



Shepherd Elementary School

THE MUSTANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

May 28, 2010

Mark Your Calendars!

Friday, May 28: "Jammy Jam" Dance, 4-6 p.m.,
Auditorium
Monday, May 31: Memorial Day - no school
Tuesday, June 1: Terrific Kid Awards, 9:20 a.m.,
Auditorium
Tuesday, June 1: Staples school supplies order deadline
Friday, June 4: Family Fun Day, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Monday-Friday, June 7-11: Spirit Week
Thursday, June 10: Lunch With the Principal, noon
Thursday, June 10: LSRT meeting, 3:55 p.m.
Thursday, June 10: Principal's Forum, 6-8 p.m.,
Auditorium
Friday, June 11: Honor Roll Banquet

FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT..

Dear Shepherd Parents,

Next year we will be using the convenient services of SchoolKidz, Inc. and their "Teacher Tailored" back-to-school supply kit program. Why fight long lines trying to find every single requested item on your child's supply list? Let SchoolKidz do the shopping for you!

SchoolKidz Inc. offers brand name items chosen by our teachers. They offer brand names such as Crayola, Fiskars and Elmers combined with their own brand, Teacher's Best. Best of all, the entire package comes in a reusable personalized kit box.

This program will save you time, making "back-to-school" less hectic and more enjoyable for both students and parents. We believe you will find the pricing to be very reasonable. All kits will be delivered to the school and to the child's classroom and before the first day of school. The order form was sent in the backpack on Monday.

Cont. on pg 4

A Word from Mrs. Miles!

Greetings!

Lower Grade Testing

Testing for students in first and second grade will take place on June 8 and 9. Please remember this assessment is for planning purposes only and does not reflect in students' final grade. This information will help us make more informed instructional decisions.

Field Day

June 4 is Family Fun Day and you are invited to participate. We will have food, fun, games and maybe even a few surprises (i.e. dunk tank and water rainbow). Thank you to the six parents who signed up to play kick ball and the 11 parents who volunteered to manage a game station. We are still seeking volunteers. If interested, please stop by or call the front office no later than June 1, 2010.

Registration

As of Tuesday, May 25, we have a total of 112 students registered for next year. Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to complete this important task. Also, thank you for letting us know if your child will not be returning to Shepherd for the upcoming school year. If you have not registered or if your child is not returning to Shepherd, please let us know by June 1. If you registered and your name does not appear on the list, please contact the front office. We have several parents who dropped their forms off but did not verify residency.

Cont. on Principal pg 2

Cont. from Principal pg 1

Mrs. Brooks cannot put your information into the system until you verify residency. You do not have to submit health forms until the summer; however, all other forms are due now.

Healthy Eating Challenge

At Shepherd Elementary, we are "On the Move" with First Lady Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" initiative! The initiative calls on schools to provide healthier meals and for food companies to accurately label the nutritional content of their products. Figures show that 32% of kids in the United States are obese and Mrs. Obama wants to help children understand how to live a balanced lifestyle where they enjoy healthy foods, prevent illness and are out running, playing and walking.

Our Plan:

We are creating a Shepherd Elementary Healthy Foods Cookbook and we need your help! Our goal is for each student at Shepherd to bring in one or two of their favorite "Healthy" recipe(s) by Friday, June 4. Students who submit their recipe(s) by the 4th will receive a small prize (prizes are limited so submit as soon as possible). Students, please be sure to write your name and class on the recipe and submit it to your teacher. Healthy eating is a learned art! Before you submit your recipe, talk with your child about healthy eating. Have them join you in making the item(s). Encourage them to measure and count. Ask your students questions such as: If this recipe feeds five people, how many cups of flour will you need to feed 10 people? How many people will this recipe feed if we use $\frac{1}{2}$ less than the recipe?

Did You Know?

Healthy eaters are empowered kids, free of fears and misconceptions about food and eating. Kids who know how to eat healthy fully know what they need and how to get it. They are effective problem solvers. Healthy eating habits established during childhood are a precious legacy to be brought with the child

into their adult years.

The Contest

Does your child like to draw or sketch? Do they have a great idea for a Healthy Foods Cookbook? We are currently seeking a student from any grade level, pre-K through fifth grade, to design a front cover for our Healthy Foods Cookbook. Students are asked to submit one regular size (8.5"x11") design. Students may use crayons, markers or pencils to complete their design. Entries will be judged for their creativity and how well they capture the theme "Let's Move." Entries are due Thursday, June 10. The judging will take place on Friday, June 11 and will be announced at the Awards Day ceremonies. On the back of each submission, please include the following: student name, grade and class.

