



University Charter School
Back to School Night
2024-2025
4th - 12th Grade

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



Cherie Meadows
Counselor/504 Coordinator



Meghan Dunn
PreK-3rd Grade Principal



Crystal May
Interim Administrator (4-8)



Brandon Broach
Interim Administrator (9-12)



Libba Reed
Director of Instructional Support



UCS Smith Support & Intervention Personnel



Tara Payne
UCS Smith Office Manager



Ashia Winston
Mental Health Services Coordinator



Kristen Beard
School Nurse



Jackie Tripp
Math Instructional Coach

UCS Support Personnel



Greg Hughey
Technology Coordinator



Janice Watt
Interventionist



Officer Washington
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

UCS Career Coach



Codi Washburn
Sumter County Career Coach

- Assist students in understanding the value of personal interests and skills assessments and the role each plays in career development
- Assist students and parents in making educated and informed career decisions
- Cultivate student understanding of the process necessary to obtain their career goals
- Encourage and advise students to pursue the process for college and career readiness and success

Co-Op / Work Based Learning / Office Aides



Julie Wright
High School

- Assist students in understanding the value of personal interests and skills assessments and the role each plays in career development
- Assist students and parents in making educated and informed career decisions
- Cultivate student understanding of the process necessary to obtain their career goals
- Encourage and advise students to pursue the process for college and career readiness and success

UCS Athletics



Sam Mosley
UCS Athletic Director
Head Football Coach

UCS Athletic Opportunities

Fall:

Football, Volleyball,
Cross Country, Cheerleading

Winter:

Basketball

Spring:

Softball, Baseball, Tennis, Golf



UCS Extra-Curricular

FFA

FCA

Robotics

4H

Jr. Beta Club

National Honor Society

Peer Helpers

SGA

Band



Hours of Operation

UCS Smith Campus

7:25 - Students may arrive on campus

7:25 - 7:55 Breakfast Served

7:35 Students travel to class

7:55 - 3:30 - School Day (M/T/Th/F)

7:55 - 1:10 - School Day (Wednesday)

3:30 PM Dismissal / 1:10 PM on Wednesday



UCS Smith Campus - Car Dash Tags

- A Dash Tag will be required for each student that you plan to pick up from either UCS Campus.
- 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.

