

The Principals Center at Georgia State University has announced that Banneker's own **Dr. Jason Stamper** is the recipient of the **2020 Joe Richardson Award for Exemplary Leadership**. This annual award is named in honor of the founder of Georgia State's Principals Center, Dr. Joe Richardson, formerly of Harvard and the founder of the Principals Center movement. The principal nominated for this award is an educational leader who is considered highly competent and successful within the school district and among his/her professional peers. It is given to a principal who most represents the mix of leadership attributes that provides for a school environment where both students and staff excel and who exemplifies the characteristics of an instructional leader within a community of learners and leaders.

"Dr. Stamper is a highly thoughtful, motivating and transformational leader. His leadership communicates widely the efficacy he believes – all students can and will learn," boasts Dr. Gyimah Whitaker, area superintendent of South Learning Community for Fulton County Schools. "I am honored to have witnessed the transformation of Woodland Middle School and look forward to his leadership at the helm of Banneker High School. With leaders like Dr. Stamper, our community will thrive."

Dr. Stamper is a native of Baltimore, MD and a product of the Baltimore City and Baltimore County School Systems. He attended Morgan State University where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in marketing. He also attended the University of West Georgia where he earned two advanced degrees – a Master of Education degree in business education and a Doctor of Education degree in school improvement.

Dr. Stamper has experience working in various capacities throughout his 22 years in education. He began his career as a teacher in the Cobb County School District before transitioning to Fulton County Schools. He served over 11 years at Tri-Cities High School in various capacities, including teacher, department chairperson, DECA advisor, coordinator for smaller learning communities and curriculum assistant principal. He later joined Atlanta Public Schools to serve as the academy leader for the Center for Engineering and Applied Technology at Frederick Douglass High School. After one year in this position, he was promoted to principal of Carver High School – School of Technology.

In June 2014, Dr. Stamper rejoined Fulton County Schools as principal of Woodland Middle School. Under his leadership and through relentless hard work and partnerships with all stakeholders, Woodland Middle School's CCRPI score improved from 52.1 to 74.6. Additionally, Woodland's school climate score increased from ONE star to FOUR stars.

In December 2019, Dr. Stamper was named principal of BHS. He is extremely excited about leading Banneker and the community to even greater heights. He has been a vital part of this community for the past five years, as Woodland MS is Banneker's primary feeder school. Dr. Stamper's unrelenting goal has always been to create an enriched learning environment and school climate that engages and fosters boundless relationships with each student and family. He is truly excited about the continued work with this incredible community and building those boundless relationships which has led to such incredible academic and social growth. The community has truly been a partner with him in this work.

Dr. Stamper is extremely serious about and dedicated to quality student instruction, growth and achievement. His personal and professional mission is to grow every student, every day – academically and socially.

His wife, Richele Stamper, is also an educator in Fulton County Schools, and their three children, Jasmyn, Jada and Jason, Jr., are all products of Fulton County Schools.