

Shark Bytes

Shakerag Elementary
Christine Lemerond, Principal
Samantha Weaver, Assistant Principal

August 14, 2026

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Visit our website: <https://shakerag.fultonschools.org>

Shark Tales:

Teacher Assignments

Each year the first 10 days of school are critical for our enrollment counts and teacher allocations. Our enrollment counts/attendance is what determines the number of teachers we are allocated. All class placements are temporary until allocations are finalized following the 10-day count. After this week, we are pretty confident in all of our numbers for each grade level. We hope to receive the final update next week, but at this point, we don't anticipate any changes in our general education classes. We will continue to keep you updated should any changes occur during the district-wide enrollment count process. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work through this process each year and welcome all of our amazing new families.



Curriculum Night – Thursday, August 20

At Shakerag, we believe that we are one big family working together to support the success of every child. A key to that success is open communication. We hope you will be able to join us for Curriculum Night as teachers will walk you through the class structure/schedule for their grade level and what you need to know to help your child be successful for the year. **This is a night for parents and teachers only! If you must bring your child, he/she will need to sit with you in the classroom for the duration of the evening.**

We have received great feedback from families regarding our one-night curriculum night. We know parking is always a challenge, but we hope that one night will help families with children in multiple grade levels.

Curriculum Night for all programs: Thursday, August 20

If you only have one child, you may choose which session you would like to attend. Please note that this is not a time for individual conferences. Those should be scheduled at a separate time with the teacher(s).

- 5:15 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. – Session 1 (The ESOL teachers will also be doing a presentation in room B182)
- 6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. – General Information Session and PTO meeting in the cafeteria – We highly encourage all families to attend and hear important updates for the year.
- 6:30 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. – Session 2 (The ESOL teachers will also be doing a presentation in room B182)

Special Areas and TAG: Our Special Area and TAG teachers will also be available along the main hall starting at 5:00 PM to share more details about their individual programs and answer any questions.

Special Education: The case managers for all of our special education students should have reached out to you by now. If you would like to put a name with a face, our special education teachers will be in the atrium from 5:00-5:15 and then they will be in some of the classrooms they support. If you have individual questions, please reach out to your child's teacher(s) and/or case manager directly.

Parents Night Out – Need something for the kids to do during Curriculum Night?

Northview Beta Club is providing a Parents Night Out babysitting service for Shakerag's parents during curriculum night at Northview High School on **Thursday, August 20 from 5-7:30pm**. The fee is \$20 per child, and parents can reserve a spot by paying on school cash using this link: <https://fultonschools.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Details/2299/623/False/True> or by clicking [here](#) for the flyer.

95 To Thrive – Attendance Matters

As we wrap up another fantastic week of school, we want to thank our families for your partnership in making attendance a priority. Your commitment to getting students to school every day and on time helps set the foundation for academic success. Last year, our school reduced our chronic absenteeism rate by 3.57% and 78.21% of our students had satisfactory attendance (absent <5% of the school days). We look forward to building on that success together!

To celebrate great attendance, students who had perfect attendance for the first week of school were entered into a raffle for special prizes. Congratulations to our winners that were drawn at random: Isabella U. (5th), Ann H. (4th), Sarah W. (4th), Levi C. (1st), Davis C. (4th), Milaa C. (1st), Myra N. (3rd), Charlotte B. (4th), Meisha K. (5th), and Zuri S. (3rd)! Thank you to all of our families for helping us start the school year strong. We can't wait to see what this year brings!

Student Success Skills Inventory

The Student Success Skills (SSS) Inventory is used to measure student growth across Student Success Skill standards as a result of Rethink Ed lessons. Students in grades 3-5 will complete the 45-item pre-inventory between August 24, 2026 - September 4, 2026. The post-inventory will take place between March 29, 2026 - April 2, 2027. It takes about 15 minutes to complete.

The inventory is pushed out to students using the RethinkEd platform. Parents can choose to opt their student out of the inventory. To opt out, parents must submit a written request to the school counselor, Mrs. Becky Chang (changb1@fultonschools.org), no later than **Friday, August 21, 2026**.

Beanstack Reading Challenge

Welcome to a new year in Beanstack & this year, the fun is better than ever! Beanstack is an app available in Classlink that allows students to log their daily reading minutes in order to earn badges and complete a monthly reading challenge. This month's challenge is the Back to School Reading Challenge! Students who log at least 300 minutes in Beanstack will complete the challenge, have their name featured on the morning news and are entered into a raffle drawing for prizes. There will be 10 prize winners each month randomly selected from the names of those who complete the monthly challenge. Shakerag is also working on a school-wide reading goal for this school year – 320,000 total minutes as a school. Joining the fun is easy! In Classlink, select the e-Library folder or search for Beanstack in the search bar at the top of Classlink. Then, click the "Log Reading" button in the top right corner to start entering daily reading minutes. Students who are being read to at home can enter those minutes in Beanstack as well. Contact our media specialist, Alison Francis, with questions at francis@fultonschools.org.

Science Olympiad

Do you have a 3rd, 4th or 5th grade student interested in joining a team of young scientists and engineers? If so, they should join our Science Olympiad team. Science Olympiad is filled with science experiments, engineering, and learning new things about science. Click [here](#) for more information about Science Olympiad and our upcoming tryouts.

Always have your ID with you!

This is just a friendly reminder that ALL VISITORS must have a photo ID with them when entering our campus.

Cafeteria Reminders

Due to district requirements and increasing costs, the cafeteria will no longer be able to provide extra condiments and silverware for students who do not purchase their lunch from the cafeteria. If your child brings his/her lunch from home, please make sure to include a fork, spoon, napkin, and/or straw if needed. We appreciate your help and support and apologize that we will no longer have extras available.

