



Parent's Guide to Student Achievement (PGSA)

Based on Parents' Bill of Rights - SB 49; Session Law 2023-106

It is the goal of Union Day School to offer parents and guardians access to information regarding student achievement via the district's Parent's Guide to Student Achievement (PGSA). Should you wish to obtain paper copies of this document and its contents, you can make a request through your child's respective school.

1a) How can my child be promoted to the next grade level?	<p>The following are the relevant State and local requirements for a child to be promoted to the next grade level. The relevant part of this link is found in <u>Part 1A (pp. 15-28)</u> regarding retention, promotion, alternatives to show reading proficiency, etc. <u>N.C. Grade Level Promotion Guide</u>.</p> <p>For information about Union Day School's Promotion and Accountability procedures and Graduation Requirements, please consult the student handbook available on our website. <u>Student Handbook</u></p> <p>The following information covers minimum state graduation requirements from the state to earn a diploma and graduate. It also covers specific cohort information. Local school districts and other public school units may require additional courses and credits to graduate. <u>Information on NC High School Graduation Requirements</u>.</p> <p>For more information on Union Day School's graduation requirements, please refer to</p>
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	<u>Graduation Requirements.</u>
1b) What is my child learning at school? How can a parent review these materials?	<p>In North Carolina, all schools use the same Standard Course of Study, determined by the State Board of Education. These standards are the knowledge and skills students should understand by the end of each grade/course.</p> <p>The following standards can be found on the website below: Arts Education, Career Technical Education, Computer Science, English Language Arts, English Language Development, Student Success Standards, Healthful Living, Information and Technology, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and World Language.</p> <p><u>NCDPI Office of Academic Standards website</u></p> <p>Local districts, schools and teachers determine how to teach these standards, including curriculum, supplementary materials, books, etc.</p> <p>Access the links below to understand the curriculum at Union Day School as well as our policies for reviewing the curriculum:</p> <p><u>Academic Overview</u> <u>Lower School Academics</u> <u>Middle School Academics</u> <u>High School Academics</u></p> <p>HEALTHFUL LIVING: Reproductive Health and Safety</p> <p>Student Wellness. Union Day School is committed to a sound school health program that provides students with accurate information and encourages them to be responsible for their own health and behavior. The district recognizes the primary role of</p>



	<p>parents/guardians in providing for the health and well-being of their children and seeks to involve parents/guardians in the schools. The school health education program provided by UDS will meet all requirements established by state and federal law. The school health education program will meet all objectives in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study adopted by the State Board of Education. Curriculum materials are accessible and can be reviewed upon request via email to the appropriate Head of School.</p> <p>The school health education program will be taught to students from grades K-9. In grades 4-9 students are taught Reproductive Health and Safety (Family Life Education). Every effort has been made to provide quality Family Life Education instruction for your child. Teachers have received special training and will only use approved curriculum materials and supplements when teaching in the classroom.</p> <p>UDS will communicate with parents prior to beginning the Reproductive Health and Safety Unit. All parents/guardians have the right to “opt out” of this unit. If you choose to exclude your child, you must do so in writing to the principal and teacher stating you do not want your child to participate. Alternate and comparable assignments will be given.</p>
<p>1c) How will a parent learn about my child’s progress in school or with a class?</p>	<p>Union Day School shares the progress of students through a variety of ways. Progress reports (every 4.5 weeks) and report cards (every 9 weeks) are sent to parents in order to communicate student academic strengths and any areas for improvement. Feedback on conduct is also included.</p> <p>Student Handbook</p>



