University Park Elementary Student & Parent Handbook 2018-19

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Denver Public Schools Calendar

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NON-STUDENT CONTACT DAYS

Planning/Assessment/Professional Days (No classes for students)

August 13, 14, 15, 16, 17; October 22, 23; January 4; February 1; March 4; April 29, May 31.

11.5 Professional Days Total. (see breakdown below)

Minimum of 5 days for teacher self-directed planning, distributed in meaningful increments; 2.5 days for school-directed professional development (.5 of which to be SLT-directed); 3 days for data culture / analysis.

***Notes:** SLT to determine which non-student contact days are planning vs. professional; professional learning opportunities for teachers across the district will be provided centrally on **August 14, October 22, February 1**; Attendance is at school leader discretion, but some flexibility decisions will require teacher attendance on these days; Additional recommendations and guidance will be provided on the Professional Learning Center website: plc.dpsk12.org.*

END OF TERM-TO BE FOLLOWED BY REPORT CARDS

ES, ECE-8 and MS Trimester: November 9; February 22; May 31.
6-12, High School 9 Weeks: October 18; December 21; March 8; May 31.
6-12, High School 6 Weeks: September 28; November 2; December 21; February 15; April 5; May 31.

MS/HS WALK-IN REGISTRATION

August 9, 10

VACATION/NO CLASSES

HOLIDAY/NO CLASSES

Labor Day - September 3
Thanksgiving Day - November 22
Christmas Day - December 25
New Year's Day - January 1
Martin Luther King Jr. Day - January 21
Presidents' Day - February 18
Cesar Chavez Day - March 31
(observed March 29)
Memorial Day - May 27

SEMESTER DATES

First Semester Begins 8/20; Ends 12/21
Second Semester Begins 1/7; Ends 5/31

STUDENT REPORT DAYS

81.0 Days 1st Semester
93.5 Days 2nd Semester
174.5 Total Days

TEACHER REPORT DAYS

89.0 Days 1st Semester
98.0 Days 2nd Semester
187.0 Total Days

Family Conference Day

October 19 (full day, no classes for students). Schools may modify the daily schedule for family conferences to meet the needs of the school community. SLT may determine if a second Family Conference day in the Spring is needed (but may not decrease overall student contact time).

The Calendar for the 2018-2019 school year is adopted by the Board of Education subject to the provision that if for any reason the School District must close schools for more than the time provided by the statutes, the adopted 2018-2019 calendar may be amended by the Board of Education to provide enough additional school days on Saturdays, during vacation, or at the end of the present calendar to meet legal requirements as required by the statutes.

= UPark no student contact day

UPark Elementary Quick Facts (back to top)

School Address:	2300 South St. Paul Street, Denver, CO 80210
School Phone:	720-424-3410
School Fax:	720-424-3435
School Website:	www.uparkelementary.org
Kaleidoscope Corner:	720-424-3423
Free Breakfast	8:40 a.m. - 8:55 a.m.
First bell:	8:55 a.m.
School Hours:	9:00 a.m. - 3:45p.m.
Half-day Kindergarten:	9:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m.
Playground Supervision*:	8:40 a.m. - 8:55 a.m.
Teacher's Hours:	8:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.
Mascot:	Owl
School Colors:	Red and White
Faculty:	UPark Website
PTA Board Members:	UPark Website
CSC Members:	UPark Website
UPark App:	UPark Website
University Park Calendar:	UPark Website

*Parents or Guardians must supervise children before 8:40 a.m. or after 3:45 p.m.

Message from the Principal (back to top)

Welcome to University Park Elementary! We look forward to working as partners with parents and the community to provide your child the best possible education. We encourage active parental involvement. Your child's needs are best met through a positive and supportive relationship between home and school. Please visit school often! We also welcome parents as volunteers. We hope this handbook will provide you with useful information about school policies and procedures. Please refer to it whenever you have questions or concerns. We wish you and your child an exciting, productive and successful school experience at University Park!

Sincerely,
Eric Atonna, Principal
eric_atonna@dpsk12.org

University Park Touchstone (back to top)

At University Park we are a caring community of learners who are respectful and responsible. We share a love of discovery and take joy in our journey. This statement was cooperatively developed by our school community and reflects the academic and ethical values that elevate the daily behavioral norms of our students, staff and parents.

