

# Facts of Interest

## OUR STUDENTS

- With more than 15,000 students, Union has the eighth-largest total enrollment in Oklahoma.
- In 2020-21, more than 7,300 students were female and 7,600 male.
- Our student body is ethnically diverse: Asian 7.3%; Hispanic 38.2%; African American 14.9%; American Indian/Alaska Native 4.2%; Pacific Islander/Hawaiian 0.2%; multi-racial 9.5%; and Caucasian 25.7%.
- English Learner (EL) services were provided to 2,521 elementary and 1,408 secondary students; 346 became English-proficient and exited the program. Our diverse population speaks more than 60 different languages.
- Union has identified 2,763 gifted students from grades 1-12, served by a variety of courses and programs.
- More than 13% – or 1,945 students – were enrolled in special education.
- The graduation rate was 92.67% among students in the 2018-19 cohort.
- The dropout rate was 0.44% at the 8th grade level, 0.87% in 9th grade, and 1.18% in High School.



## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

- Of the graduating seniors in 2021:
- 413 took the ACT, with an average composite score of 22.2. The average ACT score for Oklahoma students was 19.7, and the national average was 20.3.
  - 254 took the SAT, with an average total score of 1022. (Many students had waivers due to the pandemic). The average SAT score for Oklahoma students was 971, and the national average was 1051.
  - Each year the district has an impressive number of National Merit Scholars. Twelve seniors were named 2020-21 National Merit Finalists.
  - Twenty-four Advanced Placement (AP) courses were provided, and 319 students took a total of 584 AP exams. Two hundred and thirteen students – or 67% – earned a score of “3” or higher.
  - Students attending college classes offered at the Union Collegiate Academy (UCA) through a dual credit partnership with Tulsa Community College have earned 20,493 credits since the program began in 2010.
  - Union earned the Class 6A Championship for graduating the most Oklahoma’s Promise participants for the ninth consecutive year; 167 seniors were eligible to receive scholarships.

## PERSONNEL

- Union employs 1,017 teachers, 852 support personnel, and 83 administrators.
- Of the district’s 83 administrators, 90.4% had a master’s degree or higher.
  - Of the teaching and administrative staff, 41.5% held graduate-level degrees – 437 with master’s degrees and 19 with doctorates.
  - Student/teacher ratios average 23:1 at the elementary level and 21:1 in core classes at the secondary level.
  - Twenty-five teachers held National Board Certification.
  - Union’s staff is highly diverse: 7% African American; 15% Native American; 3% Asian; and 80% Caucasian/other.

## ENROLLMENT

- Documents needed for enrollment include student’s birth certificate, immunization records, custody documents (if applicable), address of previous school(s) attended, and proof of residence in the Union district.
- Visit the Union Enrollment Center at 6011 S. 89 E. Ave., located approximately ¼ mile east of the Education Service Center. Enroll online, visit [www.unionps.org/enrollment](http://www.unionps.org/enrollment).

## FACILITIES

Union has a strong and supportive community, consistently passing annual bond issues that fund state-of-the-art buildings and equipment for its students. The district’s premier facilities include the 1,995-seat Performing Arts Center; the Union



Multipurpose Activity Center (UMAC) and the 5,662-seat John Q. Hammons arena; and Union Tuttle Stadium, which serves students as well as the Tulsa community. Union’s newest and largest elementary school, Ellen Ochoa Elementary, is a model high-tech, energy-efficient community school equipped with maker spaces, as well as indoor and outdoor classrooms. A new 25,000-square foot clinic on the Ochoa campus completes the “Community Village” concept, providing medical, dental, pharmacy and mental health services.

For a directory of schools, visit [www.unionps.org/site-addresses](http://www.unionps.org/site-addresses). For a map of the district, visit [www.unionps.org/boundary-map](http://www.unionps.org/boundary-map).

## ENROLLMENT

Schools	Enrollment
13 – Elementary Schools (PreK-5).....	6,959
1 – 6th/7th Grade Center (6-7).....	2,332
1 – 8th Grade Center (8).....	1,168
1 – 9th Grade Center (9).....	1,196
1 – Alternative School (9-12).....	172
1 – Senior High School (10-12).....	3,304
<b>Total PreK-12.....</b>	<b>14,959</b>



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The School Board meets regularly on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Board Room of the Education Service Center. The public is invited to attend.



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## Union Public Schools is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Union Public Schools is an equal opportunity employer and complies with all applicable federal and state civil rights statutes, laws and regulations. Discrimination is prohibited against any person in recruitment, selection, promotion, transfer, retention, discipline, pay or other terms and conditions of employment, in access to facilities, in treatment of individuals with disabilities, or in any aspect of operations, because of race, age, color, religion, national origin, pregnancy, gender, gender expression or identity, sex, sexual orientation, disability, genetic information, or veteran status. Discrimination is a violation of the law and will not be condoned or tolerated in the district. November 2021



Union Public Schools is an Oklahoma school district that is nationally recognized in four strategic areas: Early Childhood Education, Community Schools, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), and College/Career Readiness. Success in these areas is helping Union achieve its mission:

***“To Graduate 100% of Our Students, 100% College and Career-Ready.”***

Union’s approximately 15,000 students, Pre-K through 12th grade, reside within a 28-square-mile boundary encompassing southeast Tulsa and a portion of Broken Arrow. Its 19 schools include an Early Childhood Education Center for three-year-olds; 13 elementary schools, Pre-K through 5th grade; and five secondary schools: a 6th/7th Grade Center, 8th Grade Center, Freshman Academy, High School for grades 10-12, and an Alternative School serving grades 9-12. Today, Union is the eighth-largest district in Oklahoma, continuing its 100-year tradition of spirit, pride and excellence. High expectations and impressive results have come to be known as “The Union Way.”

**“Union shows what can be achieved when a public school system takes the time to invest in a culture of high expectations, recruit top-flight professionals, and develop ties between schools and the community.”**

*–David L. Kirp, The New York Times*

The Union community and its many public and private partners are committed to academic excellence. Ensuring all students graduate from high school, prepared for college or career success, guides our practice from Pre-K through 12th grade. Parents choose Union for its all-around excellence – dynamic academic programs; award-winning athletics and fine arts; highly respected leaders; remarkable facilities; and organizational effectiveness.

# 100% Graduation College/Career Ready



Successful bond issues have funded state-of-the-art tools to enhance reading, language, math, science, and writing skills at every grade level. Art, music, and physical education enrich the traditional curriculum. Professionals in remedial reading, speech therapy, and special education are assigned to the schools, along with library media specialists, nurses and counselors. Courses for gifted students are offered at all levels, as are programs for English Language Learners. Union also offers a variety of Advanced Placement (AP) classes which allow students to earn college credit while learning about a subject in depth.

### • THE SCIENCE OF HOPE

Union is a hope-centered district, using hope as a lens to guide our work. In addition to providing dynamic learning experiences for students, Union is taking a tiered approach to addressing unwanted student behaviors and trauma by providing counseling and guidance to address the social, emotional, and academic needs of our students. The goal is to foster greater hope and confidence in our students’ lives in a positive, affirming school environment.

### • STEM EMPHASIS

Union offers a wide range of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) opportunities. Using what is considered the gold standard for STEM curriculum, Project Lead The Way (PLTW), Union was the first in the state, and among only a handful of districts nationwide, to offer STEM to students Pre-K through 12th grade. Biomedical, engineering, and computer science classes are among the district’s many offerings.

