



Shepherd Elementary School

THE MUSTANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

June 11, 2010

Mark Your Calendars!

Friday, June 11: LSRT elections
Friday, June 11: Honor Roll Banquet
Tuesday, June 15: Fifth Grade graduation ceremony,
9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, June 16: Awards Day, 9:15 a.m., Pre-K
through first grade, 10:15 a.m. for
second through fourth grade.
Friday, June 18: Full Day of School
Monday, June 21: Full Day of School (snow make-up
date)
Tuesday, June 22: Full Day of School (snow make-up
date) - and last day of school!
Monday, June 28- August 6: Summer school

FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT..

Dear Shepherd Parents,

As we wind down the year, I would like to let you know about recent donations and grant efforts received or completed on behalf of the PTA:

Special thanks to Kaizen Karate for donating \$500 to Shepherd Elementary. Please support this business since they have given generously to the PTA and to the auction. If you would like to enroll your child this summer or fall please call 301-938-2711.

I would also like to thank Franklin's Restaurant in Hyattsville for their check of \$81.66. This represents a percentage of the proceeds collected that day from Shepherd Families during our fundraiser in April.

Last but not least; a special thanks to parent Monica Goletiani, who submitted a technology grant on behalf of the PTA with a 24-hour turnaround. Keep your fingers crossed!!!

Best wishes,

Charisse Brossard

A Word from Mrs. Miles!

Greetings!

Outstanding Balances

Did you know our aftercare program has a negative balance of \$14,305? We currently have 41 families who owe money. We are a self funded program and when you do not pay, aftercare staff members are not able to be paid.

If you owe money to our Aftercare program, the library, cafeteria, or the school for lost materials, please contact the school to discuss payment. Report cards will be held and records will not be transferred until accounts are paid in full

Field Day

Thank you to everyone who helped to make field day a success. Parents volunteered to manage game stations, get dunked in the dunk tank, bring in water and snacks, grill and pass out hot dogs, escort students to and from the restroom, help with lunch and recess duty and play kickball. Last Friday was an awesome day and it was a success because of you. When you see Mr. Burgess please tell him thank you!

Enrollment

For the past few months I have been calling, writing and begging for parents to register. I want to send a sincere thank you to everyone who has taken time to complete this important task. I would also like to thank those of you who will not be returning for keeping us informed. I do not want to be a tyrant or a nuisance but I cannot stress enough the importance of getting your child registered or informing the school if your child will not be returning. If our numbers fall below the projected number, we will lose funding and teachers will be displaced. We currently have more than enough students on the waiting list to fill any enrollment gaps; however, I am hesitant to accept those students. If I accept the students now and current families register later, we will be over enrolled beyond our capacity. Please, please, please! If you have not registered or notified the

Cont. from Principal pg 1

Cont. from Principal pg 1

office about your not returning to Shepherd next year, please do so immediately. The list posted in this week's edition of the Mustang was last updated on June 8. If you do not see your child's name, please contact Mrs. Brooks in the main office at 202-576-6140 or via email at robyna.brooks@dc.gov. Thank you for your prompt attention IB Update

Have you been wondering about our International Baccalaureate status? Well, due to the lateness of the year, the New York office was unable to secure an authorization visit before the end of this school year. Therefore we will have our site visit in October or November. In the meantime, we are continuing the work and will be ready for the visit in the fall.

Parent Survey

Please take a few moments to tell us how we are doing by completing the online parent survey. The survey is voluntary and anonymous and takes about 15 minutes to complete.

How to complete the survey:

- Type <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/shepherdparent> into your web browser.
- If you don't have access to a computer, the computers in the school library are available for parents to complete the survey.
- If you'd rather complete a paper copy of the survey, you can pick one up at the main office of the school

Have a great weekend!

Jamie Miles

Jamie Miles
Principal

LSRT Election Date Set for This Friday Rain or Shine

When: Friday (June 11) at 7-9 a.m. EST and again at 3-6:30 p.m. EST

Candidate Bios appear on p 8

Take Me Out To the Ball Game!