Spirit Week Activities:

Monday: Green and Gold Day -- Show your school spirit. Spray your hair, paint your face, dress in school colors from head to toe.

Tuesday: Imitation Day- Dress up as your favorite actor, singer, superhero book character or favorite teacher. The choice is yours. YOU decide who you would like to be for the day.

Wednesday: Recycle Day-- Design your own outfit from old newspapers, trash bags, egg cartons, etc. Wear a trash bag dress and milk carton shoes. Show your creativity.

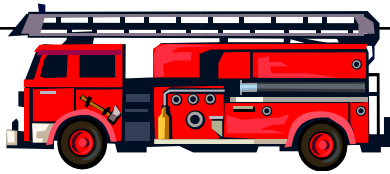
Thursday: Mix and Match Day-- Wear one yellow sock and one purple. A orange shirt and a blue and white polka-dot pair of pants. Your job is to make sure you are not matching. How uncoordinated can you be?

Friday: Sports Day -- Redskins, Cowboys, Lakers or Yankees. Who's your favorite team? Wear your sports paraphernalia and show your team spirit.

Regards,

Jamie Miles

Jamie Miles
Principal



'Truck Touch Day' June 12 at RFK

The DC Department of Public Works invites the public to the city's third annual citywide "Truck Touch" event Saturday, June 12, 2010, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at RFK Stadium, Lot 7, off of Oklahoma Ave., NE, next to the playground. A host of D.C. government agencies will present more than 20 vehicles used to provide vital city services. This is a free event.

The event will feature vehicles from the D.C. Departments of Public Works, Transportation, Health, Employment Services, Parks and Recreation, and Fire and Emergency Medical Services; and also the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency, the Metropolitan Police Department, and the DC Water and Sewer Authority. Information on various government services also will be available.

Vehicles on display will include fire and dump trucks, a police helicopter, a fire and lab truck, heavy and light plows; a knuckle boom truck, electric and compressed natural gas vehicles, a wrecker, a front end loader, a bucket truck, Red Cross front-line response vehicles and a one-stop mobile health and employment van.

Spirit Week begins June 7-11

See Principal Miles' column for details

'The Shepherd Way': Let's Teach It Every Day

The call continues for Shepherd parents to serve as mentors to new parents for 2010. How best for parents to learn what "The Shepherd Way" is for their children and themselves than with the guiding hands of parents who have already been there!

Please offer your wisdom and your time to benefit new parents. Sign up with Ms. Brooks in the school office, or send an e-mail to her at robyna.brooks@dc.gov

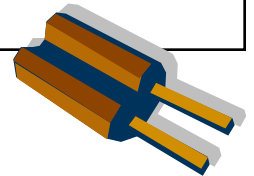
LSRT Nominations Open for One Week; Election is June 11

Nominations are being accepted now through Friday, June 4, for four parent representatives to Shepherd Elementary's Local School Restructuring Team (LSRT). Any parent of a Shepherd student may be nominated. Parents may nominate themselves.

The LSRT election is scheduled for Friday, June 11. An election will be conducted even if there are only four -- or fewer -- names on the ballot to allow for write-in voting.

The LSRT meets monthly, at a set date and time reached by agreement between the LSRT chair and the principal.

If you want to place your name in nomination, or would like to nominate a parent, send the name to PTA Nominations Committee chair Leonie Stephenson at leoniestephenon86@yahoo.com.



Popsicle Party for Ms. Kuawogai's Class

In what has become an annual custom during the last PTA meeting of the year, the PTA takes a show of hands to see which classroom has the most parents present. This year, Ms. Kuawogai's first grade class was the winner, with nine parents on hand. The same parents were also in Mr. Byers' kindergarten class last year when THAT class won free popsicles. Do you detect a pattern here? There were two classes where no parents turned out, but decorum prevents us from telling you which classes they were.

No School This Monday

This coming Monday, May 31, is Memorial Day, a federal holiday to honor all of the men and women in the U.S. military who have died in the service of their country. School will be back in session Tuesday, June 1.

