5TH GRADE
TRANSITION GUIDE

UPPER MERION MIDDLE SCHOOL 2026 / 2027

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Welcome to UMAMS

Hello and welcome to Upper Merion Area Middle School!

We're so excited to have you join our school community. Middle school is a time of new beginnings—new friends, new classes, and new experiences! We know it can feel like a big change, but don't worry—we're here to support you every step of the way.

Our amazing staff is dedicated to making sure your transition is smooth, positive, and full of fun. By working together—students, families, and teachers—we can make this a great year and build an awesome foundation for your middle school journey. If you ever feel unsure, just ask—we've got your back! 💛💙

5th Grade Transition

✨ **5th Grade Transition Activities**

To help students feel confident and excited about starting middle school, we offer several transition experiences leading up to the first day:

🌸 **Spring & Summer Events:**

- All 4th graders attend the middle school drama production
- Students tour the middle school and eat lunch in the cafeteria with their peers
- Elementary and middle school counselors & principals meet to review student data
- 4th grade teachers and the middle school counselor meet to discuss student strengths & needs
- Special education teams from both levels meet to discuss IEPs and support services

☀️ **Summer Opportunities:**

- 5th Grade Family Transition Night – May 19, 2026 at 6:30 pm
- Middle School Tours – Students and families can explore the school and follow a sample "day in the life" of a 5th grader
  ~Sign up on the UMAMS website for available dates
- Practice Lockers – A bank of lockers is available all summer in the 5th grade hallway so students can stop in and practice opening a lock

💡 Got ideas for more transition activities? Reach out to Mrs. Harvey—we're always looking to improve!

Meet the Admin Team

Mr. Adam Slavin

Principal – Leads our school and supports all students and staff.

Mrs. Erika Harvey

Lower House Principal (Grades 5 & 6) – Your go-to principal for all things 5th grade!

Dr. Iris Rolon

Upper House Principal (Grades 7 & 8) – Supports our older middle school Vikings.

Mrs. Christine Salgueiro

Dean of Students – Supports students with behavior.

Office Staff – Who to Know

Our office staff are the heart of the school! Whether you're checking in for the day, need help with attendance, or have a question about day-to-day operations, these are the friendly faces ready to assist students and families with anything they need.

Mrs. Becky DiSanto, Secretary to the Principal – Mrs. DiSanto keeps everything running smoothly and supports our principal, Mr. Slavin.
☎ 610-205-8803

Mrs. Kim Porcello, Main Office Secretary – Need help with forms, transportation questions, or general info? Ms. Porcello is happy to assist!
☎ 610-205-8802

Mrs. Carine Massaad, Secretary to the House Principals – Mrs. Massaad is your go-to for reaching either House Principal and can help with appointments and info.
☎ 610-205-8809

Irienisse Galindez, Receptionist – You'll see Ms. Galindez right when you walk into the building! She helps with visitor check-ins and student support
☎ 610-205-8820

Mrs. Monica Odige, Attendance Clerk – Need to report an absence or late arrival? Mrs. Odige is your contact.
☎ 610-205-8811

Meet Your School Counselors

One of the best parts of middle school is getting to know the adults who are here to support you every step of the way. At UMAMS, our school counselors play a special role in making sure your transition to 5th grade is smooth, successful, and fun. Each grade level has its own dedicated counselor who moves up with students year to year—"...so the person who supports you in 5th grade will continue with you throughout your middle school career."