	<p>Kindergarten students receive report cards aligned to the North Carolina Early Learning Inventory (NC ELI) objectives and dimensions which are aligned to the North Carolina Standard Course of Study.</p> <p>Students in grades 1-5 receive Standards-Based Report Cards. Standards-Based Report Cards provide feedback on individual student's progression toward proficiency on standards aligned to the North Carolina Standard Course of Study. Each quarter reports cards are sent home electronically, and parents may request hard copies of these reports from their home school.</p> <p>Additionally, parents can expect weekly feedback on their child's work. Students in grades 6-12 receive a Traditional Report Card calculated using a 10-point grading scale. Parents have access to their child's grades 24/7 using Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Parents can login to the Parent Portal. If you do not yet have an Infinite Campus login, contact our registrar.</p> <p>The NC transcript contains grades from all high school classes, weighted and unweighted Grade Point Average (GPA), standardized test data and student demographics. Students may ask for an unofficial transcript at any time. CCS high schools provide each senior with three official transcripts at no charge (for college applications, programs, scholarships, etc.). In addition, there is no charge for mid-year senior transcript, final transcript after graduation, and transcript for any award or scholarship requested.</p> <p>State Assessments: Individual Student Reports for end-of-grade/course tests and other state assessments (English language proficiency assessment) are accessible in the parent portal of the NC-SIS (Infinite Campus) or by contacting our registrar. All NC students take end-of-grade assessments for reading and math in grades 3-8.</p>
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	<p>Students take end-of-grade science assessments in grades 5 and 8 .High school students take end-of-course assessments in English II, Biology, NC Math 1, and NC Math 3.</p> <p>Students in Grade 10 take the Pre-ACT. Students in grade 11 take the ACT. Those results are shared by ACT.</p> <p>An Individual Reading Plan (IRP) shall be developed for any student in kindergarten through third grade demonstrating difficulty with reading. An IRP will have specific strategies/ideas that can be done at home.</p> <p>North Carolina’s Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) selected mCLASS DIBELS ® 8th Edition as the state’s K-3 Literacy Assessment. mCLASS is an integrated literacy system based on the Science of Reading. mCLASS has been revised and upgraded from the assessment NC districts have used in the past, based on the latest research and the Science of Reading. It is a valid and reliable assessment, supporting universal literacy screening, and progress monitoring.</p>
1d) What are the qualifications of my child’s teachers?	<p>Parents may look up your child’s teacher licensure status at this website Link to the licensure website.</p> <p>The licensure look up webpage does not include current employment information. Parents may need additional information (i.e., middle name or license number) to identify the teacher accurately. Additionally, some teachers hold certification in another state and may be in the process of transferring their license to North Carolina. Substitute teachers (either short or long term) and teacher assistants may not hold a NC teaching license.</p>



<p>1e) What are the requirements for school enrollment? What are the immunizations needed or recommended for children?</p>	<p>The following are the North Carolina statutory school entry requirements, this includes required immunizations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Admission requirements: GS_115C-364.pdf (ncleg.gov) - Immunization records: GS_130A-155.pdf (ncleg.gov) - Immunization requirements: GS_130A-152.pdf (ncleg.gov) NC GS 130 A-152 graphic (*this law was amended but is not reflected on the current GA page; see SL2023-134.pdf (ncleg.gov), Section 5.8(e) on page 64") <p>Information on required health assessments and immunizations for students are available through the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS). NCDHHS Immunizations Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expected Immunization Schedules <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kindergarten Entry Vaccine Requirements - Seventh Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements - Twelfth Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements
<p>2a) How can a parent help their child learn and make progress?</p>	<p>Engaging with your child about school and what they are learning is pivotal to their learning process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ask questions daily about your child's school day. ● Inquire about topics and assignments they are learning. ● Connect with teachers to understand your child's progress. ● Ask the teachers how you can help your child learn. ● Attend different events at your child's school to stay connected and learn how to



support them.

UDS Resources:

[Learning Resources Link](#)

Parent Guides for Academic Standards:

The following grade level guides contain information to support parents and caregivers with understanding the North Carolina Standard Course of Study. The purpose of these guides is to inform parents about the standards, as well as provide useful strategies to incorporate at home.

