



Utah Military Academy – Camp Williams Campus

Parent Newsletter 18 March 2021

UMA Family,

We cannot adequately express how difficult these past few days have been on everyone at UMA. The sudden loss of such a bright, promising young man is devastating and our hearts are broken for his friends and family. From previous communications, you know we've had grief counselors on hand today and will have them here again Monday and then throughout the week as needed. Please encourage your cadet to talk to someone if they need help and to look out for their fellow cadets as well. If they are concerned about a friend, they should notify a trusted adult.

Many of you reached out to ask whether the Lortons have a GoFundMe or similar account where you could help with expenses. We extended your offer to the Lorton's and they were extremely grateful for your kindness and support, but declined to accept any donations. If that changes, or they set up a charity you can donate to in Joey's name, then we will let everyone know. They will accept cards and letters from the school community so if you would like to send your condolences or share a story or memory about Joey, please send those to the school and we will provide them to the family.

We will still hold our parent meeting tonight at 6pm for anyone who still wants to attend. With the events of this week, tonight has become more about coming together as a school community. We will be in the gym at 6pm and then the Drive-In movie event will begin at 7:15. Cadets and families are invited to watch Spiderman Homecoming. This is a good opportunity for our UMA family to come together in this difficult time. Hope Squad cadets will be on hand to assist any cadet who is struggling.

Thank you all for your heartfelt wishes for the family and your support and kindness to all of the cadets and staff at UMA.

Notes for this week:

1. We have a small crew of volunteers who have offered to do haircuts at the school during Team Time. Our goal is for this to bring all of the cadets within standards and alleviate any financial burden on families. We are planning our first \$1 haircut session for Wednesday March 24 and will offer them each Wednesday and Thursday.

Cadets will need parent permission to have their hair cut. Please print, fill out and sign this form and have your cadet bring it with him/her to turn in on the day they get their cut:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TV7KNlwtR62j71NfarcI9xDFkXTJzoCK/view?usp=sharing>

2. Another reminder on the haircuts – **boys' hair must taper on the sides**. That means it is not authorized for them to shave it on the sides and keep a long section on top with no blending between the two. Also **NO ETCHINGS allowed –in hairstyles or eyebrows**.

If you have questions about whether anything your cadet wants to do (nails, eyebrow slits, haircut, hair dye, etc.) is within cadet standards please don't hesitate to ask your cadet's JROTC teacher, flight teacher, or the commandant.

3. SENIORS AND PARENTS: Please contact MSG Graham at mgraham@utahmilitaryacademy.org if you do not yet have a service dress uniform. **Seniors who do not have their dress blues will not participate in the graduation ceremony May 28.**

4. We are still looking for volunteers to lead and assist with our **Civil Air Patrol** program. This program not only opens up multiple opportunities for our cadets, but lowers our flight hour cost significantly! If you can help, please contact Maj Stuart Whitney at swhitney@utahmilitaryacademy.org

5. The SBO and Wing Staff leadership will host a **JUNIOR/SENIOR PROM April 24 from 8pm to midnight**. Cadets are planning now for their "Starry Night" and are excited for this event! Cadets are permitted to wear service dress or formal attire. PLEASE SEE FULL DRESS CODE BELOW THE MAIN TEXT. **In order for the cadets to participate safely, we are requiring all cadets who attend to be COVID tested. They can be tested off site or at the school. Per new state guidelines for large gatherings, cadets must be tested within 48 hours of the event so we will be offering COVID tests April 22.**

If your cadet is bringing a prom date who does not attend UMA – and they are registered in RedCap through another school -- their date can be tested at UMA as an "alternate location." If their date is not registered, they need to be tested at an offsite location (Walgreens, etc.).

If you would like to donate items or help with prom, please contact Cadet Kailya Emfield at s.kemfield@utahmilitaryacademy.org.

6. The Parent Involvement Committee leadership positions will rotate at the end of this school year. If you want to lead the charge for changes at the school by filling one of these roles, please contact Lt Col Bunko at tbunko@utahmilitaryacademy.org

7. We will begin planning soon for next academic year's **PLEBE WEEK**. If there is something you would have wanted the school to include in last year's Plebe Week – including parent night - please let us know so we can improve the experience for our incoming parents and cadets. Send your thoughts/ideas to Lt Col Bunko at tbunko@utahmilitaryacademy.org

8. **We will administer the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (test) APRIL 30.** The sign up deadline is April 2. **Please contact the commandant at tbunko@utahmilitaryacademy if you want to take the ASVAB so we can get an accurate count for proctors, seating, etc.,**

