

WEEK OF OCTOBER 27

BEMIS BULLETIN BOARD (B3).

Bemis Jr. High School's Newsletter for Parents



IT'S PRINCIPAL APPRECIATION MONTH!



MR. YAW



MRS. SCHLITT

**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO
FOR OUR SPARTANS!**



Bemis Junior High School 2025-2026 Homework Club

After School Tutoring

At Bemis Junior High School we are taking positive steps to help your child by offering one hour after school student tutoring sessions three days per week in our Media Center. This program will be facilitated by Bemis Junior High School teachers, along with tutoring by current Henry Ford II High School National Honor Society members. Beginning Monday, October 27, 2025, two Bemis Junior High School teachers will supervise and support students on Mondays and Tuesdays. Each Wednesday, we will have a teacher supervisor and current Henry Ford II High School National Honor Society members tutoring our Bemis students. This is an optional drop-in program, students do not have to attend each session, they do not have to attend every week.

If your child attends any or all tutoring sessions, they are expected to bring all necessary materials and books to the Media Center by 2:55 p.m. and remain until 3:55 p.m. Parents need to arrange to pick up their child by 4:05 p.m. If you would like your child to participate in this program, please complete the attached form and return it to the counseling office prior to your child's first date of attendance.

If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact Mrs. Dolland-Head at: diana.dolland-head@uticak12.org.

Sincerely,
Mr. Yaw
Bemis Junior High Principal

[BJH 2025-2026 HW Club Announcement and Permission Form.pdf](#)
[Bemis 2025-2026 Homework Club Permission Form .pdf](#)



Bemis Junior High School
12500 19 Mile Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48313
(586) 797-2500
www.UticaK12.org/Bemis

Bemis Junior High School 2025-2026 Homework Club

Parent and Student Permission form

My child: _____, grade _____, has my permission to participate in The Bemis Homework Club. I understand that it is my responsibility to provide transportation for my child. My child understands that it is his/her responsibility to arrive on time, bring all necessary materials to the Bemis Junior High School Media Center and be prepared to work. My child also understands that all Bemis Junior High School rules apply, and he/she will follow them or face removal from The Bemis Homework Club.

Students will sit quietly at a table and begin homework assignments. When in need of help with the assignment, students will raise their hand. At times the students can quietly work together on common assignments. All students must have a book to read quietly if they finish their work prior to the time of dismissal. Students must remain in the Homework Club location for the entire session.

Parent Name (printed) _____

Parent Signature _____

STUDENT

I understand that I am expected to bring all my supplies to The Bemis Homework Club and work in a quiet and respectful manner from 2:55 – 3:55.

Student Name (printed) _____

Student signature _____

Bemis Junior High School Homework Club

2025-2026 Sessions*

Homework Club Dates
Monday 10/27/25
Tuesday 10/28/25
Wednesday 10/29/25
Monday 11/3/25
Wednesday 11/5/25
Monday 11/10/25
Tuesday 11/11/25
Wednesday 11/12/25
Monday 11/17/25
Tuesday 11/18/25
Wednesday 11/19/25
Monday 11/24/25
Tuesday 11/25/25
Monday 12/1/25
Tuesday 12/2/25
Wednesday 12/3/25
Monday 12/8/25
Tuesday 12/9/25
Wednesday 12/10/25
Monday 12/15/25
Tuesday 12/16/25
Monday 1/5/26
Tuesday 1/6/26
Wednesday 1/7/26
Monday 1/12/26
Tuesday 1/13/26

Homework Club Dates
Tuesday 1/20/26
Wednesday 1/21/26
Monday 1/26/26
Tuesday 1/27/26
Wednesday 1/28/26
Monday 2/2/26
Tuesday 2/3/26
Wednesday 2/4/26
Monday 2/9/26
Tuesday 2/10/26
Wednesday 2/11/26
Monday 2/23/26
Tuesday 2/24/26
Wednesday 2/25/26
Monday 3/2/26
Tuesday 3/3/26
Wednesday 3/4/26
Monday 3/9/26
Tuesday 3/10/26
Wednesday 3/11/26
Monday 3/16/26
Tuesday 3/17/26
Wednesday 3/18/26
Monday 3/23/26
Tuesday 3/24/26
Wednesday 3/25/26

