National School to Watch™ Designation 2012 Re-designation 2015
Lee Middle School ● Coweta County School System ●
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School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

Academic Excellence
● Lee Middle School has 63 certified staff members with 46 of the staff holding advanced degrees (Doctorates—3; Specialists—21; Masters—22). The staff has 48 members who have ten or more years of educational experience. All three administrators have advanced degrees. Two administrators have Doctoral degrees in Educational Leadership and one administrator has a Specialist degree in School Improvement. We also have one teacher with a Doctoral degree in Curriculum and Instruction.
● Teacher/Student Advisement Program (HOUSE), which assists in the development in the educational plan for all students for high school and beyond
● Increased use of data in monitoring results and planning improvements
● Professional Learning Community which emphasizes 21st century teacher collaboration
● Blocked planning time on Thursdays allow for Professional Learning Groups to meet and plan together as well as additional professional learning opportunities.
● Blocked planning time on Tuesdays allow for team teachers to collaborate and plan together.
● Interventions to help students who are struggling academically
● Technology applications with instruction
● Rigorous Standards-Based curriculum
● Highly-qualified experienced/stable faculty
● Continuous School Improvement Model which emphasizes improvement in ALL areas yearly

2017 - 2018 School Statistics
Community: Suburb of south metro Atlanta
Enrollment: 976
Certified Staff: 63
Grade Levels: 6 - 8
School Schedule: 6 periods: 4 academics/2 connections
Student Demographics
10% Hispanic
63% White
18% African American
4% Asian
.1% American Indian
5% Multi-racial
31% Free/Reduced Lunch
27% Gifted
497 Male
469 Female

AYP Status
2010-2011 AYP: MET
2011-2012 CCRPI: 91.3%
2012-2013 CCRPI: 85.3% (new rules applied)
2013-2014 CCRPI: 83.5% (GMAS)
2014-2015 CCRPI: 76.4% (GMAS) 4 STAR Climate
2015-2016 CCRPI: 74.3% (GMAS) 5 STAR Climate
2016-2017 CCRPI: TBD
• Earned Adequate Yearly Progress for ALL measured years in Georgia (2007-2015)
• Students are recognized for their academic success through semester Awards Programs
• Co-teaching/inclusion at all grade levels
• Students are given quick benchmark assessments in order to identify those who need extra academic support and acceleration.
• Special education students are taught collaboratively in the regular classroom and have additional support in the school day through a connections class in which academic material that they are struggling with is re-taught with additional work samples, teacher guided instruction and use of manipulatives. Basic skills are also reviewed and honed during this instructional time.
• School-wide character education program—The Way of the Wolf and nationally recognized Behavior Education Program (BEP)
• PBIS School - Third year implementation
• HOUSE - provides students with a sense of belonging to not only their school but also to a group of students and teachers within the school who help guide them throughout their middle school years.
• School Improvement Leadership Team - monitors School Improvement Plan and provides direction for school improvement efforts

Georgia Lighthouse Schools to Watch

Lee Middle School

The following list of awards represents Lee Middle School’s high expectations for students, teachers, and the total school community, as well as our dedication to and recognition of exemplary performance.

National and State Recognition for Lee Middle School: 2008 and 2013 Georgia Middle School (GMSA) Central Region Team of the Year (Team Courage); 2009 and 2013 GAMSPE Effective Middle School Program; 2012 Georgia Lighthouse School to Watch Designation; 2012 National Forum to Accelerate Middle Level Learning Designation as a National School to Watch; GASSP Breakout School Recipient 2013
2012 Re-Designation as a GAMSPE Effective Middle School Program; Top Publishing School in Georgia (2013-2015); 1st place in State Creative Communications Writing Competitions (2013-2015); Young GA Authors State Winner 8th grade (2015) Lighthouse Schools to Watch (2011-2017); 2015 Dr. Bob Puckett Effective Middle School Program Re-designation; 2016 NCTE Excellence in Student Literary Magazines Program to Recognize in Georgia “Howl”

