



# University School at The University of Tulsa

S U M M E R 2 0 1 4



## Director's Message

I hope that you are all enjoying the summer. Before we know it, the new school year will be upon us! I'd like to update you on some changes to our staff for the 2014-2015 school year.

I am sad to announce that Gina Lewis, our Assistant Director for Curriculum and Programs, will not be returning to University School this fall. Mrs. Lewis has accepted a job teaching at a private school nearer to her home. We appreciate all that she has done for our school and will greatly miss her. We wish her well in her new endeavor.

We are reorganizing the administrative structure slightly and will not be hiring a replacement for Mrs. Lewis's role. Her responsibilities and duties will be redistributed among existing University School staff members, as follows:

- **Regina Ritchie** will become the Primary 2 lead teacher. Mrs. Ritchie has been at University School and worked in the P2 classroom since 2006. She holds a Bachelor's Degree from The University of Tulsa and is an Oklahoma certified teacher.
- **Linda Bolin** and **Amber Gates** will be taking over most of Mrs. Lewis's administrative duties. **Debra Price**, Assistant Director of Administration and Admissions, and I will also take on some roles as necessary.

Additionally, there are several other staff changes for the new year:

- **Early Primary - Mrs. Cheryl Beers** is our new lead teacher for the Early Primary class. Mrs. Beers has many years of experience teaching at the preschool level and has been working in the EP classroom for several years. She takes the place of Mrs. Debi Foster, who retired in May. **Mrs. Becca Roe** will be moving from the Intermediate 2 level to join the EP team.
- **Primary 1 - Mrs. Tiffany Robison** joins us as a teacher in the Primary 1 classroom, replacing Mrs. Renee Avery.
- **Intermediate 2 - Mrs. Kim Schaefer**, who has worked for several years with the OI-7/8 grade team, will now be with Mrs. Lindsey in the INT-2 classroom.
- **Older Intermediate 7 and 8 - Mrs. Kay Strain** will join the 7th and 8th grade team to fulfill the role formerly held by Mrs. Schaefer. Mrs. Strain has a great deal of teaching and gifted education experience.

Please join us in welcoming our new staff members to University School and our continuing staff to their new positions. We look forward to seeing everyone at school in August for registration days and the beginning of school!

*Pat Hollingsworth, Ed.D.*  
Director

## Back-to-School Coffees

Once again this year, we will hold back-to-school morning meetings for each class. These “Back-to-School Coffees” are your opportunity to learn about the upcoming year from your child’s classroom teachers. Details are as follows:

- Meetings will take place in the classroom from 7:45 - 8:45 a.m. on the days listed below.
- During the meetings, USchool students may attend the morning Extended Day session (before-care) at no charge.
- Coffee and juice will be available.

### Back-to-School Coffee Schedule (All are from 7:45 - 8:45 a.m.)

Wednesday, August 27 - Primary 1

Thursday, August 28 - Primary 2

Friday, August 29 - Intermediate 1

Wednesday, Sept. 3 - Early Childhood

Thursday, Sept. 4 - Older Intermediate 5

Friday, Sept. 5 - Older Intermediate 7

Monday, Sept. 8 - Early Primary

Tuesday, Sept. 9 - Primary 3

Wednesday, Sept. 10 - Intermediate 2

Thursday, Sept. 11 - Older Intermediate 6

Friday, Sept. 12 - Older Intermediate 8



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[facebook.com/uschool](https://www.facebook.com/uschool)



Follow USchool on  
Instagram

@USchoolTU

## Stay Connected!

**Email** - The majority of the communication you will receive from University School will be via email. If you are not currently receiving emails from us, please check with the school’s front office to make sure that we have your correct email address in our RenWeb database. To make sure our emails do not land in your “Junk” or “Spam” folders, add [email@renweb.com](mailto:email@renweb.com) to your address book or contact list.

**Text Messages** - If you’d like to receive brief text message reminders and announcements from USchool, be sure to set your preference for receiving texts on ParentsWeb.

**Monthly Newsletter** - A monthly University School Newsletter is distributed via email and posted on ParentsWeb, the RenWeb parents portal. Each newsletter will include a monthly calendar with major dates and activities. Important events, deadlines, announcements, etc. will be posted on the main RenWeb page under Announcements and on the ParentsWeb calendar.

**Calendar** - The 2014-2015 School Calendar is available on our website. Look for the link on the Parent Connection page.

[www.utulsa.edu/uschool](http://www.utulsa.edu/uschool)

# Registration - August 20 & 21

Registration for the 2014-2015 school year will be held on August 20 and 21. At registration, you will sign consent forms, receive important school information, and have the opportunity to purchase milk and/or Friday pizza, school t-shirts, parking stickers, and other items.

You are welcome to bring your student's school supplies to registration and take them to the classroom.

