

April 13, 2026



Eppler Express



Monday, April 13	Thursday, April 16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chess Club, 2:50—3:50 pm, Room 19 College Gear Monday 8th Grade Track v Bemis @ Ford 4:00 pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homework Club, 2:55—3:55 pm, Media Center Magic: The Gathering in Room 126, 2:50—3:45 pm 7th Grade – No School 8th Grade – PSAT 8 Testing Hours 1 – 3, Regularly Schedule Classes Hours 4 – 6 9th Grade – PSAT 9 Testing Hours 1 – 3, Regularly Schedule Classes Hours 4 – 6 No MST / CSI Classes No Construction Trades Class LCCE Students – No School UHS Administration Meets With Eppler Freshmen Main Gym 5th Hour
Tuesday, April 14	Friday, April 17
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homework Club, 2:55—3:55 pm, Media Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avid Bagel Sales, 2nd Hr. Tigers Spirit Day 7th Grade Track v Bemis @ Ford 4:00 pm
Wednesday, April 15	Saturday, April 18
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.
	Sunday, April 19
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.

What's Inside:

What's Happening this Week at Eppler

Upcoming Activities

Additional Information:

- [School News & Information](#)
- [Sports Information](#)
- [Clubs & Organizations](#)
- [District News](#)
- Educational Camps/Enrichment / Activities/Community Ed
- [In Case You Missed It](#)
- [Power School](#)
- [Reward Programs](#)
- [Early Dismissals/Attendance.](#)

Important Websites and Resources:

- [Counseling Information](#)
- [UHS Athletics Boosters](#)
- [Eppler Website](#)
- [Eppler Express](#)
- [PaySchools](#)
- [Student Handbook](#)
- [UCS District Website](#)
- [Report Bullying](#)
- [PowerSchool Portal / Information](#)
- [UCS District Calendar](#)
- [UCS Tech Talk](#)

Eppler Chieftain Code of Conduct:

Be Respectful,
Be Responsible,
Be Reasonable...

And above all, be kind to everyone!

<p>Monday, April 20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chess Club, 2:50—3:50 pm, Room 19 College Gear Monday Spring Bus Evacuation Drills As buses Arrive in the Morning 	<p>Thursday, April 23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homework Club, 2:55—3:55 pm, Media Center Magic: The Gathering in Room 126, 2:50—3:45 pm Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day 7th Grade Track v Jeannette @ Ike 4:00 pm
<p>Tuesday, April 21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homework Club, 2:55—3:55 pm, Media Center EPIC Meeting MC Conference Room 9:00 am STATIC Meeting Room 136 2:55 – 3:45 pm 	<p>Friday, April 24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avid Bagel Sales, 2nd Hr. Chieftain of the Month Lunch Room 136 11:40 am – 12:42 pm
<p>Wednesday, April 22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utica Dairy Queen yearbook fundraiser 4-9pm 8th Grade Track v Jeannette @ Ford 4:00 pm 	<p>Saturday, April 25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saturday School Media Center 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
	<p>Sunday, April 26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.

[Click here](#) to view the 2025-2026 District Calendar

2025—2026 School Calendar Update



The complete 2025-26 UCS Calendar is now available. Follow the below link to see important dates for the remainder of this year. Please note: October 31 – Halloween – is the end of the first quarter and will be a half-day for elementary students.

<https://www.uticak12.org/Page/2#calendar1/20251015/month>

Vision and Mission Statements

Our Vision Statement: Eppler Junior High School will empower students to achieve their full potential and become productive contributors in a diverse society.

Eppler Junior High School Mission Statement: Parents, students, teachers, and administrators will collaborate as a community to foster a safe and respectful learning environment that will promote independent critical thinking and problem solving.

WHAT'S NEXT FOR UCS? PROJECT PROPOSALS FOR EPPLER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



SAFETY

SUCCESS

PHASE 1: Projects in this phase will be scheduled for summer 2024 through 2026

- Create additional layers of security to limit access for exterior entry points at main entrance and corridors, such as shatter-resistant glass
- Replace drinking fountains with water bottle filling stations
- Modernize school sign with digital technology

PHASES 2-5

- Upgrade network infrastructure
- Upgrade security systems (cameras and access control)
- Improve the track and bleachers
- Improve exterior façade and landscaping
- Upgrade the gym's lighting and audio system
- Improve the media center
- Renovate restrooms
- Upgrade power systems
- Upgrade interior and exterior lighting systems
- Purchase instructional technology equipment for classrooms
- Purchase computers for students and staff
- Purchase classroom furniture
- Purchase media center furniture

PROJECTS IN PROCESS/COMPLETED

- Replace interior door hardware to integrate improved locking system based on industry-level safety standards*
- Replace public address system*
- Upgrade HVAC system*

*Funded by 2018 bond issue



UTICA
COMMUNITY
SCHOOLS

WWW.UTICAK12.ORG/SAFETYANDSUCCESS

NEW Eppler Information

Dairy Queen Fundraiser

Help support the Eppler Yearbook class while enjoying a sweet treat!

Stop by Dairy Queen in Utica on Wednesday, April 22nd and Wednesday, May 13th from 4–9 PM. 15% of all proceeds during this time will go directly to the Eppler Yearbook class. Bring your friends and family and help support



Spring Assessment Testing Schedule

Thursday, April 16

7th Grade – No School

8th Grade – PSAT 8 Testing Hours 1 – 3, Regularly Schedule Classes Hours 4 – 6

9th Grade – PSAT 9 Testing Hours 1 – 3, Regularly Schedule Classes Hours 4 – 6

No MST / CSI Classes

No Construction Trades Class

LCCE Students – No School

Tigers Spirit Day

LET'S GO TIGERS!



FRIDAY, APRIL 17

**WEAR YOUR FAVORITE
DETROIT TIGER'S GEAR
AND/OR BLUE & ORANGE!**

Dear Eppler Parents/Guardians,

All 8 and 9 grade students will be taking the PSAT 8/9 test on **Tuesday, April 16**, during 1st, 2nd, and 3rd hours. The 7th graders will remain home and have the day off. MST, CSI, UAIS, and VA 8 and 9 grade students will report to Eppler by 7:55am for testing. UAIS students will be bused to Heritage after testing. VA students can remain in the building to attend online classes or can get picked up after 3 hour (10:57am or later) to go home and attend online classes.

Testing room assignments for Thursday, April 16, are posted on the Cafeteria and Counseling Office windows. Students can check the lists to see where they should report for testing.

Testing will begin as soon as the first bell rings at 7:55am on that day so please make sure your child is on time and avoid early dismissals during 1, 2, and 3 hours. Students cannot stop testing in the middle of the test.

When students arrive on Tuesday, April 16, they will go to their locker to drop off their backpacks, coats, phones, smart watches, Air Pods, smart glasses, and any other personal items and report to their testing room. Per state testing guidelines, these items **ARE NOT** permitted in the testing areas to ensure students' scores are not compromised. **If students do not know their locker combination, they need to ask the office for it PRIOR to testing day.*

Only the items listed below will be permitted in testing rooms:

● **8th Grade Required Items for Testing:**

- **Charged** school laptop
- Charging cord
- Writing utensil-pen or pencil
- Calculator-basic graphing calculators ARE allowed but an online calculator is embedded in the test *(optional)*
- Drink with a lid and/or a snack for break *(optional)*
- Students who have the text to speech accommodation can bring CORDED headphones; however, we will have corded earbuds available.

● **9th Grade Required Items for Testing:**

- **Charged** school laptop
- Charging cord
- Writing utensil-pen or pencil
- Calculator-basic graphing calculators ARE allowed but an online calculator is embedded in the test *(optional)*
- Drink with a lid and/or a snack for break *(optional)*
- Students who have the text to speech accommodation can bring CORDED headphones; however, we will have corded earbuds available.

Finally, some test preparation tips are listed below. Thank you for your support!

The Night Before Testing:

- ✓ **Relax!** You've got this! Practice the 5 Finger Breathing Exercise below.
- ✓ **Hydrate and have a healthy dinner.** Drink water and load up with complex carbohydrates...potatoes, pasta, and rice are good choices here, as well as protein and vegetables. Avoid junk food and sugary drinks.
- ✓ **Organize your backpack for test day.** The night before put items you will need for testing in your backpack. Double check that you have everything that you will need for testing.
- ✓ **Make a plan to get to school on time.** Before you go to sleep, make sure you set an alarm (or two). Consider picking out your clothes ahead of time as well.
- ✓ **Get a good sleep.** Try to get at least 8 hours of sleep the night before the test. Start by limiting screen time. You're going to need to get a good night's sleep, and bright screens (televisions, phones, movies) will wake up your brain and make it more difficult to drift off at an early hour.
- ✓ **CHARGE YOUR COMPUTER!**

On Test Morning:

- ✓ **Have a healthy breakfast.** Here are a few good choices: eggs, toast, cereal, bagel, fruit, juice, cheese, milk.
- ✓ **Stick to your routine.** If you don't drink a caffeinated beverage every day, test day isn't the time to start. You need calm, slow-burning, consistent energy today.
- ✓ **DON'T FORGET YOUR LAPTOP AND CHARGING CORD!**
- ✓ **Be on time.** Get to school early, if possible, to put your personal items in your locker and report to the testing room by 7:55am.
- ✓ **Relax!** You've got this! Use the 5 Finger Breathing Exercise you practiced if you get stressed!



*Eppler 9th graders are invited to an
end-of-the-year PARTY...*

Freshmen Farewell

Friday, May 29, 2026

5:30-8:30 PM

This off-campus dinner/party will be held at:

Shelby Gardens

Monte Carlo Room

50265 VanDyke Ave, Shelby TWP, MI 48317

5:30-6:00 PM: *Dinner (chicken tenders with ranch or barbecue sauce,
meatballs and gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, pasta with
sauce, salad, dessert, and pop)*

6:00-8:00 PM: *Photo Booth Pictures*

6:00-8:00 PM: *Live DJ and Dancing*

8:00-8:30 PM: *Viewing of Freshmen Farewell Video*

Cost: *\$30.00 per student (cash or check to Eppler Junior High)*

**Eppler Junior High will pick up the rest of the cost for this event.*

Freshmen Farewell Party Permission Slip

My child, _____, has my permission to attend the Freshmen Farewell on Friday, May 29, 2026, at Shelby Gardens. I understand:

- It is my responsibility to provide transportation to and from the off-campus event at Shelby Gardens.
- My child must arrive promptly at 5:30 PM and be picked up promptly at 8:30 PM.
- Students must attend school the day of the event, or they will not be permitted to attend.
- This event is only for current Eppler students.
- Parents/Guardians may attend from 8:00-8:30 PM to watch the Freshmen Farewell video.
- This is a prepaid event that will have no refunds. If you are having financial difficulties, contact the counseling office for assistance with payment for the event.
- Disciplinary actions for school behavior could result in a student not being permitted to attend (including poor citizenship in your classes).
- Students are allowed to dress up for this event, or they can wear their best school clothing.
 - Revealing tops, mid-riff cut-outs, and extremely short dresses are prohibited (3 inches above the knee is a good guideline). If a student wears an inappropriate outfit, t-shirts and pants will be available. If a student is unsure if their outfit is appropriate, they may bring a picture of the student wearing the outfit to the counseling office for approval.
- All school rules apply during this event, including dance rules.
- Students must stay at Shelby Gardens from 5:30-8:30 PM, unless a parent/guardian picks them up.

