

New Information

I can't believe it is already November! I am so happy that COVID numbers are decreasing, and we are headed in the direction of a little more, "normalcy." We will continue school safety measures by limiting visitors in the building for the remainder of the semester. I am hoping that we can lift some of these restrictions at the top of the year. Thank you in advance for your patience and support.



Education is a shared commitment between dedicated teachers, motivated students, and enthusiastic parents with high expectations.

-Bob Beauprez

Parent University

Our first Parent University was held on Thursday, October 21st via TEAMS. This was an informational session on literacy and math strategies that was led by our Instructional Team.

If you missed the meeting, you can still view the presentation via the link below.

[Parent University Presentation](#)

[Presentación de la Universidad de Padres](#)

Your feedback helps us improve the services and events we offer to build your confidence and ability to academically support your child(ren) at home and partner with us in their education. Please use the link below to access and complete a brief evaluation survey about this meeting/event.

https://bit.ly/Evaluation_21-22

STEM Week

STEM week will be celebrated **Nov 8-12**.

Students in K-2 will be using crayons to learn about science and engineering. They will observe their properties, and explore how they can be changed by breaking, melting, and cooling. We will also design a process to recycle broken crayons.

3-5th will learn about two famous inventors, Henry Ford and Thomas Edison. They will learn the power of perseverance by engaging in the design process used by inventors and engineers. They will be challenged to create a toy car using everyday materials.

We will close the week with a visit from the GABIE Bus. It is a mobile, interactive, educational bus where students will learn all about Georgia Agriculture & Science. They will plant fruits, vegetables, and flowers to bring home, care for and grow. They will learn about the honeybee and how honey is made. They will also learn which crops and animals are grown in Georgia and participate in a scavenger hunt inside the Gabie Bus.

School Culture

School culture is a top priority at EJ. My primary responsibility is to ensure that students are provided a safe environment where instruction can occur at high levels.

Across the country, student behaviors have been challenging in our schools since COVID. We have noticed an increase in students challenging authority and having difficulty remaining engaged and on task throughout the building.

We are planning to have a school-wide reset the week of November 7th. During this time, the entire school will work on procedures and expectations. After the school reset, I will send our school procedures home to parents so that you can partner with us and reinforce expectations at home. Remember, *it takes a village*, and we are **#BetterTogether**.

Mask Mandate

Based on the latest two Fulton County Board of Health Epidemiology report and in alignment with the Fulton County Schools Mitigation Matrix, Esther Jackson will go to a mask optional learning environment beginning Monday, November 1. During that time, masks will be **highly encouraged** as a COVID-19 mitigation practice, but no longer required.

This will be an individual choice for families. Please speak with your student(s) to ensure that they know your preference for them wearing a mask. Teachers will be unable to keep track of individual family choice, so it is extremely important that your student knows your expectations.

*****Masks will still be required on ALL FULTON COUNTY SCHOOL BUSES. This is a federal mandate that we are required to follow.**

Join the PTA

Parents, WE NEED YOU! It's never too late to sign up for the PTA! Use this link to choose the membership option that works best for your family. Every member is important and we appreciate your support.

<https://estherjackson.memberhub.com/store>

We appreciate any amount you are able to give.

Thank You!

Thank you to our Martin's Landing residents who donated proceeds from their yard sales to our school snack pantry. Huge thanks go out to our diamond sponsor Veronika Barash (@ATLHousingStats) for organizing the yard sale and fundraiser. Over \$1300 was presented to Esther Jackson. We appreciate you, Veronika, and our Martin's Landing Community 😊!



EJ Dad's Club

We are now forming the 2021-2022 EJ Dad's Club.

No experience necessary (other than being an awesome role model). One of our first duties will be to help out at carpool on Friday mornings, but the hope is to do even more around EJ throughout the school year (i.e.gardening/landscaping/beautifying EJ, reading in classrooms, assisting PTA, etc.).

We are hoping to begin in January when we return from Winter Break. If you are interested, please email Erin Shurbutt (shurbutt@fultonschools.org) AND me (boydn@fultonschools.org).

Election Day – November 2, 2021

Esther Jackson will serve as a polling site for Election Day on Tuesday, November 2nd. The voting location will be in our main atrium area to ensure the safety and security of all students and staff. We are asking that all voters enter the Bus area and park in the available spaces on that side of the building. We will have identified Handicap parking spaces available and directions leading voters to the Day Care entrance of the school to exercise their right to vote. If you have any questions, please email Beth Poole (poole@fultonschools.org).

Late Start Days

Our second Late Start Day was a success. Teachers in grades K-2 were able to collaborate on unit planning and data review. We arranged to have Officer Ray for carpool at both arrival times based upon feedback we received. Unfortunately, there was a car fire on interstate 75 which caused him to not make it to EJ until the very end. Moving forward (unless there is an unfortunate event that occurs), Officer Ray will be present to direct traffic at our 7:10 and 8:10 drop off times.

If you have any feedback about our Late Start Days or anything else, please email me or use the feedback link below.

Principal Feedback

Parents, please use this link to provide feedback on how we can better serve you. I welcome questions, suggestions, concerns, and of course positive messages about EJ or any staff member. Please do not include questions about your student(s) performance. Instead, contact your student's teacher.

<https://forms.office.com/r/ybLvBC5J2J>

Dates to Remember

- **October 29** – Dress Up Day
- **November 2** – Election Day (School is OPEN for students)
- **November 5** – WWII Virtual Field Trip for 5th grade
- **November 9** – Fall Picture Retake Day
- **November 19** – Progress Reports Visible in Portal to Parents
- **November 22-27** – Thanksgiving Break (NO SCHOOL!)

Recurring School and Community News

Late Start Days – please add these to your calendar

This year, Fulton County added the following **6 Late Start Days** to the District calendar. On these dates, we will begin school exactly one hour late. This will allow schools to collaborate in Professional Learning Communities and receive Professional Development.

- ✓ September 20th, 2021
- ✓ October 25th, 2021
- January 24th, 2022
- February 28th, 2022 (update)

November 15th, 2021

March 21st, 2022

School buses will continue to run at the normal time. Students who ride the school bus will be picked up at normal times and we will have staff available to supervise and complete instructional activities with them. Parents who drive students to school can either drop students off at the normal time (7:10 – 7:40), or one hour late (8:10 – 8:40).

My door is always open, and I welcome your feedback.

In Partnership,

Nikol