Upper Moreland Primary School
Upper Moreland School District
3980 Orangemans Road
Hatboro, PA 19040
(215) 325-1400

SUSAN SMITH, PRINCIPAL
LESLIE DJANG, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
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Absentee Line (215) 325-1403

District Emergency Answering Service (215) 830-1508

School Closing Numbers
School Closed 310
One Hour Delayed Opening 5-310
Two Hour Delayed Opening 6-310
Website: www.umtsd.org
Welcome to the School District of Upper Moreland Township

Our Mission

Upper Moreland School District, in partnership with the community, will provide each student with educational opportunities for developing the knowledge, skills, and behaviors necessary for excellence and success as contributing members of society.
Dear Parents:

The purpose in developing the Primary School handbook is to provide you with relevant information concerning school regulations, practices and activities. To assure you of the maximum educational benefit for your children, it is imperative that all pupils follow established rules, regulations and procedures. Proper decorum on the part of the student body is essential in assuring students the best possible educational school environment in which to learn.

Our hope here at the Primary School is that your child has an enjoyable learning experience in the elementary school years. Close cooperation and communication between the home and school are a vital ingredient toward achieving this goal.

In addition to the information in this booklet, you will be receiving various announcements throughout the year to help keep you informed of school activities. Feel free to let us know how we can improve this handbook for the future, and don't hesitate to contact the school office.

Sincerely,

Susan Smith
Principal
ABSENCE NOTES
A written excuse note, signed by the child’s parent or guardian, stating the reason for the student’s absence must be given to the classroom teacher upon the child’s return to school. A written excuse note must be presented for each absence within 3 school days after returning to school. Failure to do so will result in the absence being coded as unexcused. E-mailed excuse notes are not acceptable. A “Note to School” template is available to print.

ABSENTEE LINE: Parents are expected to call the absentee line to report their child’s absence. The number is (215) 325-1403.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE
Students who have been assigned bussing are urged to ride their assigned bus to and from school to help minimize car traffic around the school. Students in grades kindergarten through 5th grade are not permitted to ride bicycles to school. Walkers are to stay on sidewalk areas and obey school personnel.

Procedures for Bus Unloading/Loading Zone – FRONT LOOP OF PRIMARY SCHOOL
- ALL PRIMARY & INTERMEDIATE bus students will unload and load in the front loop of the Primary School. Absolutely no car traffic is permitted in the bus zone at arrival/dismissal times. No vehicles will be permitted in this area during the school day. Supervisory personnel will be on duty in the bus zone to assist child(ren) when unloading the buses and ensure their safety into the building.
- At dismissal, school personnel will be on duty throughout the hallways and in the bus loading area to assist students and ensure their safety.
- For safety and security reasons, parents, guardians, and visitors are not permitted in the hallways or in the bus loading zone area at any time.

Procedures for Car Riders – REAR OF THE PRIMARY SCHOOL
If you did not choose “car rider” as a transportation dismissal option for your child(ren) on a daily basis, a note is required on the day your child (ren) will be a car rider. Please do not call the main office during the school day to change your child(ren)’s dismissal procedure.

The following procedures have been established for car riders for ALL PRIMARY & INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL STUDENTS:
- At arrival, cars are to follow and obey all traffic signs and/or directions of posted personnel along the car drop off area in the rear of the building. The drop off/pick up area in the rear of the building is clearly marked and designed for single lane, one-way traffic only.
- Cars are not permitted to park in the turn through or pass another vehicle. Supervisory personnel will be on duty to assist students in exiting vehicles.
- A “Kiss and Drop” procedure will be used; that is, parents remain in their vehicle, say goodbye to their child(ren), and pull away after supervisory personnel help their child(ren) move safely away from the vehicle.
- Children may not exit or enter any vehicle in the drop off/pick up area without the assistance of school personnel.
- Children will only exit or enter vehicles along the sidewalk nearest the school building. No vehicles are to be left unattended in the car rider drop off/pick up area. Parents who need to come into the schools must park their vehicle either in the Primary or Intermediate front parking lot areas. For safety reasons no one is permitted to cross or walk through bus unloading/loading traffic. Please wait until the area is clear of bus traffic before attempting to
enter the building. The car drop off area behind the school will be closed at 8:35 AM. Any vehicle that tries to enter the car drop off area at 8:35 AM will be directed to go to the parking areas in front of either the Primary School or Intermediate School where the vehicle will have to be parked in a parking spot – not the bus loop – and the child(ren) escorted by their parent or guardian may enter at the appropriate school entrance. If it is after 8:40 AM the child(ren) escorted by the parent/guardian must report to the appropriate school office for a late pass. Students are to be in their classrooms at 8:40 AM to begin the school day.

- At dismissal, supervisory personnel will take the last name of the “family vehicle” as they arrive in the car loading area.
- All car riders will be supervised in the building while waiting for their last name to be announced.
- Car riders will be dismissed from the building in the order that cars arrive in the car loop.
- Supervisory personnel will escort students to their family vehicles and assist them in getting in cars.
- As loaded cars pull away, remaining cars are to pull forward to be loaded.
- No parent/guardian is permitted to leave their vehicle in the car loading zone to come into the building.
- If a vehicle is “holding up” the dismissal process because their child (ren) has not reported to the vehicle when announced, the vehicle will need to move from the car loading zone and drive around to the end of the car line to repeat the process.
- No vehicles may be left in the car loading zone unattended.

**Arrival Procedures for Walkers for the Primary and Intermediate Schools**

ALL walkers from the Preston Road area will enter the main entrances of their school building – Primary or Intermediate on arrival. Students and parents must stay on the sidewalk areas at all times and not walk through or around arriving buses.

ALL walkers from the Reiniger neighborhood are to enter the rear entrance of the Intermediate School at the end of the walking path. Primary school students will be directed/escorted to their classrooms at the Primary School.

**Dismissal Procedures for Walkers for the Primary and Intermediate Schools**

ALL walkers from the Preston Road area will be dismissed from the exit on the side of the Intermediate School. Parents/guardians/caregivers are asked to meet the children at the Preston Road crosswalk and not at the building.

