



E.L. HAYNES

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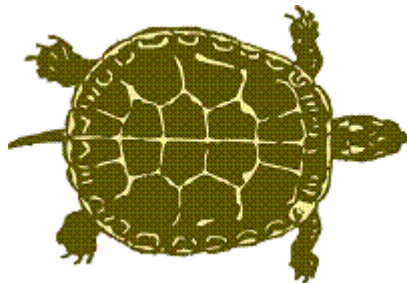
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

E.L. HAYNES HERALD

April 17, 2009

Dear E.L. Haynes Families,

Between April 21st (next Tuesday) and May 1st students in grades three through six will participate in the District of Columbia Comprehensive Assessments System, or DCCAS. The DCCAS measures our students' achievement in reading and math. Our students are poised to do a great job. This year's theme for the DCCAS is **Turtle Power: Slow and Steady Wins the Race**. You can help us



by encouraging your student to take his/her time and do his/her very best. Most importantly, we ask that you make sure your student arrives at school on time, well rested and well fed. Please also note that in most testing grades there will be a moderate level of homework given during the testing weeks. Thank you.

This past Monday, several E.L. Haynes students participated in the Easter Egg Hunt on White House lawn. Ms. Molitor and Ms. Sykes each brought four students downtown for the annual event. The students were chosen based on their efforts in the classroom, and each were very excited for the opportunity to explore the White House lawn. Activities ranged from the classic Easter Egg Roll, to concerts, double dutch jump-roping shows, kids culinary presentations, and a chance to show off their sports abilities in soccer and basketball. A good time was had by all and the memories are sure to last.

Finally, last week we hosted our third panel of the year in the Teacher Leadership Series. The goal of the series is to generate a forum for educators from around the region to share instructional best practices. Last week's panel was entitled, "Authentic Learning in the Age of Accountability." Over seventy educators attended to discuss ways teachers can develop exciting, meaningful units while still ensuring their students perform well on standardized assessments. For more information about the panel and the series, you can check out our blog at www.teacherpower1.blogspot.com.

Sincerely,

Eric Westendorf, Principal, 4th – 6th Grades

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

NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION

Quote of the Week

“Slow and Steady wins the race.” ~ Aesop

- ▶ **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.
- ▶ **Parents Guide to Second Step:** Please drop off your enrollment in the school front office by Monday, April 20. Groups are going to start next week – Thursday, **April 23 from 6:00 to 7:30 PM (Spanish)** and Friday, **April 24 from 8:45 to 10:15 (English)**. This is a 6 weeks parent class offered by Ms. Teri and Ms. Carmelita. 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. 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. Cost: sliding fee based on income. You can register by calling the PEP office Monday through Friday from 9:00 to 5:00 at 301-929-8824. If you have any questions about the class, feel free to email or call Patti Cancellier at 301-929-8824 or www.PEPparent.org. You can also contact Carmelita Naves at E.L.Haynes if you need any help.
- ▶ **Haynes Herald by email:** E.L. Haynes has begun emailing electronic copies of the Haynes Herald to families who expressed interest in receiving email copies. If you would like to receive the Haynes Herald by email, please contact Carmelita at cnaves@elhaynes.org and give her your name and email address. Please remember that reading the email Haynes Herald does not release you from having to open, read, and sign the weekly Thursday Express. The Thursday Express includes many important communications from your child's classroom and from the school that are not included in the email version.
- ▶ **Attention Parents! Loudspeaker Films** is looking for parents to make and submit home videos of themselves expressing their views about the public school system and considering the question, "Do you have to be rich to get a good education in America?"
Clips from these videos might be used in a new documentary film being made about public schools. The film looks especially at inner-city schools and asks if the students in these schools are getting as good of an education as students in wealthier, more suburban areas. It investigates the achievement gap between minority and white students, and ponders to what degree teacher quality and expectations explain it. Find inside of the Thursday Express a helpful list of questions - **DEADLINE FOR VIDEO SUBMISSIONS IS MAY 5, 2009.**
We are also accepting videos from **students** and **teachers** talking about their views and schools--the deadline for those videos is also May 5.
You can learn more about the film (working title "Teached") at www.loudspeakerfilms.com.
- ▶ **Choir to Sing on Capitol Hill:** On Tuesday May 5th the Choir will be singing on Capitol Hill for a reception hosted by the National Alliance of Public Charter Schools.
- ▶ **Planning for Summer 2009:** 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.

Counselors Corner
Ms. Teri

Next week myself and Ms. Carmelita will be offering The Parents Guide to Second Step. It will allow parents the opportunity to learn the skills that our students are learning daily within their school setting. Maintaining a strong home school connection is an incredible way to reinforcing violent prevention skills learned. We will see you next week!

Memorable Moment

When teachers pair reasoning with SECOND STEP Hearts, children remember the message in conjunction with the warmth of feeling appreciated. A small, easily forgotten incident can become a memorable educational moment: "Maia, I gave you a Heart because you helped Quinton up when his tricycle tipped over. He was a little scared, and you helped him feel better".

