



Malow Mustang Messenger



March 4, 2024

*new or updated information

[*23-24 School Year Calendar](#)

[Malow Website](#)

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| * This Week's Events | Main Office Information | Fundraising Opportunities |
| * 7th/8th Grade Malow Sports—All sports-related information | Malow Club Information | |
| * Freshman/JV/Varsity Ike Sports—All sports-related information | Counseling Information | |
| * Upcoming Events | * Malow Highlights | |

[This Week's Events](#)

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This Week at a Glance

Monday, March 4

- [College Monday](#)
- [Ike Baseball informational meeting in the Malow Cafeteria from 3:05pm - 3:25pm](#)
- [Chess Club in Room B207 from 3:15pm - 4:15pm](#)
- [Homework Club in the Media Center from 3:15pm - 4:15pm](#)
- [IKE Girls Freshman Track Meeting in the Ike Commons @ 3:15pm](#)
- [IKE Boys Freshman Track Meeting in the Ike Commons @ 3:15pm](#)

Tuesday, March 5

- [Gaming Club in Room B207 from 3:15pm - 4:15pm](#)
- 8th Girls Basketball vs. Eppler (Eppler) @ 4:00pm
- 7th Girls Basketball vs. Eppler (Eppler) @ 5:00pm

Wednesday, March 6

- MJH - MSVMA District Choral Festival (Stoney Creek HS) @ 9:00am
- [Homework Club in the Media Center from 3:15pm - 4:15pm](#)

Thursday, March 7

- NJHS Group Picture @ 1:15pm in the Main Gym (report to 5th hour first)
- [Detour Project Meeting in Room C309 from 3:05pm - 4:15pm](#)
- 8th Girls Basketball vs. Bemis (Bemis) @ 4:00pm
- 7th Girls Basketball vs. Bemis (Bemis) @ 5:00pm

Friday, March 8

-



Saturday, March 9

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Math Tutoring During Lunch

NJHS students will be tutoring during lunch hours on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday starting the week we get back from Winter Break. Students who are interested in getting help with math may use the Sign-up Genius link below to select the date and lunch hour.
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0C4AADA2BA02-47823574-math>

Bond Update

[Click here](#) for a letter from Mr. Monroe and Mrs. Hodsdon regarding the Bond Projects for UCS and Malow. [Click here](#) for an informational graphic specific to Malow.

Malow Yearbook Information

March 1st is the last day to order your yearbook! Order online at www.jostensyearbooks.com. We are extending the deadline for purchasing a **Yearbook Ad** for your child or your business. Please contact Mrs. Laurel Mervich for more information. These ads help support our book and the work that we do to put together a memorable book for your child's year. Email Laurel at laurel.mervich@uticak12.org.

***Malow Sounding Board – Bagel and Bake Sales**

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 using the new Sounding Board email at malowsoundingboard@gmail.com. Upcoming bake sales will be as follows: 3/14 (Pi Day) and 4/24.

Click on the following link to sign up for the March bake sale: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090844ACAA2CA0FA7-48012925-sounding>

Current 9th Graders - Save the Date!

Friday, May 17 Freshmen Farewell @ Shelby Gardens from 6:30pm – 9:30pm

More information on this event to follow!



Art Box Studio Winter 2024

Please [click here](#) for a flyer for the winter/spring session of Art Box Studio. This class is open to all 5th – 8th grade students. Strengthen drawing skills and challenge your creativity! These classes are for 5th through 8th graders. [Click here](#) for a flyer with more information and how to register.

UCS Empowered Strategic Plan Update

Please [click here](#) for a letter from Mr. Monroe.

8th Grade Students – Shadowing at Utica’s IB Program at GLK-UAIS

If you are an 8th grader who is interested in attending Utica’s IB Program at GLK-UAIS for the 2024-2025 school year, we are now offering shadowing! Please complete this form: <https://forms.office.com/r/NYPTtaZmi1> to sign up. Shadows are limited to 3 spots per day, so be sure to secure your spot for a shadow opportunity today!

- Shadowing ends March 15, 2024. After submitting your shadowing request, our staff will contact you.

2023-24 School Calendar

To view the calendar for the school year please [click here](#).

CTE Pathways

The Career and Technical Education Department has created a series of promotional videos that provide an overview of its pathways. Please [click here](#) for a flyer with more information.

