



News about summer school and other updates

1 message

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Fri, Mar 5, 2021 at 5:56 PM

Health of a Lion

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF UNIVERSITY CITY
Transform the Life of Every Student Every Day!

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Good evening U. City Schools Families:

We are ending out another great week. Many of you attended virtual parent conferences with your children's teachers this week. Thank you for partnering with our staff on these important check-ins. In keeping with positive metrics around the region, we currently have no active cases of COVID-19 in our school community and very few quarantined students and staff.

We are looking forward to this Monday, March 8, when we will welcome about 100 freshmen and seniors back to University City High School in our new Distance Learning Hubs (more than 90 sophomores and juniors will start their hubs on Thursday, April 8). We had about 330 students complete the survey to enroll in the Hubs at the high school. Of that group, more than half (57%) opted to participate.

Please look for our newest edition of our excellent news magazine PRIDE. It should be arriving in your mailboxes starting next week. Looking ahead, I have two significant opportunities to announce.

Kindergarten Open House

On Tuesday, March 30, each of our elementary schools will be hosting **Kindergarten Open House** evenings for prospective parents or current parents who have a little one starting next August. These will be in-person, so parents can see the facilities and meet staff. Registration is required to attend sessions at either 4:30 to 5:15 p.m. or 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. Health screening will be done prior to entry into the buildings. Masks are also required to attend and safe physical distancing will be employed. Please get the word out to your friends and neighbors on this wonderful opportunity to encourage new families to Join The Pride. In April, some elementary schools will also host virtual open houses, and I will keep you posted on those. The required registration link to attend the in-person open houses is www.ucityschools.org/KGOpenHouse2021.

Camp U: A Summer of Exploration and Discovery

I'm delighted to let you know that we are finalizing plans for Camp U, our new and improved summer learning academy for students entering grades 1-8. The **free, in-person camp** offers traditional teacher-led support in reading, writing and math, but in a dynamic way that utilizes partnerships and fun field trips and on-site programming with important St. Louis institutions, including the Magic House's Made maker's space, COCA, the Saint Louis Science Center, and others. Each grade will offer themed camps that integrate hands-on learning and learning competencies.

Open registration will begin the last week of March. **Camp U will run five days a week from June 7 through July 15 (no camp on July 5).** You can find more detailed information about specific sessions and learning themes at

www.ucityschools.org/CampU2021

The high school will offer its Summer Learning Academy for six weeks, June 7 through July 15. In-person, and online credit recovery options will be available.

Upcoming events and key dates

Please note, the District will have no in-person instruction or UCHS Distance Learning Hubs the week after Spring Break as a precautionary measure. Classes will be all-virtual and learning will take place from home March 29 through April 2. Also, [please buy your tickets](#) for the March 12 and 13 online performances of **Ranked**, a great **musical** performed by our University City High School music and drama students. You can see the trailer for the musical [here](#).

- **Monday, March 8** - UCHS seniors and freshmen start Distance Learning Hub in the high school at the regular start time.
- **Wednesday, March 10** - Know Thyself - We Are More Than Our Experiences at 6 p.m. - the first of Alive and Well Communities' Community Empowerment Virtual Sessions. [Register here to attend](#).
- **Friday, March 12 and Saturday, March 13** - Ranked, the UCHS live-streamed student musical, at 7:30 p.m. [Click here to purchase your live stream viewing tickets](#).
- **Tuesday, March 16** - University City School Board of Education Virtual Candidate Forum hosted by the University City Education Foundation and the University City High School PTO and moderated by the League of Women Voters. [Register here to attend](#).
- **Friday, March 19** - Early release day.
- **Monday, March 22 - Friday, March 26**: Spring Break, no classes.
- **Monday, March 29 - Friday, April 2**: All-virtual learning from home. No in-person instruction or Distance Learning Hubs.
- **Tuesday, March 30** - In-person Kindergarten Open House night for prospective parents or district families enrolling a kindergarten children next August. Sessions at 4:30 or 5:30 p.m. [Click here to register to attend](#).

I'll end with a quick shout-out to our Student Services team and schools staff who wrote and mailed personal notes to all of our students in February on our special "We Heart You" cards. The cards started arriving in student mailboxes in the past week or so, and some may still be in transit. This is our simple way of reminding our students that we care about them amid this difficult year. I can always be reached by email at shardin@ucityschools.org or on my cell phone at 314-399-0941 if you have any



JGEC Black Lives Matter March



questions or concerns.

In Service of Our Children,

Sharonica Hardin-Bartley, Ph.D, PHR
Superintendent

[Click to see the trailer for the UCHS student production of Ranked.](#)



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