

GRIDLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Student Handbook 2025-2026

300 East Spruce Street
Gridley, California 95948
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HOME OF THE BULLDOGS



G.H.S. MISSION STATEMENT

Rooted in the strength and determination of our Bulldog spirit, we are committed to *Growing* as learners and leaders, *Honoring* our traditions and community, and *Succeeding* in academics and beyond.

GRIDLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

| | | | |
|-----------|--------------------|--------|-------------|
| President | Eric Waterbury | Member | Drew Becker |
| Clerk | Art Cota | Member | Ben Taylor |
| Member | Cheryl Argetsinger | Member | Joe Dewsnup |
| Member | Sonia Zarate | | |

GRIDLEY HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Superintendent - Justin Kern
Principal - Rikki-Lee Burresch
Assistant Principal - Emily Peery

GHS COUNSELING

Jesse Barajas
Jasmine Ramos
Torrin Johnson

GHS SUPPORT STAFF

Assistant Activities Coordinator - Tammy Carr
Athletic Director - Jessika Paiva
Secretary - Lourdes Delgado
Attendance Secretary - Angelica Hernandez
Counseling Secretary - Cristina Coats
Office Clerk - Paige Maxwell
Computer Tech/Library Clerk - Rasma LaBuff

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Gridley High School Vision and Mission

VISION:

Together, we cultivate a supportive and inclusive environment where every student is prepared to face the future with confidence and resilience.

MISSION:

Rooted in the strength and determination of our Bulldog spirit, we are committed to *Growing* as learners and leaders, *Honoring* our traditions and community, and *Succeeding* in academics and beyond.

Gridley High School's Graduate Profile

WE ARE GRIDLEY HIGH SCHOOL



GROW

We demonstrate academic and personal growth through producing quality work.

We think critically to analyze and solve complex problems.

We engage as lifelong learners, seeking new knowledge and skills.



HONOR

We respect and uphold Gridley's rich traditions and diverse community.

We value heritage and cultural identity while fostering inclusivity.

We contribute through service and collaboration within our community and beyond.



SUCCEED

We apply our learning to real-world contexts.

We pursue a variety of opportunities, including college, career, and service pathways.

We draw on a broad range of experiences to adapt and thrive in a changing world.



School Colors/Mascot

Navy Blue & Gold
Bulldogs

Alma Mater

Hail, Gridley High
This is our song to thee.
Long may our banners be
Crowned with victory

We share our loyalty and
Our sincerity. We must be
True to thee, Hail Gridley High!

School Song

We're loyal to you, Gridley High.
We're steadfast and true, Gridley High
We'll back you to stand
against the best in the land,
For we know we will stand, Gridley High
Rah! Rah!

So oil up those joints, Gridley High.
Stack up those points, Gridley High.
For we know you'll come through
for the gold & the blue
'cause we're rooting for you, Gridley High
Rah! Rah!

—Welcome Letter—

Welcome to Gridley High School, a school steeped in community service and traditions. We are excited to have you! Gridley High has numerous opportunities to develop lifelong skills, and we hope you participate in all we have to offer.

This handbook will provide a great deal of important information regarding some of our programs and services, as well as your privileges and responsibilities. Please take the time to read the handbook thoroughly and discuss this information with your parents and/or guardians. The relationship between home and school is vital and helps to promote the best learning experience possible. This is not designed to be interpreted as a comprehensive list of the school's services, rules, and regulations. It is intended as an overview and should help you get to know your school better. Please remember that Gridley High School can only be as great as you make it.

We strive to keep everyone informed, and to do this, we will utilize our website, daily bulletins, ParentSquare, Aeries emails, and our marquee located at the front of the school.

Please feel free to contact any member of our school staff if you have questions. We look forward to a great school year. Know that we are committed to supporting you and helping you get as much out of this experience as possible.

Sincerely,

Rikki-Lee Burrech

Principal

Emily Peery

Assistant Principal

Electronic Device Policy

Electronic devices, including cell phones, have become a way of life, a technological convenience that has impacted all of our lives in one way or another. Society in general has come to a point where the idea of being without a cell phone seems unreasonable or unimaginable. Students desire cell phones in order to sustain constant contact with friends. Parents often cite peace of mind and want their children to have them for security purposes. Cell phones do have benefits, but with this technology lies a trending situation between the benefits and negative effects of cell phone usage, **especially with students**. *In the school environment, these devices have become a distraction, interruption, and a method of illegal exchange of information.* A large percentage of our behavior violations, in some way, are the result of inappropriate use of cell phones during the school day. In addition to being a distraction to the learning environment in general, the cheating, constant texting, sexting, and cyberbullying that occur as a result on a national scale are having a detrimental effect of increasing proportions. Additionally, it takes away from our primary objectives of protecting the valuable time needed for instruction and, most importantly the student learning. As such, we are **cell phone free during instructional time**.

We do recognize that cell phones can be a safety/security tool, as mentioned; however, they can be a detriment in the event of a real building emergency. They often can impede our protocols to manage such emergencies in a safe and effective manner. Moving forward, we will ask that **parents call the school office** to relay any messages that may be urgent in nature to their child, and we will relay the information to your child. This policy will require that parents plan sufficient time and organization to communicate with your child before school or through the school office.

Students and parents are encouraged to see this as an opportunity for students to be “electronic-free” for the bulk of their day, a desire that many parents have shared with administration of what they want for their students in the home setting. Students will have the opportunity to improve their soft skills employers and higher education are looking for, including social and face-to-face communication and problem-solving skills. We appreciate your support as we hope to facilitate a more active, engaged, and productive student body.

Electronics Policy

1. ***No student will be allowed to use an electronic device or cell phone during instructional time.*** The high school will only allow use during nutrition break and lunch.
2. Devices must be off and **secured out of sight** at all times other than nutrition or lunch breaks.
3. Teachers have the discretion to allow students to use their devices **for academic purposes only**, not for listening to music or as a reward when they finish work, for example.
4. Of course, the best security for the device and all personal objects is to leave it home. Schools are not responsible for lost or stolen personal items.
5. Per Penal Code 647(j) and California Ed Code 48900, it is unlawful to use a recording device of any kind in an area on campus where students have a reasonable expectation of privacy, for example, a restroom or locker room. Consequences may include suspension, expulsion, and/or reporting to law enforcement.
6. No electronic listening or recording device may be used by students or visitors in a classroom without the teacher and principal's express written permission (E.C. 51512).

If a student is found to be in violation of the policy, it will be processed in the following way:

The consequences will be as follows, per calendar year:

1st offense:

- The device will be held in the office until the end of the day.
- The student will sign for the device at the end of the day in the office.
- The incident will be documented.

2nd offense:

- The device will be held in the office until the end of the day.
- A parent or guardian must sign for the device at the end of the day in the office.
- The incident will be documented.

3rd offense:

- A parent or guardian must sign for the device after a meeting with the student and principal or designee.
- The incident will be documented.

4th offense:

- The student will be required to sign in the device to the office each morning for one consecutive week and may retrieve it at the end of each day, or leave it at home per parent/admin agreement.
- The incident will be documented.

Additional offenses will be considered an act of defiance and may result in further consequences.

A student who refuses to comply with a request to surrender their electronic device by any member of the faculty and/or administrator will be considered defiant. Rules governing defiance will apply as outlined in the student handbook.

2025-2026 Gridley High School Bell Schedules

| Regular Bell Schedule | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| PER 1 | 8:00-9:00 |
| PER 2 | 9:05-10:03 |
| Nutrition | 10:03-10:13 |
| PER 3 | 10:18-11:17 |
| PER 4 | 11:22-12:20 |
| Lunch | 12:20-1:00 |
| PER 5 | 1:05-2:03 |
| PER 6 | 2:08-3:06 |

| Wednesday Early Release | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| PER 1 | 8:00-8:48 |
| PER 2 | 8:53-9:39 |
| Nutrition | 9:39-9:49 |
| PER 3 | 9:54-10:41 |
| PER 4 | 10:46-11:32 |
| Lunch | 11:32-12:12 |
| PER 5 | 12:17-1:03 |
| PER 6 | 1:08-1:54 |

| Minimum Day | |
|-------------|-------------|
| PER 1 | 8:00-8:44 |
| PER 2 | 8:49-9:32 |
| PER 3 | 9:37-10:19 |
| Nutrition | 10:19-10:29 |
| PER 4 | 10:34-11:16 |
| PER 5 | 11:21-12:03 |
| PER 6 | 12:08-12:50 |

| Assembly Schedule | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| PER 1 | 8:00-8:51 |
| PER 2 | 8:56-9:45 |
| Assembly | 9:50-10:40 |
| Nutrition | 10:40-10:50 |
| PER 3 | 10:55-11:44 |
| PER 4 | 11:49-12:38 |
| Lunch | 12:38-1:18 |
| PER 5 | 1:23-2:12 |
| PER 6 | 2:17-3:06 |

General Information

Accidents

The school carries no insurance on pupils. This requires that all students have adequate insurance coverage in the home. Insurance waivers, or student-purchased insurance, are required for participation in any student athletic program.

Adult at 18

GHS is still required to continue working with parents/guardians in matters of attendance, discipline, and reporting for any student who reaches the age of 18 during their attendance at GHS. Students wishing to request legal responsibilities must schedule an appointment with the principal.

Athletics

Gridley High School offers a robust athletic program, which may include the following interscholastic sports: baseball, girls and boys basketball, cheerleading, cross country, football, girls flag football, swimming, golf, girls and boys soccer, softball, girls and boys tennis, track and field, wrestling, and girls and boys volleyball. Participation in school athletics may be contingent upon students not carrying outstanding fines or fees. A 2.0 GPA and no Fs must be maintained.

Athletic Eligibility:

1. Student athletes must meet NSCIF (Northern Section CIF) and Gridley High School eligibility.
2. Student athletes may not compete on outside teams in the same sport during the season of the sport.
 - a. (i.e. AAU basketball during basketball season)
3. Student athletes must earn a minimum GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale with no "Fs" at each quarter grading period. When a semester grade is given, that grade must be used.
 - a. If a student does not earn a minimum 2.0 GPA and/or has no more than 1 "F" at the end of a quarter grading period, they may be placed on probationary status. The student athlete may stay on probationary status for one quarter grading period, provided they meet the requirements of the contract. If the student is on probationary status and fails to meet the requirements of the contract, they will either be ineligible to compete in contests for 1 week or will be deemed ineligible and removed from the roster.
 - b. If a student has 2 or more "Fs," they are not eligible for probationary status. The only exception is for incoming freshmen for the 1st quarter of their freshman year.
 - c. If a student is on a team and deemed ineligible, they will be removed from the roster and cannot practice or participate in any team functions.
 - d. Once a student is on probationary status or is deemed ineligible, they must regain their eligibility by earning a minimum 2.0 GPA with no "Fs" in a quarter grading period before being allowed to go on probationary status again.
4. All student athletes fall under the GHS Discipline Plan, the entire school year, inclusive of holidays and breaks. They must follow all rules and will be disciplined according to the student handbook.

Athletic Code

The Athletic Code is a part of the athletic clearance process for sports participation. A copy of the Athletic Code must be read and signed by the student and parent/guardian and turned into the school office before the student participates in a sport, including practice. The Athletic Code will be discussed at a pre-season team meeting for each sport. If a student misses this meeting, it is the student's responsibility to meet with the coach or athletic director to receive the information. Participation in school athletics may be contingent upon students not carrying any outstanding fines or fees.

Bulletin

The Daily Bulletin contains important news of club meetings, athletic events, student activities, etc. Students should check their email daily for notifications of upcoming events and important information. Important information is also available at ghs.gusd.org.

Bus Transportation

Riding the bus to and from school is a privilege, not a right. Bus transportation is provided for students who live in rural areas and for students involved in school activities. It is important to remember that the bus drivers are in complete charge of the pupils on their buses, and their instructions must be followed at all times. There are consequences for inappropriate behavior on the bus or at the bus stops, including temporary and permanent bus suspension.

Clubs and Organizations

Gridley High School offers a variety of clubs and classes for student involvement. We believe it is important for students to make connections to our school and the student population. This promotes positive social interaction and skill-building.

| | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| ASB (Associated Student Body) | Leadership |
| Yearbook | LatinX |
| CSF (California Scholarship Federation) | Interact Club |
| FFA (Future Farmers of America) | FNL (Friday Night Live) |
| Link Crew | Drama Club |
| Fun and Games Club | HOSA (Future Health Professionals) |
| Clay Target Club | |

Chromebooks

Students will be assigned a Chromebook for personal use, and it will be checked out to them similar to a textbook. This will facilitate the completion of school-related work. The Chromebooks give access to Google Drive, which allows students to work offline should wifi not be accessible and will still save their work until they are reconnected to the internet, at which time they can share their work. Students will sign usage agreements and internet agreements. Students will be responsible for the safekeeping of this device as well as charging it daily. This will be part of their daily preparation for courses. Please see the District Chromebook Policy for further information.

Dances

The Associated Students and campus organizations sponsor dances throughout the year. In addition to published school rules, rules for sponsored dances are as follows:

1. Dances are sponsored by GHS for the enjoyment of currently enrolled students in good standing. Students may be required to produce a valid GHS identification card before being admitted.

2. Eighth-grade and younger students are not permitted at GHS dances. Adults 20 years of age and older are also not permitted. All guests must have an approved guest pass.
3. Students leaving the dance will not be readmitted.
4. All dances end at no later than 12:00 midnight, but formal dances may end earlier due to venue regulations.
5. Students must adhere to the school dress code standards. Admittance may be denied if clothing is too revealing.
6. Students dancing inappropriately will be directed to leave the dance floor immediately, and he or she may be directed to leave the dance.
7. Students behaving inappropriately will be asked to leave the dance.
8. All bags and outerwear may be searched upon entry to the dance.
9. Students may NOT bring food or drinks into the dance.
10. ***GHS staff members may administer a breath analysis test to ticket holders upon entry in a predetermined pattern. In addition to the random use of breath analysis, staff may also administer the breath analysis on reasonable suspicion of use.***

Deliveries/Messages

Gridley High School values focused class time with few distractions. Therefore, distractions must be kept at an absolute minimum. Please plan ahead for appointments, after-school pick up, etc., and let your child know about these plans *before* he/she leaves the house in the morning. If there is an emergency, please call the Main Office, and school staff will retrieve the student from class.

Deliveries of lunches, money, flowers/balloons etc., will not be made during class time, nor will classes be interrupted to deliver messages of a non-emergency nature. Notifications will be sent to the student, and these items may be picked up from the Main Office during lunch or after school.

Dress Code

Students shall dress appropriately for daily attendance at school. The type and style of clothing and hair is individual and personal. The school shall only be concerned when these are extreme and could cause distraction, disruption, or be unsafe. Shoes must be worn at all times for safety reasons.

Inappropriate clothing includes (but is not limited to):

- Buttons, backpacks, or any clothing that shows obscene words or pictures, slurs, sexually suggestive statements, or language that promotes illegal activities, including the use of alcohol, marijuana, tobacco, and other drugs.
- Gang attire or paraphernalia related to gangs, such as bandanas, belt buckles, shirts, socks, pants, or shoelaces that have a direct connection to Sureños or Norteños, or any other gang. No more than two (2) clothing items of red or blue colors shall be worn.
- Intentionally revealing clothing. All tops for students should cover the chest and expose less than 3 inches of midriff. Clothing should cover undergarments. Shorts must cover the buttocks.
- Any accessories that might be harmful to other students and pose a threat to the physical well-being of any student, such as, but not limited to, spiked bracelets, dog collars, chains attached to wallets, etc.

School administrators have the right to require students to change their clothing. The school maintains a lendable wardrobe for this purpose. Students may also contact a parent to bring more appropriate clothing.

- **First Offense:** Verbal warning and documentation. The student will be required to change.

- *Second Offense*: One lunch detention will be assigned with documentation. The student will be required to change.
- *Third Offense*: Two lunch detentions will be assigned with documentation. The student will be required to change.
- *Fourth Offense and/or further offenses*: Further offenses may result in suspension, and all will be documented.

Enrollment Requirements

The student must enroll online and must be a resident within the boundaries of the Gridley Unified School District. Any students wishing to enroll in Gridley High School living outside Gridley Unified boundaries must have an interdistrict form approved by both GUSD and the student's resident school.

Emergency Cards

Emergency information for all students must be on record from the time of enrollment. The information must be kept current, as the student cannot be dismissed from school due to illness or accident unless the parent/guardian or other designated person is notified. We strongly encourage the inclusion of cell phone numbers and email, as we utilize them heavily for communication.

Immunizations

California Law requires that all students attending school must have current immunizations. All students entering the 7th through 12th grades will need proof of an adolescent whooping cough booster shot (DTap) before starting school. The High School nurse or health aide will notify parents/guardians if their student's vaccinations need to be updated. When immunizations are not current, the student will not be allowed to attend school until the requirements are met. It is the parents/guardians' responsibility to keep their student's vaccinations current.

Insurance

California State Law requires that every member of an athletic team, Clay Target team, or the Powder-Puff Football team must have medical and hospital insurance. Gridley High School is not responsible for coverage of student injuries. Student insurance is available through the school, if needed. Insurance information is available in the Main Office.

Internet

Before a student may use the internet at the school, the student and parent/guardian must agree to the *Terms and Conditions* described in the Gridley High School Internet Agreement. When signed, the student understands that he/she will abide by the provisions and conditions of the contract. The student also agrees that a violation of the regulations may result in disciplinary action and/or revoked networking privileges.

Field Trips

Educational opportunities related to classroom instruction programs are provided through field trip experiences. A signed parent/guardian permission form is required for a student prior to the trip. To participate in a field trip a student must be passing all classes (have no Fs). It is the responsibility of the student to fill out and return their Student/Teacher Field-Trip Communication Form to their teacher before attending the trip. Teachers will also provide students, parents, and administration with an itinerary of the trip.

Food/Nutrition Services

DoorDash and other food delivery services are no longer permitted on campus. We are finding that the increasing number of these types of deliveries is disruptive to both school operations and the learning environment. If a parent needs to drop off food for a student, it should be delivered to the main office and picked up by the student during break times only.

Every school day, breakfast and lunch are available for all Gridley Unified School District students. These meals meet or exceed the new United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) standards for Child Nutrition Programs that include the School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program. We look forward to offering student meals that emphasize fruits, vegetables, and whole grains.

All students will receive free breakfast and lunch thanks to the Community Eligibility Program (CEP). There is no need to fill out a meal application; however, in order to qualify for other low-cost or free services and increased funding for education, families will need to fill out an Alternate Income form. *If you receive this form, please complete and return it to your student(s) school site, as some of the District funding is based upon these forms.* Any questions can be directed to the Director of Child Nutrition. Please call the District Office at 846-4172 to contact the director.

USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, religious creed, disability, age, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027), found online at: How to File a Complaint, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Library

Students will check out school-required textbooks from the library. Students may also check out novels and other items from circulation for a three-week period. All students are required to maintain their library accounts with no overdue or lost books in order to check out new materials. Printing stations are

available for student use before school, during breaks, during class with a hall pass indicating teacher permission, and after school.

Lockers

Limited lockers are made available for student use at the beginning of the school year. Lockers may be requested by the school attendance secretary. Students are also issued a lock with their locker and are advised to keep their locker locked. *Unauthorized locks will be cut*, and the contents of the locker will be removed. The school assumes no responsibility for the loss of any items left in a locker. It is recommended that locker contents be removed during extended school breaks. All lockers must be cleaned out at the end of the year. **Lockers are the property of the school and will be opened and inspected by school personnel periodically. If contraband is found, the person to whom the locker was assigned will be held responsible. Keep your locker locked and your combination to yourself!**

Lost and Found

Lost and found articles are located in the Main Office. Unclaimed items will be donated to a charitable organization at the end of every semester.

