



University Charter School
Back to School Night
2024-2025
PreK - 3

Leaders. Innovators. Trailblazers.



Meet Your School Leaders!



Dr. JJ Wedgworth
CEO/Head of School



Dr. Matt Johnson
Chief Academic Officer



Tracy Bryan
Strategic Partnerships Officer



Ginger Lusty
Chief Financial Officer

TBD
Chief School Financial Officer



Meghan Dunn
PreK-3rd Grade Principal



Crystal May
Interim Administrator (4-8)



Brandon Broach
Interim Administrator (9-12)



Libba Reed
Director of Instructional Support



Cherie Meadows
Counselor

UCS Support Personnel



Emily Broach
UCS Lyon Receptionist



Ashia Winston
Mental Health Services Coordinator



Shannon Bryant
School Nurse



Shelby Dial
ARI Reading Specialist



UCS Support Personnel



Greg Hughey
Technology Coordinator



Janice Watt
Elementary Interventionist



Officer Agee
School Resource Officer



Jacob Dunn
Facility Manager



Individualized Education Coordinators

**Special Education
Coordinator**



Lisa McHugh

**English Language Learners
Coordinator**



Allison Myers

**Gifted Education
Coordinator**



Jessie Johnson



UCS Board of Directors



UNIVERSITY
CHARTER SCHOOL

UCS

2024-2025 School Calendar

July 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



2024-2025 School Calendar

August 1-9	Pre-Planning for Teachers
Aug 12	First Day for Students
Sept 2	Labor Day Holiday
Sept 23-27	UCS Homecoming Week
Oct 3-4	Fall Break
Nov 11	Veterans Day
Nov 25-29	Thanksgiving Break
Dec 23-Jan 6	Christmas & New Year's Break
Jan 7	Teacher Workday/P.D.
Jan 8	Students Return
Jan 20	M.L. King Holiday
Feb 17	President's Day
Mar 24-28	Spring Break
April 18	Assessment Holiday
May 16	UCS Graduation
May 22	Last Day for Students
May 23	Teacher Workday/Last Day for Teachers

Student Instructional Day	
Teacher/Student Holiday	
Teacher Pre-Planning (no students)	
Teacher Work Day (no students)	
Students Dismiss @ 91 PM/ Teacher PD	
Student Days	Teacher Days
1 st Semester: 86	93
2 nd Semester: 89	91
Total: 175	184
Employee Holidays: 28	

- Mini Fall Break
- Full Thanksgiving & Christmas Break
- Full Spring Break
- Note Early Release Dates that are NOT on Wednesdays, 9/27 and 12/20



Hours of Operation

Lyon Hall Campus

7:15 - Students may arrive on campus

7:15 - 7:45 Breakfast Served

7:25 Students travel to class

7:45 - 3:20 - School Day (M/T/Th/F)

7:45 - 1:00 - School Day (Wednesday)

