

December 2011

## News from the Principal

Ms. Elizabeth Wood  
Principal

### IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Main Office	881-0580
Health Office	881-0581
Attendance	881-0584
Office Fax	371-1762
Nurse Fax	881-0498

### Holiday Giving

Shatekon Elementary will be providing support for some local families in need this holiday season. If your family would like to purchase gifts or make a monetary donation toward this cause, please contact our school counselor, Ms. Mary Quinn at 881-0580 x48452. Thank you!

Shatekon Families,

The search for a new Shatekon Principal will begin this month as I will be moving to the role of Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment within Shenendehowa. Shatekon will have an interim principal this winter with the new principal beginning sometime in the spring. Teachers will work with students to explain the transition, though the daily experience for our students will be very similar as all of the other smiling faces will remain the same.

I would like to take the opportunity to reflect on the work we have done over the last several years turning block walls, fresh paint, and new floor tiles into a student-centered place of learning. When we began planning to open Shatekon, there were no books on our shelves and no papers in our file cabinets. There was no PTA to unite families and support student programming.

Staff members from across the district came together to develop a common vision and immediately began to translate our vision into reality. Parents sent their children to a brand new school with faith and quickly became an integral part of our work. The larger Shenendehowa Community, including our Board of Education and Superintendent, enthusiastically provided their support. Four and a half years later, students fill every corner of our school and their learning and welfare takes priority every day. Thank you for allowing me the pleasure to serve this community. I am confident that an excellent leader will be selected to continue and expand upon the great work we have done.

*Elizabeth Wood*

### Upcoming Events

- ◆ Book Fair Week  
Dec. 5 to Dec. 9
- ◆ Parent/Teacher Conferences,  
NO SCHOOL  
Thursday, Dec. 8 and  
Friday, Dec. 9
- ◆ Winter Concert  
Thurs., Dec. 15,  
7:00pm
- ◆ WINTER RECESS  
No School  
Dec. 26 - Jan. 2

### The Shatekon Winter Concert



**WHO:** Shatekon Chorus and 5<sup>th</sup>-Grade String Program

**WHAT:** Holiday Concert

**WHERE:** String students meet in room 362 at 6:30 p.m., Chorus members meet in the gym on the risers at 6:45 p.m.

**WHEN:** 7:00 p.m. Thursday, December 15

**WHY:** Because we have a great program to share with our families and friends!

**DETAILS:** How should you dress? Look NICE. Traditional concert wear is black bottoms, white tops. Boys should wear collared shirts, and traditionally wear ties. If you do not own black/white, simply look your best. No sneakers or heels or t-shirts or jeans, please!

If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Grebe at [grebmary@shenet.org](mailto:grebmary@shenet.org) or Mrs. Tallman at [tallrene@shenet.org](mailto:tallrene@shenet.org) or phone 881-0580.

## Shatekon Students Share...

My favorite subject is math. We're learning about multiplication, two digits by two digits.

(Mayah – grade 4)

We are learning about light in science...like...spectrum, reflection, absorption, refraction, dispersion.

(Eli, Alex and Douglas – grade 5)

My favorite subject is music. We get to do fun stuff like sing and play instruments.

(Summer – grade 2)

My favorite thing about school is science, I love everything about it.

(Brenna – grade 3)

I like art because we get to color and draw.

(Anna – grade 2)

My favorite thing about Shatekon is all the nice teachers.

(Victoria – grade 4)

My favorite thing is writing. It's fun to write. I like to write about my family.

(Andrew – grade 2)

I like PE because there are so many options like bowling...

(Colin – grade 4)

## Library News.....

There has been a lot of excitement in the library this fall as kids have celebrated the arrival of the newest Wimpy Kid book, Cabin Fever, with a public library event and a trivia contest. Upcoming is a Battle of the Books contest for 5<sup>th</sup> graders which will culminate in a tri-school contest at the end of the year. We are also very excited to be hosting author Jared Krosoczka, famous for his *Lunch Lady* books, on February 29. The PTA sponsored Book Fair will be in the library the week of December 5<sup>th</sup>.

Volunteers needed! If you enjoy working in a busy environment surrounded by lots of books, consider volunteering at the library. We are especially looking for volunteers on Tuesday mornings.

## Odyssey of the Mind

We are beginning an Odyssey of the mind program at Shatekon. Learn about it from the official website:

<http://www.odysseyofthemind.com/>

If you are interested in helping with the program or having a child participate, please contact Mr. Ricci at: [RicciAaro@shenet.org](mailto:RicciAaro@shenet.org).

## School Closings

Please monitor local TV and radio stations for the most up-to-date school closing information. Be listening for "Shenendehowa." School closings, delays and any cancellation of after school/evening activities are available on the Shen website [www.shenet.org](http://www.shenet.org). Morning kindergarten is cancelled on mornings when school is delayed by two hours.

Shatekon Elementary  
School  
35 Maxwell Dr.  
Clifton Park, NY 12065

Phone:  
(518) 881-0580

Fax:  
(518) 371-1762

Website:  
[www.shenet.org](http://www.shenet.org)

Starting Time: 8:05am  
Dismissal Time: 2:15pm

Kindergarten:  
AM: 8:05am - 10:40am  
PM: 11:40am - 2:15pm

## Winter Weather is HERE!

Colder weather temperatures have arrived, and this means that shorts and flip-flop weather is over! Keeping the core warm frees more energy for learning and is supportive to overall health.

Please be sure your child comes to school in the appropriate cold-weather gear.

- Between 40-50 degrees: Long sleeves and pants, socks, and jacket/fleece or raincoat.
- Below 40 degrees: hat, jacket, gloves, boots, and snow pants are a must every day!

There is no outside recess when the temperature or wind chill is below 20 degrees. Thank you for your assistance with keeping your children prepared for the weather.

