



DODGEN DATELINE

Dodgen Middle School PTSA
1725 Bill Murdock Road
Marietta, GA 30062
www.dodgenptsa.org

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Summer, 2006

Dodgen's Partners In Education

Kroger @ Shallowford,
Dawn Hawkins



Dr. Mark Johnston,
DMD, MS



The UPS Store @
Merchants Festival,
David Goodwill



**National
PTA[®]**

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Panther Day Scheduled!

Dodgen's Fall Meet and Greet
Thursday, August 10th
12:00-5:30pm

Suggested times for grade level visits are:

Sixth Grade: 12:00-1:30pm

Seventh Grade: 2:00-3:30pm

Eighth Grade: 4:00-5:30pm

If you are unable to make the suggested time, please visit at your convenience between 12:00 and 5:30 pm.

Come to Panther Day to prepare for the first day of school and the entire school year! You will be able to:

- meet your home room teacher,
- find out your pod assignment,
- vote for the parent representative to school council,
- get vision screened (only seventh grade and students new to Cobb schools will be tested),
- get yearbook/school pictures taken - please dress accordingly, and
- set up or replenish lunch accounts.

The PTSA will be there to help you:

- enroll to receive Dodgen E-Messages,
- purchase spirit wear,
- purchase vocabulary books,
- purchase a Dodgen magnet,
- purchase book covers,
- purchase school calendars,
- order school directories and provide information to be listed in the directory,
- order 2006-2007 yearbooks at a \$5 discount,
- pick up Publix Partners card and Kroger scan sheet,
- join PTSA, and
- make a donation to PTSA.

You can use the enclosed pre-order form to help the PTSA be prepared and to speed you through many of the lines. Complete the form and return it along with your check made payable to Dodgen PTSA to the office no later than July 15. All of your supplies will be ready for pick up on Panther Day!

From the PTSA Co-Presidents:

Learning Today.....Leading Tomorrow

Welcome to Dodgen for the 2006-2007 school year. The summer passes much too quickly, and we want to be sure you have all the information for the pre-school start events. Mr. Snell's letter indicates the time and date for "Panther Day," formerly called Meet and Greet. We look forward to meeting the new families and welcoming back those who have previously attended Dodgen.

"Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow" is the theme for PTSA this year. Our goal is to increase student involvement in PTSA, thus providing leadership training for our students. Our theme, combined with Dodgen's School theme, "Learning Today, Succeeding Tomorrow" clearly demonstrates the focus of Dodgen Middle School. Dodgen's success is seen in the academic and social development of our outstanding student population. School clubs, academic teams and our outstanding music programs provide life learning experience for our students. This could not be accomplished without dedicated teachers, administrators and parents.

You will find enclosed in this newsletter a pre-order form for PTSA and school items. Save time and order now! Students at Dodgen are required to have a vocabulary book. Spirit wear items are great for the PE classes and you surely won't want to be without a calendar and directory. Sign up for E-message and receive the most current news and announcements from Dodgen.

Dodgen PTSA supports all programs through your donations and not through fundraising sales. These donations provide educational enrichment for our children and support programs not funded by the state or county.

We encourage all parents and students to join PTSA and be an active part of the organization. Volunteer forms are available, and there is something for everyone! Your PTSA Membership is a voice for all children. For only \$3.50, you not only join the Dodgen PTSA, you also become a member of Georgia PTA and National PTA. It is your voice for all children through advocacy.

A very special thank you is extended to all of you who have agreed to serve as a PTSA Committee Chairs and Officers. What a team!

List our website, www.dodgenptsa.org, as one of your "favorites" for more information and to keep abreast of events and activities. You can link to the Dodgen School website from there. Don't miss Mr. Snell's blog for some great photos and articles about events at Dodgen. You can email us with any questions via the website for a quick response or contact us by telephone.

For all the children,
Nancy Van Sloaten
 president@dodgenptsa.org
 Co-Presidents, Dodgen PTSA

Mary Winther

Dodgen PTSA Needs You!

We already have a great group of volunteers on our Board. Come join us! We need chairs for the following committees:

- Appropriations - because teachers need things
- Donations - because we needs things
- Environmental/Recycling - help save the planet
- Reporters & Advertisers - showcase kids' talents
- School Club Liaison - stay informed, inform others
- Staff Appreciation - because we need them!

You'll make new friends, learn leadership skills, and stay "in the know" about Dodgen. You'll also get a cool name tag and be able to embarrass your children when they see you at school. How great is that?

Run, don't walk, to your computer and email Nancy Van Sloaton or Mary Winther, president@dodgenptsa.org, or Kate Maloney, secretary@dodgenptsa.org and tell them you don't want to miss out on these opportunities to get involved!

