

# THE WEEKLY PENGUIN



July 29, 2022

Good afternoon Penguin community;

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year! It is my esteemed pleasure to greet you, and to welcome you back to a live campus. In continuing in my second year as principal of University High School, it is my purpose to provide the best learning environment possible for our students to learn, and for our staff to work. This will mean tightening of procedures and practices, consistent accountability, providing new opportunities for students to engage in the community and staff to have meaningful professional development, and ultimately understanding and putting into practice what is best for our students education combined with their social and emotional well-being. This will take time, hard work, and compassion as some changes will need to be made, and sometimes change can be challenging. More than anything, it will take a partnership between the school and the community over the coming days, months, and even years to mold University High School into an even finer example of one of the country's best schools.

Below is the first official Weekly Penguin. I will be attaching it to a short message in my emails, along with any other pertinent attachments week by week.

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**2022-2023 bell schedule**

**Athletics - Fall**

**Cohort meetings**

**COVID protocol status**

**Dropoff/pickup procedures**

**Office hours, schedule pickup**

**Open House**

**Parking permits**

**Schedule changes, ParentVUE/StudentVUE**

**School website, phone tree**

## 2022-2023 bell schedule

This year's bell schedule is attached as a PDF, and will also be posted on the school website soon.

### Athletics – Fall

Below is the list of Fall sports in which Rincon/University competes for the Fall 2022 season. Click the links below to go to their sites for schedules, scores, and records.

[Cross Country – boys varsity](#)

[Golf – girls varsity](#)

[Cross Country – boys JV](#)

Swim/Dive – boys – COMING SOON!

[Cross Country – girls varsity](#)

Swim/Dive – girls – COMING SOON!

[Cross Country – girls JV](#)

[Volleyball – girls varsity](#)

[Football – varsity](#)

[Volleyball – girls JV](#)

[Football – JV/freshman](#)

[Volleyball - freshman](#)

[Golf – boys varsity](#)

### Cohort meetings

Class cohort meetings for students will be live on campus on the dates/times below. All students will report to their class period FIRST, and a teacher will escort them to the auditorium after attendance has been taken. Meetings will take place at the beginning of each listed period and will last roughly 30 minutes. Student attendance is mandatory.

Monday, Aug 8, 1 <sup>st</sup> per.	Tuesday, Aug 9, 2 <sup>nd</sup> per.	Thursday, Aug 11, 1 <sup>st</sup> per.	Friday, Aug 12, 1 <sup>st</sup> per.
9 <sup>th</sup> grade	10 <sup>th</sup> grade	11 <sup>th</sup> grade	12 <sup>th</sup> grade

### COVID protocol status

To reiterate the latest TUSD message, Pima County is currently at **Medium** Community Level Spread. Since COVID continues to evolve, for the start of SY2022-23, the **CURRENT COVID policies will remain in place until revised**. The leadership team is currently looking at the new language from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and will be making recommendations for updates. Following are some reminders and useful links:

- If you are sick, stay home, regardless of COVID testing outcome.
- [Wash your hands](#) regularly and reinforce hand sanitation stations in classrooms.
- your workspace at least once a day or more.
  - We will continue to follow our COVID-19 guidance regarding isolation and quarantine requirements. [Release from Isolation & Quarantine Flowchart](#)
  - We will continue to **notify PCHD when an outbreak** The last emergency measure from ADHS defined an outbreak as 3 or more cases.

- We will continue to **report case numbers via our TUSD Dashboard [COVID Case Report \(tusd1.org\)](#)**
- We will continue to use our existing **[TUSD COVID form to report positive cases](#)** for all students and staff.
- We will use the **[Masking and Testing Requirements Chart](#)** based on **[CDC Community Level Spread](#)** (CDC updates data every Thursday night). *Masking mandates will adjust 9/25/22 due to pending AZ Law.*
- If you have a **large-scale in-person meeting or forum**, review the **[Masking and Testing Chart](#)** based on CDC Community Level Spread. Consider the ZOOM option for large-scale meetings/forums.
- Keep your COVID vaccination status “**[up-to-date](#)**” based on CDC recommendations. “Up-to-date” includes boosters. (see **[CDC definition for details](#)**)
- Participate in **Weekly Concentric Pooled Testing** that will start again at all TUSD Schools and work sites beginning August 15.

If you have questions or concerns about COVID or a Communicable disease, please contact Health Services, [healthservices@tusd1.org](mailto:healthservices@tusd1.org)

### Drop off/pick up procedures

To drop off or pick up your students on the Rincon/University campus:

- Enter through the southernmost main purple gate on Arcadia Ave.
- Follow the route provided to move through the east parking lot to the designated drop off/pick up area near the auto shop. Do not stop on the pathway beforehand to unload/load your vehicle.
- Continue through the designated pathway to the south exit on to 8<sup>th</sup> Street in the Sierra Estates neighborhood.
- We will have administrators and staff in the parking lot for the first days to guide traffic. Ultimately, traffic will move faster and more smoothly if folks follow the pathway laid out.
- The north parking lot curb along the education building is designated for school bus drop off and pick up, please do not use it for private vehicle unloading/loading.
- You may drop off or pick up your student anywhere off-campus where it is legal to park/unload, and which does not impede the flow of traffic.

