



PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

E.L. HAYNES HERALD

April 2, 2009

E.L. HAYNES

3600 Georgia Avenue, NW

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Dear E.L. Haynes Families,

Welcome back to school. We hope you had a wonderful spring break.

We had an exciting intersession during the first week of break. A big shout out goes to the Year Round Program staff – Ms. Jackson, Ms. Boyd and Mr. Wilkinson in particular—along with the intersession teachers who made it a success. On the Friday of intersession we got to see final presentations from each class. We had a number of dramatic performances, including a student written comedy about pirate treasure. One class created a video about weather and another produced a news broadcast based on their visit to a newsroom and the Newseum.

In an effort to constantly learn from experience, the YRP staff will be putting out a survey for your feedback on Spring Intersession. If your student(s) attended, please take the time to let them know what you really liked, and anything you felt could be improved. We're already starting to gear up for Summer Intersession now! Packets describing the offerings will go home on June 4th.

For families in grades 3-6th, please note that the DCCAS – DC's end of year assessment – is coming up in a few short weeks. Students will be testing during the weeks of April 20th – May 1st. The assessment is an opportunity for our students to show off what they've learned over the year. Leading up to the DCCAS, we encourage you to continue reading with your student and helping him/her with math homework and everyday math problems. Classes will also be asking for volunteers to help with special DCCAS breakfast food (bagels, bananas, etc.) during the days of their testing, so that our students are fueled up each morning.

Finally, for those of you who didn't get to read Ms. Niles' letter, we have some exciting news to share. The Mayor's Office announced that we will have the opportunity to negotiate a long-term lease for the use of the former Clark Elementary School building at 4501 Kansas Avenue, NW. This means that we can have our high school! Due to renovations, financing, and other challenges, the soonest we could occupy the building is 2010, though we may not move in until 2011. Please see Ms. Niles' letter for more details. We also invite you to join Ms. Niles at the School Parent Team meeting on Monday, April 13 from 6 – 7 PM to hear more about the progress of this exciting new development and ask questions.

Have a wonderful week!

Sincerely,

Michelle Molitor, Principal, Pre-K – 3rd Grades

Eric Westendorf, Principal, 4th – 6th Grades

NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION

Quote of the Week

"April prepares her green traffic light and the world thinks Go."

~Christopher Morley, John Mistletoe

- ▶ **THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2009 – STAFF DEVELOPMENT – NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**
- ▶ **School Parent Team Meeting (SPT):** Monday, April 13th – 6:00 to 7:00 PM. Come and try to bring someone new to participate! It is hard to believe but we have only 3 more SPT meeting before the end of the year. We have snack for the adults, as well as childcare and pizza for the children! Looking forward to seeing you all!
- ▶ **Principal's Coffee:** Wednesday, April 15th – 5:00 – 5:30 PM. Come and meet the principals, Ms. Molitor and Mr. Westendorf, in n informal setting to discuss any questions or concerns that you might have.
- ▶ **Parents Guide to Second Step:** Starting on April 24 from 8:45 to 10:15 (English) and April 23 from 6:00 to 7:30 PM (Spanish) Ms. Teri and Ms. Carmelita are going to offer a 6 weeks parent class to teach parents about the "Second Step Curriculum". Second Steps is a violent prevention curriculum that students learn in their classrooms. It will give parents the opportunity to learn the skills our students are learning daily within their school setting and to use and reinforce these skills at home. Check inside of the Thursday Express for an enrollment form. Please drop off your enrollment in the school front office before April 20. If you have any questions please contact Ms. Teri or Ms. Carmelita at tstokes@elhaynes.org or cnaves@elhaynes.org or call (202) 667-4446.
- ▶ **Parent Encouragement Program (PEP):** Starting on April 20 – June 15 - 6:00 to 8:00 PM PEP, a local non-profit, are going to offer an 8 week parenting education class. PEP I class offers proven, effective strategies to help you cope with problem behaviors, and bring out the best in you and your child. Classes are open only for E.L.Haynes families. Call PEP to register (301) 929.8824. Cost: sliding fee based on income. See flyer inside of the Thursday Express for more details.
- ▶ **All School Meetings:** Friday, April 17th – 9:00 to 9:30 AM. Parents are welcome to join us!
- ▶ **Birthday Celebrations!** Friday, April 17th 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.
- ▶ **E.L.Haynes Math Challenge:** If you haven't asked your student about the E.L. Haynes Math Challenge, please do so. The latest math challenge is all about money and was due today, Thursday, April 2nd. The next challenge will be out by Monday, April 6th. Remember, all you have to do is try! The problems increase in difficulty as you work through the challenge. Do your best and try as many as you can.
- ▶ **5 Million Minute Reading Challenge:** The current total is **2,808,815!** In order to reach 5 million minutes by June, we need each classroom to read over 10,000 minutes a week – this boils down to each student reading 439 minutes or 7.5 hours a week. Families can help us reach this goal by first ensuring that students have a designated time and place to read every single day. Families can also make a huge dent in our total by listening to students read aloud or reading with students; any time this happens, the adult reader just needs to initial the reading log and the minutes will count double!
- ▶ **2009 CSA Basketball League!** The end of the girls and boys basketball season is near and both teams have shown the growth and discipline to enter the play-offs. ELH's basketball teams will have their share of March Madness, this **Friday, April 3, at 4:30 when our boys will face Friendship's boys, in an away game at Friendship Edison SE Academy**, located at 645 Milwaukee Dr., both 08-09 championship games. Please come out and support!
- ▶ **SAVE THE DATE! - 1st E.L. Haynes Yard/Bake Sale: Saturday, April 18th!** 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 or Amy Tinto at amygeorgetinto@yahoo.com.
- ▶ **Raffle/Auction:** Please contact Keely at 202-667-4446 or kflaherty@elhaynes.org if you intend to solicit or donate a prize so she can keep track of potential prizes.
- ▶ **SAVE THE DATE! - Spring Picnic: Saturday, June 13th** - Planning has begun for an all-school picnic for the end of the year. Contact Badia Paniagua at badiapan@verizon.net or (202) 462-1408 to get involved.