Philosophy & Mission Statement (back to top)

At University Park, we provide a rigorous and empowering environment that celebrates and nurtures the entirety of each individual student. We celebrate our diversity and join together as a community of learners to stimulate the creativity, critical thinking, and healthy habits our students will need to thrive as 21st century world citizens.

Safety & Discipline (back to top)

Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (back to top)

At University Park we believe it is important to explicitly teach our expectations. We have school-wide expectations that everyone in our school community be ***respectful, responsible, caring, cooperative and joyful.*** These five expectations are defined for our common spaces and in classrooms. We acknowledge positive behaviors and respond to behavior violations with opportunities for students to learn from their mistakes while giving back to our school community. In order to teach strategies for how students can meet our five expectations, we use a variety of strategies. ***BrainWise***, a curriculum that gives students the tools to make good decisions is one example. The Ten Wise Ways taught in this program are:

- ★ Wizard Brain Over Lizard Brain
- ★ Build a Constellation of Support
- ★ Recognize Red Flag Warnings
- ★ Exit the Emotions Elevator
- ★ Separate Fact from Opinion
- ★ Ask Questions to Gather Information
- ★ Identify Your Choices
- ★ Consider Consequences
- ★ Set Goals and Plan for Action
- ★ Communicate Effectively

Positive Reinforcement (back to top)

When students are “caught” being respectful, responsible, caring, cooperative and joyful, they may receive a Wizard Hat slip. Being acknowledged and recognizing the positive behavior is the true “reward.” Each Friday students are selected by a staff member and are invited to the office to be congratulated by the office staff.

Consequences (back to top)

When student behavior does not meet our expectations, we have consequences. It is important that consequences are explicit, timely, logical and provide an opportunity for learning. When we address the behavior, we focus on the behavior and not the student, and always de-escalate the situation. Most student behavior violations are dealt with effectively in the classroom. Teachers may have a student complete an *Action Plan* of how they are going to change their behavior, which will be sent home for a parent signature. As a part of this *Action Plan*, we support students in finding ways to not only change their behavior but to also acknowledge and repair damage done to relationships with their peers and/or staff. Students are expected to complete restitution.

If we notice a pattern in student behavior, we may need to intervene with more structured interventions such as a behavior plan, point sheets, or a small group for re-teaching of skills for appropriate behavior. If these interventions are warranted, parents will be involved in the process.

Suspension, police involvement or expulsion may be considered in the rare instance students may be involved in theft, possession of weapons, harassment or assault. The Denver Public Schools Discipline Policy JK-R can be accessed here then search for "Student Conduct and Discipline Procedures."

Bullying is not tolerated at UPark. We implement a variety of strategies. The Olweus Bullying Prevention Program is one example.

Bicycles, Scooters, Roller Blades, Skates and Skateboards (back to top)

Bicycles should be locked in the bike rack and scooters are to be kept in the coat rack area in the hallway. They are not to be moved during the school day. Students are required to walk or carry their bicycle, scooter or skateboard on school grounds. Students are encouraged to wear a helmet if they ride a bike or scooter to school.

Emergencies and Emergency Contact Information (back to top)

911 will be called first when an extremely severe (life threatening) medical emergency arises. In the case of a serious illness or injury, the home phone is called first. If there is no response, the parents will be called at work. If parents cannot be reached at home or at work, the emergency numbers are called. Every attempt is made to notify parents when there is a serious injury. ***It is extremely important that your child's emergency contact information is current at all times. Please inform the school office of any changes in residence, employment, and/or phone numbers which occur during the school year.***

Dress code (back to top)

Appropriate dress is required. Caps are not allowed in the building except for special designated days. Please dress your children appropriately in regard to the weather. Most days the children are outside for recess, gym and other activities. During inclement weather children need hats, coats, gloves or mittens. Please be sure your student doesn't come to school wearing the following:

- Inappropriate footwear, including skate shoes or bedroom slippers.
- Shorts, dresses, skirts or other similar clothing shorter than mid-thigh length.
- Inappropriately sheer, tight, loose, or low-cut clothing that bares or exposes midriffs, including garments made of fishnet, mesh or similar material, halter tops, backless clothing, tube tops, muscle tops, revealing tank tops or sundresses.

