



# UNITY... FAITH, EXCELLENCE, SERVICE

## HOME BULLETIN

December 1, 2018

1. **LATE START – WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5:** Unity will have a late start on Wednesday, December 5. For all students riding a bus, the bus schedule will remain the same and you will arrive early (normal bus schedule time). For students who drive or arrive other than a bus, school will begin at 8:20 a.m.

2. **FINALS SCHEDULE FOR FIRST SEMESTER:**

Time of Final	Wed., Dec. 19	Thurs., Dec. 20	Fri., Dec. 21
(7:50) 7:55 – 8:55 (*9:10)	1 <sup>st</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>
(9:10) 9:15 – 10:15 (*10:30)	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>
(10:30) 10:35–11:35 (*11:50)	---	8 <sup>th</sup>	---
Buses will leave Unity at:	10:40 a.m.	12 noon	10:40 a.m.

\* Extended time for final

Notes on Finals Week:

- a. Students need not take more than two (2) finals in one day. If the student has three finals on Thursday, he/she may make arrangements with the teacher to take a final on Wednesday or Friday.
- b. Students are required to be in school only when they are taking their finals. Students must stay in their finals room for a minimum of one hour. After an hour, if finished, students may leave the classroom and campus. Students not finished after one hour may stay another fifteen minutes to finish.
- c. Buses will make their morning pick-up run as normal and will leave Unity as noted in the schedule above. UCHS will provide Bus #03 for students who ride south and east of school; Bus #04 for students who ride north and west of school.

3. **NEW STUDENT NIGHTS:** Unity will be hosting New Student Orientation Nights on Monday, January 14, Monday, January 21, and Wednesday, January 23. These evenings are designed for both parents and students and will be held from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. An invitation will be mailed the end of December to all 8<sup>th</sup> grade homes and Unity teachers will follow-up by calling to determine which evening you plan to attend.

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4. **UNITY'S OFFICE HOURS DURING CHRISTMAS BREAK:**

Friday, December 21: Office will close at noon

Monday & Tuesday, December 24 & 25: Office closed

Wednesday & Thursday, December 26 & 27: Office open 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Friday, December 28: Office open 8:00 a.m. – noon

Monday & Tuesday, December 31 & January 1: Office closed

Wednesday & Thursday, January 2 & 3: Office open 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Friday, January 4: Office open 8:00 a.m. – noon

Note: Christmas Break for students (no school) runs from Monday, December 24, through Friday, January 4. School resumes again Monday, January 7.

5. **TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION FOR UNITY STUDENTS WHO RIDE HUDSONVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL BUSES:**

Early Release Fridays for Hudsonville Public:

December 14

January 11

February 1

April 12

On these dates:

- AM busing from UCHS and Hudsonville will run as normal
- In PM, UCHS will provide Bus #03 for students who ride south and east of school; Bus #04 for students who ride north and west of school.

Unity buses will run as normal.

6. **TUITION ASSISTANCE – FACTS PROGRAM:**

- For the next school year, 2019-20, Unity Christian, along with other EOCS schools (Allendale, Borculo, Hudsonville, and Jenison Christian schools), will again be using the FACTS Grant-in-Aid program for tuition assistance. Each school will issue its own tuition assistance. Those families who have children in multiple schools will only need to apply once as FACTS shares the information with the schools designated by the applicant.
- The FACTS organization will analyze the submitted information and will provide the schools with recommended grant amounts based on need and financial status.
- Families who wish to apply for tuition assistance will be able to apply online via the confidential FACTS web site starting in January with a deadline of March 31. More information will be available in early January via the Unity website and the Home Bulletin.

7. **SCHOOL CLOSINGS OR DELAYS WILL BE ANNOUNCED THROUGH GRAIL** (Grand Rapids Area Information Line Network). Closings and delays are posted to GRAIL by 6:00 a.m. who forward the information to all regional TV and radio stations. The stations broadcast the information and put it on their "School Closings" website page.
8. **2017-18 YEARBOOK**: Students and 2018 graduates who did not pick up their yearbook on November 21 may get their copy in the school office. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
9. **ORCHESTRA NEWS**:  
**Chamber Strings**: Please join us for a night of Delight featuring the *Chamber Strings and Choirs* on **February 14 at St Cecilia Music**. We will be performing works from Handel's Messiah. You won't want to miss this beautiful night.  
  
