

# 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

October 2010

### October Highlights

- 7 U. City Day at Dome ticket deadline
- 8 10 am - JGEC Parent Mtg.
- 9 8 am-4 pm - UCHS Robotics - U City Scramble  
9 am - Board Workshop - CANCELLED
- 11-16 Homecoming Week
- 11 6 pm - Family Eng. Comm., McNair
- 12 6 pm - Per PTO Mtg.  
7 pm - UCHS Band Boosters Mtg.
- 13 6 pm - BW Tour of School  
6:45 pm - Conversation with Superintendent, Brittany Woods
- 14 1st Quarter Ends  
7 pm - Board of Education Mtg., McNair
- 15 Schools Closed  
PreK-12 Prof. Dev./Record Day
- 16 National Boss's Day  
9 am - Birder's Club, Powder Valley  
10 am - Homecoming Parade, Loop  
JP Cub Scout Book Fair  
& BBQ following parade  
noon - Football Game, UCHS
- 17 noon - St. Louis Ntl. College Fair, SLU  
noon - U. City Day at Dome
- 18 2nd Quarter begins  
6 pm - Redistricting Public Forum, McNair
- 19 6 pm - BW PTO Mtg.
- 20 6:30 pm - UCHSAA Council, McNair  
7:30 pm - UCEF Board, McNair
- 21 6 pm - Centennial Comm. Mtg., McNair
- 28 Early Release for PreK-12  
4-8 pm Parent/Teacher Conferences  
7 pm - Board of Education Mtg., McNair
- 29 Schools Closed, Offices Open  
8-11:30 am - Parent/Teacher Conferences  
7 pm - UCHS Fall Play. Lecture Hall
- 30 7 pm - UCHS Fall Play. Lecture Hall

### Board seeks interim director

Due to the resignation effective Dec. 2 of University City Board of Education secretary, Bob Elgin, the School District of University City is seeking candidates to fulfill his term for the period of Jan. 13 until April 5.

To apply, contact Charlotte Tatum at 314/290-4003 and send a letter stating qualifications and reason(s) for wishing to be appointed to the Board. Letter must be received at School District of University City, 8136 Groby Road, University City, MO 63130 by Oct. 15 at 5 p.m.

Voting by the Board for this appointment will occur in open session on Nov. 11. The appointed nominee will be sworn in on Dec. 2.

### UCHS Homecoming week

UCHS Homecoming week is October 11-16, 2010. Weekend activities kick off with the Saturday parade at 10 a.m. Game time is noon in the Muhl-Schemmer Stadium at UCHS with the UCHS Lions vs the Clayton Greyhounds.

### Cyberbullying 101 parent presentation

National Council on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse - St. Louis Area (NCADA) will present Cyberbullying 101 on Wednesday, Nov. 17 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Brittany Woods Library, 8136 Groby Road (63130). The objective of this presentation is to help families:

- understand the difference between bullying and cyberbullying
- recognize issues/responses related to cyberbullying
- learn how to help protect your child from cyberspace consequences, and
- remember our job as parents in the "techno" world.

For more information, contact the office of pupil personnel at 314/290-4045.

### Elementary Attendance Line

A public forum regarding the elementary attendance areas is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 18 and a final committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 8. These meetings begin at 6 p.m. in the McNair Board Room.

The formal presentation of the committee's recommendations, including permissive transfer and grandfathering recommendations, is scheduled for the Nov. 11 school board meeting. Following Board approval, the District will notify parents of students whose school will change as a result of the redistricting.

For process details, visit <http://tinyurl.com/boundarylines2010>.

### Brittany Woods "Tour Our School" & Conversations with the Superintendent

Current District families with students in any grade, community members interested in Prop. U progress, and University City alumni, staff and supporters are encouraged to attend Brittany Woods Middle School's Tour Our School & Conversations with the Superintendent on Wednesday, Oct. 13. Guests will tour the new library and renovated classrooms beginning at 6 p.m., and attend "Conversations with the Superintendent" with Superintendent Joylynn Wilson Pruitt at 6:45 p.m. For more information, call 314/290-4016.

### University City Day at the Dome

University City Day at the Dome is Sunday, October 17 at noon as the St. Louis Rams take on the San Diego Chargers. Tickets are \$35 each and include a \$10 food/beverage voucher. Order deadline is Oct. 7. Call 314/290-4107 for details.

