



“Unleashing Each Student’s Potential”

Sutherland Middle School Home of the Sharks

Empowering Students to Innovate

Sutherland Middle School believes that striving for creative excellence today prepares students to succeed in the changing and challenging world tomorrow.



Principal Rick Vrhovac

School Highlights

Sutherland Middle School is dedicated to all students’ academic, social and emotional development. A hallmark of the student experience at SMS is the Development Designs community building program. Each week, students meet a minimum of three times with their grade-level advisory group during the school’s “CHOMP” period. These meetings build

community among the students and their teachers. Students develop the skills necessary to resolve their problems, develop an inclusive atmosphere for all students in the school, and take ownership of their learning experience.

The development of a physically active lifestyle that promotes good health and physical wellness is another focus for every student at the school. Physical Education teachers work together to provide students with a choice of multiple, highly-engaging physical activities each class. These include activities such as climbing the school’s rock-wall, or using the school mountain bikes to explore the attached nature trails and parks adjacent to the school.

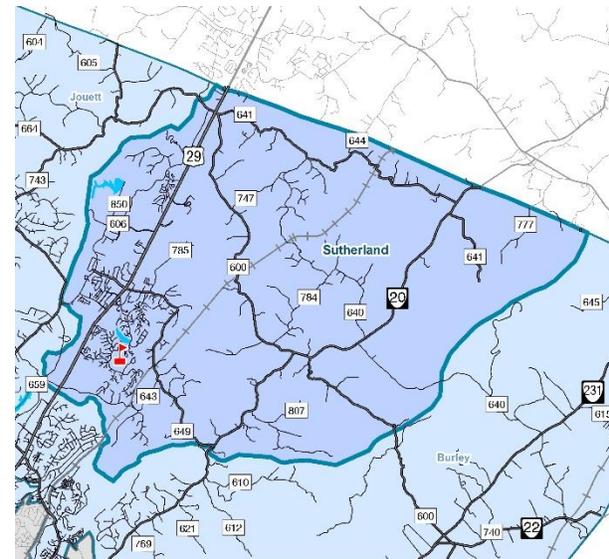
Sutherland has dedicated itself to integrating Engineering, Science and Technology based experiences into the curriculum for every student in the building. As one example of this work, a partnership with the University of Virginia through the i3 grant allows kids

to digitally fabricate replicas of items of historical importance. Student work is often showcased on a local and national level with students presenting in the recent past at the University of Virginia’s Curry School of Education, the Smithsonian Institution, and the national conference of the International Society for Technology in Education.



The well-rounded experience for Sutherland students continues with a strong fine arts program that includes, among others, an orchestra, a jazz band and a visual and performing arts program. All students are given the opportunity to expand their learning in classes outside of their core academic experience to discover and develop their passions.

Sutherland Attendance Area



Facility Information

- Built in 1994
- 94,440 sq. ft.
- Last major renovation—none