Main Office Hours

Main Office hours are Monday–Friday 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. **The Main Office will be closed for Thanksgiving, winter and spring breaks, on all school holidays, weekends, and the month of July.**

Medications

No Gridley High School staff member may issue aspirin or any other drug to a student. Prescription medication must be kept in the nurse's office along with a physician's note.

Off-Limits Areas

During the school day, certain areas are off limits to students, unless under the direct supervision of a teacher/staff member. These areas include: behind the weight room, all fields (unless with a class/teacher), road leading to the Ag barn, Ag barn/fields, behind Ag buildings, fairgrounds property, and the bus yard.

Open Campus

Gridley High School is an open campus. This means students may leave campus for lunch only. **Students are not permitted to leave during break or passing periods** unless they are excused through the Attendance Office and are issued an Outside Pass. Outside Passes are issued only on the authority of a parent's note or phone call and must specify the exact time and reason for leaving campus. Students who return to school must check back in with the Attendance Office. If an outside pass is issued for an appointment with a doctor, dentist, etc., students are required to bring a signed note back from the office where they attended their appointment. **Students must get an Outside Pass before leaving campus, including for illness. If a student will be out following the lunch period, they must obtain a pass prior to leaving for lunch.** Any absence initiated by a student leaving campus without obtaining an Outside Pass will be treated as a cut. Failure to obtain an outside pass may result in disciplinary action.

*** (Education Code 44807.5) The governing board of a school district may adopt reasonable rules and regulations to authorize a school to restrict, for disciplinary purposes, the time a pupil under their supervision is allowed for recess and lunch. Students are able to receive lunch through the school, but will not be allowed to leave campus if assigned detention.

Parking

Students are allowed to drive vehicles to and from school and to lunch. Parents may not drop off their children in the staff parking lot. Responsibilities for this privilege are as follows:

1. All vehicles are to be parked upon arrival at campus and left parked until lunch or after school. Students will not drive to Farmers' Hall for P.E. classes, rallies, or assemblies.
2. All vehicles are to follow all posted signs, posted speed limits, drive appropriately and follow all CA vehicle laws.
3. No student or visitor parking is allowed in the South staff parking area or in the bus loading (yellow curb) zone in front of the Guardian building. *The green curb area in front of the school is for visitor parking only.* No parking is allowed in the crosswalk areas, the outside weight room area, baseball fields, or in front of gates.
4. Parking is not allowed in the area behind the auto shop or Ag. Department.
5. Cars driven by underage and/or unlicensed drivers will be towed at parental expense.

Students who violate these rules habitually will be referred to the Gridley Police Department for Vehicle Code violations and face possible school suspensions.

Personal Property

The school assumes no responsibility for any personal property brought to school or taken to school-sponsored events, including cell phones. It is recommended that all valuable items be left at home. Students should not bring large amounts of money to school. Valuable items should never be left unattended. Thefts should be reported to the office or a campus security officer.

PE Uniforms

PE uniforms are sold at the beginning of the school year. PE uniforms will be provided to any student who is unable to pay for their uniform. All students taking PE classes will be required to provide their own gym shoes.

Posters/Printed Materials

All posters, signs, printed material, etc. , must be approved by the Administration or Club Advisor at least one day before being displayed or distributed on campus.

Scheduling Events or Activities

Class, clubs, or organizations wishing to schedule activities and/or fundraising events are required to receive approval from the District Office. Please see the secretary in the Main Office for assistance.

Skateboards/In-line Skates/Scooters

Skateboards, in-line skates, and scooters are not to be used on campus. The use of these on campus is a cause of concern in that unsupervised use presents an unwarranted risk of harm not only to those who use them but also to other people who may be present while such use takes place, and to school property. Students are to use the provided lockers and not carry them on campus. Such action may result in confiscations.

Student Participation in Extracurricular Activities

Participation in any school activity is a privilege that may be revoked if the student fails to comply with the school rules or fails to demonstrate good citizenship in any of the following areas:

1. *Behavior:* Any student who fails to conduct him/herself in an appropriate manner is subject to exclusion from activities.

2. *Grades:* Athletics, performing arts, fine art productions, FFA showing, Student Body Class Officers, and club participation require students to have no Fs in order to participate.

Gridley High School students are ambassadors of our school and our community and are held to a higher standard of behavior. Students who violate these rules or commit an act warranting suspension are required to temporarily forfeit representing GHS. Rules apply to students during school days and winter and spring breaks.

Student ID Cards

All students are provided with a student ID card free of charge at the beginning of the school year. Current student ID cards often allow for discounts to events. If a student loses his/her ID card, they are required to obtain a new card. Replacement cards can be obtained through the Activities Office. There is a nominal charge for replacement cards. Students can also purchase ASB stickers, allowing access into all sporting events. Please see the Activities Coordinator for more information.

Telephone Numbers

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| District Office | 846-4721 |
| Attendance Office | 846-4791 ext. 6055 |
| School Office | 846-4791 ext. 6053 |
| Counseling Office | 846-4791 ext. 6070 |
| Activities Director | 846-4791 ext. 6054 |
| Assistant Athletic Director | 846-4791 ext. 6054 |
| School Fax | 846-3412 |
| Athletic Director | 846-4791 |

Gridley High School utilizes an automated telephone system that answers calls when staff members are occupied and before/after office hours. In addition, each staff member has a voicemail.

Textbooks

It is each student's responsibility to keep all textbooks in good condition and to return them on time. Textbooks are checked out in the library. If textbooks or any required materials are lost and/or damaged, the student must pay for the cost of the item. Report cards/diplomas will not be issued until all outstanding fines are paid.

Visitors

Students cannot bring visitors to school during the regular school day. Additionally, to ensure the safety of students and to avoid disruptions to the educational process, all visitors, including parents and guardians, shall register by signing the visitor's form and obtaining a visitor's pass immediately upon entering any school building or grounds when school is in session. If a teacher conference is requested, an appointment should be set with the teacher during non-instructional time or through the school secretary.

Work Permits

Work permits may be obtained in the Counseling Office, along with procedures for completing the work permit application process. Administration will have the final approval.

To obtain a work permit, a student must:

- Have a 2.0 grade point average or better for the previous grading period.

- Has earned the number of credits to graduate with his/her class when he/she becomes a high school senior.
- Have passed 30 or more credits in the previous semester.
- Must have a valid work permit contract on file.

Attendance Prerequisites

Students who have been sent a third truancy notice will not be issued a work permit for the remainder of the school year, or it will be revoked for the remainder of the year.

Website

We encourage parents and students to view our GHS Website at <http://ghs.gusd.org>. It contains information regarding athletics, departments, activities, the SARC (School Accountability Report Card), and much more.

Where to Find It

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Absences | Attendance Office |
| Athletic Insurance | Main Office |
| Attendance Records | Attendance Office |
| Calendar of Activities | Main Office or Website |
| College Information | Counseling Office |
| Dance Guest Passes | ASB Office |
| First Aid | Main Office/Nurse/Health Aide |
| Graduation Requirements | Counseling Office |
| Lost and Found | Main Office |
| Outside Passes | Attendance Office |
| Peer Counseling | Counseling Office |
| Personal Counseling | Counseling Office |
| State/Local Testing | Counseling Office |
| Student Body Cards | ASB Office |
| Work Permits | Counseling Office |

Academic Information

Academic Letters

To recognize academic excellence, the Academic Letter will be awarded to Gridley High School students who have earned at least six semester "As" or five semester "As" and one semester "B" for two consecutive semesters. Each semester thereafter, when the grade criterion has been met, the student will be awarded book inserts. A "B" earned in an honors class will be counted as an "A."

These awards will be presented to seniors in the spring for those who qualified the previous fall semester. Academic letters will be awarded only for grades earned while in attendance at Gridley High School.

Advanced Placement Courses

The Advanced Placement Program affords students the opportunity to complete college-level courses in high school. Colleges participating in this program may grant credit and appropriate placement based on the scores that students achieve on the AP examination. Students choosing AP courses will be expected to pay any associated costs of the exams, although fee reductions and fee waivers are available to students who qualify. Please speak with your counselor if you have further questions regarding AP courses. ***In addition, students signing up for AP courses must commit to the course for a minimum of the first quarter of instruction.***

Aeries Parent Portal

Aeries is an online program that allows parents and students access to:

- View the events calendar, nightly homework, and class assignment scores for all of their children
- View standardized test scores
- View report cards and progress reports
- Point-and-click access to teachers' email addresses
- Graduation status reports and unofficial transcripts
- Live period or daily attendance allows parents to know right away when their student is not in class
- Student information
- Class schedules
- Fees and fines

We highly recommend that parents and students initiate their login for Aeries immediately. To set up your account, please contact Cristina Coats, Counseling Secretary at 846-4791 x.6070.

Alternative Programs and Alternatives to the High School Diploma

Early Graduation - Students who have completed all graduation requirements required by the Gridley Unified School Board are eligible to graduate after the first semester of their Senior year. Students and parents/guardians choosing this option should understand that the student will no longer be eligible to participate in Gridley High School activities, as they will no longer be considered a student at GHS. The student may walk in the Spring Graduation Ceremony.

For other graduation options, please visit the Counseling page at
<http://ghs.gusd.org/Counseling/index.html>.

College Entrance Requirements

While completion of the requirements for high school graduation will allow admittance to a community college, it does not ensure entrance into all colleges, trade schools, state schools, etc. Anyone planning on higher education should determine the entrance requirements of the school he/she plans to enter.

Regular meetings with your counselor will help you plan for your goals. Please see the Counseling page on Gridley's web page <http://ghs.gusd.org/>.

Counseling

School counselors work with students, parents, and teachers to ensure a successful and enjoyable high school career for each student. Counselors guide students to create plans for the years following high school. Counselors monitor academic programs and progress very closely. Students having difficulty in their classes can benefit from SST (Student Success Team) meetings and individual meetings with their Counselors. Students are invited to visit the Counseling Office before and after school. If a counselor is not immediately available, students may make an appointment for a later time. Parents who wish to talk with a counselor or wish to discuss a particular situation regarding a specific class are encouraged to phone the Counseling Secretary to schedule an appointment, 846-4791, ext. 6070.

