

2025 Application for the Inspiration Award for Principals, Coaches, ADs, and Community Supporters

Name

Roger Jackson

Email address

motivatingyouth@yahoo.com

Cell number

478-320-4756

High School with which you are associated.

Central High School – Macon

What do you do for this school?

President Central High Booster Club

Nominated by Andre Taylor

Roger Jackson is an alumnus of Central High School who has made it his life mission to give back to give back to his community. Upon graduating from Bethune-Cookman College in 1981, he joined the Denver Broncos in 1982. He played 5 years with the Broncos. After his time playing football, he found his true purpose helping others. He started the Motivating Youth Foundation to offer afterschool and summer programs for kids, when budget cuts discontinued programs in schools. He continuously provides clothes, equipment, donations, and more to kids and families in need through his partnerships with different companies. Mr. Jackson may have graduated from Central High School, but he advocates for all the schools in Bibb County, because he is thankful for the foundation he received from the Bibb County School System that enabled him to be the person he is today. I am so thankful for what I have witnessed him do. He has changed so many lives in the Macon community. A man who never says no but says let me see what I can do.

Mr. Roger Jackson

Roger Jackson's early beginnings started in the Tindell Heights housing development in Macon, Georgia. He started his education journey at Eugenia Hamilton Elementary and Central High School. An excellent athlete, he lettered three times in football and track while attending Central High. Roger learned early that he must be as equally successful in academics as in sports. Roger graduated from Bethune- Cookman College in 1982 obtaining his B.S degree in Physical Education and a Minor in Health while having the Highest GPA on the football team.

Upon graduating, Mr. Jackson was selected to play in the National Football League (NFL) for the Denver Broncos as a Defensive Back. Signed as a rookie free agent by Denver in 1982, Jackson played five seasons with the Broncos. In 1983, he started in three games and recorded 56 tackles, an interception and a sack to help Denver to its first playoff appearance since 1979. In 1984, he played for Denver's AFC West champs. In 1987, Jackson helped the Broncos advance to Super Bowl XXII.

Jackson retired from playing for Denver in 1987 but continued his career with the NFL as a scout with the Denver Broncos, the Kansas City Chiefs and the Minnesota Vikings. In 18 seasons as either a player or scout in the NFL, Roger Jackson has been associated with teams that have made the playoffs 11 times, including six division winners. He made five trips to the AFC or NFC Championship Games and one Super Bowl.

In 2009, Jackson was elected to the Macon Sports Hall of Fame. Always having the desire to give back to the community, he founded Motivating Youth Foundation Inc. (MOYO) an afterschool and summer tutoring and enrichment program designed to target youth from low income and disadvantaged areas within the Macon community and help them realize their potential by focusing on improving their educational performance while also focusing on discipline and self-respect. MOYO opened its doors February 2, 2009, after Bibb County Board of Education closed 13 after school programs in 2008 due to funding. Part of Jackson's mission is to provide love, respect, discipline and education foundation.

Roger enjoys devoting his time and heart to the well-being of children and adults so that they may be able to achieve their very best in life that's within them. He instills in each that you can do and anything you want to regardless of the situation. To date Moyo has awarded over 256 college scholarships to local high school students with partnership with his Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. There are 95 current MoYo students in college now, 32 graduates, 7 with master's degrees, and 4 working toward their doctorate degree.

Roger founded Adult Readiness Program in 2019 to help serve formal gang members, ex-cons, unemployable, and those who would otherwise be considered unemployable and needing a second chance in life gain meaningful employment. Participants are taught soft skills, career development and other qualities to make the viable and competitive job applicants. Companies are recruited to interview participants with a

strong possibility of hiring our participants, and thus 322 of 331 participants have obtained career jobs now with great benefits. These program graduates have impacted 1,010 men, women, children, mom, dads, in their households that now works.

Roger worked 8th years as the Radio Analyst for Mercer University Football.

Roger is married to Dr. Diana Ross Jackson. Together they have 3 grown children Andrika Langham, Bianca & Carlos Dunlap Super Bowl LVII Champion KC Chiefs.



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

BOOSTER CLUB

1040 Pio Nono Ave., PO Box 2694
Macon, Georgia 31204



Dear Georgia High School Association,

I am writing to share some updates on recent initiatives and accomplishments within our athletic programs and broader school community that I lead the charge in these accomplishments.

Establishing the Central High School Booster Club marked the beginning of my dedicated efforts to raise funds for our school. After an eight-year hiatus and the previous separation of football and basketball booster clubs, I envisioned an all-inclusive booster club that would support all students, sports, band, clubs, IB programs, faculty, and staff at Central High International Baccalaureate School. To achieve this, I undertook the following initiatives:

I recently successfully negotiated a three-year sponsorship deal with Robins Financial Credit Union. This partnership will bring a financial literacy course to six Bibb County High Schools, taught by the credit union's staff. This initiative will inject \$21,000 into each participating athletic program, totaling \$126,000 for the 6 district high schools. While I initially could have secured this deal solely for Central High School, I believed it was important to extend the benefits across the district.

