

Shark Bytes

Shakerag Elementary
Christine Lemerond, Principal
Samantha Weaver, Assistant Principal

March 14, 2025

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Visit our website: www.shakeragelementary.com

Shark Tales:

Science Olympiad

We would like to send a huge congratulations to all the members of our Science Olympiad team who competed last Saturday at Westlake High School. They put forth their best efforts and showed great sportsmanship. They placed 9th overall out of 30 teams. This is a huge accomplishment. Thank you so much for all of your hard work! Congratulations to Atharv M., Shivansh C., Sophia Y., Abby C., Aidric L., Charles L., Chloe G., Ishan K., Rehan S., Ryan Z., Sara G., Anirudh A., Anvith M., Arjun P., Avyukth B., Eddie L., Gavin S., and Ridhwan C. A special thank you to Mrs. Pennywell and Mrs. Christiansen for supporting and leading this amazing program.



Science Night was a huge success!

We had a blast at our Science Fun Night on Thursday evening! We would like to thank IEEE and Meghana Bakare for making this night possible. We appreciate all of the PTO volunteers, staff, and science presenters who gave their time and support! We hope everyone had a great time!

Hope to see you at the GAME tonight! Gladiator Hockey Community Night – Friday, 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!

Spring Picture Day is Tuesday, March 18

Shakerag's Spring Picture Day is on Tuesday, March 18. Lifetouch will be taking our group and individual portraits. These pictures will be available for purchase at mylifetouch.com. Physical order forms were sent home in prior Friday Folders. Please order pictures online and/or bring in the physical order form on picture day.

Volunteer Breakfast

If you are one of our many wonderful volunteers, please join us on Thursday, April 3 from 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. in the Media Center for a breakfast in your honor. Please RSVP by March 24 by clicking [here](#). We can't wait to recognize all of the amazing contributions you make so that our school can be successful.

Enrollment Intent for the 2025-2026 School Year

As we begin to plan for the 2025-2026 school year, having an accurate student count is very important. We are asking parents to help us now in order to ensure we know who will be in our building next year. Each child should have received an Enrollment Survey for the 2025-2026 School Year in their child's Friday folder. Please complete this form for each child and return it to their homeroom teacher on or before Wednesday, March 26. If your child will NOT be returning to Shakerag next school year, please contact Courtney Gatlin Cleary at gatlinclearc@fultonschools.org for information regarding the withdrawal process. If you have a child that will be NEW to Shakerag next year, please visit our website by clicking [here](#) to register your child. Spring registration is now open online. We are asking parents to register sooner rather than later! Thank you for your help as we prepare for the 2025-2026 school year.

Artist Day Celebration – Friday, April 4

We are thrilled to have Artist Day 2025 quickly approaching! The students are going to kick off the event with a celebration of all of the different cultures that make up our amazing Shakerag community. In today's Friday folders, each student received a quick survey. Please fill out that survey and return it to your child's homeroom teacher by Friday, March 21.

GA DOE School Climate Survey- We need your HELP! Please complete this quick 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. **(We are now at 4.24 (25 surveys) for our parent 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! GA Milestones for Grades 3-5

Mark your calendars... This year the GA Milestones assessment window for students in grades 3-5 will be April 28 – May 9. Additional details will be provided following Spring Break.

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](#).

Parents of rising 6th and 7th graders – River Trail Middle School 2025-2026 School year

As part of Fulton County Schools residency verification process for all rising 6th and 7th graders, please submit 2 forms of residency for the upcoming school year 2025-2026.

River Trail Middle School requires both residency documents to be emailed **ONLY** to:

For 6th grade: 701-ResidencyVerification6th@fultonschools.org

For 7th grade: 701-ResidencyVerification7th@fultonschools.org

Please print your students' legal first and last name on each document.

Please know that all submitted email documents cannot be returned due to the quantity of emails received.

The deadline for submitting documents is **July 31, 2025**. For any residency related questions, please email Monica Bhatnagar, River Trail Middle School Data Specialist, at bhatnagars@fultonschools.org. For a list of approved documents, please visit the River Trail website (<https://rivertrail.fultonschools.org/students-families/enrollment-and-records/residence-verification>).

A Message from the PTO:

PTO Agenda Cover Contest Winners!

