



Malow Mustang Messenger



February 10, 2025

*new or updated information

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This Week's Events

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This Week at a Glance

Monday, February 10

- [College Monday](#)
- [Winter Spirit Week \(Through 2/14\)](#)
- [Homework Club in the Media Center from 3:15pm - 4:15pm](#)
- [Chess Club in Room B207 from 3:15pm - 4:15pm](#)
- 7th Girls Basketball vs. Shelby (Shelby) @ 4:00pm
- 8th Girls Basketball vs. Bemis (Shelby) @ 5:30pm
- Ike Girls Freshman Basketball vs. L'anse Creuse (L'anse Creuse) @4:00pm
- Ike Girls JV Basketball vs.L'anse Creuse (L'anse Creuse) @5:30pm
- Ike Girls Varsity Basketball vs. L'anse Creuse (L'anse Creuse) @7:00pm

Tuesday, February 11

- [Gaming Club in Room B207 from 3:15pm - 4:15pm](#)
- Ike Girls Freshman Basketball vs. LCN (LCN) @ 4:00pm
- Ike Boys Swim vs. St. Clair HS (St. Clair) @ 6:00pm
- Utica/Ike Boys Lacrosse pre-tryouts meeting in the Media Center @6:30pm

Wednesday, February 12

- Count Day
- [Homework Club in the Media Center from 3:15pm - 4:15pm](#)



Thursday, February 13

- Malow Talent Show @ 7:00pm
- Detour Project in room C309 from 3:05pm-4:15pm
- 8th Girls Basketball vs. Jeannette (Jeannette) @ 4:00pm
- 7th Girls Basketball vs. Jeannette Jeannette @ 5:30pm
- Ike Girls JV Basketball vs. GPS (Ike) @ 5:30pm
- Ike Girls Varsity Basketball vs. GPS (Ike) @ 7:00pm

Friday, February 14

- Bake Sale during all lunch periods
- Ike Boys Freshman Basketball vs. L'anse Creuse North (Ike) @4:00pm
- Ike Boys JV Basketball vs. L'anse Creuse North (Ike) @ 5:30pm
- Ike Boys Varsity Basketball vs. L'anse Creuse North (Ike) @ 7:00pm

Saturday, February 15

- Ike Boys Varsity Wrestling Team Regionals (location TBS)@9:00am
- Ike Varsity Hockey vs. Lake Orion (Detroit Skating Club) @ time TBD

Student Spectators at Malow Basketball Games

Students that would like to go to a Malow basketball game after the school day:

You must first exit the school at the end of the day.

You may reenter at the Gym entrance at 3:45pm.

You must be accompanied by an adult.

UCS Attendance Area Updates

Please [click here](#) for attendance area information.

School ID Reminder

Attention students! Please remember to wear your school ID each day. Wearing them in the cafeteria lunch line helps the cashiers identify you and move through the line at a faster pace. If you are wearing a temporary ID for the day, please wear it on your shirt so they can see your name. Please do NOT put the ID on your pants! Thank you!

After School Pick Up on Horizon Drive

If you pick up your Malow student on **Horizon Drive** after school, please be courteous to the homeowners and **NOT** block driveways!

After School Pick Up at Eisenhower

Please do not park in the middle section of the back parking lot as you wait to pick up your Malow student. An athletic bus needs to get through the lot and park near door #14 to pick up students. Thank you.

Early Dismissals

[Click here](#) for information on Malow's early dismissal process.

Malow Yearbook Information

The 2024-2025 Malow yearbook can be purchased at www.jostensyearbooks.com.

Vaccination Information for 7th Graders and New Students to Malow

The State of Michigan requires children to be age-appropriately vaccinated to enroll in school programs, unless a valid exemption applies. Vaccination information for children entering 7th grade (and new students to Malow) can be found by [clicking here](#).

Malow Sounding Board – February Bake Sale

Parents and guardians are invited to attend our monthly Sounding Board meetings. For information on our annual fall donation drive, please [click here](#). If you have any questions, or you would like to be added to our email list, please email Renee Edgar at malowsoundingboard@gmail.com. Upcoming Sounding Board meeting dates: 2/27/25, 5/1/25

Please click on the following link for the February 14 Bake Sale if you can help!

[Malow Sounding Board: Malow Bake Sale](#)



Valentine Spirit Week- February 10-14

Please [click here](#) for more information

Locker Information

For a map of Malow with lockers, [click here](#). For a list of lockers with location, [click here](#).

Information for 7th Graders and New Students (2024-2025 School Year)

Please click on the following links for important information:

[Who's Who at Malow](#)

[Locker Information](#)

[Layout of Malow](#)

[Bell Schedule and Lunches](#)

Annual Volunteer Background Checks

Fall school events offer occasions to introduce new parents to those volunteering opportunities associated with each school building. Please remember that any person who is sanctioned to engage students on the district's behalf (i.e., assistant athletic coach, Science Olympiad, Lego Robotics, chaperone, etc.) requires a cleared check. If a parent has students in more than one school, only one volunteer form must be completed. [Click here](#) for the background check form if needed. Please turn in to the front office.

*Student Athlete Wellness Fair

Henry Ford II High School's DECA chapter, with the lead of 3 students, is planning and implementing a Student Athlete Wellness Fair under the guidance of Jennifer Milke (DECA Advisor), Lori Singleton (Principal), and Catherine Livingston (District Wellness Consultant). Part of this fair will consist of vendor booths that address the physical, nutritional and mental health of a student athlete. [Click here](#) for a flyer with more information.

Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Location: Henry Ford II Commons

Time: 6:00 - 8:00 pm

PaySchools is Now PaySchools Central

All UCS schools now utilize a central PaySchools site, which can be visited at www.payschoolscentral.com. For more information and a PaySchools Central parent/student guide, please [click here](#).

2024-25 UCS School Calendar

To view the Utica Community Schools calendar for the 2024-25 school please [click here](#).

The UCS Legacy of Learning

[Click here](#) for a flyer with information on the UCS Legacy of Learning.

Limitless Potential

Utica Community Schools is joining a statewide coalition in an initiative called "Limitless Potential," which is aimed to tell the special education story of our communities. Through this initiative, we will inform our community about special education, the value it brings to our schools and neighborhoods, and the many successes we celebrate in our students and staff. Please [click here](#) for a flyer.

Clinton River Watershed Council (CRWC) Events

The Clinton River Watershed Council (CRWC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting, enhancing and celebrating the Clinton River, its watershed and Lake St. Clair. They provide residents, schools, governments, businesses and other community groups with wide-ranging programs and events to ensure a healthy Clinton River Watershed for us all. Please see [attached flyer](#) for upcoming fall 2024 events.

2025 National Civics Bee Competition

[Click here](#) for a flyer with more information. Students can submit their essay by following this link:

https://my.reviewr.com/NationalCivicsBee/site/NationalCivicsBee2025;jsessionid=2595016D1E13F154227BCB6509819C67.2a?utm_campaign=tctncb25&utm_source=wordpress&utm_medium=essay_guide

UCS Science Leadership – Second Quarter

The UCS Science Leadership Team is publishing a quarterly newsletter to share the high-quality learning experiences UCS students are having based on the amazing work of our teachers. [Click here](#) for the newsletter published for Q2 of this year.

Community Education Babysitting Classes

The attached flyers are for Babysitting courses that will be offered at both Crissman Elementary and Messmore Elementary this semester. These classes are open to all UCS students ages 9 to 17.

[Messmore Babysitting](#)

[Crissman and Messmore Babysitting](#)

Questions? Contact Community Education at 586-797-6900 or enrichment@uticak12.org.

Malow Athletic Director

Kati Campbell (katherine.campbell@uticak12.org)

Big Teams Student Central – Pre-Participation Athletic Forms

The Athletic Department at Malow Junior High School now hosts their Pre-Participation Athletic Forms **online** with BigTeams. This digital platform will allow you, and your student(s), to complete and access athletic forms via computer, tablet, or mobile phone. [Click here](#) for the introductory letter. [Click here](#) for the Getting Started Guide. This online system is now district wide, and physical forms **MUST** be uploaded prior to tryouts. Coaches and the front office are no longer accepting paper copies of physical forms.

Physical Required for Sports

All athletes must have a physical on file dated after April 15, 2024. Students will not be able to try-out for a sport without this physical. For more information and other athletic forms on the UCS website please [click here](#).

Online Link for Pay to Play

Click [here](#) to access the PaySchools link to Pay to Play for your Malow student athlete.

UCS High School Athletic Event Admission 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.

7th/8th Grade Wrestling Club

Coaches Ricky Hinchliffe and David Drath. [Click here](#) for a flyer with more information. The Wrestling Club began Tuesday, January 21.

7th/8th Grade Competitive Cheer

Coach Moskwa (isabella.moskwa@uticak12.org).

7th Grade Boys Basketball

Coach Thomas (james.thomas@uticak12.org).

8th Grade Boys Basketball

Coach Schwesinger (david.schwesinger@uticak12.org).

7th Grade Girls Basketball

Coach Schwesinger (david.schwesinger@uticak12.org). There was an informational meeting on Tuesday, December 10 in room E503 from 3:05pm – 3:30pm. Tryouts began on January 8, 2025.

8th Grade Girls Basketball

Coach Thoel (jason.thoel@uticak12.org). There was an informational meeting on Tuesday, December 10 in room B208 from 3:05pm – 3:30pm. Tryouts began on January 8, 2025.

Ike Football Strength Training for 7th – 9th Graders

Football strength training meets in the Ike Weightroom after school on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. The lifting is organized, supervised, and free.

9th Grade Sports

All 9th grade sports are handled through Eisenhower. Please see the [next section](#) for all Eisenhower High School sports information.

UCS Code of Conduct

The UCS Code of Conduct for Student Athletes may be found [here](#).

Senior Citizen Athletic Pass



Local senior citizens are invited to take advantage of “Friday Night Lights” and all other home athletic games with a Utica Community Schools lifetime pass.

The pass gives residents 62 years and older free admission to UCS home athletic events at all junior high schools and high schools. The pass is not valid at tournaments hosted by the Michigan High School Athletic Association that are held at UCS sites.

Passes are available for free at athletic events, UCS secondary schools or by calling 586-797-1078.

9th Grade / Freshman Sports

9th graders participate in sports through Eisenhower's sports program. Check the [IKE website](#) for further information or contact Eisenhower's Athletic Director with any questions or concerns: Connie Wakefield connie.wakefield@uticak12.org. For information about Ike Sports, follow this link: www.eisenhowerathletics.org. For information on registering athletes on PlanetHS please [click here](#).

9th Grade Athletic Ticket Information

Eisenhower is using digital ticketing. The link families can use to purchase tickets is as follows: <https://gofan.co/app/school/MI10109>

UCS High School Athletic Event Admission 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.

