

Utica Community Schools

The History of a School District

Utica Community Schools started from humble beginnings in a log shanty around 1818. Macomb County was just designated the third territory in Michigan when settlers began to set up homesteads. One of the first 'community' endeavors launched on the settlement in Macomb County was a school. An enclosed shanty was already available for the four or five families in the area who were to use it.

Sending children to school was a sacrifice for early settlers. Families needed the children to help clear land, build fences and handle farm and animal chores. However, the settlers were determined that their children would have some education.

Classes were held in the shanty for nine years before the Territorial Council passed a law requiring more formal ways of educating. Local historians report that the first schoolhouse was open for two or three months in the winter of 1818-19 and served 14 or 15 students. However, original schoolhouses were very rudimentary and the school did not open the following year.

A permanent new school was erected on Cass Street in 1820 near the current site of Eppler Junior High. This schoolhouse served many students and by 1828 it was reported that a second log schoolhouse was in business on the western side of the settlement.

Education in schoolhouses continued for about the next 100 years. It was not until Michigan applied for statehood that educational change really started to take place in Michigan. In 1837 Michigan became a state. Michigan's constitution was the first in the nation to provide a superintendent of public education. It also required a system of common schools to be opened at least three months a year. Performance at the common schools was not evaluated and went up to the sixth grade.



While most communities in Michigan ignored the provisions of the constitution regarding education, many Utica area residents accepted these obligations enthusiastically. In late 1837, an industrious and education-minded group of adults met to plan the construction of a two-room schoolhouse at the intersection of 24 Mile Road and Van Dyke. The schoolhouse opened in 1840 and education in Utica started to grow.

In the 1850's two events occurred that continued to perpetuate the growth of education in the Utica area. They were the founding of the Disco Academy and the laying of plans to build an upper grades school in the village of Utica near the site of the current Eppler Junior High School.



Utica Union School opened its doors in 1860 and served the community for the next 69 years. There were two entrances to the building, which were reserved for boys and girls. The boys entered to the left and the girls entered to the right each day.

The Disco Academy, (named for the Latin word, “to learn”) was among a handful in the state when it opened in June, 1850. It was a private preparatory school for future teachers and it maintained very high academic standards. In fact, Disco Academy opened three years before the state’s first college of education. The popularity of the school grew. During its first term Disco had one teacher and 18 pupils, but by 1852 two assistant teachers were added, as was a “foreign students” boarding house for students in nearby school districts.

Four miles south in Utica, the village was being forced to respond to population growth pains by preparing for the education of students past the sixth grade in 1848. This led to the construction of a new common school. It finally opened in 1860, only two years after the first permanent high school opened in Detroit. The Utica Union School was a 440-student, three-story brick building containing a primary (first to sixth grade), grammar (seventh and eighth grade) and high school section.

Did you know?

Utica Union School, built in 1860, cost the district the then awesome price of \$8,000.

Admittance to the Utica Union School of the 1860’s and 1870’s was earned, not offered, an existing catalogue reveals. Applicants were required to pass exams



Early students of the Burr School gather for a picture. Burr became the first permanent school erected in Sterling Heights in 1845.

in arithmetic, geography, grammar, reading, spelling and United States history. Students wishing to enter the grammar grades had to be proficient in arithmetic up to decimals, language lessons up to pronouns, geography of South America, reading and spelling.

Students in Sterling and Shelby townships were allowed to attend the Union School in Utica, but they had to pay a tuition to cover their instructional costs. Tuition was initially \$1.75 per quarter. Thus, it was less expensive to attend Utica Union School than the privately-financed Disco Academy. Union School’s good reputation eventually led Disco Academy to close its doors in 1865. The building reverted to a common school, but eventually burned down in the late 1800’s. However, the name of the school was so popular that it was given to three successive schools following the original’s demise.

Meanwhile, other common schools were being organized in Sterling Heights. The first recorded school in Sterling Heights was located at 19 Mile and Van Dyke, but it did not survive. At 18 Mile and Mound, Sterling Heights’ first permanent school, a brick structure, was erected in 1845. It became known as Burr School because the materials for the construction were provided by Louis Burr, the owner of a nearby tile and brick factory. The building had two rooms and eight grades.

The Expansion

Education in the area continued to grow. By 1880, a report filed with the State Department of Education identified seven schools in Sterling Township. Five were within the current boundaries of Utica Community Schools. They were Burr, the Canal School, Plum Brook School, the Kleino School and the William Faulmann School. Additionally, in 1900 the Utica Union School was renamed Utica High School.

With many students and an expanding population the School Board took action to regulate education. By 1912, the School Board assured consistency in several classroom subjects by purchasing student textbooks for government, introductory language and English classes. That same year, an agricultural course of study was added to the high school. It was also at this time that the introduction of sports, such as baseball, tennis and girl’s basketball organized at Utica High School.

With the addition of textbooks and organized sports, curriculum was also expanded. A teacher of “music and drawing” was hired in 1916, a textbook on business mathematics was adopted in 1919 and in 1920 the first



Students of the “new” Utica High School exit the building after a day of classes. The school was constructed in 1955 on Shelby Road in Utica.

Did you know?

The Utica High School baseball team won its first county baseball championship in 1913.

athletic appropriation was made in the amount of fifty dollars.

The expansion of Utica Community Schools continued in March, 1929 when voters decided to eliminate the crowding of Utica High

School and spent \$140,000 to build a new high school next to the old building. Unfortunately, the Great Depression halted the district’s progress and strained both daily operations and the payoff of the bonds to finance the new school.

After the new high school finally opened in December 1929, officials cut corners, principally by reducing the salaries of teachers and the school superintendent. The school year was also shortened by two weeks in 1933 to save instructional funds. Jack Harvey, a young School Board member at that time, and future namesake of a UCS elementary school, recalled how the school district survived the Depression:

“If a little money showed up, the school superintendent (William Davis) would tell us to forget about his pay and give it to the teachers who needed it most. And Dr. Wiley (a School Board member) saved us from defaulting on our bonds for the new high school by making the payments out of his own pockets.”

By 1939, school finances were improving. As America entered into the 1940’s and World War II, a repeat of the land rush that occurred a century ago began. The populations of Sterling and Shelby townships grew more than 60 percent in the decade between 1940 and 1950, placing severe strains on the financial resources and facilities of the still-rural schoolhouses. The new residents of the

area brought with them the educational standards of Detroit schools, which was one of the nation’s finest districts at the time. It quickly became clear that Utica High School-area taxpayers could not continue to assume the program and debt burdens for students in the surrounding districts.

The Beginning of a District

When World War II ended, the four-square mile Utica area school district began to prepare to consolidate with the rural districts. By combining districts and tax bases, overall costs for needed new buildings and programs could be kept lower. In addition, students would no longer have to pay tuition to attend the “town school” in Utica. Although initial reorganization attempts were rejected, repeated efforts gradually gave shape to today’s 66-square mile district that includes the northern two-thirds of Sterling Heights, Utica, Shelby Township, and portions of Ray, Macomb and Washington townships.

The population explosion continued in the Utica Community Schools area through the 1960’s. The pounding of nails for new homes was soon followed by calls for new schools and updated programs to prepare students for an increasingly complicated society and technological world. Three bond issues were approved in the 1950’s to handle a student population that nearly quadrupled from 1,618 to 5,961 in a single decade. Sterling Junior High, and Wiley, Auburnshire, Dresden, Sterling, West Utica and Ewell elementaries were quickly built. The current Utica High School was also built and the 1929 structure it replaced was converted into Eppler Junior High.

The call for additional student “housing” continued. Early 1960’s bond issues financed the construction of Plumbrook, Switzer, Flickinger and Harvey elementaries and Shelby Junior High.

