

Shark Bytes

Shakerag Elementary

Celebrating Learning. Inspiring Leaders.

Christine Lemerond, Principal

Margaret Mathas, Assistant Principal

March 12, 2021

Follow us on Twitter: [@ShakeragElem](https://twitter.com/ShakeragElem)

Visit our website: www.shakeragelementary.com

NO SCHOOL MONDAY, MARCH 15: Professional Development Day

March 22, 23, & 24: Universal Remote Learning Days (See more details below)

Don't forget to set your clocks forward one hour for Daylight Savings Time (Sunday 2:00 a.m.)

Shark Tales:

It has been a year to remember!

On Thursday, March 12, 2020, students attended school face-to-face for what would be the last full day all students would be in our building, some still yet to return. We know this past year has been extremely difficult for so many. We just wanted to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your continued support. As a community, we have overcome so many challenges. We are so proud of all of our students, staff, and families. We are looking forward to a wonderful 4th and final quarter of this unconventional school year! I know we will all finish strong!

Welcome Back Sharks!

We would like to welcome back all of our SHARKS that will be returning for face-to-face learning starting on Tuesday, March 16. If you have a returning student, please make sure your child's homeroom teacher has received their dismissal information.

Universal Remote Learning Days

As communicated by Fulton County Schools(FCS) earlier this week, all FCS elementary schools will be in Universal Remote Learning on Monday, March 22 – Wednesday, March 24 and again on Monday, April 12-Friday, April 16 in order to support the district's efforts to provide vaccination opportunities for all school personnel. Please [Click here](#) for more information.

Meal Kits for Face-to-Face Students (March 22-24)

To ensure children have access to essential nutrition over the Universal Remote Learning days on March 22, March 23, and March 24, Fulton County School Nutrition is providing FREE Meals to students at your school. Your student's meal kit will contain 6 meals, 3 breakfasts & 3 lunches, to be enjoyed on the days that school is virtual. These meals are FREE for all face-to-face students. Meals will be distributed through our Bus Lane on **Friday, March 19 from 8:30- 9:30AM**. Order forms were sent home with students yesterday, Thursday, in their "Friday" Folders. Please complete the form and return it to your child's teacher no later than **Tuesday, March 16**. If your child did not receive an order form, and you would like to request meals, please click [here](#).

GA Milestones Update for Students in Grades 3-5

Families of our 3rd – 5th grade students received an email on Wednesday, March 10, which included information about our upcoming Georgia Milestones administration, as well as a participation survey. If you haven't done so already, please click [here](#) to complete a survey for each of your children in grades 3-5 (you will need your child's student ID number) to help us prepare for spring testing. Your survey response is critical so we know whether your child will or will not participate in Georgia Milestones this year! The survey will remain open until **Friday, March 19**. Our goal is for ALL families to respond to the survey, including those learning face-to-face and those learning remotely. If you have any questions, please reach out to our testing coordinator, Ms. Margaret Mathas, at mathasm@fultonschools.org.

Since our communication on Wednesday, we have frequently been asked the following question:

If my child does not take Georgia Milestones, will there be any impact on my child's grades and/or ability to be promoted to the next grade level?

Answer: Georgia Milestones is designed to provide information about how well students are mastering the state-adopted content standards. We are offering, and highly encourage, this testing opportunity for all students, however, there are no repercussions or consequences if your child does not participate. If you refuse testing, it will have no impact on end-of-year grades or next year, as it relates to promotion and retention.

Please see below for the district assessment schedule for face-to-face testing during the normal school day:

April 26	April 27	April 28	April 29	April 30
	Grades 3-5 ELA Section 1	Grades 3-5 ELA Section 2	Grades 3-5 ELA Section 3	
May 3	May 4	May 5	May 6	May 7
	Grades 3-5 Math Section 1	Grades 3-5 Math Section 2	Grade 5 Science	

Teacher and Professional of the Year

Please join me in congratulating Ms. Courtney Lesman and Ms. Sydney Johnson as our Teacher and Professional of the Year representatives. We are extremely proud of our entire staff for overcoming many challenges this year. The staff had the difficult decision of selecting just one representative for each category. Congratulations again to Ms. Lesman for representing Shakerag as our Teacher of the Year and Ms. Johnson as our Professional of the Year.

Thank you for your continued support!

We would like to extend a giant THANK YOU to Julian Thompson and Widad Saad for securing donations from Starbucks and Dunkin' Donuts for a surprise breakfast treat for our WONDERFUL teachers!! We greatly appreciate your kindness and generosity! This was such a special way to reward our teachers and staff for all of their hard work.

We would also like to thank Ms. JoAnn Tran again for her generous donation. We were able to treat our teachers to a great fiesta in celebration of Nacho Ordinary Year, Nacho Ordinary Staff! Thank you so much Ms. Tran!

Save the Date: Spring Picture Day

Shakerag's Spring Picture Day is coming up on Thursday, April 1. Just like the fall, we are thrilled to be able to offer school pictures to all of our Sharks, both face-to-face and remote! To order your school pictures, click [here](#) and enter the Picture Day ID: **EVT7DGNNS**. Please be sure to submit your order on or before Thursday, April 1!

