

# University Park Elementary School



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Dear Parents and Preschoolers,

Welcome to PreK! We hope you are having a fabulous summer! It is hard to believe it is coming to an end soon and the first day of school will be here before we know it. We are very excited to meet you and look forward to a great year. Mrs. Nicole Linderman will be your child's PreK teacher this year! Mrs. Linderman has been a member of the UP team for over twenty years!

The first day of school for PreK will be on Tuesday, September 5th. The Preschool day will run from 9:10 AM - 3:00 PM Monday thru Friday. Drop off and Pick up will be at the front of UP at Door 6 by the circle. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Preschool will follow the school calendar.

To help the preschoolers become familiar with the Preschool Classroom, there will be **PRESCHOOL BACK TO SCHOOL Parent/Child Meet & Greet** times on August 29 - 31 and September 1st. This is a great opportunity to meet the teacher, become familiar with the Preschool Classroom and the ins and outs of the UP Preschool Program. Mrs. Linderman will be reaching out to each family to schedule a day/time that works best for your schedule. We will have the preschool curriculum, badging books, and a supply list.

This year we will be utilizing the Three Cheers for PreK curriculum. We will also be utilizing the PreK badging program. Information will be provided during orientation to strengthen the home school connection.

You are the key to your child's success, both in and out of the classroom. In this way, we can create a plan for what works best for your child. The bond between home and preschool is one of the foundations for successful children.

The role of the classroom teacher is to provide an inquiry based, hands-on learning environment that is incorporated into imaginative play. At UP, the Preschool classroom offers quiet choice

activities, library and story times, morning meetings, inquiry interest areas, fine and gross motor activities, mathematics, phonemic awareness, science, special areas, and a focus on social and emotional learning.

Research indicates that a well-organized classroom helps children to be creative and motivates them to interact with each other. We want your child to become passionate about learning, to be curious, to explore and progress at their own pace. With time and commitment on your part, we are confident that as we work collectively, we can make a difference in your child's overall success.

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 attendance, badges, 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](http://gatewayk12.org) site.

The PreK team is looking forward to having a fantastic year with you and your child at University Park. Let's do it together, as we put our "Children First!"

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 or email me at [jhoffner@gatewayk12.org](mailto:jhoffner@gatewayk12.org).

Yours in Education,

Jennifer S. Hoffner, M.Ed

Principal