



Nicolas Knight

Student/Parent Handbook - 2023/2024

Nicolas
Junior High School
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Fullerton, CA 92833
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PowerSchool



Twitter

www.fullertonsd.org
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/nicolasknights>

Access student grades/citizenship at the PowerSchool Website:
<https://ps.fsd.k12.ca.us/public>

STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK

The following Nicolas Junior High School site and Fullerton School District guidelines are provided to ensure students and parents are aware of important information in order to promote student success.

Mission & Vision

Nicolas Junior High School students are innovators and mindful citizens who are determined, capable, and focused.

“Knights Learn, Knights Lead, Knights Achieve”

Nicolas Pride

The mascot of Nicolas Junior High School is the Knight. The Knight represents the pride that our staff and students have in our school and community. The school's colors are red and black. The school was built in 1955 as an elementary school. Nicolas became a junior high school for seventh and eighth grade students in 1956 and has served as a junior high school ever since.

School and Office Hours

(714) 447-7775

The Nicolas office is open from 7:30AM to 4PM each school day. School begins at 8:00AM and ends at 3:00PM. Each Wednesday, students will be released earlier in order to provide collaboration time for teachers to focus on instructional planning and articulation. On Wednesdays, school begins at 8:00AM and ends at 2:05 PM. Certain Wednesdays or dates will have earlier release times, and the school will communicate those dates and times. Students are not allowed on campus before 7:30AM and need to leave school promptly at the end of each school day. The only exceptions are students arriving early or leaving late to participate in school sponsored events, activities, interventions and/or discipline.

Library

The Library center is open for use during school on days when the media clerk or technician is available. Students must have a pass to enter the Library during class time, unless accompanied by a teacher.

Closed Campus Policy

Once students arrive on campus, they are expected to remain on campus until after school dismissal. If a student needs to leave school because of an appointment, illness, or for any other reason, a parent or adult over the age of 18 listed on the emergency card must sign the student out in the office and **show ID**. Visitors to campus must sign in at the front office and may be asked to **show ID**, schedule a visitation ahead of time, or be escorted by an administrator/staff member.

Contact Information

Please inform the office immediately if your address, telephone number(s) or email address change, and make sure all student emergency contact information is updated.

Attendance *(In accordance with FSD BP 5113)*

(714) 447-2831

Every absence from school must be resolved by a call from a parent or guardian the day of the absence if at all possible, but within five days. A message recorder is available during non-school hours, or upon return students must bring a note from the parent/guardian to the attendance clerk before school. The note must include the following:

- a. Student's full name and grade
- b. Date(s) of absence
- c. Reason for absence
- d. Signature of parent/guardian and relationship to student

After (5) days, any unresolved absence will be considered an unexcused/truancy absence.

A student's absence shall be excused for the following reasons with valid note/phone call:

1. Personal illness
2. Quarantine under the direction of a county or city health officer
3. Medical, dental, optometric, or chiropractic appointments of the student
4. Attendance at funeral services for a member of the student's immediate family
5. Upon advance written request by the parent/guardian and the approval of the principal or designee, justifiable personal reasons limited to:
 1. Appearance by the student in court
 2. Observation of a holiday or ceremony of his/her religion
 3. Attendance at religious retreats not to exceed four hours per semester

Students with a fever of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or above, or who are vomiting, should not remain at school. The student must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school. This allows the child time to recuperate, reduces susceptibility to other illnesses, and prevents other students from getting sick.

Tardies

It is important for all students to be at school and in each class on time. A tardy occurs when a student is not in his/her assigned seat when the bell stops ringing. Tardiness to class interferes with class procedures, instructional time, and negatively impacts student achievement. Tardies accumulate each quarter and will result in increasing disciplinary consequences.

Appointments

If a student will be leaving school during the day for a medical appointment, he/she must bring a note from a parent clearly stating the reason, and present it to the attendance office in the morning, before school. When leaving school early or arriving late due to a dental or medical appointment, documentation from the medical office will be requested in order to excuse the absence. Students should be signed in and out at the office for appointments during the school day.

Signing Students Out of School

To ensure student safety, when a student is being picked up during the school day, they will only be released to the following people:

- A parent/guardian
- An adult (at least 18 years of age) whose name is listed on the student's emergency card

The adult must come to the office and show a form of photo identification before signing the child out of school. Students will not be released on their own.

SARB/SART

Students with excessive absences (excused or unexcused) or students with excessive tardies may be referred to the School Attendance Review Board or Team, after progressive discipline has been applied. Parents/guardians of children ages 6 to 18 are obligated to compel their children to attend school. Nicolas shall abide by all state attendance laws and may use appropriate legal means to correct the problems of excessive absence or truancy.

