

The new year provides a time for reflection, resolutions, and goal setting. Here are a few from our students and crew!

KENNEDI BALTIMORE, 10TH GRADE, UNIVERSITY PREP ACADEMY HIGH

My 2021 resolutions are to keep a strong GPA, anything over a 3.0. I also want to work on my attitude and extending my attention span.

TAJMERE ROLAND, 11TH GRADE UNIVERSITY PREP ACADEMY HIGH

My academic goal is to maintain a 3.2 or higher and get accepted into U of Texas, Kansas U, U of Tennessee, or U of Kentucky. Personally for 2021, I want to get my car and have my drivers license by June 1st.

KENYA BUCHANAN, SCHOOL OPERATION MANAGER, UNIVERSITY PREP SCIENCE & MATH ELEMENTARY

My goal for 2021 is to take my baked goods (@happyplacebakedgoods) to another level! I started my own bake line in November/December and it has been going very well and it's a ton of work. As it relates to my resolution - well I didn't make any this year but my intentions are to be more thoughtful and considerate.

JANET MARIE KUNTZ, 4TH GRADE LEAD TEACHER, UNIVERSITY PREP ACADEMY ELLEN THOMPSON ELEMENTARY

Personal goal: lose 50 pounds by this coming Christmas using the Keto diet..5 pounds down! Professional goal: Create more fun learning activities within the CCSS that will make learning more fun and engaging!

JENNIFER TIGGS, HUMANITIES INSTRUCTIONAL COACH, UNIVERSITY PREP ART & DESIGN MIDDLE

My word for this year is "initiate" and it's my life word for this year, not limited to my work with our schools. It's easily filtered through the U's core values: initiate caring, initiate (& coach toward) exciting learning, initiate thinking and doing big, initiate working well by myself and in teams, establish purpose in order to initiate actions.

ANGIE KUNDINGER, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF TALENT

I made a promise to myself and family to 1) Be present after work hours have ended. For several years I would continue to check email, complete tasks, answer calls and texts and I saw how that took my focus off of my family life and I wasn't fully present and enjoying this time with my children and husband. 2) Spend some time on selfcare, exercising, eating healthier, doing things that I enjoy. 3) Being proactive and more organized to make my household of 5 run more smoothly.

JADA JONES, 8TH GRADE UNIVERSITY PREP SCIENCE & MATH MIDDLE

I remember in 2015 sitting at my sisters middle school graduation and listening to her classmate Morgan give an inspiring speech to her class. She was the valedictorian and from that day on I knew I wanted to be a valedictorian for my middle school class. In 2021 that is one of many goals that I have, academically. In today's society it is so easy to go on social media and see so many things that you need to have to become “popular”. Whether it's your hair, the way you dress or even how many followers you have. It can be hard to step back into reality and see that none of that really matters. My personal goal is to not let the social media world mislead my view on life and to continue to be a leader.

OMAR ELLIS, 8TH GRADE, UNIVERSITY PREP SCIENCE & MATH MIDDLE

My goal for 2021 is to be more honest with myself and others, and focus more on what will impact my future.

MAYLA SPRUILL STEM, INSTRUCTIONAL COACH, UNIVERSITY PREP ACADEMY ELLEN THOMPSON ELEMENTARY

I resolve to maintain a HEALTHY & BALANCED work to life equation.

PAMLA KING RECEPTIONIST UNIVERSITY PREP ACADEMY MARK MURRAY ELEMENTARY

I myself have a brand new personal mindset. I feel that habits & routines are my new building blocks of my success. I care about the lives of my community, and I believe that we should continue thinking, loving, learning and living everyday like it's our last. And so, my goal is to be better than the day before and to wake up with more determination, love and purpose.

SAVANNAH. HENNING, ELA 12TH GRADE TEACHER, UNIVERSITY PREP ACADEMY HIGH

1. My goal moving forward is to reset and be open to a hybrid teaching and learning system. 2. Recognize the bias that I bring into the classroom as well as my privilege and be open to practical change.

VICKIE CAMPBELL, 3RD GRADE PARAPROFESSIONAL, UNIVERSITY PREP SCIENCE & MATH ELEMENTARY

My goal, which I've been working towards for years is, not becoming frustrated over things that are in my control, things that I can ultimately change myself.