School Grounds Rules (back to top)

- Playground supervision is from 8:40-8:55 am and at recess. Parents must supervise their children on the playground before and after these hours.
- During school hours, the playground next to the alley on the east side of the playground is for **grades 3-5.**
- During school hours, the playground on the west side of the field next to St. Paul Street is for **grade K-2.**
- Students are welcome to play on the blacktop, in the field and on the playground equipment. Avoid playing in the garden, in trees or on fences.
- During school hours, we provide sports equipment for students. Equipment and materials should not be brought from home.
- During school hours, playground disputes will be handled by the staff on the playground.
- A pass is required to go inside to the restroom or the office at all times.
- Dogs are not permitted on school grounds at any time.

Drop Off and Pick up at School (back to top)

- Playground supervision is from 8:40-8:55 am and at recess. Parents must supervise their children on the playground before and after these hours.
- Teachers will release students on the playground at 3:45 pm. Due to the large number of people on the playground directly after school, help your child to remember not to ride bikes, skateboards and scooters during this time in order to keep everyone safe.

Storm Schedule and School Closing Information (back to top)

Regardless of the weather, school will be in session unless a school-closing announcement is made on the radio or television. School closure information will be available first on the radio stations KHOW-AM (630), KSYY-FM (95.7), KBNA (Spanish)-AM (1220) and KOA-AM (850) since they begin operating at 3:00 a.m. Information can also be found online at Denver Public Schools Winter Weather Information and at Facebook DPS News Now.

Park and Walk Guidelines (back to top)

Walk to school whenever possible. If you live outside of the neighborhood, park at a friend's house in the neighborhood and walk to school together.

The west side of St. Paul is posted with Prohibitive Parking signs, specifically “No student pick-up or drop-off this side.” Due to the high volume of traffic during school, it is unsafe and illegal to drop children on the west side of St. Paul.

The east side of St. Paul is a posted Passenger Loading Zone. Cars left unattended for any length of time are subject to ticketing by Denver Police. To read more about Denver Parking Codes, click here.

The parking lot to the east of the building is for staff only. Please be respectful of our staff and do not displace them by parking your car in their spaces. Parking lots are not a good place to drop off or pick up children.

Morning Drive Up and Drop Off (back to top)

Use the Kiss 'n' Go location by the metal tree near at the playground entrance on St. Paul to drop off children by car (northbound) in the morning when not walking to school. Adults will be present to assist.

Before school during inclement weather, the Kiss 'n' Go location is not available. Parents should drop students at door 3 at the front of the school, 5 on the east side of the school or 9 on the playground. These doors will be open and students should walk directly to the gym. Door numbers begin with 1 at the front entrance on St. Paul and progress clockwise around the building. Teachers will lead children to classrooms from the gym after the first bell at 8:55 am.

Due to the high volume of traffic, ***consider not driving southbound on the 2300 block of St. Paul during drop-off and pick-up times***.

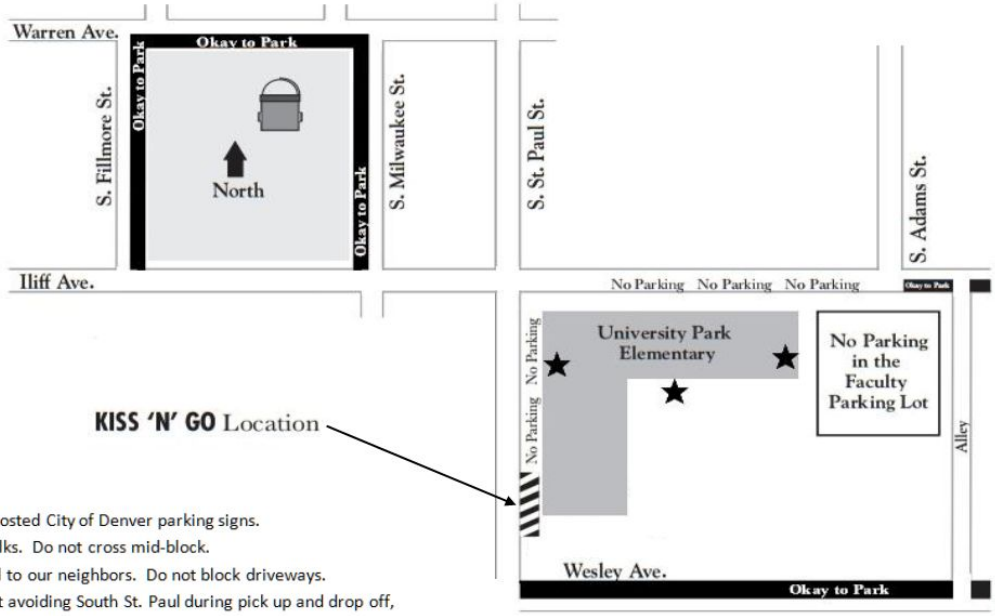
Iliff Avenue from St. Paul east to the faculty parking lot is for Bus Passenger Loading (and Handicap Parking by designated signs). Cars parked in the bus loading area or in handicap spots without proper license plates or placards are subject to ticketing by Denver Police. To read more about Denver Parking Codes, click here.