3:20 PM Dismissal / 1:00 PM on Wednesday

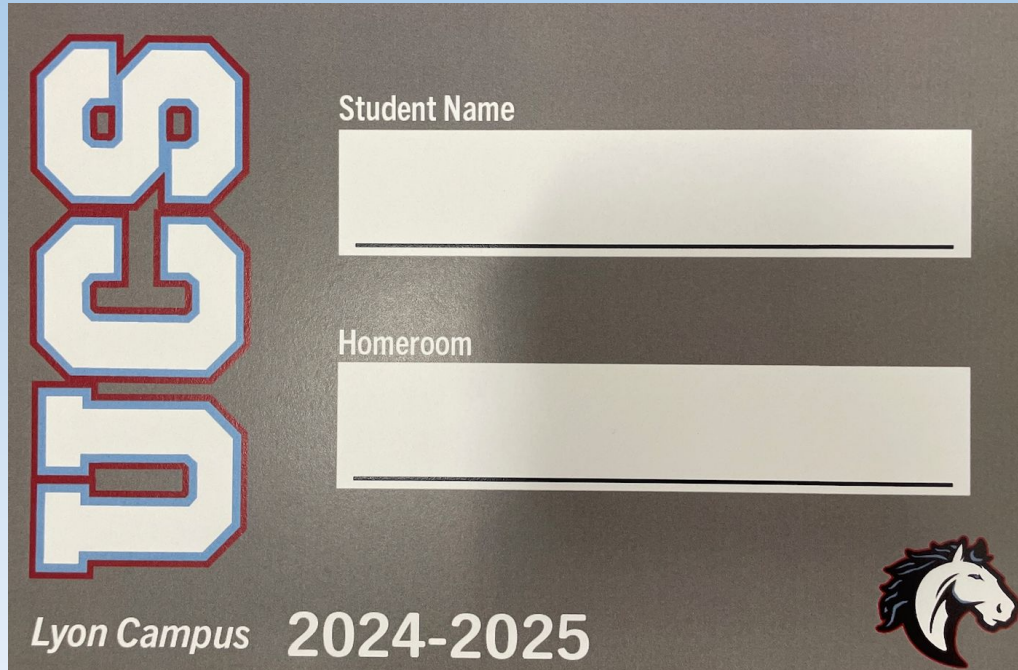


Lyon Hall - Car Dash Tags

- A Dash Tag will be required for each student that you plan to pick up from UCS Lyon.
- You will receive your Dash Tags during UCS Back to School Night (tonight).
- Please place them in your front dash on the passenger side, face up or on your car visor, so that car line attendants can easily read them.
- Each student will be issued (2) car tags at the beginning of the year. Any additional tags can be purchased by the parent or guardian ONLY for \$2 each.



Lyon Hall - Car Dash Tags




A dark grey rectangular card with a white and red stylized 'UCS' logo on the left. To the right of the logo are two white rectangular input fields. The top field is labeled 'Student Name' and the bottom field is labeled 'Homeroom'. At the bottom left of the card, the text 'Lyon Campus 2024-2025' is written in white. At the bottom right, there is a small black and white horse head logo.

UCS

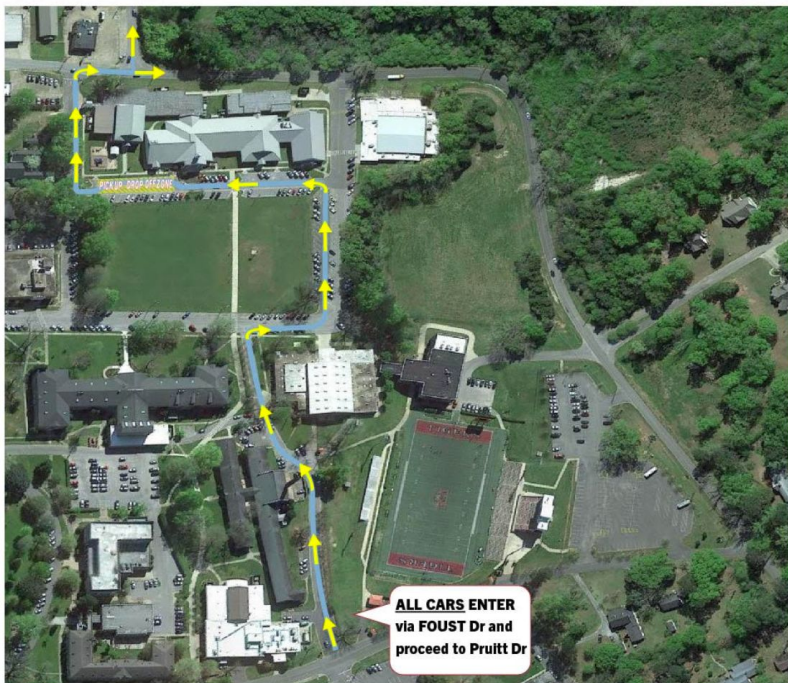
Student Name

Homeroom

Lyon Campus 2024-2025



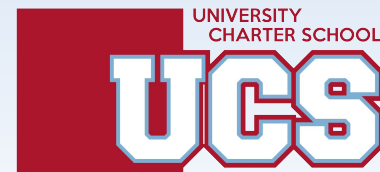
Drop Off / Pick Up - Lyon Hall Campus



- Turn onto Foust Drive from Stadium Drive, CAR TAGS DISPLAYED
- Continue onto Pruitt Drive, then turn RIGHT onto McConnell Drive
- Follow McConnell up to Lyon Hall, turn LEFT, and follow to "PICK UP / DROP OFF ZONE"
- Please wait until a UCS Team member releases your vehicle to leave the zone

