

Shark Bytes

Shakerag Elementary
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September 8, 2023

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Visit our website: www.shakeragelementary.com

Shark Tales:



Intruder/Hard Lockdown Drill

Today, in compliance with the Georgia Safe Schools Act, we conducted an Intruder Alert/Hard Lockdown Drill. The drills are designed to familiarize our students, staff, and community with ways to protect and prepare against a potential threat posed by an armed intruder.

Our teachers train on all safety drills each year, and we conduct all drills with our students at least twice each year. Our intruder drill is called a hard lockdown drill, and our students have already practiced it once. All schools in Fulton County have been instructed to conduct this drill using our Centegix badge system, which was installed in every Fulton County school last year. Because of this, the drill looked and sounded different to our students and staff although the actions they took were the same as our normal hard lockdown drill.

During the drill today, lights flashed, an alarm sounded, and an automated speaker announced that we are in an intruder situation. An administrator also made an all-school announcement prior to the drill to reassure students, staff, and visitors that we were moving into our hard lockdown drill and that it was only a drill. Teachers also reviewed our procedures with students to prepare them for this important drill.

I encourage you to talk with your children tonight and reinforce the preventative stance we are taking. As always, thank you for your partnership as we work to ensure a safe, secure, and positive learning environment for our students.

Fall Picture Day

Fall Picture Day is Thursday, September 14. Lifetouch will be taking our individual portraits for the yearbook. These pictures will be available for purchase at mylifetouch.com. Order forms were also sent home last week in your child's Friday folder.

Hands on Shakerag – Saturday, September 23

On September 23, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., all Shakerag families and friends are invited to help us beautify our school by planting, removing weeds, and spreading pine straw around the school. Bring gardening gloves, yard waste bags, and your water bottles. The more families we have available to help, the faster we can go in completing this amazing project! Please sign up at [Hands - On - Shakerag 2023](#). Thank you so much in advance for helping to make our campus beautiful.

School Satisfaction Surveys

You may have noticed that our teachers and staff have a [School Satisfaction Survey](#) link at the bottom of each email signature. All survey responses are sent directly to the principal of each school. When completing the survey, you can choose to enter an email address or remain anonymous. I have received a few so far this year and I appreciate your feedback. I love sharing the positive feedback with the staff and would like to follow-up on any areas of growth for us. When completing a school satisfaction survey that includes growth opportunities for us, please provide specific information and as much detail as possible so that we can address the concern. Being specific will help us improve our practices. Thank you so much for the feedback!

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.**

A Message from the Shakerag PTO:

PTO Membership

Our PTO has consistently provided our students with outstanding and fun activities and events over the years. Your financial support directly impacts the quality and quantity of academic programs, materials and all the fun events our PTO provides. Please visit the PTO website to support our mission by purchasing the membership [HERE](#). Every membership makes a huge difference.

BINGO Night is Coming!

The SHAKERAG PTO is excited to announce their fall fundraising event for the year! Mark your calendar for this in-person Shakerag family event taking place on **Friday, October 20, 2023 (2 sessions: 5:30-7:00 PM & 7:30-9:00 PM)**. We are bringing back all the elements you love about Bingo Night, from the Silent Auction to the Raffle Baskets to many opportunities to score some AMAZING PRIZES!

Without your support, this event cannot be successful. Please help us make this year's fall fundraiser as successful as it has been in the past by making a donation. The money collected from your donation is used to purchase Bingo Prizes & Raffle items. All proceeds help support school programs and events. [Click Here To Donate NOW!](#)

We are also accepting any prize-worthy items/services that can be offered as Silent Auction or Raffle Prize items (e.g., game tickets, vacation home rentals, iPad, gift cards, etc.). This is a great way to promote your store or business while also helping to support the school. Please contact this year's PTO Fall Fundraising Coordinators, Krista Zimmerman (kzimmerman73@gmail.com) and Megan Milovich (megan.milovich@yahoo.com) if you have any items to offer. We appreciate everyone's support and look forward to seeing you at Bingo Night!

FCS News:

Emergency Release of Students and Dismissal Precautions

Today, in Friday folders, you should have received a flyer focusing on updating Emergency Contact Information (click [here](#)). Please review this document carefully and make any necessary corrections using the directions included on the flyer. Should you have any questions and/or need any assistance updating your child's emergency contact information, please reach out to our school data clerk, Courtney Gatlin Cleary, at gatlinclearc@fultonschools.org.

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, invitations, or class gifts are permitted for distribution to students.**

In the Community:

Girls in STEM!

Girls in STEM aims to encourage young girls to pursue the field of STEM by introducing them early to the field of science. Monthly meetings will be held on Thursdays from 3:30 – 5:00 at Northview High School. Girls will participate in free experiments to learn about science and the STEM field. Please click [here](#) for more information.

Have a wonderful weekend!

