

# Shark Bytes

**Shakerag Elementary**  
Christine Lemerond, Principal  
Samantha Weaver, Assistant Principal

**February 13, 2026**

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

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

**NO SCHOOL MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16 – TEACHER WORKDAY**  
**NO SCHOOL TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17 – FCS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY**

## Shark Tales:

### Thank You!

On behalf of the entire staff, I want to share our thanks and appreciation for all that you have done for us this week for staff appreciation week. A special thank you to our Korean Parent Group for the beautiful, sweet treat, Agnes Law, Aamani Parchuro, Kathy Preuss and our PTO for the delicious lunch on Friday, and all of the amazing families that showered us with treats and gratitude all week. We appreciate everyone for the individual hugs and warm wishes your children bring to us each day. Thank you for filling our hearts and making sure we feel loved!



### Congratulations to our Teacher of the Year and Professional of the Year!

We are proud and excited to announce Ms. Molly Fike, Kindergarten, as our 2025-2026 Teacher of the Year and Ms. Amanda Paul, IRR Paraprofessional, as our Support Professional of the Year. We are fortunate to have such wonderful staff members who give their very best to our school family every day! Congratulations Ms. Fike and Ms. Paul!

### Storybook Night and the Book Fair... A HUGE Success!

The Book Fair closed up shop today. Once again, teachers, volunteers, PTO, students, and staff came together to offer a wonderful event for our Shakerag families. Storybook night was a huge success! Thank you so much to our wonderful staff who took time out of their busy schedules to make some of our favorite stories come to life. There were smiles and laughs all around. It was truly a fabulous evening!

Special and heartfelt thanks to our PTO Book Fair Chairs, Sarah Chung and Jodie Lin, the Book Fair Committee including Ms. Francis, our Storybook Night Chair, Paiker Sayed, the Shakerag Staff, and all who visited our Book Fair and supported our school.

### A Big Congratulations to our Through My Eyes School-Level Winners for 2025-2026!

We are delighted to recognize our school-level winners of the 10th Annual PTO Through My Eyes Art Contest, themed "The Magic of Friendship." Congratulations to the following students for their exceptional creativity and artistic achievements: Pre-K: Sunday B.; Kindergarten: Alyssa G., Kanji M., Ethan L.; 1st Grade: Aria T., Kaylee N.; 2nd Grade: Luna B., Lyanna G., Shaanvi P., Avyaan B.; 3rd Grade: Akshara V., Enya D., Nishka B.; 4th Grade: Hana M., Stella L., Dylan P.; 5th Grade: Harper G., Mina H., Vivaan S., Kristodia A.

These works were chosen for their originality, thoughtful interpretation of the theme, and overall artistic excellence. Families of students selected at the cluster level will receive an email with details about the award ceremony. Shakerag Elementary and Shakerag PTO are incredibly proud of our students and their accomplishments!

### Progress Report Cards

Student progress report cards are now available on the Parent and Student Portals. For instructions on how to access your child's 4.5 week progress report, please click [here](#).

### GA DOE School Climate Survey for Students and Parents – DUE Next Friday, 2/20

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.



There are five different surveys this year: one for parents, one for students in grades 3-5, one for students in grades 6-12, one for teachers, and one for staff. Each school is aiming to have a minimum 71% or greater participation rate for each survey. Schools failing to meet the GA DOE participation rates could have their school's climate star rating automatically reduced by one star. Please help us meet our participation rate by completing this quick 22 question survey using the following link (<https://survey.gadoe.org/FM?sid=786E7A44>), or scanning the QR Code.

**We currently only have an 11.52% participation rate for our family surveys with a completion of 66 surveys.**

### Key points:

- This survey gives individuals the chance to share their thoughts on our school.
- The survey will be available from December 10-**February 20, 2026**.
- The survey is anonymous and confidential.
- The survey is available in both English and Spanish.

### Shakerag Elementary will soon teach kids to Think First & Stay Safe™

Fulton County Schools is excited to share that we will soon commence our personal safety education program for all elementary students called *Think First & Stay Safe™*. The *Think First & Stay Safe™* program is a research-based program that teaches specific personal safety education by way of interactive classroom lessons, classroom posters, role-plays and corresponding

activities. *Think First & Stay Safe*™ enables students to take an active and necessary role in protecting themselves from harassment, abduction, bullying, exploitation, and various forms of abuse (physical, sexual, emotional).

In March of this school year, *Think First & Stay Safe*™ lessons will be implemented at Shakerag Elementary School for all K-5 students. The materials can be made available for preview if needed. ALL K-5 students will participate, unless an opt-out form is returned by Friday, February 27.

**If you prefer that your child not participate in the *Think First & Stay Safe*™ program, please sign the bottom of the parent letter that went home today in Friday folders and have your child return it to the school counselor, Mrs. Chang, by Friday, February 27, 2026.** If you have any additional questions, please reach out to our school counselor, Mrs. Chang, at [changb1@fultonschools.org](mailto:changb1@fultonschools.org).

### **School Governance Council Members Needed**

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 2026-2028 term. We will have one teacher elected position and one parent elected position 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. Debbie Wise at [wised@fultonschools.org](mailto:wised@fultonschools.org).

The window for parents and teachers to declare candidacy for their school's SGC opened on Monday, **February 2, 2026**. During this time, individuals interested in serving a 2-year term (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2028) 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](http://www.fultonschools.org/our-district/charter-system/elections)). The declaration window will close on **March 27, 2026, at 5:00 PM**. The voting window will be held from April 22 – 29, 2026.

