

March 17, 2025

# Eppler Express March



Monday, March 17	Thursday, March 20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chess Club, 2:15 -3:15 pm, Room 19</li> <li>NWEA Spring Make-Up Testing Window Math &amp; ELA/ Reading</li> <li>Spirit Day: <b>St. Patrick's Day , Wear Green!</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Magic: The Gathering Club, Room 107, 2:15 pm - 3:15 pm</li> <li>Homework Club Media Center 2:20—3:20 pm</li> <li>Caught Being Kind 5th and 6th Hours</li> <li>Spirit Day: Spring Break, Wear Tropical (NO Swimsuits)</li> <li>Informational Track Meeting, Gym, 2:15 - 2:45 pm</li> </ul>
Tuesday, March 18	Friday, March 21
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homework Club Media Center 2:20—3:20 pm</li> <li>Fire Drill 1:30 pm</li> <li>NJHS Induction Main Gym 6:30 pm</li> <li>EPIC, MC Conference Room, 9:00 - 10:00 am</li> <li>Spirit Day: Spring Has Sprung, Wear Florals and/or Bright Colors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AVID Bagel Sales, 2nd Hour</li> <li>Third Marking Period Ends</li> <li>Spirit Day : Down Syndrome Awareness Day, Wear Crazy Socks</li> <li>Spring Pep Assembly 12:30—2:00 pm</li> </ul>
Wednesday, March 19	Saturday, March 22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take Cover Drill 1:00 pm (state mandated)</li> <li>Spirit Day: Daylight Savings, Wear Comfy Clothes or PJ's</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None.</li> </ul>
	Sunday, March 23
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None.</li> </ul>

## What's Inside:

What's Happening this Week at Eppler

Upcoming Activities

## Additional Information:

- [School News & Information](#)
- [Sports Information](#)
- [Clubs & Organizations](#)
- [District News](#)
- [Educational Camps/Enrichment / Activities/Community Ed](#)
- [In Case You Missed It](#)
- [Power School](#)
- [Reward Programs](#)
- [Early Dismissals/Attendance.](#)
- [MISD Information](#)

## Important Websites and Resources:

- [Counseling Information](#)
- [UHS Athletics Boosters](#)
- [Eppler Website](#)
- [Eppler Express](#)
- [PaySchools](#)
- [Student Handbook](#)
- [UCS District Website](#)
- [Report Bullying](#)

## SPIRIT WEEK 03/17-03/21

Monday, 03/17 St. Patrick's Day	Tuesday, 03/18 Spring Has Sprung!!	Wednesday, 03/19 Daylight Savings	Thursday, 03/20 Spring Break	Friday, 03/21 Down Syndrome Awareness Day
Wear Green	Wear Florals/Bright Colors	Wear Comfy Clothes or PJ's	Wear Tropical Clothes	Wear Crazy Socks

# School News & Information

## Vision and Mission Statements

**Our Vision Statement:** Eppler Junior High School, in partnership with our community, will empower students to achieve their full potential and become productive contributors in a diverse society.

**Eppler Junior High School Mission Statement:** The Eppler community will collaborate to foster a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment that will inspire growth, excellence, and achievement.

## Project Proposals for Eppler

### WHAT'S NEXT FOR UCS? PROJECT PROPOSALS FOR EPPLER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



#### SAFETY

#### PHASE 1: Projects in this phase will be scheduled for summer 2024 through 2026

- Create additional layers of security to limit access for exterior entry points at main entrance and corridors, such as shatter-resistant glass
- Replace drinking fountains with water bottle filling stations

#### SUCCESS

- Modernize school sign with digital technology

#### PHASES 2-5

- Upgrade network infrastructure
- Upgrade security systems (cameras and access control)
- Improve the track and bleachers

- Improve exterior façade and landscaping
- Upgrade the gym's lighting and audio system
- Improve the media center
- Renovate restrooms
- Upgrade power systems
- Upgrade interior and exterior lighting systems
- Purchase instructional technology equipment for classrooms
- Purchase computers for students and staff
- Purchase classroom furniture
- Purchase media center furniture

#### PROJECTS IN PROCESS/COMPLETED

- Replace interior door hardware to integrate improved locking system based on industry-level safety standards\*
- Replace public address system\*
- Upgrade HVAC system\*

\*Funded by 2018 bond issue



UTICA  
COMMUNITY  
SCHOOLS

[WWW.UTICAK12.ORG/SAFETYANDSUCCESS](http://WWW.UTICAK12.ORG/SAFETYANDSUCCESS)

# MEMORIES LAST FOREVER IN THE YEARBOOK



## WAYS TO ORDER

ONLINE



JOSTENS.COM/BACKTOSCHOOL

SCAN



CALL



1-877-767-5217

### 2024-2025 EPPLER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK!

**Now \$44.00**

**Order by March 21, 2025**

#### JOSTENS PAYMENT PLAN

Spread out the cost of your yearbook with  
three interest-free payments.

Minimum purchase requirements and eligibility restrictions apply.

YEARBOOK	\$38.00
SIGNATURE PACKAGE <small>Includes: Yearbook, Enhanced Personalization, Autograph Pens, Autograph Section</small>	\$56.00
ENHANCED PERSONALIZATION	\$9.00
ICONS	FREE!
AUTOGRAPH SECTION	\$5.00
PHOTO POCKETS	\$5.00
DONATE A YEARBOOK	\$38.00
CLEAR PROTECTIVE COVER	\$5.00



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Taxes, service fees and delivery fees will be added,  
if applicable.

## BAGELS

Plain Bagel  
Everything Bagel  
Cinnamon Sugar Bagel  
Cream Cheese \$0.50



## Parent Access for Schoology

Parents/Guardians,

Did you know that you can have a parent account for your child's Schoology classes? You can access each of their classes, as well as the counseling department's Schoology page. The counseling page has many resources ranging from support groups and therapy to community resources for help with everyday problems. If you would like access to your child's Schoology account (this is different than PowerSchool), you can contact the main office at 586-797-2900 to request your child's 12-digit-code and instructions.

## PARENT ACCESS DIRECTIONS FOR SCHOOLGY

1. Go to [www.schoology.com](http://www.schoology.com).
2. Click **Sign Up** at the top of the page and choose **Parent**.
3. Enter your Parent Access Code. This is the 12-digit code in **xxxx-xxxx-xxxx** format
4. To receive the 12-digit code, please contact the Main Office
5. Fill out the form with your information.
6. Click **Register** to complete.

When you use a Parent Access Code to create an account, you are automatically associated to your child. You can add additional children to your account using the Add Child button.

If your Parent Access Code does not allow you to register, or if the code does not have 12 digits, please contact [techsupport@uticak12.org](mailto:techsupport@uticak12.org).

## Eppler Cell Phone/Device Policy

### Eppler Junior High School

## CELL PHONE/DEVICE POLICY

Throughout Entire Building At All Times, Including Before and After School

**NO** Pictures

**NO** Phone Calls

**NO** Texting

**NO** Social Media

\*\*\*This includes Tik Tok, Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, and ALL others

During School Hours

Cell Phones/Electronic Devices/Earbuds/Headphones  
**CAN NOT** be displayed or used anywhere in school without permission.

Cell Phones/Electronic Devices/Earbuds/Headphones  
**ARE NOT** allowed in the lunchroom.

**If you are found breaking Cell Phone/Device policy, your phone/device will be confiscated and brought to main office.**

**1st time**

**Taken to Office**

Phone call home. Student picks up phone from office, end of day.

**2nd time**

**Taken to Office**

Parent Must Pick Up Phone

**3rd time**

**Taken to Office**

Parent Must Pick Up Phone. After School Detention

**4th time**

**Taken to Office**

Parent Must Pick Up Phone  
Saturday School

**5th / + times**

**Taken to Office.**

Parent Pick Up Phone.  
Phone banned from School.  
Suspension

**NOTE: Eppler Junior High and UCS assume NO responsibility for theft, loss or damage of your device.**

**The student assumes full responsibility and brings the device at their own risk.**





## EPPLER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL DAILY SCHEDULE

1<sup>ST</sup> HOUR 7:20 a.m. – 8:17 a.m.  
2<sup>ND</sup> HOUR 8:23 a.m. – 9:20 a.m.  
3<sup>RD</sup> HOUR 9:26 a.m. – 10:23 a.m.  
4<sup>TH</sup> HOUR 10:29 a.m. – 12:08 p.m.

**A Lunch** Lunch 10:29 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
Class 11:06 a.m. – 12:08 p.m.

**B Lunch** Class 10:29 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
Lunch 11:06 a.m. – 11:31 a.m.  
Class 11:37 a.m. – 12:08 p.m.

