



**E.L. HAYNES**

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PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

# E.L. HAYNES HERALD

December 3, 2009

Dear E.L. Haynes Families,

This week families from grades Pre-K through 1<sup>st</sup> were invited to join staff to learn more about the transition for the Early Childhood Program from Georgia Avenue to our new location at 4501 Kansas Avenue (the former Clark Elementary School). Families heard more about three major components of the move, including program, architectural design, and our steps going forward as a school community.

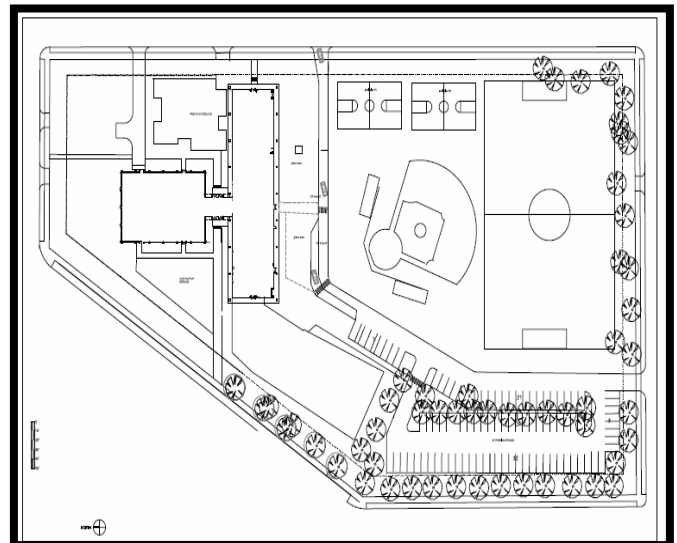
## Premier Early Childhood Program

Our move to Kansas Ave is built on the solid foundation of 6 years of Haynes Early Childhood Program success. We have spent large amounts of time doing research on developmentally appropriate practices, and visiting early childhood sites across the country, including outstanding schools in DC, Virginia, Maryland, New York, New Jersey, California, and Texas. The new site will be a space built just for our youngest students, having their own entrance, floors of classrooms, and specials and extra-curricular facilities. It will be a small and manageable community, complete with routines tailored for pre-K to 2nd graders. It is a facility that will allow for students to be given space to develop socially, emotionally, physically, and academically at an appropriate rate, forming habits and skills to build upon for the rest of their academic careers. There will also be space for the physical play necessary for their developmental growth, community building space (All School Meetings, on site play dates, etc.), and a Family Resource Center to bring families together and into the school.

## Architectural Design

Parents then looked over the latest floor plans, and learned more about the 3 major stages of construction. All of the construction for the spaces for grades pre-K through 2 will be completed in phase 1 before the start of the 2010-2011 school year. High School and field landscaping will take place over the next few years. Major features of the design include:

- ▶ Large, light-filled classrooms
- ▶ 3 classrooms at each grade level
- ▶ Serving 3 to 8 year olds
- ▶ Family Resource Center
- ▶ Many small group spaces
- ▶ 2 playgrounds and athletic fields
- ▶ 0.7 miles from 3600 Georgia
- ▶ ~50,000 sf | 5.0 acres



## Going Forward

There are a number of logistics that we know are important to our families going forward that were discussed including public transportation options, possible staggered school day start/end times, cohesion of program and culture between campuses, and the Extended Day Program and Intersession running at the Early Childhood Campus. Each of these issues will be part of an ongoing discussion involving current teaching staff who will move with us, administration, and families.

Parents/Guardians interested in being a part of planning for our move should join the Kansas Ave Committee (picnic planning, garden prep, going over above issues, etc.) which will begin meeting regularly in January. Please let me know if you're interested in being parent chair/co-chair of this group. If you are not interested in joining the committee, but want to be involved, you can:

- ▶ Participate in spring walk to Kansas Avenue Campus with the school community
- ▶ Participate in a service clean-up day on Friday, January 29
- ▶ Read monthly Kansas Ave updates in Thursday Express
- ▶ More opportunities will be shared! ☺

If you have great ideas, or have questions or concerns, please write them down to give to staff members, or committee members. You can also e-mail me directly at [mmolitor@elhaynes.org](mailto:mmolitor@elhaynes.org), or give a call at 202-667-4446. Thanks and we're looking forward to working with you on this exciting new location for Haynes.