**Concert Orchestra**: Please join us for a combined concert with South Christian at their new auditorium on February 13. We will be performing a side by side concert with the South Christian Orchestra. The concert will be held at 7979 Kalamazoo Ave. SE, Byron Center and will be at 7:30 p.m.  
  
**Solo and Ensemble**: **Saturday, February 9, 2018**, at Zeeland HS. Please note that students who are signed up for Solo and Ensemble should be working on their pieces. Please encourage your student to continue working on them so they don't leave it for the last minute.
10. **BAND NEWS**: The Christmas concert is **Monday, December 3, 7:30 p.m.**, in Unity's multipurpose gymnasium. This concert will include Concert Orchestra.
11. **CHOIR NEWS**: All Unity choirs will be performing at the Christmas concert on **Monday, December 10, 7:30 p.m.**, at Fair Haven Ministries.
12. **WINTER DINNER DANCE**: The all-school Winter Dinner Dance will be held Saturday, January 12, 2019, at The Pinnacle Center. Punch bowl will begin at 6:30 p.m., dinner at 7:00 p.m., and the dance will end at 10:30 p.m. Tickets will be sold Wednesday and Thursday, December 5 and 6, during break and lunch. Table sign-up sheets are available in the office. Tickets are \$15 for students and \$20 for guests.

Students and parents, please read the conduct code and dress code on page 10 of this Home Bulletin and review them together. Thank you for joining us in making this an evening of great memories for your sons and daughters. For Winter Dinner Dance dress code questions, call Laura Brinks, 669-4680.

13. **HOSTING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS:** We are looking for families who may be interested in hosting an international student for the 2019-2020 school year. Being a host family is a great opportunity to bring a foreign teen into your family to help him/her become familiar with the American way of life. International students choose Unity as their American school to attend. This year, there are 15 international students at Unity.

If you are interested in learning more about being a host family, please contact Julie Essebaggers at 669-1820, or by email at [jessebaggers@unitychristian.org](mailto:jessebaggers@unitychristian.org).

14. **AMAZONSMILE:** Support Unity every time you shop Amazon.com. AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Unity, at no cost to you. When you do your shopping at AmazonSmile, Amazon donates .5% of the purchase price to Unity. Bookmark the link <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-1443397> and support us every time you shop!

15. **UNITY DIRECTIONS – AND DUE DATES FROM THE GUIDANCE STAFF:**

Mr. Bill Postma - Director of Instruction  
Mrs. Julie Essebaggers – Middle Schools; International Students  
Mr. Randy Heethuis – Counselor (A - K)  
Mr. Dan Sanders – Counselor (L - Z)  
Mrs. Cyndi Post - Specialist in learning disabilities

◆ **SENIORS:**

**Scholarship Possibilities:** Scholarship information and notice of college representatives visiting Unity are provided to students through the daily Student Bulletin, which is also posted daily at <[www.unitychristian.org](http://www.unitychristian.org)>. Students are to see their counselor for information about these and other scholarship opportunities.

- AAA Michigan School Safety Patrol Scholarship
- Burger King Scholars Program
- Calvin College–Donor funded scholarships
  - Alderink, Jipping, Woltjer, Family Scholarships
  - DeWitt Service Scholarship
  - Howard Hughes Medical Inst. Scholarship
- Dordt College Scholarships
- Hugh & Eve Meeter Calvinism Scholarship Research Paper
- Lake Michigan Credit Union Hutt Scholarship
- Michigan Society of Professional Engineers
- SAE International Engineering Scholarship
- Trinity Christian College Scholarships
- Unity Fine Arts Scholarship
- University of Michigan Club Scholarship
- Tom & Recca Winkle Family Memorial Scholarship (career goal of teaching in a Christian school)

Helpful web sites relating to scholarship research include:

[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

[www.mi-studentaid.org](http://www.mi-studentaid.org)

[www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)

- **College Applications:** It is best to submit college applications before Christmas. Many applications require information from your high school counselor, so the materials should be in the counselor’s hands no later than December 14.

