

U46Engage: The Newsletter

March 2020

Calendar

- **Monday, March 9 and Monday, March 16:** U-46 Board of Education Meeting. Check u-46.org for specific meeting time in Room 140, Educational Services Center, 355 E. Chicago St., Elgin. Also available to watch on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com).
- **Tuesday, March 10:** [U-46 TalentFest](#), 7 p.m., Hemmens Cultural Center, 45 Symphony Way, Elgin.
- **Monday, March 23 through Friday, March 27:** Spring recess. No classes for students.
- **Tuesday, March 31:** [Volunteer Reception](#), 6:30 p.m. Educational Services Center, 355 E. Chicago St., Elgin.
- **Thursday, April 2:** [Citizens' Advisory Council meeting](#), 7 p.m., Elgin High School, 1200 Maroon Drive, Elgin.

Catch the Stars of U-46 at TalentFest

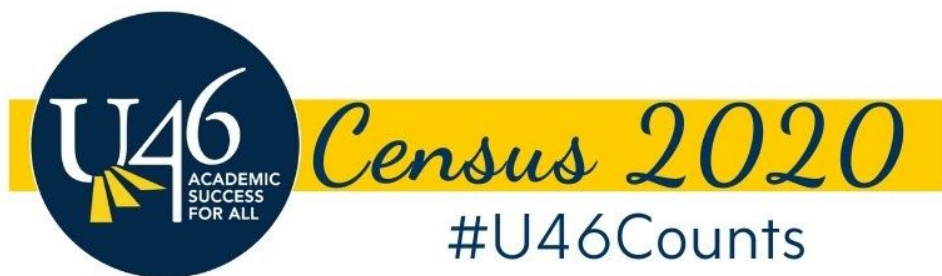


Come celebrate a decade of talent in U-46! The 10th annual U-46 TalentFest is being held 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 10 at the Hemmens Auditorium, 45 Symphony Way, Elgin.

The popular talent competition features two finalists from each of the five U-46 high school talent shows. All 10 acts will perform in the first act for the audience, who will then vote for their favorites. The top five vote recipients advance to perform again in the second act. A panel of judges will select the winners.

Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased through the Hemmens box office at 847-931-5900, online at <http://bit.ly/U46TalentFest2020> or at the door. TalentFest is made possible with the support of the U-46 Educational Foundation, the Elgin Cultural Arts Commission, and Judson University.

Here's Why an Accurate Census Count is So Important



The results of the 2020 Census are important to a lot of organizations, including school districts like U-46. U-46 receives more than \$38 million in federal funds annually to pay for school lunch and breakfast programs, to support students in need of special services, to provide preschool, and to support educators. The amount of money the District receives is related to the results of the census, which is only conducted once every 10 years.

But children are the largest group that is “undercounted” in the census. Some families might not know they should record their children in the census count, or they might have children who split time between two homes, have recently moved, or a number of other factors that might keep someone from filling out the census form accurately.

That “undercount” can directly impact the services that U-46 is able to offer its families - not just in 2020 but for the next decade to come.

How can you help? Remember that if you are filling out the census for your home, you should count everyone who is living there as of April 1, 2020. That includes anyone who is living and sleeping there most of the time — that could include grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and the children of friends.

And then spread the word to your neighbors, friends, family members, and members of any church or community organization you belong to. The “Who to Count” section of the Census2020 website has clear instructions on special situations. Learn more at u-46.org/census2020.

Dual Language Informational Sessions Held in March, April



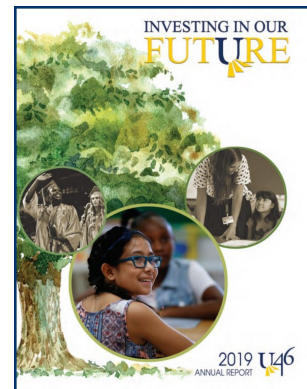
School District U-46 is inviting all families of incoming kindergarten or 1st grade students to Dual Language (DL) informational meetings hosted at local schools and libraries during March and April.

Dual Language is a form of bilingual education in which students are taught literacy and grade-level academic content in two languages. The informational sessions will cover details of the U-46 program itself, the application process, and research showing the benefits of bilingualism.

The session schedule can be found [here](#). Parents can attend the session that works best for their schedule; it does not need to be their neighborhood school. For more information, please contact the English Language Learners department at 847-888-5000 ext. 5331 or 5332

Annual Report Looks Back on 2019 in School District U-46

The 2019 Annual Report is now available to read [online](#), or you can pick up a copy in the lobby of the Educational Services Center. It is also available in the offices of all U-46 school buildings as well as around the 11 communities served by U-46, including the Gail Borden Public Library, the Poplar Creek Public Library, and the Bartlett Public Library.



Video of the Month: Music Education

U-46's comprehensive music education program starts for all students in 1st grade and continues through high school. Each day, students are learning the building blocks of music and developing their musical talents. [This video](#) captures what a day in the life of the music education program can look like for students.



Alumni Feature: Corey Dixon of Elgin High School

In his day job, Elgin City Councilman Corey Dixon works as a Kane County Sheriff's Department administrator, overseeing programs that help jail detainees prepare for a productive life.



With a degree in business management and a master's in public administration, along with a wealth of experience as a volunteer and organizer, Dixon has all the academic qualifications. But he also has a personal story from a troubled youth that informs the man he has become.

"I was heading toward an early grave or jail, and I knew it," Dixon said of his teenage years in Elgin.

Instead, Dixon found a better way by taking some advice and looking within.

To read more about Corey Dixon and other interesting and accomplished U-46 alumni, visit the [Alumni section of the website](#) or follow the #U46AlumniSunday hashtag on the [U-46 Facebook page](#). If you have the name and contact info for a graduate you think we should feature, please let us know via Let's Talk, our customer service tool, by using the [School and Community Relations button](#).