

LIETZ, THOMAS

From: Thomas Lietz <THOMAS.LIETZ@UticaK12.org>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2020 4:23 PM
To: LIETZ, THOMAS
Subject: UHS Chieftain Weekly: Aug. 28

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Utica Community Schools. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon Utica High Families,

It has been a week! Our UHS staff, as well as teachers from around the district, collected their devices and received training to continue our work of preparing for this remote learning experience. As activities have slowly resumed our Girls UXC and Girls Golf teams had their first competitions and Utica High did exceptionally well. The UXC girls won the UCS Quad Meet and Ella Fullmer was in 1st place and was one of four UHS ladies to place in the top 10. Our girls golf team won their first match of the year defeating Fraser HS. Well done ladies!

I appreciate your patience with the intense amount of information sent this week. This email is also quite full, but most of it should be reminders! Parents who have not already [signed up their student](#) for a slot at our technology distribution should do so, as they're filling up quickly. All students must bring signed copies of the [UCS Technology Agreement](#) signature pages to collect their device. If you couldn't download those, we have those available in our vestibule that you can pick up prior to your collection day to have ready. If you had reached out regarding a special concern, and I have not contacted you by today, I will contact you on Monday.

Next week is the start of school, though it will be a different look than the weeks to follow. It will, however, be like many first weeks of school we've had in the past. Students will collect materials for school, most notably their computer. Week one will be asynchronous. It will not be live except for the device pick-up which will be in-person. Beyond that, students will review course syllabi and course and remote learning expectations via Schoology and will participate in activities that can be done asynchronously that week to get to know their classes and establish community. As the [student schedule](#) in my Wednesday Email stated, the live synchronous schedule, for my remote and virtual academy students, will begin in earnest the Tuesday after Labor Day.

A reminder that before we even get into that week, we have the opportunity for you to join our UCS Instructional Coaches at the **UCS Family Tech Night**. They will provide families an introduction to remote learning and device overview. Please see the [attached flyer](#) for information on how to submit questions in advance and login to the live session.

Next week is **laptop distribution**. Thank you to everyone promptly selected a slot of their student to collect their laptop on either September 1st, 2nd or 3rd. Reminders emails will be sent to the email addresses provided in the sign up. A few reminders about the process:

- Please parking in the area closest to your entry doorway (Main Gym – Door 5, Main Entrance – Door 9, and North Aux Gym – Door 11) at the designated time. See the map below for reference



- All students must wear a mask and maintain appropriate distancing while on school grounds.
- The UCS computer agreement document must be signed and brought with the student in order to receive a laptop. To save on ink and an impact from the watermark, print in black and white. Only the pages with required signatures need be returned. If you are unable to print a copy extra forms are available in vestibule outside of our main office. Please plan to pick it up in advance of your registered laptop pick up time.

Many of our **seniors** have begun or will be beginning the college application process. A regular part of this process is requesting letters of recommendation from a school counselor. To further support that process for our students we are asking Seniors to log into Naviance and complete their Senior Brag Sheet so their counselors and teachers have access as they work on letters of recommendation. I've also included the [Senior Portrait information](#) from Mrs. Smale and the Yearbook team.

Our yearbook staff is already hard at work preparing the 2021 Utica High Arrow yearbook. Our award-winning journalists perennially produce an incredible product. Last year, countless parents asked for copies at the end of the year, it can only be purchased

at the start of the year and extras are not ordered. To streamline the purchasing process, we are ordering directly through Jostens for the 2020-21 edition. Per the order form above, please [click on the link on that flyer](#) to order on the Jostens website or call Jostens. The yearbook staff will work with students and parents to capture this unique 2020-21 school year. This yearbook could be one of the more unique set of memories our students will keep.

Please see the attached fliers for more information regarding meal distribution during remote learning.

If you hadn't seen it on my social media posts, we are forming a new student committee this fall, the **Utica High Student Mental Health Committee** to help bring student social emotional health and wellbeing to the forefront of our school decision making process. The [UHS SMHC application](#) will be open to all students through Friday, September 4, 2020 at 4pm. If you believe this is something your student would be interested in joining, please make them aware!

That was a lot! Thank you for taking the time!

Next week we start the 2020-21 campaign. As a parent, I share your trepidation, your fears, and your hopes for what this year could be. It is going to be different year, it's going to be a challenging year, but we are going to will it to be a great year. As my incredible Associate Principal Ms. Olsen's office wall says, "it is what it is, but it will become what you make it!" We are going to make something incredible of this year together.

I'm honored to be in this with you all and look forward to an incredible start!

Tom Lietz
Principal



Utica High School Vision Statement:

Empowering students to reach their full potential as members of a global community.

Utica High School Mission Statement:

The mission of Utica High School is to develop successful learners with the support of our community of educators, students, and parents. Our diverse student body will have an equitable, rigorous, and comprehensive education in a safe and supportive environment that promotes self-discipline, motivation, and excellence in learning. We aim to cultivate individual learners with active and creative minds, and a sense of understanding and compassion for others.

Confidential: This electronic message and all contents contain information from the Utica Community Schools which may be privileged, confidential or otherwise protected from disclosure. The information is intended to be for the addressee only. If you are not the addressee, any disclosure, copy, distribution or use of the contents of this message is prohibited. If you have received this electronic message in error, please notify us immediately (586.797.2200) and destroy the original message and all copies.

Utica Community Schools would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact Utica Community Schools directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm: [Unsubscribe](#)

SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.