

Principal's Prowl Newsletter



August 26th, 2018

Kristen Sebek, Principal
Banks Spicer, Assistant Principal

Weddington Elementary School

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Matthews, NC 28104
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School Hours: 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Website:
<https://www.ucps.k12.nc.us/Domain/54>

Twitter: @WeddingtonES_NC
Facebook: Weddington Elementary (Union
County, NC)

From the Principal:

Good evening Weddington families! I'm sure this finds you busy preparing for the first day of the 2018-2019 school year!

I hope everyone enjoyed all of our Back to School Open House events and our Wildcats enjoyed seeing all of their friends and teachers after the summer break! I am very sorry I was unable to attend. As I work through the recovery process at home, I am thinking about our precious Wildcats, staff, and families. Please be sure to let to tell your children I can't wait to return to work and see their smiling faces.

I want to wish you the best of luck on the first day of the new school year. Be sure to review the "First Day of School" section in this newsletter for reminders about tomorrow as well as the upcoming weeks.

There will also be quite a few beginning year UCPS documents coming home that will require parents and students to review. Some documents require signatures. It is important to take the time needed to read and understand the documents.

Let's have a great school year and continue the excellence at Weddington!

Sincerely,
Ms. Sebek

School Hours:

The Weddington Elementary School hours are listed below. **Please note, the office will close at 3:30 p.m. each day.** The doors will be locked at 3:30 p.m. and telephone calls will not be answered after 3:30 p.m. Messages can be left on the answering system with all calls being returned the next school day.

School Office Hours:

7:00 a.m. – 3:30 a.m.

Student Instructional Hours:

7:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Staff Hours:

7:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

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| <p><u>From the Weddington School Counselor:</u></p> <p>Welcome Back Wildcats! Here's what's going on in Weddington's School Counseling program!</p> <p>New student lunch groups! Throughout the first 6 weeks of school, I'll be meeting with all new students to have lunch and to see how their time at Weddington is going! If there is any need for me to meet with a new student before the lunch group, please do not hesitate to reach out. I, along with all of our staff and administration, are here to give a warm welcome to all of our new families this year.</p> <p>Group counseling sessions! This year I am excited to offer many more group counseling sessions through the school day. These sessions will take place during your student's scheduled lunch time and last for 6 weeks. Group counseling sessions allow students to work on a specific goal and learn from and with their peers for support! Please visit the website to fill out a google form to enroll your child in group counseling sessions.</p> <p><u>First 6 weeks:</u></p> <p><u>2nd grade</u> – Empowerment: Building Self-Esteem, Figuring out Friendship</p> <p><u>3rd grade</u> – Empowerment: Building self-esteem, Figuring out Friendship, Anxiety Busters</p> <p><u>4th grade</u> - Empowerment: Building self-esteem, Figuring out Friendship, Anxiety Busters</p> <p>Classroom counseling! Classroom sessions will be held for 5th graders the first 6 weeks of school. Check the website for what they're working on week by week!</p> <p>I'm looking forward to a fantastic first week!</p> <p>Mrs. Jewell</p> | <p><u>From the WDES PTO Board:</u></p> <p>The PTO Board would like to take a moment to welcome each and every one of you back to school!</p> <p>Our PTO supports the educational needs of students and is an important link between the parents and staff at WDES. Last year, the PTO was able to contribute almost \$40k to purchase ipads, class shirts, agendas, communication folders, canvas book bags and art notebooks for each student, provide a \$200 grant to each teacher to purchase classroom needs, as well as host 8 community events providing opportunities for families to get together and have fun!</p> <p>Membership is only \$15 per family and can be purchased online at www.weddingtonpto.com. Thank you to all the families who have already joined the PTO at Open House!</p> <p>In addition to membership, we hope you'll join us in helping to make our school events a huge success! Getting involved is easy. If you would like to assist and help serve our school, please consider signing up to volunteer for a committee. We have a wide range of positions to choose from so one is bound to fit your talents and availability! In fact, our Media Center has already started signing up volunteers for the year and is a great volunteer role to get to know the school and students. Visit the following link for additional details and to sign up - www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0E4FACAE2FA0FD0-wdes1.</p> <p>Open House Was a Tremendous Success!</p> <p>Many thanks go to Heather Rudolph and Trista Jorges for their hard work over the summer and at Open House to get us all geared up in our WDES Spirit Wear! In addition, thanks go to the Rudolph children, the Jorges children, Liz Bestwick and Emily Reedy who helped during Spirit Wear sales at Open House!</p> | |

