

# ASSUMPTION HIGH SCHOOL

1020 West Central Park Avenue, Davenport, IA 52804 | Phone: (563) 326-5313 | Fax: (563) 326-3510

A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

## Common New Student Questions

### 1. What are Assumption High School's hours?

Regular school hours are Monday through Friday from 7:45 a.m. – 2:50 p.m. Late starts and early releases will be listed on the school calendar. Assumption does **not** follow the Davenport Schools' Wednesday early dismissal schedule.

	<b><u>Phone Number</u></b>	<b><u>School Hours</u></b>	<b><u>Summer Hours</u></b>
Principal's Office	326-5313 ext. 200	7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Business Office	326-5313 ext.223/229	8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Athletic Office	326-5313 ext. 242	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Development Office	326-5313 ext. 228	7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.	7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Student Services	326-5313 ext. 237	7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.	8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Attendance Office	326-5313 ext. 227	7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Closed
Admissions Office	326-5313 ext. 230	7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

### 2. When is orientation?

Orientation will be held Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, and all incoming freshmen and new/transfer students are required to be present from 2:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m. Students are asked to be in dress code for orientation. The student-only portion of the day will be devoted to meeting teachers, learning the students' schedules, accessing lockers, and familiarizing students with lunch procedures. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to arrive at 5:00 p.m. for an opportunity to get more parent-directed orientation information in the Assumption auditorium. This evening portion is intended for students and their parents to have the opportunity not only to feel comfortable with a variety of school personnel but to also connect with future classmates. Highlights of the Assumption experience will be profiled, and a variety of AHS personal resources will be on hand to get acquainted and answer questions. Families will learn ways to get involved at AHS during their student's high school career, we will come together to share in the blessing of our new students, and a picnic dinner will be provided by AHS. We sincerely hope that our new students and parents/guardians find this busy day to be a great way to connect and feel at ease during this time of transition. Contact Ms. Kris Thomas, Director of Admissions, at 563-326-5313 ext. 230 if you have any questions.

### 3. Is busing available on all school days?

Students living in Davenport who utilize Davenport Community School Bus Transportation will not have busing available on Wednesday afternoons. Other arrangements must be made for transporting regular Davenport bus riders home on Wednesdays and a few other days in which the Assumption school schedule does not coincide with regular release times due to special testing and/or events. Please reference the Assumption website for calendar information. Students riding an Assumption bus (those not eligible for Davenport busing) will be transported to and from school on all scheduled school days.

### 4. Is there a code of conduct?

**Yes**, all students are expected to comply with the Assumption High School Code of Conduct found on the Assumption website. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to review the Code of Conduct and discuss it with their students.

## **5. How can a student change courses, if necessary?**

Student schedules are built during the summer using the course selection form submitted with application materials. If a student would like to select a course other than one that was originally requested, he/she should contact Student Services as soon as possible.

Please note the following course drop/add procedures:

- A. Students have an opportunity to change courses prior to the start of each semester only if the requested change improves overall school course balance and class size.
- B. Once the semester begins, administrative and parental approval is necessary to drop or add a course.
- C. Schedule requests surrounding course time of day, teacher preference, or PE/Religion quarter assignment will not be considered.
- D. Students are not allowed to add courses after the first five school days of each semester.
- E. Students are not allowed to drop courses after the first mid-quarter of each semester.
- F. Teachers may request a drop or change in level for a student who is experiencing difficulty. Administrative and parental approval is necessary.

## **6. What is the Religion curriculum like at Assumption?**

Assumption embraces the opportunity to teach Christian ideals in all facets of the educational program. Additionally, every student will participate in a Religion course at all times when attending Assumption. Due to the fact that Assumption is a Catholic school, the content of Religion courses is based in Catholic Christian teaching. Great care is taken to be respectful of non-Catholic students throughout such courses, and fostering general Christian, spiritual development is a priority.

Each semester, every student will take an age-appropriate Theology course (as outlined in the course catalog) for one quarter. The other quarter, each student will participate in a Community of Faith Seminar course that is based entirely online. During the seminar course, students will log community service hours (10 hours minimum per semester) and offer reflections on completed service via small group discussions. Additionally, small groups will engage in ongoing discussion surrounding a selected community faith study each semester. Online small groups will consist of 9-10 students of varying grade levels and a Religion teacher. Students will receive individual grades for progress in both Theology courses and Community of Faith Seminar courses. Community of Faith Seminar courses will be participation based, and grades will reward regular, meaningful discussion within the small group. First semester course access will be distributed to all students at school registration, along with more specific information regarding course structure, expectations, grading rubrics, and login/password information.

