

February 16, 2026

# Eppler Express



|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Monday, February 16</b>  | <b>Thursday, February 19</b>  |
| <p>Mid-Winter Break NO SCHOOL Teachers and Students</p>    | <p>Mid-Winter Break NO SCHOOL Teachers and Students</p>              |
| <b>Tuesday, February 17</b>   | <b>Friday, February 20</b>  |
| <p>Mid-Winter Break NO SCHOOL Teachers and Students</p>   | <p>Mid-Winter Break NO SCHOOL Teachers and Students</p>             |
| <b>Wednesday, February 18</b>   | <b>Saturday, February 21</b>  |
| <p>Mid-Winter Break NO SCHOOL Teachers and Students</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sunday, February 22</b></p> <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.](#)

## Important Websites and Resources:

- [Counseling Information](#)
- [UHS Athletics Boosters](#)
- [Eppler Website](#)
- [Eppler Express](#)
- [PaySchools](#)
- [Student Handbook](#)
- [UCS District Website](#)
- [Report Bullying](#)
- [PowerSchool Portal / Information](#)
- [UCS District Calendar](#)
- [UCS Tech Talk](#)

### Eppler Chieftain Code of Conduct:

**Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Reasonable...**

**And above all, be kind to everyone!**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Monday, February 23</b>  | <b>Thursday, February 26</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chess Club, 2:50—3:50 pm, Room 19</li> <li>College Gear Monday</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homework Club, 2:55—3:55 pm, Media Center</li> <li>Magic: The Gathering in Room 126, 2:50—3:45 pm</li> <li>8/7 Girls Basketball @ Shelby 4:00 pm</li> </ul> |
| <b>Tuesday, February 24</b>   | <b>Friday, February 27</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homework Club, 2:55—3:55 pm, Media Center</li> <li>Student Council Meeting Media Center 7:00 am</li> <li>STATIC Meeting Room 136 2:55 – 3:34 pm</li> <li>8/7 Girls Basketball v Bemis 4:00 pm</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avid Bagel Sales, 2nd Hr.</li> <li>Chieftain of the Month Lunch Room 136 11:40 am – 12:42 pm</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Wednesday, February 25</b>   | <b>Saturday, February 28</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EPIC Meeting MC Conference Room 9:00 am</li> <li>Fire Drill 1:15 pm</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Saturday School Media Center 9:00 am – 12:00 pm</li> </ul>  |
|   | <b>Sunday, March 1</b>   |
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None.</li> </ul>  |

[Click here](#) to view the 2025-2026 District Calendar

**2025—2026 School Calendar Update**



The complete 2025-26 UCS Calendar is now available. Follow the below link to see important dates for the remainder of this year. Please note: October 31 – Halloween – is the end of the first quarter and will be a half-day for elementary students.

<https://www.uticak12.org/Page/2#calendar1/20251015/month>

**Vision and Mission Statements**

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

**Eppler Junior High School Mission Statement:** Parents, students, teachers, and administrators will collaborate as a community to foster a safe and respectful learning environment that will promote independent critical thinking and problem solving.

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



#### SAFETY

#### SUCCESS

#### 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

- 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)

## NEW Eppler Information

### Jets Fundraiser



# ♦ JET'S PIZZA ♦ FUNDRAISER

For every order,  
Jet's Pizza will  
donate 15% of  
that sale back to  
Eppler's Student  
Council.



**1st WED  
of every  
month**



46370 VAN DYKE ♦  
SHELBY TWP. 48317

**586.731.3700**

4-8PM ♦  
**PICK UP  
OR  
DELIVERY**

### 9th Grade Band

Saturday, February 7, members of the Eppler 9th Grade Band participated in the M.S.B.O.A. High School Solo and Ensemble festival at Rochester High School.

Earning a 2nd division rating were Christopher Brown and Scarlett Dettmer.

Earning 1st Division ratings were Madeline Kraft, Christopher Brown, Elena Bird-Bazan, and Evan Wilson.

**Congratulations!**

***For Foreign Language week, Spanish 2 and French 2 students in Ms. Grammatico's and Mrs. Daughtery's class got to participate in some Salsa dance lessons. The students loved it and picked up on the moves very easily. They got to learn individual moves and couple moves!***



# KINDNESS WEEK

## EPPLER IS KIND!

Student Council sponsored a Kindness Spirit Week January 27-February 2.

Students and staff participated in themed dress days, kindness activities at lunch, and were given a kindness challenge each day.

In addition, Student Council, in partnership with the Eppler Kitchen Staff, ran a glove and hat drive. Over 230 items were donated to help the WAVE Warming Shelter and Trinity Utica's Meal Ministry. Good job!



BE THE "T" IN  
KIND

# Special Dress Days



SPREAD  
Kindness



# *Kindness* Lunch Activities

**KINDNESS**  
*Changes*  
**EVERYTHING**



# Glove and Hat Drive



**KINDNESS MATTERS**



2025-2026 EPPLER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK *Jostens*

COUNTLESS AMAZING MEMORIES.  
ONE ICONIC YEARBOOK.

Now \$46.00

\$46.00

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| YEARBOOK   |         |
| SIGNATURE PACKAGE  | \$59.00 |
| <small>Includes: Yearbook, Enhanced Personalization, Autograph Pens, Autograph Section</small> |         |
| ENHANCED PERSONALIZATION   | \$9.00  |
| ICONS  | FREE!   |
| AUTOGRAPH SECTION  | \$5.00  |
| PHOTO POCKETS  | \$5.00  |
| DONATE A YEARBOOK  | \$40.00 |
| CLEAR PROTECTIVE COVER   | \$5.00  |

**TO ORDER:**

- Scan the QR Code
- [jostens.com/btsoffer](https://jostens.com/btsoffer)
- 1 (877) 787-5217

SCORE FOUR FREE ICONS  
WHEN YOU PERSONALIZE YOUR COVER



More icon options are available online.



Share your student's photos with the yearbook staff to be featured in the yearbook more.

- 1 Open your phone's camera and scan this code.  
Or visit [photos.jostens.com/upload](https://photos.jostens.com/upload)
- 2 Upload your favorite photos from the year.
- 3 Tag students for the yearbook staff.

Add to the Yearbook!!

UPLOAD PHOTOS TODAY



BE IN THE YEARBOOK  
**MORE.**  
A LOT MORE.

# Year Long Eppler Information

## 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.

On September 3, 2025, we met with 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students to address the 2025-2026 Student and Parent Handbook. Below you will find a few key points that we went over with all the students. Everything that we addressed can be found in the UCS 2025-2026 Parent and Student Handbook.