Newcomers Coffee

If you are NEW to Shakerag... Welcome to the family! Please mark your calendar for our Newcomers Coffee on Wednesday, August 26, at 8:00 a.m.

TAG Eligibility Update

The Fulton County School System screens all students for eligibility for gifted services (TAG) twice a year and uses a systematic approach to identify highly capable students who may qualify for gifted services. Please click [here](#) for more information on the TAG Eligibility Process.

Early Literacy Screening

The state of Georgia has implemented an early literacy legislation aimed at improving reading skills among our young learners. We want to make sure you are fully informed about what this means for your child. In our back-to-school packets that you received during Sneak Peek, you should have received a letter outlining this process. If you have questions regarding this process, please contact our MTSS/504 Chair, Amy Cook, at CookA4@fultonschools.org.

FCS News:

Fulton County Schools Student Code of Conduct Handbook

Fulton County Schools' Student Code of Conduct & Discipline Handbook is available online in a PDF format (click [here](#)). Once you have read the electronic version and have reviewed the contents with your student(s), please take a moment to complete the **Acknowledgment of Receipt Form** by using the provided link to access Infinite Campus' [Parent Portal](#). Please download the [instructions on how to complete the Acknowledgment of Receipt Form](#). **All parents and students (over 10 years old) MUST sign this form found within your INFINITE CAMPUS PARENT/STUDENT PORTAL ACCOUNT.** If you would like a paper copy of the Handbook, you or your student can pick one up in the front office. The deadline to sign the Student Code of Conduct is August 28.

Café News - Birthday Treats

Class birthday treats may be purchased for students to enjoy during lunch. Parents need to fill out the ice cream form from our website by clicking [here](#) and submit the form to your child's classroom teacher at least 2 weeks prior to the date of the celebration. If there are multiple children with the same birthday, only one birthday treat will be served on that day. **No outside food, goody bags, or class gifts are permitted for distribution to students.** Make sure you have enough funds or add funds to your child's account through MySchoolBucks (click [here](#)) in your child's GENERAL lunch account to cover the cost of the treats for the number of students in the class.

A Message from the PTO:

Make Waves with the Shakerag PTO!

Thank You & Shop Spirit Wear!

Thank you for helping us Make Waves at Sneak Peek! We loved seeing so many Shark families stop by the Shakerag PTO table. Whether you shopped for spirit wear, joined the PTO, or simply stopped to say hello, thank you for supporting the PTO.

Ready to show your Shark pride? There's still time! Browse and customize your favorite Shakerag Spirit Wear online: <https://1stplacespiritwear.com/schools/GA/Johns%20Creek/Shakerag%20Elementary%20School>

Let's make waves all year long and fill our halls with Shark pride!

Join the Shakerag PTO!

Join or renew your membership and help us create an incredible year for our students, teachers, and school community.

The grade level with the highest percentage of PTO memberships by August 27 will win a Popsicle Party!

Every membership counts, so invite your friends and classmates to join in. The more families who participate, the bigger the waves we can make together!

Your membership and donations help provide classroom resources, educational programs, family events, teacher appreciation, campus improvements, and so much more.

Join today and help your grade level ride the wave to a Popsicle Party!

A Message from the School Governance Council (SGC):

School Governance Council (SGC) Meeting

Our first School Governance Council meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 9 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:

Upcoming Future Titan Night

Northview High School is excited to host all Northview feeder elementary and middle school families for our Homecoming Game & Future Titan Community Night. All students will get free admission with a parent/guardian ticket if wearing their school spirit wear! Please click [here](#) for more information.

Girls in STEM

Girls in STEM is a club run by Northview High School students to encourage elementary school girls to join STEM fields at a young age! They introduce topics such as chemistry, engineering, physics, and more, through fun science experiments and activities. Meetings are completely free of charge and held once a month on Thursdays @ Northview High School from 3:50 – 5:00 PM!! Please click [here](#) for the flyer to join their mailing list!

EV3 Robotics

EV3 Robotics is excited to share an enriching after-school opportunity for students this fall! In partnership with STREM HQ Tech Academy, students can participate in the EV3 Robotics After-School Program, where students will explore robotics, engineering, and coding through engaging, hands-on activities.

Throughout the program, students will build and program LEGO® EV3 robots while developing valuable STEM skills in a fun and collaborative learning environment. This program is designed to foster creativity, critical thinking, teamwork, and problem-solving while introducing students to the exciting world of robotics.

Program Highlights

- Build and program LEGO® EV3 robots
- Learn block-based coding
- Explore sensors, motors, and engineering concepts
- Develop teamwork and problem-solving skills
- Participate in exciting hands-on STEM challenges

Program Information

- **Start Date:** Tuesday, September 1
- **Time:** 2:30 PM – 3:30 PM
- **Location:** Shakerag Elementary School
- **All materials included**

Space is limited, and registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. If your child is interested in participating, we encourage you to register as soon as possible to secure a spot. [**ENROLL NOW!**](#)

Kid Chess

Kid Chess has been Atlanta's most popular after-school enrichment club since 1998. The program meets at Shakerag Elementary on Thursdays. They send multiple coaches (on average of 5) to keep a uniquely low student teacher ratio, which guarantees level appropriate instruction from true-beginners to advanced players. Registration deadline is August 27, 2026. For details or to register call (770) 575-5802 or go to Kidchess.com.

Tutor Shop

The Tutor Shop is an academic after school program located at Shakerag. Please click [here](#) for additional details.

Have a great weekend!