Cont. from pg 1 PTA President

Please complete the form with a check made out to Shepherd Elementary PTA and return to your teacher or the front office. The Deadline is this coming Tuesday, June 1.

If you have any questions, please e-mail Charisse Brossard at cbrossard65@gmail.com or call 202-445-0784. Please note: Schoolkidz does not supply specialty items such as Lysol or 409 because these materials are deemed unsafe by the Consumer Safety Information Act.

Please go to www.Shepherd-Elementary.org to see if your class supply lists have these items.

Best wishes,

Charisse Brossard

Charisse Brossard
PTA President

PTA OK's New Floor for Auditorium/Gymnasium

Last week at the final PTA meeting of the school year, PTA parents voted overwhelmingly to spend money to purchase a new floor for our all-purpose auditorium/gymnasium. Floors cost money, though, and the PTA will do its utmost to find ways to finance this project.

Kaizen Karate has already committed to giving half the proceeds from its karate tournament to the installation of a new floor. There are some Shepherd parents willing to make substantial contributions to get a new floor installed.

The PTA is committed, during this time of first lady Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" initiative, to get the work done.

Shepherd Elementary School Mission

All stakeholders are committed to the advancement of students' academic, emotional, social, and physical well-being within a supportive, creative and flexible environment in which children learn to think compassionately and learn globally.

Summer School Plans Set

According to Ms. June Confer, Shepherd Elementary's longtime business manager, summer school is still on track to start Monday, June 28.

Currently Shepherd has 118 of its own students enrolled in the summer educational and enrichment program, about double the number of students coming from the Takoma Education Campus.

Instruction begins at 8:30 a.m. each morning, running until noon. Lunch and recess will be noon-1 p.m. Starting at 1 p.m., Ms. Confer said, there will be a little "down time" for students to relax and recharge their batteries for the enrichment program that runs until 6 p.m.

The morning coordinator for educational activities is Mr. Jamal Williamson, and the afternoon coordinator for enrichment activities is Mr. Chris Harris.

Here is the expected breakdown of classes for summer school:

- 1 regular kindergarten class
- 1 kindergarten-first grade French class
- 1 kindergarten-first grade Spanish class
- 1 regular first grade class
- 1 regular second grade class
- 1 (or 2) third grade class(es)
- 1 fourth grade class
- 1 fifth grade class
- 1 combination sixth through eighth grade class

Contact Ms. Confer at the school office if you are still interested in enrolling your child in summer school.

School-Photo DVDs Going, Going, Gone?

Friday is the last day to order your school-photo DVD showing more than 250 photos of children at Shepherd over the school year, from the pre-K play date to Jazz Night. With so many photos, it's a safe bet that your child is in the slide show. And their friends, too! Order forms are still in the rack outside the school office.

Thank you for registering your student for next year.

(As of May 24, 2010)

