

Shark Bytes

Shakerag Elementary
Christine Lemerond, Principal
Samantha Weaver, Assistant Principal

March 13, 2026

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Visit our website: www.shakeragelementary.com

NO SCHOOL MONDAY, MARCH 16 –FCS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

Shark Tales:

Science Olympiad

Over the weekend, our Science Olympiad team (Aayush J., Arhaan S., Nishka B., Niyantri S., Vivian C., Aria V., Atharv M., Shivansh C., Sophia Y., Vihaan P., Aidric L., Charles L., Ishan K., Joel D., Rachel K., Raymond C., Rehan S., and Vivaan S.) proudly represented our school at the district-level competition. We are excited to share that our team placed 11th out of 31 teams! We are incredibly proud of their hard work, teamwork, and dedication throughout the season.

A special thank you to **NaTasha Pennywell and Leah Christiansen** for supporting our students this year. We would also like to thank Adric L.'s mom, **Mrs. Lim**, for her extra set of hands.



School Dance

We danced the night away at the 6-7 dance last Friday night! We hope everyone who attended had a great time too. A huge thank you to ALL the amazing volunteers on the decorating, cafeteria, ticketing, activities, and cleanup crews. This event would not have been possible without all of the volunteers who helped make it happen. A special thank you to this year's dance chairs, and planning team, Sonam Dewan and Sarah Chu. You all were amazing!

Spring Picture Day is Tuesday, March 24

Shakerag's Spring Picture Day is on Tuesday, March 24. GCI Portraits will be taking our individual portraits. Only students that prepaid for their pictures ahead of time will be taking Spring pictures this year. Order forms were sent home today in your child's Friday folder. If a parent is not happy with their student's picture in the Spring they can return the pictures for a full refund. Simply follow the instructions found on the back of the picture envelope to return them. Once they are received, a full refund will be issued. <https://www.gciporraits.com/pre-pay-for-pictures> School Code- S125 <https://www.gciporraits.com/order-form>

Enrollment Intent for the 2026-2027 School Year

As we begin to plan for the 2026-2027 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 2026-2027 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 Friday, March 27. If your child will NOT be returning to Shakerag next school year, please contact Courtney Gatlin Cleary at gatlinclarec@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 2026-2027 school year.

Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

If you are one of our many wonderful volunteers, please join us on Thursday, April 16 from 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. in the Media Center for a breakfast in your honor followed by our State of the School address. The flyer with the RSVP went home last week in your child's Friday folder, or you can RSVP by clicking [here](#). Please RSVP by March 27. We can't wait to recognize all of the amazing contributions you make so that our school can be successful!

Save the Date: Shakerag Spirit Night with the Gladiators – 3/27!

Get ready for a fun and spirited night of hockey and community! Join us on **Friday, March 27 at 7:00 p.m.** as Shakerag takes over Gas South Arena for Atlanta Knights Night with the Atlanta Gladiators! A portion of every ticket sold goes back to our school, so come cheer on the Glads and catch our very own **Shakerag Chorus** kick off the evening with the National Anthem. Let's pack the arena and show our Shark pride! Click [HERE](#) for more details & to purchase tickets.

Student Success Skills Survey (Grades 3-5)

Each year, our students in grades 3-5 take a survey at the beginning of the year and one at the end of the year focused on our Student Success Skills program. The Student Success Skills Inventory is used to measure student growth across Student Success Skills standards as a result of ReThink Ed lessons. Students in grades 3-5 will complete the 15-20 item inventory between April 1, 2026 – April 24, 2026. It takes about 15 minutes to complete. Parents can choose to opt their student out of the inventory by submitting a written request to our school counselor, Becky Chang, at changb1@fultonschools.org. We ask that all opt-out requests be received no later than Friday, March 27.

Youth Art Month

March is Youth Art Month (YAM), a nationwide celebration that highlights the importance of art education and student creativity. Our theme this year is "The World Needs Art." YAM encourages students to express themselves, try new creative activities, and appreciate how art connects us all.

Youth Art Month has a variety of activities for students to participate in: Maker Mondays, Texture Tuesdays, Welcome Wednesdays, Thoughtful Thursday, and Fashion Fridays. Each Friday, we'll have special dress-up days, and students are encouraged to gift artwork to others as a way of sharing joy and creativity. Participation in events is completely optional, but we hope students will join in the fun! Any art—made in or outside of class—can be given to Ms. Munson to display in our hallway gallery throughout March. For the Fashion Friday calendar, click [here](#).

Let's make March a month full of creativity and connection. Thank you for supporting the arts at our school!

Coming Soon... Student Devices for Grades 3-5

Families of students in Grades 3-5 may have received a district communication regarding an upcoming device swap. The district will be switching out all student devices in Grades 3-5 and transitioning to Chromebooks. We anticipate our swap occurring mid-late March. Please click [here](#) for additional details.

For those that may not have already registered in the Device Protection Plan program, the district will be providing an opportunity to purchase this protection for the remainder of the year at a prorated rate. Details are included in the link above.

UPDATE: We hope to receive our devices the week of March 16!

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.

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). 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 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 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:

Artist Day – Volunteers Needed!

The Artist Day committee is in need of parent volunteers to assist with the set up and clean up of Breakfast and Lunch on April 3rd. Please use the link below to sign up for either time slot. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A054DABAE2AA0F94-62552364-artist>

Let's celebrate our amazing 5th grade students at Shakerag Elementary School!

Order a special personalized yard sign featuring your student's name and show your pride as they move on to middle school! Please place your order using the information on the flyer (click [here](#)) by April 17. Signs will be delivered to the school and available for pickup in early May.

A Message from the School Governance Council (SGC):

School Governance Council (SGC) Meeting

Our next School Governance Council meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 13 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](#).

In The Community:

Kristin McCabe's Community Meeting

Our school board President, Kristin McCabe, will be hosting a community meeting on Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. This meeting will be virtual. All are welcome to join. Please use the following link to access the meeting: <https://bit.ly/MCCABEDISTRICT5>

STEM Night

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

Calling all Shakerag Youth Swimmers!!!

Join the Shakerag Sharks Swim Team for the 2026 season! All Shakerag Elementary students are eligible to join the team. Practice begins the week of May 11th with the season wrapping up at the end of June. **While we have a variety of ability levels on the team, each child needs to be able to swim independently before joining 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 regarding the team. Registration is open from March 1-April 15 GO SHARKS!!!

Have a wonderful weekend!

