

Jefferson Vision

We, at Jefferson, are committed to meeting and exceeding state and national academic standards. Additionally, we will encourage our students to strive to become kind, caring, and compassionate, and productive members of society.

Thomas Jefferson Elementary School

Responsible Citizens ~ Lifelong Learners

Jefferson Families,

It is exciting to be starting off what I am sure will prove to be another great year at Jefferson Elementary School. A special thank you to the students of Jefferson School; the staff; and you, the parents and community for your dedication to success! It is through working together as a team that we all succeed.

This year at Jefferson Elementary School we will be working toward meeting the following school comprehensive education goals (SCEP) and will continue to welcome your input on how we can help all students to succeed. Thomas Jefferson will...

- Provide quarterly workshops to address and provide interventions that support student learning gaps designated by data.
 - Identify and measure levels of depth of knowledge using Wonders assessments and utilize i-ready diagnostic data to develop school-wide and classroom data walls.
 - Develop a support system for teachers using Response to Intervention strategies.
 - Plan at least three parent workshops to include all parents.
- Most Importantly,
- Follow the Board of Education approved Absenteeism/Chronic Absenteeism policy in order to ensure that students are attending school as much as possible to receive the greatest amount of instructional time.

Active participation in your student's education is imperative! Helping your student maintain GREAT punctuality and attendance is instrumental in developing positive work habits and ensuring success in school. Planning family vacations during the summer break, holiday vacations, and/or over spring break is greatly appreciated. This will help eliminate the possibility of your student/s developing gaps in their education and assist in student achievement.

Thanks in advance for your partnership in your student's education. Please contact me at 368-6700 or via email at vrejrat@uticaschools.org, if you should have any questions.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Rejrat

Vanessa F. Rejrat
Principal

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Mrs. Rejrat - Principal
792-2163

Mrs. Rolchigo – Secretary
792-2163

Mr. Jalonack – Security
368-6712

Ms. Januszewski – Nurse
368-6702

School Fax Number
732-5902

Main Office Hours
8:30 – 3:30



190 Booth Street
Utica, NY 13502
(315) 792-2163

www.uticaschools.org/jefferson

Kindergarten News

Mrs. Bonfardeci's Kindergarten class made applesauce on Thursday, October 27. We read about Johnny Appleseed and his contributions to America. We peeled and cooked several apples and used our five senses too. Our nose helped us smell the cinnamon and apples. We used our ears to hear the crunch of the apples when cut them. We saw the apples transform from whole to soft with our eyes. We touched the smooth surface of the apple before it was peeled with our hands. Lastly, we tasted the wonderful applesauce that we made with our mouths. It was a great yummy day had by all.



2nd Grade News

Grade two had a great time with the monthly "I Love Literacy" activity. For October we practiced the skill of sequencing by learning how to blow a bubble with gum!



1st Grade News



First graders have learned a lot since the first day of school. During Unit 1 of the new Wonders Reading program we discovered ways in which we are all special. Our skills focused on short vowel sounds and letter blends. In Unit 2 of Wonders we will be exploring what makes a community and our skills will introduce long vowels, contractions, plural nouns and proper nouns. In math we have been working hard on our additions strategies and soon will be working on subtraction too. As always, continue to practice high frequency words and math facts at home.

3rd Grade



As the new school year commences, Grade 3 is busily beginning our new Wonders Reading Series with Unit 1 concepts focusing on "Growing and Learning." In Mathematics, Grade 3 is beginning the year with Eureka Math series by studying the "Properties of Multiplication and Division and Problem Solving." Please continue to monitor your child's homework, encourage independent reading and practice multiplication facts at home to support academic growth and achievement for a positive, productive school year!

4th Grade News

Grade 4 teachers welcomed a new group this September! The girls and boys are very excited to be working in the new Wonders reading series. As part of our first unit the students completed



compare/ contrast activities. In math they reviewed and learned strategies for place value, comparing numbers, rounding, adding and subtracting.

5th Grade News

Fifth grade was fun because we learned so many new things. Fifth grade students had the opportunity to venture to Potato Hill Wednesday Oct 26th. Students were given the chance to ride mountain bikes through the wooded trails. Students were also given the opportunity to hike along some of the most beautiful scenery in the Adirondacks. The smiles and joy on the faces of our students was priceless. Most if not all look forward to going back again in the spring.

6th grade Fall Field Trip

By: Erna, Emily, Trenton, Ema, and Nadina

Our 6th grade classes just went on our fall field trip to B.R.O.E.P. Most of us went last year as 5th graders but this year was a bit different! It was cold and wet and a bit more challenging. We learned to use our gears on our bikes to make riding a bit easier. Some of us tried harder trails and some of us rode trials for the first time. The trails filled with all the different trees and colored leaves made hiking and biking beautiful. The staff there taught us to communicate while riding and kept us safe and warm with their gear! Some of us may have fallen but we helped each other out, got back up and completed the trail! It was fun and no one gave up! Everyone kept going and did their best!

