

JASPER MIDDLE SCHOOL - HOME OF THE DRAGONS

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Jasper, GA 30143

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Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.
Principal: Dr. David R. Wilds
Assistant Principal: Tim Baisden
Academic Coach: Katie Sobolewski
Counselor: Jennie Smith

Welcome Back from your Principal! Welcome to "Where Dragon Nation Begins!" On behalf of our faculty and staff, I want to let you know we are excited about the opportunity to engage and nurture our students – your children. Jasper Middle School will consist of all fifth and sixth grade students in Pickens County.

We have been given a unique opportunity for all of these students to join together to create the new JMS, and I am privileged to serve as your principal. We have a host of faculty and staff members that are eager to begin the year as we look to make this one to remember!



David R. Wilds
Principal

Middle school can prove to be challenging at many levels, and rest assured that we are here to support our students and their families. Students will be learning and exploring many things academically, but they will also begin learning how to do things independently as they take on more responsibilities for their learning. At JMS, our goal is to establish and maintain open lines of communication between students, teachers, and families.

Again, welcome to Jasper Middle School – where Dragon Nation begins! We hope you will be able to join us for Open House and explore the building to see the fantastic environment in which your children will be learning. Be sure to check out the new mural! See you soon and remember, Go Dragons!

What we want our Parents to know

At Jasper Middle School, we want our parents to know that we look for-

ward to building strong relationships with you. This year, we want you to know a few things before school begins:

- 1) Our first goal is keeping our students safe. If you are visiting the school, you will need to sign-in at the front office. This applies at all times; it is important that we always know who is in our building.
- 2) We ask for your patience as we work to get things up and running smoothly, especially with our daily routine. Remember, we are a group of students, teachers, and administrators new to one another. We will get it right, especially with your support.
- 3) We are excited about the new configuration of schools. As a parent, please talk with your child's teachers or Dr. Wilds should questions or concerns arise. We are happy to work with you to answer any and all questions.

What we want our Students to know

Jasper Middle School is looking forward to having each of you this year! The year is quickly upon us, but we want you to know a few things before you arrive:

- 1) Your safety is our main concern. We encourage and expect you to take care of yourself and each other by being a good friend, and showing respect toward others in the building including your teachers.
- 2) We are looking for JMS students to be leaders. We will provide opportunities for you to engage in fun learning activities throughout the day, every day! You will begin to take responsibility for your own learning while working to become more independent. No worries though – your teachers will support and guide you.
- 3) You may have been a bulldog, eagle, hawk, or tiger before now, but here, you are a DRAGON! We believe in you and know that you can accomplish great things while at JMS.

Our Daily Routine

Learning begins at 8:30 each day.
Doors will open at 7:15 a.m.
School ends at 3:30 p.m.
Students will be dismissed at 3:35 p.m.

Drop-off and Pick-up Procedures

Morning car rider drop-off for students will be in front of the school beginning at 7:15 a.m. Bus riders will be dropped off in the back of the school. Afternoon car rider pick-up for students will be in the back of the school. Buses will load in front of the building in the afternoon.



We kindly ask that parents be attentive when dropping-off and picking-up students, avoiding distractions which may draw your attention away from the movement of students, adults, and other traffic. Our goal is to keep everyone safe!

Parent – Teacher Organization

We believe working together is essential to your child's success. If you are interested in getting involved, please call the school.

Open House

July 27th from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Morning Care and After-School Programs

We will offer an After-School Program each day. The cost is \$7 if paid in advance or \$9 if paid on the day care is

provided. The After-School Program runs until 6:00 daily. We do provide a nutritional snack to students who participate. If this is a service you'd like to take advantage of, please complete the registration form at Open House.

Let's Connect!

Our website is jaspermid.pickens.k12.ga.us/

Final Thoughts

This is going to be an amazing year! We have all of the pieces for success gathered here – students, families, teachers, and all other JMS staff members. If you have ideas you'd like to share or concerns of any kind, please reach out to our administration. We look forward to having you as a part of our school community – "where Dragon nation begins."



Buddy up

Many schools will give out classroom assignments a few days before the first day of school. Parents can investigate who is in their child's home-room and initiate contact with the parents of one or more of those students. Collectively, parents can make a buddy plan for students to arrive to school together and enter the classroom as a team. Coordinate clothing colors or have students wear another unifying symbol. This may allay fears and make the first day of school more fun.