Homework Club Dates
Monday 4/6/26
Tuesday 4/7/26
Wednesday 4/8/26
Monday 4/13/26
Tuesday 4/14/26
Wednesday 4/15/26
Monday 4/20/26
Tuesday 4/21/26
Wednesday 4/22/26
Monday 4/27/26
Tuesday 4/28/26
Wednesday 4/29/26
Monday 5/4/26
Tuesday 5/5/26
Wednesday 5/6/26
Monday 5/11/26
Tuesday 5/12/26
Wednesday 5/13/26
Monday 5/18/26
Tuesday 5/19/26
Wednesday 5/20/26
Tuesday 5/26/26
Wednesday 5/27/26
Monday 6/1/26
Tuesday 6/2/26
Wednesday 6/3/26

* Homework Club sessions may be cancelled due to unplanned reasons. All cancelled Homework Club sessions will be announced prior to dismissal that day.



Stop the Silence. Help End the Violence.

The Michigan Attorney General's Office will be conducting presentations on student safety featuring the OK2SAY program. The presentation will be given to Bemis Jr. High students on **October 27th during 2nd hour**. Information regarding OK2Say Can be found at <https://www.michigan.gov/ok2say/about>

**If you DO NOT want your student to view the presentation,
please email your child's counselor by October 23, 2025.**

7th grade Carrie Bohm = carrie.bohm@uticak12.org

8th grade Cara Rehn = cara.rehn@uticak12.org

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.

Parental Guide to OK2SAY



WHAT IS OK2SAY?

OK2SAY is a state-wide program that allows students, parents or guardians, and other community members to report confidential tips on criminal activities or potential harm directed at students, school employees, or schools. The purpose of OK2SAY is to stop harmful behavior before it occurs.

EASY TIP SUBMISSION

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

CONFIDENTIALITY

A key feature of the OK2SAY tipline is that the identity of the tipster must be kept confidential by law. The confidentiality of OK2SAY allows students to push back on any pressure they may feel about being the one to speak up about a concerning or threatening behavior.

How do I talk to my child about OK2SAY?

Please remind your child to immediately talk to a trusted adult or contact OK2SAY if they are worried about their safety or the well-being of another. Immediate action on a tipster's part can help prevent potential harm or minimize the impact of a dangerous situation.

Assure your child that if they submit a tip to OK2SAY, their identity is protected by law. They do not have to worry about retaliation or rejection from their peers. We want students to be advocates for themselves, their peers, and their classmates by speaking up when they know about a potentially dangerous situation.

Remind your child that OK2SAY encourages reporting even if they don't have all the details. Regardless of how small or insignificant they may seem; all tips are valuable in creating a safe environment for everyone. OK2SAY would rather get tips that are "no big deal" or a misunderstanding than miss a tip that could have prevented a lot of pain but was never submitted due to student's hesitation.

Emphasize the importance of using the OK2SAY program responsibly. Filing a false tip is not only dishonest but can divert resources and attention away from genuine concerns. *Students who maliciously file false tips may face serious consequences.*

Remember, open and ongoing conversations with your child about their safety and well-being are essential for building trust and ensuring they understand the importance of reporting concerns.



Stop the Silence. Help End the Violence.

855-565-2729
8-555-OK2SAY

652729 (OK2SAY)

OK2SAY App available.
Search "OK2SAY"

ok2say@mi.gov

ok2say.com

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

HELPFUL INFORMATION:

- Adults can submit an OK2SAY tip if they have concerns about their own child or another student. Like all OK2SAY reports, the tipster's identity will remain confidential.
- The tipster will not be updated on the outcome of their report. Any information contained in an Outcome Report will be kept confidential, as required by law.
- OK2SAY is unable to enforce a specific outcome, even if an individual is unsatisfied with the resolution of a previously reported situation to their school. They should contact the appropriate person within their school or district to address these concerns.
- OK2SAY acts as an intermediary and forwards tip information to the school and law enforcement. Any relay of safety information to parents would come from the school or law enforcement, not OK2SAY.
- Any OK2SAY reports will not be included in a student's academic record.
- The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) mandates that schools protect student records. Disciplinary information is very sensitive and private and includes behavior problems, reprimands, and misconduct occurrences. As a result, schools are required to keep these details private and are not allowed to share them with outside parties without the parent's express permission.