**C Lunch** Class 10:29 a.m. – 11:31 a.m.  
Lunch 11:37 a.m. – 12:08 p.m.

5<sup>TH</sup> HOUR 12:14 p.m. – 1:10 p.m.  
6<sup>TH</sup> HOUR 1:16 p.m. – 2:11 p.m.

## EXAM DAY SCHEDULE

1<sup>ST</sup> EXAM 7:20 a.m. – 8:48 a.m.  
2<sup>ND</sup> EXAM 8:56 a.m. – 10:24 a.m.

# BE PROMPT!



# BACKPACK

## expectations for 2024-2025

**ATTENTION  
PLEASE**



Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, students will **NO LONGER** be able to carry their large backpacks during the school day from class to class. Backpacks have become a safety issue in both our hallways and classrooms. Backpacks **MUST** remain in student lockers during the school day.



Students may carry a nylon drawstring tote. These hold a maximum of two books and/or the student's assigned laptop, and can hang on the back of student chairs. Nylon drawstring totes will be available for purchase in The Chieftain Corner Store, or can be purchased at local retailers.



# Eppler Jr. High

## ID Badge Requirements

*(directly from the handbook)*



**EVERY student must WEAR his or her student ID while on school grounds.**

- Student IDs must be worn and visible at all times.
- Student ID must be presented to any school staff member or person of authority upon request.
- The front and back of the ID cannot be altered. Defacing or altering the student ID is prohibited.
- Wearing another student's ID card is prohibited.
- Lost, stolen, altered, damaged, and/or defaced ID cards must be replaced immediately.

**Students who fail to adhere to the above are subject to an after school detention and replacement fee.**

*\$5 ID REPLACEMENT for lost/broken IDs*

*3 times without ID = detention*

*6 times without ID = automatic \$5 ID replacement & Saturday School*

If you are caught not wearing your badge in school 6 or more times, another badge will automatically be printed, and a \$5 fee will be placed on your student account to be paid. **(EVEN IF YOU ALREADY HAVE A BADGE)**

**\*\*Students who are insubordinate or persistently disobedient are subject to further school consequences.**

### Lunch Deliveries : REMINDER



*Food Deliveries:* Food that is delivered by a service such as Door Dash or Grub Hub will not be permitted at Eppler. due to school safety concerns and the disruption to the school day, we cannot accommodate such deliveries. we ask that all students bring their own lunch or buy a lunch from the cafeteria. If a student forgets their lunch, they may borrow against their lunch account in the cafeteria, or a parent may drop off a lunch for their student. However, if the food dropped off is from a restaurant, the student will be asked to eat it in the Main Office during their lunch hour. Coffee, smoothies, and outside breakfast brought in the school in the morning must be consumed before going into first hour. This is the practice that takes place at the high school level and Eppler is aligning with Utica High in order to provide consistent expectations for our students. If you would like to apply for the free or reduced lunch program, or to establish a lunch account for your child, please click [here](#).  
Thank you for your understanding and we appreciate your support.

### Dress Code Rules - REMINDER

#### Dress code:

Please address the following dress code items with your child:

- Hoods/hats are not to be worn in the building.
- Clothing must not show bare mid-drifts, shoulders, cut too low or any derogatory or drug/alcohol messages.

### Student Drop-off after 7:20

Parents, please be aware that there is often no need to come into the building when you are dropping off your child at school if they are late or after an appointment. The only reasons we will require you to come into the building are if you are picking up your child, for which you will need ID, or if you are dropping off anything for your child, which we ask that you label for their pick-up. Other than that, please feel free to stay in your warm and dry vehicle (on cold and rainy days) and enjoy whatever you may be listening to from your playlist! Thank you!!

### Parent Student Handbooks

Please use the following link to access the Parent and Student Handbooks for the 2023-2024 school year.

[UCS Handbook](#)

### Lost and Found

Please stop in the Counseling Hallway to check out the selection of Lost and Found items.

All unclaimed items will be donated to a local re-sale shop on December 20th.





## School Safety

Safety remains a priority for our school. Eppler Junior High School is once again providing training to our students and staff on our safety protocols. The protocols identify actions that students may be asked to take in the event of a potential incident: hold, secure, lockdown, evacuate and shelter.

The protocols will continue to be part of the training while practicing our regular school safety drills, such as fire drills, security drills, tornado drills, evacuation procedures, etc.)

The video is available for you to review at this link: [UCS School Safety: Standard Response Protocol – Junior High - YouTube](#) If you have any questions, please contact our office.



## Early Dismissal Procedures

We have a new process for early dismissals. When you arrive at Eppler please ring the bell at our Main Office door, let us know your student's name, show your id to the camera and we will let you in to our vestibule. With your cell phone please scan the QR code on the red "Scan For Early Dismissal" poster on the wall, type in the information requested, and we will call your student down to leave with you.

STUDENTS: You must come through the front office to exit the school.

## How to Report an Absence

- When a student is going to be absent, parents/guardians should report the absence before the school day begins. Calls to the attendance line can be made 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Shelby Attendance Line is **586-797-2799**. Absences will be input to PowerSchool by 4:00 pm on the date of the absence.
- Per UCS policy, the following reasons for an absence will be accepted as an excused absence; student illness, hospitalization, doctor ordered bed rest, mandatory court appearance, death in the immediate family, family vacation, medical appointments and administrative permission. **All other absences will be unexcused.**

# Eppler & Utica Sports

## UHS Athletic Event Policy

### Utica Athletic Event Admissions Policy

1. All students (home and visitor) must present a school ID for entrance to the game.
2. Only students from the competing schools shall be admitted without adult supervision.
3. All junior high / middle school students must present a school ID AND be supervised by an adult. The adult must attend the event with the student and may not leave the student unsupervised.
4. Tickets are available for presale on GoFan. Tickets may also be purchased at the gate using a credit card or cash.
5. All senior citizens (62+) and children under 12 (with an adult) are admitted free of charge.
6. All patrons must remain in the stands or concourse area. Only team and athletic department personnel are allowed on the sidelines.

## Eppler Athletic Event Policy

All students **MUST** present a school ID for entrance to the event and will only be admitted with adult supervision. The adult **MUST** attend the event with the student and may not leave the student unsupervised.

Between the end of the school day and the start of the event, any student attending the event **MUST** either wait outside or in the gym.

## Utica Open Gym

# IMPORTANT!!

**WE ARE DOING CONDITIONING AND OPEN GYM'S!  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

**WEDNESDAY'S: 6:30PM- 8:30 PM**

**FRIDAY'S: 6:30PM- 8:30 PM**

**ONCE OCTOBER 7TH PASSES WE WILL BE GETTING THE  
WORK IN THREE TIMES A WEEK!!**

**MONDAY'S: 6:30PM: 6:30PM- 8:30 PM**

**WEDNESDAY'S: 6:30PM- 8:30 PM**

**FRIDAY'S: 6:30PM- 8:30 PM**

Attention any 7th or 8th grader interested in running track this year:

There will be an INFORMATIONAL MEETING on **Thursday, March 20** after school in the Main gym.

The meeting will last ½ hour, so have your rides pick you up at **2:45**.

See Mr. Paul, Mr. Collins, Ms. Gissel, or Ms. Berg if you have any questions.

# **COME JOIN OUR TEAM! EPPLER JUNIOR HIGH SIDELINE CHEER 2025**

.....  
**SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW &  
SIGN UP TO RECEIVE PARENT  
MEETING & TRYOUT INFORMATION**



**SCAN ME!**

# UTICA FRESHMAN FOOTBALL MEETING



Monday, March 17<sup>th</sup> @ 3:30 pm  
In the Utica High Weight Room

For all incoming 8<sup>th</sup> graders from Jeannette, Eppler,  
& Shelby interested in playing football in 2025



## Eisenhower and Utica

MIDDLE SCHOOL SWIM and  
DIVE INFORMATIONAL  
MEETING

Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup>  
6PM in the IKE commons

For more information contact  
Joe Michol –  
[Jmichol4@outlook.com](mailto:Jmichol4@outlook.com)



## UHS Marching Band Color Guard Clinic

Clinic Dates:

**March 18 and 20 @ 6-8:00 pm**

Meet in the UHS band room

Clinic will be held in the UHS AUX Gym

All students are welcome to attend and there is no prior experience needed!



Wear something that you are able to move freely in and make sure to bring water!