ALL walkers from the Reiniger neighborhood will be dismissed at the Intermediate School exit. Parents/guardians/caregivers asked to meet the children at the entrance of the neighborhood and not at the building.

To ensure the safety of all Preston and Reiniger Road walkers, school personnel will need to positively identify parents/caregivers picking up walkers. Parents/guardians will complete a walker dismissal form and list the individuals permitted to escort their children home.

Dismissal to Just Like Home Day Care – A day care staff member will walk the students to the entrance in the morning. The students will be picked up at the flag pole by a staff member at the end of the day.

**PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF REINIGER & PRESTON ROAD AREA WALKERS PLEASE NOTE –** If you should decide to pick your child up by car on inclement weather days, a note will be required to the appropriate school office in the morning to release your child to the car line at dismissal time. Please be sure to follow the procedures outlined for car riders listed above. In cooperation with the Upper Moreland Police Department, at arrival and dismissal times, students may not enter or exit vehicles in any area other than the established car rider zone in the rear of the Primary building. For the safety of our students this will be strictly enforced.
**If your child is assigned a bus then they are considered a “bus rider” not a walker.** We strongly encourage parents not to change children's dismissal procedures as it causes confusion for your child and their teacher. The school does not get involved in “play dates”. “Play dates” should be arranged between parents and guardians after school. *If your child is assigned a bus and you would like to walk them home from school, a note must be sent into school in the morning and a parent/guardian or another adult indicated on the note must come into the school office to sign the child out at dismissal time to release liability from the UM School District.* If you live in a neighborhood across Byberry Road, it should be noted that it is posted that walkers must cross at the traffic light located at the intersection of Orangemans and Byberry Roads.

**Arrival/Dismissal Procedures for Students who Ride Daycare or School Bus Mini Vans**

Primary and Intermediate School students who ride **daycare or school bus mini vans** will be dropped off/picked up in the Intermediate School parking lot. Appropriate personnel will be there to assist children.

**PARENTS WHO BRING LATE STUDENTS TO SCHOOL MUST PARK THEIR CAR IN THE FRONT PARKING LOTS OF EITHER THE PRIMARY OR INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL AND ESCORT THEIR CHILD(REN) TO THE APPROPRIATE MAIN OFFICE.**  **PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE BUS LOOP.**

Our safety and traffic procedures will be carefully monitored and adjusted if necessary. They have been established for the safety of our students – not for convenience. We thank our families in advance for their cooperation, support, and patience in helping to provide safe and orderly arrival and dismissal procedures for our students.

**ASSEMBLIES**

Through the generosity of the Home and School Association, the Primary School has been able to schedule an exciting series of assemblies.

**ATTENDANCE**

Regular school attendance is required for all students enrolled in the school during the days and hours that the school is in session. The board considers the following conditions to constitute reasonable cause for absence from school:

1) Personal illness
2) Quarantine of the individual or home
3) Death in the immediate family
4) Educational trips will be considered by the building principal on a case by case basis. In reviewing a request for an educational trip, the building principal will confer with the Superintendent of Schools and will follow these guidelines:
   - Educational trips will not be approved during school testing periods. Days off during these periods will be considered unexcused.
   - Educational trips will not be approved for trips that would typically be considered as a “vacation” if taken at times of the year when school is not in session. Such “vacation” trips would typically include destinations such as amusement parks, theme parks, travel to resorts. If not approved days taken off will be considered unexcused.
   - Educational trips will not be approved for the students with a history of unexcused absences and/or unexcused lateness to school. If not approved, days taken off will be considered unexcused.
5) Exceptional, urgent reasons – must pertain to student
6) Religious holiday
7) Suspension from school
8) Required court appearance
9) In the case of exceptional student (special education), where absence is caused by or directly related to the student's exceptionality
10) Religious instruction – at the written request of a parent, students may be excused for up to 36 hours of religious instruction per year
Please refer to the Code of Conduct for a further discussion regarding attendance regulations. The district firmly believes that there is a high correlation between class attendance and student achievement. The majority of what is learned in school involves direct instruction by a teacher, the interaction between teacher and student, and the interaction between students. These activities occur in school and are missed by a student who is absent from school. What is missed cannot be made up through homework or extra assignments. Therefore, if a student is absent three consecutive days, the teacher will refer the student’s name to the office for further investigation. Following each absence, parents are to provide a written excuse note indicating the reason for the child’s absence.

Unexcused absences include such reasons as “*missing the bus*” or failure to provide a written excuse note within 3 days of the child’s absence. Chronic or excessive unexcused absences may lead to citation hearings scheduled by the District Magistrate.

### Attendance - Unexcused Absences

Chronic absenteeism has been associated with negative educational and life outcomes in adulthood for students. Attendance in school is crucial. On November 3, 2016, truancy legislation was enacted by Pennsylvania lawmakers to deter truancy “through a comprehensive approach to consistently identify and address attendance issues as early as possible with credible intervention techniques.”

Truancy Definitions:
- **Truant**: a child subject to compulsory school laws having three or more school days of unexcused absences during the current school year.
- **Habitual Truancy**: a child subject to compulsory school laws having six or more school days of unexcused absences during the current school year. These absences do not need to run consecutively.

In accordance with Pennsylvania law and regulations, the School District of Upper Moreland has adopted the following procedures to inform and work with parents/guardians of their child(ren)’s unexcused absences:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>What</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Unexcused Absence</td>
<td>Phone Call Home</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Unexcused Absence</td>
<td>Email/Mail home the Third Illegal Absence Letter to notify parents/guardians of the students’ absences</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th-9th Unexcused Absence</td>
<td>Convene the School Attendance Improvement Plan (SAIP) conference to address barriers to attending school regularly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th Unexcused Absence</td>
<td>Complete the referral for truancy court intervention</td>
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* Family trips or vacations cannot be considered as an excused absence. School districts are held highly accountable for student attendance. As with any absence from school, students are required to make up all missed work which must be submitted to the classroom teacher within one week of return from the trip.
Parents may request assignments for students who are absent by calling the school no later than 10:00 AM for same-day pickup. Homework may be picked up at 2:55 PM.

BIKERS
No students are permitted to ride bicycles to the Primary School.

