



Discovery High School

**Student / Parent Handbook
2026 - 2027**

3401 Fong Ranch Road
(916) 928-5200
<https://natomasunified.org/dhs/>

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NATOMAS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Micah Grant
Ericka Harden
Sumiti Mehta
Noel Mora
Scott Dosick

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.

NUSD is one of the most diverse school districts in the United States – 30 percent of our students speak more than one language – and this safe haven resolution is consistent with our Core Values.

Other California school districts also have declared themselves safe havens. Former State Supt. of Public Instruction Tom Torlarkson encouraged such action, noting that a 1982 U.S. Supreme Court decision requires schools to enroll all eligible children regardless of immigration status.

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 <https://natomasunified.org/safe-haven-district>

Welcome to the 2026-2027 School Year

Dear Discovery HS Families,

I would like to welcome you to the start of an exciting school year. As the principal at Discovery High School, I am excited about the opportunity to share my experience with students and families for ultimate success. I have worked in the Natomas Unified School District since 1995 as a teacher, coach, athletic director, and administrator. Working with staff, students, and families has always been a great connection for me. I look forward to meeting with you, so please feel free to say hello anytime.

Discovery High School is committed to providing excellent service to our students and families. We are dedicated to the following goals:

- High School graduation for all students
- Every student college and career ready
- Build social, emotional, and academic skills for all students
- Foster meaningful relationships with students and families

School starts on Thursday, August 14th at 8:30AM and will be out at 2:24PM. As we prepare for the upcoming school year, please take a look at some important information below.

- **Front office will be open on Monday, August 3rd at 8:30AM**
 - If you need support prior to August 1st, please contact NUSD Constituent and Customer Service, or refer to the DHS Digital Backpack located on our Discovery High School [website](#).
- **Wednesday, August 12th, at 1:00PM**
 - Schedule Pick Up Days
 - Complete/Update emergency cards (parent/guardian)
 - Student ID card pictures taken
- **First day of school: Thursday, August 13th (check your schedule for start time)**
- **Back to School Night: Wednesday, September 2nd, 5:30-7:00PM**

We look forward to working with you and your family to provide additional support and opportunities in order to be successful at Discovery High School and beyond graduation. If you have any question about our school or programs, or our expectations, please don't hesitate to contact us or visit our website at www.natomasunified.org/dhs. Again, welcome to the 2026-2027 school year.

Sincerely,

Matt Hinton

Matt Hinton, Principal

Discovery High School

Mission Statement

Discovery High School provides students with unique, individualized opportunities that lead to college and career readiness and self-sufficiency.

Section 1: School Site Information

Contact Information

Office Hours	Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Main Office	916-928-5200
Attendance	916-928-5200 or email attendance at: dhsattendance@natomasunified.org
Records Request	dhsrecords@natomasunified.org

Administration Contact Information

Name: Matt Hinton
Role: Principal
Email: mhinton@natomasunified.org
Number: (916) 928-5200

T.O.S.A (Teacher on Special Assignment)

Name: Shannon Morgan
Email: smorgan@natomasunified.org
Number: (916) 958-5200

Student Support 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.

Name: Charles Lawrence
School Counselor
Email: clawrence@natomasunified.org
Number: (916) 928-5200

Name: Niki Goffard
Family Engagement Liaison
Email: ngoffard@natomasunified.org
Number: (916) 928-5200

Name: Rachel Altholz
 School Psychologist
 Email: raltholz@natomasunified.org
 Number: 916-928-5200

Name: Lupe Heredia
 Social Worker
 Email: mgheredia@natomasunified.org
 Number: 916-928-5200

Teacher Contact Information

Discovery High 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/dhs/> or call the school office at (916) 928-5200 and let the office staff know you would like to leave a message for the teacher.