Exciting real-live baseball action is as close this summer as Blair High School in Silver Spring - and Shepherd students can play a big role in all of it!

The Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts play their home games at Blair High School's baseball field. Blair High is at the corner of Colesville Road and University Boulevard in Silver Spring. Just go north on Colesville, turn right at University, and turn right again into the Blair High parking lot.

Next Friday, June 18, is Shepherd Elementary All-Star Reader Appreciation Night at the ballpark. One Shepherd staff is playing host to the Thunderbolts' second baseman. A Shepherd teacher will throw out the first pitch, and a Shepherd parent will sing the national anthem! The T-Bolts will play the Baltimore Redbirds. The first pitch is 7 p.m.

And next Thursday, June 17, it's "School's Out" night, where all students in D.C., Montgomery County and Prince George's County get in free! This is also a 7 p.m. start against the Bethesda Big Train.

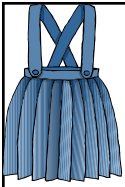
Other home dates are June 10, June 12, June 13 (6 p.m.), June 20 (doubleheader with 5:30 p.m. start), June 23, June 26, June 28, July 1, July 2, July 7, July 9, July 11 (6 p.m.), July 15, July 17, July 23 and July 25 (6 p.m.). Games start at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Gates and concessions open an hour before the game.

The Thunderbolts play in the Cal Ripken Sr. Collegiate Baseball League. These are college players with big-league hopes who get a summer's worth of experience with the wood bats used in pro baseball instead of the aluminum bats used in college and high school ball.

Tickets are \$5 for adults, 2 for children ages 5-17, and free for kids under age 5 and any kid in a baseball or softball uniform.

Call 301-270-0794 to leave a message on the T-Bolts' message line, or go to www.tbolts.org to learn more.





'Starting All Over Again' With Used School Uniforms

Remember Mel & Tim's "Starting All Over Again"? Maybe you're familiar with the Hall & Oates version. Either way, as each pair sang, "Starting all over again is gonna be rough, so rough, but we're gonna make it."

The PTA sold more than \$250 in used uniform clothing over the past year, thanks to making uniforms available early and often in the school year. Last month, at the PTA meeting, we gave away bundles more of clothing to any parent who wanted it.

But the mother of one Shepherd parent said her church could distribute the unsold uniform clothing, so we bundled it up – four laundry bags' worth -- and dropped it off over the weekend. In truth most of this remaining stock was getting a little long in the tooth. So we're going to be starting all over again with fresh stock. But for that, we'll need your help.

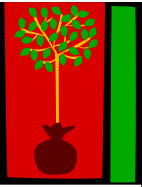
Please bring in any clothing your sons and daughters have outgrown to the school office. There, they will be professionally cleaned sorted according to size for a new round of sales starting in August. While Ms. Brooks will be in the office throughout summer school, do your best to bring in used uniform clothing of all sizes by the end of June.

Be a Mentor!

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 robyn.a.brooks@dc.gov.

We Still Need Some Tree-Bag Fillers!



Just as you keep yourself and your family properly hydrated over the long, hot summer, we need to keep the school trees hydrated, too.

We have eight weeks of summer vacation, and already five of those weeks have been spoken for by Shepherd parents and Shepherd Park neighbors. Won't you do your part to keep a green scene at Shepherd?

Here are the weeks (starting with Mondays) of the summer. Three need to be filled

June 28 spoken for!

July 5 spoken for!

July 12

July 19 spoken for!

July 26

August 2 spoken for!

August 9

August 16 spoken for!

School's Open This Summer --And So Is the School Office

Not everybody has summer vacation! Even if you're not sending your child to Shepherd's summer school program, you can still conduct business at the school office. Ms. Brooks will serve in the office during summer school. If you have mail or forms to deliver or pick up, stop by the office before you head off to work (or come home from work), or while you're running other errands.

