

WEEK OF AUGUST 25



# BEMIS BULLETIN BOARD (B3).

Bemis Jr. High School's Newsletter for Parents

Welcome to Bemis Junior High! I am writing today about the student drop off and pick up procedures in the school driveway and parking lot. I have attached a diagram of our driveway and parking lot and I will be referring to it within this message. If you will be dropping off your student between 7:30 - 7:55am, please refrain from driving in the bus loop, which is the main drive in front of the school and is identified on the diagram as “buses only.” Buses need to be able to access the drop off area and cannot do so when cars are using/blocking the driveway. As you look at the diagram, please note the rows in the parking lot. The traffic flow is indicated by the arrows on the diagram. When dropping off your student please drive down any of these rows. The cars do back up, but please only let your student exit the car when you are at the end of the row before you enter the driveway to exit the campus. Please have your student cross the driveway, carefully, at the end of the row before you depart. It is important that your student does not leave the car and cut between the rows to get to the school.

After school pick up: The buses line up in the bus loop as early as 2:20pm. They park close together to prevent students from walking between the buses. Please don't drive or park in the bus loop while buses are present. Please line up in the parking rows to pick up your student. We ask the students who are being driven home to walk to the end of the row and cross the driveway at that point and proceed to your waiting car. Due to the configuration of the parking lot and need for the buses to access the bus lane, a little bit of waiting is required to drop off and pick up students. I am asking for your help in making the students understand the importance of being careful in the parking lot and not to dart between cars for their own safety. We would much prefer to have a student arrive a little late, but safe in the morning and to your waiting car at the end of the day. Thank you for your understanding and patience during the morning and after school transportation routine.

*Thomas Yaw, Principal*

Welcome



# Welcome to our ***NEW*** Bemis Staff members!!



***Laura Schlitt - Assistant Principal***

***Maria Adkins - English***

***Paul Ches - Human Geography & US History***

***Collin Crafts - Science***

***Brian Ciarkowski - Spanish & Exploratory Language***



***Gail Borowski - Art/ Photo & Film***

***Calum Clow -Intro to Drawing and Design, Intro to Art,  
Intro to Sculpture***


***Darin Griffith - Health/Phys Ed***

***Christopher Phillips - Phys Ed***

...Because sometimes accidents happen

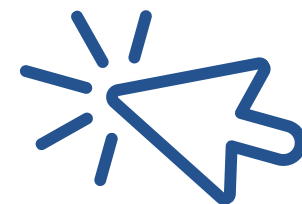


Purchase device insurance  
between:  
**Monday, Aug. 11**  
and **Friday, Sept. 5**



For more information about an annual \$20 insurance plan to cover  
accidental damage to your student's device visit

**WWW.UTICAK12.ORG/DEVICE**





2025-2026



# 10 THINGS FOR BACK-TO-SCHOOL



Suggested school supply lists for elementary students are available on school websites. Specific information on secondary school supplies will be shared by your classroom teachers during the first few days of school. It is generally recommended that secondary students have writing notebooks (one per class, different color), pens, pencils and highlighters.



All school offices will be open to the public for the new year on **Monday, August 11**. High school offices are open through the summer.



Registration dates for UCS secondary schools have been scheduled throughout August. For information on these dates, please see your school's website.



Bus stops will be emailed to eligible families on the afternoon of **Monday, August 18**.



It has not yet been determined by state lawmakers if school meals will be free for families. Once determined, information will be shared with families. Menus are available at: <https://uticak12.nutrislice.com>. Families should complete a Education Benefits Form through their Family Portal - [uticak12.org/familyportal](https://uticak12.org/familyportal). This will help families that qualify receive reduced registration fees for AP courses, discounted internet access and more!



Your child's elementary teacher will be posted on PowerSchool after 3 p.m. on **Thursday, August 21**. An email will be sent to elementary families immediately after the information is posted.



In your child's PowerSchool account you are required to complete your annual update which includes 1) Making any changes to the Student Address, Student Contacts & Health Information, 2) Parent Student Handbook, 3) Technology Device Use Agreement, and 4) Technology Device Insurance Opportunity. Forms will be available beginning Wednesday, July 16. (Due: **Friday, August 22**).



Utica Community Schools is proud to deliver 1:1 technology to our students. UCS is once again offering an annual insurance plan to help families if there is an accident that causes damage to the school issued device. Technology Device Insurance will be available for purchase via PaySchools Central between Monday, August 11, 2025 and **Friday, September 5, 2025**. The price will remain at \$20 per device. More detailed information will be provided in August. Follow this link for more info: <http://www.uticak12.org/device>



School begins on **Tuesday, August 26**. This is a ½ day for elementary students and a full day for secondary students. Available calendar dates are at: <http://www.uticak12.org/calendar>



Have a question about the start of the school year? Just ask us! Use this link (<https://www.uticak12.org/Page/152>) for a list of school and district contact information or email [ucs@uticak12.org](mailto:ucs@uticak12.org).





UTICA  
COMMUNITY  
SCHOOLS

## School meals will remain free through early fall of 2025

Utica Community Schools is continuing the free school meals program through early fall of 2025 while the State of Michigan works to adopt a budget by the September 30<sup>th</sup> deadline.

