

U46Engage: The Newsletter

November 2019

Calendar

- **Monday, Nov. 11 and Monday, Nov. 18:** U-46 Board of Education Meeting, 5:15 p.m. Board to convene and open meeting but will go into closed session until the 7 p.m. scheduled open session. Also available to watch on [YouTube](#). Room 140, Educational Services Center, 355 E. Chicago St., Elgin.
- **Tuesday, Nov. 5:** Town Hall on Educational Pathways, 6 p.m., Kimball Middle School Auditorium, 451 N. McLean Blvd., Elgin.
- **Wednesday, Nov. 6:** [STEM Expo Kick-Off Event](#), 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., Gail Borden Public Library, 270 N. Grove Ave., Elgin.
- **Thursday, Nov. 7:** [STEM Expo Kick-Off Event](#), 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., Rakow Branch, 2751 W. Bowes Road, Elgin.
- **Thursday, Nov. 7:** [Citizens' Advisory Council](#) general meeting, 7 p.m., Elgin High School, 1200 Maroon Drive, Elgin.
- **Saturday, Nov. 9:** [Dual Language Parent Academy](#), 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Elgin High School, 1200 Maroon Drive, Elgin.
- **Wednesday, Nov. 27-Friday, Nov. 29:** No classes for students.

Dual Language Parent Academy to Feature Two Special Guests

The Dual Language Parent Academy is Saturday, Nov. 9, and this event, designed to empower families to support their students' language development and academics, will also feature two inspiring special guests!

The keynote speaker will be Sylvia Acevedo, a former NASA rocket scientist who is now the CEO of the Girl Scouts of the USA. Ms. Acevedo

(pictured to the right) has been recognized widely for her accomplishments in



business and education, and for her work to bring more girls into the STEM pipeline.

Illinois State Superintendent of Education Dr. Carmen Ayala will be attending the Dual Language Parent Academy to observe the event, meet families and staff, and to deliver remarks. A lifelong educator, she is the first woman and first person of color to hold the state's top education post in a full-time capacity.

The event will start at Elgin High School, 1200 Maroon Drive, Elgin, on Saturday, Nov. 9 at 8:30 a.m. with a light breakfast accompanied by multicultural entertainment, followed by Ms. Acevedo's keynote speech and remarks from Dr. Ayala.

There will be a panel with parents and students, and multiple breakout sessions on topics including the Seal of Biliteracy, Dual Language at the secondary level, STEM, and socio-emotional learning. There will be activities led by Gail Borden Public Library for younger children as well.

This fun, free and informative event will wrap up by 12:30 p.m. You can find a schedule for the morning [here](#) and detailed programs will be handed out at the event.

Elementary Report Cards to be Available Online in November

Due to requests from parents and schools, all elementary report cards will now be available to view online in Infinite Campus. The first trimester report card for grades 1 through 6 will be available by Nov. 18, 2019. If you prefer to receive a paper copy of your student's elementary report card, please let your student's teacher know and it will be printed out for you. You can find step-by-step directions [here](#) for how to access your student's elementary report cards in Infinite Campus.

Home Opener for Windy City Bulls Will Benefit U-46 Educational Foundation



You can cheer on the Windy City Bulls, help raise money for the [U-46 Educational Foundation](#), and honor the late Ron Raglin all on Saturday, Nov. 9.

The Windy City Bulls will be playing their season home opener against the Wisconsin Herd at 7 p.m. at the Sears Centre. Players will wear a special patch on their jerseys to honor Raglin, an assistant superintendent in U-46 who passed away in August. He was a huge basketball fan and had courtside season tickets to Windy City Bulls' games. (Read more about his relationship with the Bulls in this [Courier-News story](#).)

The theme for the evening is Hispanic Heritage Night, and so there will be Día de los Muertos face painting and sugar skull bobbleheads while supplies last.

Tickets in the 100-level are only \$20. A portion of every ticket purchased through <https://fevo.me/u-46> will be donated back to the U-46 Educational Foundation, so gather your family and friends and make a night of it!

You're invited to attend a free STEM Expo Kick-Off Event!

U-46 is hosting two more kick-off events in November at local libraries to prepare students and families for the 2020 STEM Expo, scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 22 at Streamwood High School. The fall



kick-off events at the libraries will give students a chance to engage with cutting-edge technologies, experiment with next-generation science, and enjoy live chemistry and physics demonstrations.

The STEM Expo is open to all students in kindergarten through 12th grade. Any K-12 students who are looking for ideas for their projects can use the kick-off events as brainstorming opportunities. All kick-off events will run from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. The last two for this year are scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 6 at Gail Borden Public Library, 270 N. Grove Ave., Elgin; and Thursday, Nov. 7 at the Gail Borden's Rakow Branch, 2751 W. Bowes Road, Elgin.

U-46 Holding Job Fair for Paraeducator Positions

U-46 is hiring paraeducators at multiple schools throughout the District. Those interested in applying are encouraged to attend U-46's paraeducator job fair on Thursday, Nov. 7 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Spring Trail Elementary School, 1384 Spring Valley Drive in Carol Stream. For a same-day interview, candidates should bring their resume, verification or evidence of credentials, and any other professional documents. Those planning to attend the job fair should RSVP to lisaknight@u-46.org. To apply in advance, visit <http://bit.ly/2oEDZ0d>.

Alumni Feature: Eric Echevarria of Elgin High School

It was the late 1990s, and Eric Echevarria, fresh off a four-year stint in the Marine Corps, was back in his hometown of Elgin, working at a packaging company and, in his free time, working out at the gym. There, he met a couple of guys who were Elgin police officers, and they encouraged the young veteran to consider a law enforcement career.



“I had never even thought about it,” said Echevarria. But that conversation sparked what has been a notable 20-year career at EPD for Echevarria, who is the lieutenant and watch commander in charge of the department’s afternoon shift. He directs four sergeants, 31 officers, and four community service officers responsible for maintaining Elgin’s public safety.

Echevarria grew up on Elgin’s east side, the son of Puerto Rican parents who worked hard and expected the same from their children. As a kid, Echevarria attended Illinois Park School and Channing Elementary, and then Ellis Middle School before enrolling at Elgin High School.

To read more about Lt. Echevarria, 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](#).

Video of the Month

The 2020 Census will be here soon, and an accurate and complete count is incredibly important for our school district. The funds allocated based on a Census count helps with free and reduced meals, Title 1 and special education services. It also helps with our community needs such as health care services, planning roads and bridges, our representation in Congress and much more. [This video](#), featuring U-46 Coordinator of Family & Community Engagement Karla Jiménez, will inform you about the efforts to get a complete count in our area and what you can expect once the census gets underway in the spring.

