

November 20, 2023



# Eppler Express

Monday, November 20	Thursday, November 23
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chess Club in Ms. Byron's Room #19 2:15 - 3:15</li> </ul>	
Tuesday, November 21	Friday, November 24
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Student Council 7:00 am and 2:15 pm in Room 107 or Room 120</li> <li>Chick-fil-A Spirit Night Fundraiser 4:00—8:00 pm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thanksgiving Break 11/22 - 11/24 NO SCHOOL</li> </ul>
Wednesday, November 22	Saturday, November 25
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thanksgiving Break 11/22 - 11/24 NO SCHOOL</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>
	Sunday, November 26
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>

## 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 / Naviance](#)
- [Reward Programs](#)

## Important Websites and Resources:

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





Dear Chieftain Family and Friends,

In the past, the Eppler Chieftain family has generously supported many worthwhile charitable causes, especially during the holidays. We, as a community, have championed the endeavors of the United States Marine Corps' **Toys for Tots** program, the Shelby Township Lions Club's **Township Food Basket/Canned Food Drive** program, Bright Side Dental's **Candy for Soldiers** program, Hamlin Pub's **Hamlin Holiday/Adopt A Family** program, as well as offered support to families in need within our own community. During the trying times we find ourselves in, most of these programs are operating at limited capacity, and we will still support them as we are able. However, we have also determined that we would again like to focus on our families in need right here at Eppler.

To borrow a title for this program from a neighboring school community, we will embark on our **Friends Helping Families** program once again this year, and will continue to make it one of our annual community projects. We are asking that you partner with us to support our own families who may be struggling. I know, yes, I absolutely know, how caring and generous this community is, and know we can, together, make a difference!!

We are asking that you, should you want to be involved, purchase gift cards in any amount, from stores such as Meijer, Target, Walmart, Kroger, other grocery stores, local gas stations, etc., and any gift card will be graciously accepted! Please indicate the amount of the gift card you are donating. Gift cards in the \$10 - \$25 range seem to work best to spread this blessing to all our families in need. **Please send in your donation to Eppler, or drop it off at the school, by Wednesday, December 13, 2023.**

If you find your family needing a little extra help this holiday season, please contact one of our wonderful school counselors, who will confidentially add your name to our list, and make arrangements with you. Our counselors can be contacted at [april.raupp@uticak12.org](mailto:april.raupp@uticak12.org) (Counselor for students with last names A-K), and [autumn.blanchard@uticak12.org](mailto:autumn.blanchard@uticak12.org) (Counselor for students with last names L-Z).

I am thanking you in advance, with the greatest of confidence, for your generous support of our Eppler Chieftain families who may be struggling this holiday season.

**You may send in your donation with your child OR drop off your donation at the school between the hours of 7:00 am and 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday, until Wednesday, December 13, 2023, OR mail to the school at Eppler Junior High School, 45461 Brownell, Utica, MI, 48317, Attn: Ms. Autumn Blanchard-Brinich.**

I again genuinely and warmly thank you!! Be well! Be safe! Be healthy! Be happy!! And enjoy the blessings of this holiday season!!

Jerry

## Food Drive

*NJHS and Student Council are teaming up to a Food Drive!*

Eppler NJHS and the Eppler Student Council is partnering with the Lions Club to collect canned and boxed foods for Samaritan House. From November 1- November 30 please bring in your non-expired canned and boxed foods to your 6<sup>th</sup> hour class. Winning class will get a dessert party!

## Food Drive



## Toys for Tots

This year we are putting a fun spin on our "Toys for Tots" campaign. The local fire department is sponsoring a fun competition between local schools, including Trinity and St. Lawrence, to see who can collect the most toys. The winning school will win a trophy that will be rotated each year based on the results. We would love to take home this trophy while also raising awareness for a great program. Please consider donating new and unwrapped toys to Eppler junior high to support this great cause. This campaign will run through December 8th, and the winning school announced at the City of Utica's Tree Lighting event on December 9th. Students will receive a raffle ticket for every toy donated for an opportunity to win an ice cream party for them and two friends of their choice. Please contact Ms. Blanchard for more details.



## Thankful Thursdays

# THANKFUL THURSDAYS

**16 NOVEMBER**

A huge thank you to Mrs. Bluhm, Ms. Blash and Ms. Dziadzio, members of the EPIC parent group for providing our staff with this weeks "Thankful Thursdays". This weeks theme was "Anyway you slice it, our teachers and staff are the best".



# Join Us For A



# FUNDRAISER!



Community Care

## SPIRIT NIGHT

# Fundraiser



## Eppler Junior High

Tuesday, November 21st ▪ 4:00-8:00p.m.

Come support the students & staff of Eppler Jr. High and a % of sales will be donated.

Instructions: When placing an order in-person (either inside or in the drive-thru), begin your order by saying to the Team Member, "I'm with the Spirit Night fundraiser." For all MOBILE ORDERS, during checkout, select the "Support Community Care Event" button, and ENTER CODE 48317, in the app. Additional directions for mobile orders are located on the back.



SHELBY TOWNSHIP (MI)



## Fundraiser Mobile Instructions

Download the Chick-fil-A One App



Select "Pickup at restaurant" and "Shelby Township (MI), Start my order"



Choose your pick up method



Drive-Thru

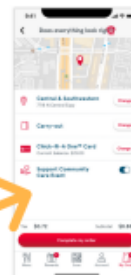


Carry-Out



Dine-In

Before completing your checkout, select the "Support Community Care Event" button and Enter Code: 48317



Head to the restaurant and support your school!



SHELBY TOWNSHIP, MI 48315



# School News & Information

## Vision and Mission Statements

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

**Eppler Junior High School Mission Statement:** The Eppler community will collaborate to foster a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment that will inspire growth, excellence, and achievement.

