is due. However, in no event shall the due date of an assignment be extended beyond the termination date specified in the student's written agreement.

An evaluation shall be conducted to determine whether it is in a student's best interest to remain in independent study whenever the student fails to make satisfactory educational progress and/or misses three assignments. Satisfactory educational progress shall be determined based on all of the following indicators: (Education Code 51747)

1. The student's achievement and engagement in the independent study program, as indicated by the student's performance on applicable student-level measures of student achievement and engagement specified in Education Code 52060
2. The completion of assignments, assessments, or other indicators that evidence that the student is working on assignments
3. Learning required concepts, as determined by the supervising teacher
4. Progress towards successful completion of the course of study or individual course, as determined by the supervising teacher

A Parent or Guardian may request short term Independent Study if a student is going to be out of school due to an emergency, vacation, illness, or family obligation. When requested by a parent/guardian, independent study may be used on a short-term basis to ensure that the student is able to maintain academic progress in their regular classes. When possible, parents should give the school 2 weeks notice prior to student absence, so that work may be gathered and the Independent Study Contract may be completed. In an emergency situation, parents need to notify the school prior to the absence, that they are requesting Independent Study for their student.

Students or Families are asked to meet with school site administration to discuss the options, commitments, and process for enrolling students in Independent studies.

Health and Wellness

To make sure your child is ready for school, California law, Education Code Section 49452.8, requires that your child have an oral health assessment (dental checkup) by May 31 in either kindergarten or first grade, whichever is his or her first year in public school. Assessments that have happened within the 12 months before your child enters school also meet this requirement. The law specifies that the assessment must be done by a licensed dentist or other registered dental health professional.

Health Services and Office Procedures

School districts are required to provide health services to students in regular education, special education and on a Section 504 plan. In addition, districts are required to conduct mandated screenings and take action when contagious diseases are identified. Natomas goes the extra mile- we provide regular childhood immunizations, conduct health fairs, and provide staff and parent training. Please refer to the NUSD website for additional [information and resources](#).

Medications

The law requires all parents/guardians to inform the school if their child is taking medication. Any medication to be taken while at school will be kept and dispensed through the nurse's office. A "[Medication Order for School-Parent Form](#)" form must be on file in the office. Both the parent/guardian AND a California-licensed health care provider MUST sign this form. If you have asthma, you may carry your inhaler if your physician provides a "[Medication Order for School - Physician Form](#)."

No medication of any kind, whether prescription or over-the-counter, is allowed to be brought by a child without written authorization from the parent/guardian AND a California-licensed health care provider. Pain relievers and all other over-the-counter medications will not be dispensed to students. The school is only equipped to treat minor injuries with ice and adhesive bandages. Parents/guardians will be called for more serious injuries. If parents cannot be contacted, the emergency contacts listed in Infinite Campus will be contacted.

Students are not allowed to possess any type of medication at school. Education Code 49423 states, "Notwithstanding the provisions of 49422, any pupil who is required to take, during the regular school day, medication prescribed for him/her by a physician may be assisted by a school nurse or other designated school personnel if the school district receives the following:

1. A written statement from physician detailing the method, amount, and time schedule by which medication is to be taken
2. A written statement from the parent/guardian of the pupil indicating the desire that the school district assist the pupil in the manner set forth in the physician's statement"

All medications are kept in a secure area in the health office and dispensed per the physician's instructions.

Home and Hospital - BP 6183

Students temporarily disabled by accident or by physical, mental or emotional illness may receive individual instruction at home or in a hospital or residential health facility within the district. When seeking instruction for a student at home or in a hospital located within the district, the parent/guardian shall present this request at the home school, together with a physician's written description of the disabling condition. The physician shall have determined that the student is unable to attend school and will not expose the home teacher to any contagious disease that can be transmitted by casual contact.

Immunizations - BP 5141.3

To protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases, the Board of Trustees shall cooperate with state and local public health agencies to encourage and facilitate immunization of all district students against preventable diseases. Each student enrolling for the first time in a district elementary or secondary school, preschool, or child care and development program or, after July 1, 2016, enrolling in or advancing to grade 7 shall present an immunization record from any authorized private or public health care provider certifying that he/she has received all required immunizations in accordance with law. Students shall be excluded from school or exempted from immunization requirements only as allowed by law. Please see [NUSD's website](#) for a list of immunizations required by the state.

Family Involvement on Campus

Visitor/Volunteers - BP/AR 1250

The Governing Board believes that it is important for parents/guardians and community members to take an active interest in the issues affecting district schools and students. Therefore, the Board encourages interested parents/guardians and community members to visit the schools and participate in the educational program.

To ensure the safety of students and staff and minimize interruption of the instructional program, the Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures which facilitate visits during regular school days. Visits during school hours should be arranged with the principal or designee 24 hours in advance. When a visit involves a conference with a teacher or the principal, an appointment should be scheduled during non-instructional time.

Any person who is not a student or staff member shall register immediately upon entering any school building or grounds when school is in session.

The principal or designee may provide a visible means of identification for all individuals who are not students or staff members while on school premises.

