



Novato Unified School District
SINALOA MIDDLE SCHOOL

2045 Vineyard Road – Novato, CA 94947
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Jim Larson, *Principal*
Michael Saisi, *Assistant Principal*
Joanne Topp-Golden, *Dean of Students*

Jim Hogeboom, *Superintendent*

July 30, 2018

Dear 6th Grade Student,

Welcome to Sinaloa. I hope you are excited to begin your middle school experience. Each school year brings its own challenges and rewards, both academic and social. This year, you will be provided with all the support you'll need to have a successful transition into middle school. Sinaloa has a long standing tradition of academic excellence, and all of our staff is committed to doing whatever it takes for you to be successful. Our teachers and staff will hold high expectations for your academic work, as well as high expectations for positive and collaborative behavior. They will support you to meet those high expectations. Your success at Sinaloa will also be determined by your willingness to take personal responsibility for your school work and behavior and your willingness to work with your teachers. You will be expected to attend school each day for the entire day, you will be expected to productively engage in your classes and classwork/homework, and you will be expected to be a respectful and responsible member of our school community. Sinaloa teachers and staff also know that we can count on your family to support you and the school. Our teamwork will ensure that you are a successful and happy Sinaloa Saint.

In addition to Sinaloa's strong academic programs, we also offer many other activities that you will want to be involved in. The first of these activities is our 6th Grade W.E.B. Orientation. W.E.B. is an acronym for Where Everybody Belongs. This day is set-up to offer our new students the opportunity to learn about Sinaloa's policies and procedures, extra-curricular activities, and the layout of the campus. Please plan on attending our W.E.B. Orientation on Tuesday, August 21st from 8:30 am – 12:00 pm in the Gym.

THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL IS THURSDAY, AUGUST 23rd

ALL STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO PICK UP THEIR COMPLETE CLASS SCHEDULES ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL, THURSDAY, AUGUST 23rd, BEGINNING AT 7:45 AM IN THE GYM

Sinaloa Bell Schedule:

Sinaloa's 2018 – 2019 bell schedule continues to reflect the later start time that was adopted NUSD wide in 2017. For the 2018 – 2019 school year the Sinaloa's Warning Bell will continue to sound at 8:15 am, and the Tardy bell will sound at 8:20 am. Sinaloa's release times are as follows:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday:

Warning Bell @ 8:15 am, Start Time @ 8:20 am, Dismissal @ 2:40 pm

Wednesday (all Wednesdays are early release days):

Warning Bell @ 8:15 am, Start Time @ 8:20 am, Dismissal @ 1:40 pm

Minimum Days:

Warning Bell @ 8:15 am, Start Time @ 8:20 am, Dismissal @ 12:44 pm

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A few important notes:

- Please come prepared to productively engage in work on the first day of school . . . we do not have one instructional minute to lose, and those minutes begin at 8:20 am on August 23rd.
 - o Suggested materials:
 - A backpack, 3-ring binder, subject dividers, pen pouch, pencils, blue or black ballpoint pens, red ballpoint pens, highlighter (any color), 3 hole college ruled paper, and personal tissues.
 - All students will be provided with (at no expense) a Sinaloa Student Planner on the first day of school (if a planner is misplaced, a replacement will need to be purchased for \$7.00).
- Food service will be available beginning the first day of school, and students are able to select from a menu of both hot and cold meals at Break and Lunch. Also, please know that the "Lunch number" you have been using at your elementary school will remain the same and can be used at Sinaloa. If you are new to NUSD your "Lunch number" is the last four digits of your Student ID #.
- Students who are planning to ride bikes, scooters, or skateboards, need to remember to bring a lock to secure your mode of transportation while it is parked at Sinaloa. Additionally, please remember that the law requires that students wear a helmet while riding a bike, scooter or skateboard.
- An envelope containing several important letters/flyers will be given to each student during the first day of school. There are number of important documents that need to be reviewed. Some of the documents will also need to be signed and returned to school through your homeroom teacher no later than, Monday, August 27th.

A few important dates:

- Picture Day is *Thursday, September 6th*.
- Back to School Night is *Wednesday, August 29th from 6:00 – 8:00 pm*. There will be a brief introduction to the evening in the Gym beginning at 6:00 pm, prior to parents/guardians visits to their student's classrooms. This will also be a Minimum Day and students will be released at 12:44 pm.
- Magazine and Cookie Dough Fundraiser will take place between *August 29th – September 11th*. Cookie Dough will be delivered and will need to be picked-up on *Thursday, October 11th*.
- Friendship Day is *Friday, September 28th*.
- *Please check the Sinaloa Student Planner for other important dates.*

I am looking forward to meeting you and seeing your smiling face around campus. I am certain that the 2018 – 2019 school year will be one for the record books! Have a wonderful end to your summer, and I'll see you in August.

Respectfully,

Jim Larson
Principal
Sinaloa Middle School

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