Meet Our Leaders

for 2019-20

District Administration

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Superintendent of Schools

314-290-4002

Kashina Bell, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

290-4022

Scott Hafertepe, Chief Financial Officer

290-4008

Dereon Hill (Chartwells) Director, Food & Nutrition

290-4068

Gene Kieczykowski, (Transpar) Bus Services

290-4046

Ian P. Buchanan, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum & Instruction

290-4020

Gary Spiller, Executive Director, Student Services and Innovation

290-4045

Karl Scheidt, Executive Director, Operations

290-4004

Erie Gonzalez-Rubio, Operations Supervisor

290-4004

Rob Court (FantasTechs), Director, Technology

290-4014

For families of kindergarten in 2020

Transform the Life of Every Student Every Day!

For families of kindergarten in 2020

Transform the Life of Every Student Every Day!

Meet Our Leaders for 2019-20

For families of students starting kindergarten in 2020

For families of kindergarten in 2020

Transform the Life of Every Student Every Day!
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Find Your Elementary School

The School District of University City has four elementary schools for students in kindergarten through fifth-grade. An online school locator tool and a poster-size version of the boundary map is available at www.ucityschools.org/FindMySchool. To verify an address/school or procedures for enrollment, call the office of Student Services and Innovation at (314) 290-4045.

Where We Are for 2019-20

M  Ronald E. McNair Administrative Offices,
    8136 Groby Road (63130) • (314) 290-4000

School          Address                          Administrator       Phone Number

JG  Julia Goldstein Early Childhood Education Center
    737 Kingsland (30)                          Crystal Cauley       721-2965

BCJ  Barbara C. Jordan School
    1500 N. 82nd Blvd. (32)                    JaNaé Alfred, Ph.D. 290-4360

FP  Flynn Park Elementary School
    7220 Waterman (30)                         Nicaele Wilson       290-4420

JP  Jackson Park Elementary School
    7400 Balson (30)                           Rebecca O’Connell, Ed.D. 290-4450

P  Pershing Elementary School
    6761 Bartmer (30)                          Herbert Buie         290-4150

BW  Brittany Woods Middle School
    8125 Groby (30)                            Elliott Shostak      290-4280

HS  University City High School
    7401 Balson (30)                           Michael Peoples      290-4100

L  Lieberman Learning Center
    8136 Groby Road (30)                       Paula Sams           290-4330

AE  Adult Education & Literacy Program
    8136 Groby Road (30)                       Clarence Ware        290-4052
Dear Prospective Kindergarten Parent(s):

Welcome to kindergarten in The School District of University City. It’s hard to believe that your child will be part of the Class of 2033! Imagine the innovations they will encounter in school and life as they grow into that future.

But back to now. Whether you are a new kindergarten parent, or you have been a U. City kindergarten parent before, we recognize this time is filled with excitement and a little worry as well.

Please know that your child will be loved and welcomed! We have an exceptional kindergarten instructional team dedicated to the education and well-being of your child. We know that learning can’t happen without first ensuring that our students feel loved, affirmed, challenged and included. We work hard to combine love and learning. We promise to partner with you for your child’s educational success.

In kindergarten, we focus on building a strong academic foundation. We provide experiential-based literacy and math curricula utilizing authentic texts and project-based learning.

This booklet serves as a small snapshot of The School District of University City. Please check out the District website at www.ucityschools.org to learn more. In University City, we have embarked on a journey of Learning Reimagined where instruction is humanized, personalized and problematized. I invite you to join us.

In service to our children,

Sharonica L. Hardin-Bartley, Ph.D., PHR
Superintendent of Schools
Ronald E. McNair Administration Building
8136 Groby Road, University City, MO 63130
(314) 290-4002
shardin@ucityschools.org

Extracurricular Activities

A variety of extracurricular activities are available for young elementary students; sponsored by the District and community partners such as chess club, scouts (Girl Scout Daisies begin in Kindergarten and Boy Scout Tiger Cubs begin in first grade) and athletics such as kindergarten soccer and more. Kindergartners can create robots from LEGO® Education’s Machine & Mechanism materials. Look for more information from your neighborhood school.