Justin Bonner, School Counselor – Grade 5 – Mr. Bonner supports all 5th graders with academic, social, and emotional needs. He's always there to listen and help.
610-205-8836, jbonner@umasd.org

Kara Howell, School Counselor – Grade 6 – Whether it's help with classes or friendship challenges, Mrs. Howell is here for our 6th grade students.
610-205-8837, khowell@umasd.org

Mandi Donahue, School Counselor – Grade 7 – supports our 7th graders as they grow into more independent learners and problem-solvers.
610-205-8838, adonahue@umasd.org

Duperly Hadrick, School Counselor – Grade 8 – Mrs. Hadrick helps 8th graders prepare for high school and take on leadership roles in their final year at UMAMS.
610-205-8835, dhadrick@umasd.org

Mrs. Rory Palac, Guidance Office Secretary – Mrs. Palac can help you get in touch with the right counselor or schedule an appointment.
610-205-8833, rpalac@umasd.org

5th Grade Teams

This year's 5th grade class is split into five amazing teams! Each team is made up of three core teachers: one for Language Arts, one for Math, and one for Science/Social Studies. Here's a look at who's on each team:

✨ Adventurers
- Mrs. Colden – Language Arts – C120 – kcolden@umasd.org
- Mrs. Quinn – Science/Social Studies – C122 – tquinn@umasd.org
- Mrs. Frignito – Math – C118 – mfrignito@umasd.org

✨ Explorers
- Ms. Randolph – Language Arts – C128 – trandolph@umasd.org
- Mrs. Yoder – Science/Social Studies – C119 – lyoder@umasd.org
- Mrs. Cosgriff – Math – C126 – mcosgriff@umasd.org

✨ Pathfinders
- Ms. Crosby - Language Arts – C125 – ccrosby@umasd.org
- Mr. Thompson – Science/Social Studies – C121 – jthompson@umasd.org
- Ms. Reinbold – Math – C127 – treinbold@umasd.org

✨ Globetrotters
- Mr. Rule – Language Arts – C226 – srule@umasd.org
- Mrs. Kempes – Science/Social Studies – C217 – skempes@umasd.org
- Ms. Downie – Math – C221 – tdownie@umasd.org

✨ Voyagers
- Mrs. Piro – Language Arts – C117 – jpiro@umasd.org
- Mrs. Collins – Science/Social Studies – C124 – kcollins@umasd.org
- Ms. Haney – Math – C115 – chaney@umasd.org

These teams create a smaller community within the big middle school world. Students share the same core teachers and work together on fun projects, team-building, and more!

Special Education Teachers

✨ **5th Grade Special Education Teachers**

- These dedicated teachers support students with individualized learning plans:
- Mrs. Bacani – Language Arts – tbacani@umasd.org
- Mrs. Nazzario – Math – anazzario@umasd.org

Additional 5th grade support teachers include:

- Ms. Ryan, Ms. Stocklin, Ms. Swartz-Hanley, Mr. Thorum, Mrs. Luke, Ms. Hagan, Mrs. Kreckmann, Mr. Armenio, Mrs. Murphy, Mrs. Elison and Ms. Evans

Unified Arts Teachers

✨**Unified Arts Teachers**

- Art: Mrs. Manderachi, Mrs. Loncar
- Family & Consumer Science: Ms. Newman
- Computers: Mr. Scales, Dr. Johnson
- Health/Physical Ed.: Mrs. Pierce, Mrs. Devers, Mr. Scioli, Mrs. Kushner
- Music: Mrs. Edge, Mr Mendoza , Mr. Hodgson, Mr. Nguyen, Mrs. Helmetag, Ms. Sprague
- Technology Ed.: Mr. Quenzer , Mr. Lorch
- Leadership: Mr. Guest, Mrs. Spinelli

School Hours

The middle school opens its doors for students at **7:35 AM**, with classes starting at **8:00 AM**. Attendance is taken with the Block 1 teacher. The school day ends at **2:50 PM**. After **3:00 PM**, students are not permitted in the building unless supervised by an adult.

Our middle school Lower House schedule has **three academic blocks**. These include **Math, Language Arts, and Science/Social Studies**. In addition, each student has a **45-minute Elective and a 45-minute Unified Arts** period scheduled every day. These periods are for "specials."

The 5th grade teams also end their day with a short **Viking Time** period for support and intervention. Viking Time is designed to help all students with their individual needs.

