

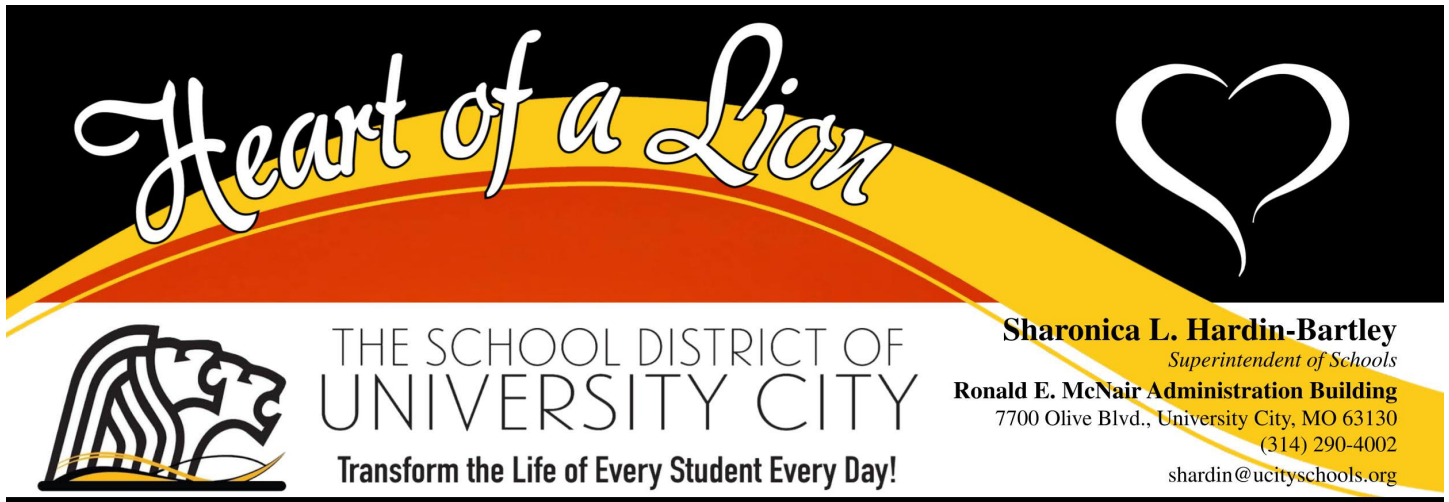


Monthly Update: SDUC News, blog and more

1 message

Hardin, Sharonica <shardin@ucityschools.org>

Fri, Apr 21, 2023 at 4:46 PM



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April 21, 2023

From the Desk of Sharonica Hardin-Bartley

Good afternoon School District of University City Community:

Spring is finally blooming, and I've enjoyed the freedom of being outside and sharing time with family and friends while enjoying simple pleasures. Each day is a tremendous gift and an opportunity to be a better version of myself personally and professionally.

I often speak about the head and heart of leadership. Yet again, another tragedy has crept into a school space that should serve as a haven for young people and the adults who care for them. The elementary school shooting in Nashville was heartbreaking and took the lives of six people, including three children. These acts naturally bring out emotions - fear, anger, shock, sadness and helplessness. We all feel pain in our hearts.

The reality, though, is that we have to test our resilience and move forward with both head and heart - and this is especially true for our students.... ([Read more](#))



News and Updates

Family Resource Fair

Summer is coming, and that can be hard on children and families who depend on schools for certain support. We want families to be well this summer, so I want to personally invite you and your family to the first-ever district-wide Family Resource Fair on April 27.

Happy Earth Day!

Yesterday, in honor of Earth Day, St. Louis County Executive Dr. Sam Page visited Brittany Woods Middle School to recognize 16 of our high school juniors and seniors with formal proclamations and declared the day “Growing Together Day” in St. Louis County! He even took home some fresh eggs from the chicken coop. Dr. Page recognized the students for their vision and groundbreaking work to create both the Brittany Woods Giving Garden and its Growing Together event, a now annual student-run program that encourages food gardening throughout University City. By the way, Growing Together’s kick-off plant giveaway event is scheduled for Tuesday, May 2 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Brittany Woods.

There’s more Earth Day fun this weekend at the annual Earth Day Festival in Forest Park. One U City will be hosting a tent on Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. that will feature parents, students and staff showcasing environmental awareness, STEAM and sustainability programs in our schools. If you are at the festival, please make sure to stop by booth S-12 in the Social Justice area of the event!

