



UNITED SCHOOLS NETWORK
UNITED PREPARATORY ACADEMY

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New School, New Grades, Same Mission

The leaders of the United Schools Network (USN) are excited to announce the launch of their third campus, United Preparatory Academy (UPrep). Opening in August 2014, the mission of UPrep is to prepare elementary school students to achieve academic excellence and become citizens of integrity. The school is focused on preparing students in grades K – 5 for the most demanding middle schools, high schools, and colleges.

On Monday, September 30th, UPrep was awarded the U.S. Department of Education Charter Schools Program (CSP) grant in the amount of \$525,000, to be disbursed over a three-year period. The purpose of the CSP is to expand the number of high-quality charter schools available to students across the nation by providing financial assistance for the planning, program design, and initial implementation of charter schools. The UPrep proposal was one of 16 awarded from a field of 71 national competitors.

UPrep plans to replicate the tremendous success of the two USN middle schools, Columbus Collegiate Academy – Main St. and Columbus Collegiate Academy – West, the top two charter middle schools in Franklin County. USN leadership is excited about placing students on the path to college beginning in Kindergarten. The school currently has plans to launch on the west side of Columbus, in the Franklinton / Hilltop area.

"These funds will give hundreds more students a solid start to core competencies at an earlier age. This is incredibly important for us as the majority of our students come to USN middle schools 2 to 3 grade levels behind in all subjects. UPrep students will receive an excellent education starting in Kindergarten, ensuring they are ready to tackle the rigors of middle school without losing time in remediation," said Andrew Boy, CEO of United Schools Network.

The founding School Director of UPrep, Ben Pacht, is an accomplished urban educator who has served as a teacher and Dean of Students at the CCA – Main St. campus. "The UPrep team is excited to provide a college-preparatory elementary option for the students and families of the Franklinton and Hilltop areas," states Mr. Pacht.

Key Facts

- UPrep is enrolling 120 kindergarten and 1st grade students for the 2014-2015 school year.
- UPrep will grow one grade per year until fully enrolled with 360 K-5 students.
- UPrep will have a longer school day (8am-4pm) and a longer school year.
- Students will wear a simple uniform and adhere to a strict code of conduct.
- The academically rigorous curriculum will focus on foundational concepts in literacy, mathematics, science, and social studies.
- Regular homework and required at-home reading will ensure students progress quickly.
- All students will have a character education course focused on the school's values of Grit, Respect, Optimism, Wonder, Teamwork, Empathy, Achievement, and Mission.
- School trips will expose UPrep students to local colleges and museums.
- A partnership with After-School All-Stars Ohio will ensure all students have access to a comprehensive after-school program that provides health, fitness, and enrichment activities.

Additional information about United Schools Network and UPrep can be found at www.unitedschoolsnetwork.org.

Questions related to United Schools Network or UPrep can be directed to Chief Executive Officer Andrew Boy at (614)205-0250.