WALNUTWOOD LOCATIONS

Walnutwood Main Campus
10850 Gadsten Way, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Walnutwood Satellite
Folsom High School
1655 Iron Point Rd, Folsom, CA 95630

School Website: www.fcusd.org/whs
WALNUTWOOD OVERVIEW

Walnutwood High School is a high quality independent study program designed for students who require or desire an alternative to traditional classroom instruction. We provide personalized education for students using a 1:1 teacher/student blended online model.

COVID-19 update: FCUSD schools will begin the 2020-21 school year in a Distance Learning model. Planning details are ongoing and information will be updated on our website at www.fcusd.org/2020-21schoolyear. Please continue to check this website often for information and resources to documents and links.

Family Wellness Resources/Support During Covid-19
https://www.fcusd.org/Page/39170

Family Tech Support During Covid-19
https://www.fcusd.org/tech
THE BASICS OF INDEPENDENT STUDY

- Independent study students are self-motivated, organized, and can create a consistent schedule for an independent learning environment.
- Our courses and assessments are a combination of online curriculum, bookwork, and packets. Your teacher will review your educational program and all the options for independent learning with you at your first appointment.
- At least 4-5 hours per-day should be included in your daily schedule to complete assignments, study, and prepare for assessments.
- Chromebooks are available for students to borrow.
- Student Support Opportunities and Contacts:
  - Weekly Virtual Academic Support and Tutoring
  - 916 INK (weekly virtual writing workshop)
  - Cynthia Roberts, MFT
  - Sara Cavero, School Counselor
  - Diane Aquino, School Nurse
  - Nathan Burg, School Psychologist
  - Folsom Cordova Job Center
  - Collette McDonald Adolescent Parent Program (for pregnant and parenting students)
PROCESS

• Families choose the best program for their student: For fall 2020 pure online is the only option.

• Students will meet with their teacher using Microsoft Teams, a district approved platform for virtual meetings, for 45 minutes on the same day/time once a week. No in-person teacher contact with this option. At the end of each appointment, students are given a full week of work to complete by the following appointment.

• Students are assigned two subjects at a time. On average students will take at least 6 classes (60 credits) in an academic school-year. Students will have one teacher for all subjects.

• Walnutwood teachers will connect with their students either by email or phone after the student’s in-person (virtual) orientation.
• 9th grade and middle school students meet with their teacher twice a week. There are other opportunities during the week for 9th grade and middle school students to meet with their teacher. **For fall 2020 pure online instruction is the only option.**

• Our curriculum is divided into weeks as opposed to semesters. For example, English 1 A is 8-weeks and English 1 B is 8-weeks. There are 16-weeks in a semester. Competency of academic standards and weekly progress is different for every student so students may need more or less time to complete a subject.

• Teachers provide students with additional academic materials and tutorials to assist with learning and development.

• **Weekly virtual academic support labs and tutoring is available.**
FIRST APPOINTMENT AND PLANNING

• Walnutwood teachers will review academic goals, create class schedule, integrate you with your online program, review expectations, and answer any questions you have.

• If you are interested in taking a class that we do not offer you have the option to take the class at your resident school. Please inform the school counselor at Scavero@fcusd.org so she can get you the paperwork. (Concurrent enrollment for fall 2020 is not available)

• If you plan to return to your home school at the semester please notify your teacher and school counselor so we can evaluate your progress and plan your classes/credits accordingly. Students must complete 5 semester credits (year-long if VDL student) in prescribed courses before returning to resident school at the end of a term.

• Students meet with the school counselor at least once a semester to check-in about progress and planning. Students can request to meet with school counselor any time by emailing scavero@fcusd.org.
ATTENDANCE AND ACADEMIC PROGRESS

- As an independent study school, our attendance is calculated by homework completion while credits are earned through assessment.
- Students complete assigned work to receive 5 days worth of positive attendance. Anything less results in days for which the student is marked absent.
- If student misses three (3) assignments, a meeting with the Principal and or counselor will take place to evaluate the student’s comfort with the independent model and create a plan to support the student’s progress.
- We ask that students sign in and out each time they enter/leave the building.
- We will contact guardian/parent if student is not making sufficient progress with curriculum or not attending.
- Progress reports are provided once a quarter/4 times per school year.
PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

• Parents or guardians are encouraged to attend the first appointment with their student virtually or in-person. (for fall 2020 virtual is the only option)

• Help your child craft a schedule to include 4-5 hours per day of academics as well as schedule physical and social activities.

• Monitor student’s progress weekly.

• Here are digital organizer ideas https://www.techlearning.com/tl-advisor-blog/9736

• If you have questions or concerns about your child’s progress we encourage you to connect with the teacher and counselor right away so we can work together to best support your child.
STUDENT ATHLETES

• For the 20-21 school year Walnutwood does have a multi-school agreement with FCUSD high schools. As long as the student meets eligibility requirements they can compete in any high school athletic programs at their resident school.

• Coordinate with coach regarding next steps.

• If you are planning to compete in a college athletic program, **Walnutwood is not a NCAA approved school-site.**
SCHOOL-WIDE EXPECTATIONS

• Behavior that harms others or property will not be tolerated.
• Inappropriate graphics or words on clothing items is not allowed in school.
• Students are not allowed to be on any other school campus during school hours.
• Cell phone use is not allowed during appointment time unless it is an emergency or an accommodation.
• Students are not allowed to “excuse” their own absence.
• Plagiarism will not be tolerated.

Please see our student handbook for additional expectations and detailed information on our website.
HIGH SCHOOL CREDITS
End of 9\textsuperscript{th} grade 55 Credits
End of 10\textsuperscript{th} grade 110 credits
End 11\textsuperscript{th} grade 165 credits
End of 12\textsuperscript{th} grade 220
Questions?

Contact our Program Administrator, Shelley Raffaelli
916-294-9105 ext. 840111 or sraffael@fcusd

Please check website for updates.

Welcome to Walnutwood Independent Studies!
Home of the Pathfinders