



**Dodgen's Partners
In Education**

**Kroger@Shallow-
ford, Dawn Hawkins**

**Wellstar, Charlotte
Hayes**

**Dr. Mark Johnson,
DMD,MS**

**The UPS Store@
Merchants Festival,
David Goodwill**



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Message from the PTSA President. Welcome to an exciting year at Dodgen Middle

As I watched the students arriving at school on the first day it brought to mind how quickly these middle years go. I hope each and every one of us can savor these moments as we watch our children grow, face new challenges, and continue to develop their unique personalities.

Our wonderful faculty and staff at Dodgen worked tirelessly to prepare for Meet and Greet and the first day of school. Clearing construction dust, maneuvering new hallways and getting their classrooms set up in record time...quite an accomplishment!

I would like to thank all the PTSA volunteers and Board Members who assisted with Meet and Greet. What a team!

The PTSA General Meetings will be held prior to the Open Houses on September 13 and 15 at 6:30pm. We will be presenting the budget at the September 13 meeting for review and approval by the membership. Please support your PTSA and attend these important meetings.

There is still time to join PTSA. Our local and state membership teams have some wonderful incentives for you upon joining. Your PTSA Membership is more than just a card...it is a voice for all children through local, state and national initiatives. All that for only \$3.50, less than a large cup of gourmet coffee!

Volunteer opportunities are available in many areas. Stop by the PTSA area at Open House and I am sure you will find something in your area of interest. Parental involvement strengthens your child's middle school experience and has proven to increase student achievement. An added bonus is that you will surely enjoy the interaction with our Dodgen students, staff and families.

Dale Carnegie said, "People rarely succeed unless they have fun in what they are doing". Join the fun at Dodgen and see the success!

Mary L. Winther, President
Dodgen PTSA

Wow! We Have Had A Grand Opening to The 2005-2006 School Year

Principal's Letter

The massive construction/renovation project at Dodgen is now about seventy-five percent complete. Students and parents toured the beautiful new facility during Meet and Greet on Monday, August 8. I know that teachers, parents, and students share my excitement as together we look forward to utilizing the full potential of our facility.

Recently, all schools in the state received the results of the spring administration of the Criterion Referenced Competency Test (CRCT). CRCTs are designed to measure how well students have mastered the content and skills that are a part of Georgia's required curriculum. All middle school students participate in the CRCT assessment. Based on performance, students' scores

are classified into one of three levels. Students who score 300 or better have achieved grade level proficiency and met learning expectations in the content area. Students who score 350 or better have exceeded learning expectations in the content area. And students who score below 300 do not meet learning expectations. Dodgen Middle School students did quite well on this assessment. Ninety-seven percent of students in language arts, and ninety-six percent in math, either met or exceeded standards in the sixth grade on the 2004-2005 CRCT. Seventh grade students met or exceeded standards in language arts and math at ninety-eight and ninety-six percent, respectively.

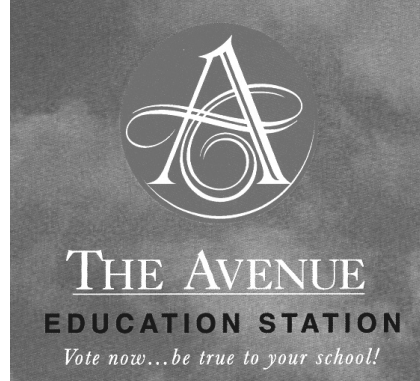
Lastly, ninety-seven percent of students in language arts, and ninety-four percent of students in math met or exceeded standards in the eighth grade.

Please Turn To Page 3

Help Dodgen PTSA Win \$1500 for Educational Enrichment

Every vote counts so call up your friends

Did you see the bold blue flier in your first day packets? It's simple. Send your friends and families to the Avenue in September to vote! The Middle School that receives the most votes will win \$1500. You can look for the Bright Red Avenue logo in participating store windows or you can vote online at www.theavenuealist.com <<http://www.theavenuealist.com>> . Every vote counts so call up your friends and get them to vote for Dodgen Middle School!



East Cobber Parade and Festival - September 17

Cheer on our Principal, Mr. Snell and Teacher of the Year, Patti Smith as they ride the parade route at the East Cobber Parade on Saturday, September 17 at 10am. Special thanks to Pat Giuliani for providing the transport for our Dodgen VIP's.

Also joining Dodgen in the parade will be the state "Education Go Get It Team" in support of Dodgen's new GO Center.

School Store is Up and Running New Location

The Dodgen School Store is up and running and ready for business!! We are open every morning from 8:40 to 9:10. We are now located directly across from the entrance to the Orchestra room or just past the Band room as you come in from the buses. We have Vocab books, book covers, and TONS of school supplies. So as you run out of supplies and need more come see us.

2005 Georgia PTA Advocacy Legislative Conference

- Friday, September 16, 2005
- 8:30 - 2:00 pm
- State Capitol, Atlanta

If you are interested in attending go to www.georgiapta.org <<http://www.georgiapta.org>> to register and please let me know if you are attending.

2005-2006 Reflections Program -

"I Wonder Why....."

Reflections is a Cultural Arts Program sponsored by National PTA, seeking new pieces of artwork inspired by the theme. Entries must be student's original work. All entries will be judged at the local school level. Selected entries will then move on to county level, state level and possibly national level for recognition.

Students may enter any (one or more) of the four categories, as many times as they like.

Literature: Fictional or non-fictional short stories, prose, and poetry, drama or song lyrics

Musical Composition: A cappella or instrumental, with or without lyrics

Photography: Original photographs taken by the student.

Visual Arts: Includes drawing, painting, prints, collage, fiber work, etching or computer generated art.

Deadline for entries at Dodgen Middle School is Friday, October 28.

