

Underwood Gifted & Talented Elementary School New Family Orientation



Staff Introductions



Anne Waechter
Principal



Alexandria Judge-Lenkeit
Assistant Principal



Sarah Hurst
Instructional Facilitator



Heather Callahan
Magnet Coordinator



Brett Pesce
Counselor



Kyra Hartsfield
Secretary



Anna Totten
Data Manager



Cristabel Ayala
Receptionist



Kelli Hosford
Nurse

Kindergarten Team Introductions



Maggie Lohr
K Teacher



Robin Fox
K Teacher



Jenny Cortez
K Teacher



Samari McLean
K Teacher



Marjorie Freeman
Kindergarten IA



Katie Chandler
Kindergarten IA



Tracey Hall
Kindergarten IA



Lidise Garcia-Tavarez
Kindergarten IA

Specialist Team Introductions



Gussie Marshallsea
Art Teacher



JR Richardson
Band Teacher



Beth Seaton
Dance Teacher



Molly Hamelin
Drama Teacher



Star Davis
Media Specialist



Dawn Spiggle
Music Teacher



Jamika Robinson
PE Teacher



Shannon McKenna
Spanish Teacher

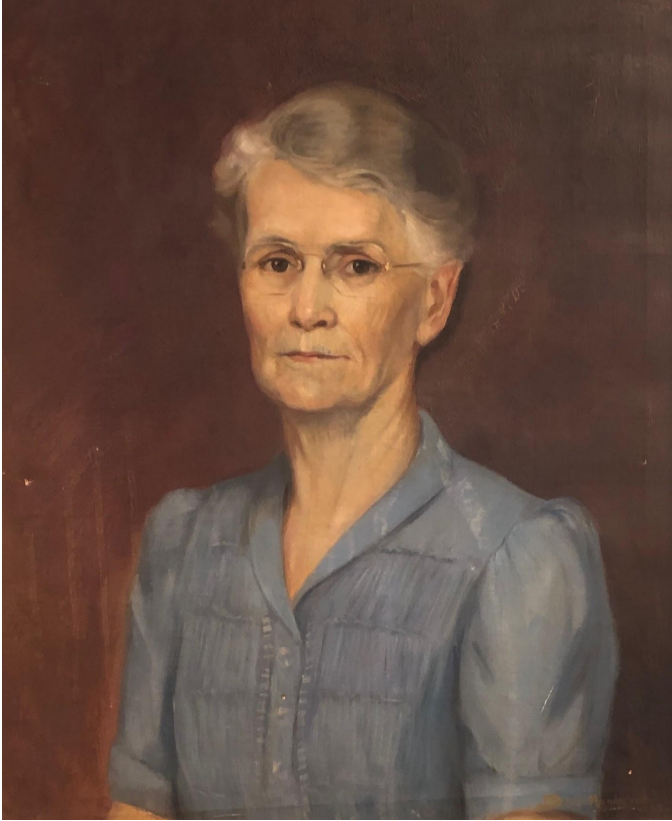


Jill Sherling
Strings Teacher

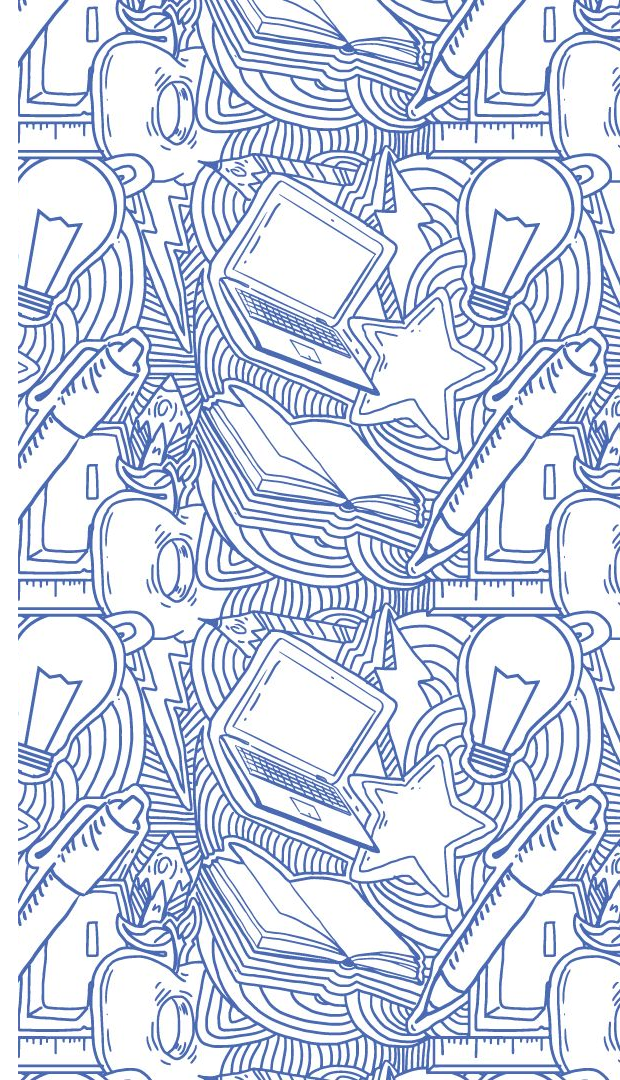


Established in 1949
Hayes Barton Elementary from 1926-1949

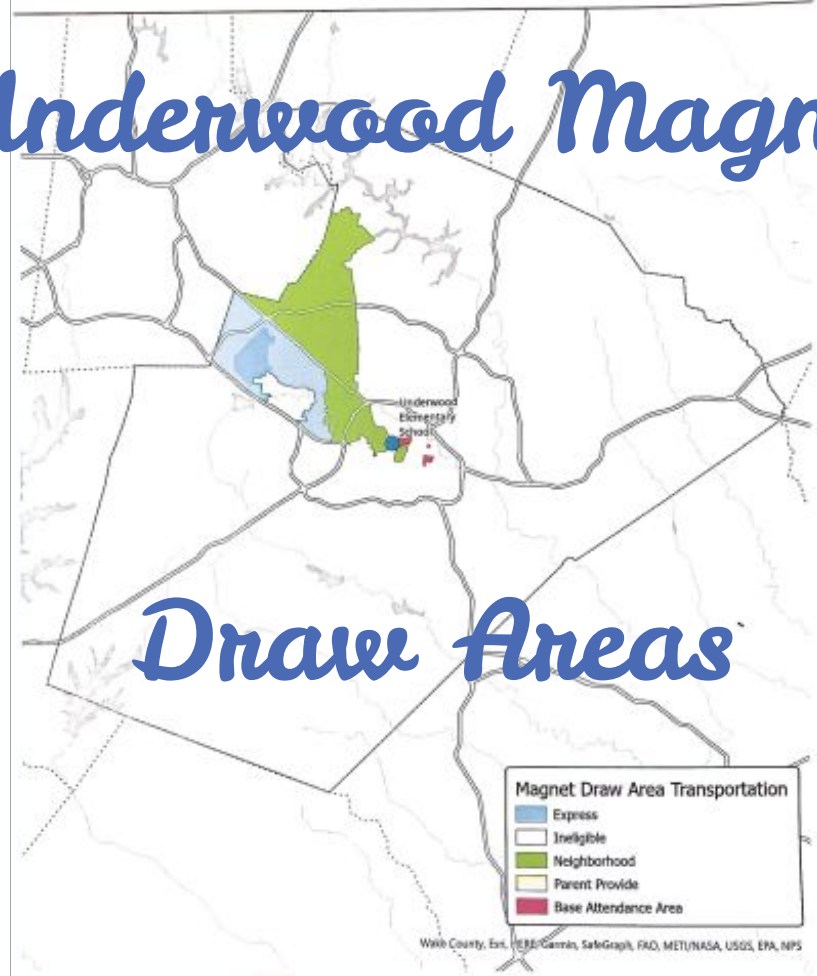
Myrtle Underwood



First Principal and the person that our school is named after (Previously Hayes Barton)



Underwood Magnet



Draw Areas

Gifted &
Talented
Elementary
Schools in
WCPSS

Underwood
(1983)

Washington (GT)

Hunter (AIG/GT)

Fuller (AIG/GT)

Roe (AIG/GT)

Zebulon (GT)

5 Points





2003

Underwood was renovated

When the county finally agreed to renovate the school, they made an agreement that we would not have any trailers.