SSOAR (Saturday School Opportunity for Attendance Recovery)

Students who are absent, excused or unexcused, are encouraged to attend SSOAR. The school calendar is designed to minimize problems for families who plan vacations around traditional holiday periods. Nicolas urges parents to schedule medical and other appointments so that a student does not miss or misses only a small portion of the school day. Nicolas does not want children to come to school when they are sick, but we do ask that his/her absence be made up at SSOAR for two reasons:

The school has an opportunity to recoup funding, which is a way for families to support the school financially with no out-of-pocket expenses.

SSOAR is held on scheduled Saturdays throughout the school year from 8am until 12:00pm. We understand weekends are busy. However, a student may only receive credit on their attendance if he/she attends the full 4-hour session. During SSOAR sessions, students participate in a variety of activities, including: Math/ELA benchmark reviews, CST reviews, electives, arts & crafts, PE events, science, STEM labs, and robotics.

Health Services and Medications

Students are required to notify a staff member immediately if an injury or illness occurs. Parents are requested to notify the school about any serious health concerns or conditions. The school nurse serves more than one school and is not available on a daily basis, but a health clerk is on campus daily. **All medications taken at school, including any over-the-counter medications, must be prescribed by a physician.** Education Code 49423 requires an "Authorization for Medication Administration" completed by the physician and parent detailing the method, amount, and time schedules by which the medication is to be taken, before a student may take medication at school. Medication must be provided to the school in the container in which it was purchased/prescribed, and must be clearly labeled with the student's name. *Students are not allowed to carry any medication during the school day unless it is for emergency use, as specified by a physician.* Non-prescription medications may not be carried on campus. **If a student is ill, he/she needs to report to the Health Office and the office will contact the parent. Students are not to contact parents using classroom or personal cell phones.**

Student Messages and Deliveries

Messages and items brought to school will be available for the student to pick up during passing period, nutrition break, lunch, and after school. In order to maximize instruction time and learning, and to minimize classroom disruptions, items/messages will not be delivered. Students will be called out of class only in an emergency. Gift items, such as flowers or balloons, will remain in the office until the student picks them up at the end of the day.

Breakfast/Nutrition/Lunch

www.myschoolbucks.com

The school provides access to nutritious snacks, food, and beverages, before school, during nutrition, and during lunch for a cost (reduced cost/free lunch may be provided through an application process – call Nutrition Services at 714-447-7435). Otherwise, students are expected to be responsible for their own snack and lunch. **Parents may drop off lunches in an emergency or for a special occasion, but not as a daily routine.** Fountain drinks will not be accepted. All lunches should have student names written on them.

Lunch purchasing is on a first come, first served basis. Saving places or cutting in line is prohibited. Students are to remain in the designated eating areas for the first ten minutes of lunch. Students may not be in classrooms during nutrition or lunch. Students are expected to dispose of all trash items. Littering or throwing of food, ice, drinks, or containers will result in disciplinary action.

Cell Phones and Electronic Devices

Cell phones and other electronic signaling devices may not be activated (turned on) from 7:45am until 3:00pm. Cell phones may be checked for messages after school. Students may come to the office to use their phones, with permission. Devices activated during the school day will be confiscated and consequences will be applied. **Cell phones are not to be used for video or photographic purposes on campus at any time. Our goal is to minimize cyber-bullying and academic dishonesty, while maximizing instructional integrity.** Failure to follow the established guidelines will result in progressive disciplinary consequences including: First offense – confiscation; Second offense – confiscation + parent pick-up only; Third offense – confiscation + parent pick-up only + check-in/check-out of device at front office each day or device may not return to campus + consequence assigned by administration. Additionally, any student found filming a fight, verbal or physical, will be suspended. If this altercation has also been posted to social media, police can be notified under the cyber bullying act.

Personal Property and Belongings

Skateboards, scooters, toys, sports equipment, practical joke paraphernalia, hats that are not full-brimmed, iPods, airpods, cameras, Sharpies/permanent markers/paint pens, White-Out, laser pointers, and any other unauthorized items are not permitted at school. These items will be confiscated and turned over to an administrator. A parent will need to pick the item(s) up from the office. Students assume the responsibility for loss or damage to their clothing, equipment, books, instruments, cell phones, and all other personal belongings. The Nicolas staff strives to protect all personal property but is not responsible for any stolen, lost or damaged personal items. *The Fullerton School District is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged articles, and discourages students from bringing expensive items (or large amounts of cash) to school.*

Lost and Found

Items found on campus should be brought to the office. Any lost/stolen items should be reported to the office and students should seek assistance in finding lost articles before or after school. Any unclaimed “lost and found” items will be donated to a charity organization at the end of each quarter. *The Fullerton School District is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged articles, and discourages students from bringing expensive items (or large amounts of cash) to school.*

Transportation

ALL RIDERS MUST SHOW THEIR BUS PASSES.

