

Union Middle School - FAQ

How many electives will my child participate in during the school year?

This will depend on the electives that your child chooses. The majority of the students will participate in two electives per semester, equaling a total of four per school year. However, some electives, such as Concert Band, Concert Choir, and Combined Band/Choir, run for a full year.

Do the electives run for a quarter, semester, trimester, or year?

The majority of electives will run for a semester. The following electives will run for a full year: Concert Band, Concert Choir, and Combined Band/Choir. Seventh and eighth-grade students will have electives together. Students are not permitted to take electives more than once except for Band, Choir, and Band/Choir Combined.

How does the scheduling process work?

The scheduling process will quickly follow the parent and student orientation. The major academic courses, Mathematics, English, History, and Science, will be scheduled according to prerequisites. Students will have a choice in electives and World Languages.

Do health and physical education classes run for a quarter, semester, trimester, or year?

Health classes will run for one quarter. Physical education classes will run for three quarters.

Can a student be excused from health class?

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) may request in writing for their child to be only excused from the topics of family life/sexuality education units due to moral, ethical, and/or religious beliefs.

How many World Language courses will be offered? Are World Languages considered an elective?

Union Middle School will offer French and Spanish. The World Language courses will not be an elective and are built into the schedule. French 1A is year one, and French 1B is year two. Spanish 1A is year one, and Spanish 1B is year two. World Language selection is a two-year commitment. Students may select a different language when they enter high school.

When my child chooses an elective, should they also choose an alternative?

It is important to list 3-4 alternatives because your child may not get their first choice. If at least 3 alternatives are not chosen, alternatives will be selected for your child. Once electives are placed in a schedule, they are not changed unless there are extenuating circumstances.

Where can I locate the prerequisites for academic courses and the accelerated placement criteria?

You can locate the prerequisites for the academic courses and accelerated placement criteria in the Union Middle School Curriculum Guidebook. To be placed in the accelerated program for ELA and mathematics, all students must meet the requirements according to the matrix score. The multiple measure matrix score is a point numbering system based on a student's class average and LinkIt benchmark B score. 10 points is the maximum number of points a student can earn. Students who earn 8 points or higher are eligible to be placed in an accelerated course.

If my child does not meet the prerequisites for an Accelerated course in grade seven, will they ever have the opportunity to be enrolled in an Accelerated course?

All students must meet the requirements according to the multiple-measure matrix score to be placed in an accelerated ELA or mathematics course. You can find the multiple-measure matrix score in our curriculum guidebook located on our website. The multiple measure matrix score is a point numbering system based on a student's class average and LinkIt benchmark B score. 10 points is the maximum number of points a student can earn. Students who earn 8 points or higher are eligible to be placed in an accelerated course.

What type of schedule will be utilized at Union Middle School?

They will follow a 56-minute A, B, C, and D rotating block schedule.

How will I know what day is an A, B, C, or D day?

We will provide you with a school calendar identifying the days accordingly. In addition, your child will be provided with an A, B, C, and D schedule so they know where they need to be at all times. In addition, we will identify the day in the morning announcements.

What about one-session days and delayed opening days?

Students will follow a set schedule on these days.

Do you plan to offer an additional school tour in the summer?

Yes, the Guidance Department will offer a tour at the end of August for anyone who missed the orientation. The guidance department will notify the parent (s)/guardian(s) once a date has been confirmed.

When will my child receive their schedule?

Students will receive a tentative list of courses for the upcoming school year by the end of June.

How will the lunch program run?

There will be two different lunch periods that are 42 minutes long:

- Lunch 1: 11:00 – 11:42.
- Lunch 2: 11:59 -12:41.

Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria for half of the period and then go outside for lunch recess for the other half of the period. Students may have a different lunch period based on the letter day (A, B, C, D).

Does my child have to change for Physical Education?

Yes, students must wear footwear and attire appropriate for Physical Education. Physical Education teachers will explain specific requirements during their first class.

Can I drop off lunch for my child?

Yes, lunch must be dropped off by 10:45 AM in the bin by the main entrance. Please put your child's name on the lunch.

When is the school day's start time, end time, and lineup location?

Students may arrive at the designated line-up location by 7:40 AM. The doors will open at 7:50 AM, and homeroom will begin at 7:55 AM. The school day ends at 2:39 PM. Students enter and exit from their designated lineup location at the start and end of school.

Grade 7 A-J (Last name) **Door 6:** Springfield Ave.

Grade 7 K-Z (Last name) **Door 5:** Springfield Ave.

Grade 8 A-K (Last name) **Door 4:** Belford Ave.

Grade 8 L-Z (Last name) **Door 2:** Belford Ave.