

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

May 2010

Calendar Highlights

MAY 2010

- 1 UCHS Prom
- 3 FP PTO Business Meeting
- 4 UCHS Academic Award Night
National Teacher Appreciation Day
District 6th Grade Field Day
- 5 Celebration of Learning
U-City Birding Festival
- 6 Early Release for PreK-12 Prof. Dev.
National School Nurse Day
- 7 UCHS Choir Concert
Immunization Clinic at JGEC
- 8 Board of Education Workshop
- 10 Boundary Committee Meeting
- 11 UCHS Athletic Awards Night
UCHS Band Boosters Meetings
JP Quality Council Meeting
Per PTO Meeting
NH PTO Meeting
BCJ PTO Meeting
- 13 Senior Exams
Board of Education Meeting
- 14 Senior Exams
Per Jazz and More Under The Stars
DH Talent Show
- 15 Kinesis Dance Concert
UCHS PTO Book Fair at Borders
- 16 UCHS PTO Book Fair at Borders
- 17 Board of Education Workshop
UCEF Annual Meeting
- 18 OASIS Meeting
Academic Reform Committee
- 19 Sunrise Conservatory Spring Concert
- 20 Districtwide Honorees & Retirees
Reception
- 21 UCHS Graduation
- 24 School Make-Up Day
Boundary Committee Public Forum
- 25 School Make-Up Day
8th Graders Promotion
- 26 School Make-Up Day / HS Exams
- 27 Early Release HS Exams
Board of Education Meeting
- 28 Early Release for PreK-12/Exams
& Last Day of School
District Staff Luncheon
- June 1 Teacher Work Day

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.

Elementary boundary line revision process has begun

In an effort to fully engage the community in the transition from six elementary schools to four, the School District of University City has contracted with a demographer to analyze data and conduct a series of committee sessions that began in March. **The public is invited to attend a public forum on May 24 at 6 p.m. in the McNair Board Room.** Comments and questions may be e-mailed to feedback@u-city.k12.mo.us.

Communication about the overall process and responses to comments/questions are being updated continually at the "Elementary Boundary Lines Update" link of the "Destination UCity" button at www.ucityschools.org

School board liaison update

The University City Board of Education assigns directors the role of liaison to particular schools. These assignments have been updated for the remaining 2009-2010 school year as follows:

Julia Goldstein ECEC Trudy Moon
Barbara Jordan Maria Chappelle-Nadal
Delmar-Harvard Stacy Clay
Flynn Park Stacy Clay
Jackson Park Trudy Moon
Nathaniel Hawthorne Bob Elgin
Pershing Ellen Bern
Brittany Woods Middle Linda Peoples
University City High Tom Peters
Lieberman Learning Center Bob Elgin
Adult Education & Literacy Linda Peoples

Bond issue updates

Updates, including the elementary boundary line revision process and bond issue projects, are posted to the "Destination UCity" section of the District website at www.ucityschools.org.

Book fair benefits UCHS, May 15-16

The May 15-16 book fair at Borders, 1519 S. Brentwood Blvd (63144), earns 20% of total purchase for the UCHS PTO when the UCHS voucher is used. Vouchers are available at District schools and local government offices.

2010 Summer Sports Camp

UCHS Athletic Boosters' 2010 Summer Sports Camp for students completing grades 3-7 is being coordinated for June 7 - 11 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with before and after care also available. For details, visit www.ucityathleticboosters.org.

Celebration of Learning and Academic Improvement Awards, May 5

This year's annual Celebration of Learning will feature Segway rides, Pele the Robot, American Idol Poetry, Math Madness, wellness check up, fruit smoothies, school clubs and more hands-on, faculty-organized activities based on what students in preschool through 12th grade are learning or have learned during the school year, along with a recognition of students from each grade level at each school who have shown significant academic improvement. The 2010 event is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 5, at Brittany Woods Middle School. Watch for more details in a backpack flyer closer to the event date.

State champion Latin club

UCHS Latin Club was named Certamen Champions during the April 22 Missouri Junior Classical League Convention in Columbia, Mo. The level 2 team of Ethan Farber, Daniel Politte, Mike Sarber and Anna Soifer defeated Mary Institute / Country Day School and St. Louis University High School to win. Luke Babich was elected state vice president for the league. More details will be in the June issue of *PRIDE*.

Honorees/Retirees, May 20

The District hosts an annual recognition for retiring staff and outstanding supporters. Mark your calendars - this year's celebration is scheduled for May 20. More information will be forthcoming in a backpack flyer.