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			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			

In order to provide the most up to date information we encourage you to frequently visit our school website at <https://natomasunified.org/dhs/>

<i>Event</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>Frist Day of School</i>	<i>08/13/2026@ 8:30am</i>
<i>Schedule Pick up</i>	<i>08/12/2026 @ 1:00 pm</i>
<i>Back to School Night</i>	<i>09/02/2026 @ 5:30 pm</i>
<i>Open House</i>	<i>03/23/2027 @ 5:30pm</i>
<i>Graduation</i>	<i>05/26/27 @ 6:00pm</i>

2026 - 2027 Discovery High School Bell Schedule

Regular Day Schedule			Minimum Day Schedule		
1st	8:30	9:12	1st	8:30	9:00
2nd	9:16	9:58	2nd	9:05	9:35
3rd	10:02	10:44	3rd	9:40	10:10
4th	10:48	11:30	4th	10:15	10:45
Lunch	11:30	12:06	5th	10:50	11:20
5th	12:10	12:52	6th	11:25	11:55
6th	12:56	1:38	7th	12:00	12:30
7th	1:42	2:24	Lunch	12:35	1:05
8th	2:28	3:10			

Discovery High School Map



Arrival and Dismissals

Student Pickup/Drop Off (Parking Lots)

Students may be picked up and dropped off at the front office sidewalk with cars facing east towards Fong Ranch Road.

Traffic Safety

To ensure the safety of students, parents entering the office are asked to park in designated parking areas only.

Buses/Transportation

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

Student Safety/Safe Routes

Discovery High 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

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

Discovery High School is a closed campus. Students are not permitted to leave campus without proper authorization.

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 or truants) 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 and high 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:

- **Personal Illness:** The school may require certification from a doctor if it is deemed advisable. (After 3 or more consecutive days of absence due to illness, a note from a doctor is required and/or prior to 84 period absences.)
- **Quarantine in the Home:** An absence arising from this condition is limited to the length of quarantine as fixed by county or city health officers.
- **Death of a Relative:** For the purpose of attending the funeral services of a member of the immediate family (mom, dad, grandma, grandpa, brother, sister). One (1) day for in state, and three (3) days for out of state.
- **Religious Reasons:** (3 days allowed per semester)
- **Counseling Appointment:** Any student absence due to a counseling appointment must be cleared with written proof of the appointment from the counselor's office.

- **Medical Appointment:** Services rendered include medical, dental, optometry or chiropractic. Any student absence due to a doctor or dental appointment must be cleared with written proof of the appointment from the doctor or dental office.
- **School Activity:** This includes field trips, or other school sponsored activities.
- **Probation Appointment:** Must be verified by a note from the probation officer.
- **Court Appearance:** Copy of court document required to be considered excused.

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)

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)928-5200, 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

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 Truancy Prevention Program meeting to address truancy. If truancy continues, students can be referred to the Student Attendance Review Board. Parents of chronically truant students can have serious sanctions including the withholding of public assistance, \$2,500 fines, and/ or one year of incarceration. 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 Clerk. 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 student 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 about 20 to 30 minutes. 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.

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 decency 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 less than 15 minutes late to class will be marked tardy. Students who are more than 30 minutes late to class will be marked truant. Upon arriving tardy, students are to enter the office to receive a tardy pass.

Instructional Time

During the school day students are expected to be in their assigned classrooms on time and remain for the entire instructional class. If a student must leave class, they are to ask and abide by their individual teacher’s policy for leaving class.

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 2026-27 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 two weeks after assigned for all grade levels and types of program. However, 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, up to the termination date of the 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, or 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 his/her 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 (short term or permanent).

Health and Wellness

To make sure your child is ready for school, California law, Education Code Section 49452.8, now 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 Student Services and Support website for additional information and resources (<https://natomasunified.org/departments/student-services-and-support/>).

Access to the Health Office can be obtained by asking the Discovery High's front office.

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"** form must be on file in the office. Both the parent/guardian AND the physician MUST sign this form. If you have asthma, you may carry your inhaler if your physician provides a "Medication Order for School."

No medication of any kind, whether prescription or over-the-counter, is allowed to be brought by a child without written authorization. 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.

If a child is to temporarily take a non-prescription medication, such as an over-the-counter pain reliever or cough drops, the medication must be kept in the office in its original container. The parent/guardian must provide a note to the health and/or front office stating the time and dates the medication is to be given. The medications are kept in a secure area in the health office and dispensed per the parent'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.

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 <http://www.schoolnutritionandfitness.com/index.php?sid=0911070147502711>.