National, State and County Staff Recognition: Dr. Bob Heaberlin (principal 2006-2012), Georgia Association of Educational Leaders (GAEL) President (2006-07); GAEL Outstanding Educator Award (2006); Georgia Association of Middle School Principals (GAMSPE) Dr. John Lounsbury Award (2006); GAMSPE Exemplary Leadership Award (2007); Georgia Middle School Association (GMSA) President’s Award (2008); Georgia State School Superintendent’s Principal Advisory Council (2008-2010); GAMSPE Professional of the Year Award (2006; 2007; 2011; 2012); Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) Task Force for Alternative Principal Certification (2012-2013); University of West Georgia Alumni Association’s Spotlight Award (2012); National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) VALIC National Distinguished Middle Level Principal of the Year (2011-2012); Association for Middle Level Education (AMLE) National Distinguished Educator of the Year (2012 – 2013);
Dr. Cindy Bennett (principal 2012 - current) – National Outstanding Assistant Principal of the Year, Middle Level (2011 – 2012); Dr. Cindy Bennett, GAMSPE Exemplary Leadership Award; Dr. Cindy Bennett, NAESP National Outstanding Middle Level Assistant Principal of the Year Award (2011-2012); Dr. Cindy Bennett, GAEL Professional of the Year Award (2012);
Jan Reyes—State School Superintendent’s Teacher Advisory Council (2008-2010);
Lisa Redmon—GMSA Board of Directors (2008-2010)

Dr. Cindy Bennett - 2015 GAMSPE Linda Hopping National Merit Award
Suzanne Brooks - 2015 AFCEA Teaching Tool Grant Winner
Doris Leak 2016 - Newnan VFW Post 2667, VFW District 5 and Georgia State VFW Teacher of the Year
Cat Rhodes 2017 - Newnan VFW Post 2667, Teacher of the Year Runner-Up
Dr. Cindy Bennett - 2017 Coweta County School System Proclamation of Service for providing medical service to a student in distress


Individual/Team Student Honors: Ashlie Adamson – Young Georgia Authors State Winner (2010); Nele Langhof, James Spavelko, and Allison Haskell – Published, Young Writers of America (2011); Chae Bin Park–Published, State Winner of Creative Communications Essay and Poetry Contest (only middle school winner in the southeast); Alyssa Duncan 1st place (2013-2014), Creative Communications has published the literary works of Lee Middle School students from 2006-present, making LMS an honorary Creative Communications School for six years Young Georgia Authors
Football – Cindy Doonan 1st Place (2013), Runner-up (2014)


Recognition to Student Clubs for Community Service: Sponsored by the Student Council, LMS has raised over 30,000 cans for seven straight years for the annual Coweta County Can-a-thon for the food bank; Sponsored by the National Junior Honor Society, LMS has participated in American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life in Coweta County for six years raising over $20,000 for cancer research; the Builders Club volunteers at the Coweta County Fair with the Kiwanis Club, Habitat for Humanity, Gift bags for nursing home, hot chocolate for bus drivers, Relay for Life, Teacher Appreciation, CD drive for Children’s Healthcare, contributed to the Food Bank and the Angel Tree, Coins for Cupcakes to raise money for Meals on Wheels; the Junior Beta Club participates yearly in service projects including working with elementary schools, Wesley Woods Nursing Home, and Habitat for Humanity. The Jr. Beta Club also has won several awards at the National Beta Club Convention—Essay Contest, Division 1, Runner-up (2010-2011); Math Contest, Division 1, fifth place (2010-2011); Poster Contest, fourth place (2011-2012) Runner-up (2014); Scrapbook, third place (2011-2012) Scrapbook Champion (2014); Multimedia Contest fifth place (2014); Quiz Bowl, Division 2, Third place (2013 and 2014); Social Studies, Division 1, fourth place (2014); Science, division 1, fourth place (2014); Language Arts, Division 1, Champion (2014); T-Shirt Contest fifth place (2014); Beta Club, Clubs that Care Award, First Place (2014); the Future Educators of America participates in the International Read for the Record Project and has raised over $1,000 for the purchase of books in the FERST Foundation. Coweta County Can-a-thon – LMS donated 22,218 cans (2015); Meals on Wheels (2016 and 2017) - Grand Champions raising over $4000 each year;

Outstanding Individual Faculty Honors: Bright Ideas Grant – Misty Wilson (2007 & 2013), Tim Johnson (2008), Kristen Brady (2011 & 2014), Sally Cavanaugh (2012 & 2013); Best Buy Teach Award – Dr. Carol Turner, $2000 (2007), Jan Reyes, $5000 (2009); Coweta Leadership Academy Participant—Cindy Todd (2011-2013); Shae Smith Law Teacher Appreciation Award – Renee Ratcliff (2015); Bright Ideas Grant - Jennifer Doonan (2015); Suzanne Brooks - 2015 AFCEA Teaching Tool Grant Winner; Doris Leak 2016 Newnan VFW Post 2667, VFW District 5 and Georgia State VFW Teacher of the Year; Dr. Cindy Bennett - 2015 GAMSP Linda Hopping National Merit Award; Sheila Taylor 2015 - University of West Georgia Outstanding School Partner Award; Cati Rhodes 2017 - Newnan VFW Post 2667, Teacher of the Year Runner-Up

