

Simpson Middle School Newsletter

Dear Simpson Eagle Families,

Thank you to all the parents who came out either in person or online for the Coffee & Chat this morning! It was great to be able to talk with you all about our initiatives and the data we use to make our decisions. I hope everyone found it both informative and enjoyable.

The session was recorded, but the audio on the recording was a bit muffled, so we have included just the presentation with the newsletter. Of course, it doesn't include the great dialogue that took place, but I will continue to share information and answer questions from the AskDrMitchell email.

Finally, I want to give thanks to our wonderful PTSA who sponsored the event and to [Rise Coffee and Tea](#) for providing hot beverages and made from scratch snacks for our parents. Talking with you all about your wonderful children is absolutely delightful and I look forward to the next chat currently scheduled for February.

Dr. LaEla Mitchell



EARLY CHECKOUTS - If your child will be checking out early, please send in a note with them and include the time they will be picked up and why they are leaving early. Tell them to turn the note into the office before Homeroom and we will give them a pass to come up at the check-out time. We anticipate a lot of early checkouts on Friday, so please send in your notes. Thank you for your help.



Charity Volleyball Tournament – Friday Dec 16th during connections classes. Students can sign up a team of 10-13 with the PE Teachers. Each participant is asked to donate at least one food item for the Family of Promise in Cobb County. Collection Bins are in the Atrium. See attached flyer for details.



Rock the Bells - This week students can purchase a Bell for \$1.00 to give their favorite teacher to "Ring" their praises! The teacher who rings the loudest with the most bells will be winning a prize from Administration. All proceeds will go to our instructional fund for staff and student supplies. Thank you for your participation.

Don't forget to order your 2022 – 2023 Yearbook

www.yearbookordercenter.com

School Order Number: **640**

\$35 July 28 - Sept. 30 (name stamp)

\$40 Oct. 1 - Feb. 17 (name stamp)

\$45 Feb. 18 - Mar. 17 (name stamp)
8th Grade Only"

Purchase a personal 1/8 page color ad for only \$25

Upcoming Events

12/12-12/16 – Spirit week

12/15 & 12/16 – Early Release at 1:30pm

12/19-1/4 – Winter Holiday Break No School

1/5 – Students Return to School

1/12 – 6th grade Band @ Lassiter – 630p

1/26 – STEAMAPALOOZA – 6P-8P

1/31 – 7/8 – Orchestra Camp 430p-730p

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PTSA SPIRIT WEEK



PAPAJOHNS®

Support Your **SCHOOL**

Order from Papa Johns on

12/12-12/15

20% OF YOUR PURCHASE PRICE will be donated to your local school

ORDER ON APP OR ONLINE AT **PAPAJOHNS.COM**

Simpson Middle School

YOUR SCHOOL'S PROMO CODE
SIMPSON20

MUST USE SCHOOL PROMO CODE when ordering on the app, by phone, or online for school to receive credit.

Fundraiser valid at the below participating locations:
1860 SANDY PLAINS RD. MARIETTA, GA (770)565-3599
or any corporate location in Atlanta

December Spirit Week				
12/12	12/13	12/14	12/15	12/16
<p>Candy Cane Day</p> <p>Wear Red & White</p>	<p>Hat's off to the Holidays</p> <p>Holiday head gear (antlers, elf hat, winter hat, etc.)</p>	<p>Cozy up for the Holidays</p> <p>Wear comfy holiday pajamas</p>	<p>Holiday Traditions</p> <p>Represent holiday traditions from cultures around the world Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Ōmisoka, Christmas etc.</p>	<p>Ugly Holiday Sweater Day</p> <p>Prize for the lunch period with the highest participation</p>

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IMPORTANT REMINDERS

STUDENT WITHDRAWALS – MOVING & TRAVEL: The Enrolling Parent must notify the school prior to their child's last day when moving (preferably at least one week in advance). We must get a signed Withdrawal Form and verify that all school items, Library Books, Laptops are returned and that grades are completed for students who are leaving to transfer to another school. Call the office or email Trina Rivera at trina.rivera@cobbk12.org to set up a meeting to fill out the Required Forms.

When traveling out of the area and your child will be gone more than 5 days you must send in a note prior to the trip to the Attendance Clerk to advise when they will be out and when they will return.

PTSA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reflections Join us in congratulating all the participants! The list of students moving forward to the ECCC round is published here -> <https://www.simpsonptsa.org/reflections> We will have an in-person celebration, date to be communicated soon.

Motivation Mondays: PTSA Health and Wellness chair Shonda creates affirmative messages to support our students and families' wellbeing. Visit www.simpsonptsa.org/health_wellness for more information. See the attachment for this week's message.

Happy Holidays from the Simpson PTSA! Celebrations from around the world are highlighted in a special Holiday issue of the DEI newsletter. <https://www.simpsonptsa.org/deinewsletter>

STEAMapalooza and PTSA Silent Auction fundraiser The **PTSA Silent Auction** opens on January 12th. Many amazing experiences and items are available so make sure to get your bids in! All funds raised will help PTSA support our students, teachers and families. Come ready to have fun and do some last minute bidding during **STEAMapalooza** on January 26th.

Soup-a-rama for teachers and staff on January 3rd Have a crockpot soup recipe to share? Simpson PTSA Hospitality committee is providing a Soup-A-Rama for our Teachers and Staff as they prepare for our students' return to school. If you would like to participate, please sign up here -> <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4EA4AB23A4F5C43-january>

Wellness tips for the Holidays and Motivation Monday This Motivation Monday message wraps up the semester, and will pick back up in the new year. See attachments for this week's message.

Connect with Simpson PTSA to stay informed about activities, initiatives, spirit nights, volunteer opportunities, etc.

-> **Follow** us on [Facebook](#)

-> Sign up for **Remind text messages** (Text your child's grade code to 81010 Grade Codes:
6th Grade - @29eagle, 7th Grade - @28eagle, 8th Grade - @27eagle

-> Visit the **PTSA website** www.simpsonptsa.org

-> Receive the **monthly PTSA newsletter**

-> **Email** president@simpsonptsa.org

Simpson Middle School Newsletter

Ask Dr. Mitchell!

askdrmittell@simpsonpts.org

PTSA has partnered with Simpson to provide another avenue for you to ask questions and find answers for questions that may come up throughout the year. Through our newsletters and websites, we will post questions and the answers so that everyone may benefit.

Question of the Week: What are AC classes and how are students selected for participation?

AC stands for Advanced Content and the Cobb County School District uses these classes as the delivery model for Gifted and Advanced Content service. Advanced Content courses differ in pace and complexity and follow an approved curriculum to provide an academic challenge for students who meet the placement criteria. Advanced Content courses are available in English/language arts, science, social studies, and foreign language (8th grade only).

Placement criteria for AC classes includes minimum score requirements on the EOG, IOWA, CoGAT, MI, RI, classroom test averages, and or final grades. Although teacher recommendations and parent input are helpful, placement is primarily determined by a triangulation of multiple quantitative data points. Student placement is considered on a case-by-case basis for each content area – in other words, AC placement in one subject area does not automatically result in AC placement in all subject areas. Additionally, prior AC placement is not required for participation in the upcoming school year. If students meet the criteria for the upcoming year, they may participate even if they are not enrolled in AC classes for the current school year.

In addition to AC classes, we also currently offer accelerated courses in math. The curriculum for these courses address math standards for the current grade level in addition to standards for the upcoming grade. Students who are successful in these courses will have the opportunity take a math class in 8th grade for which they can earn a high school math credit. However, Georgia has released new standards for K-12 math courses, which are set for implementation for the 2023-2024 school year. This will change the names and the content for the accelerated math courses we can offer next year. Notification of how this implementation will impact our stakeholders will be shared closer to the end of the current school year.

In addition to our high school math classes, we also offer additional classes students can take for high school credit, including Spanish 1, French 1, Physical Science, and Visual Arts. Criteria for these classes vary based on the foundational skills required. Our most recent placement criteria matrix is posted on the school website; however, please note that we review the criteria each spring and changes may occur before placement for the next school year begins.



Contact:
770-971-4711



Website:
www.cobbk12.org/Simpson



Twitter:
[@SimpsonMS](https://twitter.com/SimpsonMS)