## Parent Access for Schoology

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 SCHOOLOGY

1. Go to [www.schoology.com](http://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](mailto:techsupport@uticak12.org).

## Life Skills Accepting Donations

Mrs. Blanchard needs your help!! Every year the students love to cook, cook, cook, and I believe this is a wonderful experience for them. Not only are they learning basic cooking skills, they are also having a ton of fun. Unfortunately feeding 100 students can be rather expensive. Any donations from the list below would be greatly appreciated. You can drop them off to the main office, or have your student bring them to room 122. Thank you in advance for any and all help.

Below are the most commonly used items in our class:

Sugar (white or brown)	Marshmallows (large and mini)
Rice Krispy cereal, Flour Soft Tortillas	Non-stick cooking spray
Butter , Salsa	Flour, Ketch-up, BBQ Sauce, Ranch
Cake Mixes, Syrup	Brownie Mixes, Frozen Strawberries
Frosting, Bread Crumbs	Spaghetti Sauce
Pizza Sauce, Wheat Germ	Chocolate Chips (white, dark, milk, cinnamon, etc.)
Bisquick, Lasagna Noodles	Powdered Sugar
ANY disinfectant cleaners for kitchens without bleach	Aluminum Foil
Vegetable/Canola oil	Sandwich and gallon baggies
Paper Plates or cups or silverware	Kleenex, Cupcake Liners
Dish Soap, Antibacterial Wipes	Hand soap

Other food items may need to be brought in over the semester if they chose to do a lab not assigned by me. Thank you in advance for your support.

-Mrs. Blanchard



## **EPPLER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL DAILY SCHEDULE**

1<sup>ST</sup> HOUR 7:20 a.m. – 8:17 a.m.  
2<sup>ND</sup> HOUR 8:23 a.m. – 9:20 a.m.  
3<sup>RD</sup> HOUR 9:26 a.m. – 10:23 a.m.  
4<sup>TH</sup> HOUR 10:29 a.m. – 12:08 p.m.

**A Lunch** Lunch 10:29 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
Class 11:06 a.m. – 12:08 p.m.

**B Lunch** Class 10:29 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
Lunch 11:06 a.m. – 11:31 a.m.  
Class 11:37 a.m. – 12:08 p.m.

**C Lunch** Class 10:29 a.m. – 11:31 a.m.  
Lunch 11:37 a.m. – 12:08 p.m.

5<sup>TH</sup> HOUR 12:14 p.m. – 1:10 p.m.  
6<sup>TH</sup> HOUR 1:16 p.m. – 2:11 p.m.

## **EXAM DAY SCHEDULE**

1<sup>ST</sup> EXAM 7:20 a.m. – 8:48 a.m.  
2<sup>ND</sup> EXAM 8:56 a.m. – 10:24 a.m.

# **BE PROMPT!**



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 Kik, Snapchat, Instagram, and ALL others

During School hours 8:00 – 2:51pm

Cell Phones/Electronic Devices must be placed in lockers for the entire school day and may not be used during the school day for **ANY REASON**.

Cell Phones/Electronic Devices **ARE NOT** allowed to be taken out of lockers during the school day, except for early release or permission from administration.

Cell Phones/Electronic Devices **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.**

1 <sup>st</sup> Time	2 <sup>nd</sup> Time	3 <sup>rd</sup> Time	4 <sup>th</sup> time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Taken to Office</li><li>• Parent must pick up</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Taken to Office</li><li>• Parent must pick up</li><li>• After-School Detention</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Taken to Office</li><li>• Parent must pick up</li><li>• Saturday School</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Taken to Office</li><li>• Parent must pick up</li><li>• One-Day Suspension</li><li>• Phone banned from building</li></ul>

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.



# 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.**



## 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 7:20

**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 2023-2024 school year.

<http://utica.ss9.sharpschool.com/handbook>

## Lost and Found

Please stop in the Counseling Hallway to check out the selection of Lost and Found items. Items not claimed by the end of the semester will be donated.



Utica CSD 2023-2024 AP® Exam Registration

Join your 2023-2024 MyAP Classroom:

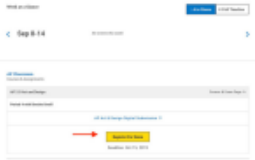
- All students will be able to join an AP® Classroom on the College Board MyAP at <http://myap.collegeboard.org> where they will be able to access College Board provided course resources and materials as well as an individualized performance dashboard.
- Teachers will be able to use the resources in the MyAP AP® Classroom for assignments, classroom activities, test and quizzes and more.
- Students will log into the MyAP site at <http://myap.collegeboard.org> with their College Board profiles and **JOIN the AP® Class with a Join Code** (access code) that will be distributed by teachers by September 22, 2023. (Simply click on "Join Exam/Class" and enter the code.)

How to register for 2023-2024 AP® Exams:

AP Exam Fees for 2023-2024 is \$102 per exam (\$150 per AP Capstone exam)

To register for the optional AP® Exams, the additional steps need to be completed:

- STEP 1: Activate Exam on MyAP** -Students who have joined the AP Classroom on MyAP and choose to take the optional exam, **must also activate the exam by clicking on the yellow "Register for Exam" button** in the class dashboard.
  - Deadline to activate your exam is **September 22, 2023**



- STEP 2: Submit Exam Deposit** - AP Exams are \$102 each (\$150 for AP Capstone Exams). Students who have an active exam on the MyAP System as of September 22 will receive on or around October 1 an invoice for a \$40 non-refundable deposit to be submitted to complete the exam order. Submit payment online or via mailing in a check or money order.
  - Deposit must be submitted by **October 31, 2023 to order an exam for May 2024**.
  - BOTH** the exam deposit payment **AND** exam activation steps **MUST** be completed by **October 31, 2023 to have an active exam order**.
  - LATE registration will open on November 16 with a penalty fee. NO payments or orders will be accepted or processed between November 1 and November 15, 2023.
- STEP 3: Submit Balance Due** - Students who successfully completed step 1 and 2 above will receive a custom digital invoice for the balance of fees due. The invoice will be emailed in January. **Deadline to submit the balance of fees due is February 16, 2024**
- Visit <http://aptsusa.com/utica> for more information

Utica CSD 2023-2024 AP® Exam Registration

Frequently Asked Questions:

What if I can't log into my College Board account?

