

# Star News

NOVEMBER 2023



Dear Simpson Parents,

Happy November! It was wonderful to see many of you last month during Early Release Parent-Teacher Conferences. This is always such a valuable time for you to talk with the teacher to see how your child is progressing both academically and socially. I am confident you found this time helpful to you. Early Release conferences are held twice a year. **The next early release days will be held on March 6-7, 2024.** We will again be scheduling conferences online. Also, the Parent Portal is a great way for you to stay informed about your child's academic progress 24 hours a day/7 days a week. You can monitor student assignments and assessments if you have a child in grades 1st – 5th. Finally, many thanks to our amazing **Simpson Elementary PTA** for sponsoring our delicious grab-and-go Chic-fil-A Lunch during parent conferences, planning for our Back-to-the 90's Fall Festival, and our spectacular Arts in Education Author Visit with Todd Parr. Many thanks again for making our Simpson Staff feel so special and appreciated. Thank you to the entire Peachtree Corners Community for making us SHINE SO BRIGHT! Have a wonderful month and a happy Thanksgiving!

Proud to be your principal,  
Dr. Connery

## NOVEMBER CALENDAR DATES

**November 1st**-Native American Heritage Month

**November 3rd**-Digital Learning Day (DLD)

**November 7th**-Holiday Meal for Grades PreK, 2nd, 3rd (Special Needs Classes: Ms. Bowman, Ms. Desai, Ms. Speer, Ms. White, Ms. Beard, & Ms. Williams) \* See *Teacher Newsletters for lunchtime details.*

November 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

**November 8th**-Picture Make-up Day

**November 9th**-Holiday Meal for Grades K, 1st, 4th, 5th, (Special Needs Classes: Ms. Taylor, Ms. Walters, Ms. Hargrove, Ms. Walker, & Ms. Moore) \* See Teacher Newsletters for lunchtime details.

**November 14th**-All Pro Dads

**November 15th**-United Way "PJ" Fundraiser

**November 16th**-PTA Mother/Son Night- "Cowboys & Mom's" Night at PDHS from 6-8 PM

**November 20th-24th** Thanksgiving Break/Schools Closed

**November 29th**-Square 1 Orders Due

**November 30th**-PTA Spirit Night-Taqueria Del Mar



## SPECIAL HOLIDAY MEAL

Hello Parents,

On **November 7th & 9th**, our fabulous cafeteria staff will be hosting a special Holiday Meal during lunch times for staff, students, and families. Parents are invited to join their child at their lunch time on their designated day.

Please see your child's grade level day below. Please refrain from visiting lunch on the non-holiday meal day as other grade level classes will be eating in their classrooms to make space for parent visitors.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your grade level teacher.

### Tuesday, November 7th

Pre-K- Students and parents will eat in their classrooms at their scheduled lunch time

Bowman/Desai/Speer/White 10:45-11:15

Grade 2-cafeteria with parent visitors 11:20-11:50

Grade 3/Beard(2-3)/Williams(2-3)-cafeteria with parent visitors 12:05-12:35

Grades- Kindergarten,1/4/5- sack lunch in classrooms

### Thursday, November 9th

Grade 4-cafeteria with parent visitors 10:45-11:15

Kindergarten/Taylor (K)-cafeteria with parent visitors 11:30-12:00

Grade 1/Walters (1)/Hargrove(K-1)-cafeteria with parent visitors 12:15-12:45

Grade 5-cafeteria with parent visitors 1:00-1:30

Walker (4-5)/Moore(4-5)- 1:00-1:30

Grades- Pre-K/Bowman/Desai/Speer/White/2nd/3rd/Beard(2-3)/Williams(2-3)- sack lunch in classrooms

**Here are the procedures for our Holiday Meal:**

### Station 1 Parent Check in

Parent check-in will begin in Simpson Square. Please have your license ready to show our front office staff upon your arrival. Please arrive 15-30 minutes earlier than your students assigned lunch time.

### Station 2 Lunch Check In

If you plan to purchase food from the cafeteria, please bring cash only; the cost is **\$4.00** (exact change will expedite the check-in process). **Please do not bring bills larger than \$5.00.** After you purchase your lunch, you will receive a lunch ticket that indicates to the cafeteria staff that you have already paid.

### Station 3 Cafeteria

Please enter the cafeteria, get your lunch (if you purchased one) and find your students assigned lunch table. Please go straight to your child assigned table and your student will meet you at the table.

