WEEK OF DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 10

<u>BEMIS BULLETIN</u> <u>BOARD (B3)</u>



Bemis Jr. High School's Newsletter for Parents

"May the Spirit of the Holidays be with you throughout the New Year." —Unknown

Happy Holidays! Wishing you and your family love, peace, and happiness!

-Bemis Jr High Staff

Vacation Notice



According to the Student Handbook, vacation or travel during school days is discouraged. Families should seek permission from a building administrator for an excused vacation absence before making any travel arrangements. The request should be made in writing at least one week prior to the vacation. Vacation absences of more than 10 days in a semester will not be approved.
Vacations taken without approval will be marked as unexcused absences. Students approved for excusal should pick up a "Prearranged Absent Form" from the Counseling office.

Homework may be requested and requires 24 hours to process. However, most teachers post their assignments on Schoology. Work at the secondary level may be due upon return from vacation or travel.

Please be advised: UCS does not support international travel of our laptop devices. Team links AND Class Link will not work outside of the US; therefore, students cannot access and complete class work while traveling out of the country.

Upcoming Dates

12/23-1/3: NO SCHOOL (Winter Break) 1/20: No School (Martin Luther King Day) 2/17-21: No School (Mid Winter Break)

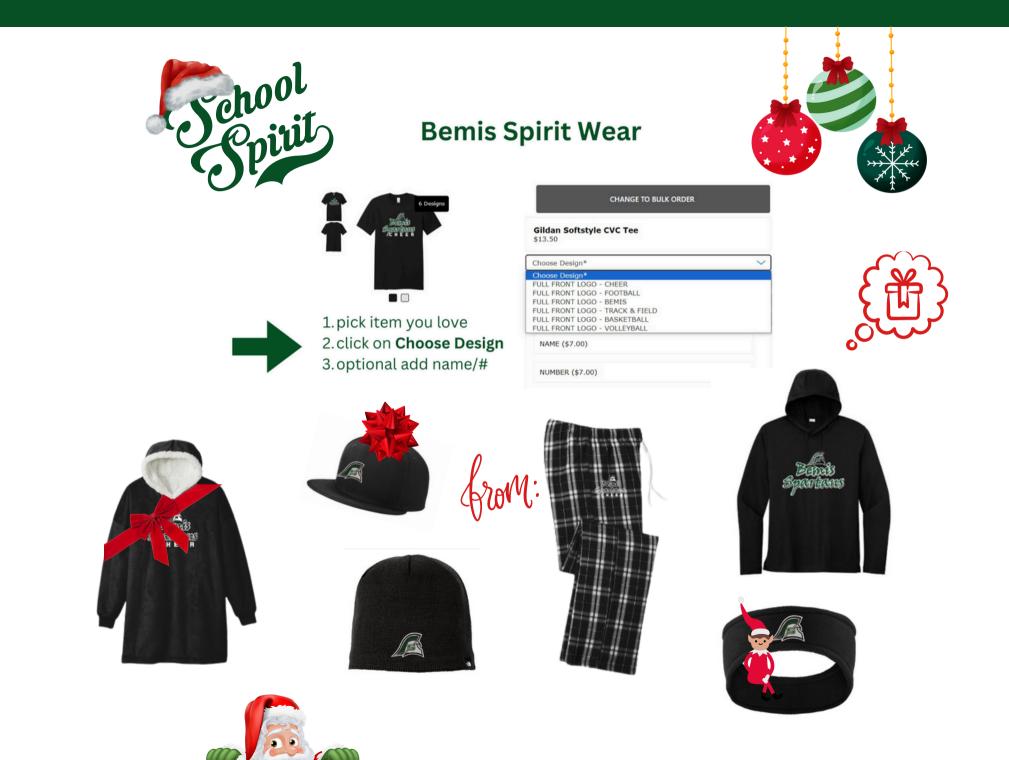




*Students must be accompanied by their parent or guardian for both home and away athletic events.

FEES S

Does your Student owe any fees? Check their Power School account and any money owed will be there.





