



**Ted Ginn Sr.**  
Founder and Executive Director  
The Ginn Academy

Mr. Ginn, Coach Ginn, or sometimes just plain Ginn has been following his simple formula of giving kids love, passion, and understanding since he started volunteering on the football coaching staff of nearby Glenville High School in the 1970's. Coach Ginn played for the Tarblooders himself. After graduating, the coaching staff saw a need to keep him close by after his mother passed away and he was left on his own at age 19. Eventually he left his factory job to work as a security guard at Glenville. During each school day, he got to know the histories and personalities of the hundreds of kids flowing through the halls as well as the athletes that he worked with after school.

As Coach Ginn's reputation for stepping in when he saw a kid in trouble grew in the Glenville neighborhood, more and more parents asked him to keep an eye on their child. Kids knew they could go to him for help. People started noticing that he was making much more significant differences in kids' lives than how they ran down a football field or jumped over hurdles. In 1997, he became the head football coach for Glenville High School and was raising money on his own to take his football players and kids from other schools on college tours when recruiters wouldn't bother stopping there.

It became more and more widely known that Coach Ginn was all about showing kids a path to leading a successful life. He realized that he wanted to be able to present these same lessons in a school environment where he could reach many more kids than just the athletes on his football and track teams. This man, who never attended college himself, who worked as the school security guard and football and track coach, convinced the CEO of the Cleveland Metropolitan School District that what he had to give was so powerful that they should start an all-male high school. The Ginn Academy is now the only single gender, public high school in the state of Ohio. As you read the stories and hear the voices of The Ginn Academy, you will see why so many people swear that the world would be a better place if each and every kid could have a Coach Ginn in his or her life.