- Don't create a new one! Each student should have only ONE College Board account which houses AP, PSAT and SAT scores and information. For log in help visit:
  - <https://pages.collegeboard.org/account-help> or <https://myap.collegeboard.org>

What if I qualify for a fee reduction?

- All students regardless of status submit a \$40 deposit by October 31. Students who have successfully been approved for Free-Reduced Lunch status AND who sit for the exam in May will be eligible for a partial refund of \$35 per the MA State subsidies established for 2023-2024.

How do I submit the fees?

- Exams are \$102 each (\$150 per AP Capstone Exam). You will receive a custom invoice for a \$40 per exam deposit based on the exams you activated on MyAP. Payment can be submitted by clicking the Pay Now button in the top left of the invoice OR by mailing in a check or money order. (Instructions on the invoice.) A second invoice will be issued in January for the balance due. A 3.1% credit card processing fee is charged for debit/credit card payments.

I want to add an exam that is NOT on my invoice. What do I do?

- Email [info@aptsusa.com](mailto:info@aptsusa.com) to request an updated invoice.
- You will need to confirm that you have also joined the College Board MyAP dashboard with the appropriate Join Code for your exam. Penalty fees apply for registering an exam as of November 16, 2023. FINAL Day to add an exam or make payments is February 16, 2024.

I want to cancel an exam that is on my invoice?

- Email [info@aptsusa.com](mailto:info@aptsusa.com) to request that exam be removed
- If you have already paid a deposit or fees for that exam, the refund amount will be adjusted based on the policy posted on <http://aptsusa.com/utica>

2023-2024 Important Deadlines:

Exam Activation Deadline

September 22, 2023

Exam Deposit Payment Due

October 31, 2023

Balance of Fees Due

February 16, 2024

**FINAL Day for AP Registration (Final Payments or to add an order): Feb 16, 2024**

For more information and details as well as assistance and support visit

<http://aptsusa.com/utica>



Learn more about the 2023-24 school year by visiting

[UticaK12.org/OpenHouse](http://UticaK12.org/OpenHouse)

or scan the QR code



## 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.



## Shadowing visits for the IB Program

Can you believe it? It's time to start planning for the 2024-2025 school year. If you have an 8<sup>th</sup> grader who is interested in attending Utica's IB Program at GLK-UAIS, we are now offering shadowing! Please complete this form: <https://forms.office.com/r/ziyv7kKTCE?origin=lprLink> to sign up. Shadows are limited to 3 spots per day, so be sure to secure your spot for a shadow opportunity today!

- Dates for shadowing visits will be available beginning on **November 1, 2023**. **Shadowing ends March 15, 2024**.
- After submitting your shadowing request, our staff will contact you within a week about confirming a date and provide more information about the process.

## Yearbooks



The Eppler Junior High School yearbook captures today's memories to enjoy for a lifetime.

Don't miss out — reserve your copy today!

### WAYS TO ORDER:



ONLINE

[JOSTENSYEARBOOKS.COM](https://www.jostensyearbooks.com)



SCAN



CALL

1.877.767.5217  
8AM-5PM CST  
MONDAY-FRIDAY

OTHER HELPFUL INFO:

[JOSTENSYEARBOOKS.COM](https://www.jostensyearbooks.com)

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**GIRLS BASKETBALL**  
*Tryouts*



**MAIN  
GYM**

**NOV  
20 & 21**

**FRESHMAN & JV 3:30 - 5:30 PM**

**VARSITY 6:30 - 8:30 PM**

**FOR MORE INFO  
AND TO SIGN-UP  
VISIT**

[www.uhsgbb.com](http://www.uhsgbb.com)

CONTACT COACH JAY WITH ANY QUESTIONS AT [JAYMIKEM@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JAYMIKEM@GMAIL.COM)



***COME JOIN US!***

**Monday, Wednesday,  
and Friday conditioning  
and open gyms for  
Freshman, Sophomore's,  
Junior's, and Senior's  
looking to play this year  
and getting the work in!**

**6:30 PM- 8:30 PM**





## UTICA- EISENHOWER 2024 BOYS LACROSSE MANDATORY PARENT & PLAYER INTEREST & INFORMATION MEETING

**LOCATION – EISENHOWER HS MEDIA CENTER**  
**DATE – DECEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:30P**

This is a **MANDATORY** interest meeting is for parents and any player interested in playing on the spring boys lacrosse team that attend 10-12<sup>th</sup> grade at Utica High School AND Eisenhower High School and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students (Malow, Shelby, Eppler and Jeanette) whose students are eligible to play for Utica or IKE. If you were unable to attend the first meeting in October, please plan on attending as we are trying to get all the specifics for the team in order. Player experience is not required but would be beneficial. The teams will continue to be merged for the 2024 season.

The Board and Coaches will provide updates to the timelines for spring season, meet the coaches, update winter conditioning and box team programs, equipment and merch, and athletic requirements, team parent involvement, Q&A and a few other topics.

Email any questions to [ikeboyslacrosse@gmail.com](mailto:ikeboyslacrosse@gmail.com) or join and check out the Utica Eisenhower Boys Lacrosse Facebook page for updated info.