Parent Teacher Organizations (PTO)

The School District of University City has active Parent Teacher Organizations (PTOs) in each of its free-standing schools. Additionally, the four elementary school PTOs recently formed One U City, an initiative to build community and equity by hosting four joint PTO events that include all of the elementary schools as well as the U. City community. The role of PTOs is to build strong working relationships among parents, teachers and schools to cultivate support for students. All families are welcome to join the PTO. Please visit your school website to learn more about the PTOs and get involved!
District Mission, Vision, Principle & Priorities

MISSION: Our students are well-educated, capable, and ethical citizens who positively impact society.

VISION: Provide the highest quality education to ensure every student graduates college and career ready.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE: Transform the life of every student every day.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

1. Creating Rigorous, Relevant and Modern Learning Experiences
2. Talented Educators Fulfilling Learning Reimagined
3. Supporting Wellbeing
4. Leveraging All Hands
5. Resourcing Our Vision

A Typical Day for a Kindergarten Student in University City

Morning Routine:
• Calendar & Morning Meeting
• Attendance and lunch count
• Math and Science
• Word Work/Phonics - alphabet chart chant, making words activities
• Shared Reading with a Big Book
• Guided Reading Groups
• Independent Reading
• Read Aloud

Lunch/Recess

Afternoon Routine:
• Centers: Computer, Math, Writing, Word Work
• Shared Writing
• Independent Writing
• Math
• Special Classes - PE, Music, Art, Library Media and Computer
• Science/Social Studies

Note: Kindergartners do not have nap time during school hours.
Preparing for Kindergarten

Parents and teachers work together to promote good health and safety for all students.

Kindergarten students need:
- Regular hours of sleep each night, 10-12 hours.
- Nourishing meals.
- Suitable clothing.
- Good personal habits such as a daily bath, clean hands before eating, brushed teeth or rinsed mouth after each meal, clean and well groomed hair, tissue use for mouth and/or nose when coughing or sneezing and regular visits to the doctor and dentist.
- Outdoor play.
- To work on building hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills.
- To be read to daily and recognize letters of the alphabet.
- To know first and last name of child and parents, address and telephone number.
- To know the safe way to school (if possible, walk the route with your child) along with traffic and bus safety rules.

Skills to Develop:
- Personal hygiene
- Tie, zip, button and snap
- Clean up without being asked
- Track belongings
- Sit and listen to story
- Take turns
- Wait while someone else is speaking
- Act appropriately in a group
- Experience with scissors, crayons, clay, pencil, glue and small connecting toys
- Write first and last names with initial capital letter
- Know letters in own name
- Count objects up to 15
- Answer simple questions
- Know address, phone number and birth date
- Know colors and shapes
- Speak in complete sentences

Reminder:
Jump Start to Kindergarten
Aug. 4-6, 2020

How to Enroll Your Child

According to state guidelines, a child is eligible for admission to kindergarten if the child reaches the age of five (5) before August 1. In The School District of University City, enrollment is required for all new and current students entering, transferring or transitioning either into or within the District. In 2016, the District moved to online enrollment. This process begins with access to Tyler Parent Portal (see page 4) or a Quick Enrollment Form if family does not have a Parent Portal account established. Enrollment information and forms are available at www.ucityschools.org/Enroll.

Student Enrollment Checklist: Parents/Guardians must present the following documents as part of the enrollment process before a child may start school:
- Birth certificate (original, if not on file)
- Immunization record (current, if not on file)
- Photo ID (parent/guardian) along with proof of guardianship if other than custodial parent.
- Occupancy permit (must list name of parent/guardian and student)
- Two of the following are also required for enrollment:
  - Current unpaid utility bill (electric, gas, water, trash, sewer, phone, no cell phone)
  - Voter registration card (current address)
  - Current lease
  - Property deed
  - Real estate tax receipt (previous year)
  - Personal property tax receipt (previous year)
  - Receipt or payment stub from rent check (previous month)
  - Current paycheck stub identifying employee name and address (less than one month old)

Additionally, enrollment packets must contain a completed Student Enrollment Form, Safe Schools Affirmation, Residency Verification, ESOL Survey and other school-specific forms. For nonresident students, tuition rates will be charged. This may vary according to grade level and are subject to change.

For more details about residency requirements and school boundaries, contact the office of Student Services at (314) 290-4045.

