



United Community Center Schools

Student & Parent Handbook and Code of Conduct



Updated: May 2024



UCC Schools Handbook & Student Code of Conduct

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ABOUT UCC SCHOOLS

The foundation of our services at the United Community Center is education. Our K4-8 schools of more than 1,600 students are the primary example of how we serve through education, and we truly believe we can lead the community to a better life through education.

Our UCC Schools are a non-sectarian, nonprofit, community-based charter school dedicated to creating an environment that fosters high expectations and excellence for all students. Our schools believe that hard work, strong parental involvement, high expectations, and knowledge of culture will lead all students to rigorous high schools and colleges and equip them with skills to be competitive in dynamic future job markets. UCC Schools provide students with a clear sense of identity, a positive attitude toward learning, and effective communication skills.

UCC School Leadership Message

Welcome students, parents, staff and community. Our goal at the United Community Center and our UCC schools is to set you up with a strong academic and social emotional foundation for all our students. That is why it is important that we continue working on making sure that we demonstrate respect, responsibility and resilience while we are at school. These simple things will make UCC a more pleasant learning environment for all.

At UCC Schools you will always find adults that want the best for you, the student, and are always willing to do more for you and your families as long as you put forth your best effort. We as a school believe in partnering with families and ensuring that we work as a collective to ensure your success! Expect consistent communication between you, your family, and teachers.

We look forward to an outstanding school year working with you and your child. This booklet is designed to inform families of procedures and expectations for students. If at any time during the school year, you have questions or concerns please stop your child's school office, or give our office a call:

- **Director of Early Learning Programs - Infancy - K5** - Dalia Huerta - dhuerta@bgcsedu.org
 - BGCS Preschool: 414-645-4859 - Principal Alyssa Mantekas - amantekas@bgcsedu.org
- **UCC Schools: Director of Academics & Technology - K5-8th Grade** - Shaba Martinez - smartinez@bgcsedu.org
 - BGCS Elementary: 414-643-6441 - Principal Veronica Silva - vsilva@bgcsedu.org
 - Bruce-Guadalupe Middle School: 414-649-2820 - Principal Santiago Navarro - snavarro@bgcsedu.org
 - UCC Acosta Middle School: 414-647-2518 - Principal Jose Flores-Benitez - jflores@uccacostams.org

United Community Center Mission & Vision

The United Community Center's (UCC) mission is to transform the lives of Hispanics, families and individuals of all ages by providing the highest quality comprehensive services in education, human services, health, community development and cultural arts.

The UCC's vision is an **empowered** and **thriving** Hispanic community where all **achieve** their fullest **potential**.

UCC Schools' Vision

Providing opportunities to ensure EACH student is prepared for high school, college, and career.



UCC Schools' Core Values

1. High Quality Classroom Instruction
2. Promote and ensure a positive, collaborative, and constructive climate focused on student outcomes
3. Cultivate a Continuous Improvement Culture
4. Build family and community engagement through enhanced and consistent communication
5. Strengthen the “whole” student

UCC Schools' Structure & Governance

United Community Center Schools (Bruce-Guadalupe Community School and UCC Acosta Middle School) are independent 2R charter schools authorized by the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

From the WI DPI website:

“The terms “2r” or “2x” refer to the section of the charter school law within s. 118.40 that grants these entities authority to authorize charter schools. Independent charter schools may also be referred to as legacy or new independent charter schools. Legacy schools are schools chartered by authorizers who had the authority prior to 2015 Act 55 (UW-Milwaukee, the City of Milwaukee, UW-Parkside, and MATC), and new independent charter schools are those chartered by an authorizer who received authority to authorize in or after 2015 Act 55 (Waukesha County Executive, College of Menominee Nation, Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa College, Office of Educational Opportunity, any UW Chancellor (other than UW-Milwaukee and UW-Parkside), and any technical college district board (except MATC).

Under Wis. Stat. § 118.40(4)(ag), no more than a minority of the governing board's members may be employees of the charter school or employees or officers of the school district in which the charter school is located”. Therefore, no more than a minority of the governing board could be filled by employees or officers of the school district they are physically located in.”

UCC Schools' Expectations

- Be kind to yourself and others.
- Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
- Follow the rules of your teacher in school.
- Remember to do your job today and everyday: read, study, and apply what you learn.
- Have a great day!

UCC Schools' “Keys to Success”

- I solve problems on my own all the time.
- I participate in class all of the time.
- I work well with others all of the time.
- I am respectful to teachers and classmates all the time.
- I am focused on listening to my teacher and classmates all of the time.
- I have my materials ready for learning all of the time.
- My workspace is neat and organized all of the time.
- I try my best all the time.
- I complete my classwork by myself without reminders.
- I am a leader.



ATTENDANCE

Our UCC Schools work cooperatively with parents to teach students the importance of daily and timely school/class attendance. School attendance, when supported and encouraged by parents, constitutes a vital part of the development of a positive attitude toward school. Conversely, when parents are not supportive of regular school attendance, the student begins to view school instruction as unimportant. This significantly increases the risk of an unsuccessful school experience and may lead to patterns of behavior that can potentially impact student success in later years.

Compulsory Attendance

[Under Wisconsin Statute 118.15](#), any person having control of a child between the ages of 6 and 18 shall see to it that the child attends school regularly until the end of the school term of the school year in which the child becomes 18.

Student Attendance

Good student attendance promotes high academic success. Since good attendance and student success go hand in hand, UCC staff expects students to maintain a 95% attendance or better. Teachers, administrators and the entire staff are relying strongly on parents to help us meet this high standard. It is equally important that students arrive at school on time.

- [UCC school attendance contract can be viewed here](#)
- [UCC Schools attendance policy can be viewed here](#)
- [UCC Schools Extended Absence Policy can be viewed here](#)

Absences

If a student is absent, the parent/guardian needs to call to inform the school by 8:30. If you know of an absence in advance, please contact our school office, add this absence request in Skyward Family Access, or call our school absence line at (414) 389-4757.

Wisconsin State Statutes allow parents to request that a student be absent from school **up to ten days in a school year**. Excessive excused absences may require a medical note for future absences to be excused. A request for a planned absence (not to exceed ten days) should be made in writing to the school principal prior to the absence.

The following are excusable absences:

- Personal illness. Medical verification may be required.
- Family emergencies or crises
- Attendance at a funeral
- Religious holidays or religious instruction
- Medical and legal appointments. Verification of appointment may be required.
- Severe inclement weather when schools are officially closed.
- Attendance at special events of educational value, approved by the principal or designee, with a written excuse received from the parent or guardian before the absence. (A child may not be excused for more than ten (10) days in a school year under this type of excuse, per state statute 118.15(3).)

All other absences will be regarded as unexcused/truant. All student absences are subject to review by the building principal, whose decision will be final.



Tardies

Being on time is an important component of school attendance. The school day begins at 7:50 am for all our K4-8th grade schools. Students are marked as LATE starting at 8:00am and must get a tardy pass from the office before going to class. Our doors will open at 7:30 am to those students wishing to have breakfast. Breakfast is served from 7:30am - 7:45am.

UCC recognizes that students who arrive late are a disruption to the classroom by coming in when others have already prepared for class. All students are to be at school by 7:50 in order to begin learning with their class at 8am.

Late Arrivals and/or Early Pick-ups

Frequent late arrivals and early pick-ups from school impact student learning. If students arrive at school late, or are picked up early, and miss 3-5 hours of our school instructional day, this constitutes a half-day (.5) absence. Students must be physically present at school for more than 5 hours in order for them to be considered "present".

If students are present at school for **less than 3 hours**, this will be considered a full-day absence from school.

These partial day absences are added to a child's attendance record and count towards their truancy record.

Extended Absences from School

Our schools are committed to providing your child with a high-quality education and meaningful learning experiences, and this is best accomplished when your child is physically present at school.

We strongly discourage families from removing their child from school for an extended period of time. Extended absences result in your child missing critical instruction and learning experiences, and their progress in school will likely regress.

If your child will be absent from school for more than 3 consecutive days, please notify the school as soon as possible by submitting a written request for an extended absence to the school principal or center director. [Families must also complete the Notification of Extended Absence form linked here.](#)

Note: Please be aware that unexcused or excessive absences may have consequences on a student's academic standing and eligibility for promotion.

School Communications Regarding Attendance

When a student is absent from school without reason, the school will send an email, text message, and robo-call to the known telephone number of a parent. All parents have access to student attendance records through Skyward Family access. Paper print-outs of attendance records can be requested by parents at the school office.



COMMUNICATION

Communication

All non-emergency communication will be sent home electronically via email or through ClassDojo messaging. This includes teacher and school newsletters and other pertinent information.

Parents and guardians are responsible for maintaining an active email and ClassDojo account, and checking these accounts regularly for communication from our UCC schools.

School staff should not use personal cell phones or personal email accounts to communicate with students, parents, and/or guardians.

Communication with School Administration

When communicating with our school leadership team, principals, assistant principals, and deans, we request for families to use EMAIL as the primary means of communicating with our school administration. ClassDojo to not an effective communication mechanism for our school administrators who are connected to all our classrooms and schools.

