

A message from the **BOARD OF EDUCATION**
Dear Utica School District Community,

As the President of the Utica School District School Board, I am delighted to extend my warmest greetings to each and every one of you. After a truly fantastic 2022-2023 school year, filled with numerous achievements and remarkable progress, we are overflowing with excitement as we embark on the journey that awaits us in the 2023-2024 academic year.

At Utica schools, we recognize the importance of evolving education to align with the future and the needs of our students, community, and the ever-changing career landscape. With utmost dedication and perseverance, we continue to seek out and retain the best educators for our students, while embracing new programs and cutting-edge technology that will propel our students to the forefront of innovation.

The future shines brightly for our schools, and we eagerly anticipate growing alongside our exceptional students as we witness the transformative power of education. Our commitment lies in cultivating a learning environment that nurtures a deeper understanding of educational development, fosters hands-on learning experiences, and empowers our teachers to guide and mentor students with unwavering support and profound expertise.

Utica School District is dedicated to paving the way for an educational journey that transcends traditional boundaries. We firmly believe in equipping our students with the knowledge, skills, and confidence necessary to thrive in the dynamic world that lies ahead. By embracing emerging technologies, fostering critical thinking, and promoting collaboration, we are cultivating a generation of lifelong learners who will undoubtedly shape the future.

As we venture into the 2023-2024 school year, I urge you all to join us in celebrating the extraordinary achievements of our students, educators, and community members. Let us embrace the boundless opportunities that lie ahead, as we continue to build a legacy of excellence and empowerment within our beloved Utica School District.

Thank you for your unwavering support, trust, and partnership. Together, we will navigate the educational landscape of tomorrow and forge a brighter future for all.

With great optimism,
Joseph H. Hobika, Jr.
Utica School District School Board President



JOSEPH HOBIKA JR. PRESIDENT | **DANIELLE N. PADULA** VICE PRESIDENT | **ROBERT CARDILLO** | **JASON COOPER** | **DONALD DAWES** | **TENNILLE KNOOP** | **JAMES PAUL**

OFFICE NUMBERS
GENERAL INFORMATION
315-792-2210

TRANSPORTATION OFFICE
315-792-2212

BUILDING & GROUNDS OFFICE
315-792-2231

THOMAS R. PROCTOR HIGH SCHOOL
Kenneth Szczesniak, Acting Principal
315.368.6404 | 1203 Hilton Avenue, Utica, NY 13501-4193

Attendance | 315.368.6280 / 315.368.6282
Transcripts/Working Papers | 315.368.6400

SENATOR JAMES H. DONOVAN MIDDLE SCHOOL
Ann Marie Palladino, Principal
315.368.6541 | 1701 Noyes Street, Utica, NY 13502-3895

JOHN F. KENNEDY MIDDLE SCHOOL
Colin Clark, Principal
315.368.6641 | 500 Deerfield Drive East, Utica, NY 13502-1899

ALBANY SCHOOL
Brent Dodge, Principal
315.368.6500 | 1151 Albany Street, Utica, NY 13501-3300

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS SCHOOL
Elizabeth Gerling, Principal
315.368.6520 | 934 Armory Drive, Utica, NY 13501-5362

ROSCOE CONKLING SCHOOL
Heather Galinski, Principal
315.368.6815 | 1115 Mohawk Street, Utica, New York 13501-3700

GENERAL HERKIMER SCHOOL
William Smith, Principal
315.368.6600 | 420 Keyes Road, Utica, NY 13502-2056

JOHN F. HUGHES SCHOOL
Mary Belden, Principal
315.368.6620 | 24 Prospect Street, Utica, NY 13501-5994

THOMAS JEFFERSON SCHOOL
Tricia Norton, Principal
315.368.6700 | 190 Booth Street, Utica, NY 13502-1500

HUGH R. JONES SCHOOL
Tricia Hughes, Principal
315.368.6740 | 2630 Remington Road, Utica, NY 13501-6397

KERNAN SCHOOL
Dominick Timpano, Principal
315.368.6760 | 929 York Street, Utica, NY 13502-3999

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. SCHOOL
Jennie Sikora, Principal
315.368.6720 | 211 Square Street, Utica, NY 13501-4599

WATSON WILLIAMS SCHOOL
Dr. Cheryl Beckett-Minor, Principal
315.368.6780 | 107 Elmwood Place, Utica, NY 13501-4999



UTICA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT'S THE RAIDER Review

Back to School / SEPTEMBER 2023



Congratulations **2023 GRADS**



VALEDICTORIAN
Lena Tran

SALUTATORIAN
Ju Mi La

REMAINING TOP 10 STUDENTS
(in rank order)

Naila Karajic
Win Wa Oo
Nadina Gacic
Nan Zar
Olivia Matrulli
Jordan Saunders
Andrew Nu
Juliana Scalise

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL



Welcome

Dr. Kathleen Davis
as the new Acting
Superintendent of Schools

Stay up to Date!

