

Greetings, Jets!

What an amazing week! Last night we watched our Lady Jets cap off another undefeated season with a victory over Riverside in the championship game. We had an incredible assembly on Wednesday where our students and staff learned about gratitude and some of us were able to play in a wheelchair basketball game. Last Saturday our chess team took first place in their tournament at Jeff High. Today we get to do one of my favorite things of each month: honor our Students of the Month in our family meeting. We had the primary meeting this morning and will have our intermediate meeting this afternoon. I cannot tell you how impressed I am with our primary students' behavior this morning. They were phenomenal.

We have several big things coming up in the next few weeks. If you are wanting to attend the holiday meal with your child on December 11, forms and money (\$5 cash or check) must be turned in by Monday, November 25. We WILL NOT be able to accept late orders. I also need the correct names of the visitors listed on the forms, if for some reason the names sent in are not who is coming, please email Tabitha by the end of the day Monday (tchevalier@gccschools.com) with the updated names. Monday, December 2nd is our Celebrations Around the World event. The event will officially kick off in the cafeteria at 5:30 (we ask that students arrive at 5:15). At the conclusion of the Parade of Nations, we will have family events going on throughout the night, the book fair will be open, and concessions will be sold. Other than the parade that kicks off the event, the night will be a come and go as you please event from 5:30-7:30. Additionally, the book fair will be open during the week for family members who are not able to attend the event on Monday. However, guests **MUST sign up ahead of time ([link below](#)) and bring a valid state issued ID with them to be allowed in the library during school hours.**

Next week is a short week as school will not be in session on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. I will be at a conference in

Indianapolis Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday next week, so you likely will not hear from me again until December. I want to take a moment to thank everyone for welcoming me back to Utica. This has been a wild semester, but I could not be more proud of our students and staff for all of their hard work, and I could not be more grateful for the incredible support that our families have shown our school. Thank you! I hope that everyone gets to enjoy some quality family time over the holiday weekend. From my family to yours, I wish you a happy, healthy Thanksgiving.

It is a great day to be a Jet!

Best wishes,

Josh

Office staff contact information:

Joshua Emily, Principal - jemily@gccschools.com

Autumn Zelli, School Administrative Manager - azelli@gccschools.com

Casey Trump, Administrative Assistant - ctrump@gccschools.com

Tabitha Chevalier, Office Assistant and Attendance -
tchevalier@gccschools.com

Book Fair

Our book fair will be here December 2- December 6. We will have our book fair available Monday night as a part of our family night. However, if you are not able to attend Monday and want to shop the book fair with your child, you are welcome to come in during your child's library time that week. Everyone who is coming in during the school day must have a valid state ID with them.

You may use this link to sign up to shop. [Dec. 2024 Book Fair Shopping Sign Up](#)

You may use this link to add money to your student's eWallet. [Book Fair Homepage](#)

 Book Fair Flier December 2024.pdf



The Scholastic Book Fair is Coming to Utica Elementary!

December 2-6, 2024

You can find most of this information on Utica's Scholastic Book Fair homepage at [UES Book Fair](#).

Shop with Your Child During Library Class!

SIGNUP REQUIRED

This year, adults can come shop at the book fair with their student(s) during their library class time. Please follow this link [Sign Up for Book Fair Shopping](#) and complete the Google Form for EACH adult planning to come shop with their student. **THE OFFICE MUST KNOW AHEAD OF TIME THE ADULTS PLANNING TO ATTEND.** Please try to sign up no later than a day before the shopping day.

Shop at Utica Family Night

Dec. 2: 5:30-7:15

There will also be an opportunity for everyone to shop together during the Utica Family Night scheduled for December 2nd from 5:30-7:15 (You **DO NOT** need to complete the Google Form for this event).

Trinkets vs. Books

We will also have pens, posters, bookmarks, and various other "trinkets" available. These items are very popular and eye-catching to the kids. You and your student may want to have a conversation as to whether or not that is where they should spend their money.



Payment Methods

- Scholastic eWallet (see below for more details)
- Cash, credit cards, and checks (**made payable to Utica Elementary**).
- **Please be aware that state tax WILL be charged for each purchase made by students.**



Important Information About eWallet

You can set up your student's eWallet now. Instructions for setting up the eWallet can be found on Utica's Scholastic Book Fair homepage at [UES Book Fair](#). Family and friends can add money to your student's eWallet.

