

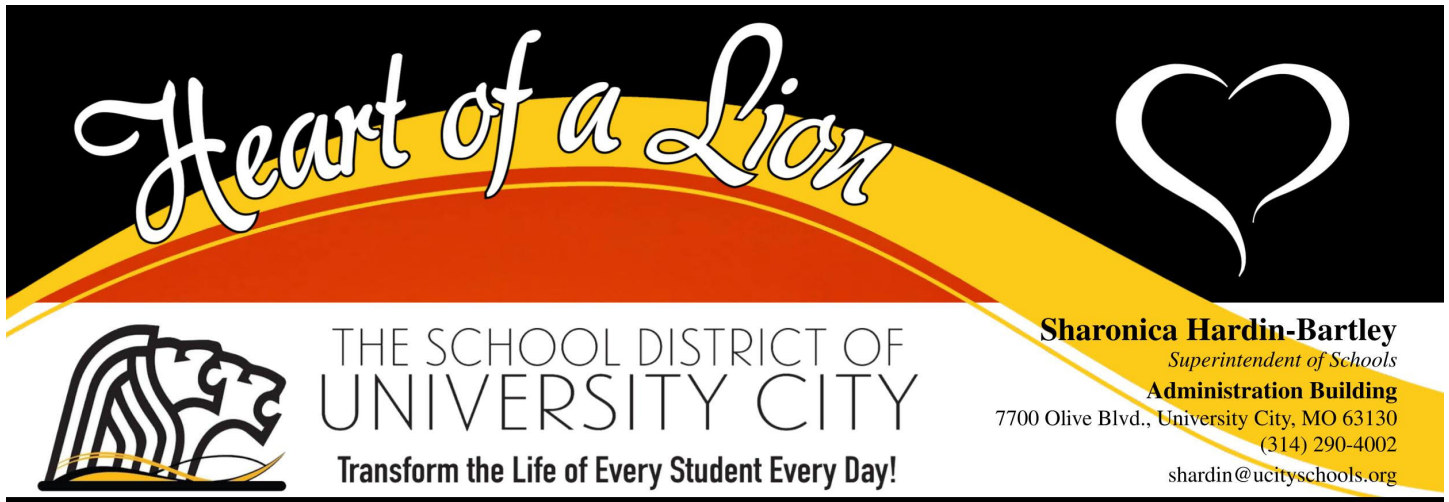


SDUC news, Winter Break Video and blog

1 message

Sharonica Hardin-Bartley <news@ucityschools.org>
Reply-To: communications@ucityschools.org

Mon, Dec 19, 2022 at 11:51 AM



Para leer esta carta en español, [haga clic aquí](#).

December 19, 2022

From the Desk of Sharonica Hardin-Bartley

Greetings School District of University City Community:

The days before Winter Break are always filled with energy in anticipation of downtime and many seasonal traditions among our families and staff. We have so much to be grateful for thanks to very low levels of COVID-19 in our schools and a full semester of in-person events and learning. This year's winter concerts and performances shined with excellence. It is powerful to see hundreds of our students in elementary, middle and high school empowered with voices and instruments at their fingertips creating beautiful music. As we work to always support racial equity and opportunity among our students, this is a wonderful milestone in our journey and a true sign of our community spirit.



I have a guilty pleasure this time of the year as our student winter performances wind down and the holiday baking begins. It's watching Hallmark holiday specials.

When winter arrives, there is nothing cozier than curling up on my couch with a soft blanket, a cup of tea and my remote in my hand. If it's snowing outside, that's even better. I find comfort in a familiar Hallmark script, when the characters face hardships and come together at the end in community, love and comfort. I know this guilty pleasure might surprise a few of you... ([read more in the Superintendent's Blog](#))

News and Updates

Winter Break Video

[Click here for my annual video celebrating the start of Winter Break.](#)

Students Return to School on Wednesday, January 4

Just a reminder that last week, the University City Board of Education approved a change to the Winter Break schedule and the last day of school. Students will report back to school on Wednesday, January 4, 2023 - one day later than originally planned. Staff will return to work on Tuesday, January 3. District offices will be closed on Monday, January 2 in observance of the 2023 New Year's holiday, which falls on a Sunday. Weather pending, the last day of classes is now scheduled for Thursday, May 25, 2023.

Washington University Opportunity

Our community has the chance to participate in a Washington University research study. The study is a vaccine uptake trial for individuals who have not received any COVID-19 vaccines. Unvaccinated individuals can earn up to \$100 and do not have to get vaccinated during the study. The study is testing communication techniques to determine what methods best help improve vaccination rates. You can sign up for the study if you've never received the COVID-19 vaccine; are eligible to receive it; and are also a resident of St. Louis County. [For more information, please review the flier.](#)

Senior Class Exceeds \$5 Million in College Scholarship Offers

Halfway through the application season, our University City High School seniors are getting incredible news from colleges and universities regarding acceptances and scholarships. This is a testament to their hard work and the commitment of our teachers and counseling staff to open doorways for all of our students. Also, congratulations to senior Mouhamed Ly who was awarded a full ride to Boston College through QuestBridge. The scholarship pays for tuition, room, board, travel, books, fees and other expenses! [You can read more about the scholarships and Mouhamed on our website.](#)

Key Dates

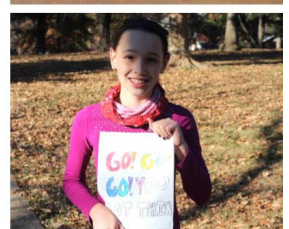
- **Dec. 21 - Jan. 2 - District closed for Winter Break**
- **Jan. 3 - Staff returns to work**
- **Jan. 4 - All students return to school**
- **Jan. 5 - University City Board of Education work session**, on Zoom. [Register to attend the meeting.](#)
- **Jan. 10 - One U City Community Meeting**, dinner at 5:45 p.m., meeting at 6:30 p.m. at Pershing Elementary
- **Jan. 13 - Early release day**
- **Jan. 16 - District closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**
- **Jan. 19 - University City Board of Education regular meeting**, 7 p.m. at McNair Administration Building
- **Jan. 28 - U. City Equations Tournament**, 8 to 11:30 a.m. at Jackson Park Elementary. [See flier here.](#)

In Closing

I can be reached with questions or concerns at shardin@ucityschools.org or on my cell phone at 314-399-0941. I wish you a safe and wonderful Winter Break with moments of peace, coziness and connection with your loved ones.

In Service of Our Children,

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



[Click here to see my Winter Break video](#)



School District of University City would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact School District of University City directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm: [Unsubscribe](#)

SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.