Malow Mustang Messenger

October 23, 2023

*new or updated information

*23-24 School Year Calendar

Malow Website

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

This Week's Events

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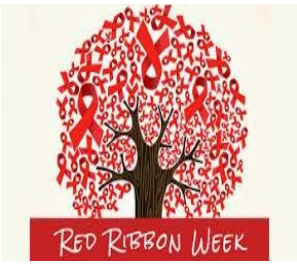
This Week at a Glance

Monday, October 23

- Red Ribbon Spirit Week - Get REDy for Red Ribbon Week!
- Student Council Meeting in Room A111 from 3:10pm - 4:00pm
- Chess Club in Room B207 from 3:15pm - 4:15pm
- Homework Club in the Media Center from 3:15pm - 4:15pm
- 7th Volleyball vs. Bemis (Malow) @ 4:00pm
- 8th Volleyball vs. Bemis (Malow) @ 5:00pm



Tuesday, October 24

- Red Ribbon Spirit Week - Travis and Tay Team up Against Drugs!
- Retake Picture Day
- Halloween Party tickets sold during all lunch periods for $5
- Gaming Club in Room B207 from 3:15pm - 4:15pm
- 7th Football vs. Anchor Bay (Malow) @ 3:30pm
- 8th Football vs. Anchor Bay (Malow) @ 5:00pm
- Ike Boys Basketball open gym for 9th graders @ Ike from 6:30-8:00

Wednesday, October 25

- Red Ribbon Spirit Week - Say Yeehaw to a Drug Free Life!
- Halloween Party tickets sold during all lunch periods for $5
- Homework Club in the Media Center from 3:15pm - 4:15pm
- 7th Volleyball vs. Heritage (Heritage) @ 4:00pm
- 8th Volleyball vs. Heritage (Heritage) @ 5:00pm

Thursday, October 26

- Red Ribbon Spirit Week - Put Drugs to Rest!
- Halloween Party tickets sold during all lunch periods for $5
- Detour Project Meeting in Room C309 from 3:05pm - 4:15pm
- Ike Girls Swim vs. Romeo (Ike) @ 6:00pm

Friday, October 27

- Red Ribbon Spirit Week - Say BOO to Drugs!
- OK2SAY Presentation @ 10:20am
- Bake Sale during all lunch periods (all items $.50)
- Halloween Party tickets sold during all lunch periods for $5
- Halloween Dance from 3:10pm - 5:00pm
- Ike Cross Country Regional (Anchor Bay) @ 4:00pm

Saturday, October 28

- Ike Varsity Volleyball (Motor City Power Series) @ time TBD
- Ike Freshman Volleyball Vel Tourney (HF II) @ 8:30am

***Teaming Up for Football Saturday!**

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!

***Red Ribbon Spirit Week 2023!**

Red Ribbon Spirit Week kicks off on Monday, October 23! Pride points will be counted each day. The winning 4th hour class will get pizza!! Click here for a flyer!

Monday, October 23: **Get REDy for Red Ribbon Week!**
(Wear red)

Tuesday, October 24: **Travis and Tay Team up Against Drugs!**
(Dress like Travis Kelce or Taylor Swift)

Wednesday, October 25: **Say Yeehaw to a Drug Free Life!**
(Western Wednesday)

Thursday, October 26: **Put Drugs to Rest!**
(Wear pajamas or comfy clothing)

Friday, October 27*: **Say BOO to Drugs!**
(Wear your Halloween costume)

***You may only wear your Halloween costumes on Friday, October 27.** Please remember the following guidelines:

1) Your costume MUST be school appropriate and follow the dress code guidelines.
2) No distasteful or inappropriate clothing.
2) No costumes that conceal your identity (school IDs must be worn). NO MASKS or full-face paint is allowed.
3) No costumes of a violent nature are allowed.
4) Your costume should still allow you to sit in a desk and complete your daily school activities.

Make good costume choices and have fun dressing up on Friday, October 27th!

***Picture Day – Picture Retakes and Online Ordering**

Picture Day was Thursday, September 7. If you would like to order pictures online from Kaiser Studio, please go to orders.kaiserstudio.com. Malow's School ID Code is 2324MALOW. Retake Picture Day is Tuesday, October 24. Click here for a flyer with more information on picture retakes.