Courses Taken Outside of GHS

There are typically three reasons students take courses outside of Gridley High School. These include courses for remediation, advanced courses needed to fulfill graduation requirements when all of the Gridley High School courses in a subject area have been met, and courses for acceleration. Courses taken for remediation will be recorded on the students' high school transcripts when using the credit to meet subject/credit requirements for the Gridley High School Diploma. Advanced college-level courses that fulfill non-elective graduation requirements may be added to a transcript pending pre-approval by the administration.

Credit Recovery/Acceleration - Cyberhigh

CyberHigh is Gridley High School's official student credit recovery program and in certain circumstances, acceleration for students. Students may earn up to 20 credits in total during the school year, including the summer session. All classes taken via CyberHigh in the Spring semester for a class failed in the Fall semester must be the same class. For example, taking a General Math course to make up an IM 2 course would not be allowed. This is a very important consideration for Seniors. Taking a non-equivalent course can only be done during summer school. We require all students who are credit deficient to enroll in CyberHigh. Students are paced, and parents will receive a progress report in the mail detailing how many credits their student has earned. It is our goal to ensure that all students have the opportunity to graduate with a high school diploma.

Dual Enrollment

Dual Enrollment courses offer a unique opportunity to earn high school and college credit through our partnership with Butte College. College courses are offered during the regular school hours, with support from Gridley High School teachers. College credit is awarded upon successful completion of the course with a grade of C or better. Students taking dual enrollment courses always qualify for a grade bump. See the master schedule and/or your school counselor for more information on which courses qualify as dual enrollment.

Grade Scale

Gridley High School uses the following grade scale, with the exception of the mathematics department:

100 - 90 A
89 - 80 B
79 - 70 C
69 - 60 D
59 - 0 F

Mathematics Grade Scale:

100 - 90 A
89 - 80 B
79 - 65 C
64 - 50 D
49 - 0 F

Graduation Requirements

In order to earn a diploma of high school graduation, the Gridley Unified School District requires that each student meet credit and subject requirements.

1. Subject to administration approval and meeting the requirements of AB 1012. Students may take up to 20 credits of Teacher Aide, Instructional Aide, Attendance Aide, Library Aide, Office Aide, or any combination of these courses during their junior and senior years. A maximum of ten (10) credits per year will be allowed for these courses.
2. **In order to participate in the commencement exercises**, a student must have completed all diploma or certificate of completion requirements and have paid all outstanding fines/bills.

Note: Math department policy recommends a "C-" or better in order to advance in our college math track. This is important to ensure the process of successfully advancing through each level of math.

| GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS | |
|---|--------------------|
| English (10 credits each year) | 40 credits |
| Math (Required in 9, 10, & 11) | 20 credits |
| Integrated Math 1 | 10 credits |
| Life Science | 10 credits |
| Physical Science | 10 credits |
| Science Elective | 10 credits |
| Geography/AP Geography (Graduating Classes of '26- '28) | 10 credits |
| Ethnic Studies (Class of '29) | 10 credits |
| World History | 10 credits |
| United States History | 10 credits |
| Government/Economics | 10 credits |
| Foreign Language or Fine Art | 10 credits |
| Physical Education/sport waiver | 20 credits |
| Electives | 50 credits |
| Total credits required to graduate | 220 credits |

Certificate of Completion

A Certificate of Completion may be obtained in lieu of a Diploma when the following conditions are met:

- The student has an Individual Education Plan (IEP).
- The IEP team determines that a COC is the best option.
- The student, parent, and special education teacher develop a plan for graduation with a COC, typically developed upon entering high school.
- The student completes the following requirements (though some courses may be modified to meet the needs of the student):
 - Four years of English
 - Four years of math
 - Four years of study/living skills
 - Two years of science
 - Two years of PE
 - One year of health
 - Three years of social studies (World History, American History, and Economics/Government)
 - Electives

English Language Development (ELD) Course Graduation Requirements

One year of an ELD course will be considered for one year equivalent (10 credits) of an English course in order to meet GHS 40 credit diploma requirements in English when the student is required to take a regular English course based on the ELPAC (English Language Proficiency Assessment for California) and limited language acquisition.

Financial Aid For College

To be considered for federal student aid for the 2025-2026 award year, a student must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Please ensure you meet with your counselor to get all applicable deadline information. The application opens December 1st, and it is due by May 2. However, it is recommended to submit the application before January. For FAFSA information, check the GHS webpage.

Anyone who plans to fill out the current FAFSA form should create an FSA ID as soon as possible.

- If you are required to provide parent information on your FAFSA form, your parent should create an FSA ID too.
- Because your FSA ID is equivalent to your signature, parents and students each need to create their own FSA IDs using their own, unique email address and phone number. Parents should not create an FSA ID for their child and vice versa.

Students who are undocumented and/or Dreamers are invited to complete the California Dream Act application (CADAA). The California Dream Act allows undocumented students, DACA recipients (valid or expired), U Visa holders and students under Temporary Protected Status (TPS), who qualify for a non-resident exemption under Assembly Bill 540 (AB 540), Senate Bill 2000 (SB 2000) and Senate Bill 68 (SB 68), to receive certain types of financial aid such as: private scholarships funded through public universities, state administered financial aid, university grants, community college fee waivers, and Cal Grants. Please visit the following website for more information: <https://dream.csac.ca.gov>

Homework Make-Up

The responsibility for making up class assignments and/or homework missed during absences rests with the student and parent. Assignments missed because of absences shall be made up within a period of time equal to one day per each day of absence, unless other arrangements are made with the teacher. A student who misses a partial day due to a co-curricular field trip or athletic trip will be expected to turn in homework upon return the following day. This policy is to encourage students who travel frequently with athletics and FFA to keep current with their studies. A report card mark of "incomplete" will be converted to an appropriate letter grade as determined by the teacher unless the work is completed within the specified time. Students are expected to keep up with their studies during a suspension.

Honor Roll

Students will receive their honor roll certificates at the end of each grading period (or the following fall for the last quarter of the school year). The honor roll will be based on the following scale:

- 4.0 or higher: Principal's Honor Roll
- 3.5-3.99: Honor Roll with Distinction
- 3.0 - 3.49: Honor Roll

Independent Study

Short-term Independent Study may be requested **with a minimum of 5 days notice**, as there is a process students, parents, teachers, and administrators must complete in order for the student and the school to receive no absences. The first step includes contacting the Attendance Office to set up an appointment with the Assistant Principal to review the process and sign the contract. It is imperative that students and parents understand that students must complete all assigned work in order to receive attendance credit.

Outside Credit Limitations

There is a limit of forty (40) credits a student can earn outside of Gridley High School in order to receive the Gridley High School diploma. Summer school is not considered part of the 40 outside credits. Students wanting to take an outside course in lieu of a Gridley High School course on their high school transcript will need pre-approval by Administration. Examples of programs in which students might take courses in lieu of the GHS courses may include Butte College or Yuba College. Board Policy (AR 6146.11). Credits applied to transcripts cannot be removed.

Report Cards (report of academic progress)

For quarter and semester grades, parents will receive a notice by ParentSquare for all students four times during the year to inform students and their parents of student progress and accomplishments in classes. Students earning a **D** or an **F** at mid-reporting periods will also receive a notice by a ParentSquare email. Each school semester is divided into two quarters, which reflect approximately nine weeks of classes. Quarter report cards will indicate the grade students have received at that point in a particular class. The semester report card will indicate a student's final grade and credit received. The student is advised that the provisions of Education Code 48904, authorizing the withholding of grades, diplomas, or transcripts, will be enforced. **If a parent/guardian is not receiving report card notifications by email, please call the school to verify email address information. Parents are strongly encouraged to use Aeries to view their child's grades.**

Schedule Changes

Every effort will be made to place students in courses that are appropriate for their abilities and future educational or career interests. Maximum student and parent input will be allowed during the time in which course selections are made. Once these selections are finalized, we will honor them to the extent possible.

Students select class schedules (for the next school year) in the Spring. A student who drops a course after six weeks of the semester shall receive an "F" grade on his/her permanent record. Students inappropriately placed may make changes with administrative approval to their schedule during the first two weeks of the 1st semester only, based on course availability. Students can only make schedule changes during the 1st week of the second semester with the Principal's approval. We are unable to accommodate schedule changes requested solely for teacher or period preferences.

Scholarships

There are two basic types of scholarships students can apply for: **national scholarships and local scholarships**. National scholarships are open to any grade level student. National scholarship information can be located in the Counseling Office posted on the "Scholarship Wall." Students are encouraged to sign up at www.fastweb.com for a free scholarship search service for national scholarships. **Students and families should NEVER pay for a scholarship search or scholarship application.** Be aware of scams! Seniors have the opportunity to fill out local scholarship applications beginning in March of their senior year. Students have approximately four weeks to complete the local scholarship applications and submit letters of recommendation. Local scholarship applications can be picked up in the Gridley High School Counseling Office. Local scholarships are given to our Gridley seniors from local businesses. Students receiving a local scholarship will be invited to the Gridley High School Awards Night in late May. We encourage students to communicate with the Counseling Department well in advance to ensure they are prepared for the individual scholarship requirements.

Student Success Team (SST)

What is the purpose of an SST?

The Student Success Team was established to provide a positive, problem-solving process to identify strategies and programs that may resolve or alleviate academic, attendance, or behavioral difficulties that students are having. The SST process is a regular education responsibility that must be considered prior to a referral for special education services.

Who is involved in the SST?

The SST members may include the student, parents/guardians, counselor, classroom teachers, and a school administrator. The team could also include other agencies whenever appropriate.

Should I ask for an SST if my child is having problems in class?

Not necessarily. Please discuss any specific problems or concerns with your child's teachers first. If this is unsuccessful, please contact your child's counselor. If the problem is pervasive across many settings, we may need to hold an SST meeting.

What is the SST process?

1. School personnel (teacher, counselor, administrator) or the parent may request an SST by contacting the student's counselor. This referral includes the collection of information regarding specific concerns and previously attempted interventions and accommodations.

