



UNITED CHURCH NURSERY SCHOOL

PARENT HANDBOOK

2016-2017

January 2017

Dear Parents,

We at United Church Nursery School (UCNS) are dedicated to pre-school education. In a nurturing environment, our staff facilitates the social, physical, intellectual, emotional and creative growth of every child in our school. We work closely with parents to ensure each child develops age appropriate skills through play and exploration.

Our facility includes three large, well furnished classrooms and a large playground complete with swings, play structures, a sandbox, slides, and other outdoor equipment appropriate for the pre-school child.

UCNS encourages parental participation in school activities and close, honest communication between teacher and parent. Our school is operated under the guidance of the UCNS Board. This Board, comprised of UCNS parents and church members, work in cooperation with the staff and church in managing the school.

Our school was founded in 1966 as an outreach program of the United Church of Rowayton to serve the children in our community. We have provided a quality pre-school education for over 800 children in its 50-year history. We are licensed by the State of Connecticut's Department of Public Health under Connecticut Child Care Center Regulations.

We hope your family's experience with UCNS will be fun, educational, and enriching.

WELCOME TO UCNS!

Paula Keller
Director, UCNS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

OUR OBJECTIVES	4
OUR PROGRAM	4
Eligibility	4
Twos	5
Threes	5
Fours	5
Extended Day	5
Enrichment Program	6
ENROLLING IN OUR SCHOOL	6
Enrollment Priority	6
Application & Tuition Agreement	7
Scholarships	7
Withdrawing from School	7
OUR SCHOOL DAY	7
Arrival & Departure	7
A Few Words About Being On Time	8
Absence From School	8
Illness	8
Clothing	8
Outdoor Play	9
When It Snows	9
Snacks	9
Celebrating Birthdays	9
Toys From Home	10
Show & Tell	10
Share a Story/Share a Talent	10
Special Occasions	10
CHILDREN'S RECORDS	10
EMERGENCY EVACUATION	10
PROCEDURE FOR FILING COMPLAINTS	10
DISCIPLINE POLICY	11
ABUSE AND NEGLECT POLICY	11
OUR STAFF	12
OUR BOARD	13
OUR SCHOOL CONSULTANTS	13

OUR OBJECTIVES AND PHILOSOPHY

Young children naturally learn through their own activity and discovery. The UCNS classroom is designed with this in mind. Children learn through active exploration and interaction with adults, other children, and materials that are developmentally appropriate. Throughout the school year, our objectives are the social, physical, intellectual, creative and emotional growth of your child. We offer a curriculum that:

- Develops socialization and listening skills
- Increases the development of fine and gross motor skills
- Promotes sound health, safety, and nutritional practices
- Enhances cognitive skills based on individual readiness
- Develops a child's problem solving abilities
- Stimulates imagination
- Promotes creative expression in art, music, and dramatics
- Improves self esteem and independence

We strive to provide these things in a setting where your child feels loved and safe.

In addition, we know that family involvement in a child's school is an essential ingredient in optimizing a child's education. We promote your family's involvement by:

- Holding conferences twice a year in November and May for the Threes, Fours and Pre-K.
- Sending home frequent updates to parents describing what we are doing in the classroom.
- Asking that you consider serving on our Parent Advisory Board, or volunteer on as needed basis.
- Holding special events for families and parents.
- Encouraging you to visit at any time. *Join in our fun!*

Each year, a brief orientation for child and parent will occur prior to the start of school. This allows the child time to visit "their school," meet their teachers and acclimate to their new classroom. At this time, parents will have an opportunity to talk to their child's teacher, and remit all required paperwork.

OUR PROGRAM

Eligibility

UCNS is open to all children regardless of race, religion or creed, who may benefit from our type of program.

Children enrolled must attain their class age by December 31. The UCNS Board reserves the right to withdraw any child who doesn't meet the requirements for functioning effectively in a group setting.

UCNS, licensed by the State of Connecticut, requires that children enrolled in the Threes, Fours Pre- K and Extended Day programs be toilet trained. UCNS is not licensed to change diapers.