You can drop off used cell phones, too, in the purple box. And you can deposit items for the PTA in the PTA box. You can also submit Box Tops for Education coupons in the Box Tops box in the office. Just make sure you include your child's name on a Box Tops Collection Sheet or a plastic baggie.

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 Reading Lists Available at Library

Summer reading lists for students of all ages are now available at the Juanita E. Thornton-Shepherd Park Library, 7420 Georgia Ave. NW. Dozens of titles are available for each grade. Two-sided cards of different colors help parents and students alike find the right reading lists. Separate cards are in the children's section of the library for pre-K and kindergarten, grades 1 and 2, grades 3 and 4, grades 5 and 6, grades 7 and 8, and high school students. Have a reading-filled summer! While you're at the library, sign up for the children's summer reading program.

D.C. Youth Orchestra Program Scholarships for Summer 2010

Do you live in zip codes 20001, 20002, 20003, 20007, 20009, 20010, 20011, 20012, 20015, 20016, 20017, 20018, 20019, 20020, 20024, or 20032? If so, your child is eligible for a scholarship for 75 % off of the tuition for the D.C. Youth Orchestra Program this summer (children from low-income families may be eligible for a 100 percent scholarship).

Scholarships are available for the 2010 summer session only and will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, so don't delay. The summer session runs from June 28-August 6. Classes are on weekday evenings at Coolidge High School (5th & Sheridan Streets NW). All students, all levels are welcome (ages 4 1/2-19). For more information on the program go to www.dcyop.org. Additional information about the scholarships is by contacting the D.C. Youth Orchestra at 723-1612 or info@dcyop.org.



News From the Library

Shepherd Elementary would like to raise \$2,500 to purchase approximately 200 new books for use with reading groups, in classrooms and in the library to provide students and teachers with the resources they need for reading, research and curriculum supplements.

Shepherd is looking to parents, community members and businesses for help in raising the needed funds. They are participating in a new online fundraising program called Funds4Books, sponsored by Mackin Educational Resources, a school library and classroom vendor with 26 years of experience.

For every \$15 donated, the school can purchase a new book that is ready to be shelved and checked out. Most importantly, 100 percent of every donation goes towards purchase of books. Unlike other fundraising programs and book fairs, this fundraiser doesn't require staff or volunteer time, and all the books are labeled and shipped for free.

To participate, donors go to www.funds4books.com, then log in to Shepherd Elementary's personal fundraising page with the code e170. From there they can donate using a credit card. This fundraiser runs from June 1 through August 1, so all purchases can be made prior to the start of the 2010/2011 school year.

--Maria Scinto, Shepherd Elementary Librarian

We Still Need Boxes!

Just like last year, when summer school came to Shepherd Elementary, Shepherd's teachers have to box up their teaching materials to make way for close to 200 summer school and enrichment students. We need boxes of virtually every size. Copy-paper boxes work quite well, but smaller boxes -- if they're sturdy -- work well for heavy things, and big boxes are ideal for light things. Please bring your boxes to the main office. And we'll need boxes until you hear that we've got enough boxes to go around for everybody.



Next Week's Issue Is Last for 2009-10

Next week's edition of the Mustang, to be dated June 18, will be the last for the school year until it resumes in August. If there's something you've been waiting to say or someone you've been wanting to thank, this will be your last chance to get it off your chest and tell the school community. The deadline is 5 p.m. Tuesday, June 15. Send all items to sesmustang@gmail.com.

Thank you for registering your student for next year.

