

District's Strategic Plan Brings Learning Reimagined to Life

Students and teachers in The School District of University City have more resources and opportunities available to them – now more than ever before. This is due to a concerted effort to modernize the education experience, which involves, in large part, turning classrooms, inside out; bringing the talents and skills of partners in education and the community into classrooms and moving more classroom experiences to the community.

While the District awaits the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's October release of last spring's standardized test results, school teams are in action customizing improvement plans and key elements of the new Strategic Plan. All plans are being refined for presentation to the University City Board of Education and community; an indication of the high level of study and partner involvement enlisted in the process.

According to Sharonica Hardin-Bartley, superintendent of schools, "Ours is a rolling plan designed to be continuously updated and refined...It encompasses all aspects of the Missouri School Improvement Process and Comprehensive School Improvement Plan as well as elements of our own Learning Reimagined, which includes personalizing instruction, humanizing relationships and problematizing real-world solutions." She



As part of the Learning Reimagined initiative, Gary Spiller, executive director of Student and Innovative Services, led parents, educators, students and ACLU partners in reviewing and revising the language and student expectations in the District's Discipline Handbook.

adds, "I am excited about the work being done and how it positively impacts students in today's classrooms and opens their eyes to the possibilities of tomorrow."

The 2018 Strategic Plan has been streamlined to include a vision, mission, guiding principle and five strategic priorities and initiatives (SPIs). The SPIs are targeted to academic success in five parts: 1) creating a modern learning experience, 2) recruiting quality teachers, 3) teacher and student well-being, 4) best use of partner talent

and 5) resources and fiscal responsibility.

"You can see the Strategic Plan in action across the District," Hardin-Bartley adds. "Our teams, administrators and Board members stand firmly committed to providing and achieving nothing less than excellence. The lines of communication remain open. Thank you for your feedback!"

For more details about the new 2018 Strategic Plan, please visit www.ucityschools.org/strategicplan.

National Ambassador for Young Peoples' Literacy Visits Local Libraries

Best-selling children's book author and National Ambassador for Young Peoples' Literacy, Jacqueline Woodson, visited University City on Sept. 10. First, she addressed a group of her biggest fans, first-grade students from The School District of University City. Afterwards, she stopped by Brittany Woods Middle School to speak about her new middle-grade novel, "Harbor Me," and her passion for reading and storytelling. She began her literary tour at the St. Louis Public Library's Central Branch the Sunday prior.

The position of National Ambassador is bestowed bi-annually by Congress to honor individuals who have made substantial literary contributions for youth. Woodson spoke to her platform, "READING = HOPE x CHANGE," and discussed her new books, "Harbor Me" and "The Day You Begin."

"The Day You Begin," tells of a child's first encounters with diversity: those things that set us apart and things we share. Woodson and illustrator Rafael Lopez take the reader on a journey of discovery and the realization that we aren't all as different as we might think.

According to Tracy Hinds, District curriculum coordinator for English language arts and social studies, the author visit was made possible by Penguin Random House and coordinated by Karen Young of University City Public Library in partnership with SLPL.

"We are excited that our first-graders got front row seats to



Renowned author Jacqueline Woodson spoke with elementary students at University City Public Library (photo above) and middle school students at Brittany Woods Middle School.

Ms. Woodson's reading of "The Day You Begin," Hinds said. "This was a perfect opportunity to ignite interest in reading and to expose our students to an author of color who tells stories with relatable and diverse groups of characters."

Woodson's books are available to check out at both libraries. If adding to your home collection or to make a donation to help buy classroom sets, contact, "Eye See Me" bookstore in University City at (314) 349-1122.

From our Superintendent of Schools



Sharonica Hardin-Bartley
Superintendent

Dear University City Families,

It is so exciting to welcome our students, teachers, parents and community back to a brand new school year! As you will see in this issue of PRIDE, we are very intentional in the way we plan our back-to-school transition, instruction and partnership initiatives for our students.

Speaking for my own family, the summer really flew by in what often seemed like a blur of camp dates for our first-grader, and a hectic schedule of retreats and training sessions for our administrative teams and partners.

While we all took time to rest and recharge, our educators found ways to stay engaged all throughout the summer. With partner support, we made the most of opportunities to tap into new resources, to learn new skills and to enhance skills that will enable us to move forward with great velocity and purpose during this school year.

“It’s extremely gratifying when you can start the year feeling empowered and heroic!”

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

And now, here we are at the beginning of a school year. We will introduce brand new initiatives – and we will see rolling initiatives in action – that positively transform the way we teach and the way students learn!

Historically, we began the school year by reviewing spring test scores and planning a public meeting to discuss the data. Although this process is still in our plan, we were advised by administrators with the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (MoDESE) that spring test scores would not be available until October. But, we are not waiting. We are problematizing – looking for real world solutions!

For those who have been watching our progress, problematizing is one of three (3) pillars that we identified two years ago as part of Learning Reimagined and now it is in action in our schools. We have prioritize three (3) key education initiatives in an effort to produce the best possible outcomes for our students academic success, health and wellbeing, and problem-based skill-building. In unique and exciting ways, our teachers and partners are working to

1) personalize lessons to the individual student; 2) humanize our relationships with one-another; and 3) problematize real-world issues, breaking them down in order to teach problem-solving skills.

I made a point to travel to every school and to nearly every classroom on the first day of school. I was thrilled, and actually a bit in awe, by how our teachers and staff were and are displaying and demonstrating the power of Learning Reimagined. Teachers are building community across all grade levels as they arrange classrooms into circles for face-to-face sharing. Schools have created bulletin boards with dynamic messages of support that emphasize our Opening Day “Superheroes” mantra: “Superheroes save the day. Super educators save tomorrow.” It’s extremely gratifying when you can start the year feeling empowered and heroic!

Our high school has been hosting grade-level family meetings to build community and create a bond with students, as the work begins to help them prepare for their futures. In late August, sixth-graders kicked off the year with a three-day camp experience at Trout Lodge, which has been a long-standing tradition in our district. We truly could not have asked for a better start to the new school year!

I want to thank our board members, administrators, teachers, staff, parents and partners for your support now and going forward. I invite the U. City community to please attend our exceptional theatrical productions, concerts, and other public events like our second annual STEM EXPO (Wednesday, Nov. 28, 6 p.m.; details at www.ucityschools.org/STEMExpo) and, of course, our annual Homecoming Parade (Saturday, Oct. 13, 10 a.m.; details including parade route, at www.ucityschools.org/Homecoming2018). And, if you have not considered U. City Schools as a choice for your child, I invite you to come check us out during our “See Our Schools” week (Nov. 6-8; more details available on the back cover of this PRIDE issue).

Great work will come to fruition this year and I am sure you will like what UC!