### Questions?

Contact the coach Lauren Hickman:

laurenv1248@gmail.com

Contact the Band Director Mr. Bays:

brett.bays@uticak12.org

**Practices:** Will begin in May and will meet 2 times a week up until band camp.

**Days:** TBD from 6-8:30p.m.

**Marching Band Kickoff Meeting:** April 2nd, UHS ECC Room @ 7:00p.m.

For more info visit the band website: <https://sites.google.com/site/uticabands/>



## UHS Marching Band 2025 Season Kickoff Meeting

**April 2nd**

**Time: 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m**

**Questions and Answers: 8:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.**

**Meet in the ECC Room**

All students and Parents are encouraged to attend

**What:** Information on band camp dates and cost

**What Else:** Information on practice commitments

### Questions?

Contact the Utica Band Boosters:

uticabands.org@gmail.com

Contact the Band Director Mr. Bays:

brett.bays@uticak12.org

For more info visit the band website: <https://sites.google.com/site/uticabands/>



# Reward Programs

## Calling All Shoppers!

Eppler has a reward program at Kroger. All you have to do is shop, swipe your card, and Eppler gets cash back! The Kroger Community Rewards program makes fundraising easy by donating based on the shopping you do every day. Once you link your Card all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Shopper's Card. Here's how :



- Go to [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com)
- Click Sign in the upper right-hand corner
- Put the email address and password used to enroll your card
- Go to "Savings & Rewards", then "Kroger Community Rewards", I'm a Customer"
- Enter the group number **EJ598** or search **Eppler Junior High School**
- Click on the organization then click "Enroll"

## NJHS – Planet Green Fundraiser



Thank you to all who have donated to Planet Green! We have raised over \$400 over the last couple of years by recycling used ink cartridges and electronics! **Planet Green is no longer accepting used electronics. They are only accepting ink cartridges.** Please continue to send those into Mrs. Byron in room 19! Thank you!

NJHS is doing a yearlong fundraiser with Planet Green. Please send in **Inkjet cartridges (NO toner or laser cartridges)** to room 19. NJHS sends them to Planet Green, and then Planet Green sends Eppler a check! This fundraiser helps the environment and our school! NJHS members can receive one hour for every 5 items, but everybody is encouraged to participate!

# Eppler Clubs & Organizations

## Homework Club

### AFTER-SCHOOL HOMEWORK CLUB

At Eppler Junior High School, we want to help your child have a successful school year. The Homework Club will be available on **Tuesdays and Thursdays** from 2:20 PM to 3:20 PM in the Eppler Media Center. Students can use this time to get academic assistance, complete assignments, work on projects, and/or study for tests. A few high school tutors are usually available. Students can ask the teacher in charge if there are tutors available that day.

Each student should bring all necessary materials and books to the media center by 2:20 PM. **Please be advised that if a student comes to Homework Club with nothing to work on, he/she will not be admitted to Homework Club that day.** All students will be expected to remain in the Media Center until 3:20 PM. Students will need to sign in each day that they participate. Students need to arrange for their own transportation home.

If you would like your child to be able to attend Homework Club, please complete the bottom portion of this form and have your child bring it with him/her the first time they attend Homework Club (only one slip is needed, and the student may come as often as they like for the school year). Phone calls and other notes will not be accepted in place of this signed permission slip.

If you have any questions regarding Homework Club, please contact your child's school counselor (Last names A-K: April.Raupp@uticak12.org / Last names L-Z: Autumn.Blanchard@uticak12.org).



### EPPLER HOMEWORK CLUB PERMISSION SLIP



My child, (please print) \_\_\_\_\_, grade \_\_\_\_\_, has my permission to participate in Homework Club. I understand that it is my responsibility to provide transportation for my child at the end of the session. **My child understands that it is his/her responsibility to arrive on time, to bring all necessary materials to the Media Center, and to be prepared to work.** My child also understands that Eppler Junior High school rules apply and will be enforced. Misbehavior can lead to dismissal from being a participant in the Homework Club. Students will sign in, and if I ever want to verify my student's attendance, I will contact my child's school counselor.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Chess Club will be up and running again this year! We will meet September 16 from 2:15-3:15 in Mrs. Byron's room 19. Coach Marwan will teach you how to play, and how to improve your game. Please pick up the chess paper from Mrs. Byron in room 19.

## Chess Club

We are the Eppler Elephants and we stomp on the competition!!

Chess club is a great way to meet new friends and to be a part of the Eppler Community! Chess will also foster critical thinking and problem solving skills! There are numerous studies linking learning to play chess with increased academic achievement.

Chess club is open to all students in grades 7-9.

We meet every Monday after school from 2:15-3:15 with Coach Marwan for practice. **Chess Club will begin September 16 at 2:15 PM in room 19.**

This club is for fun and learning new strategies. If you are interested in a competitive experience, please check out: [www.ItsYourMoveChess.weebly.com](http://www.ItsYourMoveChess.weebly.com) for a club and tutoring provided by coach Scott Burnham.

Contact information:

School advisor: Mrs. Renee Byron [renee.byron@uticak12.org](mailto:renee.byron@uticak12.org)

Student coach Marwan Hassan [HassanM1@stu.uticak12.org](mailto:HassanM1@stu.uticak12.org)

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Please fill out and return this bottom portion to Mrs. Byron in room 19

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Student name

---

grade math teacher

---

Parent name

---

parent phone number

Please make sure that your child has a ride available at 3:15 on chess club Mondays!





The Eppler Athletics Boosters are looking for a few good volunteers! Unfortunately, if we do not get any volunteers, we will have to shut down the group. The boosters have been an integral part of many improvements at the school - water filling stations, providing needed equipment for teams, gym decor update, end of season pizza parties for all teams, just to name a few. Most importantly, we are also in need of a parent or couple of parents that can be responsible for the concession stands at the home games.

If you are interested in either please contact Mr. Paul at [eric.paul@uticak12.org](mailto:eric.paul@uticak12.org)

**JOIN THE  
BOOSTER CLUB**

### Eppler Parent Involvement Committee (EPIC)

The following is a list of dates and times of the Eppler Parent Involvement Committee (EPIC) meetings throughout the school year. All parents are invited and welcome to attend. All meeting will be held in the Media Center from 9:00—10:00 am. We look forward to seeing you!

*Tuesday, September 24*

*Wednesday, February 26*

*Tuesday, October 22*

*Tuesday, March 18*

*Wednesday, November 13*

*Wednesday, April 23*

*Wednesday, December 11*

*Tuesday, May 20*

*Wednesday, January 22*

### 9th Grade NJHS Members

Here are the dates for MANDATORY MEETINGS: Meetings are from 2:15-2:45pm (may end earlier) Please make sure you have a ride or plan to get home. If you have practice, you should discuss this with your coach as they usually let you arrive late. If you are at IB or UHSAA, you should get to Eppler as soon as possible. If there is a game or practice that cannot be missed, you need to discuss this with me PRIOR to the meeting. If you miss 2 meetings, you may be removed from NJHS. If you have a doctor appointment or a prior engagement, you should discuss this with me as soon as possible. All meetings are mandatory however, Sep 25 is an extremely important meeting.



*Wednesday, September 25*

*Wednesday, October 23*

*Wednesday, December 4*

*Wednesday, January 22*

*Wednesday, February 26*

*Wednesday, April 2*

*Wednesday, May 14*



## Student Council

Student Council Meeting Dates (subject to change)

Meetings will from 2:15 pm—3:15 pm , in Room 107

**Monday September 23**

**Monday, February 10**

**Monday, October 14**

**Monday, March 10**

**Monday, November 11**

**Monday, April 14**

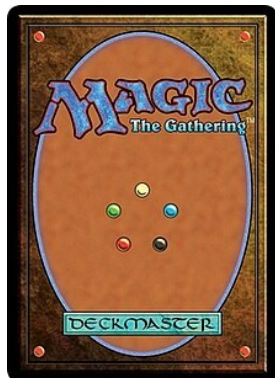
**Monday, December 9**

**Monday, May 12**

**Monday, January 13**



## Magic : The Gathering Club



*If you love to play Magic the Gathering, or you are interested in learning, join our after-school club.*

*We will meet every Thursday starting on September 19<sup>th</sup> 2:15-3:15, in Room 107.*

## ESAB

Tuesday, 10/08/2024

Tuesday, 11/12/2024

Tuesday, 12/03/2024

Tuesday 01/07/2025



Wednesday, 02/05/2025

Wednesday, 04/09/2025

Wednesday, 05/14/2025

**Meetings will be from 2:25 until 3:25 pm., in Room 136**

## STATIC

**Students Taking Action Together in Christ (STATIC)**

**Meetings will be held in Room 136, 2:20—3:20 pm**

**Wednesday, October 23**

**Tuesday, February 4**

**Tuesday, November 19**

**Tuesday, March 4**

**Tuesday, December 10**

**Tuesday, April 1**

**Wednesday, January 8**

**Tuesday May 6**

## PowerSchool/Text Messaging Service

PowerSchool– [Click here](#) to go to the district's PowerSchool website

### Parent Portal Access through PowerSchool

PowerSchool is the district's student information system used for scheduling, attendance, grades, and delivery of report cards. Please find more information below on how to create and access your Parent Portal Account.