1. Rashad Biddle	39. Rasheda White	77. Nia Anderson
2. Theo Biddle	40. Efrata Tesfaye	78. Changamire Anderson
3. Camille Jones	41. Amaya Smith	79. Renata Mills
4. Bianca Popa	42. Savannah Robinson	80. London Downing
5. Quin Montgomery	43. Felemon Abebu	81. Lyndon Downing
6. Nina Sinkford	44. Miles Davis	82. Aaries Askew
7. Darius King	45. William Davis	83. Frank Borris
8. Kamryn Bowman	46. Cydni Taylor	84. Chandler Brossard
9. Kyle Bowman	47. Alexander Leonard	85. Omari Clarke
10. Nana Sissoko	48. Deja Redd	86. Tiffany Greene
11. Fama Sissoko	49. Gabrielle McKinley	87. Trinity Greene
12. Masia Jenkins	50. Gabrielle Brown	88. Milke Hailu
13. Wynton Haley	51. Everett Keller	89. Kayla Harris-Diggs
14. Kadija Cash-Taylor	52. Justin Williams	90. Valery Hernandez-Gonzalez
15. Kemani Cash-Taylor	53. Andre Jones	91. Allison Holmes
16. Anthony Harrison	54. Jean Pierre Roberts	92. Sean Holmes
17. Godlove Tata	55. Zoe Roberts	93. Luke Jennings
18. Marie Therece Tata	56. Grace Kao	94. Robert Lewandowski
19. Ashford Connor	57. Chanelle Haynes	95. Lesly Maradiaga
20. Zennon Melnyk	58. Madeline Lewis	96. Muai-Aakhu Meskheniten
21. Mattie Melnyk	59. Jaden Inniss	97. SaAnkheesa Meskheniten
22. Margaret Goletiani	60. Dakota Inniss	98. Kayla Muir
23. Jordan Yates	61. Sabrina Witter	99. David Nawankwo
24. Zora Pauk	62. Briana Rodriguez-Knight	100. Ethan Reece
25. Aanisah Hasan	63. Jumel Silver-Rhodes	101. Kelsea Saulny
26. Antonino Imbroscio	64. Caleb Wilson	102. Myra Shalaty
27. Casey Ross	65. Madison Swanson	103. Sandra Stevenson
28. Charles Ross	66. Nixsovani Gladden	104. Kenneth Thomas
29. Zaria Wilson	67. Taye Moss-Suggs	105. Tyler Thomas
30. Carson Wheeler	68. Logan Botvin	106. Savanna Toure'
31. Samuel Bush	69. Victoria Carter	107. Yonatan Tussa
32. Caleb Bush	70. Monique Johnson	108. Micha White
33. Amai Richardson	71. Priya Smith	109. Elijah Whittle
34. Frank Sheffield	72. Naomi Schuster	110. Brandon Wright
35. Romy Herisse	73. Hannah Schuster	111. Gavin Rasmussen
36. Sophia-Rose Herisse	74. Caleb Schuster	112. Jenelle Bethea
37. Ricardo Lindo	75. Frank Scinto	
38. Aniya Hamilton	76. Kyle Jackson-Chang	

Register Your Child For Next School Year

You're probably thinking, "Why do I need to register? My child already goes to Shepherd." But people move, parents change schools, and D.C. Public Schools needs to get as accurate a count as possible so that the budget dollars we rightfully deserve keep coming to our school. Registering is easy, but it has to be done in person at the school. All you need to bring is either some proof of residence in D.C. - like a driver's license or a utility bill. Do it now, and you'll be glad you did!

Thanks to Shepherd's Early Reader Volunteers

Here's the list of Early Reader volunteers. They've been an unbelievably committed and reliable group. As you know, we meet in the Shepherd School library every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday to read with (or to) students from kindergarten through second grade. Our average attendance is 14 students and five volunteers each session. I think we've made progress with a number of the students and, above all, they seem to enjoy it. We do too. The volunteers include several former Shepherd parents.

Ed Archer	Jackie Holt	Margie Odle
Linda Archer	Altomease Kennedy	Dorothy Ramsay
Joyce Batipps	Dorothy Kennison	Carol Randolph
Shelley Brazier	Frank Kitsoulis	Arthur Sheekey
Kenya Brent	Susan Learmonth	Claire White
Meritt Drucker	Valerie Mann	Kathleen Sheekey - Coordinator

The next time you see an Early Reader volunteer, thank them for the fine work they've done all year long!

Get Well Soon!

Last week, we asked you to keep three of our staffers in your thoughts and prayers as they dealt with health issues that keep them out of Shepherd Elementary. If you want to send get-well cards to them, here are their addresses:

Mrs. Denise Chambliss
3209 Pauline Drive
Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815

Ms. Tutu Pierce
2861 31st Place NE
Washington DC 20008

Ms. Korbalague Kuawogai
c/o Shepherd Elementary School
7800 Fourteenth St. NW
Washington, DC 20012

PTA Finishes in the Black

The PTA, as we near the end of the school year, currently has a bank balance exceeding \$33,000, reports PTA treasurer Niki Mitchell.

In fact, according to PTA president Charisse Brossard, the PTA was in the black before the auction started for the first time in five years!

The revenue generated by parents' contributions to the 180 Fund made a huge difference, as monthly contributions meant cash coming in on a regular basis. It enabled the PTA to meet its stated goal of improving the technological and communications resources of the school, including the purchase of 10 new computers specially configured to meet D.C. Public Schools requirements, the revamping of the school Web site, the introduction of TeacherWeb for teachers' personal classroom websites, and paying for test scoring and Discovery Communications software.

Thanks to you, the year was a big success!

School Supplies Deal: A Limited-Time Offer!

