

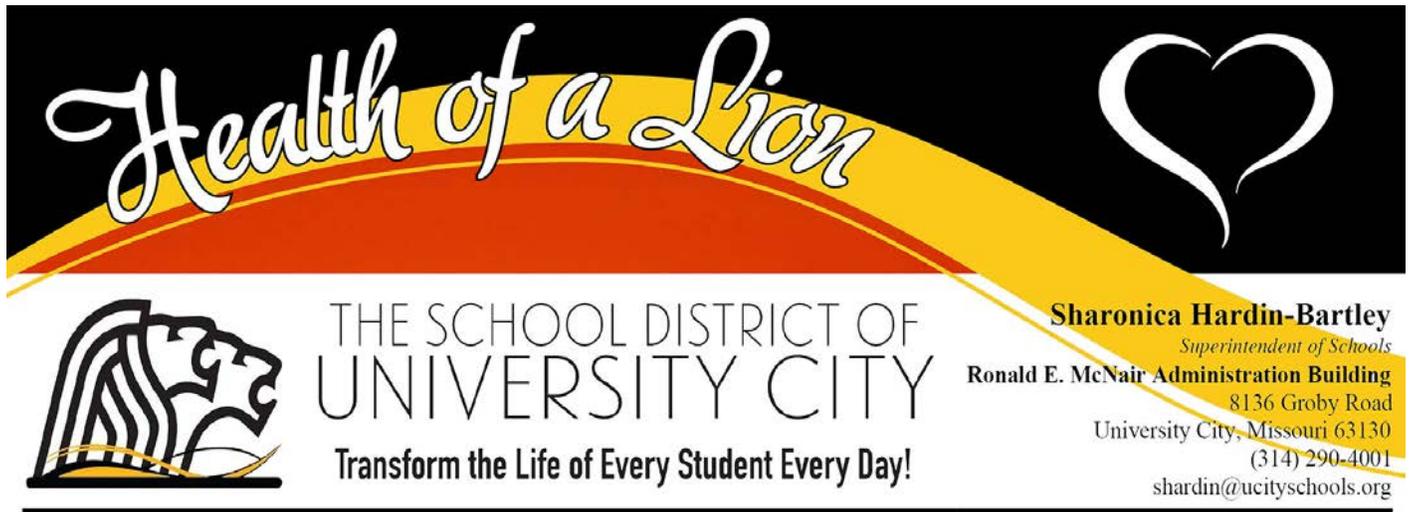


## Important Message for District Families

1 message

**Sharonica Hardin-Bartley** <News@ucityschools.org>  
Reply-To: Communications@ucityschools.org

Fri, Oct 16, 2020 at 5:12 PM



*(Para leer esta carta en español, haga clic aquí.)*

Dear U. City Families:

In deep partnership with our district elementary principals, we are preparing to re-open our elementary school buildings for a hybrid model of in-person and virtual instruction for students in grades K-5.

As embodied in our Health of a Lion plan, we have based our decision on science, racial equity, and social-emotional health. Our re-entry plan will provide ample time for staff and families to prepare while maintaining our commitment to implementing a safe, gradual, and kind return to school buildings.

We are targeting a return date of Monday, November 9 for Cohort A and Thursday, November 12 for Cohort B. The return dates allows for parent information sessions, final staff training and planned student orientations while also taking into account the emotional climate surrounding election day on Tuesday, Nov. 3.

Cohort A will come to school on Mondays and Tuesdays, and Cohort B will come to school on Thursdays and Fridays. Parents may opt to continue all-virtual instruction at home if they are not yet comfortable with their children returning to school. Staff has already been notified about this plan and is excitedly planning for the return of students.

Discussions are also underway with Brittany Woods leaders and staff to bring grades 6-8 back into the school building in November. You will be getting further information about this transition very soon. There are currently no plans to open the high school or LLC buildings to students.

This news is in addition to our plans to welcome back our preschoolers to their school building this Monday, Oct. 19 in a hybrid model. About 75% of families have opted to return to in-person instruction with facial masks. We cannot wait to see them!

### Elementary parents, your next steps are essential.

- **All elementary parents must complete** this [re-entry commitment form](#) as soon as possible. This form asks whether you intend to have your child or children return to elementary school for in-person instruction or whether you want to remain in all-virtual instruction. This includes parents of children who are currently enrolled in Launch - we need to know if you will stay with the program or transition to in-person instruction. The deadline to submit the form is a week from today: Friday, Oct. 23.
- Students must be up-to-date on their **immunizations** to re-enter school buildings. If you have an exemption, please contact Student Services. If you need additional information, contact lead nurse Patricia Wilson at [pwilson@ucityschools.org](mailto:pwilson@ucityschools.org).
- Please try to attend one of two **webinar sessions for elementary school parents** next Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 9 a.m. or 5 p.m. The webinars will be hosted by myself and the elementary school principals and will consist of a presentation and time for questions and answers. [Please register here](#) to receive a link and a password and to submit any questions you may have ahead of the sessions. Both sessions will be recorded.
- **Elementary student in-school orientations** will be conducted on the following dates.
  - Monday, Nov. 2: Cohort A Students
  - Thursday, Nov. 5: Cohort B Students

Times may be staggered during the day to ensure social distancing. You will be receiving further information from your elementary school very soon. To learn your child's cohort, please visit the parent portal. If you need further help, contact your elementary school principal.

- All students will receive free wellness kits containing facial masks, hand sanitizer, water bottles and more to help you prepare.

### Zoom with the Superintendent is next Tuesday.

My next Zoom takes place on Tuesday, Oct. 20 with sessions at 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Please [register here](#) to receive a link and password.

### Looking ahead: Election Day and Grab & Go Meal Program

## UCHS Film Screening Oct. 9, 2020



## District Flu Shot Clinic Oct. 10, 2020



Please note, there will be no district classes or activities on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 3. Grab & Go meal pickup will also not take place on Nov. 3. Starting on Wednesday, November 4, Grab & Go meal pickup will permanently move to Wednesdays. Even after school buildings reopen, the District will continue the Grab & Go meal program.

I am looking forward to connecting with you as we navigate yet another change with COVID-19. I assure you that our decision to bring back our elementary and middle school students is based on strong metrics, a genuine concern for the education and well-being of our students and families, and the firm belief that we are safely moving forward. As always, you can reach me via [shardin@ucityschools.org](mailto:shardin@ucityschools.org) or by my cell phone at 314-399-0941.

In Service of Our Children,

Sharonica Hardin-Bartley, Ph.D, PHR  
Superintendent

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## Brittany Woods Book Pick-up Oct. 14, 2020