These new elementary schools included units called research centers that were recommended by School Superintendent Fred Atkinson. These were central school areas which stored both books and audio-visual equipment. They served as traditional libraries and as an extension of the classroom. These research centers offered a location where students could con-

Did you know?

Research centers were considered a “first” in Michigan when constructed in Utica Community Schools.

schools, but they also needed new schools. In the last quarter century, seven new buildings have been constructed to instruct generations of students. Heritage and Jeannette Junior highs were added in 1976 and 1981, respectively, Ebeling and Schuchard Elementaries in 1978, Beck Centennial Elementary in 1997, the Joan C. Sergent Instructional Resource Center in 2001 and in August 2002 Duncan Elementary opened its doors to students. The Training and Development Center was also acquired to instruct non-traditional students.

In addition to new schools being constructed, the 1990's brought about significant change in terms of how the schools were funded. In 1994, voters statewide approved Proposal A. Proposal A reduced property taxes and helped equalize funding. This was accomplished by increasing the state sales tax from four to six percent-a factor that directly ties funding for public education to the state economy. In times of economic prosperity, adequate revenue from purchases is available to fund public education. But, in slower economic times, purchases decline, resulting in less money in the state's education budget.

In 1995, voters approved an \$82 million bond issue. The Citizens for Education Project (CFEP), a 500-member group at the time, designed a five-year improvement plan, which was carried out through the approval of the bond issue. In addition to the construction of Beck Centennial Elementary, district schools were refurbished and a comprehensive educational technology system was introduced.

Utica Community Schools was expanded further five years later, when the voters approved a \$130 million bond issue. In January 2000, CFEP again convened to discuss recommendations for the school district. By October 2000 those recommendations were developed into a bond issue, which voters overwhelmingly supported. With the \$130 million bond issue, construction of the Joan C. Sergent Instructional Resource Center and Duncan Elementary School was able to commence. Furthermore, improvements and additional classrooms were added at several schools. Technology in the district was also advanced with the approval of the 2000 bond issue. Additionally, in December 2001 voters approved a county-wide special education millage increase. Macomb County voters approved a one-mill increase for additional funding for special education. The increase provided Macomb County public schools with nearly \$20 million annually in additional special education funding. Based on enrollment, approximately \$5 million

of that funding was allocated to Utica Community Schools.

Utica Community Schools has expanded physically and in prestige over the years. Starting in 1992, Utica Community Schools began to gain recognition from the State of Michigan, when DeKeyser Elementary School became a Michigan Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. Blue Ribbon Schools are models of excellence and equity. The Blue Ribbon accreditation process is a voluntary program that demands involvement by the school's entire staff. Schools must compile information

profiles about cognitive and affective data on programs, test score and other assessments from the previous five years. UCS is proud to be the home of nine Blue Ribbon Schools. In addition to DeKeyser, Messmore Elementary and Shelby Junior High earned Michigan Blue Ribbons in 2001. Stevenson High School and Bemis Junior High School earned Michigan and National Blue Ribbons in 2000. In 1999, Graebner, Havel, Monfort and Roberts elementaries were named Michigan and National Blue Ribbon Schools.

For more than 150 years Utica Community Schools has been committed to the education of our community's children. Numerous people from many walks of life came together to start a tradition of excellence in education from the very start. Though Utica Community Schools had its share of troubled times, when money was scarce and enrollment was high, it has proven that it can handle challenges and rise above to be an A+ school district.

The history of Utica Community Schools is a series of separate acts by individuals and groups over a period of time. From a log shanty over 100 years ago, Utica Community Schools built itself from humble beginnings to become what it is today, a school district that has 45 schools and other support facilities to better educate our children. From the Board of Education, to the parents and employees, Utica Community Schools strives to give students a quality education. If the past is any indication, Utica Community Schools will be serving students for many years to come.

Did you know?

