VINA DANKS MIDDLE SCHOOL

"Preparing Students for the 21st Century" "High School, College, and Career"



2025-2026

1020 N. Vine Avenue Ontario, CA. 91762 (909) 983-2691



Superintendent

Dr. James Q. Hammond

Ontario-Montclair School District Board of Trustees

Sonia Alvarado Kristen "Kris" Brake Sarah S. Galvez Flora Martinez Elvia M. Rivas

District Numbers

Office of the Superintendent	(909) 418-6445
Business Services	(909) 418-6450
Human Resources	(909) 418-6307
Learning & Teaching	(909) 418-6436

STUDENT IDENTIFICATION

Student:	Grade
stadent.	Grade

SCHEDULE TRACKER

Semester 1

Period	Class	Room #	Teacher
0			
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

Semester 2

Period	Class	Room #	Teacher
0			
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

A goal I have set for myself this year is:						
Reevaluating this goal I feel:						
Action Steps I Can Take For Improvement:						

Grade Check / How To Calculate My GPA

- 1. List your classes and the letter grade you have in each class.
- Count how many of each letter grade you have. (Ex: 3 As 2 Bs and 1 D)
 Multiply the amount of each grade (Step 2) by the values listed A=4 B=3 C=2 D=1 F=0
- 4. Add each grade points earned (Step 3) to get your total grade points.
- 5. Divide the Total Grade Points (Step 4) by your total number of classes. This is your GPA.

Semester 1

Period	Progress 1	Progress 2	Semester 1	Calculation Space
0				
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
GPA				

Semester 2

Period	Progress 1	Progress 2	Semester 2	Calculation Space
0				
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
GPA				

iReady Progress Monitoring

		READING		1021035 1110	g		МАТН	
750					750			
700					700			
650					650			
600					600			
550					550			
500					500			
450					450			
400					400			
350					350			
300					300			
250					250			
200					200			
150					150			
100					100			
50					50			
0					0			
	Diagnostic 1	Diagnostic 2	Diagnostic 3			Diagnostic 1	Diagnostic 2	Diagnostic 3

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Dear Parents,

Vina Danks students have been provided with this planner to help them organize their work and serve as a communication tool between parents and teachers. The student planner supports our "high school and college bound" culture by teaching students to be organized and responsible, which are vital skills they will need now and in the future. The planner will also be an important guide for you as you partner with your children on their academic journey.

The student planner contains a variety of information. Therefore, it is very important that you take the time to read and review it each day. Students will record homework assignments in the calendar section of their student planner each day. Teachers will record notes in the planner so you are kept informed of daily assignments and conduct at school, should there be a need. **Students must bring their student planner to school with them every day**. As part of our daily safety check routine, we check for organization and school materials through backpack checks every morning as students enter school. Please read over all the handbook information with your children and sign at the bottom of this page.

Thank you for your partnership in helping us to make this year the most successful year possible for your child.

Sincerely,
Ms. Dinae Geer
Principal
I have read and understand the student/parent handbook. I will follow all rules and guidelines.
Student Signature
I have read and understand the student/parent handbook. I will ensure that my student follows all rules and guidelines.
Parent Signature

Note: This signed page will remain in the student planner as proof that the information has been read by both student and parents/guardian.

VINA DANKS MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT HANDBOOK



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

Welcome to Vina Danks Middle School! My name is Dinae Geer and it is a pleasure to serve as your principal. I look forward to serving a wonderful group of parents, families, students, and staff. I am confident that it will be a successful and positive experience for all of us.

Our goal at Vina Danks Middle School is to get your child *high school*, *college*, and *career ready*. In order to accomplish this goal, all students have access to key elements of learning – *character development*, *technology*, *accelerated curriculum*, *and an engaging elective opportunity*. Each element represents an engaging and rigorous learning program that ensures students think critically and creatively, problem-solve collaboratively, and communicate effectively. In addition, students have access to a wide variety of electives that equip students with real-world skills and experiences, such as AVID, music and band, drama, video production, home economics, robotics, computer science and coding. In addition, students have access to our enriching Honors and High School Credit Program that challenges students to apply new learning, analyze and evaluate information, and construct new meaning. As a state recognized PBIS Gold school, we have developed and implemented proactive behavioral supports and a positive social culture so that all students achieve social, emotional and academic success.