Twos

This program is a "hand in hand" program. There are two classes of eight children, accompanied and supervised by a parent, or other caregiver. Each class meets one afternoon a week under the guidance of one teacher. Children must turn 2 by December 31st.

Tuesday 3:30-5:00 \$1040/year
Wednesday 3:30-5:00 \$1040/year

Threes

In this program, two sessions of nine children meet three mornings a week. One teacher, plus an assistant, supervises each class. On Wednesdays, the two classes are combined, and the children are supervised by three teachers. Children must be 3 by December 31st. Children entering this program must be toilet trained.

Mon./Wed./Thurs. 9:15-11:45 \$4325/year
Tues./Wed./Fri. 9:15-11:45 \$4325/year

Fours

This class meets five mornings per week. There are 18 children in the class with three teachers. Children must turn 4 by December 31st. Children entering this program must be toilet trained.

Monday-Friday 9:15-11:45 \$5900/year

Fives (Pre-K)

This "Kindergarten Readiness" program is for children who have completed one year of a fours class, but need more time before heading off to kindergarten. Our five's curriculum dovetails with the 4's curriculum, building on prior knowledge and developmentally appropriate skills. Many themes are used to integrate the subjects of language arts, math, social studies, science and social skills. The pre-k class typically has twelve children, although that may vary depending on enrollment. The class is supervised by two teachers.

Monday-Friday 9:30-1:30. \$8400/year

Extended Day

This afternoon program is offered to children enrolled in our Threes, and Fours, and Pre-K classes. Eligible children who are not enrolled at UCNS may also attend with permission from the UCNS Executive Board. Extended Day meets 11:45-3:00 Monday through Thursday beginning in late September (see calendar) and on Fridays until 1:30pm. There are two pick-up times, "Lunch Bunch" at 1:30 or "Full Afternoon" at 3:00. There is a maximum of 20 children under the supervision of two teachers. This is a theme-based program, with emphasis on different topics each day.

Sign up is done on a first-come-first-serve basis by one of two ways. Parents can sign up online, through SignupGenius, or on the sign up sheets located outside of the three's classroom. Generally, you can sign your child up to eight weeks in advance. If you wish to remove your child's name from a given day, please do so before 8am the day of to avoid being charged, and so that we may offer the spot to a child on the wait list.

Daily Rates

Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri 11:45-1:30 or 1:30-3:00.....\$20 per day

Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs 11:45-3:00.....\$40 per day

Please send your child with a **nut-free lunch** and beverage each day he/she attends Extended Day. We recommend simple nutritious foods your child can easily manage. Please do not send candy or sugary foods. Please include an ice pack in your child's lunch box. Label the lunch box clearly with your child's name. When packing your child's lunch, please include everything they will need (utensils, straws, etc.) and note that we cannot re-heat lunches.

Enrichment Program

Every month we will have outside "guests" who will share with us their special talents and professions to enhance our curriculum. Past in-house events and activities have included visits by community helpers (police, dental hygienist, animal caregivers), musical artists, mobile science lab, parents, and seasonal "Talks with the Children" led by Pastor John Livingston.

ENROLLING IN OUR SCHOOL

Enrollment priority is as follows:

- Current students
- Siblings of current or former students
- Children of church members
- New students

UCNS will consider the boy/girl ratio when placing children.

In December of the current school year, current students, siblings and alumni will register for the following year.

For families of church members and all other new students not affiliated with the school or the church, inquiries regarding the following school year will be considered on or after October 1st, and applications will be accepted beginning January 1st.

Application & Tuition Agreement

All applications must be returned by mail. A \$80 non-refundable, non-transferable registration fee is due with a completed application.

Every family will sign a tuition agreement stating they agree to enroll their child in UCNS, and will comply with our fee structure and payment schedule. A \$500 non-refundable or transferable deposit must accompany each agreement to ensure a place. This deposit is included in the annual tuition fee.

Enrollment is for the entire school year. Fees will not be prorated for absences or days lost due to inclement weather. Payments must be made by CHECK or MONEY ORDER made out to "UNITED CHURCH NURSERY SCHOOL." Payments can be left in the UCNS Treasurer's Mailbox at school or mailed to:

United Church Nursery School
P.O. Box 157
Rowayton, CT 06853
Attn: Treasurer

A \$25 fee will be assessed for each check returned to the school for insufficient funds.

Withdrawing From School

Should it become necessary to withdraw your child for any reason, written notification must be sent to the Director as soon as possible. Upon withdrawal, 75% of unused portion of a child's paid tuition, minus the deposit, will be refunded if the vacant spot can be filled within 30 days. Only the Executive Board is authorized to approve refunds.

Scholarships

Scholarships are available for children who would otherwise be unable to attend UCNS. Please contact the Director for more information.

OUR SCHOOL DAY

Arrival & Departure

Please park in the parking lot upon arrival and escort your child to their classroom. Parents of Three's, Four's and Five's must sign in and sign out your child on the daily class attendance sheet. If someone other than the normal caregiver will be picking up the child, you must notify the teacher and provide a written note or fill out a blue sign out slip and place with the attendance sheet. There will be no exceptions to this.

If a child is not picked up, the parents and emergency contacts will be called, and the child will remain in the nursery school area with assigned teachers until a parent or emergency contact arrives. A staff member will remain with the child until a parent or emergency contact can be located and the child is picked up.

A Few Words About Being On Time

It's very important that you are on time, both arriving at school in the morning, and picking up at the end of the day. Late arriving children miss many learning opportunities that occur during free play at the start of our day. In addition, young children need the time we allow for free play; time to choose an activity, time to get involved, time to talk with friends, time to complete what they're doing and time to pick up. When a late arriving child doesn't have the time he or she needs he may become frustrated, and disruptive. However, please don't arrive earlier than 9:15 a.m. Our Teachers need time to prepare their classrooms for the day, and are not free to supervise children before the starting time.

Pick-up Policy

At the end of the day most children are tired. As other parents and caregivers arrive, your child may become unnecessarily anxious if you are late. We understand that unforeseen situations

can happen that may prevent you from being on time. Therefore, we allow each child to be picked up late three times over the course of the school year. After the third incident, our late pick up policy will go into effect. For every minute that you are late picking up your child, we will assess a \$1.00 fee. This can add up quickly! So please, remember to plan accordingly so you can pick your child up on time!

Absence

If your child will not be attending school, please call the school and inform the teacher, or director, or leave a message on voice mail. It is preferred that you email the teacher, and copy the director as soon as you know your child will be absent. Please let us know if your child was signed up for Extended Day, in order that we may let a wait listed child know there is an opening.

Illness

A child should not attend UCNS with any of the following symptoms:

FEVER	UNDIAGNOSED RASH	LICE
VOMITING	DIARRHEA	
SORE THROAT	RED/DISCHARGING EYES	
SEVERE COLD	PERSISTENT COUGH	

OR ANY OTHER CONTAGIOUS DISEASE OR INFECTION!

You should contact UCNS if your child comes down with a *COMMUNICABLE* disease. When a communicable disease has been reported, notes will be sent home immediately to all parents and a copy of the notice will be posted on the Parents bulletin board. **NO CHILD WILL BE ADMITTED INTO THE SCHOOL UNLESS HE/SHE HAS BEEN FEVER-FREE AND OFF FEVER REDUCING MEDICATION FOR AT LEAST 24 HOURS.** *UCNS Staff will not administer any medication during the child's school day, but parents are welcome on the premises at all times to give medication., unless the child has an Individual Health Plan on file in the school for a specific medication. However, parents are welcome at the school at any time to administer medication to their child. Please refer to UCNS Policy on Administration of Medication in this handbook for further information.*

Clothing

Children will be playing hard and they should be dressed for close encounters with paint, glue, sand, dirt, play-dough, water and cooking ingredients. Please send a separate set of clothing to school in a clearly labeled ziploc bag in case a change is needed. **PLEASE LABEL ALL CLOTHING** - there is a Lost and Found box in the hall if anything is lost. Make sure that you send in new clothing as the seasons change so that the change of clothes is appropriate for the weather.

