



BEMIS BULLETIN BOARD (B³)

November 2018

Week of November 5

No School – November 6



Reminder:

Tuesday, November 6 is Election Day. There will be NO SCHOOL that day.



Report Cards

During November, Bemis Junior High School will distribute reports cards electronically. The first marking period grades will be sent electronically to families at the end of the day on Friday, November 9, 2018.



To receive the report cards, parents will need to have a secure PowerSchool account. Parents who do not have access to a PowerSchool account will need to register for one prior to Monday, November 5, 2018. The report cards will then be automatically e-mailed to the address that is used to register the PowerSchool account. If you already have a PowerSchool account, you do not need to take any further action. The report card will be automatically sent to you.

**Please note: If you have a child in elementary school, those report cards will be issued at the end of the day on Friday, November 16, 2018 after scheduled parent-teacher conferences.

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.

OK2SAY



The Michigan Attorney General’s office will be conducting presentations on student safety featuring the OK2SAY program. The presentation will be given to Bemis Jr. High students on **November 5th (Grade 7)** and **November 9th (Grade 8)**. Please review the attached information regarding the content of the presentations. The students will view the presentation during their English class. If you **DO NOT** want your student to attend their scheduled presentation, please complete the attached form and have your student deliver the form to their English teacher. For those students who are opted out, an alternative English assignment will be assigned for completion during the presentation.

[Parent Information & Opt Out](#)

7th and 8th Grade Boys Basketball Meeting

Attention all 7th and 8th grade boys interested in playing basketball this season



8th Grade: (DATE/TIME CHANGE) There will be an informational meeting on **Wednesday, November 7th** before school **@7:45AM** in the presentation room. If you have any questions see Mr. Mastrogianis in the Counseling office.

7th Grade: There will be sign-ups during lunch periods the **week of November 5th**. If you have any questions see Mr. Garrish.

Try-outs will be November 12, 13, & 14 @ 3:15 – 4:45 **Please make sure you have a ride home

Jersey Mike's Fundraiser



Bemis Junior High has teamed up with Jersey Mike's Subs for a fundraiser! Redeem your Free Sub donation cards at the store between **November 14th – November 18th**, you will receive a free sub of your choice with a minimum \$3.00 donation. You **MUST** present the donation card to get the deal! 100% of all donations will be given back to Bemis Junior High. So you get to enjoy a delicious sub and support your school! *The FREE SUB donation card must be redeemed IN person IN the store. The cards cannot be used for someone not physically in the building. In other words, one donation card per person, per visit.

Now Hiring



NOW HIRING

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS

School Age Child Care Directors & Assistants
Early Childhood Teachers & Assistants
Flexible Hours



**DRIVE THE
FUTURE**

**Become a School
Bus Driver
TODAY!**



For more information call 586-797-6980

Apply today @ <https://jobs.uticak12.org>

For more information call 586-797-1130

Apply today @ <https://jobs.Uticak12.org>

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.

Upcoming Spirit Days



November 9th: Patriotic Day for Veteran's Day acknowledgement

November 16th: College Day

December 21st: Holiday Sweater Day

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- Every **Tuesday** from 3:05-4:00 for the semester. ****See below for more information****

Builders Club – The next meeting will be **Friday, November 2** before school at 7:30 AM in Room 43.

Ecology Club – Next meeting will be **Wednesday, November 7** after school until 3:45 PM in Room 29.

Forensics Club – Meets **every Friday** after school until 4:00 PM in Room 39.

Static Club – Meets **every Wednesday** before from 7:30-8:00am in the Room 38.

Student Council – The next meeting will be **Tuesday, November 13** after school from 3:00-3:45 PM in Room 11.

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

SWAT Homework Club (Students Working to Achieve Together)

At Bemis Junior High School, we are taking positive steps to help your child have a successful school year. At this time, we would like to invite your student to participate in SWAT (Students Working to Achieve Together), an after-school tutoring and mentoring club. This program will be facilitated by Mr. Mastrogianis, Bemis Counselor, and Mrs. O'Green, teacher, with tutoring by highly motivated and gifted students from the Ford High School Honor Society and MST programs.

The program will be available on **Tuesdays** throughout both semesters, from 3:05 to 4:00 in the school library. Your student will be expected to bring all necessary materials and books to the library during all tutoring sessions by 3:05 p.m. and remain until 4:00 p.m. Parents need to arrange to pick up their student by 4:10 p.m. If you would like your child to participate in this program, please complete the [permission form](#) and return it to the counseling office prior to your child's first date of attendance. Students who sign up must remain in the club through the semester.

If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact **Mr. Mastrogianis** at 797-2593

Used Battery Recycling



The Bemis Jr. High Ecology Club is recycling used household batteries. There is a battery recycling box in the library to collect the used batteries, so send in your batteries to be recycled!

Bemis Parent Advisory Committee

The Bemis Parent Advisory Committee allows parents to meet with school administration to learn more about what is happening at our school. Parents also have an opportunity to discuss school-wide issues and concerns. Meetings are once per month.

Next meeting is **November 13th at 5:00PM** in the Bemis Presentation Room.

Bemis Athletic Booster Club

Bemis Athletic Booster Club meetings are once per month in the Bemis Junior High Presentation Room.

Next meeting is **November 13th at 6:00PM** in the Bemis Presentation Room.

2018-2019 Bemis Yearbooks



Order your 2018-2019 Bemis Yearbook today at Jostensyearbooks.com.

The Pit Stop – School Store



The Pit Stop will be open every day during 4th hour lunches. Students may buy string backpacks, school supplies, Spiritwear, and so much more!

**Click here for an order form- [Bemis Spiritwear](#) **

You can turn in the form, with cash or check (payable to Bemis Jr. High), to either the Pit Stop or the front Office.

Kroger Plus card



Did you know that you can not only earn points for yourself but you can also earn points for our school. How? It's easy! Just shop at Kroger and [link](#) your Plus Card to Bemis Jr. High.

Fun Facts



The Painted Turtle is Michigan's state reptile

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.

New this School Year!

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.

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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

****Student Drop Off and Pick Up Parking Lot Usage****

Welcome to Bemis Junior High! 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 7:40am and 8:10am, 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 2:40pm. 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

