



Utah Military Academy – Camp Williams Campus

Parent Newsletter 20 Aug 2021

Note - If you missed the back to school newsletter – these go out every Friday during the school year via email and then we put all of them on the website umacw.org –click the “newsletter” tab at the top of the page and then select either “current newsletter” or “archives” depending on which you are looking for.

UMA Family,

We made it through the first week of school! Plebe week gives them all some time to get oriented to the school, learn a little about our Air Force JROTC values and standards, and have some fun. There were a few challenges with the rain and the school’s HVAC system, but we all muddled through and the cadet leadership teams were amazing! If your cadet is a flight commander or flight first sergeant, please give them a pat on the back for their leadership this week. We also owe a huge thank you to all of the parents who helped during Plebe Week. The lunch staff in particular said there is no way they would have made it through the week without you! It was great seeing so many returning and new faces in the flights this week – BUT it was a little crazy so your help is greatly appreciated!

Our Plebe week included one-hour stations for the following:

Code of Conduct, Cadet Guide and the Infractions system. The code of conduct can be found at umavp.org under Policies and Procedures. Mr Beck challenged cadets, faculty, and support staff to abide by the following:

- 1. Be at school, to each class, on time daily.
 - 2. Be prepared, work hard, follow through, and have a mission.
 - 3. Act respectfully and ethically.
 - 4. Follow instructions the first time.
- We discussed that these are life skills that will serve them beyond their time at UMA, but that these would specifically help them have a great year. Please review these with your cadet(s). Have them talk to you about these things and what they understand them to mean.

The Cadet Honor Code and the Core Values. Cadets were introduced to our Commandant who covered our Core Values (Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in All We Do), which are also the Air Force Core Values. By adhering to our core values we aspire to do our best every day and surround ourselves with other people who lift us up and make us better. The lesson was primarily based on LtCol Bunko's experiences at Air Force Mortuary Affairs Operations where they receive and prepare the remains of fallen service members and return them. The cadet honor code – "I will not lie, steal, or cheat, nor tolerate among us those who do." serves as a reminder for us all to strive to adhere to a strict code of honor not only for academics, but in our everyday lives. We resolve to live honorably.

Uniform and Grooming Standards. Cadets and faculty went over the daily uniform rules and school dress code for clothing, jewelry, hair, nails, etc.,

Introductions from the SBO, Hope Squad and Wing Leadership. Cadets from our Hope Squad – a peer support group within the school introduced themselves and talked about the purpose of Hope Squad and how cadets can get involved. Wing Leadership talked about their positions at the school, how they interact with and support cadets and how cadets can apply for leadership positions in the wing. Student Body Officers were also on hand to answer questions and talk about activities and plans they have for the year.

Obstacle Course

Flight Building challenge 1. Cadets participating in an engineering activity where they had to solve a building challenge as a team.

Flight Building challenge 2. Cadets were given an island scenario with various limitations and rules they had to incorporate into the solution. Cadets were required to communicate and work as a team in order to be successful.

Tug-of-War

Drill. Cadets learned the basics of individual drill and formations to better prepare them for when we begin wing formations in the gym Aug 30.

PT Testing. Cadets took the Air Force JROTC official fitness test.

Volleyball and Basketball.

Most importantly, Plebe week gives the upperclassmen a chance to develop relationships with the cadets they will mentor and guide throughout the school year and gives all of the cadets a chance to bond with their flight mates. These flights will be a microcosm of their UMA family for the entire time they are here. **Check out our FB page @umaCampWilliams and/or our IG @umalehi for photos from this week!**

Items for next week:

1. Now that Plebe week is over, we are back to a normal daily schedule. School schedule is now **0815-1515 M-Th and 0815-1400 on Friday.**

2. Aug 23-27 is NWEA testing so the cadets' bell schedule will be slightly different than normal – **start time and end time are still the same! Cadets need to bring their chromebooks for testing. Please make sure they are fully charged before Monday. Cadets who do not have a chromebook should report to the office first thing Monday morning.**

3. Seminary: **For those cadets who are planning to take seminary this year, please reach out to Brandon Jones at jonesb@churchofjesuschrist.org to get registered.** We will not offer transportation from seminary to the school this year; however, cadets can take their seminary class here at the school starting at 7am. They can also register for an online option through Mr Jones. Again, we cannot provide transportation to the school for the morning class, but the school will be open for parents to drop their cadets off early so they can attend.

4. The **Parent Involvement Committee is looking for volunteers to serve in a variety of roles for the coming school year. If you can help, please contact Kimberley Horinek at kkhorinek@gmail.com.**

5. UNIFORMS! Please read carefully!

a. **If you are returning cadet and your uniforms still fit,** you do not need to replace those uniforms. Last year's logo is still fine. If you want to purchase new items (new logo), please wait until we ensure all of the new cadets have soft uniforms first.

b. **If you need to swap your ABUs** for a different size you will need to arrange a time with MSG Graham by emailing him at mgraham@utahmilitaryacademy.org and/or Ms Snyder at asnyder@utahmilitaryacademy.org.

c. **If you are a returning cadet and your soft uniforms (polo/oxford/PT gear) no longer fit** those are purchase items so if you need new ones, you will have to purchase them again.

d. **Dress Blues are being issued to all returning and new cadets** by appointment only. Emails are sent out by grade for 8-12 graders for an appointment with MSgt Sater. 7th graders will get them during their uniform appointment with MSG Graham. Cadets will wear their choice of the polo shirt or oxford shirt on Wednesdays until they are issued blues.