In service to our children,

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

From our Board of Education



Joanne Soudah
Board of Education
President

Dear University City Families and Friends,

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year! Every year since I was five years old, I have loved the feeling of anticipation that a new school year brings. New things to learn, and new relationships to make...friends for a year (or sometimes a lifetime!), teachers who teach and inspire, things that you always wanted to learn about, and things you never knew you never knew!

This year is bursting with promise as we bring exciting programs and initiatives to our district. Our Strategic Plan is in its final stages and is guiding our work as a district as we seek to prepare all students to graduate college and career-ready. Learning Reimagined continues to inform the work of the District as we work to transform the life of every student every day. Our partnership with Wyman has launched, allowing us to look at how our system delivers what students at every level need to be successful in every way. Just as classroom instruction is guided by standards and goals, so is The School District of University City. Here are the goals that the Board and Administration have identified to guide our work:

1. Provide students with learning experiences that allow them to problem solve, create, design, build, advocate and communicate with the world beyond the classroom.
2. Create a culture of excellence where students see themselves as capable learners, citizens, and leaders - now and in the future.
3. Create a system where both qualitative and quantitative data are analyzed and used to create a sense of urgency and to improve the holistic growth of our children.
4. Create a culture where staff feel supported, valued, and have the confidence and skills to implement the vision of Learning Reimagined.
5. Create a communication plan that captures and communicates the story of Learning Reimagined and invites stakeholders to participate.

Thank you for being our partners in education. Here’s to a wonderful 2018-2019 school year!

Joanne Soudah
Joanne Soudah

The personal opinions expressed in this article may not reflect that of the entire school board.

Meet our School Board Members



Joanne Soudah
President

*Liaison to Pershing
Elementary School*



Kristine Hendrix
Vice President

*Liaison to
Barbara C. Jordan
Elementary School*



Chelsea Addison
Secretary

*Liaison to University
City High School*



Dominic Bryant
*Student
Representative*

*University City
High School*



Lisa Brenner, Ph.D.
Director

*Liaison to Brittany
Woods Middle School*



LaVerne Ford-Williams
Director

*Liaison to Flynn Park
Elementary School*



Tracy Gritsenko
Director

*Liaison to Julia
Goldstein ECEC,
Lieberman Learning
Center and Adult
Education &
Literacy Program*



George Lenard
Director

*Liaison to Jackson
Park Elementary
School*

Board Meeting Information

The date, time and location of sessions and meetings for The School District of University City’s Board of Education are posted on the District and school website calendars at www.ucityschools.org. Agendas are posted at www.ucityschools.org/BoardDocs, 24 hours prior to each meeting. Minutes are posted upon Board approval. Live-stream recordings are available at www.ucityschools.org/ULive and uploaded to BoardDocs.

Community members are encouraged to attend Board work sessions and meetings at the McNair Building, 8136 Groby Road (63130). Citizen comments are heard during Board meetings and work sessions.

For more details (including the process for becoming a Board member, Board governance goals and District policies), visit www.ucityschools.org/BOE.

To communicate with a Board members, please contact Juli Ward, executive administrative assistant via email (jward@ucityschools.org), phone (314) 290-4002 or fax (314) 290-4076; or mail/deliver correspondence to Board Member Name, c/o The School District of University City, 8136 Groby Road, University City, MO 63130.

A Message from District CFO Scott Hafertepe

“Big Picture” Insight into District’s Operating Budget

It’s hard to believe that our Destination U. City planning process was completed 11 years ago! It was during that process that we worked with our community to develop a seven-year financial plan. I’m pleased to say that we are now in year 11 of that same budget plan, and we continue to look for ways to stretch our revenue streams without going to taxpayers for additional funding. We plan to continue on this path next school year.

It’s been a challenging 11 years, as the District has had to navigate several obstacles, e.g. the housing crises, which impacted our property tax revenue; declining enrollment, which decreased State Formula revenue; and funding cuts through our Federal Title programs. Despite these challenges, we’ve tightened our belt, thereby ensuring we maintain programs that directly impact our students. We’ve also improved our competitiveness with salaries and benefits – in keeping with the high value we place on attracting and retaining quality teachers and staff.

We have been able to accomplish all of this by taking a conservative approach to spending. We’ve consolidated our operations to reflect our enrollment, bid and negotiated numerous contracts, taken advantage of energy-savings opportunities and, most importantly, used the zero-based budgeting approach to evaluate how our money is spent.

We are also privileged to have a strong and growing core of District partners, including the members of the University City Education Foundation (UCEF). The UCEF helps offset the costs of supplies, materials and equipment that benefit our students and teachers directly.

District financial planning is a team effort and we work hard to earn our community’s trust and respect with how we handle our funds. We will continue to prioritize our spending to ensure it targets the areas that benefit our students the most. If you have questions along the way, please call me at (314) 290-4008 or email shafertepe@ucityschools.org.



Scott Hafertepe
Chief Financial Officer

New Faces in New Places

The new school year brought new administrators to The School District of University City. Paula Sams, Ed.S., joined as interim principal at Barbara C. Jordan Elementary School, and Catherine (Cate) Pautsch, Ph.D., is the new dean of students and instruction at Brittany Woods Middle School.

Sams retired after dedicating 35 years to public education, most in the Normandy School District as an elementary teacher, and then as an administrator. She joined Lindenwood University as an adjunct professor in 2008, introducing soon-to-be administrators to the tools and duties of their profession. Other academic achievements include life certifications in K-8 and Elementary Administration, a B.A. in child development from Spelman College, an Ed.S. from Lindenwood and an M.A.Ed. from Washington University in St. Louis. She also continues to work toward her Ed.D. at Maryville University. Sams brings a sense of confidence and professionalism to the workplace; she holds her staff to that same high level of expectation.

Pautsch joined the BWMS team last school year. Her obvious devotion to children, coupled with strong leadership skills, has enabled her to make significant progress in just a short period of time. Upon joining the BWMS team last January, Pautsch worked primarily with sixth-grade students in an administrative capacity, building a great rapport with students and their families. She developed a strong partnership with teachers and administrators before accepting her current role as dean of students and instruction. With almost 15 years of experience in education, Pautsch has exemplary qualifications including a Ph.D. in educational leadership and policy analysis from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She understands academic content and curriculum and she has demonstrates a great capacity to lead. Her previous roles include teacher, education and career pathways coordinator, principal intern and assistant principal.



