

Herschel Jones Middle School

Improvement at a Glance



HJMS Snapshot

Herschel Jones Middle School is the oldest of ten middle schools in Paulding County. We are located in the heart of Paulding County – downtown Dallas. As one of the oldest facilities in the district, THE HJMS is a cornerstone of Paulding County’s educational history. While the site was originally opened as Dallas High School in 1901, it was repurposed as Dallas Jr. High School when Paulding County High School opened in 1969. The name was later changed to Herschel Jones Junior High School and eventually Herschel Jones Middle School to honor the life and legacy of William Herschel Jones who served as a teacher and principal in Paulding Count School District for forty years.

Mission

To foster a positive learning environment in which students feel supported and strive for excellence.

Vision

The vision of Herschel Jones Middle School is to prepare all students for success today and tomorrow.

We BELIEVE:

- It takes a village (school, family, community) to promote student growth, achievement, and development.
- Students learn best in a safe and positive environment where they are challenged, supported by strong relationships, and encouraged by a positive mindset that fosters academic growth.
- All students are capable of high achievement and that failure is not an option—no excuses.
- A diverse, inclusive, and respectful community enhances academic and emotional intelligence for all.

Academic Improvement Goals

ELA	Increase percentage of students scoring Level 2 or higher on the ELA GA Milestones EOG Assessment:		
	6 th Grade: from 57% to 62%	7 th Grade: from 57% to 62%	8 th Grade: from 68% to 73%
READING	Increase percentage of students reading at or above grade level by 10% at each grade level.		
	6 th Grade: from 47% to 57%	7 th Grade: from 49% to 59%	8 th Grade: from 68% to 78%
MATH	Increase percentage of students scoring Level 2 or higher by 5% at each grade level.		
	6 th Grade: from 55% to 60%	7 th Grade: from 57% to 62%	8 th Grade: from 69% to 74%

Demographics

HJMS serves a diverse population of approximately 710 students, about evenly split between 6th, 7th and 8th grade. Our student body makeup includes 49% Black/African American, 27.1% white, 15.3% Latino/Hispanic, 1.4% Asian, and less than 1% each of American Indian/Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander.

Approximately 70% of our students are eligible for free or reduced lunch, indicating a significant number of low-income families. Additionally, 7% of our students are classified as English Learners and 18.4% are students with disabilities who receive special education services.

Traditions / Honors/Awards/Certifications

- Cultural Celebrations – Annual Black History Month and Hispanic Heritage Month programs.
- Annual Red-Carpet welcome on the first day of school.
- GEMS girls mentoring program.
- Young Kings boys mentoring program.