

Willis A. Sutton Middle School

Date: **October 7th, 2025**

Time: **5:34**

Recording: [Meeting Link](#)

I. Call to order: D. Lamar

II. Roll Call

Role	Name <i>(or Vacant)</i>	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	P
Instructional Staff	Matthew Bryant	P
Community Member	Joel Iverson	P
Community Member	Marissa Rosebloom	P
Swing Seat	Robert Bailey	P
Student <i>(High Schools)</i>		
Student <i>(High Schools)</i>		

A. Approval of Minutes

i. Motion:

1. Made By: Williams

2. Seconded By: Houghton

ii. **Members Approving:** All

iii. **Members Opposing:** Noon

iv. **Members Abstaining:**

v. **Motion: Passed**

III. Discussion Items

A. School Strategic Plan

<p><u>2025-2030 Strategic Plan Development</u></p>	<p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Who Are We (APS)</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <i>We are Atlanta's public school system.</i> b. <i>WE are <u>A COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS GETTING BACK TO BASICS</u></i> <p><u>APS District Goals:</u></p> <p>Our Strength is Our Team Atlanta's students will have effective and engaged teachers, leaders, and staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Increase concentration of highly-effective teachers and leaders > Prioritize engagement and retention for staff > Grow and promote strong teachers, leaders, and staff <p>Our Responsibility Is Shared Atlanta's students will have supportive families, communities, and partners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Build meaningful partnerships > Expand Atlanta Partners for Education (APFE) impact > Increase access and engagement for families and communities <p>Our System Is Efficient & Effective Atlanta's students will have the schools and resources they need to succeed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Maximize facility usage for the student and community good > Leverage data to drive strategic financial investments > Implement sustainability initiatives <p>We Are Strengthening Our Instructional Core Atlanta's students will have high-quality instruction, materials, and targeted support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > 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 <p>We Are Caring For Every Child Atlanta's students will have trusted, supportive adults meeting their unique needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > 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) <p>We Are Sparking Student Curiosity Atlanta's students will have access to explore and expand their passions and interests.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > 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)
---	---

</

	<p>EYYDFO2Ku29FHIpQmo4LDgPEOIY YdtEQ/view?usp=sharing</p> <p><u><i>What Do You Notice?</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Black Students and Economically Disadvantaged—Biggest Gaps</i> <p><u><i>What are you wondering?</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>How do we get the SMS school climate score to 5 stars?</i> - <p><u><i>Are We On Track</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Attendance</i> <p><u><i>Subgroups:</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>SWD and Economically Disadvantaged—needs attention.</i>
<u><i>Align Mission/Vision/Purpose :</i></u>	<p><u><i>Sutton Mission and Goals:</i></u></p> <p><u><i>Do our current mission and vision align with APS's overall mission?</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>All are in agreement that Sutton does this.</i> <p>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</p>

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.

Sutton SMART Goals Are:

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.

	<div> <p>Stakeholder engagement will be supported through a minimum of one event a month that targets the needs of parents and community.</p> </div>
<u>Confirm 2030 Goals</u>	<p><u>CIP Goals to 2030</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Sutton's 2030 Goals</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EYYDFO2Ku29FHlpQmo4LDgPEOIYYdtEQ/view?usp=sharing <p><u>Continuous Improvement Goals</u></p> <p>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.</p>

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

	<p>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.</p> <p><u>Please Note:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Since Merriweather became principal at Sutton, data has increased each year. **</i> <p><u>Identify Additional Goals</u></p>
--	--

B. Principal's Report

<p><u>School Updates:</u></p>	<p><u>MasteryConnect (MC)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Parents expressed concerns about MC</i> - <i>Are the assessments new? Optional? Can parents get a copy?</i> - <i>MC benchmarks will not be assessed and weighted as a grade</i> - <i>Benchmarks will not</i> - <i>The District sent an email</i> - <i>Assessments can't go home.</i> - <i>Dr. Merrweather will send out something parent-friendly to clarify all that is MC. (Unit Assessment vs Benchmarks)</i> - <i>Sutton is are no longer required to give benchmark assessments.</i> <p><u>Cell Phone Policy:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The cell phone policy is going exceptionally well.</i>
-------------------------------	--

	<u>Student Devices:</u> - Students are coming ready and prepared.
<u>APS Forward 2040: Reshaping the Future of Education</u>	<u>Task Force Meetings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upcoming Public Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> October 20 November 10 Virtual Virtual—at noon. In person at 6 PM at CLL (130 Trinity Ave)
<u>APS Forward 2040: Reshaping the Future of Education</u>	<u>Task Force Meetings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upcoming Public Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> October 20 November 10 Virtual Virtual—at noon. In person at 6 PM at CLL (130 Trinity Ave)

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

<u>APS Forward 2040—Comprehensive Long-Range Facilities Plan Update</u> Website: atlantapublicschools.us/APS2040	<u>Upcoming Meetings</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> October 20 November 10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual—at noon In Person @ 6 PM at CLL (130 Trinity Ave)
---	---

IV. Announcements

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None
--

V. Public Comment

- Public Comment Notes: No Public Comments

VI. Adjournment

A. Motion made by: A. Williams

B. Seconded by Scott

Members Approving: All approved

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

Motion: PASSED

ADJOURNED AT: 6:28

Minutes Taken By: Matthew Bryant

Position: Secretary

Date Approved: