

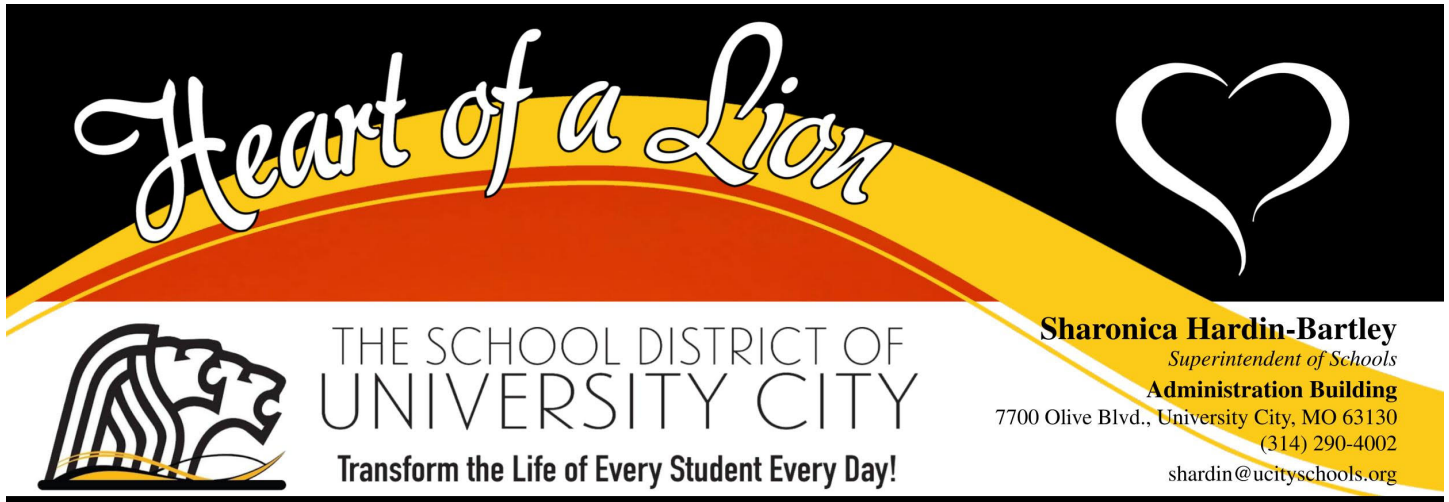


Announcement: SDUC hires new members of executive leadership team

1 message

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Reply-To: communications@ucityschools.org

Fri, Apr 7, 2023 at 4:55 PM



Good evening School District of University City Community:

I am delighted to announce the hiring of two outstanding individuals to lead the District's Human Resources and Operations offices.

Dr. Rebecca O'Connell, the current principal of Jackson Park Elementary School, will become the Assistant Superintendent for People and General Administration on July 1, 2023. The role is being reinstated to better support the District's performance management and instructional needs.

Rebecca is uniquely positioned to assume this important position. She has a passion for students, building relationships and teaching. Her sweet spots include team-building and impeccable organizational skills. I know, under her leadership, we will continue to build an excellent staff that embraces modern, rigorous and relevant learning and well-being and joy districtwide.

Rebecca has been a leader in our district for nearly 19 years. In addition to her eight years serving as principal of Jackson Park Elementary School, she has also served as the director of curriculum and instruction and as the K-12 communication arts and social studies coordinator.



"I have a deep appreciation and gratitude for the staff who choose to make an impact in The School District of University City, and I am honored to engage the entire district in a position where I will have the opportunity to humanize the systems side of human resources," she said.

We will be announcing a new principal for Jackson Park soon, and we are excited that Rebecca will be able to help this individual continue the loving and positive culture she has built in the school.

Olu Mitchom will join the District as its Executive Director of Operations on April 17 to give him time to work aside current Executive Director Karl Scheidt until Mr. Scheidt's retirement on June 30. I wish Karl well in his upcoming

transition into retirement and thank him for his dedication and drive to ensure our students and staff have the facilities they need to thrive.

Mr. Mitchom, a professional engineer, comes to us from the U.S Federal Reserve Bank in St. Louis, where he was the facilities manager of its beautiful facility on Market Street. Prior to that, he was the senior engineer in the facilities management department of Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville for nearly a decade.

Mr. Mitchom's background as both an engineer and a longtime leader in the maintenance and upkeep of a large college campus aligns well with our district. I am confident he is prepared to ensure that our facility needs are met.

"Facilities are a critical part of the learning process. I'm truly excited to hit the ground running to support this wonderful community; it's exciting to have the opportunity to impact students in this way," he said.



Quick Reminders

This is the season of student arts events and performances in all grade levels. You can check out the full list of [the upcoming events on our website](#) so you don't miss any. I also want to remind you that we have important events coming up next week:

- **Wednesday, April 12 - Kindergarten Open Houses**, 6 p.m. at all elementary schools. [Register here](#)
- **Wednesday, April 12 - Community Engagement Meeting for Brittany Woods Middle School and University City High School**, 6 p.m. in the University City High School Library. [Register here](#)
- **Thursday, April 13 - Regular Board of Education Meeting**, 7 p.m. in the McNair Administration Building, 7700 Olive Blvd.
- **Friday/Saturday April 13, 14 - The Wiz**, 7 p.m. University City High School. Admission: \$12 at the door or \$10 online at www.ucityschools.org/UCHSWIZ2023
- **Now-April 30 - Brittany Woods sustainability students are seeking donations** of new or gently used gardening equipment, such as rakes, hoes, shovels, gardening gloves, hoses, etc. The donations will help support food gardening in the community through the students' annual Growing Together event in early May. Drop donations at the school front office.

I wish all of you a wonderful weekend and enjoy the warmer weather! Please feel free to contact me at shardin@ucityschools.org or on my cell phone at 314-399-0941 with any questions or concerns.

In Service of Our Children,

Sharonica Hardin-Bartley, PHD, PHR
Superintendent

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