

SUTTON Source

QUICK NEWS & INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SUTTON FAMILY

THE PTA WEEKLY PUBLICATION

CALENDAR

MAY

- 12th -13th** IB Middle School Portfolio Days
- 13th** APS Spring Fling 6pm Featuring All APS Orchestras from elementary to high school, will take place at Grady HS this year. Come hear a musical feast! Several SMS students will be performing.
- 13th** New student registration at Sutton: all schools 9:30am-6:00pm
- 13th -15th** 8th Grade Boston trip
- 17th -21st** Scholastic Book Fair- Media Center
- 17th -21st** Student Council Elections week
- 18th** Last day for lockers and backpacks
- 19th** 6th grade Wellness Day
- 19th** NAHS residency verification/pick-up schedule 9am-12pm, 2pm-6pm (Parents/guardians go to North Atlanta with proof of residency)
- 20th** 7th grade Wellness Day
- 21st** 6th Grade Honors 9:15 am
- 22nd** 8th Grade Dance – North Atlanta lecture hall 7:00-10:00pm
- 24th** 7th Grade Honors 9:15 am
- 24th** 8th grade Field Day
- 25th** 8th Grade Recognition Ceremony 9:15 Walk of Fame
- 25th** Last Day of School

JUNE

- 4th** Report Cards mailed home

FYI: The Chastain Park Tennis Center will be closed for re-paving from May 14 - May 30.

Plan Ahead with APS 2010-2011 dates:

http://aps.schoolwires.net/186110121116728653/lib/186110121116728653/2010-2011_traditional.pdf

Eighth Grade Dance Permission Slip

<http://www.suttonmiddleschool.org/Documents/8th%20Grade%20Dance%20Invitation.doc>

Principal's Corner



Rising 7th & 8th Grade Parents

Be looking for a large envelope to come home this week! Each returning SMS student will need to complete his or her Exploratory choices (Computers, Art, Band, etc...), as well as provide proof of continued residence in the Sutton zone. All directions are contained in the envelope, including what you need to return to show you still live in our attendance area. Be looking for those Georgia Power and other utility bills, as well as a current lease or mortgage statement. Remember, you are welcome to "black out" any financial information, we just need to see that you are still living at a Sutton address. If you have moved or will be moving this summer, please let us know that also, so that we can be ready when your new school requests your child's school records. Please address the large envelope when you return it, and we will use that to mail home the report card and CRCT scores!

Audrey Sofianos - Principal, Sutton Middle School

PTA POSTINGS

We would like to thank Showcase chairs, Millie Dunn, Diane Justice and Michelle duCille for a magnificent job on last weekend's Showcase. Read on---there is a special photo album dedicated to our 2010 Showcase at the end of this Source. We'd also like to recognize Joleen Neel for chairing our Little Women drama production this spring. We have included some wonderful photos of the students in period costume below, as well.

Thanks to all who helped us work to make Sutton an even better place this year. Some of our 2009-2010 highlights include:

- Increased Communication Efforts via the new weekly e-newsletter the Source, the new Sutton Scoop magazine, and more calling posts and blasts

- New Fall Frolic school-wide parent social

- Record turn-outs at our monthly PTA meetings (Coffee Talks and night meetings)!

- New Spiritwear that adheres to our dress code and is cute, too!

- Increased awareness of Sutton in the community through press releases and newspaper articles

- Increased communication with our APS School Board Representatives

- Improved yearbook

- Added a new after-school drama production

- Set a new record with our parent dues and donation campaign- \$48,000!

- Continued participation in PTA and APS sports and intramurals- touching over 300 students' lives with involvement in these

- Showered our teachers with numerous luncheons, classroom supplies, and extras to let them know how much we appreciate them!

Our goals this year leaned toward increased communication, not just between the school and parents but also between our school and the local media. We also were happy to see the 6th Grade parents make such a great effort to get to know each other at their regular coffees! This needs to be a 6th grade tradition. It will rollover with each year and these parents will have a much more cohesive middle school and high school experience. We are planning to do the same for the rising 8th grade parents next year. Eighth graders are the school leaders and we look forward to making their last year at Sutton a strong one by getting our parents together more often! If you are interested in helping, please contact us.

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

suttonpta@gmail.com

SUTTON TALENT

Showcase

Sutton Community Showcase was fun for everyone involved. Do you know that about 150 different students performed in the show? Also, the crowd was the biggest ever - around 1200 people! Incredible! Many of the attendees will be sixth graders at Sutton next year, but we also saw kids and families from other schools enjoying the show. Sutton alums from NAHS were there in full force, as well! Thank you for coming and supporting your neighborhood public middle school!

The co-chairs would like to thank the following people, whose volunteer efforts made Showcase possible: **Cathi and Reide Onley, Maria McConnell, Joleen Neel, Jeff Justice, Jennifer Geckler, Linda Mitchell, Ann Dodys, Mr. Pethel, Ms. Bangura, Ms. Colbert and Mr. Bond, Angelia Heard and Shawne Smith, Sherri Calcagno, Amy Durham and Jennifer Palmer, Mary Newton, Laura and Gus Pitsikoulis, Sudie Palmer, Robert Weatherly, Clair Eden and Kim Reid**

We would also like to send a special Thank You to our sponsor, **Mr. David Stolle** at Universal Tennis Academy.

Can't wait til next year! ~ **Millie Dunn, Diane Justice and Michelle duCille**, co-chairs

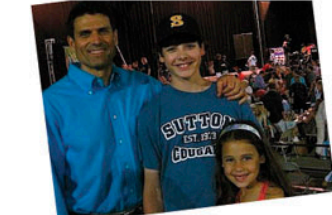
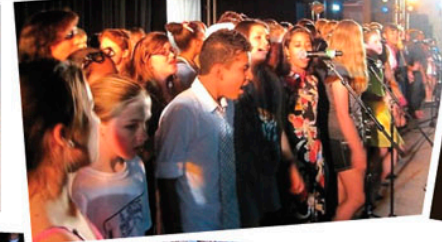
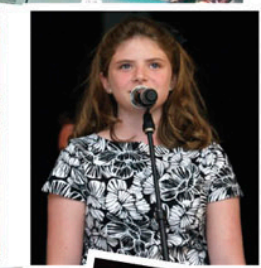
Little Women Drama at Sutton

At a matinee performance on April 25th in the Sutton theatre, Sutton students performed the classic drama of *Little Women*. Thanks to the many persons who helped make the PTA sponsored production a huge success. Many thanks for the support of **Ms. Sofianos, Mr. Simpson**, the play's faculty sponsor, **Mr. Stanley** and PTA co-presidents **Leigh Ann Livaditis and Beth Ryan**. A big thank you to the very involved parents of the actors who chaperoned, did make-up, gathered props, sewed costumes, produced the programs, acted as light engineers and otherwise pitched in to help. Finally, thanks especially to the tireless efforts of **Katie Campassi**, the Oglethorpe University sophomore who directed the show, and **Kim McCauley**, who provided the connection with **Oglethorpe** and moral support throughout. We look forward to many more theatrical productions at Sutton.

Congratulations to the following Sutton actors and crew: **Quadir Cline; Emily Denning; Ellisa Gaul; Joseph Gaul; Michaela Hoekstra; Jiana Justice; Vajraang Kamat; Maggie Neel; Avery O' Callaghan, Margot Palmer; Hannah Pustilnik; Ahmara Smith; Keely Wallace;** and light and sound technicians, **Benjamin Yarmowich and Bailey Palmer.**

~ Joleen Neel

THIS IS WHAT WE'RE
TALKING
ABOUT!



Wellness

The school year may be winding down, but the Wellness Committee is gearing up. Wellness, in terms of school lunches, childhood obesity, and nutrition-related diseases, continues to take center stage on the national and local scenes. Here at Sutton Middle School, the commitment of our parents was fully evident at the last PTA coffee talk when the quality of school lunches was discussed. Specifically, parents expressed concern about the types and quality of food served in the cafeteria. For example, a typical lunch can easily include chocolate milk, pizza, and french-fries. Doesn't sound very nutritious, does it? Although pre-cooked cafeteria food is provided through Atlanta Public Schools (through contract with Sodexo), Sutton Middle School *does* have a voice in the process; and that voice is *your voice*.

You will have the opportunity to learn more about these issues and to voice your concerns at a town-hall meeting with Dr. Marilyn Hughes, the Nutrition Director for APS, on May 18th, at 10:00 a.m. in the Media Center. More information will be forthcoming, but please mark your calendar and plan to attend. As we all know, our children's ability to attend and learn in school is tied directly to the quality of their nutrition. Remember, we can do together what none of us can do alone.

Helpful Hint: When reading labels, try to avoid food products that contain ingredients that you cannot pronounce.

6th Grade Wellness Day — May 19

Parents of 6th Graders: Please send in small water bottles for Wellness Day. We will collect in homerooms until May 19. Thank you.

Mr. Parlier is Retiring



The Sutton Middle School family is honoring **Mr. David Parlier** on his retirement after 27 years of teaching here at Sutton Middle School. Mr. Parlier will be sorely missed. He has influenced thousands of students over his 27 years in more ways than anyone could imagine. Parents and students, past and present, are encouraged to contact **Mr. Parlier** (dparlier@atlanta.k12.ga.us) and let him know how much you appreciate him. Thanks! **Nina Edelstein**

Art Students Recognized

Congratulations go to **Samantha Williams** and **Ana Dodys**, 1st and 3rd Place winners at the APS All City Art Show. Also representing Sutton as best visual artists were: **Katherine Whitehurst**, 8th, **Ayeola Whitworth** 6th, **Mary Beth Walworth** 7th, **Margot Palmer** 7th, **Sierra Lulli** 8th

Thanks to all~ Mr. Smith

Interested in Odyssey of the Mind and Future Problem Solvers Teams?

If you are interested in working with these programs please contact **Leigh Darby** at leighdarby@comcast.net. We are setting the budget now for next year and need to gauge the interest level. Thank you.

Rising 9th Graders - Important Registration Information from North Atlanta High School

Parent(s) or guardians of rising 9th graders need to come to North Atlanta on either May 19 (from 9am.-noon or 2 pm-6 p.m.) OR on May 20 (from 11-2 p.m.) to pick up your child's schedule. In order to do so, you must bring verification that you live in the attendance zone. Please bring a recent GA Power bill, a copy of your lease or mortgage and Immunization, Ear, Eye and Dental forms. Contact **Kelley Day** with questions: kday@atlanta.k12.ga.us

APS Invites You to Attend Dr. Beverly Hall's Fireside Chat for SRT-4

(Our northside cluster makes up a large portion of SRT-4, please attend, ask questions and offer your comments. This is also an opportunity to take a tour of the B.E.S.T. Academy, a single gender middle school for boys.)

Monday May 17
School Tour: 5:30pm
Reception: 6:00pm
Chat: 7pm

The B.E.S.T. Academy at Ben Carson
1890 Donald L. Hollowell Pkwy NW, Atlanta, 30318
For directions: 404-802-4944
Event Information: 404-802-2800

Superintendent Hall and APS officials will present information about initiatives in the areas of curriculum, staffing, training, technology, communications and policies which are designed to improve student learning.

Sports Banquet

Lynn Taylor and **Sherri Calcagno** co-chaired this event and did a great job organizing an enormous potluck dinner for the teams and their families. We appreciate all their hard work to help create this memorable event.

A special thank you goes to **Ms. Kepler** for organizing the awards program! Many outstanding athletes were honored by the coaches and athletic directors but **Zach Brown** took the overall prize with a combination of his impressive athletic ability and a stellar grade point average. That's what we call a true student-athlete.

Congratulations, Zach!

The SMS Cougar Awards signifying leadership, work ethic, good character, and the glue that holds the team together went to:

- Golf – Nathan Katica
- Soccer – Julia Wright / Carlie Perner
- Football – William Crawford
- Cross Country – Tyler Maxey / Jessie Rubini
- Soccer – Omar Ragheb
- Track and Field – Will Harris and Glenn Johnson / Joy Longley
- Baseball – Zach Brown
- Basketball – Taylor Samples and Kennedy Blanchard
- Football Cheerleaders – Mia Kessler
- Basketball – Steven Taylor
- Basketball Cheerleaders – Charlotte McCauley
- Softball – Isabel Quillin
- Step Team – Cianna Eastern

A Record Year for Sutton Families, Teachers Served by PTA

We can't let this year come to a close without a huge **THANK YOU** for all the support our Sutton Families and Teachers have given to the PTA this year. Thanks to your enthusiasm, volunteer hours and donations, our PTA has is completing a record-breaking year in terms of membership and donations!

For the first time in Sutton's 38 year history, our PTA reached 490 in membership! That means your voice is being heard in the legislature, at APS and throughout the community as we work to advocate for our children's education.

But you didn't just join the PTA -- you **GAVE** to support our efforts as well. This year, the Sutton PTA raised almost \$50,000 from our Dues and Donations campaign. This money supports those things that continue to make our school great -- Athletic Programs, Clubs and Extracurricular Activities, Teacher Training, Classroom Supplies, Special Events and Technology Upgrades.

This year, 11 families donated \$1000 or more to the Dues and Donations Campaign, and four families donated more than \$2000. If you can, will you think about joining this important group of donors next year? With record-breaking enrollments forecast, we hope to almost double the amount raised from Dues and Donations for next year and we need your help! You can give stock, donate in installments -- even your business can donate! And it's all tax-deductible. For more information, contact **Julie Salisbury** at salisburyatlanta@aol.com.

During this year's campaign, donors who gave more than \$1000 to the PTA were treated to a special night at the Sutton Showcase. Each family was invited to a special Champagne Thank-You reception, hosted by the Ms. Sofianos and the PTA Board. One of Atlanta's best known caterers, Dennis Dean A Catering Company, donated Chastain picnic baskets to thank these generous families as well. Families who gave \$2000 or more were treated to prime seating at a front row table for six. Don't mix your chance to be part of this important group next year!

America's Favorite School Contest! Voting ends May 21

Please vote for Sutton Middle School—We could use the \$20,000! Please go to <http://www.care2.com/schoolcontest/1300/087/?refer=12274.05.1271949330.936484>.

Sponsored by greatschools.com and care2.com. Must be 18 or older to vote. Please send to your networks and ask them to help support our public middle school. Thank you!

Heroes in the Classroom – Nominate a Deserving SMS Teacher

If you have a great teacher you'd like to nominate, fill out the form here: <http://www.symetra.com/heroes/falcons/nominate.aspx>. The sponsor, Symetra Financial, will begin selecting the winning teachers in August. Sixteen teachers will be selected throughout the football season and will win \$1,000 for their classroom, as well as two tickets to a Falcons home game and honored both in their school and on the field!

Heroes in the Classroom is a teacher recognition program in partnership with the Atlanta Falcons and Symetra Financial Corporation. They are asking for public nominations of teachers (K-12) who show outstanding leadership and instructional skills. Hero selection is based on: (1) Balancing the core curriculum with students' individual needs; (2) building trust among students, parents and the community; and (3) invest in their student's long-term success. The persons who nominate must have some personal knowledge of the teacher. To that end, the nominator must have been a student, parent of a student, co-worker, organization that works with the teacher (such as a PTA or other education advocacy group), etc.

For the teachers who win, Symetra will:

1. Donate \$1,000 to their school
2. Provide 2 tickets to a Falcons home game, with a VIP sideline experience hosted by the Falcons
3. Lead an award presentation at the teacher's school
4. Give a prepaid Office Max card so that the teachers won't have to use their own money on supplies
5. Recognize teachers on the Falcons big screen and a personalized Falcons jersey
6. Provide other gift items.

Communications Guide Posted

In an effort to make connections to the right administrator easier, a reference guide for who to contact when you have a question or issue related to Sutton Middle School can be found here:

<http://suttonmiddleschool.org/Documents/SMS%20Communications%20Guide%202010.xls>

*This is our last full edition of the Source this year. We hope you have enjoyed reading it as much as we have producing it! We'd like to send out a HUGE thank you to our wonderful Source Teammates: **Adriana Angle**--graphic design, **Daniel Howard**--e-blasts and **Andy Cimowsky**--website manager! **Leigh Ann and Beth***



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.](#)