



The weekly newsletter from School District U-46

March 6, 2024

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Calendar

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

- **Wednesday, March 6:** Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee. [Details here](#).
- **Thursday, March 7:** Community Advisory Council Meeting. [Details here](#).
- **Thursday, March 7:** Eclipse-themed Public Sky Show at the U-46 Planetarium. [Details here](#).
- **Monday, March 11:** Board of Education meeting. [Details here](#).
- **Tuesday, March 12:** U-46 Takeover Night at the Windy City Bulls. [Details here](#).
- **Thursday, March 14:** Dual Language Information Session. [Details 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 school social worker Grisy Guzman at Kenyon Woods Middle School. Please take a look at the video and join us in celebrating #SchoolSocialWorkWeek! [Click here to watch.](#)

#U46FirstDayReady

Registration is now open for the 2024-25 school year for all families, including those with current students, incoming kindergartners, those who are new to the District, and those who are transferring from private schools.

Registering now helps U-46 make informed decisions about staffing, transportation, student schedules, and more. Easy instructions are available at u-46.org/registration.



Another reason you should start the registration process now - the District is covering the cost of instructional fees. The U-46 School Board of Education approved a waiver of the K-12 instructional fees for the 2024-25 school year. The decision means the District will cover the cost of these registration fees, totaling about \$2.9 million, using federal COVID relief funds. The 2024-25 school year is expected to be the last year the fees are waived as COVID funds will no longer be available. The decision excludes optional fees such as for driver's education and other athletic sports participation; those types of fees will still be collected.

Finally, U-46 will also provide school supplies for students entering kindergarten through 6th grade for the 2024-25 year.

Safety Tuesday on Wednesday

March is recognized as [Severe Weather Preparedness Month](#) in Illinois, and it comes after last week's severe weather caused nearly a dozen tornadoes in Illinois.

While severe weather can happen at any time of the year, this is a good time to review your own family's preparedness efforts and to talk to your children about what to do in an emergency. The Illinois Emergency Management Agency-Office of Homeland Security advises that including your children in the planning process and answering their questions about safety can help them feel more comfortable and safe.



Children should know their basic contact information, how to use a telephone and cell phone, how and when to call 9-1-1, and the details of a family evacuation plan. Other resources, such as things you should include in an emergency bag and a go bag, can be found [here](#). In addition, having a [Family Communications Plan](#) can help you map locations to meet and track important contact information.

Read more emergency communications tips on our Safety Tuesday page [here](#).

#U46Eclipse

On Monday, April 8, 2024, a solar eclipse will cross North America. A total solar eclipse happens when the Moon passes between the Sun and Earth, completely blocking the face of the Sun. In northern Illinois, we will not see totality, but at 2:07 p.m. 93 percent of the Sun will be covered.

Over the next month, we'll be sharing information with U-46 staff, students, and family members about how to safely view this awe-inspiring celestial event.



U-46 families who want their child to go outside and view the eclipse, under adult supervision, during the school day, will be required to fill out a permission slip. These slips will be distributed to families via Infinite Campus starting in mid-March. All U-46 staff and students will be provided with eclipse glasses/viewers so that they can safely view the eclipse. Learn more at u-46.org/eclipse.

To help educate the public about the eclipse and how to safely view it, the U-46 Planetarium is hosting special [public sky shows](#) focused on the eclipse. Admission is free for these shows, but seating is limited and offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Doors open at 4 p.m. on these dates, and the hour long shows are being offered at:

- Thursday, March 7, at 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 12, at 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, March 21, at 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 2, at 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Early Learners at CAC

The opportunities offered by U-46's Early Learners department will be the focus of the next Community Advisory Council meeting. It's scheduled for 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 7, in the library of Elgin High School, 1200 Maroon Drive, Elgin.

Early Learners in U-46 includes services and programs for children from birth through kindergarten. The presentation to the CAC will focus on U-46's full-day, play-based kindergarten program, in which children learn through playing with real-world materials and situations, movement tied to verbal cues, predictable routines with repetitive language, songs and chants, and more.



The presentation will also address how the Dual Language program is incorporated into some of U-46's kindergarten classrooms, and resources available to parents as they look to support their child's transition from preschool to kindergarten.

All are welcome at CAC meetings. More info can be found at u-46.org/cac.

Windy City Bulls

Are you ready to "take over" the NOW Arena in Hoffman Estates with your fellow U-46 families, employees, and community members? Then you need to purchase your tickets to the "U-46 District Takeover Night" when the Windy City Bulls play the Grand Rapids Gold on Tuesday, March 12. Tip-off is at 7 p.m.

Students and staff from U-46 will be featured on the court throughout the game. U-46 ticket holders are eligible to take part in on-court experiences, such as the High Five Tunnel, the Scream Team, and Red, White & Blue Crew.

Tickets are \$25, and a portion of all ticket sales will benefit the [U-46 Educational Foundation](https://u-46.org/foundation), which creates opportunities that expand student learning and well-being. Purchase tickets using [this link](#). Any questions can be directed to foundation@u-46.org.



Support for Dual Language Parents

The next Dual Language Parent Support Group is being offered virtually on Thursday, March 14, 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](#).

Job Fair

Come be part of our team at U-46! Discover our employment opportunities on Friday, March 15, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, March 16, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the U-46 Welcome Center, 1019 E. Chicago St., Elgin.

Find a position that is just right for you and make an impact. We have vacancies that range from teaching positions to groundskeepers. We offer full-time and part-time positions as well as other great benefits. U-46 offers competitive wages, professional development, and opportunities for growth all in a diverse and welcoming environment. Here at U-46 we have a place for all.

Join us to learn more about how you can be part of U-46 at u-46.org/careers. For any questions please contact humanresources@u-46.org.

U46
JOIN THE SECOND-LARGEST
SCHOOL DISTRICT IN ILLINOIS

JOB FAIR

FRIDAY, MAR. 15, 2024
3 p.m. - 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAR. 16, 2024
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

U-46 Welcome Center
1019 E. Chicago St.
Elgin, IL 60120

SAME DAY INTERVIEWS!

Positions:

- Teachers PreK-12
- Special Education Teachers
- Bilingual Teachers
- Social Workers
- Paraeducators
- Noon Hour Supervisors
- Food Service Technicians
- Bus Drivers
- Custodians
- Groundskeepers
- Substitute Teachers
- Secretaries

SCAN ME!

INFO.U-46.ORG/APPLITRACK

WE ARE HIRING!

(847) 888-5000 ext. 5024
humanresources@u-46.org
u-46.org/careers

**SCAN THE QR CODE
OR CLICK THE LINK
TO APPLY TODAY!**

No Classes on March 19

Tuesday, March 19, is Election Day in Illinois, and many U-46 schools are used as polling places. Students will not have classes on the 19th, although U-46 offices will be open.

It's very important that students attend classes on Monday, March 18, and the rest of the week after Election Day. In fact, it's important that students are in school and on time to class every day, right up until the end of the school year. Regular attendance is an important factor in student achievement. The effects of time lost in the



classroom build up one absence at a time. Please help make school attendance a priority in your family!

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](#).



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](#).



Care Coordination

[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.



School District U-46

All means all.

