

History of

Rockbridge Elementary School

Rockbridge Elementary School is located at 6066 Rockbridge School Road, one-tenth of a mile from the intersection of Rockbridge Road and Jimmy Carter Boulevard in Norcross. The school was named for its location near Rockbridge Road.

Rockbridge Road paralleled an Indian trail called the Hightower Trail, which led from Calhoun to Augusta, Georgia. The word “Rockbridge” came from a location on the Yellow River where a rock shoal allowed travelers to cross the river easily. This area near Highway 124 became known as Rockbridge and has played an important part in the history of Gwinnett County. The Rockbridge site was the first bearing used by surveyors in the area. Later, there was a Rockbridge post office. Rockbridge Road was cut out sometime in the 1820s.

Rockbridge Elementary School was built in 1966 as a result of growth in population in the area. The school’s enrollment was beyond capacity even before it opened. The original school had 11 classrooms, but portable classrooms had to be used even on the first day of school. Construction began that first year on 11 new classrooms. Except for four years of its existence, portable classrooms have been part of the landscape at Rockbridge. The

FAST FACTS

Address: 6066 Rockbridge School Road
Norcross, GA 30093

The following have served as principals of Rockbridge Elementary School:

1966–74	W. Carson Britt
1974–78	Ivan Bagby
1978–87	Rex Cassidy
1981–87	Don Graham
1987–91	Maureen DeLoach
1991–2004	Linda Daniels
2004–2010	Dion Jones
2010–Present	Kelly McConnachie

School Colors: White and Blue

School Mascot: Mustang

construction of Nesbit Elementary and Meadowcreek Elementary provided relief from overcrowding.

In 1976, all the fifth grade classes had to be housed at Lilburn Middle School to relieve overcrowding. A new addition to the school was added in 1987, and another in



1989 in an effort to keep up with the growing number of children in the district. The school currently consists of 44 classrooms in four interconnected buildings and portable classrooms also are used to house additional students and teachers.

The school originally served grades one through eight, but over a period of three years from 1967 to 1970, the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades were moved to Lilburn Middle School. Since 1971, the school has housed grades one through five. Kindergarten classes are also part of the school population.

Rockbridge's first principal, W. Carson Britt, was a descendant of one of the original and prominent families of Gwinnett County. W. C. Britt Elementary was named for his uncle. He opened the school in 1966 and served as its principal until ill health forced him to retire in 1974.

Rockbridge is a school that celebrates diversity, with 96% of its students being minority and over 40 different languages spoken. The first teacher for English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) was hired in 1988; 18 years later, there are 12 teachers for this program. The school and community are proud of the various cultures represented at the school.

The roadrunner was chosen as the school mascot by a vote of the students. The school colors of blue and white were also chosen by the students.