BIRTHDAY TREATS
The Upper Moreland Primary School recognizes that all birthdays are very special for children. Students have their birthdays announced and receive a birthday crown from the principal. Birthdays are recognized in the classroom. This is truly a small window of time to acknowledge the birthday. Parents do not attend these celebrations. Due to the increased number of students with potentially life threatening food allergies, ALL EDIBLE BIRTHDAY TREATS MUST BE ORDERED THROUGH THE CAFETERIA. Our Cafeteria is aware of food allergies in classrooms and will be sure to provide a different snack for children with food allergies. Cupcakes, soft pretzels, apple slices, etc. are available from our Cafeteria. The Food Services Department asks that you order a week prior to your child’s birthday. If you would like to order birthday treats go to the UMSD Online Fee Payment Center on the [www.umtsd.org](https://www.umtsd.org) website and select classroom catering to place your order and pay at time order is placed. **We will no longer allow edible birthday treats from the outside.** Another option for families to celebrate your child’s birthday is by: Donating a favorite book with your child’s name inside for the classroom or library or sending in a pencil and/or non-edible token for each child in the classroom. Balloons, flowers or deliveries of any kind are not permitted.

The office and classroom teachers are frequently asked to provide names and addresses for out of school birthday celebrations. Please note that the office and teachers are not permitted to release this type of information. Through your H.S.A. Student Activity Fee you can receive and include your name and address in the school directory. Again, note that not all families choose to include their personal information and the school must respect privacy. If you choose to send invitations into school for a teacher to disperse, invitations must be for all the girls in the class, or all the boys in the class, or the entire class. Please do not write names on the envelopes/invitations to allow easy distribution for the teacher and so there are no hurt feelings for students. The office or the teacher can help you with how many students there are in a class. Please remember to include your RSVP information so parents can respond and you will then be able to compile a list of names of those who wish to participate in your child’s out of school birthday celebration.

BUS TRANSPORTATION, RULES, AND REGULATIONS
It’s strongly suggested that all students ride their assigned bus. We ask that parents refrain from driving their child to/from school due to safety concerns. Children who ride buses are expected to conduct themselves in such a manner as not to endanger themselves, their peers, or the safe operation of the bus. A student may be suspended from bus transportation by the principal or his designee for disciplinary reasons, in which case the parents are responsible for the pupil’s transportation.

**All students must ride the bus to which they have been assigned, both to and from school. Children may not change buses in order to visit friends/nor shall walkers and car riders be able to go home on buses with friends.** Arrangements for either of these situations should be made solely between parents/guardian outside of school hours and cannot involve school transportation or school personnel.

CAFETERIA
The Upper Moreland School District provides Before Care Breakfast, Breakfast, and Lunch each day in the café. School meals and menus are planned by the district’s Director of Food Services to fulfill nutritional requirements as specified by the federal and state regulations. A school lunch includes the following 5 food choices: 1. Meat/meat
alternate choice (egg, cheese, beef, and poultry), 2. low fat/fat-free milk, 3. fruits, 4. vegetables and 5. whole grain breads and rice. In order for a meal to be considered a complete meal, the student must select 3 of the 5 food options one of which MUST be a ½ cup fruit and/or vegetable. Please refer to the menu posted on the district website www.umtsd.org/menus to review items offered. All items are available daily for purchase by children who bring their lunch, items sold individually will be charged as a la carte pricing. Healthy snacks are also available daily for purchase during their lunchtime.

Families are encouraged to make payments by creating an account on www.schoolcafe.com or by dropping off cash or a check made out to the UMTSD Food Services Department and noting the student full name and ID number to the central administrative building at 2900 Terwood Road. Applications for free/reduced priced school meals are available at this link, or go directly to www.schoolcafe.com to apply online. Applications can be updated anytime if your income or household size changes. Until notice of approval for free or reduced lunch has been received, parents are responsible for providing lunch or money to purchase lunch. For more information, please contact Randi Mongiello, Director of Food Services, at 215-830-1522.

CALENDAR
Each family will receive a district calendar during the first week of school. Please note the schedule of holidays and special school events listed on the calendar. Primary School events and information are always available on our website.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS – WITHDRAWAL
It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to notify the school office of any change in address or telephone numbers. In the event a child is moving out of the community, a note must be submitted to the office stating the reason for the withdrawal and when the anticipated move will transpire. In order for school records to be forwarded to the new school, it is necessary for parents to sign a release form in the school office prior to withdrawal. Students will be issued a transfer card on the last day of attendance. When a family moves out of the district, the child is considered a non-resident and is no longer eligible to attend the schools of Upper Moreland School District. If it is determined that a student is a non-resident, the child will not be allowed to return to school, and a bill will be issued for the days which the child attended as a non-resident. For more information, please refer to School Board Policy: Number 202; Section: Pupils.

CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY
The Board charges each student in the schools of this district with responsibility for the proper care of school property and the school supplies and equipment entrusted to his/her use. If books (library, math family handbooks, etc.) are not returned by the end of the school year, families will be charged the cost of the book(s). Report cards will be held until the books or money is received.

Students who willfully cause damage to school property shall be subject to disciplinary measures. Students and others who damage or deface school property will be prosecuted and punished under law. Parents and guardians of students shall be held accountable for student actions. The board will report to parents/guardians and the appropriate juvenile authorities any student whose damage to school property has been serious or chronic in nature.

CHARACTER EDUCATION
Students at Upper Moreland Primary School are taught the virtues of Respect, Responsibility, Honesty and Caring. Opportunities for students to demonstrate the use of these virtues is on-going through daily classroom practices and special school and community related activities.
CHILD ABUSE
The Board is concerned with the physical and mental well-being of students and directs that the district will cooperate in the identification and reporting of cases of child abuse in accordance with the law.

COURT ORDERS
Parents/Guardians who have court orders designating special situations such as custody arrangements are required to notify the school and to provide the school office with a copy of the most current court order to keep on file. All court orders and changes to court orders are to be signed by a judge in order for the school to legally abide by them. Verbal statements or hand written notes from parents regarding custody arrangements, in the absence of court orders, cannot be followed.

For special school events in which parents are invited, we request that parents who have court ordered custody arrangements notify the school if a non-custodial parent will be attending the function.