2. The team collects information relevant to the student's progress. The information could include: report cards, tests, homework, attendance, parent information regarding the student's academic and health history, parent/teacher observations, teacher reports, and the results of state/district academic assessments.
3. The team establishes a meeting time when all members can participate and be actively involved in the problem-solving process.
4. The SST meeting is held to summarize concerns and to discuss and develop an action plan with academic or behavioral interventions.
5. If the plan is unsuccessful, a follow-up meeting is held within 4-6 weeks to discuss other alternatives.

Support Services

School support services are provided to meet students' special needs.

- Tutoring/Math Academy - Each year, hours are set after school to assist students with their school work.
- Counseling Services - School counselors can offer short-term support to students' academic and emotional needs. They can also connect students with needed resources and more in-depth emotional support.
- Special Education - Gridley High School provides a variety of programs to serve the many different needs of the special education community, from the mildly learning disabled to the severely handicapped.

Valedictorian/Salutatorian Selection

Gridley High School will recognize Valedictorian, Salutatorian, High Honors, and Honors in the following way. The **Valedictorian** will be the academic title conferred upon the highest-ranked student among those graduating from Gridley High School, based upon the highest grade point average at the end of the first semester of their senior year. The **Salutatorian** will be the academic title conferred upon the second-highest ranking student in the class at the end of the first semester of their senior year. The **High Honors** will be those students who have a 4.0 grade point average (GPA) or higher at the end of the first semester of their senior year. The Honors will be those students who have a 3.9 grade point average (GPA) at the end of the first semester of their senior year. The grade point average included when calculating the GPA includes:

1. All high school courses
2. All pre-approved college courses
3. Courses transferred to Gridley High School from outside sources and accepted by WASC for credit

The grade point average is calculated to the nearest hundredth. All college classes pre-approved by the counselor receive a credit value of 5, regardless of the number of college units the course is worth. Grades earned in Gridley High School Honors courses (H), Advanced Placement courses (AP,) and transferable pre-approved college courses will be weighted when calculating GPA.

Regular GPA

A= 4 points
B= 3 points
C= 2 points
D= 1 point
F= 0 points

Weighted GPA

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

Attendance Information

Regular attendance and classroom participation are essential to the educational process. Missing class presentations, discussions, lectures, demonstrations, and laboratories can be detrimental to student achievement, grades, and even to the progress of the class itself because students with poor attendance slow down the pace at which the class can advance.

ABSENCES

A. PROCEDURE FOR CLEARING AN ABSENCE

When a student is absent from school, the parent/guardian can clear an absence by phone call, email, or by sending an ink-written note on the day the student returns to school. The following information should be provided:

- a. Date of the note
- b. Student's name
- c. Exact date(s), or hours of a day, missed
- d. Nature of illness or other reason for absence
- e. Parent/Guardian signature

The parent and student will be held responsible for **clearing the absence within two days**. After two days, the absence will become unexcused. **An unexcused absence cannot be cleared after 5 school days from the date of absence.**

An anticipated absence should be reported to the Attendance Office by the student's parent or guardian. It is the student's responsibility to make homework arrangements with each individual teacher to minimize the impact of the absence. See "Extended Absences" for extended absences. The Attendance Office telephone number is 846-4791 ext. 6055.

B. Excused absences

Note: **Ten (10) excused absences are considered excessive.** Education Code Section 48260 - Any pupil subject to full-time education or to compulsory education who is absent from school without valid excuse more than three (3) days or **tardy or absent for more than a 30-minute period during the school day without a valid excuse or three occasions in one school year**, or any combination thereof, is truant and shall be reported to the attendance administrator or superintendent of the school district. **Parents are responsible for a child's attendance from age 6 until age 18 (Ed Code 48200).**

Students are excused for justifiable personal reasons, including, but not limited to:

- Health reasons (may need to be verified)
- Appearance in court (must be verified)
- DMV appointments
- Religious observance or ceremony (must be prearranged)
- Employment conference (must be verified)
- Student is the custodial parent of a child who is ill

At the discretion of the administration, students may be excused for other personal reasons. These include, but are not limited to: visits to colleges (must be verified), family necessity (must be explained), and personal emergencies (must be described).

C. Unexcused Absences

Unexcused absences are those that do not come under any definition of excused absences. This includes absences in which a student stays out of school for reasons that are not legal. These include, but are not limited to: oversleeping, being too tired to attend, hunting, fishing, traveling out of town, personal business, shopping, or skiing. While permission for these absences may be granted by the parent, there is no legal right to allow a student to miss school for these reasons.

GHS takes great pride in the education of our students. Students who purposely do not report to their assigned classes will be reported as a cut. Leaving the classroom prior to dismissal by the teacher is to be referred to administration for discipline. Consequences may include loss of lunchtime off-campus privileges, Saturday School, or further discipline.

Students who continue to have habitual absences, either excused or unexcused, may be referred to SARB (Student Attendance Review Board).

It is also important to note that students suffer from not being present to receive the academic instruction, which could result in loss of credit.

D. Outside Passes

Except for lunch, students are not permitted to leave campus during the school day unless they are excused through the Attendance Office and are issued an Outside Pass. Outside Passes are issued only on the authority of a parent's note and must specify the exact time and reason for leaving campus. Students who return to school must check back in with the Attendance Office. If an outside pass is issued for an appointment with a doctor, dentist, lawyer, etc., students are required to bring a note back from the office where they attended their appointment. Students must get an Outside Pass before leaving campus, including for illness. If a student will be out following the lunch period, they must obtain an outside pass prior to leaving for lunch. Any absence initiated by a student leaving campus without obtaining an Outside Pass will be treated as a cut. Failure to obtain an outside pass may result in disciplinary action. Doctor's notes must be turned into the attendance office upon return to school.

E. Attendance Policy

The Board of Trustees and the faculty and staff of Gridley High School District believe that attending classes is the fundamental requirement of a successful education, and is held by all to be of the highest degree of importance.

Specific attendance policy regulations are as follows:

1. Being tardy more than thirty (30) minutes is considered to be an unexcused absence.
2. Students leaving class without permission will be marked with a cut and lose off-campus lunch permissions. Students attending school-sponsored field trips, activities, or traveling with athletic teams during the regular school day are considered to be in attendance.
3. Absences due to suspension shall be considered unexcused absences.
4. **Parents must clear their student's absences immediately. After 5 days, the absence can no longer be cleared due to Attendance rules.**

6. After a 3rd consecutive absence due to illness in a semester, verification of the student's illness by a doctor may be requested.
7. Nothing in this policy shall prevent a teacher from considering class participation in the determination of a class grade, especially in the case of unexcused absences.
8. When a student's absence has been requested in writing by the parent or guardian and approved in advance by the principal and/or the principal's designee, a student may be excused for court appearances, personal emergencies, family necessity, visits to colleges, employment conferences, and/or school-approved conferences. Students will have full make-up privileges, although the school does not receive state funds for these absences. To avoid issuance of unexcused absences, permission for such absences is to be requested in writing and in advance whenever possible.
9. Students with excessive unexcused absences are subject to referral to the SARB Board.
10. Students cannot leave campus without an outside pass from a school official.
11. Parents will be notified following the third absence of their student. Notice will be by regular United States Postal Service mail service.
12. **Students who purposely cut a class or are not present without a valid excuse from their legal guardian shall not participate in extracurricular activities such as FFA, Athletics, and CTE experiences on the day of the cut or the following school day.**

Teachers' Absence Policies:

Teachers are expected to inform students in writing of their grading policies. Students should pay careful attention to these policies and to the ways attendance might affect their grades in class. In many courses, the academic goals set by the District and by the individual teacher cannot be met by students with large numbers of absences, whether these absences are excused or not.

GUSD SART and SARB (Student Attendance Review Board) PROCESS SUMMARY

| Days/Periods Absent | Letter Sent | Outcome |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--|
| 3 truant absences | Letter 1 | Copy to permanent record |
| 6 truant absences | Letter 2 | Copy to permanent record |
| 9 truant absences | Letter 3 | Copy to permanent record Attendance meeting scheduled |
| Continued truant absences | SART meeting | Attendance contract Copy to permanent record |
| Continued truant absences | Referral to SARB | Copy to permanent record Copy to SARB folder |

TARDIES

Any student who enters the classroom or instructional area after the bell rings is tardy. Students arriving late to class interrupt the instructional process and cause a delay in beginning instruction. Students are given a five (5) minute passing period between classes. A backpack will accommodate carrying books for more than one class and minimize the need for being tardy. Unexcused tardies, occurring during school, regardless of the reason, will result in disciplinary action as follows:

| Days/Periods Tardy | Letter Sent | Outcome |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---|
| 4 periods | Letter 1 | 1 lunch detention/loss of off-campus privileges |
| 7 periods | Letter 2 | 2 lunch detentions/loss of off-campus privileges |
| 10 periods | Letter 3 | 3 lunch detentions/loss of off-campus privileges/meeting with administrator |
| 13 periods | Letter 4 | 1 Saturday School OR 4 after-school campus beautification hours |
| 15 periods | Letter 5 | Consequences determined by the administration |

***Refusal to serve lunch detention or Saturday school will result in other disciplinary consequences.**

Student Responsibilities and Expectations

Gridley High School is committed to providing an orderly, safe, caring environment in which students feel comfortable, share responsibility for maintaining a positive school climate, and take pride in their school and their achievements. Attitudes and behaviors that promote mutual respect and harmonious relations are encouraged. School officials recognize the need to take appropriate action whenever the safety and order of the campus are threatened. In accordance with Education Code 35291.5, the school may, at its discretion, adopt rules and procedures on school discipline applicable to the school. For schools that choose to adopt rules pursuant to this article, the school discipline rules and procedures shall be consistent with any applicable policies adopted by the governing board and state statutes governing school discipline.