From the Principal:

The 2005-2006 school year was a very good one indeed. No time for nostalgia, however, because the 2006-2007 school year is at our doorstep, and it promises to be more exciting than ever. The Dodgen Middle School staff is so happy to welcome our neighbors and students from the subdivisions of Chelsea Park, East Hampton, Fox Hollow, Glenside, Heritage Trace, Hidden Hollow, Indian Ridge, Karsans Place, Manor Oaks, Mitsy Forest, North Forest, Plantation Place, Robinson Farms, Robinson Walk, Sumpter Ridge, Tuscany Park, and Wyntergreen. Also new to Dodgen will be six outstanding veteran teachers. In alphabetical order they are Will Duda, Cheryl Jones, David Nadelhoffer, Nancy Olson, Marianne Pomponio, Bethany Stevens, and Sally Sullivan. Our new students and staff will help Dodgen continue its tradition of excellence.

The date for our Meet and Greet is **Thursday, August 10**. The hours will be from **12:00-5:30pm**. We hope to accomplish several objectives during this extended time frame. Lifetouch photography will be on hand to take student pictures. We also plan to get as many vision screenings done as possible. The idea is to take care of some of the tasks before school starts so that there is less instructional time lost during the school year. Suggested times for grade level visits are:

Sixth Grade: 12:00-1:30pm
 Seventh Grade: 2:00-3:30pm
 Eighth Grade: 4:00-5:30pm

If you are not able to visit during these suggested times, you may visit at your convenience between the hours of 12:00-5:30pm. This flexible time should allow parents with students at both middle and elementary schools to visit both. Also, we will need plenty of volunteers to work shifts during this lengthy time period. If you can help, please contact one of these PTSA volunteer coordinators: Terry Clark: 770-509-3900, tclark4640@aol.com or Donna Fernandez: 770-578-9501, dandff@bellsouth.net.

Lastly, as I am sure you are aware, the A+ Education Reform Act of 2000 established School Councils in Georgia. Our School Council is comprised of two parents, two teachers, two business members, and the principal. One of our parents will be rotating off of the Council so it will be necessary to elect a replacement. Parents and guardians of children who are enrolled at Dodgen Middle School are invited to nominate a parent or guardian who would be interested in serving on our School Council. Nominations for the Dodgen School Council for the 2006-2007 school year will be accepted from now until August 4, 2006. The election ballot will be created on August 4, 2006, to include the names of nominees. Any name submitted as a nominee after August 4, 2006 will have to be entered as a write-in candidate. The School Council election will take place at the school on Thursday, August 10, 2006, from 9:00am-5:30pm. In order to vote, you must be the parent or guardian of a child who will be attending Dodgen Middle School during the 2006-2007 school year. Visit the school's web site: <http://www.cobbk12.org/~dodgen> for additional information about our school. Be sure to click on the snail picture to visit my web log. I look forward to an outstanding school year.

Jim Snell

Orientation for Students New to Dodgen

We are offering an optional orientation/activity day for students who will be new to Dodgen Middle School for the 2006-2007 school year. The last summer orientation will be held **July 21 from 9:00am-1:00pm**. Lunch will be provided. Students will have an opportunity to learn more about the school and make new friends. This orientation session is **not** required. Registration forms are available at the front office, or you can download one on the PTSA website www.dodgenptsa.org. Click on the link on the right hand side of the page that says "click here to register." Please fax or hand in the registration form to the front office no later than **July 14**.

Honor Roll Additions

Lauren S. was inadvertently not listed on the seventh grade Principal's honor roll for the third nine weeks. And Patrick B. also in seventh grade, was omitted from the academic honor roll section. Congratulations to both of them, and we apologize for the delay recognizing them.

Reflections Update

National PTA will be expanding the Reflections Program to include *dance choreography and film/video production* this year.

Reflections is an annual program occurring each fall. Students can submit original art, photography, literature and music compositions and now dance choreography and film/video productions. Entries are judged at school level, then ECCC PTA Council level and then to State and National. This is a great opportunity for your child to showcase his or her talents. For further information on the Reflections program visit www.georgiapta.org. Applications will be available at Dodgen in September. Start thinking ahead!

2006-2007 Reflections Theme - "*My Favorite Place*"

Would you like to win \$100?

National PTA is looking for a theme for its Reflections Program for 2008-2009. This year's theme is "My Favorite Place". The student who submits the winning entry will receive \$100, and his or her theme will be presented at the 2007 National PTA Convention. Forms are available in the front office and are due on or before September 22.

