

The background of the entire image is a collage of various children. At the top, there are portraits of a young girl with a pink headband, a boy, and a girl. To the right, a boy with curly hair is smiling. On the far right, a girl is shown in profile, looking down. At the bottom right, a boy is smiling. On the left, a girl in a blue hoodie is holding a stick. At the bottom left, two more children are shown, one in a pink shirt and one in a yellow hoodie, both holding sticks. In the center, four hands of different skin tones are cupped together, holding a large, textured pink heart. The heart has a subtle pattern of small leaves. The text 'Little hands big hearts' is written in a white, cursive font across the heart. Below the text is a white graphic of two hands reaching towards each other, with lines extending from their wrists to form a larger heart shape.

Little hands big hearts

UTICA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
2014-15 CALENDAR



Bruce Karam

A Message from the Superintendent

As we begin a new school year, I am proud to introduce the 2014-2015 Utica City School District Calendar. The theme of this year's calendar is volunteerism. Learning about important ways to support others and to give back to the community are essential life skills for our youth to possess.

Volunteerism takes on many forms at each of our schools. At the elementary and middle schools, our students participate in a variety of initiatives including fundraising for the American Heart Association, the Kelberman Center for Autism Awareness, the Relay for Life, the Ride for Missing Children, and the Humane Society. Students also provide outreach by sending correspondences to our troops overseas, volunteering at the Utica Zoo, and holding numerous food drives for our local shelters. These are just a few examples of their volunteer efforts.

At our high school, student organizations such as Honor Society, Key Club, Best Buddies, and Student Council participate in many volunteer projects to raise money for important causes and to provide for those in need. Throughout the year Proctor's N.J.R.O.T.C. unit engages in countless outreach efforts in our community including building networks with and supporting our local veterans. Each year, they initiate city-wide cleanup and beautification projects as seen in the planting of trees along the Parkway in honor of our local veterans, and the annual maintenance of gravesites at our local cemeteries. Music groups including the Senior Choir and Moose Ensemble volunteer their talents at various community and civic events throughout the year.

As Superintendent of Schools, I am proud of the volunteer efforts that are taking place across the district. Not only are our students learning the importance of community outreach, they are also establishing a sense of pride in themselves knowing that they are helping to make their school and their community a better place.

This year's calendar showcases numerous examples of volunteerism on behalf of our students. I would like to thank Dr. Elefante and her staff for producing another outstanding publication of our district calendar.

Sincerely,

Bruce J. Karam

*Superintendent of Schools,
Utica City School District*

A Message from the Board of Education

This year's school calendar focuses on the theme of volunteerism, a concept that is alive and well each day in our district and in our schools. As we reflect on volunteerism, I would like to take this opportunity as



Board president to thank my colleagues for the countless hours of their time that they give up on a daily basis in their work as Board members.

We are also very proud of the volunteer efforts that are happening across the district in all 13 of our school buildings. We would like to sincerely thank our students for giving their time to make a difference in our community.

Once again, on behalf of Vice President LaPolla and the Utica City School District Board of Education, we would like to thank all of you for the support of our school district. We also extend our wishes for a successful and productive school year.

Respectfully yours,

Christopher J. Salatino
Board of Education President



Louis D. LaPolla
Vice President



Margaret Buckley



Donald Dawes



Evon M. Ervin



Michele Mandia



Michael Paul

SEPT 2014

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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DEC 2014

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JAN 2015

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FEB 2015

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MARCH 2015

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MAY 2015

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23	24 31	25	26	27	28	29

JUNE 2015

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JULY 2015

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AUG 2015

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23 30	24 31	25	26	27	28	29



WE SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

At **Albany Elementary School**, Melissa Savicki's fourth grade class spent the holidays writing notes and cards to Lt. Col Bryan Edmunds of the United States Air Force. He is stationed at Kandahar Airfield in Afghanistan. The students sent letters filled with words of encouragement and stories about their school and extracurricular interests.

Edmunds responded in a letter on January 28 to thank the students for their thoughtful words. "Your words of encouragement for me were very kind and always help brighten up my day," wrote Edmunds.

With the letter came a United States flag for the students to keep, which had been flown over the compound in honor of the soldiers' mission and in thanks to the students of Albany Elementary School.

Students at Albany were very excited when they received mail back from Edmunds. "My favorite was when we wrote to Lt. Col Edmunds because it made them feel good about serving our country," says Giresa Delice, one of the fourth graders in Savicki's class.

"It felt good when he wrote us back because then we knew he cared about our letters."

