



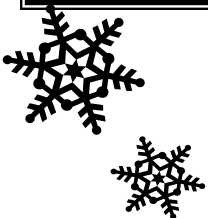
Superintendent's Message



Happy Holidays!

As first semester winds down, we encourage our families to celebrate all of the academic achievements of our students. Don't forget: classes resume on Wednesday, January 4, 2012.

Have a safe and enjoyable Winter Break. Happy New Year!



Season's Greetings!

Important Dates to Remember

- Monday, Dec. 19-Tuesday, Jan. 3rd - Winter Break
Students return to school Wednesday, Jan. 4th
Wednesday, Jan. 4th—2nd Qtr. grades mailed home
Monday, Jan. 16th—No School, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Thursday, Jan. 19th—PTA meeting and Honor Roll certificates distributed

Attendance Reminders

Turn in your child's doctor & dentist notes to Ms. Foster. This will excuse your child's absence.

Call the Attendance Line at 412.5950 if your child is going to be absent.

4 tardies or leaving early count as one (1) unexcused absence.

Please make medical/dental appointments for after 3pm when possible!

Help us reach our goal of 95% attendance by having your child at school on time, every day!

School hours are 7:30am-3:00pm

Snow Days

UA school closings will be announced by 5:30am on all major television networks (Channels 4, 5, 9, 41)

Also look on our school website or call 412.5900 for more information.

Parent Pick Up Reminder

All Lower School Parent Pick-Up students are to be picked up no later than 3:30pm (per p. 19 in the Student/Parent Handbook)

From the Library Corner:

Help your child solve the mystery of lost library books! (Search high and low at home for "hidden" UA books)

In the Library, our children... are using Library location skills to find books on their reading level! ...are reading and making connections! ...are finding fun and interesting facts in the Almanac!

Thank you for reading with your child at home! Reading 20 minutes a night helps your child raise their reading level!

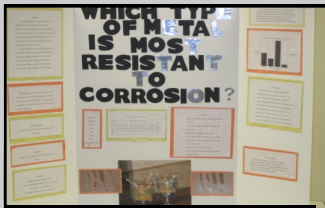


Science Fair

The Science Department would like to say thank you to everyone who assisted with the Science Fair!

- Special thanks to Mrs. Galvin for allowing the students to use the computers and printer in her room everyday after school.
- Special Thanks to Mr. Eklund for creating the Google spreadsheets to help with judging.
- Special Thanks to Marilyn Cohen for her assistance in helping set up the gym and judge the projects.

The students and staff worked very hard to ensure that it was a success. The Science Fair Projects are currently being graded by the Science Department. Students will be receive awards for their projects in January. Students will be selected to attend the 2011-2012 Kansas City Science and Engineering Fair that will be held March 21st-24th at Union Station.



D'Angelo Kelly-Young



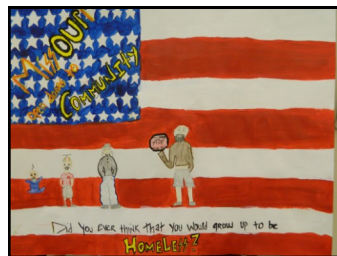
Taj'Zhere Dillard

Mr. O'Neal 8th-9th Grade Math

During the winter break each student will be required to take two online math tests from Mr. O'Neal's webpage. All of the students know how to find the test as it has been demonstrated on numerous occasions. Students will need to send the results of their assessment to Mr. O'Neal. Mr. O'Neal will respond to each student that sends him test results to let them know that he has received their results.

Governor's Homelessness Awareness Poster Award Contest Correction

In the last issue of the University Academy Newsletter, an incorrect picture for Shannon Butts' 3rd place poster was displayed. Please see the correct photo below.



Shannon Butts, 3rd place

Food Drive

UA completed its 10th Annual Food Drive on December 2nd, 3rd and 10th. Several Juniors and Seniors, along with Mr. Eklund, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Ukaoma, Mr. Burdette, and Ms. Mathews distributed close to 2,500 grocery bags to neighborhoods surrounding UA the first weekend and collected several hundred bags the following weekend. The bags were filled with non-perishable food, toiletries, and baby necessities. The items were divided and donated to three local church food pantries. Thank you to all students, parents and staff who helped make this event possible!

ACT

University Academy will host the second ACT test opportunity of the school year on February 11, 2012. All Juniors and some Seniors hoping to improve their scores have registered. If you would like to improve your score and are not registered, please be sure to register by January 13, 2011. Good Luck to all students who will be testing!

Conferences

Parent-Teacher conferences have begun. If you would like to speak with your child's teacher, please be sure to contact the teacher to get a date and time set up for a conference. The end of second quarter is Friday, December 16th. Grades will be mailed out on January 4th. Student schedules will be mailed out over the break.

Inclement Weather

Please make sure that we have current phone numbers for your child. In the event of inclement weather where school is cancelled or the start time is delayed, you will receive a phone call through *Connect-ed*, which is a telephone calling system. You can also view Channels 4, 5, 9 and 41 to see if school is cancelled.

College Scholarship Money



We would like to congratulate our Seniors on a job well done. The Seniors have currently been offered \$1,357,416.00 in scholarship money this semester!



Reflections: Renewing our Accreditation 2009-2011

In March we will be undergoing a review in Upper School for NCA Accreditation, National Distinction. As part of the review, a reflection over the last several years is done. We have listed some highlights for you here, and a more comprehensive list can be found on the UA website.

Innovation and Excellence

- ◆ UA Giving Gryphon food and clothing pantry opens
- ◆ Annual Homecoming Parade
- ◆ Junior League Family Dinners begin
- ◆ Varsity Football Team begins Annual Food Drive and volunteering at Salvation Army
- ◆ UA Students soar in city-wide Science fair and take 1st and 2nd place for 3 consecutive years!
- ◆ UA website awarded for semi-finalist in SchooLE Awards!
- ◆ UA begins electronic parent newsletter
- ◆ UA implements electronic phone notification system
- ◆ Promethean boards (similar to Smart-Boards) are installed in every classroom
- ◆ UA begins a broadcasting program via television and intercom to give announcements
- ◆ Lower School received perfect attendance reward— lunch with the superintendent!
- ◆ 2nd grade adopts Highland Nursing Center
- ◆ 2010-2011 Friends of University Academy begins college incentive program—college students earn money for making high grades in their classes
- ◆ Backsnack program begins
- ◆ UA implements two additional computer

Look at Our Accomplishments

- Established the Men & Women of Distinction Club
- Lower School Family Literacy Night!
- Implemented an ACT Boot Camp
- Implemented a Saturday School
- 100% of UA Seniors graduate and are admitted to college.
- Implemented Study Abroad program and traveled to South Africa!
- UA starts a Jazz Band and plays annually at the KC Jazz Festival

We Succeed in Academics

- ⇒ 84% of Upper School Students score Proficient and Advanced in Communication Arts
- ⇒ 100% of the Middle School advanced math students were proficient/advanced on the MAP test
- ⇒ MAP scores improved by over 30% in several content areas
- ⇒ 70% of 5th graders score Proficient and Advanced in Math on MAP
- ⇒ 2011 Seniors earn over \$1million in scholarships
- ⇒ UA implements Junior and Senior Seminars for ACT prep