The California League of Educators recognizes Vina Danks Middle School at state and nationwide level as a "School to Watch". Our school is a wonderful place to learn and received this recognition because of our instructional focus. We come together each day as a team of learners to nurture and instill a sense of pride and respect for self and community. When students take advantage of all the opportunities at school, actively engage in their learning, apply their skills and knowledge, and make positive choices along the way, success in any endeavor will result, whether at Vina Danks or in the future.

Please read and review this planner with your parents so that everyone understands the expectations we set forth. It is everyone's responsibility to make our school a safe and positive learning environment. We have tremendous resources at Vina Danks to help you maximize your potential. The entire staff is here to educate and support you on your journey to college and beyond!

Sincerely,

Ms. Dinae Geer Principal

2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR:

August 6	First Day of School	January 1-2	Winter Break
August 27	Back To School Night	January 19	No School – Martin Luther King
September 1	Labor Day (No School)	February 9	No School – Lincoln's Day
Sept 29 - Oct 3	Parent/Teacher Conferences	February 16	No School –Presidents' Day
October 6	Non-School Day	Mar 2-6	Parent/Teacher Conference
October 22	Fall Festival	March 25	Open House
Nov 10	No School	Mar 30 - Apr 3	Spring Break
November 11	Veterans' Day	May 1	Report Cards
Nov. 24-28	Thanksgiving Holidays	May 21	Promotion
December 12	Report Cards	May 21	Last Day of School for Students
December 22-31	Winter Break		2 nd Semester Ends

SCHOOL HOURS:

The school office is open from 7:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. Monday thru Friday, except holidays. Students are allowed on campus at 7:40 A.M. For safety reasons, students are not to linger in front of school before school and after dismissal. All students who are not enrolled in after school programs must exit the campus by 2:15 p.m.

BELL SCHEDULE:

Monday/Wednesday/Thursday/Friday				Tuesday	
Time:	Activity	Minutes:	Time:	Activity	Minutes:
6:50-7:40	Period 0	50	7:00-7:40	Period 0	40
7:35-7:55	Breakfast		7:35-7:55	Breakfast	
7:55	First Bell		7:55	First Bell	
8:00-8:55	Period 1	55	8:00-8:42	Period 1	42
8:59-9:53	Period 2	54	8:46 - 9:28	Period 2	42
9:57-10:51	Period 3	54	9:32-10:14	Period 3	42
10:51-11:21	A Lunch	30	10:14-10:44	A Lunch	30
11:25-12:19	A Period 4	54	10:48-11:30	A Period 4	42
10:55-11:49	B Period 4	54	10:18-11:00	B Period 4	42
11:49-12:19	B Lunch	30	11:00-11:30	B Lunch	30
12:23-1:17	Period 5	54	11:34-12:16	Period 5	42
1:21-2:15	Period 6	54	12:20-1:00	Period 6	40

COMMUNICATION:

Communication between parents and school is an important aspect of your child's success. We communicate school information and events through community outreach phone calls, our school website, school marquee, flyers, Q, Parent Square, and our Instagram account. Follow us at @vinadanks omsd.

STUDENT PICK UP AND DROP OFF:

Students are to be dropped off and picked up in front of school where we have supervision beginning at 7:40 a.m. and up until 3:00 p.m. Students enter and exit campus through the gate on Vine. Parents are not allowed to enter the Vine Street staff parking lot to drop off or pick up students. Please ensure that you are properly driving up to the curb to drop off your child. For safety reasons, we encourage all of our students and families to use the crosswalk. Please plan accordingly to have your children picked up on time. Students being picked up from school early must be signed out by a parent or designated person identified on the emergency card and MUST present a valid California State identification. Students will not be released to persons who are not listed on the emergency card, there will be no exceptions. Students should not go to local businesses without a guardian before or after school.