Paula Sams,
Ed.S., M.A.Ed.,
*Interim Principal at
Barbara C. Jordan
Elementary School*



**Catherine
Pautsch, Ph.D.,**
*Dean of Students
and Instruction at
Brittany Woods
Middle School*

Meyer Earns the 2018 Ira Herskowitz Alumni Teacher Recognition Award

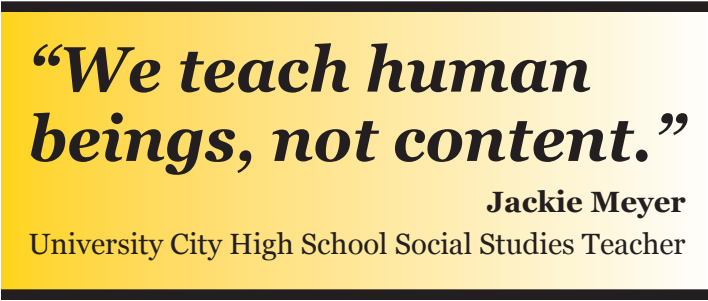
University City High School (UCHS) social studies teacher Jackie Meyer is the 2018 recipient of the Ira Herskowitz UCHS Alumni Teacher Recognition Award, sponsored by the University City Education Foundation. Meyer, a 28-year veteran educator, received a \$1,000 personal award and a \$500 grant to be used for supplemental teaching materials in her classroom.

This recognition was conceived by the late Ira Herskowitz, a 1963 UCHS graduate, geneticist and a dedicated teacher. His family continues to support the Award as a way to show appreciation, on an annual basis for a UCHS teacher who has contributed to the growth and development of students, and to emphasize the value and importance of teaching as a career. Nominations for Award recipients are solicited from UCHS students. A committee, including students, then makes the determination.

“We are proud to honor Jackie Meyer in the tradition set forth by the Herskowitz family,” UCEF President Nancy Mozier said. “The award is truly special in that it is initiated by students and designed to highlight the importance of the teacher/student relationship in positively impacting growth and development.”

“I am deeply humbled to receive this honor,” Meyer expressed upon receiving the Award. “I remember when it was first started. Our teachers really understand and respect the family’s purpose in recognizing the role that teachers play in children’s lives. So, when the Award comes around, it is treated as something special,” she continued.

“There is nothing better than to be recognized by a student...We teach human beings, not content. We try to build our students up in every way,



UCHS teacher Jackie Meyer (right) thanks senior Kayla Merrill (center) and UCEF President Nancy Mozier (left) for the 2018 Ira Herskowitz UCHS Alumni Teacher Award.

their brains, their hearts; we work with the whole student.”

UCHS Senior Kayla Merrill agrees and shared the sentiment in nominating Meyer. Since

her sophomore year, Kayla has maintained a close relationship with Meyer. “She is just the best person and has always been there for me. When I was struggling, she was a friend. I just really value our relationship.” Kayla, who sometimes eats lunch with her favorite teacher, advises new students, “She (Meyer) can seem a bit tough, but in reality, she is extremely kind and wants what is best for you.” In other words, “She knows what’s up!”

Meyer says she plans to use her new classroom funds to, “jump fully into project-based learning. It will require a lot of supplies as we create more inside the classroom. I would also like to take more field trips, expanding learning outside the classroom.”

To make a donation in support of the Herskowitz Award, contact UCEF at (314) 290-4002 or ucef@ucityschools.org.

Nevils Honored by St. Louis American’s Salute to Excellence

On Sept. 29, 2018, University City High School (UCHS) English teacher Dorthea Nevils received one of the greatest honors of her 30-year career at the St. Louis American Foundation’s 31st Salute to Excellence in Education Scholarship Gala at the America’s Center. In addition to honoring individual leaders in education, more than \$1 million in scholarships were presented to area high school students.

The award-winning St. Louis American newspaper began the Salute to Excellence tradition as a way of bringing the community together to raise funds for scholarships for qualifying students. Awardees are nominated by their peers. This year, Nevils was front and center at the Salute Gala.

“This is an honor and a blessing,” Nevils said. “It’s just great to be recognized by all my peers and by my principal, Michael Peoples. It was completely unexpected and very humbling...I am always everyone’s cheerleader, happy to clap for others. It’s so nice to get a little of that back.”

According to Superintendent Sharonica Hardin-Bartley, “We are all so very proud of Dorthea and we appreciate the St. Louis American for allowing us to share in this event.”

At one time, for the selection of staff superlatives, Nevils was chosen to be the “most likely to see the good in others” as well as “most inspirational.” And, through the years, this is precisely what she has done for generations of students, including the children of former classmates.

She vividly remembers her first day of teaching; walking into her classroom as a 21-year-old, dressed for success and determined to make a difference. She grew up in University City at a time when there were many opportunities for African Americans. With a smile, this 1984 UCHS alum shared, “We looked up to teachers and preachers!” Her father was a pastor and her mother (now 90) provided Nevils and her siblings with a life filled with blessings. “She (mother) reminded me to always set a good example of success for my students saying, ‘Children can’t be what they can’t see. Never let up. Don’t forget who you are and don’t try to be like everybody else!’”

Anyone who has ever met Nevils will tell you that she is unlike anyone else. She is truly one of a kind; from her unique style with coordinating shoes, head wraps and purses to the way she engages students.

Nevils says that she learned her greatest lesson as a teacher during that first year. “I encountered a student who did not want to receive information. No matter how kind or patient I was, nothing worked and he failed.”

So, Nevils had a candid talk with that student and she ended with this, “When you fail, I fail too.” The next semester, that same student raised his



During class, Nevils captures her audience’s attention with bold facial expressions and emphatic hands gestures.

grade from an “F” to a “B,” which gave the young teacher a great success story to draw upon down the road.

Nevils has encountered others like that young man from her first year of teaching. But, she has also seen many students who come to class eager to learn and engage. Over the years, she has developed the ability to challenge all students to be their best. Simply put, “I take it personally. It’s personal to me that every one of my students tries his or her best to succeed.”

She also says, “Every day, I embrace the three pillars in our district’s Learning Reimagined concept (personalize instruction, humanize interactions and problematize to find solutions to real world issues). They go with the seven miniature posters I have in my classroom that speak to norms like, ‘Respect others and treat them as you would have them treat you. Be appropriate at all times.’ I try to incorporate these (norms) into my life every day and help my students incorporate them into their lives.”

Nevils acknowledges that students have changed over the years. Students’ attitudes about education, and just about every thing else, are a reflection of the times. She believes that teaching must adapt to change in times in order to protect what she describes as the, “climate of culture and family and academic excellence” – that is to say, the UCHS legacy.

“Teachers must continue to help parents reinforce key values; the idea of work ethic (study habits) and personal responsibility, which are all so important to success.” But she adds, “(We need to) have enough community (members) holding up the standards...values never go out of style, (they) never become old fashioned.”

U. City Alumnus David Bass Gives Back

“You get out what you put in.” That’s the message on the back of t-shirts worn proudly by young campers at the David Bass ABC Football Camp. It’s just one of the inspirational quotes that the camp founder uses to motivate and inspire young people wherever he goes.

New York Jets linebacker David Bass graduated from University City High School (UCHS) Class of 2008 and he always likes to surround himself with positive messages. As a child growing up in University City, he said he “used to put quotes and signs everywhere! Over my bed (at his mother’s house) there is still a picture of a kid with a basketball holding a book – to remind me that school work is important.”