UCS Smith Campus - Car Dash Tags



Student Name

Homeroom



Smith Campus 2024-2025

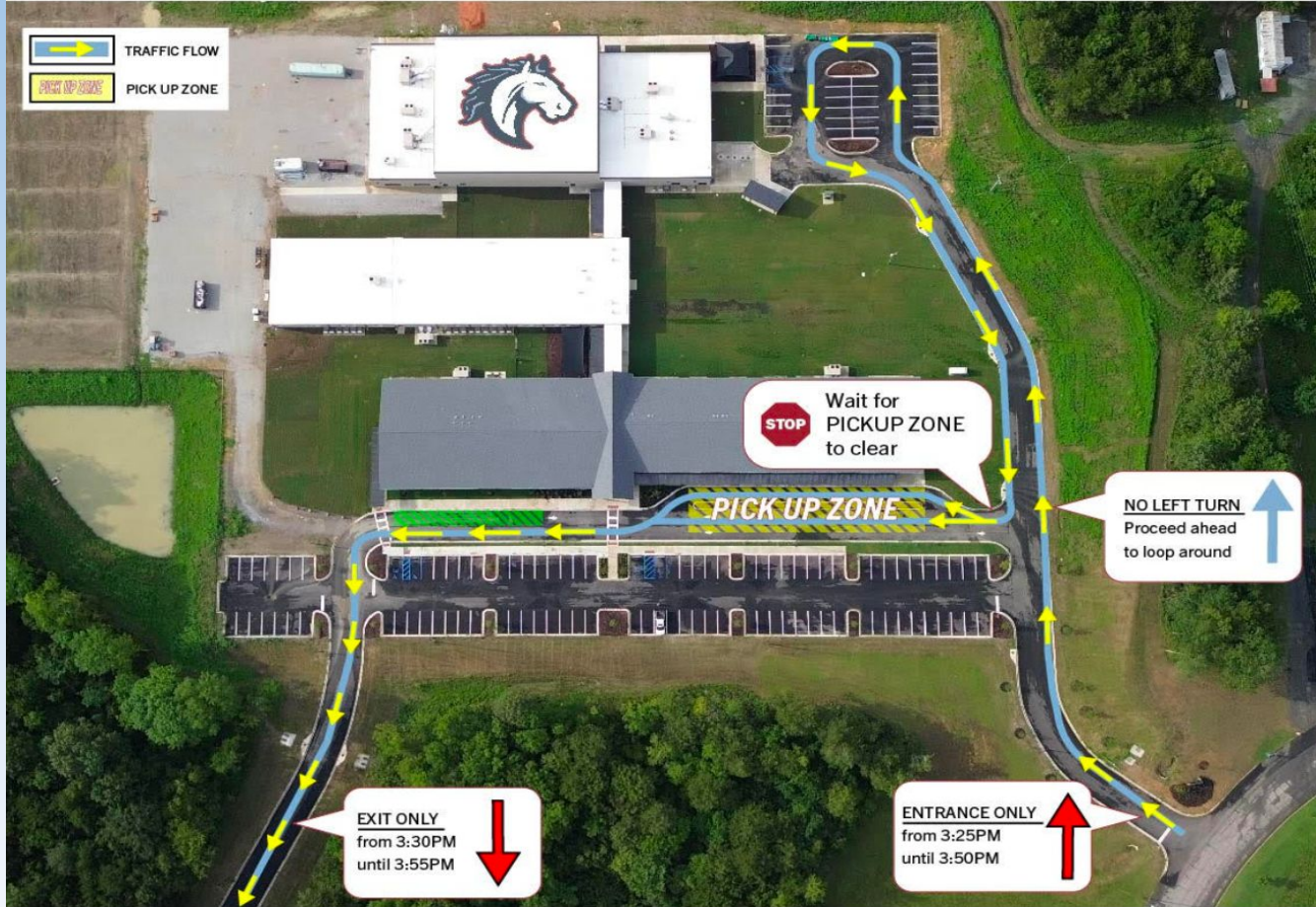


Morning Drop-Off Procedures - UCS New Campus



**Carline -
UCS
Campus
(Arrival)**

Afternoon Pick-up Procedures - UCS New Campus

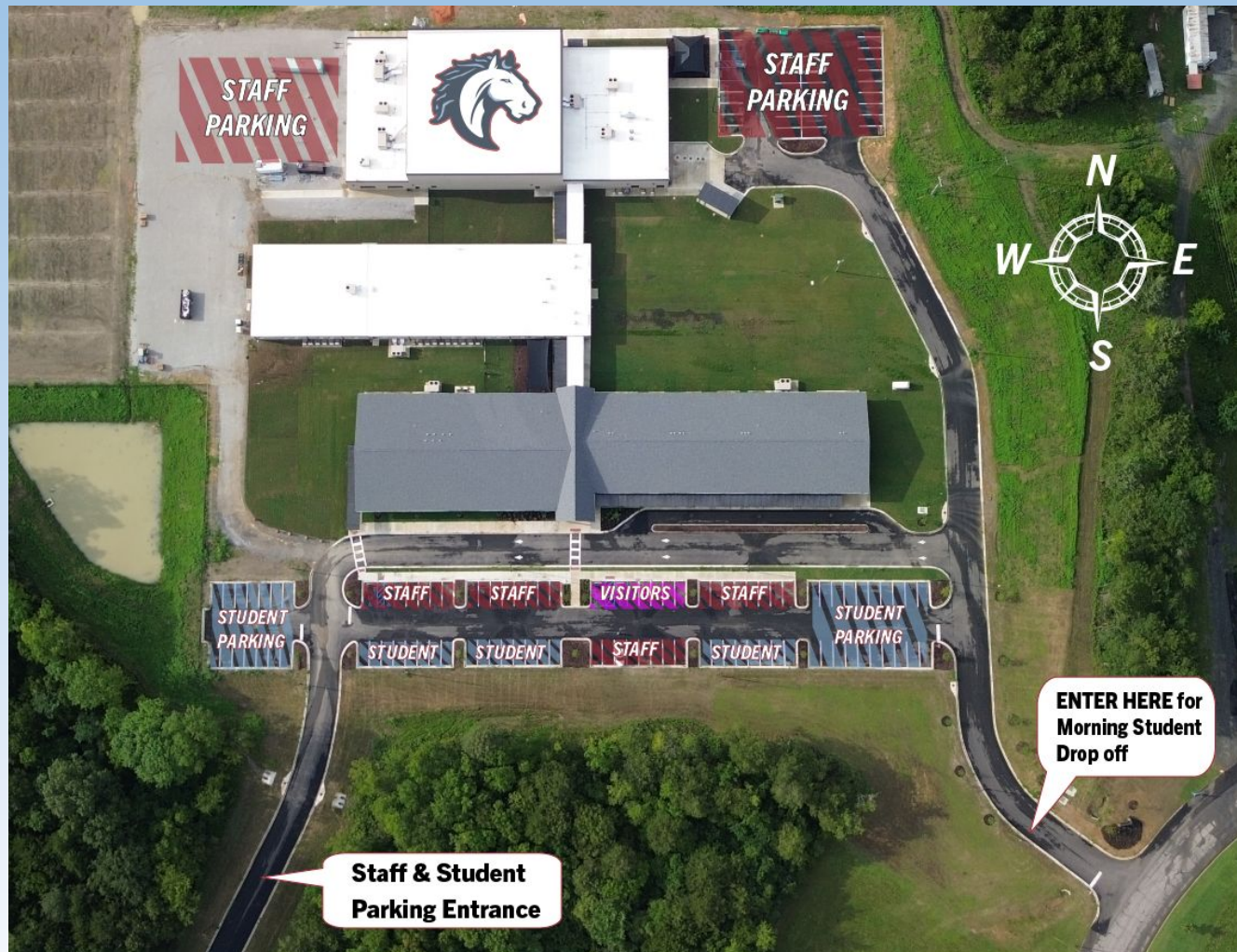


Carline - UCS Campus (Dismissal)



Student Drivers

- Students who wish to drive their personal vehicle and park on campus must complete a “Student Driver Application Form”
- Students whose applications are accepted will receive parking privileges and will be notified of next steps via UCS email addresses.
- Students need to park in allotted student parking, in front of the building.
- All student drivers, and their passengers must enter through the main lobby doors, and proceed to the cafeteria (if before 7:35 AM)
- UWAPD



Student Parking (2024-2025)



**ALL STUDENTS MUST
DEPART UCS CAMPUS IN A
VEHICLE...NO WALKERS**



Discipline

- Updated student discipline policies 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/Reminders

- Shoes of any color on normal days
- Boys shirts tucked in and belts everyday
- Ties only on pre-announced days
- Boots on Wednesdays and jean days ONLY



Electronic Devices

- YONDR Pouches will be utilized for grades 6-12
- Students are not permitted to utilize cell phones, wireless earbuds, or any other cellular based electronic device (smartwatches) during the school day. Mobile electronic devices should be turned off or muted, and stowed in the YONDR pouch during the instructional hours each day.
- Cell phone violations will be handled by administration. Please review the student handbook.



