



Cowpens Middle School

A Revolutionary Past ... An Extraordinary Future



Cynthia James *Biography*



Mrs. Cynthia James serves as Principal of Cowpens Middle School in Spartanburg School District Three and was named to the position as of July 1, 2010. For the past five years, Mrs. James was Principal at Middle School of Pacolet. Prior to returning to District Three, Mrs. James served as Principal at Sims Jr. High School and Curriculum Facilitator at Excelsior Middle School, both in Union County. Mrs. James served as an elementary and middle school assistant principal in Cherokee County, directed the Speech-Hearing-Vision Department for Aiken County, and worked as a speech pathologist in Saluda County, Spartanburg Three, Lexington Two, and Union County.

A native of Missouri, Mrs. James completed her Bachelor of Science in Education and Master of Arts degree in Speech Pathology from Truman State University in Kirksville, and her 30+ hours in administrative coursework from Clemson University. Mrs. James also holds a license to practice speech pathology in the private sector and is a graduate of the Center for Creative Leadership in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Throughout her career, Mrs. James has served on numerous committees and task forces for the South Carolina Department of Education. She completed the South Carolina Department of Education's School Executive Leadership Institute (SLEI) and has served as President of the South Carolina Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

Presentations throughout the State have included topics on scheduling options for speech pathologists; integrating curriculum with speech therapy; using pre-post testing in speech therapy; developing literacy based curriculum; setting up focus groups based on data; and implementing best practices in reading.

An active member of Buford Street United Methodist Church in Gaffney, Mrs. James is currently the Chair of the Church Council, a member of the Finance Committee, and Sunday School teacher for the youth. She has also served as a member of the Greater Area of Pacolet Chamber of Commerce and on the Indian Festival Planning Committee. Mrs. James has recently been asked to serve as a member of the Gang Task Force for the Town of Cowpens.