

SUTTON SOURCE

QUICK NEWS & INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SUTTON FAMILY

THE PTA WEEKLY PUBLICATION

CALENDAR

MARCH

- 25th Golf Match at North Fulton 4:30 pm
 25th Baseball vs. Woodward @ Dunwoody
 Baseball Lower Field 5:00 pm
 26th Sutton Executive Board Meeting 9:00 am
 26th Classical Music Showcase 4:15 pm
 Orchestra Suite
 27th Girls Soccer vs. Harper @ Home 10:00 am
 27th Baseball vs. Ridgeview @ Dunwoody
 Lower Baseball Field 3:00 pm
 27th NAHS presents Sutton Night for High
 School Musical 2 performance
 (see Warrior Window below for more info)
 28th Boys Baseball vs. St. Pius @ Dunwoody
 Baseball Upper Field 3:30 pm
 29th Local School Council meeting 4:15 pm
 29th Baseball vs. GAC @ Dunwoody Baseball
 Upper Field 5:00 pm
 30th Girls Soccer (A) vs. Paideia (blue)
 @ Home 4:45 pm
 31st NAPPS meeting 12:00 p.m. at E. Rivers
 31st Golf Match at North Fulton time TBA

APRIL

- 5-9th **Spring Break**
 11-17th Barnes and Noble Book Fair at the Peach
 13th Coffee Talk 9:00am
 TUESDAY morning at Sutton
 15th 6th Grade Orientation 6:30pm
 16th "Fabulous Friday with Wi!" –
 book talk at Barnes and Noble 9am
 24th Sutton Invitational Golf Tournament @
 Charlie Yates Golf Course
 30th Sutton Showcase at Chastain Amphitheatre

PTA POSTINGS

PTA Meeting: A Very Successful Night

We would like to thank the teachers and staff who attended the evening PTA meeting last week. **Billette Owens-Ashford** from APS Sports was able to answer questions and clarify many of the broader issues related to how our school system addresses the needs of our sports programs.



Thanks also to:

- **Roz McClure** and **Becky McDaniel** for organizing our student athletes to attend in uniform and speak to the crowd
- **Heather Cook** and the team of volunteers that manned our check in and Dues and Donations table
- **Denise Maxey** for making all the arrangements for the dinner that was served, as well as to all who stuck around and helped clean up.

Our 2010-11 PTA Executive Board was elected and we are excited to see next year already shaping up. Please contact **Leigh Darby** leighdarby@comcast.net if you are interested in serving as a committee chair.

We would also like to extend a **Big Thank You** to **Daniel Howard**, who has worked tirelessly to upgrade our technology at Sutton and get so many 21st century classrooms up and running with well-trained teachers. Please read the "Tech-Talk" column below to learn more about his valuable contribution.

Leigh Ann Livaditis **Beth Ryan**
 PTA Co-Presidents

suttonpta@gmail.com

Sutton Scoop is Hot Off the Presses!

All students received one last week so please ask them to check their bookbags if you haven't seen it yet. This colorful piece also goes out to the 5th graders at our feeder schools, as well as local libraries, doctor's offices, restaurants and other community hotspots. We hope you enjoy the inaugural edition. Many thanks to **Bindu Balakrishnan** and **Heather Cook** for their work pulling this remarkable mini-magazine together!
http://suttonmiddleschool.org/Documents/scoop/Sutton_eScoopSpring2010F.pdf

Odyssey of the Mind Team Wins Regionals



Sutton Odyssey of the Mind team finished in 1st place and was honored with the **Omer Award** in the Lilburn regional tournament last weekend. They competed in Problem 5, Food Court against 14 other middle schools and finished with a calculated score of 348.08 out of 350 possible points. Congratulations to **7th grader, Hanna Wendlandt**, and **8th graders, Anna Ellis, Jianna Justice, Caroline Langley, Maggie Neel, Jessie Rubini and Katherine Whitehurst**.

Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students. Team members apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. They then bring their solutions to competition on the regional, state, and World level. Thousands of teams from throughout the U.S. and from about 25 other countries participate in the program.