What if a report is made about my child?

If an OK2SAY tip is made about your child, it is important to approach the situation with understanding and support. Most often the individual who submitted the tip has noticed a concerning behavior and has a genuine interest to help. Instead of viewing it as a negative thing, see it as an opportunity to address any difficulties your child may be facing.

It is important to communicate openly with your child. Let them know about the report and reassure them that it is not a punishment, but rather a sign that someone cares about their well-being. Encourage them to talk about what may be going on and offer a safe space for them to share their thoughts and feelings.

Remember, the goal is to ensure the well-being and safety of your child. By embracing the report as an opportunity to provide additional assistance and support, you can help your child navigate any challenges they may be facing and promote their overall well-being.



What are the top issues reported to OK2SAY?

OK2SAY tracks tips by categories. The top ten tips include:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. Suicide Threats | 6. Cyberbullying |
| 2. Bullying | 7. Threats |
| 3. Drugs | 8. Sexual Assault / |
| 4. Other (e.g., anxiety, stress, depression, harassment) | Misconduct / Exploitation |
| 5. Planned School Attack | 9. Self-Harm |
| | 10. Child Abuse |

Tip statistics can be found at www.ok2say.com.



- 1.) An individual observes or is made aware of a safety concern and submits a tip to OK2SAY.
- 2.) A highly trained OK2SAY technician promptly receives and analyzes the tip.
- 3.) The technician may establish an open dialogue with the tipster to gather all crucial information.
- 4.) Once all relevant details are obtained, OK2SAY promptly forwards the tip to the most suitable responding agency such as a school or law enforcement.
- 5.) The responding agency investigates the tip and provides any needed interventions.
- 6.) After completed the investigation, an Outcome Report is sent to OK2SAY by the responding agency.



To learn more about OK2SAY, go to www.ok2say.com.

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.



8th grade students traveled to the UCS Walsh Community Education Center for a half day experience to learn about the Specialty Programs (UAIS, MST, CSI, MADE and UHHS) and the comprehensive high school they are on track to attend.





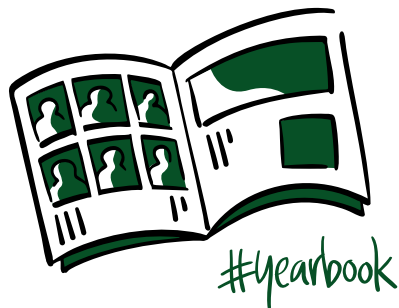
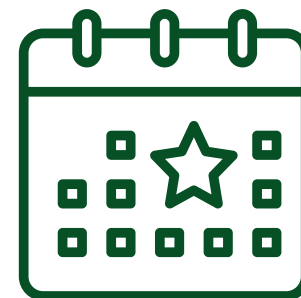
Bemis now has a thriving performing arts community! In addition to the amazing Falcon/Bemis Marching Band, we also had over 40 Bemis Choir and Drama students sing and walk during the parade. In the three years participating in the parade, this was the most students we've EVER had! Spartan Pride!





Upcoming Dates

10/27: OK2SAY Presentation
10/31: Spirit Day (wear Orange & Black)
11/4: No School (Election Day)
11/6: Boys Basketball meeting
11/10: Boys Basketball Tryouts
11/10-11: Competitive Cheer Tryouts



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 [HERE](#) to order online

School Spirit

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 [HERE](#) for Football/Volleyball
Schedules

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



WINTER SPORTS

All students that intend to play any sport at Bemis during the 25/26 school year must complete Big Teams in its entirety and have an MHSAA Physical uploaded on Big Teams dated on or after 4/15/25 before trying out for a team.

Meeting is for players only.

SPARTAN SPORTS



Bemis Boys' Basketball

There will be a **MANDATORY** meeting for any/all student athletes interested in playing basketball.