DISCIPLINE
The staff of the Primary School recognizes the need to maintain an atmosphere conducive to teaching and learning. Students and parents share with the school's staff a responsibility to develop a climate within the school that encourages a positive learning environment. The Code of Conduct sets forth guidelines on the responsibilities of students and behavior management. The “Stop and Think” program is implemented throughout the school and seeks to encourage children to use appropriate social skills.

A list of student responsibilities is included in the Code of Conduct and in this Handbook. It is very important that parents take the time to review and discuss them with their children. After such a review and discussion are held, the signature page is to be removed, signed by the parent, student, and returned to the teacher.

Disciplinary consequences will follow those students whose behavior disrupts the educational process or who present danger to the health, safety and welfare of the school community. Discipline problems occur for a variety of reasons and in varying degrees of frequency and severity. Because of this, a step-by-step approach to student discipline is not presented here. The actual sequence of disciplinary actions will vary, depending on the individual case.

DISMISSAL OF INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS DURING SCHOOL HOURS
Parents should make every effort to schedule appointments for their children outside of the instructional day. However, there may be times when students must be excused from school during the school hours. Students who are to be released should present their teacher with a written request from the parent/guardian upon arrival at school. The note should specify the reason for pickup and the name/relationship of the individual picking up the student. Students will only be released to parents or guardians. In situations where a parent/guardian is unable to pick up the child, individuals whose names appear on the Emergency Card on file in the school office or any other person wishing to pick up the child will have to wait for the school office personnel to make a verbal verification with the parent/guardian before the child is released. Students will be dismissed from the office only. This procedure is designed for the safety of our students and will be strictly enforced. Those signing students out from school should be prepared to show identification.
On holiday activity days and/or other special event days (Field Day, Curriculum Celebrations, Field Trips, etc.) all students are expected to be dismissed at the regular dismissal time via their normal mode of transportation. Children are not to leave any of these events with parents/guardians prior to dismissal and without office clearance.

E-COMMUNICATOR
The E-Communicator is the best way to stay in touch with what’s going on at the Primary School. Items will be posted throughout the school year via the school district website on the Internet to keep you in the know. Be sure to choose all of the categories that are of interest to you. Our goal is to have 100% participation with this important tool! You can register at http://ecom communicator. umtsd.org/lists/?p=subscribe&id=1.

EMERGENCY STUDENT INFORMATION SHEETS
Emergency student information sheets are kept for each child, providing information to assist in locating parents, the family physician or an emergency person. Please be sure to provide a local number (i.e.: a friend, neighbor, nearby relative, etc.). It is important for you to keep this information up-to-date in the school.

EMERGENCY CLOSING
Please remember that if school is in session and it is decided to close school during the day, the district phone emergency call system, One Call Now, will be started. Only phone numbers for those individuals listed as a child’s Parent or Guardian in the district’s student information system will be called. Parents and Guardians should expect to receive a phone call at the number(s) the district currently has on record for you. The numbers that will be called will be the numbers the district has listed as Home, Cell 1, and Cell 2. The school building personnel do not make the decisions regarding school closings. Therefore, it is very important the school telephone lines remain open during weather emergencies so important weather related information can be received. In addition to the One Call Now, school closing information is also made available through the Upper Moreland School District Emergency Info-Line @ 215-830-1508, cable channel 60 Bear News Network, KYW News Radio 1060 (Emergency Number 310), NBC Channel 10, WPVI Channel 6, KYW Channel 3, or Fox Network’s Channel 29, E-Communicator, and the following websites: www.kyw1060.com, www.WPVI.com, www.NBC10.com. Please do not call the school office for this information.

PLEASE NOTE: We strictly follow the dismissal option you chose and signed off on when you completed the Emergency Dismissal section of the Student Information Form if an “Emergency School Closing” is called by the Superintendent (i.e. weather, power failure, etc.), this “Emergency Dismissal” lists the emergency plan with ONE plan per family no matter what day of the week an emergency may occur. However, we do honor any written notes that are received prior to 9:00 AM in the office whether it’s a regular school day or an emergency school closing day.

EVALUATING STUDENT PERFORMANCE
Teachers evaluate students in their achievement of subject area standards. The teachers establish their expectations for the lessons taught, and they determine the evaluation that students receive for their work. Students are usually graded on competency, productivity and demonstrated performance of newly acquired skills. The evaluation grades and their general interpretations are:
EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT BEHAVIORS

At the bus stop:
   a) Students are to report to their designated neighborhood bus stop no more than 10 minutes before the assigned time.
   b) Proper dress should be worn according to weather conditions.
   c) Students are to stand at their bus stop in an orderly fashion.
   d) There are to be no physical games played while waiting at the bus stop.
   e) If there is an adult present at the stop, students are to follow their directions.
   f) There should be no playing or running in the street.
   g) Children should respect the property of residents where the bus stop is located.
   h) After school, students should go directly to their home after leaving the bus.

In the Hallways:
   a) Students are to remove hats in the building.
   b) Students are to be supervised at all times and always walk quietly and orderly in the hallways.
   c) Students are to always show respect for others and for school property.

In the Classroom:
   a) Classroom rules are established and posted in each classroom. Students are expected to follow them.
   b) Students are to respect the rights and property of others at all times.
   c) Students must always be supervised.
   d) Students are to remain in their own classrooms and be involved in appropriate activities during indoor recess periods. Running and rough play are never permitted.
   e) Students must have permission or a pass to leave the classroom for any reason.

In the Cafeteria:
   a) Be respectful, cooperative and kind.
   b) Use manners.
   c) Listen and follow all directions.
   d) Raise your hand for help or permission to leave your seat.
   e) Line up and walk through the hallways orderly going to and from the cafeteria. (Primary students are to be encouraged to use the bathroom prior to lunch and recess.)
On the Playground:
   a) Stay in the playground area at all times. No student is permitted to leave the area without permission.
   b) Play safely (rough play, climbing poles, fences, or trees are never permitted).
   c) Use playground equipment properly.
   d) Group games such as jump rope, basketball, soccer, hopscotch, kickball and wiffleball are encouraged.
   e) Physical contact games, football, hard balls, metal/wooden bats, hockey, skateboarding, and gymnastics/acrobatics are never permitted.
   f) Always listen and follow the directions of the recess assistants. (Primary students are to be encouraged to use the bathroom prior to lunch and recess.)