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 - Bruce-Guadalupe Middle School: 414-649-2820 - Principal Santiago Navarro - snavarro@bgcsedu.org
 - UCC Acosta Middle School: 414-647-2518 - Principal Jose Flores-Benitez - jflores@uccacostams.org

Cell Phones and Electronic Devices

Students are not allowed to have personal electronic devices, such as cell phones, in classrooms or school spaces. Cell phones and other electronic devices must be turned off and kept secure in a student's locker during the school day. Schools are not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged electronic devices. Any electronic device that is visible during the school day will be confiscated by school personnel and must be picked up by the student's parent/guardian later.

Taking pictures or videos in restrooms, locker rooms, or other spaces across our schools or agency is prohibited. Students using phone or other recording devices for inappropriate or illegal use will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action in addition to confiscating their phones.

Inclement Weather & School Closures

In the case of inclement weather, our UCC school students, families, and staff will be informed in advance of closures.

Be aware that UCC does NOT follow MPS regarding closings.

- [Our UCC schools inclement weather policy can be found here](#)

As parents/guardians, you know your child's circumstances best. Therefore, we respect your decision not to send your child to school when weather conditions are questionable. However, please understand that if school is in session and you decide to keep your child home, your child is missing instruction and will be required to make up any missing work. You are still expected to report your child's absence to the attendance hotline - (414) 389-4757



CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, ASSESSMENT & HOMEWORK

Acceleration Procedures

Parents, guardians, and/or school staff must [follow the process linked here](#) when referring a child for grade-level acceleration.

Assessment

All students from K4-8th grade are assessed regularly to determine student progress and achievement towards grade level expectations. Some assessments are required nationally, by the state of Wisconsin, by our school charter agreement with UW-Milwaukee, or by our schools locally to ensure our teachers have the data needed to support ongoing student learning and development.

LNGR Assessments (K4, 3 times each year)

- Literacy, Numeracy, Games, & Routines is a curriculum our UCC schools program has implemented to strengthen early literacy and math skills in our early learning students. These assessments are tied to daily activities and games that students play that engage them in reading and mathematics learning tasks to allow teachers to assess student learning and growth over time. Student performance on these assessments will be communicated to families through quarterly reports.

Assessment for Reading Readiness (K4-2nd grade, 3 times each year)

- Wis. Stats 118.016(1) requires an early literacy screener to be administered to all 4 year old kindergarten to 2nd grade students enrolled in public school districts and charter schools. School boards and charter schools are authorized to select a valid and reliable assessment of literacy fundamentals to fulfill this requirement. The purpose of this requirement is to:
 - Identify students who are struggling to learn to read
 - Find out what each student is ready to learn next, and
 - Check each student's reading progress during the school year.

NWEA Map Growth Assessments (1st - 8th Grade, 3 times each year)

- NWEA, is the most trusted and innovative assessment for measuring achievement and growth in K-12 math, reading, language usage, and science. It provides teachers with accurate, actionable evidence to help inform instructional strategies regardless of how far students are above or below grade level.
- MAP Growth is a computer-adaptive test. If your child answers a question correctly, the next question is more challenging. If they answer incorrectly, the next one is easier. This type of assessment challenges top performers without overwhelming students whose skills are below grade level.
- MAP Growth uses a RIT scale to accurately measure what students know, regardless of their grade level. It also measures growth over time, allowing you to track your child's progress throughout the school year and across multiple years. Once your child completes a MAP Growth test, they receive a RIT score.

WI State Forward Exam (3rd - 8th grade, 1 time each year)

- The Wisconsin Forward Exam is designed to gauge how well students are doing in relation to the Wisconsin Academic Standards. These standards outline what students should know and be able to do in order to be college and career ready. The Forward Exam is administered online in the spring of each school year at:
 - grades 3-8 in English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics,
 - grades 4 and 8 in Science and,
 - grades 4, 8, and 10 in Social Studies.



NAEP Assessment (4th and/or 8th grade, if selected to participate)

- [The National Assessment of Educational Progress \(NAEP\)](#)—a congressionally mandated large-scale assessment administered by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)—consists of print and digital assessments in various subject areas. Three of these subjects—mathematics, reading, and science—are assessed most frequently and reported at the state and select district level, usually for grades 4 and 8.

Curriculum

Students are offered a rigorous curriculum and supportive digital programs in all content areas. School curriculums are regularly reviewed and updated or replaced when determined necessary to support student learning and achievement. Please contact your child’s school principal or teacher for more information on specific learning targets, other resources used, or other ways to help your child learn.

UCC Schools Core Curriculum Programs:

- Creative Curriculum - Ready to Shine - K4
- Literacy, Numbers, Games, & Routines - Math & Literacy Curriculum - K4
- HMHCO - Into Reading Curriculum - K5-5th Grade
- Heggerty Phonemic Awareness - K5-2nd Grade
- HMHCO - Into Literature Curriculum - 6th - 8th Grade
- Step Up to Writing Curriculum - K5-8th Grade
- HMHCO - Math Expressions Curriculum - K5 - 5th Grade
- Great Minds - Eureka Math Curriculum - 6th - 8th Grade
- Great Minds - Eureka Math 2 Curriculum - Advanced Algebra Students in 6th - 8th Grade
- HMHCO - Into Social Studies Curriculum - K5-8th Grade
- Banzai! Financial Literacy Curriculum - 6th - 8th Grade
- Twig Science Curriculum - K5 - 5th Grade
- IQWST Science Curriculum - 6th - 8th Grade
- Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Curriculum - 6th - 8th Grade
- Second Step - Social Emotional Learning Curriculum - K4-8th Grade
- McGraw Hill - Teen Health Curriculum - 6th - 8th Grade
- Sonrisas Spanish Curriculum - K5-5th Grade
- Avancemos Spanish Curriculum - 6th - 8th Grade

UCC Schools - Digital Learning Programs to Support Core Curriculum:

- Lexia - Reading Comprehension - K5 - 8th Grade
- Dreambox - Math and Numeracy Skills - K5-5th Grade
- ALEKS - Math Skills - 6th-8th Grade
- Duolingo - Spanish Skills - K5-8th Grade

[District Digital Learning Plan](#)

[DPI Guidebook on Dyslexia & Related Conditions](#)



DPI School Report Cards

DPI Specific Learning Disability Criteria and Process

Early Entrance Criteria

Grading

Our K4-8th grade students' academic progress is reported and measured differently at specific grade levels based on our curriculum programs, and student developmental needs.

K5 - 2nd Grade Grading Scale:

- Students are assessment on their progress towards grade level standards and skills on a 1-4 scale
 - 1: Minimal - Skills are limited and require significant teacher help
 - 2: Demonstrates Partial Understanding of Grade Level Standards - Skills are inconsistently demonstrated
 - 3: Proficient - Skills are consistently demonstrated and applied
 - 4: Advanced - Independently demonstrates sophisticated application in new contexts
 - N: Not Assessed at this time

3rd - 8th Grade Grading Scale:

- Students in grades 3-5 receive letter grades that are a calculated average of their performance on summative and formative work
- Grades 3-5 have a grading scale that scores any performance less than a 60% at an F
- Grades 6-8 have a more rigorous grading scale to prepare our students to enter top-performing high schools in the area. Performance less than 70% is considered an F.

Elementary Grading Scale - Grades 3-5

Grading Scale	Percentages
A+	97 - 100
A	93 - 96
A-	90 - 92
B+	87 - 89
B	83 - 86
B-	80 - 82
C+	77 - 79
C	73 - 76
C-	70 - 72
D+	67 - 69
D	63 - 66
D-	60 - 62
F	0 - 59
I	Incomplete or Insufficient Evidence

Middle School Grading Scale - Grades 6-8

Grading Scale	Percentages
A	95 - 100
A-	93 - 94
B+	91 - 92
B	88 - 90
B-	85 - 87
C+	83 - 84
C	80 - 82
C-	77 - 79
D+	75 - 76
D	72 - 74
D-	70 - 71
F	0 - 69
I	Incomplete or Insufficient Evidence



GPA: Grade Point Average

The GPA (grade point average) is an arithmetic mean (average) of all the grade points which are earned for each class in a given grading period. GPA's are only calculated for students in grades 3-8. GPA's are re-calculated at the END of each grading period (quarters and semester), and the GPA calculation will not be updated until the end of the next grading period.

- The STANDARD GPA is a calculation of a student's academic performance across all the classes they are enrolled in and receive grades for.
- The CORE GPA is a calculation of a student's academic performance across their core classes (reading, writing, math, science, and social studies).
- The cumulative GPA is the average of all the grade points earned for all classes taken while in our UCC schools.

Homework

Homework is an assignment given for study, preparation, or completion outside of regular class time. The primary purpose of homework is to reinforce, enrich, and/or extend learning and help students practice or extend the development of important skills and understanding of important content and concepts. Homework is also intended to help students work in an increasingly self-directed manner; learn to manage time; and develop responsibility.

All students from K4-8th grade will receive daily homework relevant to what is occurring in their classroom, and appropriate for each child's age and stage in life. Individual teachers and their learning teams determine the specifics of the homework.

Students are also expected to engage in reading at home every day independently, or with the support of a family member.

Suggested Guidelines for Parents to Support Student Success:

- Provide a quiet, well-lit study area with a desk or table and chair
- Keep a supply of "study tools" available: pencils, pen, paper, ruler, etc.
- Establish a regular time for homework during which the child can work with minimum interruptions
- Provide a healthy balance between homework, extra and co-curricular activities, and family commitments
- Encourage student responsibility and independence
- Contact the teacher if a child is not consistently able to do the homework within the time guidelines, or if challenges or questions arise

Academic Work During Absence:

- Quality instruction and learning is dependent on students being **physically present** at school, and recreating an in-person learning experience through printed materials is challenging. We encourage families to limit absences from school as much as possible.
- If a child is sick or absent from school during the school year, parents and/or students are responsible for communicating with their child's teacher to determine if the work they missed can be made up.
- Many learning experiences and tasks cannot be recreated or made up if your child is physically absent from school. Frequent absences from school may result in a decline of your child's overall academic performance, and may have consequences on a student's academic standing and eligibility for promotion to the next grade level.
- Our classroom teachers are **NOT** expected to put together work for students that will be absent for an extended period of time.



Report Cards

Our report cards are intended to be a communication tool that really helps parents understand where their child is performing in relation to grade-level targets. They are also designed to provide students with ownership in the process of assessing their own learning.

All K4-8th grade students will be sent reports on their child's academic progress 9 times each year:

- Progress Report 1 - September
- Quarter 1 - October
- Progress Report 2 - December
- Quarter 2 / Semester 1 (includes final exams for 6th-8th grade students) - January
- Progress Report 3 - February
- Quarter 3 - March
- Progress Report 4 - April/May
- Quarter 4 / Semester 2 (includes final exams for 6th-8th grade students) - June
- Quarter 5 (Summer School) - July

Retention Policy



DRESS CODE & UNIFORM POLICY

School Uniform Policy

Dress Code Purpose:

Grooming and clothing make a statement about ourselves. At UCC Schools, we promote a positive statement, which respects the dignity of each person and directs attention to learning and development. The UCC Dress Code helps us make the positive statement we desire.

- [Bruce Guadalupe K3 - 8th Dress Code Policy](#)
- [UCC Acosta 6th - 8th Dress Code Policy](#)

Cleanliness, neatness, and appropriateness are required for one's grooming and clothing. All clothing, including shoes, must be clean and in good repair. On most days of the school year, students are expected to be in "uniform".

Hygiene Expectations:

- Brush your teeth daily.
- Shower on a regular basis.
- Girls should be prepared with tampons or pads in their backpacks.
- Apply non-aerosol deodorant daily.
 - **Aerosol deodorants, body sprays, perfumes/colognes, and scented lotions are not allowed at school.*

Hairstyles & Hats:

- No hats or hoods.
- Natural colored hair only.
- No hair designs or carvings.

Shirts & Sweaters:

- Bruce-Guadalupe: Shirts are white, sweaters may be navy blue
- UCC Acosta Middle School: Shirts can be white, heather gray, or navy blue, sweaters may be navy blue, black, or heather gray.
- Wear a solid colored, collared polo.
- A t-shirt can be worn as an undershirt if it is solid navy blue, black, white, or gray.
- A sweater is permitted if it has no hood, no zipper, and is solid navy blue or white.
- Sweatshirts with the UCC / BGCS / Acosta logo are always allowed.

Pants & Belts:

- Bruce-Guadalupe: Pants, skirts, or dresses must be navy blue.
- UCC Acosta Middle School: Pants, skirts, or dresses must be tan or navy blue.
- Skirts, jumpers, or dress shorts must be knee-length.
- No blue jeans, skinny jeans, or joggers allowed.
- Leggings or tights may be worn under skirts and dresses if they are solid navy blue, black, or gray.
- If you choose to wear a belt, it must be solid black and cannot have a decorative buckle.



Shoes & Socks:

- Shoes must be all black, brown or white including fabric, sole, and laces.
- Shoes must be close toed.
- No heels, no wheels, no light up shoes.
- If you choose to have a separate pair of gym shoes in your locker, these must also be completely black.

Jewelry:

- Students may wear one earring on each earlobe. No other piercings permitted.
- Earrings must be studs or a hoop smaller than a half inch (a quarter).
- No gauges.
- One necklace or chain may be worn beneath the shirt.
- One bracelet may be worn on each wrist.
- One ring may be worn on each hand.

Makeup & Nails:

- No makeup allowed for boys or girls.
- Nails must be free from designs of any kind including nail polish, acrylic/gel nails, gems, or ink.
- No temporary tattoos, permanent tattoos, henna markings, or decorative ink of any kind.
- Writing, drawing, or painting on your body or clothing is not permitted.

Winter Clothing & Jackets:

- We highly recommend wearing a warm winter coat when the temperature drops.
- Hats, gloves, and scarves are encouraged as well.
- Snow boots are allowed but cannot be worn in class. Change into your school shoes when you arrive.

Dress Down Policy:

- We will notify you of dress downs in school, via email, on Class Dojo, and in a paper flier.
- *Rules for hairstyles & hats, jewelry, makeup & nails all remain the same. Please see them listed above.*
- No spaghetti straps, see through material, or inappropriate logos/slogans.
- No leggings unless worn under a knee-length skirt or dress.
- No holes in any clothing, including pants.
- No revealing or low-cut tops.
- No exposed midriff.

Consequences for Uniform Violations or Inappropriate Dress Down Clothing:

- Parents will be required to bring a change of clothes.
- Student will be referred to an administrator to discuss school policy.
- Student will lose reward points or other privileges.
- Repeat violations will be handled at the discretion of the administrator.

***SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS WILL ULTIMATELY DECIDE WHAT IS CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE DRESS FOR UCC STUDENTS. STUDENTS THAT FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THE "DRESS CODE POLICY" WILL BE REFERRED TO A SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR*.**



EMERGENCY PROTOCOLS & SCHOOL SAFETY

Child Abuse / Neglect

Our schools take child safety issues seriously. All staffworking with children across our UCC schools are, “mandated reporters” are are required by state law to report suspected child abuse and neglect to a county or law enforcement agency.. Required reporting leads to protection for all of our children and helps to identify supports for families who may need it.

Child Protection Policy

Emergency Response Plan

Our school has adopted the [“I Love U Guys” Foundation’s Standard Response Protocol \(SRP\)](#). Students and staff will be training, practicing, and drilling the product. We ask all of our families to carefully review our [full emergency response protocols linked here](#).

All UCC School Parent and/or Guardian are asked to acknowledge the following:

- Our emergency response communication system will be TESTED on a monthly basis.
- On the FIRST DAY of each month, you will receive a TEST text message, email, and robocall reviewing our emergency protocols and verifying that we have the correct contact information for our staff & school families.
- It is the responsibility of PARENTS and/or GUARDIANS to review your contact information in Skyward Family Access regularly, and ensure the correct phone numbers and email addresses are listed for all family contacts.
- It is the responsibility of PARENTS and/or GUARDIANS to ensure you have an active phone number and email address, and check these accounts regularly for communications from our schools.

In an active emergency situation:

- UCC will prioritize the safety of our students, staff, and clientele and work with law enforcement when required
- UCC Agency and School Phones will NOT be answered
- Emails and ClassDojo messages to our school staff and teachers will NOT be answered
- Parents, guardians, and families will NOT be allowed to enter our school buildings
- Additional information and communications will be shared with our families AFTER all students, staff, and clients have been secured, and any possible threats have been cleared
- Community incidents and threats are the responsibility of local police, and we will work with local authorities in these circumstances.

Safety Drills

Our UCC school regularly practices safety drills to prepare students and staff for a possible emergency circumstance. These include fire drills, tornado drills, lock down drills, and other safety procedures. Most drills are held at unexpected times to prepare students and staff to act quickly, efficiently, and without panic. During a crisis or drill, students are expected to follow the direction of school personnel and/or police. Parents/guardians will be contacted through our school communication system in a true school emergency.



FOOD & MEALS AT SCHOOL

Breakfast & Lunch Program

Our UCC schools provide students with breakfast and lunch at school. Students in K4 and K5 are served breakfast in their classrooms at 8:00am. Students in 1st-8th grade can receive breakfast in their school cafeteria if they arrive at school between 7:30 and 7:45am.

Parents must complete a lunch application each year to determine if they are eligible for free and/or reduced cost meals at our school. These applications are distributed to families in July.

If your child has a food allergy, intolerance, or required food accommodations, it is the responsibility of families to review our school lunch menu in advance and provide an alternate meal for your child ([available on our school website and posted to ClassDojo monthly](#)). If your child has a life-threatening food allergy, you are required to provide our school with an EpiPen and medical documentation for this condition. Parents are responsible to review our lunch menu and provide alternative meals for their children when needed.

Our schools are unable to provide substitutions or alternative meals to children in K5-8th grade with dietary restrictions that are not required in an IEP or 504 plan. [Linked here is a letter reviewing our lunch & nutrition program policies.](#)

Breakfast & Lunch Fees and Payments

Lunch payments may be made in any of the school's offices, and notices will be sent home when accounts are low. Families that qualify will receive a free/reduced pricing for lunch. Families may choose to have their children eat breakfast at home and/or send a bag lunch, preferably with a healthy meal and nutritional items.