High School Sporting Event Entrance Requirements

All students (home or visitors) must present a school ID for entrance to the game. All middle school or junior high students **must present a school ID AND be accompanied by an adult**. There are **no exceptions**. The adult must enter the contest with the student and cannot simply drop off the student at the gate. The adults are expected to stay at the event and be responsible for the supervision of their child. Failure to have a school ID and adult present with a junior high student will result in non-admittance to the event.

Eisenhower Live Streamed Sports

Eisenhower is now able to stream all sporting events in the gym and pool area. Following is the link, and it does require a monthly fee to watch everything live. The fee is \$10. [Eisenhower High School - Shelby Township, MI \(nfhsnetwork.com\)](http://Eisenhower High School - Shelby Township, MI (nfhsnetwork.com))

Eisenhower Sports Update

[Click here](#) for the latest Eisenhower Sports update.

Eisenhower Baseball

Any student interested in preparing for baseball tryouts in March can participate in Saturday 4-man workouts in January and February. Please contact Coach Spisak to set up workout times by e-mail at steven.spisak@uticak12.org.

Eisenhower Competitive Cheer

Coach Shaffer (taylor.shaffer@uticak12.org).

Eisenhower Boys Freshman Basketball

Coach Muscat (mj2332166@gmail.com).

Eisenhower Girls Freshman Basketball

Coach Ristovski (madison.ristovski@uticak12.org).

Eisenhower Wrestling

Coach Drath (david.drath@uticak12.org).

Eisenhower Bowling

Coach Matheson (lmatheson@sjcontrols.com).

Eisenhower Boys Swim

Coach Doherty (lisa.doherty@uticak12.org).

Eisenhower Clay Shooting

Coach Ollila (markeisenhowerclaycoach@gmail.com). There will be an orientation meeting on Monday March 17th, at North Macomb S.C. at 6:00pm. [Click here](#) for more information on Ike Clay Shooting.

Eisenhower Girls Soccer

Contact girlssoccerike@gmail.com.

*Utica/Ike Boys Lacrosse

Contact ikeboyslacrosse@gmail.com. The 2025 Utica/Eisenhower Boys Lacrosse Program Off-season conditioning started on 1/9/25. For more information, please [click here](#).

There will be a pre-tryout meeting on Tuesday, February 11 in the Ike Media Center at 6:30pm. Please [click here](#) for a flyer with more information and tryout dates.

UCS Code of Conduct

The UCS Code of Conduct for Student Athletes may be found [here](#).

Eisenhower High School Athletic Admission Prices

Event	Ticket Price	Season Passes/Use for UCS home athletic events
JV/Varsity Football JV/Varsity Basketball (Boys & Girls) JV/Varsity Volleyball JV/Varsity Soccer Wrestling Swimming Competitive Cheer	\$5.00 Home Games	• Athletic Pass Adult Family (Eisenhower) \$55.00 This item is an adult family season pass to UCS home athletic events. The pass admits 2 adults (18 and older) in addition to 6th grade and younger children when accompanied by a parent. • Athletic Pass Student (Eisenhower) \$35.00 This item is a student athletic season pass to UCS home athletic events. (Students in 7th thru 12th grade) Admits one only. • Athletic Passes-Single Adult (Eisenhower) \$40.00 This item is a pass which admits one adult (18 years and older) to all UCS home athletic events.
*Freshman Football *Freshman Volleyball *Freshman Basketball	\$3.00 Home Games	• Student Pass: 7th-12th grade student only. \$35.00 • Senior Citizen Pass: No Charge Lifetime pass, age 62 years or older. Admits bearer to all UCS athletic home events. (See below) • FREE ADMISSION for all K-6 grade students, when accompanied by parent or adult.
*Freshman Soccer *Varsity Track	3.00 Home Games (if admission charged)	You must show your on-line purchase receipt to the Bookkeeper at Eisenhower High School to pick up your athletic pass.

*When a freshman contest is immediately followed by a JV contest on the same date, the freshman admission rate will be applied until 45 minutes prior to the start of the JV contest. At that time, the JV admission rate will be used.

- You can purchase a pass during registration at the beginning of the year.
- You can purchase a pass online at [Athletic pass through Pay Schools](#)

NOTES: League, State and Invitational Tournament games are not covered by any season pass. If for any reason a pass should be lost or destroyed, we will NOT replace it.

Next Week at a Glance

Monday, February 17

- No School-begin Mid-Winter Break
- Ike Varsity Hockey MHSAA Playoffs (Macomb Suburban Ice) @4:30pm
- Ike Girls JV Basketball vs Armada (Armada) @5:30pm
- Ike Girls Varsity Basketball vs. Armada (Armada) @7:00pm

Tuesday, February 18

- Ike Boys Freshman Basketball vs. Anchor Bay (Anchor Bay) @4:00pm
- Ike Boys Varsity Wrestling Individual Regionals (locations TBD) @5:00pm
- Ike Boys JV Basketball vs. Anchor Bay (Armada) @5:30pm
- Ike Girls Varsity Basketball vs. Armada (Armada) @7:00pm
- Ike Boys Varsity Basketball vs. Anchor Bay (Anchor Bay) @7:00pm

Wednesday, February 19

Thursday, February 20

- Ike Boys Freshman Basketball vs. GPN (GPN) @4:00pm
- Ike Boys JV Basketball vs. GPN (GPN) @5:30pm
- Ike Boys Swim (Ike) @6:00pm
- Ike Boys Varsity Basketball vs. GPN (GPN) @7:00pm

Friday, February 21

Ike Boys Varsity Wrestling Team States (location TBD) @9:00am
Ike Girls Freshman Basketball vs. Henry Ford II (Henry Ford II) @4:00pm
Ike Girls JV Basketball vs. Henry Ford II

Saturday, February 22

- Ike Boys Varsity Wrestling Team Regionals (location TBD) @ 9:00am
- Ike Varsity Hockey vs. Lake Orion (Detroit Skating Club) @ time TBD

***DeKeyser Elementary School Ribbon Cutting – Save the Date**

Utica Community Schools will be hosting a community ribbon cutting/open house event on Sunday, August 24 to celebrate the completion of our reconstruction project at DeKeyser Elementary School. Thanks to the support of our community for the 2023 Safety and Success Bond Issue, DeKeyser Elementary represents the first step to our vision on how UCS school designs will spur growth and achievement. Please [click here](#) for more information.