No electronic listening or recording device may be used by any person in a classroom without the teacher's and principal's permission. (Education Code 51512)

Volunteers are welcomed in our District and are valuable members of our learning community. A volunteer is defined as a non-paid individual who, with school District authorization, assists

students, schools, or educational programs. This individual may not always be under the direct supervision of District staff. The service can be on short-term, project specific or on-going basis. A volunteer is required to complete a Volunteer Application, Code of Conduct, take a tuberculosis (TB) test, and have a fingerprint/background check completed prior to rendering service. For complete information regarding becoming a Natomas Unified School District volunteer and to complete an [application](#), please visit the district website Parents Resource

The Board encourages all individuals to assist in maintaining a safe and secure school environment by behaving in an orderly manner while on school grounds and by utilizing the district's complaint processes if they have concerns with any district program or employee. In accordance with Penal Code 626.7, the principal or designee may request that any individual who is causing a disruption, including exhibiting volatile, hostile, aggressive, or offensive behavior, immediately leave school grounds.

Civility Policy - BP 1313

Natomas Unified School District is committed to ensuring a safe, orderly, and respectful environment at all District facilities and during all District events and meetings. This policy is intended to promote a positive environment where behavior and communication is based on mutual respect, civility, and orderly conduct among District employees, parents, and the public. This policy is not intended to deprive any person of their constitutionally protected freedoms. It is intended to ensure an orderly, civil, and harassment free place for students, employees, parents, and the public to participate in the District's programs and activities. The District encourages students, employees, parents, and the public to communicate in a positive, calm, respectful and productive manner and to avoid hostile, aggressive, and confrontational behavior. If a student, employee, parent, or member of the public believes that another person is violating this policy, they should report this concern to the school site principal or designee and if that does not resolve the issue then to the superintendent or the superintendent's designee.

If a parent/guardian or individual violates NUSD Board Policy 1313, Board Policy AR 1250, Board Policy 5020, Education Code section 44811 (enclosed) and/or Penal Code section 415.5, the site may issue one of the following based on the severity of the incident: A Civility Letter (clarify expectations and potential next steps), A Withdraw of Consent (14 days off campus or any District or school related event), or a No Trespass (permanently not allowed on campus or at any district or school related event).

Classroom Visitation

A parent or guardian has the right to observe instruction and other school activities that involve his or her child in accordance with procedures determined by the governing board of the school district to ensure the safety of pupils and school personnel and to prevent undue interference with instruction or harassment of school personnel. Reasonable accommodation of parents and guardians shall be considered by the governing board of the school district. Upon written request by the parent or guardian, school officials shall arrange for the parental observation of the requested class or classes or activities by that parent or guardian in a reasonable timeframe and in accordance with procedures determined by the governing board of the school district. [E.C. 49091.10(b)] In lieu of a written request by the parent or guardian, the principal, upon his or her discretion, may grant a classroom visit with a verbal request.

Use of E-Visitor

Parent/Guardians who are interested in visiting the classrooms must first report to the front office to obtain an E-visitors badge. At this time, you will be asked to present an ID and to sign in on the visitors sign in sheet. Our staff member will then take a picture of you and print a badge. Once you are done with the visit, parents/guardians are to come back to the office and sign out. The purpose of this badge is to make visitors to school sites and District offices easily identifiable, which will increase safety for all.

Path to Successful Communication

- Address the matter with the site staff member directly (teacher, coach, etc.) by scheduling an appointment 24 hours in advance whenever possible. This contact may be initiated by email, a phone call to the school, or a message thru Parent Square.
- If unresolved, please contact the school administrator(s)
- If unresolved, contact [Constituent and Customer Services \(CCS\)](#) for informal resolution at (916) 561-5253, or by email at customerservice@natomasunified.org.
- If issue remains unresolved, CCS will guide you through the next steps of the process

Student Deliveries

Due to the importance of instructional time, student deliveries will not be made during the school day. Deliveries of birthday or other celebration items (like balloons, flowers, etc.,) will not be delivered. If a student is found to have these items and is a distraction to the learning environment, the items may be confiscated by school personnel and held until the end of the school day.

Parent Square

NUSD uses ParentSquare for school communication. Staff can communicate with families by selecting any of the options: email, text, phone call, and app notifications. ParentSquare automatically generates an account for each parent, using their email address and phone number that is listed in Infinite Campus, our Student Information System. Even if parents do not download the ParentSquare app, they will still receive communication through email, text, or phone calls. We encourage parents to access their accounts via ParentSquare so that they can have access to all the features ParentSquare offers users.

