

Good evening, this is Dr. Henderson from Wesley Chapel ES.

As shared by UCPS on August 8, all parents need to claim their parent portal access to Infinite Campus (IC), which has replaced PowerSchool. Visit <https://portalaccess.ncsis.gov/> to claim your account, and here is a [step-by-step guide](#) I found helpful as a parent. You will need your student's Student ID # to look up and connect your account. This is the same number from last year for PowerSchool. If new to UCPS and you need this number, call or email our data manager angela.brosch@ucps.k12.nc.us. Parents of 3rd, 4th, & 5th graders, you will also pay the \$30 Technology Fee via IC; see the email I sent you on August 12 for details.

All, after claiming your Infinite Campus access, you will have to complete an annual update of your information. **Please carefully review and ensure that the correct phone numbers, emails, and contact info are updated and that you check the appropriate boxes to receive information.**

If your child has attended WCES, you are familiar with Flight Cards. Our K-3 students will again be using Flight Cards, and our 4th and 5th graders will again use Class DoJo. Flight Cards and DoJo are used as a communication tool between home and school, and are a key component of our PBS (Positive Behavior Support) approach. Flight Cards and DoJo are used to recognize positive behavior as well as areas for improvement with expected behavior. You will receive detailed information about PBS and Flight Cards/DoJo at Open House.

As you are likely aware, our school's enrollment remains well above our originally designated capacity. Space that formerly was part of the cafeteria continues to be used as classrooms, so some of our younger students may continue to eat lunch in their classrooms. This has been the case for several years. Our teachers adhere to similar expectations for our students eating in their classrooms as for our students eating in the cafeteria, with them spending the first 10-12 minutes eating silently. For elementary students, this ensures that they have enough time to eat; prior to this expectation being in place some students talked more than they ate! ALL our students get to walk through the cafeteria line each day he/she is purchasing a meal or supplemental item from the cafeteria.

New Cafeteria Balance App & Free/Reduced Lunch Applications: Our School Nutrition office has transitioned to a new platform called Payschools Central. Please visit <https://www.payschoolscentral.com/> to register, create an account, link your student (you must know their Student ID#), and complete a free/reduced lunch application if applicable.

All our students have a 30 minutes/day scheduled recess, weather permitting. Be sure to dress your child accordingly. Because all our students are active daily, please be sure to have your child adhere to our dress code for footwear:

- Footwear should be closed toe, have a firm sole, and have ankle straps/support. Our students have physical activity daily. Flip-flops, slides, shoes with cleats or rollers, and soft-soled shoes (like Crocs) are not allowed. In the past, we have had mulch and other

items puncture soft-soled shoes and injure the feet of students. In addition, school flooring is extremely slick when wet and we do not want our students to fall.

Your child will have a “specials” class each day. In addition to having music, visual arts, and physical education classes, we have three other specials that we like to define for you: G3, STEM, and Brainworks! G3 is Goals, Growth, & Gratitude, STEM is Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math, and Brainworks focuses on motor skills that help to spark brains and build bodies. Once school starts, be sure to ask your child about the variety of cool activities they are experiencing.

All UCPS volunteers must be pre-approved; the application is easy to complete. If you volunteered last year, you do not need to start from scratch but will need to use the site to renew your status. [Volunteer Link](#)

Absences

Students are expected to be in attendance each day school is in session. The Public School Laws of NC require compulsory attendance for all children between ages 7-16 years (GS 115C-378). Students in grades K-5 who are absent 20 days, (lawful, unlawful or OSS) can be retained. You do not need to call the office on the day of your child's absence. Before or after any absence, a parent/guardian is required to provide written documentation explaining the reason for the absence. A note from a medical professional or parent (during the same grading period as the absence) stating the medical reason for the absence is required to have the absence coded as excused. Send the note to school with your child or use the online absence reporting portal <https://ucpsapps.ucps.k12.nc.us/absence/> See UCPS BOE Policy 4-1 for the entire attendance policy, including the list of reasons an absence may be coded as excused. Family vacations will not be coded as excused absences.

If picking up your child early from school or visiting during the day, you will be asked to provide photo ID.

Your child's bus rider info should be available to you in Edulog on August 18: <https://www.edulog.com/parent-help/#parentportal> You will need your child's Infinite Campus number to log on. If you are new to our school or have lost it, your child's teacher will have this in the start-of-year packet at Open House, or you can contact the school.

Please link/re-link your Harris Teeter card; re-linking must be done after Aug. 1st each year. Our number is 2130. Last school year, our families earned almost \$1500 for WCES!

We rely on volunteers to help with our car rider line. Thankfully, three of our reliable parents are returning to support our school in this capacity for 2025-26. Unfortunately, almost all our afternoon support had students graduate in June. If you can regularly help some afternoons (2:00-2:30), even just 1 or 2 days/week, please call the school or email me at michael.henderson@ucps.k12.nc.us We can easily train you, and your child(ren) simply are car riders that meet you to go home at the end of dismissal each day.

Our Open House is Thursday, August 21 for all students, K-5. Times are staggered to help with parking. Last name starts with:

- A-L 3:00-4:00
- M-Z 4:00-5:00

We know kids are always curious who their new teacher will be! Your child's teacher will call, using your family's primary phone number, on August 18-20, before Open House. At that time, please let them know at that time how your child will be going home (bus, private day care, car rider) from school.

At Open House, go to the media center if you:

- Have bus transportation questions, the UCPS transportation department will have a representative in our media center during Open House.
- Need a car rider tag. If you already have one, either from last school year or Kindergarten Camp, just use it when picking up your child.

At Open House, go to the cafeteria if you:

- Have medication, allergy/health plan, or other medical questions or info to share with Nurse Bonnie.
- Have anything to talk about with our school counselor, Rene Katkowski.
- Want to learn more about our PTO.

Attached is the UCPS K-12 Internet Use and Parent Resources info we are required to share each school year.

If you will be at Open House, no action needed regarding the below forms, as hard copies will be provided to you. If you will not be at Open House, use these links and send the forms in with your child on Monday Aug. 25.

- K-5 Students – UCPS Photo Release (Pretty self-explanatory, let your child's teacher know if you have any questions) [Photo Video Form](#)
- K-2 Students - COPPA - (Lets your child use many web-based tools and applications that are provided by UCPS/WCES) [K-2 COPPA](#)
- 3rd-5th Students – COPPA + Chromebook (This is required before we are able to provide your child the school-provided Chromebook and lets your child use many web-based tools and applications that are provided by UCPS/WCES) [3-5 Chromebook & COPPA 2025](#)

Parents of 3-5 students, please remember to pay the \$30 technology fee ASAP – reference the message from Aug. 12 from Dr. Henderson for details.

We look forward to partnering with you this school year to grow your child, our student, toward future success! Have a nice night!