Attendance & Grading

Attendance is required and tracked in accordance with [Board of Education policy 5115](#). Parents should call the attendance line to report all absences (586-797-3599). Attendance will be taken each hour. Tardiness will be tracked the same way as face-to-face instruction. The Malow office will continue to communicate all absences via automated email to parents on the same day. Actual grades will be given and posted on PowerSchool. We recommend that all parents consistently check PowerSchool for updated grades and attendance.

Attendance Line / Late Arrival Call-in

If an absence is absolutely necessary, **parents must call the Malow attendance voice mail BEFORE 9:00 a.m. The attendance phone number is 797-3599**. Give the student's name (**PLEASE SPELL LAST NAME**), grade, reason for absence and length of absence. The voice mail is on twenty-four hours a day, so you can avoid busy phone lines in the morning by phoning in the night before. If unable to reach the voice mail, parents may call the Main Office at 797-3500. If it is impossible to call the school, the parent must supply a signed note stating the date and reason for absence when the student returns to school or the absence will be counted as unexcused.

Early Dismissals

[Click here](#) for information on Malow's early dismissal process.

Automated Attendance

For the safety of our students, Malow uses an automated attendance phone system. If you have not called the attendance line to excuse your student's absence for the day, you will receive an automated phone call beginning at 6:00 pm.

Injury or Illness – Dispensing of Medication

When a student becomes ill or injured during the school day, we will contact a parent or designated adult for directions. Please arrange to pick up a sick or injured student as quickly as possible. Students who require medication (prescription or over the counter) during the school day, **must have a medication permission form** signed by the parent and the doctor. This form will be filed along with the medication in the Main Office. **All medication MUST be in the original container labeled with the student's name.** Please [click here](#) to access the General Health Care Plan form.

Health Care Plan Forms

Please [click here](#) for additional health care forms and more information.

Vaccination Information for 7th Graders and Students New to Malow

The State of Michigan requires children to be age-appropriately vaccinated to enroll in school programs, unless a valid exemption applies. Vaccination information for children entering 7th grade and those new to Malow can be found by [clicking here](#). Updated shot records, FERPA form, or Waiver can be uploaded to PowerSchool or dropped off to the office.

Daily Schedule / Lunch Schedule

[Click here](#) for a daily schedule for the 2024-2025 school year.

Information for 7th Graders and New Students (2024-2025 School Year)

Please click on the following links for important information:

[Who's Who at Malow](#)

[Locker Information](#)

[Layout of Malow](#)

[Bell Schedule and Lunches](#)

Locker Information

For a map of Malow with lockers, [click here](#). For a list of lockers with location, [click here](#).

Students Walking to (and from) Malow

Students that walk to (and from) Malow are reminded **NOT** to cross 25 Mile Road in front of either Malow or Eisenhower. They will need to go to the corner of Mound and 25 Mile Road (by the Marathon gas station) and cross by the light before heading home.

Inclement Weather – School Closing

[Click here](#) for school closing information.

Laptop Information

For detailed instructions on how to sign on to your device please [click here](#).

Non-School Issued Electronic Communications Devices (UCS Student Handbook)

The personal use of non-school issued cell phones or other electronic communications devices (ECDs) by students is prohibited at any time while in school or in a district vehicle. Students may carry ECDs during the school day, but they cannot be displayed or used without permission from a teacher or administrator for educational purposes. **Personal use of the device shall be limited to the time before and after the school day and only when students are outside the building. ECDs shall not be used during instructional time, lunch, passing time between classes or on any school bus without permission of a school official.**

During tests and assessments, cell phones/ECDs must be placed in lockers, backpacks, or another location away from students and their desks. Please see the UCS Student Handbook for ECD protocols during state testing. If a student needs to place an emergency phone call during the day, they should request to go to the main office to use an office phone. If a parent needs to give a message to or speak with their child during the school day, they should call the main office. If a student does not comply with the request to provide the staff member their cell phone for a violation, they could face consequences for insubordination/disrespect. The use of an ECD's picture-taking or internet connection capability is not permitted without permission of a teacher or administrator. Utica Community Schools will not be responsible for the theft, loss or damage of any ECD. Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken against students who violate the policy regulating ECDs.

If a student is found to be in violation of the above expectations, the following plan will be implemented:

First Violation – Warning #1

Cell phone/ECD will be taken to the office with first and last name of student.
Student picks up phone at the end of day.

Second Violation – Warning #2

Cell phone/ECD will be taken to the office with first and last name of student.
Malow office will contact the parent.
Student picks up phone at the end of day.

Third + Violation

Cell phone/ECD will be taken to the office with first and last name of student.
Malow office will contact the parent.
Student picks up phone at the end of the day.
Disciplinary Action per Administration.

Assistive Technology Accessibility

[Click here](#) for a document that will help explain using technology supports to maximize the educational experience. The interactive slides and QR codes will help users explore accessibility features and tools to reduce learning challenges and what assistive technology supports are available.

