



PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

E.L. HAYNES HERALD

February 4, 2010

E.L. HAYNES

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Dear Families,

This past Friday marked our First Annual E.L. Haynes Day of Service. The day started with an all school meeting where volunteers from the Haynes community of families, friends and family of Mr. Kim, members from partner organizations like Hope and a Home, and college partnership students from Howard University and Gallaudet all gathered. We were led by founder and Head of School, Jennie Niles, in reflection on the importance of giving back to our community—a key part of what the school was established to accomplish through the hard work and dedication of our students and their families.



Students spent the day in a variety of ways including: making and gathering food for the homeless; making cards for the elderly and others needing encouragement; making toiletry bags for those getting on their feet and back into the work force; donating to Miriam’s Kitchen, Thrive DC, and other organizations; raising money and awareness about the devastation in Haiti; making books and reading to younger students; cleaning our local parks and the grounds of our new Kansas Avenue campus; and making murals about the importance of community to be hung on the fences of the new campus.



Perhaps the most important part of the day was when students gathered in reflection circles with their peers and adult volunteers to share what they had learned. Using the essential question “What is Community?” as a guide, students shared that they wished they had more opportunity to give back to others. They shared stories of meeting neighbors whom they plan to keep in touch with, and about how good it feels to give—that there’s joy in doing things to help others.



Thanks to each of you who came to help on this special day, or sent your students to school ready to volunteer. We look forward to continuing to give back to our community together.

Sincerely,

Michelle Molitor
Michelle M. Molitor
Principal, Pre-K through 3rd Grades

Eric Westendorf
Eric Westendorf
Principal, 4th through 8th Grades

Sun 7	Mon 8	Tues 9 Parent Financial Series: Saving for College	Wed 10	Thurs 11	Fri 12 5 th Grade Lincoln Cottage Trip	Sat 13
Sun 14	Mon 15	Tues 16 Parent Financial Series: Credit/Debt, Teaching Your Kids About Money	Wed 17	Thurs 18	Fri 19 African Heritage Day All School Meeting and Cultural Celebration	Sat 20

NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION

EDP REMINDER: Parents of students in the after school program are reminded that the after school program ends each day at 6:00pm sharp! Families that pick up students after 6:00pm will be charged a late fee of \$1.00 per minute for every minute until they are picked up. If for some reason parents are running late for pick up a call should be made to the school informing someone at the front desk. However, the phone call does not cancel out the late fee.

E.L. Haynes Family Game Night is Tomorrow Night! Come play games at E.L. Haynes on Friday, February 5th, from 6:15pm-8:15pm. We'll have board games, pizza, and drinks - \$5 suggested donation per family. (In case of inclement weather, we will follow the DCPS cancellation of afternoon and evening events schedule.)



Financial Literacy Workshops: February 9; 6:15-7:15pm. Do you have questions about the best way to save for your student's college/university? Come to the third workshop of our financial literacy series to learn about various programs that will help you plan for your child's college education.

Applications for New Students for 2010-2011: are now available!! Specifically, we are recruiting students and families for our pre-k 3year old class and our 6th grade class (our 6th grade will be expanding by one class!). If you have another child who you would like to have attend ELH, please fill out the application available in the clear boxes outside the main office. We also would love for you to advertise to your friends and neighbors who are looking for a dynamic school for pre-k – grade 8! The application date for middle school is February 26th (lottery on March 6th). The PK-5th application date is April 2nd (lottery on April 10th).

Important Middle School Dates:

- Howard University Visit (6th Grade) February 5th
- Movie Night (6th & 7th Grades) February 26th
- Spirit Week (6th & 7th Grades) Week of April 12th
- Middle School Dance (6th & 7th Grades) May 7th

Community Activities:

Saturday February 6th from 5-7pm and February 13th from 11-1pm: Census Job Testing

The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting temporary, part-time census takers for the 2010 Census. These short-term jobs offer good pay \$20/hour, flexible hours, paid training, and reimbursement for authorized work-related expenses, such as mileage incurred while conducting census work. Best of all, census takers work right in their own communities. A Census Bureau representative will be at ECAC ready to do job testing. Applications and sample tests can be picked up at the ECAC beginning Wednesday February 3rd. Two forms of ID are needed to apply.

2nd Annual African American History Program Free Family Day: Counting America

Date: Saturday, **February 6, 2010**
Location: Koshland Science Museum
Time: 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM
Cost: Free



The results of the 2010 United States Census will paint a rich portrait of who we are as Americans - from race to age to gender. The U.S. Census is also a critical

tool for determining everything from school funding to U.S. congressional representation. Join us for an exciting day of activities to explore the role of math and statistics in the census and in everyday life, how racial and cultural perceptions have influenced census results, and the importance of how people define each other and themselves. At 12 Noon **Erran Persely** (U.S. Census Bureau) will present his talk "Why We Count."

Saturdays from January 9th – February 27th from 10-11:30am: Capoeira Children's Class

Come join us for a fun eight week introductory class designed especially for children ages 5 to 11. Parents are encouraged to take classes as well. Capoeira Angola helps stimulate hand-eye coordination, musicality, socialization, discipline, autonomy, and curiosity in relation to other cultures. All children will learn about the history of Capoeira Angola, the movements and music related to this Afro Brazilian Martial Art/Tradition and some Portuguese language. Classes will be held in a fun and safe environment. At the end of the section (February 27) we will have a performance for all parents, friends and family.

Cost: \$40 for entire session or \$7 per class

Ms. Teri

Counselor's Corner

As our students enter middle school and high school we realize that issues associated with gossip become highly impactful on their ability to succeed social emotionally in the school and community setting. When negative gossip occurs it often has a hurtful impact on students emotionally, however there are times when what appears to be negative gossip may be information that needs to be shared with an adult. Thus, it's important to emphasize with our children that sharing of some gossip is essential to their safety and the safety of others. Students' ability to feel safe and secure at school allows them to focus on academics and development social emotionally. There are times when our children may have friends that are in trouble and need an adult to intervene and support them. As parents, we can nurture this process by acknowledging and practicing communication and problem solving skills. Students ability to work out problems socially allow them the brain energy to excel academically in the classroom setting

Seventeen-year-old Meimi found out through gossip that a guy she was dating was trouble, "You know, I had to listen and a couple of weeks later I had found out he sold drugs and he had been locked up and a lot of stuff, so I was kind of appreciative of gossip at that point."

Still, experts and kids warn, you have to be careful. "I think it's always a good idea to try to personalize the issue that's being talked about, what if it were me and people were talking

As hard as it is to believe, the words "sibling" and "gossip" originated from the same word: "Godsibb." The word originally translated to mean "a person related to one in God," or a "godparent." In this circumstance, gossip was used to denote a relationship of trust and friendship. However, in the 1800s, the word "gossip" began to stray from its original roots until it became what it is today – nearly the opposite of what it was originally.

Parenting Tips

Encourage our students to feel free to share gossip with a trusted adult when issues of safety are impacted

However there are other times when gossip is hurtful and negative in such instances proceed as follows:

Ask the "gossipier" to tell you what positive things he/she may relate about the individual being criticized.

- When you are entrusted with a secret, feel honored and never repeat it to anyone. Repeating confidences is like stealing one's dignity.

- As enjoyable as it may be to bond with someone temporarily through gossip, the damage to all parties is immeasurable. Resist the momentary temptation for gaining a wholesome sense of self-respect.

References

- Psychology Today
- Santa Cruz Sentinel
- University Press of Kansas

(Excerpts taken from Connect with Kids website)