At the Bus Port:
   a) When getting off the bus, students are to report to the designated areas.
   b) During inclement weather, students may enter school and line up in the hallway.

EXTENDED SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM https://www.umtsd.org/Page/5739
There is a supervised program in the Cafetorium for children whose parents have an early or later work schedule. Students who need this supervision should register for the program through Amy Agriss at 215-285-0008. The program runs between 7:15 – 8:25 AM and 3:15 to 6:00 PM. You sign up for this program ahead of the school year. There is a fee for this service.

FIELD TRIPS
Field trips may be scheduled during the day when such a trip enhances the instructional program. Children must have a signed permission slip in order to participate in the activity. In the event a child does not go on the trip, he/she is required to attend school. Provision will be made for him/her in another classroom. Since field trips are scheduled in advance with various venues and group tickets must be purchased in advance, field trip monies are not refundable. In accordance with School Board Policy 231, a transportation fee will be added to the price of admission for each student, for each field trip.

FOOD / TREATS / TREAT BAGS / PARTY FAVORS / BALLOONS ETC.
Food items/treats, treat bags, party favors, balloons, drinks, etc. for the various holidays that may fall during the school year (Thanksgiving, St. Patrick’s Day, New Year, etc.) are not permitted. Mystery Readers are also asked not to bring any of the above during their visit. Students should not share their snacks/lunch with other students due to the same reason.

HEALTH SERVICES
A health conference is held with your child each year. During the conference, he/she is weighed and measured, and his/her eyes are tested. The hearing tests are administered at certain grade levels. A report is sent home if any test indicates that further medical evaluation would benefit the child.

Care given in school is limited to first aid with respect to accidents and illness until the parent can be reached to take the child home, to the doctor, or to the hospital. School nurses are prohibited by law to diagnose injuries or illness. Please do not send your child to the nurse for diagnosis. She will only observe the condition and refer your child for medical advice. Decisions regarding the need for medical care rests with the parents/guardian(s); therefore, parents/guardian(s) are always contacted to take the child home or to the doctor as the need arises. The school nurse is not permitted to leave the building.
In order to ensure the health and well being of all students attending the Primary School, we remind you **that if your child is sick, do not send them to school**. If your child has a fever or is ill, and they come to school, they are spreading germs and infecting their classmates and other children. **Children should be kept home for at least 24 hours after a temperature elevation has subsided.** This is also a good rule to follow if your child has been vomiting or has had diarrhea.

Outbreaks of infectious illness can be prevented at the Primary School by all parents keeping their sick children at home, especially in the early stages of illness.

**HOLIDAY ACTIVITY DAYS**

Three holiday activity days are scheduled for each grade level during the year:

- K, 1, and 2 activity days are scheduled for Halloween, Winter Holiday, and Valentine’s Day.
- Students will be given special treats provided by the Home and School Association.

*For the welfare and safety of our students, those parents who have been assigned as Halloween and Winter holiday activity chaperones must sign in at the office and are the only guests permitted to attend and assist with the holiday activity.*

**ALL VOLUNTEERS** must have submitted required clearances/paperwork and have approved status from the Superintendent’s Office. [https://www.umtsd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=368](https://www.umtsd.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=368)

**HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

The Upper Moreland Primary School Home and School Association is sincerely interested in the work of the school and the total program. Parents are urged to be involved and support the organization. Check the school calendar for a listing of the HSA meeting dates and times.

**HOMEWORK**

Homework assignments are designed to: enrich or extend what has been learned in the classroom, practice skills already learned, read for enrichment or enjoyment, conduct research as an outgrowth of classroom activities, and/or learn how to work independently. It is the student’s responsibility to complete and submit all homework on time. An established place should be determined for completion of homework assignments and projects. Homework should be checked daily by parents and signed daily after assignments are completed. It is vital that parents communicate with the teacher if the student is having difficulty with homework. Together the students and parents should establish a place for students to study in the home.

A good “rule of thumb” guide to use for the length of student homework assignments is: Grade 1, 10-20 minutes and Grade 2, 20-30 minutes.

Teachers may, however, assign long-range projects throughout the year. Please check your child’s homework assignment book daily.

**INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM**

The Upper Moreland School District offers a comprehensive instructional program using the best practices in primary instruction. Each year the child attends, he/she is instructed in a planned program of Literacy, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, Physical Education, Music, Art, Technology, and Library Science. A detailed overview of the instructional program is provided at our "Meet the Teacher" nights in the fall of each school year. In addition, program of studies are accessible on the www.umtsd.org website under the link titled “Curriculum”.

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KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION
Consistent with Board Policy 201, children who register for kindergarten must turn five years old on or before September 1st.

A birth certificate, immunization record, and two forms of proof of residency are required before a child may be admitted to school. Registration for enrolling children in kindergarten is held in the spring. Details will be in local newspapers, our website, and sent home in a parent information packet.

LATENESS
Any time that a student is late for school, the student must report to the school office with a note from the parent, stating the reason for the lateness. If a student is late due to a medical/dental appointment, the parent should submit a note from the doctor. A student who is consistently late disrupts the class with his/her late entrance and is missing valuable instructional time. Your cooperation is requested and expected in seeing your children arrive promptly for school. Students exhibiting a pattern of continued lateness to school may be required to make-up time. Parents will be informed about such situations and what the school is doing to help change the situation.

LIBRARY-MEDIA CENTER
The Upper Moreland School District maintains comprehensive collections of print and non-print materials to enhance the children's instructional program. The schools have a modern library for the students' use that also has opportunities for students to use technology to obtain information from the Internet. Children are scheduled to visit the library on a weekly basis to be instructed in library science and/or to do research on special projects. Pupils will be encouraged to use the library for their own pleasure as well as for resources relevant to classroom studies.

LOST AND FOUND
In the event your child loses something, he/she should always check the "lost and found" near the recess doors. Every year, many fine pieces of clothing are donated to charitable organizations because no one claimed them. It is very helpful if the children's outer garments are labeled.

