CARUTHERS HIGH SCHOOL



PRIDE • TRADITION • COMMITMENT

2026—2027

STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK

Home of the Blue Raiders

ADMINISTRATION

Superintendent……. Orin Hirschkorn
Principal ..... Barry Watts
Vice Principal..... Julio Zelaya
Guidance Counselor..... Alicia Hardcastle
Guidance Counselor..... Fernando Sanchez
Guidance Counselor..... Kasandra Arias
Guidance Counselor..... Reyna Sanchez
Activities Director..... LeAnn Hodges
After School Program Coordinator..... Jeff Morrow
Athletic Director ..... Brandon Ward

FACULTY

Foreign Language

Spanish 1 & 2..... Maricela Zavala
Spanish 2, Spanish 3 & AP Spanish Lang. ..... Martha Hernandez

Language Arts

English 2, & CSU ERWC..... Carrie Faria
English 1 & English Language Development 1, 2 & 3..... Susie Olivares
English 1 & 2 ..... Erin Freeman
English 2 & 3 ..... Myra Verdugo
AP English Language……Lea Steele

Mathematics

Int. Math 1 & Math 2……..Jossue Alba
Int. Math 1 & Int. Math 2..... Jason Chamberlain
Int. Math 3 & Pre-Cal……Brenden Kelly
Stats, Pre-Cal & AP Cal AB ..... Cade Wright

Physical Education

Co-Ed P.E. ..... Cameron Butler
Co-Ed P.E. ..... William Smith

Science

Chemistry..... April Cardenas
Physics, Conceptual Physics & AP Physics ..... Eric Madrigal
Biology & AP Enviro Science ..... Martha Martinez
Intro to Life Sci., Anatomy & Physiology & AP Biology..... Jeff Morrow

Social Science

US History & AP US History ..... Jonathan Allen
AP Government, Human Geography & Ethnic Studies..... David Lidbeck
AP World History, World History, Geography & Ethnic Studies..... Joel Torres
American Government/Econ & Psychology..... Jordan Dancer

Special Education

RSP ..... Anna Almeida
SDC..... Tyler Borman
SDC..... Valerie Torres
RSP ..... Justin Vazquez

UCSF Doctor's Academy

Program Director ..... Katherine A. Flores, MD
Education Director ..... Stephanie Huerta Alvarez
Academic Program Coordinator ..... Ruth Salazar
Counselors .....9th Arias, 10th F. Sanchez, 11th Hardcastle, & 12th R. Sanchez
Coordinator……..…..LeAnn Hodges
9th Advisor…….Cade Wright
10th Advisor.....David Lidbeck
11th Advisor……Jeff Morrow
12th Advisor……..Joel Torres

Visual & Performing Arts

Intro to Music & Marching Band..... Richard Hembree
Film Studies ..... Carrie Faria
Advanced Art, & Drawing and Painting……...Jose Hernandez
Drama……Lea Steele

Vocational Education

ROP Careers Ed 1 & 2…….……...……..LeAnn Hodges
ROP Criminal Investigation & ROP Criminal Justice.....Joshua Espinola
Ag Construction, Construction, & Ag Mechanics 1 .....Alex Gutierrez
Yearbook, Computer Science Discoveries & Marketing…….. Madison Scott
Science & Business of Robotics……...Conor Martin
AP Computer Science Principals……...Cade Wright
Intro to Ag, Floral, & ROP Floral.....Jennifer Tweedy
Ag Mech. 2, Plant/Animal Science, ROP Ag Welding, & Vet Science .....Matt Wenstrand
ROP Fire 1……. Mike Yager

Miscellaneous

Leadership..... LeAnn Hodges
Independent Studies .....Tod Tompkins

Classroom Support

Everyday Substitute .....Kelsey Budwig
Everyday Substitute……..……...Orin Hirschkorn Jr.
Everyday Substitute……..Alka Kamboj
Everyday Substitute…….……...……. Ben Torres
Everyday Substitute……Zach Watts

CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

Instructional Assistant .....Yazmine Aguirre
Instructional Assistant.....Sandra Alvarez
Instructional Assistant.....Mike Leas
Instructional Assistant.....Nicole Palacios
Instructional Assistant…….. Christian Perez
Instructional Assistant…….Christina Hurtado Perez
Instructional Assistant……...Nenerdy Rosas
Instructional Assistant……..Alejandro Trujillo

Clerical Staff

Registrar ..... Maria Ortiz
Vice Principal's Secretary ..... Nicole Cornelious
Attendance Clerk ..... Angelica Valdez
Administrative Assistant to the Principal ..... Shannon Edlund
Receptionist/Secretary ..... Maricela Padilla
Financial Secretary ..... Angela Valdez
Community Liaison ..... Emily Valle

District Office Staff

Director Educational Services ..... Marla Enmark
Director of Student Services ..... Trisha Hirschkorn
Chief Administrative Officer ..... Susan McCoy
Chief Business Official ..... Debra Haney
Director of Curriculum and Instruction ..... Gursharan Rahal
Payroll/Benefits Specialist ..... Patrice Woolhouse
District Financial Specialist ..... Kristina Delgado
District Financial Assistant ..... Tiffany Huber
Administrative Support Specialist/Receptionist ..... Nancy Zuniga
Administrative Support Specialist/Compliance ..... Jennifer Rodriguez
Director of Maintenance & Operations ..... Jonny Nason

Food Services

Director of Food Services ..... Tracy Bratton
Lead Food Services Assistant ..... Sheena Hoffman

Health Services

School Psychologists ..... Raffy Chekerdemian & Armando Villalobos
School Nurse ..... Candy Hilvers & Danell Emert
Speech Pathologist ..... Brett Knott

CLASS ADVISORS

Freshmen
Jose Hernandez
Cameron Butler

Sophomores
Justin Vazquez
Maricela Zavala

Juniors
Tyler Borman
Valerie Torres

Seniors
Eric Madrigal
Joel Torres

STUDENT ORGANIZATION SPONSORS

Student Activities Director……LeAnn Hodges
Block C ..... Anna Almeida
Club Los Amigo…….....TBD
CSF ..... Jonathan Allen
FCA.....TBD
FFA .....Matt Wenstrand/Jennifer Tweedy/Alex Gutierrez
Lettermen's Club .....Brandon Ward
Migrant Leadership Club .....Martha Hernandez
Punjabi Club.....TBD

COACHING STAFF

Baseball..... Orin Hirschkorn
Boys Basketball ..... Jordan Dancer
Girls Basketball..... Anna Almeida
Cheer ..... LeAnn Hodges
Cross Country…….....TBD
Football .....Larry Almeida
Boys Soccer ..... Justin Vazquez
Girls Soccer..... Jonathan Allen
Softball.....Jeff Day
Boys Tennis .....Tyler Borman
Girls Tennis.....Tyler Borman
Boys & Girls Track & Field.....Jacob Budwig
Girls Volleyball..... Valerie Torres
Boys Volleyball…….. April Smith
Wrestling..... Zach Watts
Boys Golf……..Myron Yoshimura
Girls Golf……Carrie Faria

2026-2027 CARUTHERS UNIFIED School Calendar

July 2026

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

July

3	Fourth of July Observance

August 2026

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August

5	Freshmen Orientation
6	Sophomore, Junior & Senior Orientation
7, 10, 11	Teacher Contract Days
12	First Day of School
17	Early Release Begins

14

September 2026

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

September

7	Labor Day
18	Progress Report 1

21

October 2026

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

October

2	Fair Day
30	Progress Report 2
	PSAT/NMSQT Administration (Grade 11)

21

November 2026

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

November

11	Veterans Day
23-27	Thanksgiving Break

15

December 2026

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

December

18	1st Semester Ends
21-31	Winter Break

14

January 2027

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

January

1-8	Winter Break
18	Martin Luther King Jr. Day

14

February 2027

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

February

8	Lincoln's Birthday
15	President's Day
19	Progress Report 4

18

March 2027

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

March

22-29	Spring Break
	CHS CAASSP Testing Window

17

April 2027

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

April

9	Progress Report 5
	CHS CAASSP Testing Window

22

May 2027

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

May

31	Memorial Day
	AP Testing Window
	CHS CAASSP Testing Window

20

June 2027

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

June

4	Last Day of School
4	2nd Semester Ends
4	CHS Graduation
18	Juneteenth Observance

4

SOME DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

2026-27 CALENDAR OF SPECIAL EVENTS

August 5 & 6 ..... Orientation
August 12 ..... 1st Day of School
September 7 ..... Labor Day
September 18 ..... 1st Semester Progress Report 1
October 2 ..... Fair Day
October ..... PSAT/NMSQT & SAT Administration (Grade 11)
October 30 ..... 1st Semester Progress Report 2
November 11 ..... Veterans Day
November 23-27 ..... Thanksgiving Break
December 18 ..... 1st Semester Ends
December 21 - January 8 ..... Winter Break
January 18 ..... Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 8 ..... Lincoln's Birthday
February 15 ..... President's Day
February 19 ..... 2nd Semester Progress Report 4
March 22 – March 29 ..... Spring Break
To Be Determined ..... CAASPP Testing
April 9 ..... 2nd Semester Progress Report 5
May (1st 2 weeks) ..... AP Testing
May 31 ..... Memorial Day
June 4 ..... 2nd Semester Ends
June 4 ..... Last Day of School & Graduation
June 18 ..... Juneteenth National Independence Day
To Be Determined ..... Picture Days
To Be Determined ..... Back to School Night
To Be Determined ..... Sports Awards
To Be Determined ..... Academic Awards

CARUTHERS HIGH SCHOOL
DAILY TIME SCHEDULES -- 2026-2027

MINIMUM DAY SCHEDULE

Period	Begin	End
1	8:00	9:00
Break	9:00	9:10
2	9:15	10:15
3	10:20	11:20
Lunch	11:20	11:55
4	12:00	1:00
5	1:05	1:30

Buses Depart at 1:35p.m.

REGULAR DAY SCHEDULE

Period	Begin	End
1	8:00	9:20
Break	9:20	9:30
2	9:35	10:55
3	11:00	12:20
Lunch	12:20	12:55
4	1:00	2:20
5	2:25	3:10

FOGGY DAY SCHEDULE

Period	Begin	End
5	9:45	10:15
1	10:20	11:20
2	11:25	12:25
Lunch	12:25	1:00
3	1:05	2:05
4	2:10	3:10

School begins at 9:45am
Plan A- 2 hour delay
Plan B- 3 hour delay
Plan C- Buses Cancelled

ASSEMBLY/RALLY SCHEDULE

Period	Begin	End
1	8:00	9:15
Break	9:15	9:25
2	9:30	10:45
3	10:50	12:05
Rally	12:10	12:35
Lunch	12:35	1:10
4	1:15	2:30
5	2:35	3:10

Morning Warning Bell at 7:55am
Foggy Day Warning Bell at 9:40am
Buses Depart at 1:35pm on Minimum Days
Buses Depart at 3:15pm on Regular Days

ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PRACTICES

College Preparatory Courses

College preparatory courses satisfying the admissions requirements for both the California State University (CSU) system and the University of California (UC) system will be designated with a P letter next to the course code on the student transcript. Please refer to the *Counseling/Registration Guide* for specifics.

Courses Repeated

Most courses may only be taken once for credit, however, there may be some exceptions. Courses that may be taken more than once for credit will be indicated in the *Counseling/Registration Guide*.

Class Changes

Class changes are always allowed in cases of data entry error or misplacement. *Misplacement* is determined by the teacher and the counselor/administrator. Class changes **will not** be made after the start of the semester, unless the counselor/administrator believes it serves the overall school mission. A student may not change a class simply because it is difficult, or at an inconvenient time of day, or because his/her friends are in another class, or because he/she doesn't like the teacher, the classmates, or the nature of the course, etc. We believe students should take appropriate steps to use their resources for success. We believe that students should stick to their obligations. Values such as determination and persistence must be reflected in our policies and procedures; therefore, we expect students to get tutoring assistance from the teacher or from our after school program when their courses are difficult. They should ask for help in mediating conflicts. School should be an orderly place. Stability and classroom dynamics are important and students entering and exiting during the semester is disruptive to the instructional program.

