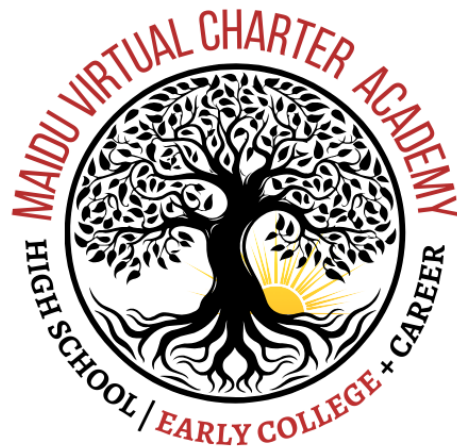


Maidu Virtual Charter Academy

Home of the Mavericks

Student & Parent Handbook

2026-27



**Using Today's Technology
to Educate and Create Tomorrow's Leaders**

#MaiduMyWay

**Maidu Virtual Charter Academy**

Zachary Pless, Principal
Kristen Miller, Ed.D. Assistant Principal
Rachel Stevenson, Counselor

Hello Maidu Students and Families,

July 27, 2026

My name is Zachary Pless and I will be serving as the Principal of Maidu this school year. I am excited to meet all of the students and families. Maidu is a special place and I am looking forward to seeing it in action this year.

The 2026-27 school year is going to be an amazing year for all of our students. For returning students, we are excited to have you back. If you are new to Maidu, we look forward to the opportunity to work with you. MVCA is proud of the unique educational experiences and options we provide for our students. We have a robust partnership with Sierra College with unique structured course offerings for ALL students. We hope that you are able to take full advantage of all the opportunities that MVCA has to offer.

School officially starts on Friday, August 7th. Parents- Aeries **Data Confirmation** opens today, 7/27, and is a mandatory update in Aeries that covers the authorizations and permissions pertaining to your student for this new school year. This is required for **all** families, whether new or returning. **THIS MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE AUGUST 7th.** [Click here to complete.](#) If you have any questions please contact our Registrar, Beth Parkins, bparkins@puhsd.k12.ca.us. In addition to data confirmation, all enrollment paperwork and your Master Agreement need to be completed and signed, if you haven't done so already. They have been sent out multiple times through DocuSign. Please reach out to Beth Parkins if you have any questions or concerns.

Class schedules will be available to view on August 5th, but **only** if data confirmation and your Master Agreement have been completed. To request a change or to add a course to your schedule for the fall semester please submit your request via this [Course Change Request Form](#). If your request is able to be accommodated, our counselor, Rachel Stevenson will make the change and will email the student their updated schedule. If the change can't be accommodated, Mrs. Stevenson will email the student the reason(s) why and offer alternatives, if available. Our teachers will be meeting in the coming weeks to finalize orientation activities for new students and contacting you via email with further details. It is essential for all Maidu students and families to regularly check your emails for school information.

We look forward to having you visit us in person this year. We are very excited to have office hours with our teachers to support students in person. Please see our website for the schedule, which will be available soon.

Enjoy your last few days of summer vacation. We look forward to working with you this year!

Respectfully,

Zachary Pless
Principal of Alternative Education

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30AM - 3:30PM
530-745-5763

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Mission and Vision

Mission Statement

At Maidu Virtual Charter Academy (MVCA) our mission is to empower students through a flexible, personalized virtual education that bridges the gap between high school and future success. By fostering individual accountability, academic excellence, and strong community connections, we provide tailored pathways - including robust and personalized early college and career programs - that prepare students to thrive in an ever-changing world.

Vision Statement

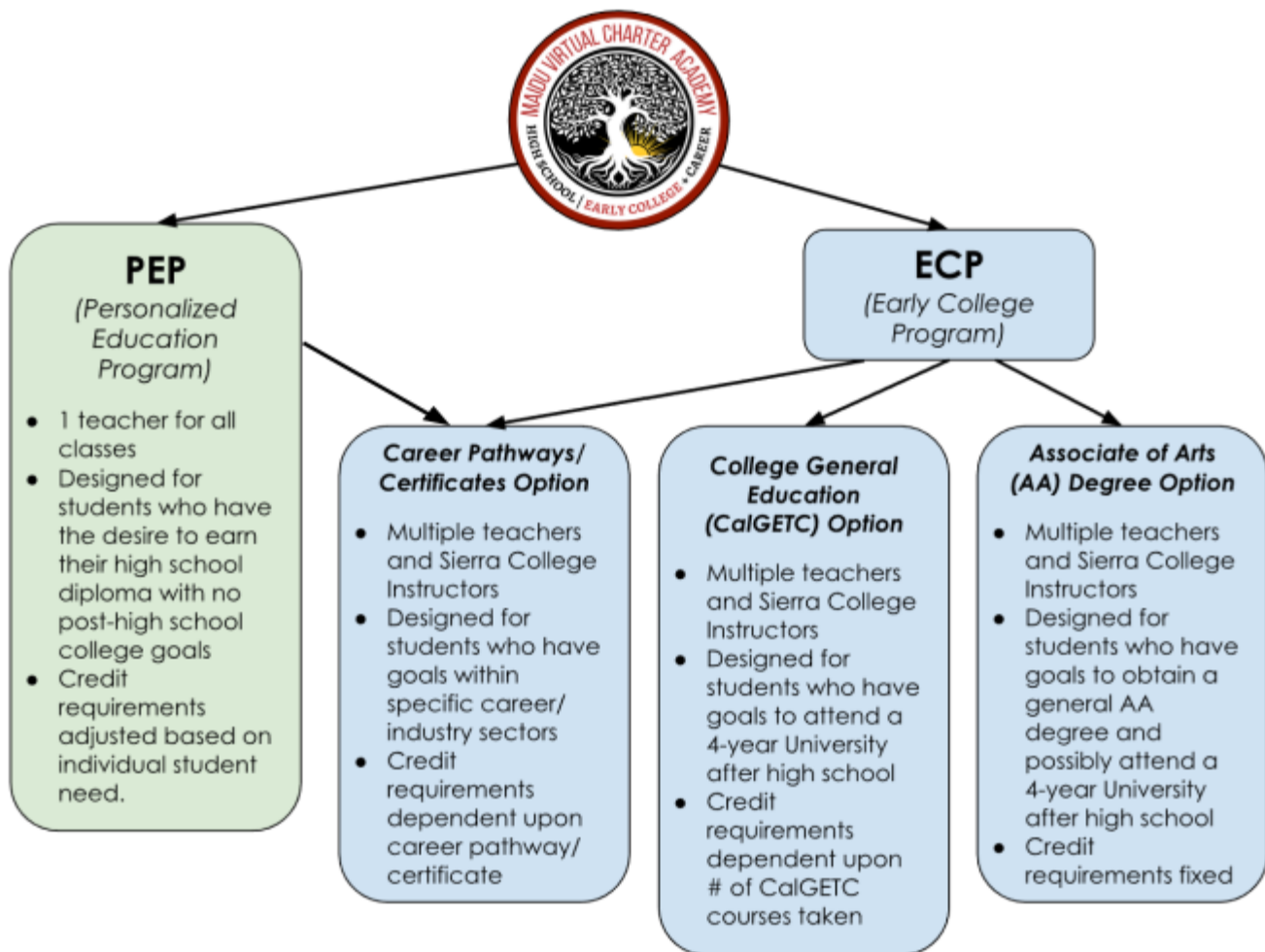
MVCA's vision is to redefine the high school experience by creating a dynamic virtual space where every student is seen, supported, and equipped with the personalized tools and college/career-level opportunities necessary to achieve their highest potential. We strive to be a premier virtual learning community that inspires students to take ownership of their unique academic journeys, graduate with a clear sense of purpose, and confidently step into higher education and modern careers.

Academics

When a student graduates from Maidu Virtual Charter Academy (MVCA), it is expected that they will have the ability to think critically, be a lifelong learner, and effective communicator, a healthy individual, and a responsible citizen. These are some of MVCA's core values, and we are pleased to offer a variety of programs to ensure we nurture these core values and meet a wide range of student interests and needs. We have two distinct programs that students can enroll in, however, there is a level of flexibility within each program to access a wide variety of courses. Each program is described in detail below.

Academic Programs

The following graphic shows the distinct programs a MVCA student can enroll in, including the Personalized Education Program (PEP) and the Early College Program (ECP) with three distinct strands: Career Pathways/Certificates Option, College General Education (CalGETC) Option, Associate of Arts (AA) Degree Option. A description of each program is below.



