

# *Ursuline High School*

## **“New Family Survival Guide”**

**Welcome to the Ursuline Family!**

**This guide, a compilation of frequently asked questions, is intended to serve as a quick reference for the newest families of Ursuline High School.**

750 Wick Ave.

Youngstown, Ohio 44505

330-744-4563 (phone)

330-744-3358 (fax)

[www.ursuline.com](http://www.ursuline.com)

**Principal: Mr. Matthew Sammartino**

*(ursulinehigh@youngstowndiocese.org)*

**President: Father Richard Murphy ‘72**

*(rmurphy@youngstowndiocese.org)*

**Assistant Principals: Mrs. Michelle Carosella  
& Mrs. Maggie Damore ‘06**

*(mcarosella@youngstowndiocese.org / mdamore@youngstowndiocese.org)*

## **Absences/Sick Days**

If your child is sick, call the school between 7-7:45 a.m. each day he/she will miss school. Students should check Google Classroom and/or email his/her teachers for makeup work. Any child that has not been called off by 10 a.m. will be marked truant. Please call the office (330-744-4563) or send a written note to inform Ursuline of absence.

Vacations during the school year are difficult for the student because of the amount of work missed, so they are not recommended.

If your child needs to leave early, a parent must send a note or call the school office to grant permission for the child to leave. Parents must come into the school office to pick up their child or designate that the child is driving themselves.

## **Athletic Booster Club**

The Athletic Booster Club supports all varsity sports at Ursuline and families are welcome to join the organization. The Booster Club hosts the annual Ursuline Corn Roast in August as a kick off to the athletic season. All Ursuline families are welcome to come and membership to the Booster Club can be obtained at that event or online at [www.ursuline.com/boosters](http://www.ursuline.com/boosters).

## **Athletic Eligibility**

Ursuline High School requires all students to pass five subjects (physical education excluded), religion, and conduct. If any of these conditions are not met, a student is ineligible for one quarter of OHSAA sanctioned sports, including cheerleading. Eligibility is determined for each quarter based on the previous quarter grades. First quarter freshman eligibility is determined by the fourth quarter of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade year. Parents of fall athletes are asked to submit a final copy of the eighth grade report card during the 2022 summer.

## **Backpacks/Purses**

Backpacks are useful for carrying school materials to and from school, but must be stored in a locker during the school day. Students are expected to carry their Chromebook bags to classes. Girls are permitted to carry small purses between classes.

## **Band Booster Club**

The Band Booster Club supports the work of the Ursuline High School Marching and Concert Bands. All band, color guard, and drum line parents are encouraged to join this organization which provides significant funding for the music program. Sign up information is available from the band director, Mr. Peplowski.

## **Bell Schedule**

The school day starts at 7:55 a.m. and ends at 2:30 p.m. The actual bell schedule will sometimes change due to Mass, early dismissal, and special assemblies. The school is open from 6:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. for student use.

## **Busing**

Busing is available from Canfield, Hubbard, Liberty, Girard, and Youngstown. Students who are not eligible for busing should contact their local school district bus garage to arrange for reimbursement for transportation. Ursuline will send a list of students residing in each school district to their bus coordinator. The district will contact parents to arrange busing, typically in early August.

## **Calamity Days**

Ursuline High School will use our parent email system and social media to inform families of a school closing. Ursuline High School is **NOT** automatically closed if Youngstown City Schools close. If a two hour delay is called, UHS begins the day at 10 a.m. and concludes at 2:30 p.m.

## **Calendar**

The school calendar is available on [www.ursuline.com](http://www.ursuline.com) as well as in the monthly “Irish Update” newsletter. Calendar events are also posted on social media and the weekly parent email update from Mr. Sammartino.

## **“Celebrate Our Legacy” – Ursuline Auction**

The largest school fundraiser of the year is the “Celebrate Our Legacy” auction. This event provides financial support to Ursuline that allows us to remain on the cutting edge of technology and programming. Parents are encouraged to support this fundraiser by attending the auction, volunteering at the auction, donating a gift to the auction, or serving on the Auction Executive Committee. The Office of Alumni and Advancement will provide additional information to families about the auction. The 2022 auction will be held in November. The date will be announced soon!

