



# DODGEN DATELINE

Dodgen Middle School PTSA  
1725 Bill Murdock Road  
Marietta, GA 30062  
770-578-2726  
[www.dodgenptsa.org](http://www.dodgenptsa.org)

Robin Lattizori  
Principal

Marge Cavitt and Jacqui Willey  
PTSA Co-Presidents

Summer 2010

## Dodgen's Partners In Education



Kroger @ Shallowford  
Dawn Hawkins



Piedmont Commons



Johnston & Doris Orthodontics



The UPS Store @  
Merchant's Festival,  
David Goodwill



**National  
PTA**  
everychild.one voice.

## From the PTSA Co-Presidents:

*Engage, Enrich, Empower!*

Welcome to the 2010-2011 school year at Dodgen Middle School. We look forward to a year filled with many programs and events which will Engage, Enrich and Empower our Dodgen Students, Parents, Faculty and Staff.

PTSA volunteers work hard to enhance the educational experience for our students, parents and teachers. It can not be done without your support. We ask all of you to support us by purchasing memberships. Please notice that we are a Parent Teacher *Student* Association which means students can show support with their own membership. Your membership supports Dodgen PTSA as well as Georgia PTA and National PTA. We ask all of you to support us with your donation to Dodgen PTSA. A tax deductible donation is asked of you once a year. We will not ask you to do fundraising in any other way. And we ask you to support us with your time as a volunteer. Volunteer opportunities are available at school or at home. They are one time events or on going activities. They require minutes, hours or weeks. They fit a variety of schedules. We ask you to take a look in this newsletter or on the website [www.dodgenptsa.org](http://www.dodgenptsa.org) and see which volunteer opportunity fits you. We can not do it without you! Please do not wait. The middle school years go by so quickly. We thank you in advance for all the ways you support PTSA.

This school year we are making some changes in the way we communicate important information to all of you. This issue of the Dodgen Dateline is the last one printed on paper and mailed to you. We will continue to produce the Dateline throughout the year but it will be delivered electronically. It is very important that you receive the emessages in order to receive the newsletter. Please go to [www.dodgenptsa.org](http://www.dodgenptsa.org), click on e-news and self subscribe. We want you to have all the information you need on school programs and events.

One other change needs to be mentioned. If you are a returning family you may be wondering why this newsletter does not contain the PTSA Order Form as it has in years past. The Order Form was handed out in homeroom to your student back in May. If you are a new family you should have received your form at the Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Night in May. Please mail it in to the address on the bottom. Doing so before mid-July will give us a chance to pack up your items and have them ready for you on Panther Day. If you did not receive your form no need to worry. They are available at school and at Panther Day on August 4<sup>th</sup>.

We hope you are enjoying your summer and look forward to seeing you in August for the start of another great year at Dodgen!

Marge Cavitt & Jacqui Willey  
PTSA Co-Presidents

# From The Principal . . .

## Summer Greetings!



I hope that you and your family are resting and enjoying your summer break. What a great time to relax and rejuvenate with family and friends. It's hard to believe that within a few short weeks the 2010 – 2011 school year will begin. The custodial staff at Dodgen is working diligently to prepare the building for students and staff. Teachers and staff will be anxiously awaiting the arrival of students on Thursday, August 5, 2010.

Before summer vacation is over, I hope that you will visit Dodgen's website (<http://www.cobbk12.org/Dodgen/>) if you haven't already. There are important dates listed as well as a complete listing of possibilities for summer reading and a reading contract students need to complete. Happy Reading!

I'm excited about beginning my second year as principal at Dodgen, and I look forward to seeing you on Panther Day, Wednesday, August 4, 2010. Enjoy the remaining days of summer break.

For kids,

*Robin Lattizori*

# Panther Day

## Wednesday, August 4th

8th grade: 12:15—1:00pm

7th grade: 11:30am—12:15pm

6th grade: 10:00—11:15am

Panther Day is Dodgen's big day to meet teachers, greet friends, buy school necessities, and take care of Dodgen business. **Mark the date in your calendar now** and look for more information on the Dodgen PTSA website [www.dodgenptsa.org](http://www.dodgenptsa.org) as the date approaches.

**Panther Day can't happen without your help!** We will need lots of volunteers on Tuesday, August 3rd for setup and preparation and on Wednesday, August 4th to be cashiers, distribute pre-orders, sell Spirit Wear and School Store items, and many other jobs. Please commit now to work one or more of the time slots shown above.