PTO News

This year, Jefferson's PTO will sponsor monthly fundraisers. Our first one was a popsicle sale, and it was held on Friday, September 23, 2016. More than 400 popsicles were delivered to classrooms, were appreciated by our students as a celebration of a successful beginning of the school year. Our October fundraiser was a popcorn sale held on Friday, October 21, 2016. Our students thoroughly enjoyed this nutritious snack. We appreciate your continued support and look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming PTO meetings and events.



Munson- Williams Grade 6 Greek Mythology Tour

Jacqueline and JuMi La



Our visit to the museum enhanced, or improved, our understanding of art and Greek mythology by showing us that behind every painting or sculpture there is a meaningful story. During library, we had heard some of the stories but they say, "A picture is worth a thousand words." At first, many paintings didn't look like art, but once we started to hear the myths they represented it all started to come together. For example, one painting had many random items on the canvas like boxes, trees, rocks and feathers. The feathers had a huge meaning because it was about the story of Icarus and how he didn't listen to his father so his wax wings melted when he flew too close to the sun. This trip changed our perspective of art and definitely enhanced our knowledge of Greek mythology. We can't wait to go again!

ENL Family Information Meeting

Jefferson ENL (English as a New Language) Family Informational Meeting was held on Wednesday, September 28, 2016. Over 35 families were in attendance. Mrs. Rejrat, Utica City School District's academic coaches, and our E.S.O.L. teachers presented information regarding student expectations, school procedures, and discussed upcoming Jefferson School events. Our academic coaches translated all pertinent school information to our families in their native languages, and our families appreciated the information translated.



Kindergarten Field Trip

The Kindergarten classes visited Savicki's Farm on October 12th. All of the students enjoyed the hayride on our way to the pumpkin field. We had a great time picking out pumpkins and looking at different types of decorative corn that they had growing in their fields. Our classes were able to spend time in their play area digging in the rock pit, as well as finding their way out of the hay maze. Our awesome trip ended with a picnic lunch and a delicious treat of cider and homemade chocolate chip cookies! We had such a great time!!



The John Convertino & Santo Paniccia 5th & 6th Grade Cross Country Meet

The John Convertino & Santo Paniccia 5th and 6th Grade Cross Country Meet was held on Tuesday, October 4, 2016. Jefferson's 6th grade girls placed 7th, 6th grade boys placed 7th, 5th grade girls placed 8th and 5th grade boys placed 5th. Peyton Kimball placed 2nd for the 6th grade boys and Brandon Magana placed 10th for the 5th grade boys. We are proud of all who participated. Go Jefferson Jaguars!

Boys 5th grade

Brandon Magana
Charles Bryant
Mirza Covic
Somchat Ampaimkun
Raegan Demma
Carmine Donatello
Gabiell Tavarez

Boys 6th grade

Peyton Kimball
Frank Pelli
Amir Halilovic
Asim Gacic
Maung Aye



Girls 5th grade

Easily cho
Sophia Ferraro
Melisa Bajic
Angela Ciccone
Aneisah Young
Isabella Rivera
Da'iveona archie

Girls 6th grade

Ema Causevic
grace Edwards
Erna Dizdarevic
Abigail Rippo
Isabel Elsenbeck
Emily Khiamdavanh
Nadina Gacic

September SOM

Grade	Teacher	Student
K	Mrs. Bonfardeci	Yeshua Arroyo
K	Mrs. Laurer	Maya Merdanovic
K	Mrs. Rivera	Selia Nguyen
1	Mrs. T. Brown	Xzayvier Niles
1	Ms. Czepiel	Kaiden Appel
1	Mrs. Karelus	Autum Win
2	Mrs. Blemont	John Ehmi
2	Mrs. Galiulo	Gabriella Price
2	Mrs. Salvo	Shi-Shi Htoo
3	Mrs. Adamo	Alexandra Donlon
3	Ms. Ferris	McKenzie House
3	Ms. Griffin	McKenzie Brady
3	Mrs. Kallies	Kyleigh Brandy
3	Mrs. Montanarelli	Tamani Knight
4	Mrs. M. Brown	Hay Plah Moo
4	Mrs. Delia	Po Wah
4	Mrs. Mallozzi	Harmony Maine
4	Mrs. Marsden	Mervin Poturovic
5	Ms. Grant/Mrs. Abeling	Michael Shilo
5	Mr. Green	Abrar Obaid
5	Mrs. Lawruk	Angela Ciccone
6	Ms. Inkawhich	Jeremy Brady
6	Ms. Mazzara	Grace Edwards
6	Mrs. Simon	Ema Causevic
6	Mrs. Stalker	Katherine Herrera

