

I am so grateful and happy to welcome your family to University School and begin this academic journey together. My goal is to help your students reach their full potential both socially and academically. I want your child to love school and love learning. I want to work together as a team with each family to make sure that we are working towards common goals at all times.

Let me share with you a few policies and procedures to help us get off to a great start.

School day: 8:00 - 3:00

Morning Arrival: Side doors open at 7:30 and students report to the cafeteria. Classrooms open at 7:50 for students to begin the day.

Tardies/Absences: If your child arrives after 8:00, it is your responsibility to sign them in at the office and pick up a tardy slip. If your student will be absent for the day, or leaving early, please send a message to me and to the school office as early as possible.

Items from Home: Please do not send in any toys or electronics from home.

Change of Clothes: Accidents happen and we want everyone to be comfortable in their clothes at school. Please have a change of clothes for your student in a gallon sized ziploc bag and keep it in the backpack. I will send you a message to let you know if, when, and why your child needed to change at school.

Transportation: If your transportation plans for your child change, please notify me in writing.

Snacks: Depending on when our lunchtime is scheduled, we will have either a morning or afternoon snacktime. Your child will need to bring an individual snack from home.

Birthdays: We love to celebrate birthdays. We have a special song and birthday activity we do in class and you are welcome to send in special treats for the day if you would like.

Classroom Management:

I follow the Responsive Classroom model.

In the Responsive Classroom model, the teacher will:

- Respect the child and the child's goal of being an important member of the class.
- Build on children's capabilities.
- Teach necessary social skills.
- Increase responsibilities when students are ready for them.
- Support student success with encouraging and empowering language.
- Help children fix mistakes and regain self control.
- Teach ethical thinking and mutual problem solving as tools for community building.
- Guide students to think and act in caring and responsible ways.

In the Responsive Classroom model, the students will:

- Develop self control and demonstrate responsible behaviors
- Develop positive relationships with their teachers and peers
- Build the skills of caring, assertion, responsibility, empathy, and self control (CARES)
- Understand and respect the rules
- Develop self respect

Ms.Noell's Hopes and Dreams for Kindergarten

- To build a solid foundation of trust and warmth among the children and between the adults and children.
- To give children a sense of academic competence. You can do this! It might be hard, but I'll help you.
- To create a classroom where it is safe to take risks, make mistakes, and work to fix those mistakes.
- To nurture children's sense of belonging and help them know how important they each are to our group.
- To nurture children's work ethic.
- To teach children to care for one another and our school environment.
- To excite children about learning and improving their skill levels.

Parents Hopes and Dreams:

Please tell me your hopes and dreams for your child this year. I want you to think about both their academics and their social-emotional development. You can write them down here or you can e-mail them to me if that works better for you. howecn@etsu.edu