School year calendar available online

The revised school year calendar for 2010-2011 has been posted at www.ucityschools.org under the "calendars" button on the left side of the screen.

Hot topic in the news: UCHS students hosted Peace Committee panel discussion

In a time when teenagers across the nation are stereotyped as a generation known for violence and poor choices, a group of University City High School (UCHS) students known as the Peace Committee hosted discussions on the topic and offered information on peaceful alternatives to violence.

As part of their efforts, the committee hosted in-school, educational forums to gather feedback and share information on March 29 and April 1. On March 30, students lead a discussion with adult panel members on ways in which they can work together to reduce violence among teens.

These students began exploring the topic of school violence in the fall of 2009 as part of an ongoing student-driven effort to improve schools and communities. In April, members attended training on non-violent peer mediation offered by Building Life Foundations Nonviolence Center, and each student will be certified as a peer-mediation trainer. Next school year, these students will serve as peer mediators and help grow the team.

Helping parents with the IEP process

The Individualized Education Program (IEP) is a document that sets educational goals for students receiving special education services. Spring is the time of year when many parents and guardians will be taking part in IEP meetings to help set goals for their students for the upcoming school year.

Orientation for Parents to Special Education and the IEP Process is designed to provide an overview of special education services and how they are provided through SSD, including how to develop an effective IEP for your child and information on education rights, community resources and support.

This workshop is available either Monday, May 3, from 7 to 9 p.m. or Tuesday, May 18, from 9 to 11 a.m. at SSD Central Office, 12110 Clayton Road (63131). Register for this and other workshops online at www.solutionwhere.com/ssd.

This month's issue of SSD Unfiltered offers tips and resources for parents to help them prepare for the IEP process. For top 10 IEP tips, check out www.ssd.k12.mo.us/enews/2009_2010/apr_10tips.html.

Sunrise Conservatory Concert, May 19

The Spring 2010 Sunrise Conservatory Concert has been scheduled for all schools for Wednesday, May 19, at 7 p.m. in the UCHS auditorium. This event is free and open to the public. For details about the before-school music program, contact Suzanne Schoomer, facilitator, at 314/862-8246 or 314/808-1019; or email schoomer@swbell.net.

Back-To-School Rally, August 7

The 2010 Back-To-School Rally has been scheduled for the morning of Saturday, August 7. Local, not-for-profit organizations interested in being a part of this year's event, contact Linda Russell, communications director, at 314/290-4016 or email lrussell@u-city.k12.mo.us.

Immunization clinics continue, May 7

Monthly clinics continue to offer free DTP/Td, Polio, HIB, MMR, HEP B and Tdap immunizations for children ages 2 months to 18 years from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the Julia Goldstein Center, 737 Kingsland. The last clinic for this school year will be May 7. An addition clinic during the Back-To-School Rally on Aug. 7 will include student-athlete physicals at a minimal cost. To register for a specific immunizations or physical, call 314/651-7268.

Catch Kinesis dancing, May 15

Kinesis dancers have been performing all year and will be featured in their Spring Concert on Saturday, May 15, at 6:30 p.m. in the UCHS Auditorium. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

Make a Splash, Read!

Young readers can win great prizes and improve reading skills through the University City Public Library's Make a Splash, Read! summer program that kicks off at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 5, with Serengeti Steve and his amazing collection of live reptiles.

To join, children ages four to 17 must be card-holding members of the Library. Participants track reading minutes from May 28 to July 26 and meet with a teen volunteer to discuss what they have read and win prizes. With 12 hours of reading, children earn an invitation to the Finisher's Party. With 16 hours, children are invited to other parties with chances to win bigger prizes. With 24 hours, prizes increase and include a special prize book, name listed on the virtual Outstanding Reader list and an Outstanding Reader yard/window sign.

For details visit www.ucpl.lib.mo.us/childrens/ or stop by the Library, located at 6701 Delmar (63130).

Make waves at your library

Teen volunteers entering middle or high school may meet other teens, earn community service hours, perform Teen Readers Theatre at Festival U. City, sponsor fundraising activities for water-related causes of their choosing and win prizes. Attend a Teen Volunteer Training Meeting on May 18 at 4 p.m., May 27 at 6:30 p.m. or June 2 at 10:30 a.m. for more information. Call 314/727-3150 to register or for more details.

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: 314/290-4019 or e-mail ccole@u-city.k12.mo.us.