

Chamblee Middle School Sub Proj.

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## Chamblee Middle School prepares to relocate

By Leslie Prall  
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Students at Chamblee Middle School will end their six-year stay in Dunwoody this fall to attend class in their new Chamblee facility.

The school's new home will be the first new school facility the community has seen in more than 30 years.

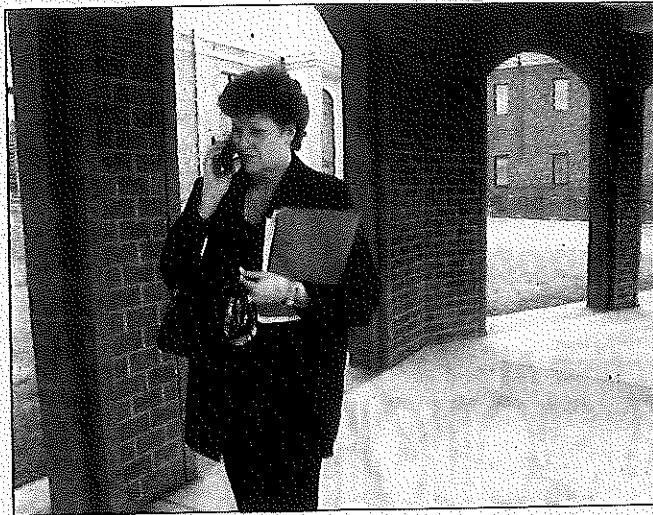
The \$18.3 million building, located on Sexton Woods Drive in Chamblee, will house sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders on three different floors with common areas such as the cafeteria and gym on the second floor.

"The kids only have to go up or down one flight of stairs to get to the common areas," District 1 School Board Member Chip Franzoni said.

The new building has a maximum capacity of 1,000 students, with 835 already registered for the fall semester.

For the past six years, Chamblee's high achieving magnet seventh- and eighth-graders were housed in the former Shallowford Elementary, located in Dunwoody on Chamblee Dunwoody Road.

According to Franzoni, the new



Chamblee Middle School's new principal Cynthia Jackson hurries to meet construction officials to tour the new facilities.

Lawson  
Wright/Staff

128,000-square-foot facility will provide students more room than they are accustomed at the former elementary building.

In addition to the new building, the school also hired a new principal earlier this month to make final decisions for the facility.

Cynthia Jackson has officially taken the reins at the charter school. Ms. Jackson, who served as assistant principal at Henderson Middle School said she is impressed with Chamblee's ability

to educate students in a cramped environment for so long.

"I've been so impressed with the Chamblee community's teachers and students and the way they have made quality education work in this environment," Ms. Jackson said.

"The students in the community and the staff have earned this building. I'm so excited about this opportunity for them, and I'm very pleased I'm able to share in that," she said.