If you know any players and parents that would be interested - Please help and get the word out!

GO UTICA-IKE!



## Wrestling



**BOYS AND GIRLS  
7/8 WRESTLING CLUB**

- NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED
- Compete at your size and skill level
- No Cuts or "sitting the bench"
- Must have sports physical

- Parent/Athlete Meeting
- When: Monday Nov 6th
- 6pm, Eppler Cafeteria

**CONTACT FOR MORE INFO:**  
Coach Davis  
[Clinton.davis@uticak12.org](mailto:Clinton.davis@uticak12.org)

Grab an info sheet from main office and participate in this great winter sport

# Reward Programs

## 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](http://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"

## NJHS – Planet Green Fundraiser



Thank you to all who have donated to Planet Green! We have raised over \$400 over the last couple of years by recycling used ink cartridges and electronics! Planet Green is no longer accepting used electronics. They are only accepting ink cartridges. Please continue to send those into Mrs. Byron in room 19! Thank you!

NJHS is doing a yearlong fundraiser with Planet Green. Please send in **Inkjet cartridges (NO toner or laser cartridges)** to room 19. NJHS sends them to Planet Green, and then Planet Green sends Eppler a check! This fundraiser helps the environment and our school! NJHS members can receive one hour for every 5 items, but everybody is encouraged to participate!

# Eppler Clubs & Organizations

## We Need Volunteers

We still have a couple of clubs/organizations without sponsors and could use YOUR help in re-launching these groups to give interested students a wonderful opportunity!

Please contact Mr. Pantano at [gerard.pantano@uticak12.org](mailto:gerard.pantano@uticak12.org) if interested in helping with:



**Robotics Club**



**Cultural Diversity Club**

## Eppler Booster Club

**We need you!! Please help!!**

The Eppler Athletics Boosters are looking for a few good volunteers! Unfortunately, if we do not get any volunteers, we will have to shut down the group. The boosters have been an integral part of many improvements at the school - water filling stations, providing needed equipment for teams, gym decor update, end of season pizza parties for all teams, just to name a few. Most importantly, we are also in need of a parent or couple of parents that can be responsible for the concession stands at the home games.

If you are interested in either please contact Mr. Paul at [eric.paul@uticak12.org](mailto:eric.paul@uticak12.org)

**JOIN THE  
BOOSTER CLUB**

## Eppler Parent Involvement Committee (EPIC)

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

**Monday, September 25**  
**Tuesday, October 24**  
**Tuesday, November 14**  
**Wednesday, December 13**  
**Tuesday, January 23**

**Wednesday, February 28**  
**Monday, March 18**  
**Tuesday, April 23**  
**Tuesday, May 21**

## 9th Grade NJHS Members

**Current 9<sup>th</sup> grade NJHS members:** Meeting Dates for this year are listed below. Meetings are MANDATORY per NJHS guidelines. If you miss 2 meetings, you may be removed from NJHS. If you are sick or have proper documentation, this does excuse you from a meeting however, you need to communicate with me that you will be missing a meeting. Meetings will be **AFTERNOON ONLY** this year from 2:11pm to roughly 2:35pm. Make sure that you are checking our schoology page regularly for updates. Please contact me at [scarlet.gleason@uticak12.org](mailto:scarlet.gleason@uticak12.org) if you have any questions.

**Thursday September 28**  
**Monday, October 30**  
**Thursday, January 18**



**Thursday, February 29**  
**Thursday, March 21**  
**Thursday, April 11**  
**Thursday, May 23**

## Student Council

Student Council Members, you can come in the morning at 7:00 or in the afternoon at 2:15. We will meet in Ms. Berg's classroom, Room 107, for both meetings.

Student Council Meeting Dates (subject to change)  
Meetings will be held 7:00 am and 2:15 pm in Room 107 or Room 120

**Tuesday September 12**  
**Tuesday October 3**  
**Thursday, November 21**  
**Tuesday, December 12**

**Tuesday, January 23**  
**Tuesday, February 6**  
**Tuesday, March 12**  
**Thursday, April 16**

## 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 2:20 PM to 3:20 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 2:20 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 3:20 PM. Students will need to sign in each day that they participate. Students need to arrange for their own transportation home.

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](mailto:April.Raupp@uticak12.org) / Last names L-Z: [Autumn.Blanchard@uticak12.org](mailto: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: \_\_\_\_\_



Chess Club is starting up again! Our first meeting is September 25 in Mrs. Byron's room, 19. We will meet from 2:15-3:15. Please make sure your student is picked up by 3:20. You can pick up an informational flyer in Mrs. Byron's room.

Eppler Elephants Chess Club  
"We stomp on our competition"

**Teacher Advisor:** Mrs. Byron [renee.byron@uticak12.org](mailto:renee.byron@uticak12.org)

**Coaches:** Braden Cheung and Marwan Hassan [CheungB@stu.uticak12.org](mailto:CheungB@stu.uticak12.org)  
[HassanM1@stu.uticak12.org](mailto:HassanM1@stu.uticak12.org)

**When:** Mondays after school from 2:15-3:15 in room 19 beginning September 25

Braden and Marwan will teach you how to play chess, and if you already know how, they will show you various techniques to elevate your game (and your chess rating!)

Please return the bottom portion of this form.

-----  
Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade level: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent: \_\_\_\_\_ parent phone \_\_\_\_\_

Student's chess background: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's math teacher \_\_\_\_\_ hour \_\_\_\_\_

(in case I need to relay information about chess practice)

\*please make sure that your student is picked up at 3:20. We will dismiss chess club at 3:15\*

**\*\*\* There will not be a Chess Club meeting on Monday, November 6. \*\*\***

# PowerSchool/Text Messaging Service

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>

Due to an update to PowerSchool, **parents who had a PowerSchool account prior to August 2, 2022 must reset their password to login.** Please [follow these directions to update your password.](#)

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.



