



Shepherd Elementary School

THE MUSTANG

Home of the Shepherd Mustangs

September 19, 2011

- ♦ **Wed, Sept 21: Back to School Night**, 6:30 p.m., auditorium
- ♦ **LSAT election**, 6:30-8 p.m., auditorium
- ♦ **Fri, Sept 23: First-term mid-point**
- ♦ **Sat-Sun, Sept 24-25: National Book Festival**, the National Mall
- ♦ **Mon, Sept 26-Mon, Oct 3: School Book Fair**, Library
- ♦ **Tues, Sept 27: Family Dinner Night**, Spring Garden Chinese Restaurant, 8613 16th St., Silver Spring
- ♦ **Wed, Sept 28: Book fair open for adults** until 7 p.m.
- ♦ **Fri, Sept 30: School Picture Day** (in uniform!)



Consult the school website, www.shepherd-elementary.org, for a full array of events and happenings throughout the school year!

From the PTA President

Dear Shepherd Parents,

Our next big event is Back to School Night on Wednesday, September 21. Back to School Night will start with our first PTA meeting of the school year at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium. The meeting will be brief, so that parents have plenty of time to visit their kids' classrooms.



When the meeting breaks, parents will be free to visit classrooms. Don't forget to visit our special subject teachers -- including language, music, and P.E. -- as well as other school staff. By the way, many of the teachers will be in the PTA meeting and, therefore, won't be available for visits until afterward.

Should kids attend? The answer to this may differ from one family to the next and may involve many factors, including bedtime. Children do like to show us their classrooms, especially with their own work displayed. If your kids are attending Back to School Night with you,

(see PTA, page 4)

A Word from Mrs. Miles!

Greetings Shepherd Families,

I hope this message finds each of you well. As always it has been a busy week at Shepherd as staff and students continue to adjust to some new literacy expectations.



Literacy

All grade levels are focused on literacy instruction. Everyday students participate in phonics/word work study, shared reading/interactive reading, literacy work stations, small group instruction and writing. To learn more about the literacy block and what it looks like in your child's classroom please join us Wednesday at Back to School Night.

Mr. King and Ms. Johnson

Please join me in congratulating two of Shepherd's finest — Mr. Steven King and Ms. Beverly Johnson. On Sept. 19, the DC Public Education Fund will host its gala, "A Standing Ovation," for DC Teachers at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. The second annual event, featuring Grammy Award-winning recording artist John Legend and other national and local celebrities, will honor more than 660 DCPS educators who earned ratings of Highly Effective under the IMPACT educator evaluation system. Mr. King and Ms. Johnson are among the honorees. Congratulations, we are proud of you!

Morning/Arrival Expectations

At Shepherd we strive to develop confident, independent young men and women. This begins the moment they walk through our doors. However, our job will be a lot easier with your help. Beginning Monday we are asking our 1st through 5th grade parents not to walk students to their classrooms. Please say your goodbyes on the sidewalk, in the gymnasium or at the security desk. Between the hours of 8:20 and 9:00 staff members are stationed throughout the hallways to help students transition quickly and safely and if you arrive before 8:40,

(see MILES, page 6)

Volunteer For Shepherd!

When you pitch in, it's a wonderful feeling. Your child sees you giving of yourself, and you become an excellent role model leading by example. When you help at Shepherd, your child will see you – and so will dozens (if not hundreds) of other students – practicing the Shepherd Way. There are plenty of opportunities offered through both the PTA and the school where parents with skill, muscle, brains (or some combination of the three) can be very handy to the growth and progress of Shepherd Elementary. Go to the school website at www.shepherd-elementary.org and check off as many as you want of more than 20 of the most popular volunteer opportunities where you can be of real service!



Stay Informed

To Stay in the Know and to learn about the many ways that you can support Shepherd's vision, visit our website at www.shepherd-elementary.org/.

While you are there, don't forget to input your email address in the "Stay Informed" box and click "subscribe."

You will need to confirm your subscription by responding to the "Be informed mailing list" email sent directly to the email address provided.

If you have any questions, send the PTA an email at info@shepherd-elementary.org.

Fall Art Classes at

CREATE
Arts Center



Fall classes are enrolling at Create

Arts Center, 816 Thayer Ave. in Silver Spring. Express yourself through a variety of mediums taught by professional artists. Classes are offered for diverse age ranges and experience levels. Build artistic skills, explore your imagination and become part of the creative community! Class offerings include:

- Sunday Studio I
- Sunday Studio II
- Family Pottery I
- Family Art Drawing & Painting I
- Drawing & Painting II
- Stone Carving

- Portfolio Development
- Beyond Creativity
- Cartooning, Storytelling and Bookmaking
- Feeding Your Creative Soul
- Saturday Studio I
- Saturday Studio II

Can't take Drawing & Painting on Mondays? Want to try an art class that's not on our current class list? You can now "Create It Your Way"! Just gather at least four students of similar age, interest, and availability, and we'll work with you to design your personalized class. Send an email to create@createartscenter.org for more details.