📅 You can review the updated student and teacher schedule by visiting our website

Lunch

At the middle school, we have four lunch periods, each lasting 30 minutes.
⏰ 5th Grade Lunch is scheduled from 11:38 AM to 12:08 PM.
It's a great time for students to relax, socialize with friends, and recharge for the rest of the day

Lockers

🔐 **Lockers**
To help ease the transition, we have a bank of lockers available all summer so students can practice using combination locks. The locker combinations are posted right on the lockers, and students are welcome to stop by throughout the summer—please note that access may occasionally be limited due to summer cleaning by our custodial staff..

🎥 **Helpful Tip:** Watch this short video or scan the QR code to learn how to open a combination lock before you try it out.

Practicing with any standard combination lock at home is also a great idea!

Locker Guidelines

- Every student is assigned a personal locker with a built-in combination lock.
- Lockers are located near the student's academic team classrooms.
- Students should never share their locker combination with anyone.
- Lockers are intended to store personal belongings—please do not bring valuable items to school.
- The school is not responsible for lost or stolen personal property.
- Each student must use only their assigned locker. Sharing lockers is not allowed.
- Students are responsible for keeping their lockers clean and free of any damage.
- If there's a problem with a locker, it should be reported to the Main Office.

🔒 *Reminder:* Lockers are school property. The Upper Merion Area School District retains the right to access and inspect lockers at any time. Please review the district's locker use policy for more information.

Cell Phones

Cell phones are a distraction to the educational environment and should be turned off before students enter the building, placed in the student's backpack and into their school locker at the start of the day. The Middle School is considered a "Cell Phone Free Zone" -- students are expected to keep their cell phones in their school locker during the entire school day.

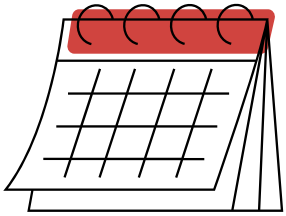
iPads for Every Student

At UMAMS, every student gets an iPad to help with learning!
You'll use it to:
✔️ Create projects
✔️ Work with classmates
✔️ Learn how to be a safe digital citizen
Teachers will use iPads to make lessons more fun and interactive. Parents can check out our iPad FAQs for more info.

Academic Grading

UMAMS operates on four 45-day marking periods throughout the school year:

- **1st Quarter:** Ends in early November
- **2nd Quarter:** Ends in late January
- **3rd Quarter:** Ends in mid-to-late March
- **4th Quarter:** Ends on the last day of school



Grades are typically calculated based on a mix of tests, quizzes, homework, classwork, and projects. Your child's teachers will provide more details about how grades are determined.

Grading Scale

- **A (90–100):** Outstanding
- **B (80–89):** Good
- **C (70–79):** Satisfactory
- **D (65–69):** Needs Improvement
- **F (Below 65):** Unsatisfactory
- **I** Incomplete

Academic Grade Narratives

- **A:** Demonstrates outstanding performance with course objectives
- **B:** Exceeds performance expectations with course objectives
- **C:** Meets performance expectations with course objectives
- **D:** Meets minimum performance expectations with course objectives
- **F:** Unsatisfactory performance with course objectives
- **I:** Evaluation withheld until work has been completed

Unified Arts Grading and Schedule

The Unified Arts program rotates over four marking periods. Courses follow two different formats:

Consecutive Day Format:

- Family & Consumer Science (FCS)
- Leadership
- STEM in Music

Traditional Format (2x every 4-day cycle):

- Art
- Music
- PE/Fitness
- Health & Swimming
- Computer Science
- Technology Education

Unified Arts classes use the following grading scale:

- O (Outstanding): Exceeds expected learning objectives
- S (Satisfactory): Meets expected learning objectives
- U (Unsatisfactory): Does not meet expected learning objectives

📌 Note: Interim reports are only issued for traditional format UA courses. Teachers will contact families if a student is not meeting expectations. Any missing work should be made up during the final week of the course.

Academic Awards

🎖️ **HONOR ROLL**

Students can earn one of two Honor Roll designations each marking period:

- Distinguished Honors: All A's, O's, and S's
- Honor Roll: All A's, B's, O's, and S's

To qualify for an Academic Award in June, students must make the Honor Roll for the first, second, and third marking periods.

