

Warrior Weekly

Volume XII, Issue I, Friday, August 25, 2023

Student Centered; Future Focused!





Weddington High School



Facebook



@WHSWarriors

Office Hours: 7:30am - 4:00pm



4901 Monroe-Weddington Road...



michele.loughlin@ucps.k12.nc...



(704) 296-6319



ucps.k12.nc.us/Domain/55

2023-2024 Bell Schedule

[2023-2024 Bell Schedules](#)

SCHOOL HOURS FOR STUDENTS

The school day for WHS begins at 8:10am and ends at 3:05pm. Students are expected to be in their first period class ready for class by 8:10am, otherwise, they will be considered tardy. Students and parents are asked to review the WHS Tardy Policy which can be accessed by clicking [HERE](#).

Weddington High School students may enter the building each day at 7:15 a.m. Entrances will remain locked until that time. **Due to the increased traffic during the first week of school, parents and students are encouraged to allow plenty of extra time to get to school on-time.**

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Monday, August 28th: First Day of School

Friday, September 1st: College Colors Day

Monday, September 4th: School closed in observance of Labor Day

Friday, September 8th: Required Back to School Forms Due

Wednesday, September 13th: Fall Curriculum Night (see below for more information)

Wednesday, October 4th: Underclassmen Picture Day (more information to come)

JOIN THE WHS PTSO

Parents, we need your help! You can help pave the way for everyone to experience the Weddington Way by joining the PTSO! To join, please go to www.whsptsso.com. Please visit the weekly PTSO

section of the Warrior Weekly which can be found below. The weekly PTSO section of the Warrior Weekly contains important information for students and parents.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Parents, student and staff safety and well-being is the number one priority to both UCPS and Weddington High School. As such, we will have numerous safety measures in place for the 23-24 school year. The school administration will hold grade level safety assemblies for all students with our School Resource Officer (SRO) during the first semester and second semester. The first semester grade level assemblies will take place next week.

Additionally, all staff will complete required safety training and safety drills during the school year. Our school also has many staff available to support student overall well-being such as our School Counselor, Nurse, Social Worker, and Behavioral Health Therapist.

Parents and students are reminded of the importance of reporting bullying or anything that could pose a threat to the students or staff. This can be done by reporting directly to a school staff member or the school resource officer or through the Say Something anonymous report system. You can also visit the UCPS website and click on "I Want To" and "Submit a Tip." Students and parents can also report an anonymous tip using the UCPS Tip Line. To report a tip or for information about the Say Something report system and the UCPS tip line, please visit the UCPS Student Support website or by clicking [HERE](#). We will also be reminding students of these resources during our grade level assemblies.

For security reasons, students may only enter the building via the front entrance or the bus lot prior to 8:10am. After 8:10am, all students will be required to enter the building through the front entrance. Students are NOT to open exterior doors for other students. Stickers reminding students of this expectation were placed on exterior doors this week. Parents, please discuss the importance of complying with this safety expectation with your student.

MEET OUR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER - DEPUTY CHRIS BYRUM



Weddington High School is thankful to have Deputy Chris Byrum as our school resource officer! Deputy Byrum has served as the SRO at Weddington High School for 8 years and has been previously named North Carolina's School Resource Officer of the Year. Deputy Byrum can be reached via email at chris.byrum@ucps.k12.nc.us or by calling the school.

FALL CURRICULUM NIGHT

This year's curriculum night will be held on **Wednesday, September 13th, at 5:30 pm**. All parents are asked to report directly to your child's first period class. The event will begin promptly at 5:30 pm with first period teachers showing a virtual message from Dr. Kraftson and the WHS PTSO. After the message from Dr. Kraftson and the PTSO, parents will then follow their child's schedule beginning with first period for a 10 minute presentation from the teacher. This will be an opportunity for teachers to provide an overview of their course content and class expectations.

Please note that the teachers will not be available for parent/teacher conferences during this event. PARENTS...please be sure to take a picture of your child's schedule on your phone, and bring it to this event so that you are able to navigate his/her schedule.

SENIOR INFORMATION SESSION

6:45pm-7:15pm - Senior Information Session in Auditorium

The Weddington School Counseling Department is excited to invite seniors and parents to an in person Senior Information session immediately following curriculum night Wednesday, September 13th from 6:45pm – 7:30pm in the WHS Auditorium.

All seniors and parents/guardians are invited to attend. Presentation topics will include but not limited to: Scoir, common app, college application process, writing the college essay, requesting a transcript, letters of recommendation, etc.