Attention All Remote Learners:

Remote students are invited to come to Shakerag to have their pictures taken between 8:00-10:00 AM on Thursday, April 1. Please click [here](#) to indicate your intent to participate in Spring Picture Day if your child is a remote learner.

K-2 Textbook Adoption

Our district is in the final phases of adopting a new textbook series for Reading and Language Arts for Kindergarten through 2nd grade. The textbook options have been narrowed to two resources: *Benchmark Workshop* and *Wonders*. There will be an extended public review of the materials at each school. Parents and teachers are invited to review the two resources and complete the electronic survey located on the district website. Materials for the two textbook series will be set up in the front entryway of Shakerag Elementary for public review beginning next week through March 26. The selection of the textbook resource will be recommended to the FCS school board in April, with a final decision made in May. For additional details, please [click here](#).

Spring Registration for the 2021-2022 School Year

Spring Registration will be held on **March 31-April 1** for NEW students (Kindergarten through 5th grade) who will be joining us at Shakerag in August. Registration will be conducted all **online**. If your child is currently enrolled at Shakerag, there are no actions needed for enrollment for next school year. If you know of any families new to the area or meet a new family over the summer, please encourage them to enroll as soon as possible! For more information, please visit our [website](#).

Registration for the Pre-K Lottery is **March 1-March 19**. Registration is conducted through the district and the information can be found [here](#). If a parent misses the March 19 deadline, they will be placed at the bottom of the waiting list. The lottery will be held on **April 1 at 3:30 PM**. It will be recorded and posted on our website. For more information on the lottery process at Shakerag, please visit our website by clicking [here](#).

Student Devices Grades 2-5

Student Devices are Fulton County Schools property. As a reminder, by accepting a student device you have agreed to the Device User Acceptance Terms. Students agree to take care of their device, keep food and beverages away from it, use it in ways that are appropriate, understand that nothing done or kept on the device is private, along with many other rules. Please click [here](#) to see the full version of the Device User Acceptance Form as your child has agreed to the rules set forth in the Pledge.

A Message from the School Governance Council (SGC):

We invite you to visit our School Governance Council (SGC) website, which can be accessed by clicking [here](#). Our latest Strategic Plan, as well as other relevant SGC information, is posted to this site for your convenience. Our next SGC meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, April 15 at 8:00 AM** via Microsoft TEAMS.

A Message from the Foundation:

The Foundation at Shakerag Elementary School is currently in need of a **Secretary** for the 2021-2022 school year. The foundation is a separate 501 (c) 3 organization formed to benefit the school through fundraising activities and community engagement. The community outreach collection of school supplies and coats for Hamilton E. Holmes Elementary School, spirit nights, teacher appreciation gift cards, business partnership program, and employee matching contributions are just a few of this year's activities. This position is a limited time commitment with a big impact to the school. We would love to welcome you to the foundation as our Secretary. The Foundation at Shakerag Elementary School is also looking to expand

its members. We currently have a 7-person organization. As a member at large, you would participate in meetings, approximately once a month, and volunteer if needed for any upcoming fundraiser activities hosted by the foundation. Please contact Karen James at jamesk@fultonschools.org for more information.

FCS News:

Fulton County Schools COVID-19 Information Site

The FCS COVID-19 site provides updates regarding resources, cases, positive trend rates, and pediatric reports. For the latest information on COVID-19 in Fulton County, please click [here](#) to access the site.

Fulton County Board of Health COVID-19 Reporting Site

The Fulton County Board of Health and Fulton County Schools have developed an on-line portal for FCS parents/guardians to report student COVID-19 related cases. The portal has been updated to include Spanish, Korean, and Chinese language options. FCS parent/guardians will find a dropdown at the top right for translations. **Please make a report to the FCBOH when your student is COVID-19 positive, has a pending COVID-19 test result, or has been in direct contact with a COVID-19 positive person.** Also, please use this resource for official reporting rather than alerting the school and/or teacher. If you must engage the school/teacher, please do so after you have made an official report to the FCBOH. Lastly, to ensure the protection of our school community, please **do not** allow your child to attend school or school-sponsored events when he/she is ill and/or has any of the above COVID-19 concerns. **Please click [here](#) for more details and consider posting this document in a visible location, i.e. the refrigerator, for easy access.**

www.fultonschools.org/ReportCOVID

In the Community:

Tutor Shop

The Tutor Shop Afterschool Program has begun, and they are still accepting student applications. The program is offered on the Shakerag campus from 2:30-6:30 PM Monday – Friday. Please click [here](#) for additional details and registration information.

We hope you all have an AMAZING LONG weekend!

Remember to...

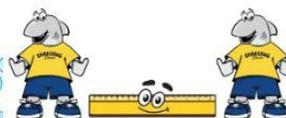
Wear Your Mask...



Wash Your Hands...



Keep Your Distance...



Sanitize...

