

DOWNEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



Our vision is for all students to acquire 21st century skills, be college and career ready, globally competitive and citizens of strong character.

School Address: 9633 Tweedy Lane Downey, Cal. 90240

Telephone: (562) 904-3580, Attendance: (562) 904-3580

Online at web.dusd.net/Griffiths

This planner belongs to: _____

Grade: _____

School Schedule

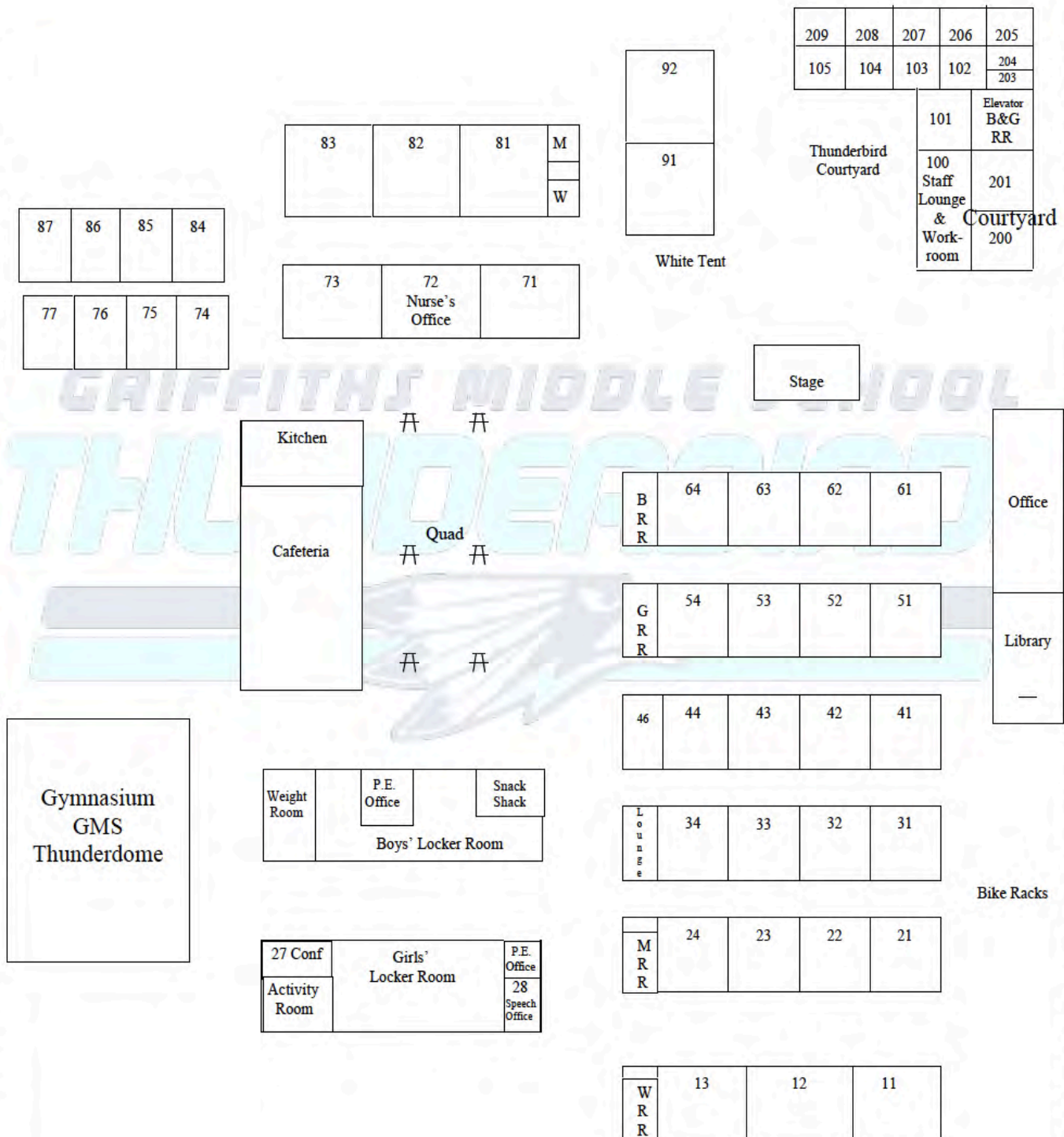
	Class	Rm #	Teacher
Period 1			
Period 2			
Period 3			
Period 4			
Period 5			

Period 6			
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GRIFFITHS MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMPUS MAP



Thunderbird Character Traits

August	RESPECT	Treat others with respect • Follow the Golden Rule • Be accepting of differences • Use good manners, not bad language • Be considerate of the feelings of others • Don't threaten, hit or hurt anyone • Deal peacefully with anger, insults and disagreements
September	CITIZENSHIP	Make your home, school, community, and greater world better • Cooperate • Get involved in the community • Be a good neighbor • Obey laws and rules • Respect authority • Protect the environment • Volunteer
October	TRUST - WORTHINESS	Be honest in communications and actions • Don't deceive, cheat or steal • Be reliable • Have the courage to do the right thing • Build a good reputation • Be loyal — stand by your family, friends, and country • Keep your promises
November	LEARNING	Use of critical learning skills :: Understand the importance of education and life-long learning :: Investigate job and career opportunities :: Adopt a Growth mindset
December	DILIGENCE	Give your best to your academics • Pursue goals without giving up • Work through setbacks and other obstacles with a sense of purpose • Confidence through effort
January	FAIRNESS	Play by the rules • Take turns and share • Be open-minded; listen to others • Don't take advantage of others • Don't blame others carelessly • Treat all people fairly
February	RESPONSIBILITY	Do what you're supposed to do • Plan ahead • Be diligent • Be accountable for your words, actions and attitudes • Set a good example for others • Make healthy choices
March	POSITIVITY	Develop a positive outlook :: See life's opportunities :: Face challenges with optimism • Choose a positive attitude
April	CARING	Be kind • Be compassionate and show you care • Show Empathy • Express gratitude • Forgive others and show mercy • Help people in need • Be charitable and altruistic
May	SELF-DISCIPLINE	Promotes self-discipline :: Manage your emotions :: Resist negative thoughts and temptations :: Adopt GRIT and will-power to do the right thing • Think before you act

Thunderbird Expectations

Location	Be Respectful	Be Responsible	Be Safe	Be Your Best
Cafeteria	Be respectful to others, school staff and the campus facilities	Each student is responsible for their own belongings at all times	Wait patiently in lines, use appropriate language/ noise levels	Throw away all trash in trash cans and clean the area you were sitting at
Classroom	Be Cooperative with teacher directions/ requests and expectations	Complete and submit assignments when due and be prepared with a charged iPad.	Enter and Exit in an orderly fashion through the front door	Be open and understanding to others' viewpoints and feelings.
Hallways	Be mindful of your volume levels AND considerate of other classes	Electronics need to be put away and use appropriate language and behavior	Safely walk with a purpose and have a pass during class time	Each student is responsible to be on time to school and every class
Library	Be Respectful to others, library staff technology and school furniture	Each student is responsible to put books away, push chairs in & clean up	Safely move around library using appropriate noise levels	Think about the purpose of your visit to use time and resources wisely
Locker Room	Respect others space, locker room facilities and the restrooms	Each student is responsible to lock up their locker and clean up after themselves	Safely Avoid horseplay, foul language, and cel phone usage	Handle conflicts peacefully and own your own actions / words
Online	Be respectful, positive and appropriate in online interactions and posts	Each student is responsible to follow the eLECTRONIC DEVICE policies	Share information with people you know and search the internet safely	Tell a teacher about abusive, inappropriate or offensive posts, texts, images or videos
Rec Area	Be Respectful to others space, personal property and school equipment	Each student is responsible for their own belongings at all times	Wait patiently for your turn and use appropriate language	Take care of all school sports equipment and put it back where you found it
Restroom	BE considerate of other people's personal space and privacy	Each student is responsible to go, flush, wash and return to class promptly	Safely use the restroom facilities and refrain from vandalism and phone use	Take care of school property and throw away trash in trash cans
Snack/ Lunch	Be friendly and courteous to others and consider other people's personal space	Throw away any trash and be respectful to others in the hallway	Snacks, food and drinks remain in quad/ cafeteria and need to be thrown away	Take your turn while waiting in line and walk from one place to the another

PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

Welcome to Griffiths Middle School. We hope this year will be successful and enjoyable for you. This student handbook will assist you to be organized in your studies and inform you of our school policies and procedures. Please read it carefully and refer to it often. We expect students to have this handbook with them in every class and to record daily assignments on the calendar pages.

Griffiths Middle School is proud to offer a quality program in academics, athletics, and extra- curricular activities. You are encouraged to build on our tradition of excellence and to achieve your highest potential. I look forward to working with you this year.

Sincerely, Administrative Team

Our Mission

The mission of Griffiths Middle School is to provide a safe learning environment where staff and students work in partnership with the community. Students will demonstrate knowledge, character, and skills necessary to become creative problem solvers, achieve personal success, and contribute responsibly to our diverse, dynamic world. We believe that all students will thrive in an environment built on trust and mutual respect. Through accessing rigorous and varied academic standards, we will work together to prepare our students to become both college and career ready and to take a productive role in society as lifelong learners.

Our Mascot



The Thunderbird mascot was created in 2020 after months of dialogue and design considerations. School staff as well as parents and District Personnel approved the mascot in spring of 2020 Griffiths. The hope was to maintain a connection to our previous mascot's Native American and First Nations heritage.

The Thunderbird is a symbol of power, strength and protection. These three components can be found in our PBIS Expectations of Respect, Responsibility and Safety.

HELPFUL HINTS FOR USING YOUR GRIFFITHS GUIDE

1. Keep the calendar/agenda at the front of your binder.
2. Every day—either at the beginning or end of each class— record homework, upcoming assignments, projects, and tests.
3. If there is no homework assigned in a class, write **“study/review”** in the space provided.
4. Long-term projects or assignments should be recorded twice: the day they are assigned and the day they are due.
5. When an assignment is finished, place a check mark next to it, but do not cross out.
6. At the beginning of each week/month, record upcoming academic, school, and personal responsibilities/activities/events in your agenda.
7. At the beginning of each grading period, record long-term/short- term goals in your agenda.
8. Use the space at the bottom of the agenda page to record your daily reflection, clarifying questions, and new goals. This space may also be used for communication to and from parents.
9. Your parents are an integral part of the team and should sign your agenda each week.
10. Never remove pages from your agenda to show completion of activities. Instead, fold down the corner of the page or make a check mark next to the date.



BELL SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE A 8 TH GRADE	
0	7:00-7:55
1	8:00-8:54
2	8:58-10:00
SNACK	10:00-10:15
3	10:19-11:13
LUNCH	11:13-11:43
4	11:47-12:41
BREAK	12:41-12:46
5	12:49 - 1:43
6	1:47-2:41

SCHEDULE B 6 TH /7 TH GRADE	
0	7:00-7:55
1	8:00-8:54
2	8:58-10:00
SNACK	10:00-10:15
3	10:19-11:13
4	11:17-12:11
LUNCH	12:11-12:46
5	12:49 - 1:43
6	1:47-2:41

EARLY RELEASE WEDNESDAYS	
0	7:00-7:55
1	8:00-8:37
2	8:41-9:26
SNACK	9:26-9:41
3	9:45-10:22
4	10:26-11:03
5	11:07-11:44
LUNCH	11:44-12:14
6	12:18-12:55

MINIMUM DAY	
0	7:00-7:55
1	8:00-8:37
2	8:41-9:25
3	9:29-10:07
SNACK	10:07-10:22
4	10:26-11:04
5	11:07-11:46
6	11:5-12:28

YOU BELONG, YOU GROW, YOU ACHIEVE HERE



CELL PHONE POLICY



WHO'S RESPONSIBLE?

CELL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC ITEMS THAT ARE BROUGHT TO SCHOOL ARE BROUGHT ENTIRELY AT THE RISK OF THE OWNER.

THE SCHOOL WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LOSS, THEFT, OR DESTRUCTION OF ELECTRONIC ITEMS OR CELL PHONES.

EXPECTATIONS

CELL PHONES & OTHER ELECTRONIC ITEMS MUST REMAIN TURNED OFF PUT AWAY DURING THE SCHOOL DAY UNLESS BEING USED WITH PERMISSION OF THE CLASSROOM TEACHER FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES

CONSEQUENCES

INCIDENT 1: DEVICE(S) CONFISCATED; RELEASED ONLY TO PARENT/GUARDIAN

INCIDENT 2: DEVICE(S) CONFISCATED; RELEASED ONLY TO PARENT/GUARDIAN;
ASSIGNED WEDNESDAY AFTER SCHOOL DETENTION

INCIDENT 3: DEVICE(S) CONFISCATED; RELEASED ONLY TO PARENT/GUARDIAN;
ASSIGNED SATURDAY SCHOOL (4 HOURS)

INCIDENT 4: DEVICE(S) GIVEN TO ADMINISTRATION DAILY AND RELEASED TO STUDENT AT END OF THE DAY.

CELL PHONES & ELECTRONIC DEVICES WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR PICKUP UNTIL AFTER 3:00 PM ON THE DAY THE ITEM IS CONFISCATED

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DRESS CODE POLICY



EXPECTATIONS

GRIFFITHS MIDDLE SCHOOL DESIRES TO KEEP THE SCHOOL AND STUDENTS FREE OF THE INTIMIDATION AND HARMFUL INFLUENCE OF ANY DANGEROUS OR HARMFUL GROUPS WHICH ADVOCATE DRUGS, ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, VIOLENCE, OR DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR.

THEREFORE, THE PRESENCE OF ANY GROOMING WHICH BY VIRTUE OF ITS COLOR, ARRANGEMENT, TRADEMARK OR ANY OTHER ATTRIBUTE DENOTES AFFILIATION WITH OR MEMBERSHIP IN SUCH A GROUP IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

BOTTOMS

UNDERGARMENTS INCLUDING BRA STRAPS
MUST NOT BE VISIBLE AT ANY TIME.

PANTS, SKIRTS AND SHORTS MUST COVER THE
BUTTOCKS AND UNDERGARMENTS. BOTTOMS MUST BE
WORN AT THE WAIST (NO SAGGING).
SHORTS AND SKIRTS, ETC. MUST EXTEND TO AT LEAST
THE MID-THIGH. THE BOTTOM OF THE SHORT(S) CAN
NOT BE LONGER THAN THE BOTTOM OF THE KNEE.

HEADWEAR

HATS MAY BE WORN OUTSIDE AND INSIDE OF
CLASSES IF THE TEACHER ALLOWS.

HAIR NETS, AND BANDANNAS ARE NOT
ALLOWED ON CAMPUS.

SCHOOL STAFF MAY ASK YOU TO REMOVE
YOUR HOODS WHEN YOU ENTER THE
OFFICE, CLASSROOMS, AND OTHER BUILDINGS

IMAGES/MESSAGES

MUST BE AGE APPROPRIATE AND NOT DISPLAY /
ADVOCATE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING: DRUGS,
ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, SEX, VIOLENCE, VANDALISM,
DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR, DISRESPECT, GANG ACTIVITY,
PROFANITY, OBSCENE ILLUSTRATIONS, ILLEGAL
ACTIVITY OR DEGRADE ANY GENDER, CULTURAL,
RELIGIOUS OR ETHNIC VALUES, NOR PROMOTE ONE
ETHNIC GROUP OVER ANOTHER.

TOPS

SHIRTS AND TOPS MUST HAVE SLEEVES,
COVER THE STOMACH AND BACK ALWAYS.
HALTER/CROP TOPS, TUBE TOPS, TANK TOPS,
MUSCLE TEES, UNDER TANK(S), SPAGHETTI
STRAPS, SEE-THROUGH TOPS, BARE MIDRIFTS,
OR LOW-CUT TOPS ARE NOT PERMITTED.

CONSEQUENCES

FIRST OFFENSE: WARNING AND PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTACT

SECOND OFFENSE: PARENT/GUARDIAN MUST PROVIDE IPAD OR STUDENT SERVES LUNCH
EXCLUSION

THIRD OFFENSE: 1 HOUR AFTER-SCHOOL DETENTION

FOURTH OFFENSE : REFERRAL TO ADMINISTRATION AND SATURDAY SCHOOL ASSIGNED

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**TOP
5**

GUM POLICY



**WHO'S RESPONSIBLE?
YOU ARE!**

EXPECTATIONS

FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF ALL STUDENTS AND STAFF
WE EXPECT YOU TO KEEP GUM ON CAMPUS

CONSEQUENCES

**CHEWING GUM
AT GRIFFITHS
=
CAMPUS
BEAUTIFICATION
@ SNACK**



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IPAD POLICY



WHO'S RESPONSIBLE?

THE DISTRICT ISSUED DEVICE IS ON LOAN TO YOU FOR EDUCATION PURPOSES

IPAD CARE EXPECTATIONS

THE PURPOSE OF THE CASE IS TO PROTECT THE IPAD, ESPECIALLY WHILE BEING TRANSPORTED.
THE IPAD MUST REMAIN IN THE SCHOOL ISSUED PROTECTIVE CASE AT ALL TIMES.

THE IPAD SHOULD BE CHARGED USING THE PROVIDED WALL CHARGER, AND BROUGHT TO SCHOOL EVERYDAY.

THE IPAD SCREEN IS NOT SCRATCH PROOF. NEVER PLACE HEAVY OBJECTS ON THE SCREEN
AND CLEAN THE SCREEN WITH A SOFT, LINT-FREE CLOTH.

IPAD CONTENT EXPECTATIONS

STUDENTS CAN ACCESS APPS THROUGH THE PORTAL AND DUSD SELF SERVICE.
IPADS ARE INSTRUCTIONAL DEVICES WHICH CAN ONLY CONTAIN CONTENT APPROVED BY DUSD.

INAPPROPRIATE MEDIA MAY NOT BE STORED ON THE IPAD AT ANY TIME. WHICH INCLUDES BUT IS NOT
LIMITED TO THE PRESENCE OF WEAPONS, PORNOGRAPHY, INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR / LANGUAGE,
AND REFERENCES TO TOBACCO, ALCOHOL, DRUGS, AND VIOLENCE.

STUDENT DATA AND MEDIA IS NOT PRIVATE OR CONFIDENTIAL.
ANY COMMUNICATION OR DATA IS SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION.
STUDENTS MAY NOT USE SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES OR SHARE ANY AUDIO, VIDEO, OR PHOTOGRAPHIC
LIKENESSES WITHOUT EXPRESS CONSENT FROM ALL PARTIES INVOLVED.
IPAD USE IS NOT ALLOWED IN BATHROOMS AND GYM LOCKER ROOMS.

CONSEQUENCES

FIRST OFFENSE: WARNING AND PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTACT
SECOND OFFENSE: PARENT/GUARDIAN MUST PROVIDE IPAD OR STUDENT SERVES
LUNCH EXCLUSION
THIRD OFFENSE: 1 HOUR AFTER-SCHOOL DETENTION
FOURTH OFFENSE : REFERRAL TO ADMINISTRATION AND SATURDAY SCHOOL ASSIGNED

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TARDY POLICY



WHO'S RESPONSIBLE?

**YOU ARE! ADEQUATE TIME IS PROVIDED BETWEEN CLASS PERIODS
TO ARRIVE ON TIME FOR EACH CLASS.**

EXPECTATIONS

**STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO BE IN CLASS,
READY TO LEARN WHEN THE BELL RINGS.**

1st PERIOD TARDIES

**STUDENT WILL BE ASSIGNED A LUNCH EXCLUSION FOR EVERY
FIRST PERIOD TARDY.**

4TH TARDY RESULTS IN AFTER SCHOOL DETENTION

2-6 PERIOD TARDIES

1ST TARDY: TEACHER CONVERSATION

2ND TARDY: CAMPUS BEAUTIFICATION

3RD TARDY: AFTER SCHOOL DETENTION AND A CALL HOME

4TH TARDY: REFERRAL TO ADMINISTRATION

5+ TARDY: AFTER SCHOOL DETENTION AND/OR SATURDAY SCHOOL

**FAILURE TO SERVE THEIR DETENTION WILL BE REFERRED TO ADMINISTRATION
FOR FURTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION.**

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Expectations for Student Success

We believe each student has the right to learn and each teacher has the right to teach without interruptions. Therefore, all students will follow the PBIS expectations of:

Be Respectful – By Treating others with Respect, using good manners, being considerate of others, and dealing peacefully without threatening, hitting or hurting anyone with words and/ or actions.

Be Responsible – Attending school every day and on time to ALL classes, planning ahead and setting goals, being diligent and responsible to complete tasks, and be accountable for your words, actions and attitudes

Be Safe – By keeping Griffiths a Bully-free, Violence-free, Drug-free, Discrimination-free school. Students will be encouraged to keep their hands, feet, bodies and words to themselves. Remember: Teaching and learning need to be distraction and disruption free.



A Culture of Community

ACTIVITIES for STUDENTS

Griffiths has many clubs and afterschool activities, as well as dances, lunchtime activities and student performing arts programs.

Students may also participate in the intramural sports program and/or try out for after-school sports team that competes against teams from the other district middle schools.

ELIGIBILITY FOR ALL EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

All students who participate in some extracurricular activities must maintain a C (2.0 GPA) average with not more than two D's and/or F's. Achievement grades of E, S, and N count as 3, 2, and 1, respectively, in computing grade point averages.

Eligibility will be based on the previous grading period. Eligibility must be maintained through the sport season. A student on suspension is ineligible to attend or participate in extra-curricular activities throughout the period of suspension. Any student receiving more than two 5's (unsatisfactory) in citizenship on the report card will be ineligible for that grading period.

ASB - ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODY

The ASB at Griffiths Middle School is a great opportunity for students who are interested in developing the qualities, skills, and behaviors of a good leader. While developing personal leadership skills, students will have hands-on experience in: 1) planning, coordinating, executing and evaluating student activities; 2) raising money to fund these activities; and 3) approving budgets and spending of ASB funds.

