We Are

TOWNS COUNTY SCHOOLS
STUDENTS REACHING THEIR HIGHEST POTENTIAL
It is with great pride that I invite you to discover the Towns County Schools. As an educational organization, we are committed to offering a quality experience for the Students of Towns County. Our efforts toward improving student achievement are making a difference. As we look toward the future, our goal is to ensure that every student receives a quality education.

The students of Towns County are fortunate to be supported by a strong community who plays a vital role in fostering academic achievement and encouraging extra-curricular activities. By working together, focusing our efforts, and keeping students at the heart of every decision made, we will make certain that every student reaches their highest potential.

Dr. Richard Behrens
Superintendent

2010-2011 Towns County Schools Board of Education

- Mr. Michael Anderson
- Mr. Bob Gibby
- Mrs. Donna Hedden
- Mr. Larry Kimsey
- Mrs. Emily Phillips

Towns County Schools System Goals

- TCS will increase student achievement and success for all students.
- TCS will increase student, family, and community involvement.
- TCS will promote its image throughout the community, region, and state.
- TCS will increase the quality of and student participation in extra-curricular activities.

The system goals are established at the annual board retreat.

The mission of the Towns County School System is to ensure that all students achieve at their highest potential.

The vision of Towns County Schools is to provide an exceptional education for all students in a safe, caring environment that develops lifelong learners who become responsible individuals, independent thinkers and productive citizens.
The mission of the Towns County Elementary School is to nurture, guide, and challenge all students in a safe environment so that they become life long learners, creative problem solvers, and competent decision makers.

Mr. Don Dermody, Principal
Dr. Sandra Page, Assistant Principal

School Facts

- Enrollment– 536 Kindergarten through 5th grade
- 100% Highly Qualified Teachers and Paraprofessionals
- 15 teachers with Bachelor’s Degrees; 15 teachers with Master’s Degrees; 15 teachers with Specialist’s Degrees
- Student/Teacher Ratio– 14:1
- Average years of teaching experience—13.2

Activities

- CRCT Celebrations
- Star Students
- Honor Roll Programs
- Catch’em Being Good
- Student Council
- Open House
- Parent Teacher Conferences
- PTSO
- Counseling
- Mentoring
- Niyelo

Awards

- Title 1 Distinguished School.
- TCES has made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for 8 consecutive years.
- Georgia Accrediting Commission
- SACS Accreditation.
Academic Programs

- Reading Recovery
- Instructional Grouping
- Learning Focused Schools
- Extended Day Program
- Small Group Instruction
- Pull Out Programs
- Guided Reading
- Summer School
- Music
- Art
- P.E.
- Media
- Computer

Parental Involvement

- School Council
- Volunteers
- Business Partners in Education
- Be There Campaign

Learning Through Technology

- Success Maker
- Classworks
- IXL Math
- Read Naturally
- Fast Math
- Interwrite– Smart Board
- Accelerated Reading
- Accelerated Math
- Microsoft PowerPoint
- Microsoft Word

We're on the web: www.towns.k12.ga.us
The mission of Towns County Middle School is to inspire every teacher and student to think, to learn, and to achieve at their highest potential.

Mr. Darren Berrong, Principal  
Mrs. Erica Chastain, Counselor

Towns County Middle School is a small school with approximately 280 students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. Qualified, dedicated teachers, many of whom attended school here, provide a culture where people know and care about each other. To support the development and well-being of all students, the counselor, intervention specialist, and Family Connection provide student support through individual and group counseling. A full-time police resource officer helps with preventive measures.

The implementation of the middle school concept is a factor in the overall success of TCMS. Students and teachers are divided into teams by grade level which provides a sense of belonging and seeks to address the special physical, social, mental, and emotional changes associated with adolescence. Georgia Performance Standards guide the curriculum and assessment and research-based instructional strategies facilitate learning for all students. To expose students to a variety of potential interests, Connections classes are available to students:

- Keyboarding  
- Business (FBLA)  
- Weight Lifting  
- Drama/Chorus  
- Physical Education  
- Introduction to Agriculture/Future Farmer’s of America (FFA)  
- Band  
- Accelerated Math  
- SuccessMaker

**Awards**

- Title 1 Distinguished School.  
- TCMS has made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for 8 consecutive years.  
- Georgia Accrediting Commission  
- SACS Accredited

**Student Academic Success**

- TCMS students ranked 1st in the Pioneer RESA region for 8th grade social studies with a pass rate of 91%.  
- TCMS students ranked 2nd in the Pioneer RESA region for 6th grade reading with a pass rate of 96%, 8th grade at 98%, and 8th grade ELA at 94%.  
- TCMS students ranked 3rd in the Pioneer RESA region for 7th grade reading at 96%, 7th grade math at 93% and 7th grade social studies at 90%.  
- TCMS 8th grade social studies ranked 5th, 7th grade social studies ranked 9th, while 8th grade reading and ELA, 7th grade reading and math, and 6th grade reading all ranked in the top 20 out of 184 school systems in Georgia.
TCMS Interscholastic Sports (Grades 6-8)

- Football
- Basketball
- Wrestling
- Soccer
- Dance
- Fastpitch Softball
- Baseball
- Golf
- Cross Country
- Cheerleading

Towns County Middle School offers a variety of co-curricular and extra curricular organizations in which students can participate. These activities allow students to discover and extend their interests and abilities, as well as accommodate the needs of the adolescent. Students can join Future Farmer’s of America (FFA) and Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). Other organizations include 4-H, student council, and Niyelo.