School property, which is on loan to a student, is the student's responsibility. If a student loses school property, he/she will be expected to pay for the replacement of the item. Report Cards will be held until the books are returned or paid for.

MEDICAL & DENTAL EXAMINATIONS
In accordance with the School Health Act of Pennsylvania, the following medical records are required:
Medical Examination - upon original entry into school, in the 6th Grade, and in the 11th Grade.

Dental Examination - upon original entry into school, in the 3rd Grade and in the 7th Grade.

Visual Screening - in Kindergarten through 12th Grade and through teacher/parent request.

Height and Weight measurement - in each grade every year.

Hearing – Kindergarten through Grade 3 and at teacher/parent request.
MEDICINES
The administration of medicine to students by the nurse shall be authorized only in emergency cases and only upon the completion and filing of the forms giving permission for such administration of medicine, https://www.umtsd.org/Page/311 as noted by the directives of the physician and parents. All medicines must come to school in the original container and be kept in the nurse's office. Any medication to be administered to a student must be brought in by the parent/guardian. The school nurse does not carry over the counter medications to be administered to students (Tylenol, Advil, Benadryl, etc.). Medications must be labeled for “children’s use”. Adult medication will not be given unless a doctor’s note is provided.

PERSONAL ITEMS OF VALUE
Parents are urged to help their children understand that they are not to bring items of value (either monetary or sentimental) to school. This includes iPods, iPads, cell phones, or other electronic devices or toys. The district cannot be responsible for the security of such items. Therefore, students are requested to bring to school only those items that are essential for their educational activities.

PHOTOGRAPHY
Each year a photo is taken of your child for our school records. We realize that there are reasons why a family might not want their child’s picture published or shared with the public. If this applies to your situation, please feel free to write a letter to the school principal, with a copy sent to the Community Information Network at the District Administration Building. Please indicate in the letter that your child should not be photographed for the purpose of being included in a publication or videotape production. Please include your child’s name, grade, age, and homeroom teacher’s name. This request must be completed with every new school year. Of course, your wishes will be respected.

PROMOTION & RETENTION
It is the policy of the School Board that each child be moved forward in a continuous pattern of achievement and growth that is in harmony with his/her own development. Such a pattern coincides with the system of grade levels established by the School Board and the instructional objectives established for each. A student will be promoted to the succeeding grade level when he/she has completed the course requirements at the presently assigned grade and demonstrated the degree of social, emotional, and physical maturation necessary for a successful learning experience at the next level.

Communication between parents and teachers throughout the school year is crucial. Review of students' progress by our Child Study Team will help us in assessing students' performance. Every effort will be made to remediate student difficulties before he/she is retained. Parents and teachers will be involved in this team decision. The Superintendent, however, will have the final responsibility for determining the promotion or retention of each student.

RECESS
A 25 minute supervised outdoor recess period is held for all students in grades K, 1, and 2 each day before the lunch period. Please be sure your child is dressed appropriately for this outdoor recess period (coats, hats, gloves, etc.).
REPORT CARDS & CONFERENCES
Since the education of the child is of mutual concern to the parent and the school, open lines of communication are encouraged. Times are scheduled in the fall and in the spring for parents to have conferences with teachers. However, communication with parents throughout the year is essential to students’ success in school. To arrange to meet with a teacher, please write a note or call the school to set up an appointment. There are to be no “corridor conferences” or telephone conversations expected during supervisory or instructional time, which begins at 8:25 AM. Report cards are issued three times a year for students in grades K, 1, and 2.

SAFE SCHOOL DRILLS
During the school year in accordance with the law we will hold safety drills. These drills include Fire Drills, Weather Drills, Lockout Drills, Lockdown Drills, Evacuation Drills, Bus Evacuation Drills, and Active Threat Drills. These drills are designed to practice the behaviors expected during emergency situations. A fire drill requires students to leave a place of danger and go to a place of safety in the case of a fire or smoke incident. A weather drill, moves students away from windows and doors to positions of safety in case of a weather event. A lockout drill will lock all outside doors to ensure no one may enter the building. A lockdown drill requires that students are in a place of hiding within the school building. An evacuation drill requires the students to move to another building in an orderly manner. An active threat drill requires that students are ready to listen to directions and prepare to stay in place or move as determined by a nearby adult. At all times, children are expected to follow directions of the principal, assistant principal, management assistant and teachers during these drills. A district and building safety plan has been developed to ensure student and staff safety.

Safe Schools drills will be practiced regularly throughout the year. For 2018-2019, the following drills will be conducted:

Lockout Drills – These will be performed three times during the 2018-2019 school year. Students and staff members who are inside the school building will not be impacted by this drill;

Lockdown Drills – These drills will be performed twice during the first half of the 2018-2019 school year, and will involve all students, staff members and visitors. Training and guidance will be provided by the Upper Moreland Township Police Department;

Active Threat Drills – These drills will be performed twice during the second half of the 2018-2019 school year. The first such drill will include staff only. The second drill will include all students, staff members and visitors. Training and guidance will be provided by the Upper Moreland Township Police Department;

At each building, drills will be carefully designed by our Student Services staff to ensure that they are developmentally appropriate.

For 2018-2019, Lockdown and Active Threat Drills will be announced to parents and community members in advance. The Safe Schools Parents Advisory Committee will provide support in communicating with parents and community members about the drills.
SCHOOL DAY TIME SCHEDULE  8:40 AM – 2:55 PM

Parents walking students to school should not have students arrive prior to 8:25 A.M.

During the school year the school office is open daily 7:45 AM – 3:30 PM. Summer office hours are 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM. The school office is closed for all District Holidays.

SCHOOL DRESS GUIDELINES

The Board recognizes that each student’s mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference. Each student, however, is expected to demonstrate cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense of attire and appearance. Tee shirts bearing offensive and inappropriate slogans, messages, or language will not be permitted as they create disorder and disrupt the educational program at Upper Moreland Primary School. Flip flop style sandals, or sandals without back straps, and “heelys” (footwear with wheels) are a safety hazard and are not to be worn to school. Children are unable to participate safely in physical education and recess activities with this type of footwear. Children of this age group are unable to exit the building safely in the event of an emergency with this type of footwear as well.