🏆 **PRESIDENTIAL AWARD**

This award honors 8th grade students who have consistently excelled academically throughout their middle school years and are transitioning to high school.

To earn the Presidential Award for Educational Excellence, students must:

1. Earn all A's in 5th, 6th, 7th, and the first semester of 8th grade.
2. Score Advanced on the most recent PSSA exam in reading or math

Parent Teacher Conferences

UMAMS hosts Fall and Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences each school year. These conferences offer a great opportunity for parents to meet with teachers, counselors, and administrators to discuss student progress.

- Fall Conferences: Typically scheduled mid to late November
- Spring Conferences: Typically held in early March

At least one evening session will be available to accommodate family schedules.
There will be in-person and online options for both Fall and Spring Conferences.

📌 Pro Tip: Reach out to your student's team of teachers for more specific information about scheduling your conference times.

Schoology & Sapphire

The Upper Merion Area School District uses two digital platforms to help families stay connected with student learning and progress:

🌐 **Sapphire Parent Web Portal**
This secure online portal lets parents and guardians check student grades and attendance.

- Access here: www.umasd.org/mygrades
- If you had an account last year, no need to reapply—your login info remains the same.
- Forgot your login? Email: sapphirepp@umasd.org

📘 **Schoology (/skoo.luh.jee/)**
Schoology is our learning management system (LMS). It's where students access course content, submit assignments, and take assessments on their iPads.

- Schoology Parent Access gives families a look into:
- Student assignments
- Class updates
- Upcoming due dates

To create a parent account, you'll need an access code from one of your child's teachers. Once your account is created, you can link all of your children to a single login.

🔗 Learn more about Sapphire and Schoology: https://ms.umasd.org/info/parentguardian-grade-information-portal

PBIS & Our Viking Values

At UMAMS, we believe that behavior can be taught—just like math or reading! Through Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), we help students understand and meet expectations by teaching, modeling, and consistently reinforcing positive behaviors.
The UMAMS PBIS Core Team is a diverse, supportive group of educators dedicated to student success. Our PBIS framework is evidence-based and helps build a positive school culture by clearly defining expectations that are easy to understand, positively stated, and consistently reinforced.

More details can be found at: https://ms.umasd.org/viking-values/what-is-pbis

UMAMS Viking Values
We focus on three key behaviors that guide everything we do:

- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible
- Be Kind

We don't just tell students what not to do—we show and support them in learning what to do, with a consistent approach across all school environments.
📊 For more information about PBIS nationwide: www.pbis.org/pbis/what-is-pbis

What is PBIS?

- Based on research-based behavioral and instructional principles
- Builds upon the strengths of our school and students
- Emphasizes instruction and behavioral outcomes
- Uses data-driven decision making
- Encourages a positive climate
- Offers comprehensive and proactive supports
- Focuses on prevention and long-term student success

What PBIS is Not:

- A packaged or one-size-fits-all program
- A quick fix or trend
- Only about rewards or consequences
- Just for students in special education
- Only for some students—it's for everyone!

PBIS
POSITIVE BEHAVIOR
INTERVENTION AND SUPPORT

Curriculum Overview

✏️ **Language Arts (Wonders Program)**

- Reading strategies & comprehension
- Writing with purpose & grammar skills
- Vocabulary, spelling, and writer's workshop

➕ **Math (Everyday Math)**

- Place value, operations, fractions, decimals
- Geometry, graphs, measurement & volume
- Online resource: www.everydaymathonline.com

🌎 **Science & Social Studies (Integrated)**

- Scientific method & ecosystems
- Earth science, water cycle, cells, energy
- Geography, Ancient & Native Americans
- Colonial America, slavery, and world trade

🏆 First in Math

- Students sharpen their skills through fun, game-based learning that boosts confidence and builds a love for math!