### • UNION VIRTUAL

Union Virtual offers a high-quality, age appropriate, virtual education in grades K-12. All students accepted into Union Virtual in grades 6-12 are required to take six hours of instruction per day and can proceed at their own pace, with the option to work ahead. All receive personalized attention from Union’s top-notch certified teachers. They can attend school virtually and still participate in activities like band, orchestra, cheer or athletics. The program is free of charge. Union Virtual for elementary students consists of self/parent-guided online instruction with monitoring, assistance, and guidance from a certified teacher. Students may be required to attend in-person as determined necessary. Parent involvement is required for success in elementary virtual.

Visit [www.unionps.org/strategic-plan](http://www.unionps.org/strategic-plan) for our district’s strategic plan

### • UNION COLLEGIATE ACADEMY

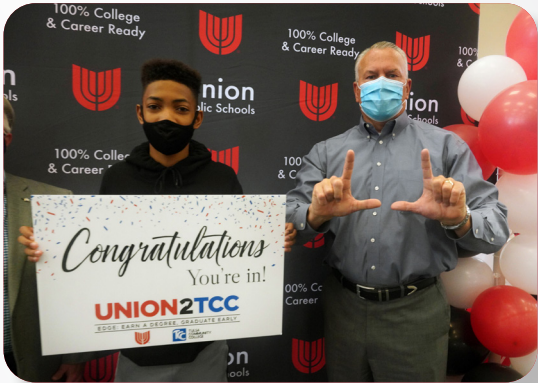
This wing of Union High School incorporates science labs, tiered lecture halls, Wi-Fi enabled student lounges, cafés, and a rooftop “green” classroom to create a collegiate setting. Here students can meet high school graduation requirements while earning college credits – virtually free of charge – from Tulsa Community College. Advanced Placement courses, Union Virtual, Tulsa Technology Center, and Union Career Connect internships provide an array of options to prepare students for college or the workforce.

### • EDGE: EARN A DEGREE, GRADUATE EARLY

Union – in partnership with Tulsa Community College (TCC) – is offering high school students the chance to earn an associate degree at no cost while earning their high school diploma. The EDGE (Earn a Degree, Graduate Early) program focuses on first-generation college-goers and families who qualify based on income. Students apply in the 8th grade. Those selected enroll in a rigorous college prep curriculum as 9th graders before entering EDGE in the 10th grade, where students take a prescribed course schedule taught by TCC faculty. Union’s first cohort of 28 students graduated in May 2021 with their associate degree.

## UNION2TCC

EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL



### • UNION CAREER CONNECT

Students participating in Union Career Connect (UCC) gain valuable work experience during high school internships in areas such as Automotive Technology, Child Development, Manufacturing, Construction, Culinary Arts, Sports and Community Medicine, and Teaching. Many earn important certifications and, when they graduate, they are often hired by their mentoring companies.

### • EARLY CHILDHOOD

Partnering with CAP Tulsa, Union provides a full-day, year-round program for income-eligible 3-year-olds at Rosa Parks Early Childhood Education Center. The site embraces the world-renowned Reggio Emilia philosophy of rich language development, fine arts exploration, and problem-solving in a beautiful, family-friendly facility. Union offers full-day kindergarten programs at every school site, as well as all-day programs for four-year-old students.



### • COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

The 6th/7th Grade Center and eight Union elementary schools are structured as full-service community schools. They are nationally recognized for their work in neighborhood development, parent involvement, academic enrichment, physical and mental health, and family activities to create student achievement. This highly effective model has resulted in increased attendance, reduced mobility, and improved academic success because of partnerships with community agencies, businesses, faith-based organizations, and foundations.



## Core Values

- **Commitment to Excellence** – quality in all we do
- **Collegiality** – respect and teamwork
- **Honesty, Integrity, Transparency** – the right, above-board thing to do
- **Innovation** – new, effective thinking and programs
- **Inclusiveness** – culture of accepting families and employees for who, rather than what, they are
- **Empowerment** – freedom to reach full potential
- **Accountability** – acceptance of responsibility for achieving results
- **Thoughtful Planning** – incorporation of values in plans and decisions