Additional details regarding the event will be shared closer to the event

VISITORS/DROP OFFS

All visitors to the school must enter through the front doors of the school using the video doorbell system. All visitors must check in at the main office during the hours of 7:30 am and 4:00 pm, which are the main office hours on days that school is in session.

Forgotten Items/Drop Offs/Deliveries:

Students are encouraged to arrive at school prepared. Should a student need an item brought from home, parents are permitted to do so. There will be a drop off table inside the main foyer just outside the main office. The school **will not be responsible for any items left in this drop off area**. Classes will not be interrupted for pick ups. Make sure to label them with your child's first and last name. Please plan ahead for events such as a forgotten lunch by arranging to have a balance in the student's cafeteria account. **No deliveries will be accepted for students...this includes food, flowers, and other gifts. Outside delivery services such as DoorDash, Uber Eats, etc will not be allowed access to drop off items for students.**

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL / TRANSPORTATION

Weddington High School students may enter the building each day at 7:15 a.m. Entrances will remain locked until that time. **Due to the increased traffic during the first week of school, parents and students are encouraged to allow plenty of extra time to get to school on-time.**

Car Riders:

At arrival time, students are to be dropped off in front of the school. Please help us to keep car traffic flowing efficiently by facilitating the quick but safe exit of your child from your car and by pulling your car up as far as possible in the line. Students will enter through the main entrance of the school. At dismissal time, students will exit the building from the main entrance. School personnel will be supervising the process, but as is the case with arrival, we encourage you to stress with your child/children the importance of safe habits. **Please take note that parking and student drop off/pick-up are not permitted in the student parking lot, staff lot, gravel lot, or the church across the street during arrival and dismissal times. Additionally, the surrounding neighborhoods have requested that we remind students and parents that neighborhood streets are not for parking and dropping off / picking up students. Vehicles may be subject to being towed at the owner's expense.**

Student Drivers:

Make sure that you are only parking in your assigned parking spot and have your parking sticker visible as directed. Please be sure you allow plenty of time to and from where you are going to ensure a safe arrival to campus each day. Remember to drive slowly in the student parking lot and lookout for others.

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION/REMINDERS

The following are some important reminders for students from our attendance secretary, Mrs. Yost:

- Attendance is the responsibility of the student, not the parent. I am here to help with any questions or concerns. Come see me if needed.
- If you miss more than 15 minutes of a class, **you are ABSENT**, not tardy.
- DMV appointments are NOT EXCUSED.
- If you are absent, we need documentation from the provider. A note from your parent stating you have an appointment will NOT excuse your time missed from class.
- If you are absent due to illness/injury, but do not see a provider...a parent note is needed upon your return to school stating your reason for the absence. **This parent note should be clearly legible with a phone # to call for verification.**
- **Per the UCPS Student Handbook (4-1)...Your attendance will be finalized at the end of every grading period. If you forget to submit a parent note, it will NOT be accepted once the grading period is over.**
- An early dismissal request just gets you out of class, it does NOT EXCUSE your absence. You MUST stop by the attendance office, prior to the start of school, for a printed EARLY DISMISSAL pass. The teacher will NOT accept the written parent note to leave class.
- Educational Excuse: Juniors and Seniors are allowed **2 college visits per school year**. You MUST submit documentation from the college to excuse your visit.
- All school field trips and athletic events are excused. Outside school athletics are NOT excused.
- If you accumulate more than 7 unexcused absences for the semester in any class, you will be responsible for RECOVERY time at the end of the semester to get credit for the course.

- **TEACHER MADE EXAM EXEMPTIONS:** 90 or above and only 2 unexcused absences / 80 or above and only 1 unexcused absence.

A full description of the UCPS attendance policy can be found in the UCPS High School student handbook under Chapter 4 Section 1 (4-1 ATTENDANCE). The UCPS High School Handbook can be found on our website or by clicking [HERE](#).

Mrs. TC Yost

WHS Attendance Counselor

tammy.yost@ucps.k12.nc.us (704-296-6319 ext. 1906)

BUS TRANSPORTATION

Bus Riders:

Our bus driver shortage continues and will impact operations as we open school. We will continue to practice strategies put in place in prior years, including double runs and bus stop consolidation. In addition to the normal 1st week delays, we anticipate added challenges with the bus driver shortage. We will be communicating any delays using the Edulog Parent Portal app, and additional information is available on the UCPS Transportation website. Your patience and understanding is greatly appreciated as we work through these challenges.

Students will load and unload buses on the side of the school at the bus lot entrance.

Students will be directed to appropriate areas. Buses will typically depart Weddington High School around 3:15pm each afternoon. However, as we settle into the routines of a new school year, it is very possible that buses will be delayed during the first couple of weeks of school. Please also note that due to unforeseen mechanical, driver, and/or other issues, bus runs may be delayed on any given day throughout the school year. We will do everything in our power to minimize such instances. For additional bus rider information, please click [HERE](#). This link will provide parents with directions for installing the Edulog Parent Portal smartphone app which allows parents to access designated bus stop times and locations, see real-time information about the location of your child's school bus, and receive notifications when the bus is getting close. Mr. John Grexa, assistant principal, will be overseeing bus transportation at Weddington High School this year. Questions regarding this area should be directed to him. Mr. Grexa can be reached via email at john.grexa@ucps.k12.nc.us or by calling the school.

MEET OUR FRONT OFFICE STAFF

We are fortunate to have an incredible staff at Weddington High School and that includes our amazing front office staff. We wanted to showcase our front office staff in this weeks Warrior Weekly to give you an opportunity to put a face with the name.



Mrs. Michele Loughlin - Receptionist

michele.loughlin@ucps.k12.nc.us



Mrs. Mia Byrne - Administrative Assistant

mia.byrne@ucps.k12.nc.us



Mrs. TC Yost - Attendance Secretary

tammy.yost@ucps.k12.nc.us



Mrs. Tina Starnes - Bookkeeper

tina.starnes@ucps.k12.nc.us



Mrs. Elisabeth Sejas-Gangadeen - Data Manager

Elizabeth.Sejas-Gang@ucps.k12.nc.us



Ms. Janice Penegar- Registrar

janice.bowers@ucps.k12.nc.us

FROM THE NURSES OFFICE

Request for Health Information Form

The Request for Health Information Form can be found on our school's website by clicking "About Us" followed by "Back to School Forms" or by clicking [here](#). This form is requested for ALL students every year. A paper copy will be sent home with students at the start of the year and should be returned the next day.



Medical Consent Forms

We will continue to need a Medication Consent form completed and signed by a physician for any meds needed at school (over the counter or prescription meds- other than hand sanitizer, Chapstick or cough drops). We require a new one every school year. They are found on the School Health Department webpage which can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

I look forward to this year at Weddington High School! Please let me know if you ever have any questions or concerns. My phone number here is 704-296-6319 ext 1905.

Thanks so much, Susan Mastin, RN

CAFETERIA (BREAKFAST & LUNCH)

The Weddington High School cafeteria produces healthy and hot meals for our students. Children and families are encouraged to utilize this service. Breakfast is served from 7:40-8:10. **ONLY** students who complete an application and qualify for free and reduced meal prices will receive free or reduced meals. The application for free and reduced meals along with directions for completing the application can be found on the UCPS website under [School Nutrition](#).

Weddington High School serves breakfast and lunch daily. **Students are to eat in the cafeteria or courtyard area only.** Students are to remain seated while in the cafeteria or leave and go to a designated area. **Students are not permitted to leave campus for lunch OR order lunches to be delivered to Weddington High School. The lunch schedule will be shared with students on Monday.**

Information concerning menus and how to use the online prepay system can be found on the Child Nutrition page of the UCPS website <https://ucpsschoolnutritionservices.com/>.

If you have any questions about the cafeteria or your child's account, please contact our cafeteria manager, Ms. Ann Watson at 704-708-6266 or via email at ann.watson@ucps.k12.nc.us.

WHS STUDENT HANDBOOK

The 2023-2024 WHS student handbook is available on our website and can be accessed by clicking [HERE](#). It is an expectation that students review the handbook in its entirety as it contains important information regarding academics, logistics, dress code, and behavioral expectations. Staff will be reviewing the information in the handbook with students during the first week of school including during grade level assemblies that will be held during the first week of school.

Dress Code

It is an expectation that students are aware of, and comply with, the dress code. The dress code can be found on page 3 and 14 of the student handbook linked above. Parents, please review the dress code with your child as the dress code will be enforced. Students who are out of dress code will be asked to change or call home for a change of clothes. Repeated dress code violations may result in disciplinary action.

UCPS HIGH SCHOOL HANDBOOK

We also ask that parents and students review the UCPS High School Handbook. The UCPS High School Handbook contains important information for both students and parents. The UCPS High School Handbook can be found on our website or by clicking [HERE](#).

REQUIRED BACK TO SCHOOL FORMS

We are continuing to utilize the convenience of online form completion that can be located on our school's website by clicking "About Us" followed by "Back to School Forms" or by clicking [here](#). The due date for all required forms is **Friday, September 8, 2023**.

