



PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

E.L. HAYNES HERALD

February 18, 2010

E.L. HAYNES

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Dear E.L. Haynes Families,

Welcome back! We are so glad to have the blizzard of 2010 over and all our students back in school. As you might have guessed, our leadership team is working hard to figure out the best way to make up the class time we lost last week. We are waiting to hear from the Office of the State Superintendent of Education for guidelines about how we can make up those days. Once we hear from them, we will let you know our plan as soon as possible.

I am excited to share some terrific news with you. In keeping with our goal to have the best school in DC, I have asked Mr. Westendorf to step into the role of Chief Academic Officer beginning this July. This is a critical position for our school as we grow in grade levels and in students. Mr. Westendorf will lead our education program, in collaboration with our principals, to ensure that every one of our students is prepared for success in college and beyond. He will share his time between the Kansas Ave and Georgia Ave sites, and work with teachers and administrators throughout the school so that our curriculum builds consistently from each year to the next.

Having Mr. Westendorf move into this new role would not be possible without having someone outstanding to fill his shoes as principal of upper elementary and middle school. Amazingly, we have the ideal candidate already at ELH already preparing to become a principal. I'm pleased to announce that Ms. Pierre-Floyd will be the principal of 3rd – 8th grades beginning this July. She is thrilled to be staying with us and will be an invaluable addition to the school. Ms. Molitor, who will be the principal of preK – 2nd grades next year at the Kansas Ave campus, is very excited to work with Ms. Pierre-Floyd as the new principal.

Since these new roles for Mr. Westendorf and Ms. Pierre-Floyd will begin in five months, they both have plenty of time to prepare for them, and, not surprisingly, Ms. Molitor, Ms. Pierre-Floyd, and Mr. Westendorf have already begun planning for next year.

Although many of you have met Ms. Pierre-Floyd at school events and welcoming students during drop-off in the morning, please come to talk with her, ask questions about her new role, learn more about plans for next year, or share thoughts or concerns you have on Tues, Feb 23 from 5:00 – 6:00 PM; Friday, Feb 26 from 8:00 – 8:30 am; or Tues, March 2 from 7:30 – 8:15 am.

Sincerely,

Jennifer C. Niles
Founder and Head of School

The Next Two Weeks at E.L. Haynes

21	22	23 Meet Ms. Pierre-Floyd 5 – 6 pm School Parent Team meeting and Financial Planning: D.C. Programs for Saving for College; 6:15 – 7:15 pm	24	25	26 Coffee w/Ms. Pierre-Floyd 8 – 8:30 am African Heritage Day All School Meeting 8:45 – 9:30 am Middle School Movie Night 7 – 9 pm	27
28	1	2 Coffee with Ms. Pierre-Floyd 7:30 – 8:15 am Financial Literacy: Credit, Debt and Teaching Your Kids About Money	3	4	5	6

NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION

All School Meeting – Friday, Feb. 19, 8:45am: In addition to our All School Meeting on Feb. 26th for African Heritage, we will go forward our regularly planned meeting tomorrow. We will be hosting a previously planned group called “Raising Music”, who bring an exciting musical program featuring African American songs.

Kansas Ave. Planning Committee Meeting: Feb. 20., Saturday, 9:30-10:30 we will be meeting to talk about planning for our exciting new space for pre-K (3yr) – 2nd graders. If you’re interested in helping us with this transition, please come!

School Parent Team Meeting: Tuesday, February 23rd; 6:15-7pm – “Planning for the Future: College Funding, Investment Strategies, and Financial Resources” 7:15pm-7:45pm – Announcements and Committee Work.

Financial Literacy Workshops: February 23rd; 6:15-7:00pm. Do you have questions about the best way to save for your student’s college/university? Come to the workshop to learn about various programs that will help you plan for your child’s college education. The March 2nd workshop will be on “Credit, Debt, Building Your Wealth and Teaching Your Children About Money”

African Heritage Celebration: As you know, our celebration is postponed until Friday, February 26th. There will be an All School Meeting at 8:45 and parents are invited! We also welcome you to bring an African dish of food and wear your traditional African attire. There is a sign up on the long tables in the lobby for food. Additional information is in the flier along with your Haynes Herald.

Extended Day Program News: Spring Intersession will take place from March 22nd to March 26th, 2010. Because of the school closures last week, the deadline for turning in Guarantee Forms to reserve a spot in Spring Intersession has been extended until this Friday, February 19th. Intersession registration packets will be available in the main lobby beginning Friday, March 5th. Registration packets are due by March 12th.

Applications for New Students for 2010-2011: are now available!! 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).

Head Lice: Please remember that if your child has been in contact with head lice, to continue to comb through their hair nightly with a nit comb, for 10-14 days after treatment. If after two weeks, lice remains, re-treat and notify your child’s health care provider. We also ask that if your child has lice, **please notify your child’s teacher or Nurse Crowder.** Her email is dcrowder@elhaynes.org and can be reached at 667-4446. **Your privacy will be maintained; it is crucial to inform us so that we are able to notify parents in particular classrooms to help prevent an outbreak.** There are sheets on the “Nuvo Treatment Method” located in the lobby in clear folders on the wall. Following any treatment, it is essential to nightly remove nits with a nit comb until all are gone. If

you have further questions about lice, please contact Nurse Crowder on Tuesdays or Thursdays, or on Wednesdays from 8:30-12:00pm. Her email is: dcrowder@elhaynes.org.

Important Middle School Dates:

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| -Movie Night (6 th & 7 th Grades) | February 26th |
| -Spirit Week (6 th & 7 th Grades) | Week of April 12th |
| -Middle School Dance (6 th & 7 th Grades) | May 7th |

Community News:

Spring Break Camp: City Year is sponsoring a spring break camp at 3 sites in DC, from Monday March 29-Friday, April 2, 2010. ELH will be closed during those dates. Registration is \$10 until March 1 and \$20 thereafter. Please see the flier in your child's folder for information on locations.

Ms. Teri

Counselor's Corner

As we approach our children it's important that we share with them how we genuinely feel about them. In the midst of our daily rigor, I encourage parents to take a moment and communicate with your child about your love for them and in the process open the lines of communication about their thoughts and concerns. I also encourage parents to be in the constant process of assuring that they are indeed providing the most safe and secure home environment for their children. Our kids deserve a life of safety structure and loads of emotional support and love .

LOVING WORDS TRANSFORM US

Remind your children how much you love them, even when it might be a struggle. They need to regularly hear words of encouragement from their parents. Brianne, age 16, who recently broke her wrist, received some much-needed affirmation at just the right time. "I know that my parents love me because they keep encouraging me through this tough time. It's so hard to get my work done at school but they never force me to do homework when I'm not feeling well. They tell me to do it later or to rest when I feel like resting. The other night my Dad said how proud he was that I was trying so hard."



Words of love can seem like such a small thing, easily overlooked in the daily hustle. Over a lifetime, they make all the difference in the universe. I was blessed to be with my father when death was drawing near. Not a day goes by that I don't think of his description of moving towards the light. He said, "I see now that all that truly matters in life is love. We just need to love each other."

As we strive to move ahead in life, to get it all done and to raise successful kids, think of the parting words of my dad: "Love each other." Love your children, love your partner, love your parents, love your friends, and you will deeply nurture their spirits while enriching your own soul.