Sincerely,  
Simpson Admin Team

## SEL FAMILY NEWSLETTER-GRATITUDE!



Gratitude\_Newsletter (1).pdf

[Download](#)

644.6 KB

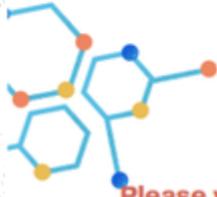
## SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, AND INNOVATION FAIR!

Please save the date for our upcoming Simpson Science, Engineering, and Innovation Fair in January! There are seven categories for students to choose from regarding 2023-24 STEM Problems! Please see the flyer for details coming soon!



# STEM Fair Exhibition!

Simpson Elementary



**January 11, 2024**  
**Students: 4:15 arrival**  
**Parents: 6:30 arrival**  
**Award ceremony begins at 6:45.**

## 2023- 2024 STEM Problems

Please visit our **Google Classroom** for more information!

1. Ending Food Insecurities
2. Forest Fires and Pollution
3. Fresh Drinking Water
4. Melting Glaciers
5. Heavy Metal
6. Computer Science Solution
7. Student Choice



**Google Classroom code: ghswlre**

**STEM fair projects will be due on  
 Wednesday, January 10th. Students  
 will bring projects to their classroom.**



### GOOD NEWS CLUB

2nd-5th Graders

Beginning on Mondays October 23- March 25,2024

Meeting after school with car pick-up at 5:00

Students who are in GASP will be escorted back at 5:00

Meeting in the Media/Library Room

No charge but donations are welcome

Register on line

[www.goodnewsclubgwinnett.org/student/registration](http://www.goodnewsclubgwinnett.org/student/registration) (Limited Enrollment)

Club activities include; Snacks, Interactive Bible Stories, Memory Verses,, Active Games, Lively Songs. The Club emphasizes character qualities, respect for authority, moral values and Biblical principles. There is a Treasure Box of toy rewards, Surprises and lots of laughter and fun.

Leaders are specially trained Christians concerned for the spiritual well-being of your child. For Questions...Contact Cathy Hicks- Coordinator hm. 770 447 0540

[jchicks@thejrg.net](mailto:jchicks@thejrg.net)



## SIMPSON PBIS

Greetings Parents,  
Beginning this school year in 2023, we will engage in Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) at Simpson Elementary to have a positive behavioral expectation schoolwide. PBIS is **an approach schools use to promote school safety and good behavior**. With PBIS, schools teach kids about behavior expectations, strategies, and with a primary focus on having a positive prevention, not consequences.

### *What is PBIS at our school?*

A unified set of school wide expectations for behavior in our school. We are Simpson Superstars, so to ensure that students can easily comprehend our expectations, we have established a 5-star approach for appropriate behaviors posted throughout the school. Your child has been learning these expectations since the first few of school.

### What are the **5-Star Expectations at Simpson Elementary?**

1. **Be Respectful**
2. **Be Responsible**
3. **Be Ready to Learn**
4. **Be Safe**
5. **Be Kind**

As part of our PBIS process, teachers and other staff members use evidence-based practices to increase student learning and decrease classroom disruptions. To keep students on the rules in a positive manner, we do the following when teaching academics and behavior:

- Constantly teach and refer to our school-wide expectations.
- Provide students with more praise than correction.
- Talk to students with respect using a positive voice tone.
- Actively engage everyone in the class during instruction.
- Use pre-correcting, prompting, and redirecting as we teach.
- Look for the positive first and provide positive, immediate, frequent, and explicit feedback.

Please look forward to additional details as we unveil our ***STARBUCK incentives for recognition of positive student behavior. We are excited to begin having students spend their Starbucks in our new PBIS Store at our Grand Opening beginning September 11th.***

Monday-5th grade

Tuesday-4th grade

Wednesday-2nd and 3rd grade

Thursday-1st grade

Friday-PreK and Kindergarten

## CAR RIDER UPDATES!



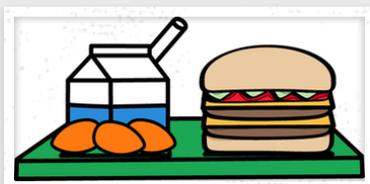
Car Rider Reminders 23-24.docx

[Download](#)

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## I SCREAM YOU SCREAM...WE ALL SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM

Students will have the opportunity to purchase ice cream from a variety of selections during lunch. Ice cream is \$1.00 and will be sold Monday-Friday for all grade levels. Class Parties for ice cream sales are also available each day. Please email your child's homeroom teacher for details.