Academic Scholars

Academic Scholars is an honor designed to acknowledge students who have participated in a rigorous course pattern which includes Advanced Placement (AP) courses at Caruthers High School. Students who meet the requirements will receive an academic medal at his/her graduation ceremony. The requirements are as follows: 1) maintain a minimum UC/CSU weighted grade point average of 3.9 over five semesters (10^{th} through the end of fall semester of senior year), 2) pass at least two AP exams with a score of 3 or higher by the end of junior year, 3) complete at least five AP courses with a C or better.

Advanced Placement

Caruthers High School offers Advanced Placement courses for students who wish to take the most challenging and most rigorous course of study. In May of each year AP examinations are given to all students in the AP classes. The exams are scored on a five-point scale and most major universities recognize scores of three and above as passing and will reward students with three or four units of college credit. AP exams cost $95 per exam and payment plans are available for all students. Students in AP classes are required to take the AP exam(s) in May. A student who takes an AP class but does not take the AP exam will have grade points deducted from his/her final grade and will not have the AP augmentation on transcript. School district may elect to pay for AP exams at the discretion of available funding. For more information refer to the AP teacher's syllabus. Caruthers High School offers AP classes in English Language, Calculus, United States History, World History, Government, Biology, Environmental Science, Physics and Spanish.

Enrolling in Community College Classes

Students will have the opportunity to enroll in community college courses while still in high school. A student may enroll in a maximum of two courses in a given semester (fall, spring, or summer). Junior and senior students must have a minimum total GPA of 2.5 in order to be eligible. Freshmen and sophomores must have a minimum of 3.0 cumulative GPA. Eligible freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors must obtain the approval of their high school counselor in order to enroll in community college courses. Community college courses may not conflict with a student's Caruthers High School course schedule. Consult with college for additional requirements.

GPA AUGMENTATION

Grades are augmented in UC Certified AP courses and UC Certified Honors course taken in grades nine through twelve and awarded one additional grade point:

Augmented Scale	vs	**Non-augmented Scale**
A= 5 points		A= 4 points
B= 4 points		B= 3 points
C= 3 points		C= 2 points
D= 1 point		D= 1 point
F= 0 points		F= 0 points

DUAL ENROLLMENT AND COLLEGE CLASSES

Dual enrolled and concurrent postsecondary course meeting Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) or, California General Education Transfer Curriculum (CAL-GETC) requirements for transfer to UC/CSU schools will receive the following grade augmentation.

Dual Enrollment College Course Augmented Scale

A= 5 points
B= 4 points
C= 3 points
D= 1 point
F= 0 points

COMMUNITY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

The High School Enrichment (HSE) program provides high school students the opportunity for advanced scholastic college level coursework. Eligible students can enroll in college course and receive college credit. They must speak with their counselor, the counselor will consult with the administrator to be approved for HSE prior to taking the class, then the counselor can sign off on the class, for it to be eligible for augmentation. All classes approved by counselor and administration will be placed on student's transcripts and eligible for augmentation. All classes taken must be submitted no later than January 31st of the student's senior year. *Beginning with the class of 2026

Honor Roll

Caruthers High recognizes students for their academic achievement every six-week grading period. Students who earn a 3.0 Grade Point Average without a letter grade of "F" are recognized as honor roll students and are recognized for their work and are eligible for off campus lunch privileges as a junior or senior.

Ineligible List

Students with two (2) or more F's and/or whose grade point average is below 2.0 will be placed on the Ineligible List. These students cannot participate in any co-curricular Caruthers High School Activity for at least that grading period. This includes attending dances, games, or any school related event that takes place during non-school hours. In certain classes, ineligible students may not be allowed on field trips. Students who are ineligible will be required to attend a mandatory tutorial session at least one day a week in order to participate in the after school program.

If a student takes a class in summer school that he/she failed in the previous school year, the grade from summer school replaces the "F" received during the school year, only if it is the *exact same class*. This new grade will be factored into the student's GPA and may or may not affect their eligibility status. All other summer school classes that receive high school credit will receive a grade and that grade will be factored in eligibility as an extra factor.

Process For Repeating A Course To Improve A Grade

Normally, a student retaking a class to improve a grade will have the grading marks of both the original attempt and the second attempt posted to their transcript. A student who wishes to have the original grade replaced from the transcript must follow the following procedures:

1. The student must write a letter to the principal requesting the removal of the original grade from the transcript. The approval of the principal must be obtained **before** starting the second attempt.
2. The original attempt will remain on the transcript and the grading mark will be changed to "NM (No Mark)."
3. The student may attempt to substitute the grade only once.
4. Once the original grade has been changed to "NM" the original grade may not be reinstated. If the original grade was a passing grade (i.e., a "D") and the second attempt is a grade of "F," the student will have earned zero credits for that course.

Grade Change Policy

A teacher may change a student's grading mark if it is deemed appropriate and justified by the principal. The reason for the grade change should not be based upon the student's current grade in the class. The *Request for Grade Change* form must be secured by the teacher and presented to the principal. The student will not obtain the form on the teacher's behalf.

Incomplete Grading Policy

A student may receive an incomplete grade (I) at the end of the semester. The student has six (6) weeks following the semester to make up the incomplete work. A student who fails to make up the work by the six-week deadline will be assigned a grade of "F." Credits toward graduation are determined by the semester grades; therefore, incomplete grades at semester are **discouraged except in the cases of illness or personal emergency**. Incompletes must be authorized by school administration.

Grades

A student receives 5 semester credits at the end of the semester in which a grading mark of A, B, C, or D is earned. Advisory (ADV) courses are 2 credit classes when the semester mark of "P" is recorded. For the purpose of Grade Point Averaging (GPA), the following scale is used: A = 4; B = 3; C = 2; D = 1; F = 0. Certain Honors classes and all Advanced Placement (AP) classes receive augmented grade points. In the case of augmented grade point classes the following scale is used: A = 5; B = 4; C = 3; D = 1; F = 0.

Grade Reporting Periods

Students receive 6 report cards during the year. Each semester (half year) students receive two progress reports, at 6-weeks and again at 12-weeks. The third report of the semester is the final semester grade. It is on the basis of a passing semester grade of A, B, C, D or P that a student will earn credits. Grades of F, I, and NM will earn zero credits.

The grade report periods for the 2026-27 school year are:

Fall Semester	
1st progress report period	August 12, 2026 ending September 18, 2026
2nd progress report period	September 21, 2026 ending October 30, 2026
Final Fall Semester period	November 2, 2026 ending December 18, 2026
Spring Semester	
1st progress report period	January 11, 2027 ending February 19, 2027
2nd progress report period	February 22, 2027 ending April 9, 2027
Final Spring Semester period	April 12, 2027 ending June 4, 2027

Graduation Requirements

Courses required for graduation and university admission.

The California *Education Code (EC)* establishes a minimum set of requirements for graduation from California high schools. The requirements should be viewed as minimums and support regulations established by local governing boards.

The University of California (UC) and the California State University (CSU) systems have established a uniform minimum set of courses required for admission as a freshman. The UC has created a Doorways (Outside Source) site that provides complete information about the high school courses approved for admission to the university. In addition to the required courses, California public universities have other requirements for admission as a freshman (Outside Source).

High School Subject Area	State Mandated Requirements* (*EC* 51225.3) for High School Graduation	Caruthers Unified School District High School Graduation Requirements	UC Requirements for Freshman Admissions	CSU Requirements for Freshman Admissions
English	Three Years	Four Years	Four years of approved courses	Four years of approved courses
Mathematics	Three years, including Integrated Math 1, Integrated Math 2, and Math 3. (*EC* 51224.5)	Three years. Students must complete 30 credits, including Math 1.	Three years. Four years recommended.	Three years. Four years recommended.
Social Studies/Science	Three years of history/social studies, including one year of U.S. history and human geography; one year of world history, culture, and geography; one semester of American government and civics, and one semester of economics.	Three years of history/social studies, including one year of U.S. history; one year of world history, culture, and human geography; one semester of American government and civics, and one semester of economics.	Two years of history/social science, including one year of U.S. history or one-half year of U.S. history and one-half year of civics or American government; and one year of world history.	Two years, including one year of U.S. history or U.S. history and government and one year of other approved social science.
Science	Two years, including biological and physical sciences.	Two years, including biological/life and physical sciences.	Two years with lab required, chosen from biology, chemistry, and physics. Three years recommended.	Two years, including one year of biological and one year of physical science with lab.
Foreign Language	One year of either visual and performing arts, foreign language.	One year of either visual and performing arts, foreign language.	Two years in same language required. Three years recommended.	Two years in same language required.
Visual and Performing Arts	One year of either visual and performing arts, foreign language.	One year of either visual and performing arts, foreign language.	One year of visual and performing arts chosen from the following: dance, drama/theater, music, or visual art.	One year of visual and performing arts chosen from the following: dance, drama/theater, music, or visual art.
Physical Education	Two years	Two years	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Electives	Not Applicable	At least 130 credits must be completed	One year***	One year***
Other	Ethnic Studies	One year of human geography/Ethnic Studies.		
Total	**13**	**28**	**15** **(7 in the last two years of high school)**	**15**

Beginning January 1, 2010, students in foster care who transfer to a new school while in grades 11 or 12 may be able to graduate from high school without meeting the local graduation requirements that exceed the state minimum course requirements. In these cases, the district would need to conclude that the student would not reasonably be able to complete the additional local graduation requirements during the student's remaining time in high school. See CDE Foster Youth Resources for additional information.

*** Must be chosen from approved academic courses in history, English, advanced mathematics, lab science, foreign language, social science, or fine arts. See UC Doorways (Outside Source) for approved courses at your high school.

Graduation Ceremony

The graduation ceremony at Caruthers High School is a privilege and not a right, and as such, students must be in good standing to participate in the ceremony. Students must meet all of the academic requirements for graduation (see Counseling/Registration Guide), pay all outstanding school fees or fines, and clear all absences and Saturday School requirements by the appointed time for senior check out. Any violation of school behavioral expectations or Education Code 48900 or 48915 after senior final exams will disqualify a student to participate in the graduation ceremony. Students who require summer school credits to complete the graduation requirements will not participate in the graduation ceremony.

The school dress code is still in effect at the graduation ceremony and graduates may not alter or decorate their cap or gown in any fashion.

Valedictorians, Salutatorian And Honors

1. **Graduates of Distinction**
   Grades used to determine "Graduates of Distinction" will be based upon the first seven semesters of high school and be inclusive of grades earned at all schools attended during grades 9-12.
2. **Student Achievement**
   Student achievement will be acknowledged with the Latin designations *Summa Cum Laude* (with highest praise), *Magna Cum Laude* (with great distinction), and *Cum Laude* (with honors). The categories will be defined as follows:
   Summa Cum Laude – 4.1 Academic GPA or better in all courses
   Magna Cum Laude – 4.0 Academic GPA or better in all courses
   Cum Laude – 3.70 to 3.99 Academic GPA in all courses
3. **Valedictorian**
   All students who earn the distinction Summa cum Laude will be recognized as class Valedictorians. In the absence of Summa cum Laude students, Magna cum Laude students will be considered. These students will also be eligible for consideration to be the valedictorian speaker at graduation.
4. **Graduation speakers**
   Each year two students will be selected to speak at graduation:
   - The first will be the Valedictorian speaker. All students who have earned the distinction of Valedictorian will be eligible to submit a speech for consideration. If no eligible students submit a speech or if the panel does not approve the speeches submitted, eligibility will be expanded to all students graduating with honors.
   - The second will be the Salutatorian. All students who have earned distinction of Cum Laude or higher will be eligible to submit a speech for consideration.

   A panel of students and faculty members will determine speaker selection. The panel will be composed of three students and three faculty members. The senior class officers, the

Activities Director, and the school principal will select the students and faculty members. All eligible students who desire to apply will submit a speech to the committee by the specified date. The committee will recommend a Valedictorian speaker and a Salutatorian to the principal. The principal will approve the selection and notify students.

California Scholarship Federation

The California Scholarship Federation (CSF) is a state honor society which requires its members to take college preparatory classes and maintain a high grade point average. Members will have opportunities to visit colleges and universities. Dues paying members who meet the CSF academic requirements during their sophomore, junior and senior years will receive special recognition before and during graduation.