Here's what parents/guardians can do with ParentSquare:

- Receive messages from the school via email, text, phone call or app notification
- Choose to receive information as it comes or all at once at 6pm daily
- Communicate in your preferred language
- Comment on school postings to engage in your school community
- Direct message teachers, staff and other parents
- Participate in group messages
- Sign up for parent-teacher conferences with smart online technology
- Send payments, sign forms & permission slips, receive report cards, sign up to volunteer and more all from your phone or web portal

Community Resources

- [School Site Digital Backpacks](#)
- [NUSD Community Resource Guide](#)
- [NUSD Communications and Family Engagement](#)
- [Child Action](#)
- [North Sacramento Family Resource Center and Birth and Beyond](#)
- [Sacramento Covered](#)
- [Planned Parenthood of Sacramento](#)
- [Sac County Dental Clinics](#)
- [Women's Health Specialists](#)
- [Community Services in Sacramento](#) (800) 500-4931
- [Sacramento Area Emergency Housing/Next Move](#)
- [Sacramento Employment and Training \(SETA\)](#)
- [24 hour Parent Support Line](#) (888) 281-3000
- [California Youth Crisis Line](#) (800) 843-5200
- [Child Protective Services](#) (916) 875-5437
- [La Familia Counseling Center](#)
- [Sacramento Crisis Nursery](#)
- [WEAVE \(Women Escaping a Violent Environment\)](#)
- [WIC](#)
- [Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services](#)

A complete list of community resources are available on our district website in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)

Section 3: Student Expectations and Supports

Academic Integrity - BP 5131.9

The Governing Board believes that personal integrity is basic to all solid achievement. Students will reach their full potential only by being honest with themselves and with others. NUSD expects students to respect the educational purpose underlying all school activities. All students need to prove to themselves that they can do successful work as a result of their own efforts. NUSD expects that students will not cheat, lie, or plagiarize. Each school shall provide an environment that encourages honesty. Students must know that their teachers will not ignore or condone cheating and that anyone discovered cheating will be penalized.

Academic Work

Absences and Late Work

According to Board Policy 5121(a), whenever a student misses an assignment due to either an excused or unexcused absence, he/she shall be given full credit for subsequent satisfactory completion of the assignment or assessment.

If a student misses class without an excuse and does not subsequently turn in homework, take a test or fulfill another class requirement which he/she missed, the teacher may lower the students grade for nonperformance.

Homework - BP 6154

The Governing Board recognizes that meaningful homework assignments can be a valuable extension of student learning time and assist students in developing good study habits. Homework shall be assigned when necessary to support classroom lessons, enable students to complete unfinished assignments, or review and apply academic content for better understanding. Homework assignments shall be reasonable in length and appropriate to the grade level and course. The Board expects that the number, frequency, and degree of difficulty of homework assignments will increase with the grade level and the maturity of students. Teachers shall assign homework only as necessary to fulfill academic goals and reinforce current instruction.

At the beginning of the school year, teachers shall communicate homework expectations to students and their parents/guardians. These communications shall include the manner in which homework relates to achievement of academic standards and course content, the impact of homework assignments on students' grades, any school resources and programs that are available to provide homework support, and ways in which parents/guardians may appropriately assist their children.

Parental Notice and Opt-Out Rights for Instructional Materials

In accordance with the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Mahmoud v. Taylor* (2025), Natomas Unified School District affirms its commitment to respecting the diversity of religious beliefs. The Court ruled that parents/guardians must be given advance notice and the opportunity to opt their child out of classroom instruction that may substantially interfere with their family's religious development, including lessons featuring LGBTQ-themed storybooks or content. As an initial step, each school is able to provide access to district-adopted primary and supplemental instructional materials for review.

The District will be providing information to teachers regarding when the notices about LGBTQ-themed storybooks or content are required and the process for sending notices to parents and guardians and how they can opt-out their child if desired. Teachers will ensure notices are sent home when appropriate. Please contact your school's administration with any additional questions or concerns.

Monitoring Student Progress

Students and parents can check academic progress at any time through Infinite Campus. The Infinite Campus Portal is a great resource for parents/guardians and students to monitor grades, attendance and progress toward graduation. Every parent and guardian can have an Infinite Campus Parent Portal account which will give you access to the Student Information System for all of your students in your household. With the Infinite Campus Parent Portal you can:

- Monitor Attendance
- View Grades

- View upcoming assignments
- Receive important information from your student's school

To access Infinite Campus Portal from your computer or mobile device go to the [NUSD Website](#) to learn how to:

- Sign Into the Infinite Campus Portal
- Download the Mobile App
- Change Contact members and preferences
- Update Phone Numbers
- View Student Information such as grades, attendance, and high school students four year plan

In need of support of setting up, accessing or troubleshooting the parent/guardian portal, please refer to the [click here](#) or contact contact the IC help desk at (916) 567-5819 or email icportal@natomasunified.org. To request a password reset, complete the form found in the Help Desk and Password Reset tab below.

Cell Phone Policy

In September 2024, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 3216, called the Phone-Free School Act. By July 1, 2026, all school districts must adopt a policy limiting or prohibiting the use of smartphones during the school day.

The Governing Board permits limited use of mobile communication devices on campus in accordance with law and the following policy. The term mobile communication device includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, smartwatches, headphones, Bluetooth devices, and other mobile communication devices used by students to communicate with others.

Students in TK-8 may not use or wear mobile communication devices once they have entered campus for the instructional day, including extended day learning programs. Devices must be turned off and placed out of sight until they leave campus for the day. Students who need to call a parent/guardian may use phones located in the administrative office.

For students in grades 9-12, mobile communication devices shall be turned off and stored during instructional time. Students may use mobile communication devices on campus during non-instructional time as long as the device is utilized in accordance with law and in accordance with BP/E 6163.4 Student Use of Technology.