Personalized Education Program (PEP)

The Personalized Education Program (PEP) is designed for students who may not have the desire or ability to attend a 4-year university right out of high school, and traditionally serves 11th and 12th graders. Oftentimes, students in the PEP program have a variety of factors going on in their lives that make it difficult for them to keep up with the rigor of the Early College Program (ECP). However, students are encouraged to take part in ECP program options (particularly Career Pathways/Certificates Option) to help them achieve their personal and professional goals. Through the PEP program, students are assigned an advisor who also teaches all of their courses, but can also access courses through Sierra College to help reach their individual education and career goals. In specific circumstances, students enrolled in the PEP program are given the option of reduced credit requirements as outlined by the California Department of Education (CDE) per Education Code Section 51225.3, and complete the requirements for receiving a high school diploma within the State of California. Students who may need this adjustment are discussed within the Maidu teacher-counselor-administration team to

ensure this adjustment is appropriate and based on individual circumstances.

Early College Program (ECP)

The Early College Program (ECP) is a unique program and partnership with Sierra College to allow students maximum exposure and opportunity to take college and/or career-based classes to further their academic and professional futures. While there are three distinct "options" or strands within this program, there is a great deal of flexibility in terms of what students can take and access just by being a Maidu student. Each of the programs is described below.

ECP Pathway Options

While there are three unique pathways within our ECP, the sky is the limit in terms of how you tailor your high school/early college and career path. The specific pathways and options are listed below, but several of our students take classes that fall in multiple pathways, based on specific college and/or career goals.

Career Pathways/Certificates Option - The Career Pathways/Certificates (CPC) option allows students to access specific career-interest-related courses and certificate programs while completing high school diploma requirements. Many of these courses and programs fall within Career Technical Education (CTE). This option is for students who have goals within specific career/industry sectors, and credit requirements depend on the career pathway/certificate of choice.

College General Education (CalGETC) Option - The College General Education (CalGETC) option is designed for students who have goals to attend a 4-year University after high school. This option allows students to take college general education courses while completing their high school diploma requirements. The credit requirements in this option are dependent upon the number of CalGETC courses taken while enrolled in the program.

Associate of Arts (AA) Degree Option - The Associate of Arts (AA) Degree Option is designed for students who have goals of obtaining a general AA Degree while also completing their high school diploma requirements. Credit requirements are fixed based on the number of credits required to earn an AA degree.

ECP Eligibility

ECP opportunities are open to students who have completed the equivalent of 8th grade and are in good academic standing.

ECP Steps to Enroll

1. **Meet with MVCA Counselor, Mrs. Stevenson (rstevenson@puhsd.k12.ca.us) to verify eligibility and discuss class options.** Mrs. Stevenson will help guide you through the enrollment process through the Sierra College website in accordance with the following steps.
2. **Figure out which courses you'd like to take.** Several core classes are taught by MVCA teachers (who are also Sierra College Professors), but there are several elective courses offered by Sierra College that could be taken through Academic

Enrichment. Feel free to peruse Sierra College courses by [clicking here](#). **(Make sure the class you want is not restricted by reviewing the [Academic Enrichment Restricted Course List](#).)**

3. **Apply to Sierra College.** [Apply online](#) through OpenCCC and indicate that you are a high school student. We recommend using a personal email address and not a school email or Yahoo email address. [Watch a tutorial video about applying to the Academic Enrichment program](#).
4. **Set up your mySierra account.** Refer to your Welcome email and use the [password reset tool](#) to create your account. If you have not received the Welcome email within 24 hours of applying, please contact enrollmentservices@sierracollege.edu.
5. **Complete the Academic Enrichment Permission form.** This form can be found on the [Sierra College website](#) and must be submitted each semester and be signed by the student parent/guardian, and an authorized high school staff member.
 - a. **Students:** Use your [mySierra](#) log in to complete the form. If your school is not listed on the e-form, fill out the [PDF Permission Form: All Semesters](#). Send the completed form to outreach@sierracollege.edu.
 - b. **Parents/Guardians:** You will receive an email with a link to your students' form to review and e-sign.
 - i. Upon parent/guardian signature, the form is routed to the authorized signer at your high school, then sent to Sierra College for processing.
 - ii. Please allow up to two (2) business days for processing. A confirmation email will be sent to your Sierra College email.
6. **Accept College Terms and Conditions.** Log in to [mySierra](#) and click on the Terms and Conditions link to accept.
7. **Register yourself for classes in mySierra.** Visit [Register for Classes](#) for instructions or [watch a how-to register for classes video](#).
 - a. **Note:** Make sure the class you want is not restricted by reviewing the [Academic Enrichment Restricted Course List](#).

ECP Policies and Guidelines

The following policies and guidelines are in accordance with Sierra College's Academic Enrichment and Dual Enrollment policies and guidelines:

- **Eligibility:**
 - To be eligible, students must have completed the 8th grade, and be in **good academic standing**.
 - Students must **meet all course prerequisites** to enroll in a course which may require providing transcripts.
 - Students must maintain at least a **2.0 GPA at Sierra College** to be allowed to continue in classes as an Academic Enrichment student.
- **Course Policies:**
 - There is a **maximum enrollment of 11 units each semester** or summer session.
 - Academic Enrichment students are not permitted to audit courses.
 - It is the student's responsibility to register for the appropriate classes. The [Restricted Course List](#) is available on our website and the college reserves the right to exclude certain classes.

- The course credit and grades earned will become part of the **student's permanent college record. There is no way to remove Ws or substandard grades (D, F) from a college transcript.** Classes in which a student receives a passing grade cannot be retaken later for a higher grade.
- College courses will be reviewed when determining your college financial aid eligibility. See **Financial Aid SAP Policy**.
- Students are responsible for being aware of and adhering to policies, procedures and deadlines (including **Add/Drop deadlines**) as they pertain to Sierra College students. For example, if students are not present for the first class meeting, they may be dropped from the class.
- **Other Student Information:**
 - Students seeking accommodations for disabilities must meet with a **Student Accessibility Services (SAS)** counselor and submit disability verification from a qualified professional. Sierra College cannot participate in the Individual Education Plan (IEP) process but will consider high school IEPs as part of the accommodation request. By statute, the accommodations available for students and the support offered are different at the high school and college levels, so the **accommodations granted at the college may differ from those approved through the IEP process.**
 - Upon graduation from high school, you can re-apply to Sierra College as a first-time college student.
 - Academic Enrichment students are not eligible for state or federal financial aid.
 - **Please Note:** Academic Enrichment students are classified as special admits under the California Education Code. They are not eligible for certain services (e.g., athletics, financial aid, fee-funded activities, etc.) until full matriculation.
- **Parent Information**
 - **Students may interact socially with adult college students and may be exposed to discussions, readings, and visual materials of a mature nature.** Students will be expected to conform to the same performance standards as any other college students as set forth in course outlines and syllabi. Sierra College is not responsible for the social interactions of students and is released from the responsibility of monitoring concurrently enrolled minor students should a class meeting or course be canceled.
 - The **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)** protects the privacy of student education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level.

Additional ECP Information & Tips for Success

Taking on college-level coursework while in high school is a powerful head start, but it requires a **shift in mindset** and a sharp eye for detail. Because you are **simultaneously enrolled in both Maidu Virtual Charter Academy and Sierra College**, you must navigate two separate systems. The guidelines below are designed to help students and parents successfully manage the logistical and academic responsibilities of the Early College Program (ECP).

- **ECP Calendar vs. MVCA Calendar:** Sierra College operates on its own autonomous academic calendar. Because of this, **ECP courses will not start at the same time as non-ECP (regular MVCA) classes.** Specific details can be found in the [Sierra College Academic Calendar](#), but here are a few key things to be aware of:
 - **Differing Start/End Dates:** Fall college semesters typically begin later in August than MVCA and spring semester often start in mid-January. High school breaks (such as Thanksgiving, Winter Break and/or Spring Break) rarely align perfectly with Sierra College's instruction days.
 - **Attendance Expectation:** If MVCA is on break but Sierra College is in session, you are legally and academically expected to attend your college classes or log into your online college modules. Failing to do so will impact your college grade.
 - **Action Step:** Always bookmark and review the official [Sierra College Academic Calendar](#) at the start of every term to map out your semester.
- **Adding and Dropping Classes:** Missing Deadlines can be costly: Unlike high school, where a counselor can adjust your schedule weeks into a semester, community colleges have strict, legally binding deadlines for changes. **It is the student's sole responsibility to officially add or drop courses via their mySierra portal.**
 - **The "No-Show" Drop:** If you are registered for an in-person class and miss the very first class meeting, or if you are in an online class and fail to complete the first week's check-in assignment, the professor is required to drop you as a "no-show."
 - **The "Drop Without a W" Deadline:** This occurs very early in the semester (usually within the first two weeks). Dropping before this deadline means the class disappears entirely from your transcript.
 - **The "Withdrawal (W)" Deadline:** If you drop a class after the first deadline but before the final withdrawal deadline (typically around the 11th or 12th week of the semester), you will receive a "W" on your transcript. While a "W" does not affect your GPA, having too many "W" grades can negatively impact your financial aid "pace of completion" later on.
 - **The Point of No Return:** Once the final withdrawal deadline passes, you *must* receive a letter grade (A–F) for the course. Your professor cannot drop you after this date.
 - **Action Step:** Check the exact deadlines for your specific course section inside your [mySierra](#) portal immediately after enrolling.
- **Navigating the Permanent College Record:** The moment you register for a Sierra College course, you are establishing a **permanent federal and state academic record.**
 - **Permanent Impact:** The grades you earn in your ECP classes will remain on your official Sierra College transcript forever. Substandard grades (D, F) or withdrawals (W) cannot be erased, hidden, or removed from your record.
 - **GPA & Financial Aid:** These grades impact your cumulative college GPA. Substandard college transcripts can negatively affect your future admissions competitiveness when transferring to four-year universities, and they directly impact your future eligibility for federal and state financial aid