College Preparatory Courses and University Admissions

College preparatory courses satisfying the admissions requirements for both the California State University (CSU) system and the University of California (UC) system will be designated with a corresponding P letter on the student transcript. In addition to meeting high school graduation requirements, students must meet the exam and a-g course requirements listed below in order to be eligible to apply to a CSU and/or UC campus.

A-G Requirements

Required Subject Area	Course	**Required Subject Area**	Course
a-History/Social Science- 2 years	World History US History AP US History American Government AP Government AP World History	**e-Language Other than English- 2 years, 3 years recommended**	Spanish 1 Spanish 2 Spanish 3 AP Spanish Language AP Spanish Literature
b-English- 4 years	English 1 English 2 English 3 CSU ERWC ELD 3 AP English Language AP English Literature	**f-Visual & Performing Arts- 1 year**	Drawing & Painting Advanced Art Film Studies Drama ROP Floral Floral Beginning Band Marching Band Jazz Band
c-Mathematics- 3 years, 4 years recommended **AP Comp. Science Applications**	Math 1 Math 2 Math 3 Pre-Calculus AP Calculus Stats	**g-Elective- 1 year** Ag Mech 1 ROP Careers 1 & 2 Animal Science	Intro to Ag Veterinary Science Psychology Economics Marketing Leadership CS Principles
d-Lab Science- 2 years, 3 years recommended	Anatomy & Physiology Biology Chemistry Conceptual Physics Physics AP Biology Enviro Physics	**For more admission information, visit the following websites:** www.csumentor.edu www.universityofcalifornia.edu www.ucop.edu/doorways	
GPA	3.0 GPA (required for UC)		
Exams for CSU	SAT I &/or ACT (especially if you have lower than a 2.0 GPA)		
Exams for UC	SAT 1 &/or ACT; (no longer required but recommended)		

Career Technical Education (CTE)

Career technical education engages all students in a dynamic and seamless learning experience resulting in their mastery of the career and academic knowledge and skills necessary to become productive, contributing members of society (Career Technical Education Framework for California Public Schools Grades Seven through Twelve, 2007). For more information visit the following website: www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ct.

Counseling Office

The counseling office provides information on career technical education and post secondary opportunities. Counselors can also provide information on financial aid for post secondary study, which includes scholarships and grants, student and parent loans, work study, etc. Please see the *Counseling/Registration Guide* for more information related to College and Career planning.

Counselors meet with students throughout the school year to discuss course selections that will enable them to meet their career and/or college goals. Students may also sign-up to see their counselor in the main office.

The counseling staff offers psychological counseling referral services for students and parents. Students and families needing assistance with issues such as drug and alcohol abuse, emotional/social issues, family disturbances, suicide and crisis intervention and other matters should contact the counseling staff.

Statewide Testing Notification

Every year, California students take several statewide tests. When combined with other measures such as grades, class work, and teacher observations, these tests give families and teachers a more complete picture of their child's learning. You can use the results to identify where your child is doing well and where they might need more support.

Your child may be taking one or more of the following California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP), English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC), and Physical Fitness Test assessments. Pursuant to California *Education Code* Section 60615, parents/guardians may annually submit to the school a written request to excuse their child from any or all of the CAASPP assessments. There is no exemption for the ELPAC or Physical Fitness Test.

CAASPP: Smarter Balanced Assessments for English Language Arts/Literacy (ELA) and Math

Who takes these tests? Students take these tests in grades 3–8 and grade 11.

What is the test format? The Smarter Balanced assessments are computer-based.

Which standards are tested? The California Common Core State Standards are tested.

CAASPP: California Alternate Assessments (CAAs) for ELA and Math

Who takes these tests? Students whose individualized education program (IEP) identifies the use of alternate assessments take these tests in grades 3–8 and grade 11.

What is the test format? The CAAs for ELA and Math are computer-based tests that are administered one-on-one by a test examiner who is familiar with the student.

Which standards are tested? The California Common Core State Standards are tested through the Core Content Connectors.

CAASPP: California Science Test (CAST)

Who takes the test? Students take the CAST in grades 5 and 8 and once in high school, either in grade 10, 11, or 12.

What is the test format? The CAST is computer-based.

Which standards are tested? The California Next Generation Science Standards (CA NGSS) are tested.

CAASPP: California Alternate Assessment (CAA) for Science

Who takes the test? Students whose IEP identifies the use of an alternate assessment take the CAA for Science in grades 5 and 8 and once in high school, either in grade 10, 11, or 12.

What is the test format? The CAA for Science is a series of four performance tasks that can be administered throughout the year as the content is taught.

Which standards are tested? Alternate achievement standards derived from the CA NGSS are tested.

CAASPP: California Spanish Assessment (CSA)

Who takes the test? The CSA is an optional test for students in grades 3–12 that tests their Spanish reading, listening, and writing mechanics.

What is the test format? The CSA is computer-based.

Which standards are tested? The California Common Core State Standards en Español are tested.

ELPAC

Who takes the test? Students who have a home language survey that lists a language other than English will take the Initial test, which identifies students as an English learner student or as initially fluent in English. Students who are classified as English learner students will take the Summative ELPAC every year until they are reclassified as proficient in English.

What is the test format? Both the Initial and Summative ELPAC are computer-based.

Which standards are tested? The 2012 California English Language Development Standards are tested.

Alternate ELPAC

Who takes the test? Students whose IEP identifies the use of an alternate assessment and who have a home language survey that lists a language other than English will take the Alternate Initial ELPAC, which identifies students as an English learner student or as initially fluent in English. Students who are classified as English learner students will take the Alternate Summative ELPAC every year until they are reclassified as proficient in English.

What is the test format? Both the Alternate Initial and Alternate Summative ELPAC are computer-based.

Which standards are tested? Alternate achievement standards derived from the 2012 California English Language Development Standards are tested.

Who takes the test? Students in grades 5, 7, and 9 will take the FITNESSGRAM®, which is the test used in California.

What is the test format? The test consists of five performance components: aerobic capacity, abdominal strength, trunk strength, upper body strength, and flexibility.

Which standards are tested? The Healthy Fitness Zones, which are established through the FITNESSGRAM®, are tested.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS/DISCIPLINE

Board Policy

The Governing Board desires to prepare youth for responsible citizenship by fostering self-discipline and personal responsibility. The Board perceives that good planning, a good understanding of each child, and parent involvement can minimize the need for discipline. Teachers shall use positive conflict resolution techniques and avoid unnecessary confrontations. When misconduct occurs, staff shall make very effort to identify and correct the causes of the student's behavior.

Board policies and regulations shall delineate acceptable student conduct and provide the basis for sound disciplinary practices. Each school shall develop disciplinary rules in accordance with the law to meet the school's individual needs.

Staff shall enforce disciplinary rules fairly and consistently, without regard to race, creed, color or gender. In the event of an infraction of school expectations, disciplinary action will be taken. This action may involve student counseling, detention during and after school hours, parent contact, community service, suspension, and the use of alternative educational environments, Saturday School and expulsion if necessary.

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.

Student Behavioral Expectations

1. Students are required to bring appropriate supplies and materials to classes.
2. Students are required to attend all classes on time.
3. Students are required to attend all classes during the day, unless cleared by the attendance office.
4. Students are to be respectful to administration, faculty, staff, and one another and refrain from disruptive behavior and the making of rude and unnecessary comments.
5. Students will not use profane, obscene, or indecent language.
6. Students are to refrain from unacceptable physical contact, such as pushing, kicking, or punching.
7. Students are to dispose of all trash properly.
8. Students are not to run or cause disturbance in hallways.
9. Students should not use unauthorized items in class (cell phones, tablets, or electronic games). Laser devices and permanent markers are prohibited at all times.
10. Students are not to leave campus during school without checking out in the Attendance Office. Only parents, or persons authorized on a student's emergency card may check students out. The student must be checked out in person by the authorized party.

11. Students are to comply with the school dress code.
12. Students are to observe all traffic laws and parking regulations.
13. Students are to refrain from cheating, or copying the work of others and representing it as their own. Plagiarism occurs when a student uses someone else's language, ideas, or other materials without acknowledging its source.

14. Students will refrain from displaying unacceptable physical conduct of a sexual nature (such as kissing, inappropriate touching or prolonged hugging).
15. Students will not post or distribute unauthorized communicative materials on school grounds or at school activities including social media (commercial, religious, political, or pornographic).
16. Students are not to gamble.
17. Students are not to throw/ project objects as a missile, except in a legitimate school activity.
18. Students are to be respectful on all field trips or activities.
19. Students are to respect school facilities and not be involved in defacing buildings or equipment.
20. Students will refrain from any hazing, harassment, or initiation of other students.
21. Students are not to form secret clubs.
22. Students should not be in possession of keys to school buildings, premises or property without authorization, or involved in duplication of keys.
23. Students are not to bring unauthorized visitors on campus.
24. Students are not to carry or provide false identification to anyone.
25. Students are not to engage in other actions that are disorderly, or in disobedience of school policies or officials, or that may prove detrimental to school, harmful to health and safety, or inhibiting of the rights of others.
26. Students who have unscheduled periods are not allowed to be on campus during that unscheduled period.

Serious Infractions/Suspensions

(Education Code 48900)

In the event of a serious infraction, the parents and proper authorities will be notified. For each of the following infractions a student may be suspended for up to 5 days.

a) (1) Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person.
   (2) Willfully used force or violence upon the person of another, except in self-defense.
b) Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished any firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object, unless, in the case of possession of any such object, the pupil had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, which is concurred in by the principal or the designee of the principal.
c) Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, or otherwise furnished, or been under the influence of, any controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind.
d) Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind, and then either sold, delivered, or otherwise furnished to any person another liquid, substance, or material and represented the liquid, substance, or material and represented the liquid, substance, or material as a controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant.
e) Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.
f) Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property.
g) Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property.

h) Possessed or used tobacco, or any products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets, and betel. However, this section does not prohibit use or possession by a pupil of his or her own prescription products. Anyone requiring any prescription product must check it in at the attendance office.

i) Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.

j) Unlawfully possessed or unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any drug paraphernalia, as defined in Section 11014.5 of the Health and Safety Code.

k) Disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties.

l) Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.

m) Possessed an imitation firearm. As used in this section "imitation firearm" means a replica of a firearm that is as substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm.

n) Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault as defined in Section 261, 266c, 286, 288, 288a, or 289 of the Penal Code or committed a sexual battery as defined in Section 243.4 of the Penal Code.

o) Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a pupil who is a complaining witness or witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of either preventing that pupil from being a witness or retaliating against that pupil for being a witness, or both.

p) Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma.

q) Engaged in, or attempted to engage in, hazing as defined in Section 32050.

r) Engaged in an act of bullying, including, but not limited to, bullying committed by means of an electronic act which specifically includes “a post on a social network Internet Website”, as defined in subdivisions (f) and (g) of section 32261, directed specifically toward a pupil or school personnel.

s) A pupil may not be suspended or expelled for any of the acts enumerated unless that act is related to school activity or school attendance occurring within a school under the jurisdiction of the superintendent or principal or occurring within any other school district. A pupil may be suspended or expelled for acts that are enumerated in this section and related to school activity or attendance that occur at any time, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
   (1) While on school grounds.
   (2) While going to or coming from school.
   (3) During the lunch period, whether on or off the campus.
   (4) During, or while going to or coming from, a school sponsored activity.

t) A pupil who aids or abets, as defined in Section 31 of the Penal Code, the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury to another person may suffer suspension, but not expulsion, pursuant to the provisions of this section, except that a pupil who has been adjudged by a juvenile court to have committed, as an aider and abettor, a crime of physical violence in which the victim suffered great bodily injury or serious bodily injury shall be subject to discipline pursuant to subdivision (a).

u) As used in this section, “school property” includes, but is not limited to, electronic files and databases.

v) A superintendent or principal may use their discretion to provide alternatives to suspension or expulsion, including, but not limited to, counseling and an anger management program, for a pupil subject to discipline under this section.

w) It is the intent of the Legislature that alternatives to suspensions or expulsion be imposed against any pupil who is truant, tardy, or otherwise absent from school activities.

