



# FOSTER YOUTH SYSTEM OF SUPPORT



March 8, 2019

# Foster Youth System of Support

## Our Vision

**Vision**

All NUSD students graduate as college and career ready, productive, responsible, and engaged global citizens

**Natomas**  
Unified School District

The graphic is a blue square with a white border. The word "Vision" is at the top in white. Below it is the text "All NUSD students graduate as college and career ready, productive, responsible, and engaged global citizens" in white. At the bottom is the Natomas logo in white.

## Our Goals

**District Goals**

1. Increase student success in ELA, math, science, literacy, and civics
2. Prepare students to be college and career ready
3. Engage parents and families to support student success in school
4. Create safe and welcoming learning environments where students attend and are connected to their schools
5. Recruit, hire, train, and retain high quality staff who are committed, collaborative, caring, and exemplary

**Natomas**  
Unified School District  
Connecting students to their future

The graphic is a blue square with a white border. The words "District Goals" are at the top in white. Below is a numbered list of five goals in white. At the bottom is the Natomas logo in white.

## Our Core Beliefs

**Core Belief**

Every student can learn and succeed

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Unified School District

**Core Belief**

Disparity and disproportionality can and must be eliminated

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Unified School District

**Core Belief**

Our diversity is a strength

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Unified School District

**Core Belief**

Staff must be committed, collaborative, caring, and exemplary

**Natomas**  
Unified School District

The graphic consists of four separate blue squares, each with a white border. Each square has the words "Core Belief" at the top in white, followed by a specific belief statement in white, and the Natomas logo at the bottom in white.

### Introduction

***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. The purpose of our Foster Youth Program is to provide them with full access to the district’s educational program, through support and strategies, to ensure success for children and youth in the foster care system. In doing so, Foster Youth shall have access to the same academic resources, services, and extracurricular and enrichment activities that are available to all students. Under the NUSD LCAP plan, Natomas is committed to providing a system of support designed to meet the unique educational needs of foster children and youth, in order to promote successful learning outcomes.***

## System of Support

### NUSD Foster Youth Liaison

NUSD has a Coordinator in the Student Services and Support Department who serves as the Foster Youth Liaison. The Foster Youth Liaison, in accordance with California law, NUSD Board policies 5111.11 and 6173.1, and NUSD Administrative Regulations 5111.11 and 6173.1, monitors, coordinates and supports Foster Youth/Families, and NUSD staff working with Foster Youth. All contacts by the Foster Youth Liaison with Foster Youth/Families are documented in Infinite Campus and Foster Focus.

### Intake/Enrollment

- The Foster Youth Liaison provides support and guidance to NUSD school site staff in the intake/enrollment process in alignment with the district enrollment process.
- Foster Youth have the right to immediate enrollment in school if their Educational Rights Holder (ERH) decides it is in their best interest, even if they do not have any of the required documents (e.g. transcripts, immunization record, proof of residence). Immediate enrollment is also required even if the Foster Youth has outstanding fees, fines, textbooks, or other items or moneys due to the school last attended.
- Transfer of records should be done in a timely manner. Designated school staff, with the support of the Foster Youth Liaison, shall contact the school last attended by the Foster Youth to obtain all academic and other foster records within two business days. *EC 48853.5 (f)(8)(c)*. If a student is transferring out of NUSD and into another Local Education Agency (LEA), NUSD shall transfer the student out of school and deliver educational information and records within two business days. *EC 49069.5(d)*.

### Implementation/Collaboration/Coordination of Services and Supports

***The Foster Youth Liaison will provide ongoing support to Foster Youth, Foster Families, and NUSD staff as follows:***

- Upon initial enrollment and on an annual basis thereafter, Foster Youth Liaison will contact all Foster Youth/Families to provide Foster Youth Liaison contact information, and NUSD/community resources information.
- Foster Youth Liaison shall determine which school is the school of origin. This determination shall be made in consultation with and with the agreement of the Foster Youth and the person holding the right to make educational decisions for

the Foster Youth, and shall be based on the best interests of the Foster Youth.  
*EC 48850, 48853; 20 USC 6311.*

