

Union Street Charter

A K-5 public school



1

Philosophy

- ▶ We believe a child's educational attitudes and future success in learning are grounded in the primary years.
- ▶ Our teachers are empowered to design lessons that peak a child's natural curiosity, develop new curriculum, work collaboratively with parents and volunteers and take responsibility for the school as a whole.
- ▶ We provide a nurturing environment which fosters high self-esteem and confidence.
- ▶ We minimize the use of academic competition as motivation for learning.
- ▶ We have small class size (17 or less) to ensure an individualized education.
- ▶ We build a direct relationship with families because of volunteering in the classroom, on fieldtrips and camping trips.

2

We believe a balanced arts program builds skills for academics: creativity, focus, organization, observation, self-expression and perseverance.




Twice Weekly Special Program Teachers for:
Art, Music, & Spanish

3


Language Arts

- ▶ Phonics, phonemic awareness and whole language reading K - 2
- ▶ Literature based reading program 3-5
- ▶ Writing emphasized
 - ▶ Writing is meaningful to the students
 - ▶ Annual Yearbook publication of student writing
 - ▶ Class student author celebrations and presentations



4

Science



Experiment Based Activities

- Making Observations
- Recording Results
- Testing Hypothesis

5

Math Is Hands On

All grades:


- Hands on games and projects to build conceptual foundations
- Balance of CA Standards & developmental needs



6

Social Studies


- Our goal is to foster an expanding awareness of the world, our local community and other cultures by learning about the human experience and studying a variety of peoples' history and culture.
- The Taiwan Sister School project fosters global connection and many grades learn the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's).



7

Physical Education

- Emphasize games and skills for playing them.
- Encourage positive attitude toward competition.
- Encourage cooperation and caring.



8

Extended Childcare

- ▶ Starting before school at 7:45
- ▶ After School (all grades) until 5:30
- ▶ Free childcare is available to those who qualify.
- ▶ Billing is processed through Equinox Center for Education (ECE), our foundation.
- ▶ Snacks are served, there is an additional charge



9

9

School “Breakfast” & Lunch Program

- ▶ Breakfast/Snack and Lunches are from Arcata School District and free for all students
- ▶ Both meals meet USDA nutritional guidelines.
- ▶ This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



10

10

Drama



- ▶ Yearly classroom plays or poetry performance help students to develop performance skills in all grades

11

11

Camping Trips

- ▶ Fall day trip and Spring camping trip in K & 1st
- ▶ Twice yearly camping trips in 2nd - 5th
- ▶ Parents are needed to drive and chaperone. They are fingerprinted and have insurance.
- ▶ Parents do not go on every trip. Teachers set the # needed.
- ▶ Locations have ranged from Humbug Mountain in Oregon to Fort Bragg and points in between.



12

12

5th Grade Trip to Ashland



13

Artists visit the School-Musicians, storytellers, Quack and Wabbit, art docents, and Author in the Schools



14

Systems of Support

- ▶ Restorative practices with students
- ▶ Social-emotional curriculum
- ▶ Mindfulness prepares students for learning
- ▶ Guidelines for behavior in the handbook and posted on the website



15

Positive behavior comes from Teamwork: students, staff, and parents



16

Buddy Activities:



- Build skills in language arts
- Create a family-like atmosphere
- Foster positive self-esteem

17

Services


- ▶ Resource teacher and speech services
- ▶ Health and special education testing through HCOE
- ▶ Reading and math support

Reports & Assessment

- ❖ Two parent teacher conferences are held each year. Parents receive an individualized report.
- ❖ All students in grades 3 – 5 take state tests.

18

Sustainability



Union Street Charter makes an effort to reduce our use of natural resources in the following ways:

- Solar panels
- Energy efficient electric heating system
- Energy efficient LED lamps
- Food scraps diverted to a local farmer
- Recycling schoolwide
- Families are encouraged to bring their own plates to potluck events.

19

Parent Opportunities


- ▶ Volunteer in the classroom
- ▶ Drive for field trips
- ▶ Attend board meetings
- ▶ Donate to Equinox Center for Education
- ▶ Volunteer at school and family events



20

Parent Responsibilities

- ▶ Attend parent conferences
- ▶ Bring and pick-up students on time
- ▶ Adhere to the policies of the school
- ▶ Read the school news, classroom news, and parent handbook.



21

21

Non Discrimination Statement

- ▶ Union Street Charter does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, ethnicity, culture, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, disability, achievement level, English learners, neglected or delinquent pupils, homeless pupils or pupils who are economically disadvantaged as determined by eligibility for any free or reduced-price meal program, or foster youth.

We welcome all!

22

22

Lottery Preferences

- ▶ Children of employees of Union Street Charter have lottery preference.
- ▶ Siblings of currently enrolled students have lottery preference.
- ▶ Residents of Arcata School District have lottery preference for 5 of the K lottery spots (must provide proof).
- ▶ Once students have a place in the school, they do not need to reapply.

23

23

Kindergarten Entry Age

- ▶ Students must be 5 years old on or by September 1st to enter Union Street Kindergarten. Proof of birth required.
- ▶ Arcata Elementary School offers transitional kindergarten. This is the district option for T.K.
- ▶ Is your child ready for Kindergarten? Talk with your preschool teacher(s), Jenny or Rea.

24

24

Immunization Requirements

- ▶ Required immunizations must be current prior to school attendance.
- ▶ Immunization records must be provided to the school prior to school attendance.
- ▶ For more information on immunization law and required immunizations visit our website or www.shotsforschool.org.

25

25

Admission Process

- ▶ Admission application is now online.
- ▶ Turn in paperwork by February 9th through email, in person, mail or the office drop box.
- ▶ Paperwork-Admissions form, Proof of age (K only), residence form and proof of residence (utility bills, loan, leases, etc. that includes name and address).
- ▶ Lottery: February 15th in Kindergarten room
- ▶ Parents are notified of lottery results and offered a place in the class or a place on the wait list on or after 2/16.
- ▶ If we offer you a spot and you accept, do NOT accept admission to another school. Notify us immediately if you change schools.

26

26

Visiting In The Classroom

- ▶ School Tours are February 1st and 2nd at 9 am and 10:10 am-Limited space, Sign up
- ▶ Visit our website for a virtual school tour



27

27

For more information:



For more information on charter schools visit CCSA California Charter Schools Association <https://www.ccsa.org/charters-up-close>

Visit our website: www.unionstreetcharter.org

Email us at office.unionstreet@gmail.com or call 707 822-4845

28

28