

Beacon Tree Elementary School

55885 Schoenherr Road, Shelby Twp., MI 48315-1049

(586) 797-7300 Attendance Line (586)797-7399

You can follow us on twitter at <https://twitter.com/BeaconTreeNow>or on the web at <http://beaontree.uticak12.org>

October 2019

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Beacon Tree Families,

The school year is off to a great start, and all our All Stars have settled in nicely. Classrooms are fully functioning and are pressing ahead full steam. Your children are immersed into the curriculum and are learning new things every day!

Teachers are in the middle of administering the NWEA assessment (as well as other classroom assessments) at this time so that they can best serve the needs of individual students. You will be able to learn more about these assessments during our Parent – Teacher Conferences in November. This year, our conferences will be held on:

Wednesday, November 13th from 5:00pm – 8:00pm

Thursday, November 14th from 1:00pm – 4:00pm and 5:00pm – 8:00pm

Recently our All-Star teachers received some professional development with our math series. We have been exploring some of the tools that will allow us to individualize math assignments to meet the specific needs a child may have to help move them along the learning continuum. I am excited to dive deeper into this during the school year and offer time to staff to perfect this feature to help all of our All Stars achieve!

Thank you to all of our families who attended Open House this year! It seems like it was eons ago when we were together, but it was nice to see many returning families and to meet some new families too. Thank you for taking the time to come in and learn about what your child will be doing this year. It is always nice to see so many families who take pride in how their children are doing here at Beacon Tree Elementary.

Halloween is right around the corner, and children are already talking about what they are going to dress as. We will again be having a Halloween parade for all to enjoy. I am hoping to have the parade outside, but this is Michigan and we cannot predict the weather this far out. As the month progresses, please keep an eye and ear out for more details from your teachers as the day comes closer. Just like past years, please make sure that when you are selecting a costume with your child that you keep in mind that certain costumes may not be appropriate for school. Obviously, we do not want children to be scared of others, but should you have any questions about a costume or any accessories for a costume, please contact either the classroom teacher or my office for assistance. We will also be continuing to keep our building Peanut Safe as we plan for parties. Your teacher will have further details on this matter as we get closer to Halloween.

I hope that everyone has an enjoyable October, and I hope to see you during our parade!

Respectfully,

Mr. Ellis, Proud Principal

If you need to contact us...

Main Office
797-7300
Absence Line
797-7399
Child Care
797-7314
Fax Machine
797-7301



School Hours

Grades K-6 9:00-3:50 p.m.

Children will not be allowed to enter the building until 8:50 a.m. each morning. Please help your children time their arrival accordingly. Children who must arrive earlier need to be enrolled in our Child Care program. Please contact the office for more information.



Absences

To report your child's absence, please call our answering machine at **586-797-7399**. When you place your call please clearly state your child's name, teacher, reason for, and length of absence. The answering machine will take attendance calls 24 hours a day.

Lunch (11:10-1:20)

Students may either bring their own lunch to school or purchase a hot lunch. **Lunch w/ milk is \$2.75.**

Students may purchase just milk for 45 cents.

Please review the monthly hot lunch menu on Beacon Tree's new web page under Parents—Food Service Menu with your child. It is very important that students who wish to purchase hot lunch **order the day before**. New lunch schedule: Grades K 11:10-11:50, 1st-11:30-12:10, 2nd-11:55-12:35, 4th— 12:40-1:20, 5th-11:35-12:15, 6th-12:00-12:40. All students will eat lunch for 20 minutes before going out to lunch recess for 20 minutes.

Free and Reduced Lunch

The www.lunchapp.com website is ready for student/parent use for the school year 2018-2019.



We **STRONGLY** encourage you to apply online this year using this website. Please know that student lunches for students are available for free, or at a reduced price of 40 cents, for families that qualify based on family size and income.



Nut Safe Rooms

Should your child be placed in a nut safe room, there are a few simple things you can do to help us to ensure a safe environment for the student(s) with a nut allergy. A letter will be sent home the first day of school to outline those items. Most importantly we must require **no homemade bake or commercially prepared bakery treats to be brought to school.**

Background Check

To protect students' health, safety and welfare, every volunteer must have a Criminal Background form on file well in advance of volunteering their assistance at school or school-related events. UCS conducts criminal background checks on volunteers through the Michigan State Police. The form, which asks for basic information such as driver's license number, is available through the office.