## **Communication**

Open and honest communication between home and school will allow us to best serve your child. Appointments can be made with teachers at any time to discuss your child’s progress. Phone messages can be left for a specific teacher by calling the UHS main office (330-744-4563.) Teachers can also be reached by e-mail message. A list of email addresses will be provided via a mailing early in the school year. Parent – Teacher Conferences are held twice a year and appointments may be made with any teacher at any time.

## **Conduct Grade**

Each student begins each quarter with 100 points in conduct. For each infraction, usually five points are deducted from the conduct grade. Students must earn a passing grade in conduct to be academically eligible for sports. Students who fail conduct will be placed on a disciplinary contract. Students who fail conduct twice in one year are subject to removal from Ursuline High School. Conduct grades will appear on the report card; however, they are not calculated into the student's grade point average.

## **Counselors**

We have three counselors that support our students academically, emotionally, and socially. If your child is having difficulty with a class or other matters at school, please reach out to the counselor in a timely manner. Being proactive enables the counselor to be most effective. Counselors will meet with each student several times a year, including to schedule for the next school year. The Guidance Department offers several test preparation resources as well as parent programming about the college admissions process. The counselors can be contacted by calling the Ursuline main office or by email. As always, you can also contact a member of the administration addressing any student concerns. Ursuline also offers teenage mental health assistance through a partnership with ALTA Community Counseling several days a week.

## **Dances**

Freshmen are invited to the Varsity dance (semi-formal) and a casual dance. Students are eligible to attend the prom in their junior and senior years. Senior year concludes with the Senior Dinner Dance following the Baccalaureate Liturgy. We encourage all students to attend these school events, regardless of whether they have a date. All school rules are in effect for the dances. Dances are chaperoned by the Ursuline Administration and Faculty. Ticket information for each dance will be announced at UHS as well as social media.

## **Detention**

Detention can be served Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday after school from 2:35-3:20 in Room 110. Students must be on time for detention or they will not be permitted to attend. Detentions are listed on the window of the main office. Students have one week to serve detentions before facing further penalty (5 points off conduct grade and 1 additional detention.) Detention is a silent work period.

## **Drop Off/Pick Up**

Parents who drop off or pick up their student are asked to do so by using Bryson Street. Please drop the students off on the street. Please do not pull into the lot to drop your child at the door, unless for a medical reason. Too many cars create a safety hazard for students who are walking to the school. We ask parents to avoid the Wick Ave. lot and ramp as a drop off location. Students may be dropped off beginning at 6:30 a.m.

## **Dress Code**

For the complete dress code, please see the Ursuline High School Student Handbook.

Boys: Khaki pants purchased through Lands End Ursuline polo shirt; Ursuline ¼ zip sweatshirt; green, blue, or white sweaters; any shoe with socks (shoes must have a back and cannot be designed like a boot or slipper, regardless if they have a rubber sole)

Girls: Ursuline skirt or khaki pants purchased through Lands End; Ursuline polo shirt; Ursuline ¼ zip sweatshirt; green, blue, or white sweaters; any shoe with socks (shoes must have a back and cannot be designed like a boot or slipper, regardless if they have a rubber sole)

Please visit [www.landsend.com](http://www.landsend.com) to order uniform bottoms. Ursuline High School will mail you an order form in June to order uniform tops.

## **Dress Down Days**

Occasionally, students are permitted to wear casual clothing to school. Students may wear jeans, khakis, athletic pants, or sweatpants. No student may wear yoga pants or leggings on dress down days. Tops must be appropriate for school: no slogans, pictures, or innuendos that do not reflect the values of Ursuline High School. No student is permitted to have their stomachs exposed, no tank tops, no tube tops, and no cutoffs. Jeans may not have rips in them, despite being purchased with the rips.

## **Extracurricular Fair**

Ursuline High School has a variety of extracurricular activities ranging from the Student of Stewardship service club to the Global Rovers who travel to international destinations. Each September, Ursuline offers an Extracurricular Fair. Students have the opportunity to learn more about each organization and sign up for groups that interest them. Involved students typically earn higher grades and have more self confidence; encourage your student to join a variety of activities!

