

August 25, 2024



Message from Ms. Polanco:

We had a fantastic first week of school, and it was wonderful to see and meet many of you at our Back-to-School Night last Thursday. The support from our families and community members truly makes a big difference, and I'm incredibly grateful for this partnership. Our students have been adapting well to the new cell phone policy, keeping their phones away during class time, which has already led to increased student engagement. Our Seniors enjoyed a beautiful Senior Sunrise early Friday morning, and I want to share a big congratulations to our varsity football team for their victory in the scrimmage against Fauquier HS this past Friday! Please read below for important information regarding this week.

Important Upcoming Dates:

- **August 26:** First home Volleyball game (Girls Varsity) at 6pm versus Annandale
- **August 27:** Lions Activity Boosters Club Interest Meeting 6pm in Room 1002
- **August 30 & September 2:** NO SCHOOL
- **September 3 & 4:** Senior Portraits (by reservation only, see information below)
- Keep up with more [Athletics Event Dates here](#)

Bell Schedule for the week:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1,3,5,7	2, WIN 1, WIN 2, 4, 6	1,3,5,7	2, WIN 4, WIN 3, 4, 6	NO SCHOOL

W.I.N. Blocks on Maroon Days

Starting this week, students will rotate through their W.I.N. (What I Need) Blocks on Maroon Days. This dedicated time during the school day offers diverse learning experiences and additional support tailored to each student's needs. W.I.N. Blocks provide opportunities for reassessment, remediation, intervention, and enrichment. Occasionally, this time may also be used for drills, assemblies, or school-wide announcements to avoid disrupting regular instructional periods.

Emergency Preparedness Drills:

Students will be participating in required crisis management drills this school year. Students reviewed a required crisis management training video in class last week and will participate in 2 fire drills and 2 lockdown drills within the first 20 days of school. We will be conducting a fire drill and lockdown drill this week.

Bus Assignments

Bus schedules are available in [ParentVUE](#) or [StudentVUE](#) . We encourage you to download the [Here Comes The Bus mobile app](#) that allows you to track your student's bus in real-time. If you have any questions about your child's transportation you may submit a request directly on our Transportation website: [Submit a request – PWCS Transportation](#) or by contacting the Transportation office at 571-402-3940.

Student Devices

Students must bring their PWCS device to school every day. Please make sure it is fully charged each day before coming to school. Families are encouraged by the county to purchase insurance on their school issued device. The insurance policies are purchased through a third-party vendor. Click here for more information on [student device insurance](#).

Cell Phones and Personal Devices

As a reminder, cell phones are not permitted during instructional time or in bathrooms, but students may use them during lunch. This policy goes into full effect this week, with outlined consequences for any violations. If you need to reach your child for an emergency during the school day, please call the school at 703-365-2900, and we will relay the message to your student. We appreciate your support in fostering a focused, engaging, and safe learning environment for all students. [Visit the PWCS Cell Phone and Electronic Device Guidelines webpage for more information.](#)

Violations for cell phone use across all PWCS High Schools are as follows:

- **1st offense:** Device is surrendered and returned at the end of the class period; student signs acknowledgement form.
- **2nd offense:** Device is surrendered, locked in the administrator's office, and returned at the end of the school day. Teacher/staff member notifies the parent/guardian.
- **3rd offense:** Device is surrendered and locked in the administrator's office. Student receives a referral and must complete an online module on healthy cell-phone use. Parent/guardian must retrieve the device from the school and sign an acknowledgement of further consequences form.

Tardies:

Students are expected to be in class on time each day. Students were excused from tardies last week, as they were getting to know where their classes are located. Unexcused tardies will begin this week. Tardy reports will be run frequently by grade-level administrators and will be counted cumulatively each quarter. Tardy sweeps will be conducted randomly and will be unannounced. Consequences for students with excessive tardies can result in detention, parent/guardian conferences, social probation, pass restrictions, behavior contracts and more.

Parking

Students who plan on driving to school must purchase a parking pass. Parking passes cost \$100 and will continue to be sold this week. Parking enforcement begins next week on **Tuesday, September 3, 2024**. All vehicles, except visitors, parked at school must have a pass displayed at that time.

School Counselor & Administrator Assignments: All students are assigned a school counselor, and an administrator based on their grade-level and last name.

- **School Administrator (By Grade-Level and Last Name):**
 - **9th Grade:** Dr. Brooks (Last Names A-L); Ms. Drouin (Last Names M-Z)
 - **10th Grade:** Mr. Gillespie (Last Names A-L); Ms. Mathison (Last Names M-Z)
 - **11th Grade:** Mr. Hintosh (Last Names A-Z)
 - **12th Grade:** Ms. Nash (Last Names A-Z)
 - [Administrator contact information can be found here](#)
- **School Counselor (By last name):**
 - **A-Cal:** Mr. Carroll
 - **Cam-Esci:** Mr. Lindenbergg
 - **Esco-Hero:** Ms. Marchetti
 - **Herr-Medl:** Ms. Jefferson
 - **Medo-Per:** Mr. Taylor
 - **Pes-Sanc:** Ms. Goodman
 - **Sand-Z:** Ms. Lewis
 - Visit our [Counseling Staff Page](#) here for contact information.

Class of 2025 - Seniors!

Victor O'Neill studios will be at URHS for **Senior Portraits on Tuesday September 3, and Wednesday September 4, 2024**. Don't miss this opportunity to be photographed for the yearbook! The required attire for the school's yearbook pose is traditional Tuxedos and Drapes; provided by us! In addition to the free yearbook session, we also offer sessions that include casual/personality portraits and Cap and Gown portraits. As a friendly reminder, appointments are needed for Senior Portraits. If you have any questions, please email our Senior Portraits Team: seniors@vosphoto.com Please kindly include your Senior's First and Last Name and "Unity Reed Class of 2025" when emailing, for faster assistance. Please follow the link below to choose your session type and appointment time: www.vosphoto.com/unityreed

The [senior class web page can be found here](#). Please check back frequently to stay up to date on all important senior information.

How to stay connected with URHS:

- **Weekly LIONS' ROAR:** This will include the latest updates with pertinent information for the upcoming week and will be emailed to students and families every Sunday. This information will also be posted on our school website.

- **URHS website:** This will be updated more frequently so that we can share the most up to date information with you. In fact, [click here to view our school website](#).
- **School Status:** This is our messaging system, and it allows staff to send text messages, emails, or make phone calls to families. When an email comes to your inbox with this system, the sender will be listed as School Status or Teacher name. A text message will include the staff member's full name in the message but will be a random number. This system allows the recipient to respond directly to a message.
- **The PRIDE Newsletter:** This is a monthly newsletter where we celebrate and highlight the incredible accomplishments of our students, staff, and community at Unity Reed High School. Each month, we will showcase achievements, events, and milestones that make our school proud. Stay tuned for inspiring stories, academic successes, athletic triumphs, and much more. All this information will also be available on our school website for easy access and sharing.

I encourage you to continue to stay in touch with important updates by visiting our website. We are here to support you. Please reach out throughout the school year with any questions, concerns, or to share general feedback, and thank you for being part of our school community, as our ***STRENGTH is IN UNITY!***

Sincerely,

Milagros Polanco
Principal, Unity Reed High School