Me and some of my Airmen (I'm on the right)





SUNDAY

MON

TUES

WED

THURS

FRI

SATURDAY

Labor Day 1

*Superintendent's
Conference* 2

*Superintendent's
Conference* 3

School Starts 4

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Patriot Day 11

*10/11 SAT
Registration
Deadline* 12

ACT 13

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18

*10/25 ACT
Registration
Deadline* 19

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21

*Autumn
Begins* 22

23

*Rosh
Hashanah
Begins* 24

25

*Rosh
Hashanah
Ends* 26

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SEPTEMBER | 14

We 3 Health



At **Columbus Elementary School**, the Hoops/Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser has been an ongoing tradition for eight years. Vinnie Perrotta and Kim Philo, the K-6 physical education teachers at Columbus, coordinate the event each year with special guest Meg Gibbons, youth marketing director at the American Heart Association.

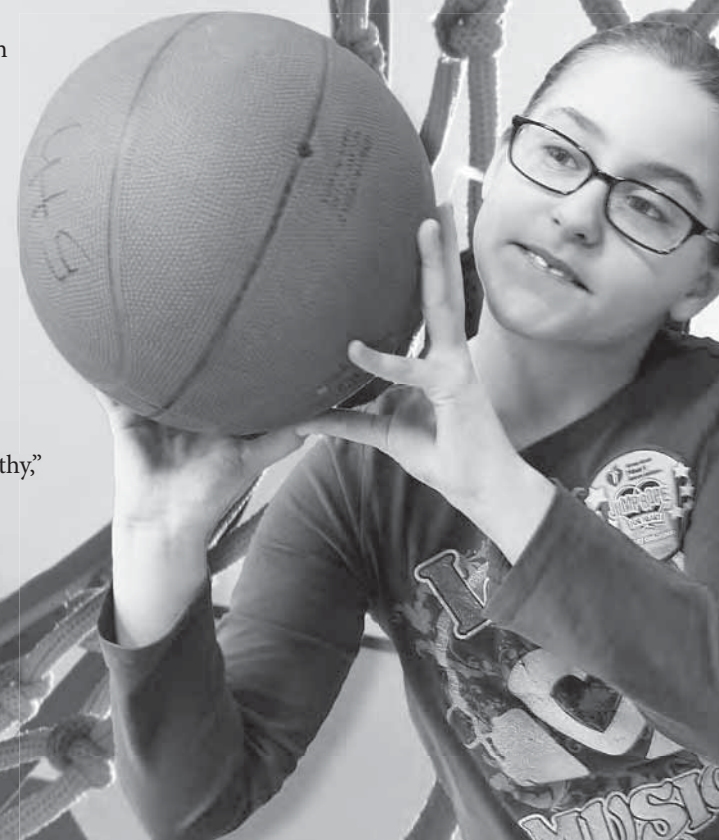
"This event is a great way to spread awareness and get kids involved," says Perrotta. "The American Heart Association does so many good things for so many good people."

Each year, a gym class packed with fun games and activities jumpstarts the fundraiser, motivating kids to be active and involved. Every class gets the chance to participate in basketball games, hula hooping and jump roping. "This event gets the kids physically active," says Philo. "It makes them realize the link

between exercising and being a healthy individual."

All proceeds from the fundraiser aid the American Heart Association, with 10 cents of every dollar benefiting childhood obesity research. "The greatest advantage of this event is the community outreach," says Gibbons. "We want the kids to start talking with their parents about heart health, which addresses the issue of childhood obesity."

At the end of the fundraiser, participating students celebrate with a party. "The school is always behind the event, and it spreads a great message about being fit and healthy," says Philo.





OCTOBER | 14

SUNDAY

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THURS

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SATURDAY

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Yom Kippur

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*Sukkot
Starts*

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*11/8 SAT
Registration
Deadline*

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SAT

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*Columbus
Day*

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NO SCHOOL

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*Sukkot
Ends*

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*Sh'mini
Atzeret*

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ACT

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Halloween

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Watch How Powerful Change Can Be

Students at **Conkling Elementary School** teamed up this year in a building-wide fundraiser, Pennies for Patients, to raise money for local children with leukemia and other types of blood cancer.

First grade teacher Tammy Sharpe organized this community project. Third, fourth and sixth grade students volunteered their time to sell fruit pops, with all proceeds contributing to the Pennies for Patients cause. Fourth graders from Mr. Cidzick's class and sixth graders from Mr. Schiavi's class even gave up recess to help fundraise!

"It was great to see the students work so hard to help in such a meaningful charity," said Sharpe. "They really were excited when we passed our goal of \$300.00."

Many students helped to collect spare change in canisters that were set up in each classroom. For some fun math practice, fourth graders partnered up with first graders to collect and count money together.

"This wonderful project helps students to be more sensitive to the needs of others and give back to the community," says Principal Mary Belden.

In the end, the Conkling Elementary School students' hard work paid off—literally! All those pennies and dimes resulted in a donation of \$705.53 to Pennies for Patients.