Outdoor Play

Since outdoor play occurs every day that the weather permits, dress your child appropriately. This means warm clothes including hats, mittens, snowpants and boots in cold weather and raingear on rainy days.

When It Snows

UCNS follows the Norwalk Public Schools' schedule with regard to inclement weather. In the event that the Norwalk Public School closes school for the day, **UCNS will also be closed**. In the event of a Norwalk Public School delayed opening, **UCNS will open 10:00 AM**. If severe weather conditions begin in the morning and the public school has an early dismissal, **UCNS will close at 11:45 a.m. Extended Day and Lunch Bunch will be canceled. ALL students must be picked up by 11:45 a.m.** Snow days will not be made up. Allowances are made for snow days when planning the school calendar.

Norwalk Public School closing information may be heard on Norwalk radio stations: **WNLK 1350AM & WEBE 108FM**, and Connecticut Cablevision **Channel 12**. **UCNS will send an email, and also notification through our REMIND website. Parents are required to register their number on this site.**

Snacks

A nutritious and nut-free snack, along with water, is provided each morning by the school each day. Typical snacks include crackers, fresh fruit or cheese and are prepared by the teachers with occasional help from the students.

Celebrating Birthdays

As we are a Nut-Aware school, we prohibit parents from bringing in cupcakes and the like for a child's birthday. If you wish to celebrate your child's birthday, you may schedule a date with your child's Teacher to bring in a birthday craft or peanut-free treat to share with the class. Any treats that are brought in must be labeled peanut free. You may not distribute invitations to your child's birthday party at school **UNLESS** every child in the class is invited.

Toys From Home

Children are not allowed to bring toys to school. Toys designed for home play are often inappropriate and unsafe for use by large groups of children. Also young children may find it difficult to share their toys as they may feel the toy is a part of them. Except for toys that are needed in the very opening days of school or to ease your child's transition from home to school, we ask that you leave your child's toys at home or in the car to greet him/her when you pick the child up.

Guns, swords, or other toys of destruction are not allowed at school. To allow children to express feelings of aggression, we suggest play-dough to pound (good for manual dexterity), hammer and nails (good for visual-motor perception), or finger-paint (to soothe jangled feelings while practicing a developmental rhythmic movement).

Parent Participation in Class

Parents participation in the classroom is always welcome and encouraged. You may want to come in and read one of his/her child's favorite stories to the class, or share a special talent, or tradition. This is a favorite time for your child to be able to share his/her parent.

Special Occasions

UCNS schedules a few very special events for parents and families. In September or early October, there will be a special "Parents Night" where parents can come to their child's classroom to meet with the teachers, learn about the classroom, meet other parents from the class, and find out what's going on this year. During December, in celebration of the Holiday season, the Fours put on a morning Holiday show full of music, songs and fingerplays. We also celebrate "Dad's Day" by inviting them in with their child on a Saturday morning. At the end of the school year, all our UCNS families are invited to Bayley Beach for the Annual Picnic Lunch.

CHILDREN'S RECORDS

All children must have a completed registration application on file. The following 3 forms must be on file, and up to date at all times, for every child in our program:

CHILD HEALTH RECORD- This form must show that your child has had a complete physical with the past 12 months, and has received the required immunizations. **NO STUDENT WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE SCHOOL WITHOUT A CURRENT HEALTH FORM.**

PERMISSION AGREEMENT- This gives the staff permission to call an ambulance, and perform emergency CPR if necessary. It also gives your child permission to use the playground, and take walks with their teacher on the property. Please update as necessary.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION- This gives us important names and telephone numbers of whom to call when your child becomes ill or has an accident. Please update as necessary.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION

In the event of an emergency where the school would need to be evacuated, the children would be moved to Hilltop Homes (next door to the church), which is our designated Emergency Shelter. Teachers will bring emergency phone contact numbers for all children.

