



PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

# E.L. HAYNES HERALD

March 12, 2009

**E.L. HAYNES**

3600 Georgia Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20010

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Dear E.L. Haynes Families,

The weather is warming and the lovely change of season between winter and spring is upon us. With the budding of flowers and the wearing of lighter jackets comes our quarterly rest period, Spring Break. This year's Spring Break falls on Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> through Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. Students return to classes on Monday the 30<sup>th</sup> of March to finish out the 2008 – 2009 school year. Intersession classes are being offered during the first week of break Spring Break; the second week of break is a chance for staff and families to relax. These weeks of rest and rejuvenation, much like the changing of the seasons, are a chance for everyone to return to school refreshed.

Spring Intersession will be in full swing the week of Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> through Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. Students that have signed up will have the opportunity to explore a variety of topics, including sports, gardening, writing, and more. These in-depth expeditions continue to broaden students understanding of the world around them and include field work, speaking with experts, and a culminating event to showcase their hard work and all they've learned. It is also a really fun time to stretch their brains!

During Spring Break it is also imperative that we keep student minds sharp. Families play an integral role in encouraging students to always be learning, whether or not school is in session. Over the course of the break all students will be asked to complete work in the following areas:

1. **Reading**—Each and every one of our students is a part of helping us climb the 5 Million Minute Mountain. Please encourage students to read both independently and to/with an adult **every day** over break. Record minutes on a reading log, and see if you can break personal reading minute records with 2 whole weeks to put ELH student noses in good books.
2. **Writing**—Make it a goal for your student to write everyday. Writing should be a part of their everyday lives - from our youngest writers making lists around the house and practicing their letters and sight words, to our older students responding to things they have read or writing about things of importance to them.
3. **Math**—Scrubbing up on and reviewing math skills is a vital part of keeping student minds sharp over break. Most grade levels will come home with some practice of previously learned skills. We want to encourage families to also use the world around them to think about math. Ask your students to make change at the grocery store or calculate how many groceries you can buy with a set amount of money; play board games; ask them the time on an analog clock, cook with them and encourage them to measure the ingredients—there are many, MANY ways that math can be woven into your everyday lives.

Enjoy the coming of spring with family and friends and we'll see you in two weeks!

Sincerely,

Michelle Molitor, Principal, Pre-K – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grades

Eric Westendorf, Principal, 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Grades

# NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION

## Quote of the Week

*"To say the least, a town life makes one more tolerant and liberal in one's judgment of others."*

*~Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807 - 1882)*

- ▶ **RE-ENROLLMENT – FINAL NOTICE:** If you did not complete the re-enrollment form for the 2009-2010 school year please stop at the front office and do it as soon as possible. Find a letter inside of the Thursday Express if you still need to fill out the re-enrollment paper. If you plan to apply for a sibling, not currently enrolled at E.L. Haynes, for the 2009-2010 school year an Application Form Admission must be completed and turned into the front office no later than March 31, 2009. Please direct any questions about re-enrollment to Ms. Griffin in the main office.
- ▶ **All School Meetings: Friday, March 13th – 9:00 to 9:30 AM.** Parents are welcome to join us!
- ▶ **Birthday Celebrations! Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>** we are going to celebrate the birthdays of the month. Families are encouraged to join the festivities by contributing treats and/or attending the party. Please, contact your child's classroom teacher for more details.
- ▶ **Spring Intersession:** Spring Intersession is schedule to begin on **Monday, Mach 16<sup>th</sup> and end on Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**. Classes will begin each morning at 8:30 AM. Students that are registered for the Before School can arrive for breakfast each morning between 7:30 and 8:15 AM. Classes will end each day at 3:30 PM. After School is available for registered students. Student intersession application received after Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> will be placed on a waiting list and placed in classes where there are openings.
- ▶ **2009 CSA Basketball League!** The girls lost 10-4 in a DC Parks and Recreation league game, but showed tremendous improvement on defense, offense, and all-around teamwork and sportsmanship. The remaining away game schedule dates goes as follows:
  - Games schedule: Thursday, 3/12 - E.L. Haynes (girls) vs. TBA at 1310 Childress Pl. NE**
  - Tuesday, 3/17 - E.L. Haynes (boys) vs. TBA at 1401 7<sup>th</sup> St NW.**
  - Saturday, 3/28 –**
- ▶ **SAVE THE DATE! - 1<sup>st</sup> E.L. Haynes Yard/Bake Sale: Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>!** Please save your gently used clothes, books, toys, furniture and other items for the sale. If you have no items for the yard sale, consider donating baked goods to the bake sale! If you did not have the chance to return the sign-up sheet we sent home last week you still have time, return it to Carmelita Naves in the front office. If you would like to help plan the sale or volunteer in the event contact Parrie Henderson-O'Keefe at 202-667-9087 or [elodie0808@mac.com](mailto:elodie0808@mac.com) or Amy Tinto at [amygeorgetinto@yahoo.com](mailto:amygeorgetinto@yahoo.com).
- ▶ **SAVE THE DATE! - Spring Picnic: Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>** - Planning has begun for an all-school picnic for the end of the year. Contact Badia Paniagua at [badiapan@verizon.net](mailto:badiapan@verizon.net) or (202) 462-1408 to get involved.
- ▶ **Raffle/Auction: There is just one month left to solicit prizes for our spring raffle/silent auction!** Please contact Keely at 202-667-4446 or [kflaherty@elhaynes.org](mailto:kflaherty@elhaynes.org) if you intend to solicit or donate a prize so she can keep track of potential prizes. Do you know someone at a restaurant or store? Ask them to donate a gift certificate or an item. Do you or your employer have tickets to sporting or cultural events? Consider donating them.
- ▶ **Support Our School:** Now you can spread out your donation to E.L. Haynes into monthly payments by setting up a monthly recurring donation through our website. Just visit [www.elhaynes.org/support.html](http://www.elhaynes.org/support.html) and select donate online. Choose the amount you would like to donate each month and then check the box at the bottom of the page that says "*Check this box to make this a recurring donation.*"
- ▶ **Family Literacy Program:** Children and their parents from the Carlos Rosario Family Literacy Program enjoyed a field trip to the National Aquarium in Baltimore last Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>. The families had the afternoon to explore the Aquarium and see dolphins, sting rays and even sharks! They had a great time and look forward to the next field trip in the Spring!