Carline - Lyon Hall

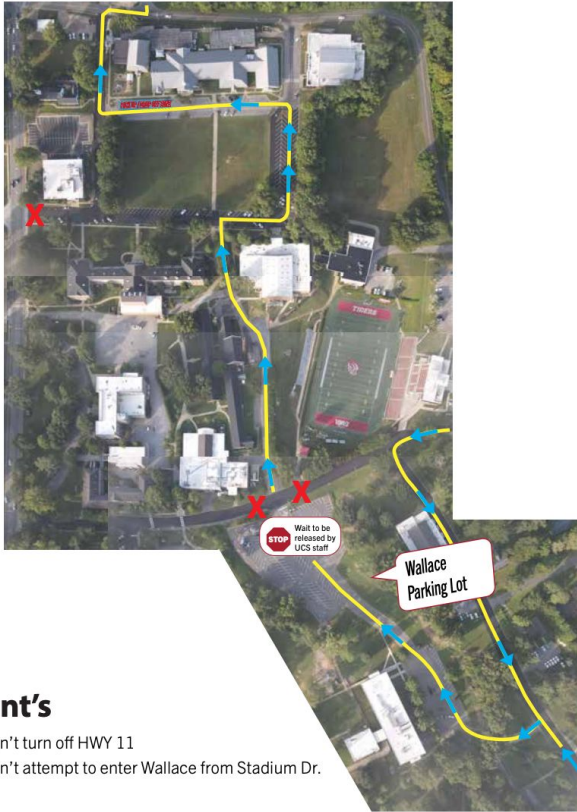
- Please TURN ONTO FOUST DRIVE FROM STADIUM DRIVE
- Please CONTINUE ONTO PRUITT DRIVE, THEN TURN RIGHT ONTO MCCONNELL DRIVE
- Please FOLLOW MCCONNELL UP TO LYON HALL, TURN LEFT, AND FOLLOW TO PICK UP/DROP OFF ZONE
- Please WAIT UNTIL A UCS TEAM MEMBER RELEASES YOUR VEHICLE TO LEAVE THE ZONE



Carline - Lyon Hall

- Please do NOT LINE UP BEFORE 3:10 PM
- Please do NOT TURN ON HWY 11
- Please do NOT ATTEMPT TO ENTER WALLACE FROM STADIUM DR.

- Please ENTER WALLACE LOT VIA FACULTY DRIVE
- Please CONTINUE INTO AND LINE UP IN WALLACE LOT. WAIT TO BE RELEASED BY UCS STAFF.
- Please HEAD STRAIGHT ACROSS ONTO FOUST/PRUITT DRIVE, THEN TURN RIGHT ONTO MCCONNELL DRIVE.
- Please FOLLOW MCCONNELL UP TO LYON HALL, TURN LEFT, AND FOLLOW TO PICK UP/DROP OFF ZONE.
- Please WAIT UNTIL A UCS TEAM MEMBER RELEASES YOUR VEHICLE TO LEAVE THE ZONE.



Don't's

- Don't turn off HWY 11
- Don't attempt to enter Wallace from Stadium Dr.

Do's

- Cars must enter the Wallace lot via Faculty Drive
- Continue into and line up in Wallace Lot. Wait to be released by UCS staff.
- Head straight across onto Foust/Pruitt Drive, then turn RIGHT onto McConnell Drive
- Follow McConnell up to Lyon Hall, turn LEFT, and follow to "PICK UP / DROP OFF ZONE"
- Please wait until a UCS Team member releases your vehicle to leave the zone

UNIVERSITY
CHARTER SCHOOL

UCS

NO WALKERS FROM LYON HALL DURING AFTERNOON DISMISSAL.

**If you live or work within walking distance of UCS Lyon, you can walk up to the front porch of UCS Lyon to retrieve your UCS student(s). Please DO NOT park at the bakery, etc. and walk over.



Meals - UCS Lyon



- We are pleased to announce that we are able to offer breakfast and lunch to all students at NO COST again this year.
- Students will use their LINQ Connect (<https://linqconnect.com/>) pin code to receive their meals (teachers will have these for students - all returning students have the same pin #)
- No Cost meals are limited to (1) breakfast and (1) lunch per day, additional food may be purchased by funding your student's LINQ Connect account.
- Complete a meal application in LINQ Connect/Titan to see if your student(s) qualify for waived or reduced school fees.