- (such as Cal Grants or Pell Grants) through the Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) policy.
- **The Retake Rule:** If you pass a Sierra College course with a "C" or better, you generally **cannot** retake that exact course later to try and earn an "A". The first passing grade sticks.
 - **Keys to Student Success in the ECP:** To thrive in the virtual early college environment, students must adapt to college-level autonomy:
 - **Syllabus as Law:** In college, professors will not give daily reminders about upcoming assignments. The syllabus is your roadmap. Read it on day one, write down every major due date in a planner, and check your Sierra College email daily.
 - **The 2-for-1 Rule:** For every 1 unit of college lecture, expect to spend at least 2 hours per week studying, reading, or working on assignments independently outside of class time.
 - **Self-Advocacy:** If you are struggling, you must reach out to your professor directly during their posted office hours. High school staff and parents cannot contact college professors on your behalf.
 - **Utilize Campus Resources:** ECP students have full access to Sierra College support systems. Do not hesitate to use the Writing Center, Math Center, or drop-in tutoring services available on campus or online.
 - **Critical Information for Parents:** Supporting an early college student requires balancing encouragement with stepping back to allow for independence:
 - **The FERPA Boundary:** The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student educational records. When a student enrolls in a college course—**regardless of age**—these privacy rights transfer entirely to the student. Sierra College professors and administrators cannot legally speak with parents about a student's grades, attendance, behavior, or progress without the student's explicit, written consent on file with the college.
 - **Adult Environment:** ECP students are placed in classrooms alongside adult learners of all ages and backgrounds. Course materials, readings, and class discussions are designed for mature audiences and will not be censored or altered for minor students.
 - **How to Help:** Instead of trying to manage the course for them, help your student by setting up a dedicated, quiet study space at home, checking in weekly on their syllabus deadlines, and guiding them on how to write professional emails to their professors when they need assistance.

PUHSD Credit/Graduation Requirements

All subjects have the same unit value toward graduation. Five or ten units of credit are granted for courses taken and passed. Students will be awarded a diploma from the school where they complete their grad requirements. Students may not attend one high school and be taking additional courses at another high school (concurrent enrollment) unless previously approved. Grad requirements are in compliance with legislative provisions.

[Specific Graduation Requirements are outlined on the district website.](#)

MVCA Credit/Graduation Requirements

MVCA credit/graduation requirements differ slightly from PUHSD credit/graduation requirements. All subjects have the same unit value toward graduation. Five or ten units of credit are granted for courses taken and passed. Students will be awarded a diploma from the school where they complete their grad requirements. Students may not attend one high school and be taking additional courses at another high school (concurrent enrollment) unless previously approved. Grad requirements are in compliance with legislative provisions. A detailed breakdown of MVCA credit/graduation requirements is shown below.

Subject*	Credits Required
English - 4 terms (9, 10, 11, and 12)	40 credits
Mathematics - Must pass IM 1	20 credits
Life Science	10 credits
Physical Science	10 credits
World Studies	10 credits
U.S. History	10 credits
American Government	5 credits
Economics	5 credits
Health	5 credits
Physical Education	20 credits
Fine Arts and/or Foreign Language	10 credits
Electives	75 credits
TOTAL REQUIRED CREDITS FOR GRADUATION:	220 credits

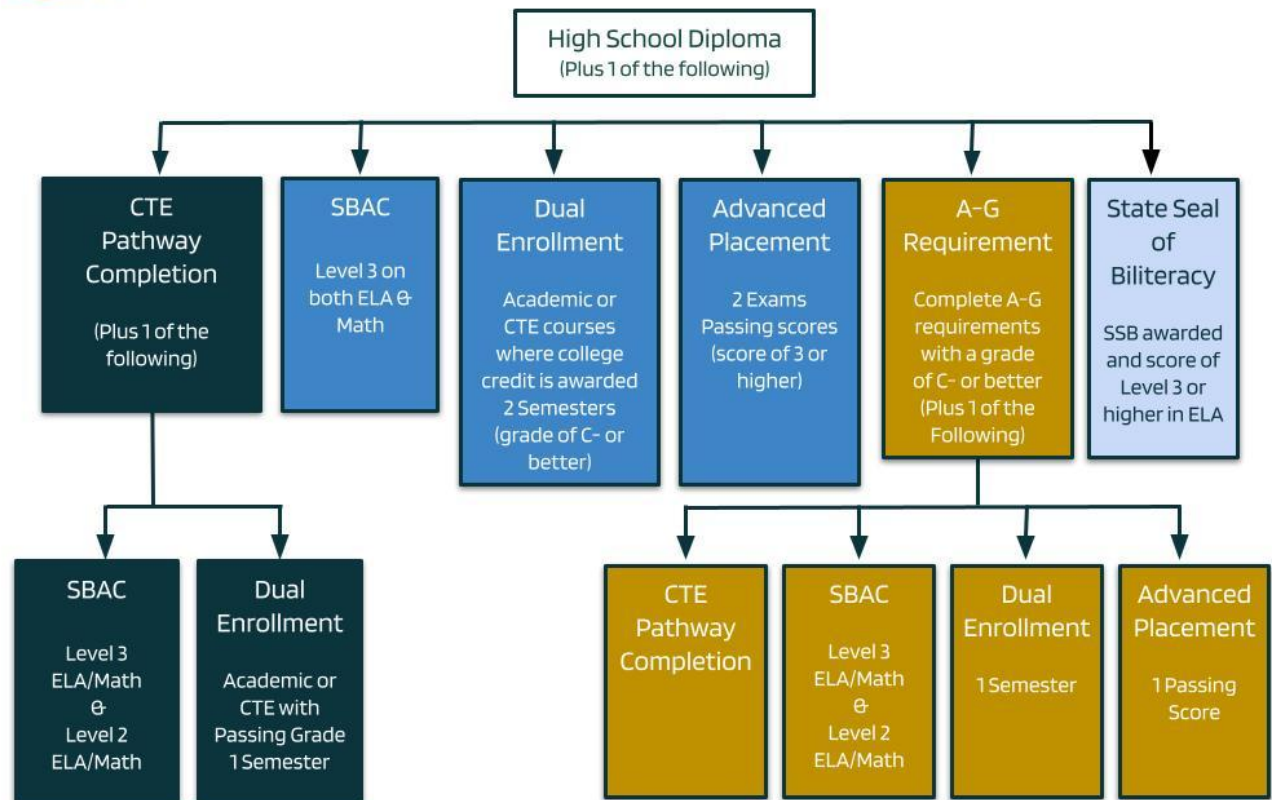
*MVCA has a wide selection of courses to offer students at Maidu:

[Please click here for the MVCA course catalog.](#)

For the students of PUHSD the goal is to ensure all students are College, Career and Life ready by completing one of the following:



COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS (CCI)



Important Terms and Acronyms

- **A-G:** the 16 courses a student needs to pass with a C or better to be eligible for CSU/UC admission after high school
- **CTE:** meaning Career Technical Education, this is any series of courses that promote skills and knowledge in a particular field or industry. CTE courses are grouped into pathways and require 2-3 courses to complete the pathway
- **Dual Enrollment:** a college course taken in high school during the high school day that will earn a student credit towards high school graduation and college units. [More Info](#)
- **Academic Enrichment:** approved community college courses taken in addition to comprehensive coursework offered onsite.
- **SBAC/CAASPP and CAST:** State testing that all students take their junior year in both English Language Arts, Math and Science
- [Full Glossary of Terms](#)

College Entrance Requirements

Community Colleges: High School graduate or 18 years of age or possess a Certificate of Proficiency. No course, test or grade point average requirements. **Assessments may be required by colleges.**

CSU/UC: Students entering the CSU/UC system must have completed the following courses with a "C" or better grade.