d. **If you are a new cadet 8-12 grade,** you will have two uniform appointments – one for soft uniforms and ABUs and another for dress blues. For the first, you should reserve a slot at this link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050f4ea8af28a3fa7-newcadets1>. IF THESE ARE FULL, we will add appointment slots as we have more available so continue to check back. For the second, you will receive an email from MSgt Sater. He is sending out appointments by grade. Seniors and Juniors should have already received an email. If not, please email MSgt Sater at ksater@utahmilitaryacademy.org. Other grades please stand by until you receive an email. Please see note above about Wednesday dress code until you have blues. NOTE! We are

still waiting for an order of new sage green boots. If you have ABUs and no boots, please wear your ABUs with your athletic shoes until your boots arrive.

e. **If you are a new 7th grade cadet**, all of your uniforms will be issued by MSG Graham at your uniform appointment. NOTE! We are still waiting for an order of new sage green boots. If you have ABUs and no boots, please wear your ABUs with your athletic shoes until your boots arrive.

6. Class Schedules: We are working diligently to complete schedules! Several computer system outages have exacerbated issues with getting these done. The majority of Cadets will be doing state testing next week for a portion of the day, but they should arrange an appointment as soon as possible with a counselor if their schedule is still not finalized.

7. UNIFORM SCHEDULE

Mon –khakis and either the oxford/polo shirt

Tue – ABUs (may wear CAP, Sea Cadets or OCP uniforms where applicable)

Wed – 1) khakis and either the oxford/polo shirt, OR 2) dress blues

Thu- ABUs

Fri – 1) khakis with oxford/polo, OR 2) UMA Marauder team gear, teacher approved flight T-shirt or fan gear purchased at marauderathletics.com (more tab) <https://apparelnow.com/uma-marauder-gear-apparel>)

8. Most questions about uniform rules can be answered in the cadet guide at this link: <https://vahara-o2-public.s3.amazonaws.com/media/50630/2020-2021-UMA-CW-Cadet-Guide--18-Sep-2020.pdf>. If you have a question not addressed in the cadet guide or need further clarification, please email the JROTC staff (ksater@utahmilitaryacademy.org or mbunko@utahmilitaryacademy.org), the commandant at tbunko@utahmilitaryacademy.org, or the senior military advisor at mgraham@utahmilitaryacademy.org.

9. If you would like to purchase Marauder fan gear you may do so here: <https://apparelnow.com/uma-marauder-gear-apparel>. The link is also on our athletics site at marauderathletics.com under “more.”

10. Varsity Letter jackets are now available at <https://www.lettercustom.com/product/uma/>. Cadets will have to mail their varsity letter to the company to have it put on the jacket. The link is also on our athletics site at marauderathletics.com under “more.”

11. **Athletics:** If you are interested in playing sports this year for the school, please go to the following link:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1E55-JgOIkyFxSSj5tV6VjFgB2TbJ_4tv/view?usp=sharing

Download the document, follow the instructions for Register my Athlete (RMA), fill out and sign all documents and return them to MSG Graham.

A Physical is required to play sports (No Physical No Play), you can upload the physical form into RMA or turn it in with you packet to MSG Graham.

Please be aware that there is also an academic requirement to play, an Athlete must have at least a GPA of 2.0 and no more than 1 F, for fall sports we are using 4th Qtr from last year.

Sports Fees need to be paid prior to the first game of the season or a payment plan in place, please see the last document of the packet for Sports fees and payment plan options.

If you have any questions, please email MSG Graham at mgraham@utahmilitaryacademy.org

Athletic Conditioning for all sports starts August 31st, Tuesday and Thursdays, 3:30-4:15.

Cross Country: James Taylor (jtaylor@utahmilitaryacademy.org) will be coaching cross country this fall. We have five cadets signed up right now. We need at least seven to compete. Open to grades 7-12. First practice is Monday after school!

Girls Volleyball: Season starts Aug 30. The team will be coached by Kira Vanreusen (kiravanreusen@gmail.com)

Girls Soccer: Practices start Monday. We still don't have a certified coach for girls soccer. Right now we only have five girls signed up. We will not be able to field a team unless we get to at least 12. All grades, boys and girls, can practice to help our girls get ready for the upcoming season. Practices are Monday - Thursday 4:30 - 6.

Boys Volleyball: CPT Tidwell mtidwell@utahmilitaryacademy.org has volunteered to coach a boys volleyball team under the Utah Small Schools Association.

Baseball: Baseball practice is held M/W/Th and games are T/Fr at 4pm at Patriot Park.

If you are interested in playing any fall sport, please contact the athletic director at mgraham@utahmilitaryacademy.org.

12. Cell phones will be kept in a door sleeve or in lockers during class. If you need to call your cadet, please call the front office and we will pull them out of class to take the call in the office.

13. **TEAM TIME will begin Aug 31.** We will provide a list of offerings to cadets next week so they can sign up. The only after school activities next week will be sports team practices/games. All other cadets should plan to depart at 3:15 at the conclusion of the school day.

14. Most cadets now have locker assignments and schedules in Aspire. If they still have issues, please have them come to the front office Monday morning.

As a public school of choice that is a military academy with a STEM focus, we know you have other options. We are grateful you have chosen UMA and that you have entrusted your young

people to us. Their future matters and what we can offer at Utah Military Academy can facilitate their success. Plebe week was successful, so our hope is to build on that to make great quarters, great semesters, and a great year. Let's go Marauders!

-Your Utah Military Academy Staff