Do You Drive Your Student to School?

Safety in our parking lot is our number one priority. We truly appreciate the patience and courtesy extended between drivers. Please continue to drive slowly and be aware of your surroundings. Our students do a great job complying with our rules in the parking lot, but we still need to be extremely cautious.

If it is necessary to drive your child to school, please use the outer lane for quick drop off of students while reserving the inner lane for thru traffic. Have your student exit the vehicle as **quickly** as possible. **Please do not wait until you are the first car in line before dropping your student off, and do not wait until your child is in the building before driving away.** The idea is to reduce the long line of cars coming into the parking lot in the morning by allowing several cars to drop off students at one time. If you or your student insists on waiting to get to the front of the line to exit the car, the purpose is defeated, and traffic flow will be impeded.

Once buses begin exiting after school, cars must wait until all buses are in the driveway before exiting the parking lot or pick-up area.

Technology Responsibility

We are asking for everyone to review the [5160 Rules and Regulations Information and Communication](#). Please make sure that when laptops are transported back and forth to school that they are secured in a backpack. Please also remember, as stated in the linked document above, parents/students will be held financially responsible for damage to or loss of UCS the laptops.

PaySchools is Now PaySchools Central

All UCS schools now utilize a central PaySchools site, which can be visited at www.payschoolscentral.com. For more information and a PaySchools Central parent/student guide, please [click here](#).

Student Procedures for In-Person Instruction

- Students will be allowed to carry string backpacks and full-sized backpacks each day.
 - Students will be expected to bring their **charged** laptops each day. It is recommended that the laptops charge overnight to be ready to bring the next day.
 - Our [student ID policy](#) is attached.
 - Our [cell phone policy](#) is attached.
 - All students will enter the building through Door 1. From there, they will move to 3 separate locations based on grade level:
 - 7th grade will move to cafeteria.
 - 8th grade will move to the Main Gym.
 - 9th grade will move to Aux Gym.
- Students will remain in these locations until the warning bell rings, at which point they will move immediately to class.
- At the end of the day, all students will exit out of Door 1 and Door 2, which are in the front of the building.

Technical Support Contact Information for Students and Parents

The UCS Helpdesk will offer two ways for parents and students to contact them directly for technical support: Telephone: 586-797-1055 from 7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Email: techsupport@uticak12.org While the first resource for addressing issues is the school, this contact information will be useful if students have a technical support issue that we are not able to address, or students are encountering issues after school hours.

Discipline Policy

Please [click here](#) for the Malow Junior High Discipline Policy Procedures

Bus Safety Reminders

Please be sure you are following these rules:

- Stand 10 feet from the road at the bus stop.
- **NO** cell phone / electronic pictures taken on the bus.
- Don't rush to the bus as it approaches the stop.
- Must be sitting while the bus is moving (at all times).
- **Respect** the bus driver.

Malow Map

Click [here](#) to see a map of Malow Junior High.

New District App

Utica Community Schools has a new mobile app! Search for 'Utica Schools' in your phone's app store and download the free app to stay up-to-date on district and school news. The old mobile app 'Utica Community Schools' is no longer supported and should be deleted from your devices. Download at the App store [here](#) and Google Play [here](#).

Direct Links to Important Information

[Mustang Respect Code](#) [Cell Phone Policy](#) [Dress Code](#) [Success Skills](#) [Student ID Policy](#)

Automated Call Phone Contact Update

Utica Community Schools will continue to message important school-related information such as delayed openings or school closure through a number of resources including local media outlets. As a service to parents and staff, the District will also continue to call directly to phone numbers linked to our Automated Call Information Alert System. As we approach inclement weather season, it is a good time to remind parents and staff to ensure any recent change to phone number(s) has been reported. Parent phone numbers for the automated call are drawn from PowerSchool which should be updated at the building level.

Food Deliveries at Malow

Food that is delivered by a company such as Door Dash or Grub Hub will not be permitted at Malow. 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 or school store. 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 practice takes place at the high school level and Malow is aligning with Eisenhower in order to provide consistent expectations for our students. Thank you for your understanding and we appreciate your support.

UCS Community Education

The UCS Community Education department is introducing a new website that features an easy to use on-line registration system. Please [click here](#) for the UCS Community Education website.

Free Meals for the 2024-2025 School Year

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 fees, AP testing fees and more still need to fill out the Education Benefits Form or the School Meals Form. These forms are available at <https://utica.familyportal.cloud>. Please encourage your parents to fill out [these forms](#) to ensure we receive our Title I and other specialized funding from the state. Paper applications are available in the main office.

Breakfast meals include up to 2 grains, up to 2 fruits and milk. You 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. Students must take 3 out of 5 with one being 1/2 cup fruit or vegetable to qualify.

Meal Magic Family Portal and Menus

Families that wish to put money in their students' Meal Magic account(s) via credit card will need to create a Family Portal account. Please go to <https://utica.familyportal.cloud> to create the account. This is also where parents can fill out the Educational Benefit Forms (EBF). Menus are online at <https://uticak12.nutrislice.com>.

How to Apply to Meal Magic and Access PowerSchool (Spanish)

Meal Magic:  Meal Magic App directions in Spanish .MOV

PowerSchool:  video.MOV

Vegetarian Options

Did you know that we offer [vegetarian options](#) every day? Please go to <https://uticak12.nutrislice.com> for menu offerings.