Nutrition Service Hours of Operation

- Breakfast: 8:15 - 8:30 AM
- Lunch: 11:30 - 12:06 PM
- Supper: TBD

Nutrition Services Expectations/Rules

- Outside food delivery is prohibited
- Selling outside food on campus is prohibited, without administrative authorization
- Students are expected to dispose of all trash and consume food in designated areas only

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 <https://natomasunified.org/family/>

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.

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

Parents/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.

Pathway to Successful Communication

- Address the matter with the site staff member directly (teacher, coach, etc.) by scheduling an appointment 24 hours in advance
- If unresolved, please contact the school administrator(s)
- If unresolved, contact Constituent and Customer Services for informal resolution at (916) 561-5253
- If unresolved, a formal complaint form is available through Constituent and Customer Services

Opportunities for Involvement

- Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA)
- School Site Council (SSC)
- English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC)

Community Resources

- School Site Digital Backpacks <https://natomasunified.org/digital-backpack/>
- NUSD Community Resource Guide <https://natomasunified.org/community/>
- NUSD Communications and Family Engagement <https://natomasunified.org/communications/>
- Child Action www.childaction.org
- North Sacramento Family Resource Center and Birth and Beyond www.kidshome.org
- Sacramento Covered www.sacramentocovered.org
- Planned Parenthood of Sacramento www.ppmarmonte.org
- Sac County Dental Clinics www.sacdhhs.com
- Women's Health Specialists www.cawhs.org
- Community Services in Sacramento (800) 500-4931 www.211sacramento.org
- Sacramento Area Emergency Housing/Next Move www.nextmovesacramento.org
- Sacramento Employment and Training (SETA) www.seta.net
- 24 hour Parent Support Line (888) 281-3000
- California Youth Crisis Line (800) 843-5200 www.youthcrisisline.org
- Child Protective Services (916) 875-5437 www.sacdhhs.com
- La Familia Counseling Center www.lafcc.com
- Sacramento Crisis Nursery www.crisisnurseryonline.com
- WEAVE (Women Escaping a Violent Environment) www.weaveinc.org

- WIC www.sacdhhs.com
- Saca Community Center/Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services www.sfbfs.org

A complete list of community resources are available on our district website at <https://natomasunified.org/family/>.

Student Academic Monitoring

School Site Grading Periods

Discovery High School operates on a 2 semester, 4 quarter, system. Progress reports are mailed home every quarter (approximately every 9 weeks). Final report cards are mailed home at the end of each quarter. Only quarter grades are used for GPA calculation and college admission purposes.

Teachers will update grades a minimum of every other Friday by 4:00 p.m. beginning August 23, 2024. 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. Please call the school office at (916) 928-5200 for further questions or concerns regarding academic progress.

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 a 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 at <https://natomasunified.org/icportal-2/> 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 <https://natomasunified.org/icportal-2/> or 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.

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.

Before and After-School Care

Students may only be on campus 30 minutes prior to their class start time and end time of their last class. Any after school programs and extracurricular programs will be communicated to families with approved start and end times.

Section 2: Site Specific Programs and Information

Discovery High School offers a variety of programs to engage students in their education pursuits not only in earning a high school diploma, but being college and career ready.

Intake Process

Prior to enrollment, the student and family attend an individual meeting with school administration. The student's transcript is analyzed and the family gains valuable knowledge in their child's progress fulfilling high school requirements. Students are placed on an individual learning plan catered to their needs and all aspects of the school are communicated to enable families to become partners in their student's success.

Course Ware Online Learning

Course Ware offers students an electronic platform to access courses and progress at their own pace. All Discovery subject areas are available through Course Ware. Students who are self-motivated and have reading comprehension levels equal to the Course Ware subject matter are the most successful in this program. The program offers students a learning environment that is monitored closely by a teacher in the classroom who supports and guides students through their learning. Students have access to content teachers at the school site should the need arise. The typical Course Ware student is one who learns better at their own pace, or is on an accelerated course to graduation.

Adult Education Program

Concurrent enrollment in the NUSD Adult Education Program is available for all students. Although California Education Code requires students to be at least 18 years of age to earn a high school diploma through adult education, there is nothing prohibiting students from credit recovery through the program. Most students who find themselves behind in their pathway to graduation, enroll concurrently in Adult Education to recoup credits at both Discovery and Adult Education.