## **Final Exams**

Each class at Ursuline High School has a cumulative final exam at the end of the course. Several year-long classes will have a midterm at the semester change. Final exams are given in block periods to allow for ample testing time. Teachers will provide advance notice of test dates and provide appropriate review resources.

## **Handbook**

The Ursuline High School Student Handbook will be mailed home to each family in August and is available for review at [www.ursuline.com](http://www.ursuline.com). Each student and parent is required to sign an acknowledgement of the handbook at the beginning of each school year.

## **Home and School Association**

The Ursuline High School Home and School Association is an organization of parents that work to help improve U.H.S. Home and School meets several times a year at U.H.S. This organization sponsors the class dinners, financially supports several projects of the school, and assists with a variety of other Ursuline events. We encourage all Ursuline Families to join the Home and School Association. Families can join the organization at the Freshman Class Dinner or by mail. The annual dues per family is \$20.

The major fundraiser for this organization is the 300 Club Dinner held in the spring. 300 raffle tickets are sold for the reverse raffle. Ticket information will be available in the school newsletter and other school events.

## **In School Announcements**

Each day during sixth period, announcements are made to the student body regarding school events, club information, and other miscellaneous information. The announcements are also listed daily online on our website. Encourage your child to listen to these announcements daily!

## **Library and Learning Center**

The Library and Learning Center is open daily at 8:00 a.m. and closes at 4:00 p.m. This space is to be used for collaborative work, studying, tutoring, and is where students are to wait for any rides who are unable to pick them up at 2:40 p.m.

## **Lunch**

The cafeteria uses a point of sale system. Parents will receive more information in the mail to manage their student's lunch account. The monthly menu is posted on the "UHS Irish Café" Facebook page, the weekly parent email newsletter, as well as throughout the school. A main entrée is served daily in addition to hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken sandwiches, wraps, salads, fruits, and vegetables that are available daily. A main entrée costs \$3.25.

## **New Student Orientation**

All new students, freshman and transfer, will have an orientation on Wednesday, August 17. Freshman will begin their day at 7:55 a.m. and transfer students at 10 a.m. Students are to wear their uniforms and the day concludes at 12 p.m. with a picnic lunch at the Shrine.

## **Office Hours**

Typically, the Ursuline High School Main Office is open 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. during the school year. During the summer months, the office is open from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. The office opens at 7:30 a.m. during summer school.

## **Parents Welcome**

Parents are welcome to join us for all activities and spiritual events at Ursuline. Classes are a different story as parents may not interrupt them. If you would like to speak to a teacher, please call or e-mail them to schedule an appointment. All parents must check in at the office and obtain a visitor's pass when visiting Ursuline.

## **Parking**

Any student who has a driver's license is permitted to drive to Ursuline High School. All students must have a current parking pass. Parking passes can be bought yearly or by the semester. Permit information can be found in the U.H.S. Main Office. When parents and visitors come to Ursuline, please use the Bryson Street parking lot.

## **PowerSchool**

Teachers maintain on-line gradebooks, which are available to parents and their child (ren) through PowerSchool at [www.ursuline.powerschool.com](http://www.ursuline.powerschool.com). User names and passwords used to access PowerSchool will be mailed to the student's home in early September. Information that can be accessed through PowerSchool includes the teacher's gradebook, attendance and tardiness records, and conduct grades. PowerSchool is updated on a weekly basis. With the use of PowerSchool, teachers will not send written deficiency reports each quarter, unless a parent requests them by calling the main office.

## **School Pictures**

Each year Ursuline High School has pictures taken of each student. You do not have to purchase a package, however each child is photographed for the yearbook and school records. Students may wear a top of their choosing with a uniform bottom on picture day. School Picture Day is Monday, August 29. More details will be sent home via email at the start of the school year.

## **School Supplies**

In the opening week of school, teachers will tell students the supplies they will need for their class. Each student is issued an Ursuline High School Planner each year and students are expected to use it to keep track of their assignments. Ask to see your child's planner to keep yourself up to date on his/her assignments. Each student will receive a Chromebook, charger, and carrying case for their time at Ursuline through the 1:1 Chromebook program. Students are expected to have their Chromebook with them at all times. Families are expected to pay the annual \$25 all-inclusive insurance policy each year.