Please help our community keep everyone safe and use crosswalks to cross intersections with your children. Due to the high volume of traffic before and after school, ***it is extremely unsafe to cross the street in the middle of the block***.

Stop, Look & Listen

University Park Elementary
Traffic and Parking Rules

Denver Public Schools



- Please observe all posted City of Denver parking signs.
- Always use crosswalks. Do not cross mid-block.
- Please be respectful to our neighbors. Do not block driveways.
- We strongly suggest avoiding South St. Paul during pick up and drop off, unless you are using Kiss 'N' Go.
- The parking lot to the east of school is for staff only.
- No pick up or drop off in the alley.
- The east side of St. Paul is for unloading and loading only.

★ On inclement weather days, doors 3, 5, and 9 will be open. Drop off in gym.

Bus Transportation (back to top)

It is important that parents of students who are scheduled to ride the bus notify the school if their student is ***not*** going to be riding the bus.

Please send a note or call the school office to let us know when your student will not be riding the bus. ***Your student will be placed on the bus after school unless we have prior notification.***

To help ensure that students arrive home safely, students cannot inform us when they are not riding the bus, ***it must come from their parents/guardians***.

Bus Unloading Procedures (back to top)

- Students will unload quickly and come onto the playground at once.
- Students will not be allowed to go back to the bus without permission of the teacher in charge.

Bus Loading Procedures (back to top)

- Students who ride the bus line up by the east parking lot door (#5) and are escorted to their buses.
- Students will load quickly and once on their bus remain seated there.
- There will be no playing around the buses during loading.
- No student will be allowed back in the building without permission from the teacher in charge.

Safety on the Bus (back to top)

The consequences for inappropriate bus behavior range from parent notification to suspension from the bus. Safety is critical while on the bus. For more information on Denver Public Schools Bus Safety, click here.

Health (back to top)

Allergies and Food Intolerances (back to top)

The school should be informed of any student who has a serious known allergy that could endanger his or her life, especially bee stings, food or medication that causes severe or life threatening reactions. For more information on how to handle your child's allergies at school, please visit the front desk at the school and read more about Denver Public Schools policy by clicking here.

Immunizations (back to top)

The State of Colorado requires evidence of immunization for school enrollment. A child entering school must meet the requirements for each vaccine, or have a signed Statement of Exemption. A child will be denied entry into school until this information is provided.

Please visit the front desk at the school if you have concerns about immunizations for your child and visit the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment website to read about the Board of Health Rule for School Required Immunization.

Health Centers (back to top)

For information about school-based Health Centers provided by Denver Health, click here.

Medication Guidelines (back to top)

For the Denver Public Schools policy on medicine at school, please click here. Please also visit the school nurse to discuss questions or concerns. ***Never send your child to school with medication to self-administer, including over-the-counter medications.***

Student Illness Guidelines (back to top)

The following guidelines are necessary to help ensure the health of our students and staff. If your child exhibits the following symptoms do not send them to school:

- If the child has been vomiting during the night or before school.
- If the child has a fever of 100 degrees (f), or greater, or has been running a fever during the night.
- If the child has been diagnosed with strep throat he must be on antibiotics for at least 24 hrs before returning to school.
- If the child has conjunctivitis or "pink eye," she must be on antibiotics 24 hours before returning to school.

For more information on Denver Public Schools policy, please click here and here.

Food (back to top)

School Meals Information (back to top)

Breakfast is ***free*** for all students from 8:40-8:55am.

For current menus and pricing, please visit Denver Public Schools Food & Nutrition Services. To pay for lunches online, visit My School Bucks. These online services can also be accessed through the UPark Mobile App.

To find out if your family qualifies for free or reduced lunches please complete an online application or visit the front desk at the school. All information is kept confidential.

