

SUTTON SOURCE

QUICK NEWS & INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SUTTON FAMILY

THE PTA WEEKLY PUBLICATION

CALENDAR

AUGUST

- 20th** **8th Grade Parent Coffee**, 9:00 am - Mary Zizzi's home
4655 Millbrook Drive
- 20th** Orchestra Fair 5:30-7:00 pm
- 26th** **Early Release Day** - 12:45 pm
- 27th** All School **Open House** - 6:00 pm
PTA Meeting - 6:30 pm
- 28th** Sutton Executive Board Meeting - 9:00 am

SEPTEMBER

- 5th** Sutton's first home football game - 10:00 am
- 7th** **No school - Labor Day**
Eat-In at Chastain Park 11:00-2:00
- 9th** **Coffee Talk** Please note this date!
9:00 am - Media Center
Progress reports will also be sent home this day.
- 11th** **Blues & BBQ** -
Buy tickets at the Open House

PTA POSTINGS

"The pool party rocked!"

"I thought middle school was going to be hard, but it's not. I love it!"

"My son is having a wonderful first week and is thrilled to be a Cougar!"

"My daughter thought she would only stick with her old friends, but from the first day mixed and mingled with so many new ones."

*These are just a few comments heard last week from some 6th graders and new parents. Congratulations to all of our new Cougars who are making the middle school transition look so easy! The halls are full of students adhering to the dress code, looking so sharp, laughing and talking with new friends. We've noticed an upbeat feeling of confidence everywhere this past week, and we encourage you to join in the school spirit by attending our **Open House** next Thursday night. We'd also like to thank everyone for all the positive feedback on our first issue of the Source. So glad you like it!*

Leigh Ann Livaditis Beth Ryan
PTA Co-Presidents

Open House/PTA Meeting Thursday August 27

Don't miss out on our Information Fair in the gym at 6 pm; a short PTA meeting at 6:30 followed by visiting your child's classrooms. Due to the large crowds expected, we designed this as a **Parents Only Event** – this is the one campus meeting that is really geared to adults. So if possible, please leave your children at home. Finally, parking will be tight so please consider carpooling.

When you arrive, the following committees will be set up with information and the ability for you to volunteer:

- **Parent Portal Campus Credentials:** Pick up your personal passcode to access Infinite Campus' Parent Portal to review your child's schedule and attendance records. We are vying to be the pilot school to access grades this way. Let's show that we will use it!
- **Sutton Source** • **Dues and Donations** • **Spirit-wear** • **Blues & BBQ ticket sales**
- **School Clubs: All-Pro Dads, Student-to-Student, Wyldlife** • **Girl Scouts**
- **Reduce/Reuse/Recycle:** Don't forget to donate your reading list books from last year. Drop Boxes will be at the gym doors.

Our first PTA meeting kicks off at 6:30, and will include the budget vote. All teachers will be introduced! Then, you'll head off to rotate through your child's classrooms according to his or her schedule. Teachers will speak to each "parent class" about each syllabus. This is a great opportunity to meet other parents, ask questions and gain a greater understanding of your child's "world" while at school. We encourage everyone to join us!

Principal's Corner



One week into the school year and we're off to a great start! Thank you for your patience with buses and carpool the first days of school. Each day, our buses are tracked for their arrival and dismissal times, so you should start to see a more regular schedule. Our school team works very hard to ensure student safety and efficient arrival and dismissal. Be looking for some improvements in our carpool over the next few weeks, as we work with the Atlanta Police Department to improve our system. As a reminder, our students can be dropped off starting at 8:00 am each day, with students allowed to enter classrooms at 8:30 am. Buses arrive from 8:30 am through 8:45 am. The tardy bell rings at 8:45 am, but students riding a bus are never marked tardy! At day's end, we dismiss for carpool at approximately 3:40 pm. Our goal is for buses to leave campus during a 3:40 - 4:00 pm window. We dismiss in three separate rounds, and your child knows to listen for his or her bus. It's always best for students to stay on a consistent schedule, so please try to keep to the same transportation routine each day. This will give your child more energy and brainpower to focus on schoolwork!

Audrey Sofianos
Principal



Sutton Spotlight

The Queen of Blog: Nina Edelstein

6th Grade Language Arts and Reading Language Arts Dept. Chair

Ms. Edelstein is one of those out-of-the-box educators that parents and students love. One parent told us that she wrote to her last week to thank her for a great first week; that her 6th grader came home from school giving every day a "9." Ms. Edelstein promptly wrote back, "How can we make it a 10?"

As a lifelong learner and teacher, Mrs. Edelstein just completed her gifted certification and has begun working with her Dobb's Fellowship award cohort, the 21st Century Classroom. She's been a Sutton educator for 18 years, teaching 7th, and now 6th, grade Language Arts and Reading. She has served as part of Sixth Grade Leadership, as secretary on the local school council, and in 2008 was recognized as Teacher of the Year. Her dedication to Sutton continues as she currently serves as Chairperson of the Language Arts Department, NIKE Team Leader, and as a curriculum support person.

Mrs. Edelstein's favorite pastimes are reading (no surprise there!), movies, and going to the beach. She considers some of her major accomplishments to be staying married for 34 years and having two wonderful grown children.