Meals - UCS Lyon

- Because of the “No Cost” meal program, and in an effort to provide healthy and delicious meals to our students please note that:

No outside food (food brought to school that is not in a student’s lunchbox) will be allowed. The federal funding guidelines that provide this program is very stringent on this policy, and we must adhere.



Student Fees



Easily pay for student fees with MySchoolBucks & PowerSchool



Receive alerts
when student
fees are due



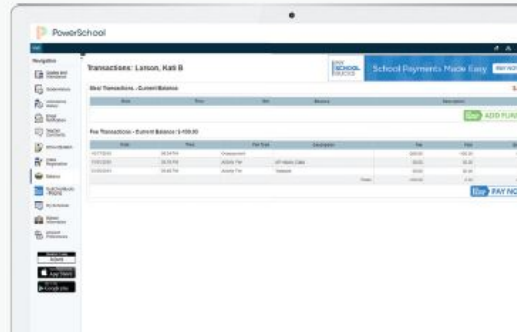
Easily make
payments from
MySchoolBucks



One login for
MySchoolBucks
& PowerSchool

Get Started:

- 1 Login to your PowerSchool account
- 2 Select MySchoolBucks on the left navigation
- 3 Link your existing MySchoolBucks account or create a new one



Student Fees



A screenshot of the PowerSchool SIS website. The top navigation bar includes "Welcome, Sample Parent", "Help", "Site Map", and "Sign Out". Below the navigation bar, the page title is "Meal Account & Fee Payments" with the "MY SCHOOL BUCKS" logo. A large blue banner contains the text "Click Get Started to manage meal accounts and fees with MySchoolBucks" and a "Get Started" button. On the left, a "Navigation" sidebar lists various school-related links, with "MySchoolBucks" at the bottom circled in red.

After clicking on MySchoolBucks, click on the Get Started to Register.



Student Fees

Two Easy Ways to Pay

Pay in PowerSchool

1

Log in to your PowerSchool Parent Account



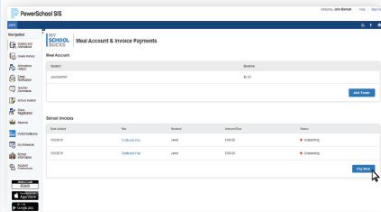
2

Click on "Balances" to view your student fees



3

Select the fees you'd like to pay and click "Pay Now" to be taken to MySchoolBucks



Pay in MySchoolBucks

1

Go to www.MySchoolBucks.com and log in



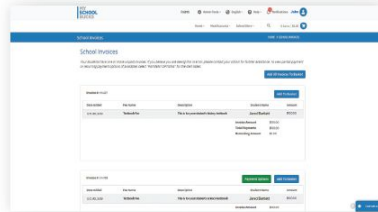
2

If you don't have an account, signing up is easy and free!



3

Easily view and pay for any of your student's school fees



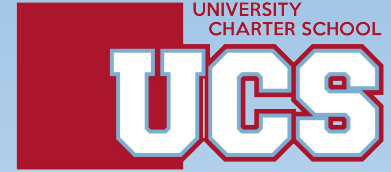
Invoices will be available in your students account to pay on Monday, August 12th.

Full, partial and payment plans are available when paying.

Contact Jana Cram for questions:
jcram@universitycharterschool.org

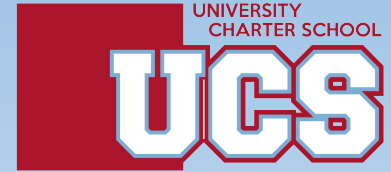


Restorative Practices



- Updated student restorative practices can be found on the UCS website.
- Please review student handbook with your students before signing and returning. This will be our standard for policy enforcement.
- Consistency leads to a safe, comfortable and productive learning environment for all students.

Uniform Updates and Reminders



- Alternative, non-natural hair colors, and distracting lengths of hair are prohibited for all students.
- **Everyday attire:** Students may wear any UCS jacket/coat WITHOUT a hood or any UCS outerwear purchased from the uniform vendor as outerwear both inside and outside of the building.
- **Dress attire (After Fall Break):** Students MUST wear navy UCS outerwear purchased from the uniform vendor with their dress attire. No other outerwear will be allowed with the dress attire inside the building.
- No hoodies allowed.
- Tennis shoes = ANY COLOR WITH EVERYDAY ATTIRE!