"When the day's Hearts are deposited in the collection jar, teachers can extend this conversation to the class by asking children to reflect on their kind and helpful behaviors. This helps the reinforced child remember the message. Teachers can then ask classmates to imagine, for example, how much Quinton appreciated Maia's help, an excellent empathy exercise.

Indeed, verbal reinforcement is a powerful tool. Teachers can ask students in kindergarten and older to nominate classmates for appreciation, perhaps cueing them to watch for specific behaviors just before recess. Both the reporting child and the recognized child are given appreciative attention, so children learn to look for positive behavior in others—a lifelong skill.

(excerpt taken from cfcchildren.org)

Within the home many of these same reinforcers can be used to promote successful social connections. As parents catching our children being kind and doing what is great is important to acknowledge and is often encouraging to our children in their efforts to continue that which is good. We encourage you to observe your child's interactions with sibling, friends, and relatives and acknowledge their great efforts.

TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

19	20 DCCAS 4 TH Quarter Begins PEP I class 6:00 – 8:00 PM	21 DCCAS	2 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
26	27 DCCAS	28 DCCAS	29 DCCAS	30 DCCAS	1 DCCAS	2

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: Children's Chorus of Washington Auditions

WHEN: April 14th, 17th and 25th

WHERE: 4626 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 100, WDC 20016

DETAILS: Auditions for the 2009-2010 season with the Children's Chorus of Washington are open to girls and boys, with unchanged voices, ages nine to 16. No previous experience is required; financial aid is available. Auditions are held by appointment only.

CONTACT: Call 202-387-1005 to set up appointment or visit www.childrenschorus.com for more information.

WHAT: Free Classes in Cosmetology, Barbering, Carpentry & Computers

WHEN: Enroll Today!

WHERE: The University of the District of Columbia

DETAILS: For DC residents only who have received a GED or their High school diploma. The average time to complete the course is 14-16 months.

CONTACT: Please call Ms. Robbie Miliam at 202-724-7172.

WHAT: Summer Institute in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Research

WHEN: July 13 – 17, 2009; 8:30am-4:00pm

DEADLINE: Friday, April 17, 2009

WHERE: NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD 20771

DETAILS: The Goddard Space Flight Center is offering a five day Summer Institute for the purpose of increasing the awareness of and providing opportunities for middle school girls to explore non-traditional career fields with research scientists, mathematicians and engineers.

CONTACT: For additional info, please contact: Terri Patterson, Office of Higher Education at 301-286-4398 or visit <http://education.gsfc.nasa.gov/sister/default.html>.

WHAT: Camp Shakespeare

WHEN: Tuesday, June 16, 2009 – Sunday, August 16, 2009

WHERE: The Shakespeare Theatre Company Rehearsal Studios Sidney Harman Hall and Montgomery Community College in Silver Spring

DETAILS: Cost is \$675/session. Limited Scholarships are available. During the two-week day camp, young people ages 9–18 will investigate the artistry and process of classic theatre in performance under the guidance of Shakespeare Theatre Company Teaching Artists. Students will analyze and interpret Shakespeare's texts, create several characters with their bodies, voices, and imaginations, and explore the art of unarmed stage combat. Camp will culminate with a performance for friends and family.

CONTACT: Kate Kirby, 202-547-5688 to register or go to www.shakespeartheatre.org for more information.

WHAT: Sugarfoots Performing Arts Camp

WHEN: June 22, 2009 – August 14, 2009

WHERE: 409 Rittenhouse Street NW, WDC 20011

DETAILS: Sugarfoots the renowned multi-cultural rag dolls designed in the three complexion shades of Cocoa, Ginger and Cinnamon; featured in *Essence Magazine*, *the Washington Post*, *NBC Affiliate WRC News Channel 4 – Liz Crenshaw's Hot Holiday Picks*, debuts its Performing Arts Summer Camp and the dolls are coming to life! The camp productions are adapted from *Sugarfootn*, Sugarfoots children's book series, featuring folktales with a fresh new twist. Participants from ages 5-13 will be instructed in acting, dance, music and art by industry professionals.

CONTACT: visit the website at www.sugarfoots.com or call (202) 723-8890.

WHAT: Teatro de La Luna – 17th Poetry Marathon

WHEN: Saturday, April 18 – 2:00 – 8:00 PM

WHERE: Casa de la Luna – 4020 Georgia Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20011

DETAILS: “La Pluma y La Palabra” – in Spanish only. In the occasion of the bicentennial of Mariano José de Larra (Spain) and Edgar Allan Poe (United States), as well as the centenary of writers Ciro Alegría (Peru), Juan Bosch (Dominican Republic), and Juan Carlos Onetti (Uruguay), Teatro de la Luna's XVII Poetry Marathon celebrates the inseparable relationship of poetry with the short story, the novel, and the essay. **Free Admission [Donations gratefully accepted]**

CONTACT: Info/Resv: 202-882-6227/703-548-3092

WHAT: Maryland Day 2009

WHEN: April 25th, 2009 – 10:00 – 4:00 PM

WHERE: University of Maryland – College Park

DETAILS: It's a free day at the University of Maryland for Kids about all sorts of cool things, especially some math and science activities.

CONTACT: <http://www.marylandday.umd.edu/audience/kids.cfm>