Mobile communication devices shall be turned off during instructional time. However, a student shall not be prohibited from possessing or using a mobile communication device under any of the following circumstances: (Education Code 48901.5, 48901.7)

1. In the case of an emergency, or in response to a perceived threat of danger.
2. When a teacher, administrator, or other district employee grants permission to the student to possess or use a mobile communication device, subject to any reasonable limitation imposed by that teacher, administrator, or other district employee.

3. When a licensed physician or surgeon determines that the possession or use is necessary for the student's health and well-being.
4. When the possession or use is required by the student's individualized education program.

Class Assignments and Changes -BP 6152

Elementary

NUSD believes students should be assigned to classes and/or grouped in a manner that provides the most effective learning environment for all students. When assigning students to specific courses or classes, the principal or designee may consider several criteria as appropriate for the grade level and course.

Class change is not a common practice. If a parent requests a class change, several factors will be considered when reviewing a possible class change, and may require a parent meeting to discuss impact. Class changes require approval by an administrator.

Secondary

Classes are scheduled for students with their success in mind, taking into account graduation and A-G requirements, as well as student interest and need. Schedules may only be changed when there are missassignments or other extenuating circumstances, and requests must be made through the counseling office in the first five (5) instructional days of each semester. Several factors will be considered when reviewing a possible course change, and may require a parent meeting to discuss impact. Course changes require approval by an administrator.

Computer and Internet Policy - AR 6163.4

Parents and students should read and understand the provisions of the Natomas Unified School District Student Use of Technology Board Policy 6163.4 and the Administrative Regulation 6163.4, which states that: (1) Students shall use the district's system safely, responsibly and primarily for educational purposes and (2) Students shall not intentionally upload, download, or create computer viruses and/or maliciously attempt to harm or destroy district equipment or materials or manipulate the data of any other user, including so-called "hacking."

In addition, By using any District Technology or otherwise accessing the District Network, on District Network, on District premises, students understand and agree to abide by the provisions and conditions of this policy as well as with any and all District policies and rules which may relate to usage of District Technology and/or District Network. Students also understand that their use of the Internet and electronic communication via District Technology is strictly limited to educational purposes, that they are not guaranteed any rights to privacy with respect to use of the District Technology, including use of District-Owned Devices and the District Network, and that from time to time the District may monitor the District Network for general security purposes and in order to ensure compliance with Board Policy, Administrative Regulation and this Agreement.

Also, the District makes no warranties of any kind, either express or implied, that the functions or the services provided by or through District Technology will be error-free or without defect. The District will not be responsible for any damage or harm users may suffer, including but not limited to, loss of data, interruptions of service, or exposure to harmful or inappropriate material or people. The District is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained through the District Network.

Families can read the entire District Student Use of Technology Board Policy 6163.4 and the Administrative Regulation 6163.4 by visiting our [district website](#).

Dress Code

Please see Board Policy 5132 Dress and Grooming, and AR 5132(a) for more information regarding Dress Code.

Field Trips

NUSD recognizes that field trips supplement and enrich the classroom learning experience, lead to increased student achievement, and foster student engagement. NUSD encourages field trips to reinforce and increase learning opportunities and to enhance district programs.

No student shall be prohibited from participating in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities related to the educational program because of inability to pay fees associated with the activity. (BP 6145(a), CR Title 5, §350)

No student shall be prevented from making a trip because of a lack of sufficient funds. No trip shall be authorized if any student would be excluded from participation because of lack of funds. (BP 6153(b), EC §35330)

School Safety Preparedness

The safety of our students, faculty and community is of critical importance and with the guidance of required and recommended actions in California Education Code sections 32280-32289.5, each Natomas Unified school site is responsible for the development and implementation of a Comprehensive School Safety Plan (CSSP).

Upon completion, each CSSP is reviewed by the School Site Council (SSC), Safety & Safe Schools Department, Superintendent (or Designee), Sacramento Police Department and Sacramento Fire Department. In accordance with California Education Code 32286, each CSSP will be reviewed and adopted by March 1.

A key area of ongoing safety preparedness, is the training and implementing of the following drills are practiced on each school site throughout the school year:

Shelter-in-place

A shelter-in-place will be used to protect school occupants from external threats that can be human-made, environmental, chemical or any other situations deemed a potential threat occurring

outside of the school building or in the surrounding neighborhood. **Examples of when a school might call for a shelter-in-place:**

- Unwelcome individual that does not pose a bodily threat
- Chemical spill
- Fallen power line
- Loose animals on campus
- Police activity in the surrounding area

Lockdown

A Lockdown will be used when a threat to safety exists inside or outside the building. Movement will be prohibited within the school. **Examples of when a school might call for a lockdown:**

- An intruder in the building or on school grounds deemed to be of significant threat
- Community disturbance near the school
- Request by law enforcement agency

Evacuation

An Evacuation is used to move students and staff out range to avoid a potentially threatening situation that involves the area, classroom or building. Evacuation of the building may be issued by a school administrator or first responders. **Examples of when a school might call for an**

Evacuation:

- Fire to one or more areas/buildings
- Gas leak
- Structure Issue
- Threat to the inside of the buildings

Other School-Wide Emergencies: Comprehensive School Safety Plans allows for multiple response options depending on the nature of the emergency; based on situational awareness, staff may determine the best option or response.