DATE: Thursday, 11/6/25

TIME: 3:00-3:30 pm

LOCATION: Cafeteria

[Big Teams](#) Online forms to be completed by the athlete and parent before tryouts

Bring your phone or laptop to show your Quarter 1 report card/citizenship.

Preseason checklist:

Student athlete:

- ☐ valid physical (needs to be dated after 4/15/25). A physical must be uploaded on Big Teams to attend tryouts.
- ☐ completed forms, including physical uploaded, on Big Teams
- ☐ lock
- ☐ basketball shoes

Parent:

- ☐ completed forms on Big Teams
- ☐ pay for participation on [Pay Schools](#) (after tryouts)

BEMIS JUNIOR HIGH

COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING TRYOUTS

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



Nov. 10 AND 11



5:00-7:30PM



Bemis AUX gym

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR FULL INFO AND TO SIGN UP (REQUIRED)

All athletes must have a completed BigTeams profile with an approved up to date physical uploaded.

Questions? Contact:
theresadebenedetti@gmail.com



Boys Basketball Tryouts will begin on November 10th.

Spartans

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



(50 x 60 in)

limited supply
available in the
Pit Stop & Main Office



Bemis Spirit Wear



6 Designs

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/#



Save the Date



**PATHWAYS
TO SUCCESS**
PERSONALIZE YOUR JOURNEY FORWARD

TUESDAY, DEC 9, 2025
FROM 6:00-8:00PM
AT HENRY FORD II HIGH SCHOOL
11911 CLINTON RIVER RD.
STERLING HEIGHTS, MI 48313

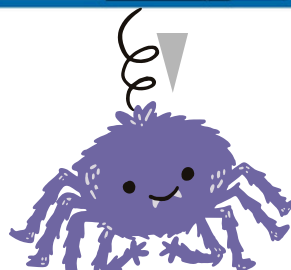
An Event Open To All Families!
Created to ensure families and students are aware of the opportunities, services and programs available to Utica Community Schools students. By beginning a plan early, parents can set their students on a path that best fits their needs and interests.

The poster features a central illustration of a woman with long dark hair, wearing a purple top, looking through binoculars. The binoculars have the UCS logo on them. Behind her are green and white wavy lines, and several arrows point upwards and outwards. The entire poster is framed by a blue border.



**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

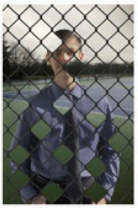
- Michigan and National Blue Ribbon Exemplary School
- Honored nationally in such areas as national merit, career and technical education, advanced placement, film, music and Milken family foundation for the nation's top teacher
- One of the most academically challenging schools in the United States 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

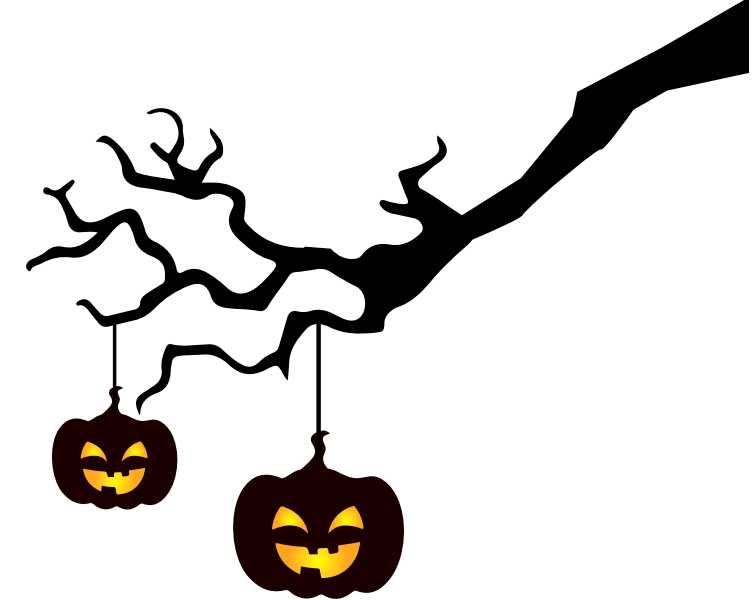
What Makes a Falcon?