Save the Date – Utica Community Schools Events

Event	Location	Date	Time
Young Fives & Kindergarten Open House	Elementary Buildings	March 6, 2024	7:00pm – 8:30pm
College & Careers Pathway Event	Henry Ford II High School	March 14, 2024	6:00pm – 8:00pm
District Art Show	Sterling Heights Community Center	April 23 – 25, 2024	

2023-2024 Specialty School Information

Notification Mailing Date: March 18, 2024 (by email)

Program Commitment Date: April 8, 2024 by 3:00pm

***Utica Community Schools 2024 College & Career Pathways**

The district will host its 18th annual College & Career Pathways event from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 14, 2024, at Henry Ford II High School. This event is aimed at current 10th-12th grade students. Up to 63 post-secondary institutions and trade schools will be in attendance to offer information to assist students with their post-secondary plans. This year, students will need to register for this event prior to attending. Most of the post-secondary institutions and/or trade schools will collect student information via a scan tool. Students can register for a barcode at StriveFair.com. Students will receive their barcode upon submitting their registration and will be sent it again as a reminder 2 hours before the fair start time. [Click here](#) for a flyer with more information.

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, 2023. 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 Boys and Girls Track**

Students interested in Malow Track this spring should make sure they have a physical dated after April 15, 2023 and uploaded to Big Teams ([information above](#)). Physicals **MUST** be uploaded before Track begins. More information on Malow Track to follow soon.

7th & 8th Grade Wrestling Club

Coach Drath (david.drath@uticak12.org). Practices begin January 29 at Eisenhower. [Click here](#) for a flyer with more information.

7th & 8th Competitive Cheer

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

7th Grade Boys Basketball

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

8th Grade Boys Basketball

Coach Diggs (gregory.diggs@uticak12.org).

7th Grade Girls Basketball

Coach Savage (robert.savage@uticak12.org).

8th Grade Girls Basketball

Coach Thoel (jason.thoel@uticak12.org).

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: John Bertich john.bertich@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 Boys Track

Coach Smith (christopher.smith@uticak12.org). There will be an informational meeting on March 4th at 3:15pm in the Ike Commons.

*Eisenhower Girls Track

Coach Berdeski (derek.berdeski@uticak12.org). There will be an informational meeting on March 4th at 3:15pm in the Ike Commons.

*Eisenhower Baseball

Coach Spisak (steven.spisak@uticak12.org). There will be an informational meeting for 9th grade boys interested in Ike Baseball on Monday, March 4 in the Malow Cafeteria from 3:05pm – 3:25pm.

Eisenhower Boys Golf

Coach Brzezinski (david.brzezinski@uticak12.org). There was an informational meeting on Wednesday, February 14 in the Ike Media Center.

Utica/Ike Boys Lacrosse

Contact ikeboyslacrosse@gmail.com. Tryouts will be as follows: March 11-13 (Swinehart Field) from 7:00pm – 9:00pm & March 14 (field behind UHS) from 5:00pm – 7:00pm (equipment distribution after in the Utica ECC room from 7:00pm – 8:30pm)

Eisenhower Clay Shooting

Coach Ollila (markeisenhowerclaycoach@gmail.com). There will be an orientation meeting on Monday, March 18 at North Macomb S.C. at 6:00pm. [Click here](#) for more information on Ike Clay Shooting. [Click here](#) for frequently asked questions.

Eisenhower Girls Tennis

Coach Pearson (michael.pearson@uticak12.org). There was an informational meeting on Tuesday, December 12.

Eisenhower Girls Soccer

Coach Nekoogar (nekoogar05@gmail.com). There was an informational meeting on Thursday, December 7.

Eisenhower Softball

Coach Hall (robert.hall@uticak12.org). There was an informational softball meeting on Monday, October 2.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Student Pass: 7th-12th grade student only. \$35.00Senior 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)	<p>You must show your on-line purchase receipt to the Bookkeeper at Eisenhower High School to pick up your athletic pass.</p>

*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.

2023-2024 Eisenhower Athletic Booster Club

[Click here](#) for the Ike Athletic Booster Club registration / renewal form.

