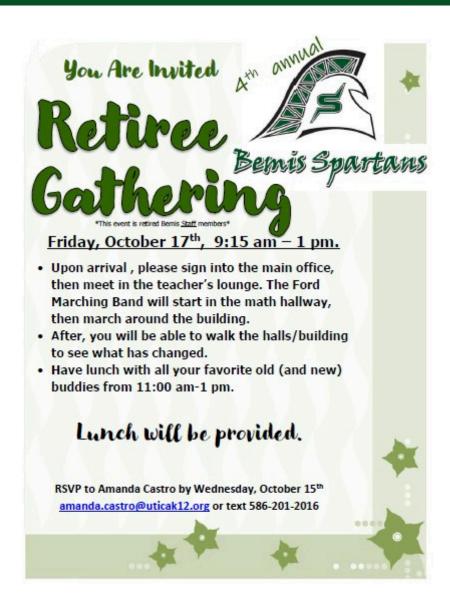
WEEK OF OCTOBER 13

BEMIS BULLETIN BOARD (B3)

Bemis Jr. High School's Newsletter for Parents





Letter from Mr. Monroe



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

October 9, 2025

Dear UCS Staff and Families.

Utica Community Schools is committed to its vision of empowering all students to transform their future and the world. To that end, I want to share with you an update on an important initiative that is tied to our strategic planning process. It directly supports our vision and reflects the high expectations we have in our schools for learning and behavior outcomes for all our students.

Our <u>UCS Empowered Strategic Plan</u> process is grounded in the effective use of data. While UCS students continue to outperform their peers on average, there are subsets of students with unique needs who are not experiencing a level of growth when compared to all students. To truly realize our vision, we need to have an even deeper understanding of how we can support increased achievement. In addition to looking at student achievement data, information is being collected through a series of focus groups and school and classroom visits to seek a deeper answer. Student, parent and staff voices are important to the process, and representatives from each group will be included in the focus groups.

The work is being led by a coalition composed of both district and school-based leadership and staff representing general education, English learner support, and support for students with IEPs from all levels from all areas of the district. Their work is supported by our educational partner, New Solutions K12, which provides facilitation support, a deep understanding of best-practice research, and a national perspective from other successful school districts.

In September, we began this study with a series of focus groups that gave each of our principals an opportunity to share their thoughts, concerns, and ideas related to our services to support students who struggle academically. The coalition will serve as a sounding board for initial recommendations, to support our leaders in planning for implementation, and most importantly provide invaluable two-way communication with parents and staff.

In addition, district and school leaders conducted classroom visits at the elementary, junior high, high school and adult levels at ten different school and program sites, within the district, to get a feel for the instructional practices and programs in place to support individuals with disabilities and other students who struggle.

Utica Community Schools Board of Education

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

Other activities over the next few months will feature additional focus groups to continue gaining insight into our current practices and formulate recommendations to improve outcomes for all students.

We are in a great moment in time at Utica Community Schools. Our focus on the future would not be possible without our talented and committed staff, the partnerships we have with our families and communities, a strong strategic planning process, and a legacy of excellence that reflects our community's enduring values.

We look forward to the journey ahead and how we can continue to partner for the success of all our students. More information and updates are available at this link.

Sincerely,

Robert S. Monroe

Superintendent of Schools

Rout & Monroe



How can I find out what's going on?



- Emails/Texts from Mr. Yaw (the principal)
- The weekly newsletter (B3 you're reading it now)
- The website (our website & the district website)
- Facebook Page
- Instagram
- Your student (we do both morning & afternoon announcements)









If your charger has white label... that's for your name!









LAPTOPCARE

IMPORANT ROUTINES TO TAKE BETTER CARE OF YOUR SCHOOL LAPTOP.







ISSUES

We all deserve a working laptop. REPORT ANY Address to your MOC any concerns such as stuck keys, glitching, or charging issues to get it fixed or replaced!



ITEMS NOT COVERED BY THIS OPTIONAL PLAN:

ACCESSORIES ARE NOT COVERED BY INSURANCE

- Accessories include, but are not limited to, a USB power adapter, charging cable and/or protective iPad case.
- Replacement of lost or damaged accessories is the responsibility of the student. Utica Community Schools recommends Original Equipment Manufacturer replacements.

DAMAGE DUE TO REMOVAL OF THE PROTECTIVE CASE IS **NOT COVERED BY INSURANCE**

- If the assigned laptop is provided with a protective case, students must NEVER remove the case.
- Any damage that occurs due to the removal of an iPad case or a laptop protective case is considered INTENTIONAL DAMAGE and is not covered by insurance.

