

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

November 2009

Calendar Highlights:

NOVEMBER 2009

- 3 7 p.m., FP PTO Speaker Series
- 5 BW 1st Quarter Honor Assembly
7 p.m., Board of Education Meeting
- 6 Schools Closed for State Teacher Meetings
- 7 9 a.m., H1N1 Flu Vaccine Clinic for PreK-12
- 9 6:30 p.m., PTO Council Meeting
- 10 6 p.m., Pershing PTO Meeting
6 p.m., NH PTO Meeting
6 p.m., Quality Council Meeting
6:30 p.m., BCJ PTO Meeting
7 p.m., JP PTO Meeting
- 11 UCHS Veteran's Day Program
1 p.m., OASIS Meeting
6:30 p.m., Community Connections (replacing Bridges)
7 p.m., UCHS PTO Meeting
- 12 6:30 p.m., Districtwide Fired Up for Kindergarten
- 13-14 7:30 p.m., UCHS Black Mask drama club: Dark of the Moon *rescheduled date*
- 13 9 a.m., Free Immunization Clinic - *rescheduled date*
- 14 9 a.m., Board of Education Workshop
- 16 Anti-Bullying Awareness Week
- 17 Early Release for PreK-12 Professional Development
6 p.m., BW PTO Meeting
- 18 6 p.m., UCHS AA Monthly Meeting
6 p.m., District Accountability Committee Meeting
- 19 6:30 p.m., Anti-Bullying Workshop for Parents (PreK-12)
- 21 9 a.m., U-City Birders Club
- 25 Schools Closed, Offices Open for Thanksgiving Weekend
- 26-27 Schools & Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Weekend

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.

School board filing schedule

Informational packets will be available beginning November 12 for candidates seeking election to the Board of Education for the School District of University City. The election will be held on April 6, 2010. Candidate filing begins December 15 and closes at 5 p.m. on January 19 for two seats that each fulfill a three-year term.

For more information, contact **Charlotte Tatum**, administrative assistant to the Board, at 314/290-4003.

Bully-Proofing Your Child

In support of Anti-Bullying Awareness Week in University City, November 16-20, the office of Pupil Personnel is coordinating the parent workshop "Bully-Proofing Your Child" on November 19, at 6:30 p.m., in the McNair Board Room. Interested staff are welcome to attend.

For details, call 314/290-4045.

Dark of the Moon postponed

The UCHS fall play, Dark of the Moon, has been postponed until November 13 & 14 due to cast illness. Performances will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the school auditorium. Admission is FREE to District staff with a current ID. Guest costs are only \$5 in advance or \$7 at the door.

The play was originally scheduled for October 30 & 31.

Homecoming float winner

Congratulations to the Pershing Elementary School Rams for winning the float competition during the 2009 UCHS Homecoming Parade! The school will receive a \$100 prize.

This event is coordinated by the UCHS Student Council, sponsored by **Andrew Cox**.

H1N1 vaccine for children

The School District of University City provided H1N1 flu vaccines for students on October 27 & 28 and November 7. For more information about the flu and strategies on staying healthy, visit www.ucityschools.org.

Talking It Out

University City High School has teamed up with Al-Anon to offer "Talking It Out - Getting It Together," an Alateen program for young people whose lives have been affected by someone else's drinking. Meetings, which began on November 2, are held on Monday afternoons from 2:45 - 3:45 p.m., in the lower level of Christ the King School, 7324 Balson Avenue (63130).

For details, contact UCHS guidance counselor **Ponchita Argieard** or call 314/290-4114.

UCHS poetry slam, Nov. 20.

With a few weekends of "crash course" workshops on poetry writing for students, UCHS continues to offer its popular poetry slams with the next slam on Friday, November 20, at 6:30 p.m., in the UCHS auditorium. Public admission to this event is free. For more information, contact team sponsor, **Dominic Geinosky-Pioter**, at dgeinosky@u-city.k12.mo.us.

Bond Issue Update

In April 2009, the University City community approved a \$53.6 million bond issue for renovations and new construction. To date, the old Barbara C. Jordan building has been demolished and a formal "ground breaking" ceremony was held on September 9. Flynn Park Elementary has had foundational waterproofing and a new

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neutral air unit was installed. Jackson Park Elementary has had tuckpointing and foundational waterproofing completed. At Brittany Woods Middle School, preparation has begun for the footings of the new media center. Most of the work this fall has been at University City High School with new handicap parking spaces along Balson Avenue and an new ADA-compliant door at the nearby entrance. Restrooms near the main gym have been upgrade to ADA standards and the switchback ramp for entrance to the mezzanine level of the gym is complete. The front foyer and auditorium has been repainted. The concrete footings for the elevator shaft are being poured; drywall is being installed in the science wing and duct work is being run for the neutral air system on the third floor.

The District has also established a finance / bond issue oversight committee that has been meeting regularly since June; along with academic reform and accountability committees that meet quarterly.

To keep informed about the progress of construction and renovations as well as academic reform in the District, visit www.ucityschools.org.

“Fired Up” for preschool families

School District of University City’s “Fired up for Kindergarten” is scheduled for November 12. This event gives University City parents with pre-school aged children an opportunity to visit their neighborhood elementary school to meet kindergarten teachers and other school staff, tour classrooms and receive enrollment information. All six District elementary schools – Barbara C. Jordan, Delmar-Harvard, Flynn Park, Jackson Park, Nathaniel Hawthorne and Pershing – participate in the biannual event.

Can’t make the November 12 event? Tell your neighbors with preschool children that a second-semester event is scheduled for the evening of Wednesday, March 10.

For more details, call your neighborhood elementary school office or 314/290-4019.

FREE Immunization Clinics for 2009-2010

The School District of University City sponsors monthly Immunization Clinics FREE to children ages 2 months to 18 years for DTP/Td, Polio, HIB, MMR, HEP B, Tdap. Clinics are typically held the first Friday of each month, from 9 am to 12 noon at the Julia Goldstein Early Childhood Education Center, 737 Kingsland (northwest of the Delmar Loop). Remaining clinic dates for 2009 are November 13 and December 4. Scheduled clinic dates for 2010 are February 5, March 5, April 2 and May 7. Parent/Guardians are asked to bring the child’s immunization records.

For questions or to register for a specific immunization, call 314/721-2965.

MLK Spirit Award nominations are being accepted for 2010

The University City Board of Education is still seeking nominations for the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Spirit Award. The deadline for submission is December 4, 2009.

Recipients will be recognized during the annual University City communitywide Dr. Martin Luther King Celebration on Sunday, January 17. This year’s theme is “Fulfilling Dr. King’s Dream.”

Nominations are open

Do you know someone who goes above and beyond the status quo to inspire others in our school community? If so, consider nominating them for one of the School District of University City’s recognition awards including Teacher of the Year, Educational Support Personnel of the Year or PACEsetter. Nomination forms are available from school offices or at www.ucityschools.org.

For details about District recognitions or the selection process, call 314/290-4019.

Inclement weather closings

If schools are closed for inclement weather conditions, parents/guardians will receive a SchoolReach phone message with specific information. School closing information will be posted on the District website at www.ucityschools.org and shared with local radio and television stations. Days missed due to inclement weather closings will be made up at the end of the school year.

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.

Help maintain a proper learning environment for our children...

School District of University City
Anonymous Tip Line
(314) 290-4444

...report inappropriate behavior.