Next Week at a Glance

<p>Monday, March 11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College Monday • Chess Club in Room B207 from 3:15pm - 4:15pm • Homework Club in the Media Center from 3:15pm - 4:15pm • 8th Girls Basketball vs. Shelby (Malow) @ 4:00pm • 7th Girls Basketball vs. Shelby (Malow) @ 5:00pm • Utica-Ike Boys Lacrosse Tryouts @ Swinehart Field from 7:00pm - 9:00pm 	<p>Tuesday, March 12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NJHS Meeting in the Media Center from 3:05pm - 4:00pm • Gaming Club in Room B207 from 3:15pm - 4:15pm • Utica-Ike Boys Lacrosse Tryouts @ Swinehart Field from 7:00pm - 9:00pm
<p>Wednesday, March 13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Council Meeting in Room A111 from 3:10pm - 4:00pm • Homework Club in the Media Center from 3:15pm - 4:15pm • Utica-Ike Boys Lacrosse Tryouts @ Swinehart Field from 7:00pm - 9:00pm 	<p>Thursday, March 14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bake Sale during all lunch periods (all items \$.50) • Detour Project Meeting in Room C309 from 3:05pm - 4:15pm • Utica-Ike Boys Lacrosse Tryouts @ field behind Utica HS from 5:00pm - 7:00pm • College and Careers Pathway Event @ HFII from 6:00pm - 8:00pm
<p>Friday, March 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Saturday, March 16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <p>Sunday, March 17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 

Spring Events at the Shelby Township Library

Percy Jackson Escape Room on March 22 from 6:00pm - 7:30pm. All the puzzles are based off of Greek and Roman mythology and the Percy Jackson universe.

<https://shelbylib.events.mylibrary.digital/event?id=55374>

Teen Poetry Slam on April 26 from 6:00pm - 7:30pm. The Michigan Poet Laurette Nandi Comber is introducing the evening and speaking about the importance of poetry for young people and in our everyday lives, with prizes for three winners judged by a panel of seasoned slammers. Friends and family are welcome to sit in and enjoy the teens' poetry and cheer them on to victory.

<https://shelbylib.events.mylibrary.digital/event?id=55552>

***UCS Chess Tournament**

Registration is open for the 25th UCS Chess Tournament - Saturday April 13, 2024.

The UCS Chess Tournament is a perfect first tournament for ANY student in ANY grade. Kindergarten-12th grade sections. This is a fun, unrated event with five rounds. Check-in 8:00-8:30 a.m. with games: @ 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, & 1:00. Awards 2:00-3:00. The tournament is held at Henry Ford High School. Usually there are nine sections: K/1/2/3/4/5/6/7-8/9-12.

Visit the tournament website for the registered player list, to download the entry form, and other information: www.ucschesstournament.weebly.com. [Click here](#) for a flyer with 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 (**spelling the 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 2023-2024 school year.

Information for 7th Graders and New Students (2023-2024 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](#)

Teacher Locator - 2023-2024 School Year

Click [here](#) to see Malow teachers and their locations within Malow.

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](#).

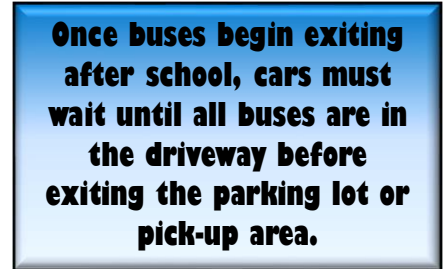
Assistive Technology Accessibility

[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.



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

Please [click here](#) for our cell phone/ECD policy.

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.

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

Starting Tuesday, January 19, 2021 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

Typical Supplies Used at Malow and Tips for Becoming a Super Organized Student

Please [click here](#) for a printable version of these items.

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](#).

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 2023-2024 School Year

UCS students will receive a free breakfast and lunch throughout the 2023-24 school year. All UCS families are asked to complete the *School Meals & Summer EBT application* or the *Education Benefits form* by [clicking here](#) - enter "Utica Community Schools" and follow the prompts. For more information, please [click here](#).


Summer EBT Program


This summer, Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer (Summer EBT) will be available to families with eligible school-age children to buy groceries, similar to the USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Although meals are free for all students this school year, not all students are eligible for Summer EBT benefits. [Click here](#) for a flyer with more information.

"Family Portal" Replacing "Send Money to School"

Attention all families: Sendmoneytoschool.com, the site used to deposit funds to your student's meal account, has been replaced. Please begin using <https://utica.familyportal.cloud> to deposit funds. If you currently have an account with sendmoneytoschool.com your children will be moved over to the new account after completing registration. Please view this video showing how to create an account on the new website: <https://utica.familyportal.cloud/tutorials>.

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.

P-EBT Reconsideration Forms

Parents/guardians: please refer to the following notice regarding whether you are eligible for the Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) program and what factors are used in determining individual student eligibility for P-EBT. If a household feels they should be reconsidered for P-EBT benefits, they must fill out the [reconsideration form](#).