All school families must complete a lunch application every school year. Only one form per family must be submitted, and applications are available in July of each school year. [Instructions for completing this lunch application can be found here.](#)

Food at School

If you are providing a snack or lunch for your child to enjoy at school, we request for all meals and snacks to be healthy and supportive of students' cognitive and physical needs while at school. Some examples of healthy snacks and meals that could be provided for your child at school include the following:

- Fruit (fresh or dried)
- Vegetables (fresh or dried)
- Healthy grains (whole wheat muffins, pita, tortillas, breakfast cereal, crackers, rice cakes, popcorn, cereal or granola bars)
- Low-fat dairy foods (yogurt, low-fat cheese)
- Water, soy or rice drinks, fruit juice

Food Allergies & Meal Substitutions Policy

Our schools are [unable to provide substitutions or alternative meals for children in K5-8th grade with dietary restrictions or food allergies](#). Parents and guardians are responsible for reviewing the daily lunch menu, and providing



alternative meal options for their child. We strongly suggest that families prepare a cold lunch for children with multiple food intolerances or allergies.

Food Safety & Allergy Policy

Nationwide, about 8% of all children are affected by food allergies, which is about 2 students in every classroom. Eight foods or food groups account for most serious allergic reactions in the United States: milk, eggs, fish, crustacean shellfish, wheat, soy, peanuts, and tree nuts.

[Our school has established the food allergy policy linked here to ensure the safety of our students and schools.](#)

UCC Schools Policies to Promote the Safety of Students with Food Allergies:

- A listing of students with known food allergies will be shared with all school staff annually
- Classrooms that have a child with a known food allergen will have a display on the classroom door indicating the allergens that are not allowed in the classroom
- All school-served foods must have an ingredients label with known allergens listed
- Teachers and staff will be encouraged to use **non-food** incentives for prizes, gifts and awards
- Students will be asked to wash their hands after eating all meals and snacks
- All school staff will be trained on allergic reactions, administration of epinephrine auto-injectors, and inhalers
- Families will be asked to only provide store-bought food items with an ingredients list and allergen label when bringing in snacks or treats for children other than their own
- Events coordinated by school staff involving UCC school students must ensure all food served have ingredients and allergens labeled, and all individuals serving food are knowledgeable of allergic reactions

Wellness Policy



HEALTH CLINIC & STUDENT HEALTH

Health Clinic Procedures

If a student becomes ill or is injured at school, the school health clinic or office staff will provide care. In the case of minor “illness,” children will be encouraged to return to class. The parents/guardians will be informed of their child’s condition in cases that are serious enough to warrant communication. If a parent cannot be reached, the emergency contact(s) provided by the parent/guardian will be contacted to pick up the child.

Parents are expected to keep their personal and emergency contact information updated within Skyward Family Access to ensure that school staff are able to communicate efficiently. When picking up a sick child from school, please report to the school office to sign out your child.

Health Information

Parents and/or guardians are required to provide our schools with information regarding their child’s health and wellness. If your child has a medical condition or health concern and may require specific medical accommodations or care during the school day, documentation of this condition, the treatment and care plan, and any requirements of our school must be provided in writing before the first day of the school year.

Illness at School

If a student becomes ill at school and needs to be sent home, the school nurse, office staff or an administrator will call your parents. Please pick up your child as soon as possible.

- [School Illness Reminder](#)
- [Fever & Illness Policy](#)
- [Immunization Requirements](#)

Our school policy states that students **should NOT be sent to school** if they have any of the following:

- Fever at or above 100.0° F in the past 24 hours
- Have used fever reducing medications in the past 24 hours (i.e. Tylenol, Motrin)
- Vomiting in the past 24 hours
- Diarrhea in the past 24 hours
- Bad cold / bad cough, especially if it has kept the child awake at night
- Bacterial pink eye (must complete 24 hours of treatment before returning to school)
- Strep Throat (must take antibiotics for 24 hours before returning to school)
- Any other potentially contagious illness or rash. Guidelines to return can vary depending on the illness

If your child becomes ill at school and the school nurse determines your child is too sick to stay, you will be called to pick up your child and take them home.

In the event that your phone number changes, please notify your child’s school office so that you can be contacted in the event that your child becomes ill by calling at (BGCS Preschool) 414-645-4859, (BGCS Elementary) 414-643-6441, (Bruce-Guadalupe Middle School) 414-649-2820, (UCC Acosta Middle School) 414-647-2518.



Infectious Disease & COVID Policy

If there is a possibility that your child has been exposed to a communicable disease while at school, you will be notified.

- [Our UCC schools infectious disease and COVID policy can be found here](#) (revised March 2023)

Students will refrain from emailing parents or using personal cell phones to call home when they are ill. Students cannot leave class without a teacher's permission unless you are going to be sick and need to use the bathroom.

Immunizations

The law requires that students receive a minimum number of immunizations prior to entering school. The law is meant to prevent illnesses such as mumps, pertussis (whooping cough) and other vaccine preventable diseases from returning and harming our children.

To obtain proper immunizations, call your doctor or health care provider. When your child is immunized, provide the records to your child's school by contacting healthnurse@bgcsedu.org

**Table 144.03-A
Required Immunizations for the 2023-2024 School Year**

Age/Grade	Required Immunizations (Number of Doses)							
5 months through 15 months	2 DTP/DTaP/DT		2 Polio			2 Hep B	2 Hib	2 PCV
16 months through 23 months	3 DTP/DTaP/DT		2 Polio	1 MMR		2 Hep B	3 Hib	3 PCV
2 years through 4 years	4 DTP/DTaP/DT		3 Polio	1 MMR	1 Var	3 Hep B	3 Hib	3 PCV
Kindergarten through grade 6	4 DTP/DTaP/DT		4 Polio	2 MMR	2 Var	3 Hep B		
Grade 7 through grade 12	4 DTP/DTaP/DT	1 Tdap	4 Polio	2 MMR	2 Var	3 Hep B		

*There are a handful of limited exceptions to the requirements. For details about exceptions, for free immunizations or to check your family's immunization records, contact your healthcare provider.

Medications at School

Medications should be taken at home whenever possible. For any medications given at school, we must have written permission or your parents must stop in the Health Center to [sign a medication authorization form](#). The following are guidelines for taking medication at school:

- Medications that are taken three times a day usually can be taken at home. Medications that are taken four times daily will need to be given at least once at school.
- If medications are needed while at school, parents should send the medication in the original pharmacy container with the pharmacist's label on it. The doctor's note needs to be provided with the medication that includes the doctor's/clinic contact information. The nurse will remove the necessary amount of doses needed at school & return the container to you.
- Over the counter medication can be provided as needed, but only if parents have signed the Health Center Medication permission form for your child.



Meningococcal Disease Information

In accordance with 118.07(3), Wis. Stats. all school districts must provide parents/guardians of students in grades 6 through 12 with information about meningococcal disease. If you have any questions, please contact your healthcare provider.

Facts about Meningococcal Disease

- Meningococcal disease is a rare, but potentially deadly, bacterial infection that can take the form of meningitis (an inflammation of the membranes surrounding the brain and spinal cord) or meningococemia (a blood infection).
- Teenagers and college students account for nearly 30 percent of all reported cases of meningococcal disease in the U.S.
- This infection is caused by *Neisseria meningitidis*, a potentially life-threatening bacterium. There are five clinically relevant meningococcal serogroups (or strains) circulating worldwide: A, B, C, Y and W-135. Serogroups B, C and Y cause most diseases in the U.S., but serogroup distribution changes over time.
- The disease affects nearly 3,000 Americans annually and approximately 10 percent of the people who contract meningococcal disease will die.
- Of those who survive, nearly 20 percent suffer long-term disabilities, including brain damage, deafness and limb amputations.

Meningococcal Disease Among Teenagers and College Students

- Teenagers and college students have unusually high death rates from the disease; nearly one of every four cases may result in death.
- Lifestyle factors common among teenagers and college students are believed to put them at an increased risk of contracting meningococcal disease. These lifestyle factors include crowded living situations (e.g. dormitories, sleep-away camps), active or passive smoking and irregular sleeping habits.

Transmission and Symptoms of the Disease

- Meningococcal bacteria are transmitted through direct contact with secretions from infected persons (e.g., through coughing or kissing).
- The majority of meningococcal disease cases occur in winter and early spring. Meningococcal disease is often misdiagnosed, since symptoms are similar to those of common viral illnesses. Symptoms may include high fever, severe headache, stiff neck, nausea, vomiting, sensitivity to light, confusion, exhaustion and/or rash.

Wellness Policy



PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT & PARENTAL EXPECTATIONS

Court Orders and Child Custody

Parents/legal guardians must supply the school with a copy of any type of court order or legal documentation that may affect the student (visitation, access to records, etc.). In the absence of such an order, **the school must remain neutral and assume both parents/legal guardians have equal access and joint custody of their child.** If any changes to the court order occur during the year, the school must be notified.