(As of June 8, 2010)

1. Alexandra Abebe	Wynton Hailey	Muai-Aakhu Meskheniten	Godloves Tata
Felemon Abebu	Milke Hailu	SaAnkheessa Meskheniten	Marie-Therece Tata
Changamire Anderson	Amari Hall	Renata Mills	Cydni Taylor
Nia Anderson	Kofi Hall	Tiffany Missembe	Efrata Tesfaye
Quentin Anderson-Watson	Aniya Hamilton	Jordan Mitchell	Kenneth Thomas
Aaries Askew	Rian Harris	Quin Montgomery	Tyler Thomas
Cierra Barnette	Kayla Harris-Diggs	Dai'Ahmira Morgan-Fleming	Savanna Toure'
Kelci Barnette	Anthony Harrison	Taye Moss-Suggs	Colyar Trimble
Jasmine Barrow	Clare Harvey	Kayla Muir	Henry Trimble
Lillian Beach	Aanisha Hasan	Heidi Nikiema	Yonatan Tussa
Jenelle Bethea	Indya Heyward	David Nwankwo	Jason Tynor
Rashad Biddle	Mia Heyward	Cyntia Pattison	Carson Wheeler
Theo Biddle	Chanelle Haynes	Zora Pauk	Courtney White
Sekai Bonner-Flagg	Romy Herisse	Janessa Perry	Micha White
Frank Borris	Sophia-Rose Herisse	Bianca Popa	Rasheda White
Jocelyn Bostic	Valery Hernandez-Gonzalez	Moise Pringle	Elijah Whittle
Logan Botvin	Allison Holmes	Tajee Pringle	Amirah Willis
Kamryn Bowman	Sean Holmes	Gavin Rasmussen	Bryan Wilson
Kyle Bowman	Jordan Huntley	Deja Redd	Caleb Wilson
Layla Brent	Antonino Imbroscio	Ethan Reece	Tony Wilson
Savannah Brinkley	Dakota Innis	Amani Richardson	Zaria Wilson
Chandler Brossard	Jaden Innis	Jean-Pierre Roberts	Justin Williams
Gabrielle Brown	Kyle Jackson-Chang	Zoe Roberts	Sabrina Witter
Caleb Bush	Masai Jenkins	Savannah Robinson	Brandon Wright
Samuel Bush	Luke Jennings	Briana Rodriguez-Knight	Jordan Yates
Jamary Calhoun	Monique Johnson	Casey Ross	
David Camille	Tierra Jackson	Charles Ross	
Mecca Camille	Andre Jones	Caleb Schuster	
Victoria Carter	Camille Jones	Kelsea Saulny	
Kadija Cash-Taylor	Immanuel Jones	Leo Saunders	
Kemani Cash-Taylor	Iyanna Jones	Mia Saunders	
Omari Clarke	Wynston Jones	Hannah Schuster	
Emely Claros	Grace Kao	Naomi Schuster	
Ashford Connor	Everett Keller	Frank Scinto	
Alandra Corbett-Johnson	Clarque Kelley	Myra Shalaty	
Jada Culmer	Darius King	Frank Sheffield	
Khalil Davis	Briana Knight	Jumel Silver-Rhodes	
Miles Davis	Diondra Lee	Nina Sinkford	
William Davis	Alexander Leonard	Nana Sissoko	
Alicia Dawson	Robert Lewandowski	Fama Sissoko	
Jamal Deane	Madeline Lewis	Amaya Smith	
Nathan Demssie	Ernestine Lwangu	Priya Smith	
London Downing	Ricardo Lindo	Tijara Smith	
Lyndon Downing	Chandler Mabry	Tolani Smith	
Tiara Dupee	Calloway Majette	Cecelia Sneed	
Jonathan Easterling	Marley Majette	Lauren Spriggs	
Victoria Easterling	Josiah Marable	Sandra Stevenson	
Spencer Fridle	Lesly Maradiaga	Kayla Stewart	
Nathaniel Galbreath	Augustus Marrkand	Madison Swanson	
Andonny Garcia	Daniel Martin		
Morgan Garnes	Jay Matthews		
Khirah George	Jada Matthews		
Nixsovani Gladden	Jovaan McKinney		
Margaret Goletiani	Gabrielle McKinley		
Tiffany Greene	Mattie Melnyk		
Trinity Greene	Zennon Melnyk		



Congratulations, Graduates!



