

WE ARE PORTER . . .

Porter Elementary School is located in the southern part of the Bibb County School District serving grades Pre-K through 5. It has been the center of a small, close-knit community of caring families since 1968. Porter Elementary is fully accredited by the State of Georgia and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Porter has met Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) each year and has been recognized as a Distinguished School for eight years. At Porter, a positive school climate enhances the self-esteem of students and staff. When students complete 5th grade at Porter Elementary School, they transition to Rutland Middle School.

For the 2010-11 school year, Porter serves approximately 524 students in grades Pre-K through 5th. Approximately 39.5% of students at Porter qualify for free or reduced lunches. The student population consists of approximately 56.49% White, 23.09% Black, 14.89% Hispanic, 2.29% Asian and 3.05% Multi-racial with less than 0.19% American Indian and Alaskan Native.

Porter Elementary is all about the business of learning. It is a welcoming happy place, where student learning and teaching successes are main priorities. Porter is a place of high expectations, not only for students, but for parents and staff, as well. Staff members take pride in their instruction, dedication, and the reputation of the school.

The Porter Elementary staff uses the Georgia Leadership Institute for School Improvement (GLISI) Module as a guide to analyze CRCT Data and determine root causes. The module is a step-by-step guide used to analyze achievement data. Module 2 (GLISI) is used as a guide to provide a forum and framework. All staff members analyzed other grade level data and provided improvement strategies. Parents contributed pertinent information through surveys conducted by the Family Involvement Facilitator.

Porter uses standardized assessment data to improve individual student achievement and to measure general school effectiveness. Types of data analyzed are:

CRCT Data
ITBS Data
Writing Assessments
Discipline Reports
Aimsweb Data

Parent Surveys
Thinkgate
DRA
G-Kids
Skills Tutor

Test Data is analyzed in a number of ways. Porter analyzes current achievement data with the Better Seeking Team, grade level meetings, and professional learning sessions that help teachers and parents understand the subjects and skills in which teaching and learning interventions and strategies need to be improved.

A review of the data revealed that 92% of the students taking the CRCT in Reading/Language Arts met or exceeded the standards in 2010. In the area of Mathematics, the number of students meeting or exceeding the standard in 2010 was 85.9%. Porter's targeted goals for 2011 are to increase the percentage of all students

meeting or exceeding standards on the CRCT in Reading and Language Arts by 3% to 95%. The 2011 goal for mathematics is to increase the number of all students meeting or exceeding standards on the CRCT by 2.1% to 88%.

Porter takes into account the needs of English Language Learners and provides a Highly Qualified ELL teacher to provide appropriate instruction for these students. The needs of Porter's migrant students are met in accordance with state guidance and district policies with the assistance of a migrant education liaison.

Discipline, responsibility and good character are essential components of Porter's framework of expectations. At Porter, each day begins with morning announcements and Porter's News on Channel 70. Examples of character words and traits which relate to our character education curriculum are presented each day. The readings start the school day with reflection about the importance of being good citizens and good students. Porter's schoolwide discipline program, which is based on a point system, is extremely effective. As a result of the consistency of the plan's utilization, there are very few behavior or discipline problems.

The atmosphere at Porter Elementary School is like that of a family. Porter's church neighbors willingly provide services such as beautifying the school and grounds, and donating supplies. Parents and grandparents regularly volunteer to assist teachers and staff by performing necessary operational chores. Each year Porter Elementary School is rated at or near the top of the Bibb County School System for donated volunteer hours. Porter's PTO has a strong membership and dedicated board members that constantly strive to seek innovative means to enhance and improve student success. Children at Porter Elementary School know they are respected and loved. This atmosphere combined with a dedication to learning, a framework of high expectations, and genuine caring for one another, make Porter Elementary School a wonderful place to teach and learn.

As a high performing school, Porter's teachers and staff will always be compelled to succeed by the desire to maintain Porter's record of excellence. Porter's teachers will also be compelled by their personal commitment to learning, sharing of knowledge, the calling to serve the students entrusted to them, and the desire to "leave no child behind." The Porter Faculty and Staff take great pride in what they do, and enjoy celebrating the successes of all their students.