



The weekly newsletter from School District U-46

May 15, 2024

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## Calendar

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

- **Wednesday, May 15:** Dual Language Parent Support Group. [Details here](#).
- **Monday, May 20:** Board of Education Meeting. [Details here](#).
- **Saturday, May 25:** High School Graduation Ceremonies. [Details here](#).
- **Thursday, May 30:** Last day of classes for U-46 students. [Details here](#).

## Last Day of Classes

The last day of classes for students is Thursday, May 30. Students will have classes every weekday until May 30 except on Monday, May 27, when U-46 schools and offices will be closed for the Memorial Day holiday.

Please remember that it is extremely important that our students are in school and on time to class every day until the end of the school year.



Every 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.

## Top 2 Percent Celebration

The School District U-46 Board of Education hosted the Top Two Percent ceremony Monday at South Elgin High School to honor the academic success and accomplishments of 49 graduating seniors. The students are the top-achieving graduates from the District's five comprehensive high schools.

"These students represent the best in terms of academic achievement from our five comprehensive high schools, and we are very proud of the commitment they have demonstrated to their education and to their futures," said Deputy Superintendent of Instruction Lela Majstorovic.

Read more about these impressive students at [u-46.org/2024top2percent](https://u-46.org/2024top2percent) and find the schedule for the May 25 graduation ceremonies [here](#).



## Johnson on the Job

In the video series "Johnson on the Job," Superintendent Johnson visits U-46 employees to learn more about their daily work and the important part they play in the District. Next, she spends time with Nicholas Capaccio, a Level 2 Tech in Information Services. [Click here to watch.](#)



## Safety Tuesday on Wednesday

The end of the school year often includes celebrations and special events. We urge families to have open, honest, and age-appropriate conversations about the dangers and potential

consequences of engaging in risky behavior, such as using alcohol or drugs, and how students can handle peer pressure. [Here's a good resource](#) about the types of peer pressure, how it impacts kids, and tips for helping kids cope.

We also ask parents to please be aware of social media challenges or “games” involving look-alike weapons causing panic and fear in the community, especially in schools, public places, or other areas where people gather. Look-alike weapons of any kind, even toy weapons, are not allowed on school property, school activities, and school events. To keep everyone safe and help them understand the risks involved with participating, we are asking you to speak to your child about how these “games” could have a negative impact on them and others physically and/or emotionally.

If you see or become aware of any safety concerns, report it to a teacher, school administrator, or police. If you hear social media rumors, please don't promote them; instead, tell us. We want to ensure the end of the school year is a safe and enjoyable time for all students, staff, and families. We appreciate your partnership in fostering a safe and positive learning environment for all students.

## Open Elgin Museum Crawl

The U-46 Planetarium will be a stop on the Open Elgin Museum Crawl being held Saturday, May 25, from noon to 4 p.m. Participants will board a trolley to discover the rich tapestry of Elgin's history at five sites, which will all offer free admission.



In addition to the Planetarium, the trolleys will make stops at the Elgin History Museum, Elgin Public Museum, Elgin Fire Barn No. 5 Museum, and the Gail Borden Public Library, which is celebrating its 150th anniversary.

Learn more by visiting [elginchamber.com/openelgin24](http://elginchamber.com/openelgin24).

## SUN Bucks

Beginning this summer, the state of Illinois is participating in the nationwide Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (Summer EBT) Program. [Summer EBT](#), also known as SUN Bucks, is designed to reduce childhood hunger by providing families with a monthly grocery benefit to feed their children during the summer months when students are not receiving meals at school.



Eligible families can receive up to \$120 per child, allocated in three payments of \$40 each, to purchase food in the summer from grocery stores and other authorized retailers. Children who are eligible are those who live in a household with an income at or below 185 percent of the federal poverty level.

We encourage those who believe they are eligible to fill out the 2023-24 Fee Waiver form, available in English and Spanish [here](#), as soon as possible. Households that already qualify for the



Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Income Eligible Medicaid, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), or have children who are homeless or in foster care, are not required to fill out the Fee Waiver Form. No action is required for households that have already filled out the 2023-24 Fee Waiver form.

For more questions on eligibility, please contact the Illinois Department of Human Services by calling 1-800-843-6154 or by visiting the [website linked here](#). Our District or school staff will not be able to answer questions, please be sure to contact the Department of Human Services directly.

## #U46FirstDayReady



Glenbrook Elementary Principal Rajan Sharma has this [video message](#) about how U-46 families can take a few easy steps now to make sure to start the 2024-25 school year strong! Para escuchar el mensaje en español por parte de la directora Laura Alegria de la Escuela Elemental Oakhill, [haga click aquí](#).

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## 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](#).



### 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](#).



### 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](#).



### 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.



### 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.

