NVUSD

NAPA VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

TRANSITIONING TO HIGH SCHOOL:

PARENT EDUCATION FOR RISING 9TH GRADERS

APRIL 21, 2026

English | Inglés

Spanish | Español

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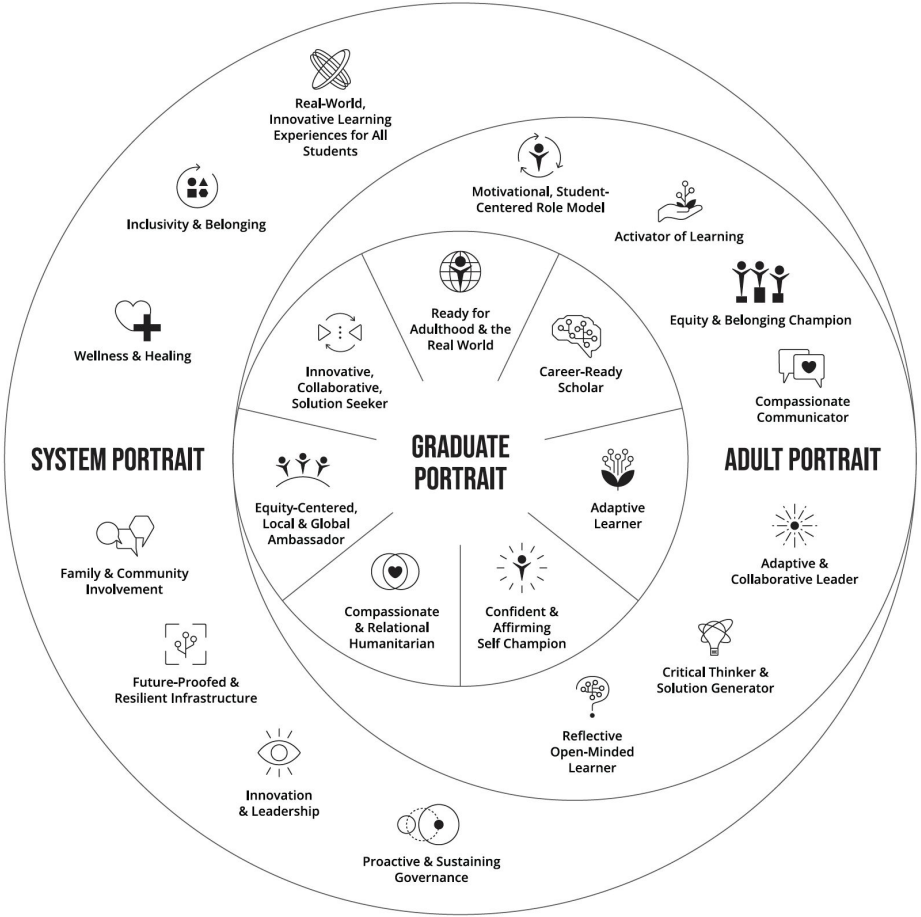
PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- Attendance
- High School Graduation Requirements and A-G
- Honors vs. AP vs. Dual Enrollment
- Aeries Academic Plans
- Career Technical Education
- Aeries…CCGI
- Seal of Biliteracy
- STARS Network: College Readiness
- School Connectedness: Athletics, Leadership, AVID, Clubs, etc.
- IEP and 504 Transitions
- Upcoming Orientations



VISION STATEMENT

“Our graduates are confident, compassionate, and adaptable adults who are well-prepared for life and become inspiring advocates for themselves and their community.”


