



***Mustang Handbook
2023-24***

***“Every Day is a
GREAT Day
To be a
MUSTANG!!!”***

Nondiscrimination Policy

NCSD #1 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, sexual orientation, or disability in employment, treatment, admission, or access to educational programs and activities.

The lack of English language skills shall not be a barrier to admission or participation in the activities and programs. Natrona County School District does not discriminate in its hiring or employment practices. This notice is provided as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the American with Disabilities Act of 1990. Questions, complaints, or requests for additional information regarding these laws may be forwarded to the designated compliance coordinator(s). The following person(s) have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the Non-Discrimination Policies of Natrona County School District.

504 Coordinator - Todd Burns
970 N. Glenn Rd., Casper, WY 82601, or (307) 253-5445
todd_burns@natronaschools.org

Title IX Coordinator - Dillon Fuller
970 N. Glenn Rd., Casper, WY 82601, or (307) 253-5445
dillon_fuller@natronaschools.org

Or you may also contact:

**The Wyoming Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights Coordinator, 2300 Capitol Avenue,
Cheyenne, WY 82002-0050 or 307-777-7673**



NCHS SCHOOL SONG

All hail,
To Casper High
School,
N. C. H. S.

Hail to our Casper
Hail, hail, hail, hail,
Hail to Casper
Dear old Casper

Hail, to Casper High
School
Always on top,

We'll yell for Casper
High
And never stop.

Dear NCHS Students,

NCHS has a rich history and tradition that you are now a part of. We hope you come to school each day excited to learn. Your journey toward excellence continues each day as you enter the doors of NCHS. Over the course of your high school career, you will spend 700 days here preparing for your future. As Muhammad Ali once said, *"Don't count the days, make the days count!"*

We are the beneficiaries of an amazing multi-million dollar facility. Students and staff alike take pride in our campus and being a Mustang or Filly. This means being involved in activities and taking advantage of the opportunities offered to everyone, no matter the interest. Please take time to appreciate our amazing facilities and be good stewards of Wyoming's investment in your future.

The essential ingredients in the operation of our school are self-discipline and respect for one another. These are the attributes of a successful and positive learning community. Because it is important for students to know their rights and responsibilities, we have summarized policies that are especially important at NCHS in our school handbook which will be posted on our website at natronacountyhs.org. It is the student's responsibility to know the contents of the NCSD handbook and district policies, and to abide by them.

Please familiarize yourself with the rules and policies of the district and NCHS. Simply put, most—if not all—of our school's expectations are based upon doing your best, showing common courtesy, and having respect for others. We are looking forward to a great school year as we build on the rich tradition and history of NCHS. We hope you will come to school each day committed to improving yourself, NCHS, and our community.

Sincerely,

NCHS Administration

Administration

Mr. Aaron Wilson	Principal - contact for 12 th Grade
Mrs. Katie Ostlund	Assistant Principal - contact 9 th Grade
Mr. Mat Crabb	Assistant Principal - contact 10 th Grade
Mr. Jim Downs	Assistant Principal - contact 11 th Grade
Mr. W. Spencer Cantrell	Assistant Principal - Athletics and Activities Director
Mrs. Chris Usry	Assistant Principal - Pathways Innovation Center
Mr. Chris Stier	Administrative Manager

Counselors

Brandi Ramage	IB/BOCES Students A - B
Michele Jozwik	Students C - F
Dakota Killoran	Students G - J
Cari Langley	Students K - N
Missy Nack	Students O - So
Lindy Schweda	Students Sp - Z
John O'Connor	College Selection Facilitator

Campus Safety and Security

Mary Ann Chavez	Campus Supervisor
Rachel Chittim	Campus Supervisor
Tyler Padilla	Campus Supervisor
Officer Charlie Simons	School Resource Officer

Natrona County High School

~Every Child~

~Every Chance~

~Every Day~

"The NCHS community is committed to preparing responsible, lifelong learners who value themselves, contribute to society, and succeed in a changing world."

Pride in

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Student Growth & High Academic Achievement

Goal #1- By 2024, NCHS will increase the number of students, in grades 9-11, scoring at the proficient or advanced level in language arts as measured by the statewide assessments (WYTOPP & ACT) from present levels by at least 1% annually.

Goal #2- By 2024, NCHS will increase the number of students, in grades 9-11, scoring at the proficient or advanced level in math as measured by the statewide assessments (WYTOPP & ACT) from present levels by at least 1% annually.