PROCEDURE FOR FILING COMPLAINTS

This procedure is for child day care programs, which are licensed under the authority of Connecticut General Statutes 19a-79-1 through 19a-79-12.

Most problems within a day care center are non-life threatening and can be resolved by:

- Discussing the problem with the classroom teacher
- Discussing the problem with the program Director

If the problem is not resolved, you may contact the Department of Public Health, Day Care Licensing Unit.

In case of an emergency, notify the Department of Public Health as soon as the emergency is under control.

In cases of abuse/neglect or life threatening situations, contact the Department of Children and Families at 1-800-842-2288 and the Department of Public Health, Day Care Licensing Unit at 1-800-282-6063.

ALL INSPECTION REPORTS AND COMPLIANCE LETTERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR YOUR INSPECTION AT THIS DAY CARE PROGRAM OR BY CONTACTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH - DAY CARE LICENSING UNIT AT:

410 Capitol Avenue-MS#12 DAC	1-800-282-6063
P.O. Box 340308	1-800-439-0437
Hartford, CT 06134-0308	(860) 509-8045

THE SAME PROCESS WORKS FOR COMPLIMENTS AS WELL!

DISCIPLINE POLICY

All UCNS Staff use the following disciplinary measures in order to encourage self-control and self-esteem in each child:

- Careful supervision of children to prevent conflicts before they arise.
- The use of words and mediation to settle disputes and conflicts among children.
- Encourage and support positive interactions.
- Set consistent and developmentally appropriate limits and expectations for children that reflect their understanding and safety.
- Use redirection techniques to encourage appropriate behavior.
- If necessary, the teacher and child will find an alternative place or activity within the school until the child is ready to rejoin the activity.

BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT POLICY

UCNS Procedures for Handling Atypical Development and Challenging Behaviors:

Children's development and behavior is taken seriously at UCNS. We feel strongly that it is the responsibility of our staff and administration to provide a safe, supportive, and developmentally appropriate program to all children to the highest degree possible. Therefore, we will adhere to the following policy on the management of children with atypical development and/or challenging behaviors.

Definitions:

Atypical development shall be defined as that which does not meet established norms for children of the same age group in any of the domains of development including physical, language, motor, self-help, cognitive, and social/emotional domains. Challenging behaviors shall be defined as aggression such as biting, hitting, pushing, kicking or other potentially dangerous acts toward other children or staff. Also, inappropriate language, inability to follow rules and comply with directives, escaping from the classroom, outbursts and tantrums, disruption of classroom

activities or any act which endangers the health and safety of self or others, damages property, or disrupts program quality. The step-by-step process for assessing, referring, and accommodating children with atypical development and/or challenging behaviors is as follows:

Teachers will bring concerns about a child's development immediately to the attention of the director who will document those concerns and place them in the child's confidential file. Parents will be notified when any behavior of the child is in question. At the director's discretion, an education, health, and/or mental health consultant who has contracted with the program can be contacted for the purpose of advice on assessing, referring, managing and/or accommodating the behavior/development of concern. In many cases, such informal guidance is enough to handle those concerns satisfactorily. Parents will be informed about how these issues will be addressed at the center before there are any modifications to the child's program and to share the recommendations of any consultant.

In the event that the child's development remains of concern, the parent will be informed by the director. At this time, it will be the responsibility of the parent to seek evaluation services through one of the following choices:

- Health care specialist (if a physical concern) of the parent's choice
- Mental Health professional (if a behavioral concern) of parent's choice
- Public school early intervention/special education programs (children over 3)
- Connecticut's Birth to Three System (for children under 3)
- Public services (Help Me Grow, Early Childhood Consultation Partnership, etc.)

Any fees related to such evaluations shall be the sole responsibility of the family unless otherwise agreed upon in advance by the child care program.

Parents will be required to submit evidence of contact/appointment with such services within one week of the referral or the child's attendance will be suspended until the evidence of contact has been made. The program agrees to cooperate with consultants and professionals in allowing them to make assessments of the child and his/her educational environment on-site. No information about the child will be provided to these agencies or individuals without parent's signed consent.

