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Campus School
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University Middle School
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Kerrith Griffin, Executive Director
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Greetings,

Whether you are a University Schools parent, student, faculty member, staff or community supporter – we are grateful for your many contributions to our schools. The 2020 academic year was unconventional in many ways, and while it delivered its fair number of challenges, this year also provided us much to celebrate and to be proud of. We persevered through the most challenging year of education yet, and our faculty, staff, students and families did so with resilience, determination, flexibility and grace. I am thankful for the health, innovation and ingenuity of our community.

As you likely know, our schools are a unique facet of our educational community – both at the University of Memphis, and within Shelby County. We have an incredibly diverse student population comprised of children of UofM faculty, staff and students, and local community members. We have a dedicated team of faculty and staff who work tirelessly to model and practice new and innovative education methods that not only result in a high-quality education for hundreds of University Schools children, it also models best practice teaching and child development techniques for countless teachers and practitioners in training. Learning lives and thrives in our laboratory environment, and our students always come first.

Our schools are home to innovative, inclusive and authentic learning with highly engaged families led by creative faculty and bright young learners. In our most recent school year, we provided high-quality, in-person and virtual education to over 650 children, we served as a best-practice site for COVID-19 protocols, preparedness and education excellence for local schools in the Mid-South, and we provided over 100 school-based COVID-19 testing sites and 2 vaccination sites in partnership with the City of Memphis. Campus School received a prestigious STEM designation by the Tennessee Department of Education, Campus School and University Middle were both designated as Trauma Informed Schools by the State of Tennessee, and Campus School and University Middle were both awarded competitive grants for Civics Education. The Early Learning & Research Center began a grant-funded playground renovation, launched its largest summer camp program in the history of the school, and received a grant from Seeding Success and First 8 Memphis to launch a voluntary pre-k classroom. Our teachers and school leaders received local and national awards recognizing their excellence in the field, and we finished the year by adding three new leadership positions to our central administrative team. On the horizon for 2021 are our high school planning efforts supported in part by $200,000 of grant funding, the expansion of our partnership with the Harwood Center, important capital projects including moving University Middle to its permanent on-campus home and the groundbreaking of the Porter-Leath/UofM (PLUM) Early Childhood Academy which will serve nearly 300 local children through a state-of-the-art early childhood program.

While all of these are certainly points of pride, I would be remiss not to acknowledge that our greatest accomplishment over the past year was in the continuation of learning we were able to provide despite the most challenging conditions we have ever faced. While none of us would have hoped to find ourselves launching the 2020 school year in the midst of a global pandemic, I have never been more proud of our students, staff and our faculty who have shown tremendous ingenuity, compassion and resilience during this time. To our teachers – thank you for never giving up and for always keeping our students at the center of your work. Their lives, our lives, are better thanks to you. To our parents – thank you for the many supportive roles you played in your child’s education this year and for partnering with us in new and unexpected ways. To our students – thank you for filling our hallways, classrooms and computer screens with joy. You make us proud.

Go Tigers!

Dr. Sally G. Parish
Associate Vice President, Educational Initiatives
OUR MISSION
The University Schools aim to provide the children of our community with educational experiences that enhance their development from birth to graduation and promote dynamic research, collaborative partnerships and innovative practices. The University Schools ecosystem is home to the following laboratory schools: the Barbara K. Lipman Early Learning & Research Center, Campus Elementary School and University Middle School.

The University Schools are nested with the Educational Initiatives Department at the University of Memphis, along with the Center for Service, Learning & Volunteerism to further promote and foster volunteerism amongst our youngest and oldest Tigers.

EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES
The Educational Initiatives team supports and facilitates interworking between University faculty, staff, students and the laboratory schools. University departments are invited to all three schools to conduct research and promote educational observation and engagement. University departments and community partners are also invited to engage in our schools to complete teacher and practitioner preparation programs, internships, volunteer hours and participate in engaged scholarship with our school faculty, staff and students.
The Barbara K. Lipman Early Learning & Research Center (ELRC) is a laboratory preschool which offers a unique learning environment and a nurturing place that encourages children to explore their own active learning abilities. Here they are guided by specially trained teachers and are supported by community.

At the Early Learning & Research Center, students are challenged to explore and learn about the world around them in a constructivist learning environment. Our interactive classrooms promote interpersonal communication skills, academic development and kindergarten readiness.

### BY THE NUMBERS

- **27** students of UofM faculty/staff enrolled
- **15+** UofM students served
- **60+** years of excellence
- **100+** students served
- **1:4** average teacher to student ratio

### PROGRAMS

Montessori, Reggio-Emilia, Universal Pre-K

The Early Learning & Research Center is the only lab school in the U.S. that has three unique learning demonstrations in a constructivist learning environment.
In partnership with First 8 Memphis, The Early Learning & Research Center is proud to announce the addition of a needs-based pre-kindergarten classroom. This classroom is a free program for qualifying families of pre-kindergarten children. The mission of First 8 is to support families with comprehensive programs that prepare children for kindergarten readiness and 3rd grade literacy. Being kindergarten ready means being able to adapt and achieve in school. In pre-K, children develop social, emotional, physical and behavioral skills — skills that help them become students. They gain vital experience talking, listening and interacting with others. But above all, pre-K engages children’s creativity and curiosity in the classroom. And an early love of learning puts them on the path for school success.

Congratulations to Anna Grace Wier for winning the New Memphis 2020 Educator of Excellence Award.
Campus School is a laboratory school which promotes excellence in teaching and enthusiasm for learning. Through integration of research into an innovative curriculum, the school can offer its best to aspiring teachers and to the urban community it serves. A diverse school population allows for valuable relationships and collaborations — educational, cultural, social and personal — among the stakeholders who are involved. Teachers, students and parents working together can maximize outcomes to the benefit of all involved.

