

Shark Bytes

Shakerag Elementary
Christine Lemerond, Principal
Samantha Weaver, Assistant Principal

January 10, 2025

Follow us on Twitter: [@ShakeragShark](#)

Visit our website: www.shakeragelementary.com

Please continue to monitor the FCS Website for any additional weather updates!

Shark Tales:

We hope you all had an amazing winter break and were able to get out and enjoy some of the winter weather today! We are so excited for second semester. Wishing the entire Shakerag community nothing but JOY and HAPPINESS in 2025!

Mark Your Calendars: No school on January 20

All staff and students will be off on **Monday, January 20** in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Keeping Children Safe in a Digital World Workshop

We are very fortunate that as a Strong 4 Life school, in partnership with Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, we will be offering a parent session on "Keeping Children Safe in a Digital World." We hope you will be able to join us on **Tuesday, January 28 from 8:30 - 9:30 in the Media Center at Shakerag ES**. **Please click [here](#) to RSVP!** We are all looking forward to this exciting opportunity!



Accessing iReady Diagnostic Reports

Before Winter Break, our students took the middle of the year iReady Diagnostic Assessment in Math and Reading. These assessments are used for instructional planning as they tell teachers what your child already knows and what they are ready to learn. If you are interested in viewing your child's iReady Diagnostic results, please log in to ClassLink using your child's credentials. Then, click on the iReady icon. Finally, click on Reports and enter code 1TT7PS when prompted. Click [here](#) to learn how to interpret the iReady Diagnostic results.

Welcome to Shakerag!

Please join me in welcoming Ms. Susanne Slocum to Shakerag as our new clinic assistant. We are so lucky to have her as part of our Shakerag family. If you need to contact Ms. Slocum in the clinic, please call her at 470-254-8834 or email her at slocums@fultonschools.org.

Reminders of a few important procedures:

Forgotten Items

In an effort to help our students prepare for each school day, please check their bookbags each morning prior to leaving to ensure they have everything they need. We understand that sometimes students forget their lunches, water bottles, or other important items at home. To streamline the process and avoid disrupting class time, please note the following procedures:

- **Lunches and Water Bottles:** These items will be placed on the blue cart in the atrium for students to pick up on their way into the cafe. They will not be hand-delivered to students. We kindly ask that students ensure they have their lunch and water bottle each morning before they leave home.
- **Critical Items (e.g., glasses):** For essential items like glasses, the front office will call down or drop off in the classroom.
- **Everyday Items (e.g., folders, homework, books):** For everyday items, the front office will email the teacher to inform them that the item is available for pick-up at the front desk at an appropriate time.

Lunch Visitors

We enjoy having our parents join us for lunch. Please help us support our cafeteria staff by abiding by the following when visiting:

- Please make sure you arrive on time and sign-in at the front desk with a **valid photo ID** to receive a visitor's badge. Visitor's badges must be worn and visible at all times. Only **parents/guardians** will be allowed to check in for lunch with a student unless prior written consent is given.
- Visitors and their child will sit at the visitor's table in the cafeteria near the stage. Students **may not** bring a friend(s) to sit with them at the visitor's table.
- We ask that you support our school nutrition program by **not bringing outside vendor food** (Chick-fil-A, McDonald's, etc.) during lunchtime. Our goal is to ensure that all students have access to healthy, balanced meals and maintain consistency in the school environment. **Please have your student purchase a lunch or bring a packed lunch from home.**

For more details on these subjects, or to answer many other questions you may have about our policies or procedures, please visit our website or click [HERE](#) to view the Family Handbook.

Spotlight On Special Areas:

What's Happening in Art with Mr. Avery this Month

Please click [here](#) for this month's Art Newsletter.

What's Happening in ASL with Ms. Pennywell this Month

Please click [here](#) for this month's ASL Newsletter.

What's Happening in Music with Ms. Housholder and Mr. Denney this Month

Please click [here](#) for this month's Music Newsletter.

What's Happening in PE with Coach Smith this Month

Please click [here](#) for this month's PE Newsletter.

A Message from the PTO:

9th Annual PTO "Through My Eyes" Art Contest

It is the season for new memories and to share joy with friends and families! And it is the time to announce our Annual Through My Eyes (interschool) Art Contest. This year's theme is "***What memories are made of***"... Participating FCS Zone 6 schools include: Shakerag ES, Ocee ES, Wilson Creek ES, Findley Oaks ES, and Medlock Bridge ES.

- Who can Participate? Kindergarten – 5th grade
- Categories: Photography, Visual Art, Dance, Choreography, Film Production, Music Composition, or Creative Writing.
- The last day to submit online entries: **Monday, January 20, 2025**
- Students can submit their entries in any one or multiple categories.
- All artwork should adhere to rules specified in the entry form and will be judged based on originality, theme interpretation, creativity, and technique.
- Each category will have two winners for each grade.
- The winning entries will be sent to further cluster-level judging. The winners of the cluster-level judging will receive an email along with award ceremony details for the Zone 6 finalists.

The entry form and rules can be found on the Shakerag PTO website or by clicking [here](#).

For any queries or clarifications, contact Meghan Bakare at meghanatme2023@gmail.com

School Dance – SAVE THE DATE!

Please save the date for this year's school dance on February 21, 2025! More details will be coming soon. For information on volunteer opportunities, please contact Sonam Dewan at dewan.sonam@gmail.com or Sarah Chu at cigar1121@hotmail.com.

Yearbook

Reserve a yearbook today! Order your student's yearbook using this link: [Order Yearbook](#)

The yearbook team is looking for pictures to be added to the 24-25 yearbook. Please upload any First Day of School, Kona Ice Social, Storybook Night, Community Night, or Pictures with Sharky using this QR code or click [here](#).



A Message from the School Governance Council (SGC):

School Governance Council (SGC) Meeting

Our next School Governance Council meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 26 at 8:00 a.m.** To read more about our School Governance Council, we invite you to visit our School Governance Council (SGC) website by clicking [here](#).

The School Governance Council is looking for a parent representative to finish out one of our open terms. This is about a one hour a month commitment. If you are interested in additional details, please reach out to Mrs. Lemerond at Lemerond@fultonschools.org.

FCS News:

Change of School Assignment (COSA) Process:

Fulton County Schools is now using a new term for school choice: "Change of School Assignment" or COSA. Last spring, the Fulton County School Board revised its policy ([Board Policy JBCE: Change of School Assignment](#)) governing student transfers and changes of school assignment. Any student wishing to attend a school outside of their home attendance boundary will need to follow the new Change of School Assignment (COSA) process and timeline. The process applies to all transfer-related programs, including previous options like hardship transfers, open enrollment, transfers for employees' children, Georgia Special Needs Scholarship Program transfers, and requests to schools offering International Baccalaureate or magnet programs. A list of schools accepting transfers will be published on the COSA website on December 9, 2024. Parents can apply during the application window of December 9, 2024, through January 15, 2025. Learn more at www.fultonschools.org/COSA.

Northview Jr Titans Football

The Northview Jr Titans Football program will be hosting a Youth Tackle Clinic by Triple H Tackling Academy on January 18 at 1:00 p.m. at Northview's stadium to teach players how to tackle safely and effectively. All current & new players are welcome, no equipment or pads needed, any school zone can attend. The clinic is \$30, registration is at nvjrtitans.com and open to athletes of any sport for current 2nd-7th graders.

Have a wonderful weekend! Stay WARM!