



# GEORGIA LIGHTHOUSE SCHOOLS TO WATCH

## MIDDLE SCHOOL—VISITOR'S GUIDE

### Middle School

*School picture here*

#### Designated in 2013; Redesignated in 2016

**Middle School** • District – Fulton County Schools • County  
- **Fulton** • State - **Georgia** • Principal – Chris Shearer •  
School Address – 2700 Holcomb Bridge Rd., Alpharetta,  
GA 30022 • Phone – (470) 254-5280 • **Principal E-mail** –  
shearer@fultonschools.org  
School Web site –  
<http://school.fultonschools.org/ms/holcombbridge/Pages/default.aspx>

### 2015-2016 School Statistics

Community: Suburban; Roswell, GA (pop. 94,034)  
Enrollment: 787  
Grade Levels: 6-8  
School Schedule: 8 periods, including an enrichment period; rotates every 9 weeks

#### Student Demographics

39% Hispanic  
27% White  
26% African American  
4% Asian  
54% Free/Reduced Lunch  
6% English Learners  
13% Special Education

2010 AYP: Yes

2011 AYP: Yes

2012 CCRPI score: 79.9

2013 CCRPI score: 78.3

2014 CCRPI score: 72.6

2015 CCRPI score: yet to be released

## School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

### Academic Excellence

- Rotating Bell Schedule
- Learning Labs targeted at enrichment, extension, and project-based learning
- Push-In/Team Taught classes for ELL students
- Common Formative and Summative assessments
- Professional Learning Communities- content and interdisciplinary
- “Launching Pad” zero-hour academic intervention program
- STEM Leadership Academy
- Project Based Learning classrooms and interdisciplinary units
- 1:1 Personalized Learning School with Digital Promise/Verizon iPads for every student
- AVID program school

### Developmental Responsiveness

- iCARE Positive Behavior Program
- Intramural Sports program
- Connections classes - Music (Band, Chorus, Orchestra), Art (including H.S. Introduction to Art), Business and Computer Science, Engineering (including H.S. credit Foundations of Engineering Technology), Physical Education and Health, and AVID
- “Taste of Holcomb Bridge” World Street Fair
- Personalized learning in every classroom with integration of instructional technology such as Edgenuity, iXL Math, Redbird Math, STAR Reading and Math
- House teams that create small academic schools within the larger school
- G.A.T.E. mentoring program
- Comprehensive counseling program (2 full time counselors and 1 full time graduation coach)
- Community Support - Title I Parent Liaison and Bilingual Parent Liaison (Spanish and outreach to our Hispanic Community)
- Recess and Clubs are integrated into the school day one day per week.

### Social Equity

- Common Core Standards-Based Classroom for all students
- Center-based program for ELL
- Center-based program for Moderate Intellectual Disability and Autism programs
- Mixed model core area classes to provide expanded access to advanced and accelerated courses
- Boys 2 Men and Girls, Inc. mentoring programs, Power Over Prejudice and No Bullying Campaign
- 1:1 iPad initiative with 5GB per month data package provided by Digital Promise and Verizon
- Common Sense Media Certified School promoting responsible digital citizenship
- CISS TAG identification process for gifted students
- SST process to support students with a myriad of interventions

### Organizational Support

- Professional Learning Communities that establish norms, structures and organizational arrangements to support student learning and staff growth
- “Educational Commitment to Excellence” agreement between teachers, parents and students
- Content area and grade level Professional Learning Communities
- Vertical teaming (across grade levels, and across to the high school level)
- Backwards Design Days in content areas
- Student Support Team (SST) and Response to Intervention (Rtl)
- Fulton Education Foundation grant recipient for \$225,000 to support Project Based Learning, Launching Pad and AVID initiatives
- School Governance Council consisting of elected staff, parents and community members that crafts and guides the school 3-year Strategic Plan