

K-12 Virtual Academy Update

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Vision

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

Core Beliefs

**Every student
can learn and
succeed**

**Disparity and
disproportionality
can and must be
eliminated**

**Our
Diversity is a
Strength**

**Staff must be
committed,
collaborative,
caring, and
exemplary**

Goals 2017-2022

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

Objectives

- Present an overview of the developing NUSD K-12 Virtual Academy
- Next steps



About the K-12 Virtual Academy

Commencing with the 2021-22 school year, the Natomas Unified K-12 Virtual Academy will:

- provide families with an additional school option
- provide teaching and learning in a virtual (online) instructional model for grades K-8
- provide teaching and learning in a virtual (online) independent study / in-person instructional model for grades 9-12
- include flexible scheduling
- assist in retaining students and enrollment growth (Intra/Inter District Transfers)

About the K-12 Virtual Academy

The Academy is intended to:

- be an educational commitment for students who thrive in a virtual learning setting(s)
- be a long term learning alternative to traditional schools
- not be a temporary alternative to the current global pandemic

Intradistrict Transfers

- Each request will be reviewed
- Families will need to decide early if this is a school option for them long term

Can I transfer back to my neighborhood school?

- Like with any intradistrict transfer, a student may request to transfer back and placement may be made if there is space available at his/her neighborhood school

About the K-12 Virtual Academy

The Academy will include:

- A K-8 Virtual Academy - a CDE recognized **public school** that will launch and be located at Bannon Creek School
- A 9-12 Virtual Independent Study and In-Person instructional learning **program** with a blended learning schedule at Inderkum High School, Natomas High School, and Discovery High School - an expansion of our existing Independent Study Program

Virtual Academy History

- 2017-18: Added flexible scheduling language to the NTA Collective Bargaining Agreement
- September 26, 2018: Resolution 18-24 approved designating Virtual/In-Class Learning program facilities
- Stakeholder engagement - e.g. 2020-21 LCAP Survey
- October 31, 2020 MOU with NTA:

5. A Virtual Academy Program or School will be developed to retain students. The school plan will either be developed prior to March 1, 2021 when the Transfer and Reassignment window opens, or as appropriate/necessary, a special Transfer and Reassignment window will be held before the Virtual Academy is staffed. Any item(s) impacted by the implementation of this program that is within the scope of bargaining will be negotiated with NTA.
 - a. A paid committee of equal members of both NTA members and NUSD Leaders will be developed jointly and agreed to before November 16th. Parties will jointly establish how many members will serve on the committee, goals of the committee, and how often the committee will meet.
 - b. Each party will appoint its own committee members, and at no point shall the committee make decisions that are within the scope of negotiations.

- 4 meetings to date with NTA representatives to discuss concepts

About the K-8 Virtual Academy

The K-8 Academy will include:

- NUSD Multiple-Subject Credentialed Teachers for grades K-6
- NUSD Single-Subject Credentialed Teachers for grades 7-8
- Self-contained grade level instruction for grades K-6
- Interdistrict Transfers
- Laptops and other required hardware and software
- Teacher led virtual lessons and instruction
- Independent virtual lessons and instruction
- Board adopted curriculum and textbooks (digital platform based on grade level)
- Flexible student learning schedules

About the K-8 Virtual Academy

The K-8 Academy will include:

- Intervention / tutoring supports
- Math and Science learning kits (based on grade level needs)
- Extracurricular opportunities
- Field Trip Opportunities (when safe to resume)
- Gifted and Talented Education opportunities
- Social Emotional Learning Supports
- English Learner Supports

About the K-8 Virtual Academy

The K-8 Academy will include:

- Special Education Supports
- 504 Supports
- Library access and digital subscriptions
- Regularly scheduled in-person student/teacher check-ins
- Access to Counselors for High School, College, and Career Planning (grades 7-8)
- Subject level acceleration opportunities (grades 7-8)
- Elective / exploratory courses (grades 7-8)

K-12 Virtual Academy

Sample K-6 Student Schedules



The K-6 Virtual Academy includes:

