



EL DORADO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION MINE HIGH SCHOOL

“Home of the Diamondbacks”

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Paul Neville, Principal

Greetings Parents and Families of Union Mine,

We hope everyone has had a relaxing summer break and we look forward to seeing everyone in the next few weeks. We expect the 2017-2018 school year to be an exciting year for our students filled with great memories. **The first day of school will be on Monday, August 7th.** Once again, we will start the year with our ‘First Day Rotation’ schedule, which will include student pictures; ASB card, textbook and schedule distribution; a guest speaker from the television series American Ninja Warrior; and a review of our core values and expectations for the school year.

As the principal of Union Mine High School, I am excited about what we have accomplished over the past few years. Students at Union Mine have proven themselves via their performances on standardized tests, local and regional competitions, and college admittance and are among the most talented in the country. At the core of our success is a belief that strong, effective schools depend on educators who put students first, who understand their roles as educators, and who meet the challenges presented each day with a set of values predicated on what is best for all students. The Union Mine faculty is committed to providing our students with a positive and safe learning environment and fostering a school that demonstrates respect and pride.

We have had many changes take place over the summer including the excavation and start of construction on our new farm for the Agriculture program, the renovation of our Culinary Arts room and the installation of a new synthetic turf field in our athletic stadium. In addition to improvements to our campus, we have also hired several new faculty members and support staff who bring a great deal of energy and experience to our staff including:

Stacey Stroing (Agriculture), Matt Lane (Band/Music), Caitlyn Jones (Visual Arts), Tim White (Nutrition Services Supervisor), Logan Taxdal (Resource Specialist), Anne Kling (Receptionist/Athletic Secretary) and Denise Padilla (Accounting Specialist). Our faculty and support staff look forward to making this a great year here at Union Mine.

Our school wouldn't be the same without the generosity and active support of our parent and community organizations. I invite you to take a leadership role and make a difference! I encourage you to be involved in our school by working closely with your student(s) at home – encouraging academic responsibility and excellence – and taking part in volunteer opportunities such as Band, Drama, or Athletic Boosters; School Site Council; and Advisory Committees. The faculty at Union Mine strives to provide your student(s) with a rewarding high school experience, truly values your opinion, and appreciates your unwavering support.

With that in mind, please join me on **Thursday, August 24th for “Back to School Night” and “Coffee at the Mine” parent breakfast on Thursday, August 31st.** Both “Back to School Night” and “Coffee at the Mine” will provide parents and community members with an opportunity to discuss key aspects of Union Mine, gather information about upcoming events and provide valuable feedback to our staff.

On behalf of the staff at Union Mine High School we look forward to our collaborative work together to support your student's academic and social development. I wish all our students and families a successful 2017-2018 school year!

Paul Neville, Principal