



## The weekly newsletter from School District U-46

Oct. 4, 2023

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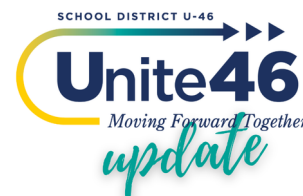
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### Calendar

- **Monday, Oct. 9:** Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day. No classes, offices closed. [Details here.](#)
- **Thursday, Oct. 12:** African American Advisory Council. [Details here.](#)

### Unite U-46 Reminder

The work of Unite U-46 continues as the District moves toward a true middle school model and enhancing the educational experience for all students. U-46's Community Advisory Council is hosting a community engagement session tomorrow (Thursday, Oct. 5) during which attendees will receive an update on decisions made so far and also be able to voice their priorities for the future. The session is being held at 7 pm. in the library at Elgin High School, 1200 Maroon Drive, Elgin. (Please use Door 1 to enter.) Everyone is welcome to attend, and while registration is not required, your RSVP will be helpful for planning purposes. To register, [click here](#) or visit [uniteu46.org](http://uniteu46.org).



### Marching Band Showcase

If you love the music and energy of marching bands, you won't want to miss the U-46 Marching Band Showcase on Thursday, Oct. 5, being held at Elgin High School's Memorial Field, 1200 Maroon Drive, Elgin.



Marching bands from each of the District's five comprehensive high schools will perform, then receive feedback from a group of veteran band directors. Gates open for spectators at 5:30 p.m., and the first performance will start at 6 p.m. Admission is free. Find the performance schedule [here](#).

## Gifted Info Session

U-46's Gifted Department is hosting an informational session on Thursday, Oct. 12, at 6 p.m. at the U-46 Welcome Center, 1019 E. Chicago St., Elgin. The focus will be on the screening process for 3rd and 6th grade students, but other opportunities for gifted students will be discussed as well. The presentation will be offered in English and Spanish. More details can be found at [u-46.org/gifted](http://u-46.org/gifted).

## High School Magnet Academy Applications

As of today, 8th grade students are now able to apply for admission to one of U-46's Magnet Academies, located at our five comprehensive high schools. The application window will stay open through Oct. 31.

To help students and their families better understand the focus of the academies, all five high schools are hosting information sessions, and the first two are next week: On Tuesday, Oct. 10, at Larkin High School's [Visual and Performing Arts Magnet Academy](#), and on Wednesday, Oct. 11 at Bartlett High School's [Science, Engineering, and High Technology Magnet Academy](#). All info sessions will start at 6 p.m. No registration is needed to attend any of the info sessions.

Learn more about the application process, find details for the remaining information sessions, and find a link to the application platform at [u-46.org/magnetacademies](http://u-46.org/magnetacademies). Please send any questions through [Let's Talk](#).

Join Us For An

# INFORMATIONAL SESSION

at the  
**U46** Magnet  
Academies

## Dual Credit

Current sophomores and juniors are eligible to apply to attend the full-time [Dual Credit](#) program for the 2024-25 school year. This allows students to attend Elgin Community College, where they earn both high school and college credit for their courses. It can also save students thousands of dollars in college costs. To learn more, parents, guardians, and high schoolers are invited to attend one of the upcoming Dual Credit Family Information Nights, both being held virtually: Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 6 p.m. ([Join Zoom here](#)) or Thursday, Oct. 26 at 6 p.m. ([Join Zoom here](#)). Spanish-language interpretation will be available at both meetings.



## Upcoming Holiday Season

As a District, we encourage students to make good choices around healthy eating and physical activity to promote positive outcomes. We know that you are also committed to the same and desire the best resources and support for your child and the youth in our communities.

To celebrate the upcoming holiday season, U-46 will continue this practice by promoting celebrations with non-food items. To stay aligned with the USDA's Smart Snacks requirements, food-related celebrations or distribution of snacks to students to eat in the classroom during the school day will not be allowed. The USDA-defined school day hours are from midnight to 30 minutes after the end of the school day.

With Halloween around the corner, we want to provide you with a few resources for a safe and healthy celebration at school and home:

- [Halloween Health & Safety Tips](#) by Healthy Children
- [Avoid a Food Allergy Scare on Halloween](#) by Healthy Children
- [Tips for a Healthy Halloween](#) by CDC

This time of year also provides an opportunity to talk to your children about not sharing food or snacks they bring from home with friends and, when offered home-baked goods, how to politely say no. We do not tolerate bringing banned items to school. Please remind your children that if they see or become aware of any safety concerns, to notify a trusted adult, a teacher, a school administrator, or the police.

## FY24 Budget Approved

The U-46 Board of Education on Sept. 25 approved the budget for Fiscal Year 2024. The budget book can be found [here](#) on the [u-46.org](http://u-46.org) website.

## Save the Date!

**Happy 60th birthday to the U-46 Planetarium!** The public sky shows being held on Thursday, Oct. 19, will help celebrate the occasion, along with being an exploration of “spooky space.” Showtimes are 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., and admission is \$2 per person, or \$10 a family - cash only. Find more details [here](#).



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.



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.

### 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.