Earthquake/Drop-Cover-Hold

During designated dates and times, sites will review earthquake safety procedures with students, which includes preparing for an earthquake, identifying safe spots in every room to seek shelter, such as under a desk or table and learning how to protect yourself from an earthquake regardless of where you are when it strikes. Then, in their current location students and staff will practice “Drop, Cover and Hold On” for a duration of approximately 60 seconds.

Student/Parent Reunification

Circumstances may occur at the school that require parents to pick up their students in a formalized, controlled release. This process is called a Reunification and may be necessary due to weather, a power outage, hazmat or if a crisis occurs at the school.

- **Notification:** Parents may be notified in a number of ways. The school or district may use its broadcast phone or text message system through Parent Square. In some cases, students may be asked to send a text message to their parents. A reunification text message from a

student may look something like this: *“The school has closed, please pick me up at 3:25 at the main entrance. Bring your ID.”*

- **Parent/Guardian Expectations:** If a parent or guardian is notified that a reunification is needed, there are some expectations that parents or guardians should be aware of.
 - **Bring identification** - That will streamline things during reunification
 - **Be patient** - Reunification is a process that protects both the safety of the student and provides for an accountable change of custody from the school to a recognized custodial parent or guardian.
- **For students:** Students may be asked to be orderly and quiet while waiting. Students may be asked to text a message to their parents or guardians and asked not to message anyone else in or out of the school or reunification area. Keeping the cellular network usage at a minimum may be important during a reunification

NUSD Outdoor Environmental Guidelines

provides direction to staff regarding the ozone pollution forecast and wildfire smoke advisories in the Sacramento region during the warmer months and fire season to ensure students and staff are being safe when partaking in outdoor activities, which may include changes to the school bell schedule and location of activities. Communication will be provided to fam

Student Athletic/Activity Eligibility

Each year the Natomas Unified School District **requires** that each student (4th-12th grade) register online at [Home Campus](#) **prior** to being eligible to try out or participate in a school-sponsored sports program. Part of the registration is a physical form that needs to be completed/signed by a physician. The online registration is only completed once per year and is due by the deadline of the first sport your child plays. Below you will find the Physical Form for the 2026-27 school year and the Handbooks (which are also available on Home Campus).

[Physical Form](#)

[Physical Form](#) (Spanish)

[K-5 Handbook](#)

[K-5 Handbook](#) (Spanish)

[6-12 Handbook](#)

[6-12 Handbook](#) (Spanish)

[Voluntary Accident Insurance](#)

Athletics

Home Campus will be used for **all school** athletic forms/clearances, transfers, and CIF information. This is an online registration and clearance site. All 4th - 12th grade athletes playing a sport in NUSD must create an account at www.athleticclearance.com. Each parent/guardian must fill out

all information, sign, and complete all required reading/forms. A physical form will need to be uploaded. Athletes will be cleared following completion by the Athletic Director.

Textbooks - BP 6161.2

The Board of Trustees recognizes that instructional materials are an expensive resource and that each student is entitled to sufficient instructional materials in accordance with law. The Superintendent or designee may establish procedures in accordance with law to protect instructional material from damage or loss. Instructional materials provided for use by students remain the property of the district. Students are responsible for returning borrowed materials in good condition, with no more wear and tear than usually results from normal use.

When materials are lost or so damaged that they are no longer usable, the student shall be immediately issued a replacement material. However, students or parents/guardians shall be responsible for reparation equal to the current replacement cost of the materials. When materials are damaged but still usable, the Superintendent or designee shall determine an appropriate charge.

If it can be demonstrated to the Superintendent or designee's satisfaction that the student has taken all reasonable precautions to safeguard instructional materials issued to him/her, the Superintendent or designee may excuse the student or parent/guardian from payment of reparation.

If reparation is not excused and not paid by the student or parent/guardian, the district may withhold the student's grades, diploma and transcripts in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

Section 4: Student Safety and Behavior/Discipline Policies, Protocols and Guidelines

Behavior/Discipline Policies

Maintaining a safe and orderly campus is a necessary component to student learning. There are occasions when students break school rules and behavior expectations. These types of behaviors will be addressed with the following progressive steps and interventions. Serious infractions may result in an advanced progression through steps based upon severity and previous behaviors.

Bullying - BP 5131.2

To the extent possible, district and school strategies shall focus on prevention of bullying by establishing clear rules for student conduct and strategies to establish a positive, collaborative school climate. Students shall be informed, through student handbooks and other appropriate means, of district and school rules related to bullying, mechanisms available for reporting incidents or threats, and the consequences for perpetrators of bullying.

Students are encouraged to notify school staff when they are being bullied or suspect that another student is being victimized. Students and families can find preventative resources and can report

threats or incidents confidentially and anonymously by visiting the Bullying Prevention and Resources webpage:

- [Bullying Prevention and Resources](#)
- [Report Bullying](#)

Controlled/Illegal/Imitation Substances (Possession/Use/Intent to Sell)

Possession of Controlled/Illegal/Imitation Substance with Intent To Sell

Students who arrange the sale/distribution of alcohol or drugs will receive a five (5) day out of school suspension and shall be recommended for expulsion (Education Code 48915).