The Sutton team will travel to Columbus, GA on April 9 and 10 to present their solution at the Georgia State Tournament. **Good Luck to the Cougar Team!**

Principal's Corner



The Local School Council is a group of elected parents and teachers that meets monthly to discuss ways of improving our school. Since this past July, 2009, a frequent topic on our agenda has been our Sutton Student Dress Code. Comments and surveys completed by parents have frequently mentioned the dress code as an area to improve. Teachers also agree, as well as the entire administrative team! Concerns have centered around dress code confusion, student compliance, and enforcement of consequences. Though we have made some improvements, we still believe there is much that can be done to help our students focus on their studies, which is the primary goal of our dress code. The Local School Council is discussing the possibility of recommending a mandatory school uniform for all of our students beginning the 2010-2011 school year. Many schools in Atlanta have a school uniform, including within Atlanta Public Schools, as well as at many of our neighboring private and public schools. The Local School Council elected parents and teachers are here to represent you! Please feel free to attend any of the Local School Council meetings or contact a Local School Council representative directly at the emails listed.

Jimmy Livaditis, Local School Council President, jblzesto@aol.com
Kitsie Riggall, Local School Council Secretary, kriggall@comast.net
Amy Durham, Local School Council Representative, amycm@bellsouth.net
Andrea Shelton, Local School Council Representative, aheartbound@comcast.net

Thanks everyone!

Audrey Sofianos - Principal, Sutton Middle School

TECH TALK

Update on 21st Century Classroom Initiative



After deploying the 21st century classroom technology consisting of a scanner, wireless pen mouse, webcam, wireless mike, and 30 Watt speakers that was funded by the PTA this year, last week I met with most of the teachers who received the equipment and we went over installation, training, and example uses for the technology. Here are some of their comments:

"I have used the scanner to email a parent with their student's test information and answer key, as well as conference notes."

"National Geographic has this fantastic interactive Powerpoint on the weather factors that cause a hurricane. After the lesson, the students get to set up the conditions for the 'perfect storm.' When I demonstrated how to use the wireless mouse and they saw that they could set up the conditions from their desks and project the images to the class using the LCD projector (funded by PTA last year), everyone wanted to participate. Hands flew up and the students replied 'Let me try, I want to try!' The response was overwhelming and they were all involved in the lesson."

"My students love the clarity of the surround sound. Everything from CNN student News to Brainpop is of better sound. They also like the fact that they are able to work at their desks to participate in the lessons. The wireless pen mouse serves a strong purpose for students that don't like to get up and participate in front of the room. The students are very excited and cannot wait to video chat with other classes!"

"With a large classroom and all the computers on, it is often difficult for students to hear. Now, with the wireless microphone, I can project my voice without yelling and the students are more focused. In addition, the new wireless pen mouse makes volunteering a breeze because students no longer have the fear of standing up and going to the board."

Thanks to our great PTA for funding this important initiative for our teachers and students, and don't forget we only did 13 rooms, there are lots more Sutton teachers that would like this technology in their rooms to enhance learning and performance. Contact me at dhoward@comcast.net if you have any questions about this or other eParent projects, including our upcoming Internet Video Broadcast system for morning announcements and video journalism.

Stay tuned! ~ *Daniel Howard, Sutton e-Parent Chair*



Sutton Student Recognized

John Livaditis was presented as the winner of the **2009 Frankie Allen Sportsmanship Award** at Buckhead Baseball's Opening Day. He also caught the traditional first pitch to open the season (while proudly wearing a Sutton baseball cap!)

Sutton Showcase is April 30th at Chastain Park Amphitheater



Parents and business owners: We are seeking sponsors and advertisers for this year's Showcase. If you are interested, please contact **Cathi Onley** at cathio@comcast.net.

Thank You Note

The Teacher of the Year Luncheon Committee would like to thank the PTA, Sixth Grade parents, Student Council, and especially our caterer, Ms. Wylie, of Shecooks, for a fantastic luncheon in honor of Ms. Juliandre Corey. The faculty and staff had a wonderfully fun and delicious time.

Thank you all for making it possible!

