

# Warrior Weekly

Volume XI, Issue I, Friday, August 26, 2022

Student Centered; Future Focused!





# Weddington High School

Facebook    @WHSWarriors

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

4901 Monroe-Weddington Road...    melinda.price@ucps.k12.nc.us  
 (704) 296-6319    ucps.k12.nc.us/Domain/55

## 2022-2023 Bell Schedule

[2022-2023 Bell Schedule with Lunches](#)

### 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. 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 29th:** First Day of School

**Friday, September 2nd:** College Colors Day

**Monday, September 5th:** School closed in observance of Labor Day

**Tuesday, September 13th:** Curriculum Night (More information to come)

**Tuesday, September 20th:** Underclassmen Picture Day (More information to come)

**Friday, September 23rd :** School Forms should be completed in FamilyID. (please see below for more info)

### 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 22-23 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 7 years and was recently named North Carolina's School Resource Officer of the Year. Deputy Byrum can be reached via email at [chris.byrum@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:chris.byrum@ucps.k12.nc.us) or by calling the school.

## 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.whsptso.com](http://www.whsptso.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.

## 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.

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

## BUS TRANSPORTATION

### Bus Riders:

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 3:15 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](mailto:john.grexa@ucps.k12.nc.us) or by calling the school.

***If you are a new student, transportation will not be picking you up the first week. Aug 10th was the deadline for new riders. New riders who requested transportation have been entered into the system, but transportation routes will not be available until Aug 30th for all new riders.***

## 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. Melinda Price - Receptionist

[melinda.price@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:melinda.price@ucps.k12.nc.us)



Mrs. TC Yost - Attendance Secretary

[tammy.yost@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:tammy.yost@ucps.k12.nc.us)



Mrs. Tina Starnes - Bookkeeper

[tina.starnes@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:tina.starnes@ucps.k12.nc.us)



Mrs. Elisabeth Sejas-Gangadeen - Data Manager

[Elizabeth.Sejas-Gang@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:Elizabeth.Sejas-Gang@ucps.k12.nc.us)



Ms. Janice Bowers - Registrar

[janice.bowers@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto: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 Family ID along with the other required school forms. Clicking the link below will take you directly to the FamilyID page for Weddington High, where all forms can be easily accessed.

[Weddington High School FamilyID](#)



**The due date to complete all required school forms is Friday, September 2nd by 11:59pm.**

### **Medical Content 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. Unlike the 2021-2022 school, **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. **There are four lunch periods. 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.**

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](mailto:ann.watson@ucps.k12.nc.us).

## WHS STUDENT HANDBOOK

The 2022-2023 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 through [FamilyID](#) for your required back to school forms. FamilyID is a secure registration platform that provides you with an easy, user-friendly way to complete forms, and helps us to be more administratively efficient and environmentally responsible. When you register through FamilyID, the system keeps track of your information in your FamilyID profile. You enter your information only once for each family member for multiple uses and multiple programs.

## [Weddington High School FamilyID](#)

Forms are currently available to complete via FamilyID. The due date to complete all required school forms is **Friday, September 23rd by 11:59pm.**

# CELLULAR SIGNAL NETWORK PILOT

Poor cell phone reception is a challenge within Union County and across North Carolina. The causes of bad cell signals fall under two categories: localized poor coverage due to building materials or destructive interference, and geographical distance from the nearest cell tower. The result is ineffective communications within the school buildings and connectivity to parents/guardians.

Technology Services and Operations teams have explored two solutions for improving cellular signal coverage within school buildings for all students and staff members while establishing greater connectivity in the community. Listed below are details of this effort:

- A new network has been established for Wi-Fi calling at Parkwood, Piedmont, Porter Ridge, Weddington, and Forest Hills High schools. This “UCPSCellular” network will be piloted at these selected schools and will only allow call and text features (no internet) without password requirements. This will only be effective within areas of wireless connectivity.
- Agreements with a vendor have been reached to research cell phone towers on selected school campus locations (Weddington High School being one of them) to improve connectivity in and around the community. This long-term solution will not only improve signals within school buildings, but also extend to outside common areas such as athletic fields, parking areas and bus lots.

After a successful pilot period with the five high schools, this network will be enabled for all locations. Thank you for your patience while new avenues for communication are tested.

# 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 opened Monday, August 22nd and closes Friday, September 2nd 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.**

Link to form: <https://forms.gle/HY6gj6wMrgNYwidu5> 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](http://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](mailto:anna.waldrup@ucps.k12.nc.us).

CADY Studios address and phone number.  
2201 Crownpoint Executive Dr., Suite E Charlotte, NC 28227  
704-859-0737

## 2022-2023 YEARBOOKS ARE AVAILABLE NOW!

Yearbooks are now on sale for the 2022-2023. Purchase your yearbook now at [Jostens.com](http://Jostens.com) to get the lowest price of the year along with free personalization.

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*Jostens*

## WHS FFA MUMS PLANT SALE

WHS FFA is selling one gallon mum's for \$10 each. The funds are used to support club activities such as attending National Convention in Indianapolis.

Color choices are yellow, purple, orange, and red. Visit the [online payment portal](#) purchase.

All flowers are sold as pre-order and the deadline for ordering is Tuesday August 30.

Don't miss this opportunity to add some color around your home and to invest in leaders.

## ATHLETIC INFORMATION



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](mailto: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



### WHS PTSO

Thanks for all the generous donations to Invest in Excellence in the 2021/2022 school year. WHS received a check for \$12,000 which is being used for programs in the English and History departments and towards the College Fair at WHS. Whoop! Now, let's see if we can top that giving for the 2022/2023 school year!

You can help pave the way for everyone to experience the Weddington Way! Go to [www.whsptso.com](http://www.whsptso.com) and join your PTSO.

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!!

School hasn't even started and already the WHS PTSO has served the faculty a Welcome Back Luncheon, sold over 55% of seniors the Senior Event package, met as a new board, we are actively keeping our constituents updated through social media, and met some of our families at Orientation. It's been a great start to the 2022/2023 school year.

### **Senior Families:**

Did you sign up for Senior Events by completing the form online and submitting your payment?

\*IF you did, but haven't already picked up your Senior Sign and Senior T-Shirt be on the lookout for an email with more opportunities to collect them. Orders placed by August 25th will hopefully be available

for pick up at WHS's Open House. You'll receive an email closer to September 13th with more information.

Mark your calendar for Senior Breakfast events on September 16th, October 21st, and November 18th plus many more gatherings to come!

\*IF not, follow these directions within the next week!

(1) Click on Login/View Forms

(2) Under New Forms you will find everything you can be a part of: PTSO Membership, Invest in Excellence, and Senior Package. (You will know each are complete when a green check mark is on the left hand side.)

(3) When you click on Senior Events please first put Quantity (typically 1), then fill in other boxes including Senior's name and shirt size....if this step is skipped it will NOT process through.

(4) When it takes you back to all options and you are complete, click proceed to checkout

(5) Click pay with Paypal/Credit Card or Venmo

Follow us on Facebook @weddingtonhighschoolptso (WHS PTSO) and Instagram @whs\_ptso.

Email us at [w.d.h.s.ptso.nc@gmail.com](mailto: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.





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Scan QR code for payment

LOOKING FOR A PREVIOUS WARRIOR WEEKLY? CLICK  
HERE!