Dodgen Band Welcomes Sixth Grade Families

All new sixth grade students are invited to become a member of the Dodgen Band. We have over 300 students in our program, and they have achieved local, state, and international recognition for their accomplishments. The Dodgen Band was featured in the August 2005 issue of the international music magazine "The Instrumentalist." All Dodgen Bands have earned straight superior ratings at the annual Georgia Music Educators Association Performance Evaluation in both concert and sight reading for many years. Our Band program supports eight additional ensembles: a Flute Choir, Clarinet Choir, Saxophone Choir, Low Brass Choir, Trumpet Choir, Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Band, and a German Band. These ensembles provide music for events throughout the East Cobb community, Atlanta, and Alpine Helen, Georgia. As a result of the tremendous growth of the program over the past eight years, the Band has recently moved into a completely new state-of-the art facility to accommodate projected growth and can comfortably house a band program of over 450 students! Please visit our band website at www.cobbk12.org/~dodgen/band/band-home.html and take a virtual tour of our new band facility. You will find much more valuable information on the website which will help you in making the decision to become a member of our band family. Please contact me at charles.jackson@cobbk12.org if I can assist you in any way or answer any questions about the Dodgen Band program. Have a safe and enjoyable summer and I look forward to working with your children in the fall.

Dodgen Orchestra Selected to Perform at GMEA

Dodgen Eighth Grade Orchestra has been selected to perform at the 2007 G.M.E.A. (Georgia Music Educators Association) In-Service Conference in Savannah, on January 25-27, 2007 at the Savannah International Trade and Convention Center. The actual performance date and time is Thursday, January 25 at 1:45pm. This is an enormous honor for all of us! The students worked so hard to make the CD to submit for this event, and their hard worked paid off. Dodgen is the only Cobb County middle school orchestra selected to perform at this event, and one of only three middle schools from around the entire state that will perform.

2006 Pope Junior Volleyball Clinic/Tryouts

Calling all sixth, seventh and eighth grade girls interested in volleyball. On July 31st - August 4th from 9:00-11:00am at Hightower Trail Gym, there will be a volleyball clinic/tryout. Cost is \$50 and includes a t-shirt. To register or find out additional information, please contact Jennifer Weber jennifer.weber@cobbk12.org.

Dodgen Spirit Wear

Be sure to stop by the Spirit Wear table in the cafeteria at Panther Day on August 10. See the new t-shirt and hooded sweat shirt being offered this year. We will also have the new car magnets and great new nylon bags. The P.E. department requires students to change shirts for P.E. What better way to show your school spirit than with a Dodgen t-shirt? The new bags are a great way to take home those new shirts for washing.

Send in your pre-order form today. Deadline for pre-orders is July 15. Pre-orders may be picked up at the Spirit Wear table on Panther Day. We will have additional inventory available for purchase, so if you miss the deadline or want to pick up additional shirts, stop by!

Coming Soon to an Inbox Near You...!

The Dodgen PTSA presents e-Message. This service is used to email Dodgen PTSA reminders, happenings, and general information. There are two ways to subscribe to this service: 1) Enter your email address(es) on the **enclosed Dodgen PTA pre-order form**. Additional forms will be available on Panther Day if you miss the preorder deadline. 2) **Go to the Dodgen PTSA website** www.dodgenptsa.org and submit your email address via our form (not available yet, but coming soon).

2006-2007 Yearbook Sale

Dodgen's 2006-07 yearbooks go on sale August 10 during Panther Day/Meet and Greet. Our yearbooks are full color with equal representation of all grades. The "August Special" is \$30 with a \$5 increase in September. Stop by the yearbook table, look over last year's book, and place your order to take advantage of this discount.

Book Cover Sale

The School Store will be selling cloth stretch book covers this year at Panther Day/Meet and Greet. The cost is \$2.00 per cover. The extremely popular collegiate book covers will be on sale again this year as a special order for \$3.00 (most of your favorite college teams will be available). Please support your Dodgen PTSA and purchase your book covers from us. While they may be a little more expensive than those at local stores, they are MUCH better quality, fit ALL sized books, and purchasing through us supports our PTSA! You may pre-order book covers on the enclosed form. If you want collegiate book covers, you will need to order them on Panther Day. Come to the cafeteria and check out the huge selection we have available. Support PTSA while showing team spirit for your favorite colleges.

Join the Book Club

Do you like to read? Do you enjoy discussing books with your friends? Join the Dodgen Book Club. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Borders Café at The Avenue. Book Club members select two books for each month, and Mrs. Klodnicki, Dodgen's Media Center Specialist, selects a third book. Kids can read any one or any combination of these three books. We also spend some time recommending other books we've read.

Our first meeting of the year will be held on **Tuesday, August 22, 2006, 4:15-5:00pm** in the Dodgen Media Center. This will be an organizational meeting.

Watch for information in the Media Center, on the Dodgen PTSA website, and through your homeroom teacher.

Walton Junior Raider Football Openings

Walton Jr. Raider Football 2006-2007 season is about to begin! We are still looking for a few good men! The sixth grade team still has a few openings. All skill levels are welcome! Summer camps start soon with a summer conditioning program starting in July. Regular season practice will start in August. If you are interested please contact Team Mom Bambi Wolcott at bambi_wolcott@yahoo.com or 770-578-1994. Players will need 2 copies of their birth certificate, completed application and a check for \$195. Go Walton!

Dodgen Middle School

2006 - 2007 Supply List

Sixth Grade

1 - 3-inch 3 ring binder
 Loose leaf notebook paper -wide lines
 Post-It-Note paper (3x3)
 2 one-subject spiral notebooks
 2 pkgs. 5 tab subject dividers
 3 pocket folders with brads
 1 box #2 pencils (not mechanical)
 Blue and/or black ball point pens
 3 dry erase markers - black
 Highlighters
 1 pkg. colored markers
 Red marking pen
 1 pkg. colored pencils
 Pencil pouch
 Protractor
 Ruler, metric and English

Seventh Grade

1 - 3-inch 3 ring binder
 Loose leaf notebook paper
 1 box #2 pencils (not mechanical)
 Blue and/or black ball point pens
 Several red ball point pens
 3 pkgs. 5 tab subject dividers
 1 pkg. colored pencils
 1 black/white composition notebook
 1 subject spiral notebooks
 Highlighters
 White board markers
 1 small white board eraser
 2 rolls of scotch tape
 1 large glue stick
 1 pair of scissors

Eighth Grade

1 pkg. blue or black ball point pens
 1 pkg. red or green ball point pens
 1 box #2 pencils (not mechanical)
 1 pkg. colored pencils
 1 pkg. colored markers
 2 pkgs. Graph paper
 4 pkgs. 5 tab subject dividers
 4 pkgs. Loose leaf notebook paper
 1 - 2-inch 3 ring binder
 1 - 1-inch 3 ring binder
 2 black/white composition notebook
 1 ruler
 4 dry erase markers

Other helpful items (all grades):

Book covers
 Thesaurus

Dictionary
 Inexpensive calculator

Index cards
 1 box of tissues

Summer Reading Selections

Rising Sixth Grade 2006

Read **two** of the following selections:

Penultimate Peril by Lemony Snicket
Martin the Warrior (Redwall series) by Brian Jacques
Black Beauty by Anna Sewell
 **House of the Scorpion* by Nancy Farmer

*Advanced learning program students **must** read the book with an asterisk* beside it and then choose one other.

Rising Seventh Grade 2006

Read **two** of the following selections:

Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick
The Watsons Go to Birmingham by Christopher Paul Curtis
The Outsiders by S. E. Hinton
 **The Call of the Wild* by Jack London

*Advanced learning program students **must** read the book with an asterisk* beside it and then choose one other.

Rising Eighth Grade 2006

Read **two** of the following selections:

**Mythology* by Edith Hamilton
 **Plain Speaking* by Merle Miller
 **Longitude* by Dava Sobel
 **Rise to Rebellion* by Jeff Shaara
American Plague by Jim Murphy
Ann of Green Gables by Lucy Maude Montgomery

Revenge of the Whale by Nathaniel Philbrick
Fever 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson
Under the Persimmon Tree by Suzanne Fisher Staples
Eyes of the Emperor by Graham Salisbury

Advanced learning program students must choose two books with an asterisk.

Students are required to either take a test on the books read or do a project. For complete details, please visit the PTSA website www.dodgenptsa.org and click on "Required Summer Reading."

Support the Dodgen PTSA

Did you know the Dodgen PTSA gets its money from direct donations? The PTSA never asks you or your children to sell anything. Just think, no more wrapping paper, chocolates, cookies or popcorn to try to sell to friends or buy yourself! Please show your support of this decision by giving generously to the Dodgen PTSA. It takes money to pay for the many programs and activities the PTSA provides. When you complete your Panther Day pre-order form, please make a generous contribution. Remember, it's for your children and your school, and it's tax-deductible! Many employers match contributions, so don't forget to ask.