STEM Certified Educators: Christie Pinaud, Lynette Hanus, Suzanne Brooks, Jennifer Watson, Sheleen Ferry, Jeff Bouchard, Michelle Hanners, Renee Ratcliff, Jared Waggoner, Sally Cavanaugh, Valery Poyhthress, Kristin Davis, Lindsay Marks, Lauren Taliaferro, Jennifer Doonan, Ashley Dawson

Google Certified Educators: Michelle Hanners, Lindsay Marks, Kristin Davis


**Boys’ Basketball**—CCMSAL Regular Season Champions (2007 and 2012); CCMSAL Tournament Runner-ups (2007 and 2014); CCMSAL Tournament Champions (2016)


**United States Army East/West Middle School Football All-Star Participant at San Antonio’s Alamo Bowl**: Sean Spencer (2008); Weyland Orr (2009); Tristan Mann (2010); Tariq Mohammed (2011); P.J. Harris (2014)

**Academic Bowl Recognition**: West Georgia RESA Runner-ups (2011-2012); Coweta County Middle Schools Runner-ups (2011-2012); West Georgia RESA 1st Place (2012-2013); Coweta County Middle Schools 1st Place (2012-2013); West Georgia RESA 1st Place (2014-2015); Coweta County Middle Schools 2nd Place (2014-2015); West Georgia RESA 2nd Place (2015-2016); West Georgia RESA 4th Place (2016-2017)


**Coweta County Middle School Association Trophy of Excellence Winners**—2010; 2011; 2012, 2013 and 2014 *(based on athletics and academic bowl combined rankings)*

**Coweta County School Resource Officer of the Year**: Corporal Phil Burkett (2012-2013)

**Coweta County Nurse of the Year**: Wilma McCann (2015-2016)

**Coweta County Can-a-thon**: 31,053 Cans collected 1st place in Coweta County Schools (2012-2013); 31,723 cans collected 2nd place in Coweta County Schools (2013-2014); 1st in Coweta County Schools (2015-2016); 2nd in Coweta County Schools (2016-2017)

**Former Lee Middle School students who have graduated as valedictorian or salutatorian or was a STAR Student**: 
- Class of 2011—Coweta County STAR Student—Ella Taylor (LMS 2006-2007)
- Class of 2011—Salutatorian at Northgate High School—Chris Hoffman (LMS 2006-2007)
- Class of 2012—Salutatorian at Northgate High School—Anna Adams (LMS 2006-2008)
- Class of 2012—Valedictorian at East Coweta High School—Elizabeth Evans (LMS 2006-2008)
- Class of 2015- Valedictorian at East Coweta High School – Stacie Evans (LMS 2008-2011)
- Class of 2015- Valedictorian at Northgate High School – Haley Alain (LMS 2008-2011)
- Class of 2016 - Salutatorian at East Coweta High School - Chae Bin Park (LMS 2010-2011)

**Timberwolves Developmental Responsiveness**

- Connections classes including art, music, band/chorus, foreign language, ELA remediation, Math remediation, and TWTV - students are allowed to register for their connections classes at the end of each school year.
- Parent/Community involvement opportunities including Career Day, Parent Teacher Committee, Partners in Education, School Council, Volunteer opportunities, HOUSE Reward Days, Watch D.O.G.S.
- One-on-one and after school tutoring, neighborhood tutoring
- Clubs and activities appropriate to the middle school learner
- Experiences through curricular and extra-curricular activities that provide opportunities for the development of leadership and positive social skills.
- The Way of the Wolf behavior expectation matrix, HOUSE and the Behavior Education Program (BEP) – a school-wide positive behavior intervention system. PBIS App utilized by students, staff and parents.
• Data area, accessible to students, faculty, parents and community members with analysis of academic information
• Staff includes two dedicated counselors to help us inspire students to become successful adults. The counseling staff members provide sympathetic ears, but remain resolute in their push to develop responsible citizens. Classroom guidance is provided based on student and staff surveys.
• Students also participate in interscholastic sports. LMS offers the following sports teams: football, volleyball, boys’ and girls’ basketball, boys’ and girls’ track and field, boys’ and girls’ soccer
• Chorus and band consistently earn superior ratings and send students annually to district honor band and chorus
• For our aspiring artists, we offer an Art Club where they can discover and express themselves through various artistic venues including paint and print media.
• For our tech savvy/communications interested students in 8th grade, they have the opportunity to apply to become a member of the Timberwolf TV News Crew (TWTV)

Timberwolves Social Equity
• There are high expectations for achievement for ALL students.
• RTI (Responses to Intervention) provides a framework for meeting the academic needs of struggling learners.
• Special education students are taught collaboratively in the regular classroom and have additional support in the school day
• Students participate with the community through the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life and the Coweta Food Pantry’s can-a-thon
• Club meetings during school day to offer opportunities for all to be involved
• Variety of clubs that meet before and after school
• Students enjoy Veteran’s Day programs including an introduction to local retired and active-duty service personnel
• Advisement Period occurs every day - a time for building teacher-student relationships and setting goals
• Silent-sustained reading, an effort to build fluency and foster a love of reading
• Middle school handbooks and agendas are provided for all students; students are encouraged to write their assignments in their agendas and receive HOUSE points when checked by an administrator.
• Faculty versus students - volleyball and basketball games
• Annual Multicultural Program
• Character Education word of the week read on the announcements each day and lesson taught in HOUSE at least once per week
• Good Behavior Referrals
• HOUSE concept w/ peer mentoring modeled after the Ron Clark Academy

Timberwolves Organizational Supports
• Remediation connections class in ELA (based on GMAS and STAR Reading scores)
• Remediation connections class in Math (based on GMAS and GRASP math scores)
• Department meetings for subject area teachers to plan vertically
• Collaborative subject/grade level planning to create/review common assessments and plan lessons for the week
• Teacher perfect attendance certificates and recognition at Faculty Meetings
• Teacher Achievement Pins and personalized notecard from administrators
• Ron Clark book study
• Facebook chats by department to encourage collegial conversations based on the 5 Systems of Continuous Improvement
• The school understands the value of direct communication and recognizes this by hosting transitional meetings for parents of rising 5th graders, so their concerns can be voiced and their questions can be answered.
• Upcoming 6th grade students receive a booklet about what to expect at Lee Middle School before starting middle school
• Weekly newsletter sent home via email to parents about upcoming events, including academic events, club meetings, athletic events, school fundraisers, and PTC functions
• Monthly curriculum newsletters sent home and posted on social media by grade level
• The PTC celebrates teachers throughout the year by organizing gracious luncheons, opening an “ice cream shoppe” for a special treat, and surprising them with gifts, such as a car wash.
• Twitter, Remind101, Smore On-line Newsletter, Facebook, Weekly school newsletter and One Call Now are all used to share information with the community
• Daily phone calls to parents concerning student absences
• School Improvement Leadership Team (SILT) – representatives from every area of the school analyze data and guide school improvement efforts
• Response to Intervention (RTI) Pyramid of Interventions
• Peer observations
• Parent Portal – to check students grades and to communicate with the teacher
• Mission Statement – Learning, Motivating, Succeeding – posted in all classrooms and tied into Character Education every day
Georgia Lighthouse Schools to Watch

Lee Middle School

The most special thing about Lee Middle School is the striving by the administration and faculty to keep it a true middle school in today’s ever changing world and its effect on education.

All faculty and staff strive to ensure that each student is well known by the adults in the building. Student mentoring forms are discussed with students and updated throughout the year including student learning styles, goals, strengths, challenges, and personal interest.

High expectations are held by all staff members as well as students. We set the bar high and always strive to meet students where they are and encourage them to do their personal best.

All students are rewarded with Wolf of the Day or Wolf of the Week certificates throughout the school year in addition to the Character Education “Timberwolf tickets” that are given by teachers and administrators. Students meet with the principal on a personal level when awarded certificates.

We have school-wide positive behavior expectations for everyone. We believe that modeling positive behavior in front of our students encourages them to want to model the same expectations. We utilize the HOUSE concept to build teaming efforts and students are awarded HOUSE points for exhibiting positive behaviors. Points can be spent throughout the nine week period as well as Reward Day at the end of each nine week period.

Students who struggle to follow the positive behavior expectations are not considered discipline problems but instead are given additional positive reinforcement through our individualized positive behavior program called the Wolf Pack (BEP).

WE BELIEVE! Our entire school community (faculty and staff, as well as students) believe that we are the BEST at everything we do. From academics to athletics to fine arts, we all take part in striving for excellence. We are the School of Champions and we are famiLEE!