Uniform Quick Guides

UNIVERSITY CHARTER SCHOOL

Uniform Quick Guide BOYS

MON, TUES, THURS, FRI = ANY COMBINATION OF EVERYDAY ATTIRE
WED = DRESS ATTIRE*

Monday Option 1



- Gray pants or gray shorts
- Light blue polo or light blue Oxford shirt
- Belt (navy, black, or brown)

Tuesday Option 2



- Gray pants or gray shorts
- Light blue polo or light blue Oxford shirt
- Belt (navy, black, or brown)

Wednesday



- Gray pants
- Belt (navy, black, or brown)
- Light blue Oxford shirt
- Plaid tie
- Brown, black, or gray dress shoes

Thursday Option 3



- Gray pants or gray shorts
- Light blue polo or light blue Oxford shirt
- Belt (navy, black, or brown)

Friday Option 4



- Gray pants or gray shorts
- Light blue polo or light blue Oxford shirt
- Belt (navy, black, or brown)

TENNIS SHOES = ANY COLOR W/ EVERYDAY ATTIRE


*Dress uniforms on Wednesdays will NOT be required until after Fall Break! Pre-K students are excluded from dress day attire.

UNIVERSITY CHARTER SCHOOL

Uniform Quick Guide GIRLS


MON, TUES, THURS, FRI = ANY COMBINATION OF EVERYDAY ATTIRE
WED = DRESS ATTIRE*

Monday Option 1




- Plaid skirt, navy pants, or navy shorts
- Light blue polo or light blue Oxford
- Ruffled knit dress (PreK-3 ONLY)

Tuesday Option 2




- Plaid skirt, navy pants, or navy shorts
- Light blue polo or light blue Oxford
- Ruffled knit dress (PreK-3 ONLY)

Wednesday




- Plaid skirt (pin-2 1/2" can wear gray slacks)
- Navy or black modesty shorts under skirt
- Light blue Oxford shirt
- Navy or black knee socks, navy or black tights
- Black or navy dress shoes OR navy and white saddle Oxford shoes

Thursday Option 3



- Plaid skirt, navy pants, or navy shorts
- Light blue polo or light blue Oxford
- Ruffled knit dress (PreK-3 ONLY)

Friday Option 4

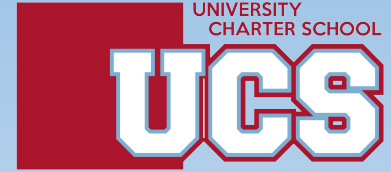


- Plaid skirt, navy pants, or navy shorts
- Light blue polo or light blue Oxford
- Ruffled knit dress (PreK-3 ONLY)

TENNIS SHOES = ANY COLOR WITH EVERYDAY ATTIRE

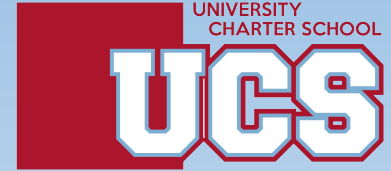
*Dress uniforms on Wednesdays will NOT be required until after Fall Break! Pre-K students are excluded from dress day attire. Modesty shorts must be worn under dress or skirt.

Student Attendance

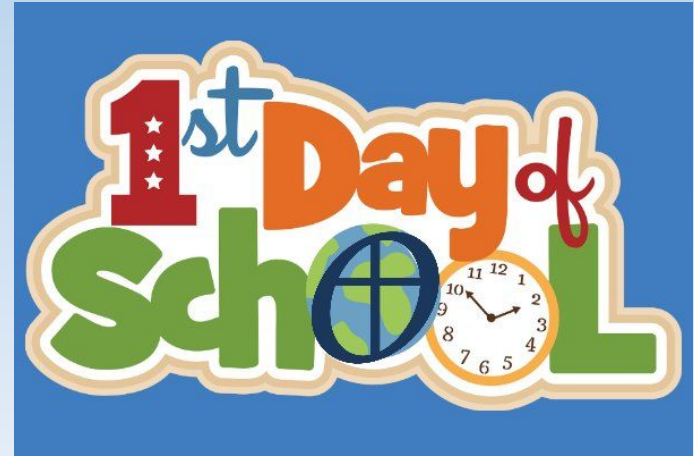


Absence Threshold	UCS Intervention
5 total (excused and unexcused) per year	Written Communication
10 total (excused and unexcused) per semester* or year	Attendance Court and Subject to Loss of Credit
15 total (excused and unexcused) per year	Attendance Meeting & Subject to Retention and/or Loss of Credit
18 unexcused	Unenrollment/Withdrawal from School