- English, 4 years
- Mathematics, 3 years
- Social Science (including 1 yr. of U.S. History), 2 years
- Science (Life & Physical), 2 years
- Foreign Language, 2 years
- Visual and Performing Arts (Art, Drama/Theater, Music), 1 year
- Electives*, 1 year (*Selected from English, advanced mathematics, social sciences, history, lab science, foreign language, visual and performing arts*)



*MVCA has a wide selection of courses to offer students at Maidu:

[Please click here for the MVCA course catalog.](#)

The CSU subject requirements in English, mathematics, U.S. History, science, and foreign language are the same as those required by the University of California. High school courses in these fields that are listed on "Courses to Meet Requirements for Admission to the University of California" will also meet CSU requirements. You must take one aptitude test, either Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT 1) or American College Test (ACT). Applying to a UC is a competitive process. We advise you to see a counselor to discuss specific requirements.

Scholarships: For information regarding scholarships, please see the counseling page of the [Maidu Virtual Charter Academy \(MVCA\)](#) website.

Additional methods of exceeding the minimum university entrance requirements:

The courses listed above will make a student "university eligible" with a grade of "C" or better. However, taking the minimum requirements with a C average will not guarantee admission or make a student particularly "competitive" for the CSU, UC and private school systems. In order to become more competitive, students should have very high grades and take additional courses in any area available. For example, taking additional foreign language, math, or English courses would add points to a student's college application. MVCA also offers Dual Enrollment (DE) courses in English, Math, History, and Science. Advanced Enrichment (AE) classes are available to MVCA students through Sierra College through our Early College Program. When MVCA Students take courses from Sierra College they not only earn additional points on their college applications, but they also earn college credit which can be transferred to their college

of choice upon admission. Many of our students leave high school with 3-15 college units (or more!). Families find this a great savings in time and money.

Sierra College - [Academic Enrichment Program](#)

Students may enroll in certain Sierra College courses while still in high school, by applying to Sierra and completing the online AE permission form (click link above for more information). Please contact our counselor [Rachel Stevenson](#) with any questions about AE.

**Chromebooks and Technology**

All students in our comprehensive high schools are included in 1:Web* (One-to-Web) and provided with a Chromebook that they will use for their entire time in PUHSD. [Here is a link](#) for more information regarding the technology and chromebooks including information about filtering and monitoring internet usage. Please be aware that all PUHSD Chromebooks are monitored by PUHSD and any use of chromebook or technology that violates the [tech policy](#) may result in disciplinary action.

Grading and Reporting

Grading Policy

Students are issued a letter grade for course work. Students will receive these grades on their progress reports and on end of term grade reports, which are visible on the Aeries Portal. Individual teacher expectations and grading policies can be found on each teacher's syllabus.

Grade Reporting

Grade Reporting or Progress Reports are issued eight times a year through our student information system, Aeries. The progress report cards at approximately 4 1/2, 9, and 13 1/2 weeks are meant to give an indication to you and your parents of your progress in each subject. ONLY end of term grades are recorded on your transcript and are used to determine CSF eligibility and grade point average. Nine week grades and end of term grades are both used to determine CIF eligibility. Progress reports tell students whether they are completing the work satisfactorily, are not meeting the teacher's standards, or are failing. Progress reports are also used as a means of acknowledging exceptional progress of a student or to encourage the student who has improved markedly since the last report. Please reach out to the school registrar if you have difficulty accessing Aeries.

Academic Code of Conduct (Integrity – Honesty)

Maidu Virtual Charter Academy (MVCA) and PUHSD value academic integrity and live by a firm adherence to student effort, responsibility and honesty. Students are expected to demonstrate conduct that exhibits honesty. Acts of cheating (including giving or receiving information during a test), plagiarism (including use of artificial intelligence), altering official school documents or other acts as defined by department or instructor course syllabi will not be

tolerated. While our goal is to focus on student learning, in the event a student is found to have cheated, this may jeopardize credit on an assignment, class grade, or be transferred out of a class, in addition to disciplinary action. Additional details, including consequences for violating this code of conduct, can be found in the [MVCA Academic Integrity Policy](#).

Teacher assignments and tests are considered intellectual property of the teacher and school. Any student who distributes an assignment or test without the consent of the teacher will be subject to discipline and possible suspension.

Academic Recognition

Recognizing academic achievement is a cornerstone of a thriving educational environment, and MVCA consistently celebrates the dedication, hard work, and intellectual curiosity that define our students' pursuit of knowledge. Academic recognition, in its various forms, not only honors individual accomplishment but also inspires and culture of excellence, encouraging all members of our community to strive for their highest potential and fostering a lifelong love of learning. In addition to recognizing students through monthly newsletters and social media shout-outs, MVCA is proud to offer the following forms of recognition each year.

State Seal of Biliteracy

This is an award given to high school graduates who demonstrate proficiency in both English and another language. It is marked by a gold seal on the diploma in recognition of high school graduates that have attained a high level of proficiency in speaking, reading and writing one or more languages in addition to English.

Golden State Seal Merit Diploma

This award provides recognition to high school graduates who have demonstrated a superior level of performance in English, math, science, U.S. History, plus two additional subject areas. Grades as well as qualifying scores on state assessments are used to measure attainment of this award.

State Seal of Civic Engagement

This seal is awarded to students who demonstrate a commitment to civics education, participation, and understanding of democratic principles by completing set requirements and criteria. This award is marked by having a seal affixed to a student's diploma.

Graduation Recognition & Honors

At MVCA, we work to recognize students' academic and character achievements in many ways. In addition to the recognitions as outlined in "Academic Recognition" above, additional opportunities for recognition during graduation include:

- Alan Young Bootstrap Award
- Assistance League Scholarship
- Perseverance Award
- Principal's Award

- Maverick of the Year Award
- Dual Enrollment Achievement Recognition
- Career Technical Education (CTE) Pathway Completion Recognition
- Honor Roll
- Principal's List

State and Federal Academic Assessment

Testing is done each year and given in English Language Arts, Science, and math. Scoring proficient or above in all subject areas and tests can determine eligibility for academic awards, unscheduled blocks, teacher's aides, and in select subject areas can positively impact a student's grade. The following tests are scheduled to be offered through a program called CAASPP (California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress) but more testing could be added throughout the year by the department of education.

The CAASPP assessment system encompasses the following required assessments:

- Smarter Balanced (SBAC) system of assessments for Mathematics and English–Language Arts giving to 11th grade in Spring Term
 - The SBAC lets you know if you are ready for college-level work in English and mathematics at the end of your junior year of high school. The early signal gives you the opportunity to improve your skills during your senior year or the summer before attending a CSU or community college.
- California Standards Tests (CST) for Science in grade 11.
- California Alternative Assessment (CAA) grade 11
- Physical Fitness Test (PFT) - All 9th grade students must take this assessment

Activities

The Placer Union High School District and MVCA recognize the importance of extracurricular activities, co-curricular activities, and clubs as an integral component of a student's educational development. As such, we believe that all students should have an opportunity to participate in school sponsored activities and that such participation should encourage positive scholastic and social growth along with providing valuable experiences. Because these activities and groups represent the school, community, and district, all participants will represent the school and community in a positive manner and will reflect the dedication and hard work that will be required to participate and be successful. Similar to athletics, participation in these activities is a privilege and is earned by positive behavior. The Activities Code of Conduct will be adhered to for the following:

- ASB Leadership and Activities
- ASB Clubs
- Band
- Cheer
- Choir

- Dance
- Drama
- FFA

The advisors of individual clubs and activities have the discretion to include codes of conduct or expectations of behavior that are inline with school board policy. [Full Activities Handbook](#)

Maidu Meetups

MVCA is proud to offer a variety of in-person and virtual meetups to provide opportunities for students to get together and build connections. To see a comprehensive list of Maidu Meetups, please visit the [Student Activities page on the MVCA website](#).

MVCA Community Bulletin Board

MVCA is proud to offer a digital community bulletin board to help students connect with one another based on shared interests. This bulletin board can be found on the [MVCA Activities Page on our website](#), and additional details are provided upon enrolling in Maidu about how to log in to the board.

Clubs

MVCA is always looking for students who want to start clubs based on student interest. Past clubs offered at MVCA include GSA and Media Club. Detailed club information is provided to students through the MVCA Community Bulletin Board and upon enrollment. Additionally, MVCA students have access to any/all clubs at the comprehensive high schools within PUHSD. Below is a partial list of clubs available at each high school. Students must possess a MVCA student ID card in order to be able to attend club meetings at each site.

