

# Sandtown Middle School

*Jaguars*  
Failure is not an option, and mediocrity is not the standard.



## *A 2010 Georgia Department of Education Distinguished Title I School*

Kine' Geathers, Principal

Kendrick Liles, Assistant Principal

Doretha Melton, Assistant Principal

Connie Reliford, Assistant Principal



### **Sandtown MS Counselor's Corner**

**Mrs. Manning- 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> (A-L), Mr. Holley- 7<sup>th</sup> (M-Z) & 8<sup>th</sup>,  
Ms. Gay- Graduation Coach**

### **Bullying**

Every day nearly 160,000 children in the U.S. stay home from school because of bullying. Bullying isn't "just part of growing up." It can have a lasting effect on the victim, the bully, the school and the community. Every child deserves an environment where they can develop without fear of aggression or cruelty. Following are some ways parents and adults can help prevent the long lasting effects of bullying.

### **General Prevention Tips:**

1. Spend quality time with your child. Talk and listen to your child.
2. Be a positive role model. Respect others and stand up for yourself when people don't respect you.
3. Teach your child not to be a bystander. Encourage your child to tell the bully to stop, or to walk away and get help from an adult.
4. Help your child feel good about him-or her in a healthy way. Also, encourage your child to set and reach goals
5. Use positive discipline and teach nonviolence. Teach that using violence to solve problems or deal with anger only makes things worse.
6. If you're worried about your child or yourself, seek help from school counselors, school support groups, private therapists or your family health-care provider.

[www.stopbullying.gov](http://www.stopbullying.gov)

## Important Dates to Remember

September 5 <sup>th</sup>	Labor Day, No School
September 6 <sup>th</sup> , 6pm	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum Night
September 7 <sup>th</sup> , 6pm	7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum Night
September 20 <sup>th</sup> , 5pm	LSAC Meeting-Principal's Conference Room
September 20 <sup>th</sup> , 6pm	PTSA Meeting/Principal's State of the School Address
September 20 <sup>th</sup> 6pm	Fulton County Board Meeting @ Dunwoody Springs Charter School

## Important Information for Parents

Fulton County offers MealpayPlus. This is a state-of-the-art online service that offers you the convenience and information you need to manage your student's meal account. This program allows you to make a prepayment into your student's meal account using a credit/debit card. You can also create settings to automatically replenish your student's account when it reaches a low balance.

1. Contact the school to secure your child's Student ID number.
2. Log onto: [www.mealpayplus.com](http://www.mealpayplus.com)
3. Register your child into the K-12 schools meal prepayment system.
4. Or call toll free: 1-866-243-9535 to make a payment over the phone.

For questions or technical support call 1-877-237-0946.

## Notification to Parents of the Screenings & Referral Process for Gifted Services

**The Fulton County School System screens students for eligibility for gifted services twice a year.**

1. **Automatic Screening**—At the beginning of the school year, TAG teachers review previous year's test scores.
  - **Standardized Test:** Students must have a minimum of an 85% and a 90% in two of the 3 areas: Total Reading, Total Math, and Complete Battery.
  - **Criterion-Referenced Competency Test:** Students must score in the top 20% on the reading and mathematics section when compared to all other students in the system.
2. **Classroom Screening**—Local schools select a 2 week period from Jan. 5, 2012—Feb. 29, 2012, to review all students in their school.
  - Classroom teachers use the Characteristics Instrument for Screening Students (CISS) to identify students with superior abilities in 5 or more of the following areas: motivation interest, communication skills, problem-solving abilities, memory, inquiry, insight, reasoning, creativity, and humor. Parents may request to view their child's screening results.

Students who meet either the **automatic screening OR classroom screening criteria** AND who have supporting data gathered from test history, products, and/or advanced content levels are **referred** for gifted placement testing. Once referred to testing:

\*Parents will receive the Parent Notification for Testing Consent Form.

\*Student is tested for gifted program.

\*Parents will receive test results.

**\*If state eligibility is determined, students are placed in the TAG program.**

For more complete information regarding Fulton County Schools Gifted Services, please visit <http://fulton.k12.ga.us/DEPT/curriculum/TAG?index.htm> or contact Amber Hamilton at 404-346-6500

## Fulton County Schools Parent Resources

<http://portal.fultonschools.org/parents/Pages/default.aspx>

It is the policy of Fulton County School Systems not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age or disability, in any employment practice, educational programs or any other program, activity or service. If you wish to make a complaint or request accommodation due to discrimination in any program, activity, or service, contact compliance coordinator, Mr. Ron Wade, 786 Cleveland Ave., SW Atlanta, Georgia 30315 or call (404) 763-4585 TTY 1-800-255-0315.