Possession/Use of Controlled/Illegal/Imitation Substance

Students in possession and/or under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be subject to the following actions:

- The drug(s)/alcohol will be confiscated.
- Students will be removed from class or school activity.
- Parents/guardians will be asked to come to the school.
- Law enforcement officials will be contacted and facts reported.
- Home suspension and possible recommendation for expulsion.

Possession/Use of Tobacco Products

The term “tobacco products” includes, but is not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipes, chewing tobacco, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, “Swishers” and snuff. Possession and/or use of tobacco products by students are prohibited by State Law (Education Code 48900) and a violation of Natomas Unified School District policy. Students in possession and/or use of tobacco products can be subject to disciplinary actions, including, but not limited to suspension.

Title IX (Prohibition of Sex Discrimination)

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (“Title IX”), implemented at 34 C.F.R. § 106 *et seq.*, provides that no person shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic, extracurricular, research, occupational training, or other education program or activity operated by an entity, including a K-12 school district, that receives federal financial assistance. Sex discrimination includes discrimination based on sex stereotypes; sex characteristics; pregnancy or related conditions; parental, family or marital status; and sexual orientation. (34 C.F.R. §§ 106.10; 106.20.)

In compliance with Title IX, the Natomas Unified School District (“District”) prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates, including but not limited to student programs and/or activities and employment.

Inquiries about Title IX may be referred to the District’s Title IX Coordinator, the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights, or both.

Title IX Coordinator

The following is the contact information for the District’s Title IX Coordinator(s):

Shannon Henry - Student-Related
Director of Safety and Safe Schools
1901 Arena Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95834



(916)567-5501

Sarah Laws - Employee-Related
Coordinator III - Human Resources
1901 Arena Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95834



(916)561-5211

Laura Westlake - Employee-Related
Coordinator III Human Resource
1901 Arena Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95834



(916)567-5720

Harassment

The Board of Trustees is committed to maintaining an educational environment that is free from harassment.

Sexual Harassment- BP 5145.7

The Governing Board is committed to maintaining a safe school environment that is free from harassment and discrimination. The Board prohibits, at school or at school-sponsored or school-related activities, sexual harassment targeted at any student by anyone. The Board also prohibits retaliatory behavior or action against any person who reports, files a complaint, testifies about, or otherwise participates in district complaint processes. The district strongly encourages any student who feels that he/she is being or has been sexually harassed on school grounds or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity by another student or an adult who has experienced

off-campus sexual harassment that has a continuing effect on campus to immediately contact his/her teacher, the principal, or any other available school employee.

Types of conduct which are prohibited in the district and may constitute sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:

1. Unwelcome leering, sexual flirtations or propositions
2. Sexual slurs, epithets, threats, verbal abuse, derogatory comments or sexually degrading descriptions.
3. Graphic verbal comments about an individual's body, or overly personal conversation.
4. Sexual jokes, notes, stories, drawings, pictures or gestures.
5. Spreading sexual rumors.
6. Teasing or sexual remarks about students enrolled in a predominantly single-gender class.
7. Massaging, grabbing, fondling, stroking or brushing the body.
8. Touching an individual's body or clothes in a sexual way.
9. Purposefully cornering or blocking normal movements.
10. Displaying sexually suggestive objects.

Nondiscrimination- BP 5145.3

The Governing Board desires to provide a safe school environment that allows all students equal access and opportunities in the district's academic, extracurricular and other educational support programs, services, and activities. The Board prohibits, at any district school or school activity, unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying targeted at any student by anyone based on the student's actual race, color, ancestry, national origin, nationality, ethnicity, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or gender expression; the 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.

Language Policy

Appropriate language for a professional educational environment should be used at all times while on campus. Use of vulgar or profane language is a violation of Educational Code 48900(i) and is a suspendable offense.

Mutual Combat (Fighting)

Mutual combat—students striking, pushing, or shoving each other—will not be tolerated. Under the Education Code and Penal Code, once a student decides to strike another student even if the other student started it or struck first it is considered Mutual Combat and not Self-Defense.

Self-Defense

A student who engages in self-defense is one who has tried EVERYTHING in his/her power to remove himself/herself from a situation that may result in physical blows. This includes refusing to engage in verbal threats or confrontations, walking away from the situation, seeking assistance from school personnel, and not striking back due to being hit by another person (grabbing, holding, or restraining one to prevent them from striking is self-defense). Students who are intimidated or harassed by another student should report the problem to a teacher or administrator. Teachers must report these incidents to an administrator immediately.

Consequences for Mutual Combat (Fighting)

Students who engage in mutual combat (fighting) may be immediately suspended from school in accordance with California Education Code and Board Policy. Students who engage in mutual combat may be required to participate in restorative activities, such as mediation, detention, No Contact Contracts, and/or Project Save. Mutual combat may be reported to the Sacramento Police Department because these acts constitute a violation of California Penal Code. Students who engage in mutual combat multiple times in one school year may be recommended for expulsion as a continuing danger where other forms of intervention have not been successful.