## Need a computer but think they are too costly?

The School District of University City has partnered with WITS (Web Innovations & Technology Services, Inc.) to provide low-cost, refurbished computers to District families and staff with prices starting at only \$60 for a desktop computer and \$125 for a laptop.

If interested, submit a request form (available at <http://tinyurl.com/WITSComp> or school office) to your school's main office by Friday, October 29. Once this information is received by WITS, a representative will contact you to discuss further details. All questions about this program should go directly to WITS at 314/382-1650.

## 10 things you can do to prevent flu

Flu season is just around the corner. Use these tips to protect your family and our community and help stop the spread of germs:

1. **GET A FLU SHOT.** It is the single best way to keep yourself from getting the flu and spreading it to other people. (H1N1 is included with the two other strains expected this fall.)
2. Don't care for shots? **TRY THE NASAL SPRAY VACCINE.** A spray is recommended for healthy individuals age 5 to 49.
3. **WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN.** Especially before and after eating and after using the bathroom. If soap and water are not available, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
4. **COUGH OR SNEEZE INTO YOUR ARM OR SLEEVE,** not your hands. Covering your mouth is not just good manners, it's vital to preventing the spread of flu and other illnesses. Sneeze or cough into the crook of your arm so your hands do not get contaminated.
5. **AVOID INFECTING YOURSELF.** Try not to touch your eyes, nose, or mouth unless you know your hands are clean.
6. **WIPE DOWN PUBLIC ITEMS.** Keep a box of alcohol-based disposable wipes handy and rub down telephones and door knobs.
7. **KEEP YOUR DISTANCE.** At least three feet will help decrease the spread of disease.
8. **IF YOU FEEL SICK, STAY HOME.** If you have the flu - or any other respiratory illness - stay home and get better. If a child is diagnosed with the flu, keep him or her home until they are well.
9. **PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR OVERALL HEALTH.** Get enough sleep, maintain a healthy diet and manage stress.
10. Doctors may recommend **ANTI-VIRAL MEDICATION.** There are medications available by prescription that may help to prevent flu or lessen symptoms if taken regularly.

For more information, visit [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu). or [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov).

## Interested in being more involved?

The School District of University City has several committees where parent and community representation is needed. Consider joining:

**Accountability Committee:** Meets quarterly. Oversees and monitors progress on the District's Comprehensive School Improvement Plan objectives. Contact Juli Ward, 314/290-4002.

**Family Engagement Committee:** Meets monthly. Discusses and recommends methods to enhance family engagement throughout the District, educate parents about family engagement and track progress on improving engagement for student success. Contact Linda Russell, 314/290-4016.

**Centennial Committee:** Meets monthly. Plans and executes the calendar of events celebrating the District's centennial in 2011. Contact Linda Russell, 314/290-4016.

**Finance & Bond Oversight:** Meets quarterly. Monitors construction projects, tracks spending on bond issue items, discusses District finances and provides input for long-term financial plans. Contact Karl Scheidt, 314/290-4004.

## Nature Play programs at The Green Center

According to The Green Center, connecting children to nature has beneficial effects on a child's health and development. When children spend less time outdoors, they lose touch with the natural world. "Nature play" programs reconnect children to nature and give them an opportunity to learn while making new discoveries, observations and adventures! The upcoming Tuesday programs are targeted for students in prekindergarten through second grade. They are held from 3:45 to 5 p.m. at The Green Center, 8025 Blackberry Ave. and cost only \$8 per student/per program.

Oct. 12: Fall Friends: Explore the Discovery Garden and create fall friends out of salt dough to take home.

Oct. 19: Whooo Knows About Owls? Learn about owls including "One Odd Old Owl." You will even create an owl out of pressed flowers!

Oct. 26: Colors of Fall: Look for the colors of fall while exploring our outdoor classrooms. Use items collected to create works of art!

Nov. 2: Nature's Storyteller: Spend an afternoon listening to storytellers who capture your imagination and create props for the stories told.

Pre-registration is required for each program! Space is limited!

To register for a class, contact Kathleen Evans at 314-725-8314 ext. 105 or [kevans@thegreencenter.org](mailto:kevans@thegreencenter.org)

---

**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 [lrussell@u-city.k12.mo.us](mailto:lrussell@u-city.k12.mo.us) or [ccole@u-city.k12.mo.us](mailto:ccole@u-city.k12.mo.us).