- * Re-established the Central High Booster Club and drafted its bylaws and rules, after 8 years without a booster club
- * Installed prominent digital advertising billboards at the front of the school for fundraising and sponsoring advertisements, a unique feature in our area, the largest. Raised \$76,000 for installment
- * Was elected President of the Booster Club.
- * Recruited over 106 financial members in the first year, generating consistent monthly and yearly funding.
- * Secured 46 paid sponsors who advertise annually on the digital sign.
- * Enlisted more than 10 restaurants to sponsor meals for our athletes and staff / faculty meetings.
- * Instituted the "Teacher of the Month" program, providing a dedicated parking space, award gift cards, and cash.
- * Created the "Student of the Month" program for 9th-12th graders, offering gift cards to local restaurants.
- * Organized the annual Booster Club-funded Senior Day, including a cookout, games, go-karts, jumpers, and senior baskets and gifts to acknowledge their contributions to Central High athletics.
- * Secured a major corporate investment for a new, state-of-the-art weight room, valued at \$250,000 in in-kind costs, for both male and female athletes, as well as faculty members.
- * Refurbished our band trailer and any organization at CHS have access to use.
- * We are committed to investing in our athletes and coaches. We will be covering the costs for all our athletes to attend camps and for coaches to participate in clinics, enhancing their skills and development.

Under my leadership, Central High School has raised close to \$500,000 in cash, in-kind contributions, and donations. Our small, dedicated working board plays a crucial role in identifying resources, and they empower me to finalize these opportunities. This success is a testament to our philosophy of perseverance and never accepting "no."



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

BOOSTER CLUB

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Macon, Georgia 31204



Finally, I wanted to mention a conversation I had five years ago with then-Superintendent Jones regarding the implementation of girls' volleyball. He subsequently instructed the past Athletic Director, Burney Hester, to initiate girls' volleyball program at 6 high schools.

I am enthusiastic about these developments and their positive impact on our students and faculty.



**SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA
NATHAN DEAL JUDICIAL CENTER
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334**

**FROM THE CHAMBERS OF
VERDA M. COLVIN
JUSTICE**

(404) 656-3477

November 4, 2025

Dear Georgia High School Inspiration Committee:

I am elated, honored and privileged to support Mr. Roger Jackson for this well-deserved recognition, Georgia High School Association Inspiration Award. My favorite quote which I repeat often as I speak to audiences is, "If service is beneath you, then leadership is beyond you". In a world where most are focused on themselves and their personal desires and aspirations, there are still a few among us whose purpose is to serve and ensure the success of others. Mr. Roger Jackson is one of the few. He is a leader.

I have had the absolute privilege of knowing Roger since about 2015. His commitment to the Macon community and young people throughout Middle Georgia is unmatched. Roger sees a need and then steps in to fill the gaps without any expectation of support from others. He simply does what needs to be done and as a result his commitment inspires others to walk along beside him and support his efforts.

Roger, an exceptional sportsman, elected to come back to his community after a successful career to empower students who typically never experience someone of his clout making an investment in their future. He has done this repeatedly. Roger saw that his alma mater, Central High School, did not have a Booster Club. We know that many students find their zeal for school through athletics. Recognizing the need for support, Roger reinvigorated the Booster Club at Central. However, he recognized that students need education beyond the classroom, they need to be educated on finances which are vital for a successful future.

Roger's commitment to educating students led him to secure a sponsorship deal with Robins Credit Union, not just for Central, but every high school in our community. It also inspired him to ensure that students were recognized for their accomplishments each month. His commitment to our

educational system in Bibb County led him to create Motivating Youth Foundation, Inc. This entity supports students who live in marginalized communities and ensures they succeed in their academic studies.

The program that I have personally been involved in at least twice a year is the Adult Readiness Program. Again, Roger saw a gap. He then set out to remedy this. The Adult Readiness Program empowers those who have been marginalized. I am inspired, reinvigorated and encouraged every time I speak to a cohort in this program. These young adults, and some older adults, are introduced to a curriculum that meets them where they are and leads them to where they need to be to secure careers, not simply employment, to have fruitful relationships free of chaos, to be supportive parents and most importantly to learn to love themselves- their past, their present and their futures. There can be no greater gift a person can give another person than a belief in themselves. Roger does that every single day in a way that is uniquely Roger.

In closing, Roger recognizes that he is here to enrich his community, to enable others to live their best lives with greater vision and a spirit of hope and achievement and as a result he has made our Macon community better. It is with a deep and profound respect that I recommend Mr. Roger Jackson for the Georgia High School Association Inspiration Award.

In service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Verda M. Colvin', with a large, sweeping initial 'V'.

Verda M Colvin
Justice, Georgia Supreme Court