

Shark Bytes

Shakerag Elementary

Celebrating Learning. Inspiring Leaders.

Christine Lemerond, Principal

Margaret Mathas, Assistant Principal

December 18, 2020

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

Visit our website: www.shakeragelementary.com

December 19 - January 3: Winter Break - School Closed

January 4 & 5: Teacher Workday/Professional Development Day - No School

January 6-8: Remote Learning Days for ALL Students

We look forward to seeing all of our face-to-face students in school on Monday, January 11!

Shark Tales:



Happy Holidays!

Wow, what a wild first semester. 2020 continued to keep us on our toes. We can't thank the entire Shakerag community enough for the love and support you have shown. We all have so much to be proud of this year as we have made and lived history. On behalf of the entire shakerag staff, we would like to wish you and yours a SAFE and enjoyable winter holiday! Looking forward to new beginnings in 2021!

Return-to-School Plan – Second Semester:

As we return from winter break and kick-off second semester, Fulton County Schools will be phasing in our return over two weeks. The transition begins remotely for staff/students and ends with in-school learning.

- **The week of January 4-8:**
 - **Monday, 1/4 and Tuesday, 1/5:** Teacher Workday/Professional Development Day
 - **Wednesday, 1/6:** Second semester begins for students – REMOTE LEARNING FOR ALL STUDENTS PK-12
 - **Thursday, 1/7 and Friday, 1/8:** REMOTE LEARNING FOR ALL STUDENTS PK-12
- **The week of January 11-15:**
 - **Monday, 1/11:** Face-to-Face learning begins for students in PK-5 enrolled in that model (ALL students in Grades 6-12 will continue with Remote Learning)
 - **Tuesday, 1/12:** Face-to-Face learning for students in PK-5 enrolled in that model (ALL students in Grades 6-12 will continue with Remote Learning)
 - **Wednesday, 1/13:** ALL students PK-12 enrolled in Face-to-Face learning will return

A calendar representation of these details can be found here: [Transitioning Safely into Second Semester](#)

Free COVID-19 Testing: January 2

Similar to the return from Thanksgiving break, students and employees are encouraged to seek COVID-19 testing before returning to an FCS workplace or school particularly if they (1) have travelled out of state/country during winter break; (2) participated in any large gatherings; (3) suspect being exposed to COVID-19; and (4) currently have/had flu-like or COVID-like symptoms.

On January 2, Fulton County Schools will again partner with [CORE](#), the organization working with the Fulton County Board of Health, to provide additional free COVID-19 testing sites. Two to-be-determined locations – one in North Fulton and one in South Fulton – will allow up to 500 free tests per location. Families and employees are encouraged to seek testing through any health provider – a family physician, urgent care center, health department, pharmacy drive-up lane, etc. – as the CORE sites have limited capacity. [This link](#) is not an exhaustive list of all local providers who offer COVID-19 testing, but it provides information on free test sites coordinated specifically by the Fulton County Board of Health.

The November 29 testing provided by CORE was successful in that it identified 64 individuals who otherwise may have continued to spread the virus to others. The January 2 test date aims to similarly identify infected individuals, so they do not return to school or work until they are well.

CORE has again agreed to expedite the reporting process from the FCS sites, with most results reported within 48 hours. Those not receiving results within that timeframe are reminded that they must not come to an FCS workplace or school until results are received. Also, parents whose children undergo testing are reminded to make a report to the school district's [Parent \(Student\) COVID-19 Reporting Portal](#). Employees should send an email to covid@fultonschools.org (with their phone number) if they have a positive result, are still waiting for their test results, or have had direct contact with someone testing positive.

School Spelling Bee Winner

We would like to congratulate Jeetu S. in Ms. Hessler's 5th grade class as the first-place winner in the Shakerag Spelling Bee. The winning word was condominium. We would also like to congratulate Reyansh K. in Ms. Manaktala's 4th grade class as the runner-up. Jeetu will be competing in the District Spelling Bee on Saturday, January 23. Good luck, Jeetu!