Math Acceleration

🧠 **Math Acceleration (4th → 5th & 5th → 6th)**

🔗 Learn more: Math Acceleration Info 📧 Questions? Contact Dr. Brian Reilly

Music Opportunities

Whether you sing, play an instrument, or want to try something new, we've got something for you!

- 🎺 **Band:** Weekly lessons + full band rehearsals
- 🎻 **Orchestra:** Weekly small group + orchestra practice
- 🎤 **Choir:** Sing fun songs and perform in concerts (after school)
- 🔔 **Handchime Ensemble:** No experience needed! Before school once a week

Contact our music teachers to join:

- Mr. Nguyen (Band) – dnguyen@umasd.org
- Mrs. Edge (Orchestra/Handchime) – medge@umasd.org

Clubs, Camp & More!

Here are just some of the awesome things you can get involved in during 5th grade:

- **CREATE Club** – Promote kindness & inclusion
- **Community of Caring** – Plan school-wide service projects
- **Drama Club** – Act, sing, dance, or work behind the scenes
- **25 Book Challenge** – Read and win prizes!
- **Student Council** – Help plan fun Lower House events
- **Intramurals** – After school activities like sports, art, or games
- **Achievers Club** – After school help with schoolwork (by counselor recommendation)
- **Junior Optimist Club** – Make a difference in our school & community
- **Outdoor School Camp** – A spring highlight with hiking, games, and more!

And don't forget **Sea Perch,** our awesome underwater robotics team!

UMAMS Library

Mrs. Specht, 5–8 Librarian
Mrs. Puleo, Library Assistant - epuleo@umasd.org
📞 Phone: (610) 205-8823
🕒 Library Hours: 7:30 AM – 3:30 PM

With its large picture window overlooking the courtyard, open seating areas, and extensive digital and print collections, the UMAMS library is a welcoming place for all students—especially our 5th graders!

Library Highlights

- Over 18,000 print books and 2,300+ ebooks/audiobooks
- 24/7 virtual access via the UMAMS Library Web Page and Library App
- Books organized by genre (humor, sports, fantasy, historical fiction, etc.) and displayed using dynamic shelving
- Weekly free book giveaway!
- The one-to-one iPad program allows students to seamlessly explore both physical and digital resources. Our library is a vibrant learning hub that fosters lifelong reading and discovery.

We Need You!

The library relies on the support of our amazing parent volunteers. If you're available to help, please contact Mrs. Puleo at epuleo@umasd.org.
📝 Please note: All volunteers must have current clearances. Visit the UMASD website and navigate to:
Departments > Human Resources > Clearances – Volunteers
🌐 To visit the library page at home:
Go to www.umasd.org → Select Middle School → Click on Library

Nurse & Medical Services

The medical suite is staffed full-time and supports both routine and emergency student health needs. Our school nurse manages medical records and coordinates care, but please remember—students must have a legitimate reason to visit.

Nurse & Medical Services

🚪 **Visiting the Nurse**

- Students must have a teacher-signed pass to visit the medical suite (except in emergencies).
- Frequent, non-urgent visits may lead to a parent/guardian conference with school staff.

🩹 **Accidents & First Aid**

- All injuries must be reported to the supervising adult and the nurse immediately.
- Parents are responsible for further treatment after notification.
- Students must provide a doctor's note to be excused from PE, swimming, or other activities.
- Parents should not ask the nurse to treat non-school-related injuries.

🛗 **Elevator Use**

- Students needing elevator access due to injury must bring a doctor's note to the nurse.
- Students using crutches must wear appropriate footwear (no flip flops or sandals).

💊 **Medications at School**

- All medication must be dispensed through the Health Suite.
- No student may carry or take medications (prescription or over-the-counter), unless an inhaler or EpiPen exception is documented.
- Parents must:
  - Provide written instructions from a physician or nurse practitioner
  - Send medication in its original labeled pharmacy container
  - Drop off and pick up medications directly with the nurse
- New medication forms are required each school year.

🏕️ Camp Medications

Same procedures as school-day meds apply. No medication will be dispensed without required documentation.