Guidelines to Healthy Foods at School (back to top)

In accordance with the Denver Public School District Wellness Policy, University Park Elementary School has implemented guidelines to ensure nutritious foods and beverages at school. These healthy guidelines apply to school-sponsored events and fundraisers, snacks and classroom parties. Foods and beverages should be nutrient-dense such as fruits, vegetables and cheese. The DPS wellness policy encourages healthy eating and physical activity in order to help students learn. Quite simply, emphasizing good nutrition and wellness in general is good for our kids.

At University Park, we offer the following guidelines regarding foods intended for snacks, or foods to be shared at parties, celebrations, and school functions:

Snacks (back to top)

We encourage fresh fruits and vegetables as snacks for our students. This simplifies snack time for kids, parents and teachers and promotes healthy lifelong snacking habits. When the class has shared snacks, they should be fruits and vegetables only. If your child has special needs for snacks, please speak with his or her teacher. Snacks are at the teacher's discretion.

Birthday Celebrations (back to top)

University Park has a non-food birthday celebration policy. If your child would like to give a small item to fellow students, please consider sending in cards, stickers, poems, erasers, pencils or flowers. Some students donate a book to our permanent library. These are just a few ways we celebrate birthdays at University Park. Please save special food treats for celebrations at home. When planning your child's celebration, please speak with his or her teacher.

Classroom Parties (back to top)

University Park encourages celebrations that are based on healthy foods. We want to send the message that we care about our children's health! We ask that the school community members provide foods and beverages that benefit our students' ability to learn and their overall well-being. Consider providing a fruit tray with yogurt dip for parties or vegetable or cheese trays along with other nutrient dense foods and sweets in moderation. Please speak with room parent or teacher when bringing in foods to be shared.

Classroom Rewards (back to top)

Rewarding students with food is discouraged. The PTA supports teachers and students by providing teachers with non-food rewards.

School Functions (back to top)

University Park aims to include healthy offerings at school functions. Please support the student body (and their student bodies!) by bringing nutritious foods and beverages to school functions and events.

Fundraisers (back to top)

Food items sold on campus must meet the minimum standards of the DPS Wellness Policy.

About the Classroom (back to top)

Parent/Teacher Conferences (back to top)

Quality education requires close and open communication between parents and teachers. In order to support our belief in educational excellence, formal scheduled conferences will be held in the fall concerning each student and, if they are needed, in the spring. The conferences are, by design, brief sessions. If a parent needs to discuss a matter in more detail, it is appropriate to schedule another meeting. Students may be involved in the preparation and presentation of information to parents at the conference.

Make Up Work (back to top)

Students are required to make up work missed due to an absence or tardy.

Assessments (back to top)

University Park follows the Denver Public Schools testing schedule, which varies depending on grade level. For specific information on testing, please contact your teacher or read more at the Department of Accountability, Research & Evaluation.

Communication Policy Between Teachers & Parents (back to top)

Every two weeks, communication will go out to families from teachers. This communication will serve to share about happenings in the classroom.

Classroom Websites (back to top)

Many teachers maintain classroom websites. Please visit the University Park Elementary website for up-to-date information.

General School Policies (back to top)

Reporting Student Absences and Tardies (back to top)

Please report any student absence or tardy to our school attendance line at 720-424-3410. This line is a voice message service when the school office is closed. Feel free to leave a message day or night. The UPark Mobile App is also available to report absences.

Absent or Tardy Policies (back to top)

If your child will be ***absent or tardy,*** please call the school by 9:00 am. Please leave the child's name, room number and reason for absence. If we don't hear from you, parents/guardians will be called by the school on the day of the absence. ***A written note, signed by the parent or guardian,*** explaining an absence or tardy must be sent with your child when they return to school (if contact wasn't made).

If your child is tardy please come in with them, or write a note or call the office to excuse the student. Otherwise the school secretary will be contacting the student's parent or guardian to determine where a child is and the tardy will be recorded as unexcused. Students who are tardy negatively impact instruction in the classroom. Please make every effort to get your child to school on time.

Please sign the Attendance Book in the office when your child is leaving early, or returning during the school day. ***Please contact the school, in advance and in writing, if your child will be going out of town.***

Excused absences and tardiness include illness, medical or dental appointments, funeral, extenuating circumstances with administrative approval that must be presented at sign-in. All written notes must include: student's full name, date, reason, a parent/guardian signature, a daytime phone number where parent/guardian can be reached.

