



March 19, 2025

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Calendar

Stay tuned for upcoming events with our District website calendar available [here](#).

- **Friday, March 21:** Windy City Bulls Game [Details here](#).
- **Monday, March 24:** Board of Education Meeting. [Details here](#).
- **Friday, March 28:** Deadline for 5Essentials Survey. [Details here](#).
- **Monday, March 31-Friday, April 4:** Spring recess. No classes. [Details here](#).

Spring Recess



U-46's spring recess will begin on Monday, March 31, and last through Friday, April 4. Students also have a non-attendance day on Thursday, April 17, which is a professional development day for staff, and Friday, April 18, which is U-46's spring holiday.

After that, classes for students are scheduled through Friday, May 23, which is the last day for students if no additional emergency days are used.

When classes are in session, it's extremely important that our students are in school and on time to class every day, for the entire school day.

[Each day in school counts](#) and helps build the foundation for your child's academic success. It is an important opportunity for students to learn as well as collaborate with their peers on rigorous, standards-aligned tasks that require critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, and communication. When your child is absent, they miss out on this collaboration.

We hope you plan your Spring Recess vacation in time for your child(ren) to return to school on Monday, April 7. We'll look forward to seeing them back in class!

Hawk Hollow's New Mascot

Hawk Hollow Middle School now has its mascot — U-46's new middle school will be the home of the Guardians! The Guardians logo includes the image of a hawk, which was the school's mascot when it was an elementary school. The new mascot honors the building's past while establishing its own unique identity.



After the Board of Education approved the school's name in January, Principal Lisa Olsem presented a number of different mascot concepts to Hawk Hollow families, asking for their preference. Sixth graders who will attend Hawk Hollow next year were part of the process as well. Principal Olsem says families embraced the Guardians. "The Guardians represent strength, leadership, and a dedication to protecting and uplifting one another, values that will define who we are as a school," she says.

Hawk Hollow Middle School will welcome its first group of 7th graders on Aug. 11, 2025. You can follow the construction progress at Hawk Hollow [here](#).

Windy City Bulls Game



It's not too late to purchase your tickets for the Windy City Bulls FUNdraiser event on Friday, March 21! You can get started [here](#).

The Bulls will take on the Mexico City Capitanes in the 7 p.m. game, which is also being recognized as Hispanic Heritage Night. All players and the team mascot will be wearing a special jersey

designed by South Elgin High School senior Bryanna Sánchez. Her entry in the jersey design contest last fall was chosen as the winner, and fans can place bids on the jerseys worn by the players Friday night to own one themselves.

Bryanna's design features an artistic depiction of Chicago's skyline and colorful symbols and elements of Hispanic culture. [Learn about her inspiration in this video](#).

Game tickets are \$25 and a portion of ticket sales AND auction proceeds will go to the U-46 Educational Foundation, which in turn funds scholarships and grants for U-46 students and teachers. The Windy City Bulls event will be at the NOW Arena in [Hoffman Estates, 5333 Prairie Stone Parkway](#), and parking is free.

5Essentials Survey Closes Soon

Can you set aside 15 minutes this week to help make a difference in your children's schools? That's all it will take to complete the [5Essentials Survey](#), a research-based survey that provides a unique opportunity for teachers, students, and parents to have a voice in improving our schools.

This survey generates reports to help drive school improvement on the five leading indicators or "essentials" – effective leaders, collaborative teachers, involved families, supportive environment, and ambitious instruction. Schools in U-46 use this valuable feedback to make changes and create new programs. For example, at one elementary school, the survey's results led to more after-school offerings and a 6th grade parent panel to support students transitioning to middle school.

However, data from the parent survey will be made available to the school only if at least 20 percent of parents at the school respond. You can see the parent participation rate at your school [here](#).

The survey closes on Friday, March 28. [Click here](#) to get started, and please help spread the word!

Summer Connection



Enrollment for many of the District's Summer Connection programs is now open. A full description of what is being offered can be found at u-46.org/summerconnection. Here are several opportunities for secondary students:

The [Middle School Experience](#) will be offered for all students who will be in 7th grade in a U-46 middle school for the 2025-26 school year. Through community- and team-building activities over two days, students will become familiar with their teachers, peers, buildings, and schedules.

The two-day [Freshman Connection](#) is designed for incoming first-time freshmen enrolled in a U-46 high school for the 2025-26 school year. Students will participate in a variety of activities for critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication.

[College Jumpstart](#), for all incoming 12th grade students enrolled in a U-46 school for the 2025-2026 school year, will take place over two days and cover topics such as developing a post-secondary plan, exploring post-secondary options, college applications, essays, letters of recommendation, and financial aid.

[Paid high school summer internships](#) are available for current sophomores and juniors to apply. Requiring a commitment of about 60 hours, these opportunities are being offered in partnership with the Alignment Collaborative for Education and the Northern Kane County Regional Vocational System and are aligned to Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs offered to students.

NOTE: The internship application window closes this Friday, March 21!

#U46FirstDayReady - Health Requirements

If you have a child who will be entering kindergarten, 6th grade, 9th grade, or 12th grade next school year, the state of Illinois has certain health requirements for those students. For incoming seniors, that means proving they are up to date on their meningococcal vaccine. For students in the other listed grades, physical exams and certain immunizations are required.



You can find details on the requirements, as well as the necessary forms, in English and Spanish [on this page](#), in the Health Services section of the U-46 website. Forms are due on or before the first day of school, Aug. 11.

Because of these required physicals, summers are always busy at the offices of pediatricians. Please schedule your doctor's appointments now - in fact, spring recess is a great time to get them done before the summer rush! Families who have questions or need assistance locating a clinic for a physical or immunization should contact the nurse at their school.

More Resources

We're Hiring

Have you considered becoming a part of the U-46 team? School District U-46 offers a number of [rewarding opportunities](#) 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 [here](#).



Board of Education

The Board of Education meetings are streamed on the District's [YouTube channel](#) and via Zoom. Written highlights from the meetings, as well as presentations delivered to the Board, can be found [here](#).



Care Solace

Care Solace is a complimentary and confidential service provided by School District U-46 to help locate a provider for mental health care or substance use treatment. It's available to U-46 students, staff, and their family members. Learn more [here](#).



Community

Visit our [U-46 Online Backpack](#) to find information on community events, activities, and resources for our U-46 families and students.



School District U-46
All means all.

