

MARIN SCHOOL OF THE ARTS – STUDENT RULES

Being an MSA student carries certain responsibilities. It is expected that if you are in the program, you are motivated, honest, willing to practice and excited about meeting new challenges. You are also a Novato High student and required to follow the same rules and regulations set out in the Novato High Student/Parent Handbook, which you will receive from Novato High in your packets this summer.

Community Service

MSA depends on volunteer students and parents to help run our program. You must complete 40 hours of community service in order to graduate. Colleges look very favorably on students who have participated in some kind of community service during their high school years. An easy way to get community service credit is to participate in the MSA Outreach Program with local elementary and middle schools as a tutor, teacher or aide for elementary and middle school students. And MSA teachers are always in need of help in the classroom and at events.

Grades and Attendance

The Novato Unified School District policy states that Inter-district students who earn below a 2.0 Grade Point Average, maintain poor attendance and/or have behavior issues are prohibited from attending Novato High School and Marin School of the Arts.

All students applying for admission will need at least a 2.0 GPA in their final semester this year to be eligible for admission.

To remain in the program, all MSA students need to:

- Earn a final semester GPA of 2.0 or higher and at least a grade of C- in your MSA focus area each year.
- Maintain good attendance and behavior records.

If a student needs help in any class, they are encouraged to contact their teachers, counselors and the MSA office to develop a plan to assist them. The earlier a student does so, the more time he or she will have available to keep grades from slipping too far.

Discipline

Failure to follow the standard rules of Novato High, as set out in the Handbook, could result in a student being asked to leave the MSA program and Novato High School.

Field Trips

MSA supports field trips for its students as a means of enrichment, education and fun. The privilege of participating in field trips comes with specific student responsibilities. Failure to follow the district rules of conduct on field trips could mean the loss of field trips for the entire school. It is important that all students adhere to the rules so participation in these activities can continue.

In addition:

- All parent drivers must obtain district approval prior to the field trip. (Forms are available on the NUSD website, under the Tab **Forms**, then **Community Forms**)
- Students may not drive themselves to or from any field trip.
- **There is zero tolerance for alcohol and drug use at school and on school field trips.** Should such an event occur, it will immediately become a police issue at the site of the violation.

First time offenders involved with alcohol and drug activity may be asked to leave the school.

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