SCHOOL SAFETY:

Our school is the center of our community. With this in mind, our students, parents and the entire neighborhood benefit. Ensuring that our school is a sanctuary for teaching and learning – and free of crime and violence – is a priority for Vina Danks administration. A safety officer is available at our site Monday – Friday to support us with supervising the parameters and within our school before, during and after school. We will promote "See Something," Hear Something, Say Something" to ensure a safe learning environment for all of our children, teachers and staff.

CLOSED CAMPUS:

For the safety and welfare of all students, Vina Danks has a closed campus. Students are not to leave the school grounds after arriving at school regardless of the time of arrival. All visitors and parents must check in with the school office and obtain a visitor pass before coming on campus. Each visitor must present a valid California State identification card and check in through our Raptor Security Check-in/out System. Once a student leaves campus at the end of the school day at 2:15 p.m., they will not be allowed back on campus.

STUDENT ID:

Students will be issued an ID card at the beginning of the school year and should have it with them at all times when on campus. **The ID card must be presented in order to receive lunch, purchase tickets, and participate in school events**. State Law now requires that your child have access to information on suicide prevention and mental health. School districts are now mandated by the state to provide information on suicide prevention and mental health to every middle school student. The information will now be available on the back of the student's school ID. Lost ID cards can be replaced for \$5.

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION:

Bike and skateboard/scooter racks are available on campus for students. Students must provide their own locks and must wear a helmet. Because of safety issues, bikes, skateboards and scooters must not be ridden in front of the school. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in the bike or skateboard/scooter being confiscated and/or loss of privilege. A parent/guardian will be required to pick up any of these confiscated items.

ABSENCES:

School success depends upon regular school attendance. When students are absent from school for any reason, it is important that parents contact the Attendance Office in the morning at (909) 459-2955 to notify the school of the reason for the absence. If a phone notification was not made, students must bring a signed and dated note explaining the absence to the Attendance Office when returning to school. The only excused absences are due to illness, medical/dental appointments, court appearances, and a death in the immediate family. When possible, please make medical and dental appointments after school hours. Students with excessive absences may be requested to attend a School Attendance Review Team meeting (SART) with their parents. If the absences continue, next steps include a district School Attendance Review Board meeting (SARB) and possibly be cited by the Ontario Police Department according to the California Education Code.

TARDIES:

Students are to be in their seats when the last morning bell rings at 8:00 a.m.. Excessive tardies will result in loss of privileges. Students arriving late will report directly to the Attendance Office with a parent note and may receive lunch detention for repeated offenses. In addition, students are expected to be on time to each class period during the school day. Excessive tardies to class periods within the school day may result in lunch or after school detention.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS:

Think Together is an after-school program that provides students with an enriching extended learning experience for students. All students enrolled in clubs, tutoring, and sports must be enrolled in Think Together. Program applications are available in the front office. Students enrolled in the program must report immediately after the 2:15 dismissal bell to their designated area. Because of safety concerns, students may not leave campus and re-enter for any reason.

BACKPACK/BINDER CHECKS:

We pride ourselves in preparing our students for high school, college and beyond. To ensure that our students are prepared for their instructional day with school supplies, we conduct backpack/binder checks as they enter school. Students are to line up, out front, at 7:40 a.m. For those students enrolled in a zero period the line up time is 6:40 a.m.. Our Campus Safety Officer, along with staff check backpacks of all students as they enter. In the event that a student is not prepared, we will provide the necessary supplies so that they can have a successful day. Students are expected to bring a backpack with school supplies every day. Please let us know if support is needed in this area.