Everyone who enters Bemis must report to the Main Office. This is a school district policy. You will need to sign in, put a visitor's pass on, and our office staff will be glad to assist you.



If your student forgot something at home and you are dropping it off, we will buzz you in and have you write their name on a sticky note. Your student will be called down **one time** to pick up the item off the table in the lobby. Encourage them to check the table if they are expecting something.

CALORDER YOUR BEMIS YEARBOOK TODAY!



j<u>ostensyearbooks.com</u> Make checks payable to: Bemis Jr. High Price starting @ \$35.00

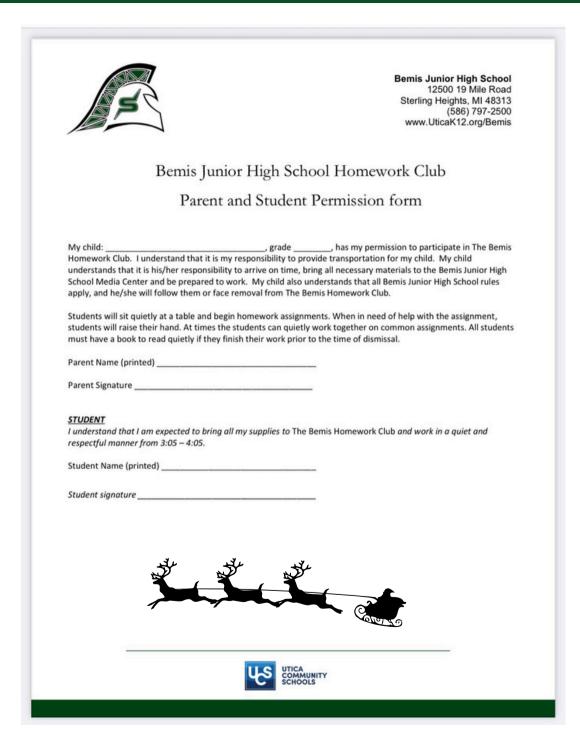
Order online at:







Homework Club



Bemis Junior High School Homework Club

2024-2025 Sessions*

Homework Club Dates
Monday 10/21/24
Tuesday 10/22/24
Wednesday 10/23/24
Monday 10/28/24
Tuesday 10/29/24
Wednesday 10/30/24
Monday 11/4/24
Wednesday 11/6/24
Monday 11/11/24
Tuesday 11/12/24
Wednesday 11/13/24
Monday 11/18/24
Tuesday 11/19/24
Wednesday 11/20/24
Monday 11/25/24
Tuesday 11/26/24
Monday 12/2/24
Tuesday 12/3/24
Wednesday 12/4/24
Monday 12/9/24
Tuesday 12/10/24
Wednesday 12/11/24
Monday 12/16/24
Tuesday 12/17/24
Wednesday 1/6/25
Tuesday 1/7/25
Wednesday 1/8/25

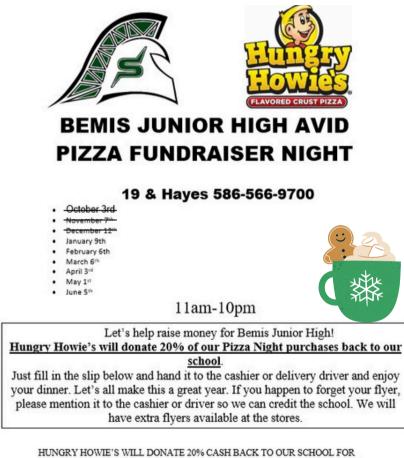
Homework Club Dates Monday 1/13/25 Tuesday 1/14/25 Wednesday 1/15/25 Tuesday 1/21/25 Wednesday 1/22/25 Monday 1/27/25 Tuesday 1/28/25 Wednesday 1/29/25 Monday 2/3/25 Tuesday 2/4/25 Wednesday 2/5/25 Monday 2/10/25 Tuesday 2/11/25 Wednesday 2/12/25 Monday 2/24/25 Tuesday 2/25/25 Wednesday 2/26/25 Monday 3/3/25 Tuesday 3/4/25 Wednesday 3/5/25 Monday 3/10/25 Tuesday 3/11/25 Wednesday 3/12/25 Monday 3/17/25 Tuesday 3/18/25 Wednesday 3/19/25