To register online for any of the fall classes, go to <http://www.createartscenter.org/art-class/at-create/>.

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

Deadline for Next
Mustang Issue

**Fri, Sept 23,
at 5 p.m.**

Send all contributions to:
sesmustang@gmail.com

THE MUSTANG

FAMILY DINNER NIGHT

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Spring Garden Chinese Restaurant
8613 16th Street (Spring Center)
Silver Spring

Tuesday, September 27
5-10:30 p.m.

Chinese Cuisine • American Favorites
Sushi, Too!



→ **SAY YOU'RE WITH SHEPHERD** ←

The PTA gets a 20% rebate
from your pre-tax tab

LET'S PACK THE PLACE!



Good for Dine-In Only — No Carryout or Delivery

Musical Notes

By Ken Giles, Music Teacher

Kenneth.Giles@dc.gov

- Our third, fourth and fifth graders made drums from cans donated by Ledo Pizza. We stretched colorful plastic tape across the mouth of the can, and we played djembe drum rhythms. Students learned about the importance of drumming in West Africa and the value of note-reading so we can play the rhythms.
- Also, Goodness Ukaegbu and her father sang with Ysaye Barnwell at Levine School of Music's "Community Sing" last week. The monthly choruses feature a cappella singing... no instruments, no lyric sheets, no sheet music. Just beautiful four-part harmony from the 100 people who show up to sing. The next "Community Sing" with Ysaye Barnwell will be Wednesday, Nov. 16, at 7 p.m.

The 180 Fund Needs YOU!

In fact, it needs all of us. To keep Shepherd's excellence intact, we as parents need to support this school and its educational program to the best of our abilities. You can go to the school

website, www.shepherd-elementary.org, and contribute to the 180 Fund online, and PTA representatives will be more than happy to take your check at Back-to-School Night on Wednesday. We expect our children to perform at their best possible level. And we should expect the best from ourselves. Give to the 180 Fund.





Back to School Night Is Wednesday!

Come one, come all ...

**Wednesday, Sept. 21,
6:30 p.m., auditorium**

- Hear from the principal!
- Meet your children's teachers!
- The latest from the PTA president!
- Vote in the LSAT election!
- Sign the Shepherd traffic safety petition!
- Take the parent traffic safety pledge!
- Door prize: A \$25 gift certificate to Mi Rancho! (Must be used by Sept. 30.)
- ...plus Ledo Pizza and drinks!

PTA _____ from p. 1

we encourage you to utilize the child-care room in the cafeteria -- especially during the PTA meeting. Since space in the auditorium is limited and kids tend to get fidgety during the meeting, the child-care room is a safe and supervised option. There's no cost, but do consider giving your child a small amount of money to purchase pizza at \$1 per slice.

Thanking you for staying informed and engaged!

Best wishes!

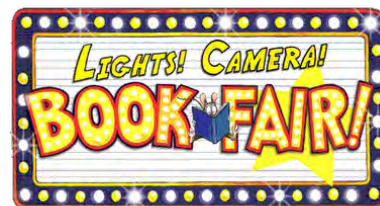
Bianca Bostic

PTA President
202-821-8076

bianca.bostic@noaa.gov

Book Fair Starts Next Monday, Lasts All Week

The annual Shepherd Book Fair is to start Monday, Sept. 26 and run all week long --



until the following Monday, Oct. 3. It will be in the library with time during the school day and after school for students to purchase. On Wednesday, Sept. 28, the book fair will be open until 7 p.m. for parents to do their own shopping. For more details, see the business manager, Ms. Confer.

School Directory: Deadline Nears

The sooner a larger percentage of families submit their contact information to the annual Family Directory, the sooner we can publish it. Our target for distribution is in October. Don't let there be just a blank space by your family's name! The all-in-one form is in the rack outside the school office.

Take one, fill it out (you can also fill out the areas for the photo permission slip, the 180 Fund, and the volunteer sign-up) and put it in the PTA box in the school office. You can also get a form online at www.shepherd-elementary.org.



More Classroom Parents!