Emergency Contact Information

Each student must have emergency contact information on file in their child's school office and in Skyward Family Access. This information must be reviewed and updated yearly during the annual online registration process. Some contact information (parental rights, address, student birth date, student name, etc) can only be updated by visiting our school office in-person with the required documentation.

The school office should be informed as soon as possible when contact information has changed (address, phone numbers, emergency contact information, etc.). Parents are encouraged to login to Skyward Family Access regularly to review their contact information, and emergency contacts.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled twice each year in the late Fall, and early Spring. All student's parents/guardians are expected to attend parent-teacher conferences to gather important information on their child's academic progress and development. Parent-teacher conferences are critical to building relationships with our school staff and teachers.

Parental Involvement Policy

UCC believes that when parents work closely with their students and the school, both students and school will benefit. Consequently, the UCC policy expects parents to contribute and participate actively in support of their students and school.

- [Our UCC schools Parental Involvement Contract can be found here](#)

As a parent or guardian who selected UCC Schools for the quality educational program and safe learning environment they provide for students, I pledge my full cooperation in the following:

- Completing all school admission and health and immunization forms on time.
- Keeping school emergency forms up-to-date with parent contact information.
- Providing clothing for my son/daughter in accordance with the school dress code policy.
- Attending all parent meetings (About 3 per year).
- Attending Mandatory Parent-Teacher Conferences (2 per year).
- Checking on my son/daughter's daily homework.
- Providing adequate school supplies for my son/daughter.
- Reviewing all school communications sent via the school's Class Dojo, weekly email notifications, and/or paper notifications sent home.
- Responding to all communications from teachers and school staff in a timely and respectful manner.
- Making appropriate arrangements for before and after school care.
- Taking care of lunch provisions for my son/daughter. (Sending cold lunch or paying for school lunch).



- Adhering to the school attendance policy including getting my son/daughter to school on time (7:45 a.m.) and notifying the school office if my son/daughter is going to be absent.
- Limiting students absences from school whenever possible (example: extended vacations or absences for other non-emergency reasons on scheduled school days) - refer to Wisconsin compulsory attendance requirements
- Limit picking up children early (or dropping off a child late) due to appointments or other reasons to ensure students are able to fully participate in school instruction
- Encouraging my son/daughter to come to school with a positive learning attitude each day.
- Responding quickly and in a supportive manner to resolve any discipline/or school problem.
- Attending all meetings as recommended or requested by my teachers or administrators.
- Agreeing that my son/daughter will participate in the fifth quarter summer session, if offered to him/her.
- Follow arrival and pick-up procedures as outlined by the school, including picking up students during our scheduled dismissal periods at the end of the day.

Parent & Visitor Code of Conduct & Behavior Policy

At our UCC schools, we believe staff, parents, and children are entitled to a safe and protective environment in which to learn and work. All members of our school community and visitors should demonstrate mutual respect. Any behavior that may lead to feelings of harassment, alarm, or distress to members of our community will not be tolerated and may result in a ban from school premises and/or police action.

We expect parents, guardians & visitors to have a **fundamental understanding & commitment to the following:**

- Teachers, administrators, parents/guardians, and/or visitors want all children to learn in a safe environment.
- Teachers, administrators and parents/guardians must work together for the benefit of all students.
- All parents/guardians and visitors, as well as members of the school community, deserve to be treated with respect.
- The school should be provided an opportunity to resolve issues of concern before public criticism.

In order to provide a peaceful and safe school environment, **our UCC Schools prohibit the following behaviors by parents/guardians and visitors:**

- Abusive, threatening, profane or harassing communication, either in person, by e-mail or text/voicemail/phone or other written or verbal communication
- Disruptive behavior that interferes or threatens to interfere with District operations, including the effective operation of a classroom, an employee's office or duty station, a campus lobby, or school grounds, including sporting events, parking lots and car-pickup
- Threatening to do bodily harm to a District employee, visitor, fellow parent/guardian or student
- Threatening to damage the property of a District employee, visitor, fellow parent/guardian or student.
- Damaging or destruction of school property
- Excessive unscheduled campus visits, e-mails, text/voicemail/phone messages or other written or oral
- **School staff and administration may not always be immediately available to speak with you.** The only way to ensure that you are able to speak with a staff member or administrator is to schedule an appointment. Staff and administrators have a practice of attempting to return all phone calls/emails within 48 hours with great success. Your calls and visits will be responded to consistent with this practice if someone is not immediately available to speak with
- Defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments regarding the school or school staff made publicly to others.
- Any concerns that you may have regarding these matters must be made through the appropriate channels so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately, and effectively for all
- This includes use of **any** social media medium, including but not limited to: websites, blogs, wikis, social networking sites such as TikTok, Google+, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.



Depending upon the severity of the incident, parents/guardians or visitors may be ejected from or otherwise banned from campus and participation in school-sponsored events under the criminal trespass laws. In situations involving lesser infractions or where remediation is viable, a warning will be provided, either verbal or in writing, prior to the filing of trespass and issuance of a formal ban. Should a parent/guardian or visitor fail to heed the direction issued in the warning, a ban or other restrictions designed to deter the conduct will follow. No restriction, however, will prevent the parent/guardian from working collaboratively with the District to meet the child's educational needs, nor will a parent/guardian be excluded from a child's IEP meeting.

Visitor Policy (for Parents, Guardians, and other School Visitors)

Our school buildings belong to the community and serve as a resource to the community for the education of students and for other public activities.

All visitors entering a school must first report to the main office to sign in, state their purpose for their visit, and must wear a visitor ID badge at all times when within our school buildings.

The building principal is responsible for determining whether an individual has the authority to enter and remain in the building. Individuals may be denied permission to visit, observe classrooms or remain in the building if the principal believes their stated reason lacks reasonable purpose or believes the visit may disrupt the learning environment of the school.

- As a courtesy, parents wishing to visit classrooms are encouraged to call and inform the school of their desire to visit their child's classroom.
- Any person not specifically authorized to visit school (as per policy) who is allowed to visit by the building principal shall be accompanied during the visitation. The principal may establish any other procedures to process visitor access.
- Any individual in violation of this policy may be referred to law enforcement officials for prosecution under applicable state law(s).



OTHER SCHOOL INFORMATION & POLICIES

[Acceleration Policy](#)

[Attendance Contract](#)

[Attendance Policy](#)

[Bullying Policy](#)

[Breakfast & Lunch Menu](#)

[Calendar](#)

Cell Phones and Electronic Devices at School

Students are not allowed to have personal electronic devices, such as cell phones, in classrooms or school spaces. Cell phones and electronic devices are required to be turned off and kept inside lockers during class times. At no time are students allowed to use electronic devices inside of a bathroom or locker room. Earbuds and headphones are to be kept out of ears during class time and passing periods. WIRED HEADPHONES ONLY. Cell phones, electronic devices, earbuds, or headphones that are turned on or being used without prior permission will be confiscated by school personnel. Students who have their cell phones out in school, may have them confiscated by a staff member. Phones should remain in the students' lockers and turned off.

Confiscated devices must be picked up by a parent or guardian.

Although all efforts will be made to maintain proper safety of student electronic devices, any such devices lost or stolen are not the responsibility of the school or its employees. If students do not want a device lost or stolen, they should keep such devices at home.

Taking pictures or videos in restrooms, locker rooms, or other spaces across our schools or agency is prohibited. Students using phone or other recording devices for inappropriate or illegal use will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action in addition to confiscating their phones.

[Child Protection Policy](#)

[Chromebook & Technology Policy](#)

[COVID & Infectious Disease Control Policy](#)

[District Digital Learning Plan](#)

[DPI Guidebook on Dyslexia & Related Conditions](#)



[DPI School Report Cards](#)

[DPI Specific Learning Disability Criteria and Process](#)

[Early Entrance Criteria](#)

[Emergency Card](#)

[Extracurricular and Field Trip Consent Form](#)

Fees

School fees will be added to parents Skyward Family Access accounts, and can be paid online using a credit card within Skyward Family Access using RevTrak, or, payments can be made in person at any of our school offices. Our schools accept payments made by cash, check, or credit card. *(A small credit card processing fee of 4.4% is added to all credit card charges)*

If families fail to pay all school fees in a timely manner, or have outstanding fees that remain unpaid, students will be unable to participate in extracurricular activities, and may be unable to participate in school activities such as daycare services, after school programming, field trips, and graduation ceremonies.

If your family is experiencing a financial hardship and is in need of support with fees, please contact our school social worker or school counselors.

Field Trips

Field trips, including student reward trips, are planned in order to enrich the school curriculum and provide opportunities for students to have other learning experiences outside of the classroom setting. Parents will be notified in advance of field trips. In order for students to participate in field trips, they must have turned in permission forms and any money that may be required for a trip. All field/reward trips are considered a privilege for students and not an automatic right. Those students complying with the expectations of the school will be able to participate in trips, however, students who pose regular disruptions or have caused problems on trips in the past, may be denied from attending a field trip. These decisions are made at the discretion of the building administrator.