Instigating Mutual Combat (Fighting)

Students who instigate fights but are not actively involved (that is, students who carry rumors, put others up to fighting, carry information back and forth between other individuals who subsequently fight, watch or run to a fight, record and/or encourage a fight) submit themselves to the same penalties as those who are involved in the fight. Students who encourage Mutual Combat (fighting) by gathering around, recording, joining in the fight, yelling encouragement, and/or hindering and disregarding school officials, can be subject to disciplinary actions, including, but not limited to suspension.

Prohibited Items

Items that are not allowed on the campus or school sanctioned events include, but are not limited to:

- Aerosol Sprays
- Dangerous Objects such as knives, explosives, firearms, imitation firearms, pellet guns, airsoft guns, brass knuckles, or any other item considered a weapon.
- Gambling Devices
- Lighters
- Laser devices (*Penal Code 417.27*)
- Tobacco and Tobacco Products
- Vaping Devices & Products
- Controlled/Illegal/Imitation substances
- Alcohol
- Items related to violence, gangs, or deemed discriminatory or offensive
- External Speakers
- Items that make loud or excessive noise (air horns)
- Items of no reasonable use to the student at school
 - Firecrackers
 - Stink bombs
 - Screwdrivers
 - Water guns
 - Water balloons

Public Displays of Affection (PDA)

NUSD is focused upon creating a positive learning environment. Behavior expectations should mirror business-professional standards, and inappropriate displays of public affection are to be avoided.

School Property

Students are expected to take care of school property, including books, paper, supplies and other necessary materials used to enhance learning. Students must pay for damaged or lost items.

Parents/guardians have a responsibility to the community for damages caused by their children to school property during or after school. The California Education Code 48909 states that any student who willfully cuts, defaces or otherwise injures in any way property belonging to the school district is liable may be subject to disciplinary actions, including, but not limited to suspension or expulsion. Parents or guardians shall be liable for all damages so caused by the student. The parent or guardian of a student shall be liable to a school district for all property belonging to the school district loaned to the student and not returned on demand.

School Responsibility for Students To and From School

According to the California Education Code 44808, no school district, city or county board of education, county superintendent of schools, or any officer or employee of such district or board shall be responsible or in any way liable for the conduct or safety of any student of the public schools at any time when such student is not on school property, unless such district, board or person has undertaken to provide transportation for such student to and from the school premises or in a school-sponsored activity.

Bikes/Skateboards

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

NUSD is a closed campus district. Students are not permitted to leave campus without proper authorization.

Buses/Transportation

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

Student Safety/Safe Routes

NUSD 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.

Aerosol Sprays/Perfumes

Students are not allowed to possess any aerosol spray/perfume containers on campus or at school sponsored events.

- Hair sprays, computer duster sprays, deodorant sprays are potential inhalants, which can and have been used by students to affect the central nervous system as a stimulant, depressant or hallucinogen. Various inhalants produce different effects. The possession of these products, for this purpose, or the use of these products in that manner is in violation of State Penal Code sec. 381.
- The propellants in aerosol containers cause the mist to project into a room and linger long enough to set off the smoke detectors. Students have been doing this at great expense to the educational process and local fire protection agencies. Deodorants, hair fixative, etc. can be obtained in other forms: pump, roll on, etc. which are not aerosols and do not propel the contents in a fashion as described above.

Baked Goods

Baked goods, such as cakes, cupcakes, brownies, etc. are NOT allowed on campus and will be confiscated. Baked goods, for the use of celebrations, must be approved by administration and provided directly to the class by the teacher.

Selling/Buying Personal Property

Students may not arrange the buying and selling of any personal property, including food, on a school campus. Students found doing this will be subject to appropriate consequences and the items and money involved being confiscated by administration and returned to parents once determined the items involved are not illegal or stolen.

Student Search and Seizure - BP 5145.12

The Board of Trustees is fully committed to promoting a safe learning environment and, to the extent possible, eliminating the possession and use of weapons, illegal drugs, and other controlled substances by students on school premises and at school activities. As necessary to protect the health and welfare of students and staff, school officials may search students, their property, and/or district property under their control and may seize illegal, unsafe, or otherwise prohibited items.

School officials may search individual students, his/her property, or district property under his/her control when there is a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover evidence that he/she is violating the law, Board policy, administrative regulation, or other rules of the district or the school. Reasonable suspicion shall be based on specific and objective facts that the search will produce evidence related to the alleged violation. The types of student property that may be searched by school officials include, but are not limited to, lockers, desks, purses, backpacks, student vehicles parked on district property, cellular phones, or other electronic communication devices. Please note reasonable suspicion is not the same as Law Enforcements probable cause.

Use of Contraband Detection Dogs

In an effort to keep the schools free of dangerous contraband, the district may use specially trained nonaggressive dogs to sniff out and alert staff to the presence of substances prohibited by law or Board policy

Behavior/Discipline Protocols

Suspension - BP 5144.1

Student discipline, suspension, or recommendation for expulsion from school shall be determined by the site principal, the superintendent, or a designee if the student has violated the Education Code.

