

Sacramento New Technology High School

“After much research into the options for high school within SCUSD, I chose SNTHS. In today's world students have more competition and more obstacles than ever before when entering college. Being able to set yourself apart from everyone else is just one element to help in furthering your education on to college and into the future.”

New Tech Parent

“New Tech instills a sense of pride in their students. This works because the students believe in New Tech and the principals of New Tech.”

New Tech Parent

Introduction

For the past twenty years, public school reform efforts and infusing technology into the curriculum have been consistent themes in efforts to improve American educational systems. Yet for the most part, American schools still look the same as they did twenty years ago.

A. Educational Program

Sacramento New Technology High School Vision:

To prepare students to excel in an information and collaboration based, technologically advanced society.

Sacramento New Technology High School Mission:

In addition to the SCUSD Strategic Plan we are committed to:

- Educational reform
- Learning through collaboration with family, business, community and other students
- Using advanced learning methods, technology and a professional environment to stimulate higher levels of learning.
- Creating the relationships and opportunities to consistently provide innovative technology and high quality work and college experiences for high school students.
- Enabling students to become self-motivated, competent, and lifelong learners who will

Rios Community Colleges. Second semester begins the day after the MLK holiday and ends 87

students will be tested. Voluntary workshops are those requested by students to fill “gaps” they identify and that the student determines will assist them with the project problem.

Over the course of a project, students have time for research, workshops, team time, project construction time, as well as opportunities for Critical Friends on their work and presentation preparation time. All projects involve a presentation and students must defend their learning in front of a panel of adults. Optimally this panel of adults include outside clients for whom the project solves or resolves a problem. Each project and presentation are graded according to very detailed rubrics. (see Appendix F)

Parents as Partners in Learning

Parents at New Tech are a key element of the community. Parents are asked to commit 40 hours of service to the school and are directed to key behaviors that support student success. Parents are asked to be present for all evening presentations, all meetings concerning their child, Back to School and Open House and may visit their child at any time. Parents who have students who are struggling are asked to attend classes with their child. Parents earn hours for emailing and communicating with teachers, serving on Project Panels, and working with their student or groups of students on projects. Parents whose work hours make it difficult to come during the day may attend afternoon workshops offered by the counseling office or evening student/parent college/career workshops held by grade

- Involving parents in supporting their children's education at home is not enough. To ensure the quality of schools as institutions serving the community, parents must be involved at all levels in the schools.
- Children from low-income and culturally and racially diverse families have the most to gain when schools involve parents. The extent of parent involvement in a child's education is more important to student success than family income or education.
- We cannot look at the school and the home in isolation from one another; families and schools need to collaborate to help children adjust to the world of school. This is particularly critical for children from families with different cultural and language backgrounds.

New Tech supports strong comprehensive parent involvement in order to foster student performance. New Tech strives to build strong linkages with and respond to the needs of the communities. We know that students who have parents who help them at home and stay in touch with the school do better academically. New Tech supports long-term comprehensive parent involvement in schools to foster consistent high levels of student success.

To this end, New Tech works with the parents to create and develop many opportunities for parent involvement:

Student Profile:

SNTHS markets itself with the intention of recruiting high school students of a diverse nature. Some characteristics of the students SNTHS seeks include students who are:

- Looking for individualized attention/ learning plan
- Feeling lost in shuffle of bigger schools
- Seeking challenge/ different path toward their goals
- Seeking “relevance”
- Can sometimes be characterized as “underachievers”
- Students who may not see themselves as “college” material or who may be the first in their families to attend college

The Curriculum:

SNTHS is a small high school where students feel more connected to teachers and less alienated from each other. They feel valued within the school structure and culture and are encouraged to have a voice in the decisions of the school. There is evidence small schools are even more critical for underachieving or disadvantaged youth (source, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation,

The school's Vision for Advisory is to help students create a vision of their future and develop a skill set to support choices and the fortitude to achieve their goals.

The schools Mission for Advisory is to help students to be able to ...