___ *YES, my child will attend the Freshmen Farewell. \$30.00 (cash or check to EJHS) is enclosed.*

___ *NO, my child will not attend the Freshmen Farewell.*

- Student name (print): _____
- Parent/Guardian signature: _____
- Emergency phone #: _____
- Alternate phone #: _____
- Food Allergies: _____

This permission slip, along with payment if attending, is DUE to the MAIN OFFICE by April 24, 2026.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Rowd \$ _____ Date _____ Cash _____ Check # _____ Other _____

Eppler Library

Media Center: (586) 797-2985
 UCS Technology Assistance: (586) 797-1055



February, 2025



1
 Test Sound/
 Microphone



2
 Disable Teams
 at Startup



3
 Update Windows
 & Dell Drivers



4
 Connect to
 Reach Higher
 Network

From the Eppler Librarian...

IMPORTANT

A LETTER TO PARENTS...

Responsible Use of Technology:

UCS Students are NOT PERMITTED to download/install ANY applications or software. Students who download VPN's or private web browsers will lose their technology privileges. Please click [HERE](#) for more details.

Statewide Testing:

- Arrive with your laptop fully charged
- Complete any updates/restarts PRIOR to.
- Damaged devices should be swapped out ASAP!
- Click [HERE](#) for more info!

EPPLER STUDENT TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES

Student Charging Station & Borrowing a Device:

Students that forgot to charge the laptop and do not need the laptop in a particular class can bring the device to the Media Center to charge for that hour and/or during their lunch time. However, they need to do this immediately at the beginning of the hour, not in the middle or end. Also students who do not need to take the device home, can leave it in the MC for the day or weekend.

If there is any issue with this option, and students do not follow the instructions, they will be banned from using the charging station and will not be able to borrow a charger any longer. And an email will go home to their family explaining the process and why they cannot use it.

All damage fees associated with the school issued device can also be paid online using PaySchools. Log in to your account from your computer or tablet at: www.payschoolscentral.com (Important - it is not recommended to use the app as it does not properly support UCS content).

1

FRONT OFFICE ASSISTANCE
For initial assistance with any technology-related concerns, parents and students are encouraged to reach out to the front office of their respective school. Our dedicated staff will be happy to assist you during their regular business hours.

🏠

2

HELP DESK TICKET (IF NEEDED)
In the event that the issue cannot be resolved after contacting the front office, our ITSM will create a help desk ticket for you. This ensures a swift resolution to your technology concerns.

🎫

3

REMOTE ASSISTANCE (VA)
If parents or students of the school hesitate or cannot reach the front office or your computer is not able to reach out, you can reach through the following service methods. Virtual Assistance enables your device and documents. Help Desk tickets to support your technology needs you may be experiencing.

💻

EMAIL: IT@UCSCHOOLS.COM
 PHONE: 586-797-2985
 BUS: #30000000000000000000

Damaged Devices

For initial assistance with any technology-related concerns, parents and students are encouraged to reach out to the Media Center office. Our dedicated staff will be happy to assist you during their regular business hours.

- Lost devices are NOT COVERED under this optional insurance policy.

Replacement Chargers

- 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.
- Cost = \$38.00 [see Ms. Jacklyn for more info].

UCS Device Insurance

- UCS Device Insurance**
- The cost of the insurance is \$20. Enrollment will begin on August 11, 2025 through 4 p.m. on Friday, September 5, 2025.
 - DAMAGE DUE TO REMOVAL OF THE PROTECTIVE CASE IS NOT COVERED BY INSURANCE

2025-2026 EPPLER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK



COUNTLESS AMAZING MEMORIES. ONE ICONIC YEARBOOK.

Now \$46.00



TO ORDER:
• Scan the QR Code
• jostens.com/btsoffer
• 1 (877) 787-5217

\$46.00

YEARBOOK	
SIGNATURE PACKAGE	\$59.00
<small>Includes: Yearbook, Enhanced Personalization, Autograph Pins, Autograph Section</small>	
ENHANCED PERSONALIZATION	\$9.00
ICONS	FREE!
AUTOGRAPH SECTION	\$5.00
PHOTO POCKETS	\$5.00
DONATE A YEARBOOK	\$40.00
CLEAR PROTECTIVE COVER	\$5.00

SCORE FOUR FREE ICONS WHEN YOU PERSONALIZE YOUR COVER



More icon options are available online.



Share your student's photos with the yearbook staff to be featured in the yearbook more.

1



Open your phone's camera and scan this code.

Or visit photos.jostens.com/upload

2

Upload your favorite photos from the year.

3

Tag students for the yearbook staff.

Year Long Eppler Information

Eppler Cell Phone/Device Policy

Eppler Junior High School

CELL PHONE/DEVICE POLICY

Throughout Entire Building At All Times, Including Before and After School

NO Pictures

NO Phone Calls

NO Texting

NO Social Media

***This includes Tik Tok, Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, and ALL others

During School Hours

Cell Phones/Electronic Devices/Earbuds/Headphones
CAN NOT be displayed or used anywhere in school without permission.

Cell Phones/Electronic Devices/Earbuds/Headphones
ARE NOT allowed in the lunchroom.

If you are found breaking Cell Phone/Device policy, your phone/device will be confiscated and brought to main office.

1st time

Taken to Office
Phone call home. Student picks up phone from office, end of day.

2nd time

Taken to Office
Parent Must Pick Up Phone

3rd time

Taken to Office
Parent Must Pick Up Phone. After School Detention

4th time

Taken to Office
Parent Must Pick Up Phone
Saturday School

5th / + times

Taken to Office.
Parent Pick Up Phone.
Phone banned from School.
Suspension

NOTE: Eppler Junior High and UCS assume **NO** responsibility for theft, loss or damage of your device.

The student assumes full responsibility and brings the device at their own risk.

On September 3, 2025, we met with 7th, 8th, and 9th grade students to address the 2025-2026 Student and Parent Handbook. Below you will find a few key points that we went over with all the students. Everything that we addressed can be found in the UCS 2025-2026 Parent and Student Handbook.

A few key points:

- Students must have a pass when they leave the classroom.
- Students must have their IDs on and visible. (September 11, is picture make up day, everyone should have an ID after the 11th)
- Cell phones should not be used during instruction, lunch, or passing time. (Teacher discretion if cell phones needed for educational purposes) this includes earbuds and headphones.
- Big backpacks are not allowed in the classroom. (Especially 1st and 6th hour) Students need to be using their lockers and string backpacks.
- No food or drinks in the classroom or hallways. (water is allowed)
- Attendance-Regular attendance, being on time, and active participation in class contribute to student success. "Excessive absences" is defined as more than 10 in a semester. Please review the Attendance policy with your student.
- Dress code (Students' dress must not disrupt the educational process, interfere with the maintenance of a positive teaching/learning climate, or compromise reasonable standards of health, safety, and decency)



2025—2026 Attendance Information

Regular attendance and active participation in class are integral parts of a student's total education. Students can achieve educational benefits only through regular class attendance and a serious commitment to an educational program.

During the 2025-2026 school year Eppler Administration will be sending text messages and emails to parents/guardians about their student's attendance. Messages and emails may have a number or email address that you do not recognize. If the messages are about attendance and mention your student, it was sent to you by Eppler Administration.

Together, we know that strong attendance leads to stronger learning. When schools and families partner to make daily attendance a priority, students are better prepared to succeed—both in the classroom and beyond.





EPPLER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL DAILY SCHEDULE

1ST HOUR 7:55 – 8:53 AM

2ND HOUR 8:59 -9:55 AM

3RD HOUR 10:01 – 10:57 AM

4TH HOUR 11:03 – 12:42 PM

A Lunch 11:03 – 11:34 Lunch

11:40 – 12:42 Class

B Lunch 11:03 – 11:34 Class

11:40 – 12:05 Lunch

12:11 – 12:42 Class

C Lunch 11:03 – 12:05 Class

12:11 – 12:42 Lunch

5TH HOUR 12:48 – 1:44 PM

6TH HOUR 1:50 – 2:46 PM

Doors will open at 7:30 am for breakfast. First bell rings at 7:45 AM.

EXAM DAY SCHEDULE

1ST EXAM 7:55 – 9:23 AM

2ND EXAM 9:29 – 10:57 AM

BE PROMPT!



BACKPACK

expectations for 2025-2026

ATTENTION

PLEASE



Students will NO LONGER be able to carry their large backpacks during the school day from class to class. Backpacks have become a safety issue in both our hallways and classrooms. Large backpacks MUST remain in student lockers during the school day.



Students may carry a drawstring tote. These hold a maximum of two books and/or the student's assigned laptop, and can hang on the back of student chairs. Nylon drawstring totes will be available for purchase in The Chieftain Corner Store, or can be purchased at local retailers.



Eppler Jr. High

ID Badge Requirements

(directly from the handbook)



EVERY student must WEAR his or her student ID while on school grounds.

- Student IDs must be worn and visible at all times.
- Student ID must be presented to any school staff member or person of authority upon request.
- The front and back of the ID cannot be altered. Defacing or altering the student ID is prohibited.
- Wearing another student's ID card is prohibited.
- Lost, stolen, altered, damaged, and/or defaced ID cards must be replaced immediately.

Students who fail to adhere to the above are subject to an after school detention and replacement fee.