💉 **Immunizations**

- Students must receive Tdap and MCV vaccines before entering 7th grade.
- These are typically administered at the 11–12 year wellness visit.
- Provide documentation to the school nurse.

📄 **Emergency Data Sheets**

- Must be submitted each year on the first day of school.
- Inform the nurse of any new medical concerns or allergies.
- Parents must sign permission for the school to administer Tylenol, Ibuprofen, or Benadryl for approved reasons.

📞 Contact the Nurse's Office: 610-205-8805

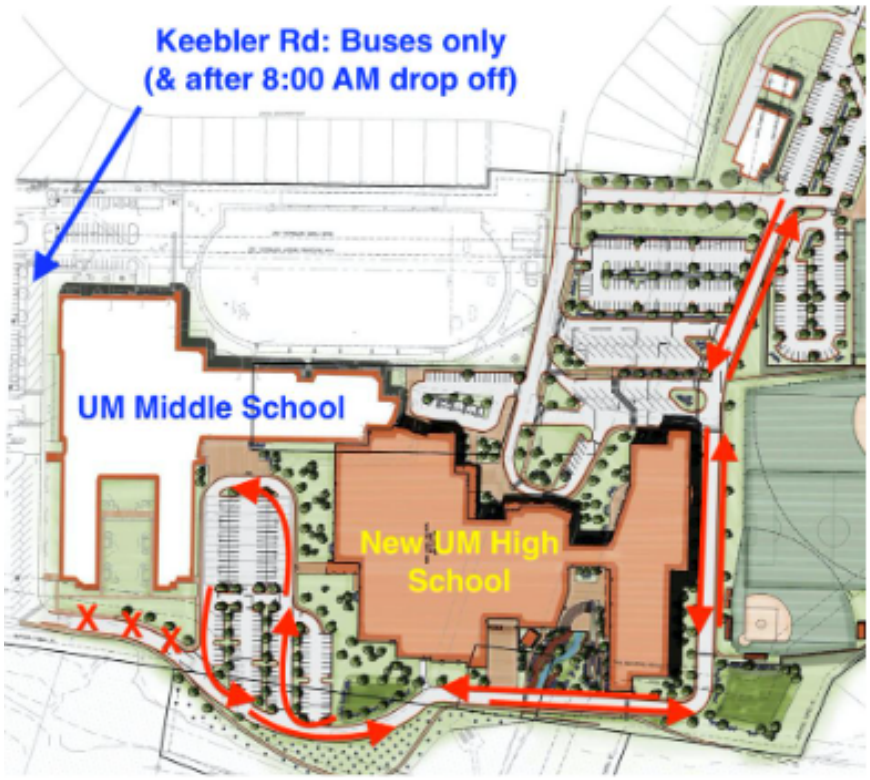
📧 Mrs. Bridget McGuigan – bmcguigan@umasd.org

Drop-Off & Pick-Up Details

🚗 Morning Drop-Off

- Parent drop-off is located behind the middle school via Crossfield Road (follow the red arrows).
- Students should be dropped off at the circle or along the side of the building.
- After drop-off, vehicles exit around the circle back onto Crossfield Road.

⚠️ Important: Students should not be dropped off at the front of the school before 8:00 a.m.
If a student arrives late, they should be dropped off at the front entrance and report to the Main Office to sign in.



🚌 Morning Bus Drop-Off

- Buses use the Keebler Road entrance and unload students at the front of the school before 8:00 a.m.
- The front loop is reserved for buses only during morning drop-off hours.

🚦 Afternoon Pick-Up

- Parent pick-up is also located behind the school via Crossfield Road (follow the red arrows).
- Vehicles use the new access road around the high school and pull up to the same circle and side area for student pick-up.
- After pick-up, cars exit around the circle to Crossfield Road.

🚌 Afternoon Bus Loading

- Bus dismissal takes place at the front of the middle school.
- Buses are assigned specific numbered spots that remain the same all year.