Homework Club Dates Monday 3/31/25 Tuesday 4/1/25 Wednesday 4/2/25 Monday 4/7/25 Tuesday 4/8/25 Wednesday 4/9/25 Monday 4/14/25 Tuesday 4/15/25 Wednesday 4/16/25 Monday 4/21/25 Tuesday 4/22/25 Wednesday 4/23/25 Monday 4/28/25 Tuesday 4/29/25 Wednesday 4/30/25 Monday 5/5/25 Tuesday 5/6/25 Wednesday 5/7/25 Monday 5/12/25 Tuesday 5/13/25 Wednesday 5/14/25 Monday 5/19/25 Tuesday 5/20/25 Wednesday 5/21/25 Tuesday 5/27/25 Wednesday 5/28/25 Monday 6/2/25 Tuesday 6/3/25

Wednesday 6/4/25

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

AVID NOVEMBER FUNDRAISERS!!



HUNGRY HOWE'S WILL DONATE 20% CASH BACK TO OUR SCHOOL FOR ALL FLYERS TURNED IN ON THESE NIGHTS. IF YOU ORDER ONLINE: JUST PUT A NOTE THAT SAYS BEMIS JUNIOR HIGH.

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Name: Order total:
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Computer Use Rules

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 (8:15-2:45 daily). You can reach her by email at nicole.brown@uticak12.org Or send a message in Schoology.





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



Attendance Area Update

The 2023 bond issue provides an opportunity for UCS to begin a transformation of its school facilities. As reconstruction and replacement plans move forward, a unique opportunity exists to evaluate long-standing issues with attendance areas and create a stronger sense of community by linking school boundaries.

By building, renovating and innovating, we are able to give more students access to facilities that are being redesigned with a vision that encourages growth and achievement.

A Vision for the Future



Utica Community Schools has begun the transformation of elementary buildings. The reconstruction of elementaries, beginning with DeKeyser Elementary this school year, follows our UCS Empowered Strategic Plan and creates a long-range vision to:

- Create additional layers of safety and security
- Support achievement through an environment that fosters engaged learning
- Provide teachers with the flexibility and technology for large and small group instruction
- Offer a modern look that will foster community pride and enhance the desirability and quality of life in neighborhoods
- For more information, visit
- Uticak12.org/buildingforthefuture.

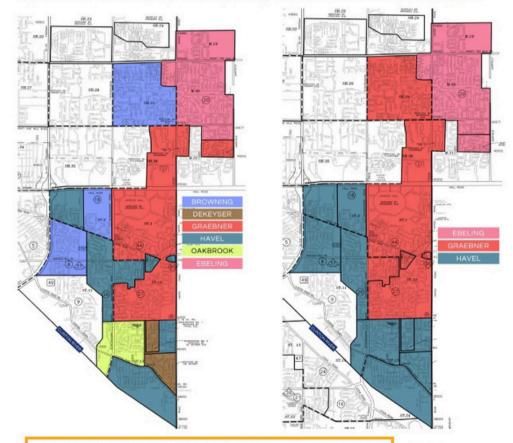
Overview

- Through the implementation of the 2023 bond issue, UCS is addressing long-standing issues within attendance areas that were largely developed 50 years ago.
- Currently, DeKeyser Elementary is under reconstruction. During the next two years, reconstruction will occur at Havel Elementary and Graebner Elementary.
- The following changes are being made under a plan for select schools in the Henry Ford II elementary feeder pattern:
 - Consolidation of the Browning Elementary attendance areas into Havel Elementary and Graebner Elementary.
 - Additional changes that follow the natural boundary of the Clinton River for the Havel Elementary attendance areas. Portions of Oakbrook and DeKeyser Elementary schools – which are separated from the schools by the Clinton River – will be combined with contiguous Havel Elementary communities.
 - A portion of Havel Elementary School where students cross Schoenherr Road will be merged with the neighboring Graebner Elementary community, which is closer in proximity to the neighborhood.
 - A small portion of Graebner Elementary in Macomb Township that is disconnected from its attendance area will be merged with a contiguous Ebeling Elementary neighborhood.