Real-World, Innovative Learning Experiences for All Students
Inclusivity & Belonging
Wellness & Healing
SYSTEM PORTRAIT
Family & Community Involvement
Future-Proofed & Resilient Infrastructure
Innovation & Leadership
Proactive & Sustaining Governance
Motivational, Student-Centered Role Model
Activator of Learning
Equity & Belonging Champion
Compassionate Communicator
ADULT PORTRAIT
Adaptive & Collaborative Leader
Critical Thinker & Solution Generator
Reflective Open-Minded Learner
Ready for Adulthood & the Real World
Career-Ready Scholar
Innovative, Collaborative, Solution Seeker
GRADUATE PORTRAIT
Adaptive Learner
Equity-Centered, Local & Global Ambassador
Compassionate & Relational Humanitarian
Confident & Affirming Self Champion

ATTENDANCE IS CRUCIAL

Key 9th Grade Attendance Statistics

- **High Chronic Absence**: While overall absenteeism is declining, 9th grade remains a peak year for missed school, with rates around 23–24%.
- **Impact on Graduation:** Strong 9th-grade attendance is directly correlated with higher on-time graduation rates.
- **Course Failure:** Chronic absenteeism is strongly linked to failing core subjects (Math, English) in 9th grade.
- **Early Warning Signs:** Students with 4+ absences in the first six weeks have a 50% chance of being off-track by year-end.
- **Excused vs. Unexcused:** Roughly three-fifths of 9th-grade chronic absences are unexcused.
- **On-Track Metric:** A '9th Grade On-Track' indicator, which includes 96% or higher attendance, is a widely used benchmark for graduating on time.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students shall receive diplomas of graduation from high school only after completing the prescribed course of study and meeting the standards of proficiency established by the District. The prescribed course of study for students shall include (Ed Code 51225.3):

- English: 40 Credits
- Mathematics: 30 Credits
- World History: 10 Credits
- US History: 10 Credits
- American Government: 5 Credits
- Economics: 5 Credits
- Physical Science: 10 Credits
- Life Science: 10 Credits
- World Language: 20 Credits
- Visual/Performing Art: 10 Credits
- Physical Education: 20 Credits
- Ethnic Studies: 5 Credits
- Health Education: 5 Credits
- Electives: 40 Credits

TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION: 220

For each class passed with a grade of “D” or better the student will receive 5 units of credits. To meet the minimum college entrance requirements, students must pass all classes with a “C”.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE: A-G

A-G Subject Requirements (15 Units Required)



A: History/Social Science (2 years): Includes one year of World History and one year of U.S. History/Government.



B: English (4 years): Four years of college-preparatory English, focusing on reading, writing, and literature.



C: Mathematics (3 years required; 4 recommended): Includes Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II or Math I, II, and III.



D: Science (2 years required; 3 recommended): Two years of laboratory science (Biology, Chemistry, or Physics).



E: Language Other than English (2 years required; 3 recommended): Two years of the same language.



F: Visual & Performing Arts (1 year): Dance, Music, Theater, or Visual Arts.



G: College-Preparatory Elective (1 year): A yearlong elective from the above areas or other approved elective courses.

University of California +6



Key Details

Grades: A grade of C or better is mandatory.

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SPECIAL EDUCATION: IEP TRANSITION

8th Grade Transition

8th Grade IEP includes discussion about next steps; current case carrier can schedule a meeting regarding 9th grade classes.

Scheduling & Placement

- Mild-moderate student schedules have already been created by 9th grade teams.
- Moderate-Severe students will be contacted regarding placement.

Next Steps

Expect to hear from your new case carrier within the first 30 days of the school year.

Access & Support

- IEP at a glance is available on Aeries for all Gen-Ed teachers.
- Contact Jennifer Gygax or Jennifer Can via email for questions.

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504 TRANSITION

- Your child's 504 will automatically transfer from middle school to high school.
- All 504s are located in Aeries for new teachers to review accommodations.
- High School Counselors and Administrators will contact you within the first 30 days to schedule a meeting.
- Accommodations will be reviewed for high school appropriateness.
- Your 504 will be revisited yearly.

