

VIRGINIA SCHOOL To WATCH MODEL SCHOOL - VISITOR'S GUIDE



Home of the
High Flying
Hawks



Gainesville Middle School



Designated 2011

Gainesville Middle School
8001 Limestone Drive
Manassas, VA 2155
703.753.2997

Dr. S. MacLean, Principal
On the web @ [GVMS](#)



Prince William County
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Providing a World-Class Education

2010 – 2011 School Statistics

Community: Gainesville Middle is one of 15 middle schools in Prince William County Public School Division in Virginia.

Enrollment – 1372

Grade Level 6- 8

School Demographics

- 12.3% Asian / Pacific Islander
- 13.1% Black / African American
- 13.2% Hispanic
- 56.9% White
- 4.5% Other
- 13.5% Econ. Disadv.
- 11% ESOL
- 10.1% Special Education
- 17.2% Gifted

School schedule:

7 periods per day - 7th & 8th grade
6 periods per day - 6th grade
Block, Weds/Thurs

2008 Fully Accredited
2009 AYP: Fully Accredited
2010 AYP: Fully Accredited

School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

- Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) – 2008-2009 & 2009-2010
- School of Excellence, Prince William County Schools– 2008-2009 & 2009-2010
- Strong instructional focus by the Administrative Team
- Enhanced Curriculum Opportunities in: Drama, Journalism, Creative Writing
- Award winning music program – Blue Ribbon School 2009-2010
- High expectations of all students for academic success in a World Class Educational System
- Teachers focus on differentiation
- Focus on student learning and mastering of the standards
- Teachers provide real-world experiences for the students
- Master schedule allows shared planning time for departments
- Block scheduling on Wednesday and Thursday – one day of classes is spread out over two days, increasing the number of minutes for each subject
- Strong Literacy Committee
- Gainesville Gets Reading time is set aside once a week for silent reading in all classrooms
- Emphasis on English/Language Arts
- Technology focused instruction – use of SmartBoards in all classrooms, readily available computer access for all students
- Principal's Pride – Monthly recognition of outstanding students nominated by the grade level teams
- Monthly student recognition for all honor roll and principal's honor roll students
- Professional Learning Communities
- Professional learning opportunities are strongly encouraged
- Individual Learning Plan (ILP) for each student

DEVELOPMENTAL RESPONSIVENESS

- Gainesville is a community of support and caring - no issue is too small if a child has a concern
- Guidance Counselors loop from grade to grade with the students
- Students are encouraged to relearn and retest
- Respect and courtesy are promoted as the most important traits for students
- Career Investigations for 7th grade students
- Tools for Success for 8th grade students
- Gifted (SIGNET) teachers work closely with the general education teachers in the capacity as coaches
- Inclusive and friendly climate
- Bi-monthly parent/student newsletter
- Weekly principal's newsletter to staff: *Gainesville Gossip*
- SCA – Student Activities
- Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)
- Principal Advisory Council (PAC)
- International Day
- Middle School Council (MSC)
- Parents as Educational Partners (PEP) program for second language parents
- Variety of afterschool activities/clubs for the diverse interests of our students.
- After-school SOL preparation program

- Saturday after-school preparation program
- Writing Lab

SOCIAL EQUITY

- Rachel's Challenge Club– Anti- Bullying Organization
- Lunch Bunch Groups
- 8th grade outdoor lunch privileges

ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT

- Strong administrative structure
- Guidance counselors that move up with the student each year
- Teaming on all grade levels
- Excellent technology support
- Many teachers working on their Master of Education degree
- Three teachers pursuing National Board Certification
- Recruit student teachers from our local universities
- Professional Learning Community (PLC)
- Middle School Council (MSC)
- Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)
- Principal's Advisory Council (PAC)
- Faculty Advisory Council (FAC)
- Monthly faculty meetings
- Pursuing excellence
- High expectations for student behavior
- Collaborative planning time
- Disciplinary consequences that correct student behavior without interrupting instruction
- Staff member of the month – selected by colleagues at monthly faculty meetings
- Strong classified employee support staff
- Strong parent involvement and volunteers