Goal #3- By 2024, NCHS will improve its graduation rate to 86% as measured by the Federal four (4) Year on-time graduation rate.

Safe & Healthy Environments

Goal #4 – By 2024, NCHS students & staff will increase their positive responses in at least 4 of the 8 categories from present levels as measured by the district safety survey.

Activity/Athletic Eligibility

Activity eligibility for students is determined both by the Wyoming High School Activities Association and the Natrona County School District #1. Semester grades are used for NCSD #1 and WHSAA eligibility.

NCHS

1. To be eligible to participate in activities sanctioned by the WHSAA and others designated by the Natrona County School District, a student must be passing a minimum of three (3) courses per semester. The three courses cannot include teacher's aide, work experience, or any class that counts for less than 1/2 credit per semester.
 - a. Students who are taking an "accelerated" course at Casper College, that course must be completed to ensure eligibility requirements are met.
2. Grade checks for students in activities will be done every Wednesday morning during the season.
3. A student who is failing any course will be on warning during week one and will become ineligible on the second consecutive week with a failing grade.
4. If the deficiencies are not corrected by the following week, the student will remain ineligible until he/she is passing all courses.
5. A Student may practice while ineligible with the permission of the sponsor or coach, but may not compete or travel under school auspices to a competition.
6. Students with Special Education services will be expected to meet the same activity eligibility requirements as regular education students since each student is placed into an individual education program that is designed for academic success.
7. Credit earned in summer school may be used to meet minimum requirements.

WHSAA

WHSAA requires that all students pass a minimum of five subjects (three courses in the intensive block schedule) per semester in order to compete in WHSAA sanctioned activities (teacher's aide, work experience, or any class that counts for less than 1/2 credit per semester will not count). Failure to meet this standard will mean ineligibility for the entire upcoming semester. This includes Spring to Fall, and Winter to Spring.

NCAA Athletic Eligibility

All students planning to enroll in college as a freshman and wanting to participate in Division I or Division II athletics must be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center. For further information go to www.eligibilitycenter.org. The Eligibility Center was established to ensure consistent application of NCAA initial-eligibility requirements for all prospective student athletes at all member institutions. It is the responsibility of the prospective student athlete to make sure the Eligibility Center has the documents it needs to certify his/her eligibility. Current requirements are outlined at www.2point3.org

NAIA/NJCAA Athletic Eligibility

The NAIA Eligibility Center is responsible for determining the NAIA eligibility of first-time student athletes. Any student playing NAIA sports for the first time must meet the eligibility requirements. More information can be found at www.playnaia.org. Students must have their eligibility determined by the NAIA Eligibility Center, and all NAIA schools are bound by the center's decisions. High school seniors who wish to participate at an NAIA school need to register at www.playnaia.org.

NJCAA - www.njcaa.org The purpose of this corporation shall be to promote and foster junior college athletics on intersectional and national levels so that results will be consistent with the total educational program of its members. Students are responsible to communicate with their coach and counselor.

General Eligibility Guidelines

1. Poor conduct or inappropriate behavior, as determined by the school administration, shall be grounds for ineligibility. This statement pertains to general conduct, not just the particular activity in which the student is involved.
2. Extenuating circumstances may be appealed to the head principal or designee.

Audience/Spectator Decorum

The following Wyoming High School Activities Association rules apply for all school events.

- 4.3.1. Noisemakers (air horns, cowbells, etc.) are not allowed indoors.
- 4.3.4. Noise that is created by fans or participants that would interfere with the competition is prohibited.
- 4.3.5. Pep posters are not permitted inside the playing area at district/regional and state indoor events. Only signs made of non-rigid materials, such as cloth and paper are permitted. Signs must be small enough for one person to hold.

Code of Conduct

NCHS students represent our school and community and are expected to maintain the highest of standards. Students participating in school activities or athletics will abide by the [Code of Conduct Policy 5370](#) , which governs behavior and expectations in school and in the community. Copies of this policy are available upon request from the Activities Office.

The Code of Conduct applies to students who participate in athletics, activities or co-curricular clubs and is in effect during the entire NCSD academic school year and during the dates as set by the Wyoming High School Activities Association. The first day of the WHSAA fall season for sports typically begins two to three weeks prior to the beginning of the NCSD academic year. The Code of Conduct administrative regulations and guidelines also apply to students while participating in summer school, summer marching band or any summer Natrona County School District affiliated and/or organized activity, camp, clinic, event, practice (etc.) that has been identified as a responsibility of NCSD. Summer time Code of Conduct violations are applied in the upcoming NCSD academic year and WHSAA activity and sport seasons.