Bus Stop Safety: Students are expected to respect the privacy and property of homeowners near the bus stop, and conduct themselves in an orderly manner while waiting for the bus. Littering, smoking, throwing any object, vandalism, dangerous play, taunting animals or harassing others may result in loss of the riding privilege.

School Bus Safety Rules:

- 1) Follow the driver's instructions
- 2) Stay out of the 'Danger Zone' (10 feet back from the bus door)
- 3) Remain seated, facing forward
- 4) Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself
- 5) Be polite and talk quietly
- 6) No eating, drinking, smoking or chewing gum

NOTE: *Repeated failure to show passes may result in loss of riding privilege.*

Bicycles

Bicycle racks are provided for the convenience of students. All bicycles need to be parked in the bike rack at the Hill Street gate entrance. For everyone's safety, bicycles are not to be ridden on school grounds. In accordance with public law and for their personal safety, students should wear helmets when riding bicycles. The school is not responsible for theft or damage to bicycles. Theft should be reported to the office and to the Police Department. For your protection, bicycles should be registered with the police department. Bicycles must be walked on campus.

Walkers, Riders, and Carpools

Students walking to school or receiving rides should be alert to heavy traffic around campus before and after school. For safety, students should cross the street in marked crosswalks **only**.

Technology

Please refer to the Student Acceptable Use Policy, when making choices and working with technology. Our general expectations are listed below:

1. iPads must come to school fully charged each day.
2. iPads must stay in the protective case provided at all times.
3. No pictures, audio, or videos may be taken without permission from teacher/administrator/students, and must be for an assigned project.
4. iPads may not be used during nutrition or lunch.
5. Do not allow another student to handle your iPad for any reason, unless directly advised to do so by a teacher or administrator.
6. Do not leave your iPad unattended (this includes in your backpack at lunch).
7. If your iPad is missing/stolen or broken, immediately report it to the office in writing.
8. Students may not add a passcode on the device, download apps, change passwords, or use the iPad for anything other than educational purposes.

Again, the above are general expectations. Students should refer to the Student Acceptable Use Policy as well as listen to the instructions and directives of teachers/staff/administration.

Dances & Special Events

Eligible students will be invited to attend Knights Excellence Activities. Eligibility is dependent upon the activity, and rules will be clearly displayed/communicated to students prior to the activity. Permission slips may be required. Students leaving early from activities must be picked up by a parent or have a signed note. No guests are allowed. Mosh pits or sexually implicit dancing are prohibited. Dress code will be enforced at all events. Students who are not present for the last 4 classes of the day may **not** attend dances or privilege activities. Administration reserves the right to revoke privilege activities based on student behavior, citizenship, academics, or other criteria.

After-School Clubs and Activities

We encourage our students to be involved in a variety of after-school activities including sports, recreation, clubs, peer tutoring, and dances. Students may begin a club by having a minimum of 10 students sign a petition to be regularly involved in the club. Students must then find a school staff member to be the club sponsor. Once those steps have been completed the club sponsor may place announcements in the bulletin for club events.

- Students must meet eligibility requirements and provide permission/medical forms as required.
- Students must be in attendance during the school day to participate in club activities.

Physical Education

The physical education program allows each student the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities at a level of skill that produces a feeling of satisfaction and achievement. In addition to the regularly scheduled program., students are encouraged to join after-school sports/intramural programs. Physical education is a course required by the state. Students involved in private training clinics or extracurricular sports are also required to take PE.

Students are expected to come to school dressed in appropriate ready to participate dress out in PE each day. If a student does not dress out for PE, they will be issued loaner PE clothes and the following consequences will be in effect: First non-suit - a warning; Second non-suit – phone call home; Third non-suit – Parent Mtg

Students may not wear their PE uniforms home. Students are expected to change back into their school clothes after the PE period. This minimizes non-suits. Students are expected to wash their PE uniforms at the end of each week and return with a clean uniform at the beginning of each week. The PE uniform includes tennis shoes, socks, shorts, and a shirt. Optional items are a PE crewneck sweatshirt and/or PE sweatpants. Sweatpants and sweatshirts may be used only when weather permitting. Recommended clothing for PE may be purchased through the students PE teacher.