LOST OR STOLEN DEVICE

- Lost devices are NOT COVERED under this optional insurance policy.
- In the case of theft of an iPad or laptop, a copy of a completed police report MUST BE RETURNED to Utica Community Schools. A stolen device IS COVERED by the purchased insurance ONLY IF a police report is filed and a copy provided to the district.

Upcoming Dates

10/15: Picture Re-Take Day

10/17: Ford Homecoming (spirit Day Maroon & White)

10/22: No School

10/24: Costume Day (Halloween Dance)

11/4: No School (Election Day)





ORDER YOUR BEMIS YEARBOOK TODAY!

Order online at: *jostensyearbooks.com*

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



School Pictures

School ID Code: 2526BEMISJR Click <u>HERE</u> to order online

Re-Take Day: 10/15/25

*for re-takes you must bring in your original packet.

Not happy with your original photos? Re-Take day is photos? Re-Take





Smile again! It's Retake Day!

MISSED PICTURE DAY? NEED A DO-OVER?

If you're not happy with your student's first photo or missed the first Picture Day, Retake Day's your chance!

WEDNESDAY,

OCTOBER 15, 2025

HAVEN'T ORDERED YET? PREORDER ONLINE:



Order from our website before picture

www.kaiserstudio.com

Your school's ID code

2526BEMISJR

ORDERED PICTURES, BUT WANT RETAKES?

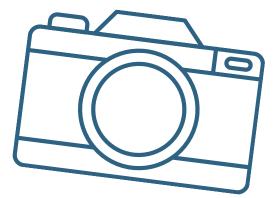


Just have your student bring their photo package to the photographer on Retake Day. We'll snap a new pic and reprint your order!



1825 Birchwood Drive, Troy MI 248.619.9119







Upcoming Spirit Days – 1st Quarter

Friday 9/12 Spartan/Bemis School Spirit

Friday 9/19 Sweater Weather/Fall Colors

Friday 9/26 Twin Day

Friday 10/3 Pink out/Breast Cancer Awareness

Friday 10/10 8th grade Black/7th Grade White out

Friday 10/17 Ford Falcon/Maroon and White

Friday 10/24 Costume Day – Halloween Dance

Friday 10/31 Orange and Black Day

All clothing during spirit days MUST be school appropriate and follow the school dress code including no pajamas or hats.



SPARTAN SPORTS

Click <u>HERE</u> for Football/Volleyball Schedules

*Students must be accompanied by their parent or guardian for both home and away athletic events.







Please use the church parking lot (across the street) for the early home football game on 10/14

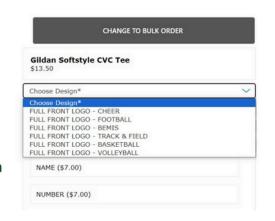


Bemis Spirit Wear





pick item you love
 click on Choose Design
 optional add name/#















Spartans

Blanket (\$20) & Back Pack (\$20)





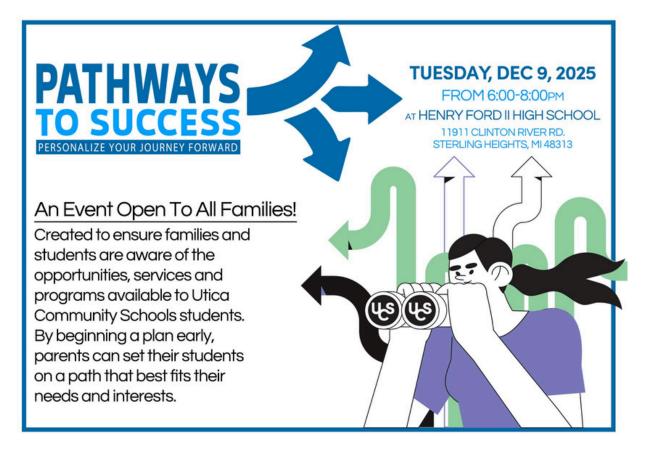


(50 x 60 in)

limited supply available in the Pit Stop & Main Office









Afterschool Enrichment



Future Falcon



What Awaits Future Falcons?