## SCHOOL LUNCH & PARENTAL VISITATION

GCPS students will have access to a meal (breakfast and lunch) throughout the year for each child. Student meal costs are listed below and an *adult bar is available for both adult visitors and staff throughout the school year.*

*Meal prices for elementary students are below:*

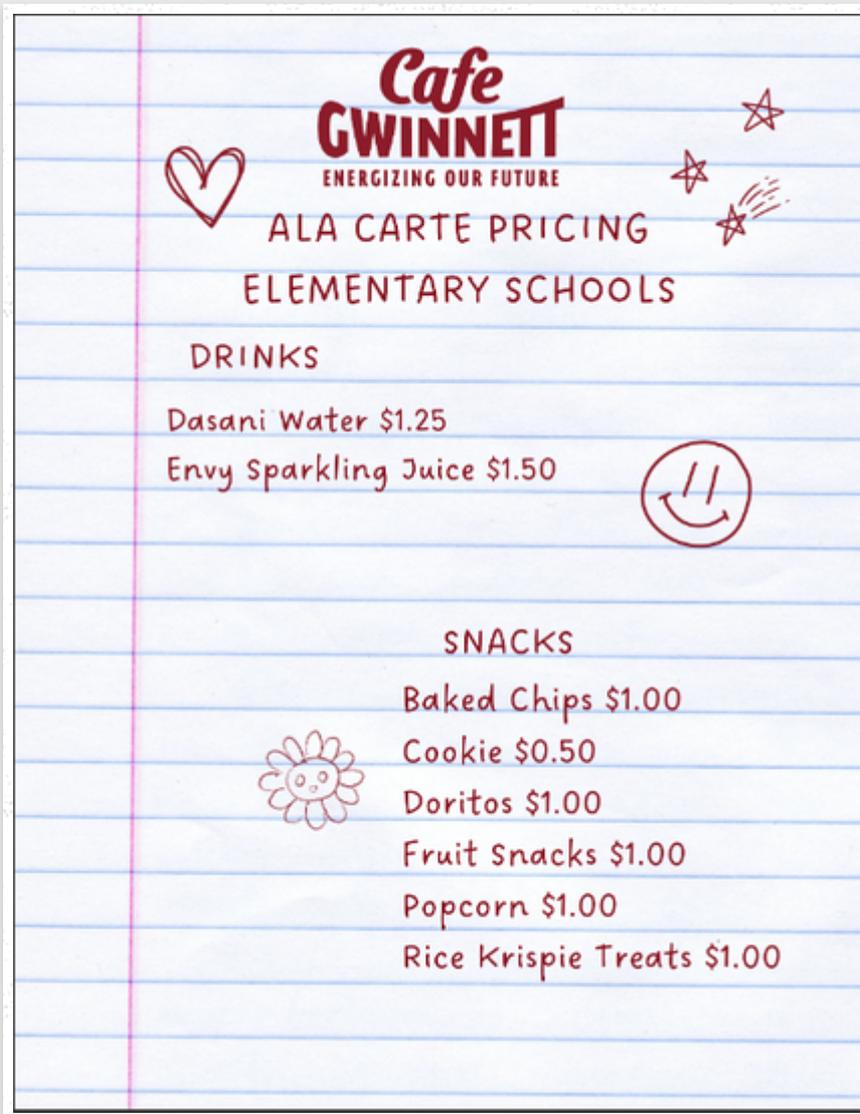
*Student breakfast -\$1.50*

*Student lunch -\$2.25*

*Adult Breakfast -\$2.50*

*Adult Lunch -\$4.00*

***\* Please see our new Al-a-carte options for student purchases below. This is a new feature sponsored by GCPS which is being offered, in addition to their regular meal.\* As a disclaimer, assortments may change daily based on availability.***



**COME LEARN WITH US AT LITTLE LEARNERS ACADEMY!**

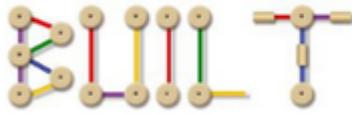


\_Little Learners Academy-School Flyer (1).pdf

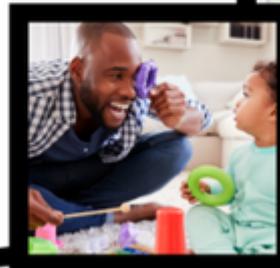
[Download](#)

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**Brains are**



**not born...**



**Play-2-Learn**

**Have you Heard?**



52% of children are **NOT READY** to learn  
when they enter Kindergarten!