Parent or Guardian Leaving Town (back to top)

Signed documentation must be given to the school whenever a parent or legal guardian leaves their child in the care of another adult while they are out of town. This person must be listed on the school's list of approved adult contacts.

Medical or Other Appointments (back to top)

Whenever possible, schedule your child's medical or other appointments outside of school hours. Please sign the Attendance Book in the office when leaving early for the day or leaving and returning the same day.

Long-Term Absences and Assignments (back to top)

If you know that your child will be out of school for several days, please contact the school to arrange for work to be sent home or picked up. Please give teachers some time to prepare assignments and materials.

On-Time Policy (back to top)

- Regular daily attendance is required of all students.
- Students will be allowed in the building when the morning bell rings at 8:55 a.m.
- The tardy bell will ring at 9:00 a.m. After 9 a.m. students must be signed in at the Front Desk by adults or present a signed parent note.

Leave It at Home (back to top)

Students are discouraged from bringing money, toys, or valuable items to school **as the school assumes no responsibility for lost, damaged or destroyed items**. Money may be left with the teacher or office personnel for safe- keeping in the case that it is to be used for a school event. Any money sent to school is safest when in the form of a check placed inside an envelope with the student's first and last name written on it.

Students are not allowed to have cell phones turned on from 8:55 to 3:45. All cell phones must be turned off and stored in backpacks when on school property unless otherwise directed by a specific classroom teacher. University Park is not responsible for any items if they are lost or stolen.

Recess (back to top)

Recess is a regular part of the school day and we go outside except when it is extremely cold, rainy or muddy. Students need to wear clothing that is appropriate for the weather. Please send a Doctor’s note to your child's teacher if they are under orders not to go outside. It is our policy that if a child is healthy enough to come to school, they are healthy enough to go outside at recess.

Transfer to Another School (back to top)

A parent should contact the school office in advance of a student's transfer, stating where the child is moving and, if known, the name and address of the new school. Information will be prepared to assist the student's entry into the new school. Any library books not returned when the student withdraws must be paid for at that time. Additionally, the school would appreciate your participation in an Exit Survey in order to help us understand attrition at our school. The front desk will assist with administering the survey or you can complete the survey here.

DPS Internet Policy (back to top)

Visit the DPS Electronic Mail and Internet Policy here, as well as the Denver Public Schools Department of Technology Services website for information on internet use at school. UPark students and parents sign a technology agreement at the beginning of each school year.

Library (back to top)

Your child will have access to our school library each week. A lost book can either be replaced or have a fee assessed per the book type. If a student has an outstanding book at the end of the year, we will hold their report card until the book is located, paid for, or replaced.

Lost and Found (back to top)

Lost and Found is located at the far north end of the lunchroom in the basement. Any lost money or small items of value are kept in the main office. Please put your child's name on backpacks, coats and other personal items. The school is not responsible for lost articles. Students should not bring or wear expensive items at school. At the end of each month any unclaimed items will be donated.

Student Records and Confidentiality (back to top)

The confidentiality of student records and privacy rights of students and parents shall be maintained in compliance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act. Scholastic achievement, medical information, and standardized test results on file may be reviewed by parents & guardians upon request.

Report Cards (back to top)

Report cards will be given out three times during the school year at 12 week intervals/trimesters. The first (November) and second (February) report cards will be sent home with your student. The last report card of the school year is sent home on the last day of school. If you do not receive one, please call the school.

School-Wide Communication (back to top)

University Park has a variety of means of communication with parents:

- A school-wide weekly e-mail communication will be sent to families on Thursdays. If you do not have internet access, please contact the front desk.
- Please help your child become responsible for giving you any communications sent home from school by reminding them to check their backpack when arriving home.
- University Park Directory provides a listing of our student & staff population, their addresses and phone numbers. Any parent can opt out of appearing in the directory.
- School Community Bulletin Board in the main office and outside the Kindergarten rooms lists pertinent information for the UPark Community.
- Web Site is at www.uparkelementary.org
- You may call or leave a message at the front desk of the school.
- Use the UPark Mobile App for multiple ways to communicate with the school.

Marketing Policy (back to top)

University Park is committed to the education of our students. We utilize our channels of communication to provide families with important information in 3 areas:

- Overall University Park Information
- Classroom Information
- District Information

We understand that families also appreciate receiving community information through our school channels that may be a benefit for their students and families. We utilize the ***Thursday Extras*** section of our weekly electronic newsletter to provide upcoming event information that is not directly related to University Park.