Academic Integrity

Cheating is the intentional fraud or deception for the purpose of improving a grade or obtaining course credit and includes all behavior intended to gain an unearned academic advantage. Cheating may include either helping or attempting to help another person cheat. Cheating also includes utilizing AI (Artificial Intelligence) to engage in any form of dishonesty in academic work. **AI work must not be submitted in place of original student work.** Plagiarism is using someone else's words or ideas without properly citing them. The CSU academic integrity policy distinguishes between misuse of sources and intentional plagiarism. If a student makes an attempt to identify and credit his or her source, but does so improperly, he or she will not be penalized according to our policy. However, students should make every effort to learn the proper format for correctly citing sources, since this is an essential aspect of academic work.

Intentional plagiarism occurs when the student “deliberately uses someone else’s words, ideas or other original material without acknowledging its source” and in doing so, represents them as his or her own. This includes borrowing another’s phrases or citations, cutting and pasting paragraphs or sentences without acknowledgement, or borrowing ideas from someone without citing them.

Examples of Cheating

- Copying from another student’s test.
- Allowing another student to copy from your test.
- Using unauthorized notes or electronic devices during quizzes or exams.
- Using your cell phone or Chromebook to text answers to other students during quizzes or exams.
- Submitting AI work as original student work within the school context.

Examples of Plagiarism

- Downloading sections of a paper from a website without acknowledgment.
- Copying sentences or paragraphs from a book or website without citing them, without quotation marks when appropriate, or both.
- Turning in a paper someone else has written, and representing it as your own work.
- Having someone else write a portion of your paper (even a sentence).
- Tasking AI with writing all or parts of an essay or assignment, even if the work is not directly copied and pasted, is a rewritten version of existing content that was not properly referenced or cited.

Consequences

Any incidence of cheating/plagiarism will result in loss of credit for the assignment in addition to possible other sanctions imposed by the teacher as outlined in their class policy. If multiple cheating/plagiarism incidents continue, the teacher may refer the student to the administration.

Classroom Rules Policy

Teachers have discretion for establishing classroom rules, which all students are expected to follow. Refusal to follow class rules will be considered defiance. Classroom management policies are to be included in the teacher's course syllabus.

Conduct at School Activities

Students are expected to exhibit proper behavior at all school-sponsored activities. This includes no heckling or inappropriate signs, posters, gestures, language, or littering.

Coming and Going Rule (Education Code-44807):

Students may be held to strict account for their conduct on school campus, as well as for their conduct on the way to and from school, during breaks, and during lunch.

Disciplinary Referrals:

All of the following infractions of school rules and policies may result in immediate suspension from school for a period to be determined by the nature and severity of the offense. Depending upon the nature of the offense, first offenses may require a conference with a parent/guardian and other appropriate actions may be determined by the referring school official or administrator.

Referrals will be issued for (but not limited to) the following infractions:

- Confronting/disrupting behavior in class
- Gambling
- Gang-related activity
- Inappropriate language
- Inappropriate writing
- Refusal to surrender confiscated device
- Racial slurs

Ed. Code 48900 Infractions (suspendable offenses):

- Defiance (when other means of correction fail to bring about proper conduct)
- Fighting
- Tobacco
- Vandalism
- Habitual Profanity
- Obscene or vulgar acts
- Possession or use of alcohol
- Possession of drugs or paraphernalia
- Stealing
- Possession or brandishing a weapon
- Possession or use of explosive devices
- Selling drugs
- Possession or use of a firearm

- Hazing
- Sexual harassment

Due Process in School Discipline (Education Code-48911-48914)

Before a student is suspended, a conference with the student and the teacher, supervisor, or school employee who recommended the discipline referral must occur. At the conference, the pupil must be informed of the reasons for disciplinary action and the evidence against him or her. The pupil will be given an opportunity to present his or her side of the story and any evidence in defense of actions leading to the recommendation of suspension. Anytime a pupil is suspended from school, a school employee must make a reasonable effort to contact the pupil's parents in person or by telephone, and the parents must be handed or mailed the necessary documentation related to the suspension. Parents have the right to request a meeting to review the suspension, policies, and other matters related to the suspension.

Electronic Bullying (Penal Code): 528.5.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any person who knowingly and without consent credibly impersonates another actual person through or on an internet website or by other electronic means for purposes of harming, intimidating, threatening, or defrauding another person is guilty of a public offense.

Extra/Co-Curricular Activities – Code of Conduct

Extracurricular activities are those student activities that generally take place outside of the classroom setting, which students voluntarily attend and for which no grade is assigned. (Athletics, activities, dances, etc.). Co-curricular activities are those that generally take place outside of the classroom setting, in which students are required to attend and for which class credit is given. (Conferences, fairs, meetings, class performances, etc.).

All activities, if conducted under the name of Gridley High School or any G.H.S. school class or organization, shall be regulated by the same rules that apply at school and found elsewhere in this handbook. Participation in extra-curricular/co-curricular activities may be contingent upon students not carrying any outstanding fines or fees.

In-house Suspension (Education Code-48911.1-48911.2):

This section allows a suspended student to be assigned to a supervised suspension classroom for the entire period of the suspension instead of being sent home, if the pupil poses no imminent danger or threat to the campus, pupils, or staff. Each pupil is responsible for contacting his or her teacher to receive assignments to be completed.

Lunch and Recess-Restriction of (Education Code-44807.5):

The governing board of a school district may adopt reasonable rules and regulations to authorize a school to restrict, for disciplinary purposes, the time a pupil under their supervision is allowed for recess and lunch. Students are able to receive lunch through the school, but will not be allowed to leave campus if assigned detention during lunch.

Posting and/or Distributing Signs/Flyers On Campus

All signs and flyers must be approved by the principal or the principal's designee before being distributed or posted on campus.

Public Displays of Affection

Overt public displays of affection are to be avoided. Good judgment should be used to avoid embarrassing situations and the possibility of disciplinary actions. This rule applies at school and at school-sponsored events. A student should never place his or her hands on another student's breasts, genitals, or buttocks. A determination of any inappropriate display of affection will be determined by school officials.

Questioning and Apprehension by Local Law Enforcement

School officials have a responsibility for students on campus. School officials are also required to immediately notify parents whenever the police remove a student from campus, except in the case of suspected child abuse (EC 48906). School officials also have a need to obtain basic information about why an officer or detective will be contacting a student, in the event parents ask. They may not interfere with a criminal investigation.

Search and Seizure

School officials may conduct searches of students, without a warrant, based on a reasonable suspicion that a student or students are, or have been, in violation of a school rule or regulation or a criminal law (Ed Code 49050).

School Officials may also periodically conduct "health and safety" inspections of all lockers in order to dispose of old food and other discarded items. School officials may seize any weapons, drugs, or paraphernalia discovered in the search. Property that is a threat to the safety and security of students and/or staff may be seized. Items used to disrupt or interfere with the educational process may be removed from a student's possession and returned to parents/guardians or given to law enforcement officials.

Site Safety Plan:

As required by law, the school maintains a site safety plan. This is available for review at the site. For safety reasons, this is not posted publicly on our website.

Student Community Service (Education Code-48900.6):

Administration or designee may require a student to perform community service on school grounds during non-school hours, or, with parent/guardian permission, on or off school grounds. Such community service may include, but is not limited to, work performed in the areas of outdoor beautification, campus betterment, and teacher or peer assistance programs.

Suspension/Expulsion (Ed. Code 48915)

Suspension means the exclusion of a pupil from regular classroom instruction. A pupil will be suspended for any of the reasons enumerated below, upon a first offense, if the Principal or his/her designee determines that the pupil's presence causes a danger to persons or property or is a threat to disrupting the instructional process.

The school Principal must refer a student for expulsion or explain in writing to the Board of Trustees the reason why expulsion is appropriate for the following offenses:

- Causing serious physical injury to another person, unless the student was acting in self-defense
- Possession of a weapon, explosive, or other dangerous object
- Possession of a controlled substance
- Robbery
- Extortion

- Assault or battery against a school employee

Students who are suspended off campus must remain away from school grounds and any school activity and be under the direct supervision of a parent or guardian for the duration of the suspension.

If a student is in possession of a firearm or explosive, brandishes a weapon at another person, sells a controlled substance, commits or attempts to commit a sexual assault, or commits a sexual battery, the school Principal **must** suspend that student and refer him or her for expulsion and the Board of Trustees **must** expel.

Suspension by a Teacher (Education Code - 48910-48913):

A teacher may suspend a pupil from class for the day of the act plus one day following (two-day maximum). Immediately after suspending a pupil from class, the teacher will report the suspension to administration and send the pupil for appropriate action. As soon as possible, the *teacher must ask the parents to attend a parent-teacher conference regarding the suspension*. If practicable, a school counselor or psychologist should attend the conference, and if the parent so requests, a school administrator should be present. In lieu of suspending the pupil, the teacher may refer the pupil to the Principal or Principal's designee for consideration of a suspension from school.

Notices and Appendices

Title IX Policy:

It is the policy of Gridley Unified School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Es norma del distrito de Gridley Unified School District no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o impedimento, en sus programas, servicios o actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; el Título IX de las Enmiendas en la Educación, de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

Initiation/Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation

Physical or verbal harassment, physical abuse, profanity, slurs, and any other actions or words, actual or perceived, are not permitted and could result in a school suspension. Harassment based on gender, race, national origin, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental disability, or any other basis protected by federal, state, or local law, ordinance, or regulation to the extent protected by law is prohibited. Students who feel they are victims of harassment of any type may file a formal written complaint in the office. "Pantsing" will result in an automatic suspension and possible expulsion.

Gridley High School Anti-Harassment Policy:

1. Everyone at GHS has a right to feel respected and safe. Consequently, we want students to know that our policy is to prevent sexual harassment and harassment based on gender, race, national origin, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or disability.
2. A harasser may be a student or an adult. Harassment may include the following when related to gender, race, national origin, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or disability:
 - a. Name-calling, teasing, derogatory comments, slurs or gestures
 - b. Remarks or rumors about an individual's sexual activities, sexual jokes, catcalls or whistles
 - c. Leering, winking, sexual gestures, pinching, patting, intentional rubbing against another individual's body
 - d. Graffiti, offensive or graphic posters, or book covers
 - e. Derogatory notes or cartoons
 - f. Unwelcome touching of a person or clothing, grabbing, fondling
 - g. Violent acts or threats
 - h. Cyber sexual bullying
 - i. Engaging in harassment on a social network/media site
3. Any student who engages in the sexual harassment of anyone within the school community may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. 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" (Education Code 212.5, 48900.2). Other types of conduct which are prohibited and which may constitute sexual harassment include, but are not limited to, unwelcome leering, sexual flirtation/propositions, unwelcome sexual

slurs/epithets/threats/verbal abuse, sexually degrading descriptions, graphic verbal comments, sexual jokes/stories/drawings/pictures/gestures, spreading sexual rumors, touching an individual's body or clothes in a sexual way, cornering/blocking of normal movements. If students believe that they or someone else has been the victim of harassment or intimidation, they should report the alleged acts to a teacher, counselor, principal, or any other staff member.