SCHOOL DRESS GUIDELINES FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Children must wear athletic sneakers in physical education classes for safety purposes since this type of footwear provides better footing for these activities. Students may not participate in gym class unless they are wearing sneakers. Street shoes are not permitted. Students are required to wear appropriate fitting clothes/shoes (i.e. clothing should fit securely at the waist and not be dragging on the floor). Dresses, skirts, and muscle shirts are not appropriate for this program.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

This is a reminder to parents with a child or children attending school in our School District that we do not carry medical insurance on students, but do provide parents with the opportunity to select a primary group insurance plan for students. Student accident insurance can help you eliminate the possibility of out-of-pocket expenses, since many group insurance policies no longer pay full hospital and medical expenses and may require a deductible or coinsurance.

For information on the Student Accident Insurance, please visit the Website at:

STUDENT DATA

It is important that the information on student record sheets be current. New home and work telephone numbers must be made directly through the school office. Custody orders and orders of protection should be shared with the school. This information will be disseminated to appropriate personnel within the school. This information should include the name of a neighbor or relative who can assume temporary care of a child if the school cannot contact a parent.

STUDENT’S RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

All children between the ages of six and twenty-one residing in the Commonwealth are entitled to a free and full education in the schools. Commensurate with the right to a free and full education is the responsibility of the school to insure that all students receive a quality education. Students’ responsibilities are to:

- Be aware of all rules and regulations for student behavior and conduct themselves in accordance with them.
- Dress so as to meet fair standards of safety, health, and common standards of decency.
- Assume that, until a rule is waived, altered, or repealed, it is in full effect.
- Protect and take care of school’s property.
- Attend school daily, except when excused, and be on time for all classes and other school functions.
- Make all necessary arrangements for making up work when absent from school.
- Pursue and attempt to complete the course of study prescribed by state and local school authorities.
- Be aware of and comply with state and local laws.
- Assist the school staff in running a safe school for all students enrolled.

STUDENT SERVICES
The Upper Moreland School District provides a comprehensive educational program. In addition to our regular program, special education services are available for students requiring special supportive programs (Learning Support, Autistic Support, Gifted Support, Hearing/Vision Support, Physical/Occupational Therapy, and Speech/Language Therapy). A full time psychologist and guidance counselor are available at the elementary level. Each elementary building also employs reading specialists. The Director of Special Education and Student Services is available to support students and families with special needs or concerns. The Upper Moreland School District also employs a full time math coach to work closely with teachers in classrooms.

TELEPHONE
Students will be allowed to use school telephones in emergency situations only. Students may not use the school telephones to call home for homework, books, etc.

Parents are requested not to contact their children at the school unless there is an emergency. Students are not permitted to bring cell phones to school.

TRIPS AND VACATIONS
Educational trips will be considered by the building principal on a case by case basis. In reviewing a request for an educational trip, the building principal will confer with the Superintendent of Schools and will follow these guidelines:

- Educational trips will not be approved during school testing periods. Days off during these periods will be considered unexcused.
- Educational trips will not be approved for trips that would typically be considered as a “vacation” if taken at times of the year when school is not in session. Such “vacation” trips would typically include destinations such as amusement parks, theme parks, travel to resorts, or sightseeing travel. If not approved days taken off will be considered unexcused.
- Educational trips will not be approved for the students with a history of excused or unexcused absences and/or lateness to school. If not approved, days taken off will be considered unexcused.

Requests for approval must be submitted to the principal/assistant principal, in writing, a minimum of one week prior to the trip. The request must include:

- Date(s) of absence
- Destination
- A detailed statement about the educational benefits of the trip for the student.
- Absences due to family trips are included in a student’s overall attendance record. The district strongly discourages family trips and vacations during the school year.
VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL – SCHOOL SECURITY
For the protection of the children all parents and visitors to the building must use the entrance near the office to enter/exit the building and follow these procedures:

- Report immediately to the office after entering the building.
- ALL visitors will be required to present a valid driver’s license or state issued identification card to visit a campus or pick up a student during the day.
- Ask permission, sign in, and receive a Visitor’s Badge to go into any area of the building.
- Always wear the Visitor’s Badge and be sure it is visible.
- Go only to the areas where permission was granted.
- Sign out and return Visitor Badge when leaving the building.
- Never enter a classroom or area where a staff member is not present.
- Parents/Students are never permitted to return to classrooms after the teacher workday (3:15 PM) or after the teacher has left for the day to obtain forgotten items.
- If you are delivering forgotten items, birthday treats, lunches, etc., during the school day they are to be brought to the office. They will be taken to the child at a time when it does not disturb the learning process of the children.
- Persons must have complete clearances and prior approval from the office before walking in the instructional wings and/or visiting classrooms. Unnecessary interruptions disturb the learning process for all the children. In the event that a conference is desired, the office personnel will be more than happy to arrange a mutually convenient time for both teacher and parent. Thank you for your support and efforts in helping us to maintain a safe school environment.

VOLUNTEERS
Upper Moreland Township School District values the contributions made by all of its volunteers and appreciates the time and effort provided by you to support the students and staff of the school district.

The safety of the children is our number one priority and as such, the District has developed procedures for those wishing to become an approved volunteer. To ensure the safety and welfare of our students, and to comply with current applicable state and federal laws, the Upper Moreland School District has revised the procedures and requirements effective July 1, 2018. NEW and RETURNING VOLUNTEERS should click on the following link for all the revised procedures and requirements to volunteer in the Upper Moreland School District: https://www.umtsd.org/Domain/50

The requirements need to be met before anyone is permitted to volunteer in classrooms including the library, art room, and technology lab. Procedures and requirements must be met to volunteer as a class or student chaperone for field trips, mystery reader, and to work one-on-one with students through our Adult Volunteer Program. All those volunteering under the umbrella of the Primary School Home and School Association will also need to follow the procedures and requirements to become an approved volunteer.

