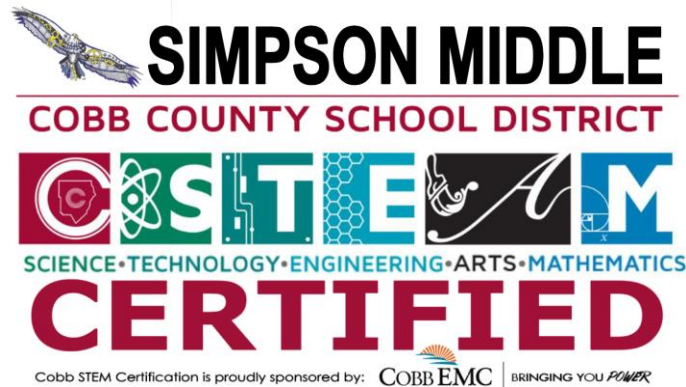


SIMPSON MIDDLE SCHOOL EAGLES

2022-2023



2015 Model School

"Georgia School of Excellence"

2019 Silver Award for Highest Performing Student Achievement

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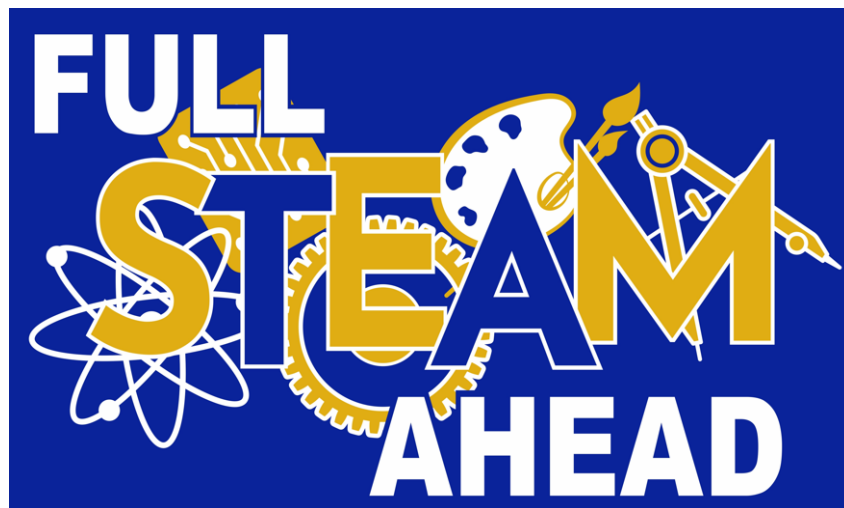
Mission

Educational Excellence for All

Vision Statement

An engaging nurturing community of learners seeking to promote democracy, civility, conservation, and problem solving through our STEAM platform.

Theme for 2022 – 2023 School Year



Simpson School Procedures

School Office Hours: 8:30 am – 4:45 pm

School begins: 9:10 am

School dismisses: 4:15 pm

The school building is open from 8:00 am – 4:45 pm. If students arrive at 8:00 am they must go to study hall or intramurals until the 8:50 am bell rings. Students needing to meet with a teacher prior to 8:50 am can do so if the teacher has signed in and is available. Students are not to leave campus once they arrive onto campus unless signed out by an authorized adult whose name appears on the registration form. Students staying after school must be with a teacher.

Absences and Make-up work

A student returning to school after an illness must bring a written parental explanation to be given to the PPO/Attendance office. If ill for more than two days, make up work may be requested through the school office on the morning of the third day of illness. Be sure to ask your teacher for make-up work upon your return to school. During any absence, students can visit teacher blogs available through CTLS Learn for learning resources. Assignments will be made available upon return and should be made up in a timely manner. Students should complete assignments within the number of days equal to the length of the absence. For example, a student will have two days after returning to school to make up work missed during a two-day absence. It is the student's responsibility to complete and turn in work missed due to an absence.

Behavior Expectations

Refer to Simpson's Behavior Plan and the **Cobb County Policy JCDA-R (Middle)** for behavior not listed below.

It is the responsibility of parents, teachers, or students to report any incidence of cheating, threats, harassment, destruction of school property, drugs, alcohol, weapons, or bodily harm of a student. All reports will be made to a Simpson school official and will be treated confidentially.