On July 7, 2018, Bass made that point and he shared other words of wisdom with about 150 young people, ages seven to 15, who met on the UCHS football field for a half-day of programmed activities. Bass coordinated all the details, and donors rallied to provide t-shirts, a bounce house, snow cones and food (courtesy of Brentwood’s Chick-fil-A).

Bass, along with recruited camp officials that included pro-athletes, has hosted football camps in other cities. This, however, was his first time hosting a camp at his alma mater. Tyler Davis, Canadian Football League wide receiver, and Gavin Alfred, a UCHS classmate, were just two of the people who pitched in to help Bass out. Half perspiration and half inspiration: The David Bass ABC Football Camp was one way that Bass could give back to U. City with pride.

Using his platform in the NFL, Bass hopes to positively influence children to work hard and dream big. “It puts me in a position of respect,” he said. “I can talk to a kid and rationalize that his dream is my reality. Kids don’t always listen to their teachers, even though teaching is one of the toughest jobs there is. I can come in and talk, and they’ll listen.” And, Bass, who works hard every day to stay on top of his game, has a lot to say.

The 27-year-old began his professional football career in 2013 with the Oakland Raiders. He was picked up by the Chicago Bears shortly thereafter, playing with the Bears until 2015. He then played with the Tennessee Titans and the Seattle Seahawks before signing with the New York Jets in 2017.

After signing with the Jets, Bass felt he had beat the odds to get to the NFL. “When I get the kids in camp,” he explained, “I am honest. Not everybody is going to make it...there are millions of kids (across the country) who are playing (football).

If you are not grinding, it’s not going to happen. You’ve got to work for it – (you’re) on the field at night, in the morning, weekends. You’ve got to work. It’s not going to just happen.”

“Look at me,” he tells children, “I am from a single-parent home. We didn’t have the finances to go to camps. We went to the U. City Rec (University City Recreational Center now known as Centennial Commons), paid our \$5 and went in.”

Now in his fifth year of playing pro-football, Bass credits much of his success to his mother’s parenting, because she taught her two sons to put their education first. He continued, “We stayed out of trouble, that’s how mom raised us. We had a balance of fun and work.” When she saw school work slipping, “she would literally shut everything down.” Shaking his head, Bass added, “You would not play in that game if you weren’t doing well.”

As a young athlete, Bass learned one of his most important life lessons when he was a senior at UCHS. “College recruiters were trying to get (NCAA) Clearinghouse (eligibility) and a 17 on the ACT wasn’t going to work for Division I. My GPA wasn’t high enough. I had one semester to make everything happen – to turn the switch on and get this started!”

But Bass’ story wasn’t one of those “come from behind for the win” stories. He didn’t make the Division I cut. “It was the first time I realized that everything ain’t always gonna go your way,” reflected Bass. “I earned a 3.4 GPA in college. I realized then that there was no reason I couldn’t have done that in high school...Right then, my mindset changed.”

Bass graduated from Missouri Western State University, an NCAA Division II school, in 2013 with a degree in criminal justice. “All 32 teams came through over the course of a season,” he noted. “They were scouting me and running back Michael Hill.”

Had he not made it to the NFL, Bass said that he would work in a people-oriented field like marketing or he would pursue a career in line with his criminal justice degree, working as a probation officer or counselor.

But for now – married and a father of a young daughter – Bass said he’ll keep playing the game “as long as God will let me play. I want to provide for my family and live the lifestyle I want. I (also) want to take this platform I’ve been given and make a difference. If I never play another game, I will know that I will have done something good for the community and for these kids.”



Greyson Christian Photography





Students Celebrate General John Pershing

Clad in period dress, Tom Hoff, a museum educator for St. Louis County Parks, retold the story of the great General John J. Pershing to about 400 Pershing Elementary School students on Sept. 13, 2018. This special event was organized to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the end of WWI and the birthday of the military hero who famously laid the school’s cornerstone on Dec. 22, 1919. The students were enthralled by Hoff, whose presentation capped off a week of lessons honoring the school’s namesake and legacy.

This cross-curricular program was coordinated by Pershing Elementary’s Principal Herbert Buie, along with teacher instructional leaders, Deitra Colquitt and Jessica Hawkins. It was inspired by local historian and sponsor, University City resident Mark Winer. As Winer explained, “I wanted Pershing students to learn about (General) Pershing’s life and legacy



Mark Winer
University City
Resident

and how important he was to the rise of African-American soldiers in WWI.” And he quipped, “It’s also a great excuse to have cake and ice cream!” Winer’s vision for this “birthday party” included a series of cakes bearing the likeness of General Pershing and his troops!

General Pershing was born in the small rural town of Laclede, Mo. He was extremely bright, becoming a teacher right after high school. He taught basic studies to local African-American children before heading to the State Normal School (now Truman State University) in Kirksville, Mo. After graduating from college, he went on to attend West Point and ultimately to pursue a military career. General Pershing was known for his strategic fighting skills; and he cleared the way for highly-trained African-American troops, e.g., the Buffalo Soldiers and the Harlem Hell-fighters, who were among the most decorated soldiers of WWI.

On Sept. 13, Pershing students explored many details of General Pershing’s 1919 visit to lay the school cornerstone, including the engraved trowel he used. This trowel is still a part of the school’s history collection. Although the school was completely rebuilt and rededicated in August 2012, the 1919 cornerstone remains on site. “Although our school has changed over these past 100 years, the name Pershing carries a special meaning,” Buie asserted. “And we are excited to explore the General’s legacy with our students.”

General Pershing proved to be a true military hero, achieving the highest rank possible: General of the Armies of the United States. He was the only living General to have been authorized to choose his own insignia, which, in his case, was four gold stars.

For more details including photos, visit www.ucityschools.org/PershingBDay2018.

Special thanks to the following event collaborators: Mark Winer, local historian and sponsor; Sue Rehkopf, local historical archivist; Tom Hoff, museum educator for St. Louis County Parks; Jim Adams, owner of Catalyst Strength and Functional Nutrition; and Chef Robert Rusan of Ruff’s Kitchen, in partnership with Letishia Robinson.



Tom Hoff
Museum Educator for
St. Louis County Parks



UCHS AFJROTC Color Guard Commander Angela Smith (not shown) and Cadet Group Commander Dominic Bryant (above) greeted students before opening the school-wide assembly with the Presentation of Colors (flags).

Partners in Progress: Support the Success of Students Across the District

Having worked with administrative teams in The School District of University City including Opening Day for staff and the National Night Out/Back-to-School Rally in August, District partners are teaming-up to develop strong supports for students and staff. Here are some highlights:

Wyman Offers Wraparound Services and Support

Wyman’s senior vice president of Partnerships, Joe Miller, added four, full-time team members assigned to help schools make the best use of the resources provided to The School District of University City.

