

October 27, 2025



# Eppler Express



Monday October 27	Thursday, October 30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chess Club, 2:50—3:50 pm, Room 19</li> <li>College Gear Monday</li> <li>OK2SAY Presentation ALL 7th Grade Classes 9:10 am</li> <li>7/8 Volleyball League Tournament @ Davis, 3:30 pm</li> <li>StuCo BooGram Sales During All Lunches</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> </ul>
Tuesday, October 28	Friday, October 31
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homework Club, 2:55—3:55 pm, Media Center</li> <li>MST Presentation to 8th Grade Cafeteria 8:10 – 8:40 am, 9:10 – 9:40 am</li> <li>UAIS Presentation to 8th Grade Cafeteria 1:00 – 1:30 pm, 2:00 – 2:30 pm</li> <li>7/8 Football @ Davis 3:30 pm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AVID Bagel Sales, 2nd hour</li> <li>First Marking Period Ends</li> <li>Halloween Spirit Day</li> </ul> 
Wednesday, October 29	Saturday, November 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7/8 Volleyball League Tournament @ Malow 3:30 pm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None.</li> </ul>
	Sunday, November 2
	<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, November 3</b>	<b>Thursday, November 6</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>CSI Presentation to 8th Grade Media Center 8:10 – 8:40 am, 9:10 – 9:40 am</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday, November 4</b>	<b>Friday, November 7</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Election Day NO STUDENTS – Full Day DPPD – Online</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AVID Bagel Sales, 2nd hour</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, November 5</b>	<b>Saturday, November 8</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MADE Presentation to 8th Grade Media Center 8:10 – 8:40 am, 9:10 – 9:40 am</li> <li>UHHS Presentation to 8th Grade Media Center 1:00 – 1:30 pm, 2:00 – 2:30 pm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Saturday School Media Center 9:00 am – 12:00 pm</li> </ul>
	<b>Sunday, November 9</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

## NEW Eppler Information

### Freshmen Class Trip Opportunities



We are planning potential freshman trips for May or June and welcome interest from families. Option one is a four-day trip to Washington, D.C., estimated at **\$900-\$1,100**. Option two is a two-day trip to Chicago, estimated at **\$630**.

Please note this is not a UCS-sponsored event, and all costs would be the responsibility of participating students. For additional information or to express interest, contact **Amy Ghattas** at [aghattas01@gmail.com](mailto:aghattas01@gmail.com)

### Chieftain Cross Country



On Saturday morning at Dakota HS was our final team meet of the 2025 season.

The girls started off the day with the team best finish ever led by Claire Cubitt became the first female on the team to medal two years in a row at the regional meet. She is also the first boy or girl on the team to medal every single race she ran in the last two years. Naomi Brown, Adalynn Mrak(PR), Isabella Suratt(PR) and Navya Hariharan ran their best to help place the team at 12th place.

The boys also came to show what they had. Nicky Lount(PR), Bennett Roeske(PR), Rudy Roeske, Austin Tow, Charlie Nowicki, Marco Vittorini and Liam Alter (PR) ran their hearts out in the varsity race and placed 8th overall giving the team their best team finish in the history of the program.

We also had quite an exciting race in the JV boys where two of our three runners ran their personal best and Marco Ristau place 15th and earning a medal followed by AJ Palczewski and Isaak McCullough.

## THANK YOU!!

A huge thank you to our friends at Leo's Coney Island at Hall and Mound and our neighborhood Applebee's at Hall and the M-53 Expressway. Our teachers were treated to Greek Salad donated by the Leo's Coney Island, and Fiesta Lime Chicken, Rice, and Breadsticks donated by the Applebee's at Hall Road and the M-53 Expressway.



Thank you for your support!



## BooGrams

Stu Co is doing a Boo Gram Fundraiser

# BooGrams

SEND A HALLOWEEN TREAT TO A SPECIAL BOO, FRIEND, OR STAFF MEMBER

On Sale ALL Lunches

October 23, 24, and 27

\$2.00 each - no limit

*(Delivered on October 31)*



OCTOBER  
31

# HALLOWEEN SPIRIT DAY

DRESS IN COSTUME  
(FOLLOW SCHOOL COSTUME GUIDELINES)

COSTUME CONTEST DURING LUNCHESES

SPONSERED BY STU CO

## Halloween RULES

Friday, October 31st, is Halloween. Students are permitted to dress up for Halloween but **MUST** understand that **ALL** school dress code still applies. Clothing must not reveal undergarments or private areas. **NO** masks or face paint will be permitted. **NO** fake weapons or fake blood will be permitted. Any costumes representing alcohol or drugs will not be permitted. Let's have fun! ... but please enjoy the day appropriately.



