



November 3, 2024

Fernway Calendar

- November 5 | Election Day - Schools Closed
- November 9 | CAVS Day
- [November 11 | Fernway PTO Social/Brainstorm Meeting](#)

Link to [Online District Master Calendar](#)

School Hours : 8:05am - 2:50pm

Children are expected to arrive and depart school on time: Student success starts with consistent school attendance and prompt daily arrival.

Please contact the office by phone, 216-295-4040 or email: fe_attendance@shaker.org, if your child will be absent or late for school.

Fernway Office Names and Numbers to know:

Fernway Elementary School: 216-295-4040

Principal: Mr. Christopher Hayward 216-295-4045 hayward_c@shaker.org

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Audrey Hessell 216-295-4040 hessell_a@shaker.org

Administrative Assistant: Ms. Janet Seman 216-295-4040 seman_j@shaker.org

Nurse: Ms. Jemonica Bell 216-295-4042 bell_j@shaker.org

Attendance: fe_attendance@shaker.org Please be advised that we cannot respond to this email.

Please label your child's belongings. Many items have made their way to our lost and found. There will be a table set up outside of the office with these items. All items not collected will be donated at the end of the day on November 1, 2024.

A Message from the Principal

November 3, 2024

Dear Fernway Families,

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our fall conferences and have the chance to connect about your child's progress and experiences in school. If your schedule didn't allow you to meet with your child's teacher, please reach out to arrange a time that works for you. Our goal is for every family to participate in a fall conference, ensuring strong communication and collaboration as we support your child's learning journey together. Thank you for your partnership and dedication to making this school year a successful one!

As you may be aware, school is closed on Tuesday, November 5th, for Election Day. I encourage parents to include their children in the voting process. Allowing students to witness an election is a valuable experience, helping them understand how the electoral process works in our country.

Attendance Focus 2024-2025

Back in early September, I shared information about chronic absenteeism rates at Fernway, within Shaker Heights Schools, and across Ohio. Chronic absenteeism is defined as a student missing more than 10% of school hours in a given year. On September 4th, our chronic absenteeism rate was 16.6%. I'm pleased to report that two months later, this rate has decreased to 16.1%. While this half-point reduction is a positive step, we need to lower this number further to reach our goal of 10% or less as a school. Please help us achieve this important goal by minimizing instances when students are dropped off late, picked up early, or miss entire days. If a student doesn't have a fever, isn't vomiting, and isn't advised by a doctor to stay home, we need them in school. Every missed day is a lost opportunity for valuable learning, which can cause students to fall behind their peers.

In the spirit of Election Day, we'll be celebrating a patriotic spirit day on Friday! Students are encouraged to wear red, white, and/or blue. Let's have a great week and Election Day!
Sincerely,



Christopher C. Hayward
Principal

School News

New Visitor Security System

Visitors should review our [Board of Education Policy](#) regarding school visits, which are to be scheduled in advance to avoid disruption to learning.

Our new visitor Kiosk is located in the front office. All visitors will be required to adhere to this procedure:

- Go to the visitor kiosk on the counter
- Follow the prompts to enter your cell phone number
- Scan your driver's license or state issued identification card
- Wait to be approved by office administrative assistants
- Wear your badge sticker when printed
- Check in with the office at the conclusion of your visit

This replaces School Gate Guardian and does require a driver's license scan. You will receive a text that you have logged in for a visit and a QR code to use for the next time you come to the building.

Lunches, snack drop offs, and other items should be brought to the office and our team will take care of delivering any items. They will also escort or assist students getting where they need to go if arriving tardy or coming from an appointment.

Volunteers must continue to schedule an appointment with the Family and Community Engagement (FACE) office at 216-295-6268 or email at volunteer_face@shaker.org. The FACE department is located on the Second floor of the Shaker Heights Public Library Main Branch, 16500 Van Aken Blvd., Shaker Heights 44120. No walk-ins, by appointment only. This includes all times you are with students at school or school/PTO sponsored events (such as field trips).

The safety of our students and staff is of the utmost importance for everyone. Thank you for your cooperation.

Complete the Volunteer Registration Process to Spend Time with Students

Anyone who is not a Shaker Schools employee must go through the volunteer registration process to spend time with students in school or at any school-related activities. This includes but is not limited to volunteering in or being in the classroom, working 1:1 with students, volunteering at PTO-sponsored events and chaperoning a field trip.