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AP VS. HONORS COURSES

Advanced Placement (AP)	Honors
Content and lesson plans designed by College Board to reflect college-level content	Content and lesson plans designed by school to reflect faster-paced, advanced learning
End of year AP exam, student may earn college credit based on exam score	No end of year exam, not eligible for college credit
All courses provide +1.0 weighted GPA boost	Most courses provide +1.0 weighted GPA boost
Courses offered are determined by the College Board and the school site	Limited number of courses offered, determined by school site

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DUAL ENROLLMENT

NAPA VALLEY COLLEGE

WHY:	WHEN:	PROCESS:
EARN COLLEGE CREDIT TAKE COURSES NOT OFFERED AT HIGH SCHOOL INTEREST TO STUDENT NO TUITION COST	AFTER 9TH GRADE YEAR	CONVERSATION WITH COUNSELOR -APPLY -PERMIT TO ATTEND -ENROLL -SUBMIT TRANSCRIPT TO COUNSELOR IF NEEDED

AERIES ACADEMIC PLANS

Key Aspects of an Academic Plan

- **Course Scheduling:** A semester-by-semester breakdown of classes to take, ensuring prerequisites are met.
- **Degree Tracking:** A map of university, general education, and major requirements to ensure all criteria are met.
- **Long-Term Planning:** A 2-to-4-year plan aimed at aligning credit hours with graduation timelines.
- **Goal Setting:** A document highlighting academic interests, career goals, and intended academic focus.

Usage Examples

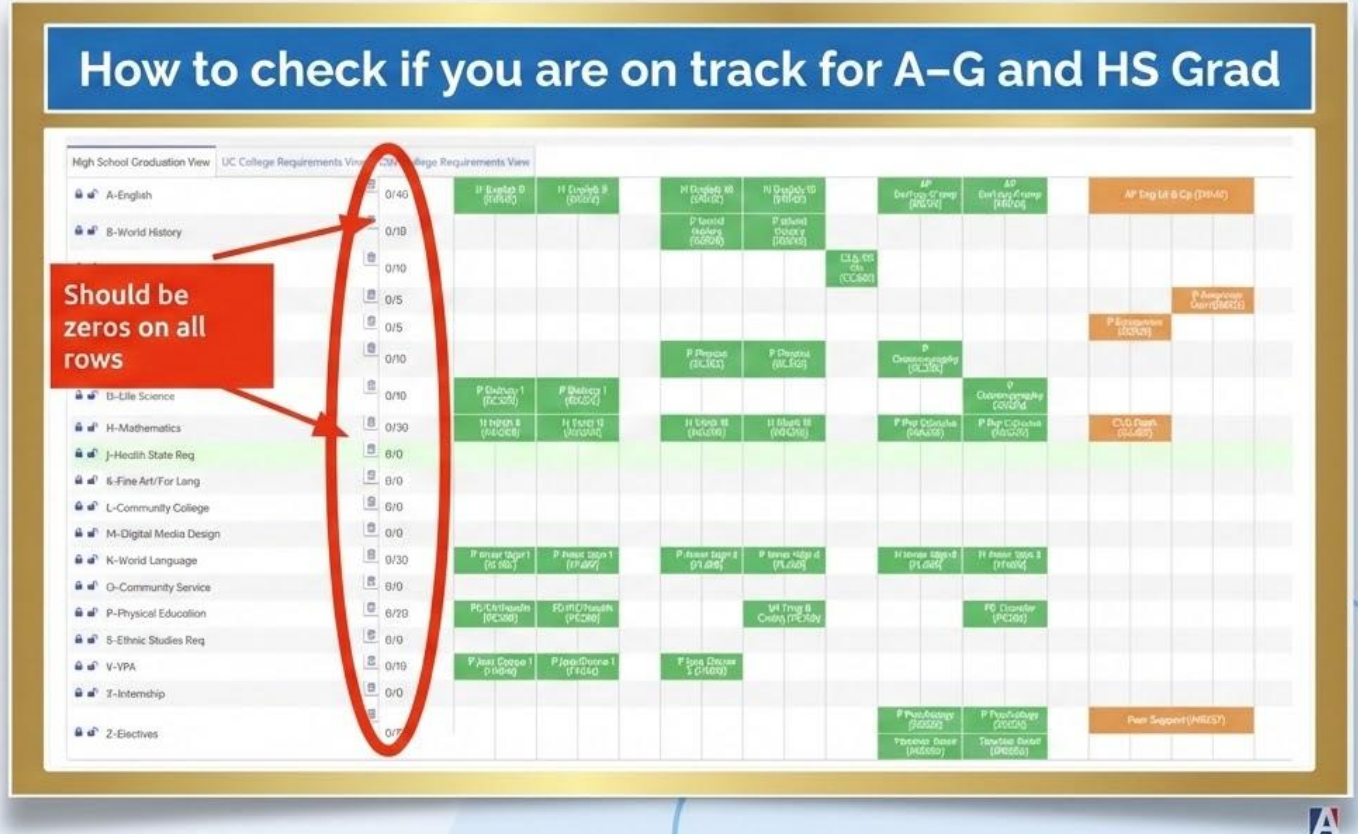
- **Drafting a 4-Year Plan:** A student creates a long-term plan in their freshman year to map out major and elective courses, ensuring they graduate on time.