- NUSD certificated teachers
- Self-contained grade level instruction
- Teacher led virtual lessons and instruction (synchronous)
- Independent virtual lessons and instruction (asynchronous)
- Intervention / tutoring supports
- Flexible learning schedules
- Same number of instructional minutes per school week
- CA State adopted curriculum and materials
- Math / Science Kits
- Special Education Supports
- 504 Supports
- Support by NUSD's health and wellness staff
- Library access and digital subscriptions
- Regularly scheduled in-person student/teacher check-ins
- Provided instructional technology
- Gifted and Talented Education supports
- Field Trip Opportunities
- Extracurricular Opportunities

VIRTUAL ACADEMY SCHEDULING OPTIONS

Synchronous Virtual Learning:

Students and teachers are together at the same time online but may not be in a room together

Asynchronous Virtual Learning

Students complete school work online using pre-recorded instruction by their teachers or virtual learning media



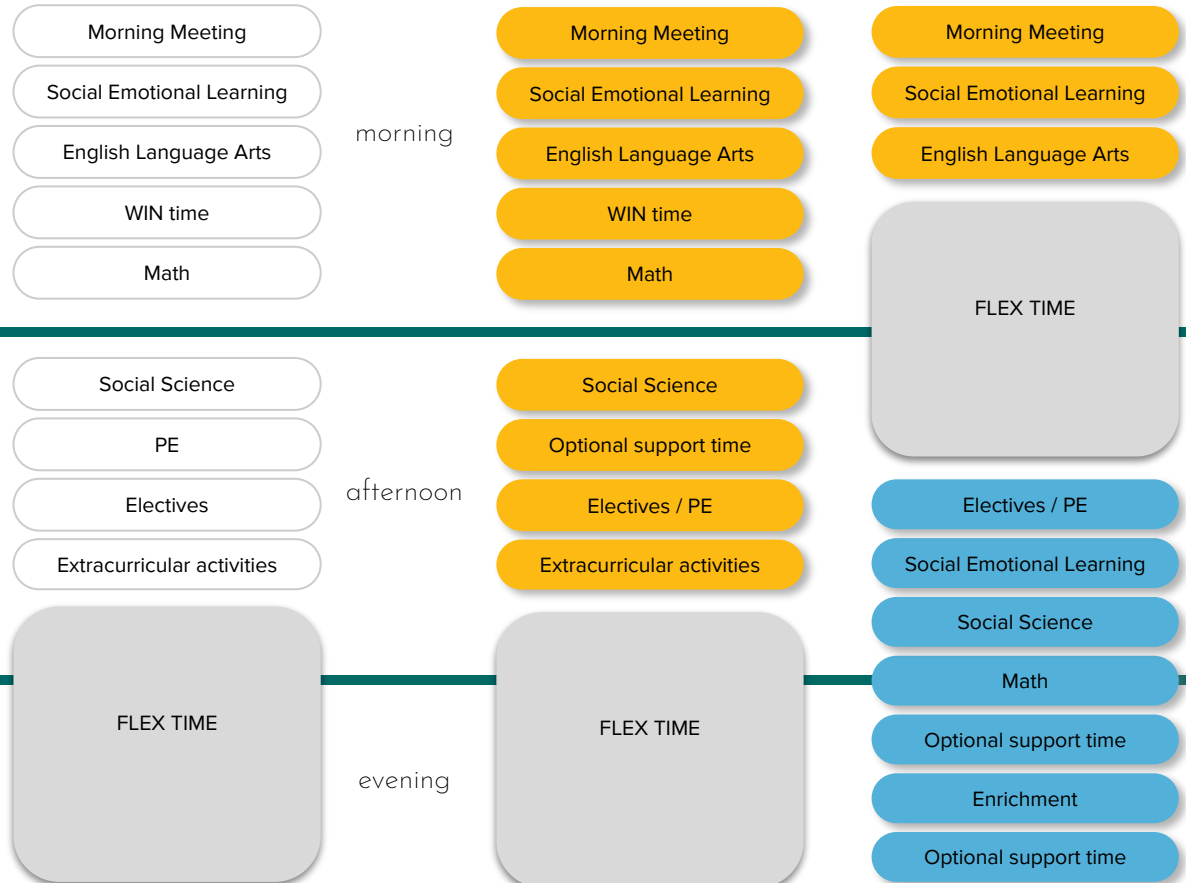
Traditional K-6 school schedule for comparison