Counselors Corner
Ms. Teri

In our school we often support children in managing their social emotional needs. We realize that our students come to school overwhelmed with academic and social demands. School wide we implement a violence prevention program named Second Step. It supports children in developing skills associated with anger management, problem solving, impulse control and empathy. We strongly desire our parents to support their children in social emotional growth within the home.

Dealing with Anger

It's normal to feel angry or frustrated when you've been let down or betrayed. But anger and frustration don't justify violent action. Anger is a strong emotion that can be difficult to keep in check, but the right response is always staying cool. Here are some ways to deal with anger without resorting to violence:

Learn to talk about your feelings - if you're afraid to talk or if you can't find the right words to describe what you're going through, find a trusted friend or adult to help you one-on-one.

Express yourself calmly - express criticism, disappointment, anger or displeasure without losing your temper or fighting. Ask yourself if your response is safe and reasonable.

Listen to others - listen carefully and respond without getting upset when someone gives you negative feedback. Ask yourself if you can really see the other person's point of view.

Negotiate - work out your problems with someone else by looking at alternative solutions and compromises.

Anger is part of life, but you can free yourself from the cycle of violence by learning to talk about your feelings. Be strong. Be safe. Be cool.

(Excerpt taken from www.apahelpcenter.org)

TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 School Parent Team Meeting (SPT) 6:00 -7:00 PM	14 Principal's Coffee 5:00 – 5:30 PM	15	16 Staff Development NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS	17 All School Meeting 9:00 – 9:30 AM Class Birthday Celebration YARD/BAKE SALE PREPARATION 6:00 – 9:00 PM	18 YARD/BAKE SALE 9:00 – 1:00 PM

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.

BE KIND | WORK HARD | GET SMART

Community Information

WHAT: Public Charter School Budget Hearing**WHEN:** Thursday, April 2, 2009; 4:00pm-until it's over**WHERE:** Wilson Building, Room 500, 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, WDC 20004**DETAILS:** Mayor Fenty submitted his DC budget to the City Council on Friday, March 20th. It included a \$24 million cut and restrictions in the use of the charter school facility funding. In order to restore the funding and eliminate the restrictions, it's important that the Councilmembers see that their constituents are strong supporters of public charter schools. Please join us in the audience for all or part of the hearing.**CONTACT:** Call Ariana or Erika at 202.387.0405 with questions. To confirm your attendance with us in the audience, sign-up online at www.focusdc.org. Free charter school t-shirts for the first 50 attendees. If you already have one, please wear it!**WHAT: City Council Youth Hearing****WHEN:** Saturday, April 18, 2009 at 10:00am**WHERE:** Wilson Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Room 500, WDC**DETAILS:** Please share this information with youth ages 21 & under and encourage them to express their thoughts with the elected officials who make decisions on issues that concern them. All youth interested in testifying must register by contacting the city council at the information provided below. You may want to watch cable channel 13 to see some other hearings and get an idea of how they work. Please feel free to contact FOCUS (202-387-0405) with any questions and if you would like us to help you prepare your testimony.**CONTACT:** Aretha Latta at 202-724-8196 or by email at alatta@dccouncil.us.**WHAT: Community Service Opportunity - Global Youth Service Day****WHEN:** Friday, April 24, 2009 - Sunday, April 26, 2009**WHERE:** Various locations**DETAILS:** Global Youth Service Day (GYSD), the largest volunteer event in the world, will address pressing issues in the District of Columbia by planning a service project and giving youth an opportunity to join this global effort to build a stronger community. Go to www.servedc.gov to join a community service project or register your own community service project.**CONTACT:** For more information or questions, please contact Regina Moran at (202) 727-0709**WHAT: Teatro de la Luna – Children's Theater Festival****WHEN:** Saturday, April 4, 2009 – 11:00 – 5:00 PM**WHERE:** ROSSLYN SPECTRUM - 1611 North Kent St, LL Level, Arlington, VA 22209

Free parking – Rosslyn Metro Station

DETAILS: A full day of theatre and much more! Come, enjoy and share in the excitement! Tickets \$10; children under 4 Free.**CONTACT:** Info & Resv. 703-548-3092. More information and to buy on-line go to: www.teatrodelaluna.org**WHAT: DC Tap Festival****WHEN:** Friday-Sunday, April 17-19, 2009**WHERE:** DC Dance Collective, 4908 Wisconsin Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20016; about four blocks from both the Friendship Heights and Tenleytown Metro stations (both located on the Red Line).**DETAILS:** Chloé & Maud Productions presents the First Annual 2009 *DC Tap Festival*, featuring the world's premier Tap Dance Artists: Stars of Vaudeville, Broadway, and Emmy and Grammy awardees spanning Four Generations! Join us as further establish Washington, DC's global presence as a home for the classic Art of Tap Dance. The DC Tap Festival presents the opportunity to share the language of dance through beginning through advanced classes, history talks, jam sessions, a student showcase, cutting contest, and performances featuring both world renowned Tap Masters and accomplished young dancers from the DC area and abroad. Register for individual classes for \$25 each or for class packages, see website for info on free classes.**CONTACT:** Download the registration form online at www.dctapfest.com. For full schedule and details, visit <http://www.dctapfestival.com/page/page/6631219.htm> or call 202.362.7244.**WHAT: Catholic University Basketball Camp****WHEN:** June 2009-July 2009; 9:00am-4:00pm**WHERE:** DuFour Center - 3606 John McCormack Road NE, Washington, DC 20064**DETAILS:** Directed by head coach Steve Howes, this camp is open to boys and girls ages 8-16. Several local sports celebrities are scheduled to appear. Cost \$150. Group discounts and early registration discounts are available.**CONTACT:** Steve Howes, 202-319-6046; E-mail: howes@cua.edu.

Nurses' Corner
Ms. Crowder, RN

Peanut Allergies aren't the most common food allergies in America-dairy in children and shellfish in adults-but they certainly have the highest profile. They are often severe and pose a major challenge to parents wanting to keep their kids safe in school or other public places. Those who suffer from peanut allergies may react to traces of peanut proteins left on countertops and other surfaces. Peanut allergies sometimes wane with age, but this is not common. 80% of children diagnosed with peanut allergies will have them for life.

Peanut allergies can cause virtually any common food allergy symptom. Peanut allergies are more problematic, however, is that they're much more likely to cause reactions throughout the whole body. The riskiest of these is anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis is a life threatening reaction where the airway swells and blood pressure drops dangerously low. Anyone diagnosed with a peanut allergy should carry injectable epinephrine (epi pen) at all times. Administer epinephrine. Call 911 immediately. Start CPR if necessary. Studies have shown accidental exposure is rare. If you have been diagnosed with a peanut allergy learn the signs and symptoms and proper treatment of anaphylaxis. Always carry your epi pen.

E. L. Haynes PK is a peanut free area.