“Our starting point is to assess and build relationships with all existing service providers and work with building leaders and leadership teams to figure out what’s there and what needs to be there,” Miller says. “In order to maximize the resources coming into the District, we will create a baseline; coordinate alignment, accountability and equity, and bring in solutions.” The team is also working on building teacher capacity through training and support services in targeted areas. “Yes, we are student-focused, but you only get to student impact via adults.”

“Teacher wellness plus student relationships equals student achievement.”

Joe Miller
Wyman’s Senior Vice President of Partnership

Wyman is a St. Louis-based, youth-development organization that empowers students from economically disadvantaged circumstances to lead successful lives and build strong communities. The U. City Wyman team includes Wraparound Services building directors Karen Bernstein, Nikole Shurn, Heather Fullerton and Toni Schatte, an AmeriCorps VISTA (volunteers in service to America). These educators are trained and prepared to coordinate critical services: partner-sponsored programs, materials and supplies in support of student success in the home, school and community. Wyman also operates the Brittany Woods Middle School’s Teen Outreach Program.

Project Restore Supports Teens and Families



Jointly sponsored by The Department of Health and St. Louis County, Project Restore currently provides teen support including mentoring and tutoring services. The team kicked off the school year at Brittany Woods Middle School with a barbecue for families and targeted training for teachers.

“Thanks to Project Restore, we were able to bring in experts from the International Institute of Restorative Practices (IIRP) to facilitate restorative practices training for 180 staff members,” Gary Spiller, executive director of Student and Innovative Services, said. “Building better understandings of how to handle challenges at the secondary-school level will help us better serve our students.”

“The IIRP is one of the greatest resources available to us and we are extremely fortunate to be able to work with their team,” Spiller added. “In late September, they returned to expand on information about restorative circles and how this concept can help restore relationships and clear a path to academic success.”



Wyman’s Wraparound Services are being provided across the District by (above: left to right) high school director Heather Fullerton, elementary director Karen Bernstein, senior vice president Joe Miller, preschool and middle school director Nikole Shurn; along with Toni Schatte (not pictured). Wyman’s Teen Outreach Program (right) team supports National Night Out/Back-to-School Rally. New teachers (below) practice a restorative circle with Superintendent Sharonica Hardin-Bartley (center).



America’s Promise Helps Create Trauma-Informed Strategies

Alive and Well Communities of St. Louis is an innovation site for the America’s Promise Healthy Schools Initiative. Alive and Well staff is presently on-site in University City and in two other local school districts.

Emily Luft, program director for Alive and Well, explains, “We are working with each school in University City, including Julia Goldstein and the Lieberman Learning Center, to help staff become more trauma informed to better serve their students.”

She states that understanding trauma and its impact is key to success for today’s students. Research clearly shows the prevalence of trauma is incredibly high among young people today. Abuse, neglect or other problems in the home along with poverty, bullying and community violence all are forms of trauma. “Trauma is not new, but our awareness and understanding of its impact are,” Luft says.

With grant funding and support from this new initiative, the program is offering targeted training to teachers and staff. “We are shifting the culture and systems and policies inside school to make schools safe places for kids to come to learn.” Luft adds, “Every building is presently designing its own priority and action plans focused on the well-being of staff, adult self-care

and building adult resilience as well as providing staff members new tools and strategies to use with kids.”

University City High School (UCHS) Latin teacher Matthew Tuths has studied the principles of Restorative Justice and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports. He is part of a resilience team that meets once a month at UCHS. This intensive, three-day training offered Tuths and the team a look into brain science.

“It was a good starting point in helping us learn how to best support our students (or adults) who need to understand what is happening inside their brains to understand why we behave and respond to stress as we do,” he said. “Once you understand the ‘why,’ then you can understand how to change your response to stress.”

Tuths is already putting his new learning to work in class. “I was working to help some seminar students understand what happens in high stress situations and the next step is to come up with specific strategies for de-escalation and self-regulation.” And all of that, Tuths says, comes with understanding.

“Healthy adults can help build healthy students,” Luft adds. “There is a strong body of research that suggests that trauma can negatively impact the developing



RESTORATIVE QUESTIONS

Respond to Challenging Behavior

What happened?
What were you thinking about at the time?
What have you thought about since?
Who has been affected by what you have done and — in what way?
What do you think you need to do to make things right?

When Someone Has Been Harmed

What did you think when you realized what had happened?
What impact has this incident had on you and others?
What has been the hardest thing for you?
What needs to happen to make things right?

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF UNIVERSITY CITY
Adapted from International Institute for Restorative Practices

brains and bodies of our students. They feel a lot of stress around the demand on academic performance in addition to all the other things they have in their lives. That stress for kids, particularly those who don’t have enough strong support systems, can take a toll.”

But, trauma does not discriminate. All students are exposed in some way or another. “Community violence is the thing our kids are exposed to at early ages,” Luft says. “There is a developing body of science that suggests that exposures to adverse news stories and social media can impact the experience of trauma, anecdotally high school-aged students will say that what’s happening on their phones and on social media. It follows them into the building and makes it harder to learn.”

Luft adds, “Our work is designed to help make students more resilient and capable of learning and connecting and growing into the healthy young people we want them to be.”

University City is joined by Pattonville and Ritenour School Districts in piloting the America’s Promise Initiative.



At the end of their sophomore year, qualifying University City High School students from the Class of 2020 signed commitment contracts to participate in the Early College Experience. For more information about the initiative, visit the Guidance Department at www.ucityschools.org/UCHS.

Early College Experience Brings “College-Ready” to a New Level

University City High School has partnered with St. Louis Community College to develop an innovative, challenging curriculum. The program implements supports for both students and faculty to offer students the opportunity to earn college credit while in high school.

The University City Early College Experience (UCECE) is based on a radical concept:

challenge, not remediation, intended to motivate students to complete high school and pursue college. An accelerated program of study – one that combines substantial college-level work while earning a high school diploma – not only will motivate greater numbers of students to excel, but will graduate them “college-ready,” prepared for the rigors of

post-secondary education.

Significant financial savings embedded in the design—to both individuals and society—makes the UCECE a worthwhile investment. Here, college courses are offered at no cost to students, so that with the challenge of the college work comes the opportunity to save time and money while earning a post-secondary degree.

Bonds Form at Sixth-Grade Camp

One week into the start of school, 105 sixth-graders from Brittany Woods Middle School (BWMS) boarded school buses for the nearly two-hour ride to Trout Lodge in Potosi, Mo. For many, this three-day adventure was a first camp experience and the first time away from home.

It was also a first for Cate Pautsch, the new BWMS dean of students and instruction. “They had only been in school for five days at this point, so they were all just getting to know each other and their teachers.”