The volunteer registration process includes completing a short Registration Form and scheduling an appointment for fingerprinting. This must be repeated every three years. There is no cost associated with this process.

To schedule an appointment, complete this short Volunteer Registration Google Form (<http://bit.ly/ShakerVolunteerRegistration>). Schedule your appointment directly from the Google Form. You can sign up to be a volunteer before completing the process; however, you cannot actually volunteer until the process is completed.

If needed, you can check with the Office to see if you are already registered or need to update your status.

PowerSchool Annual Update

The Annual Update for the new school year is now available in the PowerSchool Portal! This process replaces the paper forms sent home at the beginning of each school year. Please complete this before the first day of school.

New This Year: All families will need to upload a proof of residency document as a part of the annual process. Instructions and example documents are provided on the form's 'document upload' screen.

How do I get started?

Visit <https://ps-sh.metasolutions.net> and login to the PowerSchool Portal on your computer or through a browser on your phone.

1. Select the student you wish to register along the top
2. Select the Annual Update 2024-2025 Icon on the left sidebar.
3. Agree to the terms and conditions
4. Select Begin Forms

Parents who have never had a PowerSchool Account:

- Click for directions on [how to create a NEW PowerSchool Portal Account](#).

Adding a student to an existing Powerschool Account:

- Click for directions on [how to add a student to an existing PowerSchool Portal account](#).

Do I have to answer all the questions?

- No, but some questions are marked "Required" and must be answered before you can submit your form.

What if I make a mistake?

- If you would like to make a change prior to submitting the form, you can navigate back to the page using the "Previous" and "Next" buttons, or if you are on the Review page, select the underlined field. If you have already submitted the form, you will need to contact the Registration Office so they can make the changes for you.

I've completed the form, now what?

- Once you have finished entering your information, select "Submit." This will send all of the information to the school. If you cannot select this button, make sure you have answered all required questions.

What if I have more than one student in the district? Do I need to do this for each child?

- Yes, you will need to provide information that is specific to each child. We recommend that you complete and submit one form and then start another. This will allow you to "snap" (or share) selected family information, which saves you time.

Help! I'm having technical difficulties.

- Email powerschool@shaker.org for help.

A Message from the IB Coordinator

Approaches to Learning are skills that are grounded in the belief that learning how to learn is essential to students' lives, both in school and out of school. These skills support student agency so that they view learning as something that they do for themselves and not something that happens to them. Five categories of interrelated skills support learners in developing social skills, research skills, thinking skills, communication skills, and self-management skills. Students are supported in becoming self-regulated learners who have critical thinking skills, can communicate confidently and collaboratively with others, and have organizational skills to self-manage their time and tasks effectively. Teachers explicitly and implicitly incorporate these skills into their units of inquiry.

Categories	Sub-skills
Thinking skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical-thinking skills (analysing and evaluating issues and ideas) • Creative-thinking skills (generating novel ideas and considering new perspectives) • Transfer skills (using skills and knowledge in multiple contexts) • Reflection/metacognitive skills ((re)considering the process of learning)
Research skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information-literacy skills (formulating and planning, data gathering and recording, synthesizing and interpreting, evaluating and communicating) • Media-literacy skills (interacting with media to use and create ideas and information) • Ethical use of media/information (understanding and applying social and ethical technology)
Communication skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchanging-information skills (listening, interpreting, speaking) • Literacy skills (reading, writing and using language to gather and communicate information) • ICT skills (using technology to gather, investigate and communicate information)
Social skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing positive interpersonal relationships and collaboration skills (using self-control, managing setbacks, supporting peers) • Developing social-emotional intelligence
Self-management skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organization skills (managing time and tasks effectively) • States of mind (mindfulness, perseverance, emotional management, self-motivation, resilience)

A Message from the Coordinator of Early Literacy

October Monthly District Early Literacy Newsletter:

[The Importance of Oral Language](#)

Hello! My name is Jocelyn Dietz and I am Coordinator of Early Literacy K-5 as well as instructional coach at Fernway Elementary. Each month Lauren Priestley and I, Learning and Teaching Technology Specialist and Onaway instructional coach, will be sending a monthly newsletter in regards to early literacy. Each month we will highlight a different aspect of reading development as well as providing resources for at home support.

In this [month's newsletter](#) we explore the importance of oral language development through videos, infographics, and activities to try at home. There are two pages in this resource so be sure to scroll to the next page. Click on the [embedded link](#) to learn more!