We hope you will be able to attend the graduation ceremonies next Tuesday, June 15, for Shepherd's fifth graders. The exercises start at 9:30 a.m. When you see any of these fine young men and women, please congratulate them heartily and let them know that you're expecting big things from them in middle school!

<p>Ms. Ulba's Class Ayanna Agee Elijah Bemah Sevaughn Coates Kennedy Gullatte Prince Hunt Diondra Lee Safi Robinson Krista Ross Lauren Spriggs Antrez Taylor Jr. Lauren Terry Angel Thomas Savanna Toure' Tiffany Tyler Michael Williams Brandon Wright</p>	<p>Mr. Leonard's Class Michael Branche William Davis Rahim DLaite Yasmeen Durant Guyton Harvey Jordan Huntley Mark Jackson Noble Leonard Augustus Marrkand Daniel McPherson Deja Redd Amaya Smith Benea Smith Kayla Stewart Vertez Utley II Erin Washington</p>	<p>Carson Wheeler Elijah Whittle Joseph Williams Moriah Williams</p> <p>Ms. Laughinghouse's Class Nayya el-Usir Stedman McConnell</p>
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AFTER CARE FINAL NOTICE

This memo is the final notice from the Shepherd STAR ACHIEVERS Before and After Care program. To date, we have a sizable number of parents who have failed to live up to their payment obligations for the program. With less than three weeks remaining in the school year, we are imploring those delinquent parents to make their final payments to avoid adverse action. Those families risk having their account sent to a collection agency and having their children's report card/papers withheld. In addition, those children will not be allowed to register in the program for the upcoming school year. Please make those payments so the program can conclude on a positive note. For questions, please contact Mr. Huff at 301-699-9266.

Parents Answer the Call For Early Supplies Orders

We had 81 School Supply Kit orders! Not bad for a one-week turnaround. The Order Forms were sent via Federal Express with a delivery for June 3 to SchoolKidz. The total was \$3,187.49 (which includes delivery)

Here is the breakdown by Grade:

- Pre-K- 7
- Kindergarten- 19
- 1st Grade - 12
- 2nd Grade -23
- 3rd Grade -6
- 4th Grade- 9
- 5th Grade -5

If you think this was an early-bird special, think again. Next year, we should have this done by April 30 so that we can get another 2 percent discount!

Letters, We Get Letters...

Every so often a terrific good-news story flies under the radar. This was the case with the following story, "From America with Love: Shepherd Elementary Students Reach Out to Iranian Pen Pals," which was posted on the D.C. Public Schools website May 27.

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Call it the first act of civil diplomacy between two nations at the center of recent tensions among the West and Middle Eastern nations. Or, at least, a buddy-building exercise in letter-writing, geography and communications.

Students in Bruce Byers' kindergarten class at Shepherd Elementary School in Northwest recently received responses to letters they sent to students at a private child-care center and school in Tehran, the capital of Iran. The correspondence was arranged by Byers' aide, Faezeh Nobari, who lived in Tehran most of her life before moving to the United States about four years ago.

"This opens their imagination," said Nobari, whose cousin works at the Sepehr School in Tehran. "They [the Sepehr School administration] loved it. The principal at the private school said he wished they had started this at the beginning of the year."

Shepherd students reached out to their pen pals earlier this spring in support of the school's burgeoning International Baccalaureate (IB) program, which offers students a rigorous curriculum that prepares them to live, learn and work in an increasingly globalized world.

Each school used typed form-letters written in English with spaces throughout that allow students to personalize messages to their own pen pal. They shared their likes and dislikes in the letters as well as drawings and notes about what they learn in school.

Shepherd kindergartner Carlisse Agee, for example, told her pen pal, Rashin, that she likes her school because "it is fun," and her favorite things to do are "playing blob and play with my dog."

Rashin also likes school because "it is fun" and likes "playing with ball and ride my bike." "It's cool because you get to send [your letter] to a whole different place," said Madeline Lewis, a 6-year-old in Mr. Byers' class.