A student must be academically eligible and qualify for a contest, event, games, meet or contest day in order for the Code of Conduct exclusion to be applied. A student participating in more than one activity or sport simultaneously with a Code of Conduct violation will serve the required suspension for both the activity and/or sport listed below.

All activities or sports with 12 or fewer season contests (not including culminating events)	All activities or sports with 13 or more regular season contests (not including culminating events)
Alpine Ski Cross Country Dance Football FFA Golf (Fall & Spring) Marching Band Nordic Ski Speech & Debate Tennis (Fall & Spring) Track (Indoor & Outdoor)	Basketball Cheer Soccer Softball Swimming & Diving Volleyball Wrestling
EXCLUSION STEP 1. One Contest 2. Three Contests 3. One Year - 365 days from the date of the Code of Conduct violation	EXCLUSION STEP 1. Two Contest 2. Six Contests 3. One Year - 365 days from the date of the Code of Conduct violation

Single day or multiple day competitions connected to **contests, events, games, meets or contest days** with a NCSD or WHSAA contest value of TWO (i.e. basketball, volleyball or soccer tournament, soccer jamboree, wrestling double dual, triangular or quad), but not limited to, may not be entered by a student once the contest, event, game, meet or contest day has begun (no matter the location, home or away).

In all activities and sports, the Code of Conduct Exclusion Step consequences apply to all contests until the student has served the exclusion consequence at the level of play the student has the most playing time or the highest level of play if playing time cannot be differentiated (cannot play up or down a level in order to serve the exclusion step). If the exclusion occurs near the end of the activity or sport season, the student may be required to serve the exclusion in the next activity or sport in which the student participates. A student may not participate in another activity or sport to serve the exclusion step consequence unless the student successfully completes the entire season for that activity or sport.

Assemblies

During the year various assemblies will be held and students will be expected to attend. If you are unable to attend the assemblies because of religious or philosophical differences, you are required to clear your attendance with your assigned teacher and report to the library for a supervised study period.

Attendance Policy (NCS Policy 5120)

NCS expects students to be present and participate in class every day if they are well and able. Absences from class have a substantial negative effect on academic performance, and is the single biggest predictor of a student's on-time graduation. Please strive to be at school and engaged whenever you are well. We understand that due to exposure to COVID, there are times when students may be ordered to isolate or quarantine for periods of time. Be assured that the school will work with families to navigate these situations as they arise.

Five parent-excused absences are allowed per class each semester. Examples:

- o Vacations
- o Family emergencies
- o Bereavement
- o Illnesses not requiring the care of a healthcare professional. In situations with extenuating circumstances, parents may petition the Principal for additional parent-excused absences.

After five unexcused absences, parents and students will receive notification of mandatory intervention directed by the principal or principal designee. If conditions of the intervention are not met and the student accrues an additional three unexcused absences, the student may lose credit. The grade-level principal has discretion to use additional intervention measures, including appeals from parents and students, to encourage continued class attendance and allow the student to regain course credit.

School-related absences will not count against the student, nor will medical absences that are excused by a healthcare professional.

Definitions:

- **Attendance** – being on time to class, and being in class the entire time.
- **Tuant** – not being present and on time to class, or not being in class the entire time.
- **School-related absences** – any absence as a result of athletics, activities, field trips or other academically-related functions.
- **Parent-excused absences** – any absence at the discretion of parents. Examples include vacations, family emergencies, bereavement, illnesses not requiring the care of a healthcare professional. **Limited to five absences in any one class, per semester.**
- **Non-School activity absences** – Parents may also excuse their students for organized sports and activities not offered by the District provided the student's grades satisfy the same criteria for eligibility as a school-sanctioned activity. This would not count against the five parent-discretionary absences.
- **Unexcused absences** – any absence that is without the knowledge of a parent or any absence of a student without acceptable cause, as determined by the principal, even with the knowledge of the parent. (Per WY Statute 21-4-101)

Other important things you need to know:

1. Absences within 48 hours. After 48 hours they revert to an unexcused absence if we don't hear from you.
2. **If you have been excused, you must leave campus.** Being excused from a class does not authorize you to loiter in NCHS buildings or on school grounds.