\*Students planning on attending **Grand Valley State University** need to have applications by December 14 in order to be considered for academic scholarships.

◆ **JUNIORS:**

- **PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test)/NMSQT (National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test):** The results of this test should be in soon. The counselors will distribute a packet to each student who took the test. The information in the packet will be explained to the students and individual questions addressed. If you have questions after reviewing the material, please call the student's counselor.
- If you are interested in attending one of the military academies, a preview of academy life is helpful. Each summer, the academies offer a one-week summer program in which you experience academy life and academics. These are full scholarship opportunities; the student is responsible for paying transportation. To qualify for this opportunity, you must have at least a 3.6 grade point average with a strong pre-college curriculum. You must also show leadership potential and be involved in extra-curricular activities. See Mr. Sanders for more information.

- The Michigan Merit Exam (MME) will be given at Unity on the following dates:

April 9	SAT and SAT Writing
April 10	WorkKeys

In addition to the above two dates, the M-STEP (Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress) will be given over a three-week window starting April 11.

**\*\*Parents of Juniors – Please make every effort to have your son/daughter in school for the April 9 and 10 testing**

Juniors are encouraged to take the SAT in March as practice for the April SAT that is part of the MME and given at Unity. Registration deadline for the March 9 SAT is February 8, 2019.

Unity will again offer an SAT prep class for juniors. An information letter will be sent home this month to junior parents giving more information. SAT prep classes will be held on Saturday mornings in February and March. Students who are planning on the SAT Prep Course should not sign up for the March 9 SAT.

Future Test Dates:

<b>SAT</b>	<u>SAT Test Date</u>	<u>Registration Date</u>
	March 9, 2019	February 8, 2019
	May 4, 2019	April 5, 2019
	June 1, 2019	May 3, 2019
<b>ACT</b>	<u>ACT Test Date</u>	<u>Registration Date</u>
	February 9, 2019	January 11, 2019
	April 13, 2019	March 8, 2019
	June 8, 2019	May 3, 2019

16. **UC SENIOR INFO TO ALL THE UCHS FAMILIES:**

Key Card books make great Christmas gifts. You can purchase a book anytime during school hours in the office and Unity receives 50% profit. Be sure to check their website to see all the participating merchants: [www.grkeycard.com](http://www.grkeycard.com). We will be selling books through December 21 or until they sell out.

17. **END OF SEASON FALL SPORTS UPDATE** through November 24, 2018

**Football** – Congratulations to our varsity football team on winning the state championship game at Ford Field on Saturday, November 24! They beat Portland High School by a score of 42 – 7. Varsity football ended their season with a 12 – 2 record.

*All Conference:* Max Buikema, Caleb Heyboer, Troy Kunnen, Hayden Large,  
TJ VanKoevering

*All Conference Honorable Mention:* Nick Tibbe, Isaiah Heun, Austin Schuiteman

*GR Press Defensive Dream Team (1<sup>st</sup> Team):* TJ VanKoevering

*GR Press Defensive Dream Team (2<sup>nd</sup> Team):* Max Buikema, Caleb Heyboer

*Advance All-Area Defense (1<sup>st</sup> Team):* Max Buikema, Caleb Heyboer, Austin  
Schuiteman, TJ VanKoevering

*Advance All-Area Defense (Hon. Men.):* Nick Tibbe

*Advance All-Area Offense (1<sup>st</sup> Team):* Troy Kunnen, Hayden Large, Isaac TeSlaa

*Advance All-Area Offense (Hon. Men.):* Nick Hoonhorst, Isaiah Heun

**Golf** – Congratulations to several golfers who broke school records this season.

*Team Low Score:* Katie Blauw, Joy Hess, Elle Bolkema, Klaire Goebel - 170

*Individual Low Score 9:* Katie Blauw - 36

*Individual Low Score 18:* Katie Blauw – 82

*Low State Team Score:* Katie Blauw, Joy Hess, Elle Bolkema, Klaire Goebel,  
Tianna VanderWilp – 755

*Low State Ind. Score:* Katie Blauw - 170

**Soccer** – Congratulations to our varsity soccer team on winning the state championship game held at Novi High School on Saturday, November 3! They beat Grosse Ile High School by a score of 3 – 1. Varsity soccer ended their season with a 23-2-1 record.