Sample 1
Prefers virtual learning model



Sample 2
Needs specific time available for other activities



K-12 Virtual Academy

Sample 7-8 Student Schedules



Sample 2

Needs specific time available for other activities



Sample 1

Prefers virtual learning model



Traditional 7-8
in-person schedule
for comparison

Band
Math
World Language
English
Science

morning

Social Science
PE
Band Practice

afternoon

FLEX TIME

evening

Band
English
Social Science
Math
PE

Science
World Language
Band Practice

FLEX TIME

PE
Math
World Language
Piano Practice
Piano Practice

Science Lab
English
Elective
Social Science
Piano Practice
Piano Practice
FLEX TIME

The 7-8 Virtual Academy includes:

- NUSD certificated teachers
- Self-contained grade level instruction
- Teacher led virtual lessons and instruction (synchronous)
- Independent virtual lessons and instruction (asynchronous)
- Intervention / tutoring supports
- Flexible learning schedules
- Same number of instructional minutes per school week
- CA State adopted curriculum and materials
- Math / Science Kits
- Special Education Supports
- 504 Supports
- Support by NUSD's health and wellness staff
- Library access and digital subscriptions
- Regularly scheduled in-person student/teacher check-ins
- Provided instructional technology
- Gifted and Talented Education supports
- Field Trip Opportunities
- Extracurricular Opportunities
- Access to Counselors for High School, College, and Career Planning (grades 7-8)
- Subject level acceleration opportunities (grades 7-8)
- Elective / exploratory courses (grades 7-8)

VIRTUAL ACADEMY SCHEDULING OPTIONS

Synchronous Virtual Learning:

Students and teachers are together at the same time online but not in a room together

Asynchronous Virtual Learning

Students complete school work online using pre-recorded instruction by their teachers or virtual learning media

About the 9-12 Virtual Academy

The 9-12 program will include:

- NUSD Single-Subject Credentialed Teachers
- Students will enroll and attend in their attendance boundary high school
- Interdistrict Transfers
- Laptops and other required hardware and software
- Existing/Expanded Independent Study Program
- Access to elective courses (either virtually or in-person)
- Access to participate in home school athletic programs
- Access to Associated Student Body activities and events
- Access to extracurricular activities
- Access to Career Technical Courses (in-person and virtual)
- Opportunities for Dual Enrollment with local colleges

About the 9-12 Virtual Academy

The 9-12 program will include:

- Access to Counselors for College and Career Planning
- A - G courses (in-person and virtual)
- AP courses (in-person and virtual)
- Courses requiring lab settings (in-person)
- Social Emotional Learning Supports
- English Learner Supports
- Special Education Supports
- 504 Supports
- Library access and digital subscriptions
- Teacher office hours (additional available time for students and parents to contact teachers for support)
- Regularly scheduled in-person student/teacher check-ins

K-12 Virtual Academy

Sample 9-12 Student Schedules



Sample 2

Needs specific time available for other activities



Sample 1

Prefers virtual learning model



Traditional 9-12 school schedule for comparison

The 9-12 Virtual Academy includes:

- NUSD certificated teachers
- A-G courses
- AP Courses
- Same number of instructional minutes per school week
- CA State aligned curriculum and materials
- Provided instructional technology
- Options to participate in school activities, athletics, etc.
- Courses requiring lab settings (in-person)
- Social Emotional Learning Supports
- English Learner Supports
- Special Education Supports
- 504 Supports
- Library access and digital subscriptions
- Teacher office hours (additional available time for students and parents to contact teachers for support)
- Regularly scheduled in-person student/teacher check-ins

