

Willis A. Sutton Middle School

Date: November 11th Minutes

Time: 5:31

Recording:

I. Call to order: D. Lamar

II. Roll Call

Role	Name (or Vacant)	Present or Absent (P or A)
Principal	Dr. Dominique Merriweather	P
Parent/Guardian	Stephanie Houghton	P
Parent/Guardian	Annette Sullivan	P
Parent/Guardian	Ashley Scott	P
Instructional Staff	De'Markious Lamar	P
Instructional Staff	Adrienne Williams	A
Instructional Staff	Matthew Bryant	P
Community Member	Joel Iverson	P
Community Member	Marissa Rosenbloom	P
Swing Seat	Robert Bailey	P

Action Items

A. Approval of Minutes

i. Motion:

1. Made By: Bryant
2. Seconded By: Iverson

ii. Members Approving: all approved

iii. Members Opposing: n/a

iv. Members Abstaining: none

v. Motion: Passed

III. Discussion Items

A. School Strategic Plan

<u>2025-2030 Strategic Plan Development</u>	<i>Who Are We (APS)</i> • We are Atlanta's public school system. • We are <u>A COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS</u> <u>GETTING BACK TO BASICS</u> <u>Our goal is to have Sutton's Plan Approved: January 2026</u> <u>APS District Goals:</u> Our Strength is Our Team Atlanta's students will have effective and engaged teachers, leaders, and staff. ➢ Increase concentration of highly-effective teachers and leaders ➢ Prioritize engagement and retention for staff ➢ Grow and promote strong teachers, leaders, and staff Our Responsibility Is Shared Atlanta's students will have supportive families, communities, and partners. ➢ Build meaningful partnerships ➢ Expand Atlanta Partners for Education (APFE) impact ➢ Increase access and engagement for families and communities Our System Is Efficient & Effective Atlanta's students will have the schools and resources they need to succeed. ➢ Maximize facility usage for the student and community good ➢ Leverage data to drive strategic financial investments ➢ Implement sustainability initiatives We Are Strengthening Our Instructional Core Atlanta's students will have high-quality instruction, materials, and targeted support. ➢ Implement high-quality, relevant, and engaging instructional materials and professional learning in all core content areas ➢ Target resources towards subgroups (eg. exceptional education, English learners, economically-disadvantaged) ➢ Accelerate early learning We Are Caring For Every Child Atlanta's students will have trusted, supportive adults meeting their unique needs. ➢ Expand strategies that reduce chronic absenteeism and disproportionate discipline ➢ Implement systematic culture and climate strategies ➢ Increase student access to trusted and reliable adults (eg. mentors, coaches, counselors) We Are Sparking Student Curiosity Atlanta's students will have access to explore and expand their passions and interests. ➢ Promote robust arts, athletics, world language, and enrichment offerings ➢ Expand access to high-interest and workforce-ready offerings (e.g. career programs and pathways, advanced coursework) ➢ Explore specialized and innovative school models (eg. School of the Arts)
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<u><i>Align Mission/Vision/Purpose :</i></u>	<u><i>Sutton Mission and Goals:</i></u> <u><i>Do our current mission and vision align with APS's overall mission?</i></u> - <i>All GO Team members agree that Sutton does this.</i> Mission: Through the utilization of the International Baccalaureate program, Sutton Middle School aims to develop self-motivated, inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who are prepared to thrive academically and socially in high school, college, career, and life Vision: A diverse, high-performing school that supports our students, educators, and families, rooted in a strong community, working together to improve student outcomes and intercultural understanding and make our communities a better and more equitable place. <u><i>Sutton SMART Goals Are:</i></u> The percentage of proficient and distinguished scores on the EOG in Math by all subgroup students will increase by 5%.

	The percentage of proficient and distinguished scores on the EOG in ELA by all subgroup students will increase by 5%. Reduce the out-of-school suspension rate at Sutton Middle School to below 0.30 by the end of the academic year through the implementation of targeted behavioral interventions and support programs. Stakeholder engagement will be supported through a minimum of one event a month that targets the needs of parents and community.
<u>Confirm 2030 Goals</u>	<u>CIP Goals to 2030</u> • <u>Sutton's 2030 Goals</u> ○ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EYYDFO2Ku29FHlpQmo4LDgPEOIYYdtEQ/view?usp=sharing

Continuous Improvement Goals

By May 2026 we will increase the percent of students in grades 6-8 scoring proficient and above by at least 5 percentage points from 52% in SY 2025 to 57% in SY 2026 on the EOG GMAS.