Families are urged to complete the Education Benefits Form to qualify for discounts on athletics, testing and internet. Completing this form also helps UCS receive state and federal funding that directly benefits our schools. To support your child's school by completing the Education Benefits Form, visit [www.uticak12.org/familyportal](http://www.uticak12.org/familyportal) and click 'apply for benefits.'



This school year, breakfast and lunch will be offered to all students. Additional food and drink items will be available for purchase. Please follow the link to access the UCS Family Portal at <https://utica.familyportal.cloud/> to add money to your account and for more information.

### **Food Allergy Form**

**Students with food allergies that wish to use school meals must have a Special Dietary Needs form filled out and signed by a physician. Forms must be submitted to the office of Food and Nutrition Service. Accommodations can only be made through this form. This form must be updated every year to ensure accuracy. Since all schools have vegetarian options available, parents do not need to fill out a form for this option.**



**UTICA  
COMMUNITY  
SCHOOLS**

## 2025 - 2026 Calendar

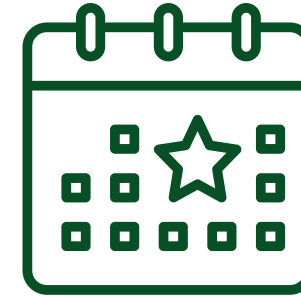


- **Monday, August 25, 2025 Teacher First Day Full Day - DPPD**
- **Monday August 25, 2025 Elementary Building “Meet the Teacher” 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.**
- **Tuesday, August 26, 2025 Students 1<sup>st</sup> Day of School – Elementary Half Day; Secondary Full Day**
- **Labor Day Holiday No School Friday, August 29, 2025 – Monday, September 1, 2025**
- **Wednesday, September 17, 2025 No School; Teacher Full Day DPPD**
- **Wednesday, October 22, 2025 No School; Teacher Full Day DPPD**
- **Election Day Tuesday, November 4, 2025 No School; Teacher Virtual DPPD Day**
- **Thanksgiving Holiday No School Wednesday, November 26, 2025 – Friday, November 28, 2025**
- **Winter Holiday Break No School Monday, December 22, 2025 – Friday, January 2, 2026**
- **Wednesday, January 14, 2026 No School Teacher Full Day DPPD Day**
- **Monday, January 19, 2026 No School MLK, Jr. Holiday**
- **Mid-Winter Break No School Monday, February 16, 2026 – Friday, February 20, 2026**
- **Spring Break No School Monday, March 30, 2026 – Friday, April 3, 2026**
- **Memorial Day Holiday No School Friday, May 22, 2026 – Monday, May 25, 2026**
- **Last Day of School Wednesday, June 10, 2026**

## Upcoming Dates

8/24: DeKeyser Open House  
8/26: First Day of School  
8/29: No School  
9/1: No School (Labor Day)  
9/5: Last day to get Device Insurance  
9/17: No School

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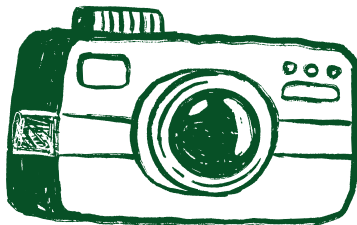


## ORDER YOUR BEMIS YEARBOOK TODAY!

Order online at: [jostensyearbooks.com](http://jostensyearbooks.com)

Make checks payable to: Bemis Jr. High  
Price starting @ \$38.00 + tax

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## School Pictures

School ID Code: 2526BEMISJR  
Click [HERE](#) to order online

***Make-Up Day: 9/15/25***

***Re-Take Day: 10/15/25***



BELL SCHEDULE

*Doors open 7:30am*  
*Breakfast 7:30 - 7:45am*  
*Students to lockers 7:45 - 7:55am*

- 1st Hour 7:55am – 8:53am
- 2nd Hour 8:59am – 9:55am
- 3rd Hour 10:01am – 10:57am
- 4th Hour 11:03am – 12:42pm
- 5th Hour 12:48pm – 1:44pm
- 6th Hour 1:50pm – 2:46pm

*End of the day buses depart 7 minutes after the dismissal bell.*

LUNCHES

Bemis runs 3 lunches a day, all which occur during 4th hour. This means that you'll go to lunch with your 4th hour teacher. So, if your 4th hour teacher has A lunch, you'll go to lunch first and then go to class. If your teacher has B lunch, your lunch will split up class. So, you'll go to class first, then eat, and then go back to class. If your teacher has C lunch, you'll go to all of your 4th hour first, and then go to lunch.

BEMIS LUNCH SCHEDULE

A Lunch

Lunch from 11:03am – 11:34am  
Class from 11:40am – 12:42pm

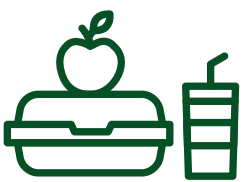
B Lunch

Class from 11:03am – 11:34am  
Lunch from 11:40am – 12:05pm  
Class from 12:11pm – 12:42pm



C Lunch

Class from 11:03am – 12:05pm  
Lunch from 12:11pm – 12:42pm





## ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

Please call the Attendance Line  
and NOT the Main Office number.

Please call 586-797-2599 for:

Early Dismissals    Late Arrival    All Day Absences

Clearly state and spell your child's first & last name when leaving a message.  
Please note that it MUST be a parent/guardian that calls in and not a student or sibling.

### EARLY DISMISSALS

When an Early Dismissal is necessary please call the attendance line  
before the start of the school day.

Students who become ill at school and require an early dismissal  
must report to the Main Office before calling home.

### ATTENDANCE IN POWERSCHOOL

Attendance is recorded in PowerSchool late in the school day. Our goal is to have  
call-ins recorded before the office closes for the day. However, if you have any  
questions regarding your students attendance, please wait 24 hours to ensure that all  
records are complete and up to date.

PowerSchool is now generating automated phone calls to parents informing them  
of any absences for their students on a daily basis. Please use your Parent Portal to  
view your student's attendance. If you have any concerns, email the individual  
teacher directly through the staff tab of the school's web site:  
<http://bemis.uticak12.org> or through the PowerSchool access.  
If a correction is warranted, the teacher will request one.

# BEMIS SPORTS

## 2025-2026 School Year



It's that time to get ready for NEXT SCHOOL YEAR!!

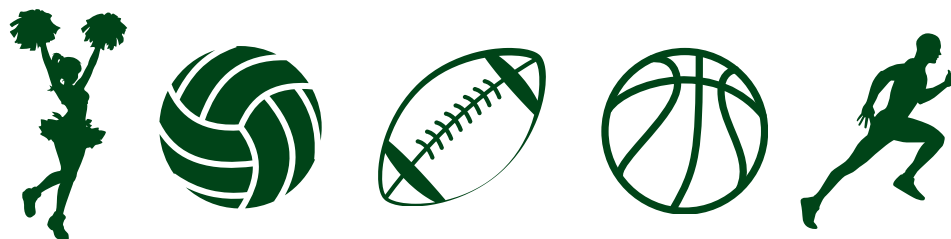
All students that intend to play any sports at Bemis during the 24/25 schoolyear must have an MHSAA Physical on file dated on or after 4/15/25

### **Physical Forms**

All student - athletes must also fill out Big Teams before participating in a sport. When filling out BigTeams, please choose sports you are interested in. You only need to fill out BigTeams once per year.

### **Big Teams**

All fall sports participants, please pay attention to announcements during the first week of school for tryout information.





**BEMIS JUNIOR HIGH**

# **RUN CLUB**

The Bemis Cross Country Team is a coed club sport that competes during the fall season - with conditioning starting this summer! Please join our @Remind page or email Coach Towianski to get updates and learn how to get involved.

 **remind**  
TEXT "**@BEMISXC25**" TO 81010  
OR USE THAT CODE IN THE APP.

*All levels encouraged to join  
Learn healthy running tips/techniques  
Everyone competes at races  
Slurpee/fun runs  
Encouraging team atmosphere  
Train for other sports*

**HAVE QUESTIONS OR WANT TO JOIN?**  
**COACH TOWIANSKI - BEMISXCC@GMAIL.COM**



## **GIRLS VOLLEYBALL**



**7th/8th grade girls volleyball meeting  
Wednesday, Aug. 27th from 2:45-3:15pm.**

***\*parents do not need to attend meeting***

**Tryouts begin Tuesday, Sept. 2nd after school.**



# Bemis Football



Coaches:

8th Ryan Kedrow and Darin Griffth

7th Zachary Crossen

8th grade players should report to the Aux  
Gym on Spartan Day to receive their  
helmets

Player Meeting for 7th & 8th  
Tuesday, August 26th from 2:46 - 3:15 pm  
Parents do not need to attend

First Practice for 7th & 8th  
Wednesday, August 27th at 2:46 pm

Physicals and Big Teams accounts must be  
on file and Physicals must be dated after  
April 15, 2025



Scan the QR code to read  
the REQUIRED informational  
packet and REQUIRED sign  
up for tryouts!

**BEMIS JUNIOR HIGH**

## CHEERLEADING TRYOUTS

Learn to stunt, tumble, jump and lead  
a crowd! No experience required!

**SEPT 3<sup>RD</sup> 5:00-7:30**

### TRYOUT CHECKLIST

- ✓ Read the informational packet
- ✓ Sign up for tryouts
- ✓ have an updated physical  
uploaded and approved  
online in Big Teams.

Questions? Contact Coach Theresa De Benedetti  
(theresadebenedetti@gmail.com)

# Bemis Spirit Wear



CHANGE TO BULK ORDER

Gildan Softstyle CVC Tee  
\$13.50

Choose Design\*  
Choose Design\*  
FULL FRONT LOGO - CHEER  
FULL FRONT LOGO - FOOTBALL  
FULL FRONT LOGO - BEMIS  
FULL FRONT LOGO - TRACK & FIELD  
FULL FRONT LOGO - BASKETBALL  
FULL FRONT LOGO - VOLLEYBALL

NAME (\$7.00)

NUMBER (\$7.00)




- 1. pick item you love
- 2. click on **Choose Design**
- 3. optional add name/#






# Take a Look at our Future!




UTICA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

## DeKeyser Elementary Reconstruction Ribbon Cutting


Established: 1971



Reconstructed: 2025



Exterior Rendering of DeKeyser



Rendering of a DeKeyser Classroom

### DeKeyser Elementary School Community Open House

39600 Atkinson Drive | Sterling Heights, MI

**Sunday, August 24, 2025**

**2:00 – 4:00 p.m.**

**Onsite parking for this event will be extremely limited.**

Please take advantage of complimentary shuttles running from 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. at the following school locations: Browning, Eisenhower, Havel, Rose Kidd, Shelby, Stevenson

For more event details, please visit:  
[www.Uticak12.org/DeKeyserOpenHouse](http://www.Uticak12.org/DeKeyserOpenHouse)



## FAMILY WELLNESS FAIR

### HENRY FORD II HIGH SCHOOL

Join us for the Utica Community Schools Family Wellness Fair, a fun-filled event for the whole family!

This event is FREE and open to the public to receive valuable information on social-emotional learning (SEL), physical health, and food and nutrition resources at interactive booths.

It's the perfect way to invest in your family's well-being!

- ✓ Over 30 Vendors
- ✓ Kid's Zone with Hands-On Activities
- ✓ Healthy Treats and Giveaways

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**

**10AM-1PM**






[www.Uticak12.org/UCS\\_wellness](http://www.Uticak12.org/UCS_wellness)



UTICA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Make **SMILES**  
Happen.

Become a  
**BUS DRIVER.**



 **UTICA  
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SCHOOLS**

 [Uticak12.org/driverseat](https://Uticak12.org/driverseat)  [Monique.Potts@Uticak12.org](mailto:Monique.Potts@Uticak12.org)  (586) 797-7113

Walk In Wednesdays. Click [HERE](#) for more info.  
Starting pay for UCS bus drivers is \$21/hr! 🚌 Not able to  
join for walk-in hours? Call (586) 797-7113 or email  
[Monique.Potts@Uticak12.org](mailto:Monique.Potts@Uticak12.org) to schedule an interview  
outside this timeframe!

Click [HERE](#) to See Postings for all  
available UCS Jobs.




**UTICA  
COMMUNITY  
SCHOOLS**

## Afterschool Enrichment






# Future Falcon



**What Awaits Future Falcons?**

"Future Falcons should look forward to joining a school where family comes first. At Henry Ford II, we believe in Empowering Excellence in Everyone, providing opportunities to grow academically, discover your passions, and achieve greatness, whether it's excelling in the classroom, performing on stage, or competing on the field. Together, we soar!"



Lori Singleton  
Principal

**What would you tell Future Falcons?**

"The dedication of our teachers and the achievements of our classmates, both academically and in extracurricular activities make me proud to be part of such a vibrant school."  
- Josh Houston, HFII Senior

## Points of Pride


- Michigan and National Blue Ribbon Exemplary School
- Honored nationally in such areas as national merit, career and technical education, advanced placement, film, music and Milken family foundation for the nation's top teacher
- One of the most academically challenging schools in the United States by the *Washington Post*
- Newsweek Magazine* honored school as among the top ten percent in the nation for providing student experiences in science, technology, engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)
- Among the highest level of achievement at local, state and national level

## What Makes a Falcon?

- Resilient** – Falcons overcome challenges with strength and determination.
- Compassionate** – Falcons care deeply about each other and their community.
- Innovative** – Falcons think creatively and explore new possibilities.
- Determined** – Falcons are focused on their goals and work hard to achieve them.
- Respectful** – Falcons treat others with kindness, fairness, and dignity.
- Curious** – Falcons embrace learning and seek knowledge in every opportunity.
- Empowered** – Falcons take initiative and inspire those around them to excel.

## Sucess in the school

- Associate principal Anthony Tocco was selected among 12 statewide to be a part of Michigan Leadership for Equity and Transformation as a fellow.
- Past graduate Jaden Rosenberger earned a silver medal in 2024 Scholastic Art and Writing competition.
- Two seniors have been awarded with scholarships \$100,000 or more to attend the College of Creative studies located in Detroit, Michigan.







# UTICA-FRASER UNIFIED VARSITY HOCKEY

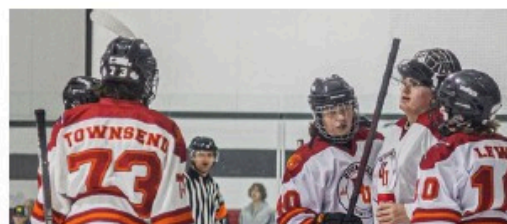


## PROGRAM OUTLINE

AUGUST 2024

The Utica-Fraser Varsity Hockey program operates on a meticulously planned 12-month schedule designed to optimize player development, team cohesion, and competitive performance. The program is divided into four seasons: Spring, Summer, Fall, and Varsity.

Throughout the comprehensive 12-month program of Utica-Fraser Varsity Hockey, players undergo rigorous training and competitive play to optimize their skills and performance on the ice. With approximately 96 practices, spanning from skill refinement sessions to strategic drills, athletes are finely tuned for success. Complementing these practices are roughly 32 strength and conditioning workouts, ensuring players maintain peak physical condition year-round. Across approximately 63 games, players have ample opportunities to apply their training in real-game scenarios, honing their abilities and fostering team cohesion. This holistic approach to player development underscores the program's commitment to excellence, teamwork, and continuous improvement, laying the groundwork for success both on and off the ice.



### VARSITY SEASON: NOVEMBER - FEBRUARY

The Varsity season [November-February/Early March] marks the pinnacle of the program, characterized by intense training, rigorous competition, and a focus on achieving success on the ice. With three practices per week and weekly strength and conditioning workouts, players undergo comprehensive preparation to excel in the 27-game regular season and playoffs.

In addition to on-ice performance, the Varsity season incorporates off-ice activities such as fundraisers, charity events, and community engagements, fostering team bonding and instilling values of sportsmanship and giving back to the community.

Throughout the year, the coaching staff works closely with players to assess individual progress, set goals, and provide guidance for improvement. The program's holistic approach to player development ensures that athletes not only excel on the ice but also grow as individuals, embodying the principles of teamwork, discipline, and perseverance.

## SEASONS

### SPRING - APRIL & MAY

During the Spring season, the team welcomes new players interested in joining the Utica-Fraser Family. Our spring program focuses on maintaining player fitness and skill development through weekly practice sessions and team workouts. Approximately 8 games are scheduled during this time, providing opportunities for players to apply their skills in a competitive setting and build team chemistry.

Spring hockey is coached by our off-season coaching staff, who has been involved with the program for that last several years. This gives us a smooth transition as we progress from season to season.

### SUMMER - JUNE & JULY

As the Summer season unfolds, the intensity ramps up with bi-weekly practices and twice-weekly strength and conditioning workouts. Up to 15 games are played during this period, allowing coaches to assess player progress and team dynamics while continuing to refine skills and tactics.

Summer hockey is coached by the varsity coaching staff – Evan Gizinski, Steve Erwin and Jake Gammicchia.

### FALL - SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

Heading into the Fall season, the team increases practice frequency to three or more sessions per week. With a greater emphasis on game preparation and competition, more games are played than in other seasons. This period serves as a critical ramp-up for the upcoming varsity season, with players competing for roster spots and honing their skills for the challenges ahead. Players will receive personalized Utica-Fraser Unified jerseys for the fall hockey season.

Fall hockey is coached by our off-season coaching staff. Once again, ensuring a smooth transition throughout seasons so our program is always moving in the same direction.

## >>> UTICA-FRASER HOCKEY

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

August 2024



### >>> WHAT ARE THE FINANCIAL EXPECTATIONS



Utica-Fraser Varsity Hockey's 12-month program stands out as one of the most affordable high school hockey options, priced at around \$4,000. The program offers comprehensive training and competition, including approximately 96 practices, 32 strength and conditioning workouts, and 63 games over the 12 months. With a focus on skill refinement, strategic drills, and physical conditioning, players are primed for success on and off the ice. From intense Varsity season playoffs to community engagements and charity events, athletes develop both as skilled players and disciplined individuals that will prepare them for the next chapter of their lives.

### >>> WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

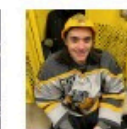
Since 2018, the Program has moved on alumni that have achieved remarkable success, advancing to higher levels of play and institutions. Many have transitioned to collegiate hockey, joining esteemed programs such as Oakland University, Rochester College, Northern Michigan, Michigan State University, Adrian College, Cleary University, and University of Michigan Dearborn. Others have pursued opportunities with elite junior teams like the Metro Jets and Motor City Gamblers. The program's impact extends beyond the ice, fostering lasting connections among alumni who return to participate in the annual alumni game over Christmas break. These achievements reflect the program's commitment to developing not only skilled athletes but also successful individuals.



Max Harwood (2016)



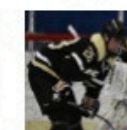
Zach Robert (2018)



Anthony Althaus (2011-2013)



Austin Ferth (2011-2013)



Ryan Kozich (2011)



Trevor Townsend (2012-2014)

### >>> WHY UTICA-FRASER HOCKEY?

As a part of the Utica-Fraser Unified program, players are a part of more than just a hockey team. By uniting athletes on the same team, the program creates a supportive environment where everyone can thrive. Through shared experiences on ice or in the locker room, participants develop lifelong friendships, build self-confidence, and learn valuable lessons in teamwork and discipline.

Wearing the Utica-Fraser crest symbolizes pride, unity, and a commitment to upholding the values of sportsmanship, excellence, and teamwork both on and off the ice.

Utica-Fraser Varsity Hockey is deeply committed to giving back to the community, partnering with organizations like The Rainbow Connection, Wounded Warrior Project, Michigan Flyers, The Refuge, Cancer Awareness, Operation Believe, and many others. Through fundraisers, charity events, and volunteer initiatives, players actively support causes that make a difference in the lives of others. From hosting awareness campaigns to participating in fundraisers, the team exemplifies the values of compassion and community involvement.

Our dedication and commitment to giving our players life-lasting memories is what separates high school hockey from other youth leagues.

TO JOIN THE UTICA-FRASER HOCKEY FAMILY, PLEASE CONTACT HEAD COACH EVAN GIZINSKI - GIZINSKIE@GMAIL.COM



The UCS Wellness podcast is a resource created by Utica Community Schools, a K-12 school district located within Macomb County, Michigan. With a focus on physical, mental and social health, UCS Wellness serves as a health hub for students and their families, as well as the community as a whole.



You are to read Student Responsible Use agreement that appears when you log on to the laptop.

THIS LAPTOP DEPLOYED TO YOU IS FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY  
DO NOT USE IT FOR PERSONAL COMMUNICATION OR PERSONAL USE  
DO NOT LET ANYONE ELSE USE OR LOG ON TO THIS LAPTOP!  
DO NOT USE TEAMS OR ANY APP TO CHAT OR CALL ANY FAMILY MEMBERS OR  
OTHER STUDENTS  
IF YOU ARE NOT USING IT FOR SCHOOL WORK, THEN YOU ARE NOT USING IT AT ALL.

DO NOT USE SCHOOLOGY OR EMAIL TO SEND PERSONAL MESSAGES -THESE TOOLS  
ARE FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY  
DO NOT ADD ANY APPS, VPN'S, GAMES, EXTENSIONS, ETC.  
DO NOT ACCESS YOUR PERSONAL SOCIAL MEDIA ON THIS LAPTOP  
DO NOT ADD ANY APP OR TOOL UNLESS APPROVED BY ONE OF YOUR TEACHERS  
This means no games, no ZOOM, no Discord, no private chat accounts, ETC.  
DO NOT USE ANY ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE APP OR ACCESS ANY SITE TO ACCESS AI  
CHAT GPT, ELSA, GOOGLE ASSISTANT, AMAZON ALEXA, LENSEA, ASK AI, YOU CHAT,  
ETC.  
ARE NOT USED FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES AND SHOULD NOT BE ACCESSED

PLEASE REMOVE ALL PROFILE PICTURES  
You have 6 teachers and they do not want to see anime, celebrities, characters,  
cars, pets, objects, etc.  
You do not need a profile picture but if you do want one, it MUST be of your face  
only.

DO NOT CHANGE ANY SETTINGS -VERY IMPORTANT!  
The laptop is set up accordingly for you to use for schoolwork only.  
Charge your laptop EVERY night so it is ready for the next day.  
IF YOU FORGET TO CHARGE IT OVER NIGHT, BRING YOUR CHARGER WITH YOU.  
DO NOT LOAN OUT YOUR CHARGER, IF IT GOES MISSING, YOU HAVE TO PAY \$38 TO  
REPLACE IT.  
You only receive one at no cost as that has to be returned when you leave Bemis.

IMPORTANT IF YOU HAVE ANY ISSUES AT ANY TIME WITH THE LAPTOP OR YOUR  
CHARGER,  
PLEASE ASK TO SEE MRS. BROWN AS SOON AS YOU NOTICE AN PROBLEM  
Her office is in the Media Center (8:00-2:30 daily).  
You can reach her by email at [nicole.brown@uticak12.org](mailto:nicole.brown@uticak12.org) Or send a message in  
Schoolology.







OK2Say is a nationally recognized program designed to enhance school safety by giving students the tools to step up and speak out when they are concerned about their safety or the safety of another. The OK2SAY student safety program provides a confidential way to file tips on criminal activity or potential harm directed at students, school employees, and schools.

Tips can be submitted 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week.

- Telephone: 8-555-OK2SAY (855-565-2729)
  - Text: 652729 (OK2SAY)
  - Email: [ok2say@mi.gov](mailto:ok2say@mi.gov)
  - Website: [ok2say.com](http://ok2say.com)
- OK2SAY Mobile app: Available in the Apple Store or Google Play.

OK2SAY tips have helped thousands of students and saved many lives because students are stepping up and speaking out when they are concerned about a friend or peer. There are 31 tip categories to choose from when submitting a confidential tip. Most tips were related to bullying, cyberbullying, self-harm, anxiety, stress and depression, and suicide. Other top tips include drug/alcohol use, weapon possession, or assault.

Upon receipt of a tip, specially trained OK2SAY technicians address the immediate need and forward the information to the appropriate responding law enforcement agency or organization. Tips go to schools, local law enforcement agencies, community mental health agencies or the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

To ensure tips are acted upon, agencies receiving tips are asked to submit outcome reports detailing how the tip was handled. Annual reports on the program's impact detail the types and numbers of tips handled. Annual reports are available on the OK2SAY website.

