



PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

E.L. HAYNES HERALD

April 9, 2009

E.L. HAYNES

3600 Georgia Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20010

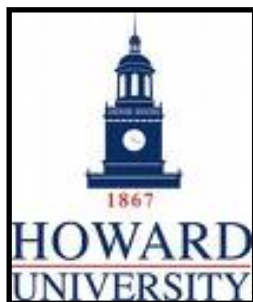
(202) 667-4446 phone

(202) 667-8811 fax

Dear E.L. Haynes Families,

Our Mission states: “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 the lifelong skills needed to be successful individuals, active community members, and responsible citizens.”

This mission drives everything we do at the Haynes, from Expeditions—which provide students with project-based learning experiences infused with service learning, to Electives—which provide students a number of opportunities from a very young age to learn lessons of team work, strategy, creativity, endurance, and fair play, to The Arts—which provide students with exposure to visual expression, language, musical performance, dance expression, and a solid belief in healthy living.



Arguably, the most clearly mission-driven component we infuse into our school year is their exposure to the idea that they will be prepared to attend and succeed at the college of their choice. We do this by celebrating where our staff attended school, covering the cafeteria walls with HBCU memorabilia, and leading call-and-responses about students’ belief in their own abilities at morning circles.

An equally powerful experience for our upper-school students comes in the form of regular visits to colleges and universities. This year, the 6th grade has already visited two schools where they have had an opportunity to speak with faculty and students and to tour the campuses. A trip in the fall took them to Howard University in the Shaw neighborhood, and last week students visited The George Washington University. In both cases, our students have asked thoughtful questions that range from: “What does it take to get into your college?” to “How many classes do you have to take?” The experience of being on a college campus in person allows them to visualize being there as students themselves—this coupled with the grounding of their teachers to “Be Kind. Work Hard. And Get Smart.” will get them there, and beyond.



Sincerely,

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

Eric Westendorf, Principal, 4th – 6th

NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION

Quote of the Week

“Education is a social process. Education is growth. Education is, not a preparation for life; education is life itself.” ~John Dewey

- ▶ **THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2009 – STAFF DEVELOPMENT – NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**
- ▶ **DCCAS - DC's end of year assessment:** 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. If you want to volunteer please contact your student's teacher.
- ▶ **Attention Parents!** In order to keep our students safe and maximizing their experience here at E.L.Haynes, the front office staff is not going to call the student down until a parent arrives in the building. This guideline applies for regular school day and after school hours.
- ▶ **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:** **Tuesday, April 14th – 5:00 – 5:30 AM.** Come and meet the principals, Ms. Molitor and Mr. Westendorf, in n informal setting to discuss any questions or concerns that you might have.
- ▶ **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. Please, contact your child's classroom teacher for more details.
- ▶ **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 it in the home setting. 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.
- ▶ **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.
- ▶ **FREE Activity Day:** It's a free day at the University of Maryland for kids about all sorts of cool things, especially some math and science activities. Here's the website: <http://www.marylandday.umd.edu/audience/kids.cfm>
- ▶ **Welcome to our New Staff Member:** We're excited to share that Jimmy Henderson will be joining us on Monday, April 13 as the new Director of Planning, Policy, and Finance. He is thrilled about his new role and brings with him a wealth of experience as a former management consultant with masters degrees in business and education. Please welcome him to our community.

- ▶ **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 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.*"
- ▶ **Coaches Wanted!** In an effort to expand its extracurricular offerings in science, math and technology, E.L. Haynes hopes to have several teams compete in the FIRST LEGO League and Junior FIRST LEGO League next year. LEGO League teams participate in competitions that inspire interest in science and technology by engaging students in challenges that require designing and building with legos, including the engineering and programming of robots. E.L. Haynes is looking for parents, family or community members, to participate as coaches. Coaches would lead, or share leadership, of a team of about six students that meets once a week. More information on coaching is included in the Thursday Express. Please contact Kate Hubbard at kahubbard@elhaynes.org if you, or someone you know, might be interested in participating as a coach.
- ▶ **Family Literacy Program:** For their monthly Parent and Child Together (PACT) activity on March 19th, parents and children in the Family Literacy program worked on putting together a family tree with names and descriptions of their family members. Families also celebrated March birthdays and had a wonderful dinner together. Last Thursday, April 2nd the group went to the cherry blossoms by the tidal basin!



Counselors Corner

Ms. Teri

As discussed in the last Counselors Corner our school implements a school wide violence prevention program named Second Step. The program teaches youth effective ways to manage strong emotions in the school and home setting. When students can manage their strong emotions their brains can learn and develop availing them to a rich academic curriculum. Reviewing various emotions and coping strategies within the home further support students' ability to be success.

Controlling Your Own Risk For Violent Behavior

Everyone feels anger in hi or her own way. Start managing it by recognizing how anger feels to you.

When you are angry, you probably feel:

- ▶ muscle tension;
- ▶ accelerated heartbeat; a "knot" or "butterflies" in your stomach;
- ▶ changes in your breathing;
- ▶ trembling;
- ▶ goose bumps;
- ▶ flushed in the face.

You can reduce the rush of adrenaline that's responsible for your heart beating faster, your voice sounding louder, and your fists clenching if you:

- ▶ take a few slow, deep breaths and concentrate on your breathing.
- ▶ Imagine yourself at the beach, by a lake, or anywhere that makes you feel calm and peaceful.
- ▶ Try other thoughts or actions that have helped you relax in the past.
- ▶ Keep telling yourself: "Calm down"; "I don't need to prove myself"; "I'm not going to let him/her get to me."
- ▶ Stop. Consider the consequences. Think before you act. Try to find positive or neutral explanations for what that person did that provoked you. Learn to recognize what sets you off and how anger feels to you. Learn to think through the benefits of controlling your anger and the consequences of losing control.
- ▶ Most of all, stay cool and think. Only you have the power to control your own violent behavior, don't let anger control you. (excerpt taken from: apahelpcenter.org)

TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

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 5:00 – 7:00 PM	18 YARD/BAKE SALE 10:00 – 2:00 PM
19	20 DCCAS 4 TH Quarter Begins PEP I class 6:00 – 8:00 PM	21 DCCAS	22 DCCAS	23 DCCAS Parents Group “Parents Guide to Second Step” (Spanish) 6:00 – 7:30 PM	24 DCCAS Parents Group “Parents Guide to Second Step” (English) 8:45 - 10:15 AM	25 DCCAS

Planning for Summer 2009

It is hard to believe it that Summer Vacation is almost here. It is important to make plans far in advance for your family during the time when the school is going to be close. We want our children to have a safe, fun, enjoyable summer and also keep up the hard/good work they did through out the school year.

As you know, from June 22nd to July 17th E. L. Haynes will offer Summer Intersession. The last 2 weeks of July, July 20th to July 31st E.L.Haynes will be close for students. The 2009-2010 school's year will start on Monday, August 3rd.

The intersession packages will be available to all families by June 4th. We are looking forward to new and exiting classes for students in grades PK through 6th grade! Packages will also be to be available on the E.L.Haynes website both in English and Spanish.

Information on options for the weeks that school will be close will be available in the Family Resource Center as well as in the Thursday Express. Keep checking!

If you know a good option for the period when the school is closed and want to share it with the E. L. Haynes community please contact Carmelita Naves at cnaves@elhaynes.org or (202) 667-4446.

Outside Summer Activities:

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.

WHAT: 2009 DC Summer Fun – DC Department of Parks & Recreation

WHEN: Summer 2009

WHERE: Find booklet in the Parent Resource Center and also you can check the website:
www.dcsumerfun.dc.gov or you can call 311.

WHAT: YMCA Summer Camps

WHEN: Summer 2009

WHERE: Find booklet in the Parent Resource Center and also you can check the website:

www.ymcawashdc.org/camps/summercamp or contact directly the YMCA facilities according to your convenience.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AREA FACILITIES:**YMCA Anthony Bowen**

1325 W Street, NW

Washington, DC 20009

Contact Shelly Briggs at 202-462-1054

YMCA Calomiris Program Center

1906 Allison Street, NE

Washington, DC 20018

Contact Edward Robinson at 202-526-4233

YMCA Capital View

2118 Ridgecrest Court, SE

Washington, DC 20019

Contact Jermaine Dunn at 202-889-5461

YMCA Esther Peterson Child Care Center

at the U.S. Department of Labor

200 Constitution Avenue, NW

Room N 1453

Washington, DC 20210

202-693-7979

YMCA National Capital

1711 Rhode Island Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20036

Contact Aaron Harris at 202-862-9622