

Doomed By the Bell

Tardies

On the first day of school, students came with the knowledge that there would be many tests and much homework. They had no idea that along with those responsibilities they had to worry about a new tardy policy.

This policy mainly affected those students who consistently found themselves being "swept." The tardy bell sounded and the doors were closed, and a student who was unfortunate enough to be caught had better have an excuse.

"The worst and most common excuse that I've heard is 'the teacher closed the door in my face'," said assistant administrator Jimmy Reed.

Many teachers thought the system worked wonders, but many students thought it was quite unfair. A tardy student missed a whole class period, not just a couple of minutes. The students questioned the rationale of making them miss the entire class.

"I think a student's tardies should be noted," said sophomore Charlotte Todd, "but the idea of missing class for something that might have been unpreventable is ridiculous."

During the beginning of the school year, an average of 13 students per period and 30 students per day were swept. After a period of time, the numbers of tardies lessened.

It decreased to about four students per period and 16 per day. The goal was to reach the point where no students had to be swept.

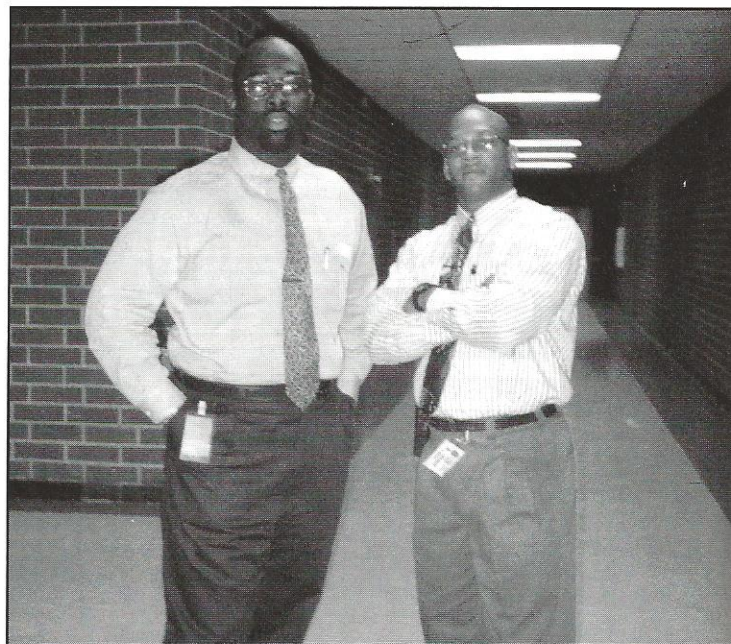
"Until now the parents have always believed that their children were in class," said study hall instructor Mrs. Benson, "but thanks to the new system they have been made aware of their child's whereabouts."

— Muriel Fryar



“The old tardy system was more sensible than the new one.”

— Ashley Ramsey

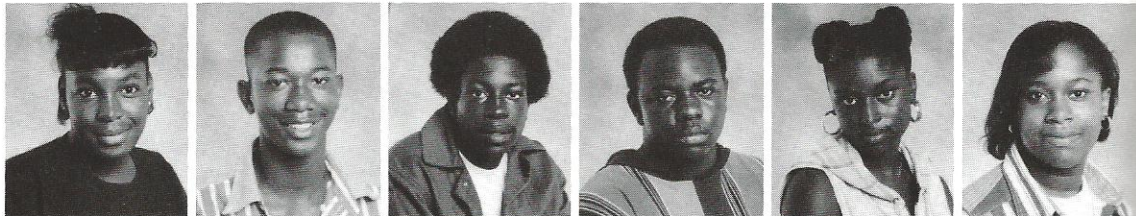


Keeping Their Guard Up. Watching for students that are not in class, Coach Kinsey and Mr. Reed take time to compare notes. Both heavily enforced the tardy policy.

Eric Geddis
Brad Gerard
Valerie Gibbons
Allena Gibbs
Shane Gibson
Aleasha Gifford



Shauna Goff
Craig Grant
Melvin Grant
Brandon Grayson
Janie Green
Kebrina Green



Manekia Green
John Greenwell
Ashonda Griffin
Lawaina Griffin
Gary Groves
Richard Groves