Each student is expected to keep his/her combination lock for an issued locker safe and secure throughout 7th and 8th grade. Locks that become damaged or lost must be replaced by the student at a cost of \$5.

If, for any reason, a student cannot take part in full physical education activities, a note MUST be brought from parents or guardians (which is honored for 3 successive days) or from a doctor (if more than 3 days) stating the reason that the student cannot participate. This note must be brought to the office at the beginning of the day, before school starts. It should not be given to the PE teacher.

Disaster/Fire Drills/Emergency Plans

Fire and disaster drills are required by law and serve as an important safety precaution. It is essential that when the first signal is given, everyone on campus obey all orders promptly. Please be advised, that in the event of a lockdown situation or drill, students will not be released from school until the lockdown has concluded.

In the event a major disaster affecting the entire community occurs during school hours, students will be held at school for safety reasons unless notified otherwise. Students will be released to parents, adults over the age of 18 listed on emergency cards, or responsible family members upon their written signatures. Additionally, the individual signing the student out must indicate their expected destination to ensure that each student is safe and accounted for.

Safety

Students are expected to keep their feet on the ground. Climbing trees, railings or walls is prohibited. While at Nicolas, we uphold a “hands off” rule. Horse-play or play fighting will not be tolerated.

Academics

Homework

Homework is an integral part of a student’s school program and success. Homework supplements class work, and provides students the opportunity to practice foundational skills. Students may have homework each night in all major subjects. Those subjects include, but are not limited to, language arts, math, social science, and science. Homework can range from 50-120 minutes per night (Monday-Friday), and can impact a child’s grade in the particular class (based on teacher).

Homework can come in many forms, and may resemble:

- Answering questions
- Reviewing daily notes
- Preparing for tests
- Working on a long-term class project
- Translations for a foreign language
- Designing a poster
- Reading a book for a book report
- Working on vocal or dance skills
- Studying or defining vocabulary words
- Solving math problems
- Practicing a musical instrument or skit
- Using an iPad app to watch a video

Consistent parental involvement is integral to the homework process and student success in school. Nicolas recommends checking PowerSchool regularly or setting up “notifications” in PowerSchool to review attendance, assignments, and scores. Parents are encouraged to check the student planner regularly and ask questions about the homework. Additionally, parents should check online resources periodically, such as the school website.

If a child suggests that he/she has “no homework,” please ask your child to check with his planner or check certain teachers’ websites. Oftentimes, teachers may not assign “homework,” but they do prefer the child to practice concepts or read.

Students should also revisit syllabi for “turn-in” and “make-up” policies for particular classes (dates/policies can vary by teacher).

Make-Up Work

Students have the right to make-up work if they have been absent *due to an excused absence* in a timely manner (see teacher syllabi). Students are expected to ask teachers for any make-up work. Parents may request work when a student will be out for 3 or more days by calling the office. Parents are also encouraged to email teachers. Teachers are allowed 24 hours to prepare requested assignments. If additional work is requested, it will be prepared after the previously requested assignments have been completed and turned in.

Report Cards

Report cards are issued to students at the end of each quarter, for a total of 4 times per academic school year.

Progress Reports

Mid-quarter progress reports are issued to students. Parents may request more frequent communication when a student is in danger of failing or when the student is achieving below the level of expectation.

Transcripts

There is a 48-hour turnaround needed for each original copy of transcripts (report cards). Please keep all report cards and testing results for your personal records.

Notebook Recommendations

It is recommended that students have a 1.5-inch three-ring binder, pens (black and blue only with red for corrections), #2 pencils, erasers, a ruler, tabbed dividers for each subject, and notebook paper. The system used for the binder involves these steps:

- Binder/Notebook(s) and Student Planner should be brought to school every day.
- Keep the Student Planner in the front of the binder.
- Record assignments in each class and check off the assignments as they are completed at home.
- Keep a current to-do list.
- Make a tabbed divider section for each subject and keep all work in the appropriate section.
- Punch holes in all handouts, quizzes, and supplemental materials distributed by teachers. Place these items in order.
- Keep an extra supply of paper in the back of the binder.
- As a unit of study is completed, follow teacher directions for saving, filing, or recycling unit materials.
- Binders/Notebook covers should not have any stickers, pictures, drawings, or writing on them which suggest or contain inappropriate content or cause disruption to the learning environment.
- 5 Subject College-Ruled spiral notebooks

Note: Teachers may establish specific binder/notebook requirements and guidelines for their classroom.