Parent Guides for [ELA](#)

Parent Guide for [ELD](#)

Math Parent Guides: [K-5](#), [6-8](#)

[Social Studies Parent Guides](#)

[Science Parent Guides](#)

Reading and Literacy Support:

This following site provides resources for families to practice and reinforce important literacy skills with their children who are being assessed with mCLASS reading assessments: [Amplify Parent Resources](#)

Home activities, printables, and games to support reading and literacy are also available at North Carolina's [Digital Children's Reading Initiative](#) (DCRI). These activities include the following topics, Pre-K-Grade 5:

(1) Phonemic awareness

	<p>(2) Phonics (3) Vocabulary (4) Fluency (5) Comprehension (6) Oral language</p> <p>Printable activities will be made available for students who do not have digital access at home and may be provided to all students as a supplement to digital resources. For paper copies, please contact <i>the Head of Lower School</i> . DCRI Printables for Families</p>
<p>2b) How can a parent help their child develop citizenship, social skills and respect for others?</p>	<p>At Union Day School, we promote the IB learner traits in all grade levels to support the holistic development of our students. The IB learner profile traits include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inquirers: They develop their natural curiosity and acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research. 2. Knowledgeable: They explore concepts, ideas, and issues that have local and global significance. 3. Thinkers: They exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively. 4. Communicators: They understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively. 5. Principled: They act with integrity and honesty and take responsibility for their actions. 6. Open-minded: They understand and appreciate their own cultures and personal histories and are open to the perspectives, values, and traditions of other individuals and communities. 7. Caring: They show empathy, compassion, and respect towards the needs and feelings of others.

	<p>8. Risk-takers: They approach uncertainty with forethought and determination.</p> <p>9. Balanced: They understand the importance of intellectual, physical, and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being.</p> <p>10. Reflective: They give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience.</p> <p>By fostering these traits, we aim to develop well-rounded individuals who are prepared to make positive contributions to their communities and the wider world.</p> <p>Union Day School also embeds Portrait of a Graduate skills in the classroom and school setting. These durable skills were developed by NCDPI and will support a child's understanding of citizenship, social skills and respect for others.</p> <p>Grade level specific resources, including developmentally appropriate milestones can be found in the following resource repository NC Portrait of a Graduate - Durable Skills.</p> <p>Parents are encouraged to partner with their student's guidance counselor, teacher, and Head of School, in their work to support academic achievement, develop interpersonal skills, strengthen mental wellness, and explore career activities after graduation. School guidance counselor staff encourage students to learn skills in emotional regulation to support healthy decision-making skills and emotional development.</p>
<p>2c) How can a parent help their child develop citizenship, social skills and respect for others?</p>	<p>In conjunction with the IB Learner profile traits, Union Day School embeds Portrait of a Graduate skills in the classroom and school setting. These durable skills were developed by NCDPI and will support a child's understanding of citizenship, social skills and respect for others.</p>



	<p>Grade level specific resources, including developmentally appropriate milestones can be found in the following resource repository NC Portrait of a Graduate - Durable Skills.</p>
<p>2d) How can a parent strengthen communication with the school/teacher?</p>	<p>Communication with parents and families is very important to us. Communication is carried out through multiple channels: our website, school's social media, weekly school newsletters (via email and text), and Infinite Campus (IC) Messenger (mass email and text).</p> <p>Below are a list of platforms for communication between home/school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Facebook ○ Instagram ○ Toddle (grades 6-12) <p>Tips for Parents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Visit the Curriculum and Instruction website for parent/family resources. ● Stay informed of school activities by visiting school websites, registering your ParentSquare account, and reviewing newsletters and notes. ● Check Infinite Campus weekly (grades 6-12) for missing assignments and current grades. ● Review progress reports and report cards with your child. Set goals with your child. ● Communicate with your child's teacher about his/her progress and upcoming events. ● Monitor homework by ensuring your child completes his/her homework and it is turned in on time. ● Talk to your child about his/her school experience. Indicate to your child that you expect school to be a positive experience.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Encourage daily reading by providing opportunities for your child to read both fiction and non-fiction books and articles. ● Utilize digital resources to support your child’s individual learning. Check school and Teacher newsletters and Toddle (grades 6-12) for more details. <p>The following are NCDPI developed parent guides that provide suggestions for building strong relationships with your child’s teacher and supporting communication between home and school.</p> <p>Building Strong Relationships with Your Child’s Teacher (NC Rethink Education Program)</p> <p>How You Can Use Questions to Support Your Child’s Learning (NC Rethink Education Program)</p>
<p>3) What services are available for parents and their children?</p>	<p>Union Day School utilizes MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) as a service available to all students. MTSS is a proactive approach that uses data and tailored instruction to help all students succeed academically, socially, and emotionally.</p> <p>Oftentimes, UDS teachers are available for after school tutoring. Please, reach out to your child’s teacher for tutoring information. Upper School students have time for reinforcement of skills built into their day.</p> <p>High School Students: NC Promise Program</p>