## **PLAY2LEARN- HAVE YOU HEARD?**

Simpson is excited to offer an opportunity for parents with children ages birth to five!

We are so blessed to have one of our veteran, retired, and former Simpson Kindergarten Teacher, Ms. Sharon Terry! Once again she will be our Play2Learn instructor during the 23-24 SY. Therefore, please help us spread the good news to all of your family and friends, who may have children in this age range to call the school for additional information.



Want to learn more about how to be your child's best teacher through PLAY? Simpson Elementary is now offering the GCPS from Birth-To-FIVE Program for you and your child!

- Learn how to find teachable moments in everyday life activities
- Learn how to engage your child in play
- Learn how to continue play activities at home and on the or anywhere
- Learn about your child's educational milestones
- Learn how to get your child ready for school



## SIMPSON SAFETY PLANS

GCPS will continue to follow strict guidelines as it relates to safety & security by visitors producing identification when inside the vestibule to check out students (as well as during visiting lunch hours).

In addition, we will continue to follow safety guidelines to minimize the risk of infection and/or spread of COVID-19. Therefore, *if anyone in your household becomes sick and has tested positive for COVID-19, please contact our school nurse, Amy Norris, and/or your grade level administrator, immediately.*

## SCHOOL HOURS

**Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 7:30 AM - 4:15 PM**

All visitors must sign-in at the welcome desk and please be prepared to provide some form of identification upon request.

**Staff Hours: Monday/Wednesday/Friday, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM \***

*Hours will vary depending on morning staff meetings (Tuesday/Thursday - 7:45 AM - 3:45 PM).*

**Student Hours: Monday - Friday 8:50 AM - 3:20 PM**

Students should arrive between 8:20 AM- 8:50 AM.



## ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Principal- Dr. Taffeta Connery

Assistant Principal- Ms. Brandy Bosak, Grades 1, 3, & 5

Assistant Principal- Ms. Jeanette Johnson, Grades K, 2, 4

Assistant Principal- Ms. Stephanie Wells, Special Needs & Connections



## NEED AFTERSCHOOL CARE?



23-24 flyer with QR code.pdf

[Download](#)

4.3 MB



YMCA Afterschool 2023-2024 Parent Flyer - English.pdf

[Download](#)

2.0 MB



YMCA Afterschool 2023-2024 Parent Flyer - Spanish.pdf

[Download](#)

2.0 MB

<https://www.gcpsk12.org/SimpsonES>

Georgia Platinum Award 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2016 and 2019!

2010 Georgia School of Excellence!

2012 and 2018 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence!

Proud to be a  
**National PTA<sup>®</sup>**  
**School of**  
**Excellence**



**2021-2023**

## **PTA SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE | FAMILY ENGAGEMENT SURVEY**

Our school's PTA is participating in the National PTA School of Excellence program, which grows partnerships between PTAs and schools to enrich the education and well being of all students. As a part of this process, National PTA requests feedback from families, administrators, and teachers at two points during the school year. Your feedback will help us improve our family-school partnership. Please take a few minutes to fill out a [short survey that can be found here](#).



The PTA's mission is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

When you join the Parent Teacher Association at Simpson Elementary by giving your time, talent and resources, you join our collective efforts in promoting quality education, arts, and community involvement to build a healthy environment and safe neighborhood for all of our families. Because of the generous support from our parents, grandparents, teachers, staff and business partners we are able to offer many academic and social opportunities that may not otherwise be able to take place.

Did you know the Simpson PTA sponsors and coordinates over **30 programs** each school year through the generous support of our Simpson families and business partners? Every dollar raised goes directly to programs and events that benefit our Simpson Superstar students, staff, and facilities.

Visit our [website](#) and join our [PTA Facebook page](#) to stay connected!

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**November 3** | Digital Learning Day

**November 6** | [Last Day to Purchase Mother/Son Tickets](#)

**November 9** | Special Education Staff Appreciation Breakfast - [Sign up here to contribute](#)

**November 14** | [All Pro Dads](#), 7:00 AM

**November 15** | [5th Grade Year Book Ads](#) Due

**November 16** | [Mother/Son Night](#), 6-8 PM at Paul Duke STEM High School

**November 17** | Staff Appreciation Lunch

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Please visit the [Volunteer page of the PTA website](#) to stay current on open and upcoming PTA positions, and general volunteer opportunities which currently include :

### Open and Upcoming PTA Positions

- Staff Appreciation Committee | Looking for 2 co-chairs to shadow the current committee for the remainder of this school year and take the lead next school year.
- Reflections Committee | Looking to add 2-3 committee members for next school year

[Please click here to see the website for more details!](#)

### General Volunteer Opportunities

- Contributing to [Special Education Staff Breakfast](#)
- [Media Center Volunteers](#) who will shelve books, laminate for the staff, help students check out and return books, and/or complete other small tasks with which Mrs. Dierkes might need assistance. Please note that Media Center volunteer shifts are now only one hour, and this opportunity is open to parents, guardians, and grandparents. If you are new to the Media Center and would like more detailed instructions, or just need a refresher, please e-mail [Indira Hodge \(indiraDST9@aol.com\)](mailto:indiraDST9@aol.com) and [Karen Seto \(mvhome89@gmail.com\)](mailto:mvhome89@gmail.com)

## MOTHER/SON EVENT

Calling all Cowboys and Mamas to Paul Duke High School's Gymnasium  
Thursday, November 16th from 6-8 PM.

**Cost for tickets is \$10 per person, on sale from 10/23-11/6**

**NO day-of tickets will be offered**

Water and pizza are included.

Western-wear encouraged!

Purchase tickets [here](#) from 10/23-11/6

**\*Please purchase one (1) ticket for every person in your party\***

Break out your boots & join us for

Simpson Elementary's  
**Cowboys & Moms Night**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2023

6 - 8PM

PAUL DUKE HS GYMNASIUM



**Ticket purchase info below**

\$10 per person

Includes pizza + water

**WESTERN WEAR ENCOURAGED**



**Tickets on sale 10/23-11/6**

Visit the link below or  
scan QR code to purchase

[simpsonespta.org/events.html](https://simpsonespta.org/events.html)



## 5TH GRADE YEARBOOK ADS

5th Grade Parents/Guardians! Want to recognize your future 5th grade Simpson Superstar Graduate? We have the perfect place to do that! The yearbook! The ads are a great way to recognize the milestone of finishing grade school.

**Order by November 15th!**

Still have questions? Email us!  
yearbook@simpsonespta.com

Scan this QR code  
with the camera on your  
smart phone to go  
directly to the  
Yearbook Order Center.



# SIMPSON ELEMENTARY 2023-2024 5TH GRADE YEARBOOK AD

5th Grade Yearbook Ads let parents/guardians recognize the milestone of finishing grade school.

Each ad includes a message, a picture of the graduate at an infant/small child, and a current image.

You can reserve your space now until **November 15, 2023**. Once the space is reserved, you will receive a link via email where you will upload your message and images. Messages are limited to 150 characters. Final content submission is Jan 1, 2024. **Purchase today for \$16!**



## HOW TO BUY A YEARBOOK AD

1. Go to [www.YearbookOrderCenter.com](http://www.YearbookOrderCenter.com).
2. Search by our school name or code above.
3. Check to see that you've selected our school.
4. Click "CONFIRM."
5. Click "BUY A YEARBOOK AD."
6. Click "SES 5th Grade Yearbook Ad"
7. Click "BUY FOR STUDENT/TEACHER."
8. Enter your student's name to search the list. If it's not there, Click "ADD A NEW NAME," and fill out the name and grade, and click "ADD."
9. Click "OK"
10. Click "NEXT."
11. Click "CHECK OUT."
12. Enter the billing info and click "CONTINUE."
13. Choose your payment method:
  - eCheck or
  - Credit Card / PayPalPayPal provides a FREE service to split your purchase into four payments every two weeks.
14. Check the "TERMS" box.
15. Click "REVIEW YOUR ORDER."
16. Review the purchase summary and click to complete the checkout process.

After you complete your purchase, if you don't receive a confirmation email, please check your Junk Mail. If it's not there, please call the Yearbook Order Center M-F at 866.287.3096 to see if your transaction completed successfully. You may also purchase a yearbook ad from them over the phone. They are happy to assist you.