Underwood will always be a small school ... filled with TONS OF TALENT!



Mission

Underwood Elementary will provide a relevant and engaging education and will graduate students who are collaborative, creative, effective communicators and critical thinkers.

Vision

We challenge each child to develop their individual gifts & talents and to demonstrate academic, creative, and social growth by providing universal access to resources and opportunities in order to become a productive, responsible citizen.

Values

- We will have high expectations for all students with multiple, varied opportunities to demonstrate growth.
- We will provide an inclusive, supportive environment that embraces the diversity of all students, families, and staff.
- We will partner with our community to enhance all our programs.
- We will provide opportunities for parental & family involvement in each child's learning.
- We will personalize instructional practices to best meet the needs of all students.
- We will analyze data to guide teaching and learning.
- We will reflect on best practices in order to continuously improve.



Transportation

Buses - Currently Underwood has 4 buses.

Arrival time for buses- 8:45-9:15 am

Dismissal time for buses- 3:45-4:15 pm

Parents can follow the bus on the [Here Come the Bus App](#).



Underwood also updates the arrival and departure times as well on our website.
Parents needing bus transportation are expected to sign up during the summer.

(This summer be on the lookout for the county's information to request the yellow bus!)





Transportation

Carpool - Students are assigned a carpool number and parents receive a tag to hang on the rearview mirror of their vehicle for dismissal. Carpool begins right at 3:45 and the line is usually finished by 4:00. No number/tag is needed for arrival/drop off. To keep things organized, we ask that parents enter the school from the Glenwood side of Fairview to Scales.

Walkers - Parents can elect to either pick-up their student in the walker line or allow their student to walk home unescorted. A form will come out in August for parents to give permission.



Breakfast and Lunch

**MY
SCHOOL
BUCKS**



Underwood
Elementary

RALEIGH, North Carolina

Electives vs Specials

Specials - Students attend the specialist teacher's class with their homeroom class.

- 1st-5th - Attend once a week on Fridays (3 weeks in a row then rotate).
- Kindergarten - Attend a special every day (specials rotate weekly).

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
K	1 special	1 special + 1 elective	1 special + 1 elective	1 special + 1 elective
1st Grade	1 special + 1 elective	2 electives	2 electives	2 electives
2nd-5th Grade	2 electives	2 electives	2 electives	2 electives

Specials

Art
Dance
Drama
Enrichment
Literacy
Media/Technology
Music
Physical Education

Electives - In multiage classrooms, students attend electives four times a week for forty minutes. These classes are specialized in certain areas.

- 1st-5th- Attend 2 Electives Monday-Thursday (These change quarterly)
- Kindergarten- Attend 1 elective Monday-Thursday starting 2nd quarter.

Electives

Underwood believes in continuous improvement, high expectations, high standards, and quality work. Elective classes reflect many diverse areas of study.

- Robotics
- Keyboarding
- Drawing and Painting
- Let's Experiment
- Coastal Ecology
- Gymnastics
- Track
- African Americans in U.S. History
- Spanish
- Kitchen Chemistry
- Tap
- Ballet
- Theater Production
- Behind the Scenes
- Tar Heel Junior Historians
- Clay Sculpture
- Architecture
- Inventions
- Intro to Engineering
- Band
- Strings
- My Green Thumb
- Yoga
- Chess
- Sign Language
- Freaky Fractions
- Cultural Kaleidoscope
- World of Wonders
- Author's in the Making; Lego Narrative Builder
- and many more...



Elective Brochures

Fall Semester: Brochures will come home the first day of school for 1st – 5th graders.

