



Tony Sanders, Chief Executive Officer

School District U-46
Educational Services Center
355 E. Chicago Street, Elgin, IL 60120-6543
Tel: 847.888.5000 x5007
Fax: 847.608.4173

U-46.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Mary Fergus

Phone: 847-888-5000, ext.4160

U-46 to Host STEM Expo Kick-Offs

Events provide inspiration for students' research projects

ELGIN - School District U-46 will host four kick-off events at local libraries in October and November to prepare students and families for the 2020 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Expo, an annual event for K-12 students to celebrate science and learning.

The fall kick-off events at the libraries will give students a chance to engage with cutting-edge technologies, experiment with next-generation science, and enjoy live chemistry and physics demonstrations as they brainstorm the projects they will showcase at the expo, scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 22 at Streamwood High School.

"The kick-off events are designed for students to explore their natural curiosities," said Deb McMullen, Coordinator of K-12 Science and Planetarium, adding that the activities students experience often lead to a topic, question, or concept to be focused on for a STEM Expo project.

At the STEM Expo, students then present their project to fellow students, families, and community members to critique.

"We encourage the students to learn through hands-on interaction and to share their learning experiences with their family and peers," she said.

The STEM Expo is open to all students in kindergarten through 12th grade who live within the boundaries of U-46. Students do not need to be enrolled in a U-46 school to participate in the STEM Expo, and the kick-off events at the libraries are open to the public.

All kick-off events will run from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. They are free and require no advance registration. A full schedule is below:



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- **Wednesday, October 2:** Poplar Creek Public Library, 1405 S. Park Ave., Streamwood
- **Thursday, October 10:** Bartlett Public Library, 800 S. Bartlett Road, Bartlett
- **Wednesday, November 6:** Gail Borden Public Library, 270 N. Grove Ave., Elgin
- **Thursday, November 7:** Gail Borden Public Library Rakow Branch, 2751 W. Bowes Road, Elgin

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School District U-46 serves families in 11 communities: Bartlett, Elgin, Hanover Park, South Elgin, Streamwood and Wayne, as well as portions of Carol Stream, Hoffman Estates, St. Charles, Schaumburg, and West Chicago. In total, the District encompasses 90 square miles within the Fox River Valley, approximately 45 minutes west of downtown Chicago, and includes communities within Cook, DuPage and Kane counties. More than 38,000 pre-K through twelfth graders attend the 57 District schools and programs. To learn more, Visit the U-46 [website](#), or like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).