2 By May 2026 we will increase the percent of students in grades 6-8 scoring proficient and above by at least 5 percentage points from 46% in SY 2025 to 51% in SY 2026 on the EOG GMAS.

3 By May 2026, decrease the percentage of students suspended by .5% from .37% to .32%.

2030 Strategic Plan Goals

1 By May 2030, we will increase the percent of students in grades 6–8 scoring proficient and above on the EOG GMAS by at least 15 percentage points—from 52% in SY 2025 to 67% in SY 2030.

2 By May 2030, we will increase the percent of students in grades 6–8 scoring proficient and above on the EOG GMAS by at least 15 percentage points—from 46% in SY 2025 to 61% in SY 2030.

Please

3 By May 2030, we will decrease the percentage of students suspended by 2%—from 0.37% in SY 2025 to 0.17% in SY 2030.

Identify Additional Goals

Previous 2022 - 2025 Plan

When do students get weekly SEL lessons? (Update)

- Lift taken off teachers
- Counselors took the lead on this with focus groups/small group interventions.

What is working well?

- Overall, significant gains. Proficiency and above increased across the board
- Targeting instructions
- Personalized Learning
- The state adopted ELA standards. Teachers are consistently working to implement this.

Continue:

- Parent engagement has been significant.
- Parents loved seeing the grade-level newsletter.

Starting next month:

- As a school, we try to have virtual office hours effective December 2025.
- Dr. Merriweather looks for students to have student planners.
- Teachers will work with students on executive functioning skills during extended homeroom (beginning Jan. 2026)

New To Add:

Add to Community of Belivers:



Sutton Middle School
Dr. Dominique Merriweather
Principal



ATLANTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Making A Difference

Mission:
Through the utilization of the International Baccalaureate program, Sutton Middle School aims to develop self-motivated, inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who are prepared to thrive academically and socially in high school, college, career, and life.

Sutton Middle School
School Strategic Plan
2022-2025



STRONG SCHOOLS
START WITH ME!

Vision:
A diverse, high-performing school that supports our students, educators, and families, rooted in a strong community, working together to improve student outcomes and intercultural understanding and make our communities a better and more equitable place.

SMART Goals:

The percentage of proficient and distinguished scores on the EOG in Math by all subgroup students will increase by 5%.

The percentage of proficient and distinguished scores on the EOG in ELA by all subgroup students will increase by 5%.

Reduce the out-of-school suspension rate at Sutton Middle School to below 0.30 by the end of the academic year through the implementation of targeted behavioral interventions and support programs.

APS Strategic Priorities & Initiatives	School Strategic Priorities	School Strategies
Fostering Academic Excellence for All Data Curriculum & Instruction Signature Program	*Meeting the diverse needs of all learners *Targeting instruction, remediation, and interventions for all students	1A. Implementation with fidelity of the tiered blocks of instructional support (TBOIS) 1B. Implementation, support, and professional learning to assure fidelity of MATH and ELA curriculum. 1C. Implementation with fidelity of the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme to support all

- <i>Aligning school operations and resources to maximize academic and social-emotional outcomes.</i> <i>We are Sparking Student Curiosity Designing learning experiences that promote inquiry, exploration, and student voice.</i> -	
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B. Principal's Report

<u>School Updates:</u>	<u>From State Superintendent 2024- 2025</u> - <u>Sutton received awards in Math</u> - <i>High Overall School Growth</i> - <i>High Overall School Achievement</i>

C. APS Forward 2040—Comprehensive Long-Range Facilities Plan Update

IV. Announcements

• <i>Middle School Musical (The Little Mermaid, Jr) was AMAZING :)</i>
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V. Public Comment

- Public Comment Notes: No Public Comments

VI. Adjournment

A. Motion made by: Bryant

B. Seconded by Scott

Members Approving: All approved

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

Motion: PASSED

ADJOURNED AT: 6:00PM

Minutes Taken By: Matthew Bryant

Position: Secretary

Date Approved: