

East Baton Rouge Parish Schools



SHENANDOAH ELEMENTARY

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A School of Academic Distinction and Achievement

February/March 2009

Dates to Remember

- Feb. 19 - PTA Meeting 6: 00 p.m. Talent Show
- February 20 - Mardi Gras King Cakes provided by parent volunteers
- Feb. 23-24 - Mardi Gras Holidays - No School
- March 4 - SIT Meeting 7:40 a.m. - Agenda: 2009-2010 School Improvement Plan/
Parish/School Uniform Policy and Dress Code
- March 4 - PTA Board Meeting 10:00a.m.
- March 5 - PaPa John's Pizza Night
- March 12 - Chuck E Cheese Shenandoah Family Night 3:30 - 9:00 p.m.
- March 24 - Class Pictures - Pre Pay - Uniform Wear
- March 25 - Staff Development - Early Dismissal 12:30 p.m.
- March 31 - PTA Board and Chairpersons meeting @ 9:30 a.m. (April Meeting)
- April 1, 2, 3, 6 & 7 - Leap/iLeap Testing

School Improvement Team Minutes from Feb. 4, 2009 Meeting

Principal, Carolyn H. Sauer, welcomed team members to the meeting. Members present were Deborah Russell, Michelle Miller, Anne Creighton, Kelley Faucheux, Lori Bramlette, Cathy Broussard, Dolonel Johnson, Travis Johnson, Patty Cook and Stephanie Martin. Mrs. Sauer presented options to be included in the 2009-2010 School Improvement Plan. She suggested purchasing grade level specific science and social studies materials and the possibility of bringing in an outside consultant/ program to address critical thought process development for a Staff Development session. The group also talked about the school system policy for Uniform Wear and Dress Code. Four areas were discussed in order to clarify and be more specific regarding policies for students at Shenandoah Elementary beginning with the 2009-2010 school term. The areas to be addressed at the next meeting are: leggings and socks, shirts worn underneath uniform shirts, earrings, and distractive hair styles. The next meeting has been scheduled for 7:40 a.m. Wednesday, March 4, 2009. Meetings are open to the public.

Reminder Regarding Foot Wear

Please be reminded that our children have scheduled physical education classes and recess each day. In addition to the fact that children must wear closed heel/toe shoes, shoes should be safe and durable for rigorous play. Please make sure your child wears appropriate footwear to school each day.

PTA News

- **PTA General Assembly and Talent Showcase Tomorrow Night!** - Mark your calendars for Thursday, February 19, 2009 @ 6:00 p.m. This is an event not to be missed! Back by popular demand there will be TWO "surprise" acts that I know the students will not want to miss! All students receive a night off from homework and NO tests on Friday so come and enjoy this special family night.
- **THANK YOU! For Making Teacher Appreciation Week a Success!** A big THANK YOU to all who helped make Teacher Appreciation week a success! The teachers loved all the cards, flowers, notes, gifts, food and special thanks they received from all of you. It means a lot to them to know they are special and appreciated! We couldn't have done it without everyone's involvement. Thank you again for making it a very special week for our teachers and staff.
- **NEW! Chuck E Cheese Shenandoah Family Fun Night** - Come join us for Pizza and family fun at the Seigan Lane location on Thursday, March 12th from 3:30 - 9:00 p.m. The school will earn money (15%) through register sales for food and tokens - only purchase tokens at the register not at the machines. Also please mention Shenandoah during each purchase for the school to receive credit.
- **Egg Shell stuffers are needed!** - If you can help stuff eggshells, we need your help now! This is a great activity to do at home while watching TV. Please continue collecting and sending in cleaned egg shells. Please contact Jennifer Schneider @ kevj@cox.net or 752-9870, if you are able to help or have any questions.
- **Silent Auction Items needed for Carnival** - If you work for a company or have a contact within a company that would be willing to donate a new item or gift certificate to our silent auction, please contact Kathy Coldwell @ 751-3903 or mkcoldwell@cox.net.
- **19th Annual Spring Carnival** planning and preparation is well on its way. Mark your calendars for May 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Each parent is asked to work at least ONE 2 ½ hour shift during the weekend. It takes an incredible amount of volunteers and hours to make this weekend happen. Please plan on doing your part to make the Spring Carnival a fun and enjoyable experience for our students and our community.
- We are submitting another large quantity of **BOX TOPS** to receive a check for the school. If you have any box tops at home, please send them in this week. We will be sending them to the company before the end of February. Thank you to all of you who have sent in the box top sheets. You may also send in any Community Coffee proof of purchase bar codes or CC's receipts. And we are still collecting Nestle bottle water labels. Thank you for your support!

Adjusted Schedule for "Snow Day"

The time for us to make-up missed school hours has been changed due to the snow storm prior to Christmas. Our extended school times will remain in effect until the end of the day April 24.

Protected Teacher Read Aloud Time

Each afternoon, during the last ten minutes of the school day, classroom teachers will read aloud to students. This time will be uninterrupted. Therefore, requests to interrupt classrooms during that time will not be allowed.