To volunteer send an email to Rani Quirk, [volunteercoordinator@dodgenptsa.org](mailto:volunteercoordinator@dodgenptsa.org) with your preferred timeslot.

### See you on August 4th!

*On behalf of the Dodgen parents, the Staff Appreciation Committee of the PTSA would like to say thank you to all of our wonderful teachers at Dodgen. You are all so dedicated to our students and to making them successful in the future. We appreciate all of the time and effort you put into teaching, including your patience, caring, understanding and motivation. Thank you for helping to make Dodgen a School of Excellence, as well as a great place for our kids to come every day. Have a wonderful summer!*



## Your PTSA Needs You!

We have several Committee Chair openings. Please consider signing up to chair one of the following committees:

- **Panther Preview Night (formerly "Get the Scoop on Dodgen Night")**
- **Parent Involvement**
- **Community Outreach (Parade, Blood Drive, etc.)**
- **Community Outreach MUST Mondays**
- **Dances (6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades)**
- **Heroes Essay Contest**
- **Front Office Volunteers**
- **Panther Fun Night**
- **Retail Rewards (Box Tops, etc.)**

Descriptions of these positions are on our website ([DodgenPTSA.org](http://DodgenPTSA.org)). If you are interested you can email the co-presidents, Marge Cavitt or Jacqui Willey, at [copresidents@dodgenptsa.org](mailto:copresidents@dodgenptsa.org)

But wait! You don't have to be a Chairperson! We also need volunteers for ALL of our committees. Please check out all the committees and descriptions on the website and let us know if there's one (or several) you'd like to help out with. If so, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Rani Quirk, at [volunteercoordinator@dodgenptsa.org](mailto:volunteercoordinator@dodgenptsa.org). There will also be forms available at Panther Day for you to fill out and return if you decide to help.

We look forward to seeing you in August!

## From Your School Nurse...

I will be at Panther Day for questions. I will have Authorization Forms, as well as Diabetic, Allergy and Asthma packets.

Please check my Web page for more information. Thank you, have a great summer.

MARY ORTLAND, RN -  
SCHOOL NURSE



## Parents Needed...



Want your child to earn better grades, attend school regularly, have better social skills and improve their behavior, complete homework assignments and more? Research shows that when parents are involved at school all of these occur more often.

Sounds easy at elementary school, but parent involvement at middle school when my child tells me it's not "cool" for me to be at school? Contrary to what kids tell us, middle school is probably the most important time to stay connected to our kids and that includes being involved at school. We may not be in the classroom as in elementary school, but we can volunteer for PTSA and its programs, help teachers with clubs or Connections activities, or volunteer in the front office or media center.

Another form of involvement is to educate yourself on issues affecting your children. Come to PTSA sponsored evening or daytime events on parent education issues that will help you get the information you need to help your students.

It's also important to know what is going on at Cobb County Schools and the Board of Education. Stay informed by signing up for the Cobb County School emails at <http://www.cobbk12.org/maillist.aspx>. This is an election year so become an informed citizen and vote for pro-education candidates. During summer and throughout the year, we'll communicate with you through the Dodgen weekly e-messages.

*Sign up to receive them on the Dodgen PTSA website at [www.dodgenptsa.org/e-messages.html](http://www.dodgenptsa.org/e-messages.html).*

Enjoy your summer and we'll see you in August! And, remember don't turn off parent involvement just because your child is in middle school. It just changes as our children grow up and have different needs.



**This is your last Dateline issue...printed on paper!**

The Dodgen Dateline is going green and electronic. Please subscribe to the emessage to receive future issues. Go to [www.dodgenptsa.org](http://www.dodgenptsa.org), click *E-News* and *Signup* to receive all the news and information you need.

Thank you, Dodgen PTSA



### Nominations for Dodgen School Council

The Dodgen School Council is accepting nominations to fill two open positions -- a parent representative and a business parent representative. To serve as a parent representative, a parent/guardian must have one or more children enrolled in Dodgen. To serve as a business parent representative, a parent/guardian must have one or more children enrolled in Dodgen and also be a business person. Council membership involves participation in regular meetings, a two-year term, and the willingness to be an active representative of the Dodgen community.