October SOM

Grade	Teacher	Student
K	Mrs. Bonfardeci	Alena Patterman
K	Mrs. Laurer	Ju Nai
K	Mrs. Rivera	Jaxen Davy
1	Mrs. T. Brown	Jovani Goico
1	Ms. Czepiel	Hamad Obaid
1	Mrs. Karelus	Reem Mufatah
2	Mrs. Belmont	Lilac Lay
2	Mrs. Galiulo	Jass Tay
2	Mrs. Salvo	Juliana Antonuk
3	Mrs. Adamo	Jail Aguayo
3	Ms. Ferris	Jelenny Niles
3	Ms. Griffin	McKenzie Fuller
3	Mrs. Kallies	Angelina Kuzmich
3	Mrs. Montanarelli	Scott Yourdon
4	Mrs. M. Brown	Kieara Oree
4	Mrs. Delia	Jacqueline Delia
4	Mrs. Mallozzi	Jeffrey Tilden
4	Mrs. Marsden	Ferid Causevic
5	Ms. Grant/Mrs. Abeling	Naeem Giles
5	Mr. Green	Amy Tipping
5	Mrs. Lawruk	Raegan Demma
6	Ms. Inkawhich	Nathan Mariani
6	Ms. Mazzara	Peyton Kimball
6	Mrs. Simon	Amir Halilovic
6	Mrs. Stalker	Ki'Shawn Burgess