To login, visit: <http://ps.ucs.misd.net/public>

Below are useful documents for you to reference and take full advantage of PowerSchool:

Parents: [Create a Parent Portal Account](#)

**Helpful Tips for our PowerSchool Parent Portal:** [Click here for info on how to reset your password.](#)

### PowerSchool Mobile App:

1. Download the PowerSchool Parent App through your device's [GooglePlay](#) or [Apple App Store](#).
2. Enter the UCS district code: NKDJ (all capitalized)
3. When logging in through your mobile app, you will use the same username/password that you use to login through your desktop.

**Questions?** Contact your home school to help with your PowerSchool questions.

## Text Messaging Service

### Utica Community Schools Text Messaging Service

Utica Community Schools offers a texting service for parents. The service allows parents to receive important information such as school closings, safety alerts, school reminders and more, directly from their school(s) on a mobile device.

Newly enrolled UCS parents will receive a text message from the district that reads:

*"Utica Community Schools messages. Reply Y to confirm, HELP 4 info. Msg&data rates may apply. Msg freq varies. schoolmessenger.com/tm"*

To receive the free\* text messages, simply reply "Y" or "Yes" to the message.

**Even if you have not received a UCS message to join, parents may opt in by texting "Y" or "Yes" to the short code 67587.**

Parents may opt out at any time by replying "Stop" to one of the messages.

\*Terms and Conditions: Message frequency varies. Standard message and data rates may apply. Reply HELP for help. Text STOP to cancel. Mobile carriers are not liable for delayed or undelivered messages. See schoolmessenger.com/txt for more info.



## EDUCATION IS LIMITLESS



SPECIAL EDUCATION HAS THE POWER TO TRANSFORM LIVES  
AND UNLOCK EVERYONE'S LIMITLESS POTENTIAL.

UTICA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS IS PROUD TO SUPPORT OUR  
3,524 STUDENTS WITH DIVERSE LEARNING NEEDS, ALONG  
WITH THEIR FAMILIES AND THE COMMUNITY. OUR VISION IS  
TO EMPOWER EVERY STUDENT BY CELEBRATING THEIR  
UNIQUE STRENGTHS AND HELPING THEM REACH THEIR  
FULLEST POTENTIAL.

WE ARE PROUD TO TELL THE STORY OF UCS SPECIAL  
EDUCATION THROUGH VOICES OF OUR STAFF, STUDENTS  
AND FAMILIES. LEARN MORE AT:  
[HTTP://UTICAK12.ORG/LIMITLESSPOTENTIAL](http://uticak12.org/limitlesspotential)



### 2025 Superintendent's Scholarship

## 2025 SUPERINTENDENT'S SCHOLARSHIP

**NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!**

UCS graduating seniors are invited to  
apply for the 2025 Superintendent's  
Scholarship awards program.

Through the Utica Community Schools  
Foundation for Educational Excellence  
and other community sources,  
**over \$35,000 in scholarships**  
will be awarded this year!

**DEADLINE:  
APRIL 3**



UTICA  
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SCHOOLS







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# RAMADAN MEALS

The USDA has allowed schools to send breakfast and lunch meals home with students during the Ramadan observance March 3-21. Please follow the link below to order your breakfast and lunch meals to go home. Students must be present at school to receive a meal.

Meals will be distributed during lunch.

Students cannot eat meals at school as well as take them home.

Only one breakfast and one lunch per person.

To ensure we have enough food prepared, please order by 9am on February 27 via the following link:

[www.uticak12.org/RamadanMeals](http://www.uticak12.org/RamadanMeals)

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>BREAKFAST</b> Cereal, fruit, juice & milk	<b>BREAKFAST</b> Benefit bar, fruit, juice & milk	<b>BREAKFAST</b> Cereal, fruit, juice & milk	<b>BREAKFAST</b> Benefit bar, fruit, juice & milk	<b>BREAKFAST</b> Cereal, fruit, juice & milk
<b>LUNCH</b> Chickpea sandwich, crackers, fava beans, fruit, veggie & milk	<b>LUNCH</b> Hummus, crackers, fruit, veggie & milk	<b>LUNCH</b> Wowbutter & jelly sandwich, fruit, veggie & milk	<b>LUNCH</b> Hummus, crackers, fruit, veggie & milk	<b>LUNCH</b> Soft Pretzel w/ yogurt, sun flower seeds, fruit, veggie & milk

Menus are subject to change due to availability.  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



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## وجبات رمضان

سمحت وزارة الزراعة الأمريكية (USDA) للمدارس بإرسال وجبات الفطور والغداء إلى المنزل مع الطلاب خلال فترة صيام شهر رمضان March 3-21. يرجى اتباع الرابط أدناه لطلب وجبات الفطور والغداء الخاصة بك التي سيتم إحداها إلى المنزل. يجب أن يكون الطالب حاضرا في المدرسة لاستلام الوجبة. سيتم توزيع الوجبات خلال وقت الغداء. لا يُسمح للطلاب بتناول وجبات الطعام في المدرسة وكذلك أخذ وجبة أخرى إلى المنزل. يسمح فقط بوجبة فطور واحدة ووجبة غداء واحدة لكل شخص. لضمان تحضير كمية كافية من الطعام، يرجى القيام بالطلب بحلول الساعة 9 صباحا من يوم February 27 عبر الرابط التالي:

[www.uticak12.org/RamadanMeals](http://www.uticak12.org/RamadanMeals)

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>الفطور</b> حبوب غذائية/cereal، فاكهة، عصير، وحليب	<b>الفطور</b> لوح مغذي Benefit bar، فاكهة، عصير، وحليب	<b>الفطور</b> حبوب غذائية/cereal، فاكهة، عصير، وحليب	<b>الفطور</b> لوح مغذي Benefit bar، فاكهة، عصير، وحليب	<b>الفطور</b> حبوب غذائية/cereal، فاكهة، عصير، وحليب
<b>الغداء</b> ساندويتش حمص، بسكويت مالح، فول، فاكهة، خضروات، وحليب	<b>الغداء</b> حمص، بسكويت مالح، فاكهة، خضروات، وحليب	<b>الغداء</b> ساندويتش Wowbutter (زبدة فول الصويا) والمربي، فاكهة، خضروات، وحليب	<b>الغداء</b> حمص، بسكويت مالح، فاكهة، خضروات، وحليب	<b>الغداء</b> بريتزل طري مع / زبادي (لبن)، بذور عباد الشمس، فاكهة، خضروات، وحليب

قوائم الطعام قابلة للتغيير حسب توافرها  
هذه المؤسسة توفر قرص متكافئة



**UTICA  
COMMUNITY  
SCHOOLS**

# Take A Look At Our Future



*Rendering of DeKeyser Elementary School*

## Save the Date

**Sunday, August 24, Beginning at 2 p.m.**

DeKeyser Elementary represents the first step of our vision on how UCS school designs will spur growth and achievement. We hope you will take this opportunity to see how we are transforming the future, thanks to your support of the 2023 Safety and Success Bond Issue.

**DeKeyser Elementary  
39600 Atkinson  
Sterling Heights**



*Rendering of DeKeyser Classrooms*



*Rendering of DeKeyser Gym and Lunchroom*

# The UCS Legacy of Learning

## Pursue Excellence

## Live Your Passion

## Be Where You Belong

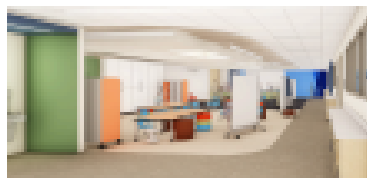
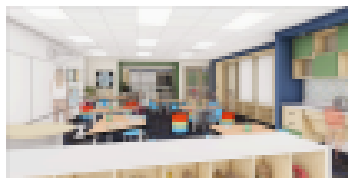


## Attendance Area Update

The 2023 bond issue provides an opportunity for UCS to begin a transformation of its school facilities. As reconstruction and replacement plans move forward, a unique opportunity exists to evaluate long-standing issues with attendance areas and create a stronger sense of community by linking school boundaries.

By building, renovating and innovating, we are able to give more students access to facilities that are being redesigned with a vision that encourages growth and achievement.

### A Vision for the Future



Utica Community Schools has begun the transformation of elementary buildings. The reconstruction of elementaries, beginning with DeKeyser Elementary this school year, follows our UCS Empowered Strategic Plan and creates a long-range vision to:

- Create additional layers of safety and security
- Support achievement through an environment that fosters engaged learning
- Provide teachers with the flexibility and technology for large and small group instruction
- Offer a modern look that will foster community pride and enhance the desirability and quality of life in neighborhoods

For more information, visit [uticak12.org/buildingforthefuture](https://uticak12.org/buildingforthefuture).

### Overview

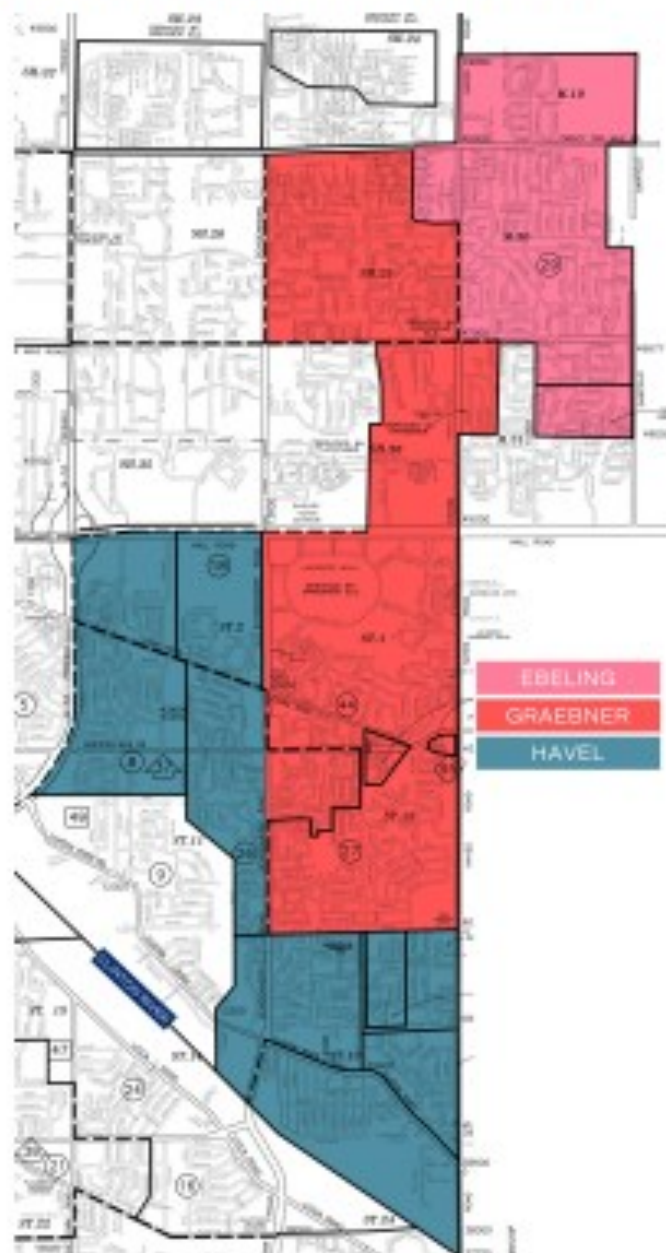
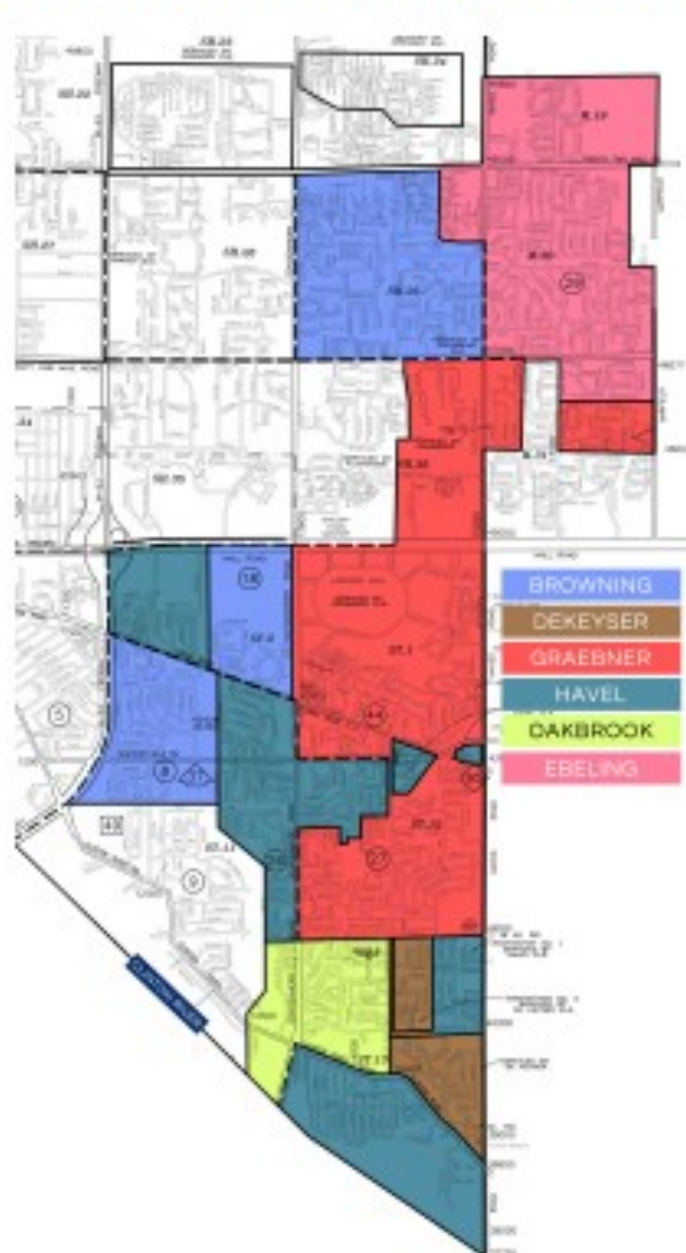
- Through the implementation of the 2023 bond issue, UCS is addressing long-standing issues within attendance areas that were largely developed 50 years ago.
- Currently, DeKeyser Elementary is under reconstruction. During the next two years, reconstruction will occur at Havel Elementary and Graebner Elementary.
- The following changes are being made under a plan for select schools in the Henry Ford II elementary feeder pattern:
  - Consolidation of the Browning Elementary attendance areas into Havel Elementary and Graebner Elementary.
  - Additional changes that follow the natural boundary of the Clinton River for the Havel Elementary attendance areas. Portions of Oakbrook and DeKeyser Elementary schools – which are separated from the schools by the Clinton River – will be combined with contiguous Havel Elementary communities.
  - A portion of Havel Elementary School where students cross Schoenherr Road will be merged with the neighboring Graebner Elementary community, which is closer in proximity to the neighborhood.
  - A small portion of Graebner Elementary in Macomb Township that is disconnected from its attendance area will be merged with a contiguous Ebeling Elementary neighborhood.

See page two for a detailed map of attendance area updates.



# Attendance Area Updates

Below are current and revised attendance areas scheduled for fall of 2027. The attendance revision is made in conjunction with planned reconstruction at Havel Elementary and Graebner Elementary. The reconstruction work is part of a long-term vision for our schools that is focused on safety and designs that support innovation, growth and achievement. The revised attendance areas provide more students access to reconstructed elementary schools and reconnect communities.



More Information - [www.uticak12.org/buildingforthefuture](http://www.uticak12.org/buildingforthefuture)  
 Feedback/Questions - [www.uticak12.org/feedback](http://www.uticak12.org/feedback)



## Certified Babysitter/First Aid/CPR and Safe Home Alone

Learn to be safe and responsible. Build confidence. Have a competitive edge over other babysitters. One-day class. Topics include first aid, when and how to call 911, CPR with manikin practice, choking, and more! Students will also learn how to be safe and responsible when home alone, including what to do if somebody comes to the door and the importance of not giving out personal information.