Courses are offered through Course Ware online learning and through a stand alone math class. Typically, courses run for two to three hours, two days a week after school. If a student turns 18 years old and is still a student at Discovery, and is not able to earn the 220 credits necessary for a

Discovery diploma, they may transfer into Adult Education full time and work through the program to earn the required 160 credits for an Adult Education High School diploma.

Construction and Building Trades Program

The CTE pathway is housed adjacent to the Discovery High School Culinary Center. Discovery students will be able to participate in the pathway during school hours or after school through concurrent enrollment in the Adult Education program. Students' coursework in this program may lead to paid internships or apprentice positions in the construction and building trades or transferable credit for post-secondary education curriculum includes welding, sheet metal fabrication, carpentry, plumbing, masonry and electrical.

American River College Academic Talent Search

American River College Educational Talent Search is committed to prepare and motivate low-income, first generation high school students for success in postsecondary education. The program assists students who have the desire and potential to succeed in higher education. Participants receive college, career, and financial aid information, academic advising, tutoring opportunities and educational field trips in preparation for successful enrollment and graduation from postsecondary institutions. All services and activities are free for student participants.

All Things Pretty

Young women mentoring group to meet throughout the year in the library at lunch. This group offers support for our young women to always strive to be their best selves. The students in this group will be discussing all i

Improve Your Tomorrow (IYT)

IYT's mission is to increase the number of young men of color to attend and graduate from colleges and universities. As such, fifteen to twenty Discovery students meet two times a week with IYT mentors to receive social emotional support, monitoring of individualized graduation plans, tutoring, financial literacy, problem solving skills, anger management, assistance with college and financial applications, and college readiness skills.

Sacramento County Office of Education Senior Extension Program

Students severely off-track for graduation, or have family or work obligations which make school challenging are referred from Discovery to Senior Extension. Senior Extension's goal is to re-engage students who are in jeopardy of dropping out of high school. They receive personalized education plans allowing them to earn credits required for graduation through a combination of independent study and classroom work. The pace of the program allows students to earn credits while still meeting work and family obligations that would otherwise prevent them from completing their education. Once back on track for graduation, students have the option of returning to Discovery or remaining at Senior Extension.

Electives and Career Technical Education (CTE) Programs

Discovery requires seventy credits of electives for graduation. Although the elective classes serve as a means to generate credit, they also expose students to concepts and experiences that are limited in core courses. Discovery electives include digital photography, student leadership, art and advanced art, and hospitality and culinary arts. The NUSD Cosmetology Pathway, will also offer

another credit earning option toward elective credits, as well as, provide students with exposure to theory and practice within various focus areas under the cosmetology umbrella

Presently, most students take at least one course in either hospitality or culinary arts to obtain experience in the restaurant industry. Those wishing to continue can complete the hospitality coursework and move into Culinary I and the more advanced sections of culinary. Both introductory levels of hospitality and culinary arts offer training and testing for students in ServSafe Food Handlers Certificate. Earning the certificate is required to be employed in retail food establishments. Over the last two years, the average number of students receiving a passing school on the ServSafe exam is 98 percent. Over the same time period, the school averages five to 10 students who have gained employment in the food industry.

GRADUATION CEREMONY ELIGIBILITY

In order to participate in graduation ceremonies, all students **MUST** meet all state and district eligibility requirements. These requirements include earning all credits within each given curricular area. **NO STUDENT** shall take part in the graduation ceremony that cannot be certified as meeting **ALL** stated graduation requirements. Requirements and protocols for the selection of ceremony speakers, Valedictorian, and Salutatorian will be delivered at the senior class meeting in the fall semester.

In order to ensure that senior activities and the graduation ceremony are the meaningful events that parents, faculty, and the graduating class desire, the following requirements must be adhered to by each senior:

