

Jefferson Elementary Fall Newsletter

Excellence • Diversity • Achievement

Principal's Message

Dear Families,

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

Promoting real world skills (i.e. decision-making, self-awareness and critical thinking) in the classroom.

- ◆ Engage students in blended learning
- ◆ Increase executive functioning skills
- ◆ Implement Data Chats

Increasing student engagement and connectedness to school.

- ◆ Update the Jefferson Communication plan to include students
- ◆ Increase programs and activities that will support social, emotional, and educational needs
- ◆ Promote cultural responsiveness and inclusivity

Also, we will continue to reinforce positive behaviors and life skills through our PBIS PAW, and Lifelong Guidelines programs.

You can help at home by practicing basic math facts with your child, reviewing life skills, and ensuring he/she is reading *at least* 20 minutes a day. Jefferson's website includes grade level web pages with monthly updates of the ELA Wonders and Eureka Math Curriculums. Included on each grade level webpage, is a visual of the weekly Wonders sheet that provides the following: story, genre, comprehension skill, vocabulary strategy and words, writing traits, grammar, mechanics, spelling words, phonics and high frequency words. You will also find Eureka Math Tips for Parents. You may access your child's weekly ELA sheets and Math Tips for Parents by following the steps below:

Go to : <https://www.uticaschools.org/jefferson> for these and other parent resources

Click on the tab "Class Pages" and select your child's grade level

Click on the tab "Monthly Curriculum" and select the month

Monthly sheets are now visible for you and your child by the week/module

Continuing to help your child maintain great punctuality and attendance is instrumental in developing positive work habits and ensuring success in school.

Progress reports are scheduled to be sent home on October 21st. Please begin speaking with your child about developing learning goals for the remainder of Marking Period 1. Please review your child's learning goals with them regularly to reinforce student growth and achievement.

A special thank you to the entire Jefferson community! It is through working together as a team that we all succeed. Please contact me at 315-368-6700 or via email at tnorton@uticaschools.org, if you need anything!

Thank you,

Tricia M. Norton

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, compassionate, and productive members of society.

Important School Phone Numbers

Mrs. Norton
Principal
315-368-6700

Mrs. Rightmier
Secretary
315-368-6700

Nurse Pauline
315-368-6702

Security
315-368-6712

IT Help Line
315-368-6997
Ext. 9

Kindergarten

Mrs. Brown - Mrs. Bonfardeci - Mrs. Timpano

We are so glad to have all of our new friends with us in Kindergarten this year! We have a lot of hard working students. In reading, we have been working on our letters and sounds for a, m, and s. We are starting to make words and blend the sounds of those letters together to read the words. We've learned high frequency words such as: I, can, we, the, see. In math, we are writing numbers 0-10 and counting those numbers both forwards (0-10) and backwards (10-0). Please continue to practice these skills at home as well as writing their own name. We are looking forward to a great year with our classes!

♥ Welcome to
Kindergarten

First Grade

Mrs. Karelus - Ms. Czepiel - Mrs. Adamo

First graders have learned a lot since the first day of school. During Unit 1 of the 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 addition strategies and have started working on subtraction too. As always, continue to practice high frequency words and math facts at home.

Here are some fun ways to practice spelling words at home:

1. Spell the word out loud and jump on the vowels.
2. Use water and a paint brush to spell out the words, watch them dry up and disappear.
3. Sing out words.
4. Scramble up the letters of the words and sort them out.

Second Grade

Mrs. Belmont - Mrs. Bennett - Mrs. Kallies

Welcome back to a new school year Grade 2! As we commence the new school year, second grade students are studying with Wonders Smart Start and ELA Unit 1: "Friends and Family!" -- focusing on the central theme of the importance of friendship and families around the world and on reading, writing, listening and writing skills, grammar, spelling and reading comprehension. In Mathematics, we are studying Eureka Math focusing on studying place value, counting and comparison of numbers to 1,000. In Science, we are studying the Engineering Design process and in Social Studies, we are learning about today and history long ago and how our world changes over time! Please note, parents may support academic growth and achievement by encouraging independent reading and math practice at home. Please monitor homework completion to support your child's continuing academic growth and achievement!