"I would like to be friends because [my pen pal] sounds like a cool girl or boy." Six-year-old Masai Jenkins wrote to Vace, the daughter of Nobari's cousin, who attends the child-care program at the Sepehr School, and told her about his interests in basketball and surfing.

"I think this is very nice," he said, while drawing a picture of him and his pen pal. He said if he ever met his pen pal in person, "I would speak to her about her life."

Keshav Mehta-Harwitz, 6, said he likes writing to his pen pal because, "It's fun writing to kids on another continent." Mehta-Harwitz said he learned that Iranian students are studying English and I tell them I like reading and other things."

Nobari said the children to whom Shepherd students are writing speak and write in their native language, Farsi, but have learned some English. She said they are among the most affluent in Tehran. They watch Western television programming, travel abroad and likely have a positive image of Americans, Nobari said.

"This is not Iran," said Nobari, who grew up in Iran during the hostage crisis of the late 1970s, the Islamic Revolution and war between Iran and neighboring Iraq. "This school is very exclusive, but I would compare it to this school."

The young students in America and Iran share similar likes and dislikes: they like games, reading, family and sharing those interests with students in another country.

For example, Tiana, an Iranian student in Ms. Sheila's class at the Sepehr school, said she likes school because, "It has toys and because we read lots of books." She tells her pen pal, Tiara Dupee in Mr. Byers' class, that her favorite thing to do is, "Hug my mom." But she says she does not like to "hug my dad and I do not like to kiss frogs."

Beyond being an overseas "shout out" to students of the same age, the pen pal program supports several educational objectives at Shepherd.

LSRT Candidate Bios

Here are the candidate statements that were received by the Mustang before press time.

Marcie Bane

My name is Marcie Bane. I am the current co-Chair of the LSRT. The past year on the LSRT has given me invaluable insight into the LSRT process. This process requires flexibility, open-mindedness and a desire decision process is not an easy one, but when we leave the dialogue open and honest, it benefits SES' most important assets -- our students. If re-elected, I intend to continue the progress made last year and to help Principal Miles and the rest of LSRT take SES to the next level.

In addition to this past year's experience, I also have a rising second grader at SES and an incoming Pre-K student. Prior to becoming the mother to Antonino, Mario and Paolo, I was a teacher in DCPS. After graduating with an MAT from Johns Hopkins University, I taught at Garrison Elementary at 13th And S Streets NW.

Many thanks for your consideration.

Charisse Brossard

Charisse Brossard is a Project Manager for Automatic Data Processing, Inc. (ADP) specializing in HRIS/Benefits Implementations. Ms. Brossard has been with ADP for 19 years. Ms. Brossard has been actively involved at Shepherd Elementary. She has served as the PTA President, LSRT member, Auction and Fundraising Chair. Charisse has two children, a son, Chase, 13, and a daughter, Chandler, 8. Chandler is a third grader at Shepherd Elementary. Charisse and her husband Mario have lived in Shepherd Park for the last 14 years. Ms. Brossard earned her undergraduate degree from Tufts University. As are most parents with a student at Shepherd, I believe we are at an important crossroad in its maturation. With the stability demonstrated by Principal Miles and the momentum achieved this past year, Shepherd can continue soar to new heights with a leader that is committed to an effective dual-language program, increasing test scores, and creating a more professional and harmonious academic environment for teachers and staff. As someone who values this school and this community, I promise that I will bring my organization, analysis, communication, and time management skills to be part of the LSRT. I earnestly request your support. Thank you.

Marcus Hall

My name is Marcus Hall and my wife, Leonie, and I have two children at Shepherd: twins Kofi (in kindergarten with Mr Byers) and Amari (in Kindergarten with Miss LaPenna). We enjoy the Shepherd family and believe that the learning experience should be engaging and fun. The LSRT is very important in helping to shape that learning experience.