- 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.





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



Falcon Wrestling Club

FOR ALL BOYS AND GIRLS 1ST THROUGH 8TH GRADE
All experience levels are welcome

Registration / Initial Meeting on Monday, November 3rd
 at 6pm at Henry Ford II High School in the Main Gym
 Balcony. *Enter through the Gym/Pool Doors on the
 North Side of the School

About the Club

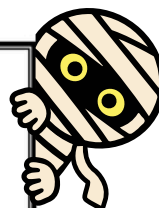
- \$100 Club Fee
- Season practices are on weeknights in the Henry Ford II Wrestling Room
- Individual Competitions are held on most Sundays from December through March
- Individual Competitions are optional
- You may attend a few practices without commitment to gauge interest.
- No special gear is required for practice.
- If you cannot make the meeting, email Coach Wayne for more information

Club Location: Henry Ford II High School, 11911 Clinton River Rd.,
 Sterling Heights, MI 48313

Contact: Coach Wayne Tomala
wtomala@hotmail.com
 586-405-4712

This club is not affiliated with Utica Community Schools

Check us out on the web: www.hf2wrestling.com



Grades 5-8 FORD II Youth Basketball Camp

Take your game to the next level! This camp is designed to help players of all levels improve their shooting mechanics through focused training on scoring. We will do ball handling, finishing moves, footwork, and offensive decision-making. Athletes will gain confidence, sharpen their skills, and learn techniques they can use right away in any game situations. This camp will be tailored to every player's ability level. From the beginner to the advanced player.

2025 MHSAA
 Quarterfinalist

\$65
 (INCLUDES T-SHIRT)



Time: 9am - 12:30pm



Location: Ford II High School



When: November 22nd

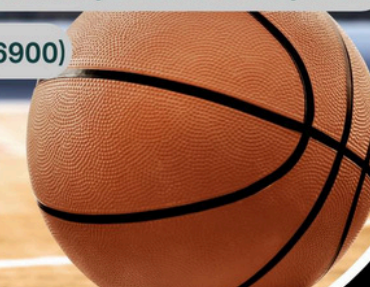
TO REGISTER SCAN THE
 QR CODE, VISIT THE
 FOLLOWING WEBSITE,
 OR BY PHONE WITH A
 VISA, MASTER CARD,
 DISCOVER OR AMERICAN
 EXPRESS, PLEASE CALL
 UCS, COMMUNITY
 EDUCATION



<https://ucsccommunityeducation.ce.eleyo.com/>



(586)797-6900





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.





- The origins of Halloween began 2,000 years ago.
- Trick or treating evolved from a tradition called "souling."
- 19th-century immigrants popularized Halloween in the U.S.
- Jack-o'-lanterns come from Irish folk tales about "Stingy Jack."
- Candy corn was originally called "chicken feed."
- Keene, NH, holds the record for most lit jack-o-lanterns.
- It wasn't until the 1970s that candy was exclusively doled out to trick or treaters.
- Americans spend around \$3 billion on candy annually.
- The Michael Myers mask in Halloween is the face of a well-known celebrity.
- The record for fastest pumpkin carving is 16.47 seconds.

Monday	Support	to show that you approve of (someone or something) by doing something. I completely support your decision to stay.
Tuesday	Authorize	to give authority to. My mother authorized the doctor to treat my brother's broken arm.
Wednesday	Transmit	to send or carry from one person, place, or thing to another. They transmitted the message to their leader. The television station refused to transmit the program.
Thursday	React	to act in a particular way because of something that happened. Sue reacted calmly when she heard the bad news.
Friday	Signify	to serve as a sign of; mean. I've seen this symbol many times, but I can't remember what it signifies.



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.