<b>Monday, November 27</b>	<b>Thursday, November 30</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Chess Club in Ms. Byrons Room #19 2:15 - 3:15</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None.</li></ul>
<b>Tuesday, November 28</b>	<b>Friday, December 1</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None.</li></ul>
<b>Wednesday, November 29</b>	<b>Saturday, December 2</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Chieftain of the Month Lunch Location Room 136 11:06-12:08 pm</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul>
	<b>Sunday, December 3</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul>

**[Click here](#) to view the 2023-2024 District Calendar**



**Robert S. Monroe**  
Superintendent of Schools  
11303 Greendale  
Sterling Heights, MI 48312  
(586) 797-1100  
[www.UticaK12.org](http://www.UticaK12.org)

November 15, 2023

Dear UCS Community,

The UCS Empowered Strategic Plan was developed to guide the future success of Utica Community Schools. We are committed to sharing important updates with you as we implement key aspects of this planning process.

As we have previously shared, an area of focus over the past few months was the shared use of Heritage Junior High School and the Gene L. Klida Utica Academy for International Studies. Secondary attendance boundaries in this area were also included in this assessment.

The district will pursue a long-term plan based on input from the Enrollment Distribution Advisory Committee (EDAC). This group, composed of parents from each school, reviewed the building needs assessments from our Auxiliary Services Department, student access to programs and experiences, and attendance patterns. District leadership has considered options based upon the UCS vision of providing students with a range of opportunities.

Based upon the data and discussions to date, the district plans to move forward with adjustments to its junior high school attendance areas. Under these changes, students at Heritage Junior High School will begin attending other area secondary schools next school year. This change will ensure that current Heritage Junior High School students have access to the same opportunities available to students in schools with greater enrollment.

The new attendance areas will follow the major boundaries of Van Dyke and the Clinton River. These adjustments to the attendance areas will help balance junior high school enrollment. In addition, it will address long-term instances where subdivisions are geographically separated from the neighboring communities or families have to travel great distances to attend their assigned school.

Our focus is to make this transition as seamless as possible and work to minimize the impact of this change. We are committed to helping families and our staff by personally addressing questions that may arise. In the long-term, these modifications will increase opportunities for students while using resources and facilities more effectively. We have provided additional information on our website. In addition, there is an online form on this site that you may use to share feedback or ask questions.

At UCS, our priority is providing our students with safe, secure and educationally vibrant schools. We want every student to have opportunities to grow, develop and ultimately pursue their educational passion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Robert S. Monroe'.

**Robert S. Monroe**  
Superintendent of Schools

### Utica Community Schools Board of Education

Mary K. Thomas, Ph.D. - President • Denyeal Nesovski - Vice President • Michele Templeton - Treasurer  
Kelli Rankin - Secretary • Kimberly Becker - Trustee • Steven R. Meyer Ph.D. - Trustee • Machelie Fitzpatrick - Trustee





Parents, please see the following update from Mr. Monroe:

Utica Community Schools is committed, in partnership with the community, to empower students to positively transform their future and the world. We strive to prepare students for success beyond UCS, focusing on their education and safety today, and ensuring our schools are meeting student needs both now and in the future.

This commitment requires us to constantly review the use of our physical resources, to make certain our buildings are functioning safely and effectively and meeting the needs of the students and families in our community.

As we shared during last year's Safety and Success Bond election, we are taking a long term approach to our facility needs. This study is based on:

- Safety
- Age of the Facility
- Enrollment Patterns and Trends



This study includes a comprehensive look at the future of the shared site for Heritage Junior High School and the Gene L. Klida for International Studies. This was a need identified during both our strategic planning process and community surveys about future facility improvements. Heritage Junior High School and GLK-UAIS have been sharing a facility for the past 16 years. During that time, enrollment and building needs at Heritage and GLK-UAIS have experienced significant changes.

The district's long-standing citizens' committee – the Enrollment Distribution Advisory Committee – began to look at this issue in the spring. Their input will be considered along with enrollment projections, building needs assessments from our auxiliary services department, the efficient use of district resources, and making sure our students have access to programs and experiences that will empower their future.

Additional information is available through a Fact Sheet on this website: <https://www.uticak12.org/buildingforthefuture>. You can also share your thoughts and questions here: <http://www.uticak12.org/feedback>. A final determination on the future of this site is expected in November.

Safe, secure, and educationally vibrant schools remain a priority. We also recognize that change can be difficult. By working in partnership, we can position our district to continue supporting student success for today's students and our future generations.

### Macomb County Student Government Day



## Macomb County Board of Commissioners

The Macomb County Board of Commissioners is inviting public and private school students in grades 9-12 to partake in the county's second annual Student Government Day in mid to late January of 2024. Interested students are to write an essay according to the prompt on the attached flyer (16A). The Commissioners will choose their favorite essays and invite those students to the event. A \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to the student writing the top essay. Click on the following link for additional details and feel free to share with grade 9-12 students. [Student Government Day | Macomb County \(bocmacomb.org\)](https://www.bocmacomb.org)

*A free event for the entire community, including students and their parents/guardians.*

# Explore Careers in Manufacturing and Technology

**Thursday, Dec. 7, 2023 • 5:30–7:30pm**

Macomb Community College Sports & Expo Center • 14500 E. 12 Mile Road, Warren, MI 48088

- Enjoy hands-on exhibits and activities, including concept cars
- Learn about job skills that are in high demand
- Hear from recent graduates who found good-paying career employment
- Meet local businesses and learn who employers are hiring
- Discover the career pathway that's right for you
- Learn about apprenticeship programs, including the Michigan Apprenticeship Program Plus (MAP+)



**Register Today!** [macomb.edu/MFGevening](http://macomb.edu/MFGevening) **Walk-ins Welcome.**



Supported by a generous grant from the Fawn Family Foundation



Presented by Macomb Community College in collaboration with Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Manufacturing and Mathematics (STEM) partners.