Visitors

In accordance with school district policy, everyone entering Beacon Tree must report to the office. Our office staff will be glad to help you out. If you are volunteering you will need to sign in. All visitors will be given an identification badge to wear while inside Beacon Tree. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Automated Telephone Alert System in Place for UCS Parents

The Utica Community Schools is taking advantage of technology innovations by using an automated telephone notification system for staff and parents. The system is used to announce emergency school closings such as those related to weather. Individual buildings also use it for periodic school-specific updates and reminders.

Please make sure that your child's emergency contact information is up-to-date to assure you receive these important updates.

The district will continue to utilize local media, UCS-TV cable stations 15/22 and the district website, www.uticak12.org to keep parents apprised of closings.

In addition, Mr. Ellis will use the automated system to inform the community of Beacon Tree events.

Administration of Medication

Students sometimes need to take medication.



Parents should administer medication to their children at home. In the event that is not possible, the school may administer either prescription or non-prescription medicine – but only when authorized by the student's parent/guardian and the child's physician. Requests must be made by completing an Authorization for Medication form, available from the school office. The form must be signed by the child's physician.

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Top Ten Reasons to Keep Your Child Home from School

- Fever over 99.0 F in the last 24 hours
- Vomiting in the last 24 hours
- Diarrhea in the last 24 hours
- Unexplained rash following a fever
- Open and draining lesion that is un-treated
- Head lice and/or nits
- Uncontrolled cough
- Drainage from eyes
- Earache or discharge from ears
- Weekends and holidays!



Parking Lot Safety

The area along the curb in front of the school is a *bus drop-off* area and is also a *fire route*. For the safety of our children and all our community, do not park or leave your car standing in this no parking area, even during after-school and evening activities.



When picking up your child at the end of the day, please arrange a meeting place by the school entrance, then provide a safe escort to your car. With heavy pedestrian, bus, and car traffic, it is crucial that children remain next to adults while

in the parking lot, and that cars and vans always look twice, then a third time before backing out of a space.



Are you looking for a part-time job? Are you retired but restless? Come drive for our valued team!

Utica Community Schools is seeking Bus Driver candidates. We will provide the necessary skills and training to earn a Commercial Driver's License (CDL).

- Part-time routes available with opportunity to expand hours
- Must have a safe driving record and a professional, student-first demeanor
- This is a great job for retired military, auto industry and others

Find out more about our CDL assistance program by calling 586-797-7100.

If your credentials are currently in order, apply directly to employment opportunities at www.uticak12.org or call HR at 586-797-1130.



Getting Started

Creating a new account

Part 1:

1. Go to www.SendMoneyToSchool.com
2. Click on Create a new account
3. Provide requested information
4. Once you have read and agree with the terms of use click the I agree check box
5. Click the Create Account button
6. A confirmation email will be sent to you

Part 2:

7. Check your email
8. Click the provided link
9. Enter your email and password
10. Click the Login button
11. Start typing the name of your school district
12. When your district is displayed click on it
13. Click on the Add a student to your account button
14. Enter the student's ID number and click continue
15. If the ID number is valid you will be asked for your child's first name, last name and birthday
16. Once entered click the Add Student button
17. To add additional students click the Add a student to your account button again

Viewing Balances and Activity

1. Go to www.SendMoneyToSchool.com
2. Sign in to your account
3. All students assigned to this account will be displayed with their balances
4. To view history click the View Activity button next to the student's name

Making A Deposit

1. Go to www.SendMoneyToSchool.com
2. Sign in to your account
3. Click the Make A Deposit button
4. Enter the amount you wish to deposit for each student
5. Click the Check Out button

Purchasing Items

1. Go to www.SendMoneyToSchool.com
2. Sign in to your account
3. Click on School Store from the menu
4. Select a department
5. Click on the item you wish to purchase
6. Enter the quantity
7. Click the Add To Cart button
8. When done click the Check Out button

Viewing Past Account Activity and Charges

1. Go to www.SendMoneyToSchool.com
2. Sign in to your account
3. Click on Your Account from the menu
4. History will be displayed