NOTE: If at the end of the book fair, your child hasn't spent all of the money in their eWallet, it will **NOT** be refunded to your credit card. Instead, the remaining funds will be converted to a gift card that can be used online with Scholastic or used to fund an eWallet for a future book fair. If you have a leftover gift card from a previous year, you'll have the opportunity to apply it to your eWallet when you set it up this year (Be sure to use the same login that you previously used in order for the system to find you gift card).

If a teacher chooses to set up an eWallet, you can contribute to their eWallet to help them expand their classroom libraries.

Thanks so much and please let me know if you have any questions - Sarah Polete spolete@gccschools.com

Holiday Meal

On Wednesday, December 11, we will be opening up our cafeteria and gymnasium to our Utica families who want to come enjoy a meal with their child. The cost of the meal will be \$5 for all visitors (no refunds will be given). A note went home last week with a form to RSVP, and digital copies can be found below. We ask that all RSVPs (with the correct names and money) be turned in by Monday, November 25 so that our cafeteria staff has time to order. We will not be able to accommodate late orders.

[**📄 Holiday Meal PDF.pdf**](#)

[**📄 Holiday Meal Spanish.pdf**](#)

Boys Basketball

It is time for boys' basketball to get started. Below is the schedule for intramurals and tryouts. Forms were made available to students today, but here is a digital version as well. 3rd grade intramurals will start on Dec. 4. Students must have a signed permission slip and have Final Forms filled out in order to participate. Final forms costs \$5 a year, (students who participated in a sport previously this school year do not have to pay again). Tryouts for all 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders will begin on January 9th.

[**📄 Utica Boys Basketball Permission Slip - 2024-2025.pdf**](#)



Utica Boys Basketball - 2024-2025



The Jets Boys Basketball Team will be returning to the court this year and we are excited to get the season going. This year will offer **6 days** of the intramural period. This is a great opportunity for beginning players to get a feel for the game as well as allowing returning players to shake some of the rust off in preparation for the upcoming season. Intramurals are open to all boys in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades, no matter if you are looking to make the school team or if you just want some time on the court to learn new drills and polish your skills. Each grade level will get **2 days** of training for their grade group only. Following the completion of intramurals, there will be team try-out for those students wishing to play on the school team. Please understand that since roster size is limited, cuts will be made at the end of try-outs to finalize the team.

- Please be sure that you have filled out Final Forms at <https://greaterclark-in.finalforms.com/> . Everyone must complete Final Forms to stay for Intramurals and try outs. There's a \$5 annual fee to be paid to register your athlete.

*****Your child will not be allowed to participate if Final Forms are not filled out.*****

- If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Coach Bradley by email at cbradley@gccschools.com or by cell phone at **502-468-9404**.

Activity	Dates	Time
3rd Grade Intramurals	December 4th - 5th (2 Days)	3:45 - 5:00 PM
4th Grade Intramurals	December 11th-12th (2 Days)	3:45 - 5:00 PM
5th Grade Intramurals	December 16th - 17th (2 Days)	3:45 - 5:00 PM
Try-Outs	January 8th & 9th (2 Days)	3:45 - 5:00 PM
Team Announced (via email)	January 9th (After Try-Outs)	8:00 PM
1st Team Practice	January 10th	3:45 - 5:30 PM

Complete the permission slip below and return it to the front office as soon as possible. (Email to cbradley@gccschools.com with any questions)

I _____ wish for my child to

(Parent's Name printed)

participate in Utica Boys Elementary Basketball. I understand all practice dates and will provide prompt transportation. I understand that there are inherent risks involved in playing sports. I deem my child's level of health to be sufficient for them to complete daily drills and conditioning. In the case of an accident or injury, I will not hold the coaches or other Greater Clark County School employees liable.

(Student's Name Printed)

(Grade and Homeroom Teacher Printed)

(Parent's Signature)

(Best Phone Number)

(Date)

(Parent Email)

*****PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY*****

Celebrations Around the World Family Night

On December 2, we are having a Celebrations Around the World family night. We will begin with a parade of nations that the classes have been studying at 5:30. After that we will have some fun literacy activities, demonstrations, and choir performances. Additionally, our book fair will be open. We hope that you can join us for a fun night.

UES PRESENTS **CELEBRATIONS AROUND THE WORLD**

December 2, 2024 5:30-7:30 pm



Parade of Nations by the students 5:30

Choir Performances 6:15 & 7:15

Country Celebration Activities

Literacy Activities

Book Fair

Concessions

Upcoming Theme Days

- Student Council has some fun themed days for the last week of Qtr 2
- March 7: Wear orange for multiple sclerosis
- April 4: Wear blue for autism awareness

Utica Elementary Dress Up Week...
SNOW MUCH FUN

Monday, December 16

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

Wear Holiday Wear



Tuesday, December 17

Can't wait to chop down our Christmas tree!

Flannel Day



Wednesday, December 18

Candy canes are delicious!

Wear Red or White



Thursday, December 19

Twas the last week before our winter break!

PJ Day



Friday, December 20

Time to break out the ugly sweaters!

Wear Ugly Sweaters



Reminders:

Office Reminders

- If you have a transportation change, please call the office prior to 3:00.
- Students may not be dismissed from the office nor from After Care after 3:10 until car rider dismissal ends around 3:40
- If you call the office during dismissal (3:10-3:40) we are unlikely to answer the phone, but you are welcome to leave a message.

Child Abuse and Child Sexual Abuse Education

Child Abuse and Child Sexual Abuse Instruction, IC 20-30-5-5.7

- By December 15, 2018, and each December 15 thereafter ○ Public Schools, including charter schools and accredited nonpublic schools
- Age appropriate, research and evidence based instruction on child abuse and child sexual abuse required for students in grades k-12 ○ Instruction may be delivered by a school safety specialist, school counselor, or any other person with training and expertise in the area of child abuse and child sexual abuse. ○ [Resources](#)

Greater Clark County Schools
BRIDGING EXCELLENCE & OPPORTUNITIES



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November 2024

Parents/Guardians:

This month, your child will receive lessons designed to prevent child abduction and child abuse. The links to the materials being used in GCCS elementary schools this year are listed below.

Grade Level(s)	Material	Delivery
K-2	Lessons 1-5: Kidzsmart Lesson 6 on Surprises vs. Secrets Lesson 7 on Uncomfortable Touch Video Resources: Video Resources	General Safety Lessons are the Kidzsmart 1-5. Lessons 6-7 are used for abuse prevention.
3-5	Lessons 1-5: Kidzsmart Lesson 6 on Surprises vs. Secrets: Surprises vs. Secrets	General Safety Lessons are the Kidzsmart 1-5.

	Lesson 7 on Uncomfortable Touch: Uncomfortable Touch Video Resources: Video Resources	Lessons 6-7 are used for abuse prevention.
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All public schools in Indiana are required to provide age appropriate instruction on child abuse and child sexual abuse to students in Kindergarten through 12th grade. It's important that children hear the foundations of safety in these areas both at school and at home. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the delivery of these lessons, please contact your child's school.

Sincerely,

Karen Wesely

Road Closure

Utica Sellersburg Road is scheduled to be shut down in phases starting Monday through December. We are asking families that live north of HWY 62 to use Gottbrath Parkway if at all possible to help alleviate traffic.

Spirit Wear

UTICA ELEMENTARY APPAREL STORE

benefitting
the UTICA PTO

STORE
CLOSES
11/17/24



323ink.chippily.com/UES/



A variety of items, brands, and colors...



Along with specialty and EMBROIDERED items.

All orders drop into production when the store closes.

Estimated time to receive orders once the store closes is 2-2-1/2 weeks.

All sales are final - no returns or exchanges on decorated products

323
INDIANA  **INK**
U. S. A.

812.282.3620 • info@323ink.com
www.323ink.com

QR Code
link to store



November Menu

NOVEMBER 2024



PB&J offered daily

We offer a variety of fruits & vegetables daily. You must take at least one serving with each meal but can take as many as you like.



ACE'S CORNER

Breakfast Prices Lunch Prices
Paid: \$1.75 Paid: \$3.00
Reduced: \$0.30 Reduced: \$0.40



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				Ham & Cheese Flatbread 1 Pizza Fish Sandwich Ham & Cheese Sandwich Orange Glazed Carrots
Cinnamon Raisin Bagel 4 Carnitas Taco Hot Dog Turkey & Cheese Bagel Steamed Broccoli	No School 5	Cinn Sugar Donut Holes 6 Fall Brunch Plate Cheeseburger Turkey Chef Salad Roasted Carrots	Mixed Berry Scone 7 French Toast & Sausage Corn Dog Popcorn Chx Salad Green Beans	Pancake Sausage Stick 8 Pizza Fish Sandwich Ham & Cheese Sandwich Refried Beans
Breakfast Pizza 11 Beef Nachos Hot Dog Turkey & Cheese Bagel Roasted Cauliflower	Chx Snack Wrap 12 Mach & Cheese w/ Mini Corn Dogs Hot Dog Turkey & Cheese Bagel Black Beans	Apple Cinnamon Square 13 Popcorn Chx Bowl Cheeseburger Turkey Chef Salad Mashed Potatoes	Turkey Sausage Bagel 14 Spaghetti & Meatballs Corn Dog Popcorn Chx Salad Buttered Broccoli	Maple Bacon Donut 15 Pizza Fish Sandwich Ham & Cheese Sandwich Steamed Carrots
Bosco Stick 18 Watchos Hot Dog Turkey & Cheese Bagel Black Beans	Blueberry Muffin Square 19 Taco Tuesday Hot Dog Turkey & Cheese Bagel French Fries	Sausage & Cheese English Muffin 20 Waffle & Sausage Cheeseburger Turkey Chef Salad Roasted Carrots / Corn	Cereal 21 THANKSGIVING MEAL Turkey, Dressing, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Roll and Dessert Peas	Iced Cinnamon Roll 22 RICE KRISPIE TREAT DAY Pizza Fish Sandwich Ham & Cheese Sandwich Salad
Bacon, Egg & Cheese Flatbread 25 Eggroll & Fried Rice Hot Dog Turkey & Cheese Bagel Peas	Cinnamon Biscuit 26 Backyard Burger Hot Dog Turkey & Cheese Bagel Buttery Corn	Thanksgiving Break No School		

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Aramark (Cafeteria) is Currently Hiring

We currently have openings in our cafeteria. If you are interested in applying for a job with Aramark, please use the following QR code to get more information or give us a call.

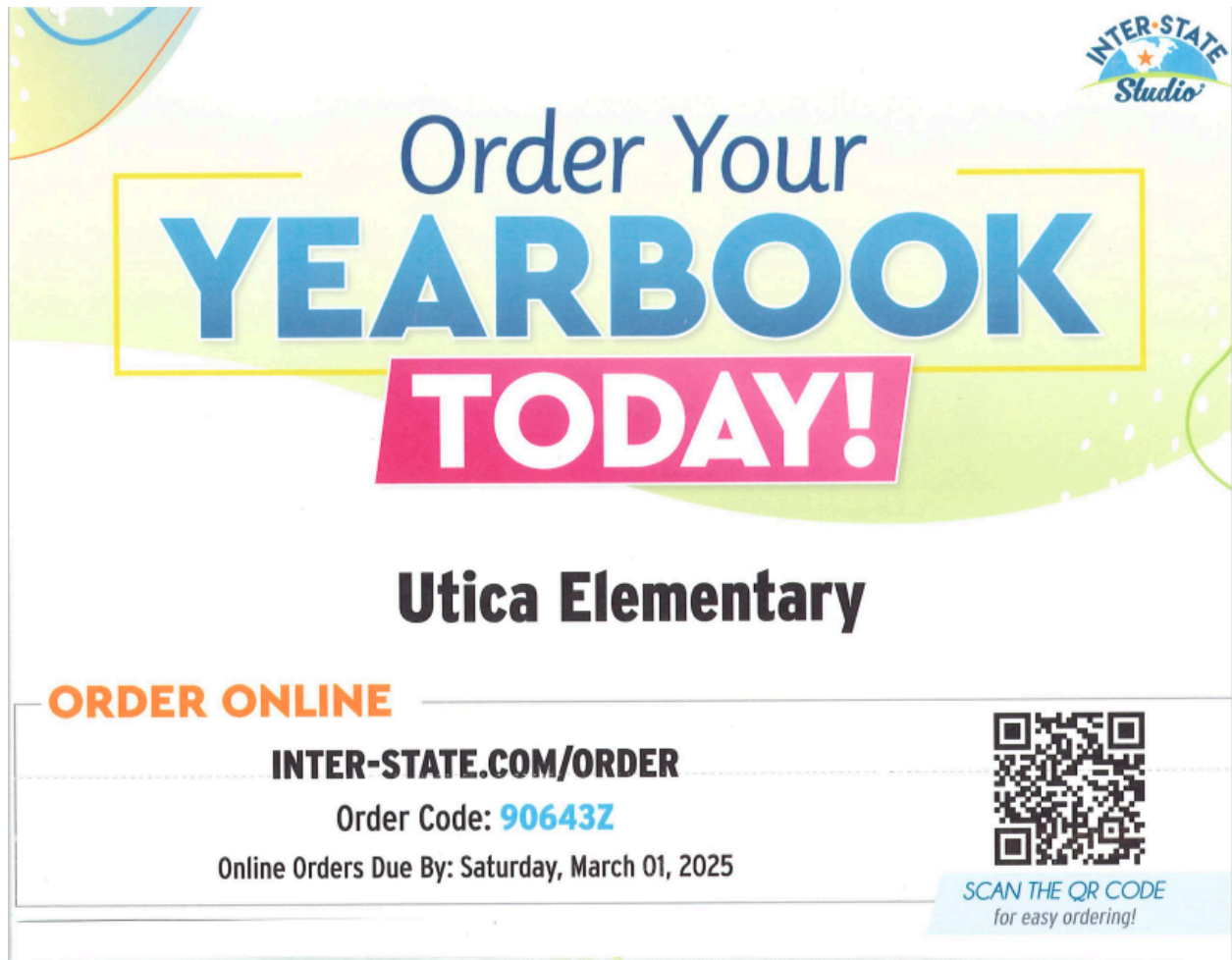
WE'RE HIRING!