WAYS TO HELP STUDENTS IN SCHOOL
Directing the wholesome growth of children is the joint responsibility of both parents and school personnel. Parents may help in the following ways;

- Attend parent/teacher conferences and discuss at that time any problems involving your child
- Guide your child in doing “his/her own work” and encourage him/her to do their best within the broad range of his/her capabilities
- Provide additional cultural experiences which can enhance the child’s school studies
- Make certain that your child is dressed properly and warmly each day for not only his school activities, but also for recess which will be scheduled out-of-doors as often as possible
- Join the Home and School Association and attend meetings
- Provide a study area or room free from all distractions of radio, TV, or other family noise for doing homework
- Remember that all children are different and members of the same family may differ in academic standing
- Be sure your child gets ample rest and eats a good breakfast daily
- Establish routines at home (homework time, play time, bed time, family time, etc.)
WITHDRAWAL
To withdraw from Upper Moreland Primary School a note written by the parent or guardian must be submitted to the office stating the reason for the withdrawal and when the anticipated move will take place. Such information as the new address where the family will be living as well as the new school and school address must be provided before a transfer card will be issued. Transcripts and medical information will not be given to the student but will be forwarded to the principal or registrar of the new school. In order for school records to be forwarded to the new school, it is necessary for parents to sign a release form in the school office prior to withdrawal. Parents will be issued a transfer card and a copy of the child’s immunization card on the last day of attendance. When a family moves out of the district, the child is considered a non-resident and is no longer eligible to attend the schools of Upper Moreland School District. If it is determined that a child is a non-resident, a bill will be issued for the days when the child attended as a non-resident. For more information, please refer to School Board Policy: Number 202; Section: Pupils.

Families moving within the district must bring proof of residence to the school office in order for an address change to be completed. The transportation department will be notified of the new address at that time and new bussing information will be issued as soon as possible.

SUPPORT SERVICES AT UPPER MORELAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

ART
The Primary School employs an art teacher who provides formal instruction in art to all children in kindergarten through grade 2. Children receive art instruction weekly.

HEARING, OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY, PHYSICAL THERAPY AND VISION
The UM School District contracts with outside agencies for specialized services in the areas of hearing, occupational therapy, physical therapy and vision. Request for these services must be made through the principal and child study team.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
A certified ELD teacher meets with non-native English-speaking students who have limited proficiency in English to develop their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills.

HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION
The Upper Moreland School District's standard method of homebound instruction is through a school-home connection. All requests for homebound instruction are sent to the Student Services Office for screening.

CHILD STUDY TEAM
When teachers or parents are concerned that a student is experiencing academic or behavioral difficulties, they may request the assistance of the Child Study Team. The team includes parents, classroom teacher, principal, assistant principal, guidance counselor, psychologist, reading specialist, and other support staff as needed. If you feel that your child may need the assistance of the team, please discuss your concern with your child's teacher or call our reading specialist teacher, at (215) 325-1405.

LIBRARY
The Upper Moreland School District maintains comprehensive collections of print and non-print materials to enhance the children's instructional program. The schools have modern libraries for the students' use. Children visit the library on a weekly basis to exchange books and are instructed in library skills.
All materials are carefully checked out and in to the library; notices are issued to pupils who are tardy in returning materials. Students will not receive their final report card if a book is owed to the library until the book is returned or it is paid for in full. Students are encouraged to use the library for their own pleasure as well as for resources relevant to classroom studies. Computers and the Internet are also available for use in the library.

**MUSIC**
The Primary School employs a music teacher who provides formal instruction in music to all children in kindergarten through grade 2. Children receive music instruction weekly.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**
The Upper Moreland School District believes in the total education of the child and provides instruction in physical education for students beginning in Kindergarten. Activities are designed for the developmental level of the child. All students are required to participate in the elementary physical education program. Students participate in physical education classes weekly. Parents requesting that a child be excused from a physical education class must present a written request from the physician stating the medical reason that the child should not participate.

**PROGRAM OF STUDY**
The Upper Moreland School District offers a comprehensive instructional program using best practices. Each child is instructed in a planned program of literacy, mathematics, social studies, science, physical education, health, music, art, and library science. It is impossible in the context of this booklet to detail the total program. Information is provided for each child's particular grade level during the Meet the Teacher Night in the fall and on the district website, www.umtsd.org, under the link titled “Curriculum”.

**PROSOCIAL SKILLS PROGRAM**
The pro-social skills program used provides a series of ongoing lessons that teach necessary interpersonal skills such as contributing to discussions and dealing with group pressure. In addition, children learn how to prevent conflicts or deal with them in an effective, socially acceptable manner.

**PSYCHOLOGICAL AND GUIDANCE SERVICES**
A counselor, psychologist, and reading specialists are available to consult with students, staff, parents, and other agencies concerning all matters that affect a child's academic, social, or emotional growth. They also serve on the school's Child Study Team. In addition, the Director of Special Education and Student Services participates on the Child Study Team and consults with parents during home visits or in the school setting. She works with agencies throughout the county to provide emergency social services. Children who are not working up to their potential or who are displaying behavioral problems or adjustment problems to the school are referred to the guidance counselor and the Child Study Team. The Team works with children (individually and in small groups), teachers, and parents to maximize the chances of the child having a successful school experience.

**READING SPECIALISTS**
The reading specialists work with various groups of children to support their reading skills. This is accomplished through tutorial and motivational programs.

Children who are having difficulty in learning to read may be referred to a district reading specialist for evaluation and instruction. Materials and techniques are recommended to aid in improving the student's performance.
For students who are gifted or who have special learning difficulties, an extensive program of special education is provided by the district. A teacher is available to work with the identified gifted students on experiences that enhance their problem-solving and creative abilities. The special education program is highly individualized and provides for the educational needs of the children.

SPECIAL EDUCATION
The Upper Moreland School District offers a variety of special education services. Students thought to be exceptional are referred to the school psychologist for further testing. Parents are contacted and are involved throughout the entire process.

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE CLINICIAN
A speech and language clinician is available for children that need speech and/or language services. The clinician does initial screening, provides instruction for children with speech difficulties, and makes referrals to other medical agencies. Children usually receive the services of the speech and language clinician once a week in small group sessions.

TECHNOLOGY
The Upper Moreland School District believes that it is very important to prepare children for the 21st century. All students participate in weekly classes related to various developmentally appropriate hardware and software applications.