COUNTY-WIDE COLLEGE COLORS DAY



HOMECOMING DANCE 2023



COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

The WHS School Counseling webpage is an incredible resource for everything pertaining to the WHS Counseling department. To access the webpage, please click on the following link:

<https://www.ucps.k12.nc.us/Domain/889>

Schedule Change Request/HOLE IN SCHEDULE GoogleForm

The Schedule Change Request Google form will open Monday, August 28th at 3:00 pm and will close Friday, September 1st at 8:00am. **The only way to request a schedule change is by completing the [Schedule Change Request/Hole in my Schedule](#) form.** Requests made via email/voicemail will not be processed.

August 29th - Counselors process **Senior** schedule change requests

August 30th - Counselors process **Junior** schedule change requests

August 31st - Counselors process **Sophomore** schedule change requests

September 1st - Counselors process **Freshman** schedule change requests

September 1st, 8:00 AM - Schedule change request closes

Please note, **ONLY** requests submitted via the Google form will be considered. Requests made via email and/or voicemail will not be accepted.

Please be aware that submitting the form **does NOT guarantee a schedule change**. The master schedule was built on student requests. *Counselors will review student requests when considering the*

schedule change request. Changes will be made as quickly as possible and as course availability allows. Changes will be visible in PowerSchool and will populate in real time. Check PowerSchool often.

As counselors fulfill schedule change requests, the master schedule will need to be rebalanced. Rebalancing may cause a student's course sequence to change. Students, please check PowerSchool up through and including Monday, August 28th.

Please be aware counselors will have little availability to take phone calls during the week of August 28th due to the quantity of schedule change requests they will be working to complete. The counseling staff appreciates your patience and understanding as they work through this process.

Additional information as well as the 2023-2024 School Counselor distribution can be found by visiting the WHS School Counseling webpage <https://www.ucps.k12.nc.us/Domain/889>.

Link to form: <https://forms.gle/d1UT6aDYHpDJQWY37> Students must sign in with UCPS credentials to access and complete the form. Changes made will be based on what the master schedule allows. Please note: A schedule change request DOES NOT GUARANTEE a schedule change.

By submitting this form, students acknowledge the possibility AND agree to having the sequence of courses currently making up my schedule modified in order for the schedule change request to be fulfilled.

Do not submit this form if you do not want the order of your current schedule to change as a result of accommodating the request.

Please check PowerSchool for updated schedules.

SENIOR PORTRAIT SESSION INFORMATION

Information regarding scheduling a senior portrait session was sent to the parents of all seniors over the summer. To book your studio experience, please go to www.cady.com/schedule or call the studio at the phone number below. If you do not schedule a studio session, then we will have a makeup day in December for seniors at school. However, this session will only include the yearbook photo. Please contact Anna Waldrup if you have any questions via email at anna.waldrup@ucps.k12.nc.us.

CADY Studios address and phone number.

2201 Crownpoint Executive Dr., Suite E Charlotte, NC 28227

704-859-0737

CLASS OF 2024

Seniors! Please click the links below for important information from Josten's.



Josten's Catalog

Download

19.9 MB



Wedd 2024 Mascot Pkg Order Form

Download

197.3 KB



Weddington 2024 Cap and Gown Order

Download

506.9 KB

ATHLETIC INFORMATION



Athletic Department Update

Fall Sports are underway and off to a great start! Be sure to come out and cheer on the Warriors!

Questions about Athletics? Please contact our Athletic Director, Mr. Mike Hart, via email michael.hart@ucps.k12.nc.us or by calling the school.

Please visit <https://weddingtonathleticzone.com/> for up to date information!

[Coaches Directory](#)

[Eligibility Website](#)

Can't Attend Live? Watch it Live Instead!

Click [here](#) to learn more about our live stream partnership with the NFHS Network! Volleyball, wrestling, basketball, football, soccer and lacrosse will all be live streamed!

WEDDINGTON HIGH SCHOOL PTSO



You can help pave the way for everyone to experience the Weddington Way! Go to www.whsptso.com and join your PTSTO.

All you need to do is create an account, verify your email address and then explore ALL of the opportunities for your involvement. In addition to your Membership we have Invest in Excellence (giving above and beyond without any fundraising), volunteer opportunities, and the option to link up to our donation partners such as Harris Teeter, Publix, and Amazon Smiles, a calendar, and more!!

Follow us on Facebook @wedingtonhighschoolptso (WHS PTSTO) and Instagram @whs_ptso.
Email us at w.d.h.s.ptso.nc@gmail.com

Remember to re-link your Harris Teeter, Publix, and Amazon Smiles account to WHS so you can be giving money back all year long while shopping for your family.





Scan. Pay. Go.



WHS PTSO

@WHSPTSO



venmo

Scan QR code for payment

LOOKING FOR A PREVIOUS WARRIOR WEEKLY? CLICK
HERE!