NOVEMBER | 14

SUNDAY

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THURS

FRI

SATURDAY

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Daylight Savings Ends 2

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Election Day 4

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12/6 SAT Registration Deadline 6

12/13 ACT Registration Deadline 7

SAT 8

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Veterans' Day
NO SCHOOL 11

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District Early Release Day 25

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NO SCHOOL

THANKSGIVING

NO SCHOOL

DECEMBER | 14

Pennies for Pets

Thanks to the efforts of **Donovan Middle School**, the Stevens-Swan Humane Society has been able to continue caring for homeless pets until they are adopted.

For the past four years, Donovan Middle School students, teachers and community members, have raised more than \$4,000 by collecting change for the Pennies for Pets program. Jars were labeled and placed in classrooms and in the cafeteria for lunch periods. Students from Miss Webb and Miss Pinto's classes were among the top contributors in 2013-14. Overall, Promise Campbell, Victoria and Mark Chmunevich and Aye Sa Tah were the leading donors.

"Pennies for Pets is a wonderful program that our students enjoy raising money for," says Miss Palladino, principal of Donovan Middle School. "The way the students rally together for the Stevens-Swan Humane Society really means a lot to me on a personal level because my dog, Liam, is a rescued pet. Without community support, the humane society would not be able to offset the care of these animals for as long as they do. It's also important that we teach our students about giving back."





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ACT

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*Hanukkah
Begins*

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*Hanukkah
Ends*

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Christmas

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Kwanzaa

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WINTER RECESS - NO SCHOOL

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*1/24 SAT
Registration
Deadline*

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30

New Year's Eve

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WINTER RECESS - NO SCHOOL

Burnop's Botany Bears

Most bears don't have thumbs—unless you are one of Burnop's Botany Bears, in which case you do, and it's green.

Third, fourth, fifth and sixth graders at **General Herkimer Elementary School** have teamed up to help sustain the gardens at school, participating in activities such as weeding, planting and laying mulch. Burnop's Botany Bears are the namesake of their gardening predecessor, Mrs. Burnop, a retired teacher, passionate gardener and lover of nature who spent her time volunteering in the gardens at General Herkimer Elementary.

The students assemble weekly after school during the fall and spring seasons. So far this year, annuals, perennials and tulip bulbs galore have been planted in the gardens. Burnop's Botany Bears planted vegetables as well.

Through hands-on experience, students learn about the science of gardening and the life cycles of various plants.

"Collaboration and working together is also an important part of the club," says Carrie Jones, club coordinator. "Students learn a sense of school pride and responsibility, and they get to see positive results from their hard work."

Seeds, soil and smiles ornament the garden while students dig with shovels and work together to plant the small seedlings. "I decided to help out because I love planting," says fifth grader Brianna Brady.

Cameron Ionta echoes her sentiments. "I like planting," says the third grader. "I do it a lot with my dad at home."

Taylor Rose Buck, a fourth grader, shares a similar view: "I joined for the love of plants," she says.



JANUARY 15

SUNDAY

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SATURDAY

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New Year's Day

WINTER RECESS - NO SCHOOL

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MLK Jr. Day

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NO SCHOOL

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SAT

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Regents Exams

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Regents Exams

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Regents Exams

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Regents Exams

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The Ride for Missing Children

For the past five years, Andrea Lewis has been biking in the Ride for Missing Children. This year was no different for the sixth grade special education teacher at **Hughes Elementary School**.

"I don't have children and I can't imagine what it would be like for anyone to have their child go missing," says Lewis. "The students look forward to making signs every year and cheering us on. Their support encourages us and reminds us why we are doing this."

Lewis feels especially tied to this event because she's an elementary school teacher. "The kids love that I do this," she says. "I feel like a rock star that day."

The kids are cheering for you; it's an awesome feeling."

The purpose of the ride is to honor the memory of all missing children and to raise public awareness about missing and exploited children. The ride calls attention to the need for child safety education and raises funds to support the missing children poster distribution. Funds also aid community education for the prevention of child abduction and sexual exploitation and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children Central New York, which serves the community locally and across New York state. The Central New York Center for Missing and Exploited Children is the only poster distribution center in the United States.



"The kids are cheering for you - it's an awesome feeling."



FEBRUARY | 15

SUNDAY

MON

TUES

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THURS

FRI

SATURDAY

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*Groundhog
Day* 2

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*3/14 SAT
Registration
Deadline* 12

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*Valentine's
Day* 14

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Presidents' Day 16

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Ash Wednesday 18

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MID-WINTER RECESS - NO SCHOOL

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In November, students at **Jefferson Elementary School** hosted “Read a T-shirt Day,” where students and staff were encouraged to wear a T-shirt that could be read by their peers in exchange for a non-perishable food item or a \$1.00 donation. The fundraiser, which collected five boxes of food and \$125, benefited the local Feed our Vets chapter. Fundraisers like this are important because they make younger kids aware of Veterans. “It makes students appreciate the plight of Vets,” said Joe Ancona, director of the Utica Feed Our Vets Pantry. “There are many homeless vets without jobs living in our area. The kids are able to see what’s going on out there and it gives them a feeling of accomplishment to know what the Vets have done for our country.”