### **Attention All 5th Grade Parents: Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Information Meeting**

All parents of rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are invited to a Parent Night at River Trail Middle School on Thursday, March 19. 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](#).

## **A Message from the PTO:**

### **Thank You!**

Thank you for supporting our teachers and staff during Staff Appreciation Week. Your kindness truly made them feel celebrated.

### **Let's Stay in the Know Together**

Shakerag Family, it's ALL about community! We believe communication empowers every family, and we're committed to keeping you informed every step of the way. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and more to stay connected.

### **Do you want to be part of the Shakerag Elementary PTO Board?**

We're looking for parent leaders to serve on the PTO Board next school year. Two roles will be available: VP of School Enrichment and VP of Academic Enrichment. Serving on the PTO Board directly impacts students by helping create meaningful programs, memorable events, and enriching learning experiences that strengthen our school community. If you're interested or would like more information, please email [ShakeragPTO@gmail.com](mailto:ShakeragPTO@gmail.com).

### **It's Your Time to Shine: Create Our 2026–2027 Agenda Cover!**

The Shakerag PTO is excited to announce our **2026–2027 Student Agenda Cover Design Contest**, and we need the creativity of our amazing students!

We are inviting **current 2nd and 4th-grade students** to help design the **front cover of next year's student agendas**. Any interested student in grades 2 and 4 may submit an original piece of artwork along with a completed entry [form](#).

#### **Submission Details:**

- **Who:** Current 2nd and 4th-grade students
- **What:** Original artwork for the 2026–2027 agenda front cover
- **Deadline: February 20, 2026**
- **How to Submit:** Return artwork and entry form to the front desk at the school office.

All submitted entries will be reviewed by a Shakerag PTO committee, which will select the **top designs**. We encourage students to incorporate our Shakerag Sharks school expectations of "**Leadership, Kindness, and Respect**" into their artwork.

Good luck to all our young artists—we can't wait to see your creativity shine! The Shakerag PTO is excited to see your masterpieces!

### **School Dance – Friday, March 6**

Shakerag's annual School Dance will be held on Friday, March 6 in the school cafeteria! This year's theme is inspired by the wildly popular "6-7" meme - playful, silly sound and number joke that students love. It's all about being goofy, unexpected, and just having fun together. No hidden meaning, no inside jokes parents need to worry about - just a trend that kids recognize and enjoy. There will be a professional DJ, photo booth, refreshments and loads of fun!

There will be two sessions for the dance: 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (Grades PreK – 2) and 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. (Grades 3-5).

Please be sure to select the proper session by grade level when ordering tickets. Please note: Due to capacity limitations, we encourage you to make your purchases early. Online ticket sales will end at 12 noon Thursday, March 5. **THIS IS NOT A DROP**

OFF EVENT. ONE ADULT PER FAMILY REQUIRED FOR ENTRY. STUDENTS SHOULD NOT BRING CELL PHONES. Please click [here](#) to purchase tickets

**VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS NEEDED!**

Click [here](#) for volunteer sign up form

Click [here](#) for donation sign up form

For more information, please contact Sonam Dewan at [dewan.sonam@gmail.com](mailto:dewan.sonam@gmail.com) or Sarah Chu Cigar at [cigar1121@hotmail.com](mailto:cigar1121@hotmail.com)

### **Show Off Our Sharks! Share Your 2025–2026 Photos**

We're collecting the last few photos for the **2025–2026 yearbook** and want to capture the heart of our school year—moments big and small!

Think about highlights like:

Classroom fun      School-wide celebrations      Winter & End-of-Year Parties      Field Trips & Field Day

Community favorites: Sneak Peek, Bingo & Movie Nights      Musicals and more

If you've snapped a great shot, we'd love to consider it. [Upload Yearbook Pics](#)

Let's make this yearbook unforgettable—together.

### **Art & Culture Day – Calling Participants/Volunteers!**

Shakerag Elementary's Art & Culture Day is coming up on April 3rd, and we're looking for parents and community members to share their talents and traditions.

Do you paint, dance, sing, craft, sculpt, play an instrument, or have cultural activities you'd love to showcase? Our students would be thrilled to learn from you. Your stories, demonstrations, and creativity help them see the world in new ways. If you'd like to lead a session or team up with other volunteers, we'd love to have you. Every contribution makes this day unforgettable.

Please reach out to our Art & Culture Day co-chairs, Jen She and Myata Harris, at [jen@fwdtalent.com](mailto:jen@fwdtalent.com) and

[myataharris@gmail.com](mailto:myataharris@gmail.com) if you'd like to participate.

## **FCS News:**

### **Pre-Kindergarten Registration for the 2026-2027 School Year**

Registration for the Pre-K Lottery is now open and will end **March 3**. Registration is conducted through the district and the information can be found [here](#). If a parent misses the March 3 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](#).

## **A Message from the School Governance Council (SGC):**

### **School Governance Council (SGC) Meeting**

Our next School Governance Council meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 18 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 Debbie Wise at [wised@fultonschools.org](mailto:wised@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](#).

## **In the Community:**

### **Kristin McCabe's Community Meeting**

Our school board President, Kristin McCabe, will be hosting a community meeting on Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. at Findley Oaks Elementary School. All are welcome to join.

### **Northview Techno Titans**

The Northview Techno Titans Robotics Team will be hosting a STEM Night workshop at their team workspace on Saturday, February 21, from 4:00 - 5:30 pm. For more information, please click [here](#).

**Have a wonderful LONG weekend!**