\$5 ID REPLACEMENT for lost/broken IDs

3 times without ID = detention

6 times without ID = automatic \$5 ID replacement & Saturday School

If you are caught not wearing your badge in school 6 or more times, another badge will automatically be printed, and a \$5 fee will be placed on your student account to be paid. **(EVEN IF YOU ALREADY HAVE A BADGE)**

****Students who are insubordinate or persistently disobedient are subject to further school consequences.**

BAGELS

Plain Bagel
Everything Bagel
Cinnamon Sugar Bagel
Cream Cheese \$0.50



\$1.50

BAGEL SALE

FRIDAYS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

AVID

Lunch Deliveries : REMINDER



Food Deliveries: Food that is delivered by a service such as Door Dash or Grub Hub will not be permitted at Eppler. due to school safety concerns and the disruption to the school day, we cannot accommodate such deliveries. we ask that all students bring their own lunch or buy a lunch from the cafeteria. If a student forgets their lunch, they may borrow against their lunch account in the cafeteria, or a parent may drop off a lunch for their student. However, if the food dropped off is from a restaurant, the student will be asked to eat it in the Main Office during their lunch hour. Coffee, smoothies, and outside breakfast brought in the school in the morning must be consumed before going into first hour. This is the practice that takes place at the high school level and Eppler is aligning with Utica High in order to provide consistent expectations for our students. If you would like to apply for the free or reduced lunch program, or to establish a lunch account for your child, please click [here](#).

Thank you for your understanding and we appreciate your support.

Dress Code Rules - REMINDER

Dress code:

Please address the following dress code items with your child:

- Hoods/hats are not to be worn in the building.
- Clothing must not show bare mid-drifts, shoulders, cut too low or any derogatory or drug/alcohol messages.

Student Drop-off after 7:55

Parents, please be aware that there is often no need to come into the building when you are dropping off your child at school if they are late or after an appointment. The only reasons we will require you to come into the building are if you are picking up your child, for which you will need ID, or if you are dropping off anything for your child, which we ask that you label for their pick-up. Other than that, please feel free to stay in your warm and dry vehicle (on cold and rainy days) and enjoy whatever you may be listening to from your playlist! Thank you!!

Parent Student Handbooks

Please use the following link to access the Parent and Student Handbooks for the 2025-2026 school year.

[UCS Handbook](#)

Lost and Found

Please stop in the Counseling Hallway to check out the selection of Lost and Found items.

All unclaimed items will be donated to a local re-sale shop on December 19th.



School Safety

Safety remains a priority for our school. Eppler Junior High School is once again providing training to our students and staff on our safety protocols. The protocols identify actions that students may be asked to take in the event of a potential incident: hold, secure, lockdown, evacuate and shelter.

The protocols will continue to be part of the training while practicing our regular school safety drills, such as fire drills, security drills, tornado drills, evacuation procedures, etc.)

The video is available for you to review at this link: [UCS School Safety: Standard Response Protocol – Junior High - YouTube](#) If you have any questions, please contact our office.



Early Dismissal Procedures

We have a new process for early dismissals. When you arrive at Eppler please ring the bell at our Main Office door, let us know your student's name, show your id to the camera and we will let you in to our vestibule. With your cell phone please scan the QR code on the red "Scan For Early Dismissal" poster on the wall, type in the information requested, and we will call your student down to leave with you.

STUDENTS: You must come through the front office to exit the school.

How to Report an Absence

- When a student is going to be absent, parents/guardians should report the absence before the school day begins. Calls to the attendance line can be made 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Shelby Attendance Line is **586-797-2799**. Absences will be input to PowerSchool by 4:00 pm on the date of the absence.
- Per UCS policy, the following reasons for an absence will be accepted as an excused absence; student illness, hospitalization, doctor ordered bed rest, mandatory court appearance, death in the immediate family, family vacation, medical appointments and administrative permission. **All other absences will be unexcused.**

Calling All Shoppers!

Eppler has a reward program at Kroger. All you have to do is shop, swipe your card, and Eppler gets cash back! The Kroger Community Rewards program makes fundraising easy by donating based on the shopping you do every day. Once you link your Card all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Shopper's Card. Here's how :



- Go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com
- Click Sign in the upper right-hand corner
- Put the email address and password used to enroll your card
- Go to "Savings & Rewards", then "Kroger Community Rewards", I'm a Customer"
- Enter the group number **EJ598** or search **Eppler Junior High School**
- Click on the organization then click "Enroll"

PowerSchool/Text Messaging Service / Schoology

PowerSchool– [Click here](#) to go to the district's PowerSchool website

Parent Portal Access through PowerSchool

PowerSchool is the district's student information system used for scheduling, attendance, grades, and delivery of report cards. Please find more information below on how to create and access your Parent Portal Account.

To login, visit: <http://ps.ucs.misd.net/public>

Below are useful documents for you to reference and take full advantage of PowerSchool:

Parents: [Create a Parent Portal Account](#)

Helpful Tips for our PowerSchool Parent Portal: [Click here for info on how to reset your password.](#)

PowerSchool Mobile App:

1. Download the PowerSchool Parent App through your device's [GooglePlay](#) or [Apple App Store](#).
2. Enter the UCS district code: NKDJ (all capitalized)
3. When logging in through your mobile app, you will use the same username/password that you use to login through your desktop.

Questions? Contact your home school to help with your PowerSchool questions.

Text Messaging Service

Utica Community Schools Text Messaging Service

Utica Community Schools offers a texting service for parents. The service allows parents to receive important information such as school closings, safety alerts, school reminders and more, directly from their school(s) on a mobile device.

Newly enrolled UCS parents will receive a text message from the district that reads:

"Utica Community Schools messages. Reply Y to confirm, HELP 4 info. Msg&data rates may apply. Msg freq varies. schoolmessenger.com/tm"

To receive the free* text messages, simply reply "Y" or "Yes" to the message.

Even if you have not received a UCS message to join, parents may opt in by texting "Y" or "Yes" to the short code 67587.

Parents may opt out at any time by replying "Stop" to one of the messages.

*Terms and Conditions: Message frequency varies. Standard message and data rates may apply. Reply HELP for help. Text STOP to cancel. Mobile carriers are not liable for delayed or undelivered messages. See schoolmessenger.com/txt for more info.



Parents/Guardians,

Did you know that you can have a parent account for your child's Schoology classes? You can access each of their classes, as well as the counseling department's Schoology page. The counseling page has many resources ranging from support groups and therapy to community resources for help with everyday problems. If you would like access to your child's Schoology account (this is different than PowerSchool), you can contact the main office at 586-797-2900 to request your child's 12-digit-code and instructions.

PARENT ACCESS DIRECTIONS FOR SCHOOLGY

1. Go to www.schoology.com.
2. Click **Sign Up** at the top of the page and choose **Parent**.
3. Enter your Parent Access Code. This is the 12-digit code in **xxxx-xxxx-xxxx** format
4. To receive the 12-digit code, please contact the Main Office
5. Fill out the form with your information.
6. Click **Register** to complete.

When you use a Parent Access Code to create an account, you are automatically associated to your child. You can add additional children to your account using the Add Child button.

If your Parent Access Code does not allow you to register, or if the code does not have 12 digits, please contact techsupport@uticak12.org.

Eppler & Utica Athletics

UHS Athletic Event Policy

Utica Athletic Event Admissions Policy

1. All students (home and visitor) must present a school ID for entrance to the game.
2. Only students from the competing schools shall be admitted without adult supervision.
3. All junior high / middle school students must present a school ID AND be supervised by an adult. The adult must attend the event with the student and may not leave the student unsupervised.
4. Tickets are available for presale on GoFan. Tickets may also be purchased at the gate using a credit card or cash.
5. All senior citizens (62+) and children under 12 (with an adult) are admitted free of charge.
6. All patrons must remain in the stands or concourse area. Only team and athletic department personnel are allowed on the sidelines.

Eppler Athletic Event Policy

1. **ALL** students **MUST** present a school ID for entrance to the game and will **ONLY** be admitted with adult supervision.
2. The accompanying adult **MUST** attend the event with the student and **MAY NOT** leave the student unsupervised.
3. Between the end of the school day and the start of the event, any student attending **MUST** either wait outside the school or in the main lobby **ONLY**.
4. Students on the current Low Citizenship List **MAY NOT** attend any after school events.

UTICA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PRESENTS

MULTI YEAR
STATE
CHAMPS

ROCHESTER MOUNTAIN BIKE TEAM

HIGH SCHOOL TEAM and NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL TEAM!

VARSIITY RACING • ELITE VARSITY RACING
CLUB RACING • CLUB RIDING



SIGN UP TODAY

MALOW | SHELBY | JEANNETTE | EPPLER | BEMIS | DAVIS

Interested in Learning More? Join Us at the
INTRODUCTORY TEAM MEETING
Parent / Student Kick Off Meeting
Stoney Creek Media Center
April 8 @ 7:00pm



REGISTRATION OPENS
MARCH 1, 2026
Sign Up Now at

RMBTUNITED.COM/REGISTER

M:CA Michigan Scholastic
Cycling Association

RMBTUNITED.COM | Email: RMBT.DIRECTOR@gmail.com



JOIN THE JUNIOR HIGH SWIM & DIVE TEAM

Looking for a team that builds strength, confidence, and friendships? Make a splash and join MES Swim & Dive!

PROGRAM DETAILS:

- ✓ Grades 6-8, Co-Ed, Swim & Dive
- ✓ Open to students from Malow, Eppler, and Shelby Junior High Schools, as well as sixth graders who attend feeder schools.
- ✓ Season: April 6-May 20
- ✓ Led by Eisenhower and Utica High School coaches and current swim team members.
- ✓ Practice at Eisenhower: Monday/Wednesday 4:00-5:30pm and Tuesday/Thursday 5:00-6:30pm. Meet Schedule TBD



JOIN MES
SWIM &
DIVE



**PARENT INFO MEETING: MARCH 26 AT 6:00PM, EISENHOWER HIGH SCHOOL COMMONS
FOR QUESTIONS: LISA.DOHERTY@UTICAK12.ORG**

UTICA FOOTBALL

OFF-SEASON WEIGHTROOM SCHEDULE



🕒 Winter & Spring hours beginning on Monday, December 1st

Monday 2:15-4:15pm

Wednesday 2:15-4:15pm

Friday 2:15-4:15pm

Weight Room will be closed on Tuesday and Thursday



2027 Sideline Cheer Tryout Info

Parent meeting will be held April 27th 6:00 pm Eppler media center
Tryouts in June

Athletes must be registered for cheer tryouts. Link is below.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfIRZqcwnWJwdsIjYN7QYAKDMA5jtvlfv_BmuckKSuPnGHqBQ/viewform?usp=publish-editor

EPPLER JUNIOR HIGH AFTER-SCHOOL HOMEWORK CLUB

At Eppler Junior High School, we want to help your child have a successful school year. The Homework Club will be available on **Tuesdays and Thursdays** from 2:55 PM to 3:55 PM in the Eppler Media Center. Students can use this time to get academic assistance, complete assignments, work on projects, and/or study for tests. A few high school tutors are usually available. Students can ask the teacher in charge if there are tutors available that day.