**Please do not double- or triple-park along Arcadia Ave, 5<sup>th</sup> St, or park in any area designated for city or school bus unloading.** The safety and security of our students, staff, and families is paramount, and any practices outside of what has been set up can be a potential safety hazard. The first few days of this procedure will take a little longer as folks fall into the routine, but will clear up and move more smoothly once everyone has been trained and retrained. We thank you in advance for your patience, and for prioritizing our students’ safety above all else.

### Office hours, schedule pickup

The UHS administration office will be open for business from 7:30am-3:30pm, Monday through Friday (excluding holidays listed on the **[TUSD calendar](#)**). If you missed any of the schedule pick up days last week, not to worry. Call the front office at 520.232.5900 during business hours and we will be more than happy to assist in the collection of your school materials and answer any questions you have. A remind that this year we will not be checking out student lockers in the education building, but lockers in the PE and athletics areas will still be available for use, as well as any lockers or storage spaces in fine arts or other classrooms that do not go through the finance office for checkout. The lockers in the education building are slated for removal. We will be working with staff to utilize technology for as much as possible, including note-taking and textbook usage to cut down on the weight factor for backpacks.

## Open House

Open House will take place on Thursday, August 11. We will tentatively be starting at 5:00pm, but a final start time will be published beforehand and also placed on our school website calendar. Open House is a chance to walk you students' schedules, and meet their teachers. Our staff will be on-hand to meet and greet, including our counselors and administration team. Please note: this is not parent-teacher conferences, which will take place Thursday, September 15 (more information later), so there will not be appointments available to have extended one-on-one conversations with our teachers.

## Parking permits

Assistant Principal Andrea Evans is overseeing the parking permit application and approval process. At the moment, we have collected over 220 applications for 100 UHS-designated permits, which were first put out in May 2022. Permit applications were reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis, with rising seniors having priority for approval. We will review additional applications at the start of the school year and students will be notified if they have been assigned a permit. If you have not received a confirmation email from Mrs. Evans, then you have not received a parking permit for this school year. If you are still interested in applying for a parking permit, fill out the [2022-2023 permit application](#), which will go directly to Mrs. Evans. No paper copies of the form will be accepted this year, and inquiries regarding permits without an application filled will not be responded to for efficiency of time. The application link will also be posted to our school website shortly.

## REMIND

The REMIND app is one of our main methods of communication with families and students. Follow the instructions below to sign up to receive school updates & info directly to your phone via text. So that you receive the most accurate information - please remember to:

- Sign up with your full first and last name (no nicknames) so that if we need to contact you individually we know who you are.
- Sign up with the correct role (as a "student" if you are a student, and as a "parent" if you are a parent/guardian).

To receive Remind text messages, text your assigned code from the charts below to the number 81010. You can also download the Remind App on your iPhone or Android to receive push notifications (you will enter the codes from the charts below in the app when prompted).

9th Grade – Class of 2026	@uhs26
10th Grade – Class of 2025	@uhs25
11th Grade – Class of 2024	@uhs24
12th Grade – Class of 2023	@uhs23

If you do not have a smartphone or are unable to receive text messages, you can still receive REMIND messages via email. To sign up to receive REMIND emails, go to [remind.com/join](http://remind.com/join), enter your assigned code from the charts above, and then enter your email address. More information will be provided during the parent cohort meetings, which will be scheduled and announced after the student cohort meetings are complete.

## Schedule changes, ParentVUE/StudentVUE

All schedule changes must be completed either through the official paper form. All requests are reviewed by the UHS administration and counseling departments, with priority for graduation requirements, then upperclassman requests, then everything else. If your request is approved you will be contacted and a new schedule provided, or you can see your revised schedule on [StudentVUE](#) and [ParentVUE](#).

- *Students:* all school communication will take place through your s.tusd1.org email account, not your personal email account. If you are logging in to [StudentVUE](#) for the first time, do so on a desktop or laptop and following the instructions for creating an account. If your request was not approved you will follow your existing schedule, do not go to other classes you are not currently enrolled in.
- *Parents:* if you do not yet have a [ParentVUE](#) account set up, do so on a desktop or laptop and following the instructions for creating an account. You may also call the school at 520.232.5900 for assistance.

The counselors and registrar are working to process all schedule edits, including change requests, as fast as possible. We are aiming to go live on StudentVUE and ParentVUE with schedules by Monday, August 1, but it may be right up to Wednesday, August 3. Check your account regularly and on the first day of school to ensure your schedule is accurate.

### **School website, phone tree**

The school website is currently being re-structured by both TUSD and us. It is currently missing some information and we are refreshing and retraining our editors due to a new format for modifications. Keep an eye on the home page for current event information, the staff page for any contact info you need, and the school calendar which will be updated with all pertinent events. The phone tree has also been redone, with new recordings in English and Spanish for the main menus, and the current staff listed for each respective extension. Call 520.232.5900 for any questions and one of our staff will help you.

Once again, welcome back to University High School for the 2022-2023 school year! We can't wait to see you!

Alberto Ranjel  
Principal  
University High School