

# The UCS Legacy of Learning

## Pursue Excellence

### Live Your Passion

### Be Where You Belong



The design vision gives our students more space to work in groups on projects that develop essential skills such as collaboration, communication and problem solving.



The elementary classroom of the future remains focused on safety and provides an environment that gives teachers the flexibility to work with individuals and in small and large groups.

## Reimagining UCS Elementary Schools

Thanks to UCS voters, our school district is embarking on a transformative approach to how our elementary school facilities will support future generations of learners.

As work began this summer, the reconstruction of DeKeyser Elementary is demonstrating our vision for the future.

By building, renovating and innovating, UCS is able to update elementary schools districtwide with facilities that encourage growth and achievement.

Through this transformation, the new design will:

- Create additional layers of safety.

- Support achievement through space that fosters learning communities.
- Provide teachers with the flexibility and technology for large and small group instruction.
- Provide a modern look that grows community pride and enhances property values.

For more information:

[www.uticak12.org/safetyandsuccess](http://www.uticak12.org/safetyandsuccess).



**UTICA  
COMMUNITY  
SCHOOLS**

# Attendance Area Review

With the reconstruction of elementary schools, Utica Community Schools is able to address long-standing issues related to school attendance areas.

The attendance areas for UCS were introduced in most cases when the facilities opened more than 50 years ago.

As a result, some neighborhood subdivisions are geographically disconnected from neighboring communities with boundaries that do not take advantage of major landmarks and roadways.

Currently, the district's citizens Enrollment Distribution Advisory Committee is reviewing patterns for elementary schools feeding into Henry Ford II High School. A plan will be shared with the community by mid-December.

Through this review, neighborhood schools would foster a stronger sense of community and provide more students with access to updated facilities that encourage growth and achievement.

## The 2023 Bond Issue - Improving every school with a focus on safety

The \$550 million bond issue represents the largest facility improvement investment in the history of Utica Community Schools.

The bond issue, supported by 70 percent of district voters in 2023, is focused on safety and provides improvements at every UCS school.

Examples of projects that are benefiting schools districtwide include:

- Additional layers of safety, such as replacement of doors, installation of safety locks, and shatter-resistant glass.
- Walls and doors installed at former "Open Concept" schools. These were completed in 2024.

- Improved parking lots through redesigns and/or repaving.
- Install new playground equipment and replace playground surfacing at all elementary schools.
- The continued implementation of the school district's long-range facility improvement program, including roofs, heating and cooling systems, and electrical and plumbing infrastructure.
- Improved athletic fields for all high schools and fan-friendly stadium renovations. This project is scheduled to begin in the spring.

To see a list of projects by school with updated timelines, please see our website: [uticak12.org/safetyandsuccess](https://uticak12.org/safetyandsuccess)

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