In addition to the reasons specified in Section 48900, a pupil may be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion if the superintendent or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has committed any of the following acts or misconduct:

a) Sexual harassment as defined in section 212.5 of the Education Code (E.C. 48900.2).
b) Pupils in grades 4-12 inclusive who caused, threatened to cause, or participated in hate violence (E.C. 48900.3).
c) Pupils in grades 4-12 inclusive who intentionally engaged in harassment, threats or intimidation, directed against a pupil or group of pupils (E.C. 48900.4).
d) Making terroristic threats against school officials or school property or both (E.C. 48900.7).
e) In addition to the grounds specified in Sections 48900 and 48900.2, a pupil enrolled in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive, may be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion if the superintendent or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has intentionally engaged in harassment, threats, or intimidation, directed against school district personnel or pupils, that is sufficiently severe or pervasive to have the actual and reasonably expected effect of materially disrupting class work, creating substantial disorder, and invading the rights of either school personnel or pupils by creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment. (E.C. 48900.4).

Serious Infractions/Expulsion

(Education Code 48915)

The principal or the superintendent of the school shall recommend a pupil's expulsion for any of the following acts, unless the principal or superintendent finds, and so reports in writing to the governing board, that expulsion is inappropriate, due to the particular circumstance, which shall be set out in the report of the incident.

c. 1) Possessing, selling, or otherwise furnishing a firearm.
c. 2) Brandishing a knife at another person.
"knife" means any dirk, dagger, or other weapon with a fixed, sharpened blade fitted primarily for stabbing, a weapon with a blade fitted primarily for stabbing, a weapon with a blade longer than 3 ½ inches, a folding knife with a blade that locks into place, or a razor with an unguarded blade.
c. 3) Unlawfully selling a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with section 11053) division 10 of the Health and Safety Code.
c. 4) Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 48900 or committing a sexual battery as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 48900.or (EC48915(c) (4).)
c. 5) Possession of an explosive.
As used in this section, the term "explosive" means "destructive device" as described in Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code. "Destructive device" includes: bomb, grenade, rocket with propellant charge of greater than 4oz, missile with charge of greater than ¼ oz, mine, similar devices, a weapon than can expel a projectile by explosive or propellant action, and parts which can be assembled into a destructive device.
(EC 48915 (h); 18 USC 921(a) (4).)

Upon recommendation by the principal, superintendent of schools or by a hearing officer or administrative panel appointed pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 48918, the governing board may order a pupil expelled upon finding that the pupil violated subdivision (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) of Section 48900.

a) Other means of correction are not feasible or have repeatedly failed to bring about proper conduct.

b) Due to the nature of the violation, the presence of the pupil causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of the pupil or others.

Upon recommendation by the principal, superintendent of schools, or by a hearing officer or administrative panel appointed pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 48918, the governing board may order a pupil expelled upon finding that the pupil violated subdivision (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), or (m) of Section 48900, or Section 48900.2, 48900.3, or 48900.4, and either of the following:

a) That other means of correction are not feasible or have repeatedly failed to bring about proper conduct.
b) That due to the nature of the violation, the presence of the pupil causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of the pupil or others.

Suspension By Teacher

A teacher may suspend any pupil from class, for any of the acts enumerated in Section 48900, for the day of the suspension and the day following. The teacher shall immediately report the suspension to the vice principal of the school and send the pupil to the vice principal or the vice principal's designee 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 defined in policies and related regulations adopted by the governing board of the school district. As soon as possible, the teacher shall contact the parent or guardian of the pupil regarding the suspension from the classroom. If a parent teacher conference is needed, a school administrator and/or counselor will attend. The pupil shall not be returned to the class from which he or she was suspended, during the period of suspension, without the concurrence of the teacher of the class and the vice principal.

A pupil suspended from a class shall not be placed in another regular class during the period of suspension. However, if the pupil is assigned to more than one class per day this suspension shall apply only to other regular classes scheduled at the same time as the class from which the pupil was suspended.

A teacher may also refer a pupil, for any of the acts enumerated in Section 48900, to the vice principal or the vice principal's designee for consideration of a suspension from the school. (Renumbered And Amended Stats. 1983, Ch 498).

Criminal Acts

The Education Code specifies violations, which may result in suspension. In addition, it is the school's obligation to refer violations of existing criminal or civil laws to law enforcement authorities. If a crime is committed on campus, the school will cooperate with the authorities.

Anti-Gang Policy

In order to create a safe and secure school environment, all types of verbal and physical harassment are prohibited under the California Education Code 48900.4.

To provide such an environment, all forms of gang-related or gang-affiliated behavior, speech, or activity are prohibited at school, on the way to school, or on the way home from school. Any verbal or non-verbal communication that denotes or connotes gangs, gang activity, or gang-related behavior will not be tolerated. Students engaging in such activity or behavior will be subject to disciplinary action based on the Caruthers Unified School District's discipline policies as outlined in Administrative Regulations and Board Policies 5144 through 5144.2 and the California Education Code.

Students are prohibited from the following possession(s), behavior(s) and action(s) listed below:

- Any gang-related writings, drawings, graffiti, etc., including any depictions of images, symbols, or writings that are considered gang-related. This includes writing in binders, desks, books, as well as individual property and paper that the student brings to school or has in his/her possession.

- Any clothing or dress that depicts gang-images, symbols, or writing. This includes writing on belts or belt buckles and the display of specific colors for attention.

- Any use of signaling or communication that can be considered gang-related, such as hand signs, whistling, posturing, or use of electronic devices.

- Any speech or action that is gang-related or suggests gang-activity, including discussing who is in a gang or asking questions such as "What do you claim?" Initiating any gang-related conversation or discussing colors as related to gangs.

- Any behavior that creates or has the potential to create a hostile environment or negative presence, such as moving across campus in a group in a manner that causes or has the potential to cause intimidation or harassment.

Sexual Harassment

Board Policy

The governing Board prohibits unlawful sexual harassment of or by any student, by anyone in or from the district. Teachers shall discuss this policy with their students in age-appropriate ways and should assure them that they need not endure any form of sexual harassment. Any student who engages in the sexual harassment of anyone in or from the district may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. Any employee who permits or engages in sexual harassment may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal. The Board expects students or staff to immediately report incidents of sexual harassment to the principal or designee or to another district administrator. Any student who feels that he/she is being harassed should immediately contact the principal or designee or another district administrator in order to obtain a copy of AR 1312.3 – Uniform complaint procedures. Complaints of harassment can be filed in accordance with these procedures. The district prohibits retaliatory behavior against any complainant or any participant in the complaint process. Each complaint of sexual harassment shall be promptly investigated in a way that respects the privacy of all parties concerned.

Definition

Prohibited sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

a) Submission to the conduct is explicitly or implicitly made a term or condition of an individual's employment, academic status or progress.
b) Submission to or rejection of the conduct by an individual is used as the basis for academic or employment decisions affecting the individual.
c) The conduct has the purpose or effect of having a negative impact on the individual's academic or work performance, or of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive educational or work environment.

d) Submission to or rejection of the conduct by the individual is used as the basis for any decision affecting the individual regarding benefits and services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through the school.

Other types of conduct which are prohibited in the district and which may constitute sexual harassment include:

a) Unwelcome leering, sexual flirtations or propositions.
b) Unwelcome sexual slurs, epithets, threats, verbal abuse, derogatory comments or sexually degrading descriptions.
c) Graphic verbal comments about an individual's body, or overly personal conversation.
d) Sexual jokes, stories, drawings, pictures or gestures.
e) Spreading sexual rumors.
f) Teasing or sexual remarks about students enrolled in predominantly single-sex class.
g) Touching an individual's body or clothes in a sexual way.
h) Purposefully limiting a student's access to educational tools.
i) Cornering or blocking of normal movements.
j) Displaying sexually suggestive objects in the educational environment.
k) Any act of retaliation against an individual who reports a violation of the district's sexual harassment policy or who participates in the investigation of a sexual harassment complaint.

Notifications

A copy of the district's sexual harassment policy shall:

a) Be included in the notifications that are sent to parents/guardians at the beginning of each school year. (Education Code 48980) (cf. 5145.6 – Notifications Required by Law)
b) Be displayed in a prominent location near each school principal's office. (Education Code 212.6)
c) Be provided as part of any orientation program conducted for new students at the beginning of each quarter, semester or summer session. (Education Code 212.6)
d) Appear in any school or district publication that sets forth the school or districts comprehensive rules, regulations, procedures and standards of conduct. (Education Code 212.6)

Enforcement

The principal or designee shall take appropriate actions to reinforce the district's sexual harassment policy. These actions may include:

a) Removing vulgar or offending graffiti.
b) Providing staff in-service and student instruction or counseling.
c) Taking appropriate disciplinary action as needed.
d) Notifying parents/guardians
e) Notifying Child Protective Services (CPS)

AB 537 Student Safety And Violence And Prevention Act of 2000

AB 537, known as the California Student Safety and Violence Prevention Act of 2000, amends the California Education Code to be consistent with the California hate crimes law, Penal Code 422.6. Under current law, the Education Code prohibits harassment and discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion ancestry, national origin, disability and gender. In effect, AB 537 amends the Education Code to include sexual orientation to that list.

1. The Education Code affords all persons in public schools and postsecondary institutions equal rights and opportunities in the educational institutions of the state, regardless of sex, ethnic group identification, race, national origin, religion, mental or physical disability, ***or regardless of any basis that is contained in the prohibition of hate crimes set forth in subdivision (a) of Section 422.6 of the Penal Code***. (emphasis added to denote amended language.) (Ca.Ed.C. §§200, 220, 221, 66251 and 66270)

2. Penal Code 422.6 (a) states: that it is unlawful to injure, intimidate, interfere with, oppress or threaten any person because of that "person's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, gender, or ***sexual orientation, or because he or she perceived that § person has one or more of [these] characteristics***." (emphasis added)

3. Religious educational institutions are exempt from this bill if the applications of these prohibitions are inconsistent with the religious tenets of that institution.

If you feel that you have been discriminated in an educational setting because of one of the above enumerated characteristics, or the perception that you have one of the above characteristics, please contact your school guidance counselor.

Title IX

It is the policy of Caruthers High School not to discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, national origin, age, or handicap in its educational programs, activities, or employment policies as required by Title IX of the 1972 Equal Rights Acts. Inquiries regarding compliance with Title IX may be directed to Barry Watts, Caruthers High School, PO Box 545. Phone 495-6415 or to the Office of Civil Rights, Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare, Washington, D. C.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Section 504 was created to prevent intentional or unintentional discrimination against persons with disabilities. This law protects all students with a disability who

1. have a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities;
2. have a record of such an impairment; or
3. are regarded as having such an impairment.

The Vice Principal will meet with all students that have a 504 Plan. The meeting will consist of the student, Vice Principal, counselor, parents, and teachers of the student. Acceptable accommodations for the student will be discussed and decided upon so that the student is able to reach his/her full capacity for learning.

Inquiries regarding compliance with 504 should be directed to Vice Principal, c/o Caruthers High School, P. O. Box 545, Caruthers, CA 93609, or to the Office of Civil Rights.

Student Grievance Procedures By A Student Or Adult On Behalf Of A Student

A "grievance" shall mean a complaint, which has been filed by a student or by a student's parent, on his/her behalf, dealing specifically with Title IX. This procedure is applicable to Title IX only.

The primary purpose of this procedure is to secure, at the lowest level possible, equitable solution to a complaint.

1) School Level (Step I)
   a) Student will present a complaint orally and informally to the teacher.

b) If complaint is not resolved, student will then present a formal claim in writing, stating section of regulations being violated, with supporting evidence to the principal.
c) The principal will respond in writing within five (5) days, stating his decision.