The parent agrees to provide the results and recommendations of assessments to the center for the purpose of appropriate program planning for the child. This information may be presented in writing or in a personal meeting between the parent, center staff, and outside agency or professional. Any cost of such planning meetings will be the responsibility of the parent unless otherwise agreed upon. The center agrees to follow professional recommendations regarding the accommodation and support of the child's development to the greatest extent possible while maintaining program integrity and within budgetary, regulatory, or building restrictions that would prohibit making modifications or accommodations to the program. The parent agrees to provide a copy of an IFSP or IEP and permission for the program to communicate with special education

personnel and therapists for the purpose of consistency and support in a detailed plan of care as required by DPH. This program is fully compliant with the ADA.

support service professionals, therapists, and special educators will have full access and cooperation to provide services on site during regular business hours provided they are oriented and agree to follow program policies and procedures. Program transitions will be facilitated by the center in cooperation with other service agencies and transportation systems.

A re-evaluation of the success of any recommendations will take place at a time set by the director, generally 7 to 30 days from implementation of any recommendations. At that time, a determination will be made to either continue successful programming, modify programming for another 7 to 30 days, or recommend an alternative placement for the child. In such cases, or in the case of non-compliance with this policy, parents will have 2 weeks to make new arrangements unless the child is a danger to himself or others, or disruptive to program quality in which case dismissal from the program shall be immediate.

The method and schedule for continual monitoring of the child's growth and development will be determined by the director and will be dependent on the effectiveness of the program for the child. Parents have the right to access any information regarding their child's program and/or development and will be immediately informed should any issues of concern occur. Parents have the right to make on-site visits at any time the program is in session.

ABUSE AND NEGLECT POLICY

UCNS requires its Staff to report any and all situations involving Child Abuse and/or Neglect. If any of our staff, in their professional capacity, has reason to suspect that a child has been the victim of child abuse or neglect, they will report the incident to a Law Enforcement Agency within 24 hours and the hotline numbers above.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION POLICY

Medication Policy

UCNS policy regarding medication is restricted to the dispensing of oral and inhalant medication for children who have asthma, allergies, or other conditions that might require the administration of emergency medication. The dispensing of such medication can only be done when the following conditions, as required by the state of Connecticut, are met:

--Doctor's order has been completed, signed, and stamped by the pediatrician and signed by the parent or guardian on a state approved form.

--Medication date has not expired and has been prescribed for the child specified on the doctor's order. The parent is responsible for providing the medication. It must be presented to UCNS in the original container with appropriate labels.

--At UCNS, the medication will be stored and kept in a cabinet or refrigerator, as appropriate for the medication. UCNS staff members will maintain current certifications to dispense these medications. Medication administration will be recorded on a state approved form and any medication administration errors will be reported to the parent

OUR STAFF

Paula Keller (Director)

Paula, the mother of three, holds a BS in Business Administration from Trinity College, and earned her CT Directors Credential requirements through Norwalk Community College. Prior to joining UCNS, Paula worked for much of her career in the recruiting industry. She has worked for several national firms, managing multiple offices in the Northeast, and consulting for offices all over the country. Paula volunteered at The New Canaan Nature Center Nursery School and Five Mile River Nursery School, where her children attended. Paula has also volunteered extensively at Rowayton Elementary School and is a former member of their PTA Executive Board.

Judi Livingston (Fours Teacher)

Judi received a BFA in Music Education from Long Island University. She taught pre-school in NY for six years, prior to moving to Rowayton with her husband John, pastor of the United Church of Rowayton. The mother of three, Judi teaches piano to area children and sings both professionally and as a member of the United Church of Rowayton choir. Judi begins her twenty-seventh year at UCNS and has her Child Development Associate credentials, as well as a Head Teacher certification.

Teresa Cunningham(Fours Teacher)

Prior to joining UCNS in 2015, Teresa was a Threes Teacher at the Community Cooperative Nursery School in Rowayton. Teresa has taken extensive courses in Early Childhood Education and holds a Certificate in Early Childhood Education from Norwalk Community College. She's the mother of three and lives in Rowayton. Before joining UCNS full time, Teresa worked for years at our summer camp.