Students apply in the spring to serve a one-year commitment and can choose to run for a specific ASB position or just serve on a committee. There are about 20-30 students selected for ASB each year.

ATHLETICS

Participating in athletics not only promotes physical activity and a healthy lifestyle, it also allows students a chance to develop self-discipline and interpersonal skills such as teamwork and communication.

Griffiths Middle School offers the following:

- Soccer
- Volleyball
- Football
- Track and Field
- Baseball
- Softball
- Basketball
- Intramurals during lunch for everyone

Requirements:

There are three main requirements to sign

up for a sport.

1. Student must maintain a 2.0 GPA along with good citizenship
2. Must have a completed Physical Evaluation Form on file
3. Must have an Emergency Card on file

AVID

AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination. The program helps students develop learning, study, and academic behavioral skills that are essential to success in rigorous coursework. AVID acts as a catalyst for schools to develop a culture of college readiness for all students across the campus.

Students take the AVID elective course in 7th and 8th grade that provides them with the skills needed to be successful in advancing academically with the ultimate goal of attending college. Immersed in a college-culture, students are taught:

- Study skills
- Note-taking
- Time management
- Writing and research skills

Students in the AVID elective receive daily instruction and support to prepare them for college from a trained AVID elective teacher, as well as access to college tutors, dynamic guest speakers, team building activities, and field trips to local colleges and universities.

CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Career Technical Education (CTE) provides students with the opportunity to acquire real-life skills to prepare them for successful, continuing education or entry-level career positions. Each CTE course offers relevant project-based activities modeled by professionals from the field. Stauffer CTE courses feed directly into the CTE courses at Warren High School.

Students in CTE classes learn by:

- Exploring career interests and goals
- Learning employability and job skills
- Creating a personal portfolio
- Obtaining work experience
- Preparing for advanced career training
- Competing in industry competitions

Classes include but are not limited to:

- Computer Science
- Culinary Arts
- Drama
- Film and Television
- Journalism
- PLTW – Design and Modeling
- PLTW – Green Architecture
- Robotics

CJSF, SCHOLARSHIP & HONOR ROLL ELIGIBILITY

At Griffiths, we reward excellent student achievement and behavior in many ways. Honor roll recognizes students with a

- 4.0 GPA. Scholarship Club and CJSF are available for students with high academic standing. At the end of the school year, awards are given in the areas of service,

attendance, citizenship, school spirit, scholarship, and academic excellence.

CJSF - CALIFORNIA JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIP FEDERATION

Students must apply within the given time frame to be a member of CJSF. Advisors will announce the dates of the application period.

The student has the responsibility of applying for membership on the approved form and during the set application period. Under no circumstances may retroactive membership be granted to a student who has failed to apply at the proper time.

All second (Spring) semester seventh grade and eighth grade students are eligible. Other eligibility requirements are as follows:

- A satisfactory citizenship grade is required. A member may have no 4's or 5's on their report card. Students who are eligible but who, in the judgment of the Principal or advisor are unworthy citizens, shall be debarred from membership.
- All grades earned the previous semester must be the equivalent of a C or better. A grade of D or F shall debar for that semester.
- Members must have earned 10 points based on semester grades. This is based on points earned in 5 subjects.

Each A = 3 points, each B = 1 point.

Exceptions:

Seventh grade Pre-Algebra B's = 2 points

Eighth grade Honors English B's = 2 points

Eighth grade Algebra B's = 2 points.

Meetings will be held the first Thursday of each month. Honors Night awards are based on each semester of membership.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The students of Griffiths Middle School are expected to demonstrate good citizenship and character, and become conscientious and moral people in their community, contributing to a better world.

As a way to promote those ideals, we encourage volunteering and fundraisings for charitable causes throughout the year.

- True Lasting Connections 5K
- Peer Tutoring at GMS and Price Elementary School
- Campus Beautification
- Pennies for the Rainforest
- And many, many more

FEMINEERS

The Femeiner Program was created by Cal Poly Pomona's College of Engineering in 2013 to inspire additional females to pursue STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) in their education and career.

At Griffiths, this highly creative program provides 7th and 8th-grade students with project-based learning, female engineering student mentors and opportunities to visit Cal Poly Pomona, while building a sustainable program and community for current and future STEM leaders.

By engaging with real-world applications

and hands-on activities, Femeiners acquire the technical knowledge and practical skills necessary to become confident and strong in their future careers

GATE

The GATE program at Griffiths Middle School is designed with two goals in mind. The first goal is to provide students with access to the most rigorous coursework that allows them to apply their learning utilizing an inquiry-based model. The second goal is to provide students with experiences and opportunities that develop their talents and capabilities educationally, socially and culturally

At Griffiths, we aim to have our GATE Students thrive to become strong, well-rounded students who are supported in their educational, extra-curricular, and social-emotional needs as they prepare to become college and career ready, globally competitive and citizens of character.

How do I know if my student qualifies?

Students in the top CASSP testing levels are identified by school site

Teachers and/or parents can request testing through the GATE Lead at the site if the student meets the top level in CAASSP English/Math testing

Students take a nationally recognized test at the site. If students score 70% or higher on the reasoning test, they move on to the next steps:

- Student GPAs are recorded
- Students' critical thinking skills are gathered from their teachers

- Qualification Packet is reviewed by a team of GATE Leads

THUNDERBIRD NEWS

Each day the video production class hosts a news and entertainment broadcast to keep you informed about what's going on around Griffiths.

If you are interested in being a part of the GMG broadcast, the Video Production elective is open to all 7th and 8th grade students.

INTRAMURAL SPORTS

The Intramural sports program is voluntary and open to all GMS students. Every student is encouraged to participate. Students will be given the opportunity to learn and compete in many different team sports (basketball, soccer, softball, volleyball, flag football, track and field, dance, and weight room).

Each student will be placed on a team and the teams will play against each other. Students participating in an Intramural sport must have a signed parent consent form on file with the P.E. department to play.

LIBRARY

The library can be used by any student attending Griffiths Middle School and is open before school, at snack and lunch, and after school. The library is closed Friday during snack.

During class time, students must be accompanied by a teacher or must have a signed pass from their teacher to work in the library. Lost or damaged library books must be paid for.

MUSIC PROGRAMS

The Griffiths Band provides a unique opportunity to excel in a culture of excellence. Each of the ensembles/classes offers students a safe and community-based environment to not only improve their musical skills and knowledge but also foster critical life skills such as dedication, teamwork, self-discipline, time management and responsibility.

The Griffiths Middle School Choir continues to establish a reputation for excellence at the local, regional and national levels. From classical to gospel to jazz to pop, there is something for everyone.

RECREATION PROGRAM

All students are welcome to participate in open recreation.

Open recreation will be held before school on the basketball courts Monday through Friday from 7:15 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.

During lunch students are encouraged to use the recreation area for basketball, four-square, soccer, kickball and other sports activities.

Sports equipment if provided by the school so students are **NOT allowed to bring their own personal athletic**

equipment is allowed on campus.

Students will compete in recreation activities with quality sportsmanship and respect for others.

SCHOLARSHIP CLUB

Students must apply for membership during the application period. Membership requirements are as follows:

1. First semester sixth grade and second semester sixth grade, grade averages will be used as a basis for eligibility.

2. A satisfactory citizenship record is required. A member may have no 4's or 5's on their report card. Students who are eligible but who in the judgment of the Principal and the Advisor and unworthy citizen, shall be debarred from membership.

3. All grades earned from the previous semester must be a C or better. A grade of D or F shall debar for the semester.

SNACK & LUNCH

A 16-minute snack period is provided every morning. You may bring a snack from home or purchase food on campus. All food must remain in the quad during snack and lunch.

Lunch is 30 minutes long. Complete lunches may be bought in the cafeteria. Separate items such as hamburgers, pizza, ice cream, milk, etc., are sold at the snack shack and food carts. Many students bring sack lunches from home.

All food must be eaten in the quad area. Information regarding reduced and free-lunch programs is available from the cafeteria manager. When finished eating, students may visit with friends or participate in recreation activities in the P.E. area during the lunch period.

On rainy days special instructions will be given as to where students may spend the lunch period. The following rules must be observed during the lunch and snack periods:

- No sitting on tabletops.
- Walk to the lunch line.
- No cutting in line.
- No pushing or shoving.
- Place all trash in containers.
- No food outside of the quad area.
- Follow all lunch supervisor instructions.

Students are not allowed to go to classrooms unless given permission by a lunch supervisor.

PLEASE NOTE: For the health and safety of all our students, the office will not accept outside food, drink AND 3rd party deliveries (UBEREats, PostMates, etc.) during the school day. All food deliveries will be turned away by office staff, and 3rd party deliveries will be at the customer's expense.

WEB – Where Everyone Belongs

WEB is a selected team of 8th-grade students who mentor all incoming 6th graders in order to help them feel

welcomed and confident as they begin their new journey in middle school.

WEB welcomes all 6th graders to our summer orientation where students can meet other classmates, build new friendships, and start to get familiar with the campus. WEB has monthly activities for WEB Leaders and 6th graders to build positive relationships and social skills, connect with one another and, above all, have fun!

WELLNESS CENTER

The Griffiths Middle School Wellness Center offers students a mental health one-stop-shop where they have access to counseling, clinical therapy, community resource referrals and more. Our professionals provide a wide variety of services and programs to address overcoming life's obstacles. Additionally, students can walk-in and engage in mindful activities and/or build social skills through game-based activities. All students are encouraged to utilize the Wellness Center. Our goal is that students will leave the center emotionally regulated and ready to re-engage in their studies.

Location: Room 61

Who: Martha Perez-Castor, CST

How to Use the Wellness Center

Need some additional help and want to talk to someone?

Stop by to schedule an appointment

Walk in to use a self-service station

Speak to your Academic Counselor to request services.

8th GRADE PRIVILEGES

We are proud of our students at GMS. As a reward for the responsibility, hard work, and good citizenship of our students, we offer a variety of activities at the end of the year for our 8th graders.

We look forward to seeing our students share in the rewards for their commendable efforts. However, these activities are privileges and can be revoked if necessary, for poor citizenship, attendance problems, or poor academic performance.

We believe that all our students can achieve great things. It is our hope that all our students will be able to participate and enjoy all the privileges planned. Each student will determine that by their own behavior and performance.

Learning to Succeed

BOOK BAGS & BACKPACKS

Griffiths Middle School does not have hall lockers for regular student use. Students are encouraged to carry book bags or backpacks. Having a book bag or backpack provides you with a convenient way to carry books and other school materials. By carrying all your materials together, you will always have your assignments and materials when going to class.

Book bags and backpacks are the personal property of the owner. No student may pick up a book bag or backpack or open one up without the immediate permission of the owner. Any student

found in possession of another student's book bag or in possession of any materials taken out of the bag will be considered guilty of theft.

CONDUCT

Classroom conduct is one of the most important determiners of a student's success in school. Teachers will expect students to use their time wisely, complete assignments, and do their best at all times. Lack of materials, failure to follow directions, lack of effort, or misbehavior will not be permitted. Continued violation of classroom regulations may result in removal from class, school, or both.

Good campus behavior is stressed as well as classroom conduct. Students will be held responsible for maintaining a neat and orderly campus and following all rules both in and out of class.

DAILY SUPPLIES

- ☐ Charged IPAD
- ☐ Good Quality 3-Ring Binder – 2", 2.5", or 3" with Pocket Inserts
- ☐ 5 to 6 Colored Tab Subject Dividers to Separate Classes
- ☐ Zipper Pouch or Pencil Box to Store Supplies
- ☐ 2+ Pens
- ☐ 2+ Pencils WITH Erasers
- ☐ Notebook Paper
- ☐ GMS Planner/Binder Reminder

SUGGESTED:

- ☐ Portable Battery Charger
- ☐ 1+ Highlighters
- ☐ 1+ Erasers

- ☐ Dictionary and/or Thesaurus
- ☐ Calculator
- ☐ Glue Stick
- ☐ Post-its
- ☐ Zipper Pouch with Supplies
- ☐ GMS Planner/Binder Reminder
- ☐ Subject Divider for Each Class
- ☐ Extra Notebook Paper

BEHIND EACH DIVIDER:

- ☐ Notes/Notebooks
- ☐ Handouts/Worksheets/Classwork
- ☐ Tests/Quizzes
- Returned Assignments

HOMEWORK

Students should expect approximately one hour of homework &/or studying each school night. To organize your homework, use this Griffiths Guide for each period. Put in time on reading, studying for an upcoming quiz or test, or completing a long-term project or report.

MAKE-UP WORK

Following an excused absence, a student has the same number of days as he or she was absent to make up work. Students are responsible for all class work missed due to school activities, i.e. field trips, programs, club activities, etc.

MEDICATION

Under no circumstances are students to be in possession of medication once they arrive at school.

A doctor's authorization must be obtained before medicine is brought to school. It should include dosage, frequency, and time limits. Parents and doctor must fill out a written form available from the office.

Medication that must be on campus will be kept in the office and the student will be allowed to go to the office to maintain the medication schedule. Medication should be in the prescription container and clearly labeled stating the contents, schedule, dosage, physician, and the student's name.

Students will be responsible for administering their own medication. A school employee may observe, but not assist in any way.

Aspirin is considered a medication and written (not verbal) permission must be on file in the school office

REPORT CARDS

Progress reports are issued every six weeks and report cards are issued at the end of each semester. A letter grade (A, B, C, D, F) is given for academic and elective classes. Exploratory and physical education classes are graded Excellent, Satisfactory, or Needs Improvement (E, S, N). The need for improvement in behavior, attendance, and assignments is also noted with number comments. Progress Reports and First Semester Report Cards will be given to the students to take home approximately one

week after the end of each reporting period. Second Semester Report Cards are mailed home approximately one week after the end of school. Letters regarding poor scholarship or attendance are regularly mailed home.

Grade point average is the average of all earned letter grades calculated with the following numeric values: A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0, E=4, S+=3, S=2, S-=1, N=0

Students must have earned 8 points. Each A = 3 points, each B = 1 point B in top math = 2 points.

P.E. and Exploratory classes not considered for membership.

WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL

If you are transferring from Griffiths Middle School to another school, a parent or guardian must notify the Attendance Office prior to the last day of attendance. You will be given a check-out sheet to be signed by all of your teachers. You will need to turn in all textbooks and library books you have checked out. When this sheet is completed, the office will prepare a transfer for you to take to your new school.

Student Assessment and Diagnostics



i-Ready is an online program for reading and/or mathematics that will help your student's teacher(s) determine your student's needs, personalize their learning, and monitor progress throughout the school year.

Math Diagnostic Score Goal:

(+ Points)

1 st Diagnostic Score:	Gains
2 nd Diagnostic Score:	Gains
3 rd Diagnostic Score:	Gains

SCHOOL RULES

The Griffiths Middle School staff's goal is to provide a safe orderly environment where teachers are free to teach, and students can learn through a fair and consistently applied discipline program. By working together, we can provide a safe, pleasant, and academically rewarding environment where students can achieve maximum success. School rules apply on campus always, not just during school hours.

The complete School Discipline Policy is available online and printed in the Griffiths Guide.

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE POLICY

REVISED 5/2/25

The purpose of this policy is to ensure a system of effective discipline supported by students, school personnel and parents. We are making every effort to ensure that Griffiths Middle School is a

Reading Diagnostic Score Goal:

(+ Points)

1 st Diagnostic Score:	Gains
2 nd Diagnostic Score:	Gains
3 rd Diagnostic Score:	Gains



The primary purpose of the CAASPP Testing is to assist teachers, administrators, students, and parents by promoting high-quality teaching and learning through the use of a variety of assessment approaches and item types.

ELA Score:	Level:	
Math Score	Level:	

My Action Plan

safe place for our students and staff members. Working together, we can provide a safe, pleasant and academically rewarding environment in which students can achieve a maximum level of success.

Please be aware that school rules, as required by California State Law, apply during school hours, at any school related activity, and when traveling to school or back home.

ATTENDANCE, TARDIES, TRUANCY

No student should be absent, tardy, or out of class without a valid reason. School Policy states that students must be in your seat when the tardy bell begins to ring. A student is considered truant when they are absent from school, class, or more than 30 minutes late, without permission.

BICYCLES, SKATEBOARDS, ROLLER BLADES, SCOOTERS, ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT, ETC

Bicycles, skateboards, or any other wheeled device may not be ridden on campus. Bicycles, skateboards, scooters, and roller blades must be locked in the provided area. Personal athletic equipment is not allowed on campus. School is not responsible for replacing lost, stolen or damaged items.

BOUNDARIES

Students are to remain in assigned areas during snack and lunch. Students are not

allowed in staff parking areas at any time. All students with food must remain in the student quad. Students who are finished eating may participate in games on the basketball courts and athletic fields during lunch only. Students are not permitted in the halls during lunch or snack. Cutting in line, leaving trash or throwing food will not be tolerated.

BEYOND THE CONTROL OF SCHOOL AUTHORITIES

Any student who is persistently in violation of numerous classroom, school, District, or legal policies, and who does not respond to usual corrective measures, is considered beyond the control of school authorities. In this case, the parent is held responsible for all possible help in correcting the behavioral problems. Depending on the situation, any or all of the following may be considered: parent requested and/or required to attend class with student, parent requested to come to school and remove the student, assignment of an alternate school, off campus suspension, referral to outside counseling and/or juvenile authorities, contact District Office for possible expulsion hearing or removal from school.

BULLYING

Bullying and harassment are not tolerated at Griffiths Middle School. Bullying and harassment have two key elements: they involve potentially harmful words or actions repeated over sufficient time to

cause being at school to become grossly uncomfortable for the victim (known as a *hostile atmosphere*) there is a significant social or physical imbalance between the perpetrator and the victim. If a student feels he/she is a victim of bullying at school, he/she needs to report it immediately to a teacher, counselor, or administrator. Students receive resources during anti-bullying week each year and throughout the year regarding their rights, responsibilities, how to report, and what to expect when bullying is reported. School and families will work together to respond appropriately to bullying, and disciplinary action will result when necessary.

CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM

Cheating is considered an action which is not honest. Copying the test or papers of another student is considered cheating. A student who supplies papers or work for someone to copy or does the work for someone is also guilty of cheating. Two or more students working together on an assignment that was to be completed by an individual will also be considered cheating. Plagiarism is the act of taking work from another source and turning it in as your own. Plagiarism will be considered as an act of cheating.

CLASSROOM DISRUPTION, FAILURE TO FOLLOW RULES

Teachers have the authority to develop rules for their individual classrooms. To assure maximum learning, teachers will issue classroom rules/expectations which

must be followed. Parents will be contacted as necessary if students fail to maintain proper class behavior and/or follow classroom expectations.

CLOSED CAMPUS, CAMPUS HOURS

Griffiths Middle School is a closed campus. No student may leave the campus at any time without the permission of the school attendance office and a written office pass. Downey Police may cite a student who is off campus without a written school pass. It is a violation of State Law for anyone to enter a campus during school hours unless entry is granted by the school administration. Everyone must stop at the office before coming on campus. Regular school day hours at Griffiths Middle School are from 7:55 a.m. until 2:38 p.m. Students are supervised on campus from 7:35 a.m. until 2:53 p.m. **Students are expected to exit campus in an expedited manner after school, unless part of school and/or district approved programs.**

DISRESPECT, DEFIANCE OF AUTHORITY

Any student that is discourteous, impolite, or rude to school personnel is guilty of disrespect. Defiance is refusal to follow a staff member's directions. Failure to serve detention may be considered defiance of authority.

DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Students violating school rules at any school activity may be asked to leave and

further action, as necessary, will be taken. Students having unserved detention or major behavioral violations will not be admitted to school activities. Students may be placed on school probation, where future behavior will be agreed upon and carefully monitored.

Any student violating the probation agreement may be transferred to another school and/or denied participation in future activities which includes promotion exercises, dances, and year-end activities. Any misbehavior on school field trips will be considered a violation of school rules.

DRESS CODE

While on campus or at any school activity, students will be dressed and groomed in a manner which will not distract, interfere or disrupt the educational program or create a safety hazard for themselves or others.

Griffiths Middle School desires to keep the school and students free of the intimidation and harmful influence of any dangerous or harmful groups which advocate drugs, alcohol, tobacco, violence, or disruptive behavior. Therefore, the presence of any grooming which by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark or any other attribute denotes affiliation with or membership in such a group is strictly prohibited.

All students who come to school without proper attention having been given to personal cleanliness or neatness of dress may be sent home to be properly prepared for school. Additional disciplinary action may be taken as necessary.

The Griffiths Middle School standards of student dress and grooming are as follows:

CONDITION: All clothes must be properly sized, neat, clean, and in good repair.

MESSAGE: Logos, pictures or writing on clothing, backpacks, jewelry, and/or school supplies must be age appropriate and not advocate any of the following: drugs, alcohol, tobacco, sex, violence, vandalism, disruptive behavior, disrespect, gang activity, or in any way display profanity, obscene illustrations, illegal activity or degrade any gender, cultural, religious or ethnic values, nor promote one ethnic group over another.

UNDERGARMENTS: Undergarments must be worn at all times and must not be visible at any time.

TOPS: Shirts and tops must cover the stomach and back always. Halter/crop tops, tube tops, tank tops, muscle tees, under tank(s), spaghetti straps, see-through tops, bare midriffs, or low-cut tops are not permitted.

PANTS, SHORTS, AND SKIRTS: Must cover

the buttocks and undergarments. All bottoms must be worn at the waist always (no sagging). Shorts, skirts, etc. must extend to at least the mid-thigh. The bottom of the short(s) must be no longer than the bottom of the knee. **“Distressed” (fraying, cuts, holes, rips, etc.) areas must not be higher than mid-thigh.**

SHOES: Safe footwear must be worn always. Students may not wear open toe sandals, slides, and/or slippers. All shoes must have a sturdy back/heel of shoe. Shoes with heels higher than one inch are not allowed.

JEWELRY/ACCESSORIES: Jewelry that poses a safety hazard or that distracts from the educational process is not permitted. This includes pant/wallet chains and hoop earrings that are larger than a nickel in diameter. **BLANKETS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON CAMPUS ANY TIME.**

HEAD WEAR: Hats may be worn outside on campus and **must be removed when in class or any other building.** Sports headbands, hair nets, and bandannas are not allowed on campus. Sweatshirt hoods must be removed upon entering the office, classrooms, and other buildings, etc.

GANG APPAREL: Gang related apparel is not allowed. Any combination of clothing that law enforcement agencies currently consider gang related will not be allowed at Griffiths Middle School.

DRUGS, ALCOHOL, WEAPONS, OTHER MAJOR OFFENSES

Using, giving, or selling to another person, or in possession of, drugs, alcohol, weapons, look-alike weapons (example: air soft pellet gun, rubber knife, etc.) or dangerous objects on campus is strictly forbidden. Any overt act or threat directed at a student, teacher or other school employee is also a serious violation.

The act of smoking or the mere possession of tobacco, cigarettes, and/or electronic vape products by a minor is illegal and is considered a violation of this policy. Cigarette lighters, matches, or other tobacco related paraphernalia are not permitted on campus at any time.

ELECTRONICS AND CELL PHONES

Cell phones are permitted on campus in accordance with California State law. In accordance with that law, cell phones must remain turned off and put away during the school day (7:55 a.m. – 2:38 p.m.) unless being used with permission for educational purposes. Cell phones and electronic items **(including headphones / AirPods/etc.)** that are brought to school, are brought entirely at the risk of the owner. The school will not be responsible for the loss, theft, or destruction of electronic items or cell phones. Electronics and cell phones being used without permission or for non-educational purposes will be confiscated and only released to a parent. Students whose electronics and/or cell

phones are confiscated may receive a Saturday School assignment.

EXPLOSIVES

Firecrackers, fireworks, and other explosives are illegal, dangerous and never permitted at school or any school activity. Simple possession of such materials is a violation of this policy. Lighting or attempting to light or explode such materials is a serious and major violation of school policy.

FIGHTING

Fighting is defined as “causing and/or threatening to cause physical injury to student(s) or school personnel, and/or willfully using force or violence on another.” Pushing, shoving, play-fighting, etc., are all considered to be fighting. Self-defense is not an acceptable excuse.

FORGERY

Forgery is the act of a student signing a parent's, teacher's, or other school employee's name or altering such signature or other mark such as a grade, date, time, etc. If a student impersonates such person by voice on the telephone, he or she will be guilty of forgery.

MARKER PENS & GRAFFITI

Pride in the school's appearance and reputation is the responsibility of the whole

student body. Drawing or writing on school buildings, posts, desks, restroom walls, or damaging any other property by writing or drawing on it is called graffiti. This rule applies to any time of day including before school, after school, at night or on the weekend. Students found seriously damaging property will be suspended, issued a citation, the police notified, a possible expulsion hearing, and the parents required to pay for all damages.

OTHER SCHOOL CAMPUSES

Students are not permitted to be on another school campus before, during, or after school without the permission of the principal of the other school. If a student is going to another school to walk a younger brother or sister to or from school, they must wait off the campus, out of the buildings and outside the school gates and leave as soon as possible after meeting your brother or sister. Students are not permitted to take short cuts through other school grounds on their way to or from school.

PARTY FLIERS & ADVERTISEMENTS

It is against school rules to bring written material to school that advertises non-school activities. Party fliers may never be distributed by students at school. Party fliers may not be brought to school or be in the possession of students on campus. Students bringing party fliers to school or having them in their possession at school

will have the fliers taken away and will face disciplinary action.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

The school cannot be responsible for the loss or destruction of students' personal property, including electronic devices. For this reason, valuable items are not to be brought to school.

The lost and found is in the main office. Every ten weeks, unclaimed property is donated to charity or discarded.

PROFANITY, VULGARITY, OBSCENE MATERIAL

No student is permitted to use profane or vulgar language at any time while at school or any school activity. Any profanity directed at or about a teacher or any other school employee will be considered an extreme violation. Profanity includes spoken and/or written expression.

PROHIBITED ITEMS ON CAMPUS

Items which are dangerous, problematic or distractive are banned from campus. Prohibited items that are brought on campus will be confiscated. Confiscated items may be held for a parent to pick up, held for the remainder of the semester, held for the remainder of the school year, turned over to the District, or turned over to law enforcement authorities. Items being held for a

parent, and not picked up by the end of the school year will be donated to charity or discarded. The school will not be responsible for the loss or destruction of contraband items. Contraband items include, but are not limited to:

- Any item that is illegal for minors to possess.
- Any item that poses a danger or is disruptive to the educational process.
- All medication (prescription and over the counter) must be checked into the office by a parent or guardian. Arrangements will be made for the student to use the medicine under the supervision of office staff. Students may not carry medication (prescription or otherwise) on campus unless arrangements have been made in writing by a doctor and the Griffiths office staff.
- Items that have no educational purpose including but not limited to gum, toys, permanent marking pens, imitation electronic cigarettes.
- Students may not sell items on campus to make money for themselves.

For the health and safety of our students, third party food deliveries are NOT allowed. All third-party food deliveries, including UBEREats and PostMates, will be turned away at customer's expense.

SELLING THINGS ON CAMPUS

Student clubs, the Griffiths Student Body in general, and organizations of various kinds

often have fund raising activities where things are sold on campus. Sale of anything must be approved by the office and Student Council. These sales are to help earn money for activities and school materials. Items sold may include candy, novelty items, cards, etc., and are always approved before the sale with the safety of students in mind. Fund raising candy may not be sold on campus. No fund-raising food items may be sold at snack or lunch.

It is always against school rules for individuals to sell things on campus to make money for themselves. Students selling things on campus against school rules will have the items taken away, and possible disciplinary action taken. Students may not sell things on campus for other off-campus groups unless the selling has been specifically approved by the office in advance. Selling things for other groups interferes with the ability of official Griffiths organizations to make money to support their activities.

Sometimes students make very poor decisions and try to sell things like knives, drugs or things that look like drugs, firecrackers, or “poppers.” Selling things of this type will result in the student being suspended from school and possibly arrested and expelled from the Downey Unified School District.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual harassment of or by any employee or of or by any student shall not be allowed. Sexual harassment is prohibited

by the Downey Unified School District and may result in disciplinary action to the offending employee or student. Sexual harassment means unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature made by someone under any of the conditions delineated in Ed Code.

An individual or group feeling subjected to sexual harassment should directly inform the offending person/persons that such conduct must stop. Any conduct of a sexual nature following such notice may be determined to be sexual harassment. The District will take appropriate action to protect the reporting individual or group from retaliation or other forms of harassment. Incidents of sexual harassment should be reported to school administration.

THEFT OR POSSESSION OF LOST/STOLEN PROPERTY

Theft is defined as the removal of an object from school or from another person, their backpack, desk, locker, purse, etc. without the knowledge and permission of the owner. To knowingly possess lost or stolen property will be considered theft.

VANDALISM

Vandalism is considered willful destruction of school or personal property. The parent or guardian of a minor who willfully cuts, defaces, or otherwise injures in any way, property, real or personal, belonging to the School District, will be liable for all such

damages caused by the minor.

CONSEQUENCES

1. Failure to comply with the Griffiths School Discipline Policy may result in any of the following consequences:

1.1 Referral to a school administrator, counselor, or dean

1.2 Parent conference

1.3 Assignment of lunch exclusion, campus clean-up, detention, Saturday School, or other discipline assignment(s)

1.4 Loss of school privileges (i.e. dances, field trips, athletic participation, etc.)

1.5 Community Service

1.6 Up to five days of off-campus or in-school suspension

1.7 Parent may be required to attend school with their child

1.8 Social adjustment transfer of the student to another campus within the Downey Unified School District

1.9 Alcohol and Other Drug Contract

1.10 Referral to a School Attendance Review Team and/or a School Attendance Review Board hearing

1.11 Referral for expulsion from the Downey Unified School District

1.12 Police notification, student arrest and removal from school with subsequent legal action.

DETENTION

School detention is assigned before school from 7:00 – 7:50 a.m., or after school from 2:38 - 3:38

p.m. Students are assigned detention by individual teachers for failure to complete

assignments, for poor conduct in the classroom, for tardiness, or for lack supplies. Students are given written notice (detention form) prior to all detentions so that their parents can be informed. It is the student's responsibility to notify their parent(s) of the assigned detention.

Failure to serve an assigned detention is considered defiance and may result in Saturday School, or suspension.

REFERRALS

A referral is very serious. Most of the student body can spend three years at Griffiths without getting one referral. When a student's behavior in the classroom is very bad or does not improve no matter what steps the teacher has taken to change the behavior, the teacher writes a referral. The student is sent to the office with the referral. The office decides what needs to be done to change the wrong behavior and takes action. This may be a severe warning, calling the parents, detention, Saturday School, off-campus suspension, or, in very serious situations, transfer to another school or an expulsion hearing with possible expulsion from the Downey Unified School District. Copies of all referrals are kept in the student's file in the office and may be seen by the student's parents upon request.

SATURDAY DETENTION

If a student is involved in serious or repeated violations of school rules or fails to serve

teacher or office-assigned detention, he or she may be assigned detention to be served on Saturday. While serving this detention, the students will be required to complete classwork, homework, missing assignments, makeup assignments, reading assignments, projects, etc. Parents will be notified of all Saturday assignments. Saturday detention is often assigned in place of suspension. Any student failing to report to an assigned Saturday detention will be suspended for one or more days.

SUSPENSION

Suspension is not intended as a punishment, but rather to alert the student and parent that problems are emerging and have reached a serious level that requires parent intervention. The suspended student has disrupted the learning environment or safety of campus.

California teachers and school administrators have a moral and legal duty set down in state law and affirmed by the courts to protect the health and safety of students and preserve the integrity of the classroom environment for self-disciplined learners.

A safe and positive learning environment is an indispensable component of the learning process and must be consistent and protected.

EXPULSION

Expulsion is the most serious action that can take place for very serious violations

of school rules and/or laws. If a student is expelled from the Downey Unified School District, it means that he or she may no longer attend any school in Downey. This becomes a permanent part of the student's school record. If a student is to be expelled, an expulsion hearing is held, and the Board of Education makes the final decision.

SERIOUS VIOLATIONS OF LAWS OR SCHOOL RULES

Acts which endanger the safety or welfare of students or school personnel are grounds for suspension from school. Some of these acts include fighting, intimidation, possession or use of matches, tobacco, narcotics or other drugs, alcohol, explosive devices (including firecrackers), weapons of any type, shooting or throwing objects that might endanger sight or hearing, vandalism, theft, or injury to another person. Students may also be suspended for gambling, profanity, vulgarity, or immorality. Unfortunately, such acts often result in notification of police and/or fire departments, citation by school administration, and/or expulsion from the Downey Unified School District. All off-campus suspensions and expulsion become a permanent part of the student's school records. A more detailed explanation of Griffiths Middle School's rules and regulations are printed in the school's Discipline Policy.

This policy was developed with the assistance and cooperation of parents, teachers, counselors, and school

administration. The policy is available online and included in the Griffiths Guide. Please read the Griffiths Middle School Discipline Policy and discuss it with your parents. Special assemblies are held each school year where these policies and consequences of any violations are clearly explained to students. For the purpose of maintaining a safe, secure and peaceful campus, metal detectors, breath alcohol test devices, and/or drug dogs may be

used on campus.



Thunderbird



FITNESS

FIRST SEMESTER

ASSESSMENTS	DATE	PRE-TEST	GOALS	DATE	POST-TEST
Mile Run					
400 meter run					
100 meter run					
Push-Ups					
Curl-ups					

SECOND SEMESTER


ASSESSMENTS	DATE	PRE-TEST	GOALS	DATE	POST-TEST
Mile Run					
400 meter run					
100 meter run					
Push-Ups					
Curl-ups					

My Progress Reflection

Each period today, reflect and create a plan to improve. Detailed grades are online at **studentconnection.dusd.net**

Period	Class/ Teacher	Academic Grade	Citizenshi p Grade	Reflecting on my academics , I will... (consider the following) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Missing Assignments (List them) • Poor Quiz/Test (Can you improve?) • Attend Tutoring (What day/time?) • Effort (Are you giving your best?)
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				

I plan to improve my grade by...


 (Complete Period 2)

My Progress Reflection

Each period today, reflect and create a plan to improve. Detailed grades are online at studentconnection.dusd.net

Period	Class/ Teacher	Academic Grade	Citizenshi p Grade	Reflecting on my academics , I will... (consider the following) • Missing Assignments (List them) • Attend Tutoring (What day/time?) • • Poor Quiz/Test (Can you improve?) • Effort (Are you giving your best?) •
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				

I plan to improve my grade by...




(Complete Period 2)

My Progress Reflection

Each period today, reflect and create a plan to improve. Detailed grades are online at studentconnection.dusd.net


Period	Class/Teacher	Academic Grade	Citizenship Grade	Reflecting on my academics , I will... (consider the following) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Missing Assignments (List them) _____ Poor Quiz/Test (Can you improve?) _____ Attend Tutoring (What day/time?) • Effort (Are you giving your best?) •
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				

6				
I plan to improve my grade by...				 (Complete Period 2)

My Progress Reflection

Each period today, reflect and create a plan to improve. Detailed grades are online at studentconnection.dusd.net

Period	Class/ Teacher	Academic Grade	Citizenship Grade	Reflecting on my academics , I will... (consider the following) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Missing Assignments (List them) _____ • Attend Tutoring (What day/time?) • • Poor Quiz/Test (Can you improve?) _____ • Effort (Are you giving your best?) •
1				
2				
3				
4				

5				
6				
I plan to improve my grade by...				CHARACTER COUNTS!  (Complete Period 2)

My Progress Reflection

Each period today, reflect and create a plan to improve. Detailed grades are online at **studentconnection.dusd.net**

Period	Class/Teacher	Academic Grade	Citizenship Grade	Reflecting on my academics , I will... (consider the following) • Missing Assignments (List them) _____ • Attend Tutoring (What day/time?) • • Poor Quiz/Test (Can you improve?) _____ • Effort (Are you giving your best?) •
1				
2				
3				

4				
5				
6				
I plan to improve my grade by...				

**CHARACTER
COUNTS!**

(Complete Period 2)

