

## FAQs for Incoming 9th Families of UMHS



### Where can I find the Union Mine High School Website?

- [Here](#) is the Union Mine High School website.

### When does school start?

- [Here](#) is the 2021-2022 EDUHSD Student Calendar.
  - This year, school will start on Monday, August 9, 2021.
  - The last day of school is Friday, May 27, 2022.
  - Please note various non-school and holidays.
  - Please plan vacations accordingly. Students are expected to attend final exams during the designated final exam time.

### What is the UMHS Bell Schedule?

- [Here](#) is the UMHS Bell Schedule link. Bell schedules will continue to be updated here throughout the summer.

### Is there a map of the UMHS campus?

- [Here](#) is the UMHS Campus Map.

### When can I create a Parent Aeries Portal?

- You will be contacted in the summer (sometime in July or August) with the information you need to create an account.

### How does Union Mine High School communicate with the learning community?

- UMHS uses Parent Square as the platform for communication.

### When will I receive a Parent Square account/invite?

- Once a Parent Aeries Portal is created, the parent/guardian will need to add oneself as a contact in the Contacts section in Aeries and designate "Lives With".
- Once this step is completed, an invite will be sent to the email address on file 24 hours after.
  - [Parent Square Info and Instructions](#)

### Are students issued lockers at Union Mine High School?

- Lockers are only available for students enrolled in PE for gym class.
- Students in PE will have access to lockers assigned by their teacher.

### Are students issued chromebooks at Union Mine High School?

- UMHS is a 1:1 school for student devices.
  - Students who need a chromebook to borrow for the year will be issued a device early in the year.
  - Students who have a device from home are permitted to bring that device to school to access online learning resources.

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### **What are the Graduation Requirements for the El Dorado Union High School District and Union Mine High School?**

- Page 7 of the EDUHSD Course Directory outlines the graduation requirements.
- [Here](#) is the link to the EDUHSD Course Directory.

### **Is there a description of the courses offered at the school?**

- [Here](#) is the EDUHSD Course Directory with course descriptions.

### **What is the 4x4 Block Schedule?**

- UMHS runs a 4x4 schedule where students take 3-4 classes in the fall (August - December) and 3-4 classes in the spring (January - May).
- The 4x4 allows students to focus time on fewer classes at a time to learn the material on a deeper level. This mirrors a college schedule and creates more opportunities for students to accelerate and remain focused on a smaller course load.
- By the end of the year students will have completed 6-8 classes just as students do on a traditional schedule at other campuses.

### **Can I choose which classes are in the fall and which classes are in the spring?**

- Students will choose the 8 courses they would like for the year. Their counselor will choose based on the classes offered in the master schedule which classes the student will take in the fall and in the spring.
- Counselors do their best to look over each schedule to balance the load of academic courses and elective courses to allow students to have the time to devote to rigorous classes.

### **Is a Language Other Than English (LOTE) a graduation requirement?**

- Contrary to what some might think, a LOTE is not required to graduate from UMHS.
- However, two years of the same LOTE are required by most universities to be eligible to apply for university admissions. The UC/CSU systems, for example, require two years of the same LOTE as a minimum eligibility requirement.

### **Which level English should my incoming ninth grader take?**

- Union Mine High School has three English classes for incoming freshmen: English 1, Advanced English 1, and yearlong Read 180 with English 1. All classes are college preparatory and are accepted by UC/CSU for college admission.
- Read 180 with English 1 should only be selected if your student needs ongoing reading support to access grade level curriculum.
- Middle School teachers make recommendations based on current mastery of skills and anticipated skills needed.

### **If my student takes English I as a freshman, is Advanced English 2 available to my student during sophomore year?**

- Yes. A student may take English 1 in freshman year and Advanced English 2 in sophomore year.

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### What is the math placement criteria for incoming freshmen?

- [Here](#) is the 9th Grade Mathematics Placement Criteria.

### What is Algebra Foundations?

- Algebra Foundations should only be selected if your student struggles with basic math principles and number fluency. Students who have earned average grades (C or better) in middle school math should take Algebra 1 or higher. Math placement will also be based on middle school teacher recommendation.

### What is the ICT Foundations class?

- Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Foundations is a 9 week semester-long class. It meets the EDUHSD graduation requirement. This class is paired with the other 9 week semester-long graduation requirement, Health.
- Students who take PLTW 1- Honors Principles of Engineering (POE) in lieu of ICT will meet the graduation requirement. The course description for PLTW can be found on page 32 of this [document](#).

### How do I purchase PE clothes?

- Clothes for the Life Fitness class can be purchased from the PE teacher during the first week of each term.

### Is there an Advanced Placement (AP) class available to freshmen?

- UMHS does not have AP classes available to freshmen.

### Is there specific information about signature programs offered at UMHS?

- [Here](#) is specific information about signature Programs at UMHS including:
  - Agriculture
  - Culinary
  - JROTC
  - Project Lead the Way Engineering
  - Visual and Performing Arts
  - Leadership

### Where can I find information about clubs?

- [Here](#) is the list of UMHS clubs from last year. We will hold a “club day” in August. Students will have the opportunity to learn more about current clubs or even start their own!

### Where can I find information about athletics?

- [Here](#) is information about UMHS athletics.

### Where can I find information about the College and Career Center?

- [Here](#) is information about the UMHS College and Career Center.

### May I make an appointment with my student's high school counselor now ?

- Once your student transitions onto the UMHS campus and starts as a student in the fall, if an appointment is needed/desired, we are happy to help. Until then, if you need to ask a question, please email. [Here](#) is a form for your general questions. The UMHS Administration will answer these questions as they arrive.

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### Is the School Office/Counseling Office open during the summer?

- The School Office/Counseling Office has modified hours during the summer.
  - The offices are open Monday through Thursday and are closed on Fridays.
  - The School Office/Counseling Office are closed from mid June to mid July.
- If you need something during that time, the District Office is open most of the summer to help as needed.
  - *The District Office is also closed on Fridays during the summer*

### Are counselors/teachers available during the summer?

- No, teachers and counselors are not contracted to work during the summer. They will check email/voicemail once they return from the summer holiday.

### How do I make sure the school is aware of my student's IEP?

- The UMHS case managers will contact incoming families in the spring through a transition meeting hosted by the middle school.
- If you would like to speak with our staff directly contact Mr. Taxdal at [ltaxdal@eduhsd.net](mailto:ltaxdal@eduhsd.net) or Ms. Boehm at [eboehm@eduhsd.net](mailto:eboehm@eduhsd.net)
- The Special Education department will also be hosting a live Q&A for families on Wednesday 2/10 via google Meet. Check the UMHS web page under Future Students for the meeting details.

### Where can I find information about free and reduced lunch and reduced transportation fees?

- [Here](#) is the district information.

### Where can I find information about transportation and bus routes?

- [Here](#) is the district transportation information.