Please note that these are RECOMMENDED Supplies.

General Rules & Expectations

Student ID

Students are required to have their ID at all times while on campus. Students should be prepared to show this ID for all school-related activities or when asked by an adult on campus.

Substitute Teachers

Guest teachers are school employees and must be treated with respect and courtesy. Substitute teachers have the same authority as regular classroom teachers and students are expected to follow all directions given by a substitute.

Hall Passes

For safety reasons, students are not permitted in the hallways during class time unless they are accompanied by a teacher or have a pass from an authorized staff member. Students are expected to have a signed pass to go to the Library, office, health office, counselor, school psychologist, speech & language pathologist, or restroom. Students with special medical needs should notify the office so that arrangements for more frequent restroom use can be arranged.

Restroom Use

Restrooms should be used before school or during passing periods, lunch, and after school. *Except for rare situations or emergencies, students will not be allowed to use restrooms during instructional time.*

Food/Drink/Gum

Food and drinks are not to be consumed on campus (except inside classrooms during a rainy-day lunch). Chewing gum is not permitted on campus at any time. Consequences will be given to students who violate this policy, which may include campus beautification and/or gum scraping.

Textbooks

Students will be issued textbooks at the beginning of the school year or when enrolled. It is the student's responsibility to take proper care of their textbooks, and to replace any books that are lost, stolen, or damaged. Fees will be handled through the Library and students will not be issued additional books until the fees are cleared. Unpaid fees may result in the loss of privilege activities.

Sports Eligibility

It is important that Nicolas students are respectful and responsible. Students who represent Nicolas must maintain appropriate grades and citizenship. Students who do not meet the requirements may be ineligible to participate in afterschool sports.

Academic and Behavior Interventions

The staff at Nicolas is dedicated to providing appropriate support and assistance to encourage all students to achieve their highest potential. Students and parents are encouraged to contact teachers or the counselor to learn about specific programs and interventions available. Students considered to be significantly at risk may be recommended for more intensive academic or behavior interventions. Response to Intervention (RTI) is an integral part of the Nicolas education program.

Counseling

Our full time counselor is available for students who may need assistance with their academic or personal needs that are impacting academics or behavior. Students may be referred to a counselor by (1) a staff member, (2) a parent (3) other students, (4) themselves.

Student Recognition

Nicolas is proud to recognize our students for academic success, citizenship, and special accomplishments or efforts.

Nicolas CARE

Students can earn *Nicolas CARE tickets* when they are observed being Caring, Always Safe, Responsible & Respectful, Empathetic.

CARE Store

The Nicolas CARE Store is open every Wed at Lunch and on special occasions. Students can use their CARE Tickets to purchase prizes.

Knights Excellence Activities

Students who are Caring, Always safe, Responsible and Respectful and Empathetic and meet a rigorous set of behavioral and academic standards (including attendance and citizenship standards) will be invited to the Knights Excellence Activities.

Discipline Information

Students learn best and feel a sense of pride when they are part of a positive school environment. Positive behavior will be rewarded and poor student behavior will receive consequences. Any disciplinary action taken will be in a fair, firm and consistent manner.

To promote a positive learning environment, the Nicolas discipline philosophy can be summarized as follows:

- All students can and will be expected to behave appropriately.
- All students will choose their behavior and accept responsibility for behavior choices made.
- All students will stay engaged and focused, follow instructions, and give their best efforts during instruction.

YOUR ATTITUDE DETERMINES YOUR ALTITUDE!!!

RESPECTFUL - RESPONSIBLE

Nicolas Junior High provides a fair, firm and consistent discipline system for all students. Disciplinary consequences increase in severity as offenses are repeated. Consequences may include any one/ combination of the following:

Lunch Detention

Students may be assigned to Lunch Detention as a disciplinary consequence or an academic intervention. Lunch Detention is held during the student's regular daily lunch time. Students will be provided the opportunity to eat and use the restroom. Students then engage in reflective activities as part of our restorative practice policies.

After School Detention

Detention may be assigned by an administrator or designee. Detention is held from 3:05pm-4:00pm. Students will be given a minimum of 24-hour notice and must serve the detention when it is assigned or the consequence will be doubled. To reschedule an assigned detention, arrangements must be made *prior* to the date of the assigned detention and by parent request. Extenuating circumstances must be present, such as lack of after school transportation, in order to reschedule a detention.