Each student should bring all necessary materials and books to the media center by 2:55 PM. **Please be advised that if a student comes to Homework Club with nothing to work on, he/ she will not be admitted to Homework Club that day.** All students will be expected to remain in the Media Center until 3:55 PM. Students will need to sign in each day that they participate. Students need to arrange for their own transportation home. *Supervision will not be available after 4:00 PM.*

If you would like your child to be able to attend Homework Club, please complete the bottom portion of this form and have your child bring it with him/her the first time they attend Homework Club (only one slip is needed, and the student may come as often as they like for the school year). Phone calls and other notes will not be accepted in place of this signed permission slip.

If you have any questions regarding Homework Club, please contact your child's school counselor (Last names A-K: April.Raupp@uticak12.org / Last names L-Z: Autumn.Blanchard@uticak12.org).



EPPLER HOMEWORK CLUB PERMISSION SLIP



My child, (please print) _____, grade _____, has my permission to participate in Homework Club. I understand that it is my responsibility to provide transportation for my child at the end of the session. **My child understands that it is his/her responsibility to arrive on time, to bring all necessary materials to the Media Center, and to be prepared to work.** My child also understands that Eppler Junior High school rules apply and will be enforced. Misbehavior can lead to dismissal from being a participant in the Homework Club. Students will sign in, and if I ever want to verify my student's attendance, I will contact my child's school counselor.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____

Student Council

- ◇ Student Council Meeting Dates (subject to change)
- ◇ Meetings will be held in the Media Center at 7:00 am.
- ◇ Bring your Stu Co folder, pencil/pen.
- ◇ Meetings are MANDATORY. If you can not attend, let Mrs. Raupp or Mrs. Grammatico know you will be absent PRIOR to the meeting.



Tuesday, 11/11	Tuesday, 01/27	Tuesday, 03/24	Tuesday, 05/05
Tuesday 12/02	Tuesday 02/24	Tuesday 04/07	Tuesday 05/19
Tuesday 01/13	Tuesday 03/10	Tuesday 04/21	

Magic: The Gathering



Do you enjoy building an army of massive dragons? Or maybe you prefer to outwit your opponent with a sneaky swarm of tiny goblins? Then you might be a Magic: The Gathering player!

Come find your play style at the first meeting of Eppler's Magic The Gathering club on Thursday, October 9th in Room 126, from 2:50 – 3:45 PM, then every Thursday after school. Even if you've never cast a spell before, we'll teach you everything you need to know. See you at the table!

S.T.A.T.I.C.

S.T.A.T.I.C.
Students Taking Action Together in Christ

Come together in faith, friendship, and fun!

ROOM 136
2:55-3:45PM

Meeting Dates

- November 13
- December 11
- January 22
- February 24
- March 17
- April 21
- May 26

More Information
Mrs. Blanchard, Counselor
Autumn.Blanchard@UticaK12.org

Eppler Chess Club



The Eppler Elephants will be stomping the competition again this year!! Coach Marwan and Coach Alex are holding the first Chess Club meeting 09/15/25 from 2:50—3:50 pm, Room 19.

Stop by room 19 to get your permission slip today.

Eppler Parent Involvement Committee (EPIC)

The following is a list of dates and times of the Eppler Parent Involvement Committee (EPIC) meeting throughout the school year. All parents are invited and welcome to attend. All meetings will be held in the Media Center from 9:00—10:00 am. We look forward to seeing you there

Tuesday, September 23	Wednesday, February 25
Tuesday, October 21	Thursday, March 19
Tuesday, November 11	Tuesday, April 21
Wednesday, December 10	Tuesday, May 19
Wednesday, January 21	

9th Grade NJHS Members

MANDATORY MEETINGS: Meetings are from 2:55– 3:25 pm (may end earlier) Please make sure you have a ride or plan to get home. If you are unable to attend, please let Mr. Hornibrook in Room 132 or Mrs. Byron in room 19.

Wednesday, September 10	Wednesday, February 11
Wednesday, October 8	Wednesday, March 11
Wednesday, November 12	Wednesday, April 8
Wednesday, December 10	Tuesday, May 13
Wednesday, January 14	

ESAB

Meetings will be from 3:00—4:00 pm, Room 136



Thursday, October 9
Tuesday, December 9
Tuesday, February 10
Tuesday, April 7

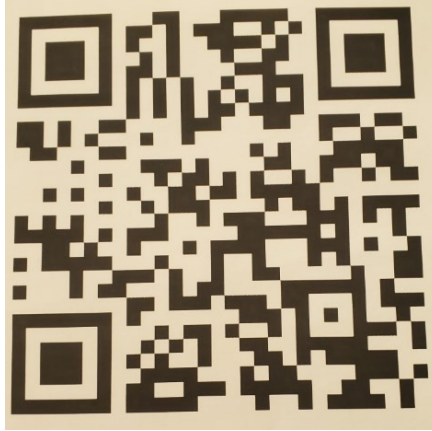


Applications will be available beginning Monday, September 8

Have you heard of FIRST? Maybe Lego Robotics? Have you wanted to participate in the past but didn't know how to get started? Here is your chance to be a part of the 2025 season. At the junior high school level, the robotics program is First Tech Challenge (FTC). We have had FTC Robotics teams at Eppler previously and would like to rekindle the flame and establish a new team.

Parents, please register your interested child by scanning the accompanying QR code and completing the registration survey. Please know that teams are not just out there to be joined; they must be built by people like you. We can help with robots, tips and even a support hub to practice with mentors. We need coaches like you to support, encourage and organize. The students will do the rest. No engineering or computer science degrees are necessary.

Scan the QR code for info.

A promotional poster for 'esports TRYOUTS' at Utica. The background features a character from the game Valorant. The text 'esports' is in a cursive font, and 'TRYOUTS' is in large, bold, orange-outlined letters. A large orange 'U' logo is positioned above the character. A QR code is located on the left side with the text 'APPLY NOW:' above it. A list of games is provided at the bottom left, and the MIHSEF logo is at the bottom left corner.

esports
TRYOUTS

U

APPLY NOW:

VALORANT
OVERWATCH 2
SSBU
ROCKET LEAGUE
MARVEL RIVALS
LEAGUE OF LEGENDS
MADDEN
FORTNITE
CHESS
& MORE!



Utica Community Schools is proud to recognize the positive impact former students, staff and community members have had locally, regionally, nationally and internationally through our Legacy of Excellence award.

Accepting Nominations through May 4, 2026

WWW.UTICAK12.ORG/LEGACYOFEXCELLENCE

**BECOME A SPONSOR
OR MENTOR TODAY!
EMPOWER THE FUTURE**

May 5 & 6 | The Palazzo Grande



Foundation

CAREER FOCUS EVENT

[UCSFOUNDATION.ORG/EVENTS/CAREER-FOCUS/](https://ucsfoundation.org/events/career-focus/)

UTICA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
6TH GRADE

2,000 STUDENTS

COMMUNITY

200 MENTORS

Career Focus introduces students entering young adulthood to a variety of career options and provides a memorable experience for all attendees.

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

**\$2,500
PRESENTING**

**\$1,500
CORPORATE**

**\$500
PLATINUM**

**\$250
TABLE**



SUPPORTED BY:

Robert S. Monroe
Superintendent of Schools,
Utica Community Schools

Tom Lietz
President, UCS Foundation

✉ email@ucsfoundation.org

EVENT PARTNERS



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COMMUNITY
SCHOOLS

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OPEN HOUSE

Are **YOU** interested in:
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Electrical Controls,
Programming,
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When?
April 20th, 2026 6-8 PM

Where?
**Gene L. Klida Utica Academy for
International Studies Door 6**



Hands on experience with:

- Finance & budgeting
- Social media & marketing
- Business operations
- Event Planning
- Project management
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- Java programming
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- CNC / 3D printing
- Group leadership

Benefits

- Prestigious scholarship opportunities
- Networking with industry professionals
- Compete at FIRST robotics competitions
- Form bonds and give back to your community
- Develop leadership skills

Learn more at
www.crevolution.org/open





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

December 11, 2025

Dear UCS Community,

I recently shared an update on continued work to address long-standing issues with our attendance areas. The update provided information on how we are evaluating the feeder patterns for Stevenson High School and Henry Ford II High School. This work is being coordinated in conjunction with scheduled facility improvements throughout our district.

We have developed an attendance area plan in partnership with our Enrollment Distribution Advisory Committee (EDAC), which is comprised of community members from each school.

Over the past few months, this committee has provided input into a plan that focuses on neighborhood schools that would strengthen communities and create greater access for students to improved facilities. The recommendations also establish consistent secondary feeder patterns where students remain with their friends throughout their K-12 journey. The plan includes changes to each of the following schools reviewed by our Enrollment Distribution Advisory Committee. These adjustments are planned for **the fall of 2028**:

- **Harvey Elementary School** - Dresden Elementary students will be consolidated with the existing Harvey Elementary attendance areas east of Van Dyke. The district's Auxiliary Services Department is evaluating Harvey Elementary to determine the facility improvements that will support the change. A portion of the school's attendance area in Shelby Township will be merged with an adjacent Flickinger Elementary neighborhood. This neighborhood will follow the Flickinger Elementary feeder pattern of Eppler Junior High School to Utica High School. (See [Map](#))
- **Schwarzkoﬀ Elementary School** - The Plumbrook Elementary attendance area east of Van Dyke will be consolidated with Schwarzkoﬀ Elementary and DeKeyser Elementary. The district's Auxiliary Services Department is evaluating Schwarzkoﬀ Elementary to determine the facility improvements that will support the change. Also, through a partnership with the Macomb Intermediate School District (MISD), improvements will be made to the facility to meet the unique needs of the Physically or Otherwise Health Impaired (POHI) program. In addition, a remote section of Schwarzkoﬀ Elementary attendance area west of Van Dyke will be consolidated with adjoining Schuchard Elementary neighborhoods. (See [Map](#))

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 • Macheille Fitzpatrick - Trustee • Michael Austerman - Trustee

