

U46Engage: The Newsletter

June 22, 2020

The 2020-21 School Year

As noted in Superintendent Sanders' [letter to families on Thursday night](#), the School District U-46 team is planning for multiple scenarios regarding how we will provide instruction as well as new and increased health and safety measures, and ongoing support for technical, and social and emotional needs during the 2020-21 School Year. We are awaiting guidance from state health and education officials as well as our local health departments, and we will also seek feedback from staff and families before we make our final decisions.

Board of Education Passes Equity Resolution

On June 15, the U-46 Board of Education unanimously approved an Equity Resolution that can be found on the District's website [here](#).

Please consider signing on to the [Resolution and Call to Action for Equity](#). During that same

meeting, administrators updated the U-46

community on preliminary results of our recent

Equity Survey which was administered to 4th through 12th graders in May. An overview of the summary can be found on our Board presentations page [here](#).

Superintendent Tony Sanders shared with the board that the District will be bringing forward a plan that seeks to put more resources toward, at minimum, the following three areas:

- Professional development for staff regarding race and equity
- Recruitment and retention of staff that reflects the diversity of our students.



- Initiatives and approaches to ensure our black male students are not over identified for special education.

Online Registration is Open and Easy

Have you registered your child yet for the 2020-21 school year? Knowing that your child will be returning to the District is critical for making plans when school resumes.

Even though we are currently unable to assist parents in person, our Online Registration remains open. You can login to Campus Parent using your laptop, desktop, or your student's district-issued Chromebook.

Instructions are located at u-46.org/registration. You can use [this link](#) to reset a forgotten password.



Every registration we receive makes a difference and helps with important decisions being made for next school year, including transportation for students who qualify for bus services.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Registration Department via [Let's Talk](#) if you have any questions or need direct help.

Health Requirements for Students in Certain Grades

Children who will be entering kindergarten, 6th, 9th, or 12th grades in



August are required by the state of Illinois to meet certain health requirements. You can find the necessary paperwork [linked here](#) on the U-46 website under the Health Services section.

Because of these required physicals, summers are always busy at the offices of pediatricians. Please consult with your child's doctors soon regarding how they are handling physicals and well-visits during the COVID-19 pandemic. [Here is](#) guidance from the American Academy of Pediatrics.

The best way to turn in completed medical records is to scan them and send via email to healthservices@u-46.org. Photos taken of documents will not be accepted, they must be scanned. There are free scanning apps available for mobile phones, such as Microsoft Office Lens, or if you have an iPhone, [here are directions](#) on scanning using your "Notes" app.

If you have any questions, use the "Student Health Services" button on [Let's Talk](#), email the Health Services department at healthservices@u-46.org or call 847-888-5000 ext. 5334.

Please Join Us for the U-46 Summer Reading Challenge

School District U-46 is excited to partner with our local public libraries again this year for the [2020 Summer Reading Challenge](#).

This free online program celebrates reading for fun during the summer break.



We hope to carry last year's momentum into this summer and continue to increase the number of students who finish the program. Our goal this summer is to have at least 3,500 students complete the Summer Reading Challenge!

As part of this year's Summer Reading Challenge, we'd like to share on social media photos of our students reading a book. Please complete this short [online](#)

[form](#) to let us know about the book your student is reading and to upload their photo. We will share these on the [District's Facebook page](#) and [website](#) in hopes these will inspire other students and families to continue reading through July and August. The photo can be of your child relaxing while reading on the couch, in the backyard, front porch, in a park, any place they like!

Why read over the summer? Summer reading is particularly important because research shows that students can lose academic skills if they don't continue to read during summer break. Summer reading helps students maintain what they have learned in the school year and can even further develop their skills. We are sure students who read over the summer will return to school with a few new words or good stories, and improved reading habits, too.

For more information about the Summer Reading Challenge, including exact dates and a list of what library serves each U-46 elementary school, visit: www.u-46.org/src. You may join our social media summer reading campaign by using the hashtag #U46SummerReading.

Here's Why an Accurate Census Count is So Important

Efforts to get a “complete count” in the 2020 Census are still underway. The COVID-19 pandemic — and the stress it is placing on the national healthcare system, public education, emergency response efforts, the internet, and wireless networks, and local businesses — has only underlined the need for a complete and accurate census count.



If you have not already completed your census, please do so today. It will only take about 10 minutes, and you can get started at 2020census.gov.

Make sure to include all the children in your household, including grandchildren, nieces, nephews, or foster children. In previous census efforts, children were often missed. It is estimated that more than 2 million children below age 5 were not counted in the 2010 census — and that matters because census data is used to determine funding for government programs that serve young children, including childcare services, preschool education, special education grants, programs that provide free or reduced meals, healthcare services, and more.

Remember, having an accurate census count benefits your family, your neighborhood, and your community for the next 10 years. For more information, please visit u-46.org/census2020.

Video of the Month: Rising to the Challenge

The COVID-19 pandemic required our educators to reimagine the way we approach teaching, and it required our students to adopt a bigger growth mindset. [This video](#) demonstrates just how successfully our community rose to the challenge. #WeAreU46