More information is available on the  
<https://www.michigan.gov/ok2say/about>

# Attendance Intervention

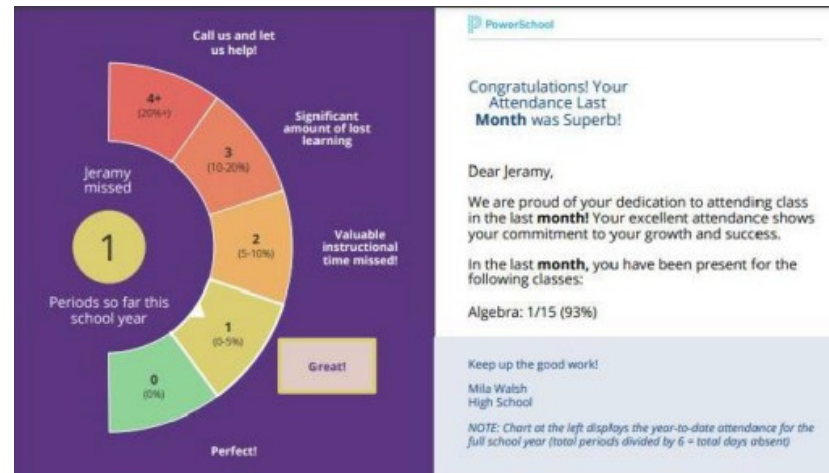
Dear Parent or Guardian,

I am writing to inform you about an exciting new program we implemented on May 1, 2025. To enhance communication regarding student attendance, we will be utilizing Attendance Intervention, a PowerSchool product designed to streamline updates and alerts for families. With Attendance Intervention, you will receive text messages and email alerts directly from teachers and school leaders, keeping you informed about your child's attendance in real time.

What makes Attendance Intervention unique?

- **No Login Required:** Messages will automatically be sent to the phone number and email address the school has on file for you.
- **Direct Communication:** Each message will come from a unique phone number associated with the sender. This direct line allows you to easily save the sender's number in your phone and reply directly to them, if desired.
- **Absence Alerts:** Families will be notified if a student is absent from school in a timely fashion.
- **Say Goodbye to Language Barriers:** Attendance Intervention translates text and email messages into more than 90 languages, based on the preferred language on file.

You will receive a digital postcard as an attachment to the email message. It will look like this:



This new form of communication will be modified and adjusted, if needed, during the remainder of the current school year. We are confident that this program will enhance communication and ensure we are all working together to support our students' successes. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to the school office.

Thank you for your continued partnership in your child's education.

Sincerely,

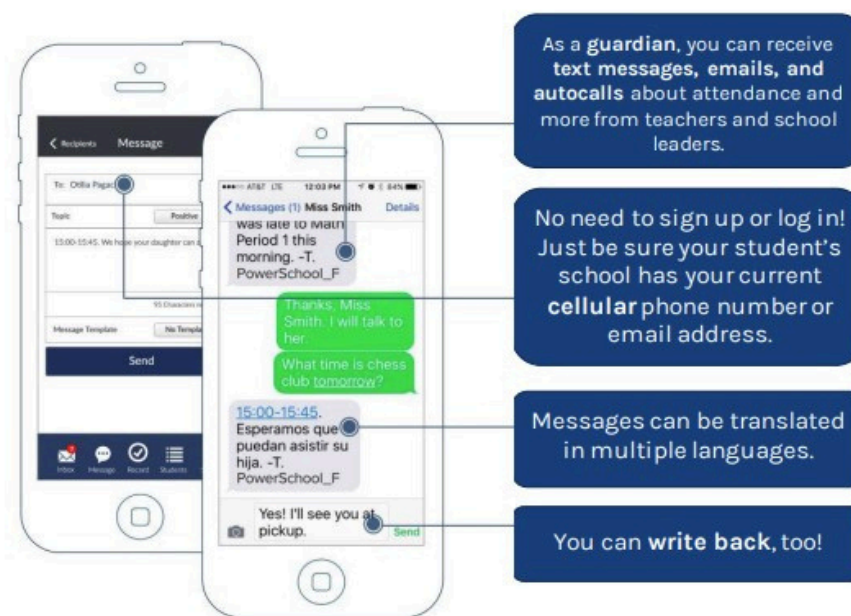
*Thomas Yaw, Bemis Junior High School, Principal*





## Unified Operations Attendance Intervention Suite & Communication

The all-in-one solution for improving communication between school and home.



These messages may be about:



Attendance



Homework & Assignments



School events & More

To opt out, write STOP to a text message or press # 1 via autocall. You may also contact your student's school.



[www.PowerSchool.com](http://www.PowerSchool.com) | 1-800-409-1442

Have questions or concerns, just ask UCS!  
<https://bit.ly/3W6LbPP>



**JUST ASK US**

**QUESTION**

I have been reading about layoffs in other communities as a result of the loss of COVID Relief funds. Will Utica Community Schools be laying off any employees this spring?

**ANSWER** →

**UCS** **UTICA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**



**JUST ASK US**

**ANSWER**

No. The COVID relief funds were used to add a number of needed support positions in our district, including increasing the number of social worker positions in UCS. Through strategic financial management, and despite the reduction of one-time only COVID funding, the district will retain all positions and there are no layoffs for any employee group for the 2024-25 school year.