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/)

2025-2026 EPPLER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK *Jostens*

# COUNTLESS AMAZING MEMORIES. ONE ICONIC YEARBOOK.

**NOW \$40.00**



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

YEARBOOK	\$40.00
SIGNATURE PACKAGE	\$59.00
<small>Includes: Yearbook, Enhanced Personalization, Autograph Pins, 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

### 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.



## Parent Notification & Opt-Out Form

Dear 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent or Guardian:

Our school will be hosting a presentation on [OK2SAY – Michigan's student safety program](#) for our 7<sup>th</sup> grade students on **October 27, 2025, during 2<sup>nd</sup> hour.**

The program is designed to inform students how they can help make their school and community safer by reporting dangerous and concerning behaviors to a trusted adult or OK2SAY.

Students in 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade learn about the OK2SAY student safety program, including how the tipline works. Students are encouraged to always talk to a trusted adult when they see or hear about something that makes them feel worried or unsafe. Students also learn essential tips and strategies for being safe online and off. The presentation emphasizes the difference between "tattling" and "reporting" and helps distinguish between rude, mean, and bullying behavior. Students will learn effective responses to bullying and cyberbullying and recognize techniques used by internet predators, so they are prepared to protect themselves from online harm. Please take a moment to [review the videos featured in the presentation.](#)

Students in 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade learn about the program's purpose and how the tipline operates, including what incidents can be reported, how to submit a tip, and the actions taken after a tip is received. Students are encouraged to examine their behaviors and make smart and thoughtful decisions both online and off. The presentation discusses many issues that impact middle school students including bullying, cyberbullying, mental health issues, self-harm, suicide thoughts, sexting/sexortion, types of abuse, the predator threat, and threats of violence. Throughout the presentation, students are encouraged to stand up for themselves and their peers and always to be mindful of the power of their words. Please take a moment to [review the videos featured in the presentation.](#)

Additional information and resources are available at OK2SAY ([ok2say.com](http://ok2say.com)).

If you do **NOT** want your child to participate, have your student return the bottom of this sheet to the *Counseling Office no later than Tuesday, October 21.*

Sincerely,

Jerry Pantano, Principal

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I, **(parent/guardian name)** \_\_\_\_\_, do **NOT** want my child, **(student name)** \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in the OK2SAY Student Safety Presentation.

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

# 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

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.

# **COME JOIN OUR TEAM! EPPLER JUNIOR HIGH COMPETITIVE CHEER 2025 - 2026**

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**Parent Meeting -**

**Date - October 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Where - Media Center**

**Time - 5:00 PM**

**Tryouts -**

**Date - November 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Where - Main Gym**

**Time - 2:45 - 5:00 PM**



**SCAN THE QR  
CODE & REGISTER  
FOR TRYOUTS!**

**7/8 Football****7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE FOOTBALL****2025***Game Times: 1<sup>st</sup> game @ 3:30 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> game to follow*

<b>Tuesday, September 16</b>	<b>Tuesday, September 23</b>	<b>Tuesday, September 30</b>
Malow @ Fraser Shelby @ Bemis New Haven @ Eppler (8 <sup>th</sup> Grade game only @ 3:30pm) Jeannette @ Davis	7th Grade Only vs L'Anse Creuse S. @ Bemis Jr. High 3:30 pm (7th Grade ONLY)	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade ONLY vs Anchor Bay South (@ Anchor Bay South) 4:30 start
<b>Tuesday, October 7</b>	<b>Tuesday, October 14</b>	<b>Tuesday, October 21</b>
Iroquois @ Malow Shelby @ Romeo Bemis @ L'Anse Creuse North Eppler @ Jeannette Algonquin @ Davis	Romeo @ Malow Seneca @ Shelby L. Creuse Central @ Bemis L. Creuse South @ Eppler Davis @ New Haven (8 <sup>th</sup> Grade only @ 3:30pm) Davis @ Jeannette (7 <sup>th</sup> Grade only @ 3:30pm)	Malow @ Shelby Bemis @ Wyandot Algonquin @ Eppler Jeannette @ L. Creuse South Bye - Davis
<b>Tuesday, October 28</b>	<b>**All games listed @ Eppler will be played at Henry Ford II HS.</b>	
Eppler @ Davis Jeannette @ Anchor Bay W Bye – Malow, Shelby, Bemis		

**7/8 Volleyball****7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Volleyball  
Fall - 2025****Game Time: 4:00 - 1<sup>st</sup> game, 2<sup>nd</sup> to follow**September 22 – October 6: 8<sup>th</sup> grade game followed by the 7<sup>th</sup> grade gameOctober 8 – October 22: 7<sup>th</sup> grade game followed by the 8<sup>th</sup> grade game

October 27 &amp; 29 games TBD

**Monday, September 22**Jeannette @ Shelby  
Malow @ Bemis  
Eppler @ Davis**Wednesday, September 24**Bemis @ Jeannette  
Eppler @ Malow  
Davis @ Shelby**Monday, September 29**Shelby @ Malow  
Eppler @ Bemis  
Davis @ Jeannette**Wednesday, October 1**Bemis @ Davis  
Shelby @ Eppler  
Malow @ Jeannette**Monday, October 6**Jeannette @ Eppler  
Bemis @ Shelby  
Malow @ Davis**Wednesday, October 8**Shelby @ Jeannette  
Davis @ Eppler  
Bemis @ Malow**Monday, October 13**Jeannette @ Bemis  
Malow @ Eppler  
Shelby @ Davis**Wednesday, October 15**Malow @ Shelby  
Bemis @ Eppler  
Jeannette @ Davis**Monday, October 20**Davis @ Bemis  
Eppler @ ~~Shelby~~ Eppler  
Jeannette @ Malow**Thursday, October 23**~~**Wednesday, October 22**~~Eppler @ Jeannette  
Shelby @ Bemis  
Davis @ Malow**Monday, October 27**

Schedule TBD

**Wednesday, October 29**

Schedule TBD

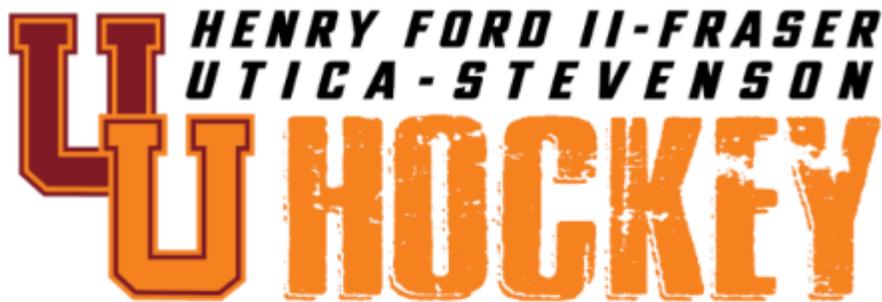
## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys' Basketball 2025-2026

**Coach: Rory Leidecker**

**Email: [rory.leidecker@uticak12.org](mailto:rory.leidecker@uticak12.org)**

### Important Information:

- Try-outs begin on Monday, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 2:55-4:45pm in the main gym. Tryouts will finish on Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> from 4:45-6:45 in the main gym.
- A first round of cuts will be made at the end of Monday's try out. The final team will be chosen on Tuesday at the end of tryouts. Boys cut on Monday do not attend Tuesday's tryout.
- Tryouts are for participants and the coach only. No parents in the gym, also no parents in the gym during team practices all season. For tryouts, please wait in your car, as I will be talking to participants in the hallway at the end of each day.
- The team will practice from 2:45-4:15 on Wednesday the 12<sup>th</sup>, and at that time I will hand out a schedule of practice times and games for the rest of the season. We will start games in early December and finish the season at the end of January. Plan on practice or game every school day until the end of the season.
- Team members are expected to be at every game and practice unless too ill to attend school. Missing or leaving early for another activity will seriously affect playing time in games.
- Regardless of how many boys try out, Eppler will have only one 7<sup>th</sup> boys team.
- The basketball schedule has us playing only UCS junior highs, each one twice (10 games) and then two more matchups based on team records after the first 10 games.
- A bus will transport the team to away games, but parents must provide a ride home from all games and practices.
- **Boys MUST have a current physical form on file in the school office to try out. Anyone without a physical will be turned away until the office receives the form. There will not be late try-outs for boys showing up with a physical after the team has been selected.** If you played football you should already have a physical on file that is good for your whole 7<sup>th</sup> grade year.
- Bring a bag of practice clothes, or wear clothing appropriate for basketball try-outs. Locks will be issued to those who make the team after try-outs conclude. You may keep your belongings in the main gym during tryouts if you don't have a lock.
- Bring a filled water bottle as there will be breaks scheduled into try-outs/practices for hydration.
- In addition to observing your basketball-related skills, the coach will be checking your grades, citizenship, and behavior (from the perspective of your teachers) to determine who makes the team. If you are a risk to be suspended or ineligible, your skills won't be available to help the team.



## Open Skate & Tryouts for Utica, Fraser, Stevenson, and Henry Ford II High School Hockey

Dear Prospective Players and Families,

We're excited to invite all interested hockey players (grades 9-12) from Utica, Fraser, Stevenson, and Henry Ford II High Schools to join us for open skate sessions and upcoming tryouts for our high school hockey program.

### Tryout Dates:

- **October 28th & 30th**
- **Time:** 3:30 and 3:55 PM
- **Location:** Big Boy Ice Arena

**Open Skate Sessions:** Players are welcome to attend any of our scheduled practice times to get a feel for the program, meet the team, and experience the coaching environment. These sessions are open to all prospective players.

Contact: Tony Carlisi TAC2121@OUTLOOK.COM or HEAD COACH EVAN GIZINSKI - GIZINSKIE@GMAIL.COM

### Student Opportunities – Home Hockey Games

We are currently seeking students to support our home hockey games in the following roles:

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#### 1. Public Announcer

Assist with in-game announcements including:

- Team introductions and starting lineups
- Goals, penalties, and other key updates

No prior experience required; basic knowledge of hockey is preferred.

---

#### 2. Scorekeeper & Statistician

Support game operations by:

- Tracking scores and player statistics in real time

Ideal for students interested in sports data and event coordination. No experience necessary.

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#### 3. Photographer

Capture action shots and team moments during home games to support media coverage and promotional efforts.

A great opportunity for students interested in sports photography and digital media.

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Interested students should contact Tony Carlisi Tac2121@outlook.com for more information or to apply.

# UTICA WRESTLING CLUB



## YOUTH WRESTLING FOR 2ND (7YRS OLD) THROUGH 8TH GRADES

**PRACTICE MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY 6:00-7:30**

Located at Utica High School

### **NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!**

Instruction, Drilling, and Situational wrestling will prepare athletes for optional weekend tournaments.

**REGISTRATION NIGHT WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5**

Short information meeting held in Utica High wrestling room (Door 11) at 6:30p and registration to follow

**SEASON FEE \$150**

**CONTACT COACH DAVIS**

**FIRST PRACTICE**

**NOVEMBER 10**

**UTICAWRESTLING@GMAIL.COM**



## Utica High School Boys Basketball Tryout Info

**Tryout Sign-up:** Please use the following Microsoft Forms QR code to sign up if you intend on trying out and Coach Hinkle will send you all the details for tryouts



### Prerequisites

- Eligibility (June 2025 final grades and current)
- You must have a valid 2025-26 sports physical on file in Student Central Big Teams (<https://studentcentral.bigteams.com/>) before tryouts. If the sports physical is not on file, then you will be unable to participate at tryouts and there will not be any make up days. Please make this a priority if you plan to tryout. The completed physical examination forms must be completed on or after April 15, 2025. If you already have this step completed because you played a fall sport, then you are all set. **(Freshmen please select Utica High School as where you will be playing and not your Junior High School)**

### Boys Basketball Tryout Schedule

- **Freshmen (Grade 9 ONLY)**

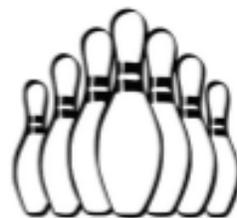
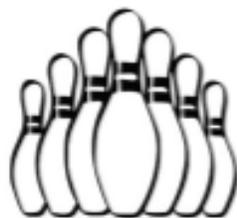
November 12 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Main Gym (meet in cafeteria at 6:15 pm)
November 13 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Main Gym (meet in cafeteria at 6:15 pm)
*November 14 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Main Gym <i>*If needed, coach's discretion</i>

**\*\*\*\*All athletes will enter Utica High School through Door #5 for tryouts\*\*\*\***

Please **be on time** for all scheduled events. It will be a great indicator of what you are all about!

**\*\*\*Please know that these dates and times for tryouts are subject to change based on rulings from the MHSAA and Utica Community Schools\*\*\***

**Contact the Varsity Boys Basketball Coach Dave Hinkle if you have any follow-up questions at [david.hinkle@uticak12.org](mailto:david.hinkle@uticak12.org)**



Utica High School

# **BOWLING TEAM TRYOUTS 2025**

Grades 9th thru 12th

Bring your own equipment (i.e. shoes, balls, etc.)

Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup> & Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup>

3:30-5:30 PM

Shelby Lanes

50721 Van Dyke Ave.

Athletes **MUST** have a physical on file at BIG TEAMS  
([www.planeths.com](http://www.planeths.com)) in order to bowl/tryout!!

Any questions, please contact John Mazza at [johnmazza@comcast.net](mailto:johnmazza@comcast.net) or  
586-549-1815.

### 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.



Come  
together  
in faith,  
friendship,  
and fun!



### Meeting Dates

- November 13
- December 11
- January 22
- February 26
- March 19
- April 23
- May 28

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

### *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!

**The UCS Legacy of Learning**  
**Pursue Excellence**  
**Live Your Passion**  
**Be Where You Belong**



## **Building Configurations**

### **Questions & Answers**

#### **What is being considered?**

Currently, Utica Community Schools grade configurations are elementary schools that include early childhood, kindergarten and young fives through 6th grade, junior high schools 7th through 9th grade, and 10th through 12th grade being taught at our high schools. The only exception is Henry Ford II High School covering 9th through 12th grade and Bemis Junior High School teaching 7th and 8th grade.

The district is initiating a process that will consider elementary schools with early childhood, kindergarten and young fives through 5th grade, middle schools with 6th through 8th grade, and high schools 9th through 12th grade.

#### **Why is a change being considered?**

The current grade configurations were originally created based on the district's capacity to meet its enrollment needs. With changes to its enrollment, Utica Community Schools now has the overall capacity to consider a change.

There are a number of compelling reasons why this is the right time to consider changing grade configurations:

- UCS and Michigan curriculum and assessment standards are organized in a K-5, 6-8, and 9-12 format. This change would better align our schools to successfully meet those expectations.
- We can increase the rigor and course offerings to 6th and 9th grade students and their access to co-curricular activities by changing grade configurations.
- We would have an opportunity to reimagine how a middle school experience can support the unique needs of students in 6th through 8th grade and support a successful transition to high school in the 9th grade.
- The timing is consistent with the current work of our Enrollment Distribution Advisory Committee (EDAC), which is engaged in long-range planning and review of our attendance areas.

## Building Configurations Q & A

### What is the process being used to consider this change?

The district will be supported by Hanover Research, which also served as a resource for the development of the UCS Empowered Strategic Plan. The process will include consideration of best practices and research, current UCS building utilization, the academic and mental health needs of students, and timeline.

### How would a change impact capacity and class sizes?

The district's Enrollment Distribution Advisory Committee (EDAC) is currently involved in a districtwide review of attendance areas. Through this process, the capacity levels of schools would be identified for all levels for a possible grade configuration change. The process will include recent and projected student population declines and their impact on future enrollment at each school.

For our high schools, the additional grade would mean a return to the enrollment that they had about 15 years ago prior to the declines in student enrollment. At the junior high level, all schools would maintain a similar enrollment with the exception of Bemis Junior High which would inherit a third grade level, a change that UCS would need to investigate further. Class sizes would not change; the adjustment would be to the amount of classes being run at any one time in a building.

### What is the timeline for implementation?

The timeline will be determined as this process moves forward. Given the amount of planning that would be required for a possible change, implementation would not occur **at least** until the 2027-28 school year. It is possible to go beyond that date based on the level of planning involved for a successful transition.

### How will the mental health needs of students be considered?

Utica Community Schools is committed to meeting the needs of the whole child. Through the Culture of Caring in our UCS Empowered Strategic Plan, resources are made available to support the safety and security, social, emotional and nutritional needs of students. A consideration of building changes will prioritize the resources, research and structures that would support a successful transition for students.

This includes proactive outreach to families, student engagement opportunities, and a continued focus on creating school environments that address unique developmental and emotional needs.

### Where can I get more information?

Updates will be posted regularly at this site:

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





# DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP WEEK

UCS Students in grades 7-12 are teaming up to become thoughtful, empowered digital citizens – TOGETHER!

Monday, October 20th

### TEAM UP FOR DIG CITI

Healthy choices—online and offline—can shape how we feel and how we see the world. Too much time on social media, gaming, or streaming can impact our mood and energy. Today, we're teaming up for digital citizenship by supporting each other in finding balance, staying active, and making mindful choices with our tech. Wear your favorite sports gear to show you're part of the team that supports smart digital habits!



