SDUC News, End-of-Year Video and Blog

1 message

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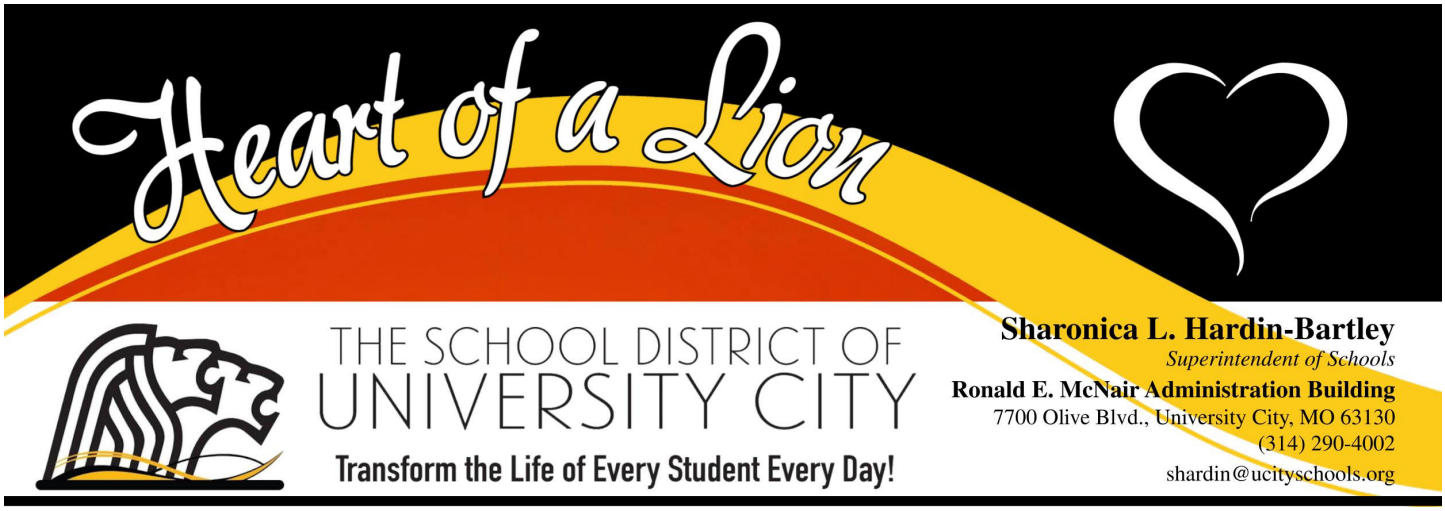

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May 23, 2023

From the Desk of Sharonica Hardin-Bartley

Good afternoon School District of University City Community:

May is here! There's so much excitement in the air as we commemorate the end of the 2022-23 school year and the start of summer. We celebrated with lovely transition activities for our students, especially in grades five and eight. Our preschoolers felt particularly special thanks to not one, but two car parades that wound through the nearby streets of U. City. What a way to show up for our future kindergartners!

Yes, our scholars are poised to move ahead on their learning journey! I am incredibly proud of them – particularly, the UCHS Class of 2023, which we celebrated on Monday, May 22, at a spirited graduation ceremony at Chaifetz Arena that included inspiring speeches, beautiful regalia and the spirit of U Time.... (Read my May blog)

End of Year Video

Please enjoy my end-of-year video! You can reach it directly at www.ucityschools.org/Supt2023YearEndVideo.

News and Updates

Summer Reading Lists

There is nothing better - and healthier - than reading a good book during the lazy days of summer. The research is clear. Students who read regularly over the summer do better when they come back to school for the new year. Fifteen to 30 minutes of reading a day builds literacy muscle and empowers our students. Summer reading is such an important activity for all grade levels. Reading lists for all grade levels are available at www.ucityschools.org/summerreads.

Immunizations

The summer is a great time to get your student up-to-date on required immunizations. Please make your appointments now so your child is ready to start the school year. For the health and safety of our community, we cannot let your students come to school on the first day without their required immunizations.

June Enrollment Blitz

It is time to re-enroll your student! I encourage you to do this important task in June, well before the start of the next school year. All parents who do this process in June will be entered into a raffle for dining gift cards in U. City.

It is vitally important that all returning students have their information updated in the Parent Portal prior to the start of school. We are committed to ensuring that all students are properly immunized for health and well-being before the start of school. Additionally, this ensures we have the most up-to-date contact information for parents and caregivers and other needed information. The process can be done online by going to www.ucityschools.org/EnrollExistingFamily. If you have any questions or need assistance with this process, go to www.ucityschools.org/EnrollmentHelp.

Parent Engagement Survey: Your Input is Needed

As a part of our district's ongoing commitment to supporting parents and students, I am excited to introduce an opportunity to participate in a study of parent engagement led by Dominique Horton, a PhD student at Washington University. The survey is open to parents and caregivers with children in grades 3-8. Participants will be entered in a raffle to receive one of three $50 gift cards. This is a totally voluntary opportunity. The survey takes about 20 minutes to complete.

Summer Hours for the District

In the month of July, the District utilizes a flex schedule for full-year employees. District offices will be closed on Fridays, July 7, 14, 21 and 28.

School Supplies for the 2023-24 School Year

School supply lists for next year are available online through TeacherLists. For more information, go to www.ucityschools.org/supplylist.

Key Dates - Summer 2023

Click here for the full list of Key Dates for the 2023-24 school year.

May 29: District Closed, Memorial Day

June 1 - Board of Education Work Session, 5:30 p.m., McNair building (note earlier time)
June 5 - First day of Camp U
June 5 - First day of High School Summer Learning Academy
June 15 - Board of Education Regular Meeting, 7 p.m., McNair building, 7700 Olive Blvd.
June 19 - District Closed, Juneteenth
June 29 - Last Day of High School Summer Learning Academy
June 30 - Last Day of Camp U

July 4 - District Closed, Independence Day
July 7 - District Closed, summer flex schedule
July 13 - Board of Education Regular Meeting, 7 p.m., McNair building, 7700 Olive Blvd.
July 14 - District Closed, summer flex schedule
July 21 - District Closed, summer flex schedule
July 28 - District Closed, summer flex schedule
July 31 and Aug. 1 - Enrollment Walk-In sessions, McNair building, 7700 Olive Blvd.
July 31 to Aug. 2 - Jump Start to Kindergarten (Register at www.ucityschools.org/JumpStart2023)

Aug. 1 - National Night Out and Back to School Rally, 5 to 7 p.m., Jackson Park School
Aug. 3 - Board of Education Work Session, 5:30 p.m., McNair building
Aug. 17 - Board of Education Regular Meeting, 7 p.m., McNair building, 7700 Olive Blvd.
Aug. 18 - Student Immunization Clinic, 9 to 11 a.m., McNair building, 7700 Olive Blvd.
Aug. 21 - First day of classes for all students

In Closing

Have a wonderful summer! Remember to encourage your children to read, and I hope you are blessed with relaxing and fun times to connect with your loved ones. As always, you may contact me at shardin@ucityschools.org or by cell phone at 314-399-0941.

In Service of Our Children,

Sharonica L. Hardin-Bartley, Ph.D., PHR
Superintendent

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