

# The U School (CW)

<https://uschool.philasd.org/>

2000 N. 7th St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19122

**Principal:**  
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**Student Enrollment:** 280

## Admission Requirements:

Must participate in an open house and interview at The U School.

**SEPTA Routes:**  
47, 3 (Cecil B Moore)

## School Progress Report (SPR)

Overall SPR  
Performance Tier ..... **Intervene**

### Performance Tier by Domain:

Achievement ..... **Intervene**  
Progress ..... **Intervene**  
Climate ..... **Reinforce**  
College & Career ..... **Watch**



## Mission & Approach to Learning:

The U School embraces a prototyping culture where curiosity, experimentation, and reflection guide learning expeditions. We will utilize the design process and rigorous learning pathways to facilitate the growth of change agents regardless of incoming math or literacy skills. EVERY student will be prepared for post-secondary education/training and careers without the need for remediation. In the process, our students will create solutions for our city and prove that youth are MORE than capable of success at the high school.



## Points of Pride:

- School-wide restorative justice
- Youth development centered
- Competency-based learning
- Problem-based learning focus
- Self-paced student learning
- Exciting and innovative senior year



## Courses & Program Highlights:

**Youth Development Focus:** This boils down to a few important elements: All students will have the opportunity to exercise voice and choice from the small group to school level; and All students will join an advisory team (called Possi) with peers and a mentor educator who will design and create a vibrant high school experience. Possi supports goal-setting, college and career planning, and strong engagement with families to support learner growth.

**Competency-based:** Student grades are based upon their PERFORMANCE. Learning goals are organized as “competencies” - the knowledge and skills learners must successfully apply in order to solve real world problems. Learners only advance once they have demonstrated proficiency of the learning goals. We have written Common Core/Next Generation Science and C3 aligned “Continua” which are competency specific rubrics written as “I can” statements, for educators and students to have common conversations about progress and performance.

**Personalized learning:** Students have access to their learning at all times. We offer students that are ready the opportunity to move at their own pace, once they prove ready to advance through their learning independently! When students are ready, they may design and propose their own learning.

**Exciting Senior Year:** Seniors will apply into exciting and intensive Career and Technical Education (CTE) opportunities during their final year of high school to better prepare them for college and career. They will Learn and intensively work in a career pathway.

**Key Learning Spaces:** The U School consists of three major learning spaces for the first cohort of students: **(1) Core Learning:** Core Learning represents the needs of the young people we will serve to build discipline-specific expertise to allow for interdisciplinary learning. **(2) Possi(bilities):** Possi is the heart and soul of the U School. It is our primary mechanism to nurture and monitor the behaviors and mindset necessary for success in a personalized and competency-based environment. It is a space where the school collectively supports individual needs. Possi will address all disciplinary and academic needs by training young people to engage in the courageous conversations and network building necessary for longitudinal success. **(3) Innovation Labs:** Young people need practice playing, failing, thinking audaciously and prototyping solutions to the challenges in the world around them. At the U School, Innovation Labs will structure the aforementioned to empower youth. There are two labs: 1) Highlight requires every student to take photos, engage in art and make media about the world around them. 2) Organize requires students to learn how to create campaigns and plan events that connect to issues of importance.



## Partnerships:

Asociación de Puertorriqueños en Marcha (APM) • DonCares • The Future Project • Moore College of Art and Design • Mural Arts Project • Opera Philadelphia • Philadelphia Horticultural Society • Phila. Young Playwrights • Philly Photo Arts Center • Temple University School of Education • The University of Pennsylvania



## Extracurricular Activities:

- Chess
- Dream Team
- Dance
- Robotics
- Debate
- Scrabble
- Students create and organize their own afterschool activities



## Sports Teams:

We have a cooperative agreement with the Kensington High Schools to play all sports.