



Welcome Back to School!

My name is Melissa Shanahan ... “Miss Melissa”, and I am excited to be your child’s Autistic Support teacher this year! It is my 4th year at Uwchlan Hills Elementary having transferred from Deveraux Cares – a school that specializes in autism research and specialized instruction. I hold both an undergraduate degree from Penn State in Elementary Education and a Masters Degree in Special Education from University of Michigan and teaching certification from West Chester University. I am also the proud mama to two young men with autism who attended Downingtown schools.

Our classroom has an amazing team of paraprofessionals dedicated to meeting the unique needs of the students entrusted to us. Each of your children are important to us as individuals – and I look forward to working in partnership with you this year. I work closely with the regular education teachers to ensure meaningful inclusion occurs and each of the students entrusted

Please know that I am always willing to discuss any concerns that may arise. I truly believe in the value of a strong home to school support system. One of my mantras that my son loves to quote is “Every problem has a solution”. I can’t wait to start the 2025-26 school year adventure with you!

Ms Melissa Shanahan M.Ed. K-2 Autistic Support Teacher Uwchlan Hills Elementary School 50 Peck Road | Downingtown, PA 19335 P: 610-269-5656 ext. 28101 | E: [mshanahanwest@dasd.org](mailto:mshanahanwest@dasd.org) | W: [www.dasd.org/uh](http://www.dasd.org/uh)