Simpson Behavior Plan / Soaring Eagles

Simpson Middle School implements a school-wide and grade level specific behavior plan that includes positive character development allowing all students the opportunity to develop into respectful, responsible, and productive young adults. In order to maintain a respectful environment necessary for academic excellence, our behavior plan sets forth clear expectations and rewards outstanding character. All faculty and staff members believe in positive reinforcement, as well as the opportunity for remediation when students display behaviors that disrupts the learning environment.

Our behavior plan focuses on five basic principles: being prepared, being responsible, being respectful, being receptive, and being polite. In addition, there is an expectation of personal integrity. Students who demonstrate outstanding behavior, listen attentively, and work respectfully with others help to ensure their own success.

Students who demonstrate a personal commitment to Simpson's Behavioral Plan, by maintaining a "mark-free" weekly behavior card, will be able to participate in a weekly reward. While we expect all students to adhere to the Simpson behavior program, it is understood that occasionally students will make mistakes and may incur an infraction. Students who demonstrate a lack of understanding of the Simpson behavior expectations will attend Grounded Eagles in place of the reward activity. Advisement classes will also focus on character development topics such as respectful and responsible conduct, positive peer interactions, kind and accepting behavior, along with good manners.

The weekly behavior card attached to the back inside cover of the students' agenda allows students, parents, and teachers to monitor student behavior. Through the "Student Behavior Card," parents will remain well informed and actively involved in monitoring student behavior, so it is vital that the parent reviews the student's behavior card on a regular basis. The teacher will communicate via phone or email if a student receives the 3rd infraction in their class within the semester. In addition, please keep the following things in mind:

- If the student continues to exhibit the same inappropriate behavior on a regular basis, the student will receive an administrative referral.
- An administrative referral may be written for any major incidents at the teacher's discretion.
- Please keep in mind that this plan is used by all teachers at Simpson, but students are always subject to disciplinary action directly from any school administrator.
- Students are encouraged to share their performance with their parents each week, as well as, monitoring behavior each week. The behavior card is tied to the student's conduct grade for the grading period.

Character Development Program

Simpson Middle School is incorporating a series of character driven initiatives that will foster both improved academics and the building of good character for our students, staff, and community. This will show students what our community expects from them and what good character looks like. Our goal is for our students to be successful at Simpson and to soar as eagles in the community and society, now and in the future.

Throughout the year, we will have Advisement, which will be dedicated towards development of character, proper treatment of each other, and academic growth. This is in addition to our staff incorporating character development within their classes. As students travel through Simpson during the day, there will be reinforcement of just what our parents and community want from their young adults, citizens with good character.

In order for our character program to succeed, we expect our students, staff, parents, and community to help each other. Together, we can help our students prepare both academically and socially for the challenges that they will face now and, in the future, promoting "Educational Excellence for All."

Conduct Grades are based on overall student behavior within a class:

S – Satisfactory – Conduct that generally follows the rules and procedures of classes and does not disrupt the learning of others.

N – Needs Improvement – Conduct that frequently disrupts the learning of others and does not generally conform to the classroom and school rules.

U – Unsatisfactory – Conduct that consistently causes classroom disruption that interferes with the learning of other students, and which does not conform to classroom and school rules.

Bus Conduct

Simpson Middle School follows the Cobb County Safe Rider Program to maintain proper conduct while on the school bus. In addition, students must comply with all JCDA-R (Middle School) Student Code of Conduct policies.

Bus Passes

Students may not ride a different school bus. Exceptions may be made in the event of an emergency (ex. Parents out of town, staying with a guardian). If a student needs to get off at a different bus stop or ride a different bus due to an emergency, the parent MUST write a note including the student's information, the location they will be going and the contact information for the individual the student will be riding home with. This must be turned in before 9:30 am and approved by the Student Pupil Personnel Clerk.

Cheating/Plagiarism

Cheating/Plagiarism is the use of someone else's material or ideas as if one's own. Whenever a person copies someone else's work (i.e., test, homework, projects, or internet research) as one's own, it is considered plagiarism. Sharing test information with other students is also considered cheating. Consequences of cheating/plagiarism will result in a 0 on the assignment. Future incidents of cheating/plagiarism will result in an administrative referral.