ON EVERYTHING
ACADEMIC, SPORTS,
THE LATEST NEWS, &
EXTRA-CURRICULAR
EVENTS

UTICASCHOOLS.ORG
f /UticaCitySchoolDistrict
f /UCSDRaidersNation

Superintendent's MESSAGE

Dear Families and Students:

I would like to welcome everyone back after a summer that hopefully gave you time to recharge and enjoy families and friends. It is with great honor that I begin my journey with your children this school year. My focus will be on students and learning with children as the center of all my decisions. I realize the district has been faced with transitions in leadership this past few years. It is important for you to know that I am fully committed to Utica City Schools this school year.

Our staff have spent many hours planning and attending training this summer. They have worked tirelessly to have our buildings ready to open for students. It is our goal to provide a quality education for our students so they can achieve their goals in life. To ensure this happens our staff continues to work collaboratively and look at the whole child as they plan forward.

Our students' education is important to all of us. Together we must collaborate and utilize our talents and resources in the community to reach every student. This past month I have been meeting with community members to understand the resources available in Utica so we can learn how to partner and enrich our programming.

Communication is critical between the school and community. Each week you will be getting a message from me on Friday afternoons spotlighting our student achievements. In addition, you will see a quarterly newsletter from my office. The district will be implementing ParentSquare to increase communications between home and school.

I look forward to working with all of you and I am excited to have your children back in our care during the school day. It is important to me to make this year great for every student. Layers of support and interventions will continue to be in place to ensure every child has a soft landing as they enter school September 7, 2023.

Sincerely,
Dr. Kathleen Davis
Acting Superintendent of Schools



Meeting dates

BOARD OF EDUCATION

SEPTEMBER	26TH / 7:00PM
OCTOBER	24TH / 7:00PM
NOVEMBER	28TH / 7:00PM
DECEMBER	19TH / 7:00PM
JANUARY	23RD / 7:00PM
FEBRUARY	27TH / 7:00PM
MARCH	26TH / 7:00PM
APRIL	16TH / 7:00PM
MAY (BUDGET HEARING)	7TH / 5:00PM
MAY (BUDGET VOTE)	21ST / 5:00PM
MAY	28TH / 7:00PM
JUNE	18TH / 7:00PM
JULY	2ND / 7:00PM
JULY	23RD / 7:00PM

CONTACT

OFFICE: 315.792.2222

Information

COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY PROVISION (CEP) HOUSEHOLD INCOME ELIGIBILITY FORM

Utica City School District is participating in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) or Provision 2 in a non-base year. All children in the school will receive meals/milk at no charge regardless of household income or completion of this form. This form is to determine eligibility for additional State and federal program benefits that your child(ren) may qualify for. Below is a SAMPLE form that is not intended for use. Individual forms will be mailed out district wide later this month. Call 315-368-6858 with any questions.

1. List all children in your household who attend school:

Student Name	School	Grade/Teacher	Foster Child	No Income
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. SNAP/TANF/FDPIR Benefits:

If anyone in your household receives either SNAP, TANF or FDPIR benefits, list their name and CASE # here. Skip to Part 5, and sign the application.

Name: _____ CASE # _____

3. Household Gross Income: List all people living in your household, how much and how often they are paid (weekly, every other week, twice per month, monthly). Do not leave income blank. If no income, check box. If you have listed a foster child above, you must report their personal income.

Name of household member	Earnings from work before deductions Amount / How Often	Child Support, Alimony Amount / How Often	Pensions, Retirement Payments Amount / How Often	Other Income, Social Security Amount / How Often	No Income
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Signature: An adult household member must sign this form.

I certify (promise) that all the information on this application is true and that all income is reported.