A few key points:

- Students must have a pass when they leave the classroom.
- Students must have their IDs on and visible. (September 11, is picture make up day, everyone should have an ID after the 11<sup>th</sup>)
- Cell phones should not be used during instruction, lunch, or passing time. (Teacher discretion if cell phones needed for educational purposes) this includes earbuds and headphones.
- Big backpacks are not allowed in the classroom. (Especially 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> hour) Students need to be using their lockers and string backpacks.
- No food or drinks in the classroom or hallways. (water is allowed)
- Attendance-Regular attendance, being on time, and active participation in class contribute to student success. "Excessive absences" is defined as more than 10 in a semester. Please review the Attendance policy with your student.
- Dress code (Students' dress must not disrupt the educational process, interfere with the maintenance of a positive teaching/learning climate, or compromise reasonable standards of health, safety, and decency)



## 2025—2026 Attendance Information

Regular attendance and active participation in class are integral parts of a student's total education. Students can achieve educational benefits only through regular class attendance and a serious commitment to an educational program.

During the 2025-2026 school year Eppler Administration will be sending text messages and emails to parents/guardians about their student's attendance. Messages and emails may have a number or email address that you do not recognize. If the messages are about attendance and mention your student, it was sent to you by Eppler Administration.

Together, we know that strong attendance leads to stronger learning. When schools and families partner to make daily attendance a priority, students are better prepared to succeed—both in the classroom and beyond.





# EPPLER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL DAILY SCHEDULE

1<sup>ST</sup> HOUR 7:55 – 8:53 AM

2<sup>ND</sup> HOUR 8:59 -9:55 AM

3<sup>RD</sup> HOUR 10:01 – 10:57 AM

4<sup>TH</sup> HOUR 11:03 – 12:42 PM

**A Lunch** 11:03 – 11:34 Lunch

11:40 – 12:42 Class

**B Lunch** 11:03 – 11:34 Class

11:40 – 12:05 Lunch

12:11 – 12:42 Class

**C Lunch** 11:03 – 12:05 Class

12:11 – 12:42 Lunch

5<sup>TH</sup> HOUR 12:48 – 1:44 PM

6<sup>TH</sup> HOUR 1:50 – 2:46 PM

Doors will open at 7:30 am for breakfast. First bell rings at 7:45 AM.

## EXAM DAY SCHEDULE

1<sup>ST</sup> EXAM 7:55 – 9:23 AM

2<sup>ND</sup> EXAM 9:29 – 10:57 AM

# **BE PROMPT!**



# BACKPACK

# expectations for 2025-2026

**ATTENTION**

**PLEASE**



**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. Large backpacks MUST remain in student lockers during the school day.**



**Students may carry a 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.**

# BAGELS

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



**\$1.50**

**BAGEL SALE**

**FRIDAYS**

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

**AVID**

## 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 7:55

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 2025-2026 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 19th.



## 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.**

## 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"

# PowerSchool/Text Messaging Service / Schoology

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.



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 & Utica Athletics

## 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

1. **ALL** students **MUST** present a school ID for entrance to the game and will **ONLY** be admitted with adult supervision.
2. The accompanying adult **MUST** attend the event with the student and **MAY NOT** leave the student unsupervised.
3. Between the end of the school day and the start of the event, any student attending **MUST** either wait outside the school or in the main lobby **ONLY**.
4. Students on the current Low Citizenship List **MAY NOT** attend any after school events.

**UCS**  
**7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE GIRLS BASKETBALL**  
**2025 - 2026**

*Game Time: 4:00 – 1<sup>st</sup> game, 2<sup>nd</sup> game to follow*

*\*Jan. 26. – Feb 9: 7<sup>th</sup> grade will play the first game followed by the 8<sup>th</sup> grade*

*\*Feb 12– March.5: 8<sup>th</sup> grade will play the first game followed by the 7<sup>th</sup> grade*

*March 9 and 12 TBD*

**Mon., January 26**

Jeannette @ Shelby  
 Eppler @ Davis  
 Malow @ Bemis

**Thurs., January 29**

Shelby @ Malow  
 Eppler @ Bemis  
 Davis @ Jeannette

**Mon., February 2**

Bemis @ Davis  
 Shelby @ Eppler  
 Malow @ Jeannette

**Thurs., February 5**

Jeannette @ Eppler  
 Bemis @ Shelby  
 Malow @ Davis

**Mon., February 9**

Bemis @ Jeannette  
 Eppler @ Malow  
 Davis @ Shelby

**Thurs., February 12**

Shelby @ Jeannette  
 Davis @ Eppler  
 Bemis @ Malow

**Tues., February 24**

Malow @ Shelby  
 Bemis @ Eppler  
 Jeannette @ Davis

**Thurs., February 26**

\*Davis @ Bemis (Wed 2/25)  
 Eppler @ Shelby  
 Jeannette @ Malow

**Mon., March 2**

Eppler @ Jeannette  
 Shelby @ Bemis  
 Davis @ Malow

**Thurs., March 5**

Jeannette @ Bemis  
 Malow @ Eppler  
 Shelby @ Davis

**Mon., March 9**

*Teams to be seeded &  
 Sites TBD after 3/5  
 games have concluded*

**Thurs., March 12**

*Teams to be seeded &  
 Sites TBD after 3/5  
 games have concluded*

\*Davis @ Bemis  
 originally scheduled on  
 2/26 will be played on  
 Wed, February 25<sup>th</sup>.



## UTICA BASEBALL 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TRYOUTS

*TRYOUT Schedule (meet in cafeteria to start)*

Monday: (After school-5:00pm) 3/9

Tuesday: (After school-5:00pm)

Wednesday: (After school-5:00pm)

Thursday: (After school-5:00pm)

Friday: (After school-5:00pm)

Saturday: Practice / Gear Pass Out / Lunch 9am-1pm

Location: Utica High

First day March 9<sup>th</sup>  
Freshmen: Directly  
after school-5:00pm  
Monday-Friday  
(Saturday practice  
for those that make  
the team)

Proper gym clothes!  
No shorts! Utica color  
shirt preferred! No  
shorts. Bring clothes  
and cleats to go  
outside.

**Must have a current  
physical on file to  
participate.**

**ANY QUESTIONS  
CONTACT**

Mark Moehlig

586-243-1175

Mark.Moehlig@uticak12.org

# UTICA FOOTBALL

## OFF-SEASON WEIGHTROOM SCHEDULE



 Winter & Spring hours beginning on Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>

Monday 2:15-4:15pm

Wednesday 2:15-4:15pm

Friday 2:15-4:15pm

Weight Room will be closed on Tuesday and Thursday

### EPPLER JUNIOR HIGH AFTER-SCHOOL HOMEWORK CLUB

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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 2:55 PM to 3:55 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 2:55 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 3:55 PM. Students will need to sign in each day that they participate. Students need to arrange for their own transportation home. *Supervision will not be available after 4:00 PM.*

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.Raup@uticak12.org](mailto:April.Raup@uticak12.org) / Last names L-Z: [Autumn.Blanchard@uticak12.org](mailto: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: \_\_\_\_\_

## Student Council

- ◇ Student Council Meeting Dates (subject to change)
- ◇ Meetings will be held in the Media Center at 7:00 am.
- ◇ Bring your Stu Co folder, pencil/pen.
- ◇ Meetings are MANDATORY. If you can not attend, let Mrs. Raupp or Mrs. Grammatico know you will be absent PRIOR to the meeting.



|                |                |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Tuesday, 11/11 | Tuesday, 01/27 | Tuesday, 03/24 | Tuesday, 05/05 |
| Tuesday 12/02  | Tuesday 02/24  | Tuesday 04/07  | Tuesday 05/19  |
| Tuesday 01/13  | Tuesday 03/10  | Tuesday 04/21  |                |

## Magic: The Gathering



Do you enjoy building an army of massive dragons? Or maybe you prefer to outwit your opponent with a sneaky swarm of tiny goblins? Then you might be a Magic: The Gathering player!

Come find your play style at the first meeting of Eppler's Magic The Gathering club on Thursday, October 9th in Room 126, from 2:50 – 3:45 PM, then every Thursday after school. Even if you've never cast a spell before, we'll teach you everything you need to know. See you at the table!

## S.T.A.T.I.C.

**S.T.A.T.I.C.**  
*Students Taking Action Together in Christ*

Come together in faith, friendship, and fun!

**ROOM 136**  
**2:55-3:45PM**

Meeting Dates

- November 13
- December 11
- January 22
- February 24
- March 17
- April 21
- May 26

*More Information*  
Mrs. Blanchard, Counselor  
[Autumn.Blanchard@UticaK12.org](mailto:Autumn.Blanchard@UticaK12.org)

## Eppler Chess Club



The Eppler Elephants will be stomping the competition again this year!! Coach Marwan and Coach Alex are holding the first Chess Club meeting 09/15/25 from 2:50—3:50 pm, Room 19.

Stop by room 19 to get your permission slip today.

## Eppler Parent Involvement Committee (EPIC)

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

|                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Tuesday, September 23  | Wednesday, February 25 |
| Tuesday, October 21    | Thursday, March 19     |
| Tuesday, November 11   | Tuesday, April 21      |
| Wednesday, December 10 | Tuesday, May 19        |
| Wednesday, January 21  |                        |

## 9th Grade NJHS Members

MANDATORY MEETINGS: Meetings are from 2:55– 3:25 pm (may end earlier) Please make sure you have a ride or plan to get home. If you are unable to attend, please let Mr. Hornibrook in Room 132 or Mrs. Byron in room 19.

|                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Wednesday, September 10 | Wednesday, February 11 |
| Wednesday, October 8    | Wednesday, March 11    |
| Wednesday, November 12  | Wednesday, April 8     |
| Wednesday, December 10  | Tuesday, May 13        |
| Wednesday, January 14   |                        |

## ESAB

Meetings will be from 3:00—4:00 pm, Room 136



Thursday, October 9  
Tuesday, December 9  
Tuesday, February 10  
Tuesday, April 7



***Applications will be available beginning Monday, September 8***

Have you heard of FIRST? Maybe Lego Robotics? Have you wanted to participate in the past but didn't know how to get started? Here is your chance to be a part of the 2025 season. At the junior high school level, the robotics program is First Tech Challenge (FTC). We have had FTC Robotics teams at Eppler previously and would like to rekindle the flame and establish a new team.

Parents, please register your interested child by scanning the accompanying QR code and completing the registration survey. Please know that teams are not just out there to be joined; they must be built by people like you. We can help with robots, tips and even a support hub to practice with mentors. We need coaches like you to support, encourage and organize. The students will do the rest. No engineering or computer science degrees are necessary.

Scan the QR code for info.

A promotional poster for 'esports TRYOUTS' at Utica. The background features a character from the game Valorant. The text 'esports' is in orange script, and 'TRYOUTS' is in large, bold, white letters with an orange outline. A large orange 'U' is positioned above the character. A QR code is on the left with the text 'APPLY NOW:'. A list of games is on the bottom left, and the MIHSF logo is at the bottom left corner.

*esports*  
**TRYOUTS**

**U**

APPLY NOW:

VALORANT  
OVERWATCH 2  
SSBU  
ROCKET LEAGUE  
MARVEL RIVALS  
LEAGUE OF LEGENDS  
MADDEN  
FORTNITE  
CHESS  
& MORE!



UTICA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

# COLLEGE & CAREER PATHWAYS

- LEARN ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES AFTER HIGH SCHOOL
- COMPLETE THE FAFSA WITH THE HELP OF ONSITE STAFF

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

**THURSDAY, MARCH 12TH**

**6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

**AT HENRY FORD II HIGH SCHOOL**

11911 CLINTON RIVER ROAD STERLING HEIGHTS

**SCAN TO REGISTER**





UTICA  
COMMUNITY  
SCHOOLS

# SPECIAL MENU OPTIONS

## RAMADAN MEALS

The USDA is allowing schools to send breakfast and lunch meals home with students during the Ramadan observance, February 23-March 19.

Please submit your order for your child's breakfast and lunch meals to go home by 9am on February 12 via the link below:

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

## LENTEN MEALS

Students seeking options in observance of Lent, please refer to our online menu:

[www.uticak12.nutrislice.com](http://www.uticak12.nutrislice.com)



UTICA  
COMMUNITY  
SCHOOLS

# خيارات خاصة في قائمة الطعام

## وجبات رمضان

تسمح وزارة الزراعة الأمريكية USDA للمدارس بإرسال وجبات الفطور والغداء إلى المنزل مع الطلاب خلال شهر رمضان من February 23- March 19

يرجى تقديم طلب وجبات الفطور والغداء للطلاب الخاص بكم لأخذها إلى المنزل بحلول الساعة 9:00 صباحاً من يوم February 12 عبر الرابط أدناه:

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

## وجبات الصوم

للطلاب الذين يبحثون عن خيارات غذائية مراعاةً لفترة الصوم، يرجى الرجوع إلى قائمة الطعام الخاصة بنا عبر الانترنت:

[www.uticak12.nutrislice.com](http://www.uticak12.nutrislice.com)

قوائم الطعام عرضة للتغيير حسب توفر الاصناف. هذه المؤسسة توفر فرصاً متكافئة للجميع.



**Robert S. Monroe**  
Superintendent of Schools  
11303 Greendale  
Sterling Heights, MI 48312  
(586) 797-1100  
www.UticaK12.org

December 11, 2025

Dear UCS Community,

I recently shared an update on continued work to address long-standing issues with our attendance areas. The update provided information on how we are evaluating the feeder patterns for Stevenson High School and Henry Ford II High School. This work is being coordinated in conjunction with scheduled facility improvements throughout our district.

We have developed an attendance area plan in partnership with our Enrollment Distribution Advisory Committee (EDAC), which is comprised of community members from each school.

Over the past few months, this committee has provided input into a plan that focuses on neighborhood schools that would strengthen communities and create greater access for students to improved facilities. The recommendations also establish consistent secondary feeder patterns where students remain with their friends throughout their K-12 journey. The plan includes changes to each of the following schools reviewed by our Enrollment Distribution Advisory Committee. These adjustments are planned for **the fall of 2028**:

- **Harvey Elementary School** - Dresden Elementary students will be consolidated with the existing Harvey Elementary attendance areas east of Van Dyke. The district's Auxiliary Services Department is evaluating Harvey Elementary to determine the facility improvements that will support the change. A portion of the school's attendance area in Shelby Township will be merged with an adjacent Flickinger Elementary neighborhood. This neighborhood will follow the Flickinger Elementary feeder pattern of Eppler Junior High School to Utica High School. (See [Map](#))
- **Schwarzkoﬀ Elementary School** - The Plumbrook Elementary attendance area east of Van Dyke will be consolidated with Schwarzkoﬀ Elementary and DeKeyser Elementary. The district's Auxiliary Services Department is evaluating Schwarzkoﬀ Elementary to determine the facility improvements that will support the change. Also, through a partnership with the Macomb Intermediate School District (MISD), improvements will be made to the facility to meet the unique needs of the Physically or Otherwise Health Impaired (POHI) program. In addition, a remote section of Schwarzkoﬀ Elementary attendance area west of Van Dyke will be consolidated with adjoining Schuchard Elementary neighborhoods. (See [Map](#))

**Utica Community Schools Board of Education**

Mary K. Smolenski, Ph.D. - President • Denyeal Nesovski - Vice President • Steven R. Meyer, Ph.D. - Treasurer  
Kelli Rankin - Secretary • Kimberly Becker - Trustee • Macheille Fitzpatrick - Trustee • Michael Austerman - Trustee

- **Dresden Elementary School** - Dresden Elementary will be consolidated into neighboring school communities. The southern portion of Dresden Elementary will be merged with an improved Harvey Elementary facility. In Shelby Township, remote portions of the attendance areas will be merged with adjacent Ebeling Elementary and Monfort Elementary attendance areas. (See [Map](#))
- **Plumbrook Elementary School** - Plumbrook Elementary will be consolidated into neighboring school communities. The attendance area east of Van Dyke and west of Dodge Park will be merged with Schwarzkoff Elementary, including the relocation of the countywide Physically or Otherwise Health Impaired (POHI) program. Working in partnership with the Macomb Intermediate School District, a space will be created to specifically meet the unique needs of POHI students. The portion east of Dodge Park will be merged with an adjoining DeKeyser Elementary neighborhood. The remote portion of the school boundaries west of Van Dyke will be merged with the adjacent Burr Elementary attendance areas. (See [Map](#))
- **Burr Elementary School** - A remote portion of the Burr Elementary boundaries between the Conrail Rail System and Van Dyke will be merged with an adjacent Harvey Elementary attendance area. This neighborhood will also become part of the Bemis Junior High School and Henry Ford II High School feeder pattern. (See [Map](#))
- **DeKeyser Elementary School** - A remote section of the DeKeyser Elementary attendance area west of Van Dyke will be merged with Burr Elementary. The attendance area is in close proximity to the Burr Elementary property. (See [Map](#))
- **Oakbrook Elementary School** - A small attendance area off Plumbrook Road, east of Dodge Park, will be consolidated with the adjacent DeKeyser Elementary attendance area. (See [Map](#))
- **Monfort Elementary School** - A portion of the school's attendance area that was embedded into Dresden Elementary's boundaries will merge with neighboring Ebeling Elementary. This neighborhood is northeast of Schoenherr and 22 Mile Road. This neighborhood will also become part of the Bemis Junior High School and Henry Ford II High School feeder pattern. (See [Map](#))
- **Schuchard Elementary School** - Portions of the Schwarzkoff Elementary attendance area west of Van Dyke will be merged with adjoining Schuchard Elementary. (See [Map](#))

The following change will be scheduled for fall of 2027:

- **West Utica Elementary School** - All West Utica Elementary students will feed into Eppler Junior High School. Previously, West Utica Elementary students attended Jeannette Junior High School, which largely feeds into Stevenson High School. This

change will establish a pattern of West Utica Elementary School, Eppler Junior High School, and Utica High School, which is consistent with schools in this area. (See [Map](#))

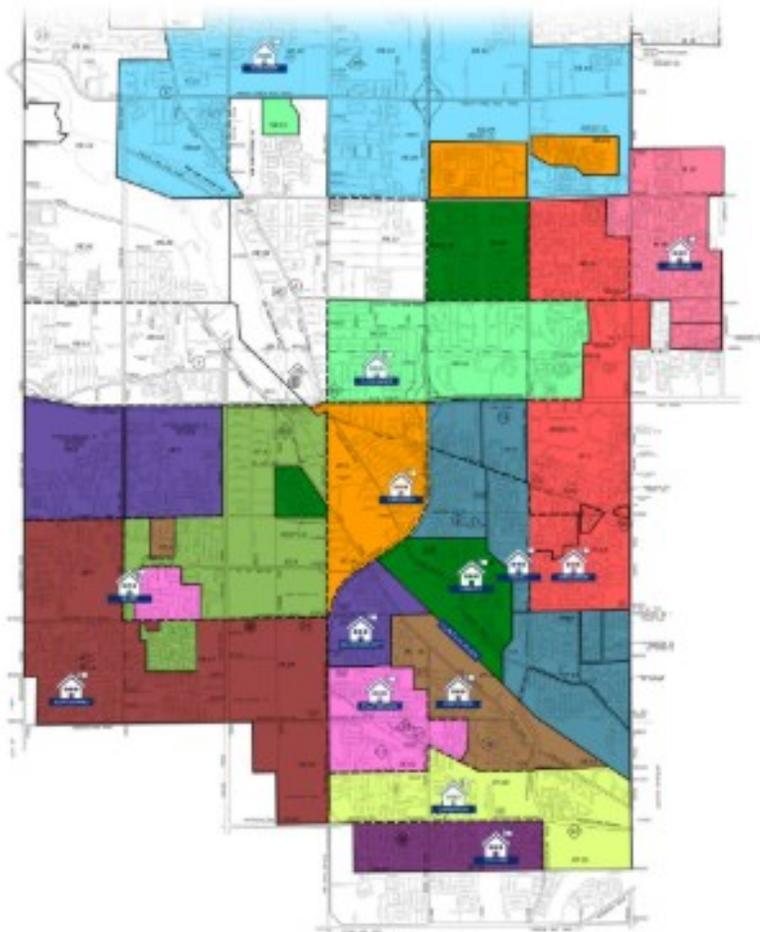
We have provided a great deal of information on our website at [www.uticak12.org/buildingforthefuture](http://www.uticak12.org/buildingforthefuture). This site includes a [map](#) of the revised attendance areas and [questions and answers](#) about the plan. There is also a [feedback](#) form that will allow you to ask questions that we can address to you personally or include in further updates.