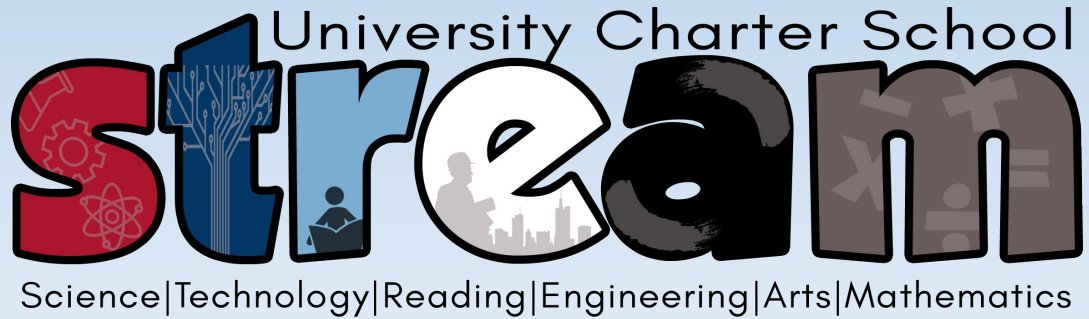
First Day of School Reminders



- For the first day of school, parents/guardians are asked NOT to escort their students to their classrooms. We ask that you please drop them off in carline.
- Uniforms must be worn Day 1 (dress uniforms NOT required until after Fall Break).
- Meet with Nurse Bryant Day 1 to bring required medication for your child to have at UCS.



After-School Program



Christopher Dunn
After School Director



After School Details and CMA Dance

- UCS offers after school care for all enrolled students on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 3:20-5:30, and on Wednesdays from 1:00-5:30. More information about tuition, activities, and curriculum within this program can be located on our school website and in the UCS After School Handbook.
- UCS teacher, Mr. Christopher Dunn (cdunn@universitycharterschool.org), is the After School Director.
- Starting Monday, August 12th.
- For any questions or concerns please contact Mr. Dunn.

CMA Dance: CMA Dance is here tonight and will begin Wednesday, August 14th in the UCS Lyon Cafeteria. CMA Dance's schedule will be provided once registration is complete.



Engaging,
STREAM Project
Based Enrichment
Program for
students in grades
K-12



2024-2025 After School
STREAM Program
Expanding Learning Possibilities

100 students
\$15 per week
or
\$5 for Wednesday Only
If the number of students exceeds 100,
a random lottery drawing will be held.

Mondays
Tuesdays
Thursdays
Fridays
3:30pm-5:30pm
Wednesdays
1:30pm-5:30pm

University Charter School
stream
Science|Technology|Reading|Engineering|Arts|Mathematics

Director: Christopher Dunn
Cdunn@universitycharterschool.org

tuscaloosa's
ONE
place
• a family resource center •



HOW TO REGISTER

Step 1: Log into your powerschool account.

Step 2: Click on starting with my school bucks in powerschool.

Step 3: Register your My School Bucks Account.

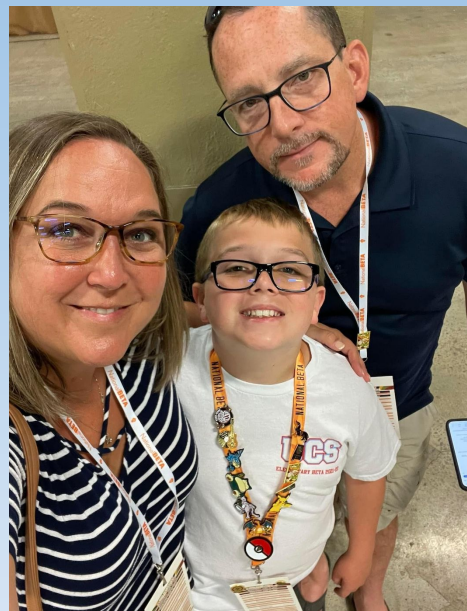
Step 4: After completing step 3 visit www.MSBAactivities.com to register your child for after-school.

