



PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

E.L. HAYNES HERALD

September 24, 2009

E.L. HAYNES

3600 Georgia Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20010

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Dear E.L. Haynes Families,

Friday, October 9th is Parent-Teacher Conference Day. Please make sure you sign up for a conference with your teacher on the sign up sheets in the school's front lobby. This is an important time for you to understand how your student is doing and what you can do to support his/her success.

Here are some tips on how to prepare for the conference:

1. Read over your students' Progress Report ahead of time.
2. Identify some questions for the teachers, example:
 - ▶ *What does this reading level mean?*
 - ▶ *What can he/she do to raise that level?*
 - ▶ *What can I do at home to support his/her writing?*
3. Ask your questions during the conferences.
4. Make sure you leave the conference with clear next steps.
5. Make sure you know how you can follow up with the teacher(s)

Parent-Teacher Conferences can sometimes be difficult. We all believe that parents and teachers should be partners but both groups often feel a mix of inadequacy and anxiety when we meet. We come to the table with different experiences with our child/student, and different memories and feelings of our own schooling experiences.

One recommendation, by sociologist Sarah Lightfoot Lawrence, is to think of Parent-Teacher conferences as a conversation between neighbors chatting over the back fence. The conversation honors the fence that separates them but also marks their collective responsibility for all of the neighborhood children. It is a conversation that is natural and anticipates living side-by-side for years to come. I think this is a good way to think of Parent Teacher Conferences.

Sincerely,

Eric Westendorf, Principal, 4th - 7th Grades

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

The Next Two Weeks at E.L. Haynes

27 Nation's Parade	28 Yom Kippur 4-7 Community Circle	29 4-7 Community Circle	30	1	2	3
4	5	6 Student Picture Make Up Day	7	8 Hispanic Heritage Day	9 Parent Teacher Conferences	10

NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION



Hispanic Heritage Month is coming!! And we have two exciting events!!
Sunday, Sept. 27 “Nations Parade” and Mt. Pleasant Sts. NW where E.L. Haynes students will represent Latin American countries as dancers and drummers. On **Thursday, October 8**, we have “Dia Latino” (Latin Day) where we will celebrate with a parade of countries, food, music and a school-wide assembly. We need lots of parent volunteers to help organize and guide our students as they participate in these festive occasions. If you would like to volunteer, please see Maestra or Beth Hood. You can also call them at 667-4446 or email at: nalderson@elhaynes.org, bhood@elhaynes.org.

Tardies at E.L. Haynes Thank you to all who have made that extra effort to change their routine to be sure that their students are arriving on time! For those still coming after 8:30....

- You must sign in you child at the reception desk and include the reason for the tardy.
- If your student is late repeatedly, you must attend a meeting with an administrator.

Thank you in advance for making adjustments in your schedules, so that your child is at school on time, every day.

International Walk to School Day is October 7th! Join parents at Lamont Park at 7:30 to walk and bike to school. We’ll have snacks, prizes for the kids and a pedestrian safety demonstration by Dr. Bear.

October 9, Parent-Teacher Conferences Save the date for a 20 minute conference with your child’s teachers. We’ll be setting out sign-ups for times at the end of this week on the tables in the main lobby.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY – October 12 – School will be CLOSED this day during Fall Intersession

October 13 – 23rd Intersession: Soon you’ll be learning about the fun and engaging opportunities offered by EDP!! The list of activities will be out next week for sign ups.

The National Park Trust Assembly... has contacted us about partnering with them to build an appreciation for all things nature, especially parks and being in the Great Outdoors, and is coming to give our students in pre-K through 3rd grades a presentation on **Friday, September 25 from 8:45-9:15 AM.**



To our Parent Volunteers!! Special shout outs this week go to...

Leander Gray for facilitating our Thursday SPT meeting

The Ibo Family for bringing yummy snacks for the SPT

Mara Mlyn for inputting info from the parent volunteer sheets onto a spreadsheet

All of you who are coming into the classrooms to support our teachers!

COMMUNITY NEWS:

September 24, 2009

Video Football League Kick Off

Petworth Recreation Center, 801 Taylor Street, NW

Time: 5 pm - 8 pm

Ages: 10 – 15

Youth will enjoy participating in this friendly competition. Youth will play football video games for bragging rights. For more information, call Howard Marshall at (202) 576-6850.

Free Car Seat Distribution! Parents must attend two workshops offered on September 29th and October 6th, from 6pm-8pm at Centro Nia; 1420 Columbia Rd., NW. For more information, contact Enrique Torrico at 332-4200, ext. 119.

Counselor's Corner

Ms Teri

There are a select number of students who come to school looking quite tired and fatigued. These students appear irritable, unfocused and easily frustrated. Their interactions with adults and their peers are greatly impacted as well as their ability to learn in the classroom setting. As parents it's important that we prepare our students to be ready to learn as they enter our school as they prepare themselves for college.

How Much Should Your Child Sleep?

How much children sleep can affect learning at school

By [Katherine Lee](#), About.com

Parents' busy work schedules, after-school activities and homework can all cut into family time on school nights, and can have a big impact on how much a child sleeps. Given the fact that time together for so many households starts at around 6 or 7 o'clock or even later in the evening on a school night, it can be tough to set an early bedtime. And since experts say school-age children roughly need about ten hours of sleep -- which means they need to go to bed around 8 or 9 o'clock -- that doesn't leave much time for anything besides dinner, homework and reading one short book chapter together.

But it can be particularly important for grade-schoolers to get enough shut-eye. How much a child sleeps can have a big impact on her growth and development. Research has shown that lack of sleep can affect a child's temperament, behavior, alertness, and ability to learn. Children who do not get enough sleep have been shown to perform more poorly on memory and attention tests. And an April 2009 [study](#) found that sleep problems in the grade-school years were linked to poor scores on mental tests when the children reached adolescence.

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