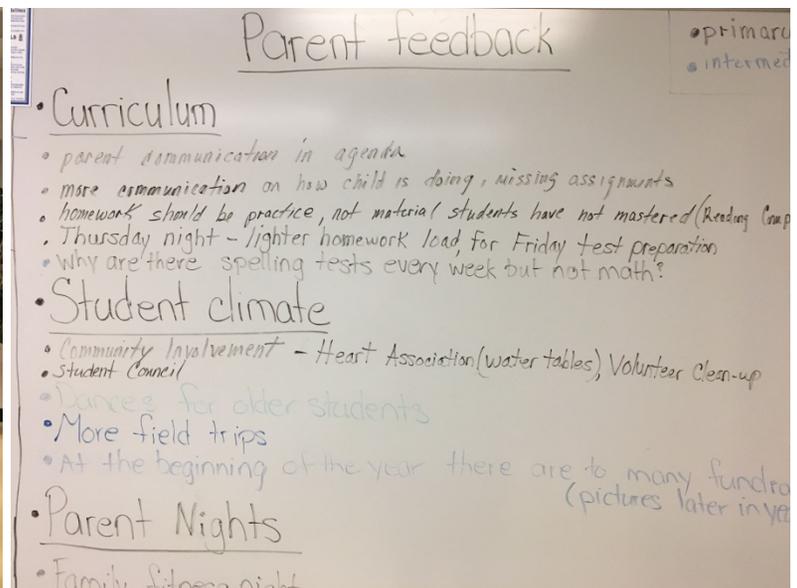
Parent Survey Results

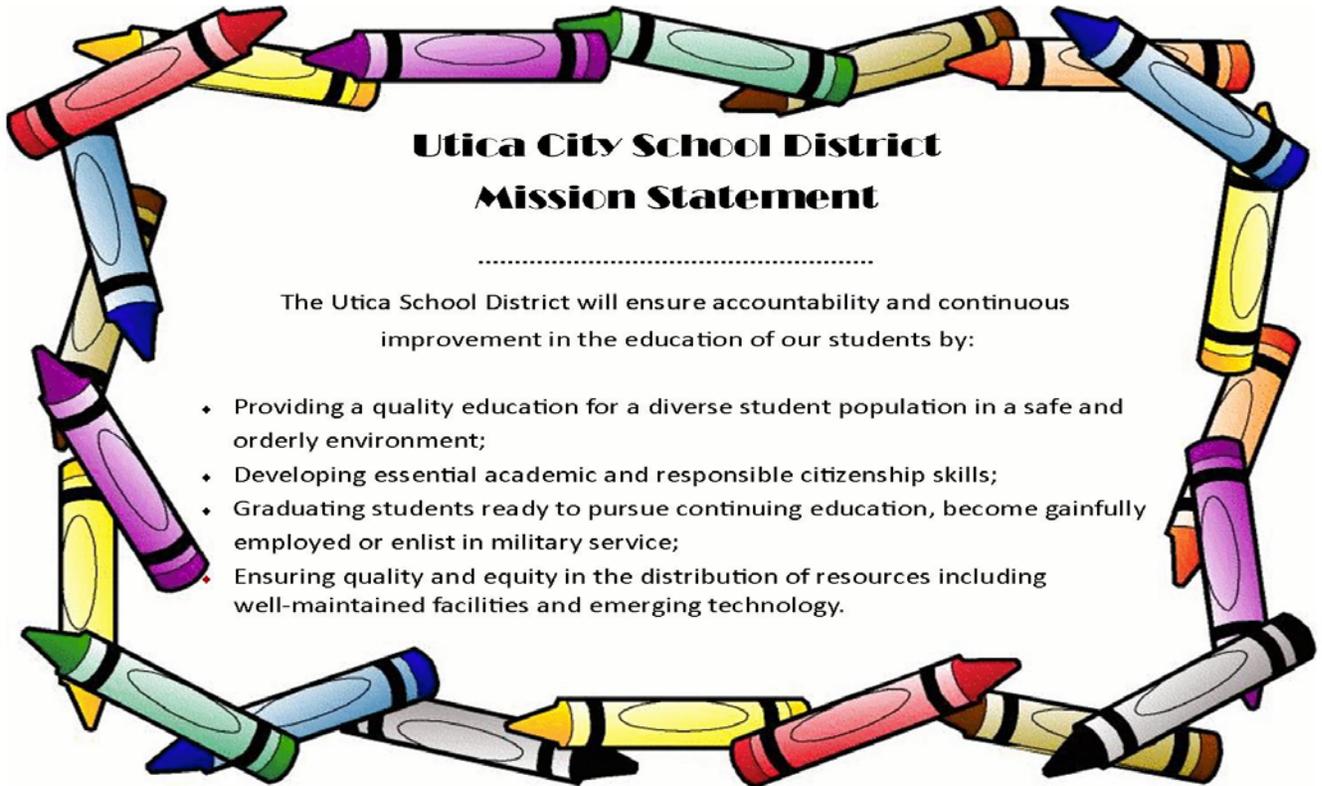
Thank you parents for the feedback you provided through completing the parent surveys and for participating in parent/student feedback sessions. We will use the survey results to make adjustments to our school comprehensive education plan (SCEP) and to plan future programs and activities.

Thank you again for being partners in your child's education! Check out what you had to say...

Title 1 Parent Survey Data Spring 2016	Yes	No	Growth from 14-15
1. I feel welcome when I enter the school	97%	3%	+ 7%
2. The school schedules parent/teacher conferences in a flexible way so that I can attend.	95%	5%	+ 7%
3. I feel I am a partner in my child's education.	96%	4%	New 96 % responded yes
4. Teachers regularly communicate with me.	85%	15%	+ 7%
5. My calls, emails, or notes to school staff are answered promptly.	91%	9%	+ 0%
6. I feel knowledgeable about the school's expectations for my child.	93%	7%	+ 3%
7. I feel knowledgeable about what is going on at the school.	91%	9%	+ 3%
8. I know how to help my child with his/her homework.	84%	16%	+ 8%
9. My child receives additional academic help when needed.	87%	13%	+ 5%
10. The school provides our family with informational events.	92%	8%	+ 3%
11. I have visited the school's parent resource room.	52%	48%	New 50 % responded yes
12. The school asks for my input about my child and how he/she learns best.	78%	22%	+ 3%
13. I have been invited to participate in school planning and decision making such as school improvement, Title I/academic intervention, parent surveys, PTO/SDM, etc.	79%	21%	+ 22%
14. I feel knowledgeable about the school's status as an identified focus school.	88%	12%	+ 29%
15. I feel that my child has made adequate progress over the course of this school year.	93%	7%	+ 10%

District Parent Survey	SURVEY 1 Jefferson Fall 2016			
Number of surveys collected	256			
Best time to attend school events	<u>11%</u> 2 p.m.	<u>19%</u> 4 p.m.	<u>51%</u> 6 p.m.	<u>19%</u> Sat.
Familiar with school's vision and mission	<u>62%</u> yes		<u>38%</u> no	
Top 3 events school should have	<u>21%</u> list event Parent Conferences		<u>17%</u> list event Open House/Curriculum Night	<u>16%</u> list event Sports
Transportation issues	<u>23%</u> yes			<u>77%</u> no
Accessed web site	<u>40%</u> yes			<u>60%</u> no
Can help kids at home with learning	<u>93%</u> yes			<u>7%</u> no





Utica City School District Mission Statement

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The Utica School District will ensure accountability and continuous improvement in the education of our students by:

- ♦ Providing a quality education for a diverse student population in a safe and orderly environment;
- ♦ Developing essential academic and responsible citizenship skills;
- ♦ Graduating students ready to pursue continuing education, become gainfully employed or enlist in military service;
- ♦ Ensuring quality and equity in the distribution of resources including well-maintained facilities and emerging technology.