Thank you for all you do and Happy Fall Season to all!



Third Grade

Mrs. Brown - Ms. Griffin - Ms. Wiater

Third Grade is off to a great start! We have begun Multiplication and are learning how to use it to solve Division. We make and build arrays and tape diagrams. In ELA we are reading Realistic Fiction, Biographies and Fantasies. We are learning about Forces in Science and communities in Social Studies. Please remember to practice your multiplication facts and read at home every day.

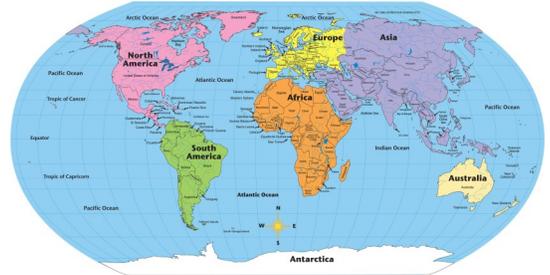
MULTIPLICATION													
×	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
3	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36
4	0	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48
5	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
6	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
7	0	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70	77	84
8	0	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80	88	96
9	0	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90	99	108
10	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
11	0	11	22	33	44	55	66	77	88	99	110	121	132
12	0	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144

Fourth Grade

Mrs. Galiulo - Mrs. Marsden - Mrs. Waskiewicz

The children are off to a great start! We've become reacquainted, made new friends, and are ready to explore the wealth of learning that the Grade 4 curriculum has to offer.

We've been studying place-value, comparing and rounding numbers, how animals are classified, the continents and oceans that make up our world, and have read some interesting stories.



Friendly reminder: Please have your child bring a water bottle with them to school each day.

Fifth Grade

Mr. Green - Mr. Rogowski - Mrs. Rivera - Mrs. Lawruk

Our 5th grade students have been working very hard on place value and decimal fractions. We are currently learning how to multiply and divide decimal and whole numbers in Module 2. Please encourage your child to practice their multiplication math facts as these fundamental skills are crucial to the success of the upcoming module lessons. Students can go on [zearn.org](https://www.zearn.org) for additional practice to develop the necessary skills that are needed in our classroom.

In ELA, students have been reading passages that focuses on the big idea, “Where can an idea begin?” It is very important that our 5th grade students are reading daily for at least 20 minutes at home. This will help to improve reading fluency and comprehension.

Please visit the “Student Links” page which is provided on our school website. These sites will greatly assist your child to reinforce math and literary skills. As always, we greatly appreciate your support at home.

Sixth Grade

Ms. Mazzara - Mrs. Sayles - Ms. Simon

We have been off to a great start in 6th grade so far! The students have adjusted well to the new sixth grade routines – (especially mastering their locks and lockers). We had our first Student of The Month assembly so congratulations to our winners! We are looking forward to many more this year! 6th graders have been busy working on mathematical operations with decimals so please encourage your child to continue to practice their math facts! It helps so much throughout the entire year for math! Please feel free to contact us at any time with any questions or concerns you have for your child. If you have not joined our Class Dojo class, please consider doing so. We are looking forward to a fabulous fall season and rest of our first marking period!



Mrs. Collin's Class

Students in our class are having a great start to the school year! They have been working very hard to learn lots of new routines like how to walk in the hallway and eat in the lunchroom. They are reading about signs of Fall with squirrels gathering acorns and children picking apples. Best of all, they have been learning to be good friends and help each other.



Student of the Month September

September Life Skills - Respect, Friendship, Responsibility

Layla Shah
Justin Htoo
Joseph Kobielski
Antonio Guzman
Faith Andino
Sisi Win
Aheri Velte
Madison Nadarevic
Shelley Rotach-Yozzo
Mursal Barakzai
Mikaela Duniec
Owen Depalma

Alessandra Park
Rashi Daroe
Joseph Etman
Valerie Antanavige
Nyomi Prescod
Leah Jackson-Carey
Anastasia Rollins
Brian Herron
Ader Mendez Liriano
Siranoush Marashian
Alfredo Troutman
Andy Chavez Ventura

Madison Gadziala
Jevaeh Palmer-Watson
Vienna Evans
McKenzie Thornton



Morning Announcements The Morning Crew



10/12/22

Click the picture to see
announcements.