Course #: 1021-WS25A	Course #: 1021-WS25B
<b>Crissman Elementary</b>	<b>Messmore Elementary</b>
<b>February 12th</b>	<b>April 15th</b>

5:30–8:30pm  
\$55.00  
Open to all UCS Students



Register online or by phone  
[ucsccommunityeducation.ce.eleyo.com](http://ucsccommunityeducation.ce.eleyo.com)  
586-797-6900  
No refunds





Monday, March 24	Thursday, March 27
T	
Wednesday, March 26	



[Click here](#) to view the 2024-2025 District Calendar

## What students and parents are saying...

"The counselor was wonderful...very interested in helping to place my son where he should be. Thanks!!"

"The yelling has stopped and the talking has started."

"CARE is very responsive to the needs of the clients and I think it is a very good agency. I would one day like to work for CARE."

## Resources:

**Macomb County Crisis Center:**  
586-948-0222

**National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:**  
800-273-TALK (8255)

**Alateen/Alanon Family Groups:**  
800-813-3105

**Affirmations (L.G.B.T.Q.):**  
248-398-7105

**Family Youth Interventions/Youth Shelter:**  
586-465-1212

**Poison Control Center:**  
800-222-1222C

**Macomb County Office of Substance Abuse (MCOSA):** 586-469-5278

## Substance Abuse Prevention websites:

[www.mcosa.net](http://www.mcosa.net)  
[www.abovetheinfluence.com](http://www.abovetheinfluence.com)  
[www.thetruth.com](http://www.thetruth.com)  
[www.drugabuse.gov](http://www.drugabuse.gov)



Main Office  
31900 Utica Road  
Fraser, Michigan 48026

586.541.CARE (2273)  
[www.careofsem.com](http://www.careofsem.com)

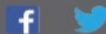


SCAN HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT US

Our mission is to strengthen resiliency in people and their communities through prevention, education, and services that improve the quality of life. Since 1977, CARE of Southeastern Michigan has been a leader in substance use prevention and recovery services in Macomb County. An accredited and award-winning behavioral health nonprofit rooted in the community, CARE provides real-life solutions from early childhood to adulthood so we can live healthier lives.

CARE of Southeastern Michigan is funded by Macomb County Community Mental Health Office of Substance Abuse, Macomb County school districts, state, federal and other private dollars.

Recipients of substance abuse services have rights protected by state and federal law and promulgated rules. For information, contact CARE of Southeastern Michigan Recipient Rights Advisor, 31900 Utica Road, Fraser, MI 48026, (586) 541-2273 or State Recipient Rights Coordinator, P.O. Box 30664, Lansing, Michigan 48909.



## STUDENT ASSISTANCE



CARE invests in youth by working with the community, school personnel and parents to promote the healthy development and education of young people.



## CARE's Student Assistance

- Does your child/student have difficulties at school or in other social settings?
- Have you noticed a change in your child's/student's behaviors and/or attitudes?
- Are you concerned that your child/student may be using alcohol or other drugs?

CARE of Southeastern Michigan understands the struggles that families are facing today. Despite all efforts, when a family is in crisis because of substance use or social and emotional health concerns, there is a greater likelihood that a young person will experience difficulties. Student Assistance offers students and their families guidance and support.

Student Assistance Clinicians specialize in at-risk issues such as substance abuse and mental health problems. A qualified Clinician will conduct initial screenings and assessments to determine the extent of a student's problems and provide resources to best help the student and their family. Students and families will receive assistance in gaining access to the most appropriate service for their area of concern.

## Youth and Family Programs

Visit [www.careofsem.com](http://www.careofsem.com) for locations, times, and dates for all programs.

## Peaceful Alternatives to Tough Situations (PATTS):

An educational series to help youth deal with their emotions in appropriate ways by understanding their own resources and developing their own plan of action with skills that really work!

\* Parent participation required

## Teen Intervene:

Power of Drugs and Alcohol is a series designed to provide education, support and guidance to teens that have experienced mild to moderate use of alcohol or other drugs. This program also offers parents and guardians the opportunity to learn healthy communication skills and the importance of establishing family rules regarding alcohol or other drug use.

\* Parent participation required

## Parent Education Classes:

A series for parents to discuss ways to understand behavior, build self-esteem, increase cooperation and provide discipline that teaches personal responsibility. Groups include early childhood (ages 0-5), school age (ages 6-12) and teens (ages 13-18). A book for the appropriate age group is required.



## INDEPTH:

INDEPTH is the American Lung Association's Intervention for Nicotine Dependence: Education, Prevention, Tobacco and Health program. A forward-thinking alternative to suspension or citation for tobacco use, including e-cigarettes. INDEPTH addresses the teen vaping epidemic in a more supportive way. This interactive program teaches students about nicotine dependence, establishing healthy alternatives and making the change to be free of all tobacco products, including e-cigarettes. INDEPTH is led by a trained, CARE facilitator either one-on-one or in a group setting.

## Camp CARE:

This program is offered for children/families who have been impacted by alcohol and other drugs by a loved one. Through small group discussions, children, youth and teens learn: You are not alone, identify and process feelings, how to be safe, celebrate themselves, how to handle peer pressure, conflict resolution, making healthy choices, and life skill building.

## Teens Talking Truth:

T<sup>3</sup> participates in social events, community service opportunities, and workshops that address the challenges of today's youth, with a primary focus on alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention and a healthy teen lifestyle. T<sup>3</sup> also works to get rid of the myth that all teens require drugs or alcohol to have fun!





## Care Solace

If you or a family member are looking for help with mental health or substance use, Care Solace can help you quickly find treatment options matched to your needs regardless of the circumstance. Care Solace is a complimentary and confidential service provided to students, staff, and their families by Utica Community Schools.

The Care Solace team is available 24/7/365 and can support you in any language.

If you would like to use Care Solace to help you find a provider:

- Call 888-515-0595 (available 24/7/365)
- Search on your own OR click "Book Appointment" for assistance by video chat, email, or phone via [caresolace.com/Utica](https://caresolace.com/Utica).

Disclaimer:

Information on individual treatment providers was gathered by Care Solace based on criteria such as geographic proximity, whether the provider accepts the authorized user's insurance, and whether the provider is accepting new patients. The school district does not recommend, endorse, promote, or refer to any of the individual treatment providers.

## UCS Wellness

Utica Community Schools works to support the physical, mental and social-emotional development of all students. Our wellness pages contain a variety of resources for students, teachers, staff, parents and community members. Check out the UCS Virtual Calming Room, Wellness Podcast and Monday Moments, and more at: [www.uticak12.org/UCS\\_Wellness](http://www.uticak12.org/UCS_Wellness)



## Virtual Library Card

Students and staff can access their Virtual Library account located on their ClassLink dashboard. The Virtual Library Card gives students access to digital resources from the local library and the virtual library card - Tutor.com provides online tutoring and homework help for students.



### Student Virtual Library Card

1. Click on the Virtual Library Card icon from the ClassLink dashboard.
2. Select the library assigned to your homeschool

## Welcome!

Please sign in.

Select your library



3. Enter in your Virtual Library Card number and pin

Virtual Library Card number = UCS followed by the Student PowerSchool Number

PIN = MMDD (birth month and birth day)

UCS100023456

0923

Sign In

4. Click Sign in



Sterling Heights Library	Shelby Township Library	Utica Public Library	Clinton-Macomb Public Library
Bemis	Beacon Tree	Eppler	Beck
Browning	Crissman	Flickinger	Ebeling
Burr	Duncan		
Collins	Eisenhower		
Davis	Malow		
DeKeyser	Monfort		
Dresden	Morgan		
Graebner	Roberts		
Harvey	Shelby		
Havel	Switzer		
Henry Ford II	Utica High		
Heritage	West Utica		
Jeannette	Wiley		
Messmore			
Oakbrook			
Plumbrook			
Schuchard			
Schwarzkoﬀ			
Stevenson			
UAIS			
Utica Alternative Learning Center			
Virtual School (Elementary, Junior High, High School)			

## Virtual Library Card – Tutor.com



1. Click on the Virtual Library Card Tutor.com icon from the ClassLink dashboard.

2. Enter in your Virtual Library Card Tutor.com number and pin

Virtual Library Card Tutor.com number = UCS followed by the Student PowerSchool Number

PIN = MMDD (birth month and birth day)

### Would you like to save your login?



Virtual Library Card - Tutor.com(Suburban)

You can save your login for this application to auto login on your next visit

Fields marked as \* are required

\* Barcode

UCS100023456



\* Password

0923

Skip

Save

4. Click Save



# FREE Online Tutoring

## Do you need one-on-one help with your homework?

To access the free tutoring:

- On your ClassLink dashboard, select **Virtual Library Card - Tutor.com** (the orange icon with the letter "t" on it).
  - You will need your PowerSchool number to log in. You can email your counselor to ask for your PowerSchool number (Marla.Ostrom@UticaK12.org or Autumn.Blanchard@UticaK12.org). To log in:
    - Barcode: ucs##### (ucs followed by PowerSchool number)
    - Your password is your 2-digit birth **month** and 2-digit birth **day** (example 0408 for April 8)
  - Choose **GET A TUTOR NOW**. If you want a short tutorial on how the site works, you can select **Take the tour**.

