

# District Administrator's Report

August 2021

## Unity School District

### Planning for 2021-2022: What Will School Look Like This Year?

Unity School District is committed to making the 2021-2022 school year the best possible for our students and families. With some practical precautions and changes, the planning for the school year is focused on providing a safe, quality, traditional, in-person learning experience for students. While the planning is ongoing, there are several expectations that have been solidified. It is important to note that it is possible some of these plans may change if an order is directed from the WI DPI or DHS. More specific details regarding the school year will be released as they become available.

#### Face Coverings

- Face coverings for students and staff are optional.

#### Confirmed Positive COVID Cases

- Confirmed positive COVID cases will continue to be excluded from the school setting.

#### COVID Testing

- Voluntary COVID testing will continue to be available onsite for students and staff.

#### Contact Tracing

- COVID contact tracing will be conducted by the Polk County Health Department.

#### Virtual Learning

- There will no longer be a "virtual learning option" available to families.
- Virtual learning may be requested by parents and may be provided in individual and special circumstances, at the discretion of the principal.

#### Learning Management System

- Canvas will continue to be the platform that organizes learning experiences for students.
- Canvas extends the classroom beyond the building, so students can connect with learning at home.

#### Food Service

- Students meals, breakfast and lunch, remain free for the 2021-2022 school year.

#### Bus Transportation

- Bus transportation returns to 100% capacity.
- Parents are advised that social distancing is not possible on a school bus.

#### Student Pickup/Drop-off

- Student pickup and drop-off has been redesigned slightly for the upcoming school year. Specific details regarding the flow of traffic will be provided soon.
- Parents entrance to the building will continue to be limited before and after school to reduce congestion in the entries.

#### Physical Precautions

- Plexiglass barriers will be removed in most classroom and common area settings.
- Drinking fountains remain turned off. Many drinking fountains have been replaced with water bottle filling stations.
- Classrooms will continue to be organized in a manner that provides as much space for students as possible.

#### Volunteers and Visitors

- Volunteers are welcome to return to the school setting. COVID screening may be conducted.
- Classroom visitors remain limited at this time. Visitors are allowed for various events and activities.
- Student pickup and drop-off will be limited to the school entrances and outside.

#### Events and Activities

- Specific information will be shared with parents about how they can participate at an upcoming class event or activity (Dads & Donuts, Moms & Muffins, Poetry Readings, Homecoming, etc.).

#### WIAA Sports

- The WIAA has released fall sports season guidance.
- Concessions for games will return for the 2021-2022 school year.

#### Performing Arts

- Concerts will be performed in-person and will be open to families.
- Theatrical productions (plays and musicals) will be performed in front of a live audience.

#### Community Education

- The Unity Pool and Fitness Center remain open for the community. Visit the District website for information about hours.
- Community Education classes and events are returning for the 2021-2022 school year.

#### Communication

- Communication regarding COVID planning, precautions, and responses will continue to be provided on the District website at [www.unity.k12.wi.us](http://www.unity.k12.wi.us).
- Direct communication regarding immediate and urgent information will continue to be provided to parents via the Infinite Campus Automated Parent Notification system.

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## SAVE THE DATE(S)

BACK-TO-SCHOOL 2021-2022

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	FRIDAY
AUGUST 25	AUGUST 26	SEPTEMBER 1	SEPTEMBER 16	SEPTEMBER 17	SEPTEMBER 24
EAGLE ACADEMY DAY 1 8:15PM-3:15PM	EAGLE ACADEMY DAY 2 8:15PM-3:15PM OPEN HOUSE 5:00PM-7:00PM	1ST DAY OF SCHOOL 8:15PM-3:15PM	PICTURE DAY EC PRE-K (SECTION 1) KG 1ST - 4TH GRADE	PICTURE DAY PRE-K (SECTION 2) MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL 5TH - 12TH GRADE	EARLY RELEASE HOMECOMING COMMUNITY PICNIC HOMECOMING FOOTBALL GAME
<p>*WELCOME LETTERS WITH ADDITIONAL DETAILS COMING SOON! WE CANNOT WAIT TO HAVE OUR UNITY STUDENTS BACK AT SCHOOL!</p>					

### Before and After School Program Being Considered

Unity is planning to offer a before and after-school child care program this fall. The program was being developed prior to the COVID pandemic but was paused during last year. Unity has restarted the planning process with a target of offering a program at the start of the school year. The program will be composed of a balanced approach to recreation, play, and discovery learning. It will be fee-based, dependent upon the amount of time a child is in the program. Information will be provided to families after approval at the August Board of Education meeting.