- **Dresden Elementary School** - Dresden Elementary will be consolidated into neighboring school communities. The southern portion of Dresden Elementary will be merged with an improved Harvey Elementary facility. In Shelby Township, remote portions of the attendance areas will be merged with adjacent Ebeling Elementary and Monfort Elementary attendance areas. (See [Map](#))
- **Plumbrook Elementary School** - Plumbrook Elementary will be consolidated into neighboring school communities. The attendance area east of Van Dyke and west of Dodge Park will be merged with Schwarzkoff Elementary, including the relocation of the countywide Physically or Otherwise Health Impaired (POHI) program. Working in partnership with the Macomb Intermediate School District, a space will be created to specifically meet the unique needs of POHI students. The portion east of Dodge Park will be merged with an adjoining DeKeyser Elementary neighborhood. The remote portion of the school boundaries west of Van Dyke will be merged with the adjacent Burr Elementary attendance areas. (See [Map](#))
- **Burr Elementary School** - A remote portion of the Burr Elementary boundaries between the Conrail Rail System and Van Dyke will be merged with an adjacent Harvey Elementary attendance area. This neighborhood will also become part of the Bemis Junior High School and Henry Ford II High School feeder pattern. (See [Map](#))
- **DeKeyser Elementary School** - A remote section of the DeKeyser Elementary attendance area west of Van Dyke will be merged with Burr Elementary. The attendance area is in close proximity to the Burr Elementary property. (See [Map](#))
- **Oakbrook Elementary School** - A small attendance area off Plumbrook Road, east of Dodge Park, will be consolidated with the adjacent DeKeyser Elementary attendance area. (See [Map](#))
- **Monfort Elementary School** - A portion of the school's attendance area that was embedded into Dresden Elementary's boundaries will merge with neighboring Ebeling Elementary. This neighborhood is northeast of Schoenherr and 22 Mile Road. This neighborhood will also become part of the Bemis Junior High School and Henry Ford II High School feeder pattern. (See [Map](#))
- **Schuchard Elementary School** - Portions of the Schwarzkoff Elementary attendance area west of Van Dyke will be merged with adjoining Schuchard Elementary. (See [Map](#))

The following change will be scheduled for fall of 2027:

- **West Utica Elementary School** - All West Utica Elementary students will feed into Eppler Junior High School. Previously, West Utica Elementary students attended Jeannette Junior High School, which largely feeds into Stevenson High School. This

change will establish a pattern of West Utica Elementary School, Eppler Junior High School, and Utica High School, which is consistent with schools in this area. (See [Map](#))

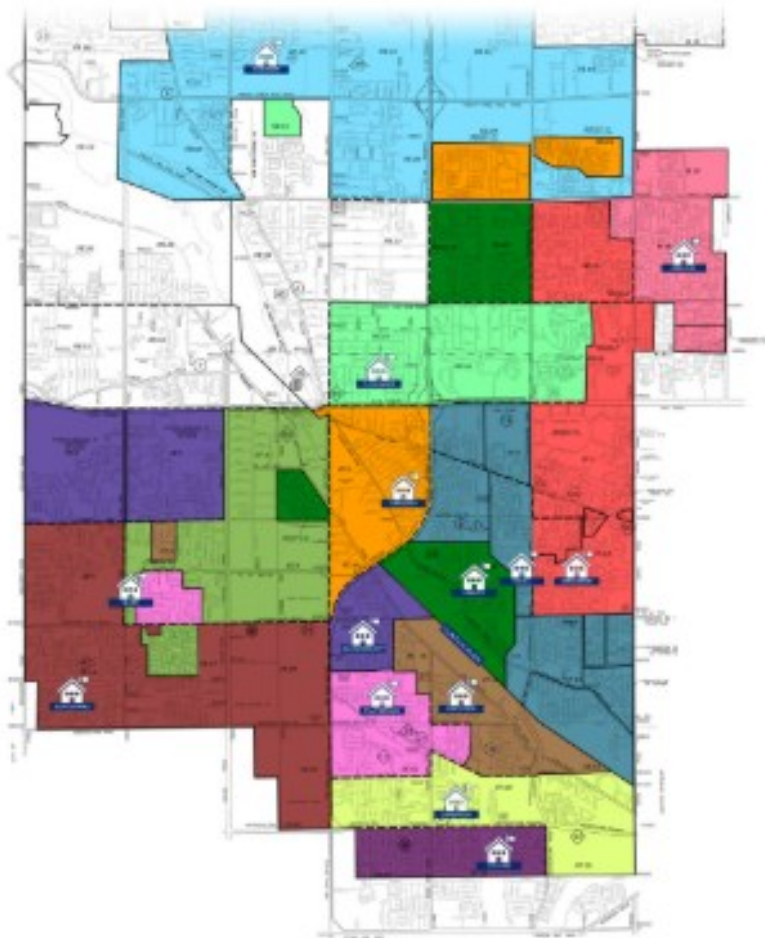
We have provided a great deal of information on our website at www.uticak12.org/buildingforthefuture. This site includes a [map](#) of the revised attendance areas and [questions and answers](#) about the plan. There is also a [feedback](#) form that will allow you to ask questions that we can address to you personally or include in further updates.

We are committed to working with our staff and community members to create a positive and successful transition. Through this work, we will keep neighborhoods together, allow students to stay with their friends through their K-12 journey, and give more students access to improved facilities that foster greater achievement and innovation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert S. Monroe". The signature is written in a cursive style.

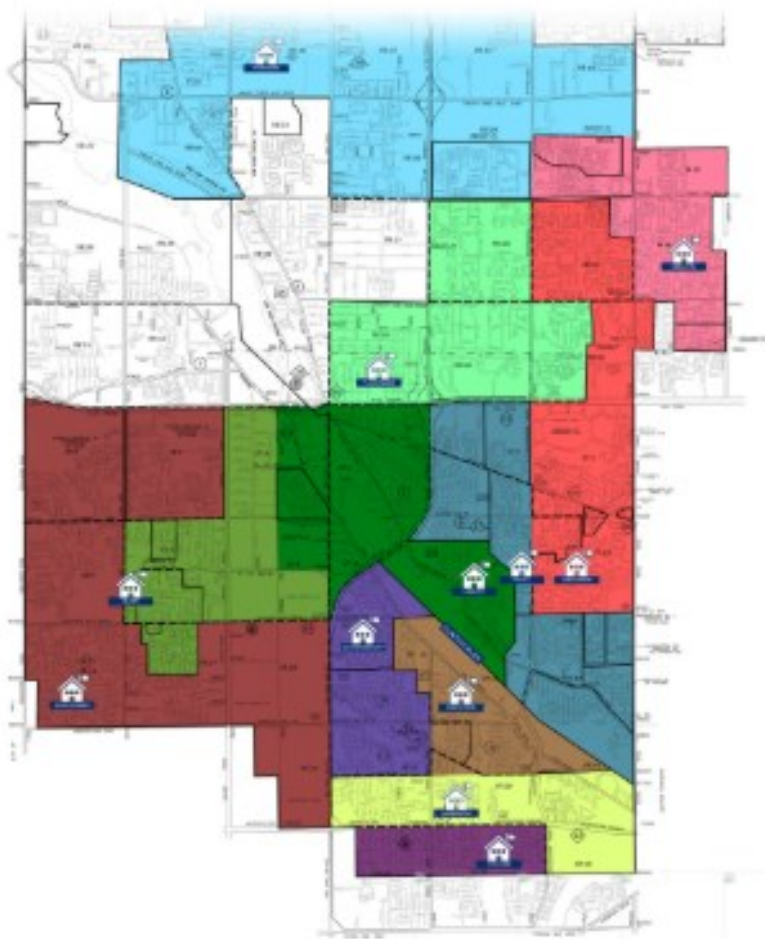
Robert S. Monroe
Superintendent of Schools



Current Attendance Areas

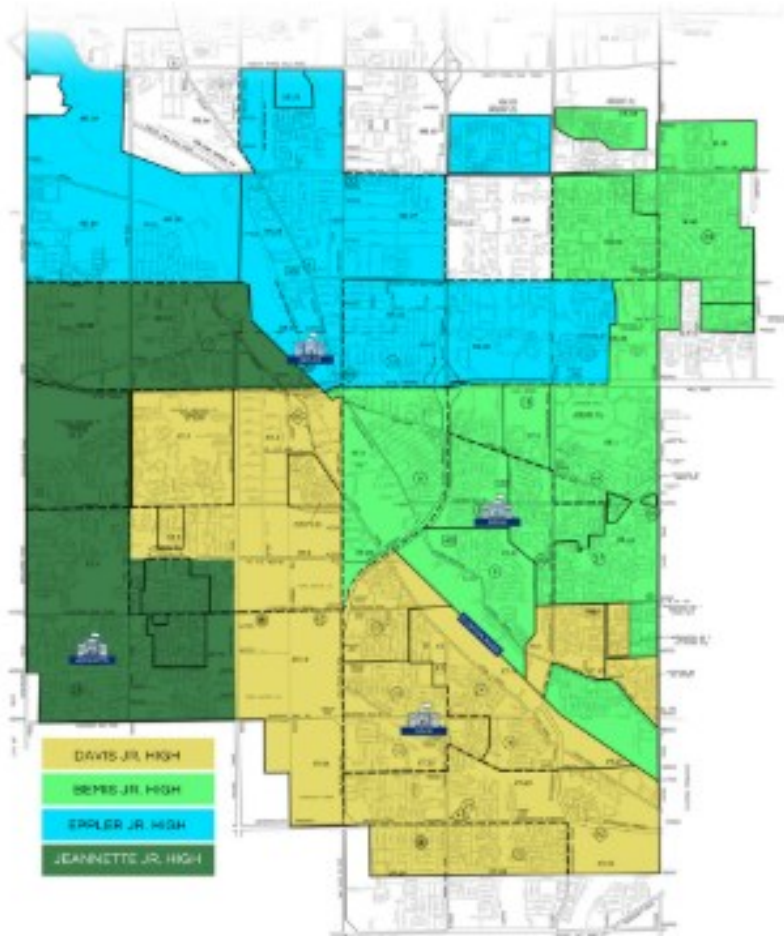
Map reflects previous changes for the Fall of 2027

- BURR
- COLLINS
- DEKEYSER
- DRESDEN
- EBELING
- FLICKINGER
- GRAEBNER
- HARVEY
- HAVEL
- MONFORT
- OAKBROOK
- PLUMBROOK
- SCHWARZKOFF
- SCHUCHARD