AERIES

AERIES ACADEMIC PLANS

The Academic Plan allows students to:

1. Check their A-G and Grad Status
2. Their academic plan carries over to Course Selections for the following school year.
3. Annually review interests/courses and adjust as necessary
4. Additional Counselor academic support and guidance
5. Have a clear vision for their future!!



HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR STUDENT IN HIGH SCHOOL



TALK TO THEM ABOUT THEIR CLASSES



CHECK AERIES ONCE A WEEK TO MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD IS ON TOP OF THEIR HOMEWORK



STAY INVOLVED - JOIN PARENT CLUB, READ SCHOOL BULLETIN, CHECK IN WITH THEM ABOUT GRADES ONCE A WEEK



MEET WITH SCHOOL COUNSELOR AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR WITH YOUR STUDENT

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WHAT IS CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)?



An opportunity for ALL students to get hands-on, real world experience inside the classroom and outside in our community within a specific 2-course pathway.



CTE students regularly participate with local industry partners for field trips, job shadows, workplace tours, guest speakers and experience entry level exposure to high demand careers.



Students can earn an industry aligned certificate and college credit. All CTE courses fulfill graduation requirements and UC A-G eligibility.

AERIES

WHAT CTE PATHWAYS ARE OFFERED AT EACH HIGH SCHOOL?

ACHS

- Business 💼
- Construction 👷
- Culinary 👨‍🍳
- Health Science (‘26)
- Sports Medicine 🏃

NHS

- 💼 Business
- 👷 Construction
- 🩺 Health Science
- ⚙️ Manufacturing

NTHS

- 📱 Digital Design
- 📐 Engineering

VHS

- 🌱 AgriScience
- 💼 Business
- 👨‍🍳 Culinary
- 🖨️ Graphic Design & Print Shop
- 📷 Multimedia
- 🍇 Viticulture (‘26)

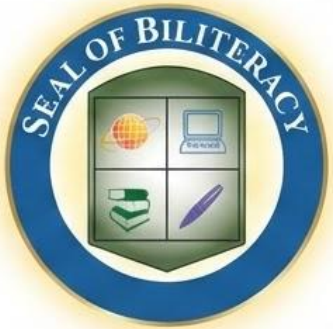
Seal of Biliteracy

The California State Seal of Biliteracy recognizes high school graduates who have achieved proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in one or more languages in addition to English. NVUSD identifies qualifying students automatically—no separate application is required.

To qualify, students must meet both English proficiency and second language proficiency requirements, which may be demonstrated through coursework, GPA, or approved exams such as AP, IB, or district assessments. English Learners must also meet ELPAC proficiency standards.

Each spring, qualifying students are verified by their school site and receive the official seal on their diploma and transcript, symbolizing their multilingual achievement.