Let Education Policy Makers Know What You Think

I always encourage our parents and caregivers to be active and engaged advocates regarding public education policy and programs. There are currently two surveys available for you to share your opinions that I encourage you to complete.

- The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is seeking feedback on internet access in neighborhoods throughout Missouri. This information could positively impact future policy and funding to ensure all households have improved access. [You can fill out the internet survey here.](#)
- As a district recipient of Title 1 funding, federal administrators ask that parents and stakeholders complete an annual survey on the District’s implementation of the funding. [You can fill out the Title 1 survey here.](#)

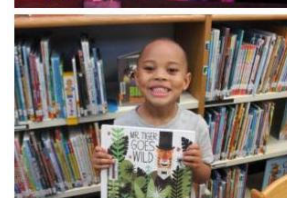
Arts Events Season: District Arts Night Tonight

Join us tonight for our annual district-wide celebration of visual arts with an exhibition of amazing drawings, paintings, pottery and sculptures created by students in all of our schools. You will be amazed at the vision and artistry of our students. The free event takes place tonight, April 21, 6 to 8 p.m., at University City High School. Use the Balson Avenue entrance. You can check out the full list of [upcoming spring student performances here.](#)

Congratulations!

Congratulations to director Kendrick Hooks and the entire UCHS cast and crew of The Wiz for their amazing performances last weekend. What a thrill to see this musical come to life on stage at our high school. My heart was full and the students received the loud applause they deserved from their audiences.

Key Dates



April 21 - District Arts Night, 6 p.m. at University City High School

April 24 - One U City Community Meeting #4, 5:45 p.m. at Barbara C. Jordan Elementary School.

Register: www.ucityschools.org/1UC-RSVP

April 26 - University City High School Band and Orchestra Concert, 6:30 p.m. at University City High School

April 27 - Grand Opening Reception for the Believe Projects Literacy Lab at Barbara C. Jordan Elementary School, 9:30 a.m. Register: www.ucityschools.org/BCJBelieve042723

April 27 - Family Resource Fair, 4 to 6 p.m., at Jackson Park Elementary School. Register: www.ucityschools.org/042723Fair.

April 27 - Lionhearted: A U. City Music & Arts Showcase presented by the University City Education Foundation, 6 to 9 p.m. Blueberry Hill, [6504 Delmar Blvd.](#) [Purchase tickets here.](#)

April 29 - University City High School Prom, 7 p.m. at the Mahler Ballroom

May 2 - Growing Together Celebration, 5 p.m. at Brittany Woods Middle School

May 4 - Board of Education Work Session, 5:45 p.m. at McNair Administration Building, [7700 Olive Blvd.](#)

May 6 - One U City Trivia Night, 6 p.m. at Centennial Commons. [Buy tickets here.](#)

May 7 - U City Day at the Ballpark, 1:15 p.m. at Busch Stadium. Find tickets at www.ucityschools.org/cardinaltickets. **May 10- UCHS Scholarship Ceremony**, invitation only, 6 p.m. at University City High School

May 13 - UCHS Kinesis Dance Concert, 7 p.m. at University City High School

May 16 - District U Are Special event, invitation only, 5:30 to 7 p.m. at UCHS

May 17 - UCHS Awards Night, 6 p.m. at University City High School

May 18 - [Board of Education Regular Meeting](#), 7 p.m. at McNair Administration Building, [7700 Olive Blvd.](#)

May 19 - UCHS Early Release Day, exams

May 22 - Last Day of School, Brittany Woods and University City High School

May 22 - Eighth Grade Step-Up Promotion Ceremony, 9 a.m. at Brittany Woods

May 22 - UCHS Commencement for the Class of 2023, 7 p.m. at Chaifetz Arena

May 25 - Last Day of School, elementary and Julia Goldstein, Early Release Day

In Closing

I also wanted to share with you [this great article](#) on the wonderful collaboration between Washington University's Institute for School Partnership and the staff at Julia Goldstein Early Childhood Education Center. All Hands is one of the District's five strategic priorities to achieve our vision of Learning Reimagined. Partnerships like this truly exemplify All Hands. 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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Please use my Calendly link so we can schedule meetings more efficiently. <https://calendly.com/sharonicahardin-bartley>

Sharonica L. Hardin-Bartley, Ph.D., PHR (she/her/hers)

School District of University City

Office of the Superintendent

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"There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children." Nelson Mandela