

History of

Arcado Elementary School

Due to the rapid growth in the Lilburn area, a 1979 Gwinnett County bond referendum funded the construction of a relief school to be named Arcado Elementary. In February of 1980, Willie and Mae Moon sold a 15-acre tract of their farm to the school system.

The school, which was nestled in a pastoral setting overlooking pasture and cornfields, was completed in August of 1981. Mr. and Mrs. Moon had only two requests: 1) that the big oak tree be left standing and 2) that a fence separate the children from the cow pasture adjoining the land. Mr. Moon died in January, 1987 and Mrs. Moon died in April, 1996. Although the pastures, which were once filled with cows and cornfields, are now filled with houses, the Moon's requests have been honored... A fence still separates the school from the original pasture land and the big oak tree still provides shade for students.

The name Arcado was taken from the name of the road that leads to the school. When the road was first graded and paved, it was named for three Gwinnett County commissioners who were serving at that time:

FAST FACTS

Address: 5150 Arcado Road
Lilburn, GA 30047

The following have been principals of Arcado Elementary School:

1981–93	Norma Jean Murphy
1993–2004	Linda Anderson
2004–2010	Joe Ahrens
2010–Present	Penny Young

School Colors: Royal Blue and Gold

School Mascot: Astros

Historian: Pam Martin

Weldon Archer, O. D. Cain and Paul Dover. The first two letters from each last name were combined to form the name Arcado.

Students were rezoned from Camp Creek Elementary, Knight Elementary and Lilburn Elementary to form Arcado's student body of 830 strong. The staff consisted



of teachers from schools all over Gwinnett, as well as teachers who moved in from out-of-state.

Students decided to call themselves the *Arcado Astros* because students at Arcado “*Reach For The Stars.*” A schoolwide vote by students determined the royal blue and gold school colors. In the second year of the school’s existence, a second mascot was unofficially adopted by our student body— the Panda, named *Bamboo*.

In 1987, kindergarten students began attending school for a full school day. At that time, it became necessary to provide additional classrooms to serve the Arcado student population. As a result, a 12-classroom addition was added to the school building. In 1999, the building received its second renovation, which included a special education suite, office remodeling, and the addition of three support classrooms.

The school continues to work towards its mission to provide an environment where each student can fully realize their greatest academic potential. A focus on continuous growth and improvement is “*Creating Superstars!*” as depicted by the school vision.