

## February 19, 2025

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## Calendar

Stay tuned for upcoming events with our District website calendar available <u>here</u>.

- Monday, Feb. 24: Board of Education meeting. Details here.
- Tuesday, Feb. 25: U-46 Planetarium Public Sky Shows. Details here.
- Friday, Feb. 28: Kane County Institute Day. No classes, offices open.
- Monday, March 3: Deadline for the U-46 Educational Foundation Online Scholarship Application. <u>Details here</u>.

### **Seal of Biliteracy**



School District U-46 is proud to offer our high school students the chance to earn the prestigious Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy, which can help students earn up to two years of language credit at many colleges and universities. To earn the Seal, students must demonstrate proficiency in both English and another language. Nearly 300 members of the U-46 Class of 2024 earned the Seal in languages including Spanish, Polish, Japanese, Tagalog, Urdu, Lithuanian, Chinese, Punjabi, Russian, French, Hindi, Hungarian, Turkish and Gujarati.

Starting with this 2024-25 school year, all high school students enrolled in U-46's Dual Language programs will be automatically enrolled to test for the Seal. The various assessments needed to earn the Seal of Biliteracy will be administered over their four years in high school. You can learn more about that process from <u>this infographic.</u>

Students who are not part of the Dual Language program but are proficient in a language other than English are encouraged to test for the Seal of Biliteracy. To do so, they must fill out <u>this form</u> with the student email account by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, February 21, 2025.

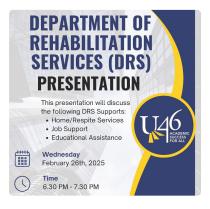
More information about the Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy program in U-46 is available at <u>u-46.org/biliteracy</u>. Questions should be directed to Curriculum Coordinator of K-12 Social Studies and World Languages Jacob VandeMoortel at <u>jacobvandemoortel@u-46.org</u> or via <u>Let's Talk</u>.

## **Planetarium Sky Show**

The next Public Sky Show at the U-46 Planetarium is Tuesday, Feb. 25, and the theme will be "Preparing for the March Lunar Eclipse." There will be two hour-long shows beginning at 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Doors will open at 4 p.m., and seating is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis. Admission for the 2024-25 school year is free. Find more information <u>here</u>.



## **Department of Rehabilitation Services Presentation**



A presentation next week is designed to help special education students and their families in the District to learn more about potential Department of Rehabilitation (DRS) governmental supports. These can include home services that can offer reimbursement for respite care, vocational supports that include job coaching, interview training, and resume development, and educational assistance that can potentially provide financial support for community and/or four-year colleges (if certain criteria are satisfied).

The hour-long presentation will get underway at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 26, at the U-46 Welcome Center, 1019 E. Chicago St., Elgin in room C100. Spanish interpretation for this presentation will be provided. Questions can be directed to U-46 Transition Facilitator <u>Ryan Iberle</u>.

# No Classes for Students on Friday, Feb. 28

Friday, Feb. 28, is the Kane County Institute Day, and U-46 teachers and many other staff members will be engaged in professional development. It is a non-attendance day for students. There will be no classes.

# **Foundation Scholarship**

Members of the Class of 2025 should know about the tens of thousands of dollars in scholarship opportunities offered to U-46 seniors through the <u>U-46 Educational Foundation</u> this year. The Foundation's portal was designed to make it easier for U-46 seniors to apply for multiple scholarships. In some cases, they can even use the same essay for more than one scholarship. Check it out <u>here</u>.



Don't forget that most scholarship applications require teacher recommendations, and teachers need time to write these! Deadline for all application submissions is Monday, March 3.

# **Summer Connection**



School District U-46 is excited to be able to offer another year of enriching summer programs, which are all grouped under the name of Summer Connection. However, due to the expiration of federal COVID relief funds, our summer school programming that we offered the last few years for elementary and middle school students will not occur this year.

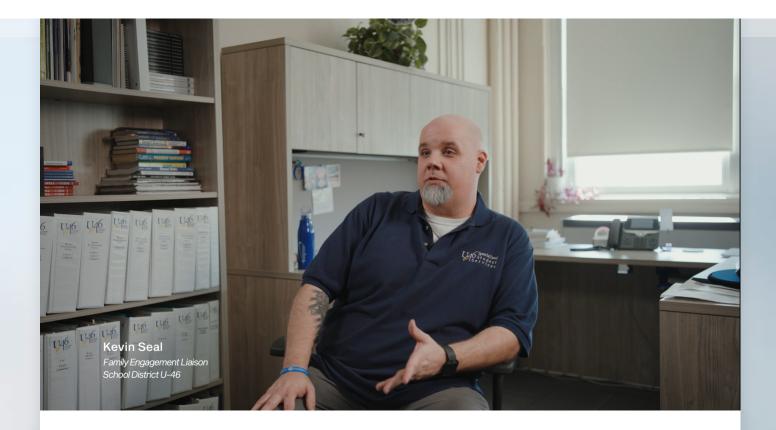
Enrollment for Summer Connection will not open until March 10, but here are some details we are able to share:

- NEW! A two-day Kinder Camp will be offered at 10 elementary schools for children who will be entering kindergarten at those schools in August.
- There will be special, voluntary, two-day programs for students transitioning to 7th grade (Middle School Experience,) 9th grade (Freshman Connection), or senior year (College Jumpstart).
- Current high schoolers (9th through 12th graders) will be able to take courses for credit recovery or enrichment during the Summer High School being offered at Streamwood High School.
- The Extended School Year program will be held at Streamwood High School (for grades 7th through 12th) and at Liberty Elementary School (grades K-6 and EN2.) Students' IEPs will determine eligibility.
- Summer athletic camps will occur at all five of the District's comprehensive high schools.
- Current sophomores and juniors will be able to apply for a variety of paid summer internships that require a commitment of approximately 60 hours.

In some cases, the summer programming will include a free breakfast or lunch and transportation for eligible students. We'll continue to share more info in the coming weeks.

# **Care Solace**

U-46 is proud to offer <u>Care Solace</u> as a complimentary and confidential service for our students, staff, and their family members. <u>This video</u> features Kevin Seal, a family engagement liaison for U-46, recounting how Care Solace recently helped a family whose child was struggling to board the school bus each morning. To help locate a provider for mental health care or substance use treatment, visit <u>caresolace.com/site/u46</u> or call or text (888) 515-0595.



# **More Resources**

### We're Hiring

Have you considered becoming a part of the U-46 team? School District U-46 offers a number of <u>rewarding opportunities</u> for educators and support staff.

### Weekly Message from Dr. Johnson

Each week, Superintendent Dr. Suzanne Johnson shares a message with U-46 employees and community members. You can read the latest message <u>here</u>.

#### **Board of Education**

The Board of Education meetings are streamed on the District's <u>YouTube channel</u> and via Zoom. Written highlights from the meetings, as well as presentations delivered to the Board, can be found <u>here</u>.

### Community

Visit our <u>U-46 Online Backpack</u> to find information on community events, activities, and resources for our U-46 families and students.











