



The weekly newsletter from School District U-46

March 8, 2023

Para leer la Noticia Semanal en español, por favor haga clic aquí

Calendar

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

- **Thursday, March 9:** African American Advisory Council Meeting. [Details here](#).
- **Thursday, March 9:** Community Advisory Council Candidate Forum. [Details here](#).
- **Monday, March 13:** Board of Education meeting. [Details here](#).
- **Tuesday, March 14:** Dual Language Information session. [Details here](#).

Congratulations to the winners of U-46 TalentFest

U-46 TalentFest was held Tuesday night at the Hemmens Cultural Center in Elgin. Congratulations to Angel Salas, of Bartlett High School, who won first place with his singing and guitar playing. Second place went to Elgin High School's Sebastian Siwiec, who played the piano, and third place to Jonathan Miranda and Wendy Hernandez, also of EHS, for their traditional Mexican dance. See more photos from the evening posted in the coming days on the TalentFest Facebook page [here](#).



Make doctor's appointments now for 2023-24 health requirements

If you have a child who will be entering kindergarten, 6th grade, 9th grade, or 12th grade next school year (2023-24), the state of Illinois has certain health requirements for those students. For incoming high school 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 Aug. 15, 2023.



Because of these required physicals, summers are always busy at the offices of pediatricians. Please schedule your doctor's appointments now! Families who have questions or need assistance locating a clinic for a physical or immunization should contact the nurse at their school.

Use your voice to help create new opportunities for students and families

Have you taken the [5Essentials Survey](#) yet? The results of this research-based survey help schools drive change and create new opportunities for students and families. At one elementary school, it resulted in a parent-led safety program. At one high school, it prompted the creation of a program that connected students to a trusted adult in the building they could go to for help when struggling.



K-12 teachers and 4th through 12th grade students can take the 5Essentials survey during the school day, and U-46 encourages **all parents** to set aside 10 minutes to complete the confidential survey this week at home on your computer, mobile phone, or tablet. This survey is completely confidential and will never be connected to you or your student. It's available in English and Spanish. Parents and guardians can find the survey [here](#).

More information is available at u-46.org/5Essentials

Students to be asked about their sense of belonging

While we ask parents to complete the 5Essentials Survey, we want families to know that we'll be issuing a second survey, this one only for students in 4th through 12th grades, between March 20 and March 24.

The Student Equity and Inclusion Survey was first administered in the spring of 2020 and every spring since. It asks students to tell us how well they feel included and represented in our U-46 schools. Their feedback will provide invaluable insights into their experiences and how to improve and adapt our district to better meet their needs. The survey asks important questions about diversity and inclusion, cultural awareness and action, and our students' sense of belonging. 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 information 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.

African American Advisory Council to Focus on Curriculum

The District's Curriculum & Instruction Department will be the focus of the next meeting of the African American Advisory Council. Celia Banks, the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, will deliver the presentation. At the end of the meeting, the council will continue its book club discussion of "Fugitive Pedagogy" by Dr. Jarvis Givens. All are welcome to attend the meeting, which will be conducted via Zoom at 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 9. Advanced registration is required and is available [here](#).

Incoming kindergarten and 1st graders can become fluent in English and Spanish

The Multilingual and Multicultural Education Department is hosting informational sessions about the District's program that invites students who come from a home background of English to learn Spanish starting in kindergarten or 1st grade.

The Dual Language informational sessions are aimed at parents and guardians who have children who will be in kindergarten or 1st grade for the 2023-24 school year. The next session, at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 14, is being conducted via Zoom and can be joined [here](#). The complete schedule can be found [here](#).

Families who know they want their child to be considered for placement in the program can fill out an interest form. Both an online and printable version of the interest form can be found [here](#). The window for the acceptance of these interest forms closes officially on Friday, May 12.

Individuals with questions are urged to call 847-888-5000, ext. 5331, or 5332.

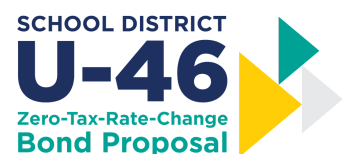


Dual Language Info Sessions

Reuniones Informativas Sobre el Programa de Lenguaje Dual

Zero-tax-rate-change bond proposal will benefit kids and families

This spring, School District U-46 community members will vote on a zero-tax-rate-change bond proposal. If approved by voters, the bond proposal will fund the plan to replace and rebuild our oldest elementary schools, update elementary school buildings to support expanded preschool opportunities, and implement a true 6th through 8th grade middle school model. The proposal will also address districtwide critical maintenance, safety, and security needs and improve equitable access to programs at more schools districtwide.



The District has a unique opportunity to implement these improvements without changing the tax rate residents currently pay. You can find more information at u-46.org/bondproposal and by watching [this video](#).

The bond proposal is on the ballot in the April 4 election, but early voting will be underway soon. Look for the links under "Voting Options" [on this page](#) to get details on early voting dates and locations in your county.

Learn about options for building a career in U-46

Have you considered becoming a part of the U-46 team? We are hosting two hiring events for open positions in March at the U-46 Welcome Center, 1019 E. Chicago St., Elgin. The dates are:



- Friday, March 17 between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.
- Saturday, March 18 between 9 a.m. and noon

We have a variety of part-time and full-time vacancies, from teaching positions to groundskeepers, bus drivers, and more. School District U-46 offers competitive wages and benefits, robust professional development, opportunities for growth, a diverse and welcoming work environment, and the chance to work with more than 35,000 amazing individuals - our students! Please consider joining us at these fairs to learn more.

You can learn more about our District and job openings at u-46.org/careers.

Online Backpack

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

Coming up:

- Elgin Classic Little League - Spring Registration
- Elgin High School PTO - Collectibles and Crafts Flea Market

The flyers in the Online Backpack are the responsibility of the group listed and not a District endorsement. Visit Online Backpack to view the organization's flyer for more information.



School District U-46

All means all.