PROHIBITED ITEMS:

- Any personal item or items with suggestive, obscene, violent, gang tagging/symbols, drug, alcohol, or tobacco related content
- Gum and sunflower seeds
- Baked goods (cakes and cupcakes), frosting, balloons, flowers, bouquets
- Coffee, soda, energy drinks and sports drinks are not allowed in school, this is a cautionary procedure.
- Aerosol sprays including deodorant and cologne
- Gambling devices such as dice or playing cards
- Motorized bikes/scooters and skate shoes
- Drugs, drug paraphernalia, narcotics, alcohol, cigarettes, tobacco, cigarette papers, vapes, lighters, pipes, matches, or look-alike paraphernalia
- Explosive devices, firecrackers, poppers, stink bombs, etc.
- Weapons, knives, screwdrivers, or any other dangerous items (this includes toy guns and knives)
- Aerosol paint, **permanent markers**, etching tools, or any other instrument used for the purpose of writing graffiti or tagging

If you are unsure if something is allowed on campus, ask staff or administrator **BEFORE** bringing it on campus.

VINA DANKS MIDDLE SCHOOL "DRESS FOR SUCCESS" DRESS CODE

While Vina Danks Middle School is not a uniform school, all students are expected to follow the OMSD and Vina Danks' guidelines for school dress. Students are expected to "DRESS for SUCCESS," school is where the students prepare themselves for high school, college, and career success. This is great preparation and practice for the future.

When shopping for clothes, please keep in mind that all clothing must be safe, non-distracting and non-disruptive to others or the learning process. While we recognize that the "style" of clothing being sold might be what your child wants to buy, much of it is not appropriate in a school setting.

Basic Rules

- Clothes are expected to be worn correctly.
 - o Displaying skin, cleavage and underclothing of any type is not allowed.
- No hats or caps of any kind are allowed to be worn on campus.
- Knit beanies may be worn outdoors during colder months. Beanies must meet the dress code requirements assigned to other clothing items.
- Pajamas, pajama bottoms, and/or oversized sweatpants are **NOT** allowed.
- Students may be asked to remove jewelry that is considered to be unsafe, inappropriate, or causes a distraction to learning, such as spiked or large jewelry, piercings, or jewelry that is worn in a place that may be unsafe (example: lips, cheeks, eye brows, and nose).
- Personal attire and belongings (backpacks/notebooks/personal property) must remain free of gang affiliations, inappropriate pictures and messages, nicknames, and tagging markings. Items displaying this will be confiscated and may be picked up by parents/guardians.
- Shirts: No inappropriate designs or messages on shirts, regardless of cover-up garments.
- Sweaters/Jackets: No oversized clothing allowed. Hoods may NOT be worn in the main building or in class
- Pants/Shorts/Skirts/Dresses:
 - o The end of shorts and skirts must reach the fingertips when the arms are outstretched at their sides.
 - o Dresses: No tight/fitted/short see through dresses are allowed, dresses must be school appropriate.
- In the event jeans and/or shorts have <u>rips, tears, or frays they MUST be below the knees</u>. For small, minor tears, or frays leggings can be worn underneath the jeans. NO SKIN should be showing above the knees when pants are worn.
- Jeans/Pants: No sagging, extremely baggy pants, or extremely low-rise pants.
- Sheer and/or form-fitting leggings can only be worn under a dress, skirt, or pants, but not alone.
- Tank Tops: Not allowed. All shirts must have a sleeve that covers the shoulders.
- Shirts/Blouses/Tops: No low-cut tops, halter tops, spaghetti straps, bare midriffs, sheer blouses, and/or inappropriate designs or messages on shirts, regardless of cover-up garments.
 - o Showing undergarments or cleavage is unacceptable. Bra straps must always be covered.
- Shoes: No sandals, flip-flops, Crocs, open-toed, and/or backless shoes.
- Make-up and accessories cannot be a distraction to student learning. School is a place for instruction and learning and make up cannot and will not be a distraction to students throughout the day.

School administration will make final determination if any article of clothing or accessory violates the guidelines above or is deemed inappropriate or disruptive to the instructional day.

Dress code violations will result in a phone call home for a change of clothing or school loaner clothes will be provided if the parent does not answer or cannot bring a change of clothing.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

Remote control toys, cameras, IPODS, earbuds, video games, laser pointers, and other **electronic devices** are **prohibited**. It is not recommended that these items be stored in backpacks. These items will be confiscated and returned to a **PARENT** if they are turned on or taken out on campus. **Loss or theft of these items will not be investigated under most circumstances.**

CELL PHONES:

The use of /visibility of cell phones or other electronic signaling devices such as Apple watches, is strictly prohibited on school premises, at school sponsored activities, on buses, and any time while students are under the supervision of district employees. Students must have their cellphones placed in their backpacks and turned off/silenced for the entirety of the school day. Loss or theft of cell phones will not be investigated under most circumstances.