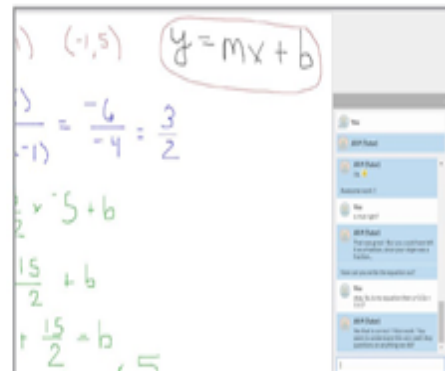
## CONNECT WITH A TUTOR

Connect to a tutor quickly and easily. Select your topic, subject and grade level. Then, to get the best tutor for your problem, type out your question and, if you have a file or picture, attach it to your request.

02

## CHAT WITH YOUR TUTOR

Use our online classroom to chat with your tutor and share your work on the whiteboard. You and the tutor can draw, type, paste images and use graph paper on the interactive whiteboard.



03

## UCS Meals Are Nutritious And Delicious!

- UCS cafeterias offer a wide variety of different food choices to meet your student's needs
- We serve the same brand named products, like Tyson, Land-O-Lakes and Jennie-O, that you do you in your homes
- Meals follow federal guidelines for nutrition
- Meals include a variety of fresh fruit, vegetables, whole grains, low fat meat and dairy as well as low fat and fat free milk
- **To qualify for free and reduced meals students must take at least 1/2 cup fruit or vegetable with a meal.**
- **Breakfast meals include up to 2 grains, up to 2 fruits and a milk. Must take at least 1/2 cup fruit or vegetable with 2 more items to qualify.**
- **Lunch meals include a grain, meat/meat alternate, vegetable, fruit & milk. Must take 3 out of 5 with one being 1/2 cup fruit or vegetable to qualify.**
- We watch our saturated fat and sodium levels to help support our student's health needs
- Visit the Healthy Meals at School page to learn more about meal requirements

### "Hey Alexa, what's for lunch?"

UCS's School Menus are digitally accessible on all devices as well as Amazon's Alexa!

**Customize, view and print all school menus by clicking here or visiting <https://uticak12.nutrislice.com>**



All meals are free this year thanks to the Michigan School Meals law. Students that would like to be eligible for benefits, such as pay-to-participate sports, college entrance/AP testing fees, summer EBT cards and more need to complete the Eligibility Benefits Form or the School Meals and Summer EBT Form. These forms are available at <https://utica.familyportal.cloud>.

### **Allergens Form**

We take food allergies and student safety very seriously. If your student has any food allergies, please have your physician fill out the MDE Dietary Needs Form and return it to the food service office. [MDE Special Diet Form](#).

- 1- You must fill out a physician signed MDE Special Needs Accommodation form and send it to the Food Service office. Without this, we cannot make any accommodations. Please make sure to be specific with regards to the allergy (Example: all dairy or just fluid milk intolerance, etc.)
- 2- Because allergies can change, you MUST fill out a new form EVERY YEAR.
- 3- You must indicate to your child's school which days and which menu item you would like at least 48 hours in advance. We will not automatically have these available if we do not hear from parents in advance.
- 4- A vegetarian and nut free options are available every day, so please see the regular menu.
- 5- Juice or water are not acceptable substitutes per USDA guidelines. At this time, we have Kikkoman Soy milk as a substitute. You're welcome to send in your own milk with your child if they don't like it.
- 6- We will do the best we can to accommodate other requests but there may be some limitations. For questions, please call our food service office at 586-797-1180



# In Case You Missed It

1ST Day of School 2024

Another successful first day at Eppler. Staff and students looking forward to a great year!!!!



## Caught Being Kind



The counseling office has a fun program called "Caught Bring Kind"! Teachers and staff are recognize moments when students are going out of their way to be kind to someone and performing an act of kindness. Then each month we are going around to classrooms and rewarding the students who were "Caught Being Kind". Kindness is contagious and we want the students to know we see appreciate that! The following students were rewarded recently:

Lourdes Mio, McKenna Jordan, Ryder Duncan, Kaylee Donnellon, Brandon Hermiz, Bella Malaj, Derek Kehn, Seth Lorenz, Kira Grimes, Hope Jasmund, Aurricco Powell, Chevelle Danski, Brandon Tjapkes, Martin Gruda, Jayden Fuller, Saritta Salmoo, John David Iskharia, Landon Godsey, Rami Salmeh, Sarah Agnetti, Nicholas Johnson

## September Chieftains of the Month

***Congrats to our September Chieftains of the Month!***

Preston Coffey, Ryder Duncan,, Ramsin Esho, Shianne Shaw, Brayson Hardin, Mason Hughes,  
Ryan Rekar, Brandon Hermiz, Levi Ogles, Niko Morgan.

*Not pictured : Mason Weeks and Jaysen Tupo*





# OPPOSITE DAY!

Teachers dress like students.  
Students dress like teachers.





## 7th Grade AVID

Ms. Markus and Ms. Gissel's AVID 7 classes worked together for a Fundamental Friday activity.

They had to make a chair for a Care Bear using only 6 pieces of paper and tape.



***Congrats to our October Chieftains of the Month!***

Lucas Vallejo, Agustin Caro, Afra Lopez, William Cooper, Marcel Polus, Lucas Gott,  
Lourdes Mio, Natalia Alam, Joanna Joshua, Maha Alhasan, Maggie McManus





# 8TH GRADE FIELD TRIP

## OCTOBER 18, 2024

### What We Learned

#### Specialty Programs

Last Friday, Eppler 8th graders attended the district's *Specialty Program Showcase*. At each presentation, students learned important information and had hands-on experiences for the following high school programs: MST, CSI, MADE, IB, and UHHS. Students will have an opportunity to attend a future presentation at Eppler to find out more information on specific programs.

#### Utica High School Electives

Students also had a chance to see different elective opportunities offered at Utica High School in the areas of business, foreign language, newspaper and yearbook, drama, art, etc., during an "elective fair" session.















7th grader *Dahtri Joshi*, brought special gifts to the office in celebration of Diwali, an Indian Holiday, known as "The Festival of Lights".



## Caught Being Kind



The counseling office has a fun program called "Caught Bring Kind"! Teachers and staff are recognize moments when students are going out of their way to be kind to someone and performing an act of kindness. Then each month we are going around to classrooms and rewarding the students who were "Caught Being Kind". Kindness is contagious and we want the students to know we see appreciate that! The following students were rewarded recently:

*Landon Godsey, Aarush Veepuri, Emanuel Agustin, Mia Duran, Brielle Walker, Veronica Mansur, Daniella Najjar, Jaydon Washington, Jacob Lowry, Jack Kline, Madison Schultz, Delyla Piepszowski, ,Nevin Antias, Alex Scott, Luke Lize, Drew Baldwin, Niko Morgan, Rose Mader, Sam Manna, Kiana Donahue, Sophia Gjokaj, Brooklyn Daubenmeyer, Genevieve Lulgjuraj and Kaiya Ackerman*

## 8th Grade Volleyball

**Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade volleyball team finished the season as District Champions!!!**

**Congrats Chieftains!!!!!!**



## Chieftains of the Month

***Congrats to our November Chieftains of the Month!***

Zachary Jones, Dimitar Nedev, Lucas Weber, Gabriel Moultry, Allison Vavruska, Nachele Hopson, Hayatt Koja, Hope Jasmund, Sarah Agnetti. Not pictured, Brent Francis and Eman Sabovic





# EPPLER AVID TRIP U OF M DEARBORN



**LET'S GO  
BLUE**



**Students in Mrs. Markus' 8th grade  
AVID class traveled to U of M  
Dearborn's campus on  
Wednesday, November 6, 2024.  
Students heard a presentation  
from an admissions advisor,  
toured the campus, and had lunch  
in the cafeteria. GO BLUE!**





# MI Career Quest

EPPLER 9TH GRADE LIFE SKILLS AND AVID STUDENTS HAD AN INCREDIBLE DAY AT THE MI CAREER QUEST IN NOVI

DURING THIS EVENT, STUDENTS GOT TO VISIT FOUR ROOMS FEATURING MANY CAREERS IN HIGH-DEMAND INDUSTRIES: ADVANCED MANUFACTURING, CONSTRUCTION, HEALTH SCIENCES, AND TECHNOLOGY. STUDENTS ENGAGED WITH PROFESSIONALS AND PARTICIPATED IN HANDS ON ACTIVITIES TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CAREERS. STUDENTS DID A GREAT JOB AT TALKING TO THE PROFESSIONALS, ASKING QUESTIONS AND STEPPING OUTSIDE THEIR COMFORT ZONE TO COMPLETE TASKS THAT WERE NEW TO THEM. WE ARE VERY PROUD OF OUR 9TH GRADE CHIEFTAINS!