## Registration Schedule:

Wednesday, August 20 - Lower School (Early Childhood - Primary 3)

Thursday, August 21 - Upper School (Intermediate 1 and up)

Families with students in more than one grade may choose either day.

**Registration Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

## Registration FAQs

**Does everyone need to come to registration?** - Yes, at least one parent or guardian from each USchool family (both returning and new) needs to come for registration. Your child may come with you, but it is not necessary.

**Will I be paying for anything?** - If you will be ordering Friday pizza and/or daily milk or purchasing t-shirts or other optional items, you will need to bring some form of payment. We accept cash, checks, and major credit cards.

**I will be out of town on registration days. What should I do?** - If you will be out of town on August 20 and 21, please come by the front desk on the first day of school to complete your paperwork.

# Back-to-School Reminders



## School Supplies

School supply lists are available on the school website in the Parent Connection section and on ParentsWeb. If you ordered a supply pack at the end of the last school year, your student's supplies will be ready and waiting in the classroom on the first day of school. If you are purchasing your own supplies, you may take them to the classroom during registration or have your student bring them on the first day of school.

## Backpacks

For safety and space reasons, wheeled backpacks are not allowed at school. Backpacks must fit inside school lockers. Lockers in the Lower School (EC-P3) are 6.5 inches wide, and Upper School (Int-1 and up) lockers are 10.5 inches wide. More specific dimensions can be found on the school supply lists.

## No Peanuts!

We have several students with severe peanut allergies. Since this can be a life-threatening issue, we have a no-peanut policy. Please do not send any food containing peanuts or peanut butter. Other students have allergies to a variety of nuts, so we also request that if you are sending snacks or treats for your child's class (such as birthday treats), please send food that does not contain nuts of any kind. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation with this policy.



*“Happiness lies in  
the joy of  
achievement and  
the thrill of  
creative effort.”*

- Franklin D.  
Roosevelt

## Student Achievements

### Alumni Honored

A number of USchool alumni who graduated from high school in 2014 have been designated as Oklahoma Academic Scholars. This program recognizes graduating seniors who:

- earn a minimum 3.7 GPA on a 4.0 scale from 9th grade through the first semester of 12th grade, or who rank in the top 10% of their class
- complete requirements for a standard diploma, and
- achieve at least a 27 composite ACT score or a 1220 combined SAT score.

The students listed below, all either former University School students or graduates of USchool, received this designation.

#### **Booker T. Washington High School**

Valerio Coussa  
Kassidy Franks  
Nathan Holeman  
Aren Johnstone-Couch  
Senna Sous  
Connor Swan  
Tom Walter

#### **Bishop Kelley High School**

Mariah Rubino  
Josiah Siddiki

#### **Cascia Hall**

Nicole Flippo

#### **Holland Hall**

Natalie Cronk



**Congratulations to all of these students on this achievement!**

## RenWeb Home App - Free Access!

The RenWeb Home App accesses most of the information on the ParentsWeb online site, while providing the additional conveniences of an app. The app normally costs \$4.99 per year per household. However, University School has made this access free to all families. All you need to do is download the free app. RenWeb Home is available in the Apple App Store and in the Google Play Store. Search for “RenWeb Home.”

With the RenWeb Home App, you'll be able to:

- Always stay logged in to ParentsWeb, providing instant access
- Communicate more easily with other school parents and staff through your smartphone's integration with the school directory, allowing you to tap and send emails or make phone calls instantly.
- Import school calendar events and student homework assignments into your personal calendars.



University School's District Code is

**UST-OK**

# August 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 - Staff Development for teachers begins	19	20 Registration Lower School 9:00 - 2:30	21 Registration Upper School 9:00 - 2:30	22	23
24 31	<b>25 First Day of School</b>	26	27 - P1 Back-to-School Coffee	28 - P2 Back-to-School Coffee	29 - INT-1 Back-to-School Coffee	30



## Appropriate School Dress

As you shop for school clothes, please keep in mind that it's important for students to dress appropriately at school. Below are some guidelines that may be helpful. Please remember that all students, regardless of age/grade level, must follow the school dress code. More details about appropriate school dress can be found in the school handbook on our website.

- **Shoes** - Comfortable closed-toe shoes are the best option for school. Flip-flops and open-toed sandals are unsafe for playing on the playground and walking up and down the stairs.
- **Shorts and skirts** should be at least finger-tip length or longer.
- **Tops** - Backless or strapless tops are prohibited. Tank tops with thin spaghetti straps are prohibited. If in

doubt, measure the width of the strap--it should be at least the width of two fingers of the person wearing the top.

- **Spirit Days** - Each Friday is School Spirit Day. Students, teachers, and staff are encouraged to wear USchool or TU shirts. T-shirts will be available for sale at registration.
- **Lands End** - University School spirit-wear is available from Lands End. Any product that Lands End can monogram can be personalized with the special USchool logo below.



To order, visit:  
[landsend.com/school](http://landsend.com/school)