Every UCS school is accredited by the nationally recognized North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

What's in a Name?

Utica Community Schools is comprised of many buildings. Some schools, like Richard J. Duncan Elementary are new, while others, like George Eppler Junior High, were established years ago. In any case, the names of the buildings in Utica Community Schools all have an interesting history.

Senior High Schools

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER - Dwight D. Eisenhower was the 34th President of the United States. He also was Supreme Commander of the Allied Armies in Europe during World War II, the first military commander of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the President of Columbia University. Eisenhower High School is located at 6500 Twenty-Five Mile Road in Shelby Township.

HENRY FORD II - Henry Ford II was the chief executive officer of the Ford Motor Company. He was also a member of the New Detroit, Inc., Detroit Renaissance and former chairman of the National Alliance of Businessmen. Ford II High School is located at 11911 Clinton River Road in Sterling Heights.

ADLAI E. STEVENSON - Adlai Ewing Stevenson II was a United States Ambassador to the United Nations. He was also the Democratic nominee for President of the United States in 1952 and 1956. In 1948, he was elected Governor of Illinois by the largest plurality in the state's history. Stevenson High School is located at 39701 Dodge Park Road in Sterling Heights.

UTICA - The forerunner of Utica High School, the Utica Union School, opened in 1860. It was renamed Utica High School in 1900. The current Eppler Jr. High School served as Utica High School from 1929-1955, when the present building was constructed. Utica High School is located at 47255 Shelby Road in Utica.

Junior High Schools

BEMIS - Originally named Sterling, its name was changed in 1990 to honor Donald L. Bemis, a Superintendent of Utica Community Schools. In addition to serving as superintendent, he also served as a teacher and counselor at Sterling and State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Bemis Junior High is located at 12500 Nineteen Mile Road in Sterling Heights.

WILLIAM R. DAVIS - William Davis was Superintendent of Schools from 1929 to 1955. He was a dedicated educator working to give students the best possible education. The Utica Community Schools was consolidated out of 12 districts during his years of service. He also spearheaded the effort to build a high school. His efforts came to fruition with the construction of the current Utica High School. Davis Junior High is located at 11311 Plumbrook in Sterling Heights.

GEORGE EPPLER - George Eppler served as a school board member for 27 years, including 22 years as elected president. A 10-year Sterling Township supervisor and former county undersheriff, he was the owner of the local Auburn Heights Lumber and Coal Company. Eppler Junior High School was formerly Utica High School and was built in 1929. Eppler Junior High is located at 45461 Brownell in Utica.

HERITAGE - Heritage Junior High earned this name because of its archeological significance. The school's site, known as Holcombe Beach, contained the earliest recorded evidence of human civilization in Michigan. There, archaeologists gained great insight into the Paleo-Indians and their life 12,000 years ago, a part of our heritage. Heritage Junior High is located at 37400 Dodge Park Road in Sterling Heights.

FRANK E. JEANNETTE - Frank E. Jeannette was a Judge of the Macomb County Circuit Court and a former Mount Clemens city judge. He was very active in many fraternal, civic and charitable organizations. He held leadership positions with many organizations including the Warren Symphony, the Macomb Arts Council, the Mount Clemens Goodfellows and the East Detroit Kiwanis Club. Jeannette Junior High is located at 40400 Gulliver in Sterling Heights.

WILLIAM MALOW - William Malow was a past president of the Union Cooperative, a director of the Utica Farm Bureau and of Utica National Bank. He also served as a supervisor, clerk and treasurer of Sterling Township and on the Macomb County Road Commission. Malow Junior High is located at 6400 Twenty-Five Mile Road in Shelby Township.

SHELBY - Shelby was named as the first junior high school within the community in which it is located. Shelby Junior High is located at 51700 Van Dyke in Shelby Township.