More than 130,000 Veterans
are homeless and hungry on any
given night in America

MARCH | 15

SUNDAY

MON

TUES

WED

THURS

FRI

SATURDAY

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Purim

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*Daylight
Savings Begins*

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*4/18 ACT
Registration
Deadline*

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SAT

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*St. Patrick's
Day*

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*Spring Begins
Superintendent's
Conference*

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NO SCHOOL

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*Palm
Sunday*

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SPRING RECESS

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Nearly 3 million Veterans
and their families don't have
enough to eat each month



Relay for Life

Each year, **John F. Kennedy Middle School** students are adding more to their cancer awareness agenda. This fall, they will even be forming a student team to get a head start with planning the Relay for Life and other benefits for the American Cancer Society.

This past year, with the assistance of physical education teachers Mr. Minicozzi and Ms. Karas, the students incorporated physical education classes into the Relay for Life event. Also coordinating the events were Student Council Advisor Bekki Grabski and Principal Joshua Gifford.

The cancer awareness fundraisers included a school bake sale, which raised \$132.10. Students and staff decorated a bulletin board with names of loved ones who are battling, have survived or have passed away from cancer.

“They gain a sense of community and accomplishment. We have so many good kids who do so many good things.”

BEKKI GRABSKI

“Awareness projects like this develop a sense of community with teachers and students that they might not experience otherwise,” said Grabski.

SUNDAY

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THURS

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SATURDAY

* National Volunteer Week: April 12-15

1

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Passover
Good Friday 3

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SPRING RECESS

Easter 5

5/2 SAT
Registration
Deadline 6

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Passover Ends 11

SPRING RECESS

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ACT 18

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Earth Day 22

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Arbor Day 24

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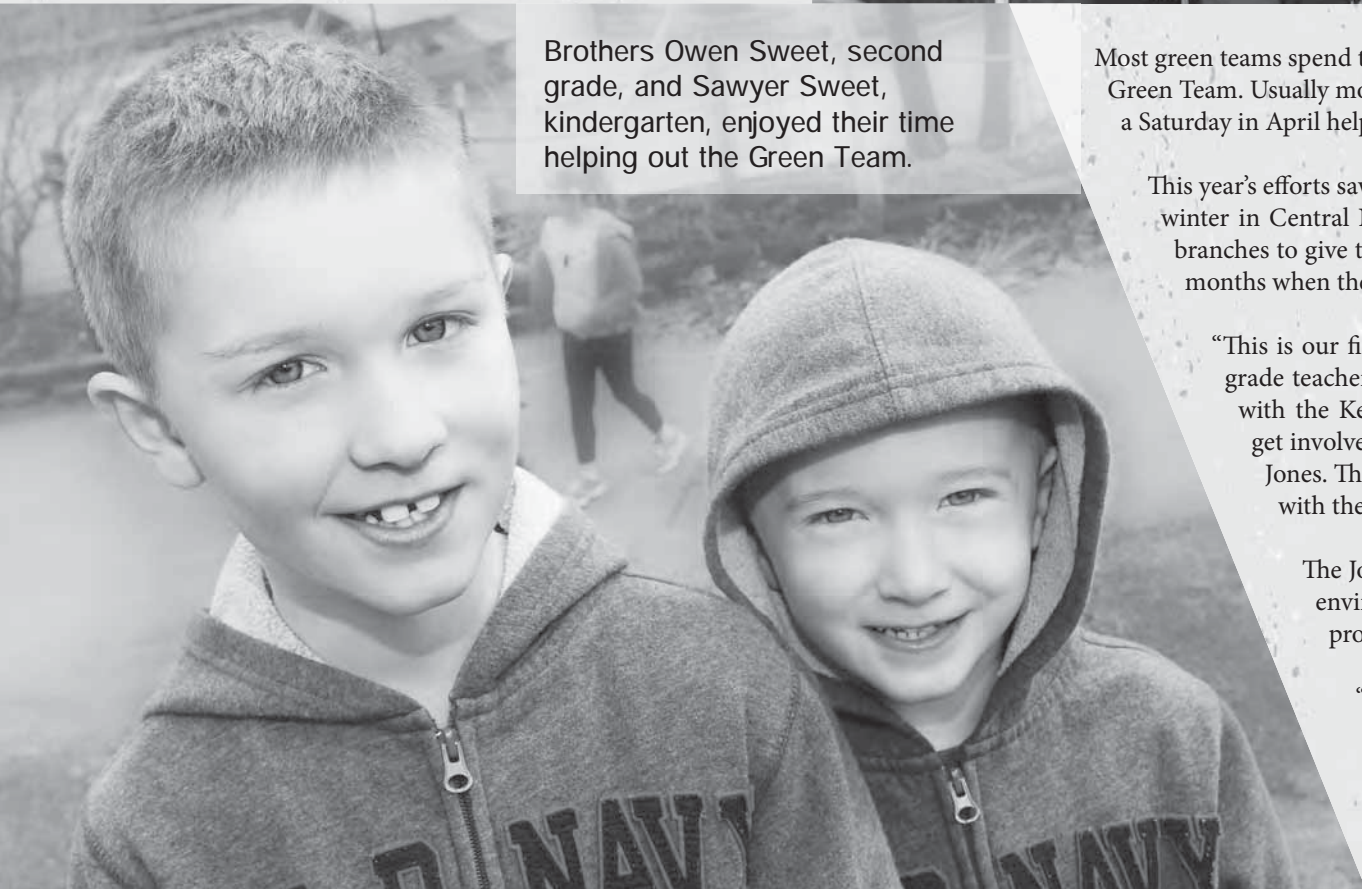
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APRIL | 15

