



# SWEETWATER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2505 East County Line Rd., Douglasville, GA 30135

770-651-4600

## Why Sweetwater Elementary?

“Sweetwater has established a supportive learning environment through parent and family engagement. The teachers, staff, and administrators are loving, caring individuals who work together to make sure students are motivated and encouraged to successfully develop their learning skills. Parents are always welcome to the school to observe the classroom, volunteer, and take part in activities. The teacher/student interactions are positive.”

—Sweetwater Parent

## Achievements

- ◇ Awarded \$9,999 for 2017 Innovation Fund Tiny Grant by the Governor’s Office of Student Achievement for virtual reality technology
- ◇ Mr. Cedric Slay named 2017-2018 Elementary School Counselor of the Year for Douglas County
- ◇ Awarded the 21st Century Community Learning Center After School Program Grant, 2017



## Inside the Classroom

What would a visitor in a classroom at Sweetwater Elementary expect to see? Kids engaged in collaborative groups and academic discussions? Teachers facilitating small groups to meet the needs of individual learners or students participating in hands-on activities to further their academic content knowledge? Well, those are some of the learning activities a visitor will see at Sweetwater.

Sweetwater provides students with learning activities and opportunities that extend beyond the classroom. Students participate in higher order learning activities that allow them to explain and justify their thinking. The classrooms at Sweetwater are not just focused on getting correct answers, but on being able to formulate questions that extend students’ understanding of the content being presented.

Teachers at Sweetwater set high expectations for every student. Teachers and students know they may not all learn the same way, at the same time or even on the same day, but they can learn. Teachers use a variety of learning models, including inquiry-based learning, direct instruction, peer-to-peer learning, and project-based learning. The classrooms at Sweetwater are personalized by a variety of criteria for each student. Teachers don’t just teach the standards and content, but they teach skills so their students can leave a positive impact on their community and world.

Inspire. Engage. Determine.

## Our Mission

Sweetwater Elementary believes in the power to embrace learning, excel, and own the future.

**Principal:** Dr. Emily Felton

**Student Enrollment:** 570

*Black 51%; White 16%; Hispanic 26%; Two or more races 5%; Asian 1%; American Indian and Pacific Islander less than 1%*

**Total Staff:** 67

**Certified Staff:** 47

**Cert. Staff with Adv. Degrees:** 32

**2017 CCRPI:** 58.6

**2017 GMAS Scores** (% of students scoring at Developing, Proficient, and Distinguished Learner levels)

**3rd Grade:** ELA 57.6%; Math 59.3%

**4th Grade:** ELA 61.3%; Math 68.9%

**5th Grade:** ELA 60.4%; Math 43.4%;

Science 44.3%; Social Studies 53.8%

**School Climate Star Rating:** 3 (out of 5)

*Numbers for enrollment and staffing were current as of 10/17. CCRPI score includes Exceeding the Bar (ETB) points. Go to [www.gadoe.org](http://www.gadoe.org) for additional information on CCRPI and GMAS.*

[www.sweetwater.dce.schoolinsites.com](http://www.sweetwater.dce.schoolinsites.com)



## Beyond the Classroom

Sweetwater Elementary School goes beyond the classroom and engages talented and diverse kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students with extracurricular and enrichment opportunities. Each extracurricular activity offers a learning opportunity that will help prepare students to achieve their educational goal.

Some of these activities are Grackett, Encore Chorus, Math Competition Team, Student Council, Reading Bowl (Tome Society), and Jr. Beta. Preparing Sweetwater students to be active and responsible citizens and leaders in a complex, multi-cultural, and global world is our ultimate goal.

Sweetwater students and teachers gather once a month in the school's gymnasium to celebrate students' successes, perfect attendance, student of the month awards, student-led programs, honor roll, special acknowledgements, and class performances.

These assemblies provide a foundation of understanding for the community, in which students can better understand the "big picture" of their learning and school life. Being in assembly together immediately becomes something that everyone shares and identifies with. Fostering school spirit and showing respect to the speakers and performers are experiences that carry into later life. Therefore, whether it's a platform for sharing important announcements or an opportunity for students to exercise their speaking and/or performance skills, assemblies clearly have their place at Sweetwater.