2) School Level (Step II)
   a) Within five (5) school days after the level I decision, a student may appeal the decision to the Title IX coordinator in writing. The Coordinator will then investigate the complaint and render a decision within ten (10) days after receiving the appeal.
3) District Level (Step III)
   a) If the student feels it is necessary to appeal the complaint beyond the decision at Level II, an appeal may be filed with all supportive evidence to the Superintendent within ten (10) school days after Level II.
   b) The Superintendent will evaluate the evidence and render a decision within ten (10) days after receiving the appeal.
4) Board of Education (Step IV)
   a) If the student feels it is necessary to carry the complaint beyond the decision reached at Level III, an appeal may be made within ten (10) days of the Level III decision to the Board of Education.
   b) Upon receipt of the complaint, the Board may place the item on the agenda for the next Board meeting for consideration and a decision will be rendered within twenty (20) days of the Board meeting.

Students may appear with a representative, if desired, at all levels except Step I.

In the event the grievant fails to exhaust all remedies under the grievance procedure provided herewith, or to abide by the time limits with respect to each step, the grievance shall be presumed to be abandoned and the matter shall be considered settled in accordance with the school district's last answer thereto. In the event the school district fails to give its answer at any step within the time limits prescribed, the grievant shall have the right to proceed immediately to the next step. Any time limits may be extended by written mutual agreement of the grievant and the school district.

Effect of Settlement

Any settlement of a grievance shall be applicable to the grievance only, and shall not be sending authority for the disposition of any other grievance. Any grievance initiated under this procedure shall be brought by and for the student alleging action in violation of Title IX and the implementing regulations of the school district, affecting the student initiating the grievance.

Uniform Complaint Procedures

The Caruthers Unified School District has the primary responsibility to insure compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations and has established procedures to address allegations of unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying, and complaints alleging violation of state or federal laws governing educational programs and the charging of unlawful pupil fees.

The Caruthers Unified School District shall investigate and seek to resolve complaints using policies and procedures known as the Uniform Complaint Procedures (UCP) adopted by our local board. Unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying complaints may be based on actual or perceived age, ancestry, color, ethnic group identification, gender expression, gender identity, gender, disability, nationality, national origin, race or ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or on a person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics, in any program or activity that receives or benefits from state financial assistance.

Complaints other than complaints relating to pupil fees must be filed in writing with CUSD Superintendent Orin Hirschkorn.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Backpacks

No graffiti or writing of any kind other than the student's proper name will be allowed on backpacks, book bags, athletic bags, etc. No badges, writing, pins, attachments, or charms other than those with the owner's proper name are permitted.

Closed Campus

Caruthers High School has a closed campus policy for all 9th and 10th grade students. Only juniors and seniors in good standing will be allowed off campus during lunch. **Driving at lunch is prohibited for all students during the lunch hour.** The off campus eligible list for juniors and seniors will be updated every six weeks with the grade report. Students who are not eligible for off campus lunch or are 9th or 10th graders may not be checked out of school during lunch, unless the parent is physically at the school to pick up the student. Phone calls to check out students that are not eligible for off campus lunch will not be accepted. Students must have an ASB sticker to leave campus. The cost of the ASB sticker is $30.

Daily Bulletin

A bulletin is issued daily at Caruthers High School. The bulletin includes the day's schedule, announcements concerning student body, and other information of importance to the faculty and student body. It will be the responsibility of all students to check the bulletin daily. The bulletin is posted on canvas, read each morning at the beginning of period 3 and emailed to teachers.

Dance Regulations

All dances must be sponsored by an active student club or organization and be approved by school administration. To sponsor a dance the students in the club must submit a request to the activities director. If approved, the club must secure four faculty chaperones.

Guidelines:

- Dances may start at 8:00 p.m. and must end at 11:00 p.m. unless other special arrangements have been made.
- Dances are open to all eligible students. Students who are on the ineligible list are not allowed to attend any dance. This includes the Winter Formal, Sadie Hawkins, and the Jr./Sr. Prom.
- Students and guests are expected to adhere to all Caruthers High School behavioral standards. Inappropriate behavior and/or defiance of the authority of school officials or chaperones may result in any or all of the following:
    - School discipline, up to and including suspension and expulsion
    - Prohibition of attendance at other school dances and after school activities, including the Prom, Grad Night, Winter Formal, etc.
- The Caruthers High dress code will be in effect.
- Students who leave the dance will not be readmitted.
- Clubs or organizations that sponsor dances will be responsible for all clean up.

Guest Regulations:

- Guests are welcome at Caruthers High dances. To attend, all guests must complete a guest pass. Passes are available in the school office. All passes must be signed by an

administrator from the guest's school before they are submitted to CHS Administration. The passes are then forwarded to the Activities Director.

- All guests must be students in good standing with his/her school.
- Guests may not be older than 20 years of age. Guests who are no longer in high school must secure the signature of an administrator at the school from which they graduated and they also must furnish a photocopy of ID with birth date attached to the guest pass.
- Guests must enter and leave with the student who signed for them on guest card.
- Any guest will be asked to leave if his/her conduct warrants such action as determined by school administration. The sponsoring student will also need to leave with their guest. In such a case the guest will be denied future guest privileges and sponsoring student will be denied future guest pass privileges.
- School administration has the right to refuse a guest pass to any student they feel is unfit to attend a high school dance.

Electronic Signaling Devices/Cell Phones/iPods, etc.

All electronic devices (cell phones, hand held video games, laser pointers) are a distraction to the educational process and **can easily be lost or stolen on campus.** Students are not to take or receive calls or text messages during class hours and school officials will confiscate all such devices from students if used in class. Caruthers High School officials will not investigate the theft of items that are restricted from the classroom. Students who bring electronic devices to school are doing so at their own risk.

Emergency Action Plan

Caruthers High School has an Emergency Action Plan that will be implemented in the event of a school crisis. All students and parents are expected to follow the direction of the school administration and staff in the event of an emergency.

1. Evacuation
    - Evacuation will be signaled by a repeating bell
    - Students will exit classrooms and go to their designated area
    - Teachers will make sure all students accompany them and will take roll
    - Students and teachers will wait for instructions from crisis team
    - Teachers will leave the door unlocked
2. Lock-Down
    - Lock-Down will be signaled by a repeating bell (i.e. European siren)
    - All persons are to go immediately to the nearest classroom
    - Students in class are to move out of view of windows in the most safe position as directed by teacher
    - Teachers will take roll and wait for a call from Crisis Team
    - Phones are to be used only in the case of an emergency
    - All electronic devices and audio-visual equipment should not be used
    - School bells should be ignored
    - Wait for directions from Crisis Management Team
    - Teachers are to lock the doors ASAP

Financial Obligation For Damaged Or Lost Property

The parent or guardian of a pupil shall be responsible for paying the district the cost of lost or damaged items that are the property of the school district. Caruthers Unified School District will withhold the transcripts of a student and restrict participation in co-curricular activities until the student or parent has paid for the damage or replacement cost of the property. Financial obligations will be monitored and updated every six weeks. Any senior that has not paid their

financial obligation, will not participate in the graduation ceremony, will not receive a diploma, and/or will not have transcripts released.

Graffiti

Students are not to mark or "tag" in the bathrooms, lockers, desks, or on others' property. Thus, Sharpie markers are not allowed. **Students caught for vandalism or graffiti will be subject to a $25 clean up fee.** If the clean up fee is not paid within one month, the student will be required to work at the school the equivalent amount, approximately 3½ hours. California Education Code 48904 contends that the parent or guardian is liable for all damages caused by the minor. Therefore, the clean up fee, or work equivalent, is valid and appropriate under this statute.

Medications

Students may not carry medications with them at school. All medications must be checked in through the attendance office. Exceptions to this policy may be arranged with a Doctor's note and approval of the Vice Principal. This applies to over the counter medications as well as prescription drugs. Information regarding student medications must be renewed each year.

Education Code Section 49423 defines certain requirements for administration of medications, "…any pupil who is required to take, during the regular school day, medication prescribed for him/her by a physician, may be assisted by the school nurse, or other designated school personnel if the school district receives (1) a written statement from the prescribing physician detailing the method, amount, and time schedules by which such medication is to be taken and (2) a written statement from the parent or guardian of the pupil indicating their desire that the school district assist the pupil in the matter set forth in the physician's statement."

Release of Student Records

When parents are divorced, only the parent having legal custody may authorize release of records to third parties. Parents are responsible for furnishing a copy of any court order or orders of custody. Schools are responsible for following the most current dated orders received.

Respect to Flag

The salute to the flag will be performed each school day at the beginning of Period 3. There shall be no discrimination against any student that brings a note from his/her parent asking that the student be excused from the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, but must stand quietly and respectfully. Students will keep a note from parents on file in the office.

Skateboards, Bikes

Skateboarding, biking, use of scooters and skating are not allowed on the Caruthers High School campus. School officials will confiscate all items if used on campus.

Student Deliveries

Students may receive balloons, flowers, etc. for birthdays or special occasions but they are not allowed in the classroom with the student due to it being an interruption to the learning environment. The student may pick up their delivery and keep it with them during the lunch hour but must return the item(s) to the main office and pick up again at the end of the school day. Any food brought on campus, whether it is for a fundraiser, class party, or any other activity or event needs to have prior administrative approval and must be store bought and sealed.

Textbooks

Classroom teachers will check out textbooks to students. Students are totally responsible for the condition of the textbook issued to them and must turn in the textbook that was issued to them. Students will be charged the replacement cost of a lost, stolen or excessively damaged book.

Visitors

Students are not permitted to bring visitors to campus during school hours. Requests for special consideration must be cleared in advance with the school administration and a visitor pass may be issued. All visitors to campus must check in the main office before entering school grounds.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

The Governing Board believes that appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment. The Board expects students to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to wear clothes that are suitable for the school activities in which they participate. Students' clothing must not present a health or safety hazard or a distraction which would interfere with the educational process. **BP 5132 (a)**

Students and parents/guardians shall be informed about dress and grooming standards at the beginning of the school year and whenever these standards are revised. A student who violates these standards shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action. **BP 5132 (a)**

In cooperation with teachers, students and parents/guardians, the principal or designee shall establish school rules governing student dress and grooming which are consistent with District policy and regulations. These school dress codes shall be regularly reviewed. **AR 5132**

General Standards

Caruthers High School students are expected to show proper attention to personal cleanliness and neatness. Students are required to adhere to the standards of grooming and dress defined below. Unless authorized by a district official, any deviations from the dress and grooming standards while at school, while in district-provided transports, or at school-sponsored activities, are strictly prohibited. Students may be disciplined, including suspension, for violations of the standards specified below.

Dress and Grooming

The Board of Trustees finds that the following items of dress and grooming styles are disruptive of the educational process in that they draw undue attention to the particular student, displaying products or ideas that are illegal, sexual, hazardous to health, or otherwise inappropriate for the school environment. Students shall comply with all of the following:

1. Articles of clothing that identify tobacco products or slogans, alcohol products or slogans, illegal drugs, paraphernalia, gang symbols, profanity, sexual content, or hate symbols (this includes but is not limited to pictures of 8 balls, swastikas, iron crosses or pictures of Jesus Malverde) are strictly prohibited.
2. Appropriate footwear must be worn by all students on campus and during district provided transport or during school sponsored activities. Strapless sandals or shoes without heel straps are allowed except in activity classes like PE or AG. **ABSOLUTELY NO HOUSE SLIPPERS OF ANY KIND!**
3. Hairstyles of unusual design, such as, "mohawks", unusual colors, such as green, purple or any other unusual hair color, or hairstyles with unusual razor cuts **(this includes razor**

cuts in eyebrows), symbols, or messages are strictly prohibited. Hair must be kept out of the student's face.