AMERICA

— the —

Beautiful



Brothers Owen Sweet, second grade, and Sawyer Sweet, kindergarten, enjoyed their time helping out the Green Team.

Most green teams spend the majority of their time recycling, but not the Jones Elementary Green Team. Usually more than 50 students, parents and staff of Jones Elementary spend a Saturday in April helping to clean up the Utica Zoo.

This year's efforts saw many families working together to clean up after the long, cold winter in Central New York. Students swept sand and dead leaves and picked up branches to give the Utica Zoo a clean look for the upcoming spring and summer months when the zoo sees the most activity.

"This is our fifth year working on the project," said Michelle Diliberto, a first grade teacher at Jones. "We have worked with the Genesis group in the past with the Keep America Clean program they have running. We wanted to get involved in some way, as the study of the earth is the magnet theme for Jones. The goal is to incorporate this clean up so students can be proactive with their environment and the community."

The Jones Green Team promotes the pro-activeness of cleaning up the environment, including having a recycling program and a lunch waste program at the school.

"Parents and teachers along with the students work together at this event," Diliberto said. "It shows an effort on all parts, not just the kids. We always get a very good turnout."



Owen Sweet “Keeping the zoo clean helps the animals live in a healthy environment.”

SUNDAY	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SATURDAY
					1	SAT 2
3	Teacher Appreciation Week 4	Cinco de Mayo 5	6	7	6/13 ACT Registration Deadline 8	9
Mother's Day 10	11	12	13	14	15	Armed Forces Day 16
17	18	School Budget Vote 19	20	21	22	23
24 Shavuot	Memorial Day 25 NO SCHOOL	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Best Buddies

Students at **Kernan Elementary School** spent a full school year exchanging letters with pen pals just down the road at the Westside Senior Center.

The first and second graders wrote letters to their senior best buddies, detailing their interests, hobbies, holiday plans and happenings at school.

50 seniors participated in the letter-writing, including one who is a Kernan alumna herself—Helena Babowicz, who attended the elementary school in the 1930s. The senior center pen pals made four trips to Kernan throughout the school year to meet with their half-pint correspondents.

"I hope we can always be friends."



Kernan Alumna Helena Babowicz pictured above with a Best Buddy and, left, in her 6th grade school photo.

"This is a beneficial project for the children because it teaches literacy at an early age, as well as complements the teachers' efforts to educate the children in sentence structure, comprehension and writing skills—in a fun way that doesn't make the students feel like they are in class," said Dr. Paul Mickler, CEO of the Westside Senior Center and a coordinator of the Best Buddies project.

"This also benefits the community because the children get exposure to interacting with older adults in a positive way, making them more comfortable in dealing with other generations and becoming productive members of the community as they grow older."

On a sunny morning in June, the Kernan students gathered and walked together to the senior center to have lunch with their pen pals and celebrate a successful year of Best Buddies.

"I had a fun time eating with you," wrote one student in a thank you letter to her best buddy. "I wish in the winter we could build a snowman. I hope we always can be friends."



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ACT

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Flag Day

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Regents
Exams

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Regents
Exams

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Regents
Exams

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Regents
Exams

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Father's Day
Summer Begins

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Regents
Exams

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Regents
Exams

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Regents
Exams

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Regents
Exams

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High School
Graduation
Regents
Rating Day

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JUNE | 15

Hope House Food Drive



Thomas Labayewski and Celia Bogan drove away in a red minivan packed to the ceiling with boxes of food after a trip to **Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School**. The MLK Elementary Student Council had spent the past few weeks collecting the food items for the Hope House food drive. Labayewski, Hope House executive director, and Bogan, Hope House resource development manager, were thrilled with the results of the fundraiser.

"I am really impressed and grateful for the food that was collected by the students of MLK Elementary School," said Labayewski. "Their generosity will go a long way in providing meals for those in need in our community. My hope is that students come away with the understanding that a little bit of help on their part goes a long way in helping their less fortunate neighbors."

