



BEMIS BULLETIN BOARD (B³)

February 2019



Week of February 11th

February Upcoming Events



- Wednesday 02.13.2019 Early Childhood Open House
- 02.18.2019 – 02.22.2019 MidWinter Break
- 02.18.2019 – 02.22.2019 Velocity Jr. Program
- 02.19.2019 – 02.21.2019 MedExplore

From the Principal



1. UCS parents will shortly receive a survey link to provide feedback on a district review of later start times and their impact on sleep and achievement. The e-mail will come from Utica Community Schools and will contain the message "Utica Community Schools Wants Your Feedback" with a return email of HanoverResearch@qualtrics.com. More information is on our district website at: <http://www.uticak12.org/latestart>
2. We would like to thank our community once again for its support of the 2018 bond issue. Over the next five years, bond issue projects will impact Bemis Junior High School, our feeder schools and every school in the district. To provide updates to the community, the district has created an informational page that reports the status of the projects. The site is located at <http://www.uticak12.org/2018bond/updates>. If at any time you have a question regarding the projects and our school, feel free to contact me either through e-mail, thomas.yaw@uticak12.org or the school office (586) 797-2502.

Early Childhood Open House

Parents of young children in Utica Community Schools and neighboring areas are invited to an open house for the District's Early Childhood (Nursery and Preschool) programs. Come meet the teacher, see the classrooms, and get answers to your questions. For additional information call (586)797-4660 or visit http://ucscommunityeducation.org/early_childhood

When: Wednesday, February 13, 2019

Where: All Current Locations

Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

****In district phone registration begins February 26, 2019****

Mid-Winter Break Velocity Jr. Program

Velocity Jr. Camps (#7A) will be available during the **Mid-Winter Break (February 18-22, 2019)** located at Duncan Elementary and Rose Kidd Elementary. These specialty classes provide students with exciting educational challenges for the week. Rose Kidd has child care available for working families. Child care is provided before and after the scheduled class time. Parents are to supply snacks and lunch. Duncan Elementary has child care available during lunch if your child will be taking a morning and afternoon class. Parents are to supply snacks and lunch.

[*Click here for more information*](#)

MedExplore

Midwinter break opportunity for 6th-9th graders. Are you looking for a productive and fun way to spend Midwinter Break? Interested in exploring healthcare in a hands-on way to gain insight into your personal aptitudes and interests within the medical field? Reserve your spot in MedExplore for Midwinter Break 2019.

February 19-21, 2019 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM

Utica Academy for International Studies

37400 Dodge Park Rd

Sterling Heights, MI 48312

Through a 3-day camp, students will have the chance to participate in a variety of fun and engaging activities and simulate medical procedures with authentic medical supplies. Participants will also delve into specific facets of the medical field of their choosing that spark their interest. The camp will additionally feature presentations by practicing medical professionals and current medical students, with discussion time for students to get all their questions answered.

Sign up for MedExplore, please email the participant's full name, school, and grade level to Julie ElFishawy at elfishawyj@stu.uticak12.org

****Participant spaces are limited****

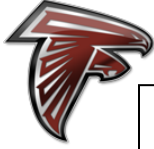
AP Parent Information & Curriculum Night

Incoming Falcons and their families are invited to explore the world of opportunities available at HHFII High School

When: Wednesday, March 13, 2019

Where: HFII Performing Arts Center

Time: Starts at 6:00 PM



AP (Advanced Placement) Information

6:00 – 6:45pm in the ECC

- What is AP?
- What does the curriculum entail?
- Learn about summer assignments
- Understand how to receive college credit by scoring well on AP exams
- How can AP save me \$\$ for college?
- Meet AP teachers and learn about their classes
- Hear from current AP students about their experience
- Understand and Make the AP Commitment

Curriculum Night

7:00 – 8:30pm in the PAC

- Meet with teachers from each department
- Learn about courses and programs offered
- Get help finalizing your 2019-2020 schedule (please bring your scheduling packet)
- Explore opportunities for involvement in athletics and extracurricular activities
- Get to know your Counselor
- Meet your new Principal and Associate Principals

St. Baldrick's



For the fifth consecutive year, Bemis Jr. High will be fundraising for St. Baldrick's. The St. Baldrick's Foundation is a volunteer-powered charity committed to funding the most promising research to find cures for childhood cancers. Since 2015, our Bemis community has raised \$19,723 for St. Baldrick's!

On Saturday, March 23rd, 2019, in the village of Romeo, many Bemis students along with our principal, Mr. Yaw, have volunteered to be "shavees" and rock the bald for St. Baldrick's.