Upon arrival, the students immediately went to lunch. Groups began setting the tables and bringing food out so that they could all eat family-style in the camp’s mess hall. After lunch, campers were divided into six teams and as Pautsch said, “Jumped right into activities such as archery, water economy, ropes course, compass navigating skills and team-building. It was quite an extensive set of activities and everyone was able to try them out.”

The first day ended with everyone sitting around a campfire, reflecting on the day’s events and making s’mores. They eventually settled into dorm-like cabins, but even then, Pautsch added, “They were ‘on’ 24-7! There was very little quiet time!”

On day two, Pautsch was particularly excited to see the learning that came from the team-building obstacle course. “It required engaging everyone on their team in two-hours of problem-solving, selecting leaders, listing everyone’s skills and applying that to the solution,” she said. “It was really neat to see them work through the process as a team...their perseverance in action and then how proud they were when they made it through. There is something really joyful and wonderful about seeing the curiosity and excitement when children experience something new. There were also relationships forming among the students and between teachers and students, which was really something special to see.”

To see more camp photos, visit www.ucityschools.org/BWMS.



During sixth-grade camp at Trout Lodge, students continue exploring, learning, problem-solving and team-building. These bonding experiences will help them throughout their secondary educational career.



Students Earn Credits Through Launch

University City High School (UCHS) announces “Launch,” a new online partnership for students wanting to personalize their studies. District students may select online courses that fit their individual interests and earn high school credits in both traditional and online settings simultaneously – at no cost to the student’s family.

“Launch is a great breakthrough in modern learning,” said Robert Dillon, Ed.D., District executive director of Technology and Innovative Learning. “It gives students a chance to have a voice in their education by allowing them to design a course schedule that is targeted to their personal goals.”

Launch offers more than 60 course options that extend the traditional high school offerings in basic, AP and specialized courses.

For more information, contact UCHS Launch Coordinator Robert Dillon at rdillon@ucityschools.org or (314) 290-4097.

University City High School - Class of 1975

Jeffrey Charles Anderson

Bass • Sax • Piano • Director • Composer • Teacher

2018-19 Returning Artist

Reception

Wednesday,
November 14, 2018

7 pm

Pruitt Library Media Center
University City High School
7401 Balson Avenue (63130)
Use Jackson Avenue Entrance

11.14.18



Sponsored by the University City Commission on Arts and Letters
in partnership with The School District of University City



District Trains Teachers to Lead Other Teachers to Improve Instruction

The Instructional Leadership Academy (ILA) includes about 25 select secondary teacher-leaders who meet monthly to build expertise, analyze data, share best practices and review educational findings for the overall good of the education program in The School District of University City.

“These leaders represent a significant segment of our instructional leaders and include facilitators and Instructional Team Leaders (ITL), those tapped to guide others,” said Ian Buchanan, assistant superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction (C & I). “ILA is a targeted professional development (PD) program designed to help build leadership capacity to have a greater impact on other middle and high school teachers and, ultimately, student outcomes.”

“For me, it wasn’t so much about me being a leader; I’m just guiding,” said Jenna Mueller, a sixth-grade ITL at Brittany Woods Middle School. “We talked a lot about different things in our professional development sessions and bringing it back to everyone is just like, ‘Here’s what we talked about and how do we work together to use these things.’ So, it’s more of a collaboration...I’m just facilitating the direction we were going – really listening to them and figuring out what they need, or what we need as a whole, to be successful.”

Buchanan said that ILA will continue to focus on three specific leadership areas: 1) instructional, 2) operational / organizational and 3) intrapersonal / interpersonal leadership and expanding their role in their professional learning communities (PLC). “This is where these key leaders develop the skills needed to better guide their teams through meetings and planning along with test-data analysis and review.”

Team planning includes monthly Instructional Mondays and PD days. “These Mondays give our leaders the time and space to collaborate with their peers and with the C & I staff.” Buchanan added. “We work together to examine evidence of student learning or improvement in teacher practice by studying student improvement data (tests, work samples and other evidence of student learning) and finding out which methods are proving effective for our students.”

“This whole experience (ILA) has been about working with my team



University City High School Principal Mike Peoples presents to Instructional Team Leaders regarding collaboration and best practices for their teams.

to solve problems together and find solutions to things they have been frustrated about,” Kacie Miller, English Language Arts ITL at BWMS, said. “I’m a go-between for teachers and administrators to make them feel empowered in their teaching and in what’s going on (in the classroom).”

“Our teachers work with our students every day... it’s our job, to support them so that they can be their best selves for our students.”

Ian Buchanan
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

Making time for collaboration helps the teacher leaders share concerns and best practices and, in some cases, build their own capacity for leadership. “Typically, in a leadership role you feel you have to be the one in charge.” Muller continued, “...that your voice is the one that needs to be heard. In ILA, it’s about listening and being able to collaborate with everyone else. There is an understanding that I am not different from the group, I am just a part of the group. I’m relaying information – bringing it back to

them (teachers) and then figuring out how we can use that information to best fit our needs and the needs of our students.”

Rubina McCadney, Science ITL at BWMS, said that standing in front of peers is not always easy, “I’m a leader with kids, but I was kind of scared to put myself out there to lead other teachers it was like, ‘Oh, can I do it?’ ILA is showing me that I can. I’m growing. I will continue to grow.”

“Our teachers work with our students every day,” Buchanan summarized. “We (C & I team) believe it’s our job, as a department, to support them (teachers) and help build capacity so that they can be their best selves for our students.”

Nominations Are Open for 2018-19 District Awards

The School District of University City is accepting nominations for the following annual awards. More details including nomination forms, processes and lists of past recipients are available online.

- **Dr. Martin Luther King Spirit Award:**
www.ucityschools.org/MLK - due first Friday in December
- **UCHS Hall of Fame** (2019 induction cycle):
www.ucityschools.org/HOF - due last Friday in January of odd years
- **U. City Teacher of the Year:**
www.ucityschools.org/TOY - due last Friday in January
- **U. City Educational Support Person of the Year:**
www.ucityschools.org/ESPOY - due last Friday in January
- **PACEsetter:**
www.ucityschools.org/PACEsetter - due third Friday in March

More information about District-level awards, along with nomination forms, can be found online at www.ucityschools.org/Nominations.

Community members are welcome to serve on selection committees (excluding MLK, which is selected by the Board of Education), provided they have shown no bias regarding the nominees. If interested, email communications@ucityschools.org or call (314) 290-4001.

CALLING ALL SUPERHEROES!

JOIN US FOR THE MARVEL-OUS HOMECOMING PARADE

University City High School Homecoming Parade

October 13, 2018 10:00 AM

Starting at the Loop and along Delmar to Hanley to Balson

Registration and parade route available at www.ucityschools.org/Homecoming2018.

Electronics Recycling Saturday, October 13

Join us for the Electronics Recycling Event from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Oct. 13, (rain or shine) at the Heman Park Community Center, 975 Pennsylvania Ave. (63130).