See page two for a detailed map of attendance area updates.

Attendance Area Updates

Below are current and revised attendance areas <u>scheduled for fall of 2027</u>. The attendance revision is made in conjunction with planned reconstruction at Havel Elementary and Graebner Elementary. The reconstruction work is part of a long-term vision for our schools that is focused on safety and designs that support innovation, growth and achievement. The revised attendance areas provide more students access to reconstructed elementary schools and reconnect communities.



More Information - <u>www.uticak12.org/buildingforthefuture</u> Feedback/Questions - <u>www.uticak12.org/feedback</u>





Starting pay for UCS bus drivers is \$21/hr! = Not able to join for walkin hours? Call (586) 797-7113 or email Monique.Potts@Uticak12.org to schedule an interview outside this timeframe!





MUST REGISTER - SPACE LIMITED - VERY POPULAR!! Always Growing, Always Changing 4th & 5th Grade Girls and an important adult in their life are invited to attend...

• A <u>maturation program</u> to help answer questions that girls might have about their growing and changing bodies.

• The session will cover <u>physical and emotional changes</u> that occur in girls during puberty, including menstruation.

· A short video will be followed by a lively discussion session.

Local school districts usually present a maturation/reproductive health program for elementary students during their regular class time. This class is not intended to replace any current reproductive health programs, which may continue as always. The MISD is offering this class to those interested girls and their parent/guardian IN ADDITION to regular school programming.

Open to any adult in the community and any 4th and 5th-grade girl in the community

Where: VIRTUALLY ON ZOOM When:

Thursday, September 26, 2024 - Register <u>HERE</u> Tuesday, November 19, 2024 - Register <u>HERE</u> Thursday, March 6, 2025 - Register <u>HERE</u>



Time: 6 - 7:00pm (log in at 5:45pm)

MUST Register in advance for this meeting (fills up quickly) Registration information can also be found on the MISD website: <u>www.misd.net</u> (lick course offering tab and search for 'Always Growing, Always Changing')

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email. A few days before the class, you will receive a reminder and information about joining the meeting (Zoom link). Contact Sara Orris - soriris@misd.net or 586.228.3460



ELEMENTARY SWIM & DIVE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

OPEN TO UCS STUDENTS GRADES 1-6

EXPO

January 18 @ 11:30am-1:00pm Henry Ford II High School Pool

Learn some swim and dive skills and try out all the cool equipment our junior high and high school teams use. Meet the coaches and team members at HFII. Bring a swimsuit, towel, cap, and goggles.

RSVP: hfiiswimanddive@gmail.com - include your child's name, grade, and school.



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.



Afterschool Enrichment



• 3 billion Christmas cards are sent in the U.S. each year.

- Christmas trees have been sold in the U.S. since 1850.
- It takes about 15 years to grow the average Christmas tree.
- Alabama was the first state to officially recognize Christmas in 1836. Oklahoma was the last, in 1907.
- Santa Claus is based on a real person: St. Nikolas of Myra. He is the patron saint of banking, pawn broking, sailing, orphans and New York City.
- President Teddy Roosevelt, an environmentalist, banned Christmas trees from the White House in 1901.
- Approximately 35 million living Christmas trees are sold each year in the U.S.; more than 45 million are planted.
 - Holiday purchases account for one sixth of all yearly retail sales in the U.S.
 - "White Christmas" by Irving Berlin is the best-selling single record of all time, with over 100 million sales, worldwide.
 - All the gifts in the Twelve Days of Christmas would equal 364 gifts.

Monday	External	of the outside or outer part. He cleaned only the external surfaces of the oven.
Tuesday	Conclude	to bring to an end; finish or complete. We concluded the meeting and went out for lunch.
Wednesday	Automatic	working or operating by itself. This house has an automatic heating system.
Thursday	Devise	to invent or think out. She devised a plan to earn money.
Friday	Intense	having a very great degree of something, such as heat, or being in a very great degree or state. The intense heat from the burning building made it impossible for the fire fighters to go in.