## Becketts Blessings Update

Dear Mr. Pantano and Eppler Junior High,

I hope this email finds you well! On behalf of Wreck-it Like Beckett, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you for being part of **Beckett's Blessings Toy Drive**. Your school support and participation truly made a difference, and we're so grateful for your kindness and generosity.

We've put together a short video highlighting how it all came together, and we'd love for you to see the incredible impact you were part of. You can watch it here: [Facebook](#).

Attached is a picture of all the 275 toys collected—thanks to amazing partners like you! These toys are already bringing joy to children and families facing incredibly tough times, and it's all because of your help.

Thank you once again for being a part of this special effort. Your involvement means the world to us, and we hope to continue this partnership for years to come.

Warm regards,  
Tammie Fowler  
Founder, Wreck-it Like Beckett



## Eppler Drama/Theatre

On December 3, 2024, the Eppler drama class put on the play, "Everyone Gets Eaten By Sharks", written by Marshall Pallet. The audience devoured the delightfully madcap comedy as the students showed off their acting skills. Great Job Mr. Sloat's class!!





Thank you to all of our generous families who donated to this years Toys Tots.



## A Winter Concert

A collage of photos from a winter concert. The top left shows a group of children and adults on a stage. The top right features a circular inset of a person playing a red instrument. The center is dominated by the text "Winter CONCERT" in a mix of cursive and serif fonts, surrounded by various Christmas ornaments and pine branches. Below the text, there are two more photos: one of a small group of people and another of a larger group of children and adults on stage. At the bottom, a large photo shows a choir of children and adults performing on a stage decorated with a Christmas tree.

On December 11, to the delight of family, friends and alumni, Mr. Sloat's choir performed in the UCS "A Winter Concert". The students performed a variety of seasonal selections the helped everyone dive into the holiday spirit.

# LCCE HOLIDAY PARTY

DECEMBER 2024



## Class Party

Sancho Al Hambra visited Eppler's LCCE programs this Christmas. They generously provided lunch and desserts for the students to enjoy at their Christmas party. In addition, a magician entertained the classes with fun, interactive magic tricks. To top it off, the Al Hambra group provided the students with duffle bags (including treats inside) embroidered with Eppler's name.

## Magic Show



## Treats



## Friends



## Caught Being Kind

Choose   
KINDNESS.

The counseling office has a fun program called "Caught Bring Kind"! Teachers and staff are recognize moments when students are going out of their way to be kind to someone and performing an act of kindness. Then each month we are going around to classrooms and rewarding the students who were "Caught Being Kind". Kindness is contagious and we want the students to know we see appreciate that! The following students were rewarded recently:

Joey Harris, Victoria Brown, Chevelle Danski, Adrianna Sepko, Austin Manni, Christian Priester, Lynden Lambert, Ryan Carter, Brookelyn Ackerly, Ethan Carlson, Lane Heeger, Christian Dushaj, Janet Dominguez, Liam Alter, Ramsin Esho, Lucas Kada, Makayla Pulford, Madison Benson, Derrick McKinney, Carter Smith, Jaeden Hensler, Ricardo Putros, Rose Mader, Yousif Aldulaimi, Nevin Antias, and Tori Dynes



NJHS Students Maggie Anceski, Ashley Wiseman, Mckenzie Boyd, Ethan Lesner and Makayla Pulford volunteered their Friday night to help nearly 200 students and families at the annual MISD POHI Christmas party. This opportunity always turns out to be one of NJHS students' favorite and most memorable events of the year. NJHS students helped by checking in students and families, serving dinner, helping Santa pass out gifts and even ran a face painting station. Wonderful job Maggie, Ashley, Mckenzie, Ethan and Makayla!



## Wellness

Self  
care

# Wellness Mini-Lessons

### Upcoming Events




Counselors will be visiting 7th grade science classes in January to do a mini-lesson on **GOAL SETTING**.

### Past 7th Grade Wellness Mini-Lessons

- Breathing Strategies
- Changing Your Mood Using Music
- Practicing Gratitude
- Stress Management

### Stress Catcher Activity in 7th Grade Math Class

In December, the counselors went into 7th grade math classes to discuss the effects of stress on your mental and physical health, as well as offer some stress management strategies including the stress catcher.

MENTAL  
Health  
MATTERS

## Golden Ticket Winners

At the end of second quarter, students were awarded a golden ticket for each class in which they had no missing assignments. They used the ticket(s) to enter a drawing for a movie basket, which included a \$15.00 Emagine gift card.

ALAINA  
VAVRUSKA

MAHA  
ALHASAN

NICHOLAS  
BAHRI

# THE GOLDEN TICKET



**TICKET**  
ADMIT ONE  
AB 1234

**IN THEATRES NOW**

**EPPLER JUNIOR HIGH PRODUCTIONS PRESENT THE GOLDEN TICKET STARRING ALAINA VAVRUSKA, MAHA ALHASAN, AND NICHOLAS BAHRI DIRECTOR APRIL RAUPP PRODUCTION DESIGNER APRIL RAUPP EXECUTIVE PRODUCER AUTUMN BLANCHARD**



## Chieftain of the Month

### ***Congrats to our December Chieftains of the Month!***

Marsel Gjoka, Ethan Carlson, Axel Austin, Jiahao Wang, MaKenzie Pulford, Dhatri Joshi, Valencia Bishara, Addisen Schulz, Paylin Fertik, Ellie Nelson, Marcellina Jamil and Ella Daubenmeyer



## Solo and Ensemble Festival at Rochester HS

2 weeks ago, two of our Eppler Band students competed at the Solo and Ensemble Festival at Rochester High School. 8<sup>th</sup> Grader Elena Bird-Bazan and Freshman Adrian Flattery both earned a 1st Division rating on their solos from the judges! Congratulations!!

## Chieftain of the Month



### ***Congrats to our January Chieftains of the Month!***

Ricardo Putros, Alsido Dukaj, Cass Mansfield, Ethan Lesner, Nicholas Florio, Marvela Oraha, Taylor Shene, Darielle McKinney, Nora Robinson, Delyla Rae Piepszowski, Mara Marian, Brookelyn Ackerly, Jovani Jarbo

## Eppler Elephants

The Eppler Elephants, coached by Marwan Hassan and Alex Thielen, competed in the state championship chess tournament on Saturday February 22. We faced some tough competition.

Our first team: Ansh Arora, Jayansh Medidha, Jacob Lowry, and Aleksa Jaksic placed 2/5. Our reserve team: Cameron Zager, Jack Kline, Roshan Pottelu, and Aarush Veepuri placed 2/5. Aarush also earned a bronze medal. The Utica High team placed 1/4.



## Caught Being Kind



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Nick Yaldo, Darielle McKinney, Rami Salameh, Vivian Smyka, Emanuel Agustin, Addiston Altz, Madilyn Backus, Cole Bazzo, Christian Escobar, Adrian Flattery, Feras Gresh, Fernando Jose Loaiza Celi, Afra Lopez Vazquez, Christian Marchant, Christopher Merem, Milan Swirydowicz, Pablo Montanez Rosas, Derrick McKinney, Jackson Cole and Vata Margilaj

## Chieftain of the Month



***Congrats to our February Chieftains of the Month!***

Sawyer Willis, Austin Anderson, Luis Landois Zertuche, Emanuel Agustin, Drew Baldwin, Navini Chavez, Rebeka Cetaj, Hope Kelley, Lacey Kource, Vivian Smyka, Savannah Puwal and McKenna Jordan





## Eppler Band



Last Friday the Eppler 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Band performed at MSBOA Band Festival at Stevenson High School. The Band received a 1<sup>st</sup> Division rating in the sight-reading portion of the festival and 2<sup>nd</sup> Division rating on their concert performance for an overall 2nd Division rating. Congratulations!