## **Service**

An integral part of the Ursuline High School experience is service to community. Service is one consideration when being admitted to the UHS National Honor Society and is a quality many colleges are looking for on resumes. Students can get involved with service through Students of Stewardship (S.O.S.), Interact, Christian Service Class, and Student Ambassadors. S.O.S. posts many service events each week on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor bulletin board. Students can sign up for S.O.S., Interact, and Student Ambassadors at the Extracurricular Fair. Students apply during their junior year to the Christian Service Class for their senior religion credit.

## **Schedule Changes**

Schedule change requests must be submitted to the Ursuline main office via the schedule change request form that will become available mid summer. This request form will be located on [www.ursuline.com](http://www.ursuline.com) under the Academics tab. Schedule changes cost \$25. All students must have a minimum of six (6) classes each semester.

## **Spiritual Involvement**

Our Catholic faith permeates every facet of life at Ursuline High School. Morning Mass is celebrated on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:25 a.m. Confessions are heard during the seasons of Advent and Lent. Students gather for prayer services and Masses monthly and each class begins with a prayer. Students also take a religion course during all semesters they are enrolled at Ursuline. Each grade goes on retreat during the first quarter of school. Early in the year, you will receive information on the freshman retreat.

## **Summer Gym**

Summer Gym will be held June 9 – July 30, 2022 from 8:00-12:00 p.m. It is not too late to sign up for the course. Please email [mdamore@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:mdamore@youngstowndiocese.org) for sign up information. There is no summer school on June 20, 2022 in observance of Juneteenth.

## **Summer Assignments**

Any student enrolled in an Honors or Advanced Placement course will be required to complete a summer assignment. Freshmen will be mailed their assignments, while sophomores, juniors, and seniors will receive their assignments in school before they depart for summer break. Assignments will be listed on [www.ursuline.com](http://www.ursuline.com). All Honors and Advanced Placement teachers are available via email over the summer to answer questions or provide assistance to students completing summer work.

## **Tardiness**

Each student is given four, excused tardies per quarter. Following the fourth tardy, three points will be deducted from a student's conduct grade for each additional tardy.

## **Tuition**

Tuition for the 2022-2023 school year is \$8,425 for Catholic parishioners and \$9,425 for non-parishioners. Multiple payment plans are available and can be arranged by calling Mrs. Jennifer Miller in the UHS Bookkeeping Office. Financial aid awards are mailed in early June and will include all of your awards for the year.

## **Tutoring**

Tutoring is always available for students who are struggling. Each teacher is available for tutoring daily and the Guidance Department can arrange for peer tutors during Study Hall. Parents are encouraged to speak with their students to pursue tutoring opportunities when they are in need of extra help.

Ursuline students have the opportunity to participate in a full range of activities, which are described below. Through these programs our students:

- \*develop their unique talents and gifts,
- \*develop leadership skills,
- \*recognize the importance of hard work,
- \*channel their creativity and imagination, and
- \*develop relationships with adult mentors and others who share their values and interests.

### **Extracurricular Opportunities**

Altar Servers: Mrs. Nicole Uerling, Room 128

This group is open to any boy or girl who wishes to participate in liturgy as an altar server. Training sessions are required.

Art Multimedia Club: Mrs. Campbell and Miss Timmins, Room 326

The Art Multimedia Club provides a unique opportunity for students to learn how to create multimedia presentations utilizing the latest in high tech computer programs and equipment. This organization was established to insure that the students of Ursuline High School would be prepared for the future of multimedia presentation that exists in today's technologically advanced world. It is open to all interested students.

Ursuline High School Marching and Concert Band: Mr. John Peplowski, Room 105

The Ursuline High School Band performs as a marching band during football season. They also perform at pep assemblies, parades and basketball games. During the winter and spring, the band functions as a concert band. Their talents are featured at the annual Christmas concert, spring concert, Awards Day and at liturgy. Students receive academic credit for every year they are involved in band.

Cheerleaders: Mrs. Elizabeth Kelly

The Ursuline Cheerleaders perform at all football games, basketball games, and school rallies, and they represent the school at various community events. Selection to the squads is based on tryouts that are held during the fourth quarter and athletic eligibility standards apply. First time tryouts are open to all eligible freshman and sophomore girls; junior girls may try out only if they are current members of the squad.