The A-Plus Education Reform Act established school councils in all Georgia schools. A council involves at least seven members---two parent/guardians, two business parent representatives, two certified staff members, and the principal. This group is intended to provide advice and recommendations to the school principal and when appropriate, to the local board of education. The council can study issues including but not limited to the:

- Curriculum and instructional program
- School achievement profile and accountability
- Home-school communication procedures
- Extracurricular activities
- Budget priorities, including plans for capital improvement

If you are interested in serving as a parent or business parent representative or you would like to nominate a representative for the Dodgen School Council for the 2010 and 2011 school years, please stop by the Dodgen front office or contact Suzanne Lynch at [Suzanne.Lynch@comcast.net](mailto:Suzanne.Lynch@comcast.net) for a nomination form. Nominations will be accepted until August 13.

For the latest legislative update, please check the PTSA website:  
<http://www.dodgenptsa.org/legislation.html>

# Reflections: Together We Can...!

Each year, the PTA Reflections Program challenges students to create art inspired by a specific theme. Start working on your Reflections entry for the 2010-2011 school year.

The theme is: **Together We Can...**. Students may submit work in any of six art areas: dance choreography, film production, literature, musical composition, photography and visual arts. You will find specific program information on the Dodgen webpage.

**Reflect on the theme. Create an original work. Be recognized.** For additional information contact Reflections committee chair Jennifer Liebich at [Jliebich@bellsouth.net](mailto:Jliebich@bellsouth.net).



## Summer Reading and HRRB...

What is HRRB? It stands for Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl, and it is a competition held in January between several Cobb Co. schools using books from the list of Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees. Dodgen's reading bowl team won first place in Cobb Co. this year!

If you like to read and are looking for some good books, check out this year's Georgia award nominees listed below. Then watch for information in the fall about reading bowl team meeting dates and competition rules.

**Hummingbird** by Kimberly Greene Angle  
**The Last Girls of Pompeii** by Kathryn Lasky  
**Bringing the Boy Home** by Nina A. Nelson  
**Storyteller** by Edward Myers  
**Diamond Willow** by Helen Frost  
**We Can't All Be Rattlesnakes** by Patrick Jennings  
**The Year the Swallows Came Early** by Kathryn Fizmaurice  
**A Tugging String** by David Greenberg  
**All the Lovely Bad Ones** by Mary Downing Hahn  
**Bird Lake Moon** by Kevin Henkes  
**Chase** by Jessie Haas  
**Go Big or Go Home** by Will Hobbs  
**The Gollywopper Games** by Jody Feldman  
**Dragon's Egg** by Sarah L. Thompson  
**The Magic Thief** by Sarah Prineas  
**Seekers: The Quest Begins** by Erin Hunter  
**Child of the Dandelions** by Shenaaz Nanji  
**Darkwing** by Kenneth Oppel

## Announcing another great year for Breakfast Buddies!

Please come and join us next year! Breakfast Buddies is a wonderful program and we need all your help in making this a successful year! We will have 2 meetings a month starting with August 13th being our first meeting! Please come and join such a wonderful program and meet some amazing special needs people!

If you have any questions please contact Michelle Nikitaides (Breakfast Buddies Chair) 404-931-8243 [michelle@nikitaides.com](mailto:michelle@nikitaides.com)



## Summer Reading Lists

Summer Reading lists are available on the website:

[WWW.cobbk12.org/dodgen](http://WWW.cobbk12.org/dodgen)



## Dear Rising 8th grade parents,

We are looking forward to working with your child next year in 8th grade. As you begin gathering materials and purchasing supplies, please keep in mind that all bookbags must be kept in the student's locker during the day. If the bookbag can not fit into the locker, then the bookbag needs to remain at home. The only type of bags that will be allowed in the classroom will be Spirit Bags. Ladies need to make sure that purses and bags are no larger than the Spirit Bags which will be allowed in the classroom.



We are asking for your assistance in this matter for two reasons: The first is all about the health of your child. According to The Medical News, "Kids today are carrying too much of a load on their backs, and researchers say back pack weight should be reduced for comfort and safety." The second reason is all about safety. Between your growing adolescent and our oddly shaped rooms, the bookbags are trip hazards to teachers and students alike. At this point, no one has broken anything from a fall, but we would like to try to eliminate the possibility.

The good news is that most of the textbooks are now online, so your student will not need to carry books back and forth as much as they have needed to in the past. Lockers have an inside dimension of 9 ¼ x 11 x 28 inches. Locker breaks are provided frequently throughout the day so students are not carrying a lot of materials at once.