Sincerely,



Michelle Molitor, Principal, Pre-K – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grades

### The Next 2 Weeks at E.L. Haynes

|       |                |                   |              |                                      |   |  |
|-------|----------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| 29    | MONDAY,<br>30  | TUESDAY,<br>Dec 1 | WEDNESDAY, 2 | THURSDAY, 3                          | FRIDAY, 4<br>Drop off of<br>items for<br>Bazaar - 6pm-<br>9pm   | 5<br>Haynes<br>Holiday<br>Bazaar<br>10am – 2<br>pm |
| Dec 6 | MONDAY, 7<br>) | TUESDAY, 8        | WEDNESDAY, 9 | THURSDAY, 10<br>Winter Concert – 6pm | FRIDAY, 11<br>Ms. Bryant's<br>Class<br>Potluck, ELH<br>– 6:30pm | 12   |

## NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION

**THE BAZAAR IS HERE!! Saturday, December 5** – ELH Holiday Bazaar is from 10am – 2pm. Volunteers are needed for Friday evening to help set up and during the event itself. Please see the flyer in today's Thursday Express for details.

**The E.L. Haynes Choir and Dance Ensemble's WINTER CONCERT: THURSDAY DECEMBER 10 at 6pm** in the Cafeteria. Please come and attend! Students will showcase their hard work from these two electives. We would also love to have parents bring refreshments for the students following the concert! If you're able to bring a desert, snacks or beverage, please sign up on the table in the main lobby.



**Food Donations:** Thank you to all who made generous contributions to our food bins for donations. We are going to keep the bin in the main lobby for any who would like to continue donating food – as we know that this time of year can be difficult for many and we would like to continue donating food to families in need.

**Breakfast is Essential...** Speaking of food, we have been noticing that several children are coming to the nurse's office with headaches or stomach aches due to not having eaten breakfast. Please make sure your child has breakfast in the morning, or is here before 8:10a.m. in order to eat with us here at school. This will help your child have a great start to their day!

**SPT Meeting – Monday, December 14!** 6:15-7:15pm – The presentation will be on “Understanding the New E.L. Haynes Progress Reports” and will be from 6:15-6:45. Committees will meet after the presentations.

**El Grupo Folklorico's Splendid Performance:** On behalf of the Friends of the 16th St. Heights Parks, I would like to thank Maestra Alderson and all of the students with El Grupo Folklorico de E.L. Haynes who performed on Nov. 7 at the 2nd Annual Fall Fiesta sponsored by the Friends of the 16th St. Heights Parks and the DC Department of Parks and Recreation. This was a wonderful community event where over 200 people gathered to enjoy music, food, and their wonderful community park. The Grupo Folklorico's performance was the highlight of the afternoon. Thank you again for bringing your lovely dancing, beautiful outfits, and smiling faces to our community.



Jean Badalamenti, President, Friends of the 16th St. Heights Parks

**Tuesday, December 8 - ANC Presentation for the Kansas Avenue Campus at Roosevelt High School.** The meeting starts at 6:30pm. All families are welcome to attend and we strongly encourage families from the Kansas Avenue community to attend. Please contact Ms. Griffin at 202-460-8918 or [pgriffin@elhaynes.org](mailto:pgriffin@elhaynes.org) if you plan to attend.

### **Community Activities:**

**Free Asthma Assessments:** George Washington University is offering free home visits to children diagnosed with Asthma to provide education, assessments, consultations, and resources on asthma management services. If interested, you can contact them at 202-994-9544 or [homes@gwu.edu](mailto:homes@gwu.edu).

**WHAT:** CREATE Arts Center Winter Break Camp

**WHEN:** December 21-24, 2009; December 28- 31, 2009 9am-3pm

