



PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

E.L. HAYNES HERALD

August 27, 2009

E.L. HAYNES

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Dear E.L. Haynes Families,

The Department of Education has been working diligently to stop reading loss through “Read to the Top!” a summer reading initiative, also awarding Striving Readers grants aimed at raising the literacy level of adolescent students and building a strong, scientific research base for adolescent literacy instruction. In the press release from their office Secretary Arne Duncan states, “The road to academic success begins early, which is why early childhood learning and reading are so important. When we read to our kids, it helps them become better readers and develop a love of reading on their own.”



This past Friday, all Haynes first graders had the opportunity to attend one of the DOE’s readings, held downtown at the national office. Highlights included Ambassador to the United Nations Susan Rice captivating students with a reading of Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day by Judith Viorst, and Secretary Duncan addressing the group and answering questions raised by the student audience. A brave Lusya asked, “Do you believe in charter schools?” while Damianna offered that, “The reason I like my school

E.L. Haynes is because I’m going to college.” Equally exciting, all students took home a book of their own, and a handful of our students were asked to take a photo with Secretary Duncan that may be featured in an upcoming issue of TIME magazine!

The importance of reading is at the top of President Obama, the Secretary of Education, and our list! Keep encouraging your students to help us climb the 6 Million Minute Mountain by reading with them and letting them read to you. We look forward to seeing all pre-K through 2nd grade families tonight from 6-8 PM for Back to School Night, and next Thursday for 3rd to 7th graders from 6-8 PM to learn more about our literacy curriculum and the rest of what your students will learn in this school year.



Sincerely,

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

Eric Westendorf, Principal, 4th – 7th Grades

The Next Two Weeks at E.L. Haynes

30	31	1	2	3 Back-To-School Night for grades 3 rd -7 th from 6-8 PM	4 All School Meeting, 8:45-9:15 Dismissal at 1:00 PM for all students There will NOT be any EDP/After School on this day!	5
6	7 NO SCHOOL— LABOR DAY HOLIDAY	8 Parent Input to High School Education Program from 6 – 7 PM	9	10	11	12

NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

E.L. Haynes Community Basketball for Adults: On Wednesday nights come play some ball with the E.L. Haynes staff and parents in our gym. Play is from 6-8 pm and all skill levels are welcome! You must sign a waiver and have it approved by Ms. Bethany or Ms. Niles before you may play. **ELH will cover the cost of the security guard for the next three Wednesday nights (8/26, 9/2, and 9/9).** After that players will need to pitch in to cover the cost. Lastly, this is for adults only.

On Time Arrival: Please have your children in the building by **8:20 am!** Our class morning meetings begin at 8:30am SHARP, and we need all students seated and ready to participate. Please do your part to ensure that your child gets off to a great morning start!

Back to School Night: Come meet your child's teachers and visit their classrooms! Thursday, September 3, 3rd-7th grade; 6pm-8pm

Next All School Meeting: Friday, September 4, 8:45-9:30 – all parents welcome!

We Love Our Parent & Family Volunteers! Thank you to the parents who turned in their volunteer sheet! Our teachers and staff so appreciate the help you're able to give to EL Haynes, to only make the school stronger. Please turn your form in if you would like to volunteer and haven't yet done so - if you need additional forms, they are on the lobby tables.

Parent Input to our High School Education Program: Tuesday, September 8 from 6 – 7 PM. All parents/guardians are welcome to come for an evening of brainstorming about what you want to see in the ELH High School. Ms. Niles will host this session. Put your thinking cap on, dream big, and join us!

High School Charrette: Saturday, September 12 from 9 am – 1 pm. If you're interested in architecture, please let Ms. Niles know if you'd like to join a group of parents, staff members, students, and board members imagine what our new high school facility should look like. Space is limited, so let Ms. Niles know soon if you are interested.

Labor Day Holiday: September 7 – school closed

We Need Room Parents! If you would like to help out your child's classroom by being the liaison between the teacher and parents, please fill out the form that is included in today's Thursday Express.

Safe Routes to School Committee: Help keep our students safe as they travel to and from school! Led by Paul Zukerberg, we could use some extra hands for the following:

1. Help with the Safe Route's classroom survey. The survey (to be completed in the classrooms) has already been created. We need help in handing it out and collating the results.
2. Help plan the Safe Route's fall school event. This will involve the Washington Area Bicycling Ass., DDO'T, MPD and others!
3. Help lobbying the City Council to adopt the Safe Route's engineering recommendations for our school, the most important of which is the renovation of the intersection of Otis and New Hampshire, in accord with the engineering recommendations in our Safe Routes plan.

If you're interested in helping with any or all of the above, please contact Paul at pzuk@speakeasy.net or by phone at:
202.309.3760 (cell)
202.986.4744 (evening)
202.232.8484 (day)

Counselors Corner

Ms. Teri

Continue to support your children through the transition back to school. Although as adults we may feel adjusted to the new school year, our students are still meeting new friends and adjusting to new adult staff, as well as new academic standards. In addition students are managing emotions associated with students who have not returned to E.L. Haynes this school year and meeting the new members of our school community. Enjoy this time to explore any additional thoughts and concerns they may have about transitioning to school.

As a reminder, it is worth taking some time to think about what kids have to face when they start a new school year or even a new school.

Transitions test the emotional resiliency of all children, but may specifically trigger problems for children who are at risk for emotional problems, particularly anxiety disorders.

Many parents and even many professionals don't realize that social problems are the number one source of back to school anxiety. Kids worry about making new friends, keeping old friends, being teased, and just fitting in. So whether you are a parent or a teacher, take a few moments to talk about the social problems those kids face when they start school. Like other emotional intelligence skills, social skills can be learned. (Excerpt taken from Dr Shiparos EQ Kids Newsletter-August 2009)

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