Thank you for your support, and have a great summer. We will see you soon.



8th grade teachers

## "Passport To Your Future!"

Dodgen's amazing 8th grade class of 2010 celebrated in style on the evening of May 14th. The students traveled through the artistic cultures of Asia, lounged at a tropical beach in South America and dined at 'Cafe Dodgen' amidst a European street market and other Parisian Bistros! Vibe Entertainment played their favorite tunes at FULL volume and Red Eye Photo Booth captured their smiles on personalized photo strips that the kids (and teachers) couldn't get enough of!

Much thanks to our multi-talented parents for their creativity and ceaseless efforts. Your willingness to take part in this special event for our 8th graders is sincerely appreciated. The kids had a great time and you made it happen!

A personal thank you to Dodgen parent Lawrence Higgins for the design and printing of the "Passports". They are sure to make a memorable keepsake.

Special thanks to the following for their generous discounts and donations:

- **Chick Fil-A** at Woodlawn Square and **Publix Super Markets** who are consistent supporters of our local community.
- **Vibe Entertainment** for the best DJ's!
- **Red Eye Photo Booth of Atlanta** for being the hit of the party!

Parents, we have digital copies of the photo strips from the party. If you would like a copy of your child's photo please send an email request to [Christinecann@bellsouth.net](mailto:Christinecann@bellsouth.net).

We are unable to forward any photos directly to students.

Have a great summer!

*Dodgen PTSA 8th Grade Party Committee*



# Dodgen Band News!



Welcome to all new 6th grade students for 2010-2011 school year. All 6th grade students are invited to become a member of the Dodgen Band family by joining the band in the fall! The Dodgen Band is recognized as one of the strongest middle school band programs in the United States and was featured in the August 2005 issue of THE INSTRUMENTALIST, an international music educators' magazine. Please send Dr. Jackson a e-mail message if you did not receive a copy of the Band Gazette which went out to 5th grade families this past April. There are always new families moving into the Dodgen attendance zone and not all students have a correct address listed on the Cobb County mailing list. Dr. Jackson can be reached at [charles.jackson@cobbk12.org](mailto:charles.jackson@cobbk12.org).

Congratulations to all Dodgen Bands for receiving the highest rating of SUPERIOR at GMEA State-Standards Performance Evaluation this past spring. The Band had six students awarded seats in the GMEA All-State Band and 25 students awarded seats in the GMEA Honor Band. Students involved in the morning ensembles all received SUPERIOR ratings at the GMEA Solo & Ensemble Performance Evaluation. The Dodgen Band program served over 330 students in grades 6, 7, and 8 this past school year with over 100 students involved in the extra curricular Morning Ensemble program.

Come and join the fun and become involved with sharing music throughout our community and throughout the state! Visit our Band website for more information at [www.DodgenBand.org](http://www.DodgenBand.org). The Dodgen Band is under the direction of Dr. Charles R. Jackson, and assisted by Mr. John A. Jeffres.

## New Pope Jr. Greyhounds Baseball Team

Tryouts for the 2011 14U team will be on Sunday 8/1/10 at Pope H.S. baseball field. To be eligible for the team, players must be 14 yrs old or under as of 4/30/2011. Advanced registration is required at [www.popejrgreyhounds.com](http://www.popejrgreyhounds.com) - no walk-ons accepted. Please contact Head Coach Alan NeSmith at [Coach.NeSmith@gmail.com](mailto:Coach.NeSmith@gmail.com) with questions.



*Not a school sponsored event*

## Volunteers needed for Art Club and Art Class!



**Art Club** will meet on Thursday mornings from 8:15 to 8:45 beginning in September. I would love to have several volunteers who have fine craft or art experience to help with the students. We can work together to develop some projects for the students to work on. The budget is limited, but with creativity and imagination, I'm certain we can create a fun learning environment.

**Art class volunteers** are always needed and greatly appreciated during the class periods to help with preparation of materials, matting and displaying student art work, and other helpful tasks that require little or no art skill: just enthusiasm and willingness to help!

Thanks in advance for your willingness to help create a positive learning environment for our students.

If you are interested in either or both opportunities to volunteer, please contact me during the summer and we can plan to meet during pre-planning. [ann.russo@cobbk12.org](mailto:ann.russo@cobbk12.org)

## Junior Lady Greyhound 2010 Fast Pitch Softball Tryouts

**Dates:** Monday, June 21st, Pope Softball Field & Tuesday, June 22nd, Pope Softball Field  
or  
Monday, June 28th, Pope Softball Field & Tuesday, June 29th, Pope Softball Field

**Time:** 6:30 – 9:00 PM  
**Grades:** Rising 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>  
**Contact:** Brian Metzinger  
[uflyer\\_metz@comcast.net](mailto:uflyer_metz@comcast.net)  
Cell - 678-852-8367



## DODGEN MIDDLE SCHOOL 2010 - 2011 SUPPLY LIST

### 6TH GRADE

1 3-inch 3 ring binder  
 1 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 brands  
 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

### 7th GRADE

1 3-inch 3 ring binder or a few  
 1 inch binders  
 Loose leaf notebook paper  
 2 boxes of #2 pencils (not mechanical)  
 Several Blue or Black ball point pens  
 Several Red or Green ball point pens  
 3 pkgs. 5 tab subject dividers  
 1 pkg. colored pencils  
 2 black/white composition notebooks  
 for Science  
 Highlighters  
 White board markers  
 1 small white board eraser  
 2 large glue sticks  
 1 pair of scissors  
 1 pack of color markers

### 8TH GRADE

1 pkg. blue or black ball point pens  
 1 pkg. green or red ball point pens  
 1 box #2 pencils (not mechanical)  
 1 pkg. colored pencils  
 1 pkg. colored markers  
 2 pkgs. graph paper-3 square per  
 square inch  
 4 pkgs. 5 tab subject dividers  
 4 pkgs. Loose leaf notebook paper  
 1 2-inch 3 ring binder  
 1 1-inch 3 ring binder  
 3 pkgs of 3x5 index cards—lined  
 1 ruler  
 4 dry erase markers  
 1 black/white composition notebooks  
 Book Covers  
 Hand held pencil sharpener  
 Pencil erasers

### OTHER DONATIONS FOR CLASSROOM AND CLINIC

#### 6th Grade

1 box of tissues  
 pump hand sanitizer  
 5 oz.cups

#### 7th Grade

1 box of tissues  
 pump hand sanitizer  
 bandaids

#### 8th Grade

1 box of tissues  
 pump hand sanitizer  
 AA batteries



## Dates to Remember

**July 28** Last day to pre-order for Panther Day  
**Aug 4** Panther Day  
**Aug 5** First Day of School  
**Aug 17** 6th Grade Open House  
**Aug 19** 7th & 8th Grade Open House  
**Sept 2** Abstinence Program  
**Sept 11** East Cobber Parade  
**Sept 30** 7th Grade Dance  
**Sept 6** Holiday, No school  
**Sept 20-24** Fall Break, No school

## Websites and Emails

Dodgen Middle School  
[www.cobbk12.org/dodgen](http://www.cobbk12.org/dodgen)

Dodgen PTSA  
[www.dodgenptsa.org](http://www.dodgenptsa.org)

Cobb County Schools  
[www.cobb.k12.ga.us/](http://www.cobb.k12.ga.us/)

Georgia PTA  
[www.georgiapta.org](http://www.georgiapta.org)

National PTA  
[www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)

**Emails for Dodgen PTSA**  
 Co-president@[dodgenptsa.org](mailto:dodgenptsa.org)  
 vicepresident@[dodgenptsa.org](mailto:dodgenptsa.org)  
 secretary@[dodgenptsa.org](mailto:dodgenptsa.org)  
 treasurer@[dodgenptsa.org](mailto:dodgenptsa.org)  
 newsletter@[dodgenptsa.org](mailto:dodgenptsa.org)

## Don't Forget to Support Dodgen PTSA



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**Dodgen PTSA**  
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**Cobb County Schools**  
[www.cobb.k12.ga.us/](http://www.cobb.k12.ga.us/)

**Georgia PTA**  
[www.georgiapta.org](http://www.georgiapta.org)

**National PTA**  
[www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)

**Emails for Dodgen PTSA**  
*Co-president* @ [dodgenptsa.org](mailto:dodgenptsa.org)  
*vicepresident* @ [dodgenptsa.org](mailto:dodgenptsa.org)  
*secretary* @ [dodgenptsa.org](mailto:dodgenptsa.org)  
*treasurer* @ [dodgenptsa.org](mailto:dodgenptsa.org)  
*newsletter* @ [dodgenptsa.org](mailto:dodgenptsa.org)

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