Dodgen Night at Mama Fu's

Tuesday, August 15, 4:00-8:00pm

For a back to school treat, meet your Dodgen friends for dinner at Mama Fu's Asian House restaurant on **Tuesday, August 15**. From 4:00-8:00pm, Mama Fu's will donate 15% of your bill to Dodgen PTSA. Simply place your receipts with DODGEN written on the back in the fish bowl located by the cash register. Mama Fu's is located at 1084 Johnson Ferry Road, in the Publix Shopping Center.



Thanks for supporting Mama Fu's and your Dodgen PTSA!

Support PTSA While Shopping and Recycling

Do you have a Publix Partner card? Every time you shop at Publix, have the cashier scan the card. A percentage of your purchase will be donated by Publix to Dodgen. Have you picked up the Kroger Earning Plus Learning letter and linked Dodgen to your Kroger Plus Card? This one is even easier. Just take the letter to Kroger with your Kroger Plus Card. One scan of both and your Kroger Plus Card will always earn money for Dodgen. Publix Partners cards and Kroger Earning Plus Learning Letters will be available in the cafeteria on Panther Day. Pick them up and use it when you shop!

Dodgen PTSA also recycles empty printer cartridges and used cell phones. Just drop them in the box located in the media center.

Volunteers Needed

School Store

Looking for a way to get involved but don't want a huge commitment??? Then the School Store is the PERFECT place for you. This volunteer position only requires 30 minutes ONCE A MONTH!! As a school store volunteer, you choose the day (same day each month) and then you work from 8:40 to 9:10 selling school supplies to the kids. It's that simple!! Great way for those new to Dodgen to get involved, learn the ropes, contribute to your child's school without a huge time commitment AND.....IT'S FUN because you get to see and interact with ALL the kids. Want to know more or volunteer call Sharon Maples president@dodgenpts.org.

Junior Achievement

We need your enthusiasm, life experience and willingness to teach. Junior Achievement provides the training and curriculum. You will be provided easy-to-follow lesson plans and activities on the Global (International) Marketplace. There are no extensive hours of preparation.

The program will likely run from mid-January through February. There will be four to five weekly sessions, each one hour in duration. You will enjoy this opportunity to interact with Dodgen students and it's an outstanding educational experience for the seventh grade students.

Contact Susan Petersen at president@dodgenpts.org for further

information and/or to sign up. Please give your name, student's name and grade, and telephone number(s).

Panther Day

The August 10 Meet & Greet at Dodgen will officially be called Panther Day. PTSA needs your help to make it live up to its name! We need cashiers to take orders and payments, and lots of helpers to guide newcomers, answer questions, distribute Spirit Wear, and generally make the day go smoothly. Please e-mail Donna Gillen treasurer@dodgenpts.org, with your availability or questions. We appreciate our volunteers!

Dates to Remember

July 14	Deadline for registering for orientation
July 15	Deadline for pre-ordering Panther Day supplies
July 18	Georgia Primary Election
July 21	New student orientation 9:00am-1:00pm
July 27	New student registration
August 7	PTSA Teachers' Breakfast
August 10	Panther Day (Meet and Greet) 12:00-5:30pm
August 14	First Day of School
August 15	Dodgen Night at Mama Fu's 4:00-8:00pm
August 16	PTSA Board Meeting 9:30am Media Center Meeting Room
August 22	Book Club Meeting, Media Center 4:15-5:00pm
August 29	Open House and PTSA Meeting for Sixth Grade families 6:30pm
August 29	ECCC PTA General Meeting/Priority Fair
August 31	Open House and PTSA Meeting for Seventh and Eighth Grade Families 6:30pm

Websites and Emails

Dodgen Middle School

www.cobbk12.org/~dodgen

Use the snail on the right to get to Mr. Snell's blog.

Dodgen PTSA

www.dodgenptsa.org

Cobb County Schools

www.cobb.k12.ga.us/

Georgia PTA

www.georgiapta.org

National PTA

www.pta.org

Emails for Dodgen PTSA

president@dodgenptsa.org

vicepresident@dodgenptsa.org

secretary@dodgenptsa.org

treasurer@dodgenptsa.org

newsletter@dodgenptsa.org

Newsletter Submissions

Do you have an event you would like to see in the *Dodgen Dateline*? Do you have digital pictures you've taken at school of a recent event? Please help us to provide full coverage of the events at Dodgen. Email your newsletter submissions to Michele Martin at newsletter@dodgenptsa.org. Deadline for the next newsletter is August 16. If you have Microsoft Word and feel comfortable using it, please send the article in Word format as an attachment. That way your article will not need to be reformatted as much!

Don't Forget to Support Dodgen PTSA



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Please recycle your old cell phones and used printer cartridges in the bin in the media center.



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