

# University Elementary September Newsletter



## THINGS ARE FITTING INTO PLACE

We are officially one month into school! The last few weeks have been exciting and productive. All of our teachers made a commitment from Day 1 to focus on school-wide procedures. The next time you are in the school, look at the framed procedures that are around the building. It doesn't matter if your child is in preschool or 6th grade - we ALL have the same expectations in the hallway, lunchroom, restrooms, playground, etc. We have already found that when we are all using the same vocabulary while holding each other accountable (adults and students), we are able to focus our energy on teaching and learning. The attention to these procedures will definitely pay off for all of us as we progress through the school year.



In addition to the school-wide procedures, our teachers have taken the last few weeks to start building relationships with your children. I always find it exciting to see students come back from the summer and how much they have grown/matured. For example, our first grade students that were in kindergarten last year - their growing independence and responsibility is light years ahead of where it was this time last year!

At University School, we believe that when we have a healthy climate and culture, curriculum will follow suite. If you ever have any questions or concerns with what is happening in the classroom or throughout the school, please don't hesitate to contact your classroom teacher or our main office.

~ Glen Hopkins  
Principal

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Sept. 10: PTO Meeting @ 6:00
- Sept 19: Fall Campaign Kick-off
- Sept. 19: IU Optometry Vision Screening Grades PK, 1, 3, 5
- Sept. 19: Playground Dedication and Food Trucks @ 5:30-7:00
- Sept. 24: PTO Skate Night @ 6:30 @ Western Skateland
- Sept. 25: Picture Day
- Sept. 26: Kindergarten Field Trip to Peden Farm
- Oct. 11: End of First Grading Period
- Oct. 14-15: Fall Break - No School
- Oct. 16: School Resumes

## Playground Dedication and Food Trucks

Hopefully your children have come home to tell you about all the wonderful things they are doing at school. Physically, the school has seen some changes as well. One of the biggest changes your children can enjoy is the newly renovated playground! Over the summer, we took out one of our nearly 30 year old sections and replaced it with some new equipment and padded surface.

On Thursday, September 19th, we invite all of our families to come to University to catch up with friends and families as we have a big play date on the playground beginning at 5:30 PM. We will also have various food trucks parked in the bus circle (south side of the building) where you can pick up some dinner! A portion of the proceeds will go to our PTO who will use the money to support various initiatives at school. This event will wrap up at 7:00 PM. We look forward to seeing everyone on the 19th!



## University Attire

The PTO will be set up at the Playground Dedication on the 19th to sell University shirts. All shirts are \$10. If you don't want to wait until then, you are always welcome to swing by the office and we can sell you a shirt for you or your children! We accept cash, check, and even card payments!



## ILEARN Results

You may have read in the paper, or seen on the news, that results from last year's Indiana State Assessment, ILEARN, were recently released (to a certain degree). Across the state, schools have seen a decrease in scores with this new assessment. In fact, the assessment has changed multiple times over the last ten years, and each time, schools across the state have seen a decrease in scores. While the assessment is designed to measure student growth, this is difficult to do accurately when so many changes are taking place. This assessment is a snapshot of just a few days out of the 180 days that we work with your children.

University School performed well above the state average in ELA and Math, yet a number does not encompass everything that we do at University School. We will continue to provide exceptional instruction to your children while fostering a safe and healthy learning environment.

If you have any questions or thoughts, not only about ILEARN, but anything else going on in the school, please don't hesitate to contact the school.

## Check us out!

Be sure to check out our MCCSC [Elementary Guide](#), [Curriculum Guide](#), AND our [PK-6 student videos](#) on our University webpage!

## September Lifeline and Learner Profile

For the month of September, we will focus on the Lifeline of "Cooperation" and the Learner Profile of "Knowledgeable."

- **Cooperation:** "We listen to the thoughts and ideas of others."
- **Knowledgeable:** "We explore ideas and issues that are important to us, our community, and our world."

Each month, teachers will nominate students from their classrooms that model these traits. Students will have their pictures taken and placed on the large bulletin board outside the gym where we hope to have a collage of our students by the end of the year.

Ultimately, all of our Lifelines fall under the umbrella of the Lifelong Guidelines, "*Do the Right Thing*" and "*Treat People Right*."

## Fall Campaign

Our 2019-2020 PTO Fall Campaign will kick-off on Thursday, September 19th. It will run through October 25th.

Many schools engage in fundraising ventures like selling flowers, trash bags, candy, wrapping paper, etc. At University School, we don't engage in these kinds of fundraising practices. Instead, we have a Fall Campaign where we ask families to make a donation to the school's PTO which allows them to support various student and teacher programs. Below are a few examples. When this information comes home, please give thoughtful consideration to how your family can support our Fall Campaign. Additional information will be provided in the packets that come home.

- Literacy Lab
- Classroom Grants
- Playground Enhancements
- Teacher Appreciation Events



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DATE WITH LIFE  
AT UNIVERSITY!

- Follow University on Twitter - @UniversityElem
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- Download the MCCSC app for Apple or Android - MCCSC
- Visit our webpage - <https://www.mccsc.edu/university>

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