

# Shark Bytes

Shakerag Elementary  
Celebrating Learning. Inspiring Leaders.  
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January 8, 2021

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Visit our website: [www.shakeragelementary.com](http://www.shakeragelementary.com)

## BREAKING NEWS:

**Due to recent developments, all students and teachers will remain in remote learning with our intent to resume face-to-face instruction on Tuesday, January 19, following the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.**

**ALL TAG and ACCESS Testing will be rescheduled.**

**The start of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Extended Learning Program will be postponed until we return for face-to-face instruction.**



## Shark Tales:

### Welcome Back Sharks!

We hope everyone had an amazing break and a very Happy New Year! We are looking forward to a wonderful second semester.

In addition to the breaking news above, below, you will find a few updates for this semester. Several of these items were finalized at the last board meeting in December.

**Learning Model Selections:** All learning model selections for third quarter were “locked” on December 14.

Now that the quarter has begun, model changes will only be granted for extreme hardships and must be approved by the District. Should your family encounter a hardship, please reach out to Sydney Johnson, [johnsonsd12@fultonschools.org](mailto:johnsonsd12@fultonschools.org), for a Learning Environment Hardship approval form.

**Attendance:** Just a friendly reminder for our remote students...Please make sure you join your live lessons in TEAMS on time. Your teachers love to see you! Please turn your cameras on, and unmute your mic, when appropriate, to participate. This will help teachers with student attendance and engagement.

**Updates to the Fulton County Grading and Recovery Policy:** Fulton County continues to review their grading practices and policies. For second semester, all students will have one (1) attempt to redo/retake summative assignments with an initial score of 78 or below. Students are eligible to earn a replacement grade on a redo/retake no higher than 79. Student redo/retakes must be completed before the next summative assessment is given, or 5 school days before the end of a marking period if there is not another summative assessment given (exceptions can be made for students who have excused absences during this five-day window, or when deemed necessary by the classroom teacher).

**Supporting your child during remote learning:** We can't thank you enough for partnering with us to ensure your child's educational journey continues. Part of the learning process includes students engaging in a productive struggle\*. Please click [here](#) for a quick guide on how you can most effectively support your child while also promoting the development of their independence.

\* “**Productive struggle** is the process of effortful learning that develops grit and creative problem solving. When students face problems they don't immediately know how to solve (like on new assessments), we don't want them to give up. We want them to engage in making connections to things they already know, think creatively, and try different avenues towards solutions.” ([smath.com](http://smath.com))

## Current Events

The events that occurred this week in Washington, D.C. created a wide range of feelings, emotions, and concerns for many across our country. Many of our children may have seen or heard about these current events and have questions. Please click [here](#) for a resource from the National Association of School Psychologists that provides guidance for talking to children about violence.

## Student Success Skills Inventory

The Student Success Skills Inventory will be used to measure student growth across success skill standards, as a result of ReThink Ed lessons. Students will complete the 15-20 item inventory between *January 13, 2021 – February 12, 2021*, and it will take about 15 minutes to complete. The inventory will be pushed out to students in grades 3-12 using the Illuminate platform. Students in K-2 will not be participating in the inventory, as it is not considered developmentally appropriate.

**Parents can choose to have their students opt out of the inventory.** If you choose to do so, please send an email to our school counselor, Tom Perrine, [Perrine@fultonschools.org](mailto:Perrine@fultonschools.org), by **Friday, January 15** including your child's full name, grade, and student ID number.

## 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 **Saturday, January 9 from 9:30 -10:45 AM**. Click [here](#) for more information.

## Possible Music Clubs Coming to Shakerag (Students in Grades 4 & 5)

Because of safety precautions in our music classes, we are unable to proceed with our highly anticipated instrument units for Recorder (4th Grade) and Ukulele (5th Grade). However, Miss Petty is happy to offer the possibility of hosting a 4th Grade Recorder club and a 5th Grade Ukulele Club for interested students. These clubs can give students the opportunity to still learn and play these instruments, even if we aren't able to in music class. However, we need to determine how many students might be interested in joining so that we can figure out possible logistics.

- Who can participate? 4th Graders (Recorder Club)/5th Graders (Ukulele Club)
- What will we do? Learn how to play a new instrument!
- When will we meet? Potentially starting in February, the group will meet once a week after school for approximately 12-weeks.
- Where will we meet? 4th Grade Recorder Club will meet entirely in TEAMS. 5th Grade Ukulele Club may have a Simultaneous model with some students on TEAMS and some in-school.
- Why should I consider joining? To have fun, play music, and learn some life-long musical skills!

If your student(s) is interested in this opportunity, please complete the interest survey below by **Friday, January 15**. If we have enough students interested, we will work on developing next steps. Thank you for considering this great opportunity!

Click here to fill out the [4th Grade Recorder Club Interest Survey](#)

Click here to fill out the [5th Grade Ukulele Club Interest Survey](#)

## 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. Please [click here to join the meeting](#).

## 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

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, i.e. the refrigerator, for easy access.

## 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](mailto:mcerejo@gmail.com) with any questions.

### 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](#).

## In the Community:

### Afterschool Childcare Programs at Shakerag

Unfortunately, the Y Afterschool Program did not have enough students register in order to host an on-site program at Shakerag Elementary School. However, The Tutor Shop Afterschool Program is planning on starting Monday, January 11. They still need a few more students but are optimistic that they will be able to meet their enrollment requirements. Please click [here](#) for additional details and registration information.

### 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](http://kidchess.com) or contact us at 770-575-5802 or [info@kidchess.com](mailto:info@kidchess.com). For more information, click [here](#).

**We hope you all have a FANTASTIC weekend!  
Remember to...**

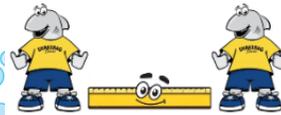
Wear Your Mask...



Wash Your Hands...



Keep Your Distance...



Sanitize...