- [Our UCC schools extracurricular and field trip policy can be found here.](#)

[Food Allergies & Meal Substitutions Policy](#)

[Food Safety & Allergy Policy](#)

[Inclement Weather Policy](#)

Lost & Found

All items of large size are placed in the lost and found bins in the school. Marking your child's belongings is helpful when searching for lost items. Encourage your child to check the lost and found to recover lost items. Small or valuable items are kept at the office. Unclaimed articles are donated after they have not been claimed for several months.



[McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Program](#)

[McKinney-Vento Student Placement Dispute Forms](#)

Money in School

When making a payment for lunch, field trip, or other expense, money should be sent in a sealed envelope with the student's name, the amount of money, date and purpose. Students are discouraged from bringing money to school. The school will not be responsible for any lost or stolen money.

Personal Property

Students are responsible for the safety and security of their personal property. Children should not bring items of monetary or sentimental value to school. Students should not bring hazardous, dangerous, or disruptive materials to school. Property of this nature will be confiscated, and arrangements made with the parents for its return.

Photographs & Videos

Our UCC schools often take photos and/or videos of our students, staff, and school facilities to promote the work of our agency, as well as share school activities and progress with families.

- [Our UCC Photo Release Policy can be found here](#)
- [Our UCC schools Internal Photo Release Policy can be found here](#)

[Retention Policy](#)

[School Supply Lists](#)

Student Records

Notice is hereby given that UCC Schools, pursuant to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and State Statute 118.125(1)(b) and (2)(j) has designated the following as Directory Data which may be released without prior consent:

- a student's name;
- a student's grade level;
- a student's school;
- a student's photograph(s);
- participation in officially recognized activities and sports;
- height and/or weight, if a member of an athletic team;
- date of graduation;
- degrees and awards received;
- the name of the school the pupil most recently previously attended.

Parents and eligible students may refuse to allow UCC to disclose any or all of such "directory information" upon written notification to the school.



Technology: Student Chromebooks and Other School Technology

All students in grades K-8 are issued a school chromebook. In grades K-3, these devices stay at school in classrooms. In grades 4-8, students are responsible for taking their device home each night, and charging them fully for the next school day. This device is property of the UCC Schools and provides student access to required educational materials needed for each student to be academically successful. The supplied device is an educational tool and is not intended for gaming, social networking, entertainment, or high end computing.

- [Our UCC schools chromebooks and technology policy can be found here.](#)

These chromebooks are issued to students for academic use, but **are the property of the school**. Students and families are responsible for the care and maintenance of these devices. If a device is damaged or lost, families are responsible for the cost of repairs and/or replacement.

All students are issued a case and charger for their device. If these items are lost or damaged, families are responsible for the cost of replacement or repair.

Skyward Family Access

Skyward is our student information system where all student information, registration, grades (K5-8), attendance, and assignments are stored. Parents are required to complete all yearly registration forms in Skyward in order to register their child for the next school year.

Skyward enables parents to view student grades and missing assignments, report student absences, view attendance records, make fee payments, and complete online forms and documentation. It is very important that parents maintain accurate telephone numbers and email addresses on Skyward.

Skyward works with any computer, tablet, phone, or personal device. You can download the Skyward mobile app for FREE via the App Store or Google Play Store. Our school is listed as "Bruce Guadalupe Cmty School".

Our school has a unique URL for families to access Skyward that is available here: bit.ly/uccschoolsskyward

If you need assistance obtaining your username and password for Skyward, email uccschools@bgcsedu.org

Student Searches

Lockers and desks are not student property. To ensure safety at UCC, the staff maintains the right to search students' lockers, and desks. Such areas are subject to random searches by school personnel at any time. Personal items such as pencil pouches and bookbags may also be searched, if necessary given the situation.

Wellness Policy



UCC STUDENT RIGHTS

Students shall have the right to:

- Study controversial issues which are thought-provoking and have political, economic, and/or social significance which are age appropriate and related to the instructional goals of the approved curriculum or course of study.
- Have free access to all relevant information including materials dealing with community issues.
- Study in a classroom environment that minimizes bias and prejudice and encourages open mindedness in a scholarly pursuit.
- Have the guidance of a teacher who:
 - Is impartial and objective in his or her presentation;
 - Selects materials suitable to the range, knowledge, maturity, and competence of the student and consistent with the curriculum being taught in the classroom and focus of the class;
 - Avoids posting advocacy or politically sensitive and polarizing symbols/objects/posters in the classroom, as such actions can undermine the perceived impartiality and objectiveness of a teacher;
 - Provides information and/or data concerning all aspects of the issues under discussion;
 - Teaches students how to think and not what to think;
 - Creates an environment where students form and respectfully express their own opinions on thought-provoking issues without thereby jeopardizing the relationship with the staff member or the school.
 - Expresses opinions but informs students it is his or her own opinion and not an authoritative answer and only after the teacher provides the student the opportunity to study and learn about the topic so that that they have the opportunity to form their own opinion; and
 - Treats religious, moral, and ethical values and attitude with respect and sensitivity.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF UCC STUDENTS

All UCC students are expected to be respectful, responsible and safe at all times in all areas of our school building and in any part of the UCC campus.

Respect includes but is not limited to the following:

- Listening to adults and following their directions immediately.
- Using appropriate language, volume, and tone.
- Keeping your hands and feet to yourself.
- Observing personal bubble space of others.
- Keeping space around you and school clean.

Responsibility includes but is not limited to the following:

- Listening and participating actively.
- Staying in your assigned seat.
- Cleaning up after yourself including picking up trash.
- Going straight to your destination.
- Using equipment (including Chromebooks) correctly.

Safety includes but is not limited to the following:

- Keeping your hands and feet to yourself.
- Walking to move locations within the building.
- Walking on the right side of the hallway and stairs.
- Walking and exiting in an orderly fashion.



STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The United Community Center and our UCC schools provide a safe and structured environment to promote student's academic and social development. UCC's disciplined environment contributes to the academic success of students. Our goal as a staff is to work with parents to encourage and teach each student to take responsibility for making good decisions about their behavior. A disciplinary offense is a violation of the Code of Conduct that occurs while the student is at school and/or on school grounds (including the United Community Center) or participating in a school-sponsored activity. Code of Conduct infractions include:

- **Disrupting the School Environment:**
 - **Arriving late to school and Class:** Student tardiness disrupts class, inconveniences others and often results in academic difficulties. If a student arrives late they will need to serve a silent detention on the same day.
 - **Interrupting Class, Not Participating, and/or Preventing Teaching:** UCC can only fulfill its education goals if classrooms are safe and teaching is uninterrupted. Students may not disrupt the classroom. Behavior that disrupts the educational instruction consistently may result in a referral, detention, or suspension depending on the basis.
 - **Arriving at Class Unprepared:** When class begins, students must be prepared and have all necessary materials (books, pens, paper, homework, assignment notebook, etc.) Students will use their lockers twice a day; in the morning and around the lunch hour. Students will not be allowed to go to their lockers during class to retrieve homework or other class material.
 - **Failing to Complete Homework:** Completing homework is essential to the success of individual students and the classroom community. Teachers will discuss expectations for homework completion in each class. Incomplete homework will result in a lunch detention.
 - **Misbehaving inside or outside of Class:** Misbehaving inside or outside of class is not permitted. This includes any school sponsored activity/field trip including bus rides. Classroom rules and expectations are established by teachers and need to be followed. Continuously not following classroom rules and expectations may result in silent lunch detention, suspension and/or expulsion.
- **Skipping School, Class, Detention, Extended Day, or Mandatory School Event:**
Students are required to attend and participate in all classes, detention, and extended day programs if assigned and school events. Students are not permitted to have unexcused absences, skip any part of a class/school day or leave the school building early. Violation of this policy can result in a detention or suspension.
- **Violating the Dress Code:**
Students are expected to be properly dressed for school according to the dress code. Parents may be asked to bring the proper clothing to school if such infraction occurs. Repeated dress code violations may result in a silent lunch detention.
- **Gum, Food, and Beverage:**
Students may not chew gum or eat or drink at unauthorized times or places. UCC is committed to promoting healthy living; therefore, students cannot bring chips that are not part of a bagged lunch or soda to school. Hot chips of any kind including Hot Cheetos and Takis are not permitted. If a student is eating the school lunch, he/she may not bring additional items to eat. Students who bring additional items will have them confiscated by the staff. Repeated violations can result in a silent lunch detention.
- **Cheating or Copying Others Work:**
Cheating or copying is unacceptable and will result in an F for the homework and/or test. Students caught cheating will be referred to administration.