We are committed to working with our staff and community members to create a positive and successful transition. Through this work, we will keep neighborhoods together, allow students to stay with their friends through their K-12 journey, and give more students access to improved facilities that foster greater achievement and innovation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert S. Monroe". The signature is written in a cursive style.

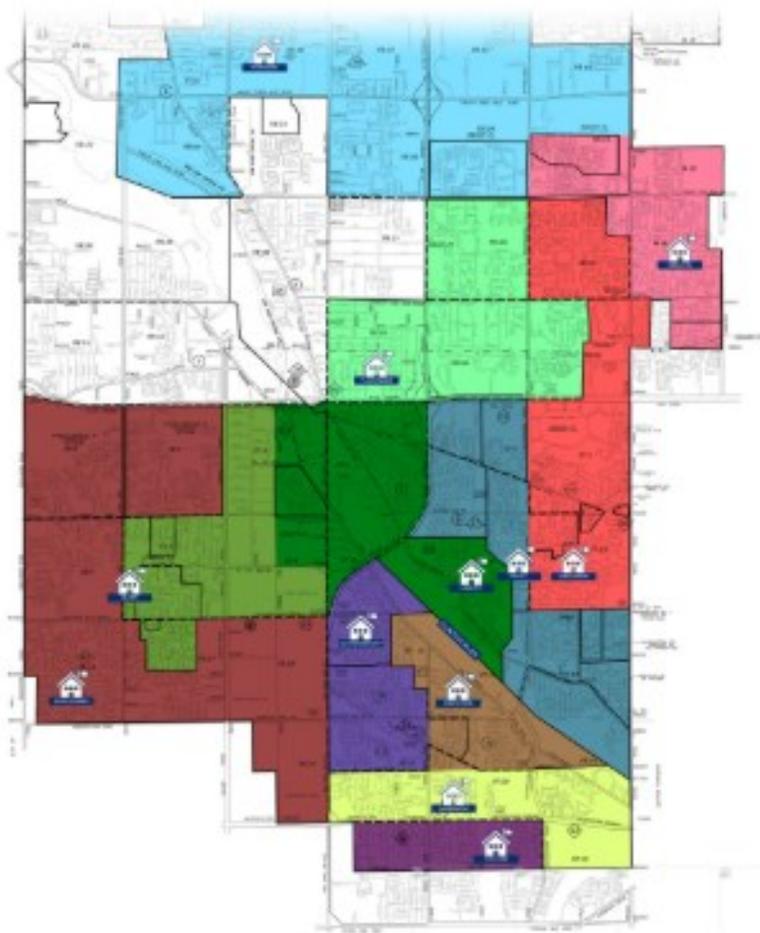
Robert S. Monroe  
Superintendent of Schools



### Current Attendance Areas

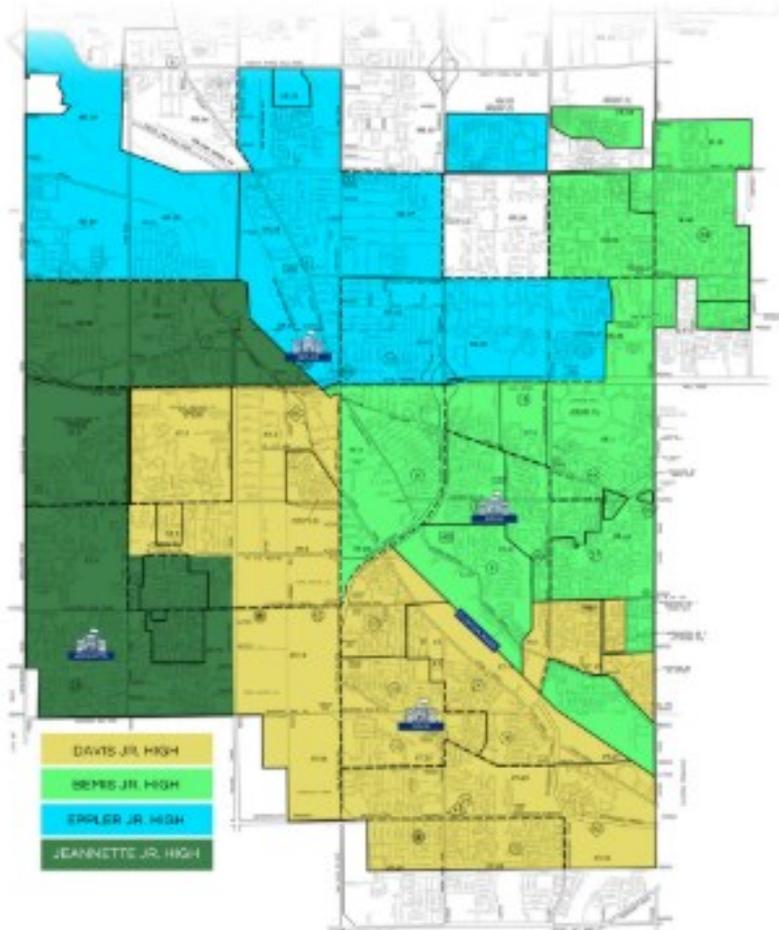
Map reflects previous changes for the Fall of 2027

- BURR
- COLLINS
- DEKEYSER
- DRESDEN
- EBELING
- FLICKINGER
- GRAEBNER
- HARVEY
- HAVEL
- MONFORT
- OAKBROOK
- PLUMBROOK
- SCHWARZKOFF
- SCHUCHARD