1. Make informed decisions.
2. Research and know what opportunities are available to them.
3. Know, understand, and participate in healthy relationships.
4. See the value of being an active participant in a community.
5. Achieve the SNTHS Six Academic Learning Outcomes
6. Build skills that will support su

titled two period academic core courses that pair teachers into teaching teams (i.e., the informal title World Studies is a two teacher team taught class that includes credit for World History and English 10). Within these teamed courses SNTHS offers a selection of class sections that fulfill University A-G requirements, including but not limited to:

English	Math	Science	Social Science	Other/Elective
English 9 P	Algebra I P		Contemporary Issues/Geography P	PE
English 10 P	Geometry P	Biology P	World History P	

- The portfolio of work is evaluated by staff on an ongoing basis through rubrics as part of the NTHS Learning System. Rubrics are based upon Expected School-wide Learning Outcomes (ESLRs) and California academic content standards. Each year each student will perform an exhibition of their portfolio demonstrating their growth, competencies and significant projects. Senior Project exhibitions to faculty and students will be part of the requirements and process for graduation.
- Students will demonstrate academic proficiency by passing courses as well as attaining proficient or higher scores on the California Standards test, or other state assessment that may be mandated.
- Students will complete and present a summation of their internship project(s) and the project will be assessed by a rubric applied by their internship supervisor and their school advisor.
- Students passing CAHSEE will be awarded a Certificate of Initial Mastery, allowing them to pursue classes at the community college and internships.

For more information regarding assessment at SNTHS, please see Attachment 2.

D. Governance Structure of School

SNTHS is a "dependent" charter of the Sacramento City Unified School District. As a de

The Advisory Board shall have no more than nineteen members and no less than nine. The minimum would include one classified employee, one student representative from each class, one community member, one certificated employee, one parent, and the Principal. The maximum would include two classified employees, two student representatives from each class (one of the eight students must be one of the elected student body presidents to serve concurrent with their term in student government), two community members, two certificated employees, four parents, and the Principal. All members shall be elected by a direct election of their peers. Further details are provided on parent as partners, including parent involvement policies in page 4-5 above.

Student Voice:

“New Tech gives its students a little more trust than a normal high school does. This trust makes the atmosphere of the school a little friendlier. It also gives the students the ability to do what they need to do without asking the teacher if it is OK. This is an important part of New Tech.”

other operational requirements. All non-instructional staff are experienced district employees whose expertise is appropriate for their position within the school

Key positions at SNTHS include the following teachers and staff:

Core subject areas: English, math, history, science, design

Other subject areas: Electives and PE, Counselor,

Staff: Principal, Custodian, Office Manager, Registrar, and Internship Coordinator

Non-negotiable conditions of work for SNTHS teachers include that core area teachers be willing to teach on a two-teacher collaborative team as well as facilitate a student Advisory. For all positions at SNTHS, all applicable requirements of employment under the law will be met.

F. Health and Safety Procedures

SNTHS has adopted and implemented a comprehensive set of health, safety, and management policies in accordance with the accepted policies of the Sacramento City Unified School District. These policies at a minimum include the following procedures:

- A requirement that all enrolling students and staff provide records documenting State required immunizations.
- Policies and procedures providing for school-wide training in response to natural disasters and other emergencies, including civil unrest, fires, and earthquakes
- Training for staff and students relating to preventing contact with blood borne pathogens
- Requiring instructional and administrative staff to receive training in emergency response, including appropriate "first responder" training or equivalent
- Identification of the specific staff who will be trained in the administration of prescription drugs and other medicines
- A policy that the school will be certified as safe by the Fire Marshall
- A policy establishing that the school functions as a drug, alcohol, and tobacco free zone
- A requirement that each employee submit to a criminal background check and furnish a criminal record summary as required by Educational Code Section 44237
- Finger printing of all volunteers not working under the constant supervision of an employee of the school.
- All vendors will furnish fingerprint documentation per Ed Code Section 45125.1
- Faculty and students will be examined for tuberculosis as required by law. Screening for vision, hearing, and scoliosis will be conducted through district services.

