

Join CAC and Make a Difference in U-46!

The Citizens' Advisory Council is a group of volunteer parents and citizens that works with administrators, board members and community leaders to improve the educational process for all children in the district. As a member of the Council, you have the unique opportunity to positively impact our district's future through active citizen involvement!

What Does a CAC Rep Do?

Reps act as liaisons between their schools and the CAC, representing the needs, ideas and concerns of the schools and communities they serve at a district level. They also bring CAC and U-46 information back to their schools to keep parents and staff up to date. Reps attend monthly meetings and are strongly encouraged to join committees.

The CAC welcomes all those that live within the district to become members. Each U-46 school can have up to seven members on the Council (five appointed by the school, and two at-large). Every effort is made to attract members who represent the socioeconomic, cultural and ethnic background of each school's attendance area.

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

Contact your school's principal and ask to represent the school on CAC. For more information, call the School and Community Relations Office at (847) 888-5000 ext. 5300 or visit our website www.u46cac.org.

IT'S YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO...

Partner with Decision-Makers

There are few school systems that welcome such direct involvement by community members as the CAC does in U-46. An officially constituted advisory body to the Board of Education, the CAC has been assisting the Board for more than 60 years. Each year, the Council undertakes various projects aimed at helping the district achieve its objectives.

"The goal of the CAC is to advise and assist the Board of Education and Administration in the ongoing effort to provide the best possible educational opportunities for the students of the School District U-46."

In working toward achieving this goal the Citizens' Advisory Council will:

- *develop areas for specific study and recommendations;*
- *assist in identifying means to achieve district objectives;*
- *provide a forum for interested members of U-46 communities to express thoughts and ideas to the Board of Education and administration.*

While CAC recommendations and studies are not binding to the Board of Education, our work is well received and the district has adopted many of our recommendations.

Contribute Your Talents

CAC members are strongly encouraged to participate in committee work. Committees study, develop, debate and make recommendations, so to truly effect change within the district, committee work is vital. Participating on a committee is also an excellent way to concentrate your efforts in an area of special interest to you. See the back of this brochure for

committee descriptions. If sufficient interest is shown in topics not currently being studied, ad hoc committees may be formed.

Learn About District U-46

At our monthly meetings, you will learn about the issues being studied by the Council and have the opportunity to vote on committee recommendations. Each general meeting features a program on a topic of special interest to U-46 residents. There are also monthly updates from Board of Education members and district administration.

Interact with Board Members, Administrators and Community

CAC is an exciting opportunity to become directly involved in your child's education. As a member, you will have the opportunity to interact with members of the Board of Education and U-46 administration. You will also have the opportunity to work with other interested citizens and parents from all areas of U-46.

WHEN DO WE MEET?

CAC meetings are generally held on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Elgin High School library, located at 1200 Maroon Dr. in Elgin. All meetings are open to the public.

2015-2016 MEETING DATES:

September 10, 2015	February 11, 2016
October 8, 2015	February 18, 2016 (alternate)
November 12, 2015	March 10, 2016
December 10, 2015	April 14, 2016
January 14, 2016	May 5, 2016
January 21, 2016 (alternate)	May 19, 2016 (if needed)

2015-2016 COMMITTEES

The council will support the aspirations of the District Strategic Plan as adopted by the Board of Education on April 20, 2015.

Key words in parenthesis for each committee relate to the Strategic Plan aspiration supported by that committee's work.

Visit www.u-46.org for more information on the District Strategic Plan. In addition, CAC committees will support the work of aligned Board of Education committees.

CURRICULUM

(Student Achievement)

- The District is implementing new Mathematics and Science Curricula, which are better aligned to the Illinois Learning Standards. The CAC Curriculum Committee is dedicated to learning about these new resources, offers suggestions for implementation, and encourages strong school and family communication.
- The committee also seeks to improve transitions for students and parents at key points – elementary to middle school, and middle school to high school.

ENROLLMENT & FACILITIES

(Efficiency, Excellence and Accountability)

- The committee will complete the current focus on elementary school boundary changes this fall.
- The committee will begin work on middle and high school boundary changes with relation to elementary feeder patterns & programs.

FINANCE & LEGISLATIVE

(Efficiency, Excellence and Accountability)

- Provide analysis and articulate the U46 community's perspective in the District's budgetary process.
- Inform and involve the U46 community in legislative efforts that will benefit our students and our District.

FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

(Community Engagement)

- Study what are the most effective family engagement activities at our schools. This will include a special focus on student led conferences.
- Research ways to facilitate effective problem solving.
- Work with district administration to identify training models to equip more parents so they can actively engage in their local schools and the district.
- Monitor the implementation and assessment of family and community engagement initiatives.

SPECIAL EDUCATION & SERVICES

(Student Achievement, Community Engagement)

- The committee facilitates information sharing of U-46 programs and outside community programs available to their child through two annual events. Special Education University, November 4, 2015, focuses on educating parents about services within the District as well as understanding the IEP process. The Special Needs Parent Resource Fair, March 5, 2016, offers a wide range of service providers from Kane, Cook & DuPage counties.
- The committee also works to provide opportunities for parent engagement with each other and in the district.

AD HOC COMMITTEES

If sufficient interest is shown in topics not currently being studied by the council, the Executive Committee can form ad hoc committees as needed.

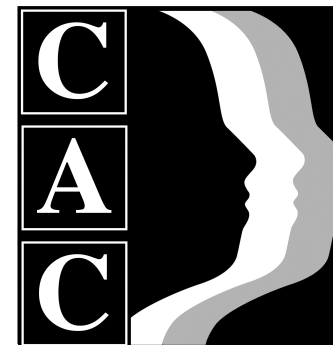
FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit our website at: www.u46cac.org

**Follow us on Facebook at:
www.facebook.com/u46cac**

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You Can Help Shape the Future of U-46!



CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

**Your Voice In
U•46 Education**

2015-2016