*All Conference:* Grant Balcer, Zach DeVries, Evan Nieuwenhuis, Kadin Shaban, Dan Hoeksema

*All Conference Honorable Mention:* Logan Kunnen, Ethan Somero

*All District:* Grant Balcer, Camden Bierling, Grayson Bierling, Adryn Byl, Zach DeVries, Dan Hoeksema, Evan Nieuwenhuis, Chase Rozeveld, Kadin Shaban

*All Region:* Grant Balcer, Zach DeVries, Dan Hoeksema, Evan Nieuwenhuis, Kadin Shaban

*Advance All-Area Soccer (1st Team):* Zach DeVries, Kadin Shaban

*Advance All-Area Soccer (2nd Team):* Grant Balcer

*Advance All-Area Soccer (Hon. Men.):* Dan Hoeksema

*MHSSCA Dream Team:* Kadin Shaban

*All State 1<sup>st</sup> Team:* Grant Balcer, Zach DeVries, Kadin Shaban

*All State 3<sup>rd</sup> Team:* Dan Hoeksema

*All State Honorable Mention:* Evan Nieuwenhuis

*All State Academic – Team*

*All State Academic – Individual:* Chase Rozeveld, Trenton VanderLaan

**Swim** – Congratulations to Katie Scholma (50 and 100 Freestyle) and the 200 Freestyle Relay team of Katie Scholma, Paige Lenters, Ella Sterken, and Shaelyn Mulder who qualified and competed at swim state finals on November 16/17. Katie Scholma placed 14th in the state in the 50 Freestyle race. Katie also broke two school records this year (50 Free – 24.87; 100 Free – 55.50).

18. **WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULE:** The Winter Sports Schedule can be found on Unity’s athletic website or by clicking on the following link: [HERE](#)
19. **WINTER EVENTS:**
  - **State Championship Recognition for Football and Soccer Teams** – The Football and Soccer state championship teams will be recognized on Friday, December 7 between the girls and boys basketball games. You are invited to join us as we recognize the hard work and effort of these state championship teams!
20. **COACH OPENING:** Unity Christian has an opening for an **Assistant Varsity Softball Coach**. We are searching for an individual who has a passion for the Lord, enjoys working with high school students, and can successfully assist in our varsity softball program. If you have any interest or know of someone who might have interest, please contact Athletic Director Jeff Engbers at 669-1820 or [jengbers@unitychristian.org](mailto:jengbers@unitychristian.org). An application can be found on our athletic website ([www.unitychristianathletics.org](http://www.unitychristianathletics.org), “More” tab, “Coach Openings”) or by clicking [HERE](#).

