

University Park Elementary School



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August, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians of Incoming Kindergarten Students,

I am so happy to welcome your child to our school family for the 2023-2024 school year. We have an exciting year planned. Our focus will be achieving high academic standards in a safe and caring environment. Our goal is to lay a solid academic foundation within our students for their upcoming years. Student academic success is directly related to a strong relationship between school and the home. You will see as the year kicks off that we will have many opportunities for you as families to be directly involved in your child's school success! To help foster that connection, there will be several opportunities for our new Kindergarten families to visit University Park. Below is a list of dates, times and description of activities that will be occurring.

- **August 24, 2023 - Kindergarten Orientation** - All parents and students will report to University Park at 10am. Orientation for parents will last approximately one hour. Students will ride the bus and receive an overview of school expectations.

This meeting will give parents and students a chance to meet the Kindergarten teachers: Mrs. Cheri Debone, Mrs. Heidi Maniccia and Mrs. Jill Mutschler. Parents will receive any overview and information related to Kindergarten. This year we are excited to host Kindercamp! Students will participate in Kindercamp beginning on Friday, August 25th. I have included a schedule for Kindercamp to the letter.

- **August 25, 2023 – KINDERGARTEN'S FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL**

Today your child begins their educational journey with their UP Family!

This year UP will offer a parent series to help better support the home/school connection. The series will run from 6:00 – 7:00 at the UP Library.

September 21, 2023 – Tips for Making Life Easier

October 19, 2023 – How do I support my child with Reading?

November 16, 2023 – How do I help my child in math?

January 18, 2024 – How to handle your child's big emotions

March , 2024 – Digital Citizenship (with Mr. Krestar) TBA

Skyward is the data management system that the Gateway School District uses to send out all report cards and information related to the district and events. Please do not forget to sign up for Skyward on the district website. This will be the way that you view lunch accounts, attendance, grades, and report cards.

If you would like to volunteer at UP, you have two different options. To be an Independent Volunteer with the district, which allows you to go on field trips outside of the building, you will need to complete the application and submit your clearances to the District HR department. As an Assistive Volunteer, which helps with homeroom parties and activities that take place inside the building, you will need to reach out to the University Park PTO and provide your driver's license or ID to scan at the Security Kiosk on the day of the activity. If you have any questions about volunteering requirements or processes, please feel free to call the front office. All forms and clearances needed are listed on the gatewayk12.org site.

The UP Parent Carpool Procedures are attached. If you plan on picking your child up from school more than once during the school week, you must sign up for the Parent Carpool.

Again, welcome to University Park Elementary School. We are honored to serve your children. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to call my office.

Yours in Education,

Jennifer S. Hoffner, M.Ed

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Kindercamp

2023

August 25, 2023 -

First Full Day of School!

Students arrive between 8:50 - 9:10 AM

Dismissal - 3:35 PM

Please watch for an email from your child's teacher!

August 25th - August 29th - Kindercamp

Gross Motor Skills

Phonemic Awareness

Letter Identification

Sounds

Numbers

Shapes

Cutting

Writing Name

Social Skills