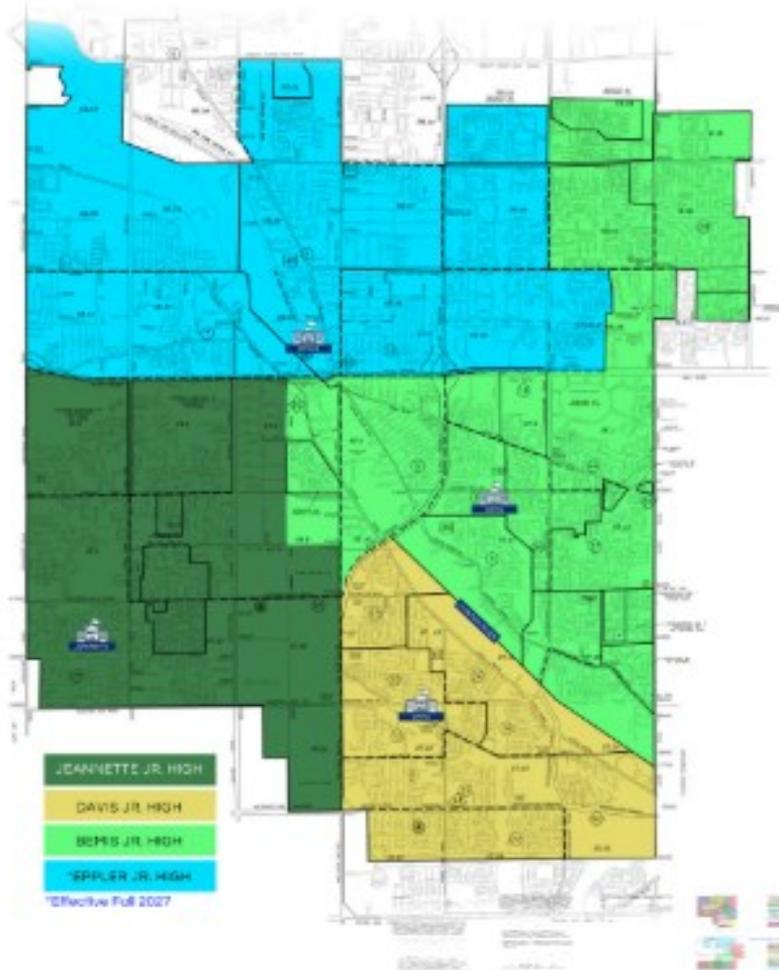
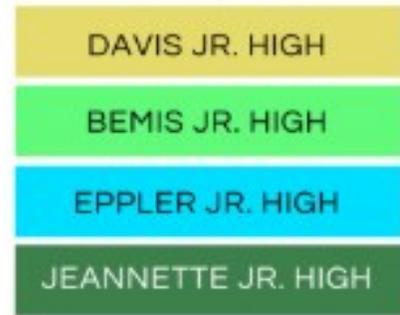


### Fall 2028 Attendance Areas

- BURR
- COLLINS
- DEKEYSER
- EBELING
- FLICKINGER
- GRAEBNER
- HARVEY
- HAVEL
- MONFORT
- OAKBROOK
- SCHWARZKOFF
- SCHUCHARD

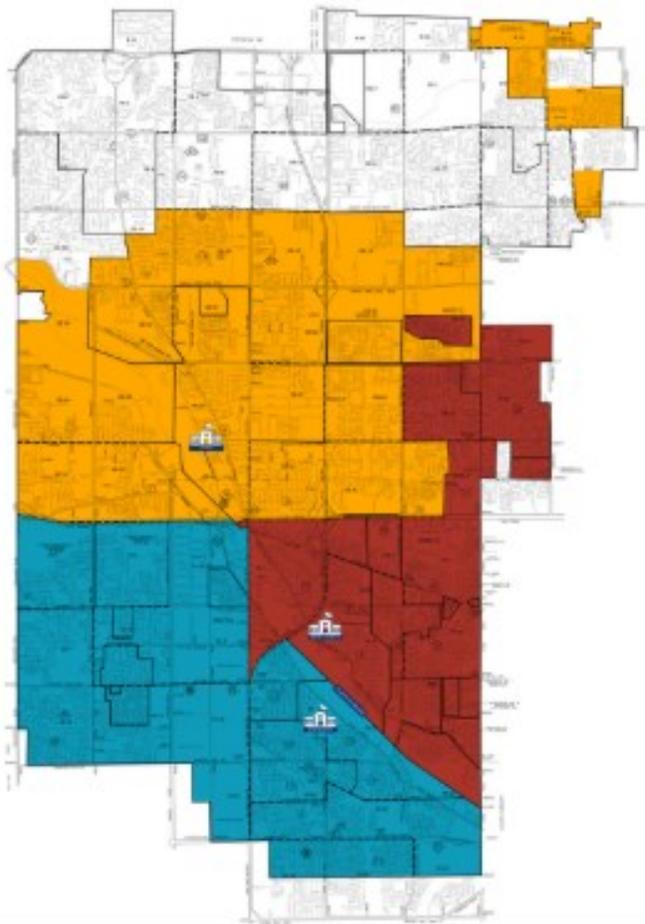


### Current Attendance Areas



### 28 Attendance Areas Portion of Eppler will be adjusted West Utica beginning Fall 2027



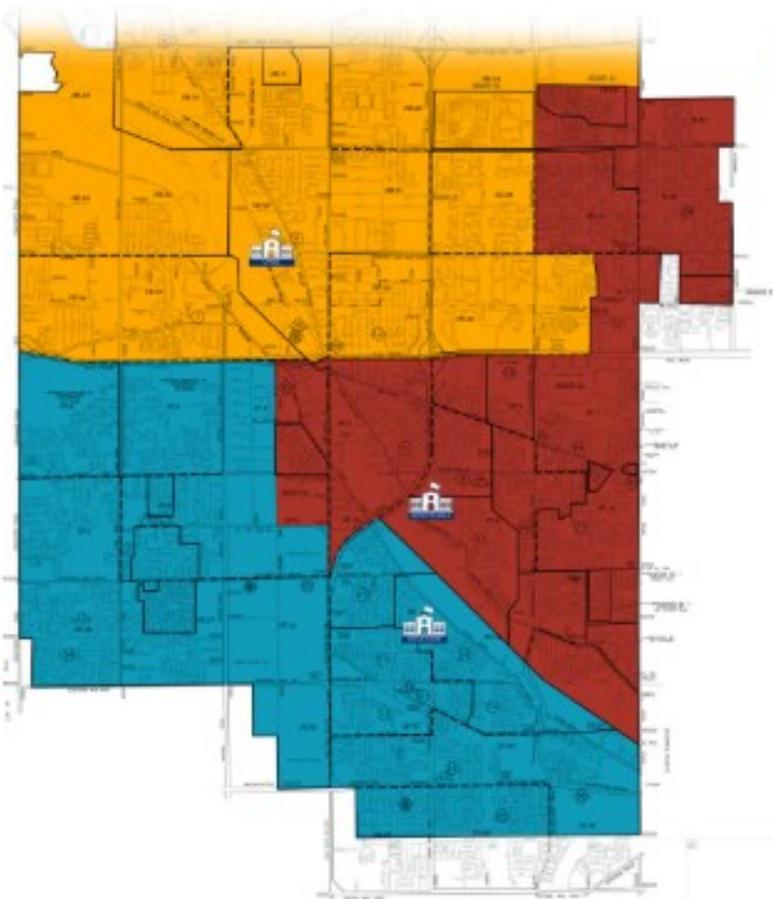


Current Attendance Areas

STEVENSON HIGH

HENRY FORD II HIGH

UTICA HIGH



Fall 2028 Attendance Areas

STEVENSON HIGH

HENRY FORD II HIGH

UTICA HIGH

## MISD NEWS

Upcoming information to follow.

### 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)



# 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**.

The screenshot shows the Tutor.com homepage with a search form titled "What do you need help with today?". The form includes a "Topic" dropdown menu with options like Math, Science, English, and History. There is also a "Subject" dropdown menu and a "Grade" dropdown menu. A green "CONNECT NOW" button is visible at the bottom of the form.

## 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

The screenshot shows a chat window with a whiteboard. The whiteboard contains handwritten math work: a point  $(-1, 5)$ , the equation  $y = mx + b$ , and the calculation  $\frac{5}{-1} = \frac{-6}{-4} = \frac{3}{2}$ . Below this, there is a partial calculation  $\frac{15}{2} + b$  and another partial calculation  $\frac{15}{2} = b$ .

# UCS Food Service

## UCS Food and Nutrition

- UCS is continuing the free school meals program through the early fall of 2025 while the State of Michigan works to adopt a budget by the September 30th deadline.
- All UCS families are asked to complete the *Education Benefits form* [Here](#) - enter "Utica Community Schools" and follow the prompts. These forms help maintain our Title 1 funding as well as other essential funding for our schools. It can also help reduce fees for pay-to-play sports, lower internet costs, reduced AP/college application fees and more!

***More information regarding your student's cafeteria account can be found by clicking [HERE](#).***

## UCS Food and Nutrition

### UCS Meals Are Nutritious And Delicious!

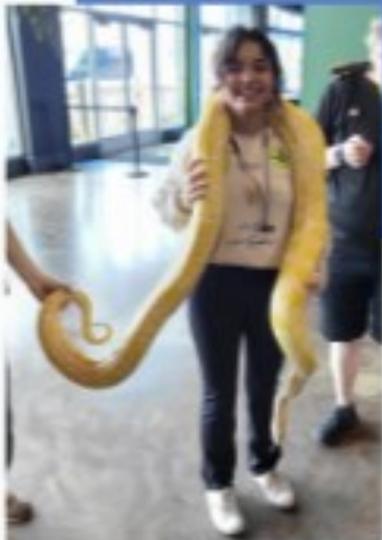
- UCS cafeterias offer a wide variety of different food choices to meet your student's needs
- We serve the same brand named products, like Tyson, Land-O-Lakes and Jennie-O, that you do you in your homes
- Meals follow federal guidelines for nutrition
- Meals include a variety of fresh fruit, vegetables, 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

**Menus can still be found online at <https://uticak12.nutrislice.com>**

7th Grade Mixer



# MS. SHAKESPEARES' FIELDTRIP LEGASEA AQUARIUM



# SCIENCE



## MS. ABBOTT'S SCIENTISTS NAILED THE PRINGLE RING CHALLENGE!

MS. ABBOTT'S 7TH AND 8TH GRADE SCIENTISTS CRUNCHED THE NUMBERS - AND THE CHIPS - IN THE PRINGLE RING CHALLENGE! USING ONLY PRINGLES, TEAMWORK, AND LOTS OF PATIENCE, STUDENTS WORKED TOGETHER TO BUILD GRAVITY-DEFYING RINGS. IT WAS ALL ABOUT ENGINEERING, PERSISTENCE, AND COLLABORATION. SCIENTISTS DISCOVERED HOW ESTIMATION, BALANCE, FRICTION, AND STRUCTURAL DESIGN COME INTO PLAY WHEN TRYING TO STACK PRINGLES INTO A COMPLETE RING. THERE WERE PLENTY OF GIGGLES, CREATIVE THINKING, A FEW "CHIP-TASTROPHES," AND BIG CELEBRATIONS WHEN THE RINGS FINALLY STOOD TALL. THE PRIDE ON THEIR FACES WAS PRICELESS - SCIENCE HAS NEVER BEEN SO SNACKTACULAR! A BIG "THANK YOU" TO ALL THE PARENTS WHO SENT IN PRINGLES AND MADE THIS FUN, HANDS-ON ACTIVITY POSSIBLE.



# Homecoming Spirit Week



Spirit Week was an absolute blast, filled with a variety of exciting and creative activities that brought everyone together. The highlight for many was the visit from the ice cream truck, offering a sweet treat that added a delightful twist to the festivities. "Anything But a Backpack Day" sparked creativity and laughter, as students brought their books and supplies in everything from laundry baskets to shopping carts, showcasing their inventiveness. Hawaiian Day transformed the school into a tropical paradise, with students donning colorful leis and floral shirts that spread a laid-back island vibe. To top it off, Red, White, and Blue Day fostered a sense of unity and patriotism as everyone dressed in the vibrant colors of the flag, celebrating in spirited style. Overall, Spirit Week was a memorable experience that highlighted the community's enthusiasm and creativity.



## Eppler Junior High – Go Gold Week

Childhood Cancer Awareness Week

September 22-26

Monday: Put Cancer to Bed

Where comfy clothes or pajama pants today to put cancer to bed!

Tuesday – Sports Jersey Day

Wear your favorite sports jersey or school team gear to cheer on all the fighters.

Wednesday – Hat & Hoodie Day

Wear your coolest hat or hoodie for awareness.

Thursday – Twin Day

Dress alike with your best friend to show that no one fights alone.

Friday – Gold Out Pep Day

Rock gold socks, gold beads, gold t-shirts to show your support for Childhood Cancer Awareness

Stop by the office to get a gold ribbon to wear from Wreck-it like Beckett!

Eppler Goes Gold for **Childhood Cancer Awareness**

Join us in supporting warriors, survivors, and families in our community through  
“Wreck-it like Beckett”.

Beckett’s Warriors/Wreck-it like Beckett T-shirt’s will be for sale all week for \$20!



This year, Eppler Junior High is proud to recognize **Childhood Cancer Awareness Week, September 22-26**, a time to honor children and families who face the difficult journey of pediatric cancer.

Our very own **Aaron and Cadence Eiberger** will serve as student ambassadors for this important week. Childhood cancer awareness is very close to their hearts, as their younger brother Beckett was diagnosed with ATRT, a rare and aggressive brain cancer, just after his third birthday. Beckett endured 2 brain surgeries, 30 rounds of radiation, and 5 months of chemotherapy at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. Through it all, he showed incredible strength, courage, and resilience – and today, he continues to inspire those around him.