First Day of School

The first official day for 1st-5th grade students is Monday, August 27th, 2018. Our instructional day begins at 7:30 a.m. and ends at 2:00 p.m. We encourage all students to utilize our UCPS transportation and ride the bus. If you plan to drive your child to school, we respectfully request that you proceed through our carpool line. If you wish to walk *your child* to class, you must park in our parking lot and report to the office to sign in as a visitor. Please note, parents are permitted to walk students to class prior to September 10th. Monday, September 10th is our official "Weddington Independence Day" and all students will exit their vehicle in the carpool line and walk to class independently. *We also ask that all parents of students in 1st – 5th grades refrain from coming to lunch prior to September 10th.* Our teachers will be working hard to assimilate the students with their school and classroom procedures. All parents are welcome to join your child for lunch after September 1.

Parents of Kindergarten students – we ask that you refrain from having lunch with your child until the end of the first grading period, **October 10th. It is important for your young Wildcat to become acclimated with school and establish independence prior to parent visits.*

***An exception is made for any student who celebrates a birthday prior to the dates listed above. Please see your child's teacher if this is the case. Thank you for your support of this important safety procedure.*

zAlso, as we gear up for the new school year, remember to link your VIC Cards, Publix Cards and Amazon accounts to our school! This is a simple way we can earn money for our school with each purchase you make at these retailers. (Please note: ALL cards need to be relinked at the beginning of each school year. Links can be found on [PTO website](#).)

Last but not least, there are many new and exciting events that we will launch this year! Please **SAVE THE DATES** for the following events so you and your family can participate:

Grandparents/Grandfriends Day: September 27th & 28th

Race, Rock, and Roar: October 19th – Our Capital Campaign Fundraiser

Fall Book Fair: November 8th-16th

Winterfest: February 15th

North Carolina Honors Choir:

Attention parents of 4th and 5th grade students. Your children have the opportunity to audition for the North Carolina Honors Choir.

1. Do you want your child to audition for the North Carolina Elementary Honors Choir?
2. Is your child in 4th or 5th Grade?
3. Does your child take private voice lessons?
4. Are you willing to pay \$11 for your child to audition?
5. Are you willing to pay \$35 if your child is accepted?
6. Are you willing and able to make hotel reservations for November 10th in Winston-Salem and attend on November 10th and 11th?

If you answered YES to ALL of these questions, please e-mail our Music Teacher, Mr. Becker at bruce.becker@ucps.k12.nc.us. Be sure to include your name and phone number so he is able to forward the audition song details. Good luck!

**HAVE A GREAT FIRST DAY OF
SCHOOL!**



**MS. SEBEK
MRS. SPICER**

UCPS Tech Healthy Family Sessions:

UCPS will be offering two sessions for the "Tech Healthy Family". The sessions will include ideas about digital engagement for the Tech Healthy family, current trends, resources, and steps to increase parental digital literacy, as well as information about gaming, sexting, and digital health and safety. Guest speaker is Janell Burley Hoffman, creator of the iRules Contract.

The sessions are free and both sessions contain the same information. Parents should register through Eventbrite in advance. Registration through the Eventbrite link is listed below.

Session 1: September 18th – 6:30 p.m. – Central Academy of Technology and Arts

Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ucps-raising-tech-healthy-families-night-tickets-49396247506>

Session 2: September 19th – 6:30 p.m. – Weddington High School

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ucps-raising-tech-healthy-families-night-tickets-49396349812>