

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF UNIVERSITY CITY CONNECTIONS

DEDICATED TO EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

A publication connecting the School District of University City and Parents in the University City Community

March 2011

March 2011 Highlights

- 9 Delmar-Harvard PTO Meeting
- 10 3rd Quarter Ends
Music In Our Schools Celebration
- 11 Schools Closed for PreK-12
Professional Dev./Record Day
- 12 Board of Education Workshop
Birder's Club
- 14-18 Schools Closed - Spring Break
- 16 UCEF board meeting
- 18 Offices Closed - Spring Break
- 20 Purim
- 21 AEL Cycle IV Begins
PACEsetter Nominations due
- 23 DH Grandparent's Breakfast
UCHS AA monthly meeting
- 24 Early Release for PreK-12 Parent/
Teacher Conferences (4-8 p.m.)
Board of Education Meeting
Deadline for UCity Ballgame Tickets
- 25 Schools Closed PreK-12
DH, NH & Per AM make-up session
Parent/Teacher Conferences
(See article for details.)
- April 3 UCity Day at the Ball Park
BW 3rd Quarter Honor Assembly
- 5 Election Day
FP PTO Meeting
- 6 Districtwide Arts Night
- 7 Board of Education Meeting
- 8-9 UCHS Senior Play

For more information about school and district events, visit www.ucityschools.org. Click on "Calendar of Events" in the top menu bar or call 314/290-4019.

Newly revised school calendar and make-up dates

As a result of inclement weather closings on Dec. 16, Jan. 11, 20-21 and Feb. 1-3, the 2010-2011 school calendar has been revised as follows:

- May 19-27 will be regular school days;
- Monday, May 30 is Memorial Day, a national holiday. Schools and offices are closed.
- Tuesday, May 31 will be an early release for high school exams;
- Wednesday, June 1 will be the last day of school and an early release for PreK-8 record day and high school exams;
- Thursday, June 2 will be the last contract day for teachers.

Also, due to emergency closures in January and February at Delmar-Harvard, Nathaniel Hawthorne and Pershing elementary schools, these schools will be in session for a half day on Friday, March 25, with dismissal at 11:45 a.m.

In the event of future school closings, further revisions will be made.

Conferences, March 24-25

Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled for Thursday, March 24, from 4 to 8 p.m. and Friday, March 25, from 8 to 11:30 a.m. for most schools. Delmar-Harvard, Nathaniel Hawthorne and Pershing elementary schools will have an adjusted schedule. Students will attend a half day on Friday with Parent/Teacher Conferences for those three schools will be held in the afternoon.

Who sets the PACE for your child?

Due to spring break, PACEsetter (Positively Affecting Community Education) nominations will be accepted through 4 p.m. on Monday, March 21. Awards are presented during the annual Honorees/Retirees Reception that is scheduled for May 12. Nomination forms are available in schools or at <http://tinyurl.com/UCNom0111>. For information about the recognitions or the selection process, contact CarolAnn Cole at 314/290-4019 or ccole@u-city.k12.mo.us.

Music in Our Schools, March 10

The 2011 theme for Music In Our Schools Month is "Music Lasts a Lifetime." This year, the instrumental and vocal programs will be combined on Thursday, March 10, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the University City High School auditorium, located at 7401 Balson Avenue (63130). Admission is FREE and open to the public.

Spring Break, March 14-18

Spring break is scheduled for March 14-18. Also, there is no school for students on Friday, March 11, due to professional development/record day for staff. All offices will be closed on Friday, March 18.

Need assistance?

If you are in need of special accommodations or assistance in order to participate in a school- or district-sponsored event, contact Erie Gonzalez-Rubio, operations supervisor, at 314/290-4004.

Fired Up for Kindergarten, March 29

Did you or a neighbor miss the fall opportunity to learn more about University City's kindergarten? If so, the spring date has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 29, at 6:30 p.m. for Barbara C. Jordan, Flynn Park, Jackson Park and Pershing elementary schools. The Pershing event will be held in the Nathaniel Hawthorne building, located at 1351 North Hanley (63130).

For questions, please call your school's main office or call 314/290-4016.

UCity Day at the Ball Park, April 3

UCitians will be heading to Busch Stadium on Sunday, April 3, for "UCity Day at the Ball Park." The St. Louis Cardinals will take on the San Diego Padres at 1:15 p.m. A limited number of discounted tickets are available. The cost of \$18 includes a voucher for a free hot dog and a soda.

All attending children, age 15 and under, will receive a free ice cream before the game, a free Ice Mountain Cardinals shirt, a free April or May Cardinals game ticket and an opportunity to run the bases after the game. Twelve attending sixth graders from each school will be selected to sing "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" during the 7th inning stretch. Adult purchasers may enter a drawing to throw the first pitch of this game.

Tickets may be purchased through the school's PTO through March 24 or until sold out. All proceeds from ticket sales ordered through the school go directly to the PTO. For more details, contact your school PTO or main office.

Districtwide Arts Night, April 6

A districtwide visual and performing art show featuring student dance and musical performances will be held on Wednesday, April 6, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at UCHS, 7401 Balson Avenue (63130). Admission is free. For details, call 314/290-4100 and ask for Marnie Claunch.

2011 Summer Sports Camp, June 6-10

UCHS Athletic Boosters' 2011 Summer Sports Camp for students completing grades 3-7 is being coordinated for June 6 - 10. Camp will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. More details will be in a registration brochure available in school offices and information tables.

UCEF Progressive Dinner, April 16

UCEF Progressive Dinner and Dessert Reception with a Dutch auction and raffle has been scheduled for Saturday, April 16. For more information, visit the University City Education Foundation on Facebook, or call 314/290-4019.

Barbara C. Jordan Ribbon Cutting, April 30

A formal ribbon cutting to celebrate the completion of the new Barbara C. Jordan school will be held on Saturday, April 30 at 10 a.m. on the school site, located at 1500 North 82nd Street (63132). The public is invited to attend. For questions, call 314/290-4016.

Pershing Ground Breaking, May 13

A formal ground breaking ceremony to recognize the beginning of new construction for Pershing Elementary School will be held on Friday, May 13 at 6 p.m. on the school site, located at 6761 Bartmer (63130). Pershing's annual Jazz Under the Stars event will follow the groundbreaking ceremony. The public is invited to attend both events. For questions, call 314/290-4016.

Preparing children for testing

When preparing students for test days (standardized or otherwise), school educators recommend the following checklist:

- Emphasize every day that education is important.
- Be aware of when your child will be taking tests.
- Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep.
- Provide or make sure children have a good breakfast.
- Send them to school on a positive note.
- Encourage and support daily attendance at school.
- Encourage being on time to school and to class.
- Remind your child to bring pencils, eraser, calculator, etc.
- Instill good study habits, such as using class-time wisely and completing homework assignments.
- Be willing to assist when your child needs help with homework.

Keep up with the latest news through Facebook... become a Fan of the School District of University City!

CONNECTIONS is a publication of the School District of University City. Published monthly throughout the school year, containing information of interest to parents of children throughout the school district. Please send suggestions or comments to: School District of University City, Communications and Media Services, 8136 Groby Road, University City, Missouri 63130; call: 314/290-4016 or 314/290-4019; e-mail lruessel@u-city.k12.mo.us or ccole@u-city.k12.mo.us.