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

BELL SCHEDULE

Doors open 7:45am Breakfast 7:45 - 8:00am Students to lockers 8:00- 8:10am

1st Hour 8:10am – 9:08am

2nd Hour 9:14am - 10:10am

3rd Hour 10:16am – 11:12am

4th Hour 11:18am – 12:57pm

5th Hour 1:03pm – 1:59pm

6th Hour 2:05pm – 3:01pm



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

<u>A Lunch</u>

Lunch from 11:18am – 11:49am Class from 11:55am – 12:57pm



<u>B Lunch</u>

Class from 11:18am – 11:49am Lunch from 11:55am – 12:20pm Class from 12:26pm – 12:57pm



<u>C Lunch</u> Class from 11:18am – 12:20pm Lunch from 12:26pm – 12:57pm



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: <u>http://bemis.uticak12.org</u> or through the PowerSchool access. If a correction is warranted, the teacher will request one.

August 27	First Day of School All K-12 Students- Elementary Student Half Day	
August 30	No School for K-12 Students	
September 2	No School for K-12 Students - Labor Day	
September 18	No School for K-12 Students	
October 10	Secondary Student Half Day - All Secondary Afternoon Conferences, High School only Evening Conferences	
October 16	No School for K-12 Students	
October 17	Junior High School Only - Evening Conferences	
October 31	Elementary Student Half Day	
November 1	Elementary Student Half Day - End of Marking Period	
November 5	No School for K-12 Students - Election Day	
November 7	Elementary Student Half Day - Afternoon Conferences	
November 27-29	No School for K-12 Students - Thanksgiving Break	
December 18	Secondary Student Half Day - Exams	
December 19	Secondary Student Half Day - Exams	
December 20	All Students K-12 Half Day - Exams and End of Marking Period	
December 23 - January 3, 2025	No School for K-12 Students - Winter Break	
January 20	No School for K-12 Students - Martin Luther King Jr. Day	
February 17-21	No School for K-12 Students - Mid-Winter Break	
March 21	Elementary Student Half Day - End of Marking Period	
March 24-28	No School for K-12 Students - Spring Break	
April 18	No School for K-12 Students – Good Friday	
May 26	No School for K-12 Students - Memorial Day	
June 9	Secondary Student Half Day- Exams	
June 10	All Students K-12 Half Day - Exams	
June 11	All Students K-12 Half Day - Exams and Last Day of School	







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: <u>ok2say@mi.gov</u> • Website: <u>ok2say.com</u> • 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 <u>https://www.michigan.gov/ok2say/about</u>

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

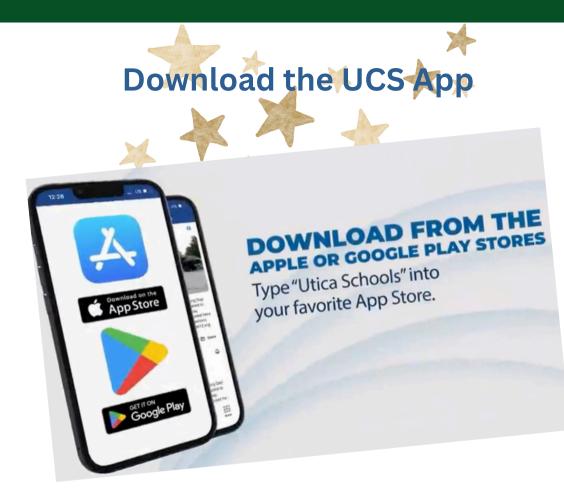




ANSWER

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 is pleased to introduce its new mobile App. Simply download it from the App Store <u>https://apple.co/3OQx6St</u>or Google Play <u>https://bit.ly/3qiygNv</u> 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 <u>2024-2025 Handbook</u>.

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.

policies cont...

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 Kroger Community Rewards



Student Drop Off Map