Allergy Accommodation Forms

Students with food allergies that wish to use school meals must have a [Special Dietary Needs form](#) completed and signed by a physician. Forms need to be turned in to the office of Food and Nutrition Service. Without this form we cannot make accommodations. This form must be updated every year to ensure accuracy. Since all schools have vegetarian options, parents do not need to complete a form for that option. This completed and signed form must be submitted to the Food and Nutrition Services department at foodservice@uticak12.org and is required before meal accommodations can be made. The SNP Special Dietary Accommodations Form must be submitted every year. Allergy menus are found at <https://uticak12.nutrislice.com/> under the Elementary Allergy Menu tab. If your child requires a substitution, please inform the school at least 48 hours in advance.

Texting Service

Malow Junior High and Utica Community Schools have a service for parents who would like information texted directly to them. The texting service provides school news and announcements, district information such as emergency school closing situations, or updates issued from UCS departments, such as transportation. **To join this system, please text "Y" to 67587.**

Additional Resources

[Digital Citizenship Resources](#)

[Malow Junior High Facebook Page](#)

[Work Permit](#)

[Concussion Awareness](#)

Malow School Store

The Malow School Store will be open during all lunch periods. The store accepts cash only for purchases. Items available as follows:

ITEM	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Water (\$1.00)	X	X	X	X	X
Slushies (\$2.00)	X	X	X	X	X
Menchie's Frozen Yogurt (\$4.00)	X	X	X	X	X
Sorrento's whole grain crust pizza slices (\$2.00)	X	X		X	
Pop (\$1.00)			X		X
Little Caesar's pizza slices (\$2.00)			X		X
Little Caesar's breadsticks (\$3.00/\$5.00)			X		X
Candy (\$.25 - \$5.00)			X		X

Clubs at Malow

Research shows that kids who are involved in extracurricular activities do better in school and enjoy school more. For additional details, please use the contact information listed below for each group.

Chess Club

Mr. Martin Ashman (Teacher) martin.ashman@uticak12.org

- Most Mondays after school from 3:15pm to 4:15pm in room B207 (check calendars above).
- Students should arrange a ride home at 4:15pm.
- The Malow Knights Chess Club is open to anyone who likes to play chess or is interested in learning how to play the game.
- Grades 7 - 9

The Malow Knights Chess Club will be open for business beginning September 23. This is a club that will meet each Monday that we are in school. The time that we meet is from 3:15 – 4:15. We meet in room B207. If you have a child that likes to play chess, have them stop by for a game. If you have a child that does not know how to play, we will teach them. It is just a friendly place to come and enjoy a couple of games of chess. If you have any questions please contact Mr. Ashman at 797-3537 or martin.ashman@uticak12.com

Detour Project

Mrs. Mary Merza (Teacher) mary.merza@uticak12.org

Mrs. Nicole Wojtowicz (Teacher) nicole.wojtowicz@uticak12.org

- Select Thursdays after school from 3:05pm – 4:15pm in room C309 (check calendars above).
- Students **must** have a permission slip on file to attend meetings. [Click here](#) for the permission slip and dates of meetings. For more information visit: <http://www.detourproject.org>
- Grades 7-9

Detour Project is an expressive art workshop that helps teens relieve stress, make meaningful connections, and explore their emotions. The first meeting will Thursday, October 3.

Gaming Club

Mr. Martin Ashman (Teacher) martin.ashman@uticak12.org

- Most Tuesdays after school from 3:15pm to 4:15pm in room B207 (check calendars above).
- Students should arrange a ride home at 4:15pm.
- The Gaming Club is a place for students to come and play games (either electronic or not). There are some regular board games that we have, and students can bring in their Nintendo Switch if parents allow. If your child would like to bring in their Nintendo Switch (clearly marked with student's name), I do have a lockable drawer where I can store it for the day. If you have any questions, please contact me at 797-3537 or email martin.ashman@uticak12.org. Hope to see you there!
- Grades 7-9

Gaming Club begins on Tuesday, September 24.

Homework Club

Malow Staff (rotating basis)

- After School Homework Club runs after school on select days from 3:15pm to 4:15pm in the Media Center. **As these dates change from week to week, please refer to the weekly calendars above for dates offered.**
- Grades 7 – 9: This staff supervised after-school homework club is held in the Media Center. Students must have a signed [permission slip](#) on file to attend, and plan to spend the entire hour until 4:15pm. Students must come prepared with work to do, and they will need to make arrangements for their own transportation home. Student tutors are sometimes available to assist students.

Students need to plan on staying for the entire hour on the days they stay for Homework Club.

National Junior Honor Society (NJHS)Mrs. Laurel Mervich (Teacher) laurel.mervich@uticak12.org

- Grades 8 – 9: National Junior Honor Society is an organization that recognizes outstanding middle level students. More than just an honor roll, NJHS recognizes students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship and character. NJHS recognizes students for their accomplishments, but also challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service.
-

Science OlympiadMrs. Skye Bastounis (Parent) greekrx@msn.com

- October through April practices for individual events
 - Grades 7 – 9: *Science Olympiad is a nationwide academic competition. Students compete in 23 science-oriented events that involve engineering, biology, chemistry and physics. Students compete first at the Macomb County level tournament in March. Practices will be held from November through April.*
-

Snowsports ClubMr. Jacob Steinberger (Teacher) jacob.steinberger@uticak12.org

There was an informational / membership meeting in the Malow Cafeteria on Wednesday, December 4.

Busses have been approved for Wednesday trips to Mt. Holly. Money for busses will be due on Mondays. Look for a Remind message from Mr. Steinberger!

