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PARTNERSHIP *Gallery*

Greenville Middle School is a small school in rural Georgia, about an hour south of Atlanta. In 2019, the school wasn't where it wanted to be academically, but it was on the right track. Led by Principal Michael Perry, the school had been making steady gains for a few years. Then COVID hit. Like all schools, Greenville Middle navigated those unprecedented times as best they could. But the reality they faced after students returned erased their previous gains. Attendance, test scores, and staff retention were down. Discipline issues were up. Mr. Perry knew dramatic improvement required a dramatic shift.

GMS's leadership team began a Leadership Foundation process with InitiativeOne in January 2024. After two sessions, they transitioned to Leadership Transformation. Mr. Perry saw a shift in mindset—focused on solutions, not just problems—with shared ownership of outcomes. The results have been incredible.

Reading proficiency rose from 26% to 60%. Staff retention jumped from 48% to 99%. Discipline referrals dropped from 119 to 56. Mr. Perry was named 2025 Georgia Middle School Principal of the Year. The school earned multiple state honors and continues to provide a roadmap for success.

GREENVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL			
	2022	2023	2024
Reading Proficiency	25.8%	52.8%	59.5%
Referrals	119	92	56
Teacher Retention	48%	67%	99%