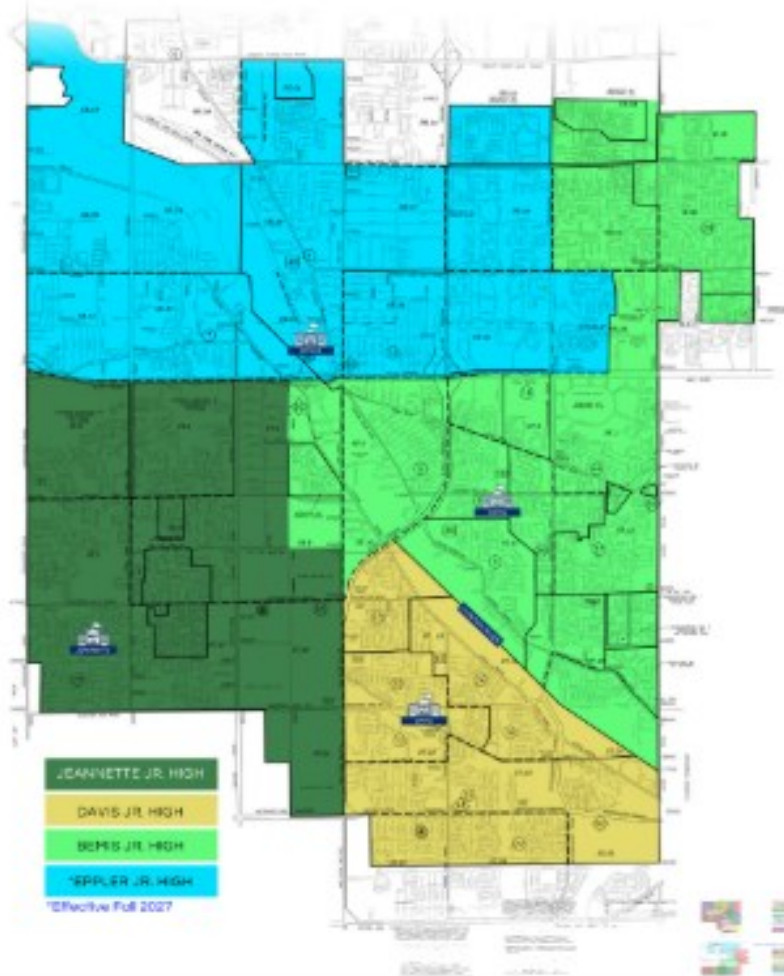
Fall 2028 Attendance Areas

- BURR
- COLLINS
- DEKEYSER
- EBELING
- FLICKINGER
- GRAEBNER
- HARVEY
- HAVEL
- MONFORT
- OAKBROOK
- SCHWARZKOFF
- SCHUCHARD



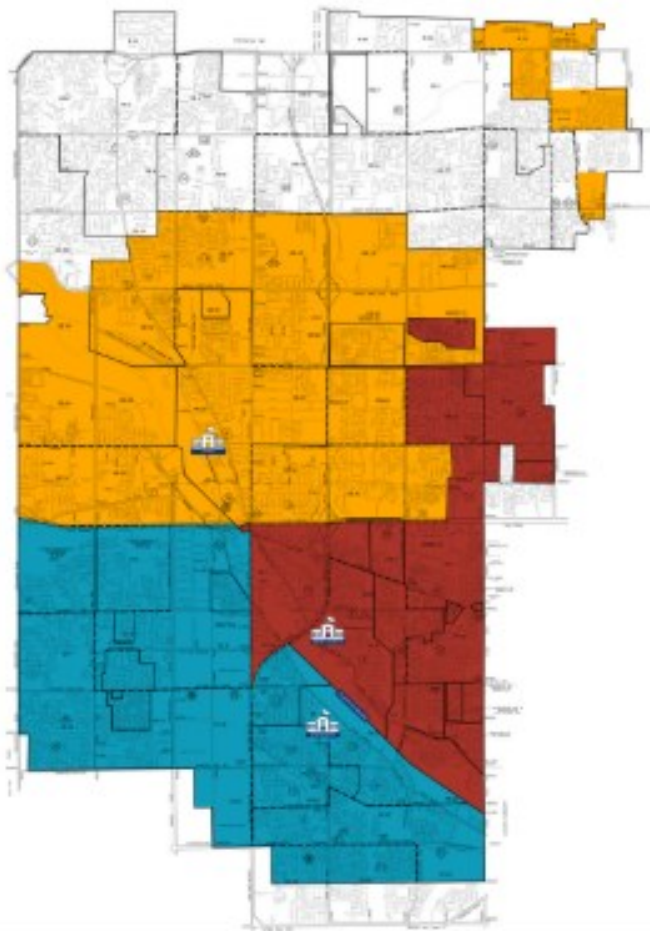
Current Attendance Areas

- DAVIS JR. HIGH
- BEMIS JR. HIGH
- EPPLER JR. HIGH
- JEANNETTE JR. HIGH



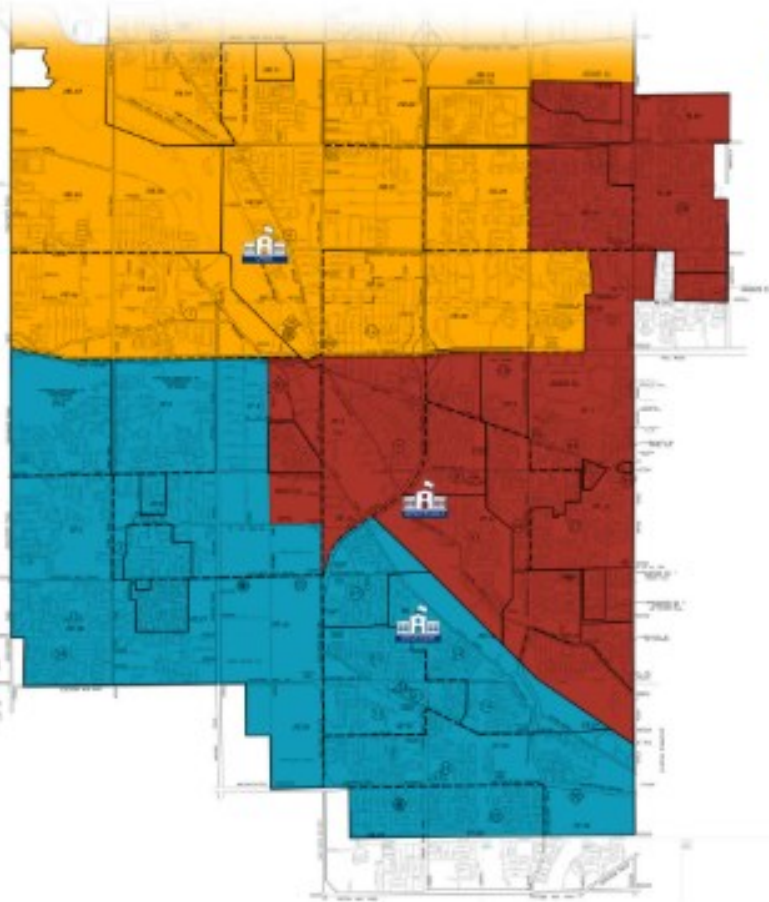
28 Attendance Areas Portion of Eppler will be adjusted west of Utica beginning Fall 2027

- DAVIS JR. HIGH
- BEMIS JR. HIGH
- EPPLER JR. HIGH
- JEANNETTE JR. HIGH



Current Attendance Areas

- STEVENSON HIGH
- HENRY FORD II HIGH
- UTICA HIGH



Fall 2028 Attendance Areas

- STEVENSON HIGH
- HENRY FORD II HIGH
- UTICA HIGH

MISD NEWS

Upcoming information to follow.

What students and parents are saying...

"The counselor was wonderful...very interested in helping to place my son where he should be. Thanks!!"

"The yelling has stopped and the talking has started."

"CARE is very responsive to the needs of the clients and I think it is a very good agency. I would one day like to work for CARE."

Resources:

Macomb County Crisis Center:
586-948-0222

National Suicide Prevention LIFELINE:
800-273-TALK (8255)

Alateen/Alanon Family Groups:
800-813-3105

Affirmations (L.G.B.T.Q.):
248-398-7105

Family Youth Interventions/Youth Shelter:
586-465-1212

Poison Control Center:
800-222-1222C

Macomb County Office of Substance Abuse (MCOSA): 586-469-5278

Substance Abuse Prevention websites:

www.mcosa.net
www.abovetheinfluence.com
www.thetruth.com
www.drugabuse.gov



Main Office
31900 Utica Road
Fraser, Michigan 48026

586.541.CARE (2273)
www.careofsem.com

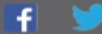


SCAN HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT US

Our mission is to strengthen resiliency in people and their communities through prevention, education, and services that improve the quality of life. Since 1977, CARE of Southeastern Michigan has been a leader in substance use prevention and recovery services in Macomb County. An accredited and award-winning behavioral health nonprofit rooted in the community, CARE provides real-life solutions from early childhood to adulthood so we can live healthier lives.

CARE of Southeastern Michigan is funded by Macomb County Community Mental Health Office of Substance Abuse, Macomb County school districts, state, federal and other private dollars.

Recipients of substance abuse services have rights protected by state and federal law and promulgated rules. For information, contact CARE of Southeastern Michigan Recipient Rights Advisor, 31900 Utica Road, Fraser, MI 48026, (586) 541-2273 or State Recipient Rights Coordinator, P.O. Box 30664, Lansing, Michigan 48909.



STUDENT ASSISTANCE



CARE invests in youth by working with the community, school personnel and parents to promote the healthy development and education of young people.



CARE's Student Assistance

- Does your child/student have difficulties at school or in other social settings?
- Have you noticed a change in your child's/student's behaviors and/or attitudes?
- Are you concerned that your child/student may be using alcohol or other drugs?

CARE of Southeastern Michigan understands the struggles that families are facing today. Despite all efforts, when a family is in crisis because of substance use or social and emotional health concerns, there is a greater likelihood that a young person will experience difficulties. Student Assistance offers students and their families guidance and support.

Student Assistance Clinicians specialize in at-risk issues such as substance abuse and mental health problems. A qualified Clinician will conduct initial screenings and assessments to determine the extent of a student's problems and provide resources to best help the student and their family. Students and families will receive assistance in gaining access to the most appropriate service for their area of concern.

Youth and Family Programs

Visit www.careofsem.com for locations, times, and dates for all programs.

Peaceful Alternatives to Tough Situations (PATTS):

An educational series to help youth deal with their emotions in appropriate ways by understanding their own resources and developing their own plan of action with skills that really work!

* Parent participation required

Teen Intervene:

Power of Drugs and Alcohol is a series designed to provide education, support and guidance to teens that have experienced mild to moderate use of alcohol or other drugs. This program also offers parents and guardians the opportunity to learn healthy communication skills and the importance of establishing family rules regarding alcohol or other drug use.

* Parent participation required

Parent Education Classes:

A series for parents to discuss ways to understand behavior, build self-esteem, increase cooperation and provide discipline that teaches personal responsibility. Groups include early childhood (ages 0-5), school age (ages 6-12) and teens (ages 13-18). A book for the appropriate age group is required.



