Distinguishing Features

- Rich multicultural environment reflecting our global community.
  - 58 Countries Represented
  - 40 Languages Spoken
- Wide variety of elective offerings including Multimedia Productions and Applied Spanish and Technology.
- Onsite Honors Geometry for 8th Graders
- Student achievement reported through electronic progress reports and quarterly report cards. Periodic Progress Reports are sent electronically several times during a quarter.
- GT Coach/Resource Teacher for providing support for the development of appropriate lessons for high ability learners.

Extracurricular Activities

- Student Council
- National Junior Honor Society
- Yearbook
- Literary Magazine
- ECYBERMISSION
- College Partnership Program
- Virginia Reader’s Choice
- Geography Bee
- Math Club & Math Counts
- Art Club
- Gam3r5
- Video Productions/LJTV/Drama Club
- Soccer, Basketball, Volleyball, Cheerleading, Wrestling, Ping Pong, Step Team, Tennis & Yoga.
- Summer Institutes
  - Algebra, Surviving Middle School, Money Talks, & Sports

Communication

Luther Jackson communicates with parents in a variety of ways.

LJ Website
http://www.fcps.edu/LutherJacksonMS/.

Newsletters

Blackboard

Keep in Touch:
http://fcps.medianext.com/fcps/signup.html

Call-Outs

LUTHER JACKSON
Middle School

GIFTED & TALENTED CENTER

Building Futures Together

Luther Jackson Middle School
3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church, VA 22042
Main Office: 703-204-8100
www.fcps.edu/LutherJacksonMS
Louise Porter, Principal
Linda Washco, Director of Student Services

Luther Jackson Middle School
3020 Gallows Rd, Falls Church, VA 22042
Louise Porter, Principal
www.fcps.edu/LutherJacksonMS

Main Office: 703-204-8100
Attendance: 703-204-8282
Guidance: 703-204-8122
Our center program offers eligible students a challenging academic program designed to meet the needs of highly gifted students. The GTC curriculum is differentiated in depth, breadth and pace of instruction emphasizing higher-level thinking. The program provides opportunities to develop independent research skills. GTC incorporates advanced reading materials across the curriculum.

7th graders have the following required full-year subjects that follow the FCPS Program of Studies:

- **English/Language Arts**
- **Math 7, Math 7 Honors, or Algebra I Honors**
- **U.S. History, 1865-Present**
- **Investigations in Environmental Science**
- **Health/Physical Education**

**Instruction**

- Critical thinking and analysis
- Concept-based instruction
- Cross-disciplinary instruction
- Challenging learning experiences constructed around students' interests, learning styles, and preferred modes of expression.

7th graders complete their seven period schedules with a selection from semester and year-long electives.

### Year Long

- Band (Beg., Intermed., Adv.)
- Percussion Ensemble
- Mixed Chorus & Men's Chorus
- Orchestra (Beg., Intermed., Adv.)
- Applied Spanish & Technology

### Semester Electives

- Introductory Art
- Family and Consumer Sciences
- Technology Tools (Keyboarding)
  - Advanced Technology Tools
  - Multimedia Productions
  - Introduction to Foreign Language
  - Chorus
  - Inventions & Innovations
- Peer Helping
- Newspaper/Publications
- Music Participation Lab

8th graders have additional options for year-long and semester electives.

- **Year-long:** Adv. Theatre Arts (Multimedia Productions), French 1, Spanish 1, Japanese I, Latin I, Spanish for Fluent Speakers 1, Tech Systems, Family and Consumer Sciences.
- **Semester:** Technological Systems and Intermediate Art.

Electives offered in 2007-08 are subject to change based on student interest and enrollment.

At LJMS, the focus is on the special academic, social, physical and emotional needs of young adolescents, retaining some of the familiar aspects of elementary school while introducing some of the aspects of high school.

The Interdisciplinary Team is the heart of the middle school and involves a core group of teachers sharing the same group of students. At Luther Jackson M.S., a team consists of four teachers (English, Math, Social Studies, and Science), a counselor, and approximately 125 students. While our GTC students work with their academic peers in core subject areas, they are provided with opportunities to interact with our entire student body through elective courses, health and physical education, and after school programs.

Teachers on the same team have a common planning period during which they meet to determine team expectations, discuss students, identify cross-curricular connections, hold parent conferences, and plan team activities and events. Counselors attend team meetings to facilitate parent conferences.

### Teaming Benefits

**Students, Teachers, Parents & Counselors**

- Eases the transition from elementary to middle school as students move from one teacher and 25 students to one team and 125 students.
- Allows for the coordination of assignments, tests, and projects.
- Facilitates the discussion and development of strategies to meet the needs of individual students.