



PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

E.L. HAYNES HERALD

February 25, 2010

E.L. HAYNES

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Dear Parents,

We are still waiting for guidance from the Office of State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) on snow day make ups. We will let you know as soon as we have more information.

Last Friday we began our celebration of Black History Month with an All School Meeting featuring "Raising Music." The group led students, staff, and parents in songs featuring African call and responses, poetry by Langston Hughes, and riffs by Billie Holliday. A big shout out goes to the Ebo family, who organized the wonderful performance.



Later in the day our fifth graders performed three of Lincoln's finest speeches on the stage at Ford's Theatre as part of the "Speaking Lincoln's Words" oratory festival. To see a video of their performance, go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0VCqijJuSrVM>

We are looking forward to this Friday's African Heritage Day. We will start with an All School Meeting at 8:45 that will feature singing, dancing, and dramatic readings. You are all invited to join us!



The All School Meetings will be followed by workshops led by parents and community experts. The workshops range from Step Africa, to Drum Circle, to Wildlife of Africa.

Finally, each grade will share what they've learned with a "Hall Walk Displays" focused on African countries. Food and art of Africa will be set up in the cafeteria during lunch blocks so classes can tour displays while enjoying great food.

Thank you again to all the parents who have helped make these events possible. We look forward to seeing many of you on Friday!

Sincerely,

Eric Westendorf
Eric Westendorf

Principal, 4th through 8th Grades

Michelle Molitor

Michelle M. Molitor

Principal, Pre-K through 3rd Grades

Sun 28	Mon 1 Middle School Community Circle	Tues 2 Upper Elementary Community Circle	Wed 3	Thurs 4 World Math Day	Fri 5 Coyaba Dance Assembly	Sat 6
Sun 7	Mon 8 Middle School Community Circle	Tues 9 Upper Elementary Community Circle	Wed 10	Thurs 11	Fri 12	Sat 13

NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION

Financial Literacy Workshops: The March 2nd workshop will be on “Credit, Debt, Building Your Wealth and Teaching Your Children About Money” from 6:15pm-7:15pm. Childcare and snacks are provided.

African Heritage Day: Thank you to all of you who helped so much to make this day such a beautiful celebration for our community. Special thanks to all those who presented to our students, brought delicious food, and shared in the day’s festivities!

Extended Day Program News: Spring 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).

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 |

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. For more information, look for the flyers on the long tables in the lobby.

Ms. Teri

Counselor’s Corner

Love is indeed a universal language. It’s an important way in which our kids formulate connections, attachments and navigate this world. As parents we often provide our children with a safe and secure environment where they can feel comfortable to release and express their thoughts and concerns. Children need to be able to anticipate their future activities and be given the chance to share their ideas thoughts and concerns in an environment infused with love. A child’s ability to be informed of future plans supports their ability to feel secure in this universe. So please keep talking to your child about anything and everything. Have fun with your child!

Words have the power to transform. Celebrate your love by practicing the following ideas:

- Be thoughtful with your word choice, tone, and timing. Author Christopher Morley wisely stated that, "If we all discovered that we only had 5 minutes left to say all that we wanted to say, every telephone booth would be occupied by people calling other people to tell them that they loved them." September 11, 2001, proved Morley's point. Tell those you love how much you love them - often.

- Remain attentive to the words you use as you part in the mornings and last thing in the evenings.

- Ask your child what helps him to feel really loved. This is easier with a young child. If yours is a teen, he will probably be embarrassed by the questions, but the simple effort of asking reminds him you care. Our teens are multidimensional, fascinating human beings and, by knowing their likes and dislikes, we learn more about their unfolding personalities. Maggie, age 15, says, "My dad asked me the name of my favorite ice cream. I was pretty surprised he didn't know but he's a busy guy. It made me feel so special when he came home the other night with Mississippi Mud. He nailed it."

- Offer lots of words of praise when appropriate. The appreciated child is far less likely to have an attitude problem.

(Excerpt taken from website: spiritualparenting.com)