INDEPTH:

INDEPTH is the American Lung Association's Intervention for Nicotine Dependence, Education, Prevention, Tobacco and Health program. A forward-thinking alternative to suspension or citation for tobacco use, including e-cigarettes. INDEPTH addresses the teen vaping epidemic in a more supportive way. This interactive program teaches students about nicotine dependence, establishing healthy alternatives and making the change to be free of all tobacco products, including e-cigarettes. INDEPTH is led by a trained, CARE facilitator either one-on-one or in a group setting.

Camp CARE:

This program is offered for children/families who have been impacted by alcohol and other drugs by a loved one. Through small group discussions, children, youth and teens learn: You are not alone, identify and process feelings, how to be safe, celebrate themselves, how to handle peer pressure, conflict resolution, making healthy choices, and life skill building.

Teens Talking Truth:

T³ participates in social events, community service opportunities, and workshops that address the challenges of today's youth, with a primary focus on alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention and a healthy teen lifestyle. T³ also works to get rid of the myth that all teens require drugs or alcohol to have fun.



Care Solace

If you or a family member are looking for help with mental health or substance use, Care Solace can help you quickly find treatment options matched to your needs regardless of the circumstance. Care Solace is a complimentary and confidential service provided to students, staff, and their families by Utica Community Schools.

The Care Solace team is available 24/7/365 and can support you in any language.

If you would like to use Care Solace to help you find a provider:

- Call 888-515-0595 (available 24/7/365)
- Search on your own OR click “Book Appointment” for assistance by video chat, email, or phone via caresolace.com/Utica.

Disclaimer:

Information on individual treatment providers was gathered by Care Solace based on criteria such as geographic proximity, whether the provider accepts the authorized user’s insurance, and whether the provider is accepting new patients. The school district does not recommend, endorse, promote, or refer to any of the individual treatment providers.

UCS Wellness

Utica Community Schools works to support the physical, mental and social-emotional development of all students. Our wellness pages contain a variety of resources for students, teachers, staff, parents and community members. Check out the UCS Virtual Calming Room, Wellness Podcast and Monday Moments, and more at: [www.uticak12.org/UCS Wellness](http://www.uticak12.org/UCS_Wellness)



FREE Online Tutoring

Do you need one-on-one help with your homework?

To access the free tutoring:

- On your ClassLink dashboard, select **Virtual Library Card - Tutor.com** (the orange icon with the letter "t" on it).
 - You will need your PowerSchool number to log in. You can email your counselor to ask for your PowerSchool number (Marla.Ostrom@UticaK12.org or Autumn.Blanchard@UticaK12.org). To log in:
 - Barcode: ucs##### (ucs followed by PowerSchool number)
 - Your password is your 2-digit birth **month** and 2-digit birth **day** (example 0408 for April 8)
 - Choose **GET A TUTOR NOW**. If you want a short tutorial on how the site works, you can select **Take the tour**.

The screenshot shows the Tutor.com interface. At the top, there are navigation links: 'Get a Tutor or Career Coach!', 'SAT Essay Drop Off', 'Drop-Off Algebra Help', and 'Practice Quiz'. Below this is a 'Hi Test!' section with the question 'What do you need help with today?'. There are two dropdown menus: 'Topic' and 'Subject'. The 'Topic' dropdown is open, showing a list of subjects including Math, Science, History, English, Social Studies, Reading, Writing, etc. A green 'CONNECT NOW' button is visible at the bottom of the form.

CONNECT WITH A TUTOR

Connect to a tutor quickly and easily. Select your topic, subject and grade level. Then, to get the best tutor for your problem, type out your question and, if you have a file or picture, attach it to your request.

02

CHAT WITH YOUR TUTOR

Use our online classroom to chat with your tutor and share your work on the whiteboard. You and the tutor can draw, type, paste images and use graph paper on the interactive whiteboard.

The screenshot shows a chat window with a whiteboard. The whiteboard contains handwritten math work. At the top, it says 'y = mx + b'. Below that, there is a calculation: $\frac{3}{2} = \frac{-6}{-4} = \frac{3}{2}$. Then, it shows $\frac{3}{2}x + 5 + b$. Below that, it shows $\frac{15}{2} + b$. Finally, it shows $\frac{15}{2} = b$. The chat window on the right shows a list of messages and a 'SEND' button.

03

UCS Food Service

UCS Food and Nutrition

- UCS is continuing the free school meals program through the early fall of 2025 while the State of Michigan works to adopt a budget by the September 30th deadline.
- All UCS families are asked to complete the *Education Benefits form* [Here](#) - enter "Utica Community Schools" and follow the prompts. These forms help maintain our Title 1 funding as well as other essential funding for our schools. It can also help reduce fees for pay-to-play sports, lower internet costs, reduced AP/college application fees and more!

More information regarding your student's cafeteria account can be found by clicking [HERE](#).

UCS Food and Nutrition

UCS Meals Are Nutritious And Delicious!

- UCS cafeterias offer a wide variety of different food choices to meet your student's needs
- We serve the same brand named products, like Tyson, Land-O-Lakes and Jennie-O, that you do you in your homes
- Meals follow federal guidelines for nutrition
- Meals include a variety of fresh fruit, vegetables, whole grains, low fat meat and dairy as well as low fat and fat free milk
- **To qualify for free and reduced meals students must take at least 1/2 cup fruit or vegetable with a meal.**
- **Breakfast meals include up to 2 grains, up to 2 fruits and a milk. Must take at least 1/2 cup fruit or vegetable with 2 more items to qualify.**
- **Lunch meals include a grain, meat/meat alternate, vegetable, fruit & milk. Must take 3 out of 5 with one being 1/2 cup fruit or vegetable to qualify.**
- We watch our saturated fat and sodium levels to help support our student's health needs
- Visit the Healthy Meals at School page to learn more about meal requirements

Menus can still be found online at <https://uticak12.nutrislice.com>

7th Grade Mixer



MS. SHAKESPEARES' FIELDTRIP LEGASEA AQUARIUM



SCIENCE



MS. ABBOTT'S SCIENTISTS NAILED THE PRINGLE RING CHALLENGE!

MS. ABBOTT'S 7TH AND 8TH GRADE SCIENTISTS CRUNCHED THE NUMBERS - AND THE CHIPS - IN THE PRINGLE RING CHALLENGE! USING ONLY PRINGLES, TEAMWORK, AND LOTS OF PATIENCE, STUDENTS WORKED TOGETHER TO BUILD GRAVITY-DEFYING RINGS. IT WAS ALL ABOUT ENGINEERING, PERSISTENCE, AND COLLABORATION. SCIENTISTS DISCOVERED HOW ESTIMATION, BALANCE, FRICTION, AND STRUCTURAL DESIGN COME INTO PLAY WHEN TRYING TO STACK PRINGLES INTO A COMPLETE RING. THERE WERE PLENTY OF GIGGLES, CREATIVE THINKING, A FEW "CHIP-TASTROPHES," AND BIG CELEBRATIONS WHEN THE RINGS FINALLY STOOD TALL. THE PRIDE ON THEIR FACES WAS PRICELESS - SCIENCE HAS NEVER BEEN SO SNACKTACULAR! A BIG "THANK YOU" TO ALL THE PARENTS WHO SENT IN PRINGLES AND MADE THIS FUN, HANDS-ON ACTIVITY POSSIBLE.



Homecoming Spirit Week



Spirit Week was an absolute blast, filled with a variety of exciting and creative activities that brought everyone together. The highlight for many was the visit from the ice cream truck, offering a sweet treat that added a delightful twist to the festivities. "Anything But a Backpack Day" sparked creativity and laughter, as students brought their books and supplies in everything from laundry baskets to shopping carts, showcasing their inventiveness. Hawaiian Day transformed the school into a tropical paradise, with students donning colorful leis and floral shirts that spread a laid-back island vibe. To top it off, Red, White, and Blue Day fostered a sense of unity and patriotism as everyone dressed in the vibrant colors of the flag, celebrating in spirited style. Overall, Spirit Week was a memorable experience that highlighted the community's enthusiasm and creativity.



Eppler Junior High – Go Gold Week

Childhood Cancer Awareness Week

September 22-26

Monday: Put Cancer to Bed

Where comfy clothes or pajama pants today to put cancer to bed!

Tuesday – Sports Jersey Day

Wear your favorite sports jersey or school team gear to cheer on all the fighters.

Wednesday – Hat & Hoodie Day

Wear your coolest hat or hoodie for awareness.

Thursday – Twin Day

Dress alike with your best friend to show that no one fights alone.

Friday – Gold Out Pep Day

Rock gold socks, gold beads, gold t-shirts to show your support for Childhood Cancer Awareness

Stop by the office to get a gold ribbon to wear from Wreck-it like Beckett!

Eppler Goes Gold for **Childhood Cancer Awareness**

Join us in supporting warriors, survivors, and families in our community through
“Wreck-it like Beckett”.

Beckett’s Warriors/Wreck-it like Beckett T-shirt’s will be for sale all week for \$20!



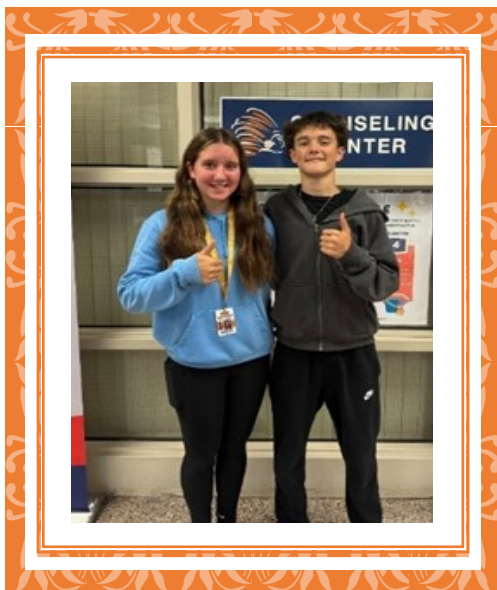
This year, Eppler Junior High is proud to recognize **Childhood Cancer Awareness Week, September 22-26**, a time to honor children and families who face the difficult journey of pediatric cancer.

Our very own **Aaron and Cadence Eiberger** will serve as student ambassadors for this important week. Childhood cancer awareness is very close to their hearts, as their younger brother Beckett was diagnosed with ATRT, a rare and aggressive brain cancer, just after his third birthday. Beckett endured 2 brain surgeries, 30 rounds of radiation, and 5 months of chemotherapy at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. Through it all, he showed incredible strength, courage, and resilience – and today, he continues to inspire those around him.