3. If you leave during the school day, you must check out with the attendance office when leaving the building and check in with them when you return. This is important because the school is responsible for your safety during school hours! **If you do not check out of the building, regardless of the reason, your absence will be unexcused.**
4. You will be counted absent if you miss more than half of a class period.
5. The teacher reserves the right to give an alternative assignment for your absence.
6. Students planning on being absent for personal reasons may be permitted to obtain work in advance. Such student requests must be made far enough in advance to allow the teacher enough time to prepare assignments and for the students to complete assignments prior to the absence.
7. The school reserves the right to accept requests for excused absences.

Bicycles & Skateboards

While students are encouraged and welcome to ride bicycles, skateboards, and long boards to school, they are not to be ridden on campus once students have arrived for the day and outside of school hours. Skateboards cannot be carried throughout the building. Racks are provided for students to secure their property inside the main and attendance offices. Please secure your property there as NCHS and NCSD #1 do not assume liability for personal property brought on campus.

Bullying/Harassment Policy

Wyoming State Statute {See W.S. § 21-4-313, 314 (2009)} and NCSD Policy 5440 address bullying in schools. Bullying or harassing students will not be tolerated. If this is happening to you or someone you know, please contact a teacher, counselor, administrator, or any adult. For the complete policy please refer to the district handbook.

Bullying is defined as, but not limited to, threats, hazing, harassment, intimidation, menacing, cyber bullying, “sexting” or bullying behavior against an NCSD student or students participating in functions sponsored by the District (“student participants”). Complaints of bullying may be made to any member of the staff. All complaints of bullying or harassment of any kind will be investigated.

Campus Community Relations

Rules and regulations including tobacco usage, loitering, and litter of Natrona County High School extend to all areas around the campus including both sides of the streets and alleys adjacent to the campus. Students who cause problems or difficulties in the surrounding neighborhoods may face disciplinary action and legal consequences from city officials. Please strive to be a good neighbor to those living around our campus by picking up your trash and driving responsibly.

Campus Restrictions by Grade Level

Natrona County High School has an open campus for all students 9th-12th grade. Students who leave campus and loiter, litter, or cause property damage in the neighborhood, or who are tardy or truant from their afternoon classes, may lose open campus privileges and may receive other disciplinary measures. Continued violation of the open campus policy may result in additional consequences or implementation of a behavior contract.

Cell Phones

Cell phones may be used before and after school, during passing periods, and during lunch times. Most classrooms have cell phone lockers and students may be asked to use the lockers by their teachers. Unauthorized cell phone use may result in disciplinary consequences including confiscation until the end of the school day or loss of privilege. Please refer to NCSD policy 5376 for further information. [Board Policy 5376](#)

Course Fees

Course fees are only required in a few offerings such as driver's education, choice-based PE courses, and enhanced projects in CTE and Art classes. These fees are to be paid in the main offices (NCHS & PIC) by September 30th. In CTE or other courses resulting in certification, the certification costs will be borne by the student. If you need assistance with the fees or certifications please see an administrator.

College Coach

Many choices you make in high school affect your post-secondary educational opportunities. It is not too early to start planning. Your guidance counselor is invaluable as you're making your plan. Another person who can help you is Mr. John O'Connor, the NCSD College Coach. Mr. O'Connor has a wealth of information regarding the college selection, application, and decision-making process. He is a great resource for information on financial aid and scholarships, and will assist families and their students in their preparation for college or other post-secondary education. Appointments may be scheduled by calling 253-1517.

Conflict & Mediation

Solving problems with nonviolent methods is an important skill to use throughout life, and is used daily at NCHS. Members of the faculty and staff are available to help negotiate situations that could become violent, or have the potential to escalate. Students are expected to ask for help or to report dangerous situations, or situations that could become dangerous or escalate. If situations are not resolved and violence or other behaviors occur they will be dealt with as per district and school policy.

Dress and Appearance

NCSB Board of Trustees has established [Policy 5375](#) regarding a district-wide student dress code; therefore, NCHS is committed to enforcing this policy.