## About Engineering & Advanced Technology at Macomb

We offer a range of programs designed to prepare you for careers in advanced manufacturing and automotive technology. Options include traditional educational pathways that lead to certificates and associate degrees, apprenticeship programs that combine on-the-job training with practical classroom and lab instruction, and short-term training programs designed to address immediate employment needs.



This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the recipient and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantee, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Macomb Community College and MAP+ is an equal opportunity employer/program provider. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. TTY users please call 1.877.878.8464 or visit [www.michigan.gov/mda](http://www.michigan.gov/mda).



# Utica Community Schools School Age Child Care (SACC) **WE ARE HIRING!**

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

SACC Directors- \$16/hr  
SACC Assistants- \$14/hr  
Substitutes



## WHY WORK WITH US:

- Best compensation package in Macomb County
  - Flexible hours
  - Extra income
  - Convenient locations
  - Morning & afternoon shifts
  - Guaranteed \$100 bonus every 10 days worked\*
- \*effective 2023-24 school year; subject to regular review and modification

Apply online: [uticak12.tedk12.com/hire](https://uticak12.tedk12.com/hire)

Questions? Contact Jenelle Dubey:

586.797.6904 or [Jenelle.Dubey@uticak12.org](mailto:Jenelle.Dubey@uticak12.org)



# SACC is Now Hiring! **BI-WEEKLY BONUS!\***



- Flexible Hours
- Extra Income at Competitive Pay Rates
- Convenient Locations
- Morning and Afternoon Shifts

**APPLY TODAY! CONTACT JENELLE DUBEY**

(586) 797-6904 [CommunityEdQuestions@Uticak12.org](mailto:CommunityEdQuestions@Uticak12.org)

\*Every 10 workdays (based on your regular shift), you are eligible to receive a \$100 stipend

**UTICA  
COMMUNITY  
SCHOOLS**

PUT YOURSELF  
IN THE **DRIVER'S SEAT**  
**HIRING SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS**  
**STARTING AT  
\$21 PER HOUR**

**PAID TRAINING**  
**586-797-7113**  
[uticak12.org/driverseat](https://uticak12.org/driverseat)


**WALK-IN INTERVIEWS**  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18  
10AM - NOON

EISENHOWER HIGH SCHOOL  
6500 25 MILE ROAD

THE UCS AUXILIARY SERVICES CENTER  
6600 18 MILE RD

**4** **PowerSchool  
Forms to  
Review**

for a successful school year



[ps.ucs.misd.net](https://ps.ucs.misd.net)

**1**  
Student Address,  
Student Contacts and  
Health Information

**2**  
Parent Student  
Handbook

**3**  
Technology  
Device Use  
Agreement

**4**  
Technology Device  
Insurance Opportunity  
Due Sept. 8, 2023



Eisenhower High School's 39<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**Santa's Craft Castle  
Arts & Crafts Show**  
Saturday November 18, 2023  
9am to 4pm



At Eisenhower High School  
6500 25 Mile Rd.  
Shelby Twp., MI 48316



**100+**  
**Vendors!**

Admission is only \$3.00 per person.  
**NO STROLLERS PLEASE!**



[www.santascraftcastle.com](http://www.santascraftcastle.com)

Proceeds benefit the  
Eisenhower Instrumental  
Music Programs!



# HOLIDAY SHOPPING NIGHT

**UTICA HIGH SCHOOL  
CHIEF CONNECTION  
DECEMBER 7, 2023**

**5:30-7:30 PM** ENTER THRU DOOR 5

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](http://www.careofsem.com) for locations, times, and dates for all programs.

Peaceful Alternatives to Tough Situations (PATS):

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:

T<sup>3</sup> 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. T<sup>3</sup> also works to get rid of the myth that all teens require drugs or alcohol to have fun!





Dear Parent or Guardian:

Our school will be hosting a Zoom presentation on [OK2SAY – Michigan’s student safety program](#) for students in 7<sup>th</sup> grade on **October 27, 2023, during 2<sup>nd</sup> hour.**

The program is designed to inform students how they can help make their school and community safer by reporting dangerous and concerning behaviors to a trusted adult or OK2SAY.

Students in 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade learn about the program's purpose and how the tipline operates, including what incidents can be reported, how to submit a tip, and the actions taken after a tip is received. Students are encouraged to examine their behaviors and make smart and thoughtful decisions both online and off. The presentation discusses many issues that impact middle school students including bullying, cyberbullying, mental health issues, self-harm, suicide thoughts, sexting/sextortion, types of abuse, and the predator threat. Throughout the presentation, students are encouraged to stand up for themselves and their peers and always to be mindful of the power of their words.

Please take a moment to [review the videos featured in the presentation.](#)

Additional information and resources are available at [OK2SAY\(ok2say.com\)](#).

If you do NOT want your child to participate, email your student’s counselor by Tuesday, October 24, 2023.

Mrs. Raupp – A-K [april.raupp@uticak12.org](mailto:april.raupp@uticak12.org)

Mrs. Blanchard – L-Z [autumn.blanchard@uticak12.org](mailto:autumn.blanchard@uticak12.org)

## 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](https://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 Calming Room for Students

Students – Check out and explore the new Virtual Calming Room by UCS. Click the link below, and **then click on the Calming Room icon**. THANK YOU!