Additional School Facts
- 100% Highly Qualified Teachers and Paraprofessionals
- 5 teachers with Bachelor’s Degrees; 6 teachers with Master’s Degrees; 11 teachers with Specialist's Degrees
- Student/Teacher Ratio—12:1
- Average years of teaching experience—13.6
Towns County High

The mission of Towns County High School is to ensure that all students experience educational success.

Mr. Roy Perren, Principal
Dr. Sheri Hardin, Assistant Principal

Awards & Successes

- For 2006-2007, TCHS received the state Platinum award for Greatest Gain in Percentage of Students Meeting and Exceeding Standards
- 2007 Region 8-A Governor’s Cup Challenge Winner
- 2008 Governor’s Cup Challenge Class A State Winner
- TCHS has made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for 7 consecutive years
- Distinguished AYP School 5 consecutive years.
- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

2010 % Passing GHSGT vs. State

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Winter 2009 & Spring 2010 Combined EOCT % Passing vs. State

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**TCHS Interscholastic Sports**

- Football
- Boys Basketball
- Girls Basketball—State Playoffs
- Wrestling—Individual State Qualifiers
- Boys Tennis
- Girls Tennis
- Fastpitch Softball
- Baseball
- Golf
- Cross Country—State Finalists
- Cheerleading
- Soccer
- Indian Raider Marching Band
- Chorus/Music

**TCHS Student Organizations**

- Beta Club
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)
- Yearbook Staff
- SADD Club
- Student Council
- Scream Team
- Quantum Science Club
- Academic Team
- Arrowhead Club

**Career Technical Agriculture Education**

- Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) - State Winners
- Healthcare Occupations Student Association (HOSA)
- Future Farmers of America (FFA)

**2010 Graduates**

- College Prep Seal——— 13 Graduates
- Tech Prep Seal ———— 19 Graduates
- Dual Seal——————— 27 Graduates

**Scholarships**

- Local, National, & State ——— $900,000.00
  Total Recipients: 34 out of 59
- HOPE Scholarship———$ 755,000.00
  Total Recipients: 25 out of 59

**Additional School Facts**

- Enrollment—340 students 9th through 12th grades
- 100% Highly Qualified Teachers and Paraprofessionals
- 7 teachers with Bachelor’s Degrees; 10 teachers with Master’s Degrees; 9 teachers with Specialist’s Degrees; 2 teachers with Doctoral Degrees
- Student/Teacher Ratio—13:1
- Average years of teaching experience—14.3
Towns County Schools’ Balanced Score Card represents the system’s accomplishments and goals for student achievement. Under each school year represented, Towns County’s percentage of students meeting or exceeding standards is listed first and followed by the state’s percentage of students meeting or exceeding the standards. Those areas where Towns County is at or below the state average are highlighted in yellow.

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| HS Grad Test TC/State Average | English % passing 1st time | 99/96 | 100/96 | 89/89 | 86/90 | 91/99 |
|                               | Math                          | 91/92 | 92/92 | 96/93 | 95/94 | 94/91 |
|                               | Soc Studies                   | 88/86 | 82/87 | 85/86 | 86/87 | 76/78 |
|                               | Science                       | 73/73 | 87/74 | 89/86 | 86/88 | 91/99 |

| HS Grad Writing Test TC/State Average | % passing 1st time | 94/92 | 94/94 | 93/91 | 84/91 | 90/91 |
| High School Completion*Graduation Rate |                       | 86/71 | 86/72 | 80/75 | 93/78 | 96 |
| High School SAT Scores Math/Verbal/Writing |                   | 1390/1468 | 1434/1458 | 1490/1468 | 1462/1469 | 1276/1442 |
| High School SAT Scores Math/Verbal |                       | 924/985 | 955/880 | 900/984 | 951/981 | 913/971 |
| High School ACT Scores |                       | N/A | 18.4/20.3 | 21.5/20.6 | 21.3/20.6 | 19,020.7 |
Towns County Schools offers a unique setting with all three schools being housed on one campus. The elementary school houses kindergarten through fifth grade and 9th District’s Headstart/Pre-K program. The middle and high school reside in the same building being separated by administrative offices, cafeteria, and media center. All three schools share an auditorium. Athletic facilities include a football field, track, baseball field, softball field, tennis courts, soccer field, high school gymnasium, and middle school gymnasium.

The facilities of Towns County Schools are a testament to the value the citizens of Towns County place on education, athletics, and their children.

Towns County Schools became the first public school system in Georgia with a wind turbine on June 30, 2010. The wind project, a partnership between TCS, Blue Ridge Mountain EMC and the Georgia Wind Working Group, will enhance the learning experience for students, faculty and visitors.
Towns County School System

Towns County Board of Education
67 Lakeview Circle, Suite C
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(706) 896-2279
Fax: (706) 896-2632

Central Office Administration
Dr. Richard Behrens, Superintendent
Aundrea Wilson, Curriculum/Personnel Director
Larry Shook, Technology Director
Michelle Pyrlik, Special Education Director
Myra Underwood, Finance Director
Cindi Dean, School Nutrition Director

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Mr. Don Dermody, Principal
Dr. Sandy Page, Asst. Principal
Sabrina King, Counselor

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Mr. Darren Berrong, Principal
Erica Chastain, Counselor
Jim Melton, Athletic Director

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Hiawassee, GA 30546
(706) 896-4131
Fax: (706) 896-6628

Mr. Roy Perren, Principal
Dr. Sheri Hardin, Asst. Principal
Duncan Weekley, Counselor
Brent Brookshire, Graduation Coach
Mitzi Holloway, Vocational Director
Shannon Moss, 1st Semester
Athletic Director
Kyle Langford, 2nd Semester
Athletic Director

Visit our website at:
www.towns.k12.ga.us