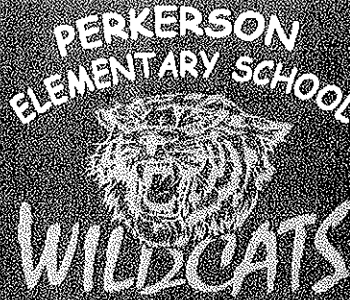


**WE MADE
AYP FOR
THE
2010-2011
SCHOOL
YEAR!**



Perkerson Gazette

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 2012

A SCHOOL WHERE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IS THE NORM

Jermaine R. Dawson, Principal

The mission of Thomas Jefferson Perkerson Elementary School is to empower students to achieve excellence in academics, character, and citizenship as independent, lifelong learners.



Jermaine R. Dawson brings a wealth of professional experience and extensive academic preparation to his role as principal of Perkerson Elementary School. He has held positions at the building and district levels in Atlanta, Clayton, Cobb, Fulton, and Gwinnett counties. As a program manager with the State Department of Education, Mr. Dawson designed instruments to measure teacher effectiveness and managed National Board Certified Teachers, the GA Master Teachers Program, and CLASS KEYS. Prior to leading Perkerson, he served as a Professor of Education at Shorter College, Instructional Leadership Specialist, Assistant Principal, and Compliance Officer in the Atlanta Public Schools Central Office. Mr. Dawson holds a B.A. in Education from Morehouse College and a Masters of Educational Leadership from Kennesaw State University, where he is currently pursuing his doctorate.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

On the Horizon 2

2011-2012 2
Instructional
Focus

FALL SEMESTER HIGHLIGHTS

- Made AYP for the 2010-2011 School Year
- Seven students received **First Place** honors at the SRT-1 One Academic Fair held in December. Fifth-grader Ayanna Prather represented Perkerson at the District Level Fair in the Jr. Division.
- Students, staff, and parents joined hundreds of schools from around the state in Rachel's Challenge. The event, sponsored by 11 Alive, culminated in the construction of a mile-long chain symbolizing kindness and compassion at the Georgia Dome.
- Recipient of The Laura Bush Media Grant of \$5000.00

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2011-2012 Jr. Beta Club Induction Ceremony



Volunteers from Morgan Stanley lead students in a stock market simulation game. Perkerson finished 9th in the state-wide competition held in the Fall. Perkerson competed against middle and high schools in Georgia.

School Website:

www.atlanta.k12.ga.us/Domain/695

ON THE HORIZON

- Promethean Boards in Every Classroom
- Mentoring Program in partnership with the Fulton County District Attorney's Office and Georgia State Judges
- Parent Workshops on ways to support instruction at home
- Monday Madness and Thursday Thrivers Tutorial Programs
- Student Winner of the Ben Carson Scholars Award
- Literacy/Math Curriculum Nights
- Jr. Beta Club Diaper Drive
- Pi Day (an international celebration of mathematics)
- Stock Market Game (Spring Competition)
- Principal-Parent Roundtables (to discuss student achievement)
- Parent Volunteer Program
- School-wide Gifted Teacher Certification Initiative



Perkerson rolls out the red carpet in honor of our Students of the Month. Pictured are students entering the bi-monthly celebration, which features a hot breakfast for students and their families.



Last fall, students in the gifted program visited the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta to learn about the monetary institution's role in promoting development and supporting access to financial services.

2011-2012 Instructional Focus

TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Teachers are engaged in on-going research-based professional learning that focuses on integrating literacy in the content areas. Teachers are trained on best research-based instructional practices aligned to specific learning goals and the highest levels of Bloom's Taxonomy that lead to high student achievement.



Teachers gain valuable content and pedagogical knowledge to continuously increase their effectiveness in the classroom. Our goal is a world-class education for all children.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE INCENTIVES

March Madness- Students are assigned to cooperative groups named for well-known college basketball teams. Each week students earn points, individually and as a team, based on performance on assessments in all core subject. The team and individual (MVP) with the best overall performance, each week, earns awards

Sailing Along with Success For All- Students receive class and individual incentives for returning a completed Read and Respond Log. The completion of the logs increases fluency and comprehension and encourages reading outside of the classroom. Prizes are awarded individually and as a class.

Reader's Café- Students participate in a special book club during lunch which focuses on increasing fluency, building higher-level comprehension skills and centers around character-building.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY FOCUS

Jr. Engineering Club- The purpose is to foster technological literacy among young children. The goal is to inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers through early exposure to technology, applied math, computer programming and robotics in a fun, cooperative setting.