

# The

# SPOTLIGHT

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## Local politician inspires Young Democrats

Tess Whitney

The last Young Democrats meeting, on Friday the third, was full of excitement and students—the meeting had the best attendance of any this year, with at least 40 students sitting in desks, on desks, or standing. Ms. Strickland, sponsor of Young Democrats, said “It was the most well attended Young Democrat meeting in recent history. There was standing room only.

One of the reasons for the spike in attendance was the guest speaker. Jason Carter, a successful Atlanta lawyer and grandson of former US president Jimmy Carter, spoke to the members of Young Democrats about co-founding the organization Democrats Work and growing up as the grandson of Jimmy Carter. Democrats Work is an organization that focuses on service projects in order to improve the community and raise awareness of the Democratic Party on the local level. Projects include planting trees, working at food banks, and cleaning up neighborhoods and parks. The most at-

tention-grabbing moment of the meeting, however, was when Carter stated his intention to run for the Georgia Senate seat, which he had not officially announced to the public. Carter went public with his candidacy five days later, last Wednesday at Twain’s bar and restaurant.

Ms. Avery, who attended the event, said, “There was a very high turnout. There were people from all walks of life. When I went to speak with him, he remembered my name and how he knew me. He’s very sharp, down to earth, and approachable.”

It was an exciting moment for the members of Young Democrats—they had the chance to speak with the possible next senator of Georgia, and to state opinions and ideas in the company of someone who has the power to create change. According to Alli-

son Bailey, the co-president of Young Democrats, “It wasn’t intimidating at all, and I was sort of nervous about meeting him at first. But when I met him, he

campaign.”

The Georgia Senate seat is currently held by David Adelman, who was recently nominated by Obama to be the next US Ambassador of Singapore. Because of this, Adelman will most likely be stepping down from his position, leaving it to be filled by either Jason Carter, or his tentative opponent, 2008 Superior Court Judge Tom Stubbs. Like his grandfather and as the name of Democrats Work suggests, Carter will be running as the Democratic candidate. If elected, Carter will represent the Decatur, Chamblee, and Stone Mountain district. This means that the upcoming election will influence the residents of the Druid Hills area immensely—we may have new laws to adhere to and enforce, thanks to Jason Carter, a change publically begun with the announcement of his candidacy—right here at DHHS.



Photo by Elena Chapman  
Jason Carter poses with Young Democrats club members and sponsors.

was very genuine — he puts you at ease. You could tell that he really wanted to be here, that he wasn’t just doing it for his