Kindergarten Registration Night - Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Rev. 022720
Tyler Parent Portal

The online Tyler Parent Portal allows parents to update contact information and access their student’s current grades, attendance and other important information posted by the school. Parents/Guardians of students enrolled or enrolling in the District, who do not have a current Parent Portal login and wish to obtain access, may submit a Parent Portal User Request Form that includes the parent agreement available at www.ucityschools.org/ParentPortalRequest. This form should be completed, signed returned to the student’s school.

State Immunization Requirement

Children who are healthy perform better academically and have fewer absences. Missouri law requires that children enrolling in school be adequately immunized for diptheria-tetanus-pertussis (DTaP), polio (IPV), measles-rubella-mumps (MMR), chicken pox (Varivax), hepatitis B (Hep B), haemophilus influenza (HIB) and pneumococcal (PCV). Also recommended are hepatitis A (Hep A) and annual flu shot.

Parents are required to provide evidence of immunization dates (month/day/year) from a physician or other recognized health facility, unless the child is properly exempted according to state guidelines.

For more information about immunization requirements, visit www.ucityschools.org/Immunizations or call the school nurse at your neighborhood school.

Special Services for Students

The School District of University City offers a variety of services to help students learn:

**English Language Learners (ELL)**

English Language Learners (formerly English for Speakers of Other Languages) is an instructional program for eligible students in grades K-12 whose first language is something other than English. Certified teachers assist students during classroom instruction in learning English with the ultimate goal to become proficient in language and literacy development.

**Talented And Gifted Development (TAGD)**

In an effort to be more inclusive, the District is transforming the Gifted And Talented Education (GATE) program to the Talented And Gifted Development (TAGD) program to better support talent development of all students while meeting State of Missouri guidelines for gifted services to high-ability students in 2nd - 12th grades. For more information, visit www.ucityschools.org/TAGD or talk with the TAGD resource teacher in your child’s school.

**Special School District (SSD)**

Special School District partners with school districts to provide students with disabilities in St. Louis County individualized educational and/or support services. The majority of students receive services in their own district as SSD teachers are housed in more than 265 public schools to academically assist students. Learn more about SSD in U City at www.ucityschools.org/SSD. More information about SSD is also available at www.ssdmo.org.

For more information, contact the office of Student Services (314) 290-4045.
Developmental Screening required for children entering kindergarten

The School District of University City conducts DIAL IV (Developmental Indicators for the Assessment of Learning) screening for children entering kindergarten in the fall. Screenings are offered for enrolled kindergartners at school sites during “Jump Start to Kindergarten” at the end of summer or after the start of the new school (scheduled for August 4-6, 2020). The DIAL IV assesses the student’s developmental skills in the areas of motor and concept as well as language skills. These skills are the foundation for academic learning and provide the school with pertinent information as to how the child performs specific tasks.

Other Services

Additional health care services include vision and hearing screening as well as dental examinations by a professional dental group. A comprehensive vision examination may be scheduled through your school nurse or social worker at your neighborhood school.

Kindergarten Learning Standards

The Missouri Learning Standards define the knowledge and skills students need in each grade level and course for success in college, other post-secondary training and careers. These grade-level and course-level expectations are aligned to the Show-Me Standards. The Missouri Learning Standards give school administrators, teachers, parents and students a road map for learning expectations in each grade and course. If you are interested in learning about the Standards for Kindergarten students as provided by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, please visit www.missourilearningstandards.com.

Technology in School

The School District of University City boasts of state-of-the-art Library Media Centers with computer labs, Smart Boards in all classrooms, a better than 2-to-1 computer-to-student ratio at the elementary level and 1-to-1 ratio at middle and high school levels.

The District also has a variety of technology tools to spark curiosity. Modern technology and software allows students to create, make and design as ways to showcase their learning. Teachers use digital portfolios and greater integration of G Suite for Education (formerly called Google Apps for Education) such as Gmail, Docs, Slides and more throughout the elementary school levels.

Education Foundation grants provide even greater technology to augment classroom instruction as well as ignite learning that leads to academic success.

Kindergarteners: Mark your calendar and join us for Jump Start to Kindergarten - Aug. 4-6, 2020
The School District of University City is committed to removing all barriers that prevent children from learning and excelling in school—including hunger. Research shows that when children are hungry they are less likely to do well in the classroom, perform as well on standardized tests or graduate from high school. By kindergarten, food-insecure children often are cognitively, emotionally and physically behind their peers.

