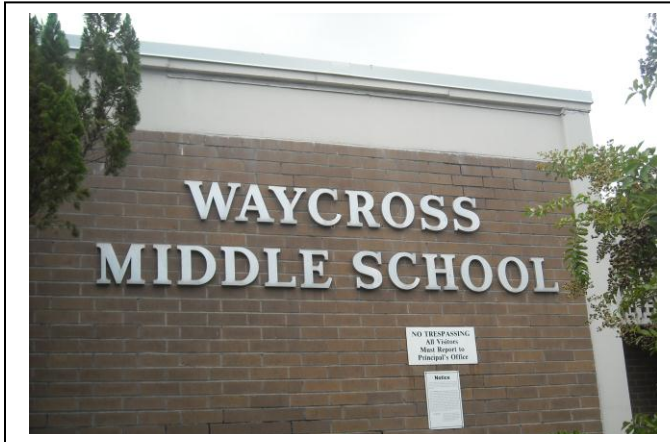




GEORGIA LIGHTHOUSE SCHOOLS TO WATCH

WAYCROSS MIDDLE SCHOOL—VISITOR'S GUIDE

Waycross Middle School



2010-2011 School Statistics

(Source: Enter name of data source for stats listed below.)

Community: Rural
Enrollment: 576
Grade Levels: 6-8
School Schedule: 8:00 – 3:30

Student Demographics

3.3%	Hispanic
44.4%	White
48.4%	African American
3.1%	Other
.7%	Asian/Pacific Islander
66%	Free/Reduced Lunch
1%	English Learners

2005 AYP: Met all criteria
2006 AYP: Met all criteria
2007 AYP: Met all criteria
2008 AYP: Met all criteria
2009 AYP: Met all criteria
2010 AYP: Met all criteria

Designated in 2011

Waycross Middle School (WMS) • District: Ware •
County: Ware • State: GA • Principal: Tim Dixon •
School Address: 700 Central Ave Waycross, GA. 31501 •
Phone (912) 287-2333, Fax: (912) 287-2352
Website : www.ware.k12.ga.us/schools/wxms/index.shtm/

School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

Academic Excellence

- Interdisciplinary teams who focus on standards based instruction and differentiated instruction
- All staff trained in learning focus for more engaging curriculum
- Co-teaching at all grade levels
- 21st Century Technology integrated into teaching units
- Georgia School of Excellence in Student Achievement
- Title 1 Distinguished School
- Governor's Office of Student Achievement Silver Award
- High Flying School Honorable Mention
- Top 10 for Outstanding Improvement (8th grade Social Studies)

Developmental Responsiveness

- Leadership Team and counselor meet to identify at risk students
- Strong Teachers As Advisors program – Bi-weekly
- Intervention specialist works with at-risk students
- Positive Intervention Training (PIT) – school wide positive discipline plan teaches respect, ownership, caution and knowledge
- Students involved in service learning projects
- Strong fine arts programs
- Data reviews with analysis of academic, disciplinary, gender information, etc.
- Work Ethic Contract

- Monthly Attendance panel meetings
- Strong competitive Athletic program

Social Equity

- Individualized schedules to meet all students' needs
- Club meetings during school day to offer opportunities for all to be involved- Bi-weekly
- Student of the month program - Student recognition
- Bulldog Bucks– positive/incentive Character Education plan – school wide
- Data analyzed from teacher, parent, student surveys
- English Language learner teacher on site
- 100% Inclusive setting for SWD
- Plus program (Peer Leadership and Understanding Students)

Organizational Supports

- School leadership team with representative from all areas of faculty who analyze data and guide school improvement efforts
- Instructional Support Specialist provides professional learning and resources for staff
- Interdisciplinary teams
- Staff members lead professional learning
- Teachers observe one another's classrooms
- Monthly “grade level” meetings with assistant principal
- Connection teachers involved in all aspects of school
- Supportive PTO board, school council and Partners in Excellence
- Transitional meetings with 5th grade students and 6th grade teachers
- Transitional meetings with 8th grade students and 9th grade teachers
- Monthly Department meetings
- Outdoor lunch opportunities
- Interdisciplinary units developed and implemented