Elementary Schools

BECK CENTENNIAL - Beck Centennial honors the Beck family, which built a strong agricultural presence in the area beginning more than one hundred years ago. The school site was formerly part of the Beck Farm. Beck Centennial Elementary is located at 54600 Hayes Road in Macomb.

W. B. BROWNING - Initially called Sterling Elementary, it was renamed for W. B. Browning in 1993. Browning was a vital part of Utica Community Schools, where he served as a Board of Education member for 18 years, 11 of which he was president. He remains an active and dedicated member of the UCS Foundation for Educational Excellence. Browning Elementary is located at 12500 Nineteen Mile Road in Sterling Heights.

BURR - When first opened in 1845, the school was named for Louis Burr. He was the owner of a nearby brick and tile factory whose employees supplied most of the students and all of the bricks for the structure. The name has continued at two successive schools built on the site. Burr Elementary is located at 41460 Ryan Road in Sterling Heights.

BRUCE D. COLLINS - Bruce D. Collins was active in the community for 24 years. He helped support the first lighted athletic field in the school district. He was chairman of the Sterling Heights Zoning Commission for many years and encouraged early developers to set aside neighborhood school sites in their plans. Collins Elementary is located at 12900 Grand Haven in Sterling Heights.

HOWARD G. CRISSMAN - Howard G. Crissman was a prominent businessman and public servant. He was president and manager of the Utica Milling Company, an historic area landmark. He served on the Board of Education from 1943-1957, including six years as president. He was also a city councilman and mayor of Utica, and a Macomb County Board of Supervisors representative. Crissman Elementary is located at 53550 Wolf Drive in Shelby Township.

EDWARD J. DEKEYSER - Monsignor Edward J. DeKeyser retired as the pastor of St. Lawrence Church in 1973 after a 36-year tenure. He helped found St. Lawrence Elementary School and High School. The high school closed in 1971. DeKeyser Elementary is located at 39600 Atkinson in Sterling Heights.

DRESDEN - The school was named after the subdivision surrounding it. The Dresden Village subdivision was one of the first to be constructed in Sterling Heights. Dresden Elementary is located at 11400 Delvin Drive in Sterling Heights.

RICHARD J. DUNCAN - The newest addition to Utica Schools opened in August 2002. Richard J. Duncan is a local retired businessman and a long time school district supporter. He is a founding member and five time president of the UCS Foundation for Educational Excellence. He conceived the annual Career Focus Luncheon for UCS sixth graders. Duncan Elementary is located at 14500 Twenty-Six Mile Road in Shelby Township.

FLOYD H. EBELING - Floyd H. Ebeling began his career in education in 1939. After teaching in Romeo and other districts he returned to Utica in 1945. In 1951, he opened Eppler Junior High as principal, the first junior high in the district. He eventually became the district's Assistant Superintendent while still serving as principal of Eppler. Ebeling Elementary is located at 15970 Haverhill Drive in Macomb.

PELEG EWELL - Peleg Ewell registered the school site in 1831 after hosting classes and church services in the parlor of his home. A frame school followed. In 1876, a brick structure was erected on land donated by Ewell's son, James. The name continued when the current Ewell Elementary opened in 1958. Ewell Elementary is located at 51041 Shelby Road in Shelby Township.

WALTER FLICKINGER - Walter Flickinger was a member of the Board of Education from 1942-1963, including 19 years as treasurer. He provided leadership during consolidation of smaller districts into the Utica Community Schools. He operated an experimental farm named the White Winged Poultry and Hatchery Farm just north of Utica. Flickinger Elementary is located at 45400 Vanker in Utica.

W. M. GRAEBNER - W. M. Graebner was a principal and teacher at Trinity Lutheran Elementary School. He served on the Board of Directors of the Macomb County Red Cross and the Utica Planning Commission. He was also a member of the Title I Committee and Shared-Time Program between parochial schools and the Utica Community Schools. Graebner Elementary is located at 41875 Saal Road in Sterling Heights.