The PTA has made a deal with Staples to bundle the essential school supplies your child will need for next year and offer them at a low, low price. What's more, Staples will deliver your child's bundle, with his or her name on it, to the school. All you have to do is write a check made payable to the Shepherd Elementary PTA.

But this is a limited-time offer! All orders must be received at the school no later than next Tuesday, June 1. The prices vary by grade. Order forms can be found on the school Web site, www.shepherd-elementary.org, and in the school office.

Used Uniform Clothing Sought for Next Year

If you have uniform clothing that your child has grown out of, please wash it and fold it and bring it to the school office. Marnie Keller, who has agreed to run used uniform clothing sales for next year, will give it tender loving care. By the way, many parents scooped up armfuls of used uniform clothing at last week's PTA meeting. And why not? It was free!

The Mustang

Can you help us with the layout and design of the Mustang? We're hoping you could take turns with our other design and layout parents through the end of the school year next month. It would serve as a great introduction to doing this kind of service for 2010-11, though! If you can offer your talents, please get in touch with Communications Committee chair Mark Pattison at 829-9289 or at pattison_mark@hotmail.com.

Thank You Corner

A big thank you to the hard-working, and fast-acting, crew from D.C. Public Schools who surveyed, regarded, revamped and brought up to current code the handicap access ramp outside the school -- all within three days!

(You can thank someone yourself in the Thank You Corner by sending you message of thanks to sesmustang@gmail.com.)

Family Fun Day! June 4th

We'll have all 300-plus Shepherd students out at Shepherd Field and the tot lot and playground for Family Fun Day next Friday. The PTA has already popped for 500 hot dogs and 500 buns. Now all we need is you, the parents, to assist with activities. Contact Mr. Burgess, who is coordinating Family Fun Day, to see what you can do.



Auction Report: Great News!

Auction Committee Chair Bianca Bostic reported at last week's PTA meeting that the April 30 auction grossed more than \$26,000!

That's a terrific showing! What's more, Bianca has already agreed to be auction chair next year, too, so count on a splendid evening -that is, if you can get a ticket. We had 203 people pass through the turnstiles at the Washington Ethical Society at some point during the auction action.

Student's-Eye View

On May 17, Shepherd Elementary students put on a mini-opera in Italian. The cast was made of two European actors, one European actress, six fourth graders and two fifth graders.

The opera was called "The Elixir of Love." The opera was about a woman and a man who were in the army and a shy man, a shepherd, who deeply loved the woman. Performers had only three days to get ready for "The Elixir of Love." We practiced at school for one hour each day.

"The hardest part was singing in Italian," said Yaseen Derront, a fifth grader who was in the production.

"The opera was awesome," said Teirra Jackson. "I loved the middle. It was great. Encore! Encore! Encore!"

The opera was held during the school day and was part of foreign language instruction.

To submit news tips, comment or contact the Mustang reporter, send an e-mail to: Emahni5@gmail.com.

-- Emahni Grant, 4th grader

Jammy Jam Is After School

The annual "Jammy Jam," the pajamas-optional after-school dance with Mr. Velez rockin' the turntables, will be held today (Friday) after school. What a way to get your groove on during the holiday weekend! The fun starts at 4 p.m. and runs until 6 p.m.

Tickets are \$3.50. You'll be able to buy refreshment and also raffle tickets! There's also still time for parents to volunteer to chaperone or otherwise help out. Contact Ms. Holt at kinderholt@yahoo.com.



The Mustang Round-Up

Join the PTA Listserv Today –

To subscribe, send an email (**include your name, your child's name and his/her teacher/class**) to: Shepherd_Elementary_PTA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Once signed up, you will be able to receive listserv updates directly to your email inbox. If you prefer to not receive emails for each listserv posting, simply select "no email" under the message delivery option in your listserv user setup.

Past Issues of The Mustang are Online –

Would you like to read *The Mustang* electronically? Need to refer back to a past issue? Each week, *The Mustang* is uploaded to the files area of the PTA listserv. Join the listserv and click to read.

The Mustang is also available on the Shepherd Elementary School website at www.shepherd-elementary.org.

Deadline Next Week!

Next week's Mustang will be distributed Friday, June 4. The deadline to submit articles for the Mustang will be 5 p.m. Tuesday, June 1st. Please send your submissions to sesmustang@gmail.com.



Shepherd Elementary School

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Send your submissions for the next issue of *The Mustang* to: SESmustang@gmail.com.