Albertson's Community Partners Program

Our school is participating in the Albertson's Community Partners Program. Each family received a community partner card. This is how the program works: Whenever you are shopping at any Albertson's store, simply remind the store cashier to scan your card anytime **DURING** your order. Our school has been given an identification UPC number and when your purchase/transaction is properly recorded, our UPC number will be on the receipt. Albertson's will contribute money to our school based on the amount of sales we transact at their stores. We hope you will use your card to help our school. If you know you will not use an Albertson's Partner Card, please return it to us so we can give it to someone else. If you have any questions, please call the school office at 753-3560.

Arrival and Dismissal

Please review the following standard practices that we have in place.

- The canopy area is only for our children and duty teachers.
- **All children who are transported away from school by vehicle should be picked up in the carpool line.** Walking up to get your child to load a car parked in front or at the side of the school is strongly discouraged. Our carpool line moves quickly and provides a safe area for dismissing the carpool children.
- Parents who usually walk their children home are asked to have a specific meeting place to greet their children. Campus areas that we want to designate for parent/child connection are by the flagpole, bicycle racks, or in the grassy area that is by the Kindergarten fence. Those children and parents should follow a consistent routine so the child is not confused about the way to go home each day.
- When you leave campus, stay on the sidewalk and do not walk to cross the street between parked cars. Only cross at the entry and exit areas of the parking lot. In addition, walkers should cross streets with Crossing Guards.
- Children should always go home as usual unless a parent sends us a letter or calls us to make a change.

Please know that the street areas on the side and front of the school are no parking zones. Parish law enforcement officers can ticket or tow violators. If you must park on the street, park along the curb and stay off of the grass of our neighbors. Left turns into the parking lot are forbidden by law between 8-9 a.m. and 3-4 p.m. Violators may be ticketed. As a reminder, the safety rules for traffic flow and student drop off should also be followed during morning arrival. Children should always be dropped off under the canopy area. Vehicles should not pass parked/standing vehicles that are unloading in the car pool line.

Thanks for your continued support and cooperation.

Habitual Absence, Tardiness or Early Check-outs

Please note this new state law.

A student shall be considered habitually absent or habitually tardy when either condition continues to exist after all reasonable efforts by any school personnel, truancy officer, or other laws enforcement personnel have failed to correct the condition after the fifth unexcused absence or fifth unexcused occurrence of being tardy within any school semester.

The parent or legal guardian of a student shall enforce the attendance of the student at the school to which the student is assigned.

The parent or legal guardian of any student in kindergarten through grade eight who is considered habitually absent or habitually tardy pursuant to the provisions of this Section shall be in violation of the provisions of Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph and shall be punished as follows.

- (i) A first offense shall be punishable by a fine of not more than fifty dollars or the performance of not less than twenty-five hours of community service.
- (ii) Any subsequent offense shall be punishable in accordance with R.S. 17:221(A)(2).

For purposes of this Section, the term "tardy" shall include but not be limited to leaving or checking out of school unexcused prior to the regularly scheduled dismissal time at the end of the school day but shall not include reporting late to class when transferring from one class to another during the school day.

ACT 745 REGULAR SESSION (2008) – LRS 17:233

Student News

- First Grader, Gavin Falcon, earned first place honors in the recent Abraham Lincoln art contest held for EBR parish first graders. Congratulations Gavin! Other recognized participants are: Kindergarten- Jordan Westbrook; Second Grade-Evan Earl; Third Grade- Riley Marcella; Fourth Grade- Amber Easterly, Fifth Grade-Patrick Fisher.
- Fourth Graders, Leslie Crowson, Makenzey Heughan, Allana Hopper and Maggie Sauer were named parish winners in the recent essay contest in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. We are proud of these students!
- Fifth grader, Rachael Edmonson placed second in the EBR Elementary Student of the Year competition. We are extremely proud of you, Rachael.

New Computers

We recently received fifteen (15) new computers from Tax Plan efforts supported by the community. Those computers have been placed to meet the instructional and learning needs of our students and staff.

Retirement of a Teacher

Ms. Brenda Bajoie, one of our kindergarten teachers, will be retiring at the end of February. We wish her well as she explores new life opportunities.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week

We want to send our sincere thanks and appreciation for all of the wonderful gifts and foods you graciously sent last week. You were truly generous. We love working with your children and are so grateful to have such amazing support from our parents and community.

Office Depot School Support Program

Our school has been given an Office Depot identification number. If we use the number (70041440) each time we purchase items at Office Depot, our school will receive a 5% credit of all qualifying school supply purchases. Please keep a copy of the number handy and use it each time you make a purchase at an Office Depot store.

Cartridge Recycling Program

We will work with Cartridge World to collect empty ink and toner cartridges. Please send your discarded, used, cracked or damaged cartridges to us. Our school will receive money for each donated cartridge.

Land's End Uniforms

We participate in the Land's End School Uniform Program. Purchases made through the catalog or website gives our school 3% of the net sales. Our preferred school number 9000-4316-7.

General Mills/Community Coffee Labels

Reminder: Please continue to send in box-top coupons and coffee labels. Our school receives cash for our efforts. This is an easy way to earn money for our school.