

Shark Bytes

Shakerag Elementary
Christine Lemerond, Principal
Samantha Weaver, Assistant Principal

February 21, 2025

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

Visit our website: www.shakeragelementary.com

Shark Tales:



Fulton County's Regional Spelling Bee

Good luck to Aidric L. who made it through the District Spelling Bee and will be representing Shakerag and Fulton County Schools in the upcoming Regional Spelling Bee on Saturday, February 22! We are so proud of you!

Read Across America Week

We're so excited to celebrate our love of reading with Read Across America week next week (**February 24 — February 28**). Each day there will be a different reading theme and we can dress up along with the theme.

Monday: Animal Day – Wear animal print/animal ears/animal shirt & read about animals.

Tuesday: Hat Day – Wear a hat & read a hat book.

Wednesday: Sports Day – Wear your favorite sports attire & read a sports book.

Thursday: Wacky/Tacky Day – Wear mismatched/backward clothes & read a silly book.

Friday: Pajama Day – Wear PJs & cozy up with a good bedtime story.

School Governance Council Members Needed!

We are still looking for a parent representative to finish out one of our current 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. We really, really need your help.

As we struggle to fill a current vacancy, it is hard to believe that it is time for us to start searching for parents and teachers who want to declare their candidacy to serve on the School Governance Council for the 2025-2027 term. We will have one teacher elected position and two parent elected positions opening on the council for next year. If you, or someone you know, are interested in any of these positions, please refer to the Charter System website for additional details, or reach out to our SGC Chair, Mrs. Rashi Manaktala at manaktalar@fultonschools.org.

The window for parents and teachers to declare candidacy for their school's SGC opens Monday, **February 3, 2025**. During this time, individuals interested in serving a 2-year term (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027) will need to complete a Candidate Declaration Form available on the SGC election website and click the candidate guide and/or declaration form (www.fultonschools.org/our-district/charter-system/elections). The declaration window will close on **March 28, 2025, at 5:00 PM**. Elections will be held from April 16 – 23, 2025.

GA DOE School Climate Survey

We value your feedback! Fulton County Schools wants to hear from you through the **Georgia Department of Education School Climate Survey**. The Georgia Department of Education (GA DOE) requires all public schools to participate in this annual survey. To see the GA DOE informational website and sample surveys, please [click here](#). There are four different surveys this year: one for parents, one for students in grades 3 - 5, one for teachers, and one for staff. Each school is aiming to have a minimum 75% participation rate for each survey. Schools failing to meet the minimum participation rate could have their school's climate star rating automatically reduced by one star.

Key points:

- This survey gives individuals the chance to share their thoughts on our school.
- The survey will be available **from February 3 - March 31**.
- The survey is **anonymous and confidential**.
- The survey is available in both **English and Spanish**.

To take the Parent Survey for Shakerag, please click on the following link.

<https://survey.gadoe.org/FM?sid=786E7A44>

Your input helps us make improvements, and we truly appreciate your time and feedback!

Save the Date: Gladiator Hockey Community Night – 3/14!

Get ready for a night of fun & community as Shakerag teams up with Medlock Bridge ES, Findley Oaks ES, Wilson Creek ES, River Trail MS and Northview HS to cheer on the Gladiators at Gas South Arena! Join us on **Friday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m.** for an exciting game and a chance to connect with your community! A portion of every ticket sold will support our school, so grab yours today! Click [HERE](#) for more details and to purchase tickets. We can't wait to see you there!

Attention All 5th Grade Parents: Rising 6th Grade Parent Information Meeting

All parents of rising 6th grade students are invited to a Parent Night at River Trail Middle School on Thursday, March 20. There will be an optional TAG meeting from 6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. and then the general session will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please click [here](#).

Clinic Needs

Please help our clinic. We need:

- New packs of underwear in all sizes for girls and boys
- Boys - size **medium** long sleeve shirts/sweatshirts
- Boys - size **large** shorts and pants/sweatpants
- Girls - size **small** long pants/sweatpants
- Girls - size **medium** long sleeve shirt/sweatshirts
- Girls - size **large** shorts, long pants/sweatpants and long sleeve shirts/sweatshirts

If you have any donations, please send them in or drop them off at the clinic. They would be greatly appreciated.