A huge thank you to all the talented students who shared their creativity with us for this year's Agenda Cover Contest! We loved seeing all your amazing artwork. Big congratulations to our winners: Abigail Cai (4th grade) and Enya Deng (2nd grade)

Next year, Enya's wonderful artwork will brighten up the agendas for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd graders, while Abigail's beautiful design will be featured on the 4th and 5th grade agendas. We're so proud of all our participants, your creativity is truly inspiring! Keep up the great work, and congratulations again to our winners!

Attention 5th Grade Parents!

Let's celebrate the journey of our 5th grade graduates at Shakerag Elementary School with special yard signs personalized with names! Please place your order using the information on the flyer (click [here](#)) or by using this QR code. All orders must be placed by April 18. The signs will be delivered to the school and available for pickup in early May.



Time is running out, Order Your Yearbook NOW!

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

A Message from the School Governance Council (SGC):

School Governance Council (SGC) Meeting

Our next School Governance Council meeting will be held in conjunction with our State of the School Address and Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast on **Thursday, April 3, at 8:30 a.m.** To read more about our School Governance Council, we invite you to visit our School Governance Council (SGC) website by clicking [here](#).

School Governance Council Members Needed!

It is hard to believe that it is time for us to solicit 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.

A Message from Fulton County:

Annual Federal Programs Input Meeting

The Federal Programs Department is holding their district Federal Programs Input Meeting. They are requesting parent, community, and staff input into how they spend their federal grant funds (Title I, II, III, IV, and IDEA) and our District Parent and Family Engagement Plan.

The meetings are scheduled to take place on Microsoft Teams. The meeting dates are:

March 25th at 9:00 am Join here: [Input Meeting 1](#), and

March 26th at 1:00 pm Join here: [Input Meeting 2](#).

Your input is essential, and they value your feedback. Please click [here](#) for more information.

Spring Registration for the 2025-2026 School Year

Spring Registration for Kindergarten and NEW (1st through 5th grade) students will be held on **March 19 and March 20**.

Registration will be conducted online. Please click [here](#) for the online registration process. If your child is currently enrolled at Shakerag, there are no actions needed for enrollment for the next school year. If you know of any families new to the area, or meet a new family over the summer, please encourage them to enroll as soon as possible! For more information, please visit our [website](#) or click [here](#) for the flyer.

In The Community:

Girls in STEM

Girls in STEM is hosting a hands-on science camp for elementary schoolers on Saturday, March 22, at Johns Creek High School from 8:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.! Participants will explore chemistry, engineering, physics, and more through fun, interactive experiments led by high school mentors. Cost: \$25 (cash only, paid on the day) and lunch is provided. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to spark a love for STEM! Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/rAK8HS58F1vD2nUc7>

Northview Cluster Basketball Tournament – Save the Date!

Our Northview Cluster is hosting a staff/alumni basketball tournament on our last Community Night of the year! Make your plans now to bring the whole family to Northview High School on 3/26/25 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. for an evening of entertainment. Admission is FREE, although we would love everyone to bring a canned/boxed food item or your loose change to donate to benefit North Fulton Community Charities.

Throughout the evening, we will have short basketball games featuring some of our favorite staff taking on other schools. There will be concessions for purchase, face painting and other activities for our students, with fun performances in between games and a half-time PRINCIPAL/STUDENT challenge. It's going to be a fun night for our Northview Cluster, we hope you can make it! Please click [here](#) for the flyer.

Calling all Shakerag Youth Swimmers!!!

Join the Shakerag Sharks Swim Team for the 2025 season! All Shakerag Elementary students are eligible to join the team. Practice begins the week of May 12 with the season wrapping up at the end of June. **While they have a variety of ability levels on the team, each child needs to be able to swim independently before joining the team. An evaluation will be done for each new swimmer before being admitted to the team.** The season consists of 5 meets against other subdivisions within the Johns Creek community and all the team practices are held at the Shakerag HOA Pool. To learn more about how to register for the team, see the meet and practice schedule, and meet this years coaching staff, please visit the official team website at www.shakeragswimteam.com. You can also reach the team via email at shakeragswimteam@gmail.com with any questions. Registration is open from March 1-April 15! GO SHARKS!!!

Have a wonderful weekend!

