



PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

E.L. HAYNES

3600 Georgia Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20010

(202) 667-4446 phone

(202) 667-8811 fax

E.L. HAYNES HERALD

June 3, 2010

Dear E.L. Haynes Families,

As many of you know, we have had to delay the start of the next school year. As members of the board, we are part of the team that has been working to resolve the many challenges of securing and renovating the second campus. However, we realize that we haven't communicated with you about the process regularly so many of you are not aware of the factors in the decision to delay school. We apologize for the lack of communication on this topic and look forward to sharing information more regularly. Accordingly, we want to take this opportunity to provide some background on why the decision was made.

But first, the good news. Last week, the school closed on \$10 million in financing necessary to complete Phase I of the Kansas Avenue renovations. Being able to secure financing during these tough economic times is nothing short of miraculous! The school leadership team and the board have been fully engaged each step of the way. In particular, Jennie Niles, Jimmy Henderson and Patrice Griffin have spent incredible amounts of time, energy and extraordinary persistence to ensure that this project will be successful.

Nevertheless, there were many factors out of the school's control that have delayed the project, which ranged from delays relating to (1) the administrative process of transferring the Kansas Avenue property to E.L. Haynes, (2) the passage of legislation that authorized D.C. revenue bonds to help finance the renovations, and (3) the underwriting process of the banks involved in lending the money to the school for the project. Despite these challenges, the school has worked closely with its architect and general contractor to do everything possible get into the new building in time to start school on time.

However, ultimately the various delays we've encountered caused the Board to determine that it is in the best interests of the school to delay the opening of school for the 2010-2011 school year. The school leadership team has been very conscious of the potential consequences of the project delays, in part because we know that one of the aspects important to the success of E.L. Haynes is the year-round programming the school offers. Thus, the Board made this decision after extensive deliberation and discussion.

We recognize delaying the start of school is disruptive to many families. As Parent Trustees we understand your frustration. We too are working to come up with new summer plans. If you need help planning for those 2 weeks please see Beth Hood for information on summer resources. If you have information about summer camps or programs please spread the word to other families. And please contact us with your questions and concerns.

Sincerely,

Sonia Shelton, Parent Trustee (1st)

Leander Gray, Parent Trustee (PK, 1st)

Michael Hall, Parent Trustee (2nd, 4th)

					Fri 4 Middle School Dance 7-10	Sat 5 End of Year Picnic – 12pm-3pm
Sun 6	Mon 7 Uniform Purchasing Day	Tues 8 Expedition Culminating Events	Wed 9	Thurs 10	Fri 11 European Cultural Heritage Day Postponed Until Next Year	Sat 12 5 th Grade Picnic
13	14	15 Pre-K through 1 st Grade Parade to Kansas Avenue (lunch and play time 11-1 PM)	16	17 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!	18 MANDATORY PARENT CONFERENCES	19 Have a great summer!!!

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parent-Teacher Conferences: Please mark your calendars for June 18th for your student's end of year conference.

Pre-K through 1st Grades Parade to Kansas Avenue: On Tuesday, June 15th students, staff, and family chaperones are all welcome to walk to our new campus to have bag picnic lunch, play a game or two, and celebrate our new space! The walk will start at 11:00 AM and students will return to school no later than 1:00 PM that afternoon (may vary by grade level). Please let your student's teacher know ASAP if you're available to join us. Students and staff are encouraged to wear E.L. Haynes gear and dress comfortably to PLAY! 😊

Don't wait! Please make your Doctor's and Dentist appointments today! All students must be Up-to-Date by the start of school to attend. In order to be Up-to-Date, the school must have documentation of an Annual Health Physical, Annual Dental Exam and Proof of Immunizations that correspond to your child's age group. Copies of the DC Immunization Requirements (Purple Flyer) were included in the Re-Enrollment Packet and are also available through the Front Office.

European Heritage Day - Cancelled: We're afraid that we were a bit too ambitious in trying to fit in another cultural heritage day before the end of the school year.

ELH Parent Survey: Remember to complete the Parent Website Survey! See Ms. Keely if you cannot access it online. The link is:
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=6/CjyvtvYjCmHmIfJEyoSxQLymPC2pgsUYND%2bJue30LQ%3d&>
 And in Spanish:
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=1Vz6OQMk43Mi1KaXe6fOFHwuTZ%2b2iUqf3Q8fPjQza54%3d&>

Year Round Programs: YRP has begun accepting Summer Intersession Registration Packets from families who turned in Guarantee Forms and deposits on time. Packets and any remaining balance are due by next Wednesday, June 9th

Fitness Classes at ELH: Please remember to send your child prepared for fitness on the day they have their classes – it's hard to run and play in sandals, and we'll be going outside more regularly during Fitness Class – sneakers only, please!

Silent Auction: On Saturday, June 5, during the Family Picnic, we will hold a silent auction to raise money for the school. We have collected almost 50 fabulous prizes including baseball tickets, restaurant and spa gift cards, home-cooked quiches, cakes, and pesto, and many more! Please see Ms. Keely to sign up to volunteer at the silent auction for a 30 minute shift or to help prepare for the event. 30 minutes of your time could make a big difference for the school!

