



PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

# E.L. HAYNES HERALD

April 29, 2010

## E.L. HAYNES

3600 Georgia Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20010  
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Dear E.L. Haynes Families,

I have been so proud of our students during the past two testing weeks. They are focused, motivated, and showing off their skills. Thank you for making sure your students come to school well rested, well fed, and well motivated.

Please remember that this Friday we return to our regular Friday schedule. Dismissal returns to the 1 PM time. I also want to alert you to an important change in the calendar. Final Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on Friday, June 18<sup>th</sup> (we mistakenly printed the date of June 11<sup>th</sup> in the last Haynes Herald).

Finally, I wanted to let you know that this spring we are going through a school accreditation process with the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. Accreditation is a peer-review process in which members of the educational community, lend their experience and expertise to validate a school's vision of itself. At the heart of the process is a self-study, requiring our school to evaluate our progress through the lens of our philosophy/mission/beliefs.

If you are interested in helping with the self study, we would love your input. Ms. Niles will be hosting a meeting tonight from 6-7 PM in the cafeteria. If you cannot make the event, but are still interested in helping, please contact Ms. Niles.

Have a great week!

Sincerely,

Eric Westendorf, Principal

Michelle Molitor, Principal Pre-K – 3

Sun 2	Mon 3 MS Community Circle	Tues 4 3-5 Community Circle	Wed 5	Thurs 6	Fri 7 1PM dismissal	Sat 8
Sun 9	Mon 10 MS Community Circle	Tues 11 3-5 Community Circle	Wed 12	Thurs 13	Fri 14 1PM dismissal	Sat 15

## NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION

SAVE THE CORRECTED DATE!! END OF YEAR PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES WILL BE HELD ON **FRIDAY JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup>** – NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS, BUT PLEASE BRING YOUR CHILD(REN) TO THEIR CONFERENCE! There **WILL** be school for students on **JUNE 11<sup>th</sup>**.

**Terra Nova Testing:** The Terra Nova for grades K-2 will be the week of May 17. The Terra Nova for grades 3 through 7 will be the week of May 24. This gives Grades 3 through 7 a full three-week break between the DCCAS and the Terra Nova.

**Summer Intersession:** Earlier this week Year Round Programs mailed home important information about registering for Summer Intersession, which runs for four weeks from Monday, June 21st through Friday, July 16th. As a reminder, Summer Intersession Guarantee forms – which are required to reserve a spot for your student(s) – along with nonrefundable deposit are due by Friday, May 14th. Summer Intersession registration packets with information about specific course offerings will be available in the lobby and on the school website beginning Tuesday, June 1st.

**Dance Ensemble and Choir:** Dance And Choir begin rehearsing again this Friday from 2:00-3:30. There are only four rehearsals until our concert on Thursday, May 27 at 6PM. It is important that all students in these groups attend all rehearsals.

**Expedition Culminating Events:** – Expedition culminating events have been moved to **Tuesday, June 8** to give classes more time to work on expedition products and to account for field work that needed to be scheduled the first week of June.

**Kansas Avenue Parent Survey:** ...is online and available for your participation if you have a student attending pre-k, Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> grade at the Kansas Avenue Campus for the 2010-2011 school year. We know that moves and changes are never easy, and want to be supportive of all of our families. We would love your input to make sure we are meeting your needs as best as possible. Please participate and share your thoughts and ideas!

[www.surveymonkey.com/KansasAvenueParentSurvey](http://www.surveymonkey.com/KansasAvenueParentSurvey) or

[www.surveymonkey.com/KansasAvenueParentSurveySPANISH](http://www.surveymonkey.com/KansasAvenueParentSurveySPANISH) . If you would like to take the survey at ELH, Elsi and Melissa in the front office are available to help set up a computer for you. So far we have only 50 responses, so we would love to get more responses as we make our plans!

**Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week – May 3-7<sup>th</sup>.** Please encourage your child to participate however they choose – be it making a card, writing a note of thanks, making a bookmark or bringing a flower – to one of their fabulous teachers or staff members!

**Asian and European Cultural Heritage Day Celebrations:** Our Asian Heritage Celebration will be held on Friday, May 21, at 8:45am. Please see the flier in your child's folder and consider volunteering as we plan for our celebration! Our European Cultural Heritage Celebration will be held on June 11<sup>th</sup>.

