

# 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

### ***From the Media Center:***

Volunteers interested in helping in the media center, please contact Ms. Dumas at [dumas@fultonschools.org](mailto:dumas@fultonschools.org)

Also, go to <http://www.afpls.org/afplsservices/library-cards> and sign up for a library card from the Atlanta-Fulton County Library System.



### **Three town hall meetings set for charter system model**

Three town hall meetings will be held in early October regarding the Fulton County School System's proposed charter system model. Each will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the school's auditorium or cafeteria.

- October 3      Milton Center      (86 School Drive, Alpharetta)
- October 5      Lake Forest Elementary School      (5920 Sandy Springs Circle, Sandy Springs)
- October 6      Westlake High School      (2400 Union Road SW, Atlanta)

The meetings will give the community an update about the charter system process as well as an opportunity to ask questions and give feedback. To learn more about the process, ask a question, or leave an online comment, please visit the Exploring Fulton as a Charter System website at <http://www.fultonschools.org/CharterSystem>.



# SPLOST IV

**Refresh. Rebuild. Renew.**

## ***Fulton County School System SPLOST Referendum***

**An extension of the current sales tax • Not a property tax increase •  
Everyone contributes, including visitors**

Fulton County School System has called for a referendum for citizens to consider the continuation of a Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST). SPLOST has funded capital needs in the Fulton County School System since 1997. Previous SPLOST programs have funded 37 new schools, 28 school additions and multiple projects such as roof replacement, HVAC renovations, floor covering replacements, surveillance camera installations and playfield enhancements.

A significant portion of SPLOST IV will be dedicated to school level and system wide enhancement of technology. SPLOST IV goes beyond bricks and mortar by funding new computers for students and teachers, distance learning in all high schools and high speed networks and Internet access. Other technology items will be incorporated to enhance student learning and provide teachers with the resources for the 21st century classroom.

Past programs have focused primarily on new schools construction due to overcrowding and to reduce the use of portables as classroom space. SPLOST IV is a little different as it will focus on renewal of existing classrooms – that includes renovations, renewal, and replacement, which comprises approximately 71% of the proposed construction budget. This program is about continued investment in our current buildings to maintain optimal conditions for learning.

In addition, SPLOST reduces debt from previous bonds, purchases furniture and equipment and replaces school buses.

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### **Voting Day**

Tuesday, November 8, 2011

7:00 a.m. to 7 p.m.

To find your location visit <http://www.fultoncountyga.gov/registration-elections>

<http://www.fultonschools.org/SPLOST4/Default.aspx>

Nature and  
**BULLYING**  
 prevention of

**COUNSELING CORNER** -Parents Please discuss Bullying with your child

**Counselors: Mrs. Manning-6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> (A-L) Mr. Holley 7<sup>th</sup> (M-Z) & 8<sup>th</sup>**

**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 <i>After 3 CRCT prep begins</i>	4	5 <i>5:00pm Soccer vs McNair MS @ SMS</i>	6 <i>6:30pm Charter Town Hall Meeting@ Westlake HS</i>	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 <i>5:00 pm Volleyball vs Paul D. West @ SMS</i>	15
16	17 <i>Teen Read Week No school- Teacher Workday 6:30pm Linda Bryant Community Mtg. @ McClarín HS</i>	18 <i>Teen Read Week</i>	19 <i>Teen Read Week 5:00pm Volleyball vs Hapeville @ SMS</i>	20 <i>Teen Read Week 6:00pm Fulton County Board Mtg. @ DunwoodySprings</i>	21 <i>Teen Read Week 5:00pm Volleyball vs Bear Creek @ SMS</i>	22
23	24	25	26 <i>5:00pm Volleyball vs Renaissance MS @ RMS</i>	27	28 <i>5:00pm Volleyball vs Woodland @ WMS</i>	29
30	31					

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