These policies have been be incorporated into the school's student and staff handbooks and will be reviewed on a yearly basis in staff development and policy discussions. (Appendix G)

G. Means to Achieve Racial/ Ethnic Balance Reflective of District

SNTHS has implemented a student recruitment strategy that includes, but is not necessarily limited to, the following elements or strategies to ensure a racial and ethnic balance among students that is reflective of the district:

residence of the pupil, or of his or her parent or guardian within the state. Subject only to

the use of the network and work habits. Each student and his or her parent or guardian are required to verify that they have reviewed and understand the policies prior to enrollment. Students who violate the school's discipline policies, who are a serious disruption to the education process and/or who present a health or safety threat may be suspended for up to ten school days. The school will notify and confer with the student's parent or caregiver as soon as possible regarding the suspension and possible release from the school. If the violation of the discipline policies is a serious offense that merits expulsion and/or if the student presents an ongoing threat to health and safety, the school may take action to expel the student. In such cases, the school will send a written notice of the facts, allegations, and student/parent rights to the parent or caregiver and a committee designated by the governing board will hold a hearing regarding the offense. If the committee determines that the case merits expulsion, the student may be expelled or offered reinstatement, as appropriate. These processes will be amended as required by law to protect the rights of students with disabilities or exceptional needs.

the goals specified in this charter. This annual notification will include the specific reasons for the district's conclusions.

The governance team of SNTHS may request from the district governing board a renewal or amendment of the charter at any time during its fourth or fifth year. The school should present renewal requests no later than 120 days prior to the expiration of the charter. The district governing board agrees to hear and render a renewal decision pursuant to the initial charter petition review timelines and processes as specified in the Education Code Section 47605.

O. Labor Relations:

The Sacramento City Unified School District shall be deemed the exclusive public school

The attached budget reflects a proposed 3 year cost assessment for the school based on current cost and probable increases in costs. SNTHS will work proactively with the district to modify the organization of the budget as well as to examine basic presuppositions of the budget in order to access all funding, correct any poor assumptions, and reconcile district fees or expenses.

Sacramento New Technology School of Design Graduation Requirements

260 credits Overall

University of California/ CSUS A-G Entrance Requirements

- 4 years English
- 3 years Math above Algebra
- 2 years Laboratory Science (must be past freshman year)
- 2 years Social Science (4 years for SCUSD)*
- 2 years Foreign Language
- 1 year Fine Arts--Digital Media
- 1 year additional College Prep Elective—Design Capstone course
- **US Government/Economics***
- **Physical Education**
- **Geography/Contemporary Global Issues***
- **12 Credits of Community College Coursework**
- **Community Service** (10 hours per year, 40 Total hours for Graduation)
- **SNTHS Professional Digital Portfolio**
- **Senior Project**
- **Digital Portfolio**
- **Advisory** (20 credits)

Sacramento New Technology High School
2012
Charter Renewal

Section 2 SPECIFIC POWERS. Without prejudice to the general powers set forth in Section 1 of these bylaws, but subject to the same limitation, the Advisory Board shall have the power to:

1. Recommend appointment and/or remove, at the discretion of the Advisory Board, all officers, agents and employees; prescribe powers and duties for them as are consistent with the law, the articles of incorporation, and these bylaws; and require from them security for faithful service.
2. Change the Principal office or the Principal business office of the Advisory Board from one location to another/ cause the corporation to be qualified to conduct its activities in any other state, territory, dependency, or country; conduct its activities in or outside California; and designate a place in or outside California for holding any meeting of members.
3. Adopt and use a charter school seal; prescribe the forms of membership certificates; and alter the forms of the seal and certificates.

Section 3 MEMBERS AND TERMS. The Advisory Board shall have no more than nineteen members and no less than nine. The minimum would include one classified employee, one student representative from each class, one community member, one certificated employee, one parent, and the Principal. The maximum would include two classified employee, two student representatives from each class (one of the eight students must be one of the elected student body presidents to serve concurrent with their term in student government), two community members, two certificated employees, four parents, and the Principal. All members shall be elected by a direct election of their peers.

Except for the initial Advisory Board, each member shall hold office for two years and

Section 5 NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS. Elections for parent members will take place at open house in May of each school year. Parents will be sent nomination forms via US mail in April of each school year prior to open house. Student members will be elected in May of each year after student body elections. Classified members and community members shall be determined by mutual agreement. Teacher members are elected from teaching staff; they serve two year term, not served consecutively; nomination will occur first teacher staff meeting in May.

Section 6 EVENTS CAUSING VACANCIES ON BOARD. A vacancy or vacancies on the Advisory Board shall occur in the event of (a) the death or resignation of any member; (b) the declaration by resolution of the Advisory Board of a vacancy in the office of a member who has been convicted of a felony, declared of unsound mind by a court order, or found by final order or judgment of any court to have breached a duty under California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation law, Chapter 2, Article 3; (c) the increase of the authorized number of members; or (d) the failure of the members, at any meeting of members to elect the number of members required to be elected at such meeting.

Section 7 RESIGNATION OF MEMBERS Except as provided below, any member may resign by giving written notice to the Chairman of the Board, if any, or to the President or Secretary of the Board, The resignation shall be effective when the notice is given unless the notice specifies at a later time for the resignation to become effective. If a member's resignation is effective a later time, the Board may elect a successor to take office as of the date when the resignation becomes effective.

Section 8 VACANCIES FILLED BY BOARD. Vacancies on the Advisory Board may be filled by approval of the Board or, if the number of the members then in office is less than a numeric quorum (minimum of two students) by (1) the unanimous consent of the members then in office, (2) the affirmative vote of a majority of the members then in office at a meeting held in according to notice or waivers of notice complying with Corporation of Code section....

meetings of members of the Board and of committees of the Board that these bylaws require to be given. The secretary shall have such other powers, and shall perform such other duties, as the Advisory Board or the bylaws may require.

Section 10 PARLIAMENTARIAN. The parliamentarian shall keep order at meetings using Roberts Rules of Order. The Parliamentarian shall have such other powers, and shall perform such other duties, as the Advisory Board or the bylaws may require.

ARTICLE VII MAINTANANCE OF RECORDS

Section 1 MAINTAINANCE OF RECORDS This body shall keep:

- (a) Adequate and correct books of records of account;
- (b) Written minutes of the proceedings of its members, Board, and committees of the Board; and
- (c) Such reports required by law

ARTICLE VIII MAINTANANCE OF CORPORATE RECORDS

Section 2 MEMBERS RIGHT TO INSPECT. Every member shall have the right at any reasonable time to inspect this body's books, records, and documents of any kind as permitted by California and Federal law.

Section 3 ACCOUNTING RECORDS AND MINUTES. On written demand of the body, any member may

Section 4 MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION OF ARTICLES AND BYLAWS. This body shall keep at its principle office the original or a copy of the bylaws, as amended to the current date, which shall be open to inspection by the members at all reasonable times during

Appendix C

Sacramento New Technology : Assessment Matrix			
Instrument	Stage in Change Process	Purpose	Expected Outcome
Expulsions-Suspensions	Monthly reports	Maintain student discipline in an academic environment	Zero expulsions and suspensions
Attendance	Monthly reports	Enrollment and attendance monitoring	96.5% attendance (cumulative actual average and percentage for each month)
CST	Annual assessment	To assure that students are gaining proficiency in the California content standards in core subjects.	All students proficient in grade level standards by end of 10th grade.
PSAT	Annual assessment	To assess readiness for College.	Use to look at whole school, individual students, and program
CAHSEE (California High School Exit Exam)	2-3 three times annually	To provide exit assessment which is mandatory by the state	100% passage by end of 10th Grade
CELDT	Annually by October 31	To gauge English Language Learner's progress and determine ability. Also serves as one indicator of readiness for redesignation.	Annual increase in score; redesignation by graduation if in district less than 5 years) or by end of 10th grade.
Portfolios	Quarterly review by staff ; annual exhibition	Prepares students for competency in School Wide Learning Outcomes	Examination by advisor on a frequent basis. Team of staff, parents, students assess yearly
Senior Project: Includes internship	12th grade exit	Prepare students for competency, gauge students' ability to apply learning to real life situations	100% Participation with presentation (public) & defense to demonstrate competency
API	Annual assessment	State mandated measure of overall success	Target of 800 plus; exceed yearly growth targets, including all subcategories.
PFT	Annually	Physical fitness assessment	100% participation and 80% passing
Student and parent Surveys	Semi-Annually	Assessment of perception and satisfaction with program design	100% participation

Appendix D—Academic Data