The qualifying events for reconsideration are:

- Must have Free or Reduced-Price Benefits **AND** enrolled in Virtual Academy for any part of the school year **OR** enrolled in-person school but missed 5 days or more due to COVID.
- The form is fillable, so parents can fill in Section 1 and Section 2. Then email PDF to Food Services at foodservice@uticak12.org
- School year benefits may only be paid through May 11, 2023 due to the end of the Public Health Emergency
- To be considered, all P-EBT Reconsideration forms must be received by MDHHS by June 30, 2023
- Parents can call the DHHS helpdesk at 833-905-0028, option 2, Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. with any questions or they can email at MDHHS-PEBT@michigan.gov.

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
Domino'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

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.**

Malow Staff Emails

Need to find a Malow staff member's email address? Please [click here](#).

Additional Resources

[Digital Citizenship Resources](#)

[Malow Junior High Facebook Page](#)

[Work Permit](#)

[Concussion Awareness](#)

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 is open for business and began on Monday, September 11. This is a club that will meet each Monday that we are in school. The time that we meet is from 3:15 – 4:15pm. 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.
For more information visit: <http://www.detourproject.org>
- Grades 7-9

Detour Project is a youth-driven expressive art program meant to give teens a set of skills and tools to help them improve their overall emotional well-being.

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 martin.ashman@uticak12.org. Hope to see you there!
 - Grades 7-9
-

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.

Homework Club started the week of September 18, 2023, on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:15pm – 4:15pm. 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.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 9 from 3:15pm - 4:15pm in the Media Center. We will be working in our committees to plan our next steps for each of them.

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 meeting on Tuesday, November 28.

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.



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.

Credit Recovery 2nd Semester

Online registration for Grant Funded Credit Recovery begins on Monday, January 22, 2024. Credit recovery courses for students in grades 9-12 begin on February 5, 2024, and end on May 9, 2024. The registration form for Malow is [attached](#). Students can sign up for one course at a time. If a student completes a course prior to March 1, 2024, the student may take an additional course if time permits. [Credit Recovery](#) information can be found on the UCS website.

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](#).

AP Exam Registration and Payment

Late registration for Advanced Placement exams began November 16. All late registrations will incur a \$40.00 late fee. Fees are payable to [ATPSUSA Utica Community Schools AP® Exam Registration \(aptsusa.com\)](#). Any student who still owes a balance for their AP exam payment must pay the balance by February 16. Invoices were sent to parent and student email addresses beginning January 20. No late registrations accepted after February 16. Contact Mr. Nassar with questions.

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. 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)

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

Monday Moments: Weekly quote, thought and challenge for all stakeholders

AP Human Geography – Information for 8th Grade Students and Parents

[Click here](#) for information on the Human Geography Elective/AP Human Geography.

Naviance and the Malow Counseling Department Website

[Click here](#) for information.

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!

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 \(careofsem.com\)](http://careofsem.com).

Student Assistance Services

UCS administrators, counselors, psychologists, or social workers may make a formal referral for an assessment (4B). A formal referral includes timely progress reports to the district. The following services are available to UCS through the student assistance program:

- Individualized assessments and resource referral and linking
- On-site Critical Incident Stress Debriefing and crisis support for traumatic events
- Professional development training, including Mental Health First Aid, substance use trends, stress management, depression and suicide, and other training topics as requested
- Unlimited orientations and presentations about student assistance services to parents and school personnel

Additional Services

In addition to the student assistance services, CARE specializes in delivering services targeted to reduce alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use. These services are available at no cost to UCS students and families. CARE also offers classes via funding CARE receives from the Macomb County Office of Substance Abuse. Some of the classes offered:

- Active Parenting
- Peaceful Alternatives to Tough Situations
- INDEPTH
- Teen Intervene
- Early Childhood Prevention Services
- Parent Education

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](#).

MI Child

Utica Community Schools is committed to promoting the safe and effective use of technology. Through our district's K-12 digital citizenship initiatives, we are providing students with information that promotes the proper use of digital content and tools. A tool that families can use to help protect their children is the Michigan Child Protection Registry. This free service from the State of Michigan protects children's e-mail, cell phone numbers and Instant Messaging addresses from receiving inappropriate, adult-themed material. The registry can be accessed by visiting www.protectMIChild.com. In addition, parents can click on the Protect MI Child icon, which will soon appear on the district and school Web sites for direct access to the registry.