Student CouncilMs. Amy Gastmeier (Teacher) amy.gastmeier@uticak12.orgMrs. Annmarie Hitzelberger (Teacher) annmarie.hitzelberger@uticak12.org

- Meets every two weeks after school.
- Grades 7 – 9: *The Malow Student Council promotes student body participation in fundraising, school events, and school improvement. Student Council also participates in community service projects such as the canned food drive and Toys for Tots. The main goals are to make Malow Jr. High a more enjoyable environment and to increase the school spirit of the students. Student Council consists of five committees: Dance, Community Service, Success Skills, Communications and School Spirit.*

Student Council plans dances, activities, community service projects and school spirit days. Our group is a great way for you to make a difference in your school and make great friends.

Malow Counseling Department Contact Information

Malow counselors are eager to help students have a wonderful junior high school experience. We are available to assist students with personal, social, career, college, academic, scheduling and other concerns. Students can sign up to see counselors by completing a blue request slip in the front office. Parents are encouraged to reach out to us at any time with questions or concerns. If you're not sure who to call or where to start, please reach out to us and we will be happy to help! For answers to frequently asked questions click [here](#).

Mrs. Hickey	Counselor (A – Go)	jennifer.hickey@uticak12.org	(586) 797-3592
Mrs. Witt	Counselor (Gr – N)	michelle.witt@uticak12.org	(586) 797-3591
Mr. Nassar	Counselor (O – Z)	charles.nassar@uticak12.org	(586) 797-3594

Making a Counseling Appointment During the School Day

Counselors will be available on the days you are in school to meet with you in person. You can sign up the following ways:

1. Use the link on the Counseling Schoology Page in the folder titled, "Counselor Office Hours"
2. Sign up in the counseling office using blue paper sign-up sheets
3. Scan the QR code posted on the counseling office windows (also found by [clicking here](#))

After you sign up, your counselor will call you down sometime during the school day to meet with you in the Counseling Office.

Updated Resources Provided by UCS and the UCS Counseling Department

For the district Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Well-Being Program website of resources, please [click here](#). For the Virtual Calming Room on the UCS Wellness page [click here](#).

Grade Point Average (GPA), Grading Scale, and Example GPA

[Click here](#) for information.

Tips for Success at Malow

[Typical Supplies Used / Tips for Becoming a Super Organized Student](#)

[Top 10 Tips for Success at Malow](#)

Macomb County Mobile Crisis

[Click here](#) for the MCCMH Mobile Crisis brochure.

Counseling Resources – Traumatic Stress

Please click on the following parent resource: [Talking to Children About Violence: Tips for Parents and Teachers](#)

Care Solace – Free Counseling-Related Services for UCS Families

Please [click here](#) for a flyer with information about Care Solace.

Malow College Mondays

Malow College Mondays are back! Students are invited to join the staff in wearing college shirts and sweatshirts on Mondays. Students are encouraged to ask questions and learn more about the colleges they see others wearing.



Schoology Parent Access

Parents are now able to access their student's Schoology accounts. If you would like your Schoology Parent Access Code, please email Mrs. Glide (samantha.glide@uticak12.org) to request it and she will email it to you. Once receiving it, please follow [these instructions](#).

2025-2026 Scheduling Timeline

February 4

Counselors will visit 7th grade Ancient History classes to assist students with course uploads.

February 6

Counselors will visit 8th grade US History classes to assist students with course uploads.

February 11

Ike counselors will visit Malow (Media Center) to review 9th grade schedules. Students are expected to upload their own schedules.

Attendance Policy: Revision to Policy 5115

Revision to Policy 5115: Attendance rules have been developed to reduce/prevent chronic absenteeism. The U.S. Department of Education Civil Rights Data Collection defines chronic absenteeism as missing more than 10% of school days in a year. For grade specific attendance rules, please [click here](#). Please [click here](#) for additional information.

AP Exam Information

All payments must be completed by February 14—this payment includes balances due. The cancellation deadline is March 31 with a forfeiture of the \$40.00 deposit.

Late registration is ongoing with a \$40.00 late fee added to the exam cost and must go through APTSUSA. APTSUSA contact information can be found here [Utica Community Schools AP® Exam Registration](#)

Dates and times of AP exams offered to Malow students for the 2024-2025 school year:

Course Name	Exam Date	Exam Time
Human Geography	5/6/2025	8:00am
Seminar	5/12/2025	12:00pm
World History	5/8/2025	12:00pm
Computer Science Principles	5/15/2025	12:00pm

Electronic Device Use Protocol for Statewide Testing

The following documents are the district's electronic device use protocol for statewide testing. Please click on [English](#) or a translated version in [Albanian](#), [Arabic](#), [Spanish](#) or [Ukrainian](#).

UCS Wellness Podcast

The UCS Wellness team is happy to announce the 13th 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 13th podcast in the series is Managing Components of Biology.

PowerSchool Issues?

Are you having issues getting on PowerSchool? Please contact Rose Bertucci at rosemary.bertucci@uticak12.org.

Social Emotional Well-Being Program

Several committees have been meeting to develop a district social-emotional program. This program is for all stakeholders within the community. Below is an outline of initiatives for the month of March as we continue to incorporate SEL into the district plan.

District website of resources: <https://mi50010997.schoolwires.net/Page/148>

Virtual Calming Room

Suicide Free Schools – It is Time to be Extra Vigilant!

Caring people in Macomb County collaborated to bring suicide prevention education and materials to schools, parents and community groups. Please [click here](#) for a brochure with more information. Break a secret and save a life!