We have again begun this year, live zoom morning announcements with, Olivia, Naiomi, Zin, Gabriella and Julianna each morning. Every classroom teacher connects to the morning announcement zoom link so all students can see and hear the announcements.

Each morning the students say the Pledge of Allegiance then announce the weather, lunch for the day, quote of the day, joke of the day, did you know fun fact and school activity reminders.

There is now a "Joke Box" at the security station for anyone that would like to contribute a joke. The anchors will read the joke and acknowledge the student on air.

If you would like to see the morning announcements, they are recorded, then linked on our webpage so parents/guardians can view them each day. Click on the attached picture on our webpage to view the announcements.



Note from the Nurse

When Should I Stay Home?

I HAVE A FEVER	I AM VOMITING	I HAVE DIARRHEA	I HAVE A RASH	I HAVE HEAD LICE	I HAVE AN EYE INFECTION	I HAVE BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL
						
Temperature of 100° F or higher	Within the past 24 hours	Within the past 24 hours	Body rash with oozing, drainage or fever	Check with your school district policy	Redness, itching, and/or pus draining from eye	Hospital stay and/or emergency room visit

I am ready to go back to school when I am...

Fever free without the assistance of medication for 24 hours (i.e., Tylenol, Motrin, Advil)	Free from vomiting for 24 hours.	Free from diarrhea for 24 hours.	Free from rash or fever and have been evaluated by my doctor if needed.	Treated with appropriate lice treatment at home.	Free from drainage and/or have been evaluated by my doctor if needed.	Released by my medical provider to return to school.
 <i>It's ok to have a runny nose and/or small cough.</i>						

Bussing Information

Durham Student Bussing Services

Phone: 315-758-1648

Email: utica.durham@gmail.com



Any bussing issues can be directed to Durham Student Bussing Services. We are sending

messages via Class Dojo to let parents know when busses will be late and when they

have left the school. Please be sure you have set up your classroom Dojo app to receive these and other important messages.



STEAM

Summer Program

SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING ARTS MATHEMATICS

The Jefferson STEAM Makerspace Summer Program is an exciting initiative that brings exploration, creativity, and hands-on learning to the classroom and beyond. With Makerspace, students work on their own or in teams to build, create, learn and solve. Makerspace covers topics like robotics, physics, coding, electricity, and more. Makerspace projects:

- Include ELA Skill integration
- Engage students in hands-on projects
- Develop problem-solving skills and encourage self-direction
- Foster teamwork, decision-making, creativity, and higher-level thinking
- Supports STEAM, social studies, and vocational education curriculum -*Follett Learning*





Reminders

October 18th—Picture Day

October 19th—Dine & Donate @ Texas Roadhouse

October 20th— PTO Meeting 8:35 am

October 21st—\$1 Popcorn Fundraiser

October 24th—Fire Prevention Assembly

October 27th—SOM/PAW Awards

October 28th—Crazy Hat Day

November 2nd—Trunk & Treat 6 to 7 pm

November 8th—Superintendent's Day—
No School for Students

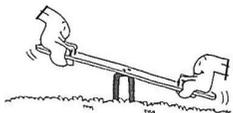
Home & School

Working Together for School Success

September 2022

CONNECTION[®]

Jefferson Elementary
Tricia Norton, Principal



SHORT NOTES

Excellent attendance

Being in school every day means your child won't miss out on learning. Try to schedule appointments and family trips outside of school hours. If he asks to stay home "just because," remind him of what he'll miss, such as his reading group or PE class. Explain that he can be absent only if he's sick or if there's a family emergency.

DID YOU KNOW?

Children who regularly eat meals with their families tend to do better in school and avoid risky behavior. Eating dinner together is great, but other meals count, too. If you work at night, maybe you could make time for a family breakfast. Or on a weekend, try a picnic lunch.

Celebrate progress

Suggest that your youngster create a fun reminder of all the things she has accomplished. Let her cover a box with construction paper and label it "I did it!" Then, she can write each success ("I learned to add fractions") on a slip of paper and put it in the box. If she's feeling discouraged, have her read the slips.