- **Failing to Submit a Required Signature and Forgery:** Students are required to secure a signature of a parent/guardian on homework/tests and red folders when requested. Forgery of signature is unacceptable and students will be referred to administration.
- **Plagiarism is** copying the work of another individual or resource, representing the work of others as his or her own, and/or submitting written materials without proper attribution or acknowledgment of the source. Students are responsible for acknowledging when they have used others' words and ideas. Since the intellectual work of others constitutes a kind of property, plagiarism is a form of theft.
- **Academic Integrity:** Students are expected to complete their own work. We do recognize peer teaching and peer learning are important and effective study strategies for students. However, giving a completed assignment to a friend is not peer teaching and copying answers is not peer learning. Unintentionally or otherwise, the student who passed on the assignment enabled cheating to occur, and has therefore committed the same violation as the person who turned in copied work. Without express consent of the classroom teacher, AI-assisted technology (for example, ChatGPT), will be included as a violation of academic integrity.
- **Being Disrespectful toward a Staff Member:**
A school cannot properly provide instruction if students are disrespectful toward adults. A student cannot be disrespectful toward a staff member or any adult associated with the school. Students may be removed from class as necessary and may be issued a suspension or parent conference.
 - **Lying to a Staff Member:** Students are not permitted to lie or attempt to conceal the truth. When asked a question, students are expected to be honest with staff members.
- **Being Disrespectful toward a Student:**
If a student does not feel physically and emotionally safe in school, teaching and learning are made more difficult. Therefore, students may not be disrespectful toward other students.
- **Possession of Inappropriate Property:**
The use of cell-phones, electronic equipment, games, printed text or lyrics that are vulgar, profane or sexually explicit, or any other items that are inappropriate for a school setting are not allowed. Such items in school will be confiscated by staff members and must be retrieved by the student's parents.
- **Assault, Battery, Bodily Harm, Inappropriate Touching, and/or Threats (in addition to other disciplinary consequences, these offenses may result in long-term suspension and/or expulsion).**
 - **Causing Bodily Harm:** Students may not cause physical injury to a student, school employee or another person.
 - **Committing Assault or Assault and Battery:** Student may not commit assault, including sexual assault, or assault and battery on a student, school employee, or another person. Assault is an attempt or threat to physically harm another person; assault does not require physical contact. Battery is any unlawful touching of another person.
 - **Fighting or Unwanted/Inappropriate Physical Contact:** UCC students may not fight with other students from UCC or any other school. Harassing, pushing, touching, or any unwanted/inappropriate physical contact is not tolerated.
 - **Play-fighting and Threatening:** Play-fighting and/or the use of threats threaten the safety of the school community. This type of physical contact is not tolerated. Use of threats include those made online through email or other internet platforms.
- **Possession or use of Firearms, Weapons, and/or Dangerous Objects (in addition to other disciplinary consequences, these offenses may result in long-term suspension and/or expulsion).**
 - **Possession or use of Firearm:** Students may not possess or use a firearm or a mock firearm.
 - **Using or Possessing a Weapon or Dangerous Object:** Students are not allowed to bring a weapon of any sort to school, use any object in a dangerous or threatening manner, or have a weapon on him/her or his/her property.
- **Harassment and Violations of Civil Rights (in addition to other disciplinary consequences, these offenses may result in long-term suspension and/or expulsion).**



- **Violating of Civil Rights of Others:** Students may not violate the civil rights of others including the right to an education.
- **Harassment and Bullying:** Students may not make unwanted sexual advances toward or commit sexual harassment of any members of the school community. Harassment or intimidation of any members of the school community on the basis of their racial or ethnic background, gender, religion, age, sexual orientation, or disability is not permitted. Bullying or intimidating another student is not acceptable. This includes verbal, written or via internet (emails, Snapchat, text messages, Facebook or other social media platforms)
- **Abusive or Profane Language or Treatment:** Students may not use abusive, threatening, vulgar, coarse, or degrading language (including racist, sexist, or homophobic remarks).
- **Extortion:** Students may not force other students to act against their own will under threat of physical harm, such as demand for money.
- **False Accusations:** Students may not make false reports regarding other students. This includes action in school and towards others online in emails or other internet platforms.
- **Theft or Vandalism:**
 - **Theft, Loss, or Destruction of Personnel or School Property:** Students may not steal, lose, or damage someone else's property or school property. In addition to facing other consequences for violation of this rule, students are expected to return property to its rightful owner in its original condition or to reimburse the owner and/or the school for lost, damaged or stolen property. Such acts may result in detention or suspension.
 - **Mistreatment or Inappropriate use of Technology or School Property:** Students must treat computers, printers, and other technology with care. Students do not have the right to use school computers to access chat rooms or email or to access web sites or files that contain profanity, sexually explicit language or pictures, excessively violent themes, and/or other material inappropriate for minors. Any use of the computer in an inappropriate way towards another student or staff member may result in consequences from the school. Students must not mistreat other school property including lockers, desks and restrooms.
 - **Accessing the Accounts of Another Student:** *Attempting to access or login to the account of another student is a form of theft. Students are responsible for protecting their academic and personal materials, and this includes ensuring their login information remains private and not sharing this information with peers.*
 - **DO NOT SHARE YOUR LOG-IN INFORMATION.** *Sharing your password and log-in information with others implies consent to access your academic and personal materials. You have the responsibility to protect your academic and personal materials. Due to this responsibility, you are allowing and/or enabling cheating by sharing your password and log-in information with others. You will be held to the same standard as the person who copied your work.*
 - **Vandalism:** Students cannot maliciously or intentionally cause damage to school property or property of others. This includes situations in which minor damage can be repaired or replaced at no cost to the school. Students will be required to pay for replacing or repairing the damage. This may result in detention, suspension or expulsion.
- **Possession, Use, or Distribution of Controlled Substances, Alcohol, and Tobacco**
 - **Using, Possessing and/or Distributing Drugs or Alcohol:** Students may not use or possess any non-prescribed controlled substance, narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, tobacco, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind. Violation of this policy may result in suspension or recommendation for expulsion by the school administration.
 - **Possession of drug paraphernalia:** Students may not have any drug paraphernalia on school grounds. Drug paraphernalia includes equipment, products and materials of any kind which are used, intended for use, or designed for drug use. This includes any images or printed materials with images of drugs/controlled substances or materials/products associated with drug use. Violation of this policy may result in suspension or recommendation for expulsion by the school administration.
 - **Prescribed and over the-counter drugs:** must be delivered to the School's Health Center or Office by a parent or guardian.



DISCIPLINE POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Our UCC schools are committed to providing a safe and supportive learning environment for all students and staff members. We recognize that dealing with severe student behaviors can present challenges and prevent our teaching staff from focusing on instruction and supporting students academically. We are dedicated to ensuring the safety and well-being of our staff while managing these situations effectively.

Discipline is the positive direction of behavior toward established standards of conduct, fully understood and based upon reason, judgment, and consideration of the rights of others. Ideal discipline is self-directed and self-controlled. Schools, community, and parents share the responsibility for helping students develop self-discipline. When self-control falters and self-discipline fails, disciplinary forces from outside the individual must be imposed to protect the rights of others and to ensure uninterrupted instruction by teachers for students.

Levels of disciplinary action include but are not limited to the following:

1. Discussion with classroom teacher or school staff member regarding student behavior
2. Temporary removal from the classroom environment for discussion with a school administrator or counselor
3. Conference with the student and/or parent
 - a. Administrators will hold a meeting with students and/or parents when deemed necessary. Parents will be contacted via phone, email, or ClassDojo to schedule a meeting to discuss disciplinary concerns.
4. In-school detention
 - a. Students will be separated from classmates during lunch time in another location (main office or empty classroom) to be supervised by an assigned teacher or administrator. Parents will be notified via phone, email or ClassDojo about detentions.
5. Suspension
6. Expulsion

Suspension

Procedures for imposing out-of school suspensions will include:

1. The Principal, or his or her designee, will hold a conference with the student before a decision is made for suspension. The Principal will inform the student that s/he is considering a suspension and the reasons for the suspension. The student shall be given an opportunity to deny or explain the circumstances. If the administration feels that the student's presence is of immediate danger of disrupting the School's orderly operation or the health and safety of the student or others, suspension could occur without a conference. In this case, parents/guardian or emergency contacts will be notified before the student is sent home.
2. If a suspension is imposed, the School shall notify the parents/guardians in writing that the student has been suspended, the reason(s) for the suspension, the dates of the suspension, and the appeal procedure. The notice will be sent home with the student (and emailed or mailed if required). Where possible, notification also shall be provided by telephone if the School has been provided with a contact number for the parents/guardians.
3. Suspended students cannot enter the School property at any time during the suspension or participate in any school activities without prior authorization of the Principal or designee.
4. Suspensions are limited to a maximum of ten school days, *(if a notice of an expulsion hearing has been sent, the suspension can be extended for no more than a total of 15 consecutive school days).*



5. Suspended students are given the opportunity to take any quarterly, semester, or grading period examinations, or to complete coursework missed during the suspension period.
6. Parents/guardians may appeal a suspension as set forth in Section 3.1(12)(f)2 below.

Expulsion

Procedures for expulsion will include:

1. If the Principal, or his or her designee, determines that the student's conduct merits expulsion, the Principal or his or her designee, may impose a suspension, or extend a current suspension, for up to a total of 20 school days.
2. During the suspension period, the School shall notify the parent(s) and/or guardian(s) in writing that the student is being considered for expulsion, has been suspended in connection with an expulsion determination, list the reason(s) for the expulsion consideration, the dates of the suspension and expulsion conference and the appeal procedure. The notice will be mailed to the student's parent or legal guardian.
3. Within the suspension period, the Principal will offer to hold a conference with the student and his or her parents/guardian, where the student shall be given an opportunity to deny or explain the circumstances.
4. If expulsion is imposed, the School shall notify the parents/guardians in writing that the student is expelled, the reason(s) for the expulsion, the effective date of the expulsion, and the appeal procedure.
5. Expelled students cannot enter the School property or participate in any school activities at any time without prior authorization of the Principal or designee.
6. Parents/guardians may appeal an expulsion as set forth in Section 3.1(12)(f)3 below.

