



Biographical Sketch of Linda Brimmer

Linda Brimmer opened Peachtree Ridge High School in 2003, where she served as a Local School Technology Coordinator and a Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS) Teacher. The school is in Gwinnett County. Missing students and the classroom, Dr. Brimmer chose to go back to the FACS classroom full time to teach, what she believes, is one of the most influential curriculums in the school, Family and Consumer Sciences.

Dr. Brimmer has devoted 39 years to education, with the last 18 years teaching Family and Consumer Sciences. She began as a teacher in the third-grade when Linda's teacher asked her to sit in the school hallway and tutor newly arrived Cuban refugees in English. You see, *English as a Second Language* did not exist at that time. Since that time, Dr. Brimmer tutored English and Mathematics to students throughout her middle, high, and college-level years. She feels she was born to be a teacher.

Linda follows mainly three types of educational philosophies in her teaching. They include Essentialism, Progressivism, and Humanism theories. She feels no one method is best, just as no one teaching or learning style is practiced. When people ask why she became a teacher since they do not earn significant pay for the hours spent in the classroom, she states, "Its' not how much money you make, but how much and where you spend it." She always finds a way to get the materials needed to teach her subject. She has received grants on two occasions.

Dr. Brimmer has held several leadership positions throughout her life. She has presented at many workshops and conferences. She is passionate about FCS and Educational Technology, which is the focus of her doctorate of philosophy.

With her further education behind her, Linda joined the GATFACS board and agreed to be secretary for a three-year term. Nominated for the secretary position by some school districts this year, she accepted the VP Representative to the GACTE Board nomination. Completing the ACTE Fellows Program, Linda now has time to enter the national arena. She hopes to become the VP Representative to the ACTE Board, which allows her to bridge her love of GATFACS and ACTE.

Fifteen years ago, FCCLA advising was new to Dr. Brimmer. Since then, she has had three state officers and her students have earned over \$600,000 in awards, scholarships, and grant money. Excitedly, this year Linda was honored to learn that she received the Spirit of Advisement award and will be recognized on the national level when she attends the FCCLA National Conference this June. She is humbled to be one of 76 advisors to receive the award out of a pool of 6,000 people.

Knowing teachers are influencers to their students, Dr. Brimmer hangs a statement on the classroom wall that reads, "You are the master of your dreams. Based on your value system, you make decisions that carve out your life. Make good choices; be responsible. If you do not like your life, then change it. Change occurs through desire, planning, setting goals, and perseverance; do not harm others or hurt with intent through the process. If the plan does not work the first time, adjust and set the goal again, repeat, learn. Pursue until you achieve. Become the adult your child wants you to be. Take control of your destiny."