Worth quoting

"The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up!"
Mark Twain

JUST FOR FUN

Q: Can a kangaroo jump higher than the Empire State Building?

A: Of course. The Empire State Building can't jump!



Conversations about school

When you think of parent involvement, do you picture moms and dads volunteering in classrooms? That's one way to help—but research shows that supporting your child's education at home is even more important. Here are conversation starters that will help you stay involved.

"Let's see what you brought home."

Look at completed work to find out what your youngster is learning and how well she's doing. You could comment on her math work or social studies project, for instance. ("You know a lot about our state's history!") Also, respond to notes from her teacher, and sign her weekly folder or daily planner if required.

"Show me what you have for homework."

It's your child's job to do her homework, but you play a role, too. Make sure she knows what she's supposed to do by having her explain the assignments to you. After she finishes her homework, glance over the work to see that it's complete.

"Describe a book you enjoyed today."

This gives you an idea of what your youngster prefers to read. Then, build a daily reading habit by asking what she'd like to read tonight. Encourage her reading and listening skills by reading aloud to her and letting her read to you.

"Tell me what you learned that you'd like to know more about."

Use her interests as jumping-off points for activities to share. If she likes geometry, you might hunt for



shapes together. If she's fascinated by how animals adapt to winter, take her to the library to research the subject or to the zoo to see live animals. ♥

After-school questions

Asking "How was school today?" might not get you far. Instead, ask questions like these for a better picture of your youngster's day:

- "What's the coolest thing that happened today?"
- "Pretend you're the teacher. How would you describe the day?"
- "What made you laugh?"
- "What was the most creative thing you did?"
- "How were you kind or helpful today? How was someone kind or helpful to you?" ♥



What does respect look like?

Your youngster's daily dealings with adults and kids alike will be more pleasant if he speaks and acts respectfully. Try these tips for helping him learn about respect.

Respectful replies. Think about something that you and your youngster disagree on (say, whether his video game time should be limited). Model having a respectful discussion about it. You might say that his brain and body are growing and that he needs to run and play to stay healthy. Then, suggest a respectful response, such



as, "I want to be healthy, but I love video games." Have him brainstorm other situations where people have different opinions but still speak to each other with respect.

Everyday acts. When you mow the lawn or clean up after your dog, you can teach your child about respect for neighbors.

Explain that keeping your neighborhood clean and neat makes it nice for everyone. Ask him to think of other respectful things neighbors should do. If you share an apartment laundry room, he might say that you respect neighbors' time by removing your clothes when they're done so others get to use the washers and dryers.♥

A reading challenge

By reading more complex books, your child can learn new words, facts, and ideas. He'll also be exposed to more complicated plots and will grow as a reader. Share these suggestions:

- Knowing something about the topic or setting makes a tougher book easier to comprehend. If your youngster is reading a novel set in China, he could talk to someone who has been there or look up the country online (try a children's site like kids.nationalgeographic.com).

- Encourage your child to look at a simpler book on the same subject. A picture-book biography about Harriet Tubman may help your youngster better understand a textbook chapter on the civil rights movement, for instance.

- Suggest that your child read complicated material with pencil and paper in hand. He can jot down questions, words to look up, or facts he wants to learn more about.♥



Strong study habits

Q: My third grader has to spend more time studying this year. How can I make sure she studies effectively?

A: Set your daughter up for success by helping her find a distraction-free study spot. Also, have her come up with a study routine. For instance, she could reserve time each evening to review her textbook and notes in the days leading up to a test.

Also, many students find it helpful to jot down a purpose each time they study. Your child might write: "I will learn the definitions of all the boldfaced words in chapter 7, section 1."

Finally, encourage her to experiment with study strategies to find what works best. She could close her eyes and imagine how a word is spelled or draw a grid with 9 squares to solve 3 x 3. Or she might find it helpful to spell or recite math facts aloud in rhythm or to a familiar tune.♥



Talking to kids about money

My children were always asking to buy things like dress-up shoes or new games. They didn't seem to understand that these items weren't in our budget.