Colfax High School Clubs

Clubs at CHS vary from year to year. The current clubs can be found on the [CHS website](#). Prior CHS clubs have included: [Bible Club](#), [Book Club](#), [California Cadet Corps Club](#), [California Scholarship Federation Club](#), [Car Club](#), [Culinary Club](#), [Tabletop Game Club](#), [Engineering and Art](#), [Environmental Club](#), [Fashion Club](#), [Garden Club](#), [GSA](#), [Open Studio Club](#), [Model United Nations Club](#), [Spikeball Club](#), [Women's Athletic Club](#), [Mock Trial](#), and [more...](#) To see the full list of current CHS Clubs, [please visit the CHS Clubs Website](#).

Del Oro High School Clubs

Clubs at DOHS vary from year to year. The current clubs can be found on the [DOHS website](#). Prior DOHS clubs have included: [3D Printing Club](#), [AAPA Club](#), [Airsoft Club](#), [Anime and Cosplay Club](#), [Art Club](#), [ASL Club](#), [Band Club](#), [Black Hole Club](#), [Boys Club](#), [Broadcaster & Filmmakers](#), [CSF Club](#), [Cheese Club](#), [Coffee Club](#), [Craft Club](#), [Culinary Club](#), [Debate Club](#), [Gaming Club](#), [FFA Club](#), [Helping Hearts Club](#), [Interact Club](#), [Leadership/ASB](#), [Mock Trial Club](#), [Mathletes Club](#), [Mountain Biking Club](#), [Origami Club](#), [Project Earth](#), [Self-Improvement Club](#), [Sending Sunshine Club](#), and [more...](#) To see the full list of current DOHS Clubs, [please visit the DOHS Clubs Website](#).

Foresthill High School Clubs

Clubs at FHS vary from year to year. The current clubs can be found on the [FHS website](#). Prior FHS clubs have included: [Music Club](#), [Mental Health Club](#), [FFA](#), [Robotics](#), and more... To see the full list of current FHS Clubs, [please visit the FHS Clubs Website](#).

Placer High School Clubs

Clubs at PHS vary from year to year. The current clubs can be found on the [PHS website](#). Prior PHS clubs have included: [Leadership/ASB](#), [Advanced Board Game Club](#), [Anime Club](#), [ASL Club](#), [Astronomy Club](#), [Beach Volleyball Club](#), [Bring Change to Mind Club](#), [Block P Society](#), [Cheer Club](#), [CSF](#), [Commercial Logo & Design Club](#), [FFA](#), [Garage Band Club](#), [GSA Club](#), [Key Club](#), [Learning Commons Teen Advisory Club](#), [Mascot Club](#), [Mountain Bike Club](#), [Outdoor Environmental Club](#), [Rotary Interact Club](#), [Spanish Club](#) and more... To see the full list of current PHS Clubs, [please visit the PHS Clubs Website](#).

Athletics

MVCA does not currently offer athletics to students, however we do have several students who participate in club sports in the community. Given that we serve students from a variety of different geographic locations, we encourage students to look up specific club sports in your geographic area, based on sport-of-interest.

Attendance

Attendance Guidelines

MVCA strongly believes that attendance significantly supports student learning and behavior, however, attendance is monitored in a different manner due to the nature of our program. In order to attend MVCA, students and parents must sign a Master Agreement that specifies work completion and attendance requirements. If a student is not meeting the obligations of the agreement, they may be required to return to their school of residence after several attempts have been made through our tiered re-engagement program to meet program requirements.

Tiered Engagement

MVCA's tiered engagement program is an effort to ensure students are successful in our program, and we want to make sure we are doing everything possible to help students succeed. This program operates on a set of tiers, as outlined below, with various levels of engagement between the student and teacher, in an effort to elicit student engagement and success.

Tier Level	Tier Level Description	Student Responsibilities and Goals
<i>Tier 1</i>	Student is making adequate	Student Responsibilities:

	academic progress in all classes.	• Student is earning ½ credit each for 10 credits courses and ¼ credit each week for 5 credit courses. • Student is participating in 50% of offered synchronous instruction. • Student is contacting and meeting with my teachers for support as needed. • Student is submitting work in each of my classes each week of school.
Tier 2	Student is not making adequate progress in all classes.	Student Responsibilities: • Student is attending mandatory meetings with my advisor each week. Student Goals: • Student is earning ½ credit each for 10 credits courses and ¼ credit each week for 5 credit courses. • Student is participating in 50% of offered synchronous instruction. • Student is contacting and meeting with my teachers for support as needed. • Student is submitting work in each of my classes each week of school.
Tier 3	Student is not making adequate progress in all classes OR student failed to attend 2+ mandatory virtual meetings with advisory teacher.	Student Responsibilities: • Student is attending mandatory IN PERSON meetings with EACH TEACHER of the course(s) I am struggling in 1 time per week per course. Student Goals: • Student is earning ½ credit each for 10 credits courses and ¼ credit each week for 5 credit courses. • Student is participating in 50% of offered synchronous instruction. • Student is contacting and meeting with my teachers for support. • Student is submitting work in each of my classes each week of school.
Tier 4*	Student is not making adequate progress in all classes OR student failed to attend 2+ mandatory in-person meetings with advisory teacher.	Student Responsibilities: • Student attends an Attendance Meeting. • Student is attending mandatory IN PERSON meetings with EACH TEACHER of the course(s) I am struggling in 1 time per week per course. Student Goals: • Student is earning ½ credit each for 10 credits courses and ¼ credit each week for 5 credit courses. • Student is participating in 50% of offered synchronous instruction.

		• Student is contacting and meeting with my teachers for support. • Student is submitting work in each of my classes each week of school.
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*If a student still isn't successful after progressing through the tiers and fails to meet the requirements as set at the Tier 4 attendance meeting, the student will be required to return to their comprehensive school of residence. We understand that life circumstances beyond our control can affect student engagement and learning, and we will do everything we can to work with students and families during difficult times to ensure students are successful. Please don't hesitate to reach out to any of the Maidu staff with questions, comments, or concerns.

Conduct and Discipline

While the majority of the work done at MVCA is off-campus, MVCA students still have the opportunity to access classes, clubs, and events at comprehensive school sites. As such, it is expected that MVCA students adhere to the conduct and discipline policies as set forth by each comprehensive school site. A description of PUHSD conduct and discipline policies are outlined in this section.

The purpose of student discipline is to maintain an educational environment conducive to learning and to protect the order, safety, and health of other pupils. The Governing Board affirms the right of every student to be protected from hate-motivated behavior. It is the intent of the Board to promote harmonious relationships that enable students to gain a true understanding of the civil rights and social responsibilities of people in our society. Behavior or statements that degrade an individual on any basis, such as: race, ethnicity, culture, heritage, gender, sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation, physical/mental attributes, religious beliefs or practices, or socio-economic status shall not be tolerated. We believe our students are well-behaved responsible citizens. However, just as in society, some of our students may make some poor choices. We will work with students to problem solve and make sound decisions, but it must be stated that according to Education Code Section 48900 and /or District/ School Policy the following will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action up to suspension, campus clean-up, transfer, or expulsion.

- Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person.
- Willfully used force or violence upon the persons of another, except in self-defense.
- Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished any firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object (this includes "air-soft " guns) unless, in the case of any such object, the pupil had obtained written permission from a certificated school employee, which is concurred in by the principal or the designee of the principal. *This is an expellable offense that may result in a mandatory recommendation to expel from the Placer Union High School District for up to one year.

- Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, or otherwise furnished, or been under the influence of any controlled substance, as defined in Section 11053 of the Health and Safety Code, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind. *This is an expellable offense that may result in a mandatory recommendation to expel from the Placer Union High School District for up to one year.
- Any student who furnishes or attempts to furnish a controlled substance or intoxicant (including alcohol) to other students will be suspended and referred to a site level review meeting and may be recommended for expulsion.
- Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.
- Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a pupil who is a complaining witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of either preventing that pupil from being a witness or retaliating against that pupil for being a witness, or both.
- Committed an act of sexual harassment, meaning unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature—Grades 4-12.
- Caused, attempted to cause, threatened to cause, or participated in an act of hate violence punishable under Section 422.6, 422.7, or 422.75 of the Penal Code—Grades 4-12.
- Intentionally engaged in harassment, threats, or intimidation, directed against a pupil, resulting in materially disrupting classwork, creating substantial disorder, and invading the rights of that pupil or group of pupils by creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment—Grades 4-12.
- Terrorist threats against school officials or school property, or both.
- Unlawfully offered or arranged or negotiated to sell any controlled substance, as defined in Section 11053 of the Health and Safety Code, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind, and then sold, delivered, or otherwise furnished to any person another liquid, substance, or material as a controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant.
- Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property.
- Stolen or attempted to steal school property or private property.
- Possessed or used tobacco, or any products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets, and betel. (This section does not prohibit use or possession by a pupil of his or her own prescription products.)
- Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
- Had unlawful possession of, or unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any drug paraphernalia, as defined in Section 11014.5 of the Health and Safety Code.
- 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 duties.
- Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.
- In accordance with the Education Code of the State of California, Section 16126, no student or other person in attendance at any public school shall "conspire to haze engage in hazing, or commit any act that injures, degrades or disgraces, or tends to

injure, degrade or disgrace any fellow or person attending the institution." Initiation to any organization is illegal. Individuals guilty of hazing will be subject to severe penalties as established by the law.

