

Union Middle School - FAQ

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

This will depend on the electives that are chosen by your child. 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 with the exception of 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.

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.

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

It is important to list alternatives because your child may not get their first choice.

Where can I locate the prerequisites for academic courses?

You can locate the prerequisites for the academic courses in the Union Middle School Curriculum Guidebook.

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 prerequisites for each course. However, please note that if a child in Pre-Algebra receives an A- average at the end of the four quarters, he or she can request Algebra I Accelerated. The same criteria will be followed for ELA courses.

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 on offering additional tours of the school in the summer?

Yes, the Guidance Department will offer tours at the end of August. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) will be notified once dates have 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 (11:00 – 11:42 First Lunch and 11:59 -12:41 Second Lunch). Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria for half of the period then go outside for lunch recess for the other half of the period. Seventh and Eighth grade students will have lunch together. It is possible that a student will have a different lunch period based on the day (A,B,C,D).

Does my child have to change for gym?

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

How do I sign my child up for the bus?

Please direct all bus related inquiries to Rhonda Sabatini, Secretary to the Director of Buildings and Grounds. She can be contacted at 201-438-7675 ext. 4117 or Rsabatini@rutherfordschools.org.

Can I drop off lunch for my child?

Yes, lunch drop off must take place by 10:00 AM in the bin by the pillars at the front of the school.

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

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 door nearest Union Ave.

Grade 7 K-Z (Last name) **Door 5:** Springfield Ave door nearest Cooper Place

Grade 8 A-K (Last name) **Door 4:** Playground door

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