Community Announcements:

WHAT: Energy Assistance Funding Available

WHEN: Monday-Friday 8:30am- 4:30 pm

WHERE: Frank D. Reeves Municipal Center, 2000 14th Street, Third Floor

DETAILS: There is additional funding available to the DC Energy Office to assist consumers in paying their seasonal energy bills. Consumers seeking energy assistance should apply for grants through the DC Department of the Environment, Energy Office. Applicants should bring:

§ Your disconnection notice (if applicable)

§ Your most recent utility bills (or a copy)

§ Your government-issued photo ID

§ Proof of income for everyone in your home who receives income

CONTACT: (202) 673-6700 or visit www.ddoe.dc.gov

WHAT: HSC Pediatric Center's June Fair

WHEN: Saturday, June 12, 2010; 10:00am-4:00pm

WHERE: Michigan park, 1731 Bunker Hill Road NE

DETAILS: Free health screenings, dental screenings, immunizations, games, rides, vendors, clowns. Live talent, face painting, and special guest appearance by WPGC personality Herkules

CONTACT: http://www.hscpediatriccenter.org/whats_new.cfm **June 21 - August 20, 2010** **WHAT:**

Higher Achievement Summer Academy

WHEN: Summer 2010

DETAILS: Higher Achievement is looking for motivated 4th & 5th grade students for its summer achievement centers. The summer program operates from 8:00am – 4:00pm five days a week. Students take courses in English, science, mathematics, and social studies, with one elective course. Further, students participate in weekly field trips and travel on one overnight college trip.

CONTACT: www.higherachievement.org

Department of Recreation

Summer Camps

Various Locations

Time: 9am - 5pm

Ages: 6 - 13

All camps are offered Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm. Before and After Care is available for an additional cost. Register in person or online at summercamps.dc.gov or dpr.dc.gov. For more information, visit Camp Office at 1480 Girard Street, NW or call (202) 671-0372.

WHAT: Brian Mitchell Football Camp

WHEN: June 28, 2010 – July 1, 2010

WHERE: George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030

DETAILS: Sports International's *Brian Mitchell Football Camp* is a one-week, intensive training overnight football camp offered each summer. Players are evaluated on the first day and then assigned a veteran coaching staff to ensure individual and team instruction on both offense and defense. The goal is to give each camper the finest football instruction available and a program they will never forget. There is individual

instruction for quarterbacks, running backs, centers, linemen, ends, wide receivers, linebackers, special teams, and secondary. For the past 26 years current and former NFL players have attended and worked every football camp sponsored by Sports International. Daily instruction, lectures, and demonstrations are guaranteed to be given by Brian Mitchell and/or other members of the Washington Redskins. Day camps also available!

CONTACT: <http://www.footballcamps.com/default.asp?page=20&camp=47>

WHAT: Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton Job Fair for DC Residents

WHEN: Tuesday, June 8, 2010; 10am-11:00am (workshops) 11:00am-3:00pm job fair

WHERE: Washington Convention Center, 801 Mount Vernon Place, WDC

DETAILS: Features over 100 employers representing federal, state, and local jobs, private sector jobs, construction jobs, jobs for recent college graduates only for DC residents. Come for the workshop on how to complete DC and the new federal employment applications. Bring proof of DC residency, resumes, and dress for success!

CONTACT: visit http://www.norton.house.gov/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1664 for more details.

Counselors Corner

Ms. Teri

At times there is an assumption that as students age, they require less parental interaction. However, being at El Haynes has actually shown me something quite different. A student's desire to communicate with a trusted adult extends beyond a specific age. So whether you are 5 years old and trying to manage to build positive social relationships or 13 years old and processing ways to communicate your worries and concerns to a teacher, the need for coaching and support from a trusted adult is an ongoing process. Sharing time and space with your child is a perfect setting for such connections. Have fun talking

“A child may not, especially a teenager, may not come right out and say ‘mom, dad, I want to spend more time with you.’ But what we’ve seen as far as numbers and research goes, kids do want it and parents may just need to approach the children and say, ‘let’s do something together.’”

– Kindell Schoffner, PsyD, licensed psychologist

Moody, short-tempered, isolated...all words that are typically used to describe a teen. But according to a survey by 'Family Circle', beneath that angst-ridden façade is a kid who is much different than he or she appears.

On appearances, 16-year-old Reid Turner is much like other teens. He plays video games, loves music, and spends time by himself.

But there's something about him that may surprise you.

When asked if he'd like to spend more time with his parents he says, "I think it'd be cool if my parents worked less, just because I'd get to see them more."

In fact, in a recent survey, 70 percent of teens said they were happy with how much attention they get from their parents.

And nearly a quarter wished they could spend more time together.

Experts say that, to some parents, this number may come as a shock.

"I think sometimes, teenagers' behavior, how they act, what they do, is different from what they think and feel," says licensed psychologist Dr. Kindell Schoffner. "And that might throw parents off a little bit."

She says isolation, mood swings and wanting to spend more time with friends is all a part of growing up, but, "parents take that as, 'I don't want to have anything to do with you', which is not necessarily the case. It's just that they're trying, the teenager is trying to find a balance between being independent, but yet still being a part of the family."

What Parents Need To Know

- While nearly a quarter of teen respondents said their parents don't seem to have enough time to spend with them, the majority of the parents surveyed did not report having struggles with finding enough time to spend with their kids. This disconnect may be the result of parents underestimating the amount of time their kids want and need from adults.
(Dr. Holly Kreider, Harvard Graduate School of Education)
- Teens say it's the simple things -like taking walks, sharing meals, playing games, watching TV and talking more with each other - that they most want to do more of with their parents.
(Opinion Research Corporation)

Resources

- American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- Georgia Psychological Association