🎯 Safety is our top priority during arrival and dismissal. Thank you for following traffic flow and staff directions! Please review the DRIVING ROUTE (click here) for Pick Up and Drop Off.

Transportation Services

Upper Merion Area School District uses First Student as our student transportation provider.

- Location Manager: Andre Huertas – andre.huertas@firstgroup.com
- Safety Manager: Tami Gesner
- 📞 Phone: 610-337-1092 (6:00 AM – 6:00 PM)

☎️ After-hours: Same number, routed through a 24/7 answering

📱 Track the Bus with FirstView

Parents are encouraged to download the FirstView App:

- Select "Upper Merion Area School District"
- Enter your child's district ID number to track their bus in real-time

📝 Bus Notes for Visiting Friends

To ride a different bus to visit another student:

- Both families must send a signed note giving permission.
- Notes must be approved and signed by an administrator.

🚌 Bus Behavior Expectations

- Students must follow directions from on-duty staff and bus drivers.
- No running or pushing while loading buses.
- Stay seated until the bus stops completely.
- Assigned seats may be required.
- Video surveillance is in use and may be reviewed if needed.

🕔 Activity Buses

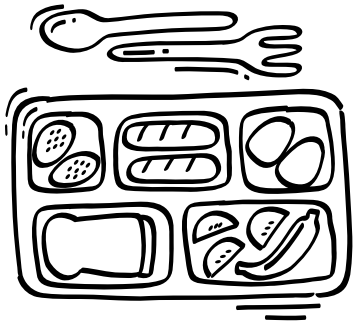
UMAMS provides late activity buses for students in clubs, drama, or Achievers Club:

- 4 buses serve Middle and High School students
- Depart at 5:45 PM daily, and 4:30 PM on Tues/Wed/Thurs
- Buses serve: Bridgeport, Bobwhite, Belmont, West Conshohocken
- Stops are abbreviated – not the same as morning/afternoon routes

📋 Check the stop lists posted at school or online:
https://www.umasd.org/departments/transportation/late-bus-drop-off-locations

Food Services

The Middle School cafeteria offers multiple daily meal options like Pizza, Grille, Specialty, and Meal Deal stations. Meals include fruits, vegetables, and milk. Students must include at least one fruit or vegetable and one entrée to make a meal.



Highlights:

- Vegetarian options every day
- Breakfast served daily
- Peanut-free cafeteria

Meal Prices (subject to change):

- Lunch: $3.25 (Paid) / $0.40 (Reduced)
- Breakfast: $2.75 (Paid) / $0.30 (Reduced)

If a student forgets lunch money, they may charge a meal. Food Services will follow up with families.

Free & Reduced Meals

- Apply online at www.paschoolmeals.com after July 1st
- Some families may be directly certified; look for notifications in August
- 30-day grace period at the start of the school year

Manage Accounts at **www.schoolcafe.com**

- Add funds, set limits, or track purchases
- No fee to send cash/checks to school
- $1.95 fee applies to online payments

Healthy Options

In line with the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act:

- Whole grain breads, low-fat milk & dressings
- No fried foods

📅 Menus are available online: https://ms.umasd.org/lunch-menu

📧 Contact Brittany Frazer, Food Service Director:
bfrazer@umasd.org | ☎ 610-205-8804

Fun Highlights of 5th Grade

UMAMS is packed with awesome events and experiences just for 5th graders. Here are a few exciting things to look forward to:

- 🎯 Team-Building Activities – Get to know your classmates through fun, interactive games with your 5th grade team
- 🏕️ Outdoor School Camping (May) – Spend a day in the woods, play games, and maybe even spot a troll!
- 🎄 Holiday Celebrations – Celebrate together during special times of year
- 💙 Viking Relief Day – Participate in fun activities while supporting good causes
- 🏅 Awards Ceremony – Celebrate your hard work and accomplishments
- 🏃 Field Day – Compete and play outside with your team
- 💫 Viking Values Day – Activities centered around kindness, respect, and responsibility
- 🎶 Lower House Concerts – Enjoy performances by and for 5th and 6th graders

📲 Stay updated on all the fun by following us on Twitter: @UMAMS_Vikings

Wrappin Up!