Please encourage your student to participate in this program. Don't forget the theme is "I wonder why.....". Be watching for participation form information.

New National PTA Resolution: Bullying

As bullying is often a problem affecting middle schoolers, we would like to share with you this National PTA Resolution. This is one example of how your PTA membership dues support national initiatives.

Three new resolutions were passed at the National convention this year. The first addressed the problem of bullying, a pervasive issue that has gone unchallenged too long.

National PTA resolved to:

Support policies and programs that address the prevention, intervention, and elimination of bullying; to endeavor, via educational literature,

programs, and projects for parents, students, and school personnel; to bring about an atmosphere of zero tolerance for bullying behavior, and an attitude that bullying behavior is unacceptable and will not be tolerated in homes, schools, playgrounds, buses, school activities, or any place children congregate; and to work with the appropriate agencies and organizations in a national effort to inform the general public about the risks and cost of bullying for both the bully and the target, as well as those who witness bullying, and bring about a change in societal attitudes towards bullying.

Principal's Letter From cover

As principal at Dodgen Middle School, I am very proud to be working with teachers who dedicate themselves to the task of providing exceptional learning opportunities for students. It is also gratifying to observe the commitment of parents who understand that involvement in their child's education helps to ensure their success. The 2005-2006 school year will be awesome.

Upcoming Events

- September 12, PTSA Board Meeting, 9:30am Media Center
- September 12 , 13, 14. ITBS/CoGat Testing - 8th Grade
- September 13 -PTSA General Meeting 6:30pm
- Open House at 7 - 8pm, 6th grade
- September 15 - PTSA General Meeting 6:30 pm
- Open House at 7-8pm, 7th and 8th grade
- September 15 Dodgen Dateline Deadline
- September 17 East Cobber Parade and Festival
- September 21 Early Release Dismissal at 2:15pm
- September 22 6th Grade Dance 4:15-6pm
- October 5 Early Release - Dismissal 2:15pm
- October 6 7th Grade Dance -4:15-6pm
- October 10 PTSA Board Meeting 9:30am Media Center
- October 12 Go Center Ribbon Cutting 5-6pm
- October 14 Teacher Workday - No School
- October 17-21 Conference week. Dismissal at 2:15pm
- October 24-28 Red Ribbon Week
- October 25 9th District PTA Fall Conference
- October 26 Teacher of the Year Pep Rally
- October 28 Reflections Entries due

Dodgen (6th grade) dance
September 22 4:15 - 6 PM

SMART Fair needs YOU!!!

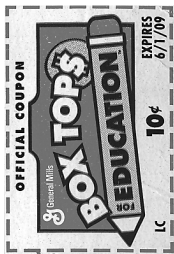
On Thursday, December 22nd the Dodgen PTSA will be hosting the 5th annual SMART Fair for the students. SMART fair stands for Science, Math, Art, Reading and Technology where the students stay with their home-room class and rotate through four 45 minutes hands on activities involving one of the above mentioned subject. We invite local college professors, High Touch - High Tech, Southern Order of Storytelling, The Art Place, The Math Doctor, Mad Scientist and the parents to be our presenters.

We are in need of parents to come and facilitate a class, to assist in the classroom on this day and to help prepare salads to feed our presenters. If you are able to help in any of these areas please contact Pat Giuliani, jimpatgiul@aol.com so she can get the schedule completed. The SMART Fair will start after homeroom and normally is finished by 1:00 so you would still have time to get to the elementary school for the holiday party.

Let me know if you can help we need YOU!!!

Pat Giuliani
7-971-2034
jimpatgiul@aol.com

Box Tops Drawing



On Thursday, October 6th, a Borders Books gift card will be given away in a random drawing. How do you enter? Just clip off and turn in a Box Tops for Education logo with your name and grade written on the back. One Box Top logo equals one entry. Enter as often as you like. For a complete listing of products, go to www.boxtops4education.com. The drop-off container is located outside the front office. The next drawing will be on Thursday, November 17th.

Printer Cartridges And Cell Phones



Dodgen participates in recycling programs for empty printer cartridges and old cell phones. Just drop them in the box located in the Media Center.

Use Your Groceries To Help Support Dodgen



Everyone should have received a new Publix Partners card for Dodgen. Let Publix scan it every time you shop there and they will give Dodgen a cash rebate. If you didn't get one, there will be some in the front office or you can contact Boo Gibson at (770)565-9812.



Kroger has changed their commitment requirements. We have a Kroger parent letter that has Dodgen's bar code on it. Take it to your Kroger store and they will connect this code to your Kroger Plus Card so you don't have to show them two things. How easy is that? You can pick up this letter at the front office or you can contact Boo Gibson at (770) 565-9812.

Dodgen PTSA Receives Mini- Grant

Dodgen PTSA has been awarded a Mini- Grant in the amount of \$500 from the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. The grant money is to be used for the Education GO Get it Campaign. Dodgen is the first school in Cobb County to establish a GO Center.

"GO" is a statewide initiative that strives to enable and motivate all Georgia students to reach their potential through education.

A ribbon cutting ceremony for our GO Center in Dodgen's Media Center is scheduled for Wednesday, October 12, 5-6pm. More details will be provided in next Dateline.

For more information about this initiative, go to www.georgiago.org <<http://www.georgiago.org/>> and www.GAcollge411.org <<http://www.gacollge411.org/>> .

DODGEN MIDDLE SCHOOL
1725 BILL MURDOCK ROAD
MARIETTA, GA 30062

Dodgen PTSA is funded by donations only. You have received a donation letter in your child's first day folder. Please take a moment to read the letter and help support vital programs for our students. Thank you to those of you who have already shown your support.

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 MARIETTA, GA