The History of Corley Elementary



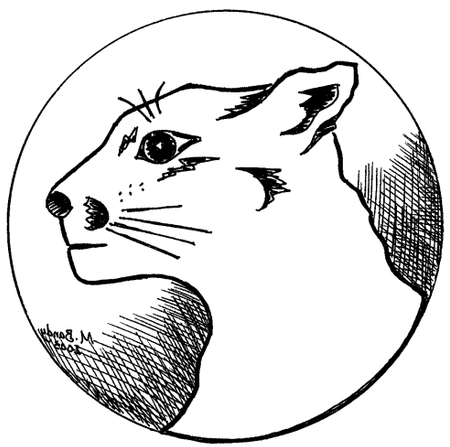
2003-2004

By

The Charter Fifth Grade FOCUS Class

We are known as the Corley Cougars!

Corley Cougar



Acknowledgement

We would like to thank the Corley family, the first fifth grade classes, the administrators, Mrs. Yvonne Guerrero and all the people that contributed to this memorable book.

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Introduction

Since Corley Elementary is a brand new school, we were given the task by Dr. Manson to write a book about this school's history. We felt that this was a great opportunity to explore our history and leave wonderful memories for the future students of Corley. We were very excited about this project. We started to think about how this school came about and how it was connected to the Corley family. Thus, our mission began. We hope you will enjoy this book as much as we enjoyed writing it.

The Corley Family

Corley Elementary was named after the Corley family that used to farm the land before Gwinnett County became a county.

Since education was very important to them most of the family members had a significant role in the field of education. Thus, many became teachers. Sarah Corley Roberts taught in Duluth and Lilburn and Corley Gilbert served as a substitute teacher. Dan Smith, one of the brothers-in-law taught at Duluth High for over 30 years and Louise Corley Dyer worked in the office at Dyer Elementary for many years.

Several of the Corley family members also served in the political arena. A.J. Corley was a county commissioner. His son, Minor, also was a commissioner. W.M. Corley served as a council member in Duluth and Marlon Corley served on the City Council and as a Mayor in Duluth.

Cont.

The Corley Family


Great
R



These are the Corley children in front of their house in 1988. Here are their names left to right…..



Left to Right: Emma, Luster, Ella, Lily, & Molly
Seated: Dallas and Susan Corley

5 of the 7 Corley children dressed for school



During the depression years, even the children had to work very hard.



This is a picture of Ophilia Corley Gilbert, a substitute teacher, and Glenda in front of a smoke house. Smoke houses were used for smoking, salting, and preserving meat before refrigeration.

The Land

In the 1900's, M.D. Corley built a store on the land where Corley Elementary is presently located. Ten years later D.L. Corley Sr. took over the store and expanded the business.



This is the Corley family store on the land Corley Elementary occupies.





This is a picture of the Corley's house on the land where Corley Elementary is presently located

Corley Elementary School

The construction of Corley Elementary started in 2002 and ended in 2003 on the Corley's family land. It was built because the two neighboring schools, Minor and Konoheda were overcrowded. Corley has six grades kindergarten through fifth. It also has a diverse population of students. There are approximately 974 students attending Corley Elementary. The teachers include 45 regular Ed, 2 multi-age special needs teachers and twenty seven support teachers. Corley has many special programs to meet the needs of its diverse population.



Corley Elementary school under construction in 2003

Corley's Charter Leadership Team



Left to right: Mrs. Anna Elliot, Ms. Debra Scott, Dr. Valerie Manson, and Mrs. Debbie Wyatt.

Our Principal



Corley Elementary school has been very fortunate to be under the leadership of Dr. Valerie Manson.
Dr. Manson was born in Columbus, Ohio. She attended Lake Force and Georgia State Universities. As a child, she dreamed about working with children. Dr. Manson taught kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grades. She has been a principal for 6 years. Her slogan is “to push kids up, but not over”. Her goal is to make Corley a good learning place for all students.

Our Assistant Principals



One of our assistant principals is Ms. Debra Scott. She has been in the educational arena for 25 years because she enjoys working with children. Ms. Scott has been an assistant principal for 5 years and she has had the opportunity to open three new

schools, including Corley Elementary, during her career. Ms. Scott taught special education for 1st thru 5th grade. She is presently working with 2nd and 3rd grade. Ms. Scott thinks opening a new school is very exciting!



Another one of our assistant principals at Corley Elementary is Mrs. Anna Elliot. She has been in education for 25 years. Mrs. Elliot has taught elementary and middle grades. She has also taught special education classes. Corley is the first new school that Mrs. Elliot has ever opened. She thinks it's very exciting!



Mrs. Wyatt is also one of our assistant principals at Corley Elementary. She has been in education for over 33 years. During that time she has opened three new schools including Corley. Mrs. Wyatt has taught Kindergarten, 1st, and 3rd grades. She has also taught 6th, 7th and 8th grade reading. Her goal for Corley is for every student to reach their full potential.

Our charter counselors guide us all year long.



Our Faculty and Staff

These are the charter teachers at Corley Elementary.
They help make Corley a great place to learn.



Kindergarten



First



Second



Third



Fourth



Fifth



Support



Special Areas



These are our paraprofessionals. They help teachers make Corley a great place to learn.

This is our charter office staff. They also help Corley Elementary run smoothly.







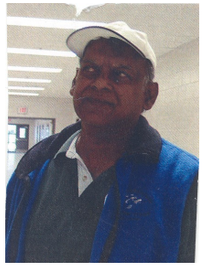





Our charter cafeteria staff makes the best lunch in Gwinnett County.











These are our charter custodians. They make Corley look good!

Special Note



Back row from left to right: Maryam Shakura, Nancy Alipio, George Reyes, Gregory Gavel, & Mark Shaver
Front row from left to right: Justin Mauer, Scott Boyd, & Marcus Bryant

Many thanks go to these fifth graders for working diligently on writing this book. They spent many long hours and days looking at pictures donated from Mr. Marlon Corley, interviewing all the administrators and reading and taking notes from Mr. Marlon Corley's dedication speech. They even looked at a book that has been around for many years, The Vanishing Gwinnett, to gain knowledge about Gwinnett County. This book is a result of their hard work and dedication. I am very proud to have worked on this project with such a unique and ambitious group of students.

Dr. Angela Broughton

There is no other place like Corley.



We are one big happy family!



Above you see the First Staff of Corley Getting ready for the students.