I understand that the information is being given so the school may receive federal funds.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

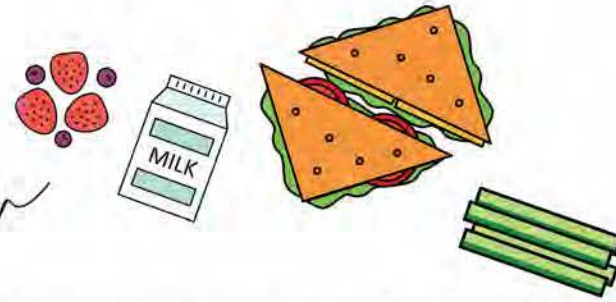
Email Address: _____

Home Phone _____

Home Address _____

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE – FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY		
Annual Income Conversion (Only convert when multiple income frequencies are reported on application) Weekly X 52; Every Two Weeks (bi-weekly) X 26; Twice Per Month X 24; Monthly X 12		
SNAP/TANF/Foster Income	Total Household Income/How Often:	Household Size:
Free Eligibility	Reduced Eligibility	Denied Eligibility
Signature of Reviewing Official _____		

School Meal Program



The 2023-2024 school year is approaching and the Utica City School District's Food Service Department is excited to announce that the following schools have again been approved to operate under the Community Eligibility Provision- that means all meals can be served to all students for FREE! Families in these schools do not need to fill out a free/reduced meal application, but it is helpful to your district if you fill out the income collection form attached here. Our Utica City School District Food Service staff take great care in providing nutritious, well balanced meals, including whole grains, lean proteins, and lots of fruits and vegetables. Our school nutrition professionals have food safety training, make accommodations for students with food allergies, and have the skills and knowledge to ensure a safe and healthy experience for all. Please take a few minutes to complete the income collection form, and submit any time after July 1, 2023. If you need help filling out the form, or need a different translation, please [contact hmielnicki@uticaschools.org](mailto:hmielnicki@uticaschools.org). A hard copy will be mailed to individual households. Please complete them fully and legibly, then return to your school building office or the COO office at 320 Elizabeth St., Utica, NY 13501. See below for instructions on how to complete the form once you've received it.

CEP/PROVISION 2 NON-BASE YEAR HOUSEHOLD INCOME FORM INSTRUCTIONS

ALL HOUSEHOLDS MUST COMPLETE STUDENT INFORMATION. DO NOT FILL OUT MORE THAN ONE FORM FOR YOUR HOUSEHOLD.

- (1) Print the names of the children, including foster children, for whom you are applying on one form.
- (2) List their grade and school.
- (3) Check the box to indicate a foster child living in your household, and check the box for each child with no income.

HOUSEHOLDS GETTING SNAP, TANF OR FDPIR SHOULD COMPLETE PART 2 AND SIGN PART 4.

- (1) List a current SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) or FDPIR (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations) case number of anyone living in your household. Do not use the 16-digit number on your benefit card. The case number is provided on your benefit letter.
- (2) An adult household member must sign the form in PART 4. SKIP PART 3 - Do not list names of household members or income if you list a SNAP, TANF or FDPIR number.

PARTS 3 & 4 ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLDS MUST COMPLETE ALL OF PARTS 3 AND 4.

- (1) Write the names of everyone in your household, whether or not they get income. Include yourself, the children you are completing the form for, all other children, your spouse, grandparents, and other related and unrelated people living in your household. Use another piece of paper if you need more space.
- (2) Write the amount of current income each household member receives, before taxes or anything else is taken out, and indicate where it came from, such as earnings, welfare, pensions and other income. If the current income was more or less than usual, write that person's usual income. Specify how often this income amount is received: weekly, every other week (bi-weekly), 2 x per month, monthly. If no income, check the box. The value of any child care provided or arranged, or any amount received as payment for such child care or reimbursement for costs incurred for such care under the Child Care and Development Block Grant, TAN F and At Risk Child Care Programs should not be considered as income for this program.

Nondiscrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly. In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. To file a program discrimination complaint a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained Online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf> from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must in the the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Utica City School District has adopted a comprehensive Code of Conduct that maintains public order on school property and at school functions. The Code also governs the conduct of students, teachers, other school District personnel and visitors and which aligns with Article 2-A of the Education Law, Dignity for All Students Act (DASA), the New York State SAVE Legislation. The Utica City School District seeks to deliver the highest quality of educational services without disruption or interference and formulates a policy which provides a safe and orderly school environment for students and District personnel. Responsible behavior by students, teachers, other District personnel, parents/guardians and visitors is essential to achieving this goal.

The Utica City School District recognizes that a positive school climate is an important factor in effective student management. A positive school climate helps to foster high levels of personal student growth and academic achievement and is predicated on the principles of safety, trust and effective communication among all stakeholders including parents, students, teachers and the entire school community.

Please visit our website for the full version of our Code of Conduct at: www.uticaschools.org

Notice of Compliance

THE PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

"The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) is a federal law that affords certain rights to parents of minor students with regard to surveys that ask questions of a personal nature. Briefly, the law requires that schools obtain written consent from parents before minor students are required to participate in any U.S. Department of Education funded survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information: <http://web2.moboces.org/policies/hollandpatent/8005%20Prohibition%20of%20Discrimination%20and%20Harassment%20Including%20Sexual%20Harassment%20in%20Employment.pdf>

Student Privacy Policy Student Privacy Policy

FERPA Board of Education Policy #7240.4
<https://web2.moboces.org/districtpolicies/?public=utica>

Attendance Policy

Under New York State Public Health Law (§ 2164), all children entering and attending school are required to receive the immunizations listed in the NYS Immunization Requirements for School Entrance/Attendance chart.

ANNUAL ASBESTOS NOTIFICATION

In accordance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1987 (AHERA), a copy of the Utica City School District's building inspection report and management plan is available for review during business hours by appointment. Please contact Michael M. Ferraro, Chief Operations Officer, at 315.792.2231 if you need to set up an appointment or if you have any questions.

PESTICIDE NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

The Utica City School District, following its adoption of a pest-management policy at its special Board of Education meeting on September 11, 2001, utilizes current integrated pest management practices to reduce the use of pesticides in our buildings and on our grounds. It may be necessary, however, to use pesticides periodically during the year. New York state law requires that schools and BOCES maintain a list of parents or guardians, as well as staff, who wish to receive written notice 48 hours prior to a pesticide application at their facility.

If you wish to be included on the School District Notification List or for further information on the District Pesticide Program, please contact Michael M. Ferraro, Chief Operations Officer, at 315.792.2231. You will receive advance notification of pesticide application at your child's facility, as required, except in the event of an emergency application in response to a threat to public health.

NEW YORK STATE IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL ENTRANCE/ATTENDANCE

Children in a Pre-Kindergarten setting should be age-appropriately immunized. The number of doses depends on the schedule recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). Intervals between doses of vaccine should be in accordance with the ACIP-recommended immunization schedule for persons 0 through 18 years of age. Doses received before the minimum age or intervals are not valid and do not count toward the number of doses listed below. Children who are enrolling in grade-less classes should meet the immunization requirements of the grades for which they are age equivalent.



Vaccine	Pre-Kindergarten (Day care, Head Start, Nursery School or Pre-Kindergarten)	Kindergarten & Grades 1-5	Grades 6-11	Grade 12
Diphtheria and Tetanus (toxoid-containing vaccine) and Pertussis (DTaP/DTP/Tdap)	4 doses	4 or 5 doses: If the 4th dose was received at 4 years or older 3 doses: If 7 years or older and the series was started at 1 year or older	3 doses	
Tetanus and Diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine and Pertussis booster (Tdap)	Not Applicable		1 dose	
Polio vaccine (IPV/OPV)	3 doses	3 or 4 doses If the 3rd dose was received at 4 years or older		
Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR)	1 dose	2 doses		
Hepatitis B vaccine	3 doses	3 doses: or 2 doses of adult hepatitis B vaccine (Recombivax) for children who received the doses at least 4 months apart between the ages of 11 through 15 years		
Varicella (Chickenpox) vaccine	1 dose	2 doses		
Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MenACWY)	Not Applicable		Grades 7-11: 1 dose	1 or 2 doses If the dose was received at 16 years or older
Haemophilus influenzae type b conjugate vaccine (Hib)	1 to 4 doses	Not Applicable		
Pneumococcal Conjugate vaccine (PCV)	1 to 4 doses	Not Applicable		



Summer Sport Camps 2023



Congrats To

TODD ABRAHAM & KAIA SINGLETON
2023 PROCTOR HIGH SCHOOL
MALE & FEMALE SCHOLAR
ATHLETES

like our new facebook

RAIDERS NATION

WWW.UTICASCHOOLS.ORG

UTICA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT'S NEW FACEBOOK FOR ATHLETICS -- RAIDER NATION!!
STAY UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST SCORES, SCHEDULES, CAMPS & CLINICS, ALL STARS & MORE!