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

***Halloween Party**

The Halloween Party is for all grades on Friday, October 27 from 3:00pm to 5:00pm. Tickets are $5.00 each and will be sold during all lunch periods starting Tuesday, October 24. Click here for a flyer with more information. See you there!!

Malow Sounding Board

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.

The Halloween Bake Sale will be Friday, October 27 during all lunch periods. All items will be $.50. Please click on the following to sign up for this Bake Sale: Malow Sounding Board: Malow Bake Sale (signupgenius.com)

Malow Yearbook Information

Got Yearbook? Get your child's book today. Order online at www.jostensyearbooks.com. Freshman Parents: Please send us action photos of your child and his/her teammates who play for Eisenhower to Noah Weber (Freshman Sports Editor) at webern2@stu.uticak12.org. We would love to feature some of our freshmen in action for Eisenhower.

Do you want to show your child in our upcoming yearbook? Well, good news, because our Yearbook Recognition Ads are the best way to celebrate milestones! Revenues from Recognition Ads help our school make a better yearbook for the students. To purchase your ad online, choose your ad size and layout, add your photos, enter your text, drop it off at the Malow Jr. High office! Make sure to do it before 12/08/2023, because that is our deadline! So, what are you waiting for? Send in an ad today, tomorrow, or even next month!

Full Page = $265 ½ Page = $140 ¼ Page = $75 1/8 = $40

If you have any questions that have gone unanswered about these ads, contact Dante Laemers at laemersd@stu.uticak12.org and/or Laurel Mervich (Yearbook Adviser) at laurel.mervich@uticak12.org.

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.

Fall 2023 Expansion of Secondary Special Education Programs and Services

Click here for a flyer with information about new Academic Resource Centers at each secondary school.

Locker Information

For a map of Malow with lockers, click here. For a list of lockers with location, click here.

Copy Volunteers Needed for 2023-24 School Year

Are you interested in helping at Malow? We are looking for volunteers to make copies for the teachers. The daily time slots are 9:00am–11:00am or 12:30pm-2:30pm. If interested, please fill out the linked form. If you have any questions, please email MalowCopyMom@gmail.com.

2023-24 School Calendar

To view the calendar for the school year please click here.

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.

7th/8th Grade Malow Sports Information

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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.

Malow Winter Sports Parent Meeting

There will be a winter sports parent meeting (7th or 8th grade boys or girls interested in trying out for basketball or competitive cheer) on Wednesday, November 8 in the Malow Cafeteria from 5:15pm – 5:45pm. Eligibility, physicals, pay to participate, Big Teams, and tryout dates and expectations will be discussed.

7th & 8th Competitive Cheer

Coach Moskwa (isabella.moskwa@uticak12.org) and Coach Brow (lirebrow90@gmail.com). Tryouts will be November 13 and November 14 in the Cafeteria from 3:30pm to 5:30pm. The winter sports parent meeting is on November 8 in the Cafeteria at 5:15pm.

7th Grade Football

Coach Berdeski (derek.berdeski@uticak12.org).

8th Grade Football

Coach Thomas (james.thomas@uticak12.org) and Coach Davis (aaron.davis@uticak12.org).

7th Grade Volleyball

Coach Bayer (carlin.bayer@uticak12.org).

8th Grade Volleyball

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

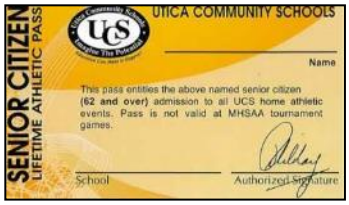
9th Grade Sports

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.

Freshman/JV/Varsity Eisenhower High Sports Information

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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

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 Sports Update**

Scan the QR code for the latest Eisenhower sports and performance updates.

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)

Eisenhower Winter Sport Tryouts

For a summary of Eisenhower Winter Sports tryout dates and times, please click here.

Eisenhower Softball

Coach Hall (robert.hall@uticak12.org). There was an informational Softball Meeting for the Eisenhower High School Softball program on Monday, October 2.

Utica/Ike Boys Lacrosse

Contact ikeboyslacrosse@gmail.com. There was a mandatory parent and player information meeting on Tuesday, October 3.

Eisenhower Wrestling

Coach Drath (david.drath@uticak12.org). Tryouts will be November 13 - November 15 in the Ike Wrestling Room at 2:30pm.

***Eisenhower Competitive Cheer**

Coach Shaffer (taylor.shaffer@uticak12.org). Tryouts will be November 6 – November 8 in the Ike New Aux Gym from 5:00pm – 7:00pm. There will be a parent/athlete meeting on November 27 in the Ike Commons at 6:00pm. Click here for a flyer. Click on the following link to fill out the required form to try out: https://forms.gle/URbqEuaXx9APhijw7

Eisenhower Hockey

Coach Hall (robert.hall@uticak12.org). Tryouts will be October 30 at Suburban Ice at 4:00pm.

Eisenhower Boys Basketball

Coach Antishin (thomas.antishin@uticak12.org). There will be open gym for 9th and 10th graders at Ike on Tuesday, October 24 from 6:30pm – 8:00pm. Tryouts will be as follows:

Varsity:	November 13 – November 14 in the Ike Main Gym from 2:30pm – 4:30pm
JV:	November 13 – November 15 in the Ike Main Gym from 4:30pm – 6:30pm
Freshmen:	November 13 – November 15 in the Ike New Aux Gym from 4:30pm – 6:30pm

Eisenhower Girls Basketball

Coach Piper (cliff.piper@uticak12.org). There will be a meeting for interested Malow 9th graders on Wednesday, September 27 in the Cafeteria from 3:05pm – 3:20pm. Tryouts will be as follows:

Varsity: November 20 – November 21 in the Ike Main Gym from 3:00pm – 5:00pm
JV: November 20 – November 22 in the Ike Main Gym from 5:15pm – 7:15pm
Freshmen: November 20 – November 22 in the Ike Main Gym from 3:15pm – 7:15pm

Eisenhower Boys Swim

Coach Doherty (lisa.doherty@uticak12.org). Tryouts will be November 27 at the Ike Pool (time TBD).

Eisenhower Bowling

Coach Matheson (lisamatheson3@yahoo.com). Tryouts will be November 9 – November 10 at Shelby Lanes from 3:30pm – 5:30pm.

Eisenhower Girls Golf

Coach Griesbeck.

Eisenhower Girls Swim

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

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. • 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. **You must show your on-line purchase receipt to the Bookkeeper at Eisenhower High School to pick up your athletic pass.**
*Freshman Football *Freshman Volleyball *Freshman Basketball	$3.00 Home Games	
*Freshman Soccer *Varsity Track	3.00 Home Games (if admission charged)	

*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

Monday, October 30

- College Monday
- Chess Club in Room B207 from 3:15pm - 4:15pm
- Homework Club in the Media Center from 3:15pm - 4:15pm
- Ike Hockey Tryouts at Suburban Ice @ 4:00pm

Tuesday, October 31

- Gaming Club in Room B207 from 3:15pm - 4:15pm

Wednesday, November 1

- Homework Club in the Media Center from 3:15pm - 4:15pm
- 7th Volleyball vs. Eppler (Eppler) @ 4:00pm
- 7th Football vs. Shelby (Swinehart Field) @ 4:30pm
- 8th Volleyball vs. Eppler (Eppler) @ 5:00pm
- 8th Football vs. Shelby (Swinehart Field) @ 6:00pm

Thursday, November 2

- Detour Project Meeting in Room C309 from 3:05pm - 4:15pm
- Band Demonstration Night @ Malow Cafeteria, 7:00pm

Friday, November 3

-

Saturday, November 4

- Ike Cross Country States (Michigan Int'l. Speedway) @ 2:10pm

Art Box Studio

The next session starts on November 14 and is open to students in grades 5-8. Click here for a flyer with more information.

Main Office Information

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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.

Daily Schedule / Lunch Schedule

Click here for a daily schedule for the 2023-2024 school year.

Teacher Locator - 2023-2024 School Year

Click here to see Malow teachers and their locations within Malow.

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.

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.

Locker Information

For a map of Malow with lockers, click here. For a list of lockers with location, click here.

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.

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.

Free & Reduced Meals Application Expiration

Last year's free & reduced applications will expire on Friday, October 13, 2023. As required by federal guidelines, students without an approved 2023-2024 Free and Reduced Meal Application 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 14th. Families must fill out a new application form located at https://utica.familyportal.cloud as soon as possible in order for benefits to continue. If there are any questions, please call the Office of Food and Nutrition Services at 586-797-1180.

"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 everyday include:

Water	$1.00
Slushies	$2.00
Little Caesars Pizza slices	$2.00
Menchie's Frozen Yogurt	$4.00

Additional items available on Wednesdays and Fridays:

Pop	$1.00
Little Caesar’s breadsticks	$3.00/$5.00
Candy	$.25 - $2.00

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

Malow Club Information

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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.

An election was held on Tuesday, October 17th for the 2023-2024 NJHS Executive Board and the results are in! Please help us in congratulating the following officers:

President--Melanie Deutsch
Vice President--Maryn Smith
Treasurer--Kara Novak
Secretary--Samuel Palushaj
Historian--Emery Krzeszak

For all returning NJHS members, THE LATEST DEADLINE FOR NJHS DUES PAYMENT WILL BE MONDAY, OCTOBER 30TH, THROUGH THE PAYSCHOOLS SITE: https://www.payschoolscentral.com/

Upon payment, Returning Members will be added to and given access to the Malow NJHS GROUP on Schoology. Communication will only be sent to members thru Schoology Message, E-Mail, and on occasion this "Mustang Messenger" (weekly newsletter).

The first meeting for all members will be November 6th at 3:15 – 4:5 p.m. in the Science Lecture Area.

Science Olympiad Mrs. 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.*

There will be an informational meeting on Wednesday, September 27 in room B207 at 6:00pm.

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

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Student Council Ms. Amy Gastmeier (Teacher) amy.gastmeier@uticak12.org
Mrs. Annmarie Hitzelberger (Teacher) annmarie.hitzelberger@uticak12.org

- Meets every two weeks after school.
- Grades 7 – 9: T*he 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.

Counseling Information

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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

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.

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.

Advanced Placement Update

APTSUSA sent deposit invoices to parents via email on October 1. Please check spam/junk folders in addition to inboxes for the invoice. If a parent email returned the invoice as undeliverable then APTSUSA sent the invoice to the student's UCS email address.

If parent and student did not receive an invoice, then please contact APTSUSA at www.aptsusa.com/utica for assistance. A $40.00 balance is due by October 31 or students risk having their exam cancelled.

AP Exam Registration and Payment

Students enrolled in an Advanced Placement (AP) class can begin the exam registration and payment processes. Please note that registration is a separate process from payment. Students must first register for their AP class through their College Board account using a join code provided by the classroom teacher. After joining the class, the student will then use their College Board account to register for the exam. Once the student has registered for the exam then the student will pay through the link below.

Payments may be submitted in two parts: A deposit of $40 per exam is **due by October 31, 2023**, with the balance of fees due by February 16, 2024. No payments will be processed/accepted between November 1, 2023, and November 15, 2023. Payments made after November 15, 2023, will be subject to a $40.00 late fee. Questions regarding payments can be directed to APTS, email info@aptsusa.com or call (855) 663-8348.

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).

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.

***Mustangs of the Month – September 2023**

The following students have been named "Mustangs of the Month" for the month of September for performing good deeds. They received a lunch from Tubby's on Tuesday as well as some other goodies.