- In accordance with Placer Union High School District policy harassment on the basis of sex is unlawful. Pupils will not engage in conduct constituting sexual harassment. Board Policy prohibits any act of sexual harassment, where such act is related to any school activity or school attendance. Sexual Harassment will not be condoned or tolerated. Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken against pupils found to have engaged in sexual harassment. Forms of sexual harassment include but are not limited to the following: a. Verbal harassment such as derogatory comments, jokes or slurs; b. Physical harassment such as unnecessary, unwelcome or offensive touching, or impeding or blocking movement. c. Visual harassment such as derogatory or offensive posters, cards, cartoons, graffiti, drawings, or gestures. d. Unwelcome sexual advances, requests, or demands for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Any pupil wishing to make a complaint of sexual harassment should immediately report it to the Principal or an Assistant Principal.
- Displaying Gang-Related Clothing/Paraphernalia PUHSD policy adopted: Any student wearing or displaying articles of clothing or paraphernalia identified by local, county, state, or national law enforcement agencies, or judged by local school officials, as "gang related" may have that article of clothing or paraphernalia removed from his/her possession and kept by the school administration until it is claimed by the parents of the student. At that time, the article or clothing or paraphernalia will be returned to the parents with the following information and admonitions: a. The article of clothing/paraphernalia has been identified as "gang related." The article of clothing/paraphernalia shall not be worn to school by the student because it may provoke an altercation, which could endanger not only their son/daughter but other students as well.
- Discrimination against another person based on race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or handicap is illegal and will not be tolerated.
- You may access specific PUHSD board policies [online](#).
- Other resources can be found on the [PUHSD website](#).

Students in PUHSD have a right to attend a school that is safe, orderly, and secure. It is the intent of all staff that our school is free from physical and psychological harm. The goals of the policy related to student behavior are to maintain order and decorum in the school, to educate our youth, to observe accepted rules of conduct, and to develop self-discipline while simultaneously protecting the rights of others. A clear understanding of our standards and expectations will assist students in making responsible decisions.

The following expectations, standards, rules, policies, and consequences have been developed and designed with the safety and welfare of the students and staff at PUHSD in mind. Your cooperation is expected and appreciated. This handbook addresses the more common concerns and issues that might arise and should be considered a general guideline. Teachers

will also present their own classroom specific standards, expectations, and consequences. Unique circumstances will be evaluated by the administration as they occur. For more detailed information, please refer to the [PUHSD Discipline Matrix](#).

The following are possible infractions and consequences that may occur:

Alcohol, Drugs, and Other Controlled Substances

Students who unlawfully possess, use, sell, or are under the influence, or otherwise furnish alcohol or controlled substance; or possess, sell, furnish any drug paraphernalia will be held accountable. Suspensions may range for 1-5 days and may be subject to expulsion depending on the severity of the offense. Students may also be referred to support programs in lieu of suspension, per administrator discretion.

Any selling, exchanging, offering, or distributing of controlled substances will be an automatic 5 day suspension and recommendation for expulsion.

Appropriate Display of Affection

The inappropriate display of affection during the school day and all school activities (including dances) will not be tolerated.

Assemblies/Rallies

Assemblies and rallies are an important aspect of the school and students are expected to behave appropriately. Students should be attentive, responsive, and show common courtesy when someone is speaking or performing. Students may be dismissed from assemblies/rallies, assigned school discipline, and prevented from future assemblies/rallies.

Bullying, Harassment or Intimidation

No person shall illegally discriminate against or engage in harassment/sexual harassment of a pupil because of the pupil's race, sex, gender, sexual orientation, or preference, color, religion, mental or physical disability, national origin, ancestry or ethnic group identification. The Placer Union High School District recognizes that harassment of any type is unlawful. If students feel they are the subject of harassment, they should immediately report it to the principal or assistant principal. ([AR 5145.3 5145.7](#); Ed Code 234.1; 212.5 CCR 4916 5 CCR 4621)

The Placer Union High School District believes that all students have a right to a safe and healthy school environment. The District, schools and community have an obligation to promote mutual respect, tolerance, and acceptance. The Placer Union High School District will not tolerate behavior related to school activity or attendance that infringes on the safety of any student. A student shall not intimidate or harass another student through words or actions. Such behavior includes direct physical contact or assault of any form including hitting or shoving, verbal assaults such as teasing or name calling, social isolation or manipulation, and cyber bullying. Students who engage in bullying related to school activity or attendance are in violation of this

policy and are subject to corrective and/or disciplinary action up to and including expulsion (Ed Code 48900; [BP 5131.2](#))

Dance Guidelines

School policies concerning student behavior will be enforced at dances. Students and parents will review and sign the dance contract. Enforcement of the dress and dance codes is at the discretion of attending staff. Dance dress code is comparable to the school dress code. Any student violating the dress code will be asked to change and/or leave the dance. The following guidelines are intended to promote a social environment in which all students and adults feel safe and comfortable.

1. Prior to entry into the dance students may be required to participate in an alcohol screening. Refusal to participate will prevent the student from entering the dance.
2. Students shall remain inside until the dance is over or they decide to leave. Anyone leaving will not be permitted to return.
3. Doors will close one hour after a school dance begins unless otherwise indicated by the administration.
4. All students must have a student picture I.D. card or Student Body card and show it to the person in charge at the door in order to be admitted to the dance.
5. Students are to dance appropriately for a high school setting. Students who are dancing inappropriately will be removed from the dance, their parents will be contacted, they will receive school discipline, and they may not be allowed to attend the next dance. On a second offense the student will be removed from the dance and will not be allowed to attend school dances for the remainder of the school year.
6. Students found under the influence or in possession of illegal substances will be removed from the dance and parents informed. Administration will make decision about suspension and expulsion based on the circumstance. Law enforcement may be contacted and citations given to the student.

Dress Code Policy

Students are to dress appropriately for school. Shoes must be worn at all times. Wearing clothing that is overly revealing, has gang connotations, promotes drugs/alcohol, or poses a danger to students and staff is strictly forbidden. Students will be asked to change their clothes if they are wearing inappropriate items. Parents may be contacted and asked to bring a change of clothing. Repeat violators will be subject to school discipline.

Placer Union High School District expects that all students will dress in a way that is appropriate for the school day or for any school sponsored event. Student dress choices should respect PUHSD's intent to sustain a community that is inclusive of a diverse range of identities. The primary responsibility for a student's attire resides with the student and their parent(s) or guardian(s). We are responsible for seeing that student attire does not interfere with the health or safety of any student, that student attire does not contribute to a hostile or intimidating atmosphere for any student, and that dress code enforcement does not reinforce or increase marginalization or oppression of any group based on race, sex, gender identity, gender

expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance, household income, or body type/size. Any restrictions to the way a student dresses are deemed necessary to support the overall educational goals of the school and are explained within our dress code:

Basic Principle: Certain body parts must be covered for all students at all times. Clothes must be worn in a way such that genitals, buttocks, breasts, and nipples are fully covered with non-see through fabric. All items listed in the "must wear" and "may wear" categories below must meet this basic principle.

Students Must Wear*, while following the basic principle of Section 1 above:

- A Shirt/Dress (with fabric in the front, back, and on the sides under the arms), AND
- Pants/Skirt or the equivalent (for example sweatpants, leggings, shorts), AND
- Shoes

*Courses that include attire as part of the curriculum (for example: athletics, public speaking, and job readiness) may include assignment-specific dress, but should not focus on covering bodies in a particular way or promoting culturally - specific attire. Activity-specific shoes requirements are also permitted (for example: athletic shoes for PE).