Nina Edelstein ~ 6th grade Language Arts

Outward Bound

Just recently, Sutton's Outward Bound club took a day trip to Carver HS to practice their team building skills on some low challenge courses culminating on a high ropes course. Accompanied by **Coach Bland**, 16 of Sutton's very own students practiced what it takes to be an effective leader, in and out of school. Spending a total of 8 hrs outside in windy, cold conditions, the team worked hard to achieve their goals, finally ending with a jump off the zip line. With the skills they've learned, it is sure to make Sutton a better place for teaching and learning!
~**Mr. Bland**



Sigma Math

SIGMA mathematics league is a national association that promotes problem solving skills through applying mathematical knowledge to solve non-routine problems. Students participate as individuals and as a team to compete nationally. More than 350 schools have participated in SIGMA during the last thirty years that it has held these competitions and is open to students 6th through 9th grade. Five contests are held for each grade throughout the school year and tests differ based on grades. A school's team comprises of 12 top scoring individuals for each grade and highest scoring students from each school receives an award. In addition, plaques are awarded to the top three schools in each grade.

Sutton has had students participating in SIGMA math over several years. Four of the five tests have been conducted so far. The 4th test results are in and we have a four-way tie for first place between **Matthew Evans, Emily Pinkston, Taylor Anne Hill**, and **Vajraang Kamat** in the 6th grade and a two way tie for first place between **Kyle Hoang** and **Matthew Cook** in the 7th grade. **Tyler Maxey** has the first place in the 8th grade and is also Sutton's highest scorer so far this year. The 5th test will be held soon and we look forward to sharing those results with you next month, as well as bringing to you the consolidated scores for the year. **Congratulations, winners!**

Ritz-Carlton Buckhead Rolls Out the Blue Carpet for Sutton's 7th Grade Computer Literacy Class

The Ritz-Carlton of Buckhead launched a partnership with Sutton Middle School as a part of **America's Promise Alliance**. Our students had the opportunity to visit the Ritz-Carlton of Buckhead and experience behind the scenes where the "magic happens". The students learned about the various careers in the hotel industry. The hotel's entire staff greeted our students by rolling out the blue carpet and applauding the students as they walked off the bus and into the hotel. Owen Mc Daniel, a 7th grader said, "I thought I was an ordinary student on a field trip, but I felt like the President walking to the White House".

Over the next few months the Ritz-Carlton will provide students with a broad range of life skills that will strengthen our school, our community and our world. The upcoming sessions will focus on community service learning projects where the students have selected homelessness as their focus. They will deliver a presentation, learn team-building activities, social skills and experience etiquette classes. Mrs. Bates and Ms. Haynes are thrilled with the students' enthusiasm about their community service learning project on Hunger and Homelessness. Jonah Alexander commented by stating, "I was thankful Ritz Carlton chose our school for this community project."



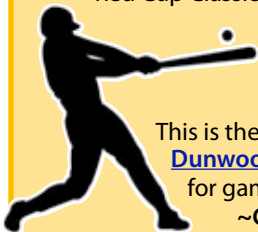
The student's kicked off the first service project "**Honk for Haiti and Donate Your Change**" by collecting monetary donations in the carpool lanes. The upcoming service project is called "**Clean Out Your Closet and Donate.**" The class is asking the entire Sutton family to open their hearts, clean out their closets and donate clothes and shoes for the homeless. Look for the donation box in the front lobby.

In keeping with the Ritz-Carlton of Buckhead commitment, Sutton strives to build that "legacy of extraordinary service" as we continue our partnership with Ritz Carlton of Buckhead. ~**Ms. Haynes**, 7th grade Computer Teacher ~**Mrs. Bates**, Coordinator

BASEBALL Update: Our record to date is 5-2



We play Woodward Black on Thursday in a game we would like to win to stay in the hunt for a regular season crown. Saturday we play Ridgeview under the lights in a game that can be labeled the "Red Cup Classic" due to the rivalry and player-parent familiarity. Sunday we compete against St. Pius and Monday we play the talented GAC team again.



This is the meat of our schedule. Consult DunwoodySeniorbaseball.com for game times/fields.