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS:
CDUNN@UNIVERSITYCHARTERSCHOOL.ORG



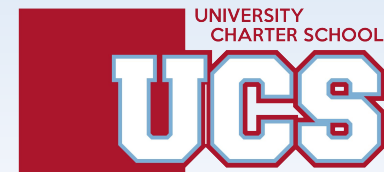


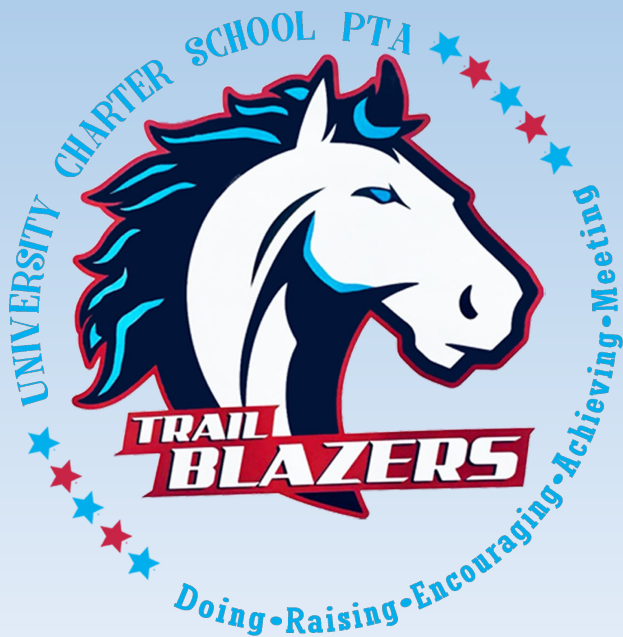
Mrs. Vick
UCS PTA Co-President



Mrs. Fendley
UCS PTA Co-President

UCS Parent Involvement Opportunities





PTA Dates to Remember

Aug 12

Back to School

Sept 03-18

Charleston Wrap Fundraiser

Sept 12

PTA Meeting | Time and Location - TBA

Oct 21 - Nov 06

Coca-Cola Fundraiser (Delivery on 11/20)

Oct 28

Fall Festival

Dec 10

Cookies and Milk with Santa

May 5-9

Teacher Appreciation Week



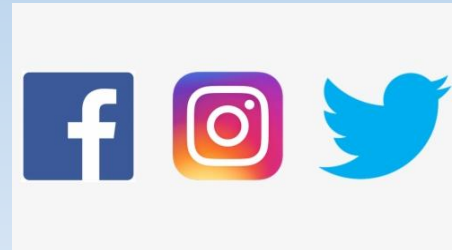
UCS Communications

FRIDAY EMAIL!

UCS Mass Communications will be reaching out to UCS Families through several different platforms this year.

Look for our posts on social media in addition to texts, emails, and phone calls.

We want to make sure our parents are informed, and we want to show you the great things our students are achieving at UCS.



<https://www.facebook.com/universitycharterschool>

@UCSTrailblazers on Twitter

@universitycharterschool on Instagram





If you have further questions, please ask your UCS teacher. We look forward to a great school year!

**LET'S STAY
IN TOUCH**

My door is ALWAYS open and I welcome your input.
Please contact me via email or call to make an appointment to speak with me to discuss any ideas you feel will make this the best year yet!



UCS Lyon
Cafeteria

CALLING ALL VENDORS

UCS Lyon
Cafeteria

After School	<i>Mr. Christopher Dunn</i>
PTA/Membership and Merch/Parent Connect Dates	<i>Mrs. Courtney Vick and Mrs. Kimberly Fendley</i>
Athletic Boosters Merch	<i>Mrs. Megan Edmonds</i>
Athletic Booster Membership	<i>Mrs. Katie Smith</i>
CMA Dance	<i>Mrs. Haley Booker</i>
Yearbook	<i>Mrs. Katie Ryon Gibbs</i>
School Pass Station (will need driver's license; pre-screens for parents to get background clearance to volunteer during school day or for field trip - FREE)	<i>Mrs. Emily Broach and Ms. Tara Payne</i>