<u>Grade/Teacher</u>	<u>Classroom Parent</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
<i>Pre-K</i>			
Ms. Holt	Jermaine Bowens Hasanna Tyus Amie Wright (this could be YOU)	202-250-0104	jermainedennee@hotmail.com htyus@hotmail.com amie.wright@americancapital.com
<i>Kindergarten</i>			
Ms. LaPenna	(this could be YOU)		
Ms. Pethtel	Christine Kithcart Kesha Prendergast		fischerchristine@msn.com skeeme08@aol.com
<i>1st Grade</i>			
Ms. Crockett	Kenya Brent	202-297-6153	kenyabrent@hotmail.com
Ms. Goldman	Lynnette Ecraela-Duckenfield	202-489-4659, 202-687-5386	Leeduckenfield2@gmail.com
	Tafia L. Allah-Pringle Toby Susse (this could be YOU)	202- 841-4380	tafia@tlapr.com toby_susse@boleksusse.com
Ms. Madiedo			
<i>2nd Grade</i>			
Ms. Johnson	Tafia L. Allah-Pringle Felicia Binion-Williams	202-257-5309	tafia@tlapr.com felicia.binionwilliams@fda.hhs.gov
Ms. Chambliss	Selma Simms	202-212-9690, 202-390-2358	selma.simms@yahoo.com
Ms. James	(this could be YOU)		
<i>3rd Grade</i>			
Ms. McKenzie	(this could be YOU)		
Ms. Thomas	(this could be YOU)		
Mr. King	Lisa Connor		lconnor@nea.org
<i>4th Grade</i>			
Ms. Valentine-Nelson	Nairy Hudgens		NairyHudgens@yahoo.com
Ms. Christenberry	(this could be YOU)		
<i>5th Grade</i>			
Mr. Leonard	(this could be YOU)		
Ms. Ulba	(this could be YOU)		

Patsy-Ann Rasmussen is this year's Classroom Parent Coordinator. If your child's teacher already has a Classroom Parent, let her know right away at rasmussens@starpower.net. And if there is no Classroom Parent yet for your child's classroom, why not you? Communication and coordination are key to parent-teacher involvement and a smoother-running classroom. If you've got email and a telephone, you're already more than halfway there. Get in touch with Patsy-Ann to get the ball rolling.

MILES _____ from p. 1

you will witness your child's teacher transitioning your student to class. In addition, all parents PK-5th are asked not to carry your child's bookbag and please do not assist them with unpacking and putting away their materials. This is your child's responsibility and it is the responsibility of our staff to put routines and procedures in place so students can do these things successfully. PK-K parents may continue escorting students until later in the school year. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and please do not get offended when a staff member extends a friendly reminder.

Dismissal

The school day ends at 3:15. Please do not arrive early to pick up your student unless it is unavoidable. When possible, please schedule appointments after school or during holidays. If you need to pick your student up before dismissal, please arrive before 3:00 p.m. I have asked Mrs. Brooks not to call students to the office after 3:00. Two of the busiest times during the day is at arrival and dismissal. Our last instructional block officially ends at 3:10. Therefore, the last few minutes require students and staff members to focus so that they can 1) make it to the gymnasium on time and 2) assist students with gathering the necessary items so that they have a successful evening at home. Every call for a student interrupts the flow and if a student has to come to the office to be dismissed, two other students must stop what they are doing to help your child travel to the office safely because no student may travel alone.

Between 3:15 and 3:30 please note the following: after-care students will be outside (in the cafeteria during inclement weather), carpool students will be in the hallway by the library and all other students will be in the gymnasium. If you need help finding your student, please ask a person holding a walkie-talkie. They can be found on the sidewalk, in the hallway by the library or in the gymnasium.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Warmest regards,

Jamie Miles

Principal

LSAT Candidate Profile

Following is the candidate profile for the one Parent Representative vacancy on the Local School Advisory Team at Shepherd. The term is for the remainder of the school year. The election will take place Wednesday, Sept. 21, during Back to School Night. Look for a ballot box and an election aide at a table near the back of the auditorium. All parents are eligible to vote.

Mickey Bolek

Mickey is in his second year as a parent at Shepherd Elementary. His son, Daniel Susse, is in first grade. Mickey is the owner of Michael Anthony Salon on Capitol Hill, and gives a 5 percent discount to all Shepherd Elementary clients who come into his shop. Says Mickey, "I sat as the president, vice president, and test chair of The Gardens Figure Skating Club of Laurel, Maryland. I was appointed by Mayor Anthony Williams to the D.C. Barber and Cosmetology Board on which I served a three-year term. I have great knowledge of how boards are run, budgets, organization, and planning."

Shepherd Elementary School Mission:

At Shepherd, we are committed to the advancement of students' academic, emotional, social and physical well being. We, as a community, will provide students with a safe, supportive, creative, and flexible environment in which children think and learn globally and act compassionately.