▶ **School Parent Team Meeting: Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> - 6:00-7:00PM**

▶ **A note from FOCUS on the Public Hearing: Thank you charter family...**

A BIG THANKS to all who joined us yesterday to testify and to help us fill every seat in the hearing room, which we did! In particular, thanks to those who were able to stick it out and testify!  
Thanks **Phina Walker – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade student from EL Haynes PCS!**

**If you missed the hearing**, you can click here to access any hearing “on demand” at any time...

1. [http://octt.dc.gov/services/on\\_demand\\_video/channel\\_13.asp](http://octt.dc.gov/services/on_demand_video/channel_13.asp).
2. Then click on the link for “Week 1 - 3/1 - 3/7”
3. Then scroll down to the link for this hearing... 03/05/2009, Part 2, PUBLIC HEARING, COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, Vincent C. Gray, Chairman

**Next Steps...**

**Saturday, March 14, 10:00 am.** Students should sign up to testify at the monthly Youth Hearing. Wilson Building, 1350 PA Ave NW, Room 500. Contact Erika at 202.387.0405, [ewadlington@focusdc.org](mailto:ewadlington@focusdc.org) for details.

**Counselors Corner**  
**Ms. Teri**

I do hope that you are enjoying sharing and talking with your children about their worries and concerns and developing strategies to support them in resolving problems.

As parents we are often our child primary role model as to how to manage and cope with strong emotions.

Below are additional tips on how to support your child if you suspect they are depressed:

- ▶ Talk to other families in your community or find a family network organization to help you better understand how depression can affect your child and your entire family.
- ▶ Know that treatment works and that your child will get better.
- ▶ Know the signs of depression, and note the duration, frequency and severity of troubling behavior.
- ▶ Discuss all available treatment options with your child’s doctor, and carefully weigh all the risks and benefits associated with each treatment. A comprehensive treatment plan may include psychotherapy, ongoing evaluation and, in some cases, medication. You and your child, if possible, should fully participate in the development of a treatment plan.

*(Excerpt taken from [www.nmha.org](http://www.nmha.org))*

**If you or someone you know is in crisis now**, seek help immediately. Call 1-800-273-TALK (8255) to reach a 24 hour crisis center or dial 911 for immediate assistance

**TWO-WEEK CALENDAR**

15	16 SPRING INTERSESSION	17 SPRING INTERSESSION	18 SPRING INTERSESSION	19 SPRING INTERSESSION	20 SPRING INTERSESSION	21
22	23 SPRING BREAK	24 SPRING BREAK	25 SPRING BREAK	26 SPRING BREAK	27 SPRING BREAK	28

**OUR MISSION**

Every E.L. Haynes student – regardless of race, socioeconomic status, or home language – will reach high levels of academic achievement and be prepared to succeed at the college of his or her choice. E.L. Haynes students will be instilled with a deep appreciation for mathematics and science and will develop lifelong skills needed to be successful individuals, active community members and responsible citizens.