**UCS** **UTICA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

## Download the UCS App



UCS is pleased to introduce its new mobile App. Simply download it from the App Store <https://apple.co/3OQx6St> or Google Play <https://bit.ly/3qiygNv> to get all the latest updates from UCS and your favorite school!

## **Dress Code**

Bemis follows the dress code located in the [Parent and Student Handbook](#). This dress code does differ from the elementary school dress code. Student conduct is affected by student dress. Bemis strives to maintain a comfortable learning environment and our staff appreciates parental support in guiding appropriated dress for school. Students not conforming to the district code will have to call home for a change of clothing or wear a clean t-shirt and/or sweatpants provided by the school for the day.

## **Junior High School Parent and Student Handbook**

The Utica Community Schools Parent-Student Handbook serves as quick references for families seeking answers to school policies, procedures and district activities. UCS Handbooks are published for elementary, junior high and senior high schools. Each handbook is created with student learning and parent partnership in mind. You are encouraged to download a copy and find the answers you seek at your leisure. Save a copy for future reference or go back and visit again. Remember: Handbooks are updated each year. Please click here to find the [2024-2025 Handbook](#).

## **PowerSchool**

Parents and students can view their student's schedules, attendance and grades. [Click here](#) to access the PowerSchool Portal. Parents with multiple UCS students can now create an account to access all of their data with a single login. Parents will need the access ID and access password for each student. [Click here](#) for helpful instructional guides. Access IDs and passwords follow students from year to year. Please contact the main office with any questions.

## **Bemis Attendance Line**

Parents are reminded to call the school attendance line, **586-797-2599**, to report their child's absence or tardiness. In order to be excused, all late/tardy students must be called in by a parent. A doctor's note must be provided to excuse late/tardy arrivals. Bemis Attendance line is available 24 hours a day. All late arrival/tardy students must report to the Main Office upon arrival to receive a late pass. If your child is absent and we have not received notification, we will call the parents.

## **Early Dismissal**

Students who need to be excused during the school day should bring a signed note from their parents to the Main Office before school begins that morning. The note should include the date, time, and reason for dismissal as well as who will be picking the child up. By doing this, we keep classroom disruptions to a minimum as well as have your child waiting for you in the Main Office when you arrive. **PLEASE NOTE: Anyone signing a student out, must show identification and that person must also be on the students' contact list.** Students will not be released to anyone that is not listed on the contact list.

## **Homework Requests**

Homework requests are not accepted until the third consecutive day of absence. You may request your child's homework on that third day by emailing your child's teacher. You can find a list of email addresses by clicking [here](#).

## **Use of Electronic Communication Devices is Prohibited**

The personal use of cell phones or other electronic communications devices (ECD) by students is prohibited at any time while in school or in a district vehicle. Students may carry ECDs during the school day, but they cannot be displayed or used without permission from a teacher or administrator for educational purposes. Personal use of the device shall be limited to the time before and after the school day and only when students are outside the building. ECDs shall not be used during instructional time, lunch, passing time between classes or on any school bus without permission of a school official. The use of an ECD's picture-taking or internet connection capability is not permitted without permission of a teacher or administrator. Utica Community Schools will not be responsible for the theft, loss or damage of any ECD. Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken against students who violate the policy regulating ECDs.

**If a student's ECD rings/vibrates during the school day, the ECD will be confiscated and must be picked up in the main office by the student's parent.** Should this occur a second time, the student will receive a one-day suspension. If a student uses an ECD anytime inside the school, the ECD will be confiscated and the student will receive a one-day suspension.

All school meal menus are digitally accessible on all devices allowing for personalized viewing options. Users can select to view nutritional and allergen information, as well as customize print and language settings. Menus can be viewed at <https://uticak12.nutrislice.com>

### **Concussion Awareness**

As part of a new state law, all UCS and Michigan parents will receive information about concussions, their symptoms and what to do if you suspect a concussion. All athletes are required to have this form completed and on file in the Main Office prior to participating on any sports teams. Click [HERE](#) for the concussion form.

### **Body Spray**

Bemis Junior High has several students and staff members who have allergic reactions to strong perfumes, after-shave and men's cologne. The reactions range from mild to severe headaches that can result in nausea and being sent home from school. In addition, strong perfume smells can trigger asthma attacks. Junior high is filled with a variety of smells ranging from strawberries to old spice. When those smells dominate the hallways, problems do occur. We are asking students to put on your favorite fragrance once in the morning before school. Please do not bring in bottles and sprays of cologne, after-shave and perfume to re-apply throughout the day.

### **Recycle for Charity at Bemis**

Look for the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Donation Bin, located in the receiving driveway on the east side of Bemis Junior High. All items will go to the Disabled American Veterans, a non-profit organization located in Westland. Tax receipts can be found in the office. Donate your gently used clothes, shoes, toys, and small house appliances. [DAVThriftMichigan.com](http://DAVThriftMichigan.com)

### **Kroger Plus card**

Did you know that you can not only earn points for yourself, but you can also earn points for our school? How? It is easy! Just shop at Kroger and link your Plus Card to Bemis Jr.High. Click on link for more information [Kroger Community Rewards](#)