- Students will typically start electives the third week of school.
- Kindergarten will not start electives until 2nd quarter.

Spring Semester: Brochures will come home mid- December for all students K-5.



Elective Registration

Every semester, students register for new electives for the next 2 quarters. Please have a discussion with your child about their interests. Every quarter, students take 1 academic and 1 art elective. Have them number their top 3 elective choices for each section. Make sure to check and see if the elective they are choosing has a requirement of multiple quarters (example: band and strings are yearlong electives). Also, electives with * at the beginning of the title need initials next to them for your student to choose/take them. Those electives have prerequisites; students must have taken a beginning elective before, have an IEP, intervention/enrichment needs (many different reasons) etc. If there are initials next to the elective it doesn't mean they're automatically registered for the elective, it's just one they can choose. This is based on need and availability.

Once students have numbered 1, 2, 3 in each section send brochures back to school. The Magnet Coordinator then starts with 5th grade and registers students for electives. Each student is pulled and asked what their top choice of their #1's is from what is available. Based on their answer, they're registered for their top choice and is then registered for the other elective that is diagonal. This ensures 1 academic and 1 art elective for each quarter.

3rd Quarter: February 3, 2025 - March 26, 2025

Elective Share: March 27, 2025

K-1 Elective - 7th Period

Academic Elective Choices

Choose your top 3 choices in this section.
Number them 1, 2, 3.

Language Arts

- ☐ *Adventures in Learning (addendum)
- ☐ Prize Winners
- ☐ *Reading Cafe

Languages

- ☐ *Continuing Spanish

Math

- ☐ Group Solutions

Media

- ☐ NC Children's Book Awards (addendum)

Science

- ☐ Animals, Animals

Social Studies

- ☐ Destiny Travel Agency

STEM

- ☐ *Fairy Tales STEM GT

Arts Elective Choices

Choose your top 3 choices in this section.
Number them 1, 2, 3.

Languages

- ☐ *Continuing Spanish

PE/Health

- ☐ Sports Arena

Performing Arts

- ☐ International Folk Dance
- ☐ K-1 Intro to Stage Musical

Visual Arts

- ☐ All Together: Art in Stories

1-2 Elective - 8th Period

Academic Elective Choices

Choose your top 3 choices in this section.
Number them 1, 2, 3.

Language Arts

- ☐ *Adventures in Learning (addendum)
- ☐ Authors in the Making: Lego Narrative
- ☐ Builder
- ☐ *Reading Cafe
- ☐ Sign Language

Languages

- ☐ Beginning Spanish

Math

- ☐ The Piggy Bank

Science

- ☐ African Safari
- ☐ *Protectors of the Earth GT

Arts Elective Choices

Choose your top 3 choices in this section.
Number them 1, 2, 3.

Languages

- ☐ Beginning Spanish

PE/Health

- ☐ Jump for Fun

Performing Arts

- ☐ Creative Drama
- ☐ Let's Move I
- ☐ Rhythm Band

Visual Arts

- ☐ The Feel of Things: Time & Money

The * means a teacher referral is required!

All course descriptions can be found online (see link on front of brochure)



School Wide Events

African American History Bowl

Arts Pleasure

First in Fitness

Field Day

Holiday Performances

Quarterly Elective shares

Science Olympiad

Theater Production



Technology & Digital Resources

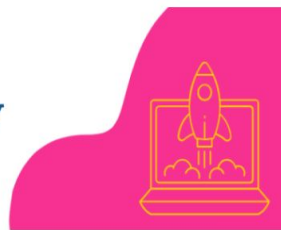
Chromebooks:

Students in K-2 use chromebooks that are assigned to a cart in the classroom.

Students in 3-5 are currently assigned a personal chromebook.

Guides
to technology

Learn anywhere!