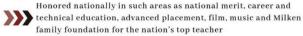
"Future Falcons should look forward to joining a school where family comes first. At Henry Ford II, we believe in Empowering Excellence in Everyone, providing opportunities to grow academically. discover your passions, and achieve greatness, whether it's excelling in the classroom, performing on stage,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

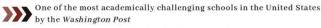


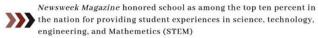
Lori Singletor Principal

Points of Pride

Michigan and National Blue Ribbon Exemplary School







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.



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



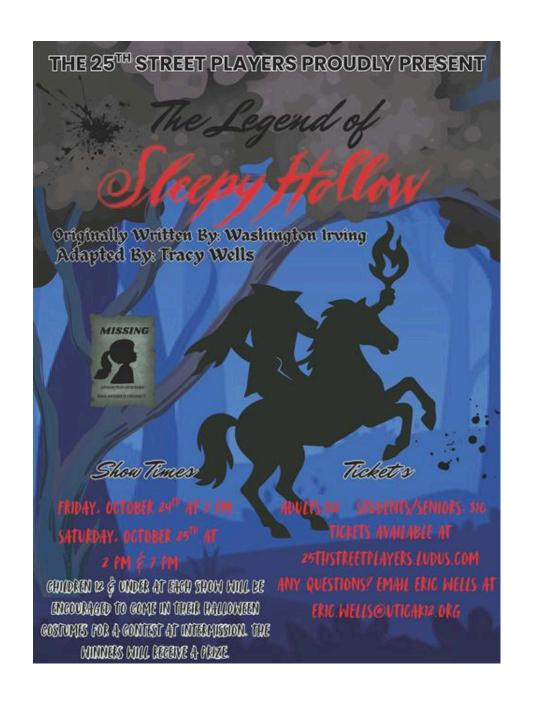


Walk-In Wednesdays:

Join us for walk-in interviews every Wednesday from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.! Auxiliary Services Facility: 6600 18 Mile Rd, Sterling Heights, MI 48314

Not able to join for walk-in hours? Call (586) 797-7113 or email Monique.Potts@Uticak12.org to schedule an interview outside this time frame!

Click <u>HERE</u> to See Postings for all available UCS Jobs.





more stuff...



The <u>UCS Wellness podcast</u> 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.





The more you know...



- Leaves require sunlight, water, chlorophyll, and carbon dioxide to make food for themselves.
- As winter approaches, the days get shorter, which means that the leaves receive less sunlight. This signals to the leaves to stop producing chlorophyll (this is the green pigment that gives leaves their signature color).
- When the leaves turn colors in the fall, they're actually returning to their normal shades!
- Along with chlorophyll, leaves contain two other chemicals that cause coloring. The first is called xanthophyll, which is yellow in color. The other is carotene, which is orange in color.
- Red and purple leaves are actually caused by the presence of sugars from sap that is trapped inside of the leaves.
- Once the leaves have turned brown, they are dead and no longer receive any nutrients.

| Monday | Theory | a statement that explains why something happens but has not been proven. The police have a theory about who stole the jewels. The scientists discussed theories about the beginning of life on Earth. |
|-----------|-----------|---|
| Tuesday | Undergo | to have the experience of; receive; endure. She'll undergo surgery on her foot next week. Our family underwent major changes last year. |
| Wednesday | Status | a person's position or level in comparison with the position of other people. His status rose when he got the new job. |
| Thursday | Pertinent | having to do with or connected to a subject; relevant. Sailing is not pertinent to a discussion about the desert. |
| Friday | Function | the purpose for which an object or a person is used. The function of a police officer is to keep the peace. The function of scissors is to cut things. |









Check us out and like us on FB, IG & YT to stay up to date on happenings at Bemis Junior High School. Click the pic to be taken to our pages.



Keep up to date with all Bemis events on our website **CALENDAR**. Club meetings, sporting events, spirit days, days off, conferences... As soon as information is available it is updated on the website calendar.



The Lost and Found is located in the cafeteria near the PitStop. Please take a moment to look for your lost items.

Bell Schedule & Lunches 2025-2026

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



**Students are not able have Fast Food dropped off for lunch. It will need to be eaten in the office or in the car with parent/guardian.



<u>C Lunch</u>

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.

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, LENSA, 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 Or send a message in Schoology.

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 1st 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





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

• Website: 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 OK2SAYwebsite.

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

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









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 <u>Parent and Student Handbook</u>. 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. <u>Click here</u> 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. <u>Click here</u> 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 <u>here</u>.

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.

IMPORTANT SCHOOL POLICIES

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 <u>HERE</u> 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

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. Clink on link for more information <u>Kroger Community Rewards</u>