Saturday School

Students may be assigned to Saturday School for unresolved absences, truancies, or for additional academic support. Parents will be notified of any Saturday School assignment.

Suspension/Expulsion

A student will be suspended from school for violations of Education Code Section 48900, or if other means of disciplinary action have proven to be ineffective. A pupil shall not be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion, unless the superintendent of the school district or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has committed an act as defined pursuant to any of subdivisions (a) to (r), inclusive:

(a) (1) *Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person.*

(2) *Willfully used force or violence upon the person of another, except in self-defense.*

(b) *Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished a firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object, unless, in the case of*

possession of an object of this type, the pupil had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, which is concurred in by the principal or the designee of the principal.

(c) Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, or otherwise furnished, or been under the influence of, a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind.

(d) Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind, and either sold, delivered, or otherwise furnished to a person another liquid, substance, or material and represented the liquid, substance, or material as a controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant.

(e) Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.

(f) Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property.

(g) Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property.

(h) Possessed or used tobacco, or products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets, and betel. However, this section does not prohibit use or possession by a pupil of his or her own prescription products.

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

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

(k) (1) Disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties.

(2) Except as provided in Section 48910, a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 3, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts enumerated in this subdivision, and this subdivision shall not constitute grounds for a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to be recommended for expulsion. This paragraph shall become inoperative on July 1, 2018, unless a later enacted statute that becomes operative before July 1, 2018, deletes or extends that date.

(l) Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.

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

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

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

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

(q) Engaged in, or attempted to engage in, hazing. For purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" means a method of initiation or preinitiation into a pupil organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, which is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to a former, current, or prospective pupil. For purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" does not include athletic events or school-sanctioned events.

(r) Engaged in an act of bullying. For purposes of this subdivision, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) "Bullying" means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, and including one or more acts committed by a pupil or group of pupils as defined in Section 48900.2, 48900.3, or 48900.4, directed toward one or more pupils that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

(A) Placing a reasonable pupil or pupils in fear of harm to that pupil's or those pupils' person or property.

(B) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience a substantially detrimental effect on his or her physical or mental health.

(C) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with his or her academic performance.

(D) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with his or her ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

(2) (A) "Electronic act" means the creation and transmission originated on or off the school site, by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager, of a communication, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

(i) A message, text, sound, or image.

(ii) A post on a social network Internet Web site, including, but not limited to:

(I) Posting to or creating a burn page. "Burn page" means an Internet Web site created for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1).

(II) Creating a credible impersonation of another actual pupil for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1). "Credible impersonation" means to knowingly and without consent impersonate a pupil for the purpose of bullying

the pupil and such that another pupil would reasonably believe, or has reasonably believed, that the pupil was or is the pupil who was impersonated.

(III) Creating a false profile for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1). "False profile" means a profile of a fictitious pupil or a profile using the likeness or attributes of an actual pupil other than the pupil who created the false profile.

(B) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) and subparagraph (A), an electronic act shall not constitute pervasive conduct solely on the basis that it has been transmitted on the Internet or is currently posted on the Internet.

(3) "Reasonable pupil" means a pupil, including, but not limited to, an exceptional needs pupil, who exercises average care, skill, and judgment in conduct for a person of his or her age, or for a person of his or her age with his or her exceptional needs.

(s) A pupil shall not be suspended or expelled for any of the acts enumerated in this section unless the act is related to a school activity or school attendance occurring within a school under the jurisdiction of the superintendent of the school district or principal or occurring within any other school district. A pupil may be suspended or expelled for acts that are enumerated in this section and related to a school activity or school attendance that occur at any time, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

(1) While on school grounds.

(2) While going to or coming from school.

(3) During the lunch period whether on or off the campus.

(4) During, or while going to or coming from, a school-sponsored activity.

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

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

(v) For a pupil subject to discipline under this section, a superintendent of the school district or principal may use his or her discretion to provide alternatives to suspension or expulsion that are age appropriate and designed to address and correct the pupil's specific misbehavior as specified in Section 48900.5.

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

(Amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 660, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2015.)

Police Involvement (Excerpt from FSD BP 5145.11)

Law enforcement officers have the right to interview and question students on school premises. When such an interview is requested, the Superintendent or designee shall ascertain the officer's identity, official capacity, and the authority under which he/she acts. If the officer needs to interview or question the student immediately, the Superintendent or designee shall accommodate the process in a way that causes the least possible disruption to the school, gives the student appropriate privacy, and models exemplary cooperation with community law enforcement authorities. Except in cases of child abuse or neglect, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the student's parent/guardian when a law enforcement officer requests an interview on school premises. At the law officer's discretion and with the student's approval, the Superintendent or designee may be present during the interview.

Academic Honesty Policy

Dishonesty, cheating, forgery, or plagiarism involves an attempt by a student to show a level of knowledge or skill which does not reflect his/her own learning. Consequences for breach of academic honesty may include no credit on assignment or test, referral to the office, notification to parents, lowered citizenship, and loss of school promotion privileges, etc. (see Board Policy 5131.9).

It is dishonest if you...

- submit as original work anything you have copied, faxed, duplicated, printed, or technologically transmitted from person to person (such as through file transfer, email, social media, or other electronic means).

- use unauthorized aids during tests, such as formulas, codes, and/or keywords on your personal objects or yourself, hidden reference sheets, or programmed materials in watches, calculators, or computer programs.
- exchange answers with others (either as the giver or recipient)
- do work, either printed, written, or electronic for another person without the express written permission of your teacher.
- submit someone else's assignment or submit work done by family, friends, or tutors as your own, as a whole or in part.
- steal or pass off as one's own the ideas or words of another (plagiarism). This includes using material from a published source (print or electronic) without giving credit to the author or artist.
- are in possession of tests or test answers without the permission of your teacher.
- forge any signatures.
- fail to follow additional specific guidelines on academic honesty as established by your teacher.

Bullying and Harassment

Description

No student or group of students shall, through physical, written, verbal, or other means, harass, sexually harass, threaten, intimidate, cyber-bully, cause bodily injury to, or commit hate violence against any other student or school personnel.

Bullying is a serious issue and all school staff, community, and students must meet the challenge of creating a safe and secure community for everyone. ***We believe that all students are unique and of equal value regardless of academic ability, class, creed, gender, race, orientation, belief system, or socioeconomic status.***

Bullying is when another student or group of students causes personal, physical, or mental suffering, however great or small, to another. It includes teasing, playing practical jokes, threatening, name-calling, ignoring people, dirty looks and other acts that cause hurt. These behaviors show an imbalance of power (i.e. multiple students versus one student, bigger versus smaller, weak versus strong) and are repetitive in nature.

Cyber-bullying includes the transmission of harassing communications, direct threats, harmful texts, sounds, images on the Internet, social media, or other technologies using a telephone, computer, or any wireless communication device on school premises, or off campus in a manner that causes or is likely to cause a substantial disruption of a school activity or school attendance. Cyber-bullying also includes breaking into another person's electronic account and assuming that person's identity in order to damage or victimize that person's reputation. Students filming verbal or physical fights can be suspended unless they immediately bring the video to school officials. If the verbal or physical fight is posted to social media, police can be notified under the cyber bullying act.

Intervention

Students are encouraged to notify school staff when they are being bullied or suspect that another student is being victimized. Students can email a teacher or administrator, report bullying anonymously using the *See Something, Say Something* App on their school device or by stopping by the counselor's office or main office and submitting a statement.

When the circumstances involve cyber-bullying, individuals with information about the activity shall be encouraged to save and print any electronic or digital messages sent to them that they feel constitute cyberbullying and to notify a teacher, counselor, or administrator so that the matter may be investigated.

Consequences

District policy states, "Any student who engages in bullying on school premises, or off campus in a manner that causes or is likely to cause a substantial disruption of a school activity or school attendance, shall be subject to discipline, which may include suspension or expulsion, in accordance with district policies and regulations."

Consequences may include conflict mediation, counseling, social group, apology letter, lunch detention, social probation, detention, and/or Saturday School.

District Pledge

We, the students of Nicolas Junior High School agree to join together and stomp out bullying and cyber-bullying. We believe that everybody should enjoy school equally by feeling safe, secure, and accepted regardless of color, race, gender, popularity, physical attributes, athletic ability, age, and/or religious preference.

Bullying can be, but is not limited to: pushing, shoving, hitting, spitting, name calling, picking on, making fun of, laughing at, and/or excluding someone or several people. Cyber-bullying is harassing, humiliating, threatening or embarrassing another person through electronic methods, such as instant messaging, email, postings on social media websites, or text messaging/messaging apps. Bullying causes pain and stress to victims and is never justified or excusable as “kids being kids,” “just teasing” or any other rationalization. The victim is never responsible for being a target of bullying.

I/we agree to:

1. Value students' differences and treat others with respect.
2. Not become involved in bullying/cyber-bullying incidents or be a bully.
3. Be aware of Fullerton School District policies and support systems with regard to bullying/cyber-bullying.
4. Acknowledge that whether I am being a bully or see someone being bullied, if I don't report or stop the bullying/cyber-bullying, I am guilty of supporting bullying.
5. Be alert in places around the school where there is less adult supervision and bullying is more likely to occur.
6. Support students who have been or are subject to bullying/cyber-bullying.
7. Work with other students, teachers, school staff members, and administrators to help the school deal with bullying effectively if it should occur.
8. Be a good role model by upholding my pledge in supporting zero tolerance toward bullying/cyber-bullying.

Each of us is different! Expect it! Respect it! Accept it!

A student who has witnessed or been a victim of harassment of any kind is urged to bring the problem to the attention of school personnel so appropriate action may be taken to resolve the problem immediately.

Dress Code Policy

Nicolas Jr. High School encourages students to dress appropriately for school. The daily clothing/attire should be conducive to an educational environment and should not be disruptive of school operations and the educational process. **In cases of questionable clothing choices, the school administration reserves the right to determine the appropriateness of the student's attire.**

The following serves as a reference to appropriate clothing while at school:

1. Dress or grooming is prohibited if it is obscene, libelous, or incites students to create a clear and present danger of unlawful acts of a substantial disruption at school.
2. Clothing should be clean and in good repair. Ripped jeans may be worn from the knee down. If holes are above the knee, leggings or other fabric must be worn to cover the holes.
3. Pants must be worn at the waist and must **fit the waist without a belt**. Visible undergarments are not acceptable. Belts must be appropriate to the student's waist size with plain belt buckles. No excessively long belts are allowed. Keep in mind that **NO EXCESSIVE OVERSIZE** pants
4. Clothing must **entirely cover the front and back of the student to the waist**. No bare-midriff, halter, off-the-shoulder, strapless, or spaghetti-strap tops are allowed.
5. **All students must wear shirts with sleeves. Tank tops are not allowed.**
6. Footwear must be worn at all times on campus and have hard soles (Tennis shoes are appropriate/acceptable, soft-soled slippers are unacceptable). No sandals, slides, thong sandals, flip-flops or backless shoes are allowed.

7. Pocket chains (such as might be used to hold a wallet or keys) are not allowed.
8. Clothing promoting the illegal or commercial use of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products, promotes violence, racism or death or that includes sexual innuendo is not permitted.
9. Styles of clothing (jackets, shirts, hats, lettered belt or belt buckles, "sagging," make-up, hair, sports groups etc.) which symbolize affiliation (as identified by the Fullerton Police Department) with negative youth groups are not allowed.
10. A pupil who comes to school without proper attention to personal hygiene or cleanliness of dress may be asked to change clothes.
11. Pajama bottoms are prohibited.
12. Clothing that is too revealing (i.e. low-cut tops, short shorts, low-rise pants, or clothing which allows undergarments to show) is not allowed.
13. Clothing shall be worn at an appropriate/acceptable length for sitting as well as standing so that undergarments do not show. Clothing may be of any style if all slits, openings, and length are no higher than half the distance between the knees and waist, and do not expose one's undergarments. No undergarments or posteriors should show.
14. Students may not display writing or drawing on their bodies.
15. Plain T-shirts may not be worn over another long sleeved shirt.
16. Plain white T-shirts are not allowed.
17. Socks may not be pulled up more than 4 inches.
18. The top button of shirts and jackets cannot be buttoned.
19. Leggings are not allowed, unless the leggings are worn under a skirt or torn jeans.
20. No spike earrings or hoop ring facial piercings
21. Beanies, baseball caps, and hoods are not allowed. Only full-brimmed hats may be worn outside.
22. Extra long oversized baggy shorts (Pro club shorts).

Nicolas staff members may use their discretion in deciding if a student's dress is inappropriate. Any time a staff member believes a student's dress is inappropriate or causing a disruption, the student will be referred to the office. ***Students will be required to wear school-supplied garments to cover inappropriate clothing or remain in the office until a parent is available to bring a change of clothing.***

Hat Policy / Sun Protection

In order to promote good health habits, students are encouraged to use sunscreen protection on a regular basis. Students are also allowed to wear certain hats to school in an effort to protect themselves from cancer and other hazards related to sun exposure (SB310). Nicolas Jr. High School hat policy is intended for outdoor use only. Acceptable hats must be full-brimmed, providing protection for the face, ears, and neck. Hats must also meet all other dress policy requirements. **Beanies and baseball caps are among the hats that are not allowed unless prior approval.**