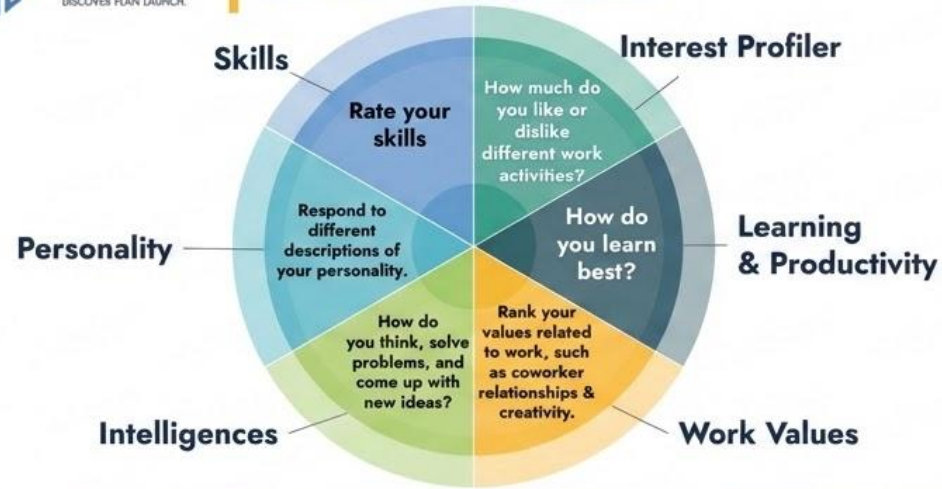
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CaliforniaColleges.edu

CALIFORNIA COLLEGES .edu
DISCOVER. PLAN. LAUNCH.

Career Assessments



1. This is a free college and career exploration tool
2. Allows counselors to track student data, career interests, college applications, and financial aid applications
3. There are several career assessments and college search tools to help students know themselves and what they envision for their futures
4. Parents can create an account linked to their student to monitor academic progress, view transcript information, and support college/career planning.

CCGI: Scope and Sequence Grades 9-12

Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
• Introduction to CCGI Platform • Complete Interest Profiler • Draft 4-Year Academic Plan • Explore Career Clusters	• Resume Builder Activity • Career Research & Exploration • Update Academic Plan • PSAT/PreACT Preparation	• College Search & List Building • Financial Aid Overview (FAFSA4caster) • SAT/ACT Registration & Prep • Explore Postsecondary Options	• College Application Submissions • FAFSA/CADAA Completion • Scholarship Search & Applications • Senior Exit Survey & Transition Plan

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ENGAGE AND GET INVOLVED

ENCOURAGE YOUR STUDENT TO GET INVOLVED AT SCHOOL:


-SPORTS


-CLUBS


-VISUAL/PERFORMING ARTS


-LEADERSHIP, AVID, LAYLA, OR CAREER TECH

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ATHLETICS

ATHLETIC CLEARANCE THROUGH HOME CAMPU
PHYSICAL AND GRADES-MINIMUM 2.0 GPA

FALL

- FOOTBALL
- CROSS COUNTRY
- VOLLEYBALL
- WATER POLO
- GIRLS GOLF
- GIRLS TENNIS
- GIRLS FLAG FOOTBALL

WINTER

- BOYS AND GIRLS BASKETBALL
- BOYS AND GIRLS SOCCER
- WRESTLING

SPRING

- TRACK AND FIELD
- BADMINTON
- TENNIS
- BASEBALL
- SOFTBALL
- GIRLS/BOYS LACROSSE
- BOYS GOLF
- SWIM/DIVE

High School Sports Nights



VINTAGE SPORTS NIGHT

All incoming 9th graders, current students and parents welcome. Meet coaches from all 22 sports!

Hear from student athletes
Buy VC gear
Get summer & tryout info
Get involved in Boosters

DATE
May 18, 6:30-8:00 PM

LOCATION
CRUSHER GYM





STARS/NVUSD PARTNERSHIP:
COLLEGE READINESS



- The STARS College Network partners with top colleges to ensure students from rural and small-town America have information and support to enroll and graduate.
- Doubling membership to include **32 of the nation's most prominent institutions**.

STARS COLLEGENETWORK

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STARS NETWORK: OVERVIEW

- 1-1 College Advising
- Fly-In Opportunities
- College Summer Programs
- Counselor Professional Development
- Virtual College Education (monthly)
- STARS Campus Visits: Fall and Spring



STARS COLLEGE NETWORK

Advice for High School Freshman:







FRESHMAN ORIENTATIONS



Vintage High School

August 6th or 7th depending on last name

Napa High School

August 11th • 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

New Tech High School

August 5th • 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

American Canyon High School

August 7th • 8:00 AM - 12: 00 PM or 1:00 PM-5:00PM

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THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS & FEEDBACK