Please feel free to reach out with any questions, feedback or ideas in moving forward. Thanks and I am looking forward to connecting. dietz_J@shaker.org

A Message from the Nurse

Screening Notification

Attention: 3rd, 5th grade, and New to the district parents/guardians:

It is that time of year for vision and hearing screening to be completed. I will be starting vision and hearing screenings soon. Vision and hearing screenings will be administered to students in kindergarten, first, third, fifth grades, and new to the district as required by state law. If you do not wish for your child to participate, please call or email me for a waiver. I will be starting with kindergarten and first grade first, the state requires their screening is completed by November 1st.

Thank you,
Jemonica Bell
School Nurse
(216) 295-4042
bell_j@shaker.org
Reminders:

- All administration of medication in school both prescription and OTC require a healthcare provider order, per Shaker's medication policy.
- Please provide/update me with your students' health care needs.
- Immunization deficiency letters will be mailed out 10 days after the start of school.
- When to keep your student home if:
 - Fever ≥ 100.4
 - Vomiting
 - Diarrhea
 - Persistent cough
 - Fresh cold with persistent runny nose
 - Rash that has not been diagnosed
 - Strep throat (should not return to school until 24 hours after medicine has started). If your child has only been cultured, please wait for results before sending them back to school

Fernway PTO News

Fernway PTO Social/Brainstorm Meeting

Monday, November 11

Join us in the Fernway Elementary Library to hear from our principal, Mr. Hayward, brainstorm ideas for the coming year, and prepare for upcoming events!

We encourage you to bring your family for pizza at 6:00pm, and then stay for the meeting from 6:30 - 8:00pm. We will have several 6th grade Mother's Helpers on hand to occupy the kiddos in a nearby classroom with a movie and/or games.

To ensure we have plenty of pizza, and assistance for the littles, please [RSVP HERE](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeBjCCYMrzekmwrns_RpYEQZa14ZjQDIp_PJ2RJFeBunlyDQA/viewform) < https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeBjCCYMrzekmwrns_RpYEQZa14ZjQDIp_PJ2RJFeBunlyDQA/viewform > so we have a count.

Get involved with the Fernway PTO!

Every student at Fernway matters and so does every one of their families! The diverse backgrounds, experiences, and talents that make up our community should be represented in the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO).

All families are automatically members of the PTO – it is free, and there are many ways to be active and involved.

- Attend PTO-sponsored events (i.e. Back to School Picnic - free to all!, or run/walk in the Fernway 3k)
- Volunteer at one of our events—we rely on volunteers
- Sign up to be a Room Parent in your student's classroom
- Help out on a field trip or class project...so get those fingerprints/background checks now! Click [HERE](#) to schedule your appointment; there is no cost to you.
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Stay informed: Register for [PTO Directory](#) for email updates AND follow us on Facebook at Fernway Elementary PTO!

Sign Up for PTO Directory on MembershipToolkit

Registering for the [Shaker PTO Directory](#) is the only way for you to receive our Fernway PTO email blasts! Please create an account and register your information with Membership Toolkit to be included in the Shaker PTO Directory. Only registered members of our community can receive important communications, access the directory, and collaborate together on PTO activities.

SHHS PTO Senior Celebrations

RAFFLE BASKETS FUNDRAISER

The Senior Celebrations Committee is hosting an online fundraiser and you have the chance to win! Opportunities include Browns, Cavaliers, or Monsters games, tickets to the Cleveland Orchestra, self-care packages, yummy treats from local businesses, and so much more! Buy your raffle tickets today at bit.ly/ParentPartyFUNdraiser. The official drawing will be on Saturday, Nov. 16th. Proceeds will benefit beloved traditions for the Class of 2025 including After Prom Event, Senior Clap Out, and Black & White Photos.

Shaker Schools Foundation News



Coming To A Mailbox Near You!

Our Fall 2024 Donor Appreciation Report, "**Educate, Empower, Explore & Engage**," is hot off the press and coming your way soon! This report highlights the successes achieved by the Foundation because of your unwavering support and commitment to investing in our future! It also marks the launch of our Advancing Shaker Annual Appeal campaign. Your support allows us to continue to enhance educational opportunities for Shaker students. We are dedicated to our mission of building community resources to promote equitable access and enhance opportunities both in and out of the classroom!

Learn more by visiting www.shakerschoolsfoundation.org.

Stay up to date by following the Shaker Schools Foundation on our social media platforms, [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#)!