- Foster Youth Liaison shall ensure and facilitate the proper educational placement, enrollment in school, and checkout from school of students in foster care. *EC 48853.5.*
- Foster Youth Liaison shall, as needed, ensure that students in foster care receive appropriate school-based services, such as counseling and health services, supplemental instruction, and after-school services.
- Foster Youth shall have school site staff/case management support for grades Pre-K-12.
- Foster Youth shall have grade and credit protections. NUSD school staff and counselors will collaborate with other LEA's regarding coursework and transcripts of Foster Youth new to NUSD.
- Foster Youth shall have an evaluation of credits and or graduation requirements under AB 167/216. This is in collaboration with the Foster Youth Liaison, NUSD staff and the ERH.
- Foster Youth Liaison will attend all foster youth meetings relating to school based programs.
- Meetings with Foster Youth shall have ongoing centrally monitored academic support if necessary through school-based tutoring (site specific; based on need), Individualized Education Plans (IEP's), 504's, Student Study Teams (SST's), SARBS, and home visits.
- In the area of discipline, school sites must make a reasonable effort to notify the ERH by phone and must provide written notice. *EC 48911(d), (g).*
- NUSD staff shall notify the Foster Youth's social worker and attorney regarding manifestation meetings and expulsion referrals. *EC 48915.5 (d).*
- Foster Youth shall have access to ongoing academic/social/emotional/behavioral supports to address attendance and overall academic performance.
- Foster Youth shall have engagement opportunities and events which include, backpack drives, coat drives, middle/high school transition workshops, college tours, and school field trips.
- Foster Youth shall have access to supplemental educational-related school supplies/supports (i.e. ASB access, instructional technology, P.E. clothing, transportation, nutrition services, extra curricular activities, clubs, music/band, sports and after school enrichment activities), monitored and coordinated by the Foster Youth Liaison.
- The Foster Youth Liaison shall collaborate with county programs, probation officers, juvenile court officers and outside agencies (e.g., CPS, CASA, SCOE, Children's Law Center) to ensure school stability and services for Foster Youth.

## Monitoring Foster Youth Information, Supports, and Actions

- The Foster Youth Liaison shall use the following data systems to monitor, collaborate with staff, communicate to Foster Youth/Families, take necessary actions (as described below), and log all related communications/actions regarding Foster Youth case management:
  - Infinite Campus: This is the District's Student Information System where student data is kept (e.g., current and historical enrollment, attendance, coursework, grades, health information) in order to take any action to provide necessary support.
  - Data Warehouse: This is the District's data dashboard system where information regarding Foster Youth can easily be disaggregated from multiple data sources to take necessary actions to provide individual support.
  - Foster Focus: Foster Focus is a regional data system and connects our work to prior and future work related to foster youth case management, schools, and other appropriate agencies within our County.
  - ***Foster Youth Liaison shall log communications/actions in both Infinite Campus and Foster Focus regarding educational related information concerning our Foster Youth/Families.***
- On ***at least*** a weekly basis, the Foster Youth Liaison shall monitor information regarding Foster Youth in order to:
  - analyze Foster Youth enrollment (enrolled and disenrolled), eligibility status, and Foster Families
  - analyze any trends or patterns in the area of attendance, behavior, and academic performance, so that appropriate timely/proactive interventions/supports can be provided
    - In tracking attendance, Foster Youth Liaison will first contact Foster Youth/Family who are at risk for becoming chronically absent, then will secondly contact Foster Youth/Family who are chronically absent.
    - In tracking behavior, Foster Youth Liaison will contact school site administrators to collaborate on appropriate interventions to support the Foster Youth, as well as contact the Foster Family to discuss support as appropriate under the specific circumstances of the suspension.
    - In tracking academic performance, Foster Youth Liaison will contact school site administrators to collaborate on appropriate interventions to support the Foster Youth, as well as contact the Foster Family to discuss support as appropriate in terms of

academic areas of need. In certain circumstances, before/after-school tutoring may be offered to Foster Youth as an intervention to improve their academic performance.

### Training and Communication to Stakeholders

- The Foster Youth Liaison and designated point of contacts for each school site shall have ongoing communication with Foster Youth, caregivers and other stakeholders (i.e. social workers, lawyers) via meetings, home visits, telephone calls, emails as deemed necessary.
- Foster Youth Liaison will develop protocols and procedures for creating awareness for district staff, including principals, school registrars, and attendance clerks, of the requirements for the proper enrollment, placement, and transfer of Foster Youth.
  - School site staff will verify ERH (may be different from caregiver) with support from the Foster Youth Liaison.
  - School site staff will check the address of residence for any new Foster Youth and add ERH and social worker information to contacts provided in IC.
  - School site staff shall email the Foster Youth Liaison upon a new Foster Youth enrollment and support for missing information/documentation.
- The Foster Youth Liaison will provide ongoing staff developments and training to school site staff which include registrars, counselors, school secretaries, school psychologists, site administrators and behavior specialists.
- The Foster Youth Liaison shall have regular communication to NUSD staff regarding all aspects of Foster Youth support through:
  - 1-on-1 meetings
  - Principals' meetings
  - Secretaries' meetings
  - Special education staff meetings
  - Matters Of Principal

### [Foster Youth Annual Planning Calendar](#)

### [Foster Youth Resources](#)