

UPPER ADAMS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

NOVEMBER

NEW

PRINCIPAL POINTS FROM MRS. BUCKLEY:

We've had a really great start to the school year. The students have been wonderful, and we have been enjoying many school-wide activities. I hope your child comes home and shares all of the positive experiences they are having at school. Within the past month the teachers have offered several before and after school clubs for your child such as sole sisters, student council, volleyball club, and book club. A huge THANK YOU to the teachers for volunteering to offer these experiences for your children.

Important Reminders:

- As the weather becomes colder, please help your child be prepared for outside recess. Coats will be needed as the temperature drops.
- Water Bottles are permissible, and encouraged, at school IF THEY CONTAIN WATER. Please do not send water bottles to school that contain juice, soda, tea, gatorade, etc. unless you have shared a note with our school nurse that includes specific instructions from a medical professional that these items are needed for your child's welfare.
- Please be sure that your child does not bring toys to school in their backpack. There is not time in the day to be playing with such items nor should they have them on the school bus because they cause a distraction to other students.
- Finally, we have seen a bit of a decline in proper bus behavior since the start of the school year. Please take a few moments to discuss with your child the importance of good behavior on the school bus. Review the handbook, page 16, located in your child's agenda, for reminders on how to behave on the bus. **We need every student to do their part to keep order on the bus** so that our drivers can concentrate on the road and transport all students safely to and from school.

Welcome to UAIS

Dear Upper Adams Intermediate School Families,

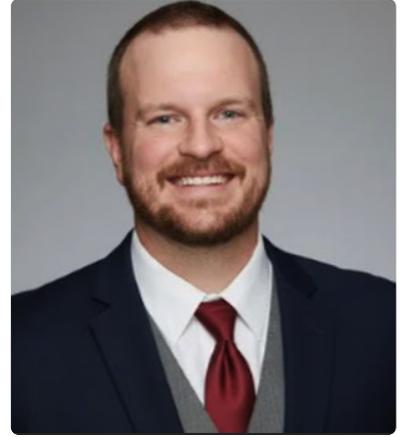
My name is William Thomas, and I am honored to introduce myself as the new Assistant Principal at Upper Adams Intermediate School. I grew up in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and have spent the past 14 years teaching in New Jersey—13 of those years working with students in grades K–4.

My goal as an educator and leader is to create a safe, welcoming environment where all students can reach their fullest potential. I believe strongly in open communication, building strong relationships, and fostering collaboration between school and home to ensure every child feels supported and inspired.

I have family in Gettysburg and have visited Adams County many times over the years, so I am thrilled to now call this wonderful community my home. I look forward to getting to know our students, families, and staff as we work together to keep our school great!

Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions, ideas, or simply to introduce yourself. You can contact me at w.thomas@upperadams.org.

William Thomas, Assistant Principal
Upper Adams Intermediate School.



Attendance Initiative Update

During the first two months of school, we assessed our attendance initiative and pinpointed areas needing improvement. In summary, we have shifted our focus from rewarding individual student achievements to fostering grade-level success.

New Goals

Our revised objective is to determine which grade level can achieve the highest Average Daily Attendance (ADA) rate each month. Research indicates that a target attendance rate of 97-98% is essential for ensuring consistent learning and facilitating academic success. While your child's absences may be understandable, they still affect the educational foundation we aim to establish. We encourage you to take all necessary measures to ensure your child attends school every day they are able, helping them become an Attendance H.E.R.O. (**Here Every Day, Ready On Time**).

Superhero Teams - To implement this initiative effectively, we have assigned a Superhero to each grade level:

- 4th Grade - Team Batman
- 5th Grade - Team Flash
- 6th Grade - Team Superman

Each month, we will analyze our attendance data to identify which Team achieves the highest attendance rate during that time. The winning Team will be awarded a POWER BURST for that month, along with a SHOUT OUT during the morning announcements. The ongoing competition will reveal which Team has the best attendance rate for the school year. The victorious Team will receive a special prize in May.

Please talk to your child about the importance of being in school every day possible. Every student has the POWER to be an Attendance HERO!

Veterans Day Tribute

On Tuesday, November 11th, at 9:30 AM, the 5th and 6th Grade Chorus and the 6th Grade Band will be helping to present our Veterans Day program. We will be sharing music to honor our Veterans and remembering the importance of this day.. Our speaker, for the program will be Specialist 4th Class Richard T. Pelc of the 63rd Engineer Company Topographic Corps. Mr. Pelc is a Veteran, a grandparent of one of our own 4th grade students, and a very familiar face in our community due to his work with the American Legion in Biglerville. This assembly will also recognize Fall Orchard of Excellence recipients, and the International Peace Poster Contest Winners. **Students are asked to wear Red, White, and Blue** to help commemorate this special day.



Chorus and Band Students - for this day, you are to wear patriotic shirts and nice (dark) pants for this program. Parents of 6th grade band students and/or parents of chorus students are invited to join us for this program as we share our music for the first time this school year.

Veteran's Tribute Wall - This activity is an opportunity for students to share what they know about family members who have served ... or who are currently serving . . . in the US Armed Forces. Students were asked to complete a Tribute Form, attach a photo of the person named on the form, and then bring the form to school so it could be placed on The Wall. Thank you to all who responded! Be sure to check out The Wall when you visit the school for parent-teacher conferences.



Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher conferences will be held on November 24th and 25th. We will be holding conferences from 12:00 - 7:30 PM both days. We are again using the on-line system (myconferencetime.com/UAIS) to schedule conferences so you can select the time that works best for you. Remember, if you have a concern now, you are encouraged to contact your child's teacher either by calling the school office or by contacting them directly through email or Class Dojo.