In July 2016, The School District of University City qualified under the Community Eligibility Provision to offer free meals to all students in the District through the Universal Meal Program, launched as part of the federal Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act. All students are eligible, without additional forms, to receive free meals including breakfast and lunch.

Monthly menus are available in the school’s main office. Look for online links via District and school website homepages at www.ucitieschools.org or directly at www.ucitieschools.nutrislice.com.

Students, parents and faculty are encouraged to provide feedback on the school lunch program with Chartwells, the District’s food service provider, during regularly scheduled monthly YAC (youth advisory council) meetings at each school.

For more information about the District’s breakfast and lunch programs, call the office of Food and Nutrition at (314) 290-4067.
Before- and After-school Care

Before-school and after-school child care with recreational and educational activities are available for elementary students at a modest cost.

Unleashing Potential, formerly Neighborhood Houses, is offered at Barbara C. Jordan, Flynn Park and Jackson Park elementary schools. More information including application is available at www.upstl.org/after-school. Families may also contact Gloria Hampton at (314) 561-3334 or ghampton@upstl.org.

The Monsanto YMCA Y-Club is offered at Pershing Elementary School from 6:30 a.m. until the start of school and from the close of school to 6 p.m. and early release days. It offers half-day preschool and extended break camps for students in PreK-8th grades. Financial assistance is available and state child care assistance is accepted. For more details, contact Sharon Holbrooks, program director, at (314) 367-4646.

Keep up with District News

News and information is shared in variety of ways including the District website at www.ucityschools.org, @UCitySchools social media (Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor and YouTube), PRIDE newspaper, automated email/calls/texts, school/teacher newsletters and Peachjar. As of Spring 2018, the District has a new APP that features social media posts and popular links - search for “University City Schools” at your preferred APP store. Parent groups also help spread the good news through site-based PTOs, PTO & community Facebook pages, events and community-based social media.

For more information, contact the office of Communications and Community Outreach at communications@ucityschools.org or call (314) 290-4001.

Jackson Park Elementary School

Heather Erwine
- Master’s Degree
- Teaching since 2001
- Certifications:
  Early Child Ed B-3
  Elementary Ed 1-6

Monique Hite-Patterson
- Master’s Degree
- Teaching since 2008
- Certification:
  Early Child Ed B-3

Sara Rice
- Master’s Degree
- Teaching since 1994
- Certification:
  Early Child Ed B-3,
  Early Child Sp Ed B-3

Pershing Elementary School

Emily Desloge
- Master’s Degree
- Teaching since 2017
- Certifications:
  Early Child Ed B-3,
  Elementary Ed 1-6,
  English as a Second Language K-12

Veronica Martinez
- Bachelor’s Degree
- Teaching since 2014
- Certification:
  Early Child Ed B-3
School Supplies

Each elementary school posts a list of school supplies needed by grade level to their school’s website prior to the start of the new school year. Some school PTOs offer “kits” with most of the needed supplies as a fundraiser.

Typical kindergarten supplies include (but may not be limited to) the following:
- pencils*
- crayons*
- markers*
- blunt-end scissors*
- glue sticks and/or glue*
- dry-erase markers
- headphones
- book bag
- facial tissues

Current supply lists are posted in the “parent” section on each school’s website.

*It is helpful to purchase extras of these homework supplies, along with paper, and keep them in a special place at home for homework.

Transportation / Bus Service

According to District policy, students in The School District of University City who reside 1.25 miles or more from their neighborhood school are eligible for transportation services to and from school. To find out if your child is eligible for school bus service, please first ask the secretary in the school office.

If your child is eligible for transportation and you need to find the location of his or her bus stop and bus number, contact your child’s school office or visit the District website at www.ucityschools.org/Bus. Bus transportation schedules are posted prior to the start of the school year and are updated as routes change.

Transportation concerns should first be directed to Transpar, the District’s transportation provider, at (314) 290-4046. If Transpar is unable to provide resolution, contact the office of Business and Finance at (314) 290-4008.

Learning Reimagined

The District operates under the vision of Learning Reimagined, a plan to Humanize, Personalize and Problematize student learning through modern, rigorous and relevant experiences and academics. The plan strives for well-being and joy in our students and staff, excellent staff, all hands in partnership with others, and strategic, equitable use of resources. Student voice is supported and a social justice mindset is encouraged. For more information, visit www.ucityschools.org/LearningReimagined.