GREAT NEWS! The first 150 CRT TV/Computer Monitors are FREE thanks to a special grant; and then, only a \$20 fee will apply for each CRT TV/Computer Monitor. Basically, these include anything with a cord! All other items are free to recycle.

Watch for a mailed announcement with more details.

Want to “Make A Difference?” Saturday, October 27

Make a Difference Day is the largest national day of volunteering and has been held on the fourth Saturday in October since 1990. It was established to help encourage communities and individuals to dedicate one day each year to try to make a difference in their world.

For the sixth consecutive year, the City of University City will be organizing a city-wide effort. This year’s event will be held from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Oct. 27.

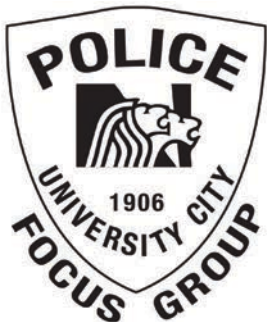
This year’s specific projects for University City community have yet to be determined. Past efforts have included cleaning Olive Boulevard, the River Des Peres, area alleys along with minor exterior home maintenance and yard work at the homes of older residents. More than 100 volunteers have participated in this event.

For more information or to become a volunteer on Make A Difference Day in University City, contact Senior Service Coordinator, Marcia Mermelstein, at mmermelstein@ucitymo.org or call (314) 505-8563.



Police Focus Group – Tuesday, October 23

The University City Police Department’s Focus Group meets each month to discuss important issues in the community and how to improve them. On Tuesday, Oct. 23 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Heman Park Community Center, located at 975 Pennsylvania Ave. (63130) the agenda will feature updates from the police department, as well as presentations from city department leaders. We would love to see you there! For more information, visit ucitymo.org/78/Police-Department.



Trunk or Treat! Friday, October 26

Let’s bring the fun of “Halloween” to Centennial Commons during the second annual “Trunk or Treat!” Halloween event from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 26 at the Heman Pool Parking Lot, located at 7210 Olive Blvd. (63130).

Children up to age 12 will enjoy trick-or-treating with a twist in a safe and fun environment by visiting decorated automobile trunks filled with candy in the parking lot of the Heman Pool. There will be prizes and awards for best costumes and best decorated trunk. Children and families participating do not need to register for this event. It is free and open to the public.

For more information about this event or to reserve your vehicle’s spot, contact Centennial Commons at (314) 505-8628 or email sperry@ucitymo.org.



Stay Safe & Secure

With so many people texting while walking and with newer car engines becoming quieter, the University City Police Department is launching a pedestrian safety program called, “Stop for Me” campaign.

The beginning phase is a Crosswalk Enforcement initiative, during which the UCPD will increase traffic enforcement to protect pedestrians at crosswalks and corners. Drivers and bicyclists are encouraged to become more aware of pedestrians; and motorists more aware of bicyclists.

Flyers with important safety tips for drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians are available at UCPD headquarters, 6801 Delmar Blvd. (63130) and the Centennial Commons lobby, 7210 Olive Blvd. (63130).

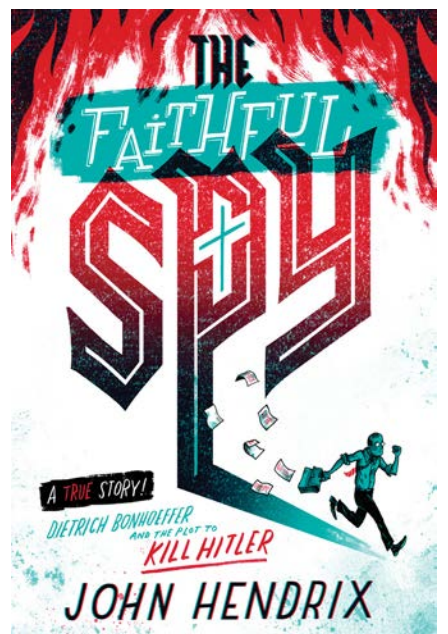


University City Public Library Activities

We’re looking forward to some great new programs this fall at University City Public Library. Now that summer reading has wrapped up, we’re bringing back the Read the Classics book group on the third Tuesday of each month at 2 p.m., and the Orcs & Aliens science fiction and fantasy book group on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m.

UCPL also has a trio of speaking events coming up this fall, starting with author John Hendrix discussing his new juvenile non-fiction book, *The Faithful Spy*, at 6 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 1. Next up is Lorenzo Gonzalez discussing his memoir, *To Return to Cuba*, at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 3. Finally, photographer Marian Brickner will lead a discussion on how to take photos at 11 a.m. Tuesday, on Oct. 9. All events are free and open to the public.

For more information on any of these events, call (314) 727-3150, check out the UCPL website at www.ucitylibrary.org or stop by the Library.



Legal Notices for School Families

The following policies and information important for families are available in parent/student handbooks as well as the District website at www.ucityschools.org/LegalNotices. Please take time to read them. If you have an questions, please contact the office of Communications at (314) 290-4001 or email communications@ucityschools.org.

- **Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)** was signed by President Obama on December 10, 2015, to replace the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2002. ESSA was enacted to ensure educational equity and ultimately, to close the achievement gap. It maintains that all children, no matter where they live, what income level, what type of family unit or what challenges they have – all are entitled to a quality education. ESSA includes:
 - **Title I.A:** Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged
 - **Title II:** Preparing, Training and Recruiting High-Quality Teachers, Principals, and Other School Leaders
 - **Title III:** Language Instruction for English Learners and Immigrant Students
 - **Title IV.A:** 21st Century SchoolsAll are federal programs under ESSA aimed at closing the achievement gap with accountability, flexibility and choice. More details including ESSA’s Parents Right to Know letter and Complaint Procedures are available at www.ucityschools.org/LegalNotices. Any additional questions should be directed to Rebecca Soriano at (314) 290-4020 or via email at rsoriano@ucityschools.org.
- **ADA accommodations:** The School District of University City wants all students, parents, staff and community members to be able to attend and enjoy District events, meetings and activities. For special assistance or accommodations to participate, contact the office of Operations at (314) 290-4044.
- **English Language Learners** are offered appropriate instructional services and content modifications, as needed based on assessments.
- **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):** Parents/guardians and students who are at least 18 years of age have rights regarding education records. FERPA explains these rights and offers a process to file complaints if those rights are violated.
- The **McKinney-Vento Act** protects the rights of school-aged children of homeless and migrant workers. The executive director of Student Services serves as the link between homeless families and school staff, district personnel, shelter workers and social service providers. For more information, call (314) 290-4045.
- **Notice of Non-Discrimination** is printed on the back cover of all issues of PRIDE as well.
- **Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)** affords parents certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes and certain physical exams.
- **Senate Bill 319** calls for early reading assessments, reading improvement plans and student retention.
- **Students with Disabilities** are offered services in partnership with the Special School District of St. Louis County to all eligible children ages 3 to 21, with disabilities, under the District’s jurisdiction.

