

New Information

I miss our jaguars and I really miss having our parent community, better known as our “village” moving around the building supporting our school. I am anxiously awaiting the time for “normal” again like many, if not all, of you. I want to stress that it is perfectly fine to feel this way. It is important that our students understand this as well. What matters is that we not let our feelings prevent us from keeping a positive outlook. I know things will get better. Let’s continue to reassure our students of this. We will get through this TOGETHER!

The HARD Hat by Jon Gordon #WeCanDoHARDthings



Lesson #9 from the book: **Never Take a Play Off**

To be a great teammate, you want to be consistent in your attitude, effort, and actions. Have a great attitude all the time so that you can give your best in everything you do. Focus on becoming the best version of yourself every day, not just when you feel like it 😊.

Lesson #10 from the book: **Hold Yourself and Your Team Accountable**

To be a great teammate, you must hold your teammates accountable to the high standards of excellence your culture expects and demands. Regardless of our current circumstances, I will continue to hold my team and myself accountable.

Esther Jackson Vision Statement

Our school vision statement was developed by a focus group of our school and community stakeholders. It is my goal that every person who enters our school can experience this vision for themselves.

Esther Jackson will be a loving community where every child is valued and supported to grow as a caring individual and a successful scholar.

- At Esther Jackson, we WILL be a loving community.
- At Esther Jackson, we WILL value every child.
- At Esther Jackson, we WILL support every child to grow as a caring individual.
- As Esther Jackson, we WILL support students to grow into successful scholars.

#ItsTheEJway

Second Semester Learning Contract

We have learned a lot first semester about how to successfully impact student learning in a simultaneous environment. I have taken feedback from teachers, as well as made my own observations of the barriers, making things difficult and used this information to develop a learning contract. My hope is that having set expectations surrounding remote and in-person learning this semester, will help provide an optimum learning experience for all students, while helping teachers be as effective as possible.

The learning contract is attached. Teachers will review expectations with students, and we are asking that you review them at home as well. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me directly. I thank you in advance for your support.

Parent University

Thank you to those parents who attended our Parent University on 1/14/21 to learn more about the GA Milestones. Although we are uncertain about the specifics of the test due to our current state, it is important we

are prepared. Ms. Hannan's presentation is attached for anyone unable to make one of the sessions. We will share any updates as we receive them.

Use this link to provide feedback for Title One [Feedback](#). We truly value your input.

Teacher and Staff Recognition

Lindsey Sawyer, Ms. Moskowitz, Ms. Zappulla – These teachers have shown great endurance, patience, and understanding in the face of a difficult time for all of us. Their encouragement with my son has made all the difference! I am forever grateful for their positivity and awed by their motivation to see their students succeed. We are truly blessed to have such a wonderful EJES family! Thank you Ms. Sawyer, Ms. Moskowitz, and Mrs. Zappulla for going above and beyond every single day! **Melissa Snyder (parent of 5th grader)**

Ms. Standard – Ms. Standard has been so great with the students despite the difficulties that come up with the internet/technology. She has been patient, kind, and resilient with them. My three boys all look forward to art every single week. You can tell how much she truly cares about her students. **(Lisette Hoschek, EJ Parent)**

Ms. Bivins – Ms. Bivens has been so great with her class. Even having two sick babies at home, she is somehow managing to teach her class. Hearing my six year old learn how to read through the computer is something I never ever would have imagined. But it is happening. And she and the entire EJ staff have been so resilient despite every single challenge placed in our way. **(Lisette Hoschek, EJ Parent)**

If you would like to recognize an EJ staff member, please complete this short form:

<https://tinyurl.com/StaffRecognitionEJ> We would love to hear from you!

Dates to Remember

January 15 – Quarter 2 Report Cards available online in parent portal

January 18 – **Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday/NO SCHOOL**

January 28 – Make-Up/Retake Picture Day – (change in the date)

February 1 – Start of Black History Month

February 1 – 100th Day of School

February 5 – Title I Parent Input Meeting

February 12 – Valentine's Day Recognition

February 15 – President's Day/NO SCHOOL

Recurring School and Community News

Learning Environment Hardship

For second semester, parents have made a 9-week commitment for the learning environment (face-to-face or remote learning) that works best for their family. However, unforeseen circumstances may warrant a change in the learning environment. If you experience a hardship or special circumstances and would like to change your student(s) learning environment at any time during the next nine weeks, you will need to email Ms. Boyd (boydn@fultonschools.org) and Ms. Poole (poole@fultonschools.org). You will be sent a *Learning Environment Hardship form* to complete that will need to be approved by **both the principal and zone superintendent**. Please remember that this process is for unforeseen circumstances and is not meant to be a regular practice.

My door is always open, and I welcome your feedback.

In Partnership,
Nikol