Other Digital Resources:

- ❖ Wake ID Portal
 - Discovery Ed.
 - Destiny
 - Nearpod
- ❖ BrainPop
- ❖ Robots: Beebots, Dash, Finch & Sphero
- ❖ Micro:bit
- ❖ iPad apps
- ❖ Lego We-do/Spike

Student Support

HELP THEM SPREAD
THEIR WINGS:
SOMETIMES
THEY'LL FLY,
...AND SOMETIMES
THEY'LL MAKE
MISTAKES.
IT'S ALL PART OF
LEARNING AND
GROWING.



- Recognize the first few months are a transition period. Foster growing independence. Emphasize how proud you are that they are being the “big kid” now.
- Keep things as calm, predictable, and consistent as possible. They will be tired!
- Help your child by practicing activities that foster paying attention, following directions, and sitting on the carpet. Play games such as, “Simon Says”. Google related activities to practice.
- Practice giving one, two, and then three step directions (for activities they like to do).

WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN



Nurse

School Nurse: Kelli Hosford, BSN, RN



(919) 524-5652



khosford@wcpss.net

WHEN YOUR CHILD IS SICK

The best thing you can do is to keep your children home when sick. This will help stop the spread of illness to other children and teachers. Keep them home when they show any symptom of illness.

Symptoms

- Fever of 100.4 or higher
- Diarrhea
- Nausea and Vomiting
- Severe headache
- Red, watery eyes with yellow discharge
- Undiagnosed rash
- Inability to attend learning activities.
- Change in student's typical medical status.

STUDENT MEDICATION

Students may receive or self-administer medication at school when the medication is medically necessary for health or learning and must be taken during the school day.

Medication must be prescribed by a licensed physician. Alternative medications, such as herbal or homeopathic medications that are not tested by the US Food and

Drug Administration for safety or effectiveness, lack safety information and therefore cannot be administered or taken at school.

Required form for medication

Parent Request and Physician's Order Form for Medication

Form 1702

Form 1702 - En Español

School staff may administer medication to students only when the Parent and Physician Order for Medication form (Form 1702) is completed by the parent and physician and present at the school. Form 1702 is also available from the school. No medication will be given by a school official unless it is in a container dispensed by a pharmacy with the student's name, name of medication, date prescription was filled, and directions clearly marked. A new medication form must be completed if there are changes in medication directions. Parents or guardians are responsible for monitoring medication expiration dates and replacing medication when expired.

STUDENT SELF-ADMINISTRATION OF EMERGENCY MEDICATIONS

At all school levels, students may self-medicate with emergency prescription medication if they have permission to do so documented on their Parent and Physician Order for Medication form.

State law allows students who have met certain conditions to carry and self-administer emergency medication during the school day and at all school-sponsored after-school events, including transportation to and from the event, for asthma and severe, life-threatening allergies (anaphylaxis). Medication includes asthma inhalers and injectable epinephrine.

The parent or guardian must provide the school with a completed Parent and Physician Order for Medication form.

The student must be observed and certified by the school nurse to be able to self-administer the medication.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

Controlled substances may be administered in the school setting with a completed medication form.

Controlled substances may be self-administered and self-carried only in middle or high school

Medication should be in a container dispensed by a pharmacy with the student's name, name of medication, date prescription was filled, and directions clearly marked.

Students who self-carry should carry no more than a daily dose at any time.

Disposal of Unused Medication

All unused, discontinued, or expired medication must be returned to the parent or guardian or disposed of in accordance with the WCPSS Medication Disposal Process

NOTIFICATION OF HEALTH CONDITIONS

IT IS THE PARENT'S RESPONSIBILITY AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH SCHOOL YEAR TO INFORM BOTH THEIR CHILD'S TEACHER AND THE SCHOOL NURSE IF THERE ARE MEDICAL CONDITIONS THAT REQUIRE SPECIAL MEASURES DURING THE SCHOOL DAY. TEACHERS ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR COMMUNICATING STUDENTS' HEALTH-RELATED INFORMATION TO NURSES. SCHOOL NURSES ARE AVAILABLE FOR HEALTH CONSULTATION BUT ARE NOT PRESENT AT THE SCHOOL DAILY.

Kindergarten Staggered Entry

Kindergarten students will attend 1 FULL day during the first week of school (August 25th - August 27th).

Teacher Notification - emailed August 28th

Meet the Teacher - August 29th, 2:00-3:00pm

*Please do not send supplies during Staggered Entry.

*Your child will need to bring a snack, a lunch, and a towel for rest time.

Tuesday, September 2nd - Kindergarten first day of



Kindergarten Staggered Entry

- Staggered Entry is aimed at helping ease your child's transition into Kindergarten.
- Smaller group sizes allow the staff to offer individual attention and support as children try new things.
- Goal is to promote student success through early identification of developmental needs & learning styles.
- Students will be assessed on:
 - Basic number knowledge and fluency (1-20)
 - Foundational literacy skills (letter names/sounds)



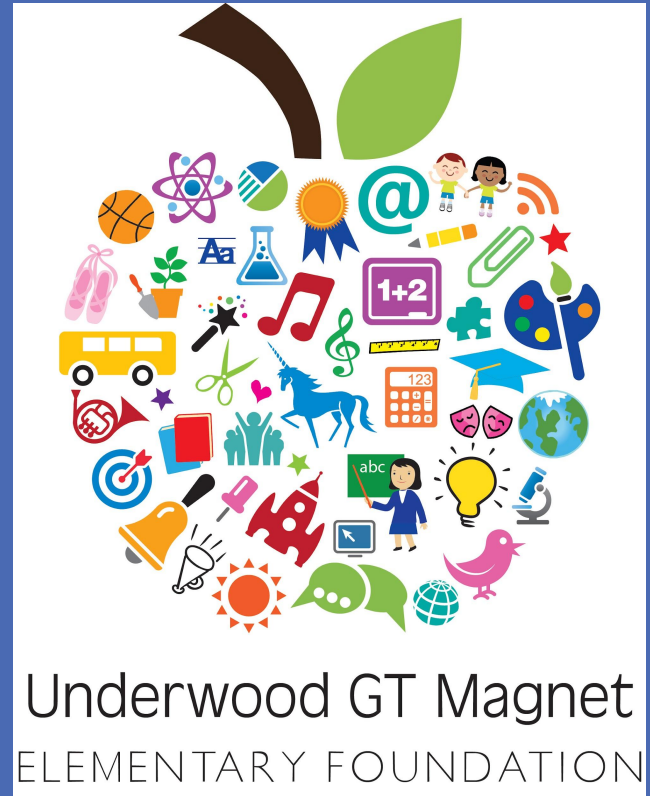
Underwood Foundation

Funding

Money raised by the Foundation directly assists with teacher and assistant salaries. This is what sets us apart from the PTA.

Endowment

The Foundation also contributes to an endowment to ensure the future success of Underwood.



Ways the Foundation raises money:

- One-time/Recurring donations
- Giving Tuesday Campaign (Nov)
- Night of the Unicorns (Apr/May)
(www.underwood.givesmart.com)





Underwood PTA helps to support:

Technology
Media Center Collection
instructional supplies
professional development opportunities
teacher stipends
....and more!



PTA Community Activities

- Back To School Picnic (Sept)
- Unicorn Trot (October)
- Spring Fling (March)
- Science Olympiad (Jan-Apr)
- Book Fair (Dec)
- Cultural Arts (all year)
- Garden (all year)






Underwood Summer Meetups

July 19th, 9:30-11:30 AM - Kindergarten Playdate on the Playground

Kindergarten students with families, meet on the Underwood Playground!

August 18th, 10am-12pm & 5-7PM - Underwood Spirit Day at Big Air

Underwood students with families, meet at Big Air (state you're an Underwood family so our PTA will get credit) and jump with other Underwood friends! You're welcome to go at anytime, however families will try to meet there for students to play together between 10AM-12PM & 5-7PM.



Beginning of School Year

**MID
AUG**

1st-5th grade families notified the name of teacher and school supplies needed.

**AUG
21**

5:00-6:00 PM

1st-5th Meet the Teacher

5:30-6:00 PM

New Family School Tour

**AUG
25**

1st Day of School for grades 1-5

**AUG
25-27**

Kindergarten Staggered Entry

**AUG
29**

2:00-3:00 PM

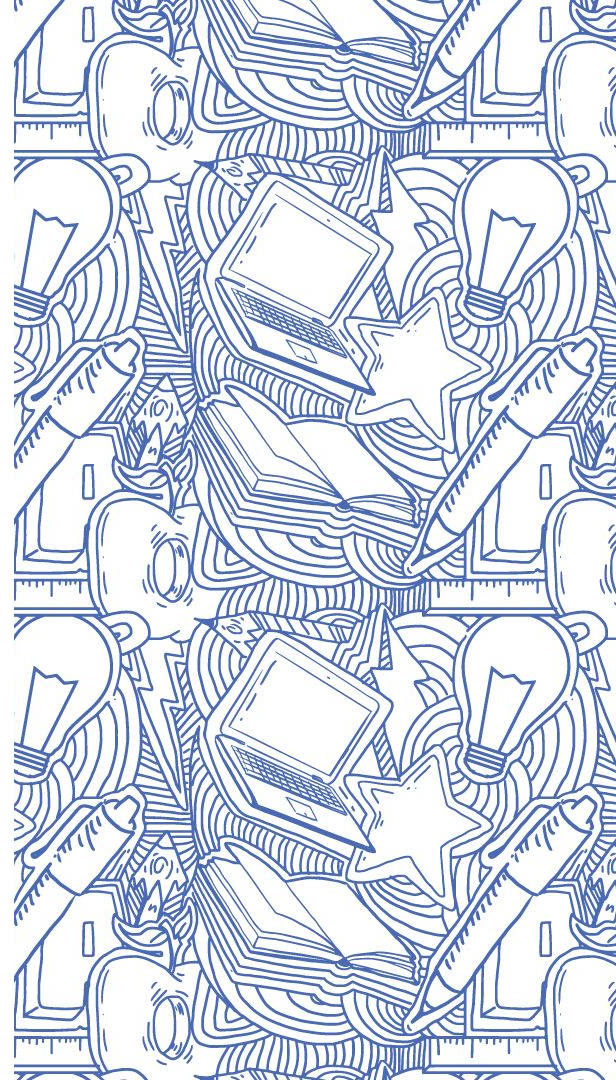
Kindergarten Meet the Teacher

**SEP
2**

1st Day of School for Kindergarten

**BEG.
SEPT**

Family Picnic



Get and stay connected...



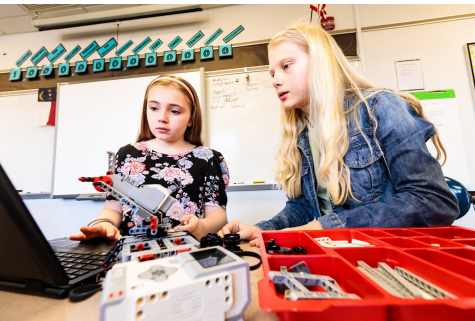
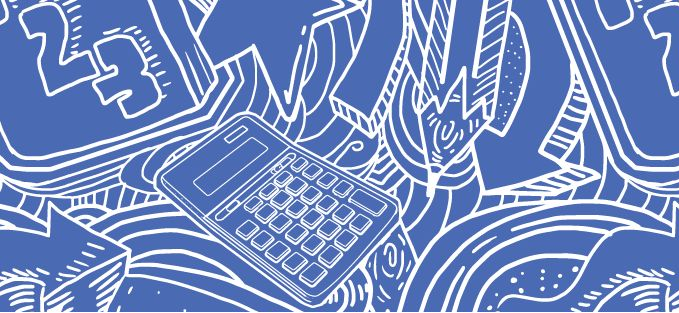
Underwood GT Magnet Elementary



underwood_unicorns



underwoodgtm



Question & Answers Around the Room





Welcome to the
family!

We are lucky to
have you!

#smallschoolbigtalent