Students "May Wear," as long as these items do not violate the General Policy above:

- Hats must allow the face to be visible to staff, and not interfere with the line of sight of any student or staff. Sunglasses cannot be worn in class unless for medical reasons.
- Religious headwear
- Hoodie sweatshirts (wearing the hood overhead is allowed, but the face and ears must be visible to school staff).
- Fitted pants, including opaque leggings, yoga pants and "skinny jeans"
- Pajamas
- Ripped jeans, as long as underwear and buttocks are not exposed.
- Tank tops, including spaghetti straps; halter tops
- Athletic attire
- Visible waistbands on undergarments or visible straps on undergarments worn under other clothing (as long as this is done in a way that does not violate Section 1 above).

Students May Not Wear:

- Violent language or images.
- Images or language depicting drugs or alcohol including facsimiles of logos of those products (or any illegal item or activity).
- Hate speech, profanity, pornography.
- Images or language that creates a hostile or intimidating environment based on any protected class or marginalized groups.
- Tops resembling undergarments or swimsuit tops, regardless of fabric, (bras/sports bras) as tops or any clothing that reveals visible undergarments.
- Accessories that could be considered dangerous or could be used as a weapon.

- Any item that obscures the face or ears (except as a religious or public health observance).
- The student may not wear any apparel that is considered gang related. Per PUHSD policy, gang related clothing is defined as "any... articles of clothing or paraphernalia identified by local, county, state, or national law enforcement agencies, or judged by local school officials, as "gang related."

Electronic Device/Cell Phone Policy

All electronic devices (cell phone, chromebooks, tablets, earpods, etc.) are only to be used for academic purposes during the instructional time as determined by the teacher. Inappropriate use may include text messaging, storing phone numbers, checking the time, taking a photo, playing a game, being on social media, etc. Student use of cell phones, or any other recording device, without the prior consent of the teacher and the principal of the school given to promote an educational purpose disrupts and impairs the teaching process and such use is prohibited and the student subject to disciplinary action. Unauthorized recording in restrooms or locker rooms is not allowed and can be subject to school discipline and referral to law enforcement. The sharing of video recordings, audio recordings, or photos of students, teachers, or staff can cause significant disruption to the school. If a student shares video, audio, or photos via social media or texting, the student may receive disciplinary action.

Misuse of School Electronic Devices:

Students will be held accountable for any misuse or damage to school computers and equipment. Misuse also includes using, accessing, or tampering with another student's device and/or account. Students risk academic consequences, discipline action and/or financial restitution. Immediately report any irregularities to your instructor. The misuse of computers and other electronic devices such as hacking, grade changing and vandalism may be both criminal and expellable offenses.

Library (Learning Commons) Guidelines

MVCA students are welcome to use the MVCA Learning Commons (Student Lounge/Collaboration Center) as well as libraries and learning commons at other PUHSD partner schools. The Learning Commons is designed to be used as a means to facilitate academic learning. There is no eating or drinking allowed in the library or in the computer labs. All students are required to show their high school student ID card in order to check out library materials. Students are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior while in the library and computer labs. A photocopier is available to students in the library. The use of social media, on-line chatting or video game playing is not allowed in the computer labs.

Physical/Verbal Altercations (Fighting)

Students who cause or attempt to cause physical injury to another person will be held accountable for their behavior. Suspensions may range for 1-5 days and may be subject to expulsion depending on the severity of the offense. (Ca Ed Code 48900).

Fighting

Fighting is defined by the PUHSD as a physical confrontation between two or more students --- mutual combat, contributing to or perpetuating a fight. This may include hitting back regardless of who threw the first punch. Consequences for fighting range from suspension to recommendation for the expulsion process.

Definitions Associated with Fighting

Breaking up or preventing a fight is characterized by seeking help from the nearest adult; encouraging the students to walk away; or surrounding a friend and moving them away from the argument.

Defending One's Self is characterized by putting hands up to block or prevent a hit; putting hands out to keep the other student at a distance; repeating over and over the desire to NOT fight; calling for help; turning away; or walking away. Self-defense does not include physical retaliation. Administration will have the final say on determining self-defense.

Threatening/Initiating Fights may be treated the same as fighting. The following behaviors communicate a willingness to fight: remaining engaged in an argument; stepping towards the other student; clenching fists; throwing down items being held, i.e. backpack, books, etc.; removing outer garments, such as a jacket, and planning a fight (time and or place).

Jumping In (aiding and abetting) is joining in on another student's fight or contributing to/perpetuating the fight. May include promoting a fight to occur, preventing someone from leaving a hostile situation, or preventing others from breaking up the fight. Students can be suspended for up to five days for this behavior.

Running to or being present to watch a fight (aiding and abetting) or videotaping escalates the potential of a fight occurring and the seriousness of the fight. Students who are caught running, watching, recording, and/or sharing a fight video may be suspended for up to five (5) days. This includes uploading a fight in any content of social media/electronic communication (including airdropping the video).

Food, Gifts and Student Messages

In order to reduce school and class disruption, non-emergency messages and items will not be sent to students during class and must go through the front office. For security reasons, no food delivery services (DoorDash, Uber Eats, your mom, etc.) are allowed.

Patience & Respect for Others

With the number of students on campus rising each year it is important to be aware of others as they go about their daily activities. Please be patient when navigating the campus, waiting in lines, and interacting with each other.

Restrooms

Restrooms should be used for their intended purposes only. Students may not congregate in individual stalls or loiter in the restroom, this may lead to a search and/or disciplinary actions. Please let the office/staff know immediately if a restroom has been vandalized or needs attention.

Senior Conduct Policy

Receiving a diploma and participating in a commencement ceremony is an important milestone in one's life. While a student may be granted a diploma based upon earned credits and fulfilling requirements in specific academic areas, the privilege to participate in senior activities or the commencement ceremony is contingent upon maintaining acceptable scholastic and citizenship standards. Adherence to the Senior Conduct Policy assures seniors that they will be included in the activities planned to honor their achievements. Details of the senior activities and conduct policy will be distributed and reviewed with all seniors in a mandatory meeting in the Spring.

Search Policy

Federal and State law allow school officials to search students under certain circumstances. The school reserves the right to search students, their lockers, cars, and their possessions on campus and or at school events without prior notice ([Board Policy 5145.12](#))

Theft/Destruction of Property

Students who steal, attempt to steal, knowingly receive stolen property, or damage school or private property will be held accountable for damages. Suspensions may range for 1-5 days and may be subject to expulsion depending on the severity of the offense. (CA Ed Code 48900)

Threats of Violence

Any threats made to other students, school, or staff are taken seriously and reported to local law enforcement. Law Enforcement will conduct a threat assessment and may end in student being arrested. Student may be suspended and/or expelled for making threats.

Tobacco/Nicotine/Vaping

Please do not bring/use cigarettes or chewing tobacco on the way to and from school or while at school. Prohibited products include: any tobacco, nicotine, cigarettes, cigars, miniature cigars, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew, pouches, clove cigarettes, betel, electronic/vapor devices, vape "juice," Products marketed as caffeine, herbal, nicotine-free, or similar alternatives that resemble or are used in the same manner as tobacco, nicotine pouches, or vape devices are prohibited on campus and at school-sponsored activities. This includes, but is not limited to, caffeine pouches, herbal pouches, and nicotine-free vape devices.

Valuables

Placer Union High School District and MVCA are not responsible for lost or stolen property. Please keep valuable items with you or leave them at home, this includes cell phones, earbuds,

wallets, etc. Students are provided a locker for PE classes; items not properly secured are the responsibility of the student. We will not be taking theft reports for stolen phones or electronic devices if you bring these items to school. Do so at your own risk.

Visitors

All visitors must check-in to the office before entering school grounds and gain prior approval. All visitors are required to wear badges while visiting on campus. Visitors must have a specified reason to be on campus and must be approved by administration. Students from other schools are not allowed to visit or be on campus for any reason during the school day. ([BP 1250](#), [AR 1250](#)). Visitors/Guest Speakers need to have prior approval from administration at least two weeks prior to being on campus.

Weapons

All weapons (knives, guns, explosives, etc), imitation weapons, or any object that could be used as a weapon are strictly prohibited (48900 b, 48900 m.)

Parent Portal (Aeries)

The Aeries Student Information System (SIS) portal allows parents online access to student information, including grades and assignments. More than one parent/guardian may access student data as long as they each have their own email address. For more information on accessing your account, please check the [parent resources section on the MVCA Website](#).

Portal accounts are created automatically. Check your email account that you supplied to the school when enrolling your student. If you did not receive an email, please contact your school directly. Once the school has verified your email address, a portal account will be set up for you.

Parents of pre-enrolled students, if you have tried logging into the portal in the past and had an issue, please try again. If the password you had in the original email does not work, please enter your email address and click the forgot password button. A new password will be sent to you.