4. Gridley High School takes seriously all reports of sexual harassment and harassment based upon gender, race, national origin, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or disability and will take all appropriate action to investigate such claims, to eliminate the harassment, and to discipline any persons found to have engaged in such conduct.
5. GUSD will also take action if anyone tries to intimidate the students or take action to harm them because they made such a report.
6. This is a summary of this District's policy against sexual harassment and harassment based on gender, race, national origin, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or disability. A complete copy of the policy is available at the school office upon request.

Non-Discrimination

The Governing Board of the Gridley Unified School District is committed to equal opportunity for all individuals in education. Gridley Unified School District programs and activities do not discriminate on the basis of gender, gender identity, age, sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, gender expression, national origin, ethnic group identification, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, or the perception of one or more of such characteristics. The Board shall promote programs that ensure that discriminatory practices are eliminated in all district activities. The following individuals represent the appropriate titles for communication purposes:

1. Title IX Officer: Justin Kern: 530-846-4393
2. 504 Coordinator: Emily Peery: 530-846-4791

Mental Health Services

Gridley Unified School District has compassionate, well-trained counselors to help students and their families with mental health concerns. **Should you desire to reach the mental health counselor for confidential counseling, please email Torrin Johnson at torrin.johnson@gusd.org. You may also contact any teacher, secretary, or administrator on campus to assist you in connecting with our counselor.**

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| <p>988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (formally known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) Call or text 988 or chat 988lifeline.org</p> <p>24-Hour Crisis Services 1 (800) 334-6622 OR 530-891-2810 560 Cohasset Rd. Suite 180 Chico, CA 95926</p> <p>Stabilization Line 530-891-3277</p> <p>Resource needs in Butte County Dial 211</p> <p>Drug & Alcohol Screenings Chico 530-879-3950 Oroville 530-538-7277</p> | <p>En Español- Línea de Prevención del Suicidio y Crisis Llama o envía un mensaje de texto 988</p> <p>Crisis Text Line Text HOME to 741741 anywhere in the US</p> <p>North Valley Talk Line (Warm Line) 1-855-582-5554 NON-CRISIS, PEER SUPPORT Open 4:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Every Day</p> <p>Behavioral Health Youth Screenings *By appointment only* Chico Youth 530-891-2945 Gridley Youth 530-846-7305 Oroville Youth 530-538-2158</p> <p>suicideispreventable.org</p> |
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Gridley Unified School Counselors

Some of our district counselors provide short-term individual and group counseling for students who are struggling with at-risk behaviors, provide behavioral techniques for teachers, parent consultations, education, and resource linkage. If your student is in need of a mental health referral, please contact Behavioral Health at 530-846-7305 or call your school counselor directly for assistance.

Uniform Complaint Procedure

Gridley High School has the primary responsibility to ensure 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.

Gridley High School 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.

The UCP shall also be used when addressing complaints alleging failure to comply with state and/or federal laws in:

- Adult Education
- Consolidated Categorical Aid Programs

- Migrant Education
- Career Technical and Technical Education and Training Programs
- Child Nutrition Programs
- Special Education Programs
- Safety Planning Requirements

A complaint of noncompliance with laws relating to pupil fees may be filed pursuant to the local UCP. A pupil enrolled in a public school shall not be required to pay a pupil fee for participation in an educational activity.

A pupil fee includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:

1. A fee charged to a pupil as a condition for registering for school or classes, or as a condition for participation in a class or an extracurricular activity, regardless of whether the class or activity is elective or compulsory, or is for credit.
2. A security deposit, or other payment, that a pupil is required to make to obtain a lock, locker, book, class apparatus, musical instrument, clothes, or other materials or equipment.
3. A purchase that a pupil is required to make to obtain materials, supplies, equipment, or clothes associated with an educational activity.

Complaints other than complaints relating to pupil fees must be filed in writing with the following compliance officer: Mrs. Rikki-Lee Buresch, Principal, Gridley High School, 300 East Spruce Street, Gridley, CA 95948.

GRIDLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT COMPUTER SYSTEM / INTERNET / E-MAIL ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT

Gridley Unified School District provides technology resources to its students and staff in the furtherance of its educational and business purposes. It is the District's goal to promote educational excellence in the District's schools by providing technological resources, facilitating innovation, and improving communications with the support and supervision of parents, teachers, and staff. The use of these technology resources is a privilege, not a right.

Access to the computers and people all over the world through the District's Computer System entails potential access to material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of a school setting. The District believes that the value of the information, interaction, and research capabilities available through computer technology outweighs the possibility that users may obtain material that is not consistent with the educational goals of the District.

Proper behavior, as it relates to the use of computers, is no different than proper behavior in all other aspects of School District activities. All users are expected to use the District's computer system in a responsible, ethical, and polite manner. Computer hardware needs to be handled in a safe and secure manner. Parents are strongly encouraged to be involved in their children's computer use and to guide them in ethical and proper use. This document is intended to clarify the terms and conditions of access to the Computer System and expectations as to its proper use.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. COMPLIANCE WITH EXISTING LAWS, REGULATIONS, AND POLICIES

The Gridley Unified School District's computer system is to be used for purposes consistent with the District's business and educational processes. All persons using the computer system shall comply with all applicable laws and District policies, including, without limitation, laws and policies regarding freedom of speech, profanity, obscenity, privacy, copyright, and misuse of computers generally. Persons using the computer system are required to comply with student and employee conduct requirements generally, as well as with the provisions of the Agreement. Users shall report any security problem or misuse of the network to the Superintendent or designee.

2. DEFINITIONS

- 2.1. District Computer System.** All hardware, software, operating systems, data, data storage media, networks, and related devices, and data transmission and communications equipment and services (including internet access and e-mail). This includes our Google domain, Aeries, Chromebooks, and the Google app features within it.
- 2.2. User Area.** A user area comprises that portion of the District computer system reserved for the personal use of an individual user, including, but not limited to, user data files, programs, dynamic system work areas, or any other storage or processing resources dedicated to the user.

3. COMPUTER SYSTEM ACCESS AND USE

- 3.1. Student Email.** The Gridley Unified School District provides students with their own Google Gmail account under our domain. This email is used to communicate course projects and assignments with teachers and other students. Students are expected to be respectful and use appropriate language.
- 3.2. System Etiquette.** Users are expected to be courteous while using the computer system. Users shall not send or display material that is obscene, rude, offensive, or hate-based, or that could be construed as harassing to others based on their race, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, political belief, or other protected characteristic. This applies to all email and computer programs.
- 3.3. Messages.** Users should not indiscriminately address messages to broad audiences. Message addressing should be narrowly tailored to the purpose at hand. Messages should only be sent to known recipients or locations. Messages or other materials should not be sent with misleading titles.
- 3.4. System Modifications.** Users may not modify or alter the computer system in any way except under the express direction of the District's System Administrator. Modification and alteration of the computer system do not include ordinary operations involving saving and deleting user-generated files created in the furtherance of District business or educational purposes.
- 3.5. Disclosure of Personal Information.** Disclosure of users' own or others' home address or telephone number information on the computer system is prohibited.
- 3.6. Privacy / Computer System Monitoring.** User information, data, and communications, including emails, transmitted over the computer system or contained in any part thereof, are not private or subject to privacy.

**Williams Complaint Classroom Notice
Gridley Unified School District**



Notice to Parents, Guardians, Pupils, and Teachers

Pursuant to California *Education Code* § 35186, you are hereby notified that:

1. There should be sufficient textbooks and instructional materials. That means each pupil, including English learners, must have a textbook or instructional materials, or both, to use in class and to take home.
2. School facilities must be clean, safe, and maintained in good repair.
3. There should be no teacher vacancies or misassignments. There should be a teacher assigned to each class and not a series of substitutes or other temporary teachers. The teacher should have the proper credential to teach the class, including the certification required to teach English learners if present.

Teacher vacancy means a position to which a single designated certificated employee has not been assigned at the beginning of the year for an entire year, or if the position is for a one-semester course, a position to which a single designated certificated employee has not been assigned at the beginning of a semester for an entire semester.

Misassignment means the placement of a certificated employee in a teaching or services position for which the employee does not hold a legally recognized certificate or credential or the placement of a certificated employee in a teaching or services position that the employee is not otherwise authorized by statute to hold.

4. A complaint form may be obtained at the school office, district office, or downloaded from the school's website at <http://www.gusd.org>. You may also download a copy of the California Department of Education complaint form in English and in other languages from the following website: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cp/uc/ucpmonitoring.asp>

**Williams Complaint Classroom Notice
Gridley Unified School District**



Notificación para padres de familia, tutores legales y maestros

Derecho de presentar quejas
Formulario muestra de quejas uniformes

Padres de familia, tutores legales, alumnos y maestros:

Según el Código de Educación de California Artículo 35186, se le notifica que:

1. Debe haber suficientes libros y materiales de instrucción. Eso significa que cada alumno, incluyendo a los alumnos que aprenden inglés, debe tener un libro o materiales de instrucción, o ambos, para usar en clase y llevar a casa.
2. Los predios escolares deben estar limpios, seguros, y deben mantenerse en buen estado.
3. No debe haber falta de maestros ni asignaciones incorrectas de maestros. Debe haber un maestro asignado a cada clase y no una serie de suplentes u otros maestros temporales. El maestro debe tener la certificación apropiada para enseñar la clase, incluyendo la certificación requerida para enseñar a alumnos que aprenden inglés, si es que están presentes en la clase.