21. **YEAR-END GIVING TO UNITY:** As the year draws to a close please consider a financial gift to Unity. There are three areas where we ask for your support: ***PACE 2018/2019***; the ***UC Education Foundation***; and ***Building Unity*** Capital Campaign. Your gift to *PACE* will ensure that tuition is not only kept affordable for all families, but will also contribute toward the tuition assistance for those families in need of help. Gifts to the Education Foundation help provide long-term provisions for Christian education at Unity. Your gift to Building Unity will help us close the gap on the \$400,000 still needed to be raised in order to be debt-free! Your gifts to any of these needs are deeply appreciated!
22. **ADVANCE NOTICE: UC CELEBRATION BANQUET 2019 – MONDAY, APRIL 29:** On Monday, April 29, 2019, Unity is pleased to announce that we will be hosting our annual Celebration Banquet in the ***UC Multipurpose Gymnasium/Worship Center***.
- Please plan now to join us at this banquet. More details will follow over the next few months, and reservations will be required. To reserve your place early, you may call the Development Office at 662-4011 or email [development@unitychristian.org](mailto:development@unitychristian.org).
23. **REVIVE:** Revive is currently looking to hire an **Assistant Floor Manager**. This position requires approximately 15 hours a week, plus one Saturday a month. Preferred schedule would be Monday's 12pm–6pm and Wednesdays 9am-6pm, plus one Saturday per month 9am-4pm. The primary focus of this position would be to assist in the overall operation of the store. This would include helping customers, working with volunteers, and working to fill the store with quality merchandise. The pay starts at \$15 per hour. For a complete job description and application, please see the Revive website ([www.ReviveResale.org](http://www.ReviveResale.org)) or pick one up at Revive. Applications are due to Revive by January 5.
24. **PRAYER CALENDAR:** Is located on our website at [here](#) or on our website under News and Events/Schedules & Calendars.
25. **REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS:** 5The Hudsonville Christian School 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Book is now available. This is a full-color, 10x10 book of approximately 250 pages that **TELLS THE STORY OF HCS** in pictures, articles and memories from former students and staff, from our beginnings in 1917 to the celebrations we had last year for our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The book is priced at \$20. They are available for purchase at both the HCS elementary and middle school offices. Office hours are 8:00 am. – 4:00 p.m.



26. **CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER, JANUARY, FEBRUARY:**

December 3	Concert & Symphonic Bands/Concert Orchestra Concert, 7:30 p.m., Unity's Multipurpose Gymnasium
December 5	Late Start, 8:20 a.m.
December 5	Adams Park Christmas Party, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
December 10	Choir Concert, 7:30 p.m., Fair Haven Ministries
December 14	Student Dance, after basketball game (at HPS) – 11:30 p.m.
December 19, 20, 21	Finals
December 22 – Jan. 6	Christmas Break
January 12	Winter Dance, The Pinnacle Center, 6:00 – 11:00 p.m.
January 14, 21, 23	New Student Nights, 7:00 p.m.
January 25	Blood Drive
February 7	EOCS Band Concert, 7:00 p.m., Fair Haven Ministries
February 8	Winterfest, 1:15 p.m. dismissal
February 21, 22, 23	Winter Play
February 22, 25	Winter Break
February 26, 27	Parent/Teacher Conferences, 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.
March 1	12:25 Dismissal Parent/Teacher Conference, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

## DANCE AND DRESS CODE

### A. DANCE BEHAVIOR (CONDUCT CODE):

- No body surfing
- No moshing (note: up and down is permissible, but no sideways slamming into bodies)
- NO GRINDING: leg between leg, front to front, back to front
- Any other behavior deemed inappropriate by chaperones working the dance floor.

Students who choose to break these rules will be given a verbal warning. If a second incident occurs at the same dance, the parents will be notified and the student will be asked to leave the dance.

If in the judgement of the chaperones the behavior is a blatant disregard of the rules and/or if the student's attitude is one of disrespect or defiance, parents will be notified and students sent home without a 1<sup>st</sup> warning.

### B. DRESS CODE FOR WINTER DANCE AND PROM:

This dress code must be met to be admitted to the dance. It is not written to restrict personal preferences in student dress, but rather to ensure a wholesome social activity. We believe, with parental help and guidance in the formal/semiformal wear selections, our dress and behavior can reflect our values, and the Christian school we are and to whom we ultimately belong.

#### Semi-formal/Formal Dress Code:

- No jeans or t-shirts
  - Shirts must remain on and buttoned
  - Shoes must be worn except when on the dance floor
  - Dresses must extend to mid-thigh
  - No breasts or cleavage visible from any angle – top or side
  - Open backs must be natural waistline or higher (note: this is natural *waist* line, not hip line)
  - Strapless and halter style dresses will be acceptable as long as coverage is complete and still passes dress code while dancing.
- 
- Those students deemed inappropriately dressed will be given four choices: 1) fix it, 2) call their parents to bring them an appropriate cover-up, 3) wear a supplied shirt over or under their outfit, or 4) leave the function, in which case their parents will be notified.
  - We are very willing to take a look at your dinner dance wear in advance to make sure that it meets the dress code.
  - If you have any questions, call Laura Brinks (669-4680).