<p>4) What are opportunities for parents to participate with school?</p>	<p>Volunteer Opportunities</p> <p>Volunteers must complete a background check and be on file with the school before volunteering. Background checks must be done with Employment Screenings Inc. (ESI). https://employmentscreeninginc.com/ Volunteers are responsible for the background check cost.</p>
<p>5. What are the rigorous academic programs available to my child? How can I learn more about them?</p>	<p>Union Day School provides a range of options for students to explore and develop their interests and skills at their academic level.</p> <p>UDS is an official International Baccalaureate for the Middle Years Programme (grades 6-10) and Diploma Programme (grades 11-2).</p> <p>For more information about International Baccalaureate programs: IB MYP IB DP</p> <p>The Innovative Education Initiatives Act (SL 2003-277, Senate Bill 656) and the Cooperative Innovative High School Programs statute (§ 115C-238.50-.55) encourage Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to partner with their local postsecondary Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) to provide cooperative programs jointly in high schools and colleges/universities that will expand students' opportunities for education success through high quality instructional programming. NC Cooperative Innovative High Schools</p>



Academically and/or Intellectually Gifted (AIG): In NC, school districts must identify and serve academically or intellectually gifted (AIG) K-12 students. These are students who are performing, or have the potential of performing, at high levels of accomplishment in intellectual and/or specific academic areas, such as reading and/or math when compared with other students of their age, or in their grade level, experience, or environment.

At Union Day School, students are often provided the following services:

- Differentiated curriculum and instruction with flexible student groups;
- Accelerated opportunities (subject and/or grade acceleration) (IB/Honors courses, dual enrollment courses)
- Enrichment experiences, which may be during the school day or beyond, and may be within the regular calendar year or may include summer opportunities; and
- Other opportunities for extension of content standard.

Services for AIG students may be provided by AIG personnel or within the regular classroom by teachers trained to meet the needs of gifted students. (*Share other service delivery personnel as needed)

Contact the respective Head of School for specific questions regarding AIG.

Honors Level Courses: UDS students have access to a variety of honors level courses in high school. Honors level courses typically have a faster pace than standard level courses. They offer additional rigor, complexity and creativity than standard level courses.

Career and College Promise (CCP): Union Day School partners with Central Piedmont



Community College to offer dual enrollment opportunities through the CCP program. If your high school student qualifies, students may earn high school and college credit.

CCP courses may be taken in the College Transfer or Career and Technical Education pathway. These courses count for both high school and college credit. Tuition is free for families.

To learn more about this program, contact your child's high school counselor or the Head of High School.

Students should consider this when thinking about taking advanced courses:

- **Ability** – How do you work independently?
- **Study Habits** – How diligently are you willing to work to be successful?
- **Work Ethic** – How will you manage the increased homework (1-2 hours per night per AP Course)?
- **Interest**– How interested are you in the curriculum? Check it out on www.collegeboard.org if needed.
- **Extra-Curricular Commitments** – How busy are you outside of school?
- **Post-Secondary Goals** – How do you plan on meeting your after high school goals? If a four-year university is a consideration, you may be more qualified if you take AP courses.

Colleges and universities may likely offer college credit for these courses if your child scores a 3 or above on the exam. All of the colleges in the UNC System award college credit.