I wanted them to learn about how we spend our money—and that it is limited. So I got a spiral notebook and labeled it "Family Spending Journal." I explained that for two weeks, everyone would keep a record of what they spent money on. I listed items like my

subway fare, the electric bill, and food at the grocery store. The children wrote down expenses such as school lunch, soccer cleats, and field trip fees.

After a few days, they were surprised by how many things we needed money for. Our kids had no idea, for example, that we paid for taxes on our income, several types of insurance, and membership in our homeowners' association. Sometimes they still ask to buy too many things at the store, but when I say no, at least they understand why.♥



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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Superintendent of Schools

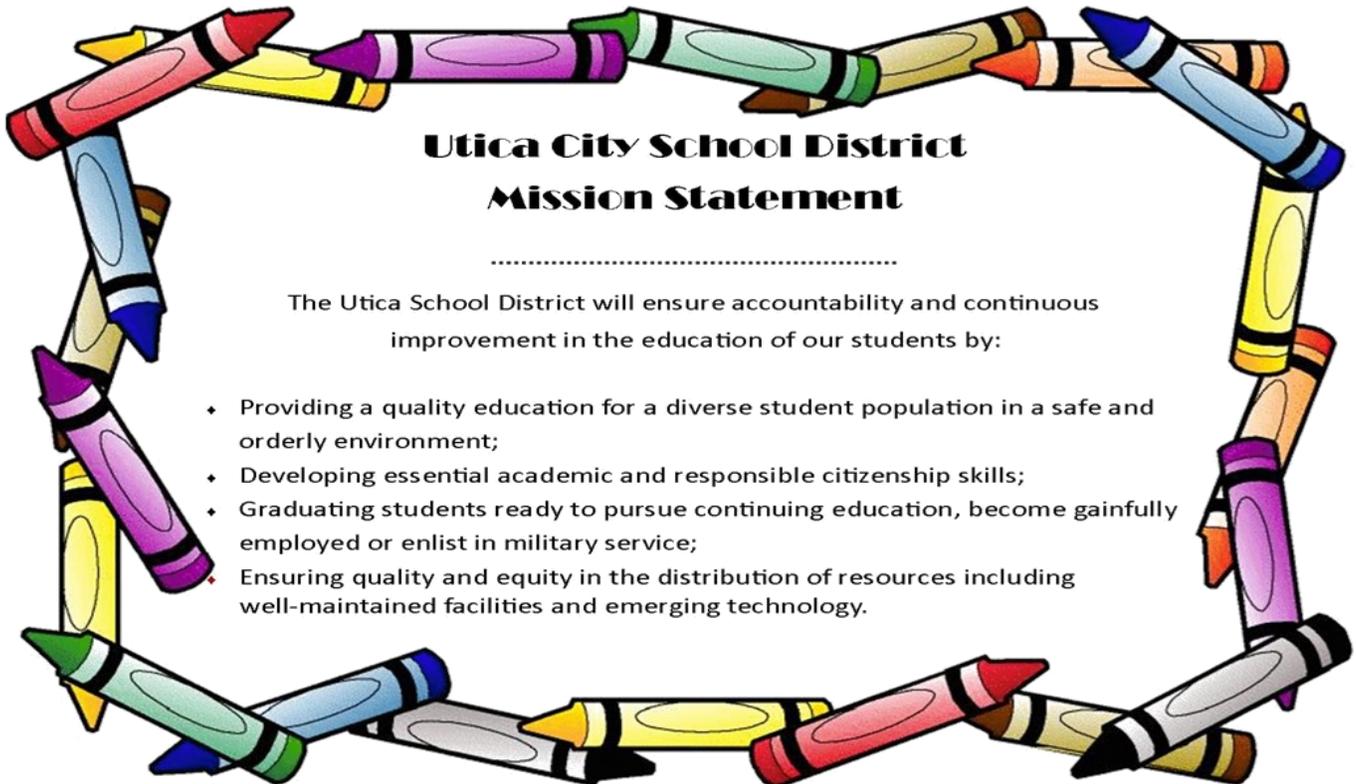
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Utica City School District Mission Statement

.....
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.