

NEWS RELEASE

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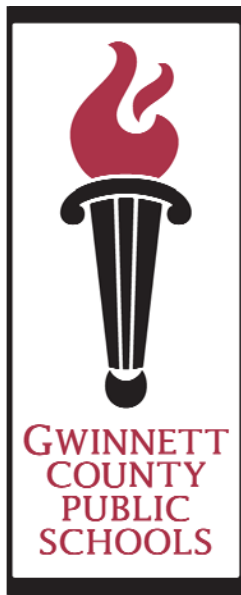
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Gwinnett's Lilburn Middle and Louise Radloff Middle showcased for increased student achievement

Their strong partnerships with their communities to help students academically, have earned **Lilburn Middle** and **Louise Radloff Middle** the national spotlight as “exemplary” schools. Both schools were recently honored for their use of a mentoring program, which pairs up students with community members to receive one-on-one instructional time. The “HOSTS Mentoring and Intervention (M&I) Best Practices Exemplary Award” commends both Gwinnett schools for their commitment to helping students achieve to their maximum potential.

“Our mentors have helped our students build confidence and competence to achieve academically,” says **Dr. Patty Heitmuller**, Louise Radloff Middle principal. Dr. Heitmuller explains that these mentors play a critical role, as students who struggle do so because of a lack of confidence, and not because of a lack of an ability to learn. “Our mentors help our students see beyond their middle school years. This way, they better understand how achieving in middle school will allow them to realize their goals. The relationships our mentors build with their students communicate a strong message of ‘I believe in you, and I’m not going to let you get by with anything less than your best.’”

The award was presented to both schools by HOSTS (Helping One Student To Succeed) Learning, a provider of learning solutions assisting school systems with closing the achievement gap. The HOSTS M&I solution is designed to address specifically the individual learning needs of struggling K-12 students. It serves as a classroom program, which ties formative assessment data and research-based best practices together with a school’s existing curriculum resources to create customized learning paths for each student.



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not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex,
religion, national origin, age, or disability in any
employment practice, educational program, or any
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To be considered for the honor, schools submitted a comprehensive, three-part application complete with letters of recommendation from teachers, parents, students, and mentors, along with examples of individual learning plans. The schools also were asked to summarize the achievement results of students in the program including results from state, standardized, and other student assessments.

This is the second year in a row both schools received this HOSTS Learning recognition.

For more information about HOSTS Learning, visit www.hosts.com