SUSPENSIONS:

Students will receive on-campus or off-campus suspensions if they are in violation of the California Education Code, Section 48900. Activities that may warrant suspension are:

- Possession, selling, or furnishing a weapon
- Fighting or play fighting
- Possessing, selling, or furnishing drugs, drug paraphernalia, narcotics, alcohol, cigarettes, or look-alike substances
- Committing a crime, such as theft, robbery, vandalism, etc. (this includes attempts)
- Disrupting school activities or defying supervisors, teachers, administrators, school officials, or other school
 personnel
- Sexual harassment or unwanted sexual comments
- Engaged in an act of bullying
- Racial remarks or slurs
- Committing an obscene act, or engaging in profanity or vulgarity
- Harassing, threatening, or intimidating witnesses of a discipline proceeding

PHYSICAL EDUCATION:

All students are required to participate in a physical education class unless a doctor's note is on file in the Health Office. If a student has a medically authorized extended or permanent PE excuse, he/she will be given an alternate assignment by the PE teacher. Students may be excused in participation of PE with written permission on the day the student is excused.

HEALTH:

The Health Office is staffed regularly by a Health Aide. Students who become ill may acquire a pass from their teachers to go to the Health Office; because of safety concerns, students may not contact their parent/guardian on their cell phone. Students may not go to the Health Office without a pass unless it is an emergency. Any on-campus injuries must be reported to a teacher or Health Office Assistant immediately.

MEDICATIONS:

Students are not permitted to bring over the counter medications or prescriptions to school, they must be reported to the Health Office. A signed letter from the parent and physician must be on file in the office. All medications must be clearly labeled and administered by Health Office personnel. With written doctor orders and parent permission, students with asthma may carry inhalers only with proper doctor documentation on file with school.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

It is important that the school office be notified immediately of any change of address or phone numbers. Before a student transfers to another school, the parent must personally come to the school and provide the office with the new address and completed request of transfer form. No transfer papers will be forwarded until a parent legally checks out their student and has returned all school property.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FOR ACTIVITIES:

At Vina Danks Middle School we promote – Academics, Attendance & Attitude. We make our expectations clear to our student body throughout the year so that students can be part of fun filled activities. Extra-curricular activities, field trips, participation in clubs, attendance at dances and participation at promotion, are events that students <u>earn!</u>

END OF THE YEAR ACTIVITIES/FIELD TRIP/ SCHOOL EVENTS ELIGIBILITY:

- No more than **two "F"** grades during eligibility period
- No administrative suspension incidents during the eligibility period
- No unresolved and/or excessive truancies/detentions/tardies/absences

CLUB AND TEAM ELIGIBILITY:

Students may participate in extracurricular clubs and/or sport teams as long as they meet the following eligibility requirements:

- GPA of 2.0 or higher on the previous formal marking period (report card)
 - Administration and Staff can work together to create an academic improvement plan to allow for student participation if grades need to be improved
- Students display positive character and teamwork around campus.
- Students display positive behaviors on campus and have not been suspended the day of an event.

EIGHTH GRADE PROMOTION CRITERIA:

In order to participate in the eighth grade academic achievement celebration, students must:

- Meet the end of year activity eligibility criteria above
- Not be actively involved in a pre-expulsion process
- Not be on an active suspension*
- Attitude (behavior), Academics and/or Attendance may impact final participation.

Discretion is left to the school administration to make final decisions.

*As noted in California Education Code 48900, students who are actively under suspension or on an active order of pre-expulsion are prohibited from participating in any school sponsored activities.

AVID - Advancement Via Individual Determination:

Focused Note Taking: 1. Take Notes 2. Process the Notes 3. Connect Your Thinking 4. Summarize and Reflect on the Learning 5. Apply the learning.

