

GEORGIA LIGHTHOUSE SCHOOL TO WATCH WAYCROSS MIDDLE SCHOOL—VISITOR’S GUIDE

Waycross Middle School



Designated in: 2011
Redesignated: 2017

Waycross Middle School (WMS) • Ware County •
Waycross, GA • David Hitt, Principal •
dhitt@ware.k12.ga.us

School Address: 700 Central Ave., Waycross, GA 31501
Phone: 912-287-2333, FAX: 912-287-2352

2018-2019 School Statistics

Community: Small Town with population of 14,000

Grade Levels: 6-8

School Schedule: 7 period day

School Enrollment: 593 students

Student Demographics

Hispanic:6%

White:34%

African American: ... 52%

Asian:2%

Multi-race:6%

Male:51%

Female:49%

English Learners: ...0.5%

Gifted:18%

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2015 CCRPI SCORE: 83.8

2016 CCRPI SCORE: 77

2017 CCRPI SCORE: 64.5

2018 CCRPI SCORE: 71.8

School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

Academic Excellence

- Title I Distinguished School 2007-2011
- Reward School 2016-2017
- 2017-2018 High Progress School (Beating the Odds)
- Technology in every classroom (SmartBoards, 4-6 desktops, Senteo student response devices, LCD projectors) - 3 Chromebook carts per grade level
- 9th grade ELA & Math offered to top 8th graders
- Co-Teaching in all grade levels
- Staff is 100% highly qualified and trained in Learning Focus
- Weekly study hall for students who have incomplete assignments
- Benchmark testing throughout the district to allow teachers to assess student level of understanding and work with other teachers to strengthen strategies and pedagogy

Developmental Responsiveness

- Weekly Leadership Team meeting to identify at risk students
- ELT (Extended Learning Time) – meets daily to build relationships with students and meet individual needs of students
- Reading and Math Response to Intervention teachers working with below grade level students
- Positive Intervention Training (PIT) – school wide positive discipline plan teaches respect, ownership, caution and knowledge
- PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention System) implemented throughout the school
- Award winning fine arts program in band and chorus
- Vertical planning days for academic teachers
- Professional development that promotes school and individual objectives and goals
- Monthly attendance and behavior data analysis meetings
- End of the year – STEM focus activities
- STEM Connection class
- Athletic program that supports academic achievement
- Students involved in community service and volunteer programs

Social Equity

- Club meetings during school day to offer opportunities for all to be involved - Weekly
- Wide variety of student recognitions throughout the year
- Variety of learning strategies utilized to meet the differentiated needs of students
- Caught you reading program – weekly award to students caught reading outside the academic setting
- Throughout the year, students have the opportunity to be involved in activities and fund raising to help others
- English Language learner teacher on site
- 100% Inclusive setting for SWD
- Plus program (Peer Leadership and Understanding Students)

Organizational Supports

- Individualized schedules to meet all students' needs
- Leadership team collaborates on schedule to allow for creative options for students to participate in various opportunities
- Common grade level planning
- Daily “Good Morning” email from the principal with teacher information
- Wide use of google classroom and other google technologies
- Data from teacher, parent, student surveys analyzed and shared with all stakeholders
- Regular parent meetings designed to keep parents informed of educational and time-sensitive information
- School wide mission statement