### BE INFORMED

There's a lot of false info out there! Level up your critical thinking game. Whether you're using AI tools or browsing social media, it's important to evaluate the accuracy, perspective and validity of what you see and share. Wear school colors to symbolize highlighting important information and shining a light on truth.

Tuesday, October 21st

Wednesday, October 22nd

### MEDIA BALANCE WEDNESDAY

Hooray!! We school today!! Be mindful of your time online today! Promote screen-time balance, unplugging and being present in the moment.

OK

Cancel

Friday, October 24th

### FUTURE READY FRIDAY

Did you know your online actions can affect future opportunities? Wear school colors or college-career gear to celebrate the importance of building a positive digital footprint and showcasing your best self when online.

Thursday, October 23rd



@BROCK\_lee

### INTEGRITY INFLUENCE DAY

How can you use your digital voice to lead, inspire and advocate for good and supporting others.

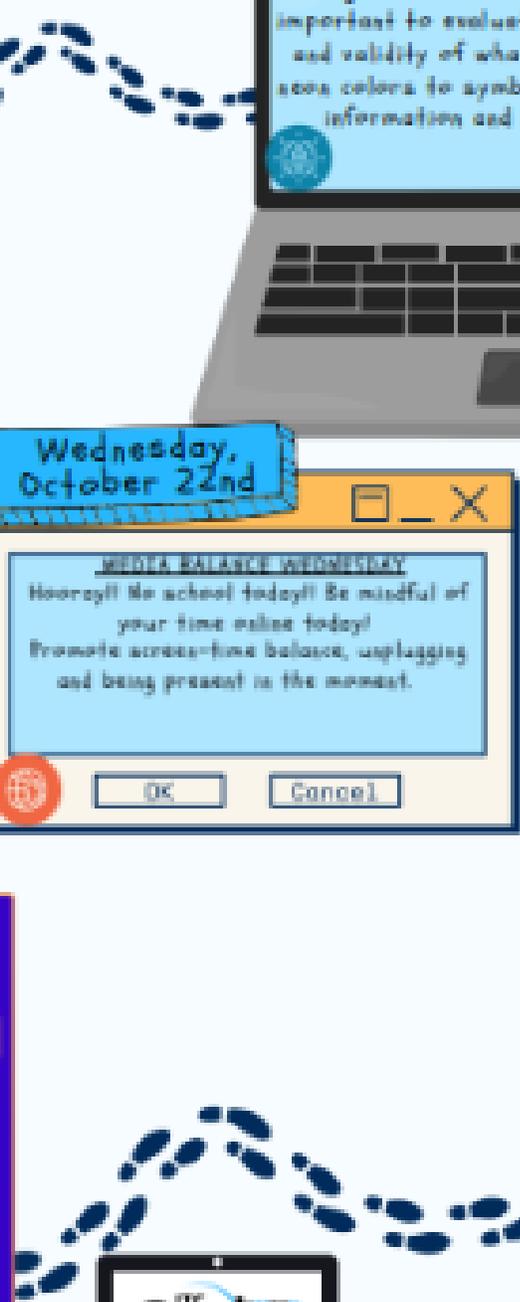
Wear the color that best fits you.

- Blue - Represents trust, responsibility and calm leadership.
- White - Stands for honesty, transparency and integrity.
- Purple - Symbolizes wisdom, creativity and empowerment.



143 likes

THE GEEKS



# 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 interface. At the top, there are navigation links: 'Get a Tutor or Career Coach!', 'SAT Essay Drop Off', 'Drop-Off Algebra Help', and 'Practice Quiz'. Below this is a 'Hi Test!' section with the question 'What do you need help with today?'. There are two dropdown menus: 'Topic' and 'Subject'. The 'Topic' dropdown is open, showing a list of subjects including Math, Science, History, English, Social Studies, Reading, Writing, and more. 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.

The screenshot shows a chat window with a whiteboard on the left and a chat log on the right. The whiteboard contains handwritten math work: a point  $(-1, 5)$ , the equation  $y = mx + b$ , a calculation  $\frac{5}{-1} = \frac{-6}{-4} = \frac{3}{2}$ , and the equation  $2x - 5 + b$ . The chat log on the right shows a conversation between a user and a tutor, with the tutor providing instructions on how to use the whiteboard.

03

# 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 Shaeena, Ayline Esho, Kali Dedenbach, Elizabeth Azou, Staphio Mikha, Jeremiah Bajjoki, Tyler Notebroom and Pablo Montanez Rosas



# 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.