Eucharistic Ministers: Fr. Richard Murphy, Room 238

This ministry is open to seniors only. A series of preparatory training sessions is required. These students help with the distribution of Communion at school liturgies and in their home parishes.

Colorguard and Majorettes: Mr. John Peplowski, Room 105

The flagline and danceline perform with the Ursuline Marching band at athletic events, school rallies, and various community activities. Members of these two squads are selected during tryouts that are held in the spring of each year. All girls in grades 9-11 may try out for the flagline and danceline.

French Club: Mrs. Lisa Devlin, Room 234

The French Club explores the cultural heritage of France through further reading and study, field trips and other cultural experiences. Open to all students particularly those taking French. Meetings are held after school on a monthly basis.

Global Rovers: Mrs. Lisa Devlin, Room 234

The Global Rovers is Ursuline's travel club. The Global Rovers have conquered an impressive itinerary over the past five years. In June, the group will be traveling to France, Italy, and Greece!

Interact: Miss Carolyn Korenic, Office of Alumni and Advancement

The Interact Club is affiliated with Rotary International. It is open to all students who wish to enhance leadership skills, serve their community and expand international understanding. Projects address today's most critical issues such as hunger, the environment and illiteracy.

Interscholastic Athletic Program: Mr. John DeSantis, Athletic Director

Cross Country, Mr. George Stroia  
Girls' Golf, Mr. Matt Morgan  
Boys' Golf, Mr. Matt Morgan  
Girls' Tennis, Mr. Rob Stephens  
Girls' Volleyball, Mr. Nathan Zunik  
Boys' Soccer, Mr. Josh Auden  
Girls' Soccer, Mr. Roy Schmidt  
Football, Mr. Dan Reardon  
Boys' Basketball, Mr. Keith Gunther  
Girls' Basketball, Mr. Bernard Scott  
Girls' Bowling, Mr. John Dohar  
Boys' Bowling, Mr. John Dohar  
Boys' Baseball, Mr. Paul Kempe  
Girls' Softball, Mrs. Kristina Dugan  
Boys' Tennis, Mr. Rob Stephens  
Boys' and Girls' Track, Mr. George Stroia

Italian Club: Mrs. Sadie Volpe, Room 236

The Italian Club explores the rich cultural heritage of Italy through further study, field trips and other cultural experiences. Open to all students particularly those taking Italian.

Lectors: Mrs. Nicole Uerling, Room 128

Lectors are responsible for proclaiming the Word of God at school liturgies. All interested students are welcomed, particularly those who have skill in oral reading. Training prior to liturgies is provided.

Liturgical Choir (El Fuego): Mrs. Nicole Uerling, Room 128

The Liturgical Choir is open to all students who wish to share their musical talents thereby enhancing the quality of our liturgical worship. The group welcomes all who wish to participate but particularly those who can play a musical instrument and those who enjoy singing. Choir practice will be held weekly.

Liturgy Committee: Mrs. Nicole Uerling, Room 128

The Liturgy Committee is open to all students who are interested in planning Liturgies and prayer services for the entire school community. They meet after school and occasionally during the school day.

National Honor Society: Mrs. Nan Jacobs, Room 122

A total of 20% of a graduating class are elected to the National Honor Society in their junior year. Selection is based upon the student's academic record, leadership ability, character and school and community service. National Honor Society also sponsors the Link Crew program, a research based mentorship program for new students. `

Newspaper -The Irish Times

The Irish Times is published quarterly. Any student interested in journalism is invited to become part of the staff. Those who do not enjoy writing or editing can always help out by typing copy, paste-up, stapling and selling.

Peer Tutoring: The Guidance Department

Peer tutoring is offered through the learning center throughout the school day. Students who would be willing to give up one or two study halls per week in order to help another student should sign up for this service with their guidance counselor.

Quiz Bowl Team: Mrs. Cindy Lacko, Room 224 and Mrs. Mary Kay Scudier, Room 321

The Quiz Bowl team is open to all students and competes during the winter months against a variety of local schools. Both a JV and Varsity Team is available.

