

The History of Our School

Our school opened in 1959 as Hazelwood Junior High. Mr. Richard Holmes, principal, along with his staff began laying the educational foundation for a school community of respect, responsibility and commitment to learning. Hazelwood Junior High School was the first Junior High School in our district. At that time, our school housed 7th, 8th and 9th grade students. Hazelwood Junior High was known for preparing its students to become adults capable of effecting positive change. In addition to offering a rich learning experience to the students through core subjects, students enjoyed a wide variety of after-school activities. Students participated in football, cheerleading, track, student council, crochet clubs, World War II clubs and gymnastics to name a few.

In 2002, the school was renamed Hazelwood Middle School. Dr. Cindy Vitale, principal, took our school on another quest. The concept of teaming became the focal point for meeting students' academic and emotional needs. We housed 7th and 8th graders. There were several 7th and 8th grade teams. The mission of providing rich learning experiences continued.

In 2007, a major milestone was reached; our district opened four new middle schools naming them after their location in the area. Our name was then changed to Northwest Middle School. Under the leadership of Mr. Darrell Strong, principal, the student make-up included 6th, 7th and 8th grade students. Remaining true to the middle school teaming model, each grade level team included core teachers, a grade level counselor, an administrator, exploratory teachers and Special School District teachers.

Today, 2009, Mrs. Willicia Hobbs, principal, and staff are serving 780 Students. There are approximately 130 students on each grade level team. The tradition of offering a rich learning experience to students through core subjects and after-school activities continues. Principal Hobbs and her staff are writing history with improved academic and behavioral successes.