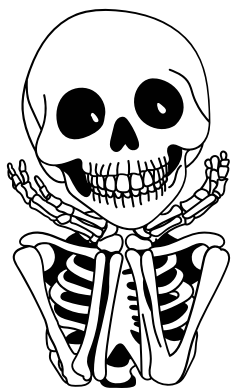
2025-2026 District Calendar	
August 25	Elementary Building "Meet the Teacher" 5:00-6:30 p.m.
August 26	First Day of School All K-12 Students - Elementary Student Half Day
August 29	No School for K-12 Students
September 1	No School for K-12 Students - Labor Day
September 17	No School for K-12 Students - Teacher Full Day DPPD
October 2	Secondary Student Half Day - Parent Teacher Conferences
October 15	Elementary Student Half Day - Parent Teacher Conferences
October 22	No School for K-12 Students - Teacher Full Day DPPD
October 31	Elementary Half Day - End of Marking Period
November 4	No School for K-12 Students - Election Day
November 26-28	No School for K-12 Students - Thanksgiving Break
December 17	Secondary Student Half Day - Exams
December 18	Secondary Student Half Day - Exams
December 19	All Students K-12 Half Day - End of Marking Period
December 22 - January 2, 2026	No School for K-12 Students - Winter Holiday Break
January 14	No School Teacher Full Day DPPD Day
January 19	No School for K-12 Students - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 16-20	No School for K-12 Students - Mid-Winter Break
March 20	Elementary Student Half Day - End of Marking Period
March 27	Elementary Student Half Day
March 30 - April 3	No School for K-12 Students - Spring Break
May 22-25	No School for K-12 Students - Memorial Day
June 8	Secondary Student Half Day - Exams
June 9	All Students K-12 Half Day
June 10	All Students K-12 Half Day - Last Day of School
<i>*Additional dates for the calendar will be released following formal approval of a negotiated agreement between the Utica Education Association and Utica Community Schools.*</i>	



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)



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

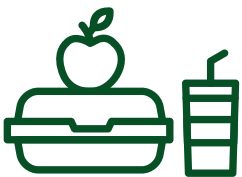
Lunch from 11:03am – 11:34am
Class from 11:40am – 12:42pm

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.**



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.**

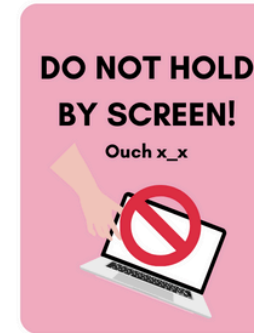
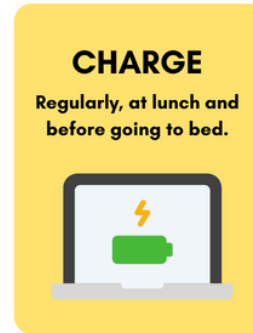
**PowerSchool is now generating automated phone calls to parents informing them
of any absences for their students on a daily basis. Please use your Parent Portal to
view your student's attendance. If you have any concerns, email the individual
teacher directly through the staff tab of the school's web site:**

<http://bemis.uticak12.org> or through the PowerSchool access.

If a correction is warranted, the teacher will request one.

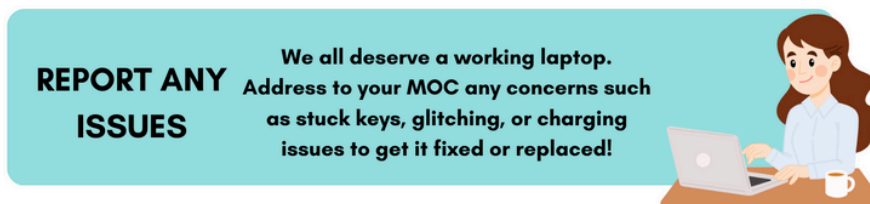
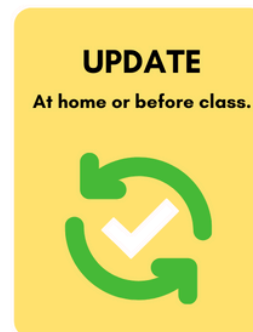


If your charger has
white label...
that's for your
name!



LAPTOP CARE

IMPORANT ROUTINES TO TAKE BETTER CARE
OF YOUR SCHOOL LAPTOP.



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.

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 Or send a message in
Schoolology.



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

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](#)