For students to function productively in society, education should provide opportunities for them to be curious and creative; to exercise initiative; to handle responsibilities; to test ideas; to establish opinions about controversial matters; and to develop aesthetic values.

At Campus School, we incorporate these opportunities into the school experience each day. Our students will meet high academic expectations because their learning is enhanced by best practices offered by dedicated and capable teachers. The teaching and learning atmosphere of the school will prepare students for their eventual place in the larger world.

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**BY THE NUMBERS**

**BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL**

- **ESTABLISHED IN 1912**
- **SERVING** nearly 400 students
- **125** students of UofM staff & faculty enrolled
- **TOP 5%** of Tennessee public schools
Campus School was one of 13 schools awarded the Tennessee STEM School Designation for 2021. This honor was developed with the guidance of the Tennessee Department of Education and the STEM Leadership Council to identify and recognize schools in their commitment to teaching STEM and/or STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) and integrating strategies that ultimately prepare students for post-secondary college and career success in the 21st century.
University Middle School is the newest addition to the University Schools ecosystem and started with the inaugural 6th grade class in the fall of 2019. University Middle’s full enrollment will serve 240 children in grades 6-8. University Middle is structured to create diverse enrollment with the inaugural class feeding from more than 20 local Shelby County Schools. As an extension of the laboratory lifestyle, University Middle students will be following a project-based learning curriculum that will allow them to take their in-class education into the wider world and apply theory to practice. University Middle aims to challenge students at all levels of academic enrichment.

**BY THE NUMBERS**

- **SERVING**
  - 150 students

- **CHOICE**
  - unique academic offerings: journalism, debate, creative writing, ACT math, leadership, social emotional learning

- **75%**
  - faculty members with advanced degree

- **100%**
  - core teachers are project-based learning certified 2020

- **15**
  - average class size
University Middle Moving On Campus

University Middle’s permanent home will be on campus in at the Fogelman Executive Center. Starting in Fall 2021, University Middle will serve sixth, seventh and eighth graders on campus. The location will allow University Middle to continue robust partnerships with departments across campus and build upon the project-based learning curriculum.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ELRC</th>
<th>CAMPUS SCHOOL</th>
<th>UNIVERSITY MIDDLE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Year End Enrollment</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>150</td>
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<td>Average Class Size</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Faculty Members</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average Years of Experience</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11 (avg)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty Members with Advanced Degree</td>
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<td>68%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>67% (avg)</td>
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<td>UofM Faculty/Staff Students Served</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>32%</td>
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<td>Teacher Candidates and Student Interns</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Development Hours</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>2,324</td>
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# UNIVERSITY SCHOOLS DEMOGRAPHICS

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<tr>
<th></th>
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<td>Multi-racial</td>
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<td>2%</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other/Prefer Not to Say</td>
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<td>5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
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## GRANTS AWARDED

### ELRC
- Department of Education CCAMPIS Grant: $633,024
- First 8: $115,000

### Campus School
- University of Memphis Go Green Award: $1,435
- Tennessee Consolidated Arts Program: $1,000
- Gallopade Publishing: $1,500
- Tennessee Department of Education and the Tennessee STEM Innovation Network (TSIN) Grant: $12,786

### University Schools
- Keep America Beautiful: $10,000
- Keep Tennessee Beautiful: $5,000
- Green Fee Award: $11,150
- Urban Child Institute Award: $3.5 million
- New Schools Venture Fund Award: $200,000
- Governor's Civic Seal Grant: $12,000

## PARTNERSHIPS

### Research Partnerships
In partnership with the University Schools Research Consortium, more than 15 research partnerships have been created with University of Memphis faculty. These research projects range in scope and duration but include researching ADHD and Positive Illusory Bias, Indoor Environmental Assessments and Metacognition Awareness.

### Community Partnerships
University Schools partners with more than 50 campus partners and more than 40 community partners to provide students with on-campus learning opportunities and hands-on experiences in the greater Memphis community.
The Harwood Center
The University of Memphis and the Harwood Center have developed a partnership which created an early learning classroom for children with special needs ages 2-6. The classroom is housed on the University of Memphis campus, and priority enrollment is offered to children of University students, faculty and staff.

Porter-Leath University of Memphis (PLUM) Early Childhood Academy in Orange Mound.
Through the generosity of a $3.5 million grant from the Urban Child Institute, the University has partnered with Porter-Leath to launch a new, innovative initiative designed to help address a critical need for early childhood care in the Memphis community. The state-of-the-art facility will serve children from 6 weeks through pre-K, where care is most crucial and under-provided in Shelby County. Porter-Leath and the University of Memphis have begun the enrollment process and the Academy will open spring 2022.

University High School
The University of Memphis received a competitive, prestigious national planning grant of $200,000 from New Schools Venture Funds to begin development of University High School. Planning is underway and includes the development of a physical space, the school culture and an innovative school curriculum.

The addition of a laboratory high school allows the University to continue expanding its reach into the community by providing quality, collaborative, innovative education focusing on the cultivation of 21st-century skills. It will extend the University’s reach from birth to graduation, with a projected total University Schools enrollment of 1,600.

The high school would be the latest addition to the University’s growing school compendium, rounding out the longstanding Barbara K. Lipman Early Learning & Research Center; Blue Ribbon-designated Campus School; University Middle; a newly launched partnership with the Harwood Center; a state-of-the-art early childhood academy in Orange Mound, provided in partnership with Porter Leath.