SAT Information and Practice

The Khan Academy site for SAT and PSAT practice is now available. Students, parents, and staff members can access the practice site at: <https://www.khanacademy.org/mission/sat/tasks/onboard-92829382938>.

Grading

Student's work will be graded and tracked in accordance with [Board of Education policy 6205](#).

Virtual Library Card

The UCS Virtual Library Card includes access to eBooks, music streaming and downloads, eMagazines, and a host of other electronic reference resources. Also available: Tutor.com. Linked to the following are the directions on how to log in to the [Virtual Library Card](#) and the [Virtual Library Card-Tutor.com](#), located on the ClassLink dashboard. The Virtual Library Card gives students access to digital resources from the local library. The Virtual Library Card – Tutor.com provides online tutoring and homework help for students.

Educational Benefits Form

The previous Free & Reduced Applications are now called the Education Benefits Form. Last year's Education Benefits Form expired on Thursday, October 10, 2024. As required by federal guidelines, students without an approved 2024-2025 Education Benefits Form on file will not be eligible to receive additional benefits such as EBT assistance, reduced pay to participate and AP test fees, and other items beginning October 11, 2024. Families must fill out an Education Benefits Form located at <https://utica.familyportal.cloud> as soon as possible for benefits to continue. If there are any questions, please call the Office of Food & Nutrition Services at 586-797-1180.

Struggling Students

It is important to Malow counselors that ALL our students are successful. For students who may be struggling, we first encourage communication between the parent and the classroom teacher. If missing assignments are a problem, we encourage parents to try changing the question from, "Do you have homework tonight?" to "When will you complete your nightly study time?" Even on rare nights when no homework is assigned, all students will benefit from spending a minimum of 20-30 minutes each night reading textbooks, reviewing vocabulary flashcards, preparing for upcoming quizzes/tests, etc. If students don't bring home books and materials for this study time, parents can assign reading from a book at home, etc. Once students realize that their parents are serious about consistently enforcing a mandatory nightly study time on each school night (Sunday through Thursday), they will begin to bring home and complete their assignments.

CARE of Southeastern Michigan

CARE of Southeastern Michigan is an accredited behavioral health nonprofit organization that offers many programs for children, adults and families associated with Utica Community Schools. Click on the following link for additional information: [CARE of Southeastern Michigan \(careofsem.com\)](#).

Virtual Library Card and Virtual Library Card – Tutor.com

[Click here](#) for the directions for students on how to login to their Virtual Library Card and Virtual Library Card – Tutor.com, located in the ClassLink dashboard. The Virtual Library Card gives students access to digital resources from the local library. The Virtual Library Card – Tutor.com provides online tutoring and homework help for students.

Resolving the Microsoft Licensing Issue

For detailed instructions, please [click here](#).

Advice for 9th Graders

High School officially begins in 9th grade and students are encouraged to make a strong start with their GPA. We also recommend that students begin recording their involvement in clubs, sports, community service, and other activities. On our [Malow Naviance Family Connection Page](#) families can find a sample "Student Record for College" located in the documents area in the upper right hand corner. Recording this information each year will make college application time much less stressful.

Michigan Career and Job Outlook Through 2028

For the Michigan Career Outlook through 2028 please [click here](#). For the Michigan Job Outlook through 2028 please [click here](#).

The College Board Opportunity Scholarship Program

The College Board is committing \$25 million in scholarships over the next five years, beginning with the class of 2020. Students earn chances at scholarships by completing key actions along the path to college. Students in the class of 2020 can opt into the program via their College Board account and start earning scholarship opportunities for their college planning efforts. If a student does not have a College Board account, they can [create one for free](#) to join the program.

Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids and the Truth about Vaping and E-Cigarettes

[Click here](#) for information.

*Malow Science Olympiad Invitational

Malow's Science Olympiad competed against 47 teams at an invitational which was held on Jan 25 at Birmingham Covington School. Congratulations to our 2 teams that medaled:

Sheryl Pinjo and Abigail Kim received 3rd place in Disease Detectives

Maria Zamarripa and Emma Kozyra received 6th place in Air Trajectory

*Gaming Club & Dance Nationals





Rewards

The Malow Sounding Board has simple ways that families and friends can help raise money to benefit all of our students. The following are a few:

Kroger Rewards



Don't Miss Out on the Opportunity to
Give **FREE** Money to Our School!



1. Simply register online at krogercommunityrewards.com
 2. Have your Kroger Plus card handy and register your card with "MALOW JUNIOR HIGH" after you sign-up.
 - If you do not have a Kroger Plus card, they are available at customer service at any Kroger.
 - Do you use your phone number at the register? Call 877-576-7587 to get your Kroger Plus card #.
 3. Click on "*Sign In/Register*"
 4. If you are a new online customer, you must click on "*SIGN UP TODAY*" in the "*New Customer?*" box and enter your information.
 - Almost immediately, Kroger will send you an email. Click on the link in the body of the email and sign-in to "My Account" with your email and password to activate your account.
 5. Click on "Edit Kroger Community Rewards" information and input your Kroger Plus card number.
 6. Update or confirm your information.
 7. Enter **28150** or **MALOW JUNIOR HIGH**, from list and click on confirm.
 8. To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see "MALOW JUNIOR HIGH" on the right side of your info page.
- REMEMBER, purchases will not count for your group until after you register your card(s).
 - Members must swipe their registered Kroger Plus card or use the phone number that is related to

Box Tops for Education – You can earn cash for our school by clipping Box Top coupons from hundreds of participating products. Just turn in your Box Tops to the main office!

Click [here](#) for information on the Box Top App.