WICOR: Teachers use WICOR (Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, Reading) strategies to help students comprehend and articulate new learning.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION & SUPPORTS (PBIS)

Behavior Purpose Statement: At Vina Danks, we equip our students with character and 21st Century skills that equip our students with tools needed to be high school, college and career ready. With the ability to confidently adapt to changes and serve as socially responsible citizens of our community.

C.A.T.S. Behavior Expectations:

- o Character
- o Attitude
- o Teamwork
- o Safety

PBIS Rewards: Being caught showing **CHARACTER**, **ATTITUDE**, **TEAMWORK**, **and SAFETY** by any staff member or teacher on campus earns students PBIS Rewards. PBIS REwards

School-Wide Behavior Matrix

W.	Sch	ool Wid	le PBIS	Matrix	<u> </u>	
Routines	Bathroom	Hallways/ Passing Period	Classroom	Before/ After School	Eating Area / Field	Assembly / Rally/ Drills
C ⇔	Respect School Property	Use respectful language	Be on time Be prepared with necessary tools	Use appropriate language and contact	Respect your body and others Enjoy your lunch	Listen to the speaker Keep eyes on the teacher or speaker
A 🙅 🙀	Leave restroom immediately after appropriate use	Use appropriate volume level	Be respectful to teachers and classmates Demonstrate willingness to learn	Respect others and yourself Use appropriate volume level	Be thankful for your food Be patient Use appropriate volume level	Pay attention to messages Take drills seriously
Teamwork	Leave restroom orderly Report unacceptable conditions	Respect property of others Take direct route to destination Use time wisely	Follow directions the first time Be an active participant	Use trash cans and recycle bins Follow electronic policy	Recycle Pick up trash after yourself Take pride in your school	Be silent/no talking Pick up trash after yourself
S & **	Use restroom for intended purpose Follow district cell phone policy Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself Use restroom for intended and intended purpose.	Respect others and yourself Walk at all times Keep hands and feet to yourself	Respect others and yourself Use materials for their intended use	Stay in designated areas Leave in a timely manner Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself Use crosswalks	Report unsafe conditions and inappropriate use of equipment Notify staff of injuries	Walk in line and to and from events Listen for directions

PBIS Classroom Behavior Matrix

I DIO GRADA COM DOMENTO A PROPERTO						
	Entering /Exiting Procedures	During Instruction	Transitions	Independent & Group Work	Digital Citizenship	Planner Expectations
C Character	 Enter quietly Take out only your materials and put away unnecessary materials Sit down immediately and get ready to work 	 Complete assigned task Respond when called upon Wait your turn patiently 	 Be efficient Use time wisely Be prepared Wait for teacher directions 	 Respect all opinions Follow directions Complete assigned task at your table group. Be aware of what desk # you are and follow through 	 I am on the appropriate website for the assignment I am facing forward while working on my assignment 	 Parental communication Personal responsibility
A Attitude	 Accept teacher's directives without comment Enter and exit quietly Wait for teacher to dismiss from east or west side 	 Apply yourself & engage in activity Follow instructions the first time 	FocusParticipate activelyBe respectful	 Support Collaborate Engage Ask questions when needed 	 Respond appropriately I am actively working on the assignment I am sitting up straight 	Have planner everyday
T Team	 Follow classroom rules, raise your hand to speak & participate Take responsibility for own behavior & actions Clean up classroom Push in chairs 	 Stay on topic Students with class jobs will fulfill jobs when necessary 	 Show awareness of others Use appropriate voice level Stay on task Be helpful 	 Complete your assigned task Be helpful Encourage table team to stay on task 	 I am working with a group and not changing others work I will provide a response when prompted to do so I am focused on my own work 	Writing homework daily/weekly
S Safe	 Get to class on time Keep hands to yourself Respect school property at all times Leave orderly Walk at all times 	Respect the rights of others and their property	Walk at all timesBe on time	 Utilize tools / materials correctly Clean up 	 Use respectful & appropriate language while using social media I will follow the district technology guidelines 	Know and follow school and district rules