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.

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](#).

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.

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](#).

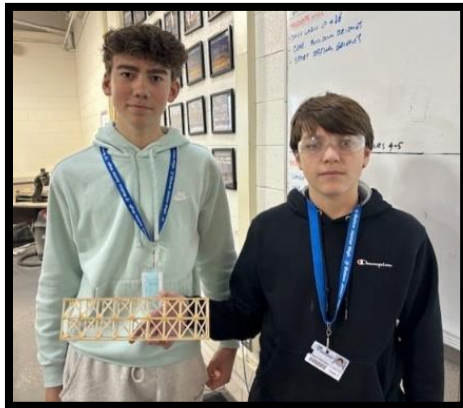
The College Board Opportunity Scholarship Program

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.

*Exploratory Design & Engineering I with Mr. Thoel – Bridge Project



Collin Westrick & Mason Thomas
1st Place All Time!!!

*Macomb Student Diversity Summit at the MISD



***Valentine's Day Bake Sale**

Thank you to all our bakers, sellers, purchasers of baked goods, volunteers, and all who participated in this fantastic bake sale!



***National German Exam**

The National German Exam is administered each year to more than 15,000 students of German. The exam honors student achievement with Gold, Silver, Bronze and achievement awards and scholarships including the AATG/PAD NGE Scholarship, a three-week study trip to Germany in the summer following the exam.

Congratulations to the following student for earning the bronze award, placing in the 70th – 79th percentile:

Isaac Faruga

Congratulations to the following students who earned the achievement award, placing in the 50th-69th percentile:

Tesla Bertoia
Ian Barrios
Niklas Neihsl
Charles Krzeszak



Congratulations to the following Malow artists who have artwork displayed in the Macomb County Annual Secondary student show.

Stiven Qushku

Vanessa Polmerski

Madilyn Tran

Annalee Orlando

Cullen Arnold

Clare McCloskey

Sarah Ponton

Andrew Cirenese

Isabella Slessor

Koi Whisenhunt

Emi Gonzalez

Natalia Rogowski

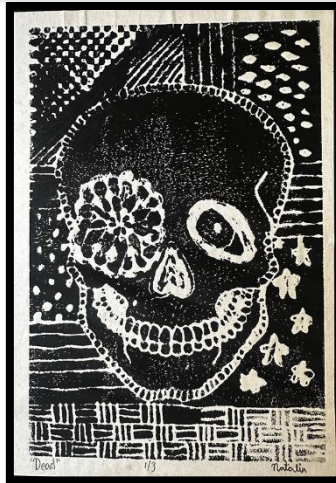
Iris Shim

Elizabeth Pytel

Chloe Farmer

Brijana Nacaj

Arabelle Phui



Natalia Rogowski



Brijana Nacaj



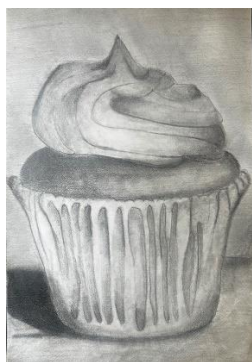
Stiven Qushku



Andrew Cirenese



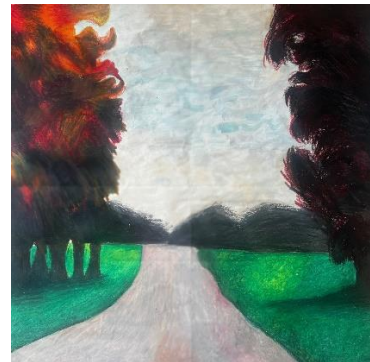
Chloe Farmer



Emi Gonzalez



Iris Shim



Arabelle Phui



Koi Whisenhunt



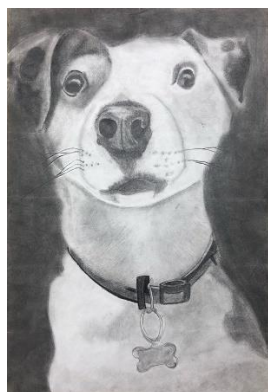
Clare McCloskey



Cullen Arnold



Madilyn Tran



Annalee Orlando



Isabella Slessor



Elizabeth Pytel



Sarah Ponton



Vanessa Polmerski

The artwork will be on display at the Anton Center in Mount Clemens from March 9– April 13th. There is an opening reception on Saturday, March 9, from 1-3 PM.

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.