### Unity Long-Range Plan and Summer Projects

Unity School District's Comprehensive Long-Range Plan was reviewed and updated at the Board of Education planning session on March 23rd. Many of the 2021 projects that were listed in the facilities component of the plan are nearing completion.

#### \* Facilities

- \* Resurfacing of the tennis courts
- \* Resurfacing of the track
- \* Outdoor basketball courts
- \* Stadium wiring and landscaping
- \* Parking lot asphalt repair
- \* Elementary exterior window and door replacements
- \* Elementary playground sidewalk concrete
- \* LEAP playground canopies
- \* Berry patch fencing

"Expect Great Things"

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## **Food Service Meal Program Update**

Unity School District is participating in the USDA Seamless Summer Option (SSO) for the entirety of the 2021-22 school year. This means that our school is providing free meals to all students! This program provides additional support and flexibility for the district to continue serving meals to children while maintaining safety measures and managing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Even though receipt of free meals does not depend on an approved free and reduced-price meal application, we are still distributing and processing them so Unity School District families may qualify for P-EBT benefits as well as other school funding.

Menus and additional information are always posted on the district website.

## **District Budget Planning**

The District budget process continues as administration is analyzing the impact of the state budget that was signed by Governor Evers last week. This year's budget process is also affected greatly by federal funding due to the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER). There are specific requirements regarding this type of funding that are being considered. Unity will be working through budget calculations and implications through the summer.

## **Unity Eagle Academy**

Unity Academy is on August 25th and 26th. These days are two normal school days, with school transportation and food service. Students are encouraged to attend these meaningful, high quality days. There will be unique, engaging, and exciting opportunities for students to start their school year.

These days will have themes for each school. There will be team-building, problem solving, project based experiences, and student leadership opportunities. They will be focused on providing a solid and positive transition for students.

Kindergarten, Pre-Kindergarten, Early Childhood, ULC, and ADP will not have school these days. Each of these programs have a separate beginning of the year transition that is unique.

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### Upcoming Meetings and Events

DATE	MEETING	PLACE	TIME
August 9-13	Summer Academy - Staff Professional Development	District	
Tuesday, August 10	Board of Education Meeting	Library	6:00 PM
Monday, August 23	First Day of Fall Staff In-Service	District	8:00 AM
August 25, 26	<b>Eagle Academy</b>	District	
Thursday, August 26	<b>Unity Fall Open House</b>	District	5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Wednesday, September 1	<b>First Day of School</b>	District	8:00 AM
Tuesday, September 14	Board of Education Meeting	TBD	6:00 PM
Friday, September 24	<b>Homecoming Parade, Picnic, Football Game</b>	District	TBD



**SCHOOL DAY REMINDER:**  
**8:15AM - 3:15PM**

### Unity School District Goals

*(Approved by the Unity Board of Education, March, 2021)*

- **Nurture and promote a positive and inclusive culture of respect, leadership, and character for all.**
- **Encourage career readiness through school and community partnerships.**
- **Promote and provide flexible accelerated, personalized learning opportunities for students.**
- **Encourage healthy students, staff, and community while continuing to address mental health needs through various programs and partnerships.**

### Check Out Some Amazing Career Opportunities!

Join the team! Unity School District is seeking team members in a variety of different positions. Consider becoming an employee of an amazing school district! Career opportunities are accessible at <https://www.unity.k12.wi.us/o/unity-school-district/page/employment>.