~Coach Erik Hume

Sutton Students Swim at Sectionals

After participating in the State Swimming Championships, 7th grader, **Lila Claire Best** and 6th grader, **Sam Angle** were among the top 14-and-under swimmers in the Southeast invited to compete last weekend in Charlotte, NC in the **Southern Zone Eastern Sectionals Swimming Championships**.

Tennis Camp

Universal Tennis Academy will be holding week long summer camps for kids at their Chastain Park and Bitsy Grant locations. Information and sign ups can be done at the two locations or online at utatennis.com. You can also email davidstolle@utatennis.com for any additional questions. Spaces are limited.

Boys' Training Session Offered

On Wednesday, March 31, 2010, STATS Athletic Leadership program will offer a free trial of Off-Season Speed, Agility and Endurance training for all Sutton Middle School boys. STATS is a leadership program that utilizes fitness training as a catalyst for developing personal awareness, growth and confidence. Directed by former professional football player and Sutton Middle School dad, **Will Harris**, please join some of Sutton's top athletes as they prepare for the 2010-2011 athletic season. No athletic experience necessary; all participants will be grouped according to ability. Space is limited. For more information, please contact directly Coach Will Harris at wil@behindthenumbers.org or 404-849-8565

Peachtree Hills Rec Center Offers Spring Break Camp

Contact Coach Pitts at tpitts@AtlantaGa.Gov for more info.

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!)

Sutton Students in the ING Run for Something Better Marathon

Accompanied by Coach Bland, Coach Sewell, Mrs. Haynes, and Ms. Sneed, the students showed their physical fitness on Sunday by running the final 1.1 miles to celebrate good health.

It was a great day in downtown Atlanta for all who participated! ~Coach Bland



Spirit Wear News

Check out the latest spring styles of spirit wear! [http://suttonmiddleschool.org/Documents/Sutton\(ScreenPrint\).doc](http://suttonmiddleschool.org/Documents/Sutton(ScreenPrint).doc)

We are in need of volunteers for:
~ the April 15 Orientation night and
~ next year's Spirit Wear committee
Please contact
Aileen Harris at 678-785-5446,
or **Dana French** at 404-642-8010.



Summer Reading

Hard to believe that this school year will be over soon, and that summer is just some raindrops away. I am organizing our last **Barnes & Noble Book Fair** which will be held **April 11 - 17, 2010** @ The Peach Barnes & Noble. We will have all the required summer reading books at hand for all grades, but also great beach reading for the parents. Please come and shop to support Sutton, and please contact me if you are able to help at the store. ~Andrea Radtke andyradtke@mac.com

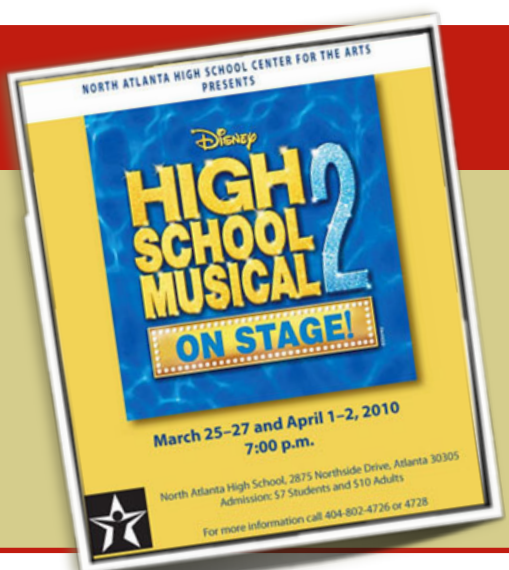
You Can Still Order Your Yearbook

In addition to the memorable pictures, the autographs and special notes from friends and faculty, the Yearbook is one of Sutton's **only fundraisers**. So don't miss out on this unique keepsake and the opportunity of helping our school. You can still order online at www.ybpay.com



WARRIOR WINDOW

North Atlanta High presents
High School Musical 2
Attend Sutton Night on
March 27!



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
4360 Powers Ferry Road
Atlanta, GA 30327
Phone: 404.802.5600 Fax: 404.802.5698
www.suttonmiddleschool.org

- 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.](#)