For Aaron and Cadence, this journey has been life changing. Siblings of children with cancer often carry unseen burdens – worrying if their brother or sister will be here in the weeks and months ahead, taking on added responsibilities at home, and navigating the emotional strain that comes with uncertainty. It’s a reminder that cancer affects the whole family, not just the child in treatment. By highlighting their role as ambassadors this week, we honor not only Beckett’s fight but also the strength and resilience of his siblings.

As a family, the Eiberger/Fowler household has turned their experience into advocacy, creating the nonprofit, **Wreck-it Like Beckett**, which provides support and hope to families walking through childhood cancer. By sharing their story, Aaron and Cadence remind us all of the importance of awareness, compassion, and coming together as a community.

As a school community, we invite everyone to participate, learn, and stand united in awareness. By going gold and engaging in these themes, we might shine a light on the reality of childhood cancer, support those impacted, and remind families that they are not alone.



Eppler Junior High School held a spirit week to raise awareness for childhood cancer, led by students Aaron and Cadence Eiberger with support from their mother, Tammie Fowler. The event was inspired by their younger brother, Beckett, who was diagnosed at the age of 3 with ATRT, a rare and aggressive brain cancer.

Students and staff participated in themed days like Pajama Day, Sports Jersey Day and Twin Day to show support. The week highlighted the importance of empathy, awareness and community, reminding everyone that childhood cancer affects the whole family—and that no one fights alone.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/4nfKvIU>

## Chieftain of the Month

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

Madilyn Backus, Scarlett Dettmer, Charlotte Maurer, Harper Dwyer, Adriana Shaena, Aylina Esho, Kali Dedenbach, Elizabeth Azou, Staphio Mikha, Jeremiah Bajjoki, Tyler Notebroom and Pablo Montanez Rosas



## Chieftain of the Month

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

Michael Lasceski, Cole Davis, Arya Bidja, Brayden Beebe, Teona Valeanu, Isabelle Panoff, Claire Jensen, Harper Highfield, Milania Bitti, McKenzie Wagner, Paige Seaton and Adalynn Mrak.



# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Future Focus

UCS 8<sup>th</sup> grade students were given the opportunity to explore the many different specialty programs their high school has to offer. This hands on experience will help students plan their high school careers.





Let's talk about

**PINK  
OUT**



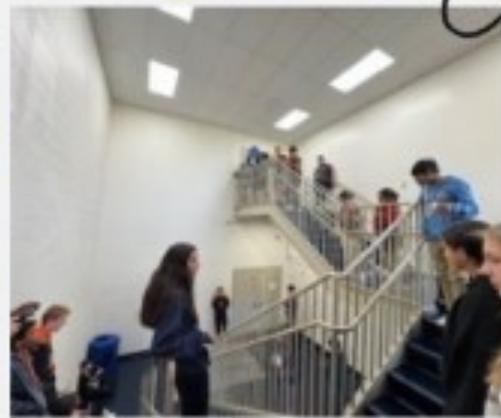
**STU CO SPONSORED  
BREAST CANCER  
AWARENESS ACTIVITIES  
AT EPPLER**



**On October 14 & 15, Eppler staff and students participated in Breast Cancer Awareness PINK OUT days. At lunch, Student Council sold pink bracelets and raised \$156.00. The funds will be donated to the Shades of Pink Foundation, a group who gives financial assistance to those undergoing breast cancer treatment in Southeast Michigan.**

[HTTPS://WWW.SHADESOPINKFOUNDATION.ORG/](https://www.shadesofpinkfoundation.org/)

# 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE EGG DROP



Last Tuesday, Ms. Markus's Science 8 classes did their annual egg drop as their final project in the contact forces unit. Her third hour class set a record by not breaking a single egg! The students did an excellent job applying their knowledge of contact forces to design and build devices to protect their eggs.



# HALLOWEEN



**Eppler staff and students celebrated Halloween in SPOOKtacular fashion. Student Council handed out Boo Grams during first hour and sponsored a costume contest each lunch.**



# CONTEST WINNERS



**Boo Gram Assembly**



**BOO GRAM DELIVERY**



## Congrats to our November Chieftains of the Month!

Selvia Hanekajhel, Aneth Gonzalez, McKayla Martin, Nahla Sova-Boyd, Lola Doucette, Isabella Schroeder, Sophia Gjokaj, Lyndan Lambert, Luis Tuci, Thomas Wolken, Christian Priester and Gotti Gilbert



## Congrats to our January Chieftains of the Month!

Liam Szasz, Jacob Snell, Owen Reese, Anthony Shaw, Team Michael, Gabriel Varghese, Landon Crain, Edwin Wilson, Nicholas Lount, Ellery Ducharme-Vanhevel, Chevelle Danski and Gabriella Nietling



# A GREAT WAY TO END 2025!

## SPIRIT WEEK Winter Wonderland Day

This was the day for students and staff at Eppler to wear ALL white! Student Council sponsored snowflake making activities during lunches.





## SPIRIT WEEK Favorite Holiday Character

Students and staff were encouraged to dress as their favorite holiday character. Student Council sponsored a costume contest at lunch.



## SPIRIT WEEK Long Winter's Nap

Students and staff could wear pjs, slippers, fuzzy socks, and/or bring blankets to keep warm. Student Council sponsored a Hot Cocoa Bar at lunch. Yum!





**SPIRIT WEEK**  
Festive Friday

Students and staff were given the task of wearing their favorite holiday attire to get ready for a visit from SANTA! Student Council brought Jolly Old Saint Nick to Eppler which was a huge hit!









## HOLIDAY GIVING

Eppler Student Council held a food drive and made it a competition in 6<sup>th</sup> hour classes. Over 2600 food items were donated to local families in need. The winning class was Mr. Collin's 6<sup>th</sup> hour and they enjoyed an ice cream sundae holiday party. Great job Eppler!



**GOLDEN TICKET  
CONTEST WINNERS**



**STU CO POPCORN BAR  
FOR EPPLER STAFF**



**TOYS FOR TOTS  
COLLECTION**



**STAFF SNOWFLAKE HUNT  
CONTEST WINNER**



**CANDY CANE  
CONTEST WINNER**



**HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR!**

## UCS Pathways to Success Scholarship Winner

Eppler eighth grade student, Jonathan Chambers, while attending the UCS Pathways to Success Event at Henry Ford II High School on December 9, 2025, won a \$500 scholarship towards his post-secondary education. The check was recently presented to Jonathan by UCS Foundation Executive Board Trustee and former Utica High principal, Mr. Thomas Lietz. [Congratulations](#), Jonathan!



## Eppler Cheer

Eppler cheer took 1st place at the Shorian Invitational at Lake Shore High School against 7 other teams Saturday, January 24th. We are so proud of all their hard work and determination! Our next competition will be at L'Anse Creuse North on Saturday, January 31st, at 3:00 pm