Meal Item Fees



- Every student receives one free breakfast and one free lunch.
- Extra meal items (an additional breakfast, lunch or a la carte) item will be charged.
- Use your existing account or setup your account online to make payments for extra meal items: <https://lingconnect.com/>
- Complete a meal application in LINQ Connect/Titan to see if your student(s) qualify for waived or reduced school fees

Meals - UCS Campus

- 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



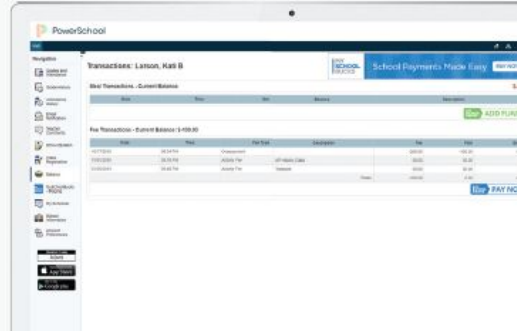
Easily make
payments from
MySchoolBucks



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, there's a user profile section with names: Emma, Nathan, Hudson, Joseph, Hadley, Stella, and John. The main content area is titled "MY SCHOOL BUCKS Meal Account & Fee Payments". 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



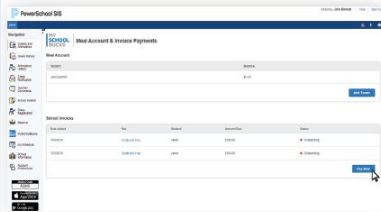
2

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



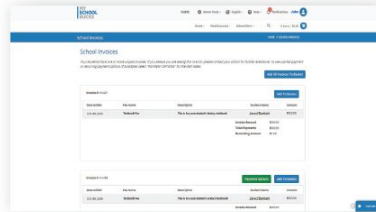
2

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

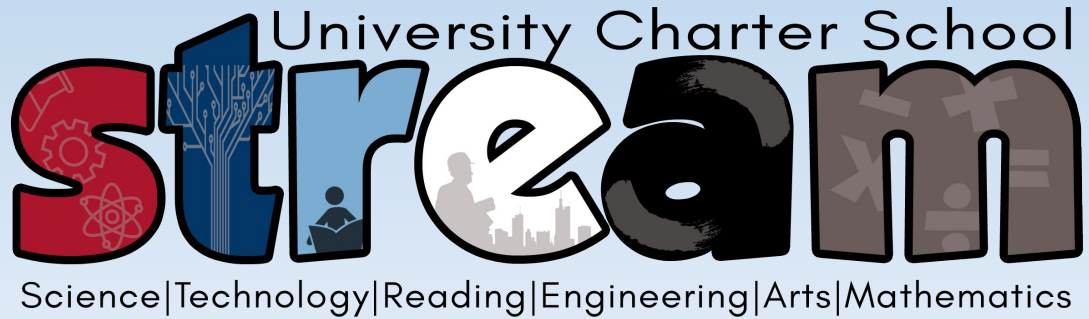


Student Attendance



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

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

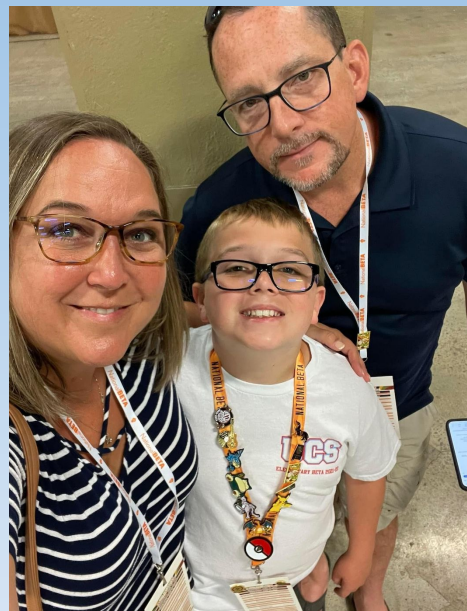


CMA Dance

CMA Dance: CMA Dance will be at our PreK-3rd Grade Back-to-School Night and will begin Wednesday, August 30th in the Lyon Hall Auditorium. Parents of any 4th-6th graders registered for CMA Dance will be responsible for getting their student to Lyon Hall on Wednesdays. CMA Dance's schedule will be provided once registration is complete.