We hope this guide helped answer your questions and get you excited for your journey at Upper Merion Area Middle School. Starting 5th grade is a big step—but you're not doing it alone. Our entire staff is here to support you, cheer you on, and help you grow.

Remember:

- Ask questions when you need help
- Be kind, responsible, and respectful (Viking Values!)
- Try new things and get involved
- Make new friends and have fun!

We can't wait to welcome you through the doors of UMAMS. It's going to be an amazing year—let's make it unforgettable!

💛💙 Go Vikings!

Board Approved
01052026

UPPER MERION AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
2026-2027 Student/Teacher Calendar

AUGUST 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Student Days: 1
Teacher Days: 4

8/24: First Teacher Day
8/24-8/26: Teacher Inservice Days
★**8/31: First Student Day**

SEPTEMBER 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Student Days: 19
Teacher Days: 19

9/4: No School/Offices Closed
9/7: Holiday (Labor Day)
9/21: Holiday (Yom Kippur)

OCTOBER 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Student Days: 22
Teacher Days: 22

10/14: HS Early Dismissal (10:40AM)

NOVEMBER 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Student Days: 18
Teacher Days: 19

11/3: Teacher Inservice Day
11/18, 11/23: K-4 Schools Early Dismissal (12:00 PM)
11/19, 11/24: MS Early Dismissal (11:10 AM)
11/25: Holiday Early Dismissal
•Elementary Schools: 12:00 PM
•Middle School: 11:10 AM
•High School: 10:40 AM
11/26-11/27: Holiday (Thanksgiving)

DECEMBER 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Student Days: 16
Teacher Days: 17

12/22: Holiday Early Dismissal
•Elementary Schools: 12:00 PM
•Middle School: 11:10 AM
•High School: 10:40 AM
12/23: Inservice/Flex Opportunity
12/24-12/31: Winter Break

JANUARY 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Student Days: 19
Teacher Days: 19

1/1: Holiday (New Year's Day)
1/18: Holiday (MLK, Jr. Day, Observed)

FEBRUARY 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

Student Days: 17
Teacher Days: 19

2/11: Teacher Inservice Day
2/12: Inservice/Flex Opportunity
2/15: Holiday (President's Day)

MARCH 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Student Days: 16
Teacher Days: 17

3/4, 3/9: K-4 Schools Early Dismissal (12:00 PM)
3/10: Holiday (Eid al-Fitr)
3/11, 3/16: MS Early Dismissal (11:10 AM)
3/22-3/26: Spring Break
3/22-3/25: Make-Up Days
3/29: Inservice/Flex Opportunity

APRIL 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Student Days: 22
Teacher Days: 22

4/27-4/29: MS Testing Early Dismissal (12:00 PM)

MAY 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Student Days: 19
Teacher Days: 20

5/4-5/5: MS Testing Early Dismissal (12:00 PM)
5/17, 5/19-5/25: HS Testing Early Dismissal (10:05 AM)
5/18: Teacher Inservice Day
5/31: Holiday (Memorial Day)

JUNE 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Student Days: 12
Teacher Days: 12

6/14-6/16: Early Dismissal
•Elementary Schools: 12:00 PM
•Middle School: 11:10 AM
•High School: 10:40 AM
★**6/16: Last Student Day**
6/17: Make-Up Day

Total Student Days: 181 | Total Teacher Days: 190

Emergency Closure Make-Up Days *(if necessary)*
Beginning on the first day classes are cancelled: Friday, June 17; Monday, March 22; Tuesday, March 23; Wednesday, March 24; Thursday, March 25

Teacher Required In-Service: August 24-26, November 3, February 11, May 18
Teacher Flex Opportunities: December 23, February 12, March 29
Instructional Aide Required In-Service: August 24-26, November 3, February 11
Instructional Aide Flex Opportunities: December 23