It has tons of ways to relax and de-stress before exams (and after):

- \*Coloring and creativity
- \*Guided meditation
- \*Puzzles and games
- \*Exercise
- \*Live animal cameras
- \*Visual relaxation
- \*Smartphone apps
- \*Sounds and music
- \*Mindfulness
- \*Yoga



## [UCS Calming Room - Utica Community Schools \(uticak12.org\)](http://uticak12.org)

Check out Monday Moments, COVID-19 Support Services, Macomb Food Program and more at:

[www.uticak12.org/UCS\\_Wellness](http://www.uticak12.org/UCS_Wellness)

## UCS Wellness Podcast

The UCS Wellness team is happy to announce the 13<sup>th</sup> episode of our podcast series featuring Matt Cecil, Jeannette Junior High physical education teacher with host, Erin Chambers, Shelby Junior High physical education and health teacher. This two-part series will inform listeners how to increase their focus and decrease their stress. These podcasts are available on the UCS Wellness page. [UCS Wellness - Utica Community Schools](#). The 13<sup>th</sup> podcast in the series is Managing Components of Biology.

Below is a list of the podcasts available on the Wellness page:

- Mental Health with guest, Nancy Buyle
- Grief and the Grieving Process for Children
- Family Communication
- CARE of Southeastern Michigan
- Discussing Dating Violence with Turning Point
- Tackling Tough Topics with the Macomb County Sheriff's Office
- Our Youth and Vaping
- Youth and Suicide Prevention
- The Detour Project
- Self-Regulation Strategies
- Teen Mental Health and Wellness
- Raising an Intuitive Eater
- Managing Components of Biology (two-part series)
- Raising an Intuitive Eater



## Virtual Library Card

Students and staff can access their Virtual Library account located on their ClassLink dashboard. The Virtual Library Card gives students access to digital resources from the local library and the virtual library card - Tutor.com provides online tutoring and homework help for students.



### Student Virtual Library Card

1. Click on the Virtual Library Card icon from the ClassLink dashboard.
2. Select the library assigned to your homeschool

3. Enter in your Virtual Library Card number and pin

Virtual Library Card number = UCS followed by the Student PowerSchool Number

PIN = MMDD (birth month and birth day)

4. Click Sign in

Sterling Heights Library	Shelby Township Library	Utica Public Library	Clinton-Macomb Public Library
Bemis	Beacon Tree	Eppler	Beck
Browning	Crissman	Flickinger	Ebeling
Burr	Duncan		
Collins	Eisenhower		
Davis	Malow		
DeKeyser	Monfort		
Dresden	Morgan		
Graebner	Roberts		
Harvey	Shelby		
Havel	Switzer		
Henry Ford II	Utica High		
Heritage	West Utica		
Jeannette	Wiley		
Messmore			
Oakbrook			
Plumbrook			
Schuchard			
Schwarzhoff			
Stevenson			
UAIS			
Utica Alternative Learning Center			
Virtual School (Elementary, Junior High, High School)			





# 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  $\frac{15}{2} + b$ . At the bottom, it shows  $\frac{15}{2} = b$ . The chat window on the right shows a list of messages and a 'Send' button.

03

# Virtual Library Card – Tutor.com



1. Click on the Virtual Library Card Tutor.com icon from the ClassLink dashboard.

2. Enter in your Virtual Library Card Tutor.com number and pin

Virtual Library Card Tutor.com number = UCS followed by the Student PowerSchool Number

PIN = MMDD (birth month and birth day)

## Would you like to save your login?



Virtual Library Card - Tutor.com(Suburban)

You can save your login for this application to auto login on your next visit

Fields marked as \* are required

\* Barcode

UCS100023456



\* Password

0923

Skip

Save

4. Click Save

## 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

### "Hey Alexa, what's for lunch?"

UCS's School Menus are digitally accessible on all devices as well as Amazon's Alexa!

**Customize, view and print all school menus by clicking here or visiting <https://uticak12.nutrislice.com>**



All meals are free this year thanks to the Michigan School Meals law. Students that would like to be eligible for benefits, such as pay-to-participate sports, college entrance/AP testing fees, summer EBT cards and more need to complete the Eligibility Benefits Form or the School Meals and Summer EBT Form. These forms are available at <https://utica.familyportal.cloud>.

### **Allergens Form**

We take food allergies and student safety very seriously. If your student has any food allergies, please have your physician fill out the MDE Dietary Needs Form and return it to the food service office. [MDE Special Diet Form](#).

- 1- You must fill out a physician signed MDE Special Needs Accommodation form and send it to the Food Service office. Without this, we cannot make any accommodations. Please make sure to be specific with regards to the allergy (Example: all dairy or just fluid milk intolerance, etc.)
- 2- Because allergies can change, you MUST fill out a new form EVERY YEAR.
- 3- You must indicate to your child's school which days and which menu item you would like at least 48 hours in advance. We will not automatically have these available if we do not hear from parents in advance.
- 4- A vegetarian and nut free options are available every day, so please see the regular menu.
- 5- Juice or water are not acceptable substitutes per USDA guidelines. At this time, we have Kikkoman Soy milk as a substitute. You're welcome to send in your own milk with your child if they don't like it.
- 6- We will do the best we can to accommodate other requests but there may be some limitations. For questions, please call our food service office at 586-797-1180



# In Case You Missed It

Back To School

*Thank you staff, students and parents!! We had a fun and successful first week at Eppler.*





*A huge thank you to our EPIC parent group for the Staff Lounge make over.*





# Homecoming

Thank you to our football, volleyball, and student council members for participating in the annual Homecoming Parade. Beautiful weather, fun times and great memories for all.





