

WEEKLY MESSAGE FROM

DR. KATHLEEN DAVIS, INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS



DISTRICT NEWS:

Dear Families:

Please remember that we celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week on May 6 - May 10, 2024. We appreciate all our teachers' efforts with students. Please join me in sending thoughts of appreciation to our teachers. Every day they put forth great effort to engage our learners so they can be successful in life.

Just a reminder that May 17th is a recess day for all schools, *except* for Columbus School, due to an unused emergency day. Columbus School will have to be in session in order to meet the requirements of the State Education Department that all students must be in session for 180 days. Columbus School used two emergency days therefore they must be in session. I will be spending the day with the staff and students to support all of them. I look forward to making it a great day!

Have a great weekend!

Dr. Kathleen Davis

Interim Superintendent

ELEMENTARY NEWS:

PURPLE UP DAY AT UCSD!

On April 17, 2024, the Utica CSD celebrated "Purple Up Day," a day of special recognition for students who have a parent in the military. Across the district, students and staff wore purple in a show of support to our military students. A sample of some additional activities included: Albany: Students colored and decorated an Awareness Ribbon that was posted in the front windows. A bulletin board was created and a celebratory walk around the building took place to celebrate and reflect upon the sacrifice these families make to serve the country. Donovan: DMS surprised a staff member who is in the military with some thoughtful acknowledgments throughout the day. Jefferson: A "We Love Our Military Kids" bulletin board was created to showcase pictures of military students and their parents along with classroom messages of support. Tech Sergeant Nadaja Bullock, mother of two Jefferson students, was also a guest speaker at school. It was an honor to hear from an active member of our armed forces! MLK: Students proudly walked around the block wearing purple to honor and acknowledge those families and their children who serve our country.

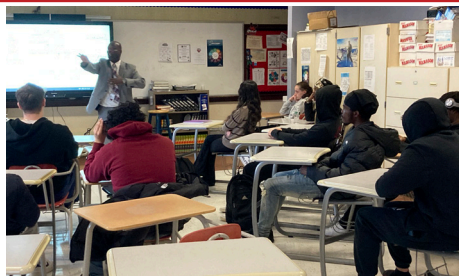
UCSD JOINED THE BLUE WAVE

On Thursday, April 18, 2024 the Utica City School District showed their support for our law enforcement by wearing blue! Thank you for all you do to keep us safe!

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS:

YOUNG AT ART!

Congratulations to Donovan Middle School 8th grade student Brooklyn Szymanski who was chosen



for the upcoming Fenimore Art Museum's: *Young at Art! Imaginations at Play* exhibition! The judges received over 385 submissions from 24 schools as well as homeschool submission. The museum only selected 40 works of art for the show. Brooklyn's exceptional work will be on display from May 24th - July 21st, during the height of our summer season. *The Young at Art!* Reception and Awards Ceremony will be held on Saturday, June 8th from 10am - 12pm at Fenimore Art Museum.



HIGH SCHOOL NEWS:

DOT GUEST SPEAKER: GARY HARVEY

CTE students attended presentations delivered by Gary Harvey, Statewide Recruiter and Compliance Specialist at the Department of Transportation. Mr. Harvey spoke about the different career paths available in the Workforce Development Program offered through MVCC in relation to the DOT. NYSDOT has hundreds of positions available across the state. The Department of Transportation provides jobs from maintenance workers to engineers and they feel every employee plays a role in keeping New York State's roads and bridges safe for all users.



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