Does your Bemis kid want to shave their head? Sign up using the link below, then click "Join Us."

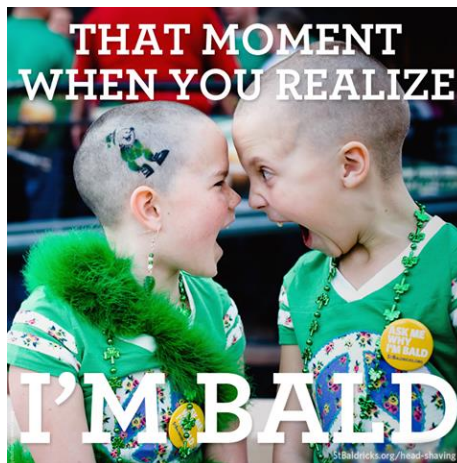
<https://www.stbaldricks.org/teams/bemisford>

Want to support the efforts of Team Bemis without shaving your hair? You can donate to support this valuable research using the link above, then click "Donate".

Please remember, our fundraising efforts benefit the St. Baldrick's Foundation, the largest private funder of childhood cancer research. The money we raise helps save kids' lives and gives them their best chance at happy childhoods.

Want to learn more about St. Baldrick's? See the link below. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cpRzXwxTQu0&feature=youtu.be>

Thank you for your support. Together, we can Conquer Childhood Cancer!



School Texting Service



Bemis Junior High School 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.

Note – if you have previously registered for this system and are not receiving texts from our school or UCS, please contact the school office to ensure we have your most recent cell phone number is on file.

Free and Reduced Meals

Households can apply for free and reduced meals if their income has changed at any time of the year. Please go to www.lunchapp.com and fill out an application today!

Attention ALL Football Players



There will be information in the front office about our Falcon Juniors Strength Club Nights at Henry Ford II. Stop by the front office or Ms. Kalisz's class, Room 11, to get the flyer. You are required to become stronger & more physical in order to meet our high expectations and goals. Falcons who train...GAIN!

Sporting Events



7th & 8th Grade Girls Basketball

The **NEXT** games are: February 11th HOME vs Jeannette @ 7th 4:00/8th 5:30
February 14th AWAY vs Eppler @ 8th 4:00/7th 5:30

Click here for the [Winter sports schedules](#).

Student Clubs

Strive Homework Club – 'Drop-in', come when you need help. Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:05-4:00 in the Media Center.

SWAT Homework Club – Need permission from the counseling office. Will meet every Tuesday in the Media Center from 3:05-4:00.

Builders Club – The next meeting is **TBA** - before school at 7:30 AM in Room 43.

Ecology Club –The next meeting is **March 6th** after school until 3:30 PM in Room 29.

Forensics Club – Every Friday after school until 4:00 PM in Room 39.

Static Club - Every Wednesday before school at 7:30 AM in the Room 38.

Student Council – Next meeting is **February 12th** - after school from 3:00-3:30 PM in Room 11.

[Click here](#) for more information about the clubs at Bemis.

Parent Clubs

Bemis Parent Advisor Committee - Next meeting is **February 12th at 5:00 PM** in the Bemis Presentation Room.

Bemis Athletic Booster Club - Next meeting is **February 12th at 6:00 PM** in the Bemis Presentation Room.

Friday Ski Club

Dates: February 15th and 22nd; March TBD weather permitting

You can join at any time – For more information or to be put on the Friday Ski Club email list please email us at fridayskiclub@yahoo.com

Save the Date!



- **Utica Community Schools 2019 Career Expo**

Utica Community Schools Career and Technical Education Department is sponsoring **Career Expo 2019**.

When: Thursday, March 21, 2019

Where: Eisenhower High School

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Students in 7th through 12th grades, parents and staff are invited to this **free** event. The Expo will feature information of more than 100 different careers. The Expo serves as an opportunity for students to begin exploring career possibilities. Students will also have a chance to meet with CTE teachers to learn how high school classes can bring them closer to their career objective.

- **Utica Community Schools 2019 College Fair**

The district will host its fourteenth annual College Fair. This event is aimed at current eighth through eleventh graders. Up to 70 college representatives will be in attendance to offer information to college-bound students.

When: Thursday, March 28, 2019

Where: Henry Ford II High School

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Word of the Day

Monday	Magnetic	Having to do with magnets and the way they work. *Certain metals are magnetic .
Tuesday	Evaluate	To judge or set the value of. *The magazine evaluated ten new cars.
Wednesday	Minimum	The smallest possible amount or number. *there is an age minimum for this movie.
Thursday	Dimension	Size as measured in length, width, or depth. *The dimensions of the box are two feet long, one foot wide, and six inches deep
Friday	Complex	Not simple. *A computer is a complex machine. English spelling is complex .

Fun Fact

- About 1 billion Valentine's Day cards are exchanged each year. This makes it the second largest seasonal card sending time of the year.
- In 1537, England's King Henry VII officially declared February 14th the holiday of St. Valentine's Day
- In the Middle Ages, young men and women drew names from a bowl to see who would be their Valentine. They would wear this name pinned onto their sleeves for one week for everyone to see. This was the origin of the expression "to wear your heart on your sleeve."
- Richard Cadbury produced the first box of chocolates for this holiday in the late 1800s.
- Every Valentine's Day, the Italian city of Verona, where Shakespeare's lovers Romeo and Juliet lived, receives about 1,000 letters addressed to Juliet.

2018-2019 Bemis Yearbooks



Don't miss the deadline to order your 2018-2019 Bemis Yearbook! Order today at Jostensyearbooks.com.

Week of February 4th

February Upcoming Events



- Thursday 02.07.2019 Academic Blitz
- Wednesday 02.13.2019 Early Childhood Open House
- 02.18.2019 – 02.22.2019 MidWinter Break
- 02.18.2019 – 02.22.2019 Velocity Jr. Program
- 02.19.2019 – 02.21.2019 MedExplore

Winter student drop off and pick up reminder

Typically, students who live within walking distance of school are driven to school during poor weather. With the recent snows, and the knowledge that more will most likely occur in the next few months, I am writing today about the student drop off and pick up procedures in the school driveway and parking lot. I have attached a diagram of our driveway and parking lot to this email and I will be referring to it within this message.

If you will be dropping off your student between 7:40 am and 8:10 am, please refrain from driving in the bus loop, which is the main drive in front of the school and is identified on the diagram as "buses only." Buses need to be able to access the drop off area and cannot do so when cars are using/blocking the driveway. As you look at the diagram, please note the rows in the parking lot. The traffic flow is indicated by the arrows on the diagram.

When dropping off your student please drive down any of these rows. The cars do back up, but please only let your student exit the car when you are at the end of the row before you enter the driveway to exit the campus. Please have your student cross the driveway, carefully, at the end of the row before you depart. It is important that your student does not leave the car and cut between the rows to get to the school. After school pick up: The buses line up in the bus loop as early as 2:40 pm. They park close together to prevent students from walking between the buses. Please don't drive or park in the bus loop while buses are present. Please line up in the parking rows to pick up your student. We ask the students who are being driven home to walk to the end of the row and cross the driveway at that point and proceed to your waiting car.

Due to the configuration of the parking lot and need for the buses to access the bus lane, a little bit of waiting is required to drop off and pick up students. I am asking for your help in making the students understand the importance of being careful in the parking lot and not to dart between cars for their own safety. We would much prefer to have a student arrive a little late, but safe in the morning and to your waiting car at the end of the day. Thank you for your understanding and patience during the morning and after school transportation routine.

Thomas Yaw, Principal



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Note – if you have previously registered for this system and are not receiving texts from our school or UCS, please contact the school office to ensure we have your most recent cell phone number is on file.

Free and Reduced Meals

Households can apply for free and reduced meals if their income has changed at any time of the year. Please go to www.lunchapp.com and fill out an application today!

Teen Artist Club



Are you a teen who loves to write or draw? Join our Teen Librarian and your fellow artists for our brand-new Teen Artists Club! Bring your poems, short stories, graphic novels, Fanfiction, or illustrations to share! Not ready to share? Simply sit in and work on your art. At the end of the sessions, you can select your favorite piece to be bound and put into circulation at the Sterling Heights Library!

Teen Artists Club will meet on the following Tuesdays
from 3:30-4:30 pm:

*January 8

*March 5

*February 5

*April 16

Location: Sterling Heights Public Library
40255 Dodge Park Rd
Sterling Heights, MI 48313
(586) 446-2665

Teen Advisory Board

The Sterling Heights Library is looking for Teen to join their Teen Advisory Board (TAB)! Teens who attend meetings will be given a budget and an opportunity to plan and run their OWN library programs under the supervision of our Teen Librarian. All TAB volunteer hours count towards your Service Hours! We hope to see you there!

*Plan Programs & Parties

The chief goal of the Teen Advisory Board (TAB) is to put teens in charge of planning programming for their peers. We need your creative energy and know-how to succeed!

*Earn Service Hours

Your participation with the TAB will count towards your Service Hours. Planning programs and parties for your friends is a fun and easy way to earn hours!

*Registration

If you would like to participate, please register for each Teen Advisory Board meeting. You can register online at www.shpl.net or call the library at (586) 446-2640

Attention ALL Football Players



There will be information in the front office about our Falcon Juniors Strength Club Nights at Henry Ford II. Stop by the front office or Ms. Kalisz's class, Room 11, to get the flyer. You are required to become stronger & more physical in order to meet our high expectations and goals. Falcons who train...GAIN!

Sporting Events



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February 7th HOME vs Davis @ 7th 4:00/8th 5:30

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Academic Blitz 2019

Utica community Schools Teaching and Learning Department is sponsoring **Academic Blitz 2019**.

When: Thursday, February 7, 2019

Where: Henry Ford II High School

Time: 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Students in grades 5th through 11th, parents and staff are invited to this **free** event. The Academic Blitz features information regarding UCS secondary academic courses, clubs and specialty programs.

The Blitz serves as an opportunity for students to begin exploring secondary options offered to students. Students will also have a chance to meet with counselors and teachers to learn how high school classes can bring them closer to their post-secondary goals.

Save the Date!

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Lost and Found



The Lost and Found is located on the stage in the Cafeteria. Please take a moment to look for your lost items.

Word of the Day

Monday	External	Of the outside or outer part. *He cleaned only the external surfaces of the oven.
Tuesday	Conclude	To bring to an end; finish or complete. *We concluded the meeting and went out for lunch.
Wednesday	Automatic	Working or operating by itself. *This house has an automatic heating system.
Thursday	Devise	To invent or think out. *She devised a plan to earn money.
Friday	Period	A section of time with a set beginning and end. *We will be on vacation for a period of three weeks.

Fun Fact



Groundhog Day, celebrated on February 2, came about because of a German superstition. They thought if a hibernating animal cast a shadow on February 2nd that winter would last for another six weeks. If there was no shadow, spring would come early.

Bemis Calendar



Keep up to date with all Bemis events on our website [CALENDAR](#). Club meetings, sporting events, spirit days, days off, conferences... As soon as information is available it is updated on the website calendar.

Bemis Staff and Student Identification Card Policy

As a component of our school security and safety procedures, we have purchased and issued lanyards to all students in order for them to wear their school identification cards throughout the school day. The wearing of identification badges provides a professional setting and promotes College and Career Readiness for all students. Many workplaces, as well as colleges require the wearing of identification badges as well. Teaching and support staff have been wearing identification badges, while at school for many years.

Backpack Policy



Bemis students can no longer carry full-size backpacks during the school day from class to class. These backpacks have become a safety issue in both our hallways and classrooms. Backpacks must remain in student lockers during the school day. If a student chooses to, he/she may carry a nylon drawstring tote from class to class. These hold a maximum of two (2) books and can hang on the back of student chairs. These nylon drawstring totes are available for purchase in our school store, The Pitstop. They are also available at stores throughout the community.

Dress Code

Bemis follows the dress code located in the [Parent and Student Handbook](#). This dress code does differ from the elementary school dress code. Student conduct is affected by student dress. Bemis strives to maintain a comfortable learning environment and our staff appreciates parental support in guiding appropriated dress for school. Students not conforming to the district code will have to call home for a change of clothing or wear a clean t-shirt and/or sweatpants provided by the school for the day.

Junior High School Parent and Student Handbook

The Utica Community Schools Parent-Student Handbook serves as quick references for families seeking answers to school policies, procedures and district activities. UCS Handbooks are published for elementary, junior high and senior high schools. Each handbook is created with student learning and parent partnership in mind.

You are encouraged to download a copy and find the answers you seek at your leisure. Save a copy for future reference or go back and visit again. Remember: Handbooks are updated each year. Please click here to find the [2018-19 Handbook](#).

PowerSchool

Parents and students can view their student's schedules, attendance and grades. [Click here](#) to access the PowerSchool Portal. Parents with multiple UCS students can now create an account to access all of their data with a single login. Parents will need the access ID and access password for each student. Access IDs and passwords follow students from year to year. Please contact the main office with any questions.

Bemis Attendance Line

Parents are reminded to call the school attendance line, 586-797-2599, to report their child's absence or tardiness. In order to be excused, all late/tardy students must be called in by a parent. A doctor's note **must** be provided to excuse late/tardy arrivals. Bemis Attendance line is available 24 hours a day. All late arrival/tardy students must report to the Main Office upon arrival to receive a late pass. If your child is absent and we have not received notification, we will call the parents.

