



# Welcome to UPark!

2016-2017

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **How will the school communicate with us?**

You will receive the UPark weekly email newsletter every Thursday starting in August. Please read this thoroughly to know what is going on at school. It is important that the school has your current email address so that you can receive this information. Your teacher will communicate with you at least twice per month, and your room parent will let you know about upcoming classroom events. Each teacher has a class website, which you should also visit a couple times each month.

### **How do I drop off and pick up my child?**

The first bell rings at 8:55 am. Students should come to the blacktop behind the school no earlier than 8:40 am. Students should line up at their line-up spot (see map). The Kiss 'n Go drop-off line can also be used in the morning along St. Paul. Please stay in your car and pull up to the staff member letting kids out by the playground. Half-day students are dismissed at 11:40 am and should be picked up in the main office. Afternoon dismissal for full-day students is at 3:45 pm and also occurs at your line-up spot. For parking and traffic flow information, please see the enclosed map.

### **My child needs before and/or after-school care. How do I set that up?**

Registration for Kaleidoscope begins in early May and can be done online or in person. See our website or contact Jesse Broadfoot at [jesse\\_broadfoot@dpsk12.org](mailto:jesse_broadfoot@dpsk12.org) for more information. We also have before and after school enrichment classes that begin the second or third week of school. Please see the UPark email newsletter for information on how to register for free and paid enrichment courses.

### **Should my child bring a lunch or a snack?**

Lunch can be brought from home or purchased in the lunchroom. To add money to your child's lunch account, go to [myschoolbucks.com](http://myschoolbucks.com). Kindergarteners also may bring a snack. Our Wellness and Sustainability (Green) Programs request that you send healthy foods for snack, and please consider using reusable containers. You can read more about this policy in the Parent Handbook on our website.

**Do I need to purchase school supplies?**

School supply lists will be made available this summer when you receive your child's teacher placement. Keep your eye out for this email on in early July.

**How many educators are in the classroom?**

In addition to your child's homeroom teacher, there will be a paraprofessional (assistant teacher) in each kindergarten class for 6 hours per day. Some classes also have student teachers from local universities for part of the school year.

**Can we celebrate my child's birthday in class?**

University Park has a no food birthday celebration policy. In lieu of food, some families donate a copy of their child's favorite book to the class or bring favors like play dough, erasers and pencils, stickers, etc. We also have a few fun traditions for kindergarten birthdays that we usually do later in the day. Birthday invitations to outside parties will not be passed out during school hours. We suggest they be handed out before or after school with your child or that you use the school directory to send them.

**Can I volunteer in my child's classroom or elsewhere in the school?**

UPark welcomes all volunteers! We ask that kindergarten parents not come into the classroom during the first two weeks of school so that the kids can get settled. After that, your teacher or room parent will contact you with ways to sign up, or your teacher may have a sign-up at Back to School Night. We also have a very active PTA and would love to have participation from the entire parent community. You will be asked during registration to indicate ways you might want to help.

**Important dates**

Mid-August - Registration for all families (you will receive an email with the dates)

Thursday, August 18 - School supply drop-off and family picnic

**Monday, August 22** - First day of school for 1st-5th grades

**Tuesday, August 23** - First day of school for kindergarten

Wednesday, September 7 - Back to School Night

**Contact information**

UPark office - (720)424-3410 (Please call in the morning if your child will be absent)

School website - [uparkelementary.org](http://uparkelementary.org)

Principal Grant Varveris - [grant\\_varveris@dpsk12.org](mailto:grant_varveris@dpsk12.org)

UPark PTA - [uparkpta@gmail.com](mailto:uparkpta@gmail.com)

We look forward to a wonderful school year!