For Aaron and Cadence, this journey has been life changing. Siblings of children with cancer often carry unseen burdens – worrying if their brother or sister will be here in the weeks and months ahead, taking on added responsibilities at home, and navigating the emotional strain that comes with uncertainty. It’s a reminder that cancer affects the whole family, not just the child in treatment. By highlighting their role as ambassadors this week, we honor not only Beckett’s fight but also the strength and resilience of his siblings.

As a family, the Eiberger/Fowler household has turned their experience into advocacy, creating the nonprofit, **Wreck-it Like Beckett**, which provides support and hope to families walking through childhood cancer. By sharing their story, Aaron and Cadence remind us all of the importance of awareness, compassion, and coming together as a community.

As a school community, we invite everyone to participate, learn, and stand united in awareness. By going gold and engaging in these themes, we might shine a light on the reality of childhood cancer, support those impacted, and remind families that they are not alone.



Eppler Junior High School held a spirit week to raise awareness for childhood cancer, led by students Aaron and Cadence Eiberger with support from their mother, Tammie Fowler. The event was inspired by their younger brother, Beckett, who was diagnosed at the age of 3 with ATRT, a rare and aggressive brain cancer.

Students and staff participated in themed days like Pajama Day, Sports Jersey Day and Twin Day to show support. The week highlighted the importance of empathy, awareness and community, reminding everyone that childhood cancer affects the whole family—and that no one fights alone.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/4nfKvIU>

Chieftain of the Month

Congrats to our September Chieftains of the Month!

Madilyn Backus, Scarlett Dettmer, Charlotte Maurer, Harper Dwyer, Adriana Shaena, Aylina Esbo, Kali Dedenbach, Elizabeth Azou, Staphio Mikha, Jeremiah Bajjoki, Tyler Notebroom and Pablo Montanez Rosas



Chieftain of the Month

Congrats to our October Chieftains of the Month!

Michael Lasceski, Cole Davis, Arya Bidja, Brayden Beebe, Teona Valeanu, Isabelle Panoff, Claire Jensen, Harper Highfield, Milania Bitti, McKenzie Wagner, Paige Seaton and Adalynn Mrak.



8th Grade Future Focus

UCS 8th grade students were given the opportunity to explore the many different specialty programs their high school has to offer. This hands on experience will help students plan their high school careers.



9th Grade Band

Saturday, February 7, members of the Eppler 9th Grade Band participated in the M.S.B.O.A. High School Solo and Ensemble festival at Rochester High School.

Earning a 2nd division rating were Christopher Brown and Scarlett Dettmer.

Earning 1st Division ratings were Madeline Kraft, Christopher Brown, Elena Bird-Bazan, and Evan Wilson.

Congratulations!



Let's talk about

**PINK
OUT**



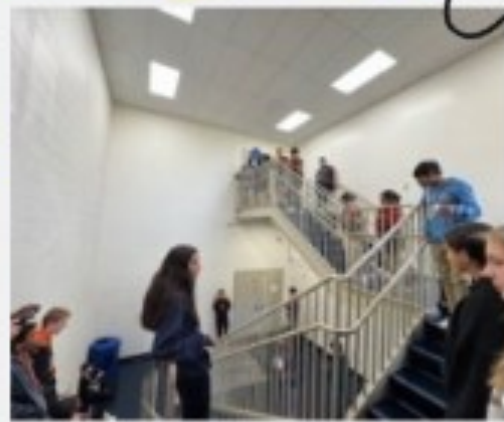
**STU CO SPONSORED
BREAST CANCER
AWARENESS ACTIVITIES
AT EPPLER**



On October 14 & 15, Eppler staff and students participated in Breast Cancer Awareness PINK OUT days. At lunch, Student Council sold pink bracelets and raised \$156.00. The funds will be donated to the Shades of Pink Foundation, a group who gives financial assistance to those undergoing breast cancer treatment in Southeast Michigan.

[HTTPS://WWW.SHADESOPINKFOUNDATION.ORG/](https://www.shadesofpinkfoundation.org/)

8TH GRADE EGG DROP



Last Tuesday, Ms. Markus's Science 8 classes did their annual egg drop as their final project in the contact forces unit. Her third hour class set a record by not breaking a single egg! The students did an excellent job applying their knowledge of contact forces to design and build devices to protect their eggs.



HALLOWEEN



Eppler staff and students celebrated Halloween in SPOOKtacular fashion. Student Council handed out Boo Grams during first hour and sponsored a costume contest each lunch.



CONTEST WINNERS



Boo Gram Assembly



BOO GRAM DELIVERY



Congrats to our November Chieftains of the Month!

Selvia Hanekajhel, Aneth Gonzalez, McKayla Martin, Nahla Sova-Boyd, Lola Doucette, Isabella Schroeder, Sophia Gjokaj, Lyndan Lambert, Luis Tuci, Thomas Wolken, Christian Priester and Gotti Gilbert



Congrats to our January Chieftains of the Month!

Liam Szasz, Jacob Snell, Owen Reese, Anthony Shaw, Team Michael, Gabriel Varghese, Landon Crain, Edwin Wilson, Nicholas Lount, Ellery Ducharme-Vanhevel, Chevelle Danski and Gabriella Nietling



A GREAT WAY TO END 2025!

SPRIT WEEK Winter Wonderland Day

This was the day for students and staff at Eppler to wear ALL white! Student Council sponsored snowflake making activities during lunches.





SPIRIT WEEK Favorite Holiday Character

Students and staff were encouraged to dress as their favorite holiday character. Student Council sponsored a costume contest at lunch.



SPIRIT WEEK Long Winter's Nap

Students and staff could wear pjs, slippers, fuzzy socks, and/or bring blankets to keep warm. Student Council sponsored a Hot Cocoa Bar at lunch. Yum!





SPIRIT WEEK
Festive Friday

Students and staff were given the task of wearing their favorite holiday attire to get ready for a visit from SANTA! Student Council brought Jolly Old Saint Nick to Eppler which was a huge hit!









HOLIDAY GIVING

Eppler Student Council held a food drive and made it a competition in 6th hour classes. Over 2600 food items were donated to local families in need. The winning class was Mr. Collin's 6th hour and they enjoyed an ice cream sundae holiday party. Great job Eppler!



**GOLDEN TICKET
CONTEST WINNERS**



**STU CO POPCORN BAR
FOR EPPLER STAFF**



**TOYS FOR TOTS
COLLECTION**



**STAFF SNOWFLAKE HUNT
CONTEST WINNER**



**CANDY CANE
CONTEST WINNER**



**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!**

UCS Pathways to Success Scholarship Winner

Eppler eighth grade student, Jonathan Chambers, while attending the UCS Pathways to Success Event at Henry Ford II High School on December 9, 2025, won a \$500 scholarship towards his post-secondary education. The check was recently presented to Jonathan by UCS Foundation Executive Board Trustee and former Utica High principal, Mr. Thomas Lietz. [Congratulations](#), Jonathan!

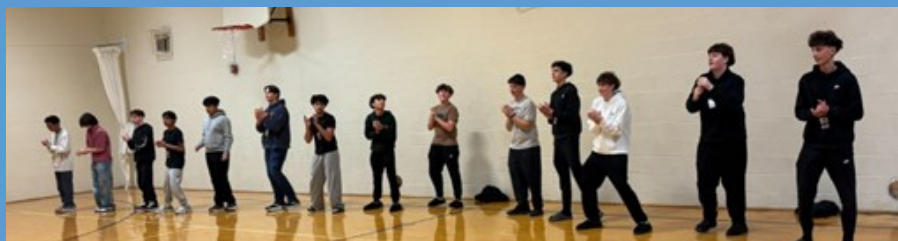


Eppler Cheer

Eppler cheer took 1st place at the Shorian Invitational at Lake Shore High School against 7 other teams Saturday, January 24th. We are so proud of all their hard work and determination! Our next competition will be at L'Anse Creuse North on Saturday, January 31st, at 3:00 pm



For Foreign Language week, Spanish 2 and French 2 students in Ms. Grammatico's and Mrs. Daughtery's class got to participate in some Salsa dance lessons. The students loved it and picked up on the moves very easily. They got to learn individual moves and couple moves!



KINDNESS WEEK

EPPLER IS KIND!

Student Council sponsored a Kindness Spirit Week January 27-February 2.

Students and staff participated in themed dress days, kindness activities at lunch, and were given a kindness challenge each day.

In addition, Student Council, in partnership with the Eppler Kitchen Staff, ran a glove and hat drive. Over 230 items were donated to help the WAVE Warming Shelter and Trinity Utica's Meal Ministry. Good job!



BE THE "T" IN
KIND

Special Dress Days



SPREAD
Kindness



Glove and Hat Drive



KINDNESS MATTERS



Kindness Lunch Activities

KINDNESS
Changes
EVERYTHING



BE KIND





On Saturday February 28 the Eppler Elephants competed in the Michigan chess championship tournament. We placed 8th out of 84 total teams! Competing for Eppler:

Jayansh Medidha, Roshan Pottelu, Jack Kline, Micah Boucher, Derek Bays, and Dhatri Joshi.











Roshan and Jayansh also medaled.

They were coached by Marwan Hassan and Alex Thielen.

Congrats Team!!!!

Pi Day

PI DAY CHALLENGE

<p>1ST HR</p>  <p>Scarlett Dettmer 20</p> 	<p>2ND HR</p>  <p>Brayden Beebe 51</p>	<p>3RD HR</p>  <p>Evan Morris 16</p>	<p>4TH HR</p>  <p>Sophia Ruthenberg 72</p> 
<p>5TH HOUR</p>  <p>Lillian Sellick 23</p>	<p>Students competed to see who could recite the most digits of Pi. Winners were awarded with their choice of a mini pie.</p> 	<p>6TH HOUR</p>  <p>Enela Nikoli 111 Leah Fifield 125</p>  <p>Nate Mathew 141</p>	



Eppler's Student Council

-Making a Difference-



Several of Eppler's Student Council Members volunteered at Trinity Utica's SSS Food Ministry. They spent their Sunday afternoon serving food, handing out sack lunches, clothing, and toiletries while making visitors feel welcome through friendly conversation and a smile.



Jack K., Isabelle R.,
Isabella S., Scarlett D.



Adalynn M., Giuliana V.,
Madison S.



Stu Co Sponsored

GLOW

Dance

Over 100 Eppler students attended the **Spring Glow Dance** on March 17, 2026. Students played glow games and danced in the main gym with a DJ and black lights. They also played basketball in the aux gym, got glow tattoos at the free tattoo station and took pictures with friends at the free photo station. Special thanks to all of the Student Council Members who helped with any part of the dance, as well as the staff members who chaperoned!







★ LETS GLOW CRAZY ★