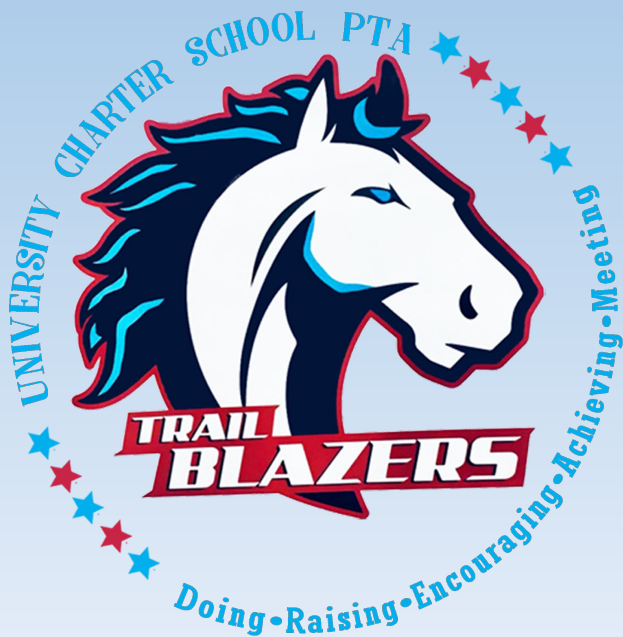
Mrs. Vick
UCS PTA Co-President



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



Student Schedules

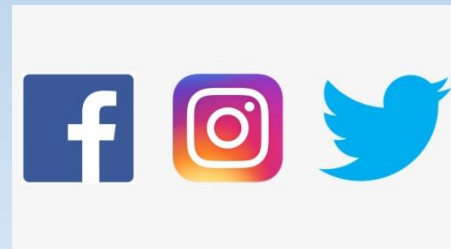
- If your student did not log into Powerschool to see who their homeroom teacher is, please see Mrs. May tonight for this information
- Homeroom teachers will have student schedules and Powerschool login information. Homeroom teachers will also have “Change of Course” forms.
- Please email Mrs. May (cmay@universitycharterschool.org) with any questions about Dual-Enrollment.

UCS Communications

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.

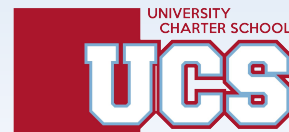
We want to make sure our parents are informed, and we want to show you the great things our students are achieving at UCS.



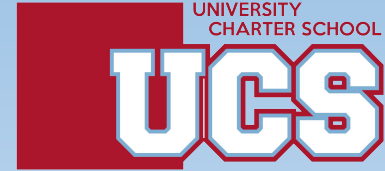
<https://www.facebook.com/universitycharterschool>

@UCSTrailblazers on Twitter

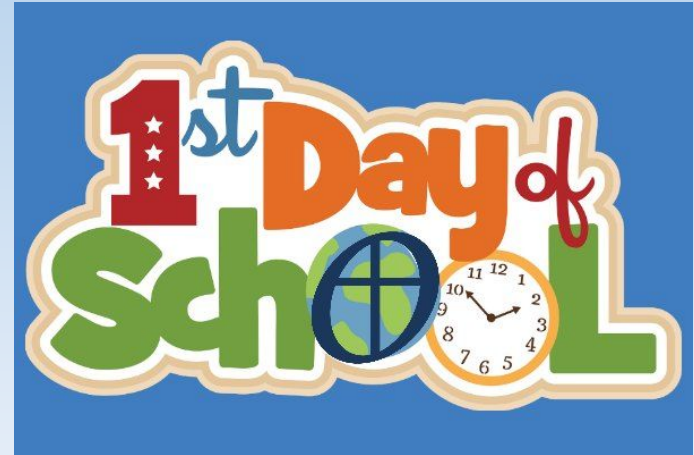
@universitycharterschool on Instagram



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 Kristen Day 1 to bring required medication for your child to have at UCS.



Here we go...

4th - 6th Grade Families: Head to your classrooms first, then vendors

7th - 12th Grade Families: Visit the vendor tables, then classrooms





If you have further questions, please stay after and see one of UCS' Leaders. We look forward to a great school year!