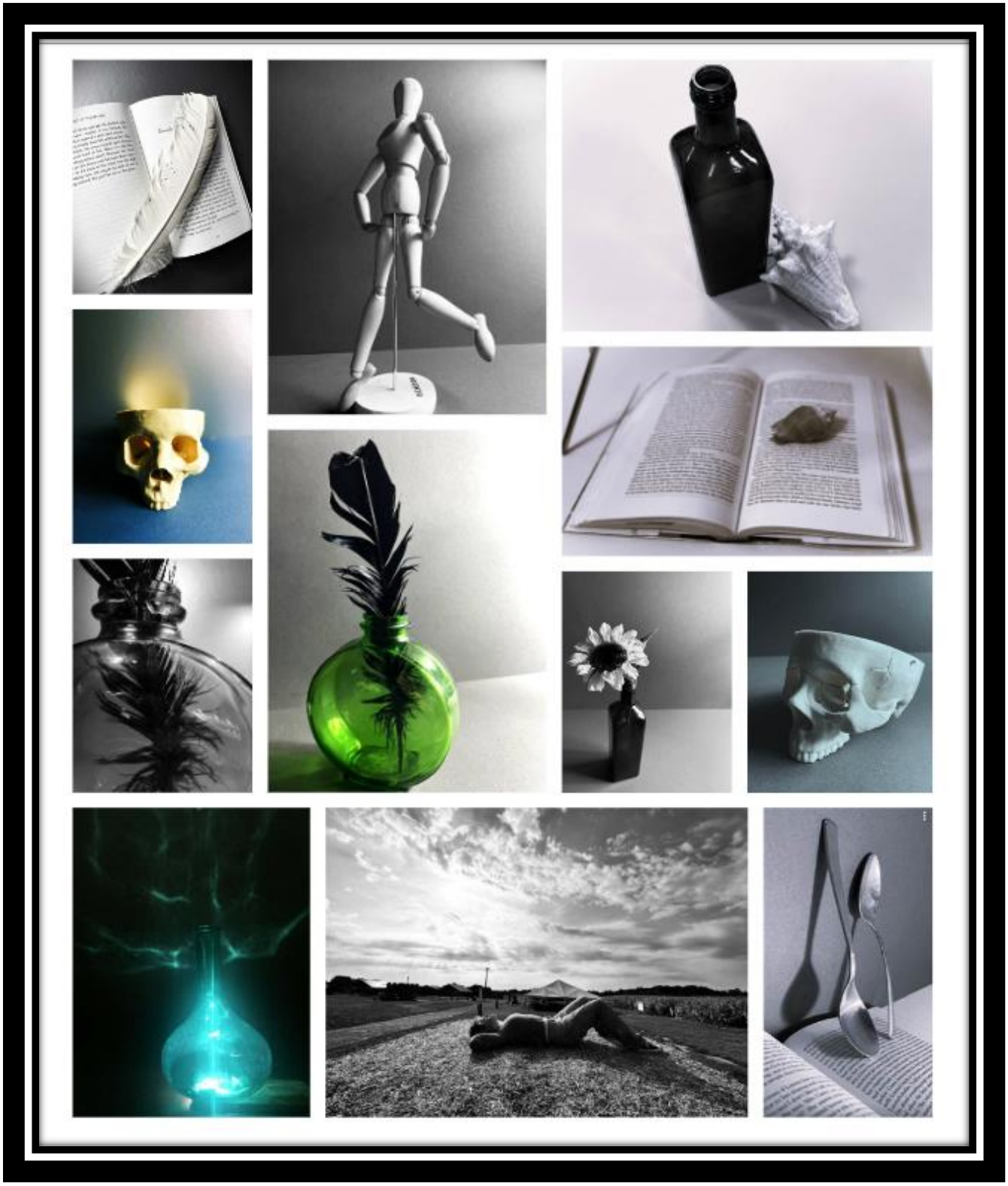
Congratulations to the following:

Erendira Arreola Leyva, Bennett Bartello, Brennan Bengtson, Dylan Cantu, Bryan Chaires-Sanchez, Patrick Clapper, Marija Jankovic, Grecia Sandoval Najera, Yarezmi Urioso Angulo, Ava Wilson, and Aidan Wunderler.

***Photo and Film with Mrs. Cooper – Elements of Design**

Students in Photo and Film Class learned about the elements of design relating to photography. These images focused on the element of value. Students focused on high-key and low-key lighting and how different lighting can add impact to their photography.

Photography by (from top left): Viktoria Samsel, Harper Crabtree, Andrew Trent, Alissa Sitto, Adele DeFour, Matthew Furman, Olivia Nebel, Julia Johnson, Janae Ashbourne, Gabriella Camaj, Koi Whisenhunt, and Ella Bemis.



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.