



The weekly newsletter from School District U-46

Dec. 7, 2022

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](#).

- **Monday, Dec. 12:** Board of Education meeting. [Details here](#).
- **Thursday, Dec. 15:** Dual Language Parent Support Group. [Details here](#).
- **Friday, Dec. 23:** First day of winter recess. [Details here](#).

Winter Weather

The first official day of winter is Dec. 21, but winter weather is already here, and U-46 sometimes must close schools due to inclement weather. We want to make sure you're ready and understand how to find out when schools must close.

When inclement weather is underway or expected, Superintendent Dr. Tony Sanders is in regular contact with our Transportation and Plant Operations teams for updates. Information is also gathered from the State of Illinois, authorities in our three counties (Kane, Cook and DuPage), local police and colleagues in other area school districts.

With that input, the Superintendent makes the decision on the status of schools, if possible, by 5:15 a.m. If classes are canceled for the entire day due to inclement weather, the District will send

out a mass notification phone call, email, and text message to all parents and staff by 5:45 a.m. This is a good time to confirm your contact information is accurate in [Infinite Campus](#).

Closings will also be posted on the District website homepage at u-46.org, announced on the outgoing message at the District's central office phone number at 847-888-5000, and posted on the District's social media channels.

When the regular school day is canceled, all school activities are canceled as well.

For more information on the process, please read the District's [Emergency Closing Procedures](#) document, and for Dr. Sanders' thoughts about using e-learning days rather than emergency days, read his [latest newsletter](#) to staff.

Dress for the Weather

U-46 families are encouraged to ensure their children are dressed appropriately for the winter weather before leaving the house each morning. This includes a winter jacket, hat, gloves, scarf, and snow boots when there's snow on the ground.

School leaders have discretion in deciding whether students will be outdoors or indoors for recess and/or physical education. Schools are provided with [guidelines](#), including ensuring that students are not outside when the temperature or wind chill falls below 10 degrees.



READY FOR WINTER WEATHER?

Middle School Survey

Middle school students and parents are asked to take a survey this month. Results of the survey will drive meaningful school improvement and guide impactful professional development strategies. This feedback will also help the District with the shift to a 6, 7, and 8th grade middle school model. Learn more about this transition [here](#).

Students currently in 7th and 8th grade, along with their parents, should take the confidential survey by Thursday, Dec. 22. It's being offered in English and Spanish. Students will have time during the school day to complete the survey.

Parents can find the unique link to their school's survey [here](#). On the same page, there is a list of student survey questions and parent survey questions and more information about the company administering the survey.

Parent Group

The next Dual Language Parent Support Group is being offered virtually on Thursday, Dec. 15, at 6:30 p.m. This group is for parents and guardians who have children in the District's award-winning Dual Language program.

Parents will connect with other Dual Language families, as well as members of the Multilingual and Multicultural Education Department, and can ask questions and get tips for supporting their child's education. Support groups will be offered in English and in Spanish. Register [here](#) to receive the Zoom link.



If you have questions, please contact Family Welcome Center Coordinator [Brenda Escobedo](#).

Unite U-46

An important next step in the work around Unite U-46 will take place on Monday, Dec. 12, when community chairs for the initiative will deliver their recommendations to the U-46 Board of Education.



That meeting can be viewed on the District's YouTube channel at youtube.com/user/SchoolDistrictU46. Limited seating will be available inside the room at 355 E. Chicago Ave., Elgin.

As a reminder, Unite U-46 is a community engagement initiative that seeks to develop recommendations on the best way to implement the long-range vision of the U-46 Board of Education; this vision includes shifting middle school to include grades 6th, 7th, and 8th (the current model has 6th grade as part of elementary school); using the space in elementary schools to expand early childhood opportunities across U-46; and to replace and/or renovate some of the district's older buildings to provide equitable access to learning environments that support academic success for all.

Additional details can be found at UniteU46.org.

Voices of the Heart

School District U-46 recently honored all first-place winners in this year's Voces del Corazón/Voices from the Heart Writing Contest.

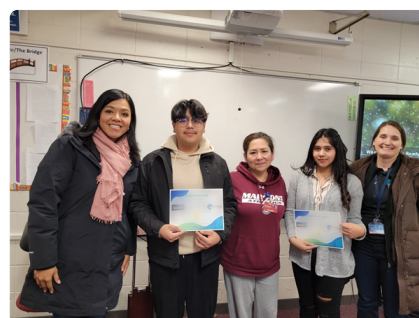


Dual Language and ESL students from across our elementary, middle and high schools were challenged to write essays for the contest regarding the importance of bilingualism and judged by volunteers at the school and district-level.

All first-place winners received a certificate congratulating their work, and four schools won an original mural designed by U-46 Dual Language students.

The contest was organized by the U-46 Multilingual and Multicultural Education department. Its purpose was to nurture creative expression and to validate the diverse identities of all U-46 Dual Language and ESL students while promoting the importance and value of bilingualism in the District and the community at large.

Learn more about the contest and the winners [here](#).



We're Hiring

Have you considered becoming a part of the U-46 team? As the second-largest school district in the state of Illinois, School District U-46 offers a number of rewarding opportunities for educators and support staff, including bus drivers, social workers, secretaries, food service technicians, and more. You can learn more about our District and job openings at u-46.org/careers.



Here are a couple of positions that we are highlighting:

- [Athletic Coach](#): These individuals coach, supervise, and guide students in everything from badminton to wrestling.
- [Noon-Hour Supervisor](#): These employees monitor student movement to and from the classroom, cafeteria, bathroom and playground to ensure a safe and orderly lunch and recess period.

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:

- Streamwood Park District - Indoor Soccer League
- Hanover Township - Cookies & Cream

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.