Families are strongly encouraged to discuss this faith study with their students throughout each semester. We hope that this ministry effort is a catalyst for ongoing conversation regarding faith development both at school and beyond.

## **7. What about school dances at Assumption?**

A multitude of developmental opportunities present themselves during the high school years, and we are happy to partner with families in making sure those opportunities are positive for students. At Assumption, we are not only committed to the formation of academics; development of character, Catholic values, social maturity, and responsibility are also high on the list of our educational objectives.

Attending formal high school dances at Assumption has traditionally been a privilege reserved for upperclassmen. All students in grades 10-12 may attend Homecoming and Turnabout, while the spring Prom is reserved for juniors and seniors only. These dances are intended to be fun, supervised, age-appropriate social opportunities for our students. Students attend these dances either as singles or with dates, and permission for a student to bring a guest from another school can be requested. Attire is expected to be modest and align with the Catholic values upheld at Assumption High School.

Assumption Administration feels strongly that the rationale behind the opportunity to attend a "dated dance" beginning at sophomore year is still appropriate. That being said, it is clear that our 9<sup>th</sup> graders desire opportunities for social interaction, and we have an interest in mentoring them in that growth process. Assumption will continue to host a non-dated Freshman Formal exclusively for AHS 9<sup>th</sup> graders. This year's Freshman Formal will be Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-10:00 PM and will include a fun evening of dining and dancing.

## **8. How do parents/guardians and students find out what is going on at Assumption?**

We make great effort to respect school access to parent/guardian contact information. All members of the Assumption Family are encouraged to regularly reference our website news blog at [assumptionhigh.org](http://assumptionhigh.org) for the most current school information. A weekly email update is sent to all constituents to direct attention to recent and upcoming events and highlights. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns as we are happy to assist!

Parents also have the option to receive select alerts/important reminders via text messaging, if they choose. This designation is available on an opt-in basis when completing the online JMC Student Information Update prior to school registration.

## **9. What should a student do if he/she is sick?**

If a student becomes ill at school, he/she needs to report to the attendance office. Office personnel will contact a parent/guardian for permission to go home. The front office has a phone available for student use. ***Students may not leave without parental permission and without checking out in the attendance office.***

**When a child is absent from school, parents/guardians must call the attendance office at 326-5313 ext. 222 before 9:00 a.m. In order for an absence due to illness to be considered "excused," a doctor's note must be turned in to the attendance office upon the student's return to school. Students may not exceed 10 "unexcused" absences per class per semester. Please note that class attendance is one of the greatest factors in promoting student academic success, and absence should be avoided whenever possible.**

## **10. Are students allowed to have cell phones at school?**

Cell phones are allowed during passing time and lunch periods. Use of cell phones during class or study halls is strictly prohibited unless permitted by a teacher for educational purposes. Inappropriate use of a cell phone will result in the confiscation of the phone. Confiscated phones must be picked up in the Principal's office by a parent/guardian. Repeated violations of cell phone privileges will result in further consequences as outlined in the Code of Conduct.

### **11. How can I check on my progress at Assumption?**

There are several ways to check:

- Parents and students may check regular academic progress through our online gradebook and student information system, JMC. Families should have all student and parent JMC username and password information. Families can also request this information by contacting Mrs. Shelli Miller at [shelli.miller@assumptionhigh.org](mailto:shelli.miller@assumptionhigh.org) or 563-326-5313 ext. 200.
- E-mail a teacher
- Call a teacher or counselor
- Schedule a meeting with teacher and/or counselor

Parents/Guardians will receive email progress reports through JMC several times throughout the year. Semester report cards are issued via parent email twice each year. Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held in October and February (as indicated on the school calendar). Conferences are held on a drop-in basis (no appointment necessary) in the school cafeteria during posted times, and families have the opportunity to meet with their students' teachers individually.

### **12. Can students/families tour the building and practice opening lockers prior to the start of school?**

At any time prior to the start of school, incoming students are welcome to schedule a visit. Please contact Ms. Kris Thomas at 563-326-5313, ext. 230 if you would like to schedule an appointment. Locker assignments (and practice opening lockers) will be a part of new student orientation. During Orientation (Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup>), freshmen and new students will be the only students in the building. This provides students an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the building and the location of their lockers and classrooms.

**Should you have additional questions or concerns, please contact the school at 563-326-5313.**