



The weekly newsletter from School District U-46

March 13, 2024

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Calendar

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

- **Friday, March 15 and Saturday, March 16:** U-46 Job Fair. [Details here](#).
- **Monday, March 18:** Board of Education meeting. [Details here](#).
- **Tuesday, March 19:** Election Day. No classes. [Details here](#).
- **Monday, March 25-Monday, April 1:** Spring recess. No classes. [Details here](#).

No Classes

Here are a couple of important calendar reminders: Tuesday, March 19, is Election Day, and many U-46 buildings are used as polling places. Therefore, there will be no classes for students on March 19, although U-46 offices will be open.

Then, the spring recess will begin on Monday, March 25 and last through Monday, April 1. We'll welcome our students back to classrooms on Tuesday, April 2.



It's very important that students attend classes on Monday, March 18, and the rest of the week after Election Day. In fact, it's important that students are in school and on time to class every day, right up until the end of the school year. Regular attendance is an important factor in student achievement. The effects of time lost in the classroom build up one absence at a time. Please help make school attendance a priority in your family!

Find calendars for this school year as well as 2024-25 at u-46.org/calendar.

COVID Guidance

On Tuesday, March 5, 2024, the Illinois Department of Public Health issued updated guidance that mirrors what the CDC issued on March 1, 2024. These changes are now being implemented.

U-46 students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 are no longer excluded from school or work for a preset amount of time. Instead, a student or staff member can return to school/work once they have been fever-free for 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medication) and have overall symptom improvement. For more information, please visit [this page in our Health Services section of the website](#).

Student Equity and Inclusion Survey

The fifth annual Student Equity and Inclusion Survey asks important questions about diversity and inclusion, cultural awareness and action, and our student's sense of belonging within our U-46 schools. The survey will go out to students in 5th through 12th grade via their student email and be available from March 18 to March 22. Their feedback will provide invaluable insights into their experiences and how to improve and adapt our District to better meet their needs. If a student doesn't feel like they have enough information to answer a question, they will be able to skip the item altogether.



More details can be found on our [Student Equity and Inclusion Survey website](#), including directions for how parents or guardians can have their child opt out of taking the survey by Thursday, March 14.

STEM Expo

Planning is well under way for the [2024 STEM Expo](#), being held on Saturday, April 27, at Eastview Middle School in Bartlett. Participants who register before March 22 are guaranteed a free t-shirt and tri-fold board.

The STEM Expo is open to all students in kindergarten through 12th grade. It allows students to explore and discover Science, Technology, Engineering and/or Math through hands-on investigation and research. Participating students will plan and carry out projects based on their natural curiosities, and present their projects to fellow students, families, and community members at the Expo.



Find more details, and a link to the registration form, [here](#).

#U46Eclipse

There's less than a month until the solar eclipse on Monday, April 8, and U-46's Office of K-12 Science & Planetarium is busy preparing so that students and staff can safely view and appreciate this special event.

Information can be found at u-46.org/eclipse on the distribution schedule for eclipse glasses/viewers, the permission slips that parents/guardians will need to sign starting March 18, and eclipse-focused public sky shows at the Planetarium. There is also a series of weekly, 1-minute videos that focus on topics such as how the 2024 eclipse will be different than one in 2017, the ways you can safely watch the eclipse, and more.



U-46's radio station, WEPS 88.9 FM, is also broadcasting an hour-long radio program in which Planetarium teachers Peggy Hernandez and Joe Kellenberger discuss the eclipse. The recorded program will air at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on the following dates: March 19, March 25, March 28, April 1, April 3, and April 5. We hope you tune in and tell others, too!

Class of 2024

School District U-46 will be celebrating the [Class of 2024](#) on Saturday, May 25, at the NOW Arena in Hoffman Estates. The graduation ceremonies will start according to the following schedule:

- Bartlett High School: 8 a.m.
- Larkin High School: 11 a.m.
- Streamwood High School: 2 p.m.
- South Elgin High School: 5 p.m.
- Elgin High School: 8 p.m.

More details about parking, live streaming of the ceremonies, the entrances for guests and graduates, and more can be found [here](#).



Honest Game

Student-athletes in U-46 who are considering playing sports at the college level should make time to explore [Honest Game](#). Honest

Game, a software system provided by U-46, can help students better understand compliance and eligibility issues as well as look into opportunities that could be a great post-secondary fit.

HONESTGAME®

All of our School District U-46 student-athletes and their parents/guardians have access to an Honest Game account. [This page](#) has detailed information about how to get started along with a number of other resources suggested by Honest Game.

Food & Nutrition Services

With more than two months left in school, we want to make sure that U-46 families know that the District provides breakfast and lunch to all students this school year at no cost to families. The department's goal is to provide students with healthy meals each day, in compliance with the USDA Child Nutrition Program. Learn more at u-46.org/fns.



#U46FirstDayReady

[Registration](#) for our incoming kindergarten students (the Class of 2037!) is still underway. The following video is a great introduction to full-day, play-based education that U-46 provides to our kindergarten students, as well as ways parents help get their young learners prepared and excited for the first day of school. Please share [this video](#) with any area families you know who have a child who will be 5 years old by Sept. 1, 2024.



More Resources

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](#).



We Are 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. We're hosting a Job Fair this Friday, March 15, and Saturday, March 16. Find the details [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 Coordination

[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.



Online Backpack
Mochila Digital

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.

