



# UNIVERSITY SCHOOL

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

## US Bucs News

Winter 2016-2017

Welcome to the 4th edition of University School's Newsletter!

We are proud of the accomplishments of our students, faculty, and staff. We want to inform you what we are doing, where we are going, and always remember where we have been!



# Love Our Bucs!



University School is a school of choice. Our Academic Expectations unapologetically state that *“University School is academically oriented and college preparatory focused. Potential students and their parents/guardians should be committed to academic excellence.”* This is one of the things we love about our Bucs. Students choose University School. They choose the challenge. They choose to strive for success. Our administrators, faculty and staff choose to work here, choose to help each student meet their challenges and academic goals.



*Every child valued, challenged, and successful...whatever it takes!*



## From the Director's Desk...

Hello Buc's Family-

As I sit at my desk, listening to the laughter of the students playing outside my window during lunch time, my mind is pondering the past year and a half that I have had the opportunity to lead and serve as Director of University School. What a blessing it has been and continues to be. My heart swells with love and appreciation the more my mind ponders. Thank you all for your part in making this so. Then, with a deep satisfying breath, my mind begins to ponder what lies ahead for us as we finish this year and begin our plans for 2017-18 and beyond.

With our students' futures in mind, I have been and will continue expressing the need that our students have to think critically, communicating that thinking clearly while working collaboratively to solve problems or present an argument for their point of view. This is the goal for all students in all classes and in 2017 we will continue to work to meet this goal. We know this is new to our students but they are rising to the challenge. I walk in on wonderful demonstrations of this kind of learning in classes every day; AP high school classes as well as in our kindergarten. We know this is also new to our parents and can be a source of frustration because this is not how they learned. I understand that as parents you do not want to see your child struggle. However, this is a struggle in learning how to think and communicate their thinking clearly. It is a struggle that will strengthen them. Finally, it is new to our teachers as well. For years they have told information to their students and their students told it back to them on tests. Please know that our staff is also rising to the challenge and proving themselves to be life-long-learners. As a staff we continue to learn and implement proven effective instructional strategies that will have our students researching to find information, analyze and evaluate that information, and communicate their learning and how it applies to the topic they are studying. In doing so our students will be prepared for successfully completing college and competently and confidently beginning their journey in life on their own.

As we prepare for the 2017-18 school year we are excited about being able to increase the number of students we serve by adding a second 6<sup>th</sup> grade class at University school. This addition means that for the 2017-18 school year we will be enrolling an additional 26 students in 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades. This also means that this will be the last year that we will be adding to our 7<sup>th</sup> grade numbers. Beginning in the 2018-19 school year, we will be opening up enrollment in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grades instead of in 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grades.

With plenty to be thankful for, I look forward to the future of University School.

With much love for you all,  
Dr. Knechtel



Continuing a tradition of excellence...



## Student Success



The State Report Card for the 2015-2016 School Year has been released. Congratulations University School! Your hard work has earned excellent scores! [View All scores on the TN.gov Website](#)

	<p><b>Highly Qualified Teachers</b> A highly qualified teacher is a public elementary or secondary school teacher who holds at least a bachelor's degree, is fully licensed in Tennessee, and submits the required documents to demonstrate competency in the content area(s) being taught</p> <p><b>94.1%</b></p>		<p><b>Attendance</b> The number of days students attend school as compared with the number of school days</p> <p><b>95.6%</b></p>		<p><b>Graduation Rate</b> The percentage of students that graduated high school within four years and a summer as compared to those students that entered ninth grade four years earlier</p> <p><b>100.0%</b></p>
	<p><b>Average ACT Composite</b> The ACT is a national college level entrance exam that includes math, reading, English, and science; students receive scores from 1-36</p> <p><b>25.5</b></p>		<p><b>ACT 21+</b> The percentage of students who meet the 21 composite on the ACT; this ACT scores qualifies Tennessee students for the HOPE Scholarship</p> <p><b>94.4%</b></p>		<p><b>TNReady ELA</b> TNReady is a set of statewide assessments given in Tennessee to measure students' knowledge, skills and progress. This shows the percentage of students who scored in the top two tiers of the TNReady ELA assessment</p> <p><b>83.3%</b></p>
	<p><b>TNReady Math</b> TNReady is a set of statewide assessments given in Tennessee to measure students' knowledge, skills and progress. This shows the percentage of students who scored in the top two tiers of the TNReady Math assessment</p> <p><b>63.2%</b></p>		<p><b>TVAAS Literacy*</b> TVAAS is a statistical analysis that measures student growth. Level 4 or 5 means that students tended to grow more in literacy than their peers across the state, Level 3 means they grew at about the same rate, and Level 1 or 2 means they tended to grow less.</p> <p><b>Level 5</b></p>		<p><b>TVAAS Numeracy*</b> TVAAS is a statistical analysis that measures student growth. Level 4 or 5 means that students tended to grow more in literacy than their peers across the state, Level 3 means they grew at about the same rate, and Level 1 or 2 means they tended to grow less.</p> <p><b>Level 4</b></p>

# Love Our Bucs!

### Applications Accepted for 2017-2018 School Year

University School  
East Tennessee State University  
Johnson City, Tennessee  
APPLICATION FOR PUPIL ENROLLMENT  
**\*\*Kindergartners must be 5yrs of age by August 15, 2017 to apply.\*\***

Applicants (Grade Level) Applying for the 2017-2018 School Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (Middle) \_\_\_\_\_ (First)

Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_ Washington County Resident: YES NO IEP: YES NO 504: Yes No

Student Address \_\_\_\_\_ (Street) \_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (Zip code)

Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ (Month) (Day) (Year) U.S. Citizens: Yes No If No, date entered the country \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Siblings Currently Enrolled at University School: \_\_\_\_\_



**Deadline for Lottery: February 28, 2017, 4:00 p.m.**



Do you know someone who wants to be a Buc?

Applications for the 2017-2018 School Year will be accepted through February 28th, at 4:00 p.m.

View [Application Process Webpage](#)  
(Go to [USBucs.com](#) and click on "Apply")





We love the spirit of our University School athletes, who continue to strive for success, both on and off the court. Our High School Basketball teams are thundering down the courts, cheered on by our cheerleading squad and fans!

**Our Middle School Boys Basketball team just claimed title to the Conference Championship!**

Go, Bucs, Go!



# Love Our Bucs!

# Go, Bucs, Go!



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## Alumni

### Contact

### Information Update Email Address

University School is continuously updating our Alumni Database. Anyone who graduated from University School or attended our school is encouraged to complete a contact information form by going to USBucs.com, click on the Alumni Tab, and update their Contact Information. Help us help you to stay "in the know" about USchool!

## Extra-curricular



University School students excel beyond the walls of the classroom! This past few months we have students who have participated in Community Theatre, won Chess Championships, received publicized recognition for winning a local power board safety contest, and have logged hundreds of miles participating in our Morning Mile fitness program.

## Social Media....



follow us on  
twitter

Social Media Links on the bottom of our webpages!



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