Please encourage your cadet to study prior to the exam. Even if they have no interest in joining the military, the test can be a good indicator of aptitude and interest in various careers. There are free study materials at:

<https://www.asvabpracticetests.com/asvab-free-online-study-guide/>

<https://www.npsk12.com/cms/lib/VA02208074/Centricity/Domain/4432/ASVAB%20Study%20Guide.pdf>

<https://www.march2success.com/>

<https://uniontestprep.com/asvab>

9. Please check your Aspire accounts to see what fees are owed. At this time you should have your fees paid in full, a payment plan on file, or a waiver on file. Students graduating will not receive a copy of their diploma until fees are paid in full. Please see links below to take care of your fees in whatever way is best for your family!

[Online Payment](#)

[Fee Waiver - Spanish](#)

[Fee Waiver - English](#)

[Payment Plan](#)

10. **CADET VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** The VFW reached out for help with their **Memorial Day Weekend poppy drive Saturday May 29**. They were unable to do these in a lot of places last year so it's good to see this event come back for 2021. Proceeds from the drive fund a variety of veterans charities and service programs and partially supports the VFW National Home for Children. The VFW will be giving all the cadets who volunteer a dog tag of their choice and the cadet who does the best at each store will be given a coin. If you and/or your cadet would like to help, please contact Kate Sautter at ksautter@utahmilitaryacademy.org.

We need two cadets (12 total) for the following shifts and locations:

-Lindon Walmart: two shifts 10am -2pm & 2pm-6pm

-American Fork Walmart: two shifts 10am-2pm & 2pm-6pm

-Pleasant Grove Macey's: two shifts 10am -2pm & 2pm-6pm.

11. We have linked our aspire systems to our discipline tracker in order to better track cadet tardies. We understand there are sometimes legitimate reasons a cadet is late to class and

those will be excused by the staff. What we are seeing, though, is a large number of cadets deliberately straggling in the hallways, etc., and subsequently being late to their classes. **When cadets are marked tardy to class 7 times the system will now generate an email to parents. When cadets are marked tardy 10 times they will be suspended.** Cadets know when they are late to class and marked tardy by their teacher. **Cadets have the option to work off tardies on a 1:1 basis by doing lunch duty.** If you have questions about your cadet's late-to-class record, please contact Ms Hiatt in the front office at bhiatt@utahmilitaryacademy.org.

12. MTECH's registration date is **April 20, 2021 at 8:00am for the fall semester**. This registration date is for all defined entry classes (Automotive, Digital Marketing & Analytics, Pharmacy, CNA, EMT, Dental, Culinary, etc.) All other OE/OE Programs (Medical Assistant, IT, etc.) will register a month before the class begins.

Also, in person tours are open again! This is a great opportunity for cadets to see labs and classrooms, and see if MTECH is a good fit for them. Tour appointments can be scheduled at any MTECH campus at mtec.edu/tours. If an in-person tour appointment doesn't work for you, you can also make an appointment to speak with an MTECH recruiter over the phone at the same link.

13. The next credit recovery (seniors only) is on April 17th. If you have questions, please contact Ms Swanson at liz@utahmilitaryacademy.org

14. Valley Forge Military Academy in Pennsylvania has 2-year Army commissioning scholarships available. This is a full ride scholarship! If you are a senior still looking for a way to pay for college or a junior still exploring your options, please contact Ms Swanson liz@utahmilitaryacademy.org or Ms Whitmer ewhitmer@utahmilitaryacademy.org for more information.

15. The Daily Herald's annual "Best of Utah Valley" voting is now OPEN. You can vote for UMA in the charter school category under "community" on page 13. <http://heraldextra.com/app/bestof/> Voting closes March 22 at 11:59pm. We really appreciate your support!

Thanks for everything you do,

-Your Utah Military Academy Staff

Attch: Junior Senior Prom Dress Code

PROM DRESS CODE

Men's Attire (Tux or Service Dress)

- Must be cleaned, pressed
- No color requirement, but it should be a tux not a business suit

* if not from UMA, date must still conform to the dress code



Women's Attire (Modest formal gown or Service Dress)

- Must be cleaned, pressed
- Floor length
- Open back may come no more than to the midpoint of the back
- Start of slit may come no more than 3" above the knee
- Spaghetti straps are allowed **with a shawl**
- Halter style or off shoulder may be worn
- No strapless gowns
- Modest cleavage
- No 2 pieces
- No stilettos (they will damage the floor and can cause injury)

* if not from UMA, date must still conform to the dress code

