

Andrew W. Kibler
Principal

Tricia Brdecka
Assistant Principal

Robert E. Everett, III
Assistant Principal



“Soaring to Excellence”

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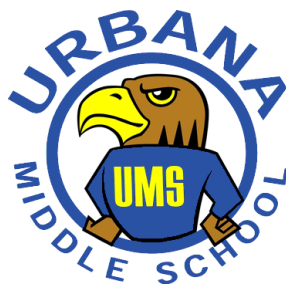
Dear Hawk Families,

Greetings! I am Drew Kibler, your new principal at Urbana Middle School. I look forward to serving the Urbana Middle School Hawk community and engage in the rich history of academic and cultural excellence. As we begin the 2020-2021 school year journey together, “Soaring to Excellence” will continue to be an important theme for Urbana Middle School.

I hope that everyone in the Hawk Family is safe and remaining healthy. My wife and I are both principals working for FCPS. We understand the challenges that Continuity of Learning and this pandemic has placed on our families. As full-time working parents we too have had to struggle with balancing our jobs and the lives of our four children. This school year our family will have two children at the high school level; a senior and freshman, as well as an eighth grader and third grader. Our children have provided me with a valuable perspective and insight as I prepare for the 2020-2021 school year through the lens as both a parent and school based leader. That being said, there are 68 total days and only 39 “working” days until the first day of school for our children and all FCPS students (Monday, August 31, 2020). During that time period, the UMS administrative and leadership teams will place a priority on opening with the safety and health of students, employees, and families as our primary goal. The following link: [FCPS' Guiding Values for School Reopening](#) will be at the core of every decision we make moving forward. Please make sure to take advantage of everything that this summer can offer in-order to recharge our students’ batteries. We want your children/our students excited for the return of school and normalcy.

As the principal of Urbana Middle School, I promise to work hard to continue the legacy of success established here by building strong relationships with you, our students, and community partners. We will focus on our use of data in developing 21st century learners, preparing our students for working in a global society, challenging them to become College and Career Ready as they transition to high school, while providing exciting student centered lessons.

I feel fortunate to be joining a school culture focused on student learning, a commitment to high expectations, innovation and collaboration. It is my intent to continue these important traditions and practices by inviting you to help us determine what is best for our school and students. This can be accomplished by joining the UMS PTSA (<https://www.umspts.org/>), attending parent conferences, academic events, and/or volunteering to help on campus (meeting current social distancing policies). Our administrative team will be planning a virtual or face-to-face Town Hall event for later this summer. The Town Hall will be a night of rich discussion that is focused on building foundational relationships that will help make all of our students successful this school year. We will also schedule a date for the UMS back-to-school night. All of that information will be forthcoming as the summer progresses.



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As we make this transition together, I am aware of the shared anticipation and eagerness that accompanies new leadership. Change can create a range of feelings from excitement to anxiety. It is my goal to collaborate with our Hawk Family throughout this transition. I look forward to the next several weeks as I connect with our school's proud traditions, skilled staff, talented students, supportive families, and community friends.

Respectfully,

Drew Kibler
Principal
Urbana Middle School
240.566.9210
Follow me on Twitter: [DrewKibler@UMSHawks](https://twitter.com/DrewKibler@UMSHawks)
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