

Herschel Jones Middle School

Improvement at a Glance



Overview

The purpose of this document is to share our Mission, Vision, and Beliefs as well as other pertinent information about Herschel Jones Middle School, including demographic data and our academic improvement goals for the 2025-26 school year.

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.

Academic Improvement Goals

Improve performance on the GA Milestones End of Grade assessments.

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|----------------|--|
| ELA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the percentage of 6th grade scholars scoring Level 2 or higher from 57% to 62%. • Increase the percentage of 7th grade scholars scoring Level 2 or higher from 57% to 62% • Increase the percentage of 8th grade scholars scoring Level 2 or higher from 68% to 73% |
| Reading Status | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the percentage of 6th grade scholars reading at grade level from 57% to 62%. • Increase the percentage of 7th grade scholars reading at grade level from 57% to 62% • Increase the percentage of 8th grade scholars reading at grade level from 68% to 73% |
| Math | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the percentage of 6th grade scholars scoring Level 2 or higher from 55% to 60%. • Increase the percentage of 7th grade scholars scoring Level 2 or higher from 57% to 62% • Increase the percentage of 8th grade scholars scoring Level 2 or higher from 69% to 74% |

HJMS Snapshot

Herschel Jones Middle School is one of three Title I 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 County School District for forty years.

Beliefs

At HJMS WE BELIEVE

- We believe it takes a village (school, family, community) to promote student growth, achievement, and development.
- We believe 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.
- We believe all students are capable of high achievement and that failure is not an option—no excuses.
- We believe a diverse, inclusive, and respectful community enhances academic and emotional intelligence for all.

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.