**ELH Girls on the Run:** Our team will be running a 5k race on Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am, starting at the American University Friedheim Quadrangle. It's a very family friendly event with lots of girls and families from around the city participating. If your daughter is not on the team, but would like to participate with a family member or friend, you can register and find race logistics at <http://gotrdc.org>.

**Family Picnic Details:** Mark your calendars! E.L. Haynes will hold our Annual Family Picnic on Saturday, June 5 from 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm at Raymond Recreation Center. The event will be a potluck for all families and staff and include activities for students, the raffle drawing, and a silent auction. **If you are interested in helping plan the event or able to volunteer on the day of the event, please contact Keely at [kflaherty@elhaynes.org](mailto:kflaherty@elhaynes.org) or 202-667-4446. We need your help to make the day fun for all! (In addition, if any family has a party tent or shade canopy that you could lend for that day, please let Keely know.)**

**Food Stamps/Medicaid Applications:** If you would like guidance in filling out the Food Stamps/Medicaid/Public Assistance applications, please stop by Ms. Hood's office, located in the main office or call her at 667-4446, ext. 3207 to set up an appointment.

### **Community Activities:**

**Parkview Rec Center's FUN Saturdays:** Every Saturday, from 11:30-4pm, Parkview Rec. Center has arts, sports, and music activities for kids ages 3-14! For more information, contact Katy Delaney at 434-227-9599.

**Higher Achievement Program:** Higher Achievement's rigorous after-school and summer academic program gives youth from at-risk communities their best opportunity to succeed in middle school—and in life. Our research-based program challenges motivated middle school students to meet their full potential in three key areas: academics, social skills, and leadership. With small group instruction, mentoring, high school admission support, field trips, workshops and university visits. Higher Achievement is currently recruiting for its next class of Scholars, looking for highly motivated 4th and 5th grade students. Achievement Centers are located in Wards 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, and Alexandria. For more information or to apply, please visit [www.higherachievement.org](http://www.higherachievement.org). The deadline for applications is May 14th, 2010. Please contact Abigail Cohen at 202-375-7715 or [acohen@higherachievement.org](mailto:acohen@higherachievement.org) with any questions.

**Ms. Teri**

**Counselor's Corner**

As parents decide to provide more order to our mornings its often important to share changes with our children. I often encourage parents to become aware of their child's ability to retain information to complete task asked of them and giving them the tools they need in order to meet our demands and participate in improving their own morning routines. Making list as a visual reminders of task to be completed in the morning is an excellent way of supporting kids in recalling what is being asked of them and allowing them the opportunity to complete task independently, as well as self monitor their own progress.

### **Making Your Morning Routine Manageable**

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A key is to allow the strategy described below to work. That is, the child is responsible for doing his/her morning tasks. If you take responsibility by reminding, doing for, helping (when help isn't required) your child will likely let you keep reminding, doing and helping him/her. Such a pattern actually teaches your child he/she doesn't have to keep track or do his/her morning routine on his/her own. This plan is about teaching your child to take care of his/her morning routine as independently as possible. Here is one way to make your mornings more manageable and enjoyable.

1. Make a list of things that need to be done within your home in priority order

Hang the list in a location the child can monitor. You may chose to hang a second or third copy in additional locations to help you also monitor task completion.

2. Inform your child he/she is to do each task on the list and check them off as they are completed. When everything is done before \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the time that is at least 5 minutes before it is time to walk out the door) he/she gets to do the last thing on the list. For young children check them off together and read what's next.

3. As your child engages in and/or completes a task provide specific praise for doing so (e.g., good job getting dressed, your hair looks good). You may say things like "Just 2 more tasks and you get to watch TV." "Wow, you are doing great, I bet you will have time for piano this morning."

4. When your child gets everything done with time to spare, make sure he/she gets to do the fun thing. Be equally diligent in making sure he/she does not get to do the fun activity if everything is not done on time.

5. Walk out the door on time! If your child only gets part of the list done, walk out the door on time! He/she may end up dressing in the car or going to school without breakfast or with messy hair. The key is not to give in to the temptation to nag or scold or do the task for the child. Rather, talk with his/her teachers and let them know you are working on improving your child's independence and being responsible so he/she may come to school hungry or with messy hair a few mornings. Chances are this won't happen very many times before the child figures out how to get through his/her routine successfully. It is easy to eat breakfast on the go and I wouldn't encourage this if you want breakfast eaten at home. Otherwise, chances are, breakfast will continue to be eaten in the car.

(excerpt taken from parenting org)