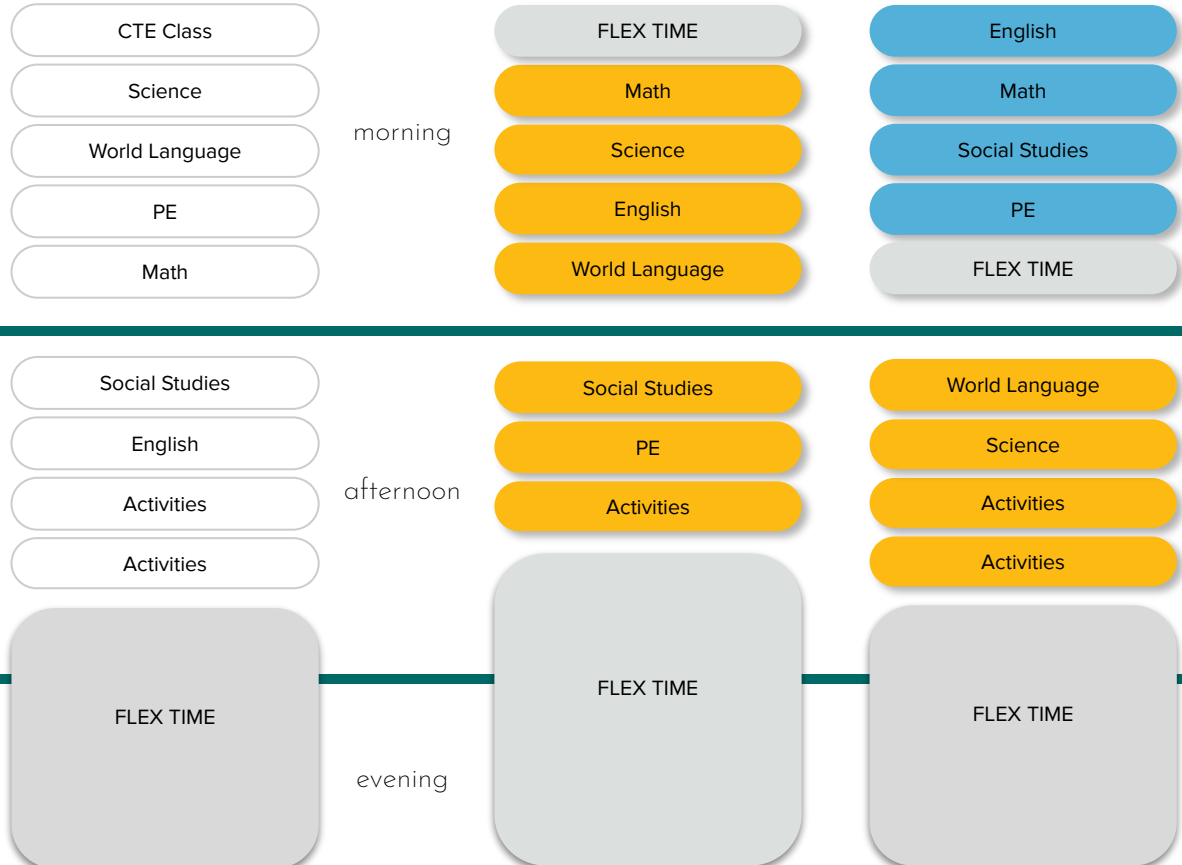
VIRTUAL ACADEMY SCHEDULING OPTIONS

Synchronous Virtual Learning:

Students and teachers are together at the same time online but not in a room together

Asynchronous Virtual Learning

Students complete school work online using pre-recorded instruction by their teachers or virtual learning media



Budget

- Based on an initial 500 student enrollment
- Combination of one-time/bridge funding (initial startup) and ongoing funds
- Staffing and benefits include (est. up to \$2.2M*):
 - Certificated Teachers (up to 16.0 FTE)
 - Executive Director (1.0 FTE)
 - School Secretary III (1.0 FTE)
 - Office Specialist (1.0 FTE)
 - IT Specialist (0.5 FTE)
- Technology, software, subscriptions, supplies, etc. (est. up to \$720k)