The Canner Foundation

With the holiday quickly approaching, shopping demands can become laborious at best. May we suggest a simpler approach? Consider a holiday donation (in honor/memory of a loved one) to The Canner Foundation (*formerly the Canner Fund*)!



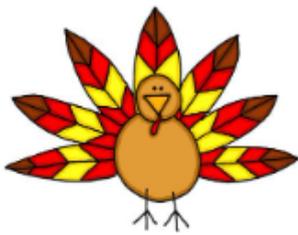
Created to enhance the quality of the educational experience provided to students of the Upper Adams School District, The Canner Foundation provides a way to support our district through teacher grants and student scholarships. Each school year, staff and faculty have the ability to apply for a grant to purchase classroom materials, offer extra curricular activities, or support school field trips that are not otherwise covered by the District budget.

We encourage you to explore The Canner Foundation website to learn more about the fund and to learn how you can support our students. We hope you will consider 'giving a gift of education' this season that will allow us to continue to build upon our endowment so we can continue to support UASD students for many years to come. Visit cannerfunds.com to learn more!

Is Your Child a Car Rider?

When dropping off your child in the morning or when picking them up in the afternoon, **it is very important that once you are in the car line, you stay there until the cars in front of you exit the line.** While we understand that parents are sometimes running late for other obligations, veering out of the line to leave before someone in front of you causes an unsafe situation for everyone. **Students are not to exit cars in the morning until the 8:45 bell rings.** The only students who should be milling around on the front porch before that time are those who walk to school. Thank you for helping us keep our children safe by always following these guidelines.





November Canner Student Council Activities

Book Castle: Nov. 7 The Canner Book Castle will be open once a month for students to purchase one new book for \$1.00. Our next Book Castle will be open on November 7th from 8:45 - 9:10 in the STEM room.

Race for Education Reward: Nov. 14: If your child brought in 10 labels, she/he can wear PJs or a hat to school today. (Your child has been told if they have brought in enough labels)

Turkey Trot Nov. 21 Spread Kindness for Thanksgiving, wear your kindness shirt.

A Reminder About Educational Travel Days

Attendance at school is critical for your child to receive a successful education. However, we understand that occasionally situations arise that may require your family to go out of town. Please keep in mind that in order for us to be able to excuse absences of this nature, **the days must be pre-approved using an Educational Travel Request Form. This form must be submitted to the school office at least 3 days prior to your departure date.** Please keep this in mind if your holiday gatherings will require you to travel. Plan ahead, be proactive, and avoid illegal absences! You may submit this form well in advance so that it doesn't get over-looked in the bustle of travel preparations.

[Educational Travel Form](#)

Fall Book Fair 2025

The Fall Scholastic Book Fair starts on Monday, November 17th, and will conclude on Tuesday, November 25th. The fair will be open to the kids every day in the Canner Commons during school hours. Additional opportunities to visit the fair are:

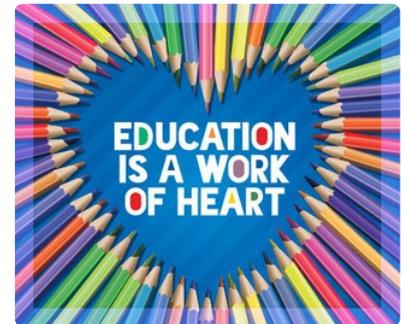
- **Donuts with GrownUps Event** - Tuesday, November 18th, from 8:00 - 8:50 AM
- **Holiday Shopping Kick-Off** - Friday, November 21st- 6:00 - 8:00 PM (while the Paint Night Activity is happening)
- **Conference Days** - The Fair will be open from 11:30 AM - 8:00 PM during parent-teacher conferences on November 24th and 25th.



Can't make it to the fair? or Family members want to shop? It's now easier than ever to shop with the e-wallet program available through Scholastic. Sign up for e-wallet at <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/uais> or order online using the same website.

American Education Week

November 17 - 21, is **American Education Week**. This is a time that is set aside to celebrate public education and to show our appreciation for the people who make a difference in students' lives every day. Teachers are the cornerstone of our educational community, and deserve our thanks for taking on a very daunting task. But it takes the *support of the whole community if teachers are going to succeed*. Ongoing research shows that parental involvement in schools improves student achievement, reduces absenteeism, and restores confidence among parents in their children's education. So please get involved by:



- Signing up for a parent/teacher conference
- Reading and/or discussing books with your child
- Helping your child develop good study habits
- Joining the PTO
- Learning about developing a growth mindset at www.mindsetkit.org/growth-mindset-parents

For more tips, visit www.nea.org, and click on the "Parents" tab.



Turkey Trot 2025

On Friday, November 21st @ 2:30 PM, we will hold our annual Turkey Trot. This fun activity gets everyone up and moving away from their desks and outside to take a trot around the school! It's super fun and great exercise! This year we are encouraging students to spread kindness for Thanksgiving, so we're asking that everyone wear a Kindness Shirt to school that day. Gobble, Gobble!

Reminder for 6th Grade Parents:

Your child is due for a school physical and updated immunizations before they are able to enter 7th grade. If you have planned to have this done at your family doctor, we would suggest that you take care of both items during the same appointment. After the appointment, **please remember to turn in the completed physical form, along with a copy of your child's updated immunization record**. The school nurse will add the forms to your child's file so that it is ready for next year. **Students are not able to start 7th grade without verification of completed immunizations**. Accordingly, if you signed up to have a physical done at school, you don't have to worry about the physical form, but you will still need to take your child to your doctor to have their immunizations updated. Questions? please contact our school nurse, Jenna Landis @ j.landis@upperadams.org.

CALENDAR

CLICK HERE TO FIND OUR WHAT'S HAPPENING AT UAIS!

School Menus



Upper Adams Intermediate School

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