- All shirts or blouses will cover the back, top of shoulders, and stomach. Halter-tops, spaghetti strap shirts, low-cut tops, or tops that expose the midriff or undergarments are not permitted.
- Shorts and skirts must be no shorter than mid-thigh.
- All pants, shorts, and skirts must be worn no lower than the hips with no sagging or undergarments showing.
- Hats, caps, bandannas, sweatbands, sunglasses, chains (including wallet chains), dog collars, and sharp objects are not to be worn in school.
- Appropriate shoes must be worn at all times. Slippers are not allowed.
- No sleepwear is allowed.
- Clothing or personal items that are racist, sexist, promote drugs/alcohol/tobacco/gangs, or vulgar in interpretation are not allowed.
- Tights or leggings must be worn with a shirt, blouse, or tunic that is long enough to cover one's behind.

(Click the following link for a [visual dress code guideline](#).)

Dress Code Enforcement

In general, dress as you would if you worked with the public. Teachers determine the classroom atmosphere, and if student appearance interrupts the learning process, the teacher has the right to ask students to change clothes or report to the office. Students whose dress and appearance do not conform to these standards will be referred to the office for disciplinary action. The student will be warned by the principal or designee and advised as to what adjustments must be made. If the student fails to remedy the problem, the parents will be contacted. If the problem remains uncorrected, the student will be removed from the class or the activity involved until the student corrects the situation. Students may be suspended for serious or repeated violations that disrupt the learning process or rise to the level of insubordination. Administration reserves the final right to determine appropriateness of dress.

Honor Code

Academic honesty is integral to student success. Cheating in any form, including the use of apps like "Socratic," is unacceptable at NCHS and will result in disciplinary action including the loss of credit on the assignment, assessment, or course. NCHS teachers use various sites and resources to protect academic honesty.

Honor Roll

PRINCIPAL'S HONOR ROLL—Students may earn the “Principal’s Honor Roll” designation by achieving a minimum 4.00 GPA for a nine-week grading period (semester at NCHS) and being enrolled in the minimum of 2.5 credits.

SCHOLASTIC HONOR ROLL—Students may earn the “Scholastic Honor Roll” designation by achieving a minimum 3.5—3.99 GPA for a nine-week grading period (semester at NCHS) and being enrolled in a minimum of 2.5 credits.

ACHIEVEMENT HONOR ROLL—Students may earn the “Achievement Honor Roll” designation by achieving a minimum 3.0—3.49 GPA for a nine-week grading period (semester at NCHS) and being enrolled in a minimum of 2.5 credits.

Please note: Honor Roll’s are calculated on a 4.0 unweighted scale. Casper College Courses will be used to calculate Honor Roll and will count toward the 2.5 credit minimum.

Student Class Rank

Student class rank is calculated using a student’s NCSD weighted GPA. Please see the regulation in [Policy 6410](#) for a detailed description of the computation methods. Graduation recognition for the top two students (valedictorian and salutatorian) will be calculated following this policy. If students have questions regarding class rank, they should see the head principal.

Identification Card

To ensure student and staff safety all NCHS students are issued an electronic ID card through the Minga App, which will be required to enter NCHS buildings each day. Students must also show their IDs to enter other school activities (i.e. dances, testing, athletic competitions, etc.). Please be prepared to show this upon request during school hours or when attending school events. Students are required to show their student ID to staff members upon request. If students do not have access to technology, a physical card will be issued.

International Baccalaureate Programme

The International Baccalaureate Programme is a comprehensive, rigorous, two-year curriculum for highly motivated students in grades 11 and 12, resulting in an internationally acclaimed high school diploma that is recognized by universities worldwide. IB students will be provided a balanced education facilitating and promoting international understanding and appreciation. Students completing this programme will have demonstrated a strong commitment to learning, and through this learning will acquire the skills and the discipline required to be successful in a highly competitive world. To be eligible for an IB Diploma, candidates are required to choose selected courses from each of six subject groups. The Diploma candidate must also meet three additional requirements: the extended essay, the Theory of Knowledge course, and participate in the extracurricular Creativity, Action, and Service programs. Students wishing to participate on a more limited basis may also enroll in select IB courses of their choosing.

Library

The library staff is available to assist you on the following schedule:

Monday-Thursday	7:45 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday	7:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

This schedule will remain in effect throughout the year unless the school day is shortened, or it is the day preceding a holiday.

During class time, all students must present an ID or a paper pass before entering the library unless they are with a class. Students are expected to sign-in and sign-out when using the library. Most library materials may be checked out for three weeks and can be renewed. It is not necessary to bring the items to the library to renew them. It is important that materials do not become overdue. A fee of .25 per day will be charged for all overdue books; however, late fees for equipment and textbooks are higher. Replacement charges are assessed for lost or damaged materials.

