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***Findley Oaks Elementary School***  
***"From Tiny Acorns Grow Mighty Oaks"***

***Lacey Andrews, Principal***  
***Cindy Lamb, Assistant Principal***

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August 18, 2014

Dear Findley Oaks Families,

You may have heard by now that Fulton County Schools became a Charter System in July 2012. This means that each Fulton County school will have more local decision-making authority and the flexibility to implement strategic, personalized educational strategies that meet the needs of their students. Each Charter System school will have a School Governance Council (SGC) that will play a critical role in its success. Each SGC will be comprised of:

- 3 parents/guardians
- 2 teachers
- 2 community members
- 2 school employees
- the principal (non-voting)
- 2 students (high school only, non-voting).

The SGC will work with school leadership and the community to help determine the long-term direction of the school, design innovative solutions to increase academic achievement, and serve as school ambassadors to the local community.

Fulton County Schools has developed a 3-year phase-in for the Charter System, and Findley Oaks Elementary will be joining this school year as a member of "Cohort 3." The 2014-15 school year will serve as a planning year. The election and appointment of School Governance Council members will occur this fall and governance training for SGC members will be provided in spring 2015. Each of the parent/guardian members of the SGC must be elected by the parents/guardians of Findley Oaks Elementary. As a parent/guardian of Findley Oaks Elementary you will have the opportunity to run for an SGC position and/or vote for parent/guardian representatives to serve on our SGC.

At the beginning of the school year district representatives will be hosting community meetings to explain what it means to be a part of the Charter System, the role of the SGC, and the SGC elections process. That meeting will be at Hillside Elementary on September 8, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.. We will also provide information about this process via our school website and our weekly Findley Flyers. We are very excited about our transition into the Charter System and the exciting opportunities that this endeavor will create for our students. In the meantime, if you would like more information about the Charter System or to learn about the experiences of schools in Cohorts 1 and 2, visit <http://www.fultonschools.org/en/about/charter>.

Sincerely,

Lacey Andrews