1. Understand that participation in the graduation ceremony is a **PRIVILEGE** and is voluntary.
2. All fees must be paid, with no overdue billing, returning all borrowed materials (uniforms, technology, textbooks, etc.) during Senior Check Out in order to participate in Discovery High School graduation ceremony.
3. A serious violation of school rules, failure to maintain satisfactory attendance and/or failure to complete all discipline hours assigned during the school year may result in exclusion from senior activities, including the graduation ceremony.
4. Inappropriate behavior at any school activity (i.e. athletic or co-curricular activities, or graduation practice) may jeopardize participation in the graduation ceremony.
5. Be courteous during the entire graduation ceremony. Inappropriate behavior during the ceremony may result in removal from the ceremony and/or the withholding of a student's diploma.
6. Wear the cap and gown as designated by Discovery High School and to wear proper attire under cap and gown.
7. Attend all scheduled graduation rehearsals.
8. Be on time, follow the directions given and not leave the rehearsal until dismissed.
9. In case of illness, contact administration prior to practice. Failure to attend any practice (or contact administration regarding illness or an emergency situation) may terminate participation in the ceremony.
10. Participation or involvement in a "ditch day" (as defined by District policy) or a "Senior Prank" may lose senior privileges and activities, including participation in the graduation ceremony.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Discovery High School is a standard-based, academically-focused school. It is the goal of our staff to see that every student that graduates from Discovery has the skills and knowledge to be college and career ready. Parents and guardians can help support students achieve this goal by:

- Creating a quiet place for your child to study
- Monitoring the completion of homework assignments and projects
- Keeping updated with your student's progress on Infinite Campus
- Supporting the school, its policies, and its effort to maintain a safe, academic environment to ensure academic success for all students
- Communicating with school staff when you have any questions about your student

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.

Academic Support

Students in need of academic support are referred to the counselor or school administration. For parents wishing academic support for their student, please contact the school counselor at clawrence@natomasunified.org.

Academic support for students may include individualized tutoring, peer tutoring and custom scheduling of classes where possible. When necessary, all teacher conferences are available as a means to gather input from all stakeholders in a student's academic progress to create individualized plans of support.

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.

Cell Phone Policy: 5131.8 Mobile Communication Devices

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.

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 noninstructional time as long as the device is utilized in accordance with law and in accordance with BP/E 6163.4 Student Use of Technology.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent or Designee to use any product or practice that would assist the schools in successfully implementing the restriction of mobile communication devices on campus. 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.

Smartphones and other mobile communication devices shall not be used in any manner that infringes on the privacy rights of any other person. The use of any electronic device, to include cell phones, may NOT be used at any time in the bathroom or in gym locker rooms. When a school official reasonably suspects that a search of a student's mobile communication device will turn up evidence of the student's violation of the law or school rules, such a search shall be conducted in accordance with BP/AR 5145.12 - Search and Seizure. When a student uses a mobile communication device in an unauthorized manner, the student may be disciplined, and a district employee may confiscate the device. The employee shall store the device securely until it is returned to the student or turned over to the principal or designee, as appropriate. If turned over to the principal, a parent/guardian may be notified and may be required to pick up the device from school. A student who violates this policy may be restricted from possessing a mobile communication device at school or school-related events. A student may also be subject to discipline, in accordance with law, Board policy, or administrative regulation, for off-campus use of a mobile communication device that poses a threat or danger to the safety of students, staff, or district property or substantially disrupts school activities. The district will not be responsible or liable for a student's mobile communication device which is brought on campus or to a school activity and is lost, stolen, or damaged. The Board shall review and, as necessary, update this policy at least once every five years. Any such review or update shall include significant stakeholder participation to ensure that the policy is responsive to the unique needs and desires of the school community.

Class Assignments and Changes

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 misassignments 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 at:
<http://natomasunified.org/board-of-trustees/board-policies-and-administrative-regulations>.

Dress Code

Discovery High School has established a dress code to create and maintain a positive learning environment. To this end, extremes in dress or clothing regarded as disruptive, a distraction from the learning environment, or contributing to unsafe conditions are not permitted. The specifics of the dress code regulations are as follows, and violation of the dress code may result in disciplinary action.

Prohibited Clothing/Accessories

- Clothing/accessories with pictures or messages that promote or symbolize the use of drugs, alcoholic beverages, or tobacco
- Clothing/accessories with messages that are sexually suggestive or promote violence
- Clothing/accessories considered by school officials or law enforcement to denote group intimidation, gang affiliation, cult affiliation, satanic reference, or any profane or racially offensive item.

Specific Clothing Restrictions: Students in violation of dress code (listed below) will be released to attend class or campus functions once clothes have been changed into proper attire.