Guidelines for ***Thursday Extras***:

- Information must be submitted electronically to the University Park office by 4pm Tuesday for that week's Thursday send.
- Information in the electronic attachment must be timely – i.e. registration for a camp or extracurricular activity, or deadline to purchase tickets for student activity, should be within 2 weeks of newsletter send.
- Information must be approved by the University Park Office.
- Information may not continuously repeat in the Thursday Extras section.
- A minimal amount of any hard copies brought to the school will be placed outside the office – they will not be distributed to the classrooms.

Any business, entrepreneur, or community member interested in passing marketing information onto the University Park Community should contact the University Park PTA to discuss **Sponsorship Packages.** These packages are designed to balance the opportunity for University Park to receive financial support from local businesses and entrepreneurs, and for these businesses to market to our community in a way that does not disrupt the primary purpose of our communication channels.

The following types of marketing are **not allowed** by any individual or organization, outside of University Park, at any time:

- Passing out flyers on school property
- Utilizing University Park directory or class lists to disseminate marketing materials electronically
- Attending a University Park committee or organization meeting to promote a business or event
- Using the University Park Elementary name to promote your event without consent from the administration and the PTA

Kaleidoscope Corner (back to top)

Kaleidoscope Corner is a district-run, on-site, licensed, school-age child care program serving University Park students in grades K-5. Please contact Kaleidoscope Corner directly for more information.

- The Early Riser program begins at 6:30 am to 9:00 am.
- The After School program is from 3:45 pm-6:00 pm.

Neighborhood Center (back to top)

The Neighborhood Center at UPark offers enrichment opportunities, both free and fee based, to all students. For more information on current programs, please visit the University Park website.

Parental Involvement (back to top)

Volunteers (back to top)

We welcome and value our volunteers at University Park! Volunteers assist individual and small groups of students in the classroom, help with classroom parties, field trips, and other activities. Room parents may assist the teacher in scheduling other volunteers in the classroom. Please contact the teacher or school office if you have interest in serving as a volunteer. Please review the DPS Volunteer Background Check Process to determine if you need complete a background check. This is free for volunteers. Also, each time you come into the school you must sign in at the office.

Volunteer Expectations (back to top)

Both while they are engaged with Denver Public Schools and afterwards, volunteers, interns, or any other duly authorized individual providing services to Denver Public Schools, must preserve the confidentiality of all Denver Public Schools employee and student records, and other proprietary and confidential information, and may not use any of this information to benefit himself or herself or any entity, business, or person other than Denver Public Schools at any time.

Field Trips (back to top)

Field trips are designed to provide students with quality educational learning experiences outside the school. Teachers have the responsibility to choose the parent volunteers from their class that will assist them with supervision on each field trip. Siblings or other children are discouraged from accompanying parents on field trips.

Parent Teacher Association (PTA) (back to top)

The University Park PTA has a tradition of supporting the academic efforts of the school through involving parents in supporting classroom teachers, hosting social events for parents and children, and raising funds to cover off-budget needs of the school. The PTA has raised thousands of dollars to support University Park Elementary. The overall purpose of PTA is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

For more information visit the National PTA website & the Colorado PTA website. For a current list of University Park Elementary PTA Board Members, please check the University Park website.

Collaborative School Committee (CSC) (back to top)

University Park has a tradition of community participation. Parent, teacher and community representatives are elected and volunteer their time to be a part of the CSC Committee. University Park's CSC operates under by-laws and consists of elected representatives and focuses on the School Improvement Plan that includes:

- Student Achievement
- School and Community Relationships
- Parent Compacts
- UPark's Discipline and School Safety Plan

Meetings are regularly scheduled, advertised, and open to the public. They are held monthly for the full committee and subcommittees meet on an as needed basis. Actions of the committee are communicated with the school via posted agendas and minutes, the monthly school newsletter, and the Thursday email.

The respectful atmosphere maintained in meetings and the ability of all groups to work together enables the UPark CSC to hear and address concerns. Oftentimes the CSC meeting is a forum for information dissemination.

For a current list of CSC Members, please check the University Park website.

For a breakdown of the Roles & Responsibilities of the Collaborative School Committee and the School Leadership Team, click here.

Denver Public Schools Handbook for Families & Students