UTICA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT IS MOVING TO PARENTSQUARE!

Welcome to August! As we begin the new school year, Utica is transitioning from SchoolMessenger to ParentSquare to streamline district, building, classroom, and activity group communications.

KEY FEATURES:

- RECEIVE DISTRICT, SCHOOL ALERTS BY EMAIL, PHONE, TEXT, APP
- VIEW SCHOOL AND CLASSROOM CALENDARS
- SUPPORTS TRANSLATION AND ACCESSIBILITY FUNCTIONALITY

It is our hope that the partnership with ParentSquare will enable a stronger dialogue between school and home and connect and empower the school community.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE DISTRICT WEBSITE:
<https://www.uticaschools.org/families/parent-square>



ParentSquare



DOWNLOAD THE
APPLE IOS APP



DOWNLOAD THE
ANDROID APP

NEW STUDENT *Registration*

All Grades! Kindergarten through 12th Grade!

MONDAY-THURSDAY // 8:30AM-3:00PM

CALL 315.368.6960 TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT

CENTRAL REGISTRATION // 929 YORK STREET, UTICA

(BEHIND KERNAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL)

EDWARD SIMPSON / Administrator / 315-368-6070

KOLIEL PARKER / Secretary to the Administrator / 315-368-6047



2022-2023 *Highlights*



TALENT SHOW

Conkling definitely has talent! Students were given the chance to enter into Conkling's talent show by first auditioning, then participating in several practices and rehearsals. The hard work culminated with a dress run during the day for all students and then the "real deal" at night. Community members and families eagerly attended the event to see how much talent Conkling had, and they definitely did not walk away disappointed!

COMMUNITY READERS

Kernan Elementary was able to invite Community Readers from all over the Mohawk Valley to read to our students and answer questions about their profession. This represented a great authentic learning experience for our students.



SPRING CLEAN UP

5th & 6th grade students from Albany Elementary School participated in the 2023 Intergenerational Spring Clean-up sponsored by the Oneida County Youth Bureau. Students raked leaves, weeded gardens, picked up branches and swept walkways to assist local Senior Citizens in the upkeep of their yards. This activity was supported by Albany's Social-Emotional Learning Committee. A special thank you to Mrs. Colucci, Mrs. Fernald, and Mrs. Savicki for their work on this project.



WELLNESS DAY

A fun filled day at Conkling Elementary that encouraged mindfulness and healthy habits through stations that students could visit. Community guests and supports came in to discuss and promote healthy living and social emotional health. Students left with tangible items that they created to remind them of the healthy habits and skills they learned about.

MULTICULTURAL NIGHT

MLK held our annual Multi-Cultural Night and had a fantastic turn out. Our families shared cultural food, dances and information! We had an amazing evening.



SCIENCE FAIR

Calling all Conkling scientists! Students at Conkling worked on class and individual projects that were on display during the Science Fair. Students submitted projects as a whole class and some as individuals. There were prizes and awards for both categories. In addition to student projects, there were stations for students and families to learn about science and even create an experiment and/or project to take home!



FIELD DAYS & CARNIVAL AT

Watson Williams



ICE CREAM SOCIAL

It has been a busy year here at Jefferson Elementary full of academics and extracurriculars. Many exciting events have been held this year such as the Ice Cream Social.



DAN DANIELS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Awards Ceremony



**THE DONOVAN
DRAMA CLUB
HIGH SCHOOL
MUSICAL JR.**



**OPTIMIST CLUB
GENERAL
HERKIMER**

Kyristina Mathis



FREEDOM WRITERS VISIT / GRADE 8 ASSEMBLY

Donovan Middle School



**OPTIMIST CLUB JFK
- 7TH GRADE -**

Awards Ceremony



REGIONAL Winners



Mrs. Riley's fourth grade class had 3 students who were regional First in Math winners. Kaiden, Ensar and Brayden competed in the state tournament in Albany on May 20th. We were proud to have them represent General Herkimer Elementary.