

History of

Glenn C. Jones Middle School

Glenn C. Jones Middle School opened on August 9, 2004. On that first day, 816 students walked through the doors, greeted by a staff of kind-hearted, talented teachers and support personnel. Upon arrival, students went to their homerooms in the Woodlands and Savanna communities, two environments Jaguars are known to inhabit. Within these smaller “schools within a school,” students were placed in four-member teacher teams for Math, Science, Language Arts, and Social Studies instruction.

Jones’ students were scheduled for two connection classes each nine-week grading period including Art, Family & Consumer Sciences, Computer Science, Technology Education, Health, Physical Education, Spanish, Band, Orchestra, and Chorus. All students were scheduled for two quarters of Physical Education and selected seventh and eighth grade students participated in yearlong Spanish I. Jones students also could elect to participate in Band, Orchestra, or Chorus for all four quarters.

2004–05 was a year of “firsts” for our staff and students. We held summer camps for eager Algebra students and soon-to-be sixth graders. We conducted tours every Monday during the summer for community members eager to see the new school. Our first PTSA and

FAST FACTS

Address: 3575 Ridge Rd.
Buford, GA 30519

The following have served as principals of Glenn C. Jones Middle School:

2004–Present Dr. Richard Holland

School Colors: Black, Gold, and Emerald Green

School Mascot: Jaguar

“School Council” of representative parents, teachers, and community business partners were elected.

Our staff met in the summer before school to create a professional learning community dedicated to learning from and supporting one another. They created a family of educators dedicated to students, to each other, and to Mr. Jones’ legacy.

The school’s dedication was held on October 17, 2004. Mr. Jones and his family were in attendance among an overwhelming crowd of well-wishers and friends. Attendees filled the cafeteria to pay tribute to this most revered and special educator who had taught or influenced nearly everyone in attendance. During the reception, the



school unveiled a tribute to Mrs. Jones—the dedication of the school’s media center in her honor.

Our staff wrote its mission statement and agreed on our professional values and beliefs. We celebrated American Education Week by holding our first annual community breakfast. Joy Towslee, parent of Amanda and Sam Towslee, received the school’s first Legacy Award, and Counselor Loree Stovall received the Spirit Award.

Classical music played in the hallways during school hours and live concerts were held in the lobby on Friday afternoons. Overall, the first year at Jones Middle School was a year of growth, of many firsts, and of great success!

The school’s second year began with the loss of our beloved counselor, Loree Stovall, who died of cancer on July 31, 2005. A former Gwinnett and Georgia Middle School Counselor of the Year, Loree graced us with her life and taught us how precious we are to each other. Today, a portrait of Loree hangs above her fireplace in the school media center.

On August 8, 2005, Jones opened its doors to 1,053 students. We added a vision statement to our mission and belief statements. The school also added the first-of-its-kind middle school Student Leadership Academy to its extensive list of club activities. The school’s second annual community breakfast celebrated American Education Week by honoring Jan Wells, Executive Vice President at the People’s Bank, with our Legacy Award, and Debra Bowens, Administrative Assistant, with our Spirit Award.

In addition, the school celebrated Mr. Jones’ 95th birthday with a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner meal prepared by the cafeteria staff. With many of his family in attendance, students serenaded Mr. Jones with a rousing version of “Happy Birthday.”