Always taking it to the next level, check out her new blogs here:

<https://sites.google.com/site/nedelsteinelaclass/>

<http://nedelstein.edublogs.org>

<https://sites.google.com/site/sutton6thgradetrips/home> (This site is for all 6th graders. Learn about upcoming trips!)





TECH TALK

Sutton's 21st Century Classroom Initiative

Go into a corporate meeting room, and what kinds of technology do you see? LCD projectors, wireless mikes, speakers, wireless pointers, interactive whiteboards, streaming AV (to and from remote participants), video and audio conferencing, and so on. So, we've begun an initiative to give our Sutton teachers 21st century classrooms, essentially augmenting APS-provided technology with low cost add-ons. We've set up a single room as a prototype, and the initial results are very positive. We'll be rolling out more rooms this year, and hope to use the video conferencing for things like the NASA Digital Learning Network (<http://dln.nasa.gov/dln/>) or even for parents who can conference in during the day using free software such as Skype (www.skype.com) and give talks on their career and/or areas of expertise. It's all designed to fast-forward our teachers and students into the 21st century, improve visibility and academic performance, and also to aid in embracing fully our IB program at Sutton.

More details can be found on the Sutton eParent blog at <http://suttonparents.blogspot.com> or on the Sutton eParent website at <http://sites.google.com/site/suttonparents/>. If you have any ideas, questions, or feedback on any Sutton technology issues, or can volunteer to help, please contact me at dhoward@comcast.net, or leave a comment on the eParent blog.

Daniel Howard, eParents

Intramurals Sign Up Starts Next Monday

The **Sutton Intramural Program** will run a wide variety of co-ed sports to encourage our students to explore new sports, make friends, get exercise, and have fun! Primarily aimed at sixth graders who can't participate in APS sports programs, this joint effort of parents, teachers and coaches will develop skills that our students can use later in life. Seventh and eighth graders are welcome to join the fun (as long as the sessions aren't full with younger students).



Mr. Abdul-Razacq (PE teacher) will lead 20-25 students in the fast-paced sport of **Ultimate Frisbee**. The students will learn throwing techniques, as well as moving around cones and teamwork. This sport was new to Sutton last year, and the students had a blast! Sessions will take place on **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00-5:15** beginning Sept 8th thru the week of Nov 5th. We will accept 10 students from last year (7th or 8th graders) for team competition and then 10 to 15 new students. Please have your child listen for the announcements to pick up a registration form from the office. Registration will begin the week of August 24th on a first-come, first-served basis. -- **Margaret Long and Mitzi Lau**, Intramural Co-chairs

Walgreens is a Team Player

Your neighborhood Walgreen's is offering \$30 sports physicals until September 30. They are good for the entire year, so this is a low-cost alternative for students still needing physicals for fall, winter, spring, or intramural sports. There's just one catch: You must visit a Walgreen's with a clinic. Please contact **Amanda Fielder** with any questions or for convenient locations. afielder@atlanta.k12.ga.us

BOOK DROP: A New Chapter in GOING GREEN

Looking for a smart way to recycle student summer reading books and books you have purchased for Sutton language arts classes over the years? Just donate your books to Sutton! Students can then purchase these for \$1 each at our school store, saving money and helping the PTA. There will be a book drop located in the front lobby (and at the Open House by the gym doors).



Remember: middle school summer reading and language arts books only.

Java THANKS

Thank you to **Kitty Hartley** (6th), **Angelia Heard** (7th) and **Mary Zizzi** (8th) for hosting our Parent Coffees this week. A record turnout showed our strong Sutton spirit! We realize that not every parent can make morning meetings but feel very fortunate to have so many take the time and show their interest and support. We couldn't have done it without the gracious hospitality of these three parent hostesses, and we all enjoyed our community coffee at their beautiful homes. It's a perk we really appreciate!

The Ultimate CONVENIENCE STORE

Just found out you need another composition book? More sheet protectors? Pencils? Relax! Save gas and time by shopping at the school store! From Cadoodle mechanical pencils to Sutton-branded trusty #2s, we've got everything you need at a great price, and all right at your fingertips. Store hours are Tuesday and Thursday, 8:30 to 8:50 am. For a fun volunteer opportunity, sign up for a shift! Contact co-chairs **Susan Lowery** at slowery@comcast.net or **Gillian Taylor** at gillianptaylor@yahoo.com.

After-School Parking

A reminder that if it's after 5 pm, please pick up your child at the back of school. Also, there are several weekday concerts remaining in the Chastain Park concert series. That means we need our front spaces open till the end of the season. Thanks for your cooperation!

The deadline for submissions to Sutton Source is Monday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. Any submission received after that time will be saved and will appear in the following week's issue. Please send submissions to suttonpta@gmail.com



NO PARKING

For obvious reasons, please do not park in the turnaround areas in the front parking lot.

ATTENDANCE HOTLINE



It's 10:00 am.

Do We Know Where Your Child Is?

Parents of any Cougar that is **not at school by 10 am**, Please call **404-802-5635** each day your child is absent.

You can also email Sutton at suttonattend@atlanta.k12.ga.us to report an absence.



SUTTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

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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.](#)