# Choose KINDNESS.

Each month staff members nominate kids they catch doing random acts of kindness. These are students who are not being asked to do anything, they just graciously do it out of the goodness of their hearts. Then once a month the counselors go into the classrooms and reward these students for their kind gesture. This month's nominees were:

*Tommy Mercario, Alexander Moore, Aleyna Margilaj, Layleigh Monroe, Madilyn Backus, McKenna Jordan, Tristan Taepke, Justin Nrecaj, Charlie Hinton, Hope Jasmund, James Bishop, Karly Ingals, Gavin Camp, Jaxson Readett, Jacob Koja, Christian Priester*

Thank you to all of the nominees and keep up the kindness

## Chieftain of the Month

### Congrats to our September Chieftains of the Month!

*Alexander Sesi, Joshua Hayes, Justin Nrecaj, Tristyn Taepke, Christian Wilson-Hardwick, Peyton Combs, Gabriella Still, Samantha Gott, Emma Stone, Alyssa Martin, Karly Ingalls, Kylee Backus*



## Chieftains of the Month

### Congrats to our October Chieftains of the Month!

*Brendan Antias, Nicholas Wright, Christian Toye, Michael Long, Charlotte Orlowski, America Gonzalez, Sophia Zdravkoski, Victoria Gjekaj, Jozlynn Schroeder, Malgorzata Ojrzynska, Olivia Blumke, Madelynne Quinlan*

### Great Job Everyone!



## Thank you

The Eppler staff would like to give BIG thank you to our EPIC Group for supplying the "Tailgate Dinner" coordinated by Ms. Bluhm and Ms. Mansfield.



## Thank You!!!

The Eppler staff would like to give a BIG thank you to Ms. Bluhm and Ms. Mansfield for putting together the pizza lunch for staff prior to the October 13 conferences. We would also like to thank Sam's Sorrento's Pizza in Utica for their generous donation of all the pizza.





# Kindness Matters

## A WEEK IN REVIEW

### Kindness Branches Out

Students and staff signed their name to a leaf pledging to be kind to one another and attached it to our kindness tree. The beautiful tree was created by Evelyn Urban and Daniella Najjar.



Students colored placemats with positive messages which were donated to a local Meals-On-Wheels program to give to their special clients.



### Dress Up Days

Each day staff and students were asked to dress up in a kindness theme. Thursday's participants wore their favorite music artist/band t-shirt to show KINDNESS ROCKS! Good job everyone!





## Door Decorating Contest

All 4th hour classes were given the challenge to decorate their classroom door in a design that promotes kindness. The three classrooms below won a pizza party. All of the doors were awesome!



**Room 134**



**Room 117**



**Rooms 113/114**



## Guest Speaker

To start off our Kindness Matters Week, students saw a presentation by motivational speaker and magician, Anthony Grupido.



Students were able to color and fill out notes of appreciation for teachers and other school staff which were then delivered.



Special thanks to the AVID students who helped out!

# Kindness Matters at Eppler!



Each month staff members nominate kids they catch doing random acts of kindness. These are students who are not being asked to do anything, they just graciously do it out of the goodness of their hearts. Then once a month the counselors go into the classrooms and reward these students for their kind gesture. This months nominees were:

*Carter Czapski, Jayden Washington, Dominic Toth, Mateo Pipetone, Presley Orłowski, Audrey Hinton, Brooke Maffetone, Manuel Yaldo, Hunter Brockway, Abby Luzier, Eva Normandin, Evelyn Urban, Daniella Najar, Farah Hami, Afra Lopez, Maria Martinez, Melanie Macias-Gonzalez, Anthony Camilleri, Cassidy Smiley, Jackson Jolly, Ella Lobb, Carl Ventimiglia, Denise Acebedo, Veronica Timmons, Michael Long, Lilian Boskovich, Jacob Koja, Jayden Washington and Derrick Keehn*

Thank you to all of the nominees and keep up the kindness



# GOLDEN TICKET RAFFLE RESULTS



Last week, students were given a Golden Ticket for each class in which they had ZERO missing assignments. Students used the tickets to enter a raffle. The grand prize was a pizza party at lunch with two friends and the runner-up winners were given a coupon to use at the school store. Good job everyone!

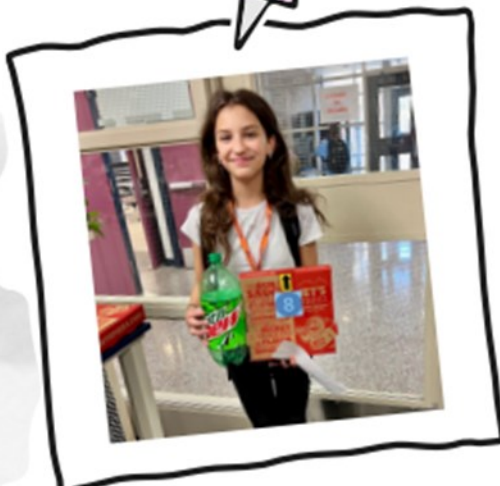


## CONGRATULATIONS!



## GRAND PRIZE WINNERS

Emma Blash  
Angelina Bshara  
Hollye Kilburg



## RUNNER-UP WINNERS

Savanna Stachurski  
Michael Lasceski  
Milania Bitti  
Brayden Beebe  
Layleigh Monroe  
Gavin Anys  
Abigail Gabridge  
Kaitlyn Gorlewski  
Nachelle Hopson  
Sawyer Willis  
Tristyn Taepke  
Lilly McNair  
Mariana Bleck  
Kendall Yousef  
Matthew Thomas



## 2023 HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST



Above: Teachers' choices from each class selected to move on to the final judging

### Below: Final Winners !!

Each winner received a coupon to the Chieftain Corner Store for one item of their choice.