1. Launch your browser
2. In your browser's address bar, box type in the link listed below and save as one of your bookmarks. <https://puhsd.aeries.net/student/LoginParent.aspx>
3. Enter your email address
4. Hit the "Next" button
5. Enter your password
6. If you forgot your password click on the "forgot password?" link. An email will be sent to you with a temporary password. If you do not see a message in your inbox, please check your spam.

Helpful Hints

If you already have a parent portal account but need to add an additional student; log in and click the menu in the upper-right corner of your portal screen, use the drop down and select "Add New Student To Your Account."

Have questions? Please email Linda Martin: lmartin@puhsd.k12.ca.us

We thank you for your interest, and we hope our service enhances communication and contributes to your student's achievements.

Pictures & ID Cards**Pictures**

School pictures will be taken within the first month of school. At this time every MVCA student will have the opportunity to be photographed for the school's permanent record and for their ID card. Students will also have the opportunity to order school picture packets at this time (flyers will be sent home). ID cards are provided free to students and are required for admission to all school dances and activities. Students must have a current ID card to be admitted to all dances.

ID Cards

ID cards are provided free to students and are required for admission to all school dances and activities. Students must have a current ID card to be admitted to all dances. Please contact the Maidu office for additional information regarding student ID cards.

Student's Rights and Information**Nondiscrimination/Uniform Complaint Procedure**

The PUHSD has a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of a person's actual or perceived ethnicity, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, color, race, ancestry, national origin, physical or mental disability, age or sexual orientation or association with a person or a group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics, in any of its policies, practices or procedures programs or activities. PUHSD's nondiscrimination policies comply with the requirements of Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, AB 1266, and other related state and federal laws. Pupils or parents or any other individual having questions or concerns regarding these nondiscrimination and harassment policies or who may wish to file a complaint should contact the office of Dr. Steve Caminiti, Deputy Superintendent, Placer Union High School District, 13000 New Airport Road, Auburn, CA 95603 (530-886-4400) ([BP 5145.3](#); [AR 5145.3](#); [AR 6145.2](#))

Title IX

No person, student or staff, shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. The PUHSD has a policy that addresses Title IX and non-discrimination, and it is committed to ensuring a safe and equitable learning and work environment.

Many think Title IX only addresses equal access to athletic opportunities, but Title IX is much more comprehensive as it relates to non-discrimination and equal access. As a societal issue, it has been given heightened media attention during the recent #MeToo and #TimesUp hashtag campaigns about hostile work and learning environments.

Sexual harassment is "unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that is severe, persistent and pervasive and has a negative impact on a student's ability to benefit from the educational environment."

- Flirtations or propositions
- Derogatory comments
- Sexual jokes or gestures
- Spreading sexual rumors
- Unwanted touching
- Comments on a person's body

[Title IX Information and Process](#)

Student Title IX Liaison

Dr. Steve Caminiti

13000 New Airport Rd

Auburn CA 95603

scaminiti@puhsd.k12.ca.us

530-886-4406

Staff/Adult Title IX Liaison

Elena Delfavero

13000 New Airport Rd

Auburn CA 95603

edelfavero@puhsd.k12.ca.us

530-886-4401

Access to Educational Programs

It is the policy of the Placer Union High School District to provide to every person equal opportunity to receive an education as required by federal and/or state law. The District shall not illegally discriminate against a pupil because of the pupil's race, sex, color, creed, handicap, national origin or ancestry. The District is committed to the law of equal educational opportunity. No teacher shall give any instruction nor shall there be by

any activity, which reflects adversely upon persons because of their race, sex, color, creed, handicap, national origin or ancestry. No textbook or other instructional materials shall be used which contains any matter reflecting adversely upon persons because of their race, sex, color, creed, disability, national origin or ancestry. The Superintendent is designated as the Equal Educational Opportunity/Title IX management employee directly responsible for coordinating efforts to ensure compliance with all non-discrimination laws.

The Placer Union High School District offers career-technical education programs in agriculture, business, home economics, industrial and technology education, and health careers. There are no admission requirements for the beginning courses in each program. Prerequisites may be required for advanced courses. The lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to enrollment and participation in career-technical educational programs.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. sections 1221e, 1681-1686
Education Code sections 40, 41, 200-214, 220-232, 51004, 51501
BP6178 Revised by the PUHSD Board of Trustees: December 17, 2019

Contact Person:
Steve Caminiti, Ed. D., Deputy Superintendent
Placer Union High School District
13000 New Airport Road
Auburn, CA 95603
(530) 886-4402

Students with Disabilities and Section 504

If parents/guardians suspect that their child has a physical or mental disability (e.g., learning disabilities, chronic health problems, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder, etc.) which may substantially limit a major life activity, such as learning, they may request that their child be evaluated under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. This ensures that all individuals, no matter their disability, should live free of discrimination. A qualified educational team will evaluate the child to determine if they qualify as a student with a disability. Qualified students will have an individualized 504 plan developed by an educational team that will include the school site 504 coordinator, the child's teacher(s), other support personnel as needed, the student if appropriate, and the parent. This plan will be reviewed regularly and will address appropriate interventions and accommodations to assist the child's educational program. For transfer students with current 504 plans, an educational team will review the plan to determine whether to continue it until the next review or to schedule a meeting to recommend revisions to the plan. Parents/guardians should contact their child's teacher, the school site 504 coordinator, or the district 504 coordinator:

Dr. Carrie Warda

Title II Coordinator
13000 New Airport Rd
Auburn CA 95603
530-886-4443
cwarda@puhsd.k12.ca.us

Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students

The governing board recognizes that responsibilities related to marriage, pregnancy, or parenting and related responsibilities may disrupt a student's education and increase the chance of a student dropping out of school. The board therefore desires to support married, pregnant, and parenting students to continue their education, attain strong academic and parenting skills, and promote the healthy development of their children.

The district shall not discriminate against, exclude, or deny any student from any educational program or activity, including any class or extracurricular activity, solely on the basis of the student's pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or related recovery. In addition, the district shall not adopt any rule concerning a student's actual or potential parental, family, or marital status that treats students differently on the basis of sex. (Education Code 221.51, 230; 5 ccr 4950; 34 cfr 106.40)

The superintendent or designee shall annually notify parents/ guardians at the beginning of the school year of the rights and options available to pregnant and parenting students under the law. In addition, pregnant and parenting students shall be notified of the rights and options available to them under the law through annual school year welcome packets and through independent study packets. (Education Code 222.5, 48980)

Education for Students Experiencing Homelessness

The Governing Board believes that the identification of students experiencing homelessness is critical to improving the educational outcomes of such students and ensuring that students experiencing homelessness have access to the same free and appropriate public education provided to other students within the district. The district shall provide students experiencing homelessness with access to education and other services necessary for such students, to meet the same challenging academic standards as other students. ([BP 6173](#), [AR 6173](#))

Homeless students or students experiencing homelessness means students who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and includes: (Education Code 48859 ; 42 USC 11434a)

1. Students who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals

2. Students who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations for human beings
3. Students who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings

Resources:

- County resource line [\(211\)](#) for food, transportation, housing and more
- Complete PUHSD [Application](#) for Free/Reduced Price Meals
- Notify School Counselor for Additional Site Resources Available

Education for Foster Youth

The Governing Board recognizes that foster youth may face significant barriers to achieving academic success due to their family circumstances, disruption to their educational program, and their emotional, social, and other health needs that may be addressed with the provision of a safe, positive learning environment that is free from discrimination and harassment and that promotes students' self-esteem and academic achievement. ([BP 6173.1](#), [AR 6173.1](#))

Foster youth, foster child, or student in foster care means any of the following: (Education Code 42238.01, 48853.5)

1. A child who is the subject of a petition filed pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 300, whether or not the child has been removed from the child's home by the juvenile court pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 319 or 361
2. A child who is the subject of a petition filed pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 602, whether or not the child has been removed from the child's home
3. A child who is the subject of a petition filed pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 602, has been removed from the child's home by the juvenile court pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 727, and is in foster care as defined by Welfare and Institutions Code 727.4(d)
4. A non-minor who is under the transition jurisdiction of a juvenile court, as described in Welfare and Institutions Code 450, and satisfies the criteria specified in Education Code 42238.01
5. A child who has been removed from the youth's home pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 309
6. A dependent child of the court of an Indian tribe, consortium of tribes, or tribal organization who is the subject of a petition filed in the tribal court pursuant to the court's jurisdiction in accordance with the tribe's law
7. A child who is the subject of a voluntary placement agreement, as defined in Welfare and Institutions Code 11400(p)

Complaints

In the event of a concern, issue, question, or violation and/or alleged discrimination please see the following process: [Concerns and Complaints](#)