Fifth and sixth grade students were selected for the Student Council based on their leadership skills and ability to follow the Raider Way—"Be respectful, responsible and safe at all times." The team of students was guided by Student Council leaders Angel Rotach and Jessica Charles along with volunteers Ann Rieben and Kim Race.



"We had fun getting food for the Hope House. We care about others and appreciate what we have."

Erick Feliciano-Pabey
5th grader



JULY | 15

SUNDAY

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*Independence
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AUGUST | 15

Memorial Trees Along the Parkway

"To be wounded in action is one thing, to be killed in action is another, but to be forgotten is the worst."

This is the quote Master Chief Mark Williamson, NJROTC instructor at **Proctor High School**, calls upon to highlight the tree planting along the Utica parkway.

A group of 100 high school students spent a Saturday in May planting flowering crabapple trees in honor of Utica area natives who have lost their lives in action since World War I. 155 trees—and counting—have been planted along the path so far, including dozens of cherry blossom trees that were planted last year. Each tree features a memorial plaque engraved with the name of the soldier, date of passing, the war in which they fought and where they died.

The cadets spent a majority of the year planning and raising money in order to fund the purchase of trees and plaques. Many volunteers from the community assisted in the tree planting, including Board of Education member Michele Mandia and members of the Utica Parks Department, who ensure the watering and grooming of the memorial trees throughout the year.

"In 20 years, the cherry blossom trees will look like the trees in Washington D.C." said cadet Nay hi. "I think it's cool that we are leaving our legacy in Utica and remembering those who served our country."





SUNDAY

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Autism Awareness

According to the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention, around 1 in 68 American children are on the autism spectrum, a 10-fold increase in prevalence in 40 years. Because of the predominance, students and staff at **Watson-Williams Elementary School** decided to raise awareness and money for the Kelberman Center, an affiliate of Upstate Cerebral Palsy.

"We do a fundraiser every year because there is so much autism out there," said Annette Tennyson, occupational therapist. "It's growing and it affects our school community. Kids are aware of autism because many have brothers or sisters with autism."

Erin Morris, speech therapist, Lauren Mowers, occupational therapist, and Tennyson worked together with the school's principal, Cheryl Miner, to raise money through ribbon sales and a school-wide hat day, where students and staff donated money for the opportunity to wear a hat to school.

The school raised \$151, for the Kelberman Center, which provides state-of-the-art programs and services to more than 400 children and adults on the autism spectrum throughout Central New York.

"It's important for me to raise awareness because my brother has autism," said Quayvon Moore, a student at Watson Williams. "I want everyone to understand autism better so that they will understand my brother better."

"We colored puzzle pieces different colors for autism awareness because not all kids with autism are the same."

Kaitlyn Ackerman



"I want everyone to understand autism better so that they will understand my brother better."

Quayvon Moore



SEPTEMBER | 15

SUNDAY

MON

TUES

WED

THURS

FRI

SATURDAY

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Labor Day 7

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Patriot Day 11

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Directory

Administration Building..... Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m. 792.2210
106 Memorial Parkway, Utica, New York 13501

Bruce J. Karam *Superintendent of Schools* 792.2222

Business Official/Purchasing Agent *Maureen Albanese* 792.2224

Clerk of the Board..... *Kathy Hughes* 792.2078

Counsel..... *Donald R. Gerace, Esq.* 735.7509

Curriculum & Instruction K-12 *Lori Eccleston* 792.2228

Custodial Foreman..... *Edward Furcinito* 792.2231

Director of Security..... *John Syrotynski* 368.6061

Food Service Department..... *Mary Katherine VanDreason* 792.2250

Grants, Contracts & Compliance..... *Carla Percia/Pamela M. Reece* 792.2215

Human Resources *Joyce Tencza* 368.6019

Instructional Services *Tina Pawloski* 792.2280

Internal Auditor *Kristina Trociuk* 368.6063

Labor Relations Specialist..... *Andrew LaLonde* 368.6060

Maintenance Foreman..... *Mike Ferraro* 792.2231

Medical Office..... *Maureen Albanese* 792.2254

Pre-K & Student Programs *Alicia Mroz* 792.2216

P.R., Instructional Media & Special Projects..... *Dr. Angela M. Elefante, Esq.* 792.2262

Special Education Services..... *Elizabeth Paul* 368.6018

Technology..... *Steven Davis* 792.2247

Testing, Data Analysis & Planning *Sandra Paddock* 368.6028

Transportation..... *Patty Coons* 792.2212

Treasurer..... *Kim Powers* 792.2240

UCSD Channel 3..... *Robert Acey* 368.6431

Utica Safe Schools/Healthy Students..... *Anne Lansing* 792.2205



Elementary Schools

(Grades K-6)

Office Hours: 8:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Albany Magnet School

Tania Kalavazoff, Principal • 368.6500
1151 Albany Street, Utica, NY 13501-3300

Columbus Magnet School

Elizabeth Gerling, Principal • 368.6520
934 Armory Drive • Utica, NY 13501-5362

Roscoe Conkling School

Mary Belden, Principal • 368.6800
1115 Mohawk St • Utica, New York 13501-3700

General Herkimer Magnet School

Alicia D'Ambrosio, Principal • 368.6600
420 Keyes Road, Utica, NY 13502-2056

John F. Hughes Magnet School

Michele LaGase, Principal • 368.6620
24 Prospect Street, Utica, NY 13501-5994

Thomas Jefferson Magnet School

Vanessa Rejrat, Principal • 368.6700
190 Booth Street, Utica, NY 13502-1500

Hugh R. Jones Magnet School

Alaine Canestrari, Principal • 368.6740
2630 Remington Road, Utica, NY 13501-6397

Kernan Magnet School

Angela Evans, Principal • 368.6767
929 York Street, Utica, NY 13502-3999

Martin Luther King Jr. Magnet School

Becky Nugent, Principal • 368.6720
211 Square Street, Utica, NY 13501-4599

Watson Williams Magnet School

Dr. Cheryl Beckett-Minor, Principal • 368.6780
107 Elmwood Place, Utica, NY 13501-4999

Middle Schools

(Grades 7-8)

Office Hours: 7:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

James H. Donovan Middle School

Ann Marie Palladino, Principal • 368.6540
1701 Noyes St. • Utica, NY 13502-3895

John F. Kennedy Middle School

Joshua Gifford, Principal • 368.6640
500 Deerfield Drive East • Utica, NY 13502-1899

High School

(Grades 9-12)

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Thomas R. Proctor High School

Steven Falchi, Principal • 368.6435
1203 Hilton Avenue • Utica, NY 13501-4193

Attendance: 368.6430

Career Specialists/Work Study: 368.6435

Nurse: 368.6432

Transcripts/Working Papers: 368.6435

NJROTC: 368.6434



School Lunch Program

The UCSD Food Service Department shall be the foremost provider to students and other customers, of nutritionally-complete, low cost, tasty meals.

In partnership with the district and the school community, the Food Service Department resolves to meet the nutritional and health needs of the students through the provision of both healthy meals and nutritional education.

For more information, please call us at 792.2250, or stop by Central Kitchen at 400 Elizabeth St. Utica, N.Y. Additional information is also provided at www.uticaschools.org by clicking the Departments link and navigating to the Food Service page.



The Utica City School District offers
a balanced breakfast and lunch in every school.

REDUCED PRICE ELIGIBILITY INCOME CHART (Effective July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015)					
Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice per Month	Bi-Weekly	Weekly
1	21,590	1,800	900	831	416
2	29,101	2,426	1,213	1,120	560
3	36,612	3,051	1,526	1,409	705
4	44,123	3,677	1,839	1,698	849
5	51,634	4,303	2,152	1,986	993
6	59,145	4,929	2,465	2,275	1,138
7	66,656	5,555	2,778	2,564	1,282
8	74,167	6,181	3,091	2,853	1,427
For each additional add	7,511	626	313	289	145

Early Childhood Education Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK)

The Universal Pre-kindergarten Program is free for children who will be four years old by December 1, 2013, and are residents of the Utica City School District. The program provides children with 2 ½ hours of instruction, five days per week for the entire school year. There are no fees for eligible children to participate in Universal Pre-kindergarten.

All UPK classes are offered in partnership with the following community agencies in Utica: First Nursery, Head Start, Neighborhood Center, New Discoveries Learning Center, North Utica Community Center, Notre Dame Elementary, and the Thea Bowman House.

Parents may choose to send their children to any of these agencies for pre-kindergarten.

Utica UPK focuses on preparing children for kindergarten through a developmentally appropriate, culturally responsive program. Certified Pre-K teachers focus on building students' fundamental language and literacy skills. Children learn letters, sounds, sight words, counting shapes, vocabulary, and science concepts while developing social, emotional, and physical skills through hands-on activities and learning centers. Parent involvement is encouraged through many unique events offered by each center.

Technology

Mission, Vision & Goals

We envision an environment in which the adoption and use of 21st Century technologies will serve as tools to fulfill the instructional administrative communications and operations functions necessary to achieve the mission of the Utica City School District. Technology will be an essential tool to: create a diverse enriched learning experience for all students, enable students to flourish in an increasingly complex society, nurture and enhance the natural talents of our children, and enable all students to become lifelong learners.

Technology goals for the Utica City School District are defined in four major categories: Teaching and Learning, Communications, Administration, and Operations. Access to technology is provided to all staff and students and is governed by the Computer and Internet Use Policy and Internet Safety Policy. These policies allow access to an enriched technological environment with provisions for appropriate use and student safety in mind.