JACK HARVEY - When Jack Harvey retired from the Board of Education in 1966, he had set a record of 40 years of consecutive service, eight as president and 30 as secretary. Born in 1895, he was also a member of the Sterling Heights Planning Commission for 29 years. A successful dairy farmer, he was a past vice-president and treasurer of the Michigan Milk Producers Association. Harvey Elementary is located at 41700 Montroy in Sterling Heights.

EDWARD HAVEL - "Smiling Ed" Havel was Utica's last village president and first mayor from 1937-1941. In 60 years he held nearly every elective and appointed office in his community. He was also a charter member of the Utica Rotary Club. Born in Mount Clemens, he became the owner of

"The Central," a combination drug, grocery and general store located in Utica. Havel Elementary is located at 41855 Schoenherr in Sterling Heights.

HARRY MAGAHAY - Born in 1900, Harry Magahay was a charter member and past president of the Utica Lions Club, a former president of the Utica Goodfellows, served on the board of directors at the YMCA and was selected "Man of the Year" by the Utica Michigan Week Committee. Magahay Elementary is located at 44700 Oleander in Sterling Heights.

J. V. MESSMORE - J. V. Messmore was a Ford dealer in Utica, president and manager of the Utica Cooperative Oil and Gas Company, founder of Messmore Tractor Sales and established an insurance agency. He served six years as President of the Village of Utica and was a member of the council for four years. He also served on the Utica Board of Education from 1945 to 1948 and was the first president of the Utica Rotary Club. Messmore Elementary is located at 8742 Dill in Sterling Heights.

ISAAC MONFORT - A pioneer resident who settled in Shelby Township in 1831, Mr. Monfort was a teacher and lawyer. He served on the state's first legislature in 1837. He was one of the founders and also an instructor at the Disco Academy, a preparatory school for teachers. For over two decades he served Shelby Township as a supervisor, Justice of the Peace, treasurer or clerk. Monfort Elementary is located at 6700 Montgomery in Shelby Township.

HARRY J. MORGAN - Harry Morgan served on the Utica Community Schools Board of Education from 1952 to 1962. He was also the owner and manager of the Morgan Sand and Gravel Company in Shelby Township. In addition to being a graduate of Utica High School, he was one of the first founders and major contributors of St. Luke Episcopal Church in Shelby Township. Morgan Elementary is located at 53800 Mound Road in Shelby Township.

OAKBROOK - Oakbrook Elementary is named for the subdivision that surrounds the school. Oakbrook Elementary is located at 12060 Greenway in Sterling Heights.

PLUMBROOK - The Plumbrook School was first located at 17 Mile Road and Van Dyke. Its name was derived from a small waterway which bisects the community and was once part of an Indian trail between Sterling Heights and Pontiac. Plumbrook Elementary is located at 39660 Spalding in Sterling Heights.

GEORGE F. ROBERTS - George F. Roberts was a local attorney, school board member and active leader in Utica and Shelby Township. He was the city attorney of Utica for 23 years and an attorney for the school system for eight years. He served on the Board of Education from 1949 until 1962 and was instrumental in the development of the district's Special Education Department. He was also the president of the Macomb County Bar Association. Roberts Elementary is located at 2400 Belle View in Shelby Township.

ROSE KIDD - Rose Kidd was born in 1883, graduated from Utica High School in 1901 and later the Michigan Normal College (Eastern Michigan University). She taught more than 40 years in the school district prior to her retirement at nearly 70 years of age. A scholarship fund for future

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teachers was established in Rose Kidd's honor by the Utica Education Association. Rose Kidd Elementary is located at 38397 Gladstone in Sterling Heights.

W. F. SCHUCHARD - William Schuchard served as the executive secretary of the Utica Area Chamber of Commerce for 11 years after his retirement from Chrysler Corp. He helped to organize the Utica 150th anniversary Celebration in 1967. He also supported numerous Utica Community Schools and community service projects, such as establishing a park on Van Dyke and Clinton River and arranging a fund to help erect a community sign on Van Dyke near Clinton River. Schuchard Elementary is located at 2900 Holly in Sterling Heights.

