**Union Middle School -**

**Proud History, Bright Future**

**(Students started school in the new building in August, 2023)**

Union Middle School opened in 1968, a turbulent time in America’s history marked by the loss of two advocates for peace: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and President John F. Kennedy.

Knowing this, it’s tempting to connect the “Union” name to an appeal for civic unity. In truth, it speaks more directly to a time in Utah history dating back more than 170 years. But it’s the school’s spirit of unity that typifies what it means to be a Bobcat and endures still today, says its Principal, Brenda McCann.

“Union will always be a place where students and families with different experiences and beliefs come together and find strength through camaraderie,” McCann said.

Union Middle is named for the Fort Union area it serves, a community settled in the mid-1800s, which began, as the name suggests, as a defensive fort inhabited by Mormon pioneers. Now a commercial urban area, the community of Union is at the juncture of three cities: Midvale, Sandy and Cottonwood Heights.

“I always have felt like Union was the perfect name for the school, because it brings together a diverse community. There’s a very accepting inclusive culture there, a real community feeling of cooperation and neighborhood,” said a former Principal Kelly Tauteoli.

The new two-story school sports a large commons area and grand staircase, a banquet room for holding community events, community pantry, all-abilities courtyard and Ninja Warrior-style playground equipment, and fitness center with a running track.

Built with safety in mind, the facility is seismically up-to-date and has a security vestibule that steers all visitors through the Main Office to be checked in.

The arts wing with its state-of-the-art auditorium and display area for showcasing student artwork helps the school continue to build on its strong arts programs.

“Like yesterday and today, Union Middle is a source of pride for the community and serves the community well,” McCann said.