Elizabeth Haskell (Fours Teacher and Extended Day)

Elizabeth grew up in Rowayton and attended the University of CT. She has lived here most of her life. Prior to joining UCNS, she worked at Paper Scissors Oranges, and volunteered extensively at Rowayton Elementary School. Elizabeth holds a Certificate in Early Childhood Education from Norwalk Community College. Elizabeth is a mother of three children who have all attended UCNS. Elizabeth is also a former Parent Board Co-Chair and Enrichment Chair.

Loreta Juknaite (Head Threes Teacher/Head 2s Teacher/Extended Day)

Loreta earned a BA degree in Music Education from Siauliai University Lithuania. She has lived in Norwalk for many years and also teaches piano to area students. Loreta graduated from Norwalk Community College with an Associate's degree in Early Childhood Education and has her Head Teacher certification.

Peggie Rath (Threes Teacher)

Peggie grew up in Old Greenwich and attended Ohio Wesleyan University. She has lived in South Norwalk for 19 years and has a son who is a graduate of Ohio State University, and UCNS. Peggie spent many years volunteering at Columbus Magnet School before joining UCNS in 2000. Peggie is currently attending Norwalk Community College and studying Early Childhood Education.

Wendy Blattman (Threes Teacher)

Wendy is also a former UCNS mom - her two children are graduates - and a former Executive Board member. Wendy holds a B.S. in Family/Child Studies from Montclair State University and worked in the Executive Recruiting field for twelve years prior to starting her family. Wendy also attended Norwalk Community College and studied Early Childhood Education. Wendy joined our staff in 2007.

Sue Lue (Head Pre-K Teacher)

Sue holds a BA in Economics and Asian Studies from Colgate University and an MBA in Finance from Fordham University. She has also received her Child Development Associate Credential and her Child Development Associate degree from Norwalk Community College and her Head Teacher certification. Sue worked at the Federal Reserve Bank for six years before moving to Toronto and then London with her husband. She is a mother of two children who both attended UCNS. She has volunteered extensively at UCNS and in the community.

Martha Meyerson (Pre-K Teacher)

Martha has lived in Rowayton for 17 years and both her children are UCNS graduates. She has a BA in English from Syracuse University and worked in Account Management at several NYC advertising agencies prior to starting a family. Martha has volunteered at the Norwalk public schools and in the community, including Rowayton School fundraiser co-chair, Senators Success Fund committee at Brien McMahon and former RPE board member. She also helped at UCNS as a substitute and at summer camp the last few years.

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The UCNS Board is made up of volunteers from the UCNS parent body and United Church of Rowayton membership and the staff. These individuals are responsible for all the decisions that affect operations, policy, special programs and events for the nursery school. The Board is made up of the Executive Board and the Parent Board. The Parent Board meets monthly. All parents should feel free to volunteer to help with committee work or to attend meetings to listen, raise questions or concerns, or offer ideas.

2016-2017 UCNS Executive Board Members

Lindsay Galloway Co-Chair
Kelly Sullivan - Co-Chair
Paula Keller - School Director
Sandra Aldrich - Founding Advisor
Carol Haskell - Board Advisor
Blair Milanese - Treasurer
Kate Jantzen - Secretary

UCNS Parent Board Committees:

Ice Cream Social
Enrichment
Fall Cocktail Party
Teacher Appreciation Days
Holiday Trunk Show
Hospitality
Snack
Librarian
Kids Movie Morning
Garden
Spring Fundraiser
Class Plates
Art Show
Playground Maintenance
United Church of Rowayton Parent Board Representative

Our School Consultants

Education - Ms. Kathleen Coppola, Professor, Early Childhood Education, Norwalk Community College, Norwalk, CT
Social Work- Ms. Susan O'Brien, LCSW, Weston, CT
Nurse Consultant/Medical Advisor- Ms. Sarah L. Waters, RN/NP, Rowayton, CT
Dental - Dr. James Diette, Darien, CT