

SUTTON SOURCE

QUICK NEWS & INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SUTTON FAMILY

THE PTA WEEKLY PUBLICATION

CALENDAR

JANUARY

- 29th Sutton Executive Board Meeting 9:00 am
- 29th Spirit Day: Wear SMS colors/spiritwear
- 30th Girls and Boys Basketball vs. Parks @ Home – 10:00am

FEBRUARY

- 2nd Help A Child Dental Van (forms available in front office) Contact wagonafer@Atlanta.k12.ga.us for details
- 2nd Track & Field Tryouts
- 2nd Showcase Tryouts begin
- 4th Coffee Talk 9:00 am THURSDAY morning
- 5th Deficiency Notices sent home
- 5th Football Friday
- 8th Local School Council meeting 4:15pm
- 10th Tour 9:00am
- 10th Basketball playoffs
- 13th Basketball playoff
- 15-16th **No School, Winter Break**
- 19th All Pro Dads 7:35am
- 24th NAPPS meeting 12:00pm at Bolton Elementary
- 26th Sutton Executive Board Meeting 9:00 am
- 26th Attendance Dance 4:00-6:00 pm

PTA POSTINGS

Next Coffee Talk is Thursday February 4th in Media Center

Parents: You won't want to miss this informative meeting! Our featured speakers are Sutton's three guidance counselors: Jamie Saul, 6th grade, Nelta Lattimore, 7th grade, and Trish Slaughter, 8th grade. They will inform us about what they do each and every day to make our childrens' experience at Sutton the best it can be. PTA members will also vote on three by-laws amendments, and approve the 2010 nominating committee. And, as always, Principal Sofianos will speak and answer any questions. Let's break our last record of 80 people in attendance. It's great to see how much SMS parents care!

Leigh Ann Livaditis Beth Ryan
PTA Co-Presidents
suttonpta@gmail.com

Nominating Time!

We have just celebrated the 100th day of school and we are already thinking about next year and what great parents will take the lead in the Sutton PTA. Remember, a school this size requires lots of dedicated volunteers. The more we have, the easier the jobs are for everyone. Please take a moment to access the Nominating Form

<http://suttonmiddleschool.org/Documents/pta/Nominating%20Form%202010.doc> to see what committees are available. Whether you nominate yourself or someone else for a Board position, a committee chair or a committee member...we want to increase our parent participation! This is how you can make a difference in our students' lives! Please bring these forms to the February Coffee Talk, turn them in to Jennifer Miller or email them to Beth or Leigh Ann suttonpta@gmail.com.

The nominating committee will soon be forming to slate next year's board positions. If you are interested in being on the committee, please contact committee chair Margaret Long by February 3 at long9548@bellsouth.net. A vote will be held to select this committee at the February 4 Coffee Talk.

Principal's Corner



These past weeks the teachers and students have been working very hard! 8th grade students just finished their Georgia Writing Assessment, which is an additional part of the mandatory testing at the 8th grade.

In grades 6 – 8, teachers are intensifying their efforts with tutorial, especially in Math and Language Arts, as we want to ensure that more students are achieving at higher levels on this April's CRCT. Our school has targets in each area, including decreasing the number of failures, while heavily increasing the number of students "Exceeding" on each of the tests. Each year, more and more of our students achieve that score of 850 or higher on the CRCT, and this is a result of the strong team effort here among teachers, students and families.

As an IB school, we take service very seriously, and Student Council, Student to Student, and Future Business Leaders of America, plus last year's Globechangers have risen to the call. Hats for Haiti, sponsored by Student Council was this past Friday, and they raised over \$620 for the American Red Cross relief efforts! This week Future Business Leaders are collecting Change for Haiti in the carpool lines. Be looking for additional fund-raising for Haiti efforts from Student to Student, while the Globechangers give us "Daily Haitian Information" on announcements each day.

*Even though students are working hard, we still build in lots of events and activities to increase that community spirit! Though our parent-faculty basketball game was shortened due to an injury, students still cheered on their teachers and parents playing basketball, as well as our awesome cheerleaders and step-team! Our last regular season basketball games are this Saturday, January 30th. Students are encouraged to wear Sutton gear or colors on Friday, January 29th in support of the team. January 15th was Football Friday, with our next Football Friday coming up on February 5th. Students are encouraged to wear their favorite football team's colors or clothing. I already have my Peyton Manning jersey picked out for that day, **Go Colts!***

Audrey Sofianos - Principal,



Parent/Faculty Basketball Game

Many thanks to SMS dad Frank Bellavia for organizing the Parent vs Faculty Basketball game and coaching the parent teams. The adults put on quite a show for the students' afternoon entertainment Friday. Thank you to all the parents, teachers and SMS staff that participated!





SPORTS

BASKETBALL

Our Boys remain undefeated and Girls have won all but one game! HOWEVER, the BIG news is Saturday's Girls' and Boys' last regular season games starting at 10:00 am here at Sutton. We must defeat the undefeated Parks Middle School Boy's team! We need a packed house to win our division. Playoffs are set for February 10th and 13th.

INTRAMURALS

Hip Hop dance intramural (Th/Fri) has begun. Look for upcoming tennis and Ultimate Frisbee intramurals in the spring. Did you know? Sutton spring sports are: girls soccer, baseball, track and field, and golf. (Track practice/try-outs begin Feb 2nd.)

Orchestra News

The Orchestra has produced its first CD! Working together with our own North Atlanta High School Music Technology Dept, the orchestra had a 5 hour recording session in the orchestra room! CD's are available in the orchestra room A \$5 donation would really help the orchestra purchase strings, bass rosin and bass bows. Send email to ncolbert@atlanta.k12.ga.us and an orchestra student will deliver the CD to your child.



Congratulations go to **Maren Eden**, 8th Grade double bass and **Robert Leon**, 7th Grade violin for earning membership in the Georgia All- State Middle School Orchestra. This is the most prestigious honor our music students can earn. These students passed two levels of intense auditions to become members of the orchestra. Maren and Robert will travel to Savannah, Georgia on March 4th to rehearse with a nationally renowned conductor with the best students from throughout the state in the All-State Orchestra.



BoxTops Competition Coming

Save those BoxTops and earn money for our school! Details to follow.

Regular Reminders



Parking: For everyone's convenience and safety, please do not park in single driveway lane by front door or the turnaround lane. Thank you.

Attendance Hotline: When your child misses school, please report the absence by 10 am here suttonattend@atlanta.k12.ga.us or call 404-802-5635

Homework Hotline: Stuck on a problem? Take advantage of this valuable extra help offered by APS: Call 678-553-3029 or ask questions on-line: www.myhomeworkhotline.org

Committee Chairs: Need to use the Parent Center for a meeting? Please book your date with board secretary Christie Derrick at ccderrick@yahoo.com

Publix Partners Keychain Card: Please scan it at checkout each visit. We just received another nice check and would like to thank all of our faithful Publix card users (& Publix!)

PTA Membership: We need \$3000 to reach our Goal

If signing up for PTA membership has slipped through the cracks, it's never too late! Please print the form <http://suttonmiddleschool.org/Documents/pta/SuttonD&DLetterFinal.doc> and send in as soon as possible! You'll not only receive your SMS directory, but also help fund the many programs that benefit each and every child at our wonderful middle school. **Please Note: You must be a PTA member to vote and hold a board position.**

Showcase Try-Outs

Showcase auditions will be 2/2, 2/3, and 2/4 after school.

There will be a meeting after announcements on Friday 1/29 for interested students, and they MUST attend and turn in their signed permission slips by that date. Permission slips can be picked up at the front office.

Any parents who wish to volunteer for the Showcase committee, but haven't heard from **Millie Dunn**, please contact her at milledunn@aol.com.

Career Day is coming

It's that time again!! It's time to show our students all about the World of Work!!! On March 12th, Sutton MS will be hosting our annual Career Day and we invite you to join in on the fun. We are currently seeking individuals to share the story of his or her professional journey, helpful advice, highlights and challenges, and words of encouragement for our students. If you or someone you know would like to be a guest speaker during this exciting event, please contact the Sutton MS Counseling Department at jsaul@atlanta.k12.ga.us or 404-802-5600 by Friday, February 12th.

Sponsorship Opportunity for 8th Grade Orlando Trip

Please contact 8th Grade parent liaison **Shawne Smith** vshawne@yahoo.com or **Ms. Parker**, mjparker@atlanta.k12.ga.us, if you would like to sponsor an 8th grade student for the Disney trip. The trip takes place February 17-19. Full sponsorships are \$399. However, any amount of your choosing will help a child receive this wonderful opportunity to get a behind the scenes "business" look at WDW operations. Donation deadline is February 1. Thank you.

Geography Bee Update from Mr. Weatherly

Congratulations to **Emily Pinkston**, First Place and **Matthew Cook**, Runner-Up!



WARRIOR WINDOW

North Atlanta: The Numbers Tell The Story

Several hundred parents and students had the opportunity to learn about North Atlanta NOW last week at our high school's prospective student open house. Here are some of the things they learned:

NAHS is a true community school. 1 middle school feeds students to NAHS (SUTTON) and 6 elementary schools feed Sutton. This means you have the opportunity to graduate from high school with the same families that you met in Kindergarten. Last year, 95% of Sutton 8th grade class chose to attend North Atlanta.

NAHS is a great size. This year, 1114 students are enrolled at North Atlanta in 3 small learning communities. This translates into an average of 23 students per class – an enviable ratio for public high school.

NAHS offers a world-class, college-prep program. North Atlanta's curriculum encompasses 31 International Baccalaureate Diploma classes, 14 Advanced Placement classes and 19 visual and performing arts programs.

NAHS students are college bound. The Class of 2009 sent 198 students to 108 different colleges. There were 135 HOPE Scholars and the class earned a combined \$18 million in scholarships. In the past three years 8 out of 8 Ivy League schools, 12 out of 12 SEC schools and 10 out of 12 ACC schools have accepted NAHS students.

NAHS is filled with opportunity. North Atlanta students can participate in 23 sports teams, plus the Lacrosse Club, 28 student organizations, 31 school-based Student Exchange opportunities and ROTC – just to name a few extra-curricular activities. In addition, NAHS students have performed 41,775 hours of community service.

NAHS is a brand new school. The building, grounds and athletic complex are undergoing a \$32 million renovation. Last summer over 200,000 square feet of instructional space was completed. This summer, contractors will tackle athletic facilities.

There has never been a better time to attend North Atlanta than right NOW!

Submit Soon.

Please notify us early with your Source news submissions. Remember that our big Source issue is every other week, alternating with a calendar-only blast. Deadline for each issue is Monday at 2pm (suttonsource@gmail.com). Thank you!



SUTTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

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•Looking for the APS holiday calendar for the whole year? [Click Here](#)

•Need more Info? suttonpta@gmail.com

•News to post? suttonsource@gmail.com

The Sutton PTA is a non-profit organization that supports SUTTON MIDDLE SCHOOL [Click here to join the Sutton PTA.](#)