School Closing Procedures

When inclement weather or other emergency conditions exist, the health and safety of students and staff is the most important consideration. District administrators may decide to close school for the entire District or specific buildings, open schools on a late start schedule or dismiss early. The decision is usually made by 5 a.m. and notifications may begin as early as 5:30 a.m. through the District’s automated phone and email system, website at www.ucityschools.org and social media such as Facebook and Twitter; along with local television and radio stations. Days missed because of school closures are typically made up at the end of the school year as needed.

Opt-In to Keep Informed

The School District of University City is working to expand our communications with alumni, retirees and community partners. If you have not done so already, please consider opting into one or more of the list available at www.ucityschools.org/StayConnected.

Our Dedicated Leaders of The School District of University City

Board of Education

(See page 3 for names and offices of school board directors along with their school-liaison assignments)
8136 Groby Road, 63130314-290-4003

District Administrators

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

Superintendent of Schools
8136 Groby Road, 63130314-290-4002

Ian P. Buchanan, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent

Curriculum and Instructional Services314-290-4020
Robert Dillon, Ed.D., Executive Director
Technology and Innovative Learning 3314-290-4097
Elizabeth Gardner, Director, Instruction314-290-4017

Tiffany E. Slater, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent

Human Resources.....314-290-4021

Scott Hafertepe, Chief Financial Officer

Business and Finance314-290-4008
Gene Kieczkowski (Transpar), Director
Transportation 314-290-4046
Dereon Hill (Chartwells), Director
Food & Nutrition314-290-4068

Karl Scheidt, Executive Director, Operations 314-290-4044

Gary L. Spiller, II, Executive Director

Student and Innovative Services 314-290-4045

CarolAnn Cole, Communications Specialist314-290-4019

Communications & Community Outreach..... 314-290-4001

Ayinda Wayne (FantasTechs), Senior IT Manager314-290-4014

University City Alumni Association314-290-4126

University City Education Foundation 314-290-4037

School Administrators

Crystal Cauley, Director,

Julia Goldstein Early Childhood Education Center
737 Kingsland Ave., 63130 314-721-2965
Parents As Teachers 314-721-4120

Paula Sams, Interim Principal, Barbara C. Jordan Elementary

1500 N. 82nd Blvd., 63132 314-290-4360

Nicalee Wilson, Principal, Flynn Park Elementary

7220 Waterman Ave., 63130 314-290-4420

Rebecca O’Connell, Ed.D., Principal, Jackson Park Elementary

7400 Balson Ave., 63130 314-290-4450

Herbert Buie, Principal, Pershing Elementary

6761 Bartmer Ave., 63130.....314-290-4150

Elliott Shostak, Principal, Brittany Woods Middle

8125 Groby Road, 63130314-290-4280
Assistant Principal: **Ernest Carter**
Dean of Students and Instruction: **Cate Pautsch, Ph.D.**

Michael Peoples, Principal, University City High

7401 Balson Ave., 63130 314-290-4100
Assistant Principals: **Kimberly Austin** and **T-Herbert Jeffrey**
Dean of Students: **Samuel Martin, IV**

Christopher Blumenhorst, Principal, Lieberman Learning Center

8136 Groby Road, 63130 314-290-4330

Program Administrators

Clay Ware, Coordinator, University City Adult Education and Literacy

8136 Groby Road, 63130 314-290-4052

Sandra Cox, Coordinator, K-12 English for Speakers of Other Languages

8136 Groby Road, 63130314-290-4077

University City Board of Education
 Joanne Soudah, President
 Kristine Hendrix, Vice President
 Chelsea Addison, Secretary
 Lisa Brenner, Ph.D., Director
 LaVerne Ford-Williams, Director
 Tracy Gritsenko, Director
 George Lenard, Director

The School District of University City
 Sharonica L. Hardin-Bartley, Ph.D., PHR
Superintendent of Schools
 Lori Willis, *Interim Executive Director of Communications Strategy and Outreach*
 CarolAnn Cole, *Communications Specialist*
 Curtis Conyears, *Communications Specialist*
314-290-4000 • ucityschools.org

Applicants for admission or employment, students, parents of elementary and secondary school students, employees, sources of referral and applicants for employment and all professional organizations that have entered into agreements with The School District of University City are hereby notified that the District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities. In addition, the District provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. Any person having inquiries concerning the District's compliance with the laws and regulations implementing Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), the Age Discrimination Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) or the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act, is directed to the respective Compliance Coordinator listed below, who oversees the School District's efforts to comply with the laws and regulations implementing the laws and regulations cited above. The School District has established grievance procedures for persons unable to resolve problems arising under the statutes above. The School District's Compliance Coordinator will provide information regarding those procedures upon request. Any person who is unable to resolve a problem or grievance arising under any of the laws and regulations cited above may contact the Office for Civil Rights, Region VII, at 8090 Ward Parkway, Suite 2075, Kansas City, Missouri 64114 or 816-268-4550. Adult and Employee Compliance Coordinator: Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, Ronald E. McNair Administrative Building, School District of University City, 8136 Groby Road, University City, MO 63130, 314-290-4021. Student Compliance Coordinator: Director of Student Services, Ronald E. McNair Administrative Building, School District of University City, 8136 Groby Road, University City, MO 63130, 314-290-4045.

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 8136 Groby Road
 University City, MO 63130

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UCITY PRIDE

A publication for and about The School District of University City, Missouri

September 2018

“See Our Schools” Week Opens Doors to Community

Students, parents and staff in The School District of University City have a lot to be proud of in terms of academics, building enhancements and community involvement opportunities. This year, the District will host “See Our Schools” week in early November. This allows the University City community the opportunity to see building improvements, learn more about the academic work ongoing within each building.

Other events, such as the curriculum-specific family nights – STEM EXPO (Nov. 28), plays and concerts provide community members the opportunity to learn more about our schools. Prospective parents are invited to contact their neighborhood school at any time to schedule a meeting with the principal. More details about these events will be posted soon to your school’s website calendar. For more details, call (314) 290-4001 or email communications@ucityschools.org.

The University City community is invited to **November 6-8, 2018**




- Learn about academic programs and extracurricular activities
- Tour school buildings to see where Learning Reimagined happens
- Meet principals, staff, students and parents
- Hear about the great things happening in our schools

in The School District of University City






Back to School!

The School District of University City



Science Technology Engineering Mathematics

Wednesday, November 28
 6-7:30 p.m.
Brittany Woods Middle School
 8125 Groby Road (63130)

Come and explore science, technology, engineering and math in an interactive and engaging atmosphere.

Join us for this innovative event and see all the “STEMulating” learning taking place in U. City Schools!

Watch for more details including vendor list at ucityschools.org/STEMExpo.