- **Shoes must be worn at all times.** House slippers may not be worn.
- **Underwear may not be exposed**, including under see-through clothing.
- **The torso must be covered.** Bare midriffs, backs, or cleavage must not be exposed.
- **Any excessively revealing clothing is not permitted**
 - strapless, low-cut, backless or sideless tops/dresses and/or see-through clothing are not permitted
 - shorts / skirts must be of moderate length

- **Sagging of pants / shorts is not permitted**

Field Trips

Students attending Discovery High School sponsored field trips will need authorization from each teacher to miss class ensuring they are in good academic standing. District authorized field trip permission forms are required to be submitted 24 hours prior to the field trip. All school and district rules must be followed on the field trip.

Lost and Found

Lost and found items are kept in the school office during the 2026-27 school year only. The school is not responsible for damaged or lost and found items.

Student Supports and Resources (Differentiated Layers of Support)

Student support occurs from an integrated, comprehensive framework that stems from differentiated instruction, student-centered learning based on individualized student needs, and the alignment of systems necessary for all students' academic, behavioral, and social success. Referrals to the appropriate support resources are made through the school counselor and/or school psychologist.

Safe and Welcoming Learning Environment

The principal facilitates student progress toward college and career readiness by overseeing day-to-day activities. These activities include solving conflicts, providing academic, social, and behavior counseling, overseeing appropriate and timely interventions, hearing and resolving complaints from students, parents, staff and the school community, applying discipline when necessary, etc. The goal is to create a safe and welcoming environment where students can easily identify and gain access to all available support programs.

Student Athletic/Activity Eligibility

Discovery High School participates in an intramural basketball league with other local alternative education schools. Students must remain in good academic and behavior standing with satisfactory attendance which enables them to be on-track for graduation as based on the previous quarter and during the league schedule. The above eligibility requirements are at the discretion of the principal.

Student Recognition

Discovery recognizes students throughout the year for a variety of reasons, ranging from good and improved attendance, credit earnings and/or citizenship. Individual teachers recognize students for their academic progress. Recognition ceremonies occur each quarter. In the fourth quarter, seniors are recognized for achievement in a variety of areas during the annual Senior Awards Night.

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 Policies/Procedures

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](#).

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





Discovery High School

TITLE I

SCHOOL - PARENT/GUARDIAN - STUDENT COMPACT

The School Parent Compact will be jointly developed with parents and family members and the compact outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share in the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and the parents will build and develop partnerships to help children achieve the State's high standards (*ESSA, Section 1116(d)*).

School - Administration, Teachers, Staff

- Provide a safe, supportive, and welcoming environment for students to learn
- Provide access to a rigorous curriculum tied to California State Standards in Education leading to College and Career Readiness
- Ensure high quality instruction from qualified teachers and staff
- Provide and support student connection and belonging on campus, and celebrate student achievement
- Communicate regularly with families regarding student expectations, academic progress, and school events
- Involve parents/guardians in the education of their student

Parents/Guardians

- Ensure students are in school on time daily, each period, and for the entire day
- Keep the school updated on current contact, health, and other pertinent information
- Engage in school activities and functions (student meetings, parent education programs, boosters, parent groups, Open House, Back To School Night and other activities)
- Support student learning by monitoring academic work, checking Infinite Campus, providing a study area for the student, and collaborating with the classroom teacher to ensure student success
- Provide a safe and supportive environment for the student to grow and develop
- Adhere to and encourage the student to follow school expectations
- Take a stand against alcohol and drug abuse, bullying, and violence

Students

- Be in school on time daily, each period, and for the entire day
- Promote school safety and a positive learning environment
- Get connected on campus and engage in school activities
- Engage in learning, show evidence of understanding, and always do your best.
- Adhere to school expectations
- Take a stand against alcohol and drug abuse, bullying, and violence
- Seek resources and support when needed
- SOAR in class, on campus, and into the future

By signing below, I agree to abide by the School-Parent/Guardian-Student Compact:

Parent / Guardian (Name Printed)

Student Name (Printed)

Parent / Guardian Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date

Section 5: Student and Family Acknowledgement Form



Discovery High School Student and Family Handbook Received Acknowledgement Form

This document is available on our school website at <https://natomasunified.org/dhs/> 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 "Discovery High 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 Discovery High 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 _____