4. Beards, mustaches, and sideburns must be clean, neatly groomed, of a natural color and non-disruptive. The exceptions to this rule are facial hair that is a recognized element of a known religious doctrine or belief.
5. Spaghetti strap tops, "see-through" garments such as blouses, skirts, or dresses, halter-tops or midriffs, strapless blouses, backless dresses, spandex shorts, and "work-out" leggings are strictly prohibited. **Leggings are allowed when worn with an outer garment that meets dress code requirements**. All shirts/blouses must be long enough so as not to expose a bare midriff and may not have a plunging neckline. Blouses must cover both shoulders and **tank top straps must be a minimum width of 3 fingers or two inches wide.**
6. Shorts and skirts must be the length of fingertips when student is standing up with arms extended at side. **Jeans in a frayed style, which reveal skin, are acceptable as long as the frayed areas are below the length of fingertips when the student is standing up with arms extended at side.**
7. No facial jewelry. Jewelry may only be worn in the ears. **NO** gauged earrings, plugs, tunnels, ear stretchers, etc. allowed and NO piercing inside the mouth, nose, or eyebrows will be allowed.
8. **A Caruthers High School hat or cap may be worn only if the hat or cap is worn with the bill forward and meets district dress code requirements. No other hats are acceptable.** Students are not allowed to carry unapproved hats on campus. Beanies will be allowed during cold weather months during a specific time period established by CHS administration each year. Only CHS beanies or any solid color beanie with no inappropriate symbols and no gang affiliation are allowed. Beanies must be taken off in the classroom setting, and CHS Administration and Staff have the authority to take away any inappropriate beanies or for any reason if there is a disruption. Students shall not wear hats or sunglasses in class except for verified medical reasons.
9. Sleeping attire (pajamas, slippers, blankets) is not allowed at school.
10. All pants must be of appropriate size and fit and be worn at the waist. They may not sag.
11. All belts must be of the appropriate size and must be worn through belt loops. No belt may hang down below the waist. All fasteners designed for use with a particular item of clothing shall be appropriately used.
12. **All tattoos MUST be covered at all times**.
13. Undergarments must not be exposed.
14. Chains of any kind are strictly prohibited.
15. Headbands, hairnets and bandannas are strictly prohibited.

Gang-Related Apparel

The principal, staff and parents/guardians at a school may establish a reasonable dress code that prohibits students from wearing gang-related apparel when there is evidence of a gang presence that disrupts or threatens to disrupt the school's activities. Such a dress code may be included as part of the school safety plan and must be presented to the Board for approval. The Board shall approve the plan upon determining that it is necessary to protect the health and safety of the school's students. **BP 5132 (a)**

The dress code prohibits gang-related apparel at school or school activities. The principal, staff and parents/guardians participated in the development of the school safety plan which defines "gang-related apparel" and limits this definition to apparel that reasonably could be determined to threaten the health and safety of the school environment if it were worn or displayed on a school campus. (**Education Code 35294.1)**

Clothing and Grooming Indicative of Gang Affiliation or Activity

Because gang-related symbols are constantly changing, definitions of gang-related apparel shall be reviewed at least once each semester and updated whenever related information is received. When the administration becomes informed that any of the articles of clothing or grooming styles specified above, such as bandannas or specific hairstyles, are indicative of gang affiliation or gang activity, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken. Staff shall exercise discretionary authority in determining whether "colors" are being displayed, with the administration remaining as the ultimate authority in such determinations. Nothing in this policy shall be construed to limit the Administration's authority to curtail gang-related apparel or grooming if the item or style is not expressly stated in this policy. Permanent or temporary tattoos, which express gang affiliation, shall be covered at all times while at school, during District-provided transport, or in connection with a school-sponsored activity.

Exemptions

Exemptions from a particular prohibition or regulation shall only be granted for verified religious reasons. A parent or guardian shall initially request such an exemption in writing, addressed to the principal. In his/her sole discretion, the principal may convene a meeting with the parent/guardian and require any type of evidence as to why the particular religious beliefs preclude compliance with the prohibition or regulation.

If the parent/guardian is dissatisfied with the principal's decision not to grant an exemption, the parent/guardian may appeal, in writing, to the District Superintendent. The superintendent's written decision, after meeting with the parent/guardian, shall be final.

Enforcement

The prohibitions and regulations expressed in this policy shall be enforced at all school facilities, at all times students are engaged in district-provided transport, and in connection with all school-sponsored activities, including athletic events. Any student not in compliance will not be allowed to attend class.

Consequences

Students out of compliance with dress code may be given any of the following:

- Warning
- Sent home to change/shave
- Detention
- Saturday School
- Suspension

Waiver

This is the Board approved dress code for Caruthers High School (AR 5132); only medical waivers considered.

ABSENCES

The State of California requires children between 6 and 18 years of age to be in school. The governing board of Caruthers High School District believes that regular attendance plays a key role in student achievement. In an effort to ensure student success, the district has adopted policies and procedures regarding attendance. Students should not be absent from school without their parents/guardians knowledge or consent except in cases of medical emergency or confidential medical appointment. The Attendance Office phone number is 495-6424.

Excused Absences

There are a few reasons why students may miss school with a valid excuse. The following are considered excused absences:

1. Administrative (including school administrative/counseling appointments, jury duty, court appointment, quarantine, lack of immunizations, and justifiable personal reasons as listed in the Administrative Regulations and the California Education Code).
2. Bereavement (attending the funeral of an immediate family member, as specified in the Administrative Regulations and the California Education Code).
3. Pre-approved co-curricular involvement (as listed in the Administrative Regulations).
4. Written verification from a medical doctor (including a single doctor's note for periodic absences due to chronic illness such as asthma, bronchitis, tonsillitis, etc.) Notes from dentists, orthodontists, optometrists, psychologists and chiropractors are acceptable.

For more detailed information regarding excused absences, see Ed Code 48205 in the back of this handbook.

Unexcused Absences

If a student misses school without a valid excuse, he/she is considered unexcused. Two unexcused absences are allowed for the school year. All other unexcused absences must be made up in Saturday School. Absences may not be cleared by serving detention. Five single period absences will equal one unexcused absence. Students who have more than two unexcused absences per year will be considered a habitual truant. Habitual truancy will result in disciplinary action that may include referral to Fresno County Juvenile Probation, the District Attorney's office, or truancy diversion program with placement at MARC High School. If a student is thirty minutes late to class it will be marked as an unexcused absence.

Excessive Excused Absences

A student is allowed 8 absences for illness per year. On the 9th absence, a doctor's note is needed to be excused. If no note is provided, the absence will be marked unexcused and must be made up in Saturday School. If a pattern of unexcused absences occurs, a parent conference (Mini SARB) will be required. Absences not cleared by a doctor's note will be considered unexcused and will count toward truancy.

Extended Absences

Students must attend school the entire semester to receive full credit. Students that miss final exams for unexcused absences will receive a zero on their final exam and that grade will be factored in to their total score. Students that miss more than 10 days will lose credits (i.e. extended family trip). These absences will also have to be made up in Saturday School.
In the event of extended medial leave, a student may be put on home hospital instruction. The student or parent should contact their guidance counselor about extended leaves of absence.

Intervention Procedures

A letter of notification will be mailed to the parents/guardians of the pupils at the 3rd, 6th, 9th, absences that count toward the policy per year. The appropriate administrative personnel will also be notified.

Saturday School

Saturday School will be held every Saturday from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. A student list will be posted weekly on the Attendance Office window and students will be given a reminder note every week that they are assigned to attend Saturday School. Three Saturday School no-shows will result in a Mini-SARB meeting.

Seniors

Seniors must have all of their absences made up through Saturday School or they will be in danger of not participating in the graduation ceremony.

Fair Week

All absences during fair week must be cleared with a doctor's note or will be considered "unexcused".

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT PARENTS AND STUDENTS REVIEW THIS INFORMATION PERTAINING TO ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES AND STUDENT ACCOUNTABILITY!

1. Clearing student absences: Students who are absent from school must have their parent/guardian phone in before 3:00 p.m. on the date of the absence in order to be admitted directly to class on the following day. If the parent/guardian is unable to phone on the day of the absence, students must bring a note to the attendance office to obtain a re-admit slip prior to returning to class. Connect-Ed, our automated phone notification system, will call home on the day of the absence.
2. Student Check Out: Students leaving during the school day must check out at the attendance office to receive permission to leave school. Students who leave campus without checking out will be marked truant and will be subject to disciplinary action. Only individuals listed on the Emergency Card are authorized to check a student out of school.
3. Makeup Work: Pupils absent from school for any excusable reason shall be allowed to complete all assignments and tests missed during the absence that can be reasonably provided and, upon satisfactory completion with a reasonable period of time, shall be given full credit therefore. "Reasonable time" shall be the equivalent number of days as the absence but not to exceed 5 days. As the teacher of any class from which a pupil is absent shall determine, the tests and assignments shall be reasonably equivalent to, but not necessarily identical to, the tests and assignments that the pupil missed during the absence. Students who may miss class due to involvement in school activities should make plans to make up work ahead of time, Ed Code 48980 (j).

SARB (School Attendance Review Board)

Students with attendance problems (i.e. more than 8 full day absences for illness and/or 2 unexcused absences) will be referred to the Vice Principal and a parent conference (mini SARB) will take place. If the student's attendance or tardies do not improve following the mini SARB meeting, the family will be referred to the District School Attendance Review Board. Families failing to make appropriate positive changes toward student attendance following the district mini SARB, will be referred to the juvenile court, and/or MARC High.

Education Code 48454 (Attendance)

Any parent, guardian or other person having control or charge of any minor subject to this chapter who fails to perform any of the duties imposed upon him by the provisions of Section 48450 is guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be punished as follows:

(1) Upon first conviction, by a fine of not more than fifty dollars ($50) or by imprisonment in the county jail for a period of not more than five days.

(2) Upon a second or subsequent conviction, by a fine of not less than fifty dollars ($50) or more than five hundred dollars ($500), by imprisonment in the county jail for a period not less than five days or more than 25 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Tardies

Caruthers High School students are to be in class on time. A tardy policy has been set up to help provide structure and assertive discipline for students to encourage them to be on time to class. If a student continues to be late after the appropriate measures have been taken (see below), the issue will be turned over to the District SARB Board.

Tardy Policy:

- 1st tardy – warning by teacher
- 2nd tardy – warning by teacher
- 3rd tardy – detention with teacher
- 4th tardy – detention with teacher, teacher notifies parent
- 5th tardy – referral sent to Vice Principal, minimum one hour detention
- 6th tardy – referral sent to Vice Principal, minimum one hour detention
- 7th tardy and on – phone call home, mini SARB meeting, SARB meeting at the District Office

TRANSPORTATION

Regulations Concerning Bus Transportation

Southwest Transportation Agency provides the bus service for Caruthers Unified School District. Caruthers High School Administration will support the discipline policies of Southwest Transportation Agency (SWTA). Additionally, student transportation to and from school are subject to the District's rules and regulations. The Board of Trustees has adopted the following rules and regulations concerning student transportation:

1. Pupils transported in a school bus shall be under the authority of the bus driver. Continued disorderly conduct or refusal to submit to the authority of the driver shall be sufficient reason for refusing transportation to any pupil and for such other punishment as the law may provide. The driver of any school bus is responsible for the orderly conduct of the pupils transported.
2. Bus drivers are instructed to let the students off only at their regularly assigned stops. If a student desires to be let off at a stop other than his/her regular one, a written request must be made by the parent/guardian and presented to the office before the beginning of 2nd period.
3. No student is permitted to stand up or to change seats while the bus is in motion.
4. Students are required to keep their hands to themselves and not to take other students' property or molest other students. This is the cause of most disturbances on the buses, and drivers must enforce this provision. Students are not permitted to put their head or arms outside the bus while it is in motion.
5. Scratching, marring, or in any way damaging a school bus is strictly forbidden by law. Any student found removing screws or damaging school buses in any way will be brought before the proper authorities.
6. Paper and other items are not to be thrown from a bus.
7. Rubber bands, spitballs, or other means of causing disturbances are prohibited.
8. Profane language or disrespectful remarks and conversation are not permitted.
9. The bus driver is in full charge of the bus at all times, and his judgment and decisions shall hold whenever he is on duty.
10. The transportation of pupils is permissive and not mandatory. The law does not require the district to transport a student when the student fails to conduct himself properly when on a school bus.

11. Aisles must be kept clear of feet or any other part of the body so that ongoing passengers will not be tripped while leaving the bus.
12. Excessive talking and loud noises of any nature are detrimental to the bus driver's peace of mind and safety of the students and will not be tolerated.
13. Morning pickups must be made on schedule so the bus will not be delayed. Anyone not at the appointed stop when the bus arrives may be left behind.
14. No eating or gum chewing is allowed on the bus.
15. SWTA discipline policies are as follows:
    - 1st citation – Written notice to parents.
    - 2nd citation – Loss of bus privileges for a minimum of one day.
    - 3rd citation – Loss of bus privileges for a minimum of three days.
    - 4th citation – Loss of bus privileges for a minimum of ten days.
    - 5th citation – Loss of bus privileges pending a parent conference. School Administrator and Transportation Agency will determine course of action following parent conference.