Join Aramark Student Nutrition at
Greater Clark County Schools

Scan this QR code for our
current open positions. Check
back for new opportunities.





The image is a promotional flyer for ordering a yearbook. It features a light green and yellow background with decorative swirls. At the top right is the 'INTER-STATE Studio' logo. The main text reads 'Order Your YEARBOOK TODAY!' with 'YEARBOOK' in large blue letters and 'TODAY!' in white letters on a pink banner. Below this is 'Utica Elementary' in bold black text. A section titled 'ORDER ONLINE' contains the website 'INTER-STATE.COM/ORDER', the order code '90643Z', and the deadline 'Saturday, March 01, 2025'. A QR code is located on the right side, with the text 'SCAN THE QR CODE for easy ordering!' below it.

ORDER ONLINE

INTER-STATE.COM/ORDER

Order Code: **90643Z**

Online Orders Due By: Saturday, March 01, 2025

SCAN THE QR CODE
for easy ordering!

Nightly Reading at Home

One of the most important habits to establish with your child is reading at home on a consistent basis. This can be reading with a parent, reading to a sibling, or reading independently. The evidence that supports a direct link between reading at home and success in school is overwhelming. Any help to establish a positive reading routine with your child would be greatly appreciated. As a general guideline 4/5 grade students should be reading a minimum of 20-25 minutes a night (Monday-Thursday) while a K/1 student should be reading 10-15 minutes a night. I know our students and

families are busy throughout the week, so while nightly reading is the goal, trying to reach our weekly targets by reading more on some nights and less on hectic nights is a great plan. Some classes may be using a weekly reading note while others may be using a monthly calendar. Regardless of how you track the reading, please help us by carving time out of your child's busy schedule to prioritize reading either independently or with a family member. Establishing this routine of both reading to and with our students and talking to our students about what they read is a great way to encourage their love of reading, strengthen your connection with them, and put them on a path of success.

K/1: 40-60 minutes a week

2/3: 60-80 minutes a week

4/5: 80-100 minutes a week

Attendance

Indiana attendance laws have changed. It is incredibly important that any time a student is going to be absent, whether they are going to the doctor or not, that you call the front office to let us know about the absence. Please help us by calling as soon as possible. We prefer those calls before 10am when we start making calls about absences. I truly appreciate your help in this matter.

Helpful Links

[Utica Handbook 2024-2025](#)

[Student Rights and Responsibilities](#)

[School Supply List](#)

[School Calendar](#)

Important Dates

- December 2 - Celebrations Around the World (5:30-7:30)
- December 2-6 - Book Fair available during students' library time
- December 11 - Holiday Meal (Parents are invited to join us for lunch)
- December 14 - Winter Craft Fair/Meet and Greet Santa 9-1
- December 20 -No Preschool
- December 20 - Class Parties
- January 20 - No School -- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- February 17 - No School --Presidents' Day
- April 11 - Elementary Art Show Reception
- April 10-13 Elementary Art Show
- May 2 - No School -- Oaks Day
- May 6 - No School Election Day
- May 7 - PreK Celebration
- May 13 - Field Day
- May 16 - Field Day Rain Date
- May 21 - Last Day of School

Joshua Emily

Principal

Utica Elementary School

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"Practice creates confidence. Confidence empowers you."

--Olympic Champion Simone Biles