

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

Parents,

In an effort to improve campus safety, Sandtown Middle School will be undergoing minor parking lot revisions which you will see beginning Monday, October 10, 2011. Specifically, lanes and a crosswalk will be created in the dismissal area. Our hope is that these lanes will provide safe routes for our children to be picked up while controlling the traffic flow. As a friendly reminder, the Speed Limit on campus is 5 mph in the dismissal area. We are also discouraging students from walking to the end of the east parking lot. Our buses load and exit the campus from this area. Your help in discouraging this behavior would be greatly appreciated. All students should be picked up in the designated dismissal lanes. Thank you for your support in making Sandtown Middle School a safer place. Please find attached a map of the new traffic pattern.

Did you know?

SPLOST has funded capital needs in Fulton County Schools since 1997. To accommodate growth of almost 35,000 students SPLOST has funded 37 new schools (with two being built currently) and 28 additions. Past programs were about new schools; however the upcoming SPLOST is about continued investment in our current inventory to maintain optimal conditions for learning. It's also about expanding technology capability of our existing classrooms. Get complete detail about SPLOST IV at fultonschools.org. Direct questions to SPLOSTinfo@fultonschools.org or call us at 404-669-8982.

From the Social Studies Department:

The school Social Studies Fair is right around the corner! Every student has been issued a Social Studies Fair packet and should be in the beginning stages of topic development. It is extremely important for students to follow the timeline. We are looking forward to some very well thought out and interesting topics this year. If you have additional questions concerning your child's Social Studies project, please contact your child's Social Studies teacher or Ms. Kaywana Stewart, Social Studies department chair.

Happy Researching! ☺

Nature and
BULLYING
 prevention of

COUNSELING CORNER -Parents :Please discuss Bullying with your child

Counselors: Mrs. Manning-6th & 7th (A-L) Mr. Holley 7th (M-Z) & 8th

What is Bullying?

Most kids have been teased by a sibling or a friend at some point. And it's not usually harmful when done in a playful, friendly, and mutual way, and both kids find it funny. But when teasing becomes hurtful, unkind, and constant, it crosses the line into bullying and needs to stop.

Bullying is intentional tormenting in physical, verbal, or psychological ways. It can range from hitting, shoving, name-calling, threats, and mocking to extorting money and treasured possessions. Some kids bully by shunning others and spreading rumors about them. Others use email, chat rooms, instant messages, social networking websites, and text messages to taunt others or hurt their feelings.

It's important to take bullying seriously and not just brush it off as something that kids have to "tough out." The effects can be serious and affect kids' sense of self-worth and future relationships. In severe cases, bullying has contributed to tragedies, such as school shootings, suicides, etc.

STATE OF GEORGIA & FULTON COUNTY RULES ON BULLYING

Recently the laws have changed regarding the definition of bullying in school. Several high profile cases have shown the deleterious effects that bullying have on children. Speech or actions that may have once been dismissed as simply teasing or "kids being kids" must now be charged as bullying. The new state definition of bullying (OCGA 20- 2-751.4) is:

1. Any willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another person, when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so;
2. Any intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily injury or harm; or
3. Any intentional written, verbal, or physical act, which a reasonable person would perceive as being intended to threaten, harass, or intimidate, that:
 - Causes another person substantial physical harm within the meaning of Code Section 16-5-23.1 or visible bodily harm as defined in Code Section 16-5-23.1;
 - Substantially interferes with a student's education;
 - Is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening education environment; or
 - Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.
 - Upon finding that a student in grades 6-12 has committed the offense of bullying for the third time in a school year, such student shall be assigned to an alternative school. Retaliation for reports of bullying will not be tolerated and will be subject to independent disciplinary action.

October

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|---|--|--|--|---|---|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| | | | | | UGA Junior Orchestra Fest | |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| | Columbus Day | | | 7am—5pm FBLA/FCCLA Field Trip | 5:00 pm Volleyball vs Paul D. West @ SMS | |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| | Teen Read Week No school- Teacher Workday 6:30pm Linda Bryant Community Mtg. @ McClarín HS | Teen Read Week 5:00pm LSAC mtg. 6pm-7pm PTSA meeting | Teen Read Week 5:00pm Volleyball vs Hapeville @ SMS | Teen Read Week 6:00pm Fulton County Board Mtg. @ DunwoodySprings | Teen Read Week 5:00pm Volleyball vs Bear Creek @ SMS | Orchestra All State Audition MS Tennis Tournament Boys 8:30am Chatt HS Girls 8:30am Taylor Rd |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| | United Nations Day | | 5:00pm Volleyball vs Renaissance MS @ RMS | | 5:00pm Volleyball vs Woodland @ WMS | |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |