



The weekly newsletter from School District U-46

Sept. 27, 2023

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Calendar

- **Monday, Oct. 2:** U-46 Board of Education meeting. [Details here.](#)
- **Wednesday, Oct. 4:** Explore 2023 Parent and Family Night. [Details here.](#)
- **Thursday, Oct. 5:** Marching Band Showcase. [Details here.](#)
- **Thursday, Oct. 5:** Unite U-46 Update/Community Advisory Council meeting. [Details here.](#)
- **Monday, Oct. 9:** Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day. No classes, offices closed. [Details here.](#)

High School Standardized Testing

The schedule for most of U-46's high schoolers will look different on Wednesday, Oct. 11. On that day, freshmen will take the PSAT 8/9 and sophomores and juniors will take the PSAT/NMSQT. The assessments will provide students with feedback (through their College Board accounts) regarding areas of strength and growth as they prepare for the required SAT test in the spring of their junior year. Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors should bring their fully-charged Chromebook to school on Oct. 11.

Because of the testing, seniors will not attend school in person on Oct. 11 and are instead expected to participate in the virtual Post Secondary Fair.

Students in specific special education programs — including Instructional Learning Program (ILP), Modified Learning Program (MLP), Exceptional Needs (EN1, EN2), and Transition — will have a regular school day on Oct. 11.

Find details on schedules, dismissal times, and bus transportation [here](#).

Dual Credit Info Nights

U-46 partners with Elgin Community College (ECC) to offer a [Dual Credit program](#) for our high school juniors and seniors. The full-time Dual Credit program provides students the opportunity to take all of their coursework at ECC while earning both high school and college credit for all of their courses. Current sophomores and juniors are eligible to apply to the Dual Credit program for the 2024-25 school year.

Interested parents and students are encouraged to attend one of the Dual Credit informational nights, both virtual and starting at 6 p.m., on Tuesday, Oct. 17 ([join Zoom here](#)) or Thursday, Oct. 26 ([join Zoom here](#).) The presentation will be in English, with interpretation in Spanish. For questions, please write postsecondarysuccess@u-46.org.

African American Advisory Council

The next meeting of the U-46 African American Advisory Council is being held virtually on Thursday, Oct. 12, at 6 p.m. Attendees will learn more about the options U-46 has to help support students' post-secondary success, including Advanced Placement courses, the Dual Credit program, and more.

All are welcome at the African American Advisory Council meetings and are asked to register in advance [here](#). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. For questions, please use [Let's Talk](#).

Dual Language Parent Interviews

U-46 is looking for parents and guardians of children in our Dual Language program to provide feedback on their family's experience. This effort is part of an audit of the Dual Language program, designed to ensure the District is best addressing the strengths and needs of our Dual Language students.

Parents who have children in a Dual Language preschool or elementary classroom interested in sharing their experience can join any of the upcoming virtual interviews. The next interview session will be offered on Thursday, Oct. 12, at 6 p.m. It will last about an hour. More information can be

U46 **OCTOBER 11, 2023**

All U-46 freshmen will take the PSAT 8/9 assessment, while sophomores and juniors will take the PSAT/NMSQT assessment. All students have been registered for their respective exam and will report to school at regular time.

After completion of the test, they may eat lunch at school. Once dismissed by administrators, students can leave the school campus. Transportation will be provided for students who are eligible at 12:40 p.m.

PSAT/NMSQT

- 1 High PSAT Scores Can Lead to Scholarships**
The National Merit Scholarship Corp. uses PSAT scores to determine which test takers will become semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program.
- 2 PSAT Scores Can Indicate Future SAT Performance**
Taking the PSAT can help students start making improvements and get a sense of what kind of score to expect on the SAT.
- 3 Exposure to the Test Environment**
For many students, the PSAT is their first experience with this type of test and is also a good opportunity to get used to the pressure of completing sections within a specific time frame.

The test is digital this year - students need a fully-charged Chromebook!



found [here](#), and questions can be directed to the Multilingual & Multicultural Education Department via [Let's Talk](#).

Save the Date!

The [Specialized Student Services Committee](#) of the Community Advisory Council (CAC) will host a presentation in October for parents of children with special needs. The program is called "Executive Functioning: Preparing Your Child for Independence at all Ages." It will be held virtually on Tuesday, Oct. 24, at 7 p.m. and can be joined [here](#). Save the date and the link!

More Resources



Careers

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.



Care

[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.



Community

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

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](#).

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](#).



School District U-46

All means all.