More information is available on the [CollegeBoard](#) website.

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses:

Advanced Placement (AP) is a program developed by the College Board to offer college-level curricula and examinations to high school students.

In NC, 40 Advanced Placement courses are offered in public high schools. Several AP courses satisfy graduation requirements for NC students as outlined in [State Board policy](#).

AP exams are free for NC public high school students enrolled in these courses. *If a student registers for an exam late, there will be a late fee.*

Colleges and universities may likely offer college credit for these courses if your child scores a 3 or above on the exam. All of the colleges in the UNC System offer credit.

More information is available on the [NCDPI AP website](#).

The IB Diploma Programme takes place during the 11th and 12th grade, with 9th and 10th grade courses providing the foundations necessary for success in the program. The rigorous course of study provides a liberal arts curriculum from a global perspective, university-level work, and required examinations that are developed and marked on an international standard. The IB Career Programme takes place in the 11th and 12th grade and allows students to access the same rigorous content of the Diploma Programme while also introducing them to a field of career study.



NCVPS [North Carolina Virtual Public School \(NCVPS\)](#) is NC's state supplemental program and leader in online education, providing inclusive learning opportunities for students across the state. Founded in 2007, with a strong commitment to ensuring quality education for all students, regardless of location, NCVPS has over 16 years of experience serving diverse learners.

Students may enroll in NCVPS courses for a variety of reasons. Work with the school's counselor if you are interested in taking NCVPS courses.

Junior Marshal

Union Day selects juniors with the highest academic averages to be junior marshals. Junior Marshal is an honor bestowed on the top academic students from the high school junior class. Junior Marshals attend the Senior Awards Ceremony and Graduation in an honorary and service capacity.

Honor Graduates are classified as follows and weighted GPAs are not rounded up (graduation cords are given prior to graduation):

Summa Cum Laude	4.320+
Magna Cum Laude	4.000-4.319
Cum Laude	3.625-3.999



6) What school choices are available for my child?	<p>In addition to the conventional school option, where students are assigned based on their residence, NC provides many options for students and families.</p> <p>Charter Schools Charter schools are public schools of choice that are authorized by the State Board of Education and operated by independent non-profit boards of directors. State and local tax dollars are the primary funding sources for charter schools, which have open enrollment and cannot discriminate in admissions, associate with any religion or religious group, or charge-tuition. Charter schools operate with freedom from many of the regulations that govern district schools, but charter schools are held accountable through the State assessment and accountability system.</p> <p>Homeschool For information on how to start a homeschool visit: Homeschool Information</p>
7) What rights do students with disabilities have based on the law?	<p>For students suspected of or identified with a disability by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the following links provide important information regarding the procedural safeguards available to ensure a free, appropriate, public education.</p> <p>The Exceptional Children Division of North Carolina Department of Public Instruction is looking for all children and youth ages birth through 21 with special needs who may not be receiving the help needed. These include children and youth with physical disabilities, emotional disabilities and/or intellectual disabilities, and children and youth with suspected disabilities who are highly mobile, migrant and/or homeless. If your child has a</p>



	<p>disability, or you suspect that he/she may have a disability please contact the Exceptional Children Director by calling 704-256-1494. Project Child Find link for more information.</p>
<p>8) What is the contact information for the schools and district office?</p>	<p>Parents and guardians may contact Union Day School at (704) 256-1494.</p> <p>Union Day School Website Union Day School Staff Directory</p>
<p>9) What are some resources to support my child's health and wellbeing? What immunizations are required and when should they be scheduled?</p>	<p>Information on required health assessments and immunizations for students are available through the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS)</p> <p>Immunizations</p> <p>Health Assessment</p> <p>Annual Health Assessment and Immunization Compliance Reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expected Immunization Schedules <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kindergarten Entry Vaccine Requirements - Seventh Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements - Twelfth Grade Entry Vaccine Requirements <p>Information about Influenza, Meningococcal disease, and HPV are from our school nurse.</p>



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