

Shark Bytes

Shakerag Elementary
Christine Lemerond, Principal
Samantha Weaver, Assistant Principal

August 11, 2023

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Visit our website: www.shakeragelementary.com

Shark Tales:

Welcome Back!

We had an amazing first week of school! I would like to send out a special welcome to any new members of our Shakerag family, both students and staff. As I walked the halls and visited classrooms, it felt like we had never left. I am overjoyed by the smiles and enthusiasm. If I can ever be of assistance, please feel free to call (470.254.3880) or email me (lemerond@fultonschools.org), and I'll do my best to help. It is going to be a GREAT year of learning!



Welcome Ms. Weaver!

Please join me in welcoming our new Assistant Principal, **Ms. Samantha Weaver**, to the Shakerag family. The Fulton County School Board approved Ms. Weaver's promotion at Thursday night's board meeting. We hope you will be able to stop by and meet her during our curriculum nights (See additional details below). If you need to reach out to Ms. Weaver, her email is weavers@fultonschools.org.

Thank you, Jack Maloney!

On behalf of the entire school, we would like to thank Jack Maloney, Troop 2000, and all of the amazing volunteers that worked during the hot summer days to beautify all three of our courtyards. It has been years since they have looked this beautiful. Thank you so much and congratulations on the completion of your Eagle Scout project!

Label Personal Items

Please label all personal items with your child's First and Last Name and teacher's name. We have had lunch boxes, backpacks and water bottles that have been found with no identification on them. This will help our staff get these items back to the correct student.

Teacher Assignments

As shared in your Sneak Peek packets, we are watching our enrollment very carefully. We are now focused on 2nd Grade. Current teacher assignments are tentative pending the potential allocation of additional teachers and/or the reduction of teachers. We will continue to keep you updated as more information is shared with us throughout the district-wide enrollment count process. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work through this process each year and welcome all of our amazing new families.

Carpool

We want to thank all of our carpool families for doing an excellent job at morning and afternoon carpool. Please continue to make sure you have your carpool number visible each afternoon. This helps speed up dismissal.

PE Reminders

Greetings from PE! Mr. Smith and Ms. Irma are looking forward to a great year in Health and PE. They would like to reach out and remind all parents that on PE days, students should be wearing sneakers/tennis shoes. If it is raining or cold and your child wears boots/rain boots to school, please have your students pack a pair of sneakers/tennis shoes to change into if they have PE that day. This is for safety reasons as they do a lot of running and moving around in PE.

Curriculum Nights – Mark your calendars!

At Shakerag, we believe that we are one big family working together to support the success of every child. A key to that success is open communication. We hope you will be able to join us for Curriculum Night as teachers will walk you through the class structure/schedule for their grade level and what you need to know to help your child be successful for the year. **This is a night for parents and teachers only! If you must bring your child, he/she will need to sit with you in the classroom for the duration of the evening.**

- **Tuesday, August 22 from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. – Pre-K – 2nd Grade Curriculum Night**
- **Thursday, August 24 from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. – 3rd – 5th Grade Curriculum Night**

Following each curriculum night, we ask all families to join us in the cafeteria for a brief PTO meeting. We will share important updates for the school year.

Newcomers Coffee

If you are NEW to Shakerag... Welcome to the family! Please mark your calendar for our Newcomers Coffee on Tuesday, August 29, at 8:00 a.m.

TAG Eligibility Update

As of August 2022, iReady reading and math percentiles will now count as gifted eligibility scores in the area of achievement. In past years, they have been used by the TAG Department for screening purposes only. Please click [here](#) for more information on the TAG Eligibility Process.

Spirit Night at Culver's on Wednesday, August 16 AND Thursday, August 17

Due to the outstanding support and generosity of our community partner Culver's, for the first time, we are able to offer our Spirit Night on TWO nights! Join your friends and neighbors at Culver's (3135 Peachtree Parkway) on **Wednesday, August 16 and/or Thursday, August 17 from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

Culver's has generously offered to donate 15% of ALL sales that evening towards our school for dine-in AND drive-thru orders. Each child will receive a free custard (Culver's specialty ice cream) with each kid's meal purchase.

Attention ALL 2nd Grade Families

Fulton County Schools is requiring all families who are new to the district and/or those entering grades 2, 7 and 10 to submit two proofs of residency prior to the start of the school year. One of the approved utility items and one of the approved residency items must be provided. If you did not have a chance to complete this process at sneak peek, please stop by the front desk between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. to show your **original documents** to our data clerk, Mrs. Gatlin Cleary. We must see the original and then we will keep the copy to scan and upload to your child's permanent record. If proof of residency is not provided by the first day of school, your child will be placed on a provisional enrollment for 30 days. On the 31st day of enrollment, if proof of residency has still not been provided, your child will have to be withdrawn from school.