Falta de maestros significa que existe un puesto al cual no se ha asignado un empleado con certificación al principio del año escolar y por todo un año, o si el puesto es para un curso de un semestre, un puesto al cual no se ha asignado un empleado con certificación al principio de un semestre y por un semestre completo.

Una asignación incorrecta significa que un empleado con certificación es colocado en un puesto de maestro o proveedor de servicios sin tener una certificación o credencial legalmente reconocida, o colocado en un puesto de maestro o proveedor de servicios que el empleado no está legalmente autorizado a ocupar.

4. Se puede obtener un formulario para presentar una queja en la oficina de la escuela, la oficina del distrito, o por medio del sitio Web que se indica a continuación: <http://www.gusd.org>. También se puede imprimir una copia del formulario del Departamento de Educación del Estado de California del sitio de la Web que se indica a continuación: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cp/uc/>.

Preguntas: Departamento de manejo de quejas de los programas categóricos (916) 319-0929

Title I, Part A School-Level Parent and Family Engagement Policy

This policy describes the means for carrying out designated Title I, Part A parent and family engagement requirements pursuant to ESSA Section 1116(c).

Gridley High School, with parents and family members, has jointly developed, mutually agreed upon, and distributed to parents and family members of participating children in Title I, Part A programs the following requirements as outlined in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) sections 1116(b) and (c).

Each school served under this part shall jointly develop with, and distribute to, parents and family members of participating children a written parent and family engagement policy, agreed on by such parents, that shall describe the means for carrying out the requirements of subsections (c) through (f). How are parents notified of the policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand? How is the policy made available to the local community? How and when is the policy updated periodically to meet the changing needs of parents and the school (ESSA Section 1116[b][1])

Parents are provided copies of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy within the School Handbook. Additionally, it is posted on the Gridley High School website. The policy is updated annually with parent feedback through the GHS and Esperanza joint School Site Council, as well as during the annual LCAP site stakeholders feedback meeting in the Spring. Parents are informed about these meetings via ParentSquare and the GUSD website.

Feedback is continually solicited through a variety of means, such as parent surveys, parent-requested meetings, our annual open “Dawg” house, booster club, and our School Site Council, which meets quarterly, providing a forum for discussion in identifying barriers and developing further strategies to engage parents and create stronger bonds between the school and families. Collaboration extends beyond the school walls, welcoming input from key parent and community groups. The Parent Advisory Committee, DELAC (District English Learner Advisory Committee), and the Parent Liaison ensure that family voices are heard and integrated into the process. Meanwhile, specialized committees—including the Curriculum Committee, Technology Committee, and the English Language Development Committee—provided focused areas for community input.

Gridley High School utilizes several forms of communication with parents. ParentSquare is a program that provides the ability to send all-call messages by video, text, and email. The district and school websites are utilized to post important information regarding Title I information and programs. Parents and families are notified in the language spoken at home, as indicated in Aeries. Thus, families are able to access notifications in their preferred language via the use of the Aeries and Parent Square translator.

Parents and family members of participating children in Title I, Part A programs, may amend a parent and family engagement school policy that applies to all parents and family members, if necessary, to meet the requirements (ESSA Section 1116[b][2]). Details on how to discuss the amendment of the policy are in the box below:

Parents experience an open-door policy at our school. Parents and families are always welcome to set up a meeting with the site administration or staff. We also conduct meetings throughout the year for individual students or students in special programs (i.e.: IEPs, 504s, SSTs). Parents may always submit comments in writing regarding the SPSA or engagement policy, and may attend regular SSC meetings and ELAC/DELAC meetings.

The Local Educational Agency (LEA), Gridley Unified School District, involved has a school district-level parent and family engagement policy that applies to all parents and family members in all schools served by the LEA, and how the LEA may amend that policy, if necessary to meet the requirements (ESSA Section 1116[b][3]):

This policy can be located on our website at GUSD.org.

Parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs can, if they find that the plan under ESSA Section 1112 is not satisfactory to the parents and family members, and the LEA shall submit the parent comments with the plan when the LEA submits the plan to the State (ESSA Section 1116[b][4]):

Parents may always submit comments in writing regarding the SPSA or engagement policy directly to the school administration or District Office administration, and may attend regular SSC meetings, LCAP, and ELAC/DELAC meetings.

The school served by Title I, Part A funds holds an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents and family members of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under Title I, Part A and to explain the requirements and the rights of the parents to be involved (ESSA Section 1116[c][1]):

Gridley High School holds an annual Title I meeting by October of each school year. Date and time to be announced through ParentSquare and on our website. The Title I meeting provides an informational session for parents to update them and include them in our Title I programs, student performance, and parental rights. This meeting is interactive, and parents are given a multitude of opportunities to ask questions and give feedback regarding support for their children. The meeting is facilitated by the school administration, counselor, and teaching staff. Interpretation services are offered at the meetings for those parents who are not English speakers.

An annual Title I meeting is held with parents at Back-to-School Night in the fall. A PowerPoint presentation is shared. During the presentation, information about the Title I program, the California State Standards, student performance data, and parental rights is explained to parents. The presentation is repeated on another date and time by the end of September. Interpretation services are offered at the meetings for those parents who are not English speakers.

The steps that the school takes to offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning, afternoon, evening or other ways and may provide, with funds provided under Title I, Part A, for transportation, child care, or home visits, as such services relate to parental involvement (ESSA Section 1116[c][2]):

Gridley High School attempts to hold annual meetings during times that are convenient for parents. As an example, School Site Council meetings are set based on the priorities of parents and stakeholders that comprise the council, so that maximum attendance is achieved. Parents are engaged about which days and times work best for them for each individual meeting. Other general meetings for all parents are held during evening hours to ensure maximum parent participation and to minimize conflicts with personal schedules. District-wide parent engagement meetings are supported with childcare supervision (as indicated), interpreters, and expert support.

At the request of parents, alternative meeting times will be considered. Parents and families are always welcome to set up a meeting with the site administration or staff. Parents and families are always welcome to set up a meeting with the site administration or staff, and/or submit comments/recommendations in writing.

Parents and family members of participating children are involved, and in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of programs under Title I, Part A, including the planning, review, and improvement of the school parent and family engagement policy and the joint development of schoolwide program plan under ESSA Section 1114(b), except that if a school has in place a process for involving parents in the joint planning and design of the school's programs, the school may use that process, if such process includes an adequate representation of parents of participating children (ESSA Section 1116[c][3]):

The GHS and Esperanza joint School Site Council is composed of school staff, students, parents, and community members, and they meet regularly throughout the year. The Site Council reviews the school's Title I program and Single Plan for Student Achievement in the Spring of each year in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the program. The "Annual Review" portions of the Single Plan for Student Achievement are utilized to formally evaluate the previous year's goals and all aspects of the school's Title I program, including what did not work or achieve anticipated goals. From there, the new plan is discussed with parents, students, and staff in order to receive input and then revised accordingly and approved by the Site Council. Then, the plan is taken before the board of trustees for approval to address any changes. Additional information is solicited through a Family Engagement Survey (Healthy Kids Survey) given out annually. This information is helpful in updating the School Family Engagement Policy as well as in providing some feedback regarding the effectiveness of student support structures and the effectiveness of Title I programs.

Parent involvement opportunities include: School Site Council, school website, ELAC/DELAC meetings, LCAP Meetings, parent conferences, and district/school surveys.

Communication between parents and the school site is vital to maintaining an effective partnership. This communication takes form in several ways: one-way information dissemination, two-way dialogue between the school site and parents, and soliciting of anonymous feedback through surveys to assist in the formulation of school and district plans and policies (SSC, SPSA, ELAC, LCAP).

Describe how the school is providing parents and family members of participating children of Title I, Part A programs: timely information about programs under Title I, Part A; a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards; and if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible (ESSA sections 1116[c][4][A-C]):

The school provides parents with information via ParentSquare and our website.

Parents receive information about Title I programs annually during SSC meetings. Timely communication about the Title I, Part A programs is also done through updates via ParentSquare, at SSC meetings, ELAC/DELAC meetings, and Title I parent meetings. Information is posted on the school website, in the main office, and sent through the U.S. Mail when necessary.

Gridley High School utilizes several forms of communication with parents. ParentSquare is a program that provides the ability to send all-call messages by video, text, and email. The district and school websites are utilized to post important information regarding Title I information and programs. Parents and families are notified in the language spoken at home, as indicated in Aeries. Thus, families are able to access notifications in their preferred language via the use of the Aeries and/or Parent Square translator.

Gridley High School uses a variety of strategies to inform parents and stakeholders regarding curriculum, assessments, and expectations for students. The provided Student/Parent Handbook and GHS Course catalogue contain vital information on graduation requirements, specific site courses, and expected outcomes for students. These are provided to students and parents. Parents confirm receipt of these materials through a signature form collected at the beginning of every school year. Gridley High School's Student Graduate Profile is shared with students and parents via the handbook. Additionally, parents have access to Aeries Gradebook and all class syllabi, which provide them with their student's attendance, grades, curriculum, and assessment data at any time.

If the schoolwide program plan, ESSA Section 1114(b), is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children in Title I, Part A programs, submitting any parent comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the LEA (ESSA Section 1116[c](5)) can be done with outline details below:

Parents and families are always welcome to set up a meeting with the site administration or staff. Parents may always submit comments in writing regarding the SPSA or engagement policy directly to the school site administration or to the district office. The school site will share these comments with the board of trustees and district office administrators.

Gridley High School's Title I, Part A School Parent and Family Engagement Policy was developed jointly and agreed on with parents and family members of children participating in Title I, Part A programs on (date of first school site council meeting in 2025). The School will distribute the policy to all parents and family members of participating Title I, Part A students annually within the school handbook and online. Parents will be notified of any updates to the policy on or before October 15, 2025, via ParentSquare, the school website, and the annual Title 1 meeting.

Rikki-Lee Burresch, Gridley High School Principal

8/5/2025

California Department of Education
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