A student may be **disciplined, suspended, or expelled for acts** that occur as cited by **Education Code 48900(s)**:

- While on school grounds
- While going to or coming from school
- During the lunch period, whether on or off the school campus
- During, going to, or coming from a school-sponsored activity

Class Suspension

A teacher may suspend a student from class, for any of the violations of Education Code section 48900. The class suspension can be issued for the day of the suspension and the day following. The teacher shall immediately report the suspension to the principal of the school and send the student to the principal or the designee of the principal for appropriate action. If that action requires the continued presence of the pupil at the school site, the pupil shall be under appropriate supervision. As soon as possible, the teacher shall contact the parent or guardian of the student to conference regarding the suspension. The student shall not be returned to the class from which he or she was suspended, during the period of the suspension, without the concurrence of the teacher of the class and the principal (Ed Code 48910).

Home Suspension

Suspension may be imposed upon a first offense if the Superintendent, principal or designee determines the student violated California Education Code section 48900 or if the student's presence causes a danger to persons or property or threatens to disrupt the instructional process

State law allows for the suspension of a student if a student violates California Education Codes pertaining to student conduct, where such conduct or acts relate to school activities or attendance, such as, but not limited to when such acts or conduct take place while on school grounds, going to or from school, during lunch period (on or off campus), or during, or while going to or from, a school sponsored activity.

When a home suspension is warranted, the student is not allowed to be on or about any campus of the Natomas Unified School district. This includes attending any school sponsored events. The suspension may be from one to five days in length.

Required Due Process to Suspend

- Informal conference between student and administrator or designee
 - Ask to hear students version of facts
 - Ask for a written statement from the student
 - Not required to include parents

- Explain the proposed suspension recommendation and evidence against them, including “other means of correction”
- School must make reasonable efforts to notify family
- Provide family with a copy of the suspension notification

After Suspension Re-Entry Meeting

The student will be required (and family if appropriate) to attend a meeting with an administrator in order to discuss the student’s successful reentry to school, possible interventions and support, and discuss consequences for further behavior issues.

Expulsion - BP 5144.1

If a student has violated the Education Code related to behavior, the school may recommend to expel that student from the school as well as the Natomas Unified School District for a period up to one calendar year. This recommendation is made to the NUSD Governing Board. Violations of California Education Code section 48915 mandates administration to recommend expulsion for serious behavior infractions. **Expulsion is the removal of a student from all schools in the Natomas Unified School District for violations of the California Education Code as ordered by the Board of Trustees.** An expulsion is for a defined period, but an application for reentry must be considered within a specified period. State law provides for full due process and rights to appeal any order of expulsion.

Violations of E.C. 48915(c)

Natomas Unified School District has long maintained a strong position against offenses committed by students that involve the possession of weapons, acts of violence, or the sale or distribution of controlled substances. Violations Education Code 48915(c) mandates that the Board of Trustees shall expel students for:

- Possessing, selling, or furnishing a firearm
- Brandishing a knife at another person
- Unlawfully selling a controlled substance
- Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault/sexual battery
- Possession of an explosive

Violations of E.C. 48915(a)(1)

Unless the Principal or Superintendent determines that expulsion should not be recommended under the circumstances or that an alternative means of correction would address the conduct, Education Code 48915(a)(1) mandates immediate recommendation of expulsion if any of the following violations occur:

- Causing serious physical injury to another person except in self-defense
- Possession of any knife or other dangerous object of no reasonable use to the student
- Unlawful Possession of any controlled substance
- Robbery or extortion
- Assault or battery upon any school employee

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](#).

School Site Grading Periods

NUSD schools operate on a (2 semester, 4 quarter, trimester) system. Please review table below for report card delivery dates.

Teachers will update grades a minimum of every other Friday by 4:00 p.m. beginning the second full week of school. Teacher websites may also provide current information on upcoming assignments, due dates, assessments, and other important announcements. Refer to each teacher's syllabus or "beginning of the year letter" for contact information for any questions or concerns regarding academic progress.

Elementary/K-8 School			Middle & High School			
Term	Date Sites Deliver Report Cards to Students	Delivery Method	Term	School	Date Sites Deliver Report Cards to Students	Delivery Method
Trimester 1	11/17/25	Parent Teacher Conferences	Quarter 1	DHS, IHS, LGA, NHS, NMS	10/17/25	Mailed Home
Trimester 2	03/13/26	Backpack*	Quarter 2		12/29/25	Mailed Home
Trimester 3	05/29/26	Backpack*	Quarter 3		03/23/26	Mailed Home
Quarter 1	10/17/25	Backpack*	Quarter 4		05/29/26	Mailed Home
Quarter 2	12/29/25	Backpack*				
Quarter 3	03/23/26	Backpack*				
Quarter 4	05/29/26	Backpack*				

* Electronic communication/ParentSquare

Student and Family Acknowledgement

This document is available on our school and District website. All parents received this document at the beginning of the year as part of NUSD Annual Notification Process. Parents were asked to review and sign the acknowledgment electronically as part of this process.

Hard-copies are available for any family that may need it. 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. However, to ensure clear communication, it is important that the family also review the handbook with your student.

For any parent that did not have access to acknowledge the handbook electronically, please sign below.

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

Student Name (Print) _____ Grade: _____

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print) _____ Relationship: _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Updated June 2026