Shepherd Elementary School

7800 14th Street, NW,
Washington, DC 20012
Office Telephone: 202-576-6140
Office Fax: 202-576-7578

Jamie Miles, Principal – jamie.miles@dc.gov
Robyn Brooks, Admin. Assistant – robyna.brooks@dc.gov
Bianca Bostic, PTA President

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



Shepherd Elementary School PTA

7800 14th Street, North West

Washington, DC 20012-1464

www.shepherd-elementary.org

PTA Membership/180 Fund/School Directory/Permission Slip/Volunteer Form

For the **2011-12 school year**, EVERY Shepherd parent is in the Parent Teacher Association. If you are at a PTA meeting, you will automatically have a vote and a voice. There are no membership dues, either! If you ever thought of money – or anything – as a barrier to participating in the PTA in particular, or more fully in the life of the school in general, your worries are over! [The Mustang](#), the [Shepherd Elementary website](#), and the [PTA listserv](#) will let you know how you can make Shepherd Elementary – and our children’s educational experience -- better than ever.

‘180 Fund’ Finances PTA Activities and School Needs

In place of PTA membership dues and the old “family enrichment fee,” the PTA established the **180 Fund**. There are 180 instructional days in the school year. Parents, can you afford a dollar per day per child to improve Shepherd Elementary? We think you can, and we hope you’ll contribute to the 180 Fund. There are all sorts of things that Shepherd Principal Jamie Miles and PTA leadership have identified to enhance the educational mission of Shepherd that don’t fit into the school or D.C. Public Schools’ budget. Please complete this form and check the boxes:

Household #1 (also for School Directory)

Home address _____

Zip Code _____ Home phone number: _____

Parent 1: First and Last Name _____

Work number: _____ Cell phone number: _____

Parent 2: First and Last Name _____

Work number: _____ Cell phone number: _____

Household #2 (or other important contact, i.e., grandmother, babysitter, etc.; if applicable; also for directory)

Home address _____

Zip Code _____ Home phone number: _____

Parent 1: First and Last Name _____

Work number: _____ Cell phone number: _____

Parent 2: First and Last Name _____

Work number: _____ Cell phone number: _____

† You may use the above information for the annual school directory, except for those portions that are shaded or in parentheses. ()

Note: All student names will be included in the directory.

** My signature here authorizes Shepherd’s PTA to publish the information above in the school directory:*

Your name(s): _____

† I am a Shepherd teacher/staff member.

Email address(s): _____

† Yes, sign me up for the Shepherd PTA Yahoo Group!

Phone Number(s): _____

Child(ren): _____

Grade: _____ Teacher: _____

Grade: _____ Teacher: _____

Grade: _____ Teacher: _____

☐ I wish to participate in the 180 Fund. **Enclosed is my lump sum contribution of \$180.**

☐ I wish to participate in the 180 Fund and will make **two semi-annual payments of \$90** each by Sept 16 and \$90 by January 16th 2012

☐ I wish to participate in the 180 Fund and will make **four quarterly payments of \$45 each** by Sept. 16, Nov. 16, Jan. 16 and March 16.

☐ I wish to participate in the 180 Fund and will be able to pay semi annually \$90 by Sept 16 and \$90 by January 16th 2012

☐ I wish to participate in 180 Fund and I would like to be exempt from Fundraising. **Enclosed is my contribution of \$500.**

(Please return form and check made payable to SES PTA to the PTA mailbox in the Shepherd Elementary School Office. You can also pay via credit card online at www.shepherd-elementary.org)

How Can YOU Help? Volunteer in Our Initiatives and Activities!

Check all that you're interested in or intrigued about.

_____ Academic Affairs

_____ Health Committee

_____ PTA Functions

_____ Newsletter

_____ Fundraising

_____ Special Events

_____ Auction

_____ Building and Grounds

_____ Grant Writing

_____ Garden Initiative

_____ Fall Fest

_____ Fall Flower Bulb Sale

_____ Clerical

_____ Book Fair

_____ School Office

_____ Technology/Computers

_____ Used Uniform Sales

_____ Cafeteria

_____ Jazz Night

_____ Green Team

_____ Family Fun Day

_____ As Needed

"Permission Slip"

During the course of the school year, we will be taking photographs of Shepherd students at various school events for inclusion on the Shepherd website, the Mustang newsletter etc. Names will not be included. Please express your preferences for the use of photos containing your child/children:

☐ I give Shepherd Elementary School permission to use my child/children's photograph on the Shepherd website, Mustang newsletter, etc. I understand that names will not be included.

☐ I do not give Shepherd elementary School permission to use my child'/children's photograph on the Shepherd website, Mustang newsletter, etc.

SIGNATURES:

_____ Parent/Guardian/PTA Member signature

_____ Parent/Guardian/PTA Member signature

Join the Shepherd PTA! Let your voice be heard. Be a partner in your child's education.