Department Information

Steven R. Davis, Director of Technology
Catherine F. Massoud, Secretary to the Director

Phone: 792.2247
Fax: 792.5240

Media Communications

A primary goal of the media department is to acquire diversified print and non-print materials that support instruction for the varied ethnic groups of students attending Utica schools. The school librarian collaborates with these students and staff to allocate and use resources that will meet their needs. The library staff's mission is to promote and reinforce students' interest and abilities in reading, listening, and viewing. The media department staff helps students use information competently in developing critical thinking skills, decision making, and problem solving.

The Utica City School District continues its partnership with Time Warner Entertainment Advance / Newhouse Partnership to produce and promote quality educational television programming on Channel 3. Channel 3 highlights teachers, students, and school programs, and all student events throughout the school district.

This year's programming highlighted the Utica Board of Education Meetings, the Utica Zoo, Community Reads Day, pre-school, early childhood conferences and workshops, drama productions and concerts for each school, and many other special events.

The Annenberg Foundation and Mellon Art Gallery renewed their licensing agreements with the district. Channel 3 will continue broadcasting all educational programs sponsored by the foundation over the dedicated channel throughout the year.

Channel 3 Programming

NJROTC, Chat rooms, Sports events, Law Day, Concerts, Art Shows, Awards Ceremonies, National Gallery of the Arts, North Country Book Company videos.

Health Information

In accordance with New York State Public Health Law (sec. 2164) and the New York State Education Law (sec. 901), the Utica City School District requires the immunizations listed to protect students from communicable diseases and to promote the health and welfare of the student body in general.

New York State Law (Chapter 281) permits schools to request a dental examination in the following grades: school entry, K, 2, 4, 7, and 10.

Requirements for School Attendance

Under New York State Public Health Law (Section 2164), all children entering and attending school must be immunized against measles, mumps, rubella, diphtheria, polio, hepatitis B and chickenpox (varicella).

Children enrolled in pre-kindergarten are required to have one dose of HIB vaccine in addition to the requirements above. No principal, teacher, owner, or person in charge of a school shall permit a child to be admitted to school without the Immunization Certificate. The exemptions stated in the law are:

- (1) certification from a physician in New York state that one or more of the required immunizations may be detrimental.
- or –
- (2) a written statement from the parent/guardian of the child that such person is a bona fide member of a specified religious organization whose teachings are contrary to immunization. The principal or person in charge of the school may require supporting documents from the religious organization specified.

Student Physicals

New York State Education Law (Section 903) requires that each new entrant to the district and students in pre-K, kindergarten, second, fourth, seventh, and tenth grades must have a physical examination either by the school physician or the family physician. A physical examination form must be completed by the family physician and submitted to the school nurse. Vision, hearing, and scoliosis screening will be performed by the school nurse.

Medication During the School Day

School policies regarding administration of medication are consistent with procedures established by State Education Law.

For students to receive medication (prescription or nonprescription, including cough drops and other “over-the-counter” drugs) during the school day, the following procedures **MUST** be followed and renewed each year:

The parent or legal guardian must submit a written request to the school authorities together with a written request from the prescribing physician indicating the frequency and dosage.

The medication must be brought to the school by a responsible adult in the original container labeled with the name of the drug and the dosage. Unless these procedures are followed, medications will **NOT** be administered in school.

**STUDENTS MAY NOT CARRY
MEDICATION WITH THEM.**



New York State Immunization Requirements for School Entrance/Attendance

Vaccine	Pre-Kindergarten (Day care, Nursery School or Pre- Kindergarten)	Kindergarten	Grades 1-5	Grade 6	Grades 7-12
Diphtheria and Tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine and Pertussis (DTaP/DTP/Tdap)2	4 doses	4 to 5 doses	4 to 5 doses	3 doses	3 doses
Tetanus and Diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine and Pertussis booster (Tdap)3 (Required only for students enrolling in grades 6-12 who have not previously received a Tdap at 7 years of age or older)	NA	NA	NA	1 dose	1 dose
Polio vaccine (IPV/OPV)4	3 doses	3 to 5 doses	3 doses	3 to 5 doses	3 doses
Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR)5	1 dose	1 dose	2 doses required by age 7	2 doses	2 doses
Hepatitis B vaccine6	3 doses	3 doses	3 doses	3 doses	3 doses
Varicella (Chickenpox) vaccine7	1 dose	2 doses	1 dose	2 doses	1 dose
Haemophilus influenzae type b conjugate vaccine (Hib)8	1 to 4 doses	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pneumococcal Conjugate vaccine (PCV)9	1 to 4 doses	NA	NA	NA	NA

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, uses 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 forty-eight (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 Mike Ferraro at 792.2231. You will receive advance notification of an application at your child's facility of a pesticide product covered by the notification requirements, except in the event of an emergency application in response to a threat to public health.

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 the Maintenance Foreman Mike Ferraro at 792.2231 if you need to set up an appointment or if you have any questions.



Thank
You!



For your continued support of the
Utica City School District



WE ARE UTICA

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little hands · big hearts