K-2 ELA Textbook Adoption

The public review period for the K-2 Textbook Adoption is available now through January 22. Teachers, parents, and stakeholders have the opportunity to review the following resources and provide feedback: (1) Benchmark Workshop (Benchmark), (2) Into Reading (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt), and (3) Wonders (McGraw Hill). Digital resources are posted [here](#). Stakeholders can review displays with print and digital resources at the Administration building, the NLC, or the SLC. Fulton County is offering virtual vendor presentations via TEAMS on Thursday, January 7 from 5:00-6:45 PM and Saturday, January 9 from 9:30 -10:45 AM. Click [here](#) for more information.

Give to Students through Purposity

Looking for a safe way to give back to your community, right from the comfort of your home, this holiday season? Fulton County Schools has partnered with Purposity app, which makes that desire an easy click away. Click [here](#) for information on how you can give back. For questions or more information, please contact Jasmine Jones, School Social Worker at ionesjc@fultonschools.org.

School Nutrition Updates (This article replaces that entire section)

Meal kits will be available again for pick-up on **Wednesday, January 6 from 8:30-9:30 AM**. Our virtual students will be picking up 5 days of meals while our face-to-face students have the option of picking up three days of meals. Meals are available for children 18 & under, or under the age of 21 for youth with special needs. Children do not have to be present to receive a meal kit. A student's ID number is not needed. [CLICK HERE](#) to access and submit the online pre-order form each week by **Tuesday at 11:59 p.m.** For more information about Fulton County School Nutrition please click [here](#).

It's Not Too Late to Order Your Yearbook!

This yearbook will be unique and will provide a walk down memory lane years from now. Imagine all of the conversations the 2020-2021 yearbook will spark when you bring it out to view when your children graduate! There are 3 different ways to purchase yours today! (Click [here](#) for more details.) To purchase your yearbook, click [here](#).

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, January 14 at 8:00 a.m.** via Microsoft TEAMS.

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.

FCBOH Student COVID-19 Reporting System – Please continue to make reports over the break!

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. 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 for easy access.

Should any situations arise, Fulton County will follow the Closing Matrix ([click here](#)) to determine next steps.

Winter Break Resources for families

Please click [here](#) for access to several community resources for families.

A Message From PTO:

5th Annual Through My Eyes Contest

The Shakerag PTO is proud to sponsor our 5th annual Through My Eyes Contest as a virtual event. This year's theme is "My Hope for 2021...". Students are encouraged to participate in the following categories: photography, visual art, dance choreography, film production, music composition, or creative writing. The entry form and rules can be found on the [Shakerag PTO website](#) or by clicking [here](#). Deadline for submission is Monday, January 18, 2021. Winners of the school level will go on to the cluster level to compete with entries from Wilson Creek ES and Medlock Bridge ES. Contact Mugdha Cerejo at mcerejo@gmail.com with any questions.

In the Community:

The Y Afterschool Program at Shakerag

The Y Afterschool Program returned to Shakerag on October 14. Unfortunately, they are experiencing extremely low enrollment numbers. If they are not able to get 18 students enrolled, they are going to have to “pause” the program until more students register. The Y Afterschool program provides a safe, nurturing environment while also offering creative and engaging ways for kids to stay active and connected after school hours. We know safety is top-of-mind for parents now more than ever. You can rest assured knowing your child’s well-being is the Y’s first priority. Online Registration is now open for December. Please complete the online registration and then send an email to LAYchildcare@ymcaatlanta.org with your phone number, school name, child’s name, and desired start date. Click [here](#) for more information.

The Tutor Shop Afterschool Program

The Tutor Shop Afterschool Program is now accepting registrations for the spring semester. Please click [here](#) for additional details.

Kid Chess



Chess makes you smart, we make it fun! You'll love our reimagines online clubs. *Thrill of Victory:* Get in on the excitement of competition with ratings, leagues, standings and more. *Online Advantage:* Improve through computer evaluation and training with our coaches. *100% Safe:* Hosted on our state-of-the-art playground. *Tremendous Flexibility:* Your preferred time and day of the week. Join today at kidchess.com or contact us at 770-575-5802 or info@kidchess.com. For more information, click [here](#).

We hope you all have a WONDERFUL Winter Break! See you in 2021!

Remember to...

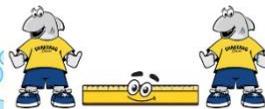
Wear Your Mask...



Wash Your Hands...



Keep Your Distance...



Sanitize...