Science Club: Mrs. Jennifer DePizzo, Room 136

The Science Club meets monthly to further explore an area of science. Guest speakers, field trips, films, and other activities are sponsored for this organization. Open to all interested students.

Spanish Club: Mrs. Paulina Montaldo, Room 232

The Spanish Club explores the rich cultural heritage of the Spanish-speaking people around the world through further study, field trips, and other cultural events. Open to all interested students particularly those taking Spanish. Monthly after school meetings are held in Room 123.

Speech and Debate: Mrs. Joan Williams, Room 307

The Speech and Debate teams participate in forensic competition at the local, regional and state level. Categories include: Humorous, Drama, Oratorical, Original, Prose-Poetry, Duet Acting, U.S. and Foreign Extemporaneous, and Congressional and Lincoln-Douglas Debate. Students receive coaching during the months of September and October and compete during the months of November through February. Competitions are usually scheduled on Saturdays. The team is affiliated with both the Ohio High School Speech League and the National Forensic League. Practices are held after school at least 3 nights a week during the Speech/Debate season.

Student Ambassadors: Mrs. Maggie Damore, Main Office & Mrs. Aimee Morrison, Room 322

This service organization actively involves students in the planning and coordination of Ursuline's marketing and recruitment efforts. These activities include school visits, open house, Wonderland on Wick, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Fun Fest, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Day, and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Night. Student Ambassadors also assist in the production of brochures, posters, or other materials for prospective parents and students. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors apply in the fall of the school year.

Acceptance as a Student Ambassador is based on a student's application, conduct, and attendance.

Students of Stewardship (S.O.S.): Mrs. Aimee Morrison, Main Office

Students of Stewardship is a service organization dedicated to serving various local charities including the Rescue Mission, Habitat for Humanity, and Casa Madre, among others. They also raise money throughout the year to defray the cost of their culminating activity, a mission trip. Past trips have included Mexico, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Appalachia, and Florida. Students in grades 9 through 12 are welcome to join S.O.S., although the Mission Trip is open to only upper classmen.

Student Council: Miss DeAnna Sheffler, Room 324

Each of the four classes elect class officers and representatives, which comprise the Student Council. The Council sponsors a variety of social and service oriented activities throughout the year. It is the principle vehicle whereby the students communicate their concerns to the faculty and administration. Elections are held in the spring of each year. Eligibility is based on standards summarized in the Student handbook. Meetings are held both during and after school.

Theater: Mrs. Joan Williams, Room 307

Each year, at least two musicals are produced at Ursuline High School. Auditions are held for casting purposes. Students not wishing to appear on stage serve in backstage capacities (e.g. lights, sound board, props, etc.) Extracurricular eligibility applies. Rehearsals are held several days per week after school (3 – 5 p.m.) or in the early evening (5 – 8 p.m.) as well as on Saturday / Sunday afternoon. In addition to the two musicals, Ursuline produces a winter play and the student directed One-Acts.

Yearbook - The Ursulinian: Mrs. Lisa Devlin, Room 234

All students from grades 9-12 are invited to join the staff of the Ursuline High School yearbook. Students learn layout and graphic art skills as they have fun producing the annual. Skill in areas such as writing, drawing, and design are helpful but not necessary. Training will be provided.

**Ursuline High School  
2022-2023 Calendar**

**First Quarter: August 18 - October 28**

Freshman Orientation, August 17

1<sup>st</sup> Day of School, August 19

School will NOT be in session:

September 2, Teacher In-Service

September 5, Labor Day

October 10, Teacher In-Service

**Second Quarter: October 31 - January 13**

School will NOT be in session:

November 23, Conference Comp. Day

November 24 and 25, Thanksgiving Break

November 28, Teacher In-Service

December 22 through January 3, Christmas Vacation

**Third Quarter: January 16 - March 24**

School will NOT be in session:

January 16, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

February 17, Conference Comp. Day

February 20, Presidents' Day Holiday

March 17, Teacher In-Service Day

**Fourth Quarter: March 27 - June 1**

Last Day of School, June 3

School will NOT be in session:

April 7 through April 14, Easter Break

May 29, Memorial Day