A Message from the PTO:

Shakerag School Dance – TONIGHT!

The school Dance is here! Come tonight and celebrate this year's theme Disco Dance Party! There will be a professional DJ, games, refreshments, and loads of fun!

Session 1 Will be from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (Grades PreK – 2) and Session 2 will be from 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. (Grades 3-5). Online ticket sales are closed, but you can buy tickets at the door! **TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASED ON CAPACITY. THIS IS NOT A DROP OFF EVENT. ONE ADULT PER FAMILY REQUIRED FOR ENTRY. STUDENTS SHOULD NOT BRING CELL PHONES.** For more information, please contact Sonam Dewan at dewan.sonam@gmail.com or Sarah Chu at cigar1121@hotmail.com.

LAST CALL - Student Agenda Cover Contest for current 2nd and 4th Grade Students

We need assistance from our current 2nd and 4th grade students to design the 2025-2026 student agenda front cover. Students in grades 2 or 4 interested in submitting a design should return their artwork and completed entry [form](#) to the front desk by **Friday, February 28, 2025**. All students' entries will be submitted to a Shakerag PTO committee to choose the top design. Please have your students use the Shakerag Sharks school expectations of "Leadership, Kindness, and Respect" in their artwork. Good luck to all submitting artwork!! The Shakerag PTO is excited to see your masterpiece! If you have any questions, please email meghana.bakare26@gmail.com.

Family Science Night:

Get ready for an exciting Night of Science on Thursday, March 13, from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Shakerag Elementary! Join scientists and engineers for hands-on demonstrations and interactive activities showcasing real-world applications of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Each family will rotate through three engaging 25-minute sessions, pre-assigned on your event ticket.

✦ Important Details:

- ✓ This is NOT a drop-off event – an adult must be present.
- ✓ Registration is required! Fill out the form here: [Form Link](#)
- ✓ Deadline to register: Wednesday, March 5, 2025 (one form per family), using your eldest child's details.
- ✓ Pick up your tickets at the entrance on event day. Arrive at least 15 minutes early to check in!

This FREE event is proudly sponsored by IEEE, with support from the Shakerag PTO and Shakerag Elementary School.

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.** At this meeting we will be holding a 10-minute public comment session. If you are interested in speaking at our public comment, please email Rashi Manaktala at manaktalar@fultonschools.org. Public comments will be held at the end of the meeting. To read more about our School Governance Council, we invite you to visit our School Governance Council (SGC) website by clicking [here](#).

A Message from Fulton County:

Pre-Kindergarten Registration for the 2025-2026 School Year

Registration for the Pre-K Lottery is now open and will end **March 5**. Registration is conducted through the district and the information can be found [here](#). If a parent misses the March 5 deadline, they will be placed at the bottom of the waiting list. For more information on the registration process, please visit the FCS website by clicking [here](#).

In The Community:

Potential STEM Camp hosted by the Innovation Academy Foundation

The Innovation Academy is excited to explore the possibility of offering a **Summer STEM Camp** to provide hands-on learning experiences for students interested in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Healthcare. As part of their commitment to serving the needs of our community, the Innovation Academy Foundation is gathering feedback from families like yours to ensure that this opportunity is designed to best support your child's interests, schedule, and learning goals.

This camp would provide students with the opportunity to engage in real-world problem-solving, explore different STEM fields, and experience hands-on activities in a fun and interactive environment. However, they want to hear from **you**—what timing, topics, and price ranges would work best for your family?

Please take a few minutes to complete their **interest survey** by February 21: [🔗 IA Foundation STEM Camp Interest Form](#)

Your feedback will help them create a camp that is accessible, engaging, and tailored to meet the needs of our students. Whether your child is interested in **engineering, coding, healthcare, or general STEM exploration**, they want to provide meaningful experiences that inspire curiosity and learning beyond the school year.

Thank you for your time and support in shaping this opportunity for our students. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Avery White at whitea10@fultonschools.org.

Have a wonderful weekend!