Conduct warranting suspension or expulsion

Conduct for which a student may be suspended or expelled, includes not abiding by **any of the previous items in the Code of Conduct**, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Knowingly conveying any threat or false information concerning an attempt or alleged attempt being made or to be made to destroy any School or UCC property by means of explosives.
2. Conduct by the student while at School or while under the supervision of a School authority that endangers the property, health or safety of others.
3. Conduct while not at School or while not under the supervision of a School authority that endangers the property, health or safety of others at School or under the supervision of a school authority or endangers the property, health or safety of any employee or School board member of the School, Education Committee or UCC Board member.
4. Chronic classroom disruption
5. Chronic disruption or violation of school rules
6. Gang posturing which provokes an altercation
7. Involvement in gang fight- exchange of blows
8. Verbal abuse and use of profanity
9. Verbal abuse and harassment
10. Sexual harassment
11. Bullying
12. Fighting- physical exchange



13. Assault
14. Hazing
15. Reckless vehicle use
16. Battery
17. Extortion
18. Robbery
19. Sexual assault
20. False fire alarms
21. Possession/ownership/use of a weapon other than a gun
22. Bomb threats
23. Possession/ownership/use of a gun
24. Vandalism
25. Possession of stolen of property
26. Theft
27. Burglary
28. Arson
29. Possession/ownership/use of alcohol and/or tobacco
30. Possession/ownership/use of illegal drugs
31. Possession with intent to distribute illegal drugs/alcohol/prescribed medication

Appeals

Appeal Process for Disciplinary Action:

1. **In-School Disciplinary Actions.** Should a parent or guardian disagree with disciplinary action of the School, other than suspensions or expulsions, the parent/guardian may appeal to the Principal by arranging an appointment with or by writing to the Principal. The Principal shall respond to the appeal in writing within three (3) days of receipt by the parent. The Principal's decision is final.
2. **For Suspension.** Parents may make a formal appeal, in writing, to the Principal. The appeal must outline the reasons for appealing the disciplinary action. The appeal must be made within three (3) school days of the notice of disciplinary action. A conference that includes School Administration will be scheduled within five (5) school days of receipt of the appeal. The Principal will issue his/her decision on appeal in writing within fifteen (15) school days of his/her conference with the parents/guardians. If the parents/guardians are dissatisfied with the Principal's decision on appeal, they may appeal to the UCC Director of Academics in writing within two (3) school days. A parent/guardian conference with the UCC Director of Academics will take place within a reasonable time. All decisions of the UCC Director of Academics on suspension shall be in writing and are final.
3. **For Expulsion.** Parents/guardians may appeal an expulsion within three (3) school days of receiving notification of the expulsion being issued. This appeal may be made to the Principal by providing a written appeal statement. A conference that includes school administration will be scheduled within ten (10) school days of receipt of the appeal. The principal will issue his or her decision on appeal in writing within three (3)



school days of his or her conference with the parents/guardians. If parents/guardians are dissatisfied with the Principal's decision, they may request a disciplinary expulsion hearing before the UCC Director of Academics & Technology, which will be held within fifteen (15) school days of the request. The UCC Director of Academics/Schools will provide written notice of the hearing to the parent/guardian, including the particulars of the student's alleged conduct upon which the expulsion proceeding is based; the grounds for expulsion; the time and place of the hearing; and that the Director shall keep written minutes of the hearing. All decisions of the Director of Academics & Technology on expulsion shall be in writing, shall state the specific findings of fact and conclusions in support of the decision, and are final.

Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities may be disciplined in accordance with applicable state and federal law.

Wis. Stat. 118.31, which prohibits corporal punishment of pupils, shall apply to the Charter School.



EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Extracurricular activities are those which involve competition between schools. Our UCC Schools offer the following athletics to students, but availability of each activity is limited to certain grade levels. Information regarding athletics will be shared with families throughout the year, and [is also available on our UCC Schools Athletic Department website.](#)

- Fit Kids (2nd & 3rd Grade)
- Cross Country (September - October)
- Flag Football (September - October)
- Volleyball (September - October)
- Boys Basketball (October - December)
- Girls Basketball (January - February)
- Boys Soccer (March - May)
- Girls Soccer (March - May)

Extra-Curricular Participant Expectations

As stated above, participation in extracurricular activities is considered a privilege and not a right. Student participants are to adhere to all school expectations, rules and regulations both at school and at away events. Students who participate in extracurricular activities are representatives of UCC and are expected to project our school in a positive light. As representatives of our school, students are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible manner at all times. Student participants who violate either school or extracurricular activity rules will be subject to appropriate consequences, including removal from an extracurricular activity, as determined by the athletic director and/or building principal.

Registration/Physical

All paperwork and fees must be submitted prior to participation in any extra-curricular activity. Those students who do not have the necessary paperwork and fees turned in will not be allowed to participate. Students will also need appropriate physical documentation and for some athletics, concussion testing that is completed during practice times.

Sportsmanship

All extracurricular participants are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship and display proper conduct at all times. This includes practices, home and away events, travel to and from contests and while at school and school-sponsored events. Participants are expected to be encouraging and supportive of their fellow participants, demonstrate respect to coaches, other athletes, opposing teams and spectators.

Code of Conduct

In addition to sportsmanship, participants in extracurricular activities are expected to abide by proper behavior and conduct. Participants are expected to be truthful, respectful, comply with school expectations, rules and regulations, refrain from inappropriate language, inappropriate behaviors such as violations of the law, (including but not limited



to possession and/or use of alcohol, tobacco or controlled substances not prescribed by a physician) and behavior which could reasonably be considered detrimental to the school and/or extra curricular program. Participants represent UCC and are expected to do so in a manner that reflects positively on our school. Certain events with more than one team, such as basketball and volleyball, when one team is playing and the other team is not, the students whose team is not playing are expected to remain seated at the direction of the coach and are cheering on their teammates.

Academic Eligibility

Academic eligibility will be reviewed every other week during each sports athletic calendar. Students who have below a 2.0 GPA or are failing two or more classes will be placed on academic probation until they provide sufficient evidence of academic improvement. As soon as students provide evidence of improved grades the probation period will end and the student may return to participate in games.

Academic Probation

Students on academic probation will be expected to use practice time to meet with teachers or work on assignments that will provide evidence of learning. While students work on their academics during the probation period, they will be ineligible to compete in school sponsored extracurricular activities. These include all interscholastic athletics and extra curricular activities.

Students who become ineligible for either academic or behavior purposes will be notified by the school administrator. Parents will be informed about the ineligibility and the process that will need to take place in order for the student to regain eligible status to participate in the sport or activity.

Attendance and Games/Practices/Events

Students who are out for an activity are expected to participate in all practices as set by the coaches and athletic director. While at practice, students are expected to give their very best effort and be encouraging to their fellow participants. Additionally, students are to display good sportsmanship and respect for coaches.

Students must attend the full school day in order to participate in practice, activity, match or game. Exceptions to this rule must have permission from the athletic director or building principal. Excuses such as family emergencies, doctor/dentist appointments are examples of legitimate excuses that need to have written documentation.

Those students who do not attend school due to illness will not be allowed to participate in any practice, game or event. Students who are legitimately sick should not be in school. Students who are too ill to attend a full school day are considered to be too ill to participate in extracurricular activities.

Students whose behavior warrants time in office may have consequences which may include not participating in practice or game/event. School detentions and/or suspensions will not be rescheduled in order to accommodate an athletic schedule. Exceptions to this will be at the discretion of the activities director and building principal.

Disciplinary Procedures

It is our expectation that all participants in extracurricular activities do their very best, behave in an appropriate manner, and have fun. However, students who have difficulty adhering to school and team expectations have a responsibility to reflect and make adjustments as a result of their behavior. In order to emphasize this responsibility, the following consequences will result for students who do not demonstrate appropriate behavior.



Students whose behavior warrants an office referral could be ineligible or lose the privilege of participating in specific athletics or activities. Depending on the severity of the referral, loss of playing time or being in-active for a game could be a possibility. Students receiving multiple office referrals during the athletic season could lose the privilege of participating for the remainder of the season, as determined by the principal.

Any student who violates the extra-curricular code will automatically become ineligible for any awards that they would have been eligible for at the end of the year.

Closed Practices

Practices are for coaches and players and therefore, closed to the general public. Parents, relatives and friends are welcome to observe with permission of the coach.

Tobacco, Drugs and Alcohol

Students participating in any extracurricular activities will refrain from possessing or using any type of drugs (other than those prescribed by a physician), tobacco, e-cigarettes/vape pens or alcohol. Students in the possession or under the influence of any of the aforementioned substances will lose the privilege of participating in extracurricular activities.