One Utility Items: Current water or electric monthly statement (Note: Gas bills are not accepted)

One Residency Items: Current mortgage bill/statement, Home sales contract, Current apartment/house lease, Section Eight/HUD housing document, Current HOA bill

Both documents must contain parent/guardian name and current address where the student resides.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Gatlin Cleary at GatlinCleary@fultonschools.org.

A Message from the School Governance Council (SGC):

School Governance Council Meeting

We invite you to visit our School Governance Council (SGC) website, which can be accessed by clicking [here](#) or via our school website (click [here](#)) under the 'ABOUT' drop-down menu. 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 Wednesday, September 13, at 8:00 a.m.

FCS News:

Bus Transportation:

We encourage all parents to download the "**Here Comes the Bus**" app. It is a free app that enables you to see the location of your child's school bus on a smartphone, tablet, or personal computer. Click [here](#) for instructions on downloading the app. For bus stop information, please click [here](#) or you can visit their [webpage](#) for more information.

We also encourage you to practice buckling and unbuckling seatbelts with your child(ren). Some of our buses are now equipped with seatbelts and students are required to wear them while riding the bus. We appreciate your support in making sure your child adheres to this important safety step.

School Nutrition Updates

The cafeteria will serve breakfast and lunch for those who wish to participate. Breakfast will be served from 7:10 - 7:40 a.m. All students are invited to **purchase** food at school, as it is a well-balanced meal.

- When a child's account balance reaches a negative \$10, they will be offered a special lunch (cheese sandwich and a milk) until payment is made on their account. You may send in cash, or a check written out to "Shakerag Elementary Café" with your child in the morning with their name and teacher's name on the envelope. You may also pay online at www.mypaymentsplus.com.
- **Free & Reduced Meal Applications for the 2023-2024 School Year:** The Free & Reduced Meal Benefits Program is a part of the National Child Nutrition Program. This program makes Free or Reduced priced meals available to qualifying households. Qualifications are based on the gross income of all household members and the number of persons living in the house. A **new** application must be completed every school year. If there is an interruption in benefits or the household does not reapply, the household is responsible for payment of meals until the Free and Reduced Application is approved. **Free & Reduced Meal Applications are available in the cafeteria and anytime online beginning July 24, 2023. Visit www.fulton.schoolsapp.com to begin the online application process.** Fulton County receives funding from a variety of federal grants based on the number of children in the district that QUALIFY for Free or Reduced priced meals, regardless if they choose to participate in the meal program. Many federal grant awards are allocated nationally to public school districts based on Free and Reduced percentages such as Title-1, E-RATE, and The National Direct Teacher Loan Cancellation Program.

Café News - Birthday Treats

Class birthday treats may be purchased for students to enjoy during lunch. Parents need to contact the cafeteria manager Santanav@fultonschools.org and the classroom teacher at least 2 weeks prior to the date of the celebration. If there are multiple children with the same birthday, only one birthday treat will be served on that day. **No outside food, goody bags, or class gifts are permitted for distribution to students.**

Fulton County Schools Student Code of Conduct Handbook

Fulton County Schools' Student Code of Conduct & Discipline Handbook is available online in a PDF format (click [here](#)). Once you have read the electronic version and have reviewed the contents with your student(s), please take a moment to complete the **Acknowledgement of Receipt Form** by using the provided link to access Infinite Campus' [Parent Portal](#). Here is a link with instructions on how to complete the Acknowledgement of Receipt Form ([Link](#)). **All parents and students (over 10 years old) MUST sign this form found within your INFINITE CAMPUS PARENT/STUDENT PORTAL ACCOUNT.** If you would like a paper copy of the Handbook, you or your student can pick one up in the front office.

The district has recently implemented revisions to the 2023-2024 Student Code of Conduct. Please click [here](#) for a quick overview.

In the Community:

Kristin McCabe's Community Meeting

Our school board member, Kristin McCabe, will be hosting a community meeting on Thursday, August 17, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. at Abbotts Hill Elementary School (10495 Jones Bridge Road, Johns Creek, GA 30022). All are welcome to join.

Calling all Girls interested in joining Girl Scouts!

The Girl Scouts of Oakwood Circle Service Unit will be hosting their Annual Girl Scout Troop Organizational Meeting on Saturday, August 19 at 2:00 p.m. at the Shakerag Fire Station (10925 Rogers Circle, Johns Creek, GA 30097). Please click [here](#) to RSVP. If you are interested in joining a troop, please fill out the interest form by clicking [here](#).

Cub Scout Pack 1000

Cub Scout Pack 1000 will have an information and sign-up meeting on Sunday, August 20, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. at the Johns Creek Presbyterian Church's youth garage, 10950 Bell Road, Johns Creek. Come learn how you can start your son or daughter on the path to becoming an Eagle Scout. If you have questions and/or can not make it, please visit <https://www.pack1000.org> or email us at pack1000cubscouts@gmail.com!

The Tutor Shop

Tutor Shop is an academic based after school program that is offered in schools. Please click [here](#) for more information.

Have a great weekend!