Early Dismissal

Students who need to be excused during the school day should bring a signed note from their parents to the Main Office before school begins that morning. The note should include the date, time, and reason for dismissal as well as who will be picking the child up. By doing this, we keep classroom disruptions to a minimum as well as have your child waiting for you in the Main Office when you arrive. PLEASE NOTE: Anyone signing a student out, must show identification and that person must also be on the students' yellow Emergency Card. Students will not be released to anyone that is not listed on the Emergency Card.

Homework Requests

Homework requests are not accepted until the third consecutive day of absence. You may request your child's homework on that third day by emailing your child's teacher. You can find a list of email addresses by [clicking here](#).

Use of Electronic Communication Devices is Prohibited

The personal use of cell phones or other electronic communications devices (ECD) by students is prohibited at **any time** while in school or in a district vehicle. Students may carry ECDs during the school day, but they cannot be displayed or used without permission from a teacher or administrator for educational purposes. Personal use of the device shall be limited to the time before and after the school day and only when students are outside the building. ECDs shall not be used during instructional time, lunch, passing time between classes or on any school bus without permission of a school official. The use of an ECD's picture-taking or internet connection capability is not permitted without permission of a teacher or administrator. Utica Community Schools will not be responsible for the theft, loss or damage of any ECD. Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken against students who violate the policy regulating ECDs.

If a student's ECD rings/vibrates during the school day, the ECD will be confiscated and must be picked up in the main office by the student's parent. Should this occur a second time, the student will receive a one-day suspension. If a student uses an ECD anytime inside the school, the ECD will be confiscated and the student will receive a one-day suspension.

Breakfast –Start the day right – come join us for breakfast!

A nutritious breakfast is available for students starting at 7:45 AM. The cost is \$1.75, milk included. Milk alone is \$0.45. For students with an approved free or reduced-price application on file, the price is \$0.30 or free. A variety of food choices are offered. We look forward to serving our students the most important meal of the day!

Lunch



Full lunches are \$2.75 for elementary students, \$2.90 for junior high students and \$2.95 for high school students. Milk is \$0.45 at all levels. [Click here](#) to view how to apply for free lunch, put money in your student's account, and more. Applications for free & reduced lunch must be filled out every year.

Food and Nutrition Service Meal Policy

A new meal charging policy is in effect this year in an effort to provide clear and consistent meal account procedures, including the charging of meals and handling and disposition of negative meal balances. When a student meal charge creates a negative balance, prompt repayment is expected. To bring the meal account up to date, families can make deposits online, send cash or a check to school with the student's full name on the memo line (checks made payable to Utica Community Schools).

By establishing an account with [sendmoneytoschool.com](http://www.uticak12.org/foodandnutrition) through the food and nutrition service link on the district website (<http://www.uticak12.org/foodandnutrition>) or app, families/parents can monitor balances and receive low balance email alerts on their students' account. Students who pay for meals may only charge (have a negative account balance) up to five (5) meals (breakfast and/or lunch). If a student has a zero or negative account balance, they will not be allowed to make any a la carte or beverage purchases. After the fifth charge, students will not be able to make purchases of any kind in the cafeteria using their meal accounts. Instead students will be offered a regular meal (alternate meal).

Alternate meals are provided at no charge and include all the components federally required to qualify for a reimbursable meal. Alternate meals will continue to be offered while the negative balance is being resolved. For elementary school households, auto-messages from the school regarding negative/low balances are initiated weekly each Thursday (by email if provided or letter sent home). When an account balance is low or negative, cashiers will share that information with the student in a respectful age-appropriate manner. Please contact the Food and Nutrition Services Department at 586-797-1180 for further assistance.

Parents and Visitors

Everyone who enters Bemis Junior High must report to the Main Office. This is a school district policy. You will need to sign in, put a visitor's pass on, and our office staff will be glad to assist you.

Body Spray

Bemis Junior High has several students and staff members who have allergic reactions to strong perfumes, after-shave and men's cologne. The reactions range from mild to severe headaches that can result in nausea and being sent home from school. In addition, strong perfume smells can trigger asthma attacks. Junior high is filled with a variety of smells ranging from strawberries to old spice. When those smells dominate the hallways, problems do occur. We are asking students to put on your favorite fragrance once in the morning before school. Please do not bring in bottles and sprays of cologne, after-shave and perfume to re-apply throughout the day.

Recycle for Charity at Bemis



Look for the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Donation Bin, located in the receiving driveway on the east side of Bemis Junior High. All items will go to the Disabled American Veterans, a non-profit organization located in Westland. Tax receipts can be found in the office. Donate your gently used clothes, shoes, toys, and small house appliances. DAVThriftMichigan.com