I am committed to Shepherd and being active in school activities is part of that commitment. Last school year, I worked with DCPS to help obtain funding to start the French and Spanish summer immersion program. I currently work with other parents to identify and pursue grants for various school activities.

I ask you to please support me in continuing to serve Shepherd as a member of the LSRT.

Jennifer Pauk

I am running for the Shepherd Park LSRT because I would like to be part of making this the best school possible. My daughter Zora will be in Kindergarten next year. She attended Pre-S at West Elementary and Pre-K at Shepherd, so I have the perspective of having been at another school for a year. I am a strong believer in public education, and attended public schools myself. I am a licensed social worker with a background in public health, and have lived and worked in the District and Maryland for over thirteen years, primarily in community health settings with uninsured and low-income adults and teens. My brother was an educator in DCPS for six years, and gave me an inside perspective on the school system. I think that my background in social work gives me an understanding of children's developmental needs, the needs of family, and the local resources available in our community will be useful in developing a\our school community and curriculum.

“Educationally, it should expand their knowledge of geography and the world, and they should know there are places beyond our community, city, state and country that have written and spoken languages that are different from their own,” Byers said. “Beyond that, and especially in terms of fostering international-mindedness of our IB aspirations, it fits well with the IB philosophy of open-mindedness and tolerance.”

Shepherd Elementary School Principal Jamie Miles said pen pal programs are “a great way for students to interact with students around the world of different cultures and beliefs.”

Byers noted that, absent the voices of saber-rattling politicians, revolutionaries, generals and diplomats, people are largely the same no matter where they’re from - and the voices of the young serve as a poignant reminder.

“It’s very interesting because the official line from their viewpoint is we’re the ‘Great Satan’ and they’re part of the ‘Axis of Evil,’” Byers said. “But the kids, they say, ‘I like to play and have fun,’ which is identical to the joys and aspirations of our kids.”

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Go to

<http://dcps.dc.gov/DCPS/Learn+About+Schools/School+News/From+America+with+Love:+Shepherd+Elementary+Students+Reach+Out+to+Iranian+Pen+Pals> if you want to see the story online, which features a photo of Mr. Byers’ class by Shepherd parent Fred Lewis. Under the story are six PDF click-throughs that let you read the pen-pal letters of some of Mr. Byers’ kindergarten students.

LSRT Election Date Set for This Friday

What: LSRT Elections

(Candidate Bios on page 8)

When: Friday (June 11) at 7-9 a.m. EST and again at 3-6:30 p.m. EST

Rain date: Friday (June 11) at 7-9 a.m. EST and again at 3-6:30p.m. EST

Where: Come to the main entrance to the Shepherd Elementary School to cast your vote for the parent LSRT representatives.

Rain location: In the hallway between main office and library of Shepherd Elementary School.

Why: Have a voice in decisions and activities that can directly impact your child's education today and in the future!

All current Shepherd parents are eligible to vote for the LSRT. Four parent representatives to the LSRT will be elected in the balloting, even if four or fewer names appear on the ballot. There is space to write in other names. Parents may vote for no more than four (4) candidates.

How Are We Doing? Take the School Survey

In order to provide valuable feedback to the principal and staff of Shepherd Elementary D.C. Public Schools is surveying parents about their experiences with our school. The survey is voluntary and anonymous and takes about 15 minutes to complete.

How to complete the survey:

- Type <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/shepherdparent> into your web browser.
- If you don’t have access to a computer, the computers in the school library are available for parents to complete the survey.
- If you’d rather complete a paper copy of the survey, you can pick one up at the main office of the school.



Congratulations
to all of our
Graduates.

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

Thank you

***Bon jour
Gracias***

The students and parents of Shepherd Elementary would like to sincerely thank Principal Miles and all of her staff for another instructional, motivational, and educational school year. Enjoy your summer!

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.

Students!

Want to send a shout out to your favorite teacher? Drop a note in the PTA box in the office and we'll make sure it gets in next week's newsletter.



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