EDWARD E. SCHWARZKOFF - Edward Schwarzkoff came to Utica at age 22 as the youngest mortician in Michigan. He was also the first funeral home director in Michigan to use ambulances. He headed the anti-polio drive in Utica, was a charter member of the Utica Goodfellows and Utica Rotary and was the first president of the Utica Library Association. Schwarzkoff Elementary is located at 8401 Constitution in Sterling Heights.

JOSEPHINE SWITZER - Josephine Switzer graduated from Eastern Michigan University. After teaching for 12 years, she became a Disco School Board member for many years and also served as Shelby Township's clerk for eight years. She and her husband, Hugh, established the Switzer Insurance Agency. She was a charter member of the Business and Professional Women's Club and served as its president from 1954-56. Switzer Elementary is located at 53200 Shelby Road in Shelby Township.

CLARENCE and VELMA WALSH - This is the only school in the district named after a married couple. Clarence Walsh was a principal in the school district for more than 28 years. He was the principal of Wiley Elementary from 1952-68. Velma Walsh taught for 16 years as an elementary teacher, four years as a reading consultant and six years as a research center teacher. She helped to organize and develop the libraries and research centers in current elementary schools. The couple retired in 1968. Walsh Elementary is located at 38901 Dodge Park in Sterling Heights.

WEST UTICA - When this school was being constructed in 1958, it was referred to by the West Utica Road upon which it is located. The community and Board of Education were satisfied with this designation and it continued. West Utica Elementary is located at 5415 West Utica Road in Utica.

H. H. WILEY - Dr. H. H. Wiley was a local physician, as well as a civic and social leader, for 50 years. He was a member of the Utica Board of Education for more than 30 years, until 1945. Among other things, he helped organize the Utica Health Council, which provided volunteer medical services, including dental checks, to local students. He is recalled as a selfless general practitioner. Wiley Elementary is located at 47240 Shelby Road in Utica.

Other Educational Facilities

NAOMI GIBBING - Naomi Gibbing was born into a family which settled here in 1831. She was Salutatorian of the Utica High School Class of 1934 and was a librarian and noted historian in Utica. Gibbing now houses the Administrative Service Center. Gibbing is located at 11303 Greendale in Sterling Heights.

ARTHUR MAYNARD - Like many other schools that were located in prairie areas, the first Maynard building was called the Plains School. In 1945, it was renamed Auburnshire for the road on which it is located. The building was renamed again for Arthur Maynard who was principal of the school. Maynard Education Center now accommodates child care and pre-school programs. Maynard is located at 3423 Auburn Road in Utica.

JOAN C. SERGENT INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCE CENTER (IRC) - Joan C. Sergent, Ed.D., is the Superintendent of Utica Community Schools. She envisioned the concept for the Instructional Resource Center. Working with the Curriculum Department, she guided the development of the innovative learning center. The Joan C. Sergent Instructional Resource Center is located at 14200 Canal Road in Sterling Heights.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER (TDC) - The Training and Development Center is committed to staff development. This center houses adult education programs and English as a Second Language, as well as space for continued professional development for UCS staff. The TDC is located at 7600 Eighteen Mile Road in Sterling Heights.

UTICA CENTER FOR APPLIED LEARNING (UCAL) - Utica Center for Applied Learning is an alternative secondary educational setting where students receive personalized instruction and support. Courses are taught using an integrated approach with approximately a 15-to-1 student/teacher ratio. UCAL is located at 48922 Van Dyke in Shelby Township.

MAPLEGROVE - Formerly known as Kleino School, the building is located at Kleino and Utica roads. This building, built in the late 1800's, once accommodated the high school alternative program. Today it houses the Head Start program.



Utica Community Schools

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