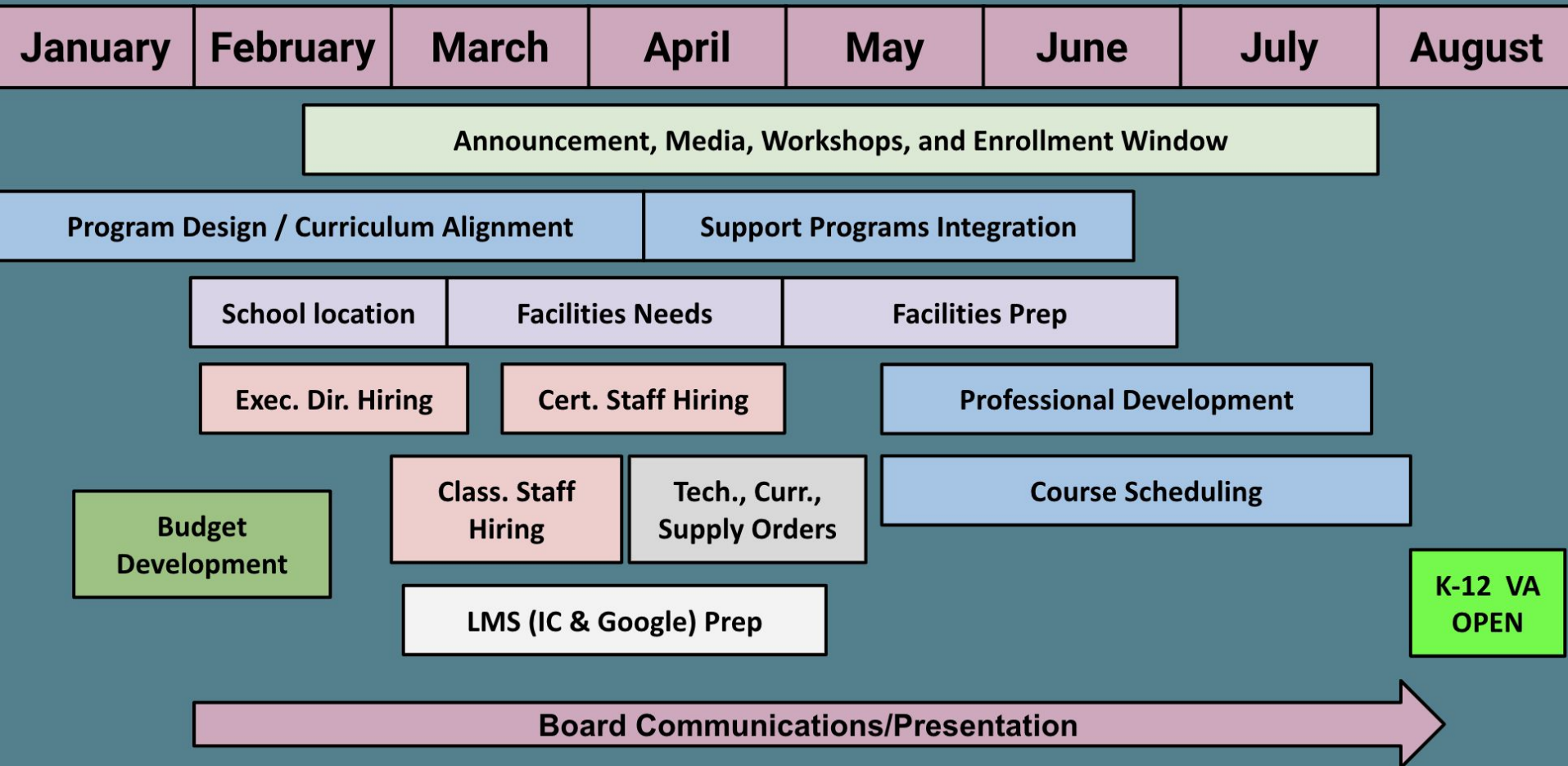
**contingent upon internal staff transfers and staffing adjustments. Less startup/bridge costs needed if maximum internal staffing transfers occur*

Informational Meetings

- Upcoming Parent/Student Informational Meetings (Zoom)
 - March 3, 2021 - 6:00 p.m.
 - April 21, 2021 - 6:00 p.m.
 - May 5, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.
 - Additional dates/times as needed with varied times
 - Zoom meetings will be video recorded and posted to the website for future reference
- Student/Parent Orientation Week - August 2 - 6, 2021

Next Steps

NUSD K-12 Virtual Academy Project Map



QUESTIONS