

Fulton Science Academy Goes the Extra Mile

Fulton Science Academy (FSA) has been selected as the Superstar because of its overall approach to living up to the name "Better Air School."

The school has a successful anti-idling campaign, encourages carpooling and consistently educates students on air quality. FSA has an active National Junior Honor Society that carries out anti-idling SurPrize Patrols. At the most recent Patrol, the patrollers only had to give four cards reminding parents to turn off their engines in the carpool line. This is an astounding drop from last year's numbers, according to champion Sharon Butler, who estimates that one-third of parents idled in last year's SurPrize Patrol.

As a charter school, FSA students travel from all over Fulton County (some from as far as College Park, Palmetto, East Point and Union City) to get to school in Alpharetta each day. Since busses are not available to all students, the administration gives a directory by zip-code to parents at the beginning of the school year and encourages them to carpool.

In addition to enforcing an anti-idling zone and encouraging clean commuting, sixth grade science teacher Aladdin Akgul conducts an experiment around the school testing the air quality. He places waxed index cards around the school; and then after he and his students collect particles from the air, they look under the microscope at what is in the air we breathe, further emphasizing the importance of striving for good air quality.

Simply put, Fulton Science Academy truly is a Better Air School because it constantly strives to improve the air quality surrounding the school and teaches its students why air quality is so important. If you would like more information about Mr. Akgul's science experiments, please email him at aakgul@fultonscience.org.