Checking out early

If you need to leave school between 9:10 am and 3:45 pm, students must bring a note from their parent / guardian explaining the reason and stating the time you will be picked up. Students will give the note to the PPO/attendance personnel and will be issued an early dismissal pass. Students should not misplace this pass. Parent / guardians must sign students out from the front office at the time of early check out. It is the student's responsibility to come to the office at the time designated on the note. All parents/guardians checking out students will be asked for identification.

Classroom Interruptions

In an effort to enhance instruction, items and messages **will not** be delivered to students during instructional time. This includes Connections classes. Students are responsible for coming to the front office to collect items brought in for them.

Conferences

We welcome the opportunity for parents to meet with teachers, counselors, and administrators by setting up an appointment with that person directly. However, if a parent(s) would like a meeting with more than one of his/her child's teachers please call the counseling office to schedule a time and day for a meeting.

Counseling Department

The mission of the Simpson Middle School counseling program is to assist students in overcoming barriers that impede learning. The goal of all Simpson Middle School professional school counselors is to implement a standards-based comprehensive school counseling program that:

- Addresses the needs of all students in the domains of academic, personal/social, and career development.
- Provides specialized interventions based on identified student needs.
- Assists students in acquiring appropriate attitudes, knowledge, and communication skills to promote healthy relationships.
- Enhances the ability of students to identify and utilize the appropriate resources needed for post-secondary success.
- Creates positive relationships with students fostering personal growth, service to others, and academic achievement.

- Advocates for all students encouraging them to develop to their fullest potential.
- Consults with other educators, parents, and community on behalf of all students.

Students may make an appointment with a counselor with a signed pass from a teacher.

Grading Scale

90 - 100 A

80 - 89 B

74 - 79 C

70 - 73 D

Below 69 F

Hall Passes

Students are required to have a signed and dated agenda from a teacher to leave their assigned area.

Homework

Homework is an extension of skills introduced daily in class and is vital to reinforce class work. Homework provides extra skills practice and preparation for tests as well as strengthening responsibility and self-discipline. Students and parents are encouraged to check CTLS on a regular basis for assignments as well as other class information. All students have access to CTLS using their Cobb County School student email and password.

Inclement Weather-School Closing

Information concerning possible emergency school closings is posted on the Cobb County School District website www.cobbk12.org and local television and radio stations. You can also sign up for CCSD E-mail updates on the Cobb County website.

Lost and Found

Lost or stolen personal items, including electronics, are not the school's responsibility. Please be sure that all outerwear, PE clothes, electronic, phones, etc. are labeled with the student's name. At the end of each month, a lost and found reminder will be issued school wide. After this, all items are donated to a charitable institution.

Dress Code

In keeping with the Cobb County Dress Code Policy, JCDB-R, all Simpson students shall be required to maintain the level of personal hygiene necessary to ensure a healthful school environment and to refrain from any mode of dress which proves to contribute to any disruption of school functions.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENFORCEMENT:

Administrators and teachers shall enforce the dress code Rule, and the principal or designee shall be the final judge as to the appropriateness, neatness, and cleanliness of the wearing apparel, or whether or not apparel is disruptive, unsafe, or in violation of the dress code.

MINIMUM STANDARD OF DRESS:

All students shall maintain the following minimum standard of dress:

1. Appropriate shoes shall be worn.
2. Midriffs shall be covered. Tops should not reveal or expose the chest area or cleavage.
3. Appropriate under-garments shall be worn and may not be visible.
4. Strapless garments, halter tops, spaghetti straps, and tank-tops shall be worn with a jacket.
5. Pajama pants are not permitted unless part of a school sanctioned activity.
6. Appropriate skirts/shorts, as determined by the school administration, may be worn.
 - a. (Recommended length for skirts/shorts is at or below mid-thigh; at all times skirts and shorts must fully cover the backside)
7. Caps, hats, bandanas, hoods covering the head are not to be worn in the school building during the school day unless there is a special activity during which they are deemed appropriate by the school administration.
8. Clothing or ornamentation that does any of the following is prohibited:
 - a. Displays or advertises substances illegal for minors.
 - b. Displays suggestive phrases, designs, markings, or profanities.
 - c. Advocates, promotes, or suggests illegal activity.

SPECIFIC QUESTIONS:

Parents or students who have specific questions about a garment's appropriateness should consult the local school student handbook and/or the local school administration.

Medication

Prescription medication must be transported in the original container by a parent, legal guardian or designated adult with written permission for administration. "Authorization to Give Medication" forms are available from the clinic. Medications must be properly labeled with the name of the student, name and strength of the medication, dosage, and time to be given, and the name of the licensed health care provider and pharmacy. The date on the bottle must be current within the past twelve months. Over-the-counter medications will not be supplied by the school (i.e., Tylenol, Advil, antibiotic ointments, calamine lotion, etc.). Over the counter medication may be transported by the student but "Authorization to Give Medication" forms must be filled out and signed by a parent or legal guardian. Refer to Board Policy JGCD for further directions.

In-School Suspension

The In-School Suspension (ISS) Program is part of Cobb County School District's Student Code of Conduct as a disciplinary consequence. During ISS Students are isolated from their peers and will receive alternative instruction from a certified staff member.

- Students are required to complete assignments from subject area teachers for grading and credit.
- Students will be isolated from regularly assigned classes and are not allowed to participate in school activities before, during, or after the school day.
- Absence from school, tardiness, or early dismissal does not excuse students from serving their entire ISS assignment.
- Students who miss a portion of the day must make-up that portion of ISS when they return to school.

Out of School Suspension

The Cobb County School District is dedicated to sound discipline practices in the continuing effort to provide students in the District an effective and safe learning environment, to promote learning, and to encourage maturity during the school day as well as during all school-related activities. In order to maintain a safe and orderly environment, a student may be subject to Short-Term Suspension for the violation of school rules and/or the rules of the District. For students to receive credit for work completed during OSS, it must be completed and turned in to the teacher on the first day back to school. It is the responsibility of the student and parent to obtain any assignment from the teacher to be completed during OSS.

Parental Responsibility for Student Conduct

District employees strive to assist students in the pursuit of academic excellence and proper conduct habits. For students to reach their maximum potential, a cooperative and supportive working relationship must exist between parents/guardians and school officials. School staff members will do all they can to encourage students to conduct themselves appropriately and follow classroom, school, and county rules; however, parents/guardians will be asked to provide assistance if staff members are unsuccessful in achieving satisfactory behavior from their children.

Release of Family and Student Information

Simpson Middle School is happy to provide academic records for any student/parent who applies to a private institution and submits the proper release form. The transcripts and standardized test scores of our students present an academic summary of each student. Final transcripts include a behavior mark to inform parents of student behavioral progress. We consider these documents the official record for that student/applicant.

We do not provide information or complete forms that ask for the parent(s) ability to pay, parent(s) level of education, or the level of parent participation and cooperation. In addition, we do not answer questions that rate or rank character questions regarding the student applicant.

Cobb System of Tiered Supports (RTI)

RTI (Response to intervention) is a tiered intervention process guided by school professionals. The

intervention team meets regularly to review student performance and plan research-based strategies, collect data, and monitor performance of students experiencing academic or behavioral difficulties. RTI is a school-wide prevention intervention approach that is aimed at meeting the learning needs of all students.

Retention/Promotion Policy

Simpson Middle School follows the Cobb County School District policy for retention and promotion of students.

Simpson Advanced Learning Program

Students in the middle school advanced learning program are served in the Advanced Content (AC) model. Simpson's AC model includes classes in language arts, math, science, and social studies (all grade levels), and STEAM. These classes go beyond the curriculum standards with emphasis on critical thinking, reasoning, and writing skills in these content areas. The advanced content model in addition to providing services for students who are eligible for gifted services according to the State Gifted Rule 160-4-2 also provides opportunities for other students who demonstrate strength in core content areas based on normed assessments.

ParentVUE and CTLS Parent

These two online programs are a means to further enhance the communication with parents regarding their child's educational progress and pursuit of excellence. ParentVue allows parents to log on and view their child's grades for every assignment in each subject via the internet. CTLS Parent allows parents to view assignments, upcoming events, and individual class information. Parents will be given an access key to establish their ParentVue account and can use the same credentials to access CTLS Parent.

The school does not retain a record of your user ID or password, so it is important that you keep a copy of this information.

Tardy

Students arriving after 9:10 must report to the PPO/Attendance office in order to sign in and receive a late pass to class.

Technology Use

Students are allowed to utilize technology including various computer programs, equipment, and internet for educational purposes. Students need to follow the directions of staff members regarding logins, passwords, software, disks, and general equipment use. All use of technology will be in a responsible, safe, ethical and legal manner. Any unauthorized use, failure to comply with Cobb County Board of Education policies or implementing regulations, or violation of federal, state, or local laws will be grounds to discontinue a user's use of technology and may result in other disciplinary and/or legal action. Please refer to Cobb County Board of Education Policy, IFBG-R, for more details.

1. Authorized Use of Devices

"Device" means privately owned wireless and/or portable electronic hand-held equipment. This includes, but is not limited to, existing and emerging mobile communication systems and smart technologies, portable internet devices, hand-held entertainment systems or portable information technology systems that can be used for word processing, wireless internet access, image capture/recording, sound recording and information transmitting/receiving/storing, etc. Examples of such devices include but are not limited to: I-pad, I-pod, I-touch, Kindle, Kindle Fire, Netbook, Nook, Smart Tablets, Smart Phones, Laptop computers, etc.

With parent permission, students may use their devices for instructional purposes when appropriate as deemed by the teacher. Students are not required to bring outside technology to school. Students who do not have their own device will be able to utilize school equipment.

2. Misuse of device or improper use of device

Students using devices improperly, having devices out during times not permitted by school staff and teachers, or refusing to put their devices away may receive disciplinary consequences. This may include but it is not limited to detention, ISS, OSS and/or having device confiscated and released only to parents. In addition, the school administration has the right to refuse to let students bring their devices back to school for a specified time period. This is in addition/compliance with the JCDA-R Middle School Student Code of Conduct.

Simpson Middle School will not be held responsible for lost or damaged electronic items.

3. Internet

Only the internet gateway provided by the school may be accessed while on campus. Personal internet connections using 3G, 4G, and cellular data plans/cell network adapters are not permitted to be used to access outside internet sources at any time, doing so will be considered a "Misuse of device or improper use of device".

4. Security and Damages

Responsibility to keep the device secure rests with the individual owner. The school district and Simpson Middle School are not liable for any device stolen or damaged on campus. If a device is stolen or damaged, it will be handled through the administrative office similar to other personal artifacts that are impacted in similar situations. It is recommended that skins (decals) and other custom touches be used to physically identify your device from others. Additionally, protective cases for technology are encouraged.

Telephone Use

If it is necessary to make a phone call, a pass to the front office is required from a teacher. Calls on the office phone are limited to **emergencies** such as illness or injury. Using the phone for making arrangements for after school activities will not be permitted during the school day. **Cell phones are not to be used for making/receiving calls, sending/receiving text messages, or taking/receiving pictures and videos, during school hours, as this is disruptive to the learning environment. If cell phones are used for any of the above-mentioned reasons, it will be considered a "Misuse of device or improper use of device" and disciplinary actions may occur.**

Lost or Damaged Books or School Owned Electronic Devices

Textbooks are supplied to students and then become the student's responsibility. A textbook's barcode is scanned to a student's county identification number. If the book is lost or damaged, the student will be expected to pay for the book or the assessed damages. If a lost book is found, the student will be reimbursed. All school owned materials and debts

must be cleared by the student before any new materials will be available to the student for check out.

Visitors

All visitors and volunteers must register in the office and receive a visitor badge. Students may not have student visitors. Conferences with teachers must be scheduled in advance, in order to not disrupt instruction.

Withdrawing from School

If a student is withdrawing from the school, the PPO/Attendance office must be notified immediately by the enrolling parent or guardian. The student will receive a Withdrawal form that must be completed by all teachers, the counselor, media specialist and administrator. All school owned materials must be returned, and all fines must be paid before the student may withdraw. Once the Withdrawal form is complete the student be given the final copy, which can be presented to the new school for enrollment purposes.

Please refer to the following link to review Cobb County School District Board Policies.

<https://www.cobbk12.org/page/6052/policies-administrative-rules>

For specific policies related to students including the **CCSD Code of Conduct**, please refer to this link:

<https://www.cobbk12.org/page/307/family-info-guide>

From the CCSD website, choose “Board” and “Policies and Rules.” The Student Code of Conduct is located in Section J.