Bus Transportation – Students To And From School Activity

1. All participants to any activity must ride school transportation to that activity or that student cannot participate.
2. Coaches and advisors have release forms that the parent must sign to transport their child from the activity.
3. Any students being transported by anyone other than the parent must fill out a "Permit to Release Student Form" in the office 24 hours in advance.

Foggy Weather

During foggy weather we ask your patience and understanding when our school buses arrive late at the bus stops. Each driver will determine if it is safe to drive on the roads during extremely foggy conditions. Please bear in mind that during bad weather, student safety will be primary. Arrival for school on time or arrival of the bus at the regular stop on time will be secondary. More information concerning foggy weather schedules will be distributed before the condition exists. Local morning news stations and Valley Public TV broadcast foggy day schedules on TV, as well as the radio stations. Plan "A" is an approximate 2 hour delay, Plan "B" is an approximate 3 hour delay, and Plan "C" is morning buses are canceled.

After School Late Bus

A late bus is provided daily for students who stay after school for activities such as sports, tutorial, and Expanded Learning Program classes. The late bus leaves the school daily at 5 p.m. It is the responsibility of the student to sign up in the main office by the end of break each day that they need late bus transportation. If students sign up for the late bus, but do not ride it home, they are given two warnings and the third time the student will not be allowed to sign up for the late bus for the remainder of the semester. Only students who are involved with organized after school activities are permitted to ride the late bus.

Student Parking

Students who drive to school must register their vehicle with the office. Students who drive a vehicle to school may park in the student lot only. Students who drive to school, but do not follow safe driving habits, may have their driving privileges revoked and/or further consequences.

STUDENT SERVICES

Expanded Learning Program: The Caruthers High School Expanded Learning Program provides fun activities for high school students to participate in after school hours. Classes are designed to enrich the students academically, recreationally, and socially. The variety of classes offered include cooking, weight training, theater, and community service. Faculty members are also on duty to assist students with each of their core classes. Students may receive assistance in researching information or may ask questions about their assignments.

Classes begin at 3:15 and end at 5:00 so that students may catch the late bus home. Students must sign up by break in the main office each day they need to ride the late bus. Students may join any class at any time. A healthy snack is also provided right after school in the cafeteria.

The goals for the Caruthers High School Expanded Learning Program are to engage students in school activities, improve attendance, raise grade point averages, and lower truancy or absenteeism rates. Annual surveys will be provided to students in order to receive constant feedback to better improve our program.

Alternative Education: Educational alternatives to regular high school include Continuation Education, and Independent Study. Students who benefit by participating in alternative forms of education include those who are returning to school, those who desire to combine education and employment, and those who due to personal, economic, social, or family circumstances cannot attend full time high school classes on a regular basis. Entrance to these programs is arranged via the administration.

ASB Cards: Associated Student Body Cards are available for purchase during orientation and in the office during school hours. ASB cards provide discounts at all sporting events (home and away), dances and school activities and are required for students who wish to have off campus lunch privileges.

Career and College Information: Students have CCGI accounts that allow them to research careers and colleges.

Class Rings, Caps & Gowns: Class rings may be purchased by contacting Graduate Services at (431-2541 or 431-3500), or most reputable jewelers. Graduate Services will be on campus during the year to take orders, but students/parents need not wait for that date. Senior cap/gown orders are also taken by Graduate Services on campus in January, but students missing that date may contact the company for a make-up order.

Counseling Department: The Guidance Counselors are located in the Student Services Center. You can reach the Counseling Department by calling 495-6416.

Financial Secretary: The Financial Office is Located in the Student Services Center and the phone number is 495-6419. The CHS financial secretary is available daily from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to assist with student body cards, student bills, and other services as announced.

ID Cards: All students are required to carry their CHS photo ID card issued at student orientation. Lost or damaged cards must be replaced and cost $5. Replacement cards are available in the Student Services Center.

Injury Reports: All students injured during school hours or with a CHS team, need to have an injury report filled out by the supervisory adult and turned in to the Main Office.

Lost and Found: Students may check in the Attendance Office for lost articles and also report losses there.

Main Office: The Principal's office is located in the main office of the Administration Building. This is also where students go to sign up each day for the late bus. Students arriving after the morning late bell rings or leaving before school is dismissed are required to do so through the main office. The main office phone number is 495-6416.

Media Center: The Media Center, in addition to the traditional availability of books and other reference materials, is open before school, at break, lunch, and after school unless otherwise announced.

Public Telephones: The student phone in the Student Services Center can be used for calls up to one minute in length and may be used by students before school begins, during lunch, and after school. All office telephones are for business purposes only, and are to be used by students only in emergency situations.

Registrar: The school registrar is located in the Student Services Center. The registrar is available during school hours for transcripts, grade changes, scholarship information and photo ID replacement cards. You can reach the registrar's office at 495-6418.

Vice Principal: The Vice Principal's office and the attendance office are located in the Student Services Center. The Vice Principal oversees discipline and attendance issues. Please see pp. 30-32 for more information regarding attendance policies, pp. 15-22 for discipline guidelines, and pp. 27-29 for the dress code policy. You can reach the attendance office at 495-6424 and the Vice Principal's office at 495-6425.

Work Permits: Work permits are issued in the main office for students who have a summer job or part-time job outside of school hours. During summer vacation, a work permit may also be obtained in the main office. You must have good attendance. Your work permit may be revoked if your attendance is poor.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

ASB Student Body Officers 2026-2027

President……Sukhjit Johal
Vice President……San Juana Mendoza
Secretary……..Mariah Taguada
Treasurer……..Juan Ruiz Sanchez

ASB COMMISSIONERS AND FRESHMEN CLASS OFFICERS WILL BE ELECTED IN THE FALL

School Colors: Royal Blue & White with Red Trim
School Mascot: BLUE RAIDERS

Student Council

The Student Council is composed of Student Body Officers, Class Presidents, Class Representatives, and members at large. The Student Council is the governing body of student activities. Questions of interpretation should be directed to the Student Council. Contact a Student Council member or advisor, and it will be placed on the agenda. Meetings are held once a month.

Qualifications

He/she must have a 2.5 as of that semester with no failures. ("A" is 4, "B" is 3, "C" is 2, and "D" is 1) For exact qualifications consult the Caruthers High School Student Body Constitution under Article 6, Section 5.

Student Leadership

Student Body Officers are elected by the Student Body and serve as part of the ASB Leadership team. This team is made up of ten members, including Student Body President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Public Relations Coordinator, and Members at Large.

STUDENT BODY ORGANIZATIONS

Block "C"

Block "C" is an honor and service club composed of girls who have earned their varsity letter in athletics.

California Scholarship Federation (C.S.F.)

C.S.F. exists to foster high standards of scholarship and general achievement in the high schools of California. It is a statewide organization whose merit is recognized by colleges and universities. Students who qualify for lifetime membership are recognized at graduation.

Club Los Amigos

The students in Club Los Amigos do community service and will receive guidance for careers and educational development. They will participate in activities that will expand their appreciation for the Spanish language and the Hispanic culture. This club is open to all students.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (F.C.A.)

The purpose of the FCA is to challenge young men and women to follow Jesus Christ and to promote Christian sportsmanship.

Future Farmers of America (F.F.A.)

The FFA is composed of students who have an interest in agriculture. Students must be enrolled in an agriculture class to be eligible to participate in this national organization. Activities include showing livestock at county fairs, public speaking contests, judging contests, and leadership conferences. FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

Lettermen's Club

The Lettermen's Club is a service club composed of boys who have earned their varsity letter in athletics. They sponsor activities and provide service to the school and community.

Migrant Leadership Club

The Migrant Leadership Club is a school organization designed to develop leadership skills in students who would otherwise not have a chance to develop them. The club focuses on Migrant students but it is open to all. During the year, the club has regular meetings, participates in food fairs and the Homecoming parade, and takes students to a leadership camp. Through the club, the students are trained and encouraged to participate in school wide leadership activities.

Punjabi Club

This club emphasizes the rich Punjabi heritage and culture. Club members are expected to be involved in activities that help our community to better understand the culture and people of India. We involve ourselves with school, community, and church activities all year long. A big annual event is called Punjab Night. This features food booths, dance performances, and cultural awareness (displays of traditional wedding, dress, religion, etc.).

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parents are encouraged to become involved with their child's education. There are many opportunities for parents to become involved with school committees.

Caruthers Blue Raider Boosters, Inc.

Caruthers Blue Raider Boosters provides support to all students at Caruthers High School. We celebrate academic achievement at honor roll events, purchase CSF cords for graduating seniors and provide financial support for events honoring English language learners who make significant gains in state testing. Boosters purchases athletic letters, patches and awards; we have supported FFA, the Outdoors Club, band, added shade to the softball and baseball bleachers and donated funds to make upgrades to the high school weight room. Boosters also provides scholarships to qualifying seniors as they graduate.

Boosters meetings are held on the first Monday of the month. Annual membership is $15 and allows you to vote on funding requests we receive.

Back to School Night

Back to School Night is held after the 1st grading period is completed. This is an opportunity for parents and teachers to discuss student's progress.

English Learner Advisory Council

All schools enrolling English Learners must form an English Learner Advisory Council (ELAC). This committee is comprised of parents and school personnel. The ELAC provides input and makes recommendations to the principal, staff and SSC regarding services for English learners.

Aeries Parent Portal

Parents may check on their son or daughter's progress by logging on to the student web site at www.caruthers.k12.ca.us.

Migrant Parents

The Migrant Parent Committee assists in providing support and services for CHS migrant students. The committee approves the District Migrant Services agreement and oversees the implementation of the plan. Migrant parents also participate in many school functions such as hosting the "Day of the Teacher" celebration each May.

Parenting Partners

The Parenting Partners workshops encourage parents to use their parenting strengths, to learn new skills, to become more involved in their children's education and to become active in their communities. By participating in the series, participants will:

- Learn basic, easy-to-implement parenting tools

- Develop an understanding of the asset framework and how to build on their children's assets
- Identify and be challenged to use their strengths as home, school and community leaders

The Parenting Partners curriculum is available in English and Spanish. The seven workshop sessions are designed for once a week meetings, each from one-half to two hours.

Report Cards/Progress Reports

Approximately one week after the grade period ends, report cards/progress reports of each student are mailed home. Comments from the teachers regarding student behavior are included on the progress report. Parents are encouraged to contact teachers for any information regarding student performance or behavior.

School Site Council

All schools receiving categorical funds are required to form a School Site Council (SSC). The council is comprised of parents, students and school personnel. The SSC is responsible for developing and implementing the School Site Plan. Members are elected by their peers and serve for two years. Elections will be held in the fall at the first SSC meeting.

SST (Student Success Team)

Parents may be contacted to participate in a SST if a student is struggling with academics, behavior, or attendance.

BOARD POLICIES

Parent Involvement

The Governing Board recognizes that parents/guardians are their children's first and most influential teachers and that sustained parent involvement in the education of their children contributes greatly to student achievement and a positive school environment. The Superintendent or designee shall work with staff and parents/guardians to develop meaningful opportunities at all grade levels for parents/guardians to be involved in district and school activities; advisory, decision-making and advocacy roles; and activities to support learning at home.

(cf. 0420 – School Plans/Site Councils)
(cf. 0420.1 – School-Based Program Coordination)
(cf. 0520.2 – Title I Program Improvement Schools)
(cf. 1220 – Citizen Advisory Committees)
(cf. 1230 – School-Connected Organizations)
(cf. 1240 – Volunteer Assistance)
(cf. 1250 – Visitors/Outsiders)

Parents/guardians shall be notified of their rights to be informed about and to participate in their children's education and of the opportunities available to them to do so.

(cf. 5020 – Parent Rights and Responsibilities)
(cf. 5145.6 – Parental Notifications)

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly evaluate and report to the Board on the effectiveness of the district's parent involvement efforts, including, but not limited to, input from parents/guardians and school staff on the adequacy of parent involvement opportunities and barriers that may inhibit parent/guardian participation.
(cf. 0500 – Accountability)

Title I Schools

Each year the Superintendent or designee shall identify specific objectives of the district's parent involvement program for schools that receive Title I funding. He/she shall ensure that parents/guardians are consulted and participate in the planning, design, implementation, and evaluation of the parent involvement program. *(Education Code 11503)*

(cf. 6171 – Title I Programs)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's parent involvement strategies are jointly developed with and agreed upon by parents/guardians of students participating in Title I programs. Those strategies shall establish expectations for parent involvement and describe how the district will carry out each activity listed in *20USC 6318*. *(20 USC 6318)*

The Superintendent or designee shall consult with parents/guardians of participating students in the planning and implementation of parent involvement programs, activities, and regulations. He/she also shall involve parents/guardians of participating students in decisions regarding how the district's Title I funds will be allotted for parent involvement activities. *(20 USC 6318)*

(cf. 3100 – Budget)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that each school receiving Title I funds develops a school-level parent involvement policy in accordance with *20USC 6318*.

Non-Title I Schools

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement strategies applicable to each school that does not receive federal Title I funds to encourage the involvement and support of parents/guardians in the education of their children, including, but not limited to, strategies describing how the district and schools will address the purposes and goals described in Education Code 11502. *(Education Code 11504)*

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
11500-11506 Programs to encourage parent involvement
48985 Notices in languages other than English
51101 Parent rights and responsibilities
64001 Single plan for student achievement
LABOR CODE
230.8 Time off to visit child's school
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
6311 Parental notice of teacher qualifications and student achievement
6312 Local educational agency plan
6314 Schoolwide programs
6316 School improvement
6318 Parent involvement
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 28
35.104 Definitions, auxiliary aids and services
35.160 Communications

Management Resources:
CSBA PUBLICATIONS
Parent Involvement: Development of Effective and Legally Compliant Policies, Governance and Policy Services Policy Briefs, August 2006
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICIES
89-01 Parent Involvement in the Education of Their Children, Rev. 1994
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION NON-REGULATORY GUIDANCE
Parental Involvement: Title I, Part A, April 23, 2004

CARUTHERS HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR STUDENT ATHLETES

Objectives

The Caruthers High School Athletic Program is committed to developing character through competitive athletics.

- We believe participation in athletic competition and team membership should be designed to develop the physical, social, emotional and mental well-being of young men and women.
- We believe that coaches and parents should be role models at all times, providing examples of positive sportsmanlike behavior.
- We believe it is a privilege for a student to be a member of a Caruthers High School athletic team and that all athletes should be expected to maintain high standards set specifically for team membership.

Expectations

The purpose of the Code of Ethics is to clearly define the expectations for parents and students in the Caruthers High School Athletic Program. Student-athletes are subject to the following standards at all times during the year, both on and off the school campus, and at all hours of the day. Student violations of these standards will result in suspension from athletic participation as decided by the coaching staff and school administration.

- Students are expected to refrain from the use of alcohol, tobacco and drugs. Use of any of these substances are strictly prohibited at all times.
- Students are expected to act as role models of citizenship on and off campus and are not to be cited for disciplinary causes by administrators or teachers. This includes, but is not limited to fighting, inappropriate behavior or language, stealing, disrespect for authority, excessive tardies, class cuts, or serious infractions.
- Students are expected to attend all team practices, games and the Sports Awards Program. Any exception to this must be cleared by the coach or participation will be affected.
- Students are expected to demonstrate respect toward opponents, officials, and fans at all athletic events whether an athlete is participating or watching.
- Parents/guardians are expected to demonstrate respect toward officials, opponents, game management personnel (scorekeepers, linesmen, etc.), & all fans, and refrain from abusive or confrontational behavior.
- Parents/guardians are expected to show respect toward Caruthers coaches at all times and refrain from addressing a coach about specific issues at games and practices.

Grievances

It is the policy of Caruthers High School that grievances should not be addressed during or immediately following any practice or game. If a situation arises when a parent or guardian wishes to meet with an advisor or coach to address a specific issue or complaint; the following steps should be followed:

- Call the school to request a private appointment with the coach.
- If the conflict is unresolved, request an appointment with the Athletic Director.
- If the issue cannot be resolved in a meeting with the Athletic Director, request an appointment with the Principal.
- Further appeals should be conducted by following the District grievance policy.

Transportation

Travel: All coaches and athletes are to be positive representatives of the school on all trips. Each coach should establish a clear dress code and behavioral expectations for all trips. Students must always stay together as a team when not competing and should be supervised at all times by coaches.

Suburbans: No food and drink are allowed in the suburbans at any time.

Release to parents

All student athletes who travel to a game must return with the team unless one of the two following conditions is met:

A. The student is released to a parent or guardian at the game. In that case, the student must be signed out on the official release form for each game by his/her parent.
B. The student is released to return with another individual. In that case, the student must have a signed release form filed in the office prior to the departure, including signatures from his/her parents and the parents of the individual he/she will ride home with.

Discipline

When competing for Caruthers High School, all student athletes will be expected to uphold the highest standards of citizenship and sportsmanship as indicated in the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Ethics Agreement. Student athletes are accountable for their conduct at all times on campus, in the community, and are not limited to their season of sport. Violations for misconduct will result in suspension from participation in athletics as arranged by the Athletic Director and Administration.

Quitting: Any athlete who quits a team during the season will not be able to participate in a sport during the next season of sport. Student athletes will be allowed a three-week try out period at the beginning of each season and may withdraw during that time period with approval of the coach without a penalty. An athlete may appeal to have this rule waived in emergency cases by writing to the Athletic Director and will have a hearing with the Principal.

Fighting: The Athletic Director and school Administration will suspend any athlete who is involved in a fight from athletic contests during their school suspension and for additional games in all sports in which they participate as arranged.

Campus discipline: Any athlete who is disciplined for inappropriate behavior at school or school activities will be subject to additional suspension from contests in athletics as arranged by the Athletic Director and Administration.

Equipment/Uniforms

All student athletes are responsible for proper care of school equipment and will be held accountable for lost or damaged equipment/uniforms. Coaches are responsible to turn in a financial obligation form to the registrar/accountant immediately. **NO** student athlete will be eligible for athletic awards or be able to compete in the following season of sport until payment for lost or damaged equipment/uniform has been made.

All equipment/uniforms must be turned in before beginning the next sport.

Absences From School On Game Days

All absences on game days must be cleared ahead of time by the Athletic Director. Athletes must attend a minimum of 3 periods on game days to be eligible to play. Violations of these policies will result in game suspension(s). The Athletic Director will have discretion over these policies.

Eligibility Requirements

Academic

Each student athlete must maintain a 2.0 GPA each six-week grading period to be academically eligible to compete during the following six-week grading period. The registrar will post an ineligible list on Thursday following each six-week grading period. Student athletes will become eligible or ineligible on that date. Summer school grades may be averaged toward fall eligibility with approval of the Principal.

Coaches are responsible to verify eligibility prior to allowing any athlete to practice. The Athletic Director must clear all ineligible athletes before they are allowed to practice.

Physical

Each student athlete must have a physical exam for the year of competition and a completed form turned into the office prior to any practice.

Insurance

Each student athlete must have a signed (by parent) proof of insurance form turned into the office prior to any practice.

Emergency Card

Each student athlete must have a completed emergency information card into the office prior to any practice.

Ethics

Each student athlete must have a signed Caruthers High School and CIF Ethics in Sport form signed and turned into the office prior to any practice.

Student athletes must complete all the above steps and be approved by the Athletic Director prior to the start of practice for a particular sport. When they have completed all steps the coach will be notified that the athlete is cleared to practice.

Sports Awards

Fall	To Be Determined
Winter	To Be Determined
Spring	To Be Determined

All athletes are required to attend the Sports Awards Program to receive a letter for their sport. Please encourage athletes to dress appropriately to any Sport Awards Program. Their dress is a reflection upon their team, Caruthers High School and the Caruthers community.

Athlete of the Year

At the conclusion of each year, a male and female Athlete of the Year will be selected in accordance with criteria established by school administration.

SENIOR ATHLETE(S) OF THE YEAR CRITERIA

Any senior athlete that accumulates 150 points during their years at Caruthers High School will qualify for the Senior Athlete of the Year Award.

J.V. (all sports)		5 points
Captain - J.V.		3 points
Varsity (all sports)		10 points
Captain - Varsity		5 points
League MVP		15 points
1st Team All-League		10 points
2nd Team All-League		5 points
Valley (Wrestling, Track, Tennis)	1st	15 points
	2nd	10 points
	3rd	5 points
State (Wrestling, Track, Tennis)	1st	15 points
	2nd	10 points
	3rd	5 points
City-County		15 points
2nd sport same season		5 points
3rd sport same season		0 points

If no student qualifies, then the athlete with the highest point total will be declared Senior Athlete of the Year.

CARUTHERS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
2026-2027 CONCUSSION INFORMATION SHEET
(Applicable Only for the Current School Year)

A concussion is a brain injury and all brain injuries are serious. They are caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head, or by a blow to another part of the body with the force transmitted to the head. They can range from mild to severe and can disrupt the way the brain normally works. Even though most concussions are mild, **all concussions are potentially serious and may result in complications including prolonged brain damage and death if not recognized and managed properly.** In other words, even a "ding" or a bump on the head can be serious. You can't see a concussion and most sports concussions occur without loss of consciousness. Signs and symptoms of concussion may show up right after the injury or can take hours or days to fully appear. If your child reports any symptoms of concussion, or if you notice the symptoms or signs of concussion yourself, seek medical attention right away.

Symptoms may include one or more of the following:	
• Headaches • "Pressure in head" • Nausea or vomiting • Neck pain • Balance problems or dizziness • Blurred, double, or fuzzy vision • Sensitivity to light or noise • Feeling sluggish or slowed down • Feeling foggy or groggy • Drowsiness • Change in sleep patterns	• Amnesia • "Don't feel right" • Fatigue or low energy • Sadness • Nervousness or anxiety • Irritability • More emotional • Confusion • Concentration or memory problems (forgetting game plays) • Repeating the same question/comment

Signs observed by teammates, parents and coaches include:
• Appears dazed • Vacant facial expression • Confused about assignment • Forgets plays • Is unsure of game, score, or opponent • Moves clumsily or displays incoordination • Answers questions slowly • Slurred speech • Shows behavior or personality changes • Can't recall events prior to hit • Can't recall events after hit • Seizures or convulsions • Any change in typical behavior or personality • Loses consciousness

What can happen if my child keeps on playing with a concussion or returns to soon?

Athletes with the signs and symptoms of concussion should be removed from play immediately. Continuing to play with the signs and symptoms of a concussion leaves the young athlete especially vulnerable to greater injury. There is an increased risk of significant damage from a concussion for a period of time after that concussion occurs, particularly if the athlete suffers another concussion before completely recovering from the first one. This can lead to prolonged recovery, or even to severe brain swelling (second impact syndrome) with devastating and even fatal consequences. It is well known that adolescent or teenage athlete will often under report symptoms of injuries. And concussions are no different. As a result, education of administrators, coaches, parents and students is the key for student-athlete's safety.

If you think your child has suffered a concussion

Any athlete even suspected of suffering a concussion should be removed from the game or practice immediately. No athlete may return to activity after an apparent head injury or concussion, regardless of how mild it seems or how quickly symptoms clear, without medical clearance. Close observation of the athlete should continue for several hours. The new CIF Bylaw 313 now requires implementation of long and well-established return to play concussion guidelines that have been recommended for several years:

> "A student-athlete who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury in a practice or game shall be removed from competition at that time and for the remainder of the day."
>
> **and**
>
> "A student-athlete who has been removed may not return to play until the athlete is evaluated by a licensed health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussion and received written clearance to return to play from that health care provider".

You should also inform your child's coach if you think that your child may have a concussion Remember it's better to miss one game than miss the whole season. And when in doubt, the athlete sits out.

For current and up-to-date information on concussions you can go to:
http://www.cdc.gov/ConcussionInYouthSports/

_____	_____	_____
Student-athlete Name Printed	Student-athlete Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Parent or Legal Guardian Printed	Parent or Legal Guardian Signature	Date