

BIOGRAPHY:

Dr. Jill Brooks began her tenure as Principal of Houston Independent School District, Jenard Gross Elementary School on September 1, 2010 with a focus on creating a culture of excellence through the acceleration of student achievement for every child. Dr. Brooks believes that all children can and want to learn and we must pay attention to the needs of the “whole child.”

The results of her mission and vision for success are evident via the positive improvements being made. Under Dr. Brooks’ leadership, test scores as revealed in the results of the state of Texas’s accountability rating increased from an “Unacceptable” campus without Texas Projection Measure (TPM) to an “Acceptable” campus without TPM. She has thoughtfully made tough but ethical and productive decisions regarding making personnel recommendations in effort to have an effective teacher in every classroom, implementing new academic programs and resources for teachers, leading a new HISD Teacher and Development Appraisal System, and managing a three million dollar school budget in a decentralized system that has faced overwhelming budgetary reductions and constraints. In recognition of Dr. Brooks’ dedication and work, she was recognized and selected to receive the 2010-2011 “Prestigious Principal Award” by Houston’s *Wisdom in Action, Inc.* She was also named a 2012 HISD recipient of an Accelerating Student Progress Increasing Results & Expectations (ASPIRE) Award for the magnitude of student growth made on her campus during the 2010-2011 school year. For the 2011-2012 school year, EVAAS growth reports showed positive gains in student growth in reading and math for both fourth and fifth grades.

Prior to relocating to Houston, Dr. Brooks diligently and effectively served as an educator in Little Rock, Arkansas for eleven years. As a building principal, she rapidly led a low performing school to remarkable improvement in student achievement for ALL subgroups, as well as in Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and community partnerships. Many credit these achievements to Dr. Brooks’ ability to work with a team and serve as an influential and competent instructional leader with great emphasis on providing high quality professional development to teachers and support staff. In recognition of this, Dr. Brooks was named 2010 Principal of the Year by the Little Rock Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Council as well as 2009 Principal of the Year by the Little Rock School District Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS).

Jill Brooks earned a Doctor of Education degree in Educational Leadership in 2009 from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. The title of her dissertation was *No Child Left Behind: Perspectives and Knowledge of Parental Involvement Component Section 1118 among Administrators and Parents in Elementary Schools*. As a life-long learner, Dr. Brooks’ most recent and notable educational professional growth experiences include her participation as a student in the Harvard University, Graduate School of Education, 2012 *National Institute for Urban School Leadership Program*.