Lockers

Students will be provided a locker upon request, as available. To request a locker, come to the main office. Lockers are the property of the school, and the school reserves the right to open a locker at any time to inspect the contents. Any damage to the locker will be the responsibility of the student. Do not leave valuables in your lockers since the school cannot assume responsibility for lost articles. **This is especially true in the locker rooms.** Please do not bring valuables or expensive items to school. Do not give your locker combination to other students or share your locker with another student.

Parking

Vehicles parked in NCHS parking lots during the school day must have a current parking permit displayed. Student parking permits are issued during registration when the completed "Parking Code of Conduct" is submitted. The student parking lot is located on the west side of the building between Oak and Spruce Streets. **Students are not allowed to park in the staff/visitor lot east of the building.**

Parking lots are NCHS property. Vehicles parked in the lots are subject to the same search policies as lockers and other school property. Vehicles parked on campus cannot have decals or markings that are not appropriate for school. Vehicles parked on campus without a permit may be ticketed or towed. Additionally, students parking inappropriately or in reserved parking areas (including staff, handicapped, etc.) will be subject to disciplinary action and ticketing. Vehicles impeding the flow of traffic or interfering with school safety may be ticketed or towed. Students and parents must complete and sign the Student Parking Code of Conduct annually before a student can receive a parking permit.

NCHS Student Parking Code of Conduct

1. I will drive at a safe speed and operate my vehicle in a safe manner on and near campus.
2. My vehicle will have a parking pass displayed whenever my vehicle is on campus.
 - The pass will adhere to the inside of the driver's side windshield.
3. I will notify the Main Office if I permanently transfer my pass to a different vehicle, or if my vehicle receives a new license plate.

4. I will not park in the Staff Lot.
5. I will not leave trash in the parking lot.
6. I will exit the parking lot when told to do so.
7. I understand that violating this code may result in:
 - Loss of parking privileges
 - School disciplinary action
 - Ticket and fine from NCHS
 - Citation from the Casper Police Department
8. I understand that if I lose my parking privileges for any reason, my parking pass will be confiscated and I will not be allowed to park on campus.

Restricted Parking Off-Campus Near NCHS

The City of Casper has designated some neighborhoods near NCHS as restricted parking areas. Only neighborhood residents with Zone R permits are allowed to park in these areas. Students parked in a restricted parking area may be ticketed by the Casper Police Department and assessed a \$50 fine. Please be aware of any restricted parking signs where you park.



PIC Parking for NCHS Students

NCHS students attending Pathways Innovation Center (PIC) are to park in the south (near the mountain) parking lot. A PIC parking permit will be required. Please obtain a PIC parking permit from the main Pathways office. The same parking lot rules apply to the PIC parking lot as the NCHS parking lot.

Progress/Grade Reporting

Students will be awarded a full credit for the completion of an intensive course at the end of the semester. Students who are enrolled in an alternating block course (which runs for the whole year) will be awarded a .5 credit at the end of each semester .

Public Displays of Affection

Public displays of affection (PDA) distract from our learning environment and are prohibited. PDA may include, but is not limited to: acts of kissing, embracing, and/or sexual conduct. Repeated violations will result in disciplinary consequences.

Student Schedules

Course Load Expectations

We expect all students to enroll in and maintain a full class schedule. Exceptions may be granted to seniors with administrative approval. The minimum seniors will be expected to be enrolled in is 3 courses per semester, plus Mustang Connections. BOCES courses and work experience will count toward this expectation. **Due to safety concerns, if students have less than a full schedule, they are required to go to the library or leave campus during open blocks.**

Students who carry fewer than 2.5 credits (not including Mustang Connections) are ineligible for school activities. Students and parents/guardians are asked to sign a waiver acknowledging their understanding

of this fact. This includes athletic and non-athletic competitions such as FFA, Band, Choir, Forensics, etc. This waiver is available in the counseling office.

Alternative and Dual-Enrollment Courses

College, on-line, and BOCES courses which are not offered on campus must be approved by administration when offered during the academic day, as these courses may impact a student's ability to meet graduation requirements. Accommodations will be made in order to ensure attendance of off-campus courses when possible. Articulated courses will be handled by the college registrar, in conjunction with NCHS counselors and classroom teachers. Online courses must be approved by the counselor **PRIOR** to enrolling if high school credit is to be issued.

Schedule Changes

Class schedules are developed based on student requests made during spring registration. Students are required to attend the classes they select during registration. Changes in a schedule will be considered for the following reasons:

1. The student does not have a full schedule OR is missing a core class.
2. The student has not taken/passed the prerequisite course for a course listed on their schedule.
3. The student did not request the course on their schedule.
4. Changes in placement (i.e. I.E.P., 504) have occurred.
5. The student registered for BOCES classes at Casper College.
6. The student is repeating a course.

***Schedule changes will not occur after the third day of instruction of the semester.**

Parent/guardian, administrator and/or sending or receiving teacher permission may be required for a schedule change. Schedule changes will only be made via a Google form request through August 24, 2023. Should a schedule change need to be made after school starts, students must meet with their counselor.

Withdraw Pass/Fail: Administrator approval is required to drop any course after the first two weeks of each semester. Withdrawals will not be considered after the first and third quarter grading periods without a "WF" on a student's transcript.

Safe School Suspension Lab

Students who are suspended from school for more than one day may be assigned to the SSSL (Safe Schools Suspension Lab) located behind Casper Classical Academy. Assignments from NCHS teachers will be provided there. SSSL hours are 7:30am- 2:30pm

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is defined as, but not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Sexual harassment may include the following: verbal harassment, including derogatory comments or name-calling, physical harassment or interference with movement, or visual harassment such as derogatory cartoons, drawings or posters. Complaints of sexual harassment may be made to any member of the staff. All complaints of sexual harassment or harassment of any kind will be investigated. A complete description can be found in the [Natrona County School District Student/Parent Handbook](#).

School Safety and Security

NCHS has supervised points of entry at the following doors: east main entrance, west main entrance, and MAC entrance. Following the 8:20 bell, all doors at NCHS are locked and parents/visitors needing entry can be admitted through either the East main entrance or the West main entrance when the office staff “buzz them in”. For safety purposes, students are not to prop or open locked doors to allow anyone to enter the school. Students caught doing so will face disciplinary consequences.

Students and their backpacks may be searched if school staff or a School Resource Officer has reasonable suspicion that a student may be in violation of school/district policies or criminal code. No weapons of any type are allowed on campus, including AirSoft and paintball guns, tasers, pepper spray, etc. **No knives of any type are allowed, regardless of blade length.** Anyone with a safety and security concern should contact an administrator, staff member, or School Resource Officer, either in person or through [Safe-2-Tell Wyoming](#).

School Dances

School dances at NCHS are open to all NCHS students who have had no major behavior referrals during the current school year. Students wishing to bring a student from another high school, must have permission from an administrator. Non-NCHS students must meet the same eligibility criteria as NCHS students. Students may only purchase dance tickets for themselves and their non-NCHS guests. **Tickets are non-transferrable.** There is no re-entry at dances.

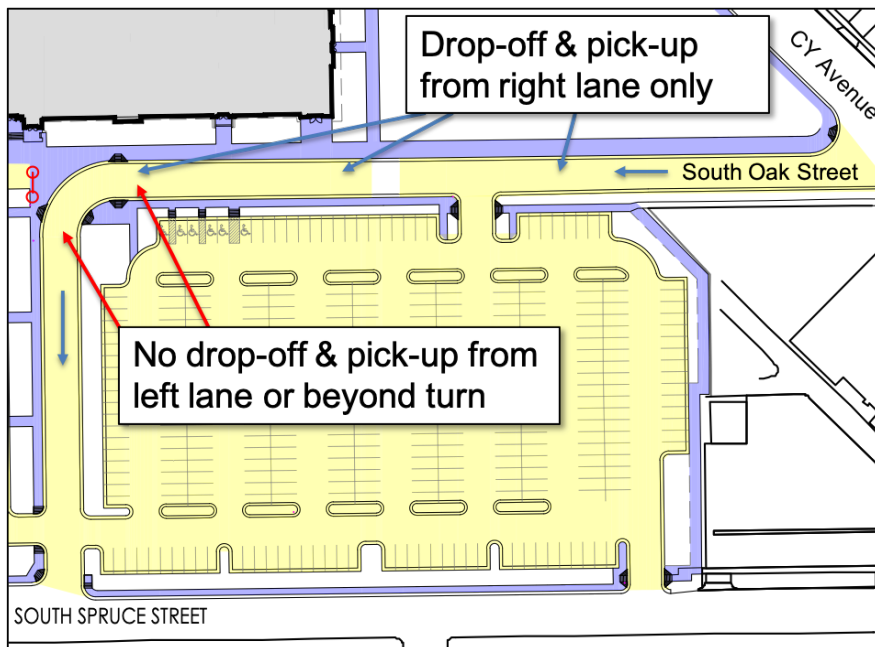
Attendance at dances is contingent on respectful and appropriate attire, behavior, and dancing. Students who are denied entrance or removed from a dance for any reason will not receive a ticket refund.

*Updated October 2023 to reflect new rules around guests.

Student Drop-Off/Pick-Up Area

The student drop-off/pick-up area is South Oak Street on the west side of the main building. On campus, South Oak Street is a two-lane, one-way road that proceeds north and then west. It exits campus on South Spruce Street. Students will be dropped off or picked up only from the right lane before Oak Street turns left/west. The entire left lane is for thru traffic, as are both lanes after the left/west turn. Please do not drop off or pick up students from the left lane or after the turn—doing so is a safety hazard and impedes the flow of traffic.

For student and staff safety, the east parking lot and the bus lane on the east side of the building are not to be used for student drop-off or pick-up. **Please drop-off and pick-up your students on the west side of the building.**



Student Insurance

The school district does not carry accidental injury insurance to cover students injured at school. Students who are not covered by family insurance are urged to purchase single student accident insurance. Some extracurricular activities require students to have accidental injury insurance. This insurance information is available to all students at registration/verification or in the main office.

Technology

All students at NCHS will be provided technology for academic and appropriate personal use. These devices are valuable tools to be used by students to enrich course objectives and to complete assignments. Their primary use is for academics. A secondary use may be for students' personal email, social networking, and downloading music. However, the school reserves the right to take possession of an electronic device at any time without prior notice.

Students are expected to follow the school and district policies relating to the care and use of this equipment. Annually, students and their parents/guardians will sign the "NCHS-Instructional Technology Acceptable Use Agreement", "Student Pledge", and "Parent/Guardian & Student Agreement for the Loan of NCSD Electronic Device." These forms will be sent home in the Back-to-School packet each year and can be found in the appendix of the NCHS Student handbook.

Students should not use their electronic device inappropriately nor visit sites that are inappropriate. Students who are found to have inappropriate material on them may lose their privileges, or have their privileges restricted, for the remainder of the school year. If in doubt about what is deemed inappropriate, ask a teacher or administrator.

Vaping

Students who are in possession of vaping supplies, who share/distribute vaping supplies with other students, or are caught vaping will receive the following consequences:

1st Offense- 3-day suspension

2nd Offense- 6-day suspension

3rd Offense- 10-day suspension, with possible recommendation for expulsion.

Visitors

Individuals who are not currently enrolled NCHS students or staff are not allowed on the NCHS or PIC campuses unless they receive a visitor's pass from the main offices (NCHS & PIC) or the attendance office (NCHS). Visitor Passes will not be approved for guests to visit staff members or students during the school day when school is in session. Violators will be prosecuted under sections of the City Ordinance dealing with trespassing. Students are not allowed to bring guests to class.

Visiting Other School Campuses

Students may not be on any other school's campus during the school day. This includes during the lunch hour. You may not attempt to visit one of your former teachers at another school during the school day. Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary actions.

2023-24 Bell Schedule

Natrona County High School Bell Schedule 2023-24			
PERIOD	START	END	Length
O	6:45 AM	8:00 AM	60 min.
A	8:20 AM	9:45 AM	85 min.
B	9:50 AM	11:15 AM	85 min.
1st lunch (10-12)	11:15 AM	11:55 PM	40 min.
9th C1	11:20 AM	12:45 PM	85 min.
2nd lunch (9th grade)	12:45 PM	1:25 PM	40 min.
10-12 C2	11:55 PM	1:20 PM	85 min.
Mustang Connections	1:25 PM	1:59PM	34min
D	1:59 PM	3:24 PM	85 min.
Alternating Orange & Black (Only for Alternating courses)			

PIC Bell Schedule 2023-24		
Block	Start	End
1	8:00 AM	9:25 AM
2	9:30 AM	10:55 AM
PLC/Student Support	11:00 AM	11:25 PM
Lunch	11:30AM	12:05pm
3	12:10PM	1:35PM
4	1:40PM	3:05PM
5 (Auto Only)	3:10PM	4:35PM