**ORDER HERE:**  
**YEARBOOKORDERCENTER.COM**  
**SCHOOL CODE: 25732**



## YEARBOOKS ON SALE NOW!

[Click here](http://www.YearbookOrderCenter.com) to order today to guarantee your copy of our 2023-2024 Yearbook  
Simpson Elementary's School Code - 25732.

Cost - \$40

Order Deadline- March 15, 2024



**Simpson  
Elementary**

**PTA**

Scan this QR code  
to go directly to the  
Yearbook Order Center.  
Our school code is  
**25732.**

# YEARBOOK

2023-2024 YEARBOOK • \$40 • ORDER BY MARCH 15, 2024

## HOW TO BUY A YEARBOOK

1. Go to [www.YearbookOrderCenter.com](http://www.YearbookOrderCenter.com).
2. Search by our school name or code above.
3. Check to see that you've selected our school.
4. Click "CONFIRM."
5. Click "ORDER A YEARBOOK."
6. Click "ADD."
7. Click "CONTINUE."
8. Click "BUY FOR STUDENT/TEACHER."
9. Enter your student's name to search the list. If it's not there, Click "ADD A NEW NAME," and fill out the name and grade. Click "ADD"
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14. Choose your payment method:
  - eCheck or
  - Credit Card / PayPal  
*PayPal provides a FREE service to split your purchase into four payments every two weeks.*
15. Check the "TERMS" box.
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**YearbookOrderCenter.com**  
**866.287.3096**

**Our school code is 25732.**

## ALL PRO DADS

Tuesday, November 14th @ 7:00 AM

\$3 CASH per person - includes breakfast for kids

Please register [here](#)

# ALL PRO DAD CHAPTERS

## SIMPSON ELEMENTARY

REGISTER HERE: [allprodadsday.com/chapters/3240](http://allprodadsday.com/chapters/3240)

### WHAT WE DO...

All Pro Dad Chapters provide an opportunity for dads to spend quality time with their children that will strengthen their relationship. For one hour each month you'll get to join other dads and kids at school for a fun, memory-making event.

### DID YOU KNOW...

when a dad is actively involved in his child's life, the child will have...



## Join Us

for our next meeting!

Location: Simpson Elementary

The Second Tuesday of Every Month

Time: 7:00 am

Notes: \$3 per person (cash) includes breakfast for kids

\*Please register so we have an accurate headcount for cafeteria staff

Dads! Join your kids for breakfast, games, raffles, and a great time!

Here are some reminders:

- Park along the street facing the stop sign on E Jones Bridge
- Any adult family member can bring a child if dads are not able

**DEADLINE for registering is September 10 at our website.**  
For more info contact Tony Pirozzi at the following:

TJPIROZZI@HOTMAIL.COM



Let us know if you're coming.  
**RSVP using our QR code!**

FOLLOW US:     
@AllProDad



## THANK YOU

Thank you to all of our volunteers, it is because of the combined efforts of family and community members that our PTA is able to serve our school so robustly. All of our programs are truly made possible by YOU.

Special thanks to **Gina Mistacawi** and **Aminta Wu** for organizing a memorable Immigration Day for our 5th Graders, and to all of the parent volunteers who contributed supplies, and played a role.

And to the **45 parent, grandparent, and former student volunteers** who worked shifts at the Fall Book Fair. Special thanks to the classroom volunteers who assisted the K-2 classes in navigating the Book Fair.

**Jenny Rockett** for providing snacks for our school staff on Early Release Days.

**Mallory Thornton** for coordinating lunch for our school staff on Early Release Days, and for organizing Spirit Night with Moe's Original BBQ.

**Samantha Morgan** and **Michelle Reuter** for celebrating our incredible staff with a Halloween Dessert Bar, and for engaging **28 volunteers** to contribute delicious goodies and assist with serving and clean up. We are so grateful for each of you.

**Jessica Campbell** for helping our PTA better support our Special Education Team and Support Staff.

**Megan Skurski** for scheduling our Arts in Education Author Visit and managing book orders.

**Kelsey Dykes** and **Carly Ely-Kelso** for planning, designing, organizing, and providing our school community with a unique, fun, and awesome Fall Festival. And to the volunteers who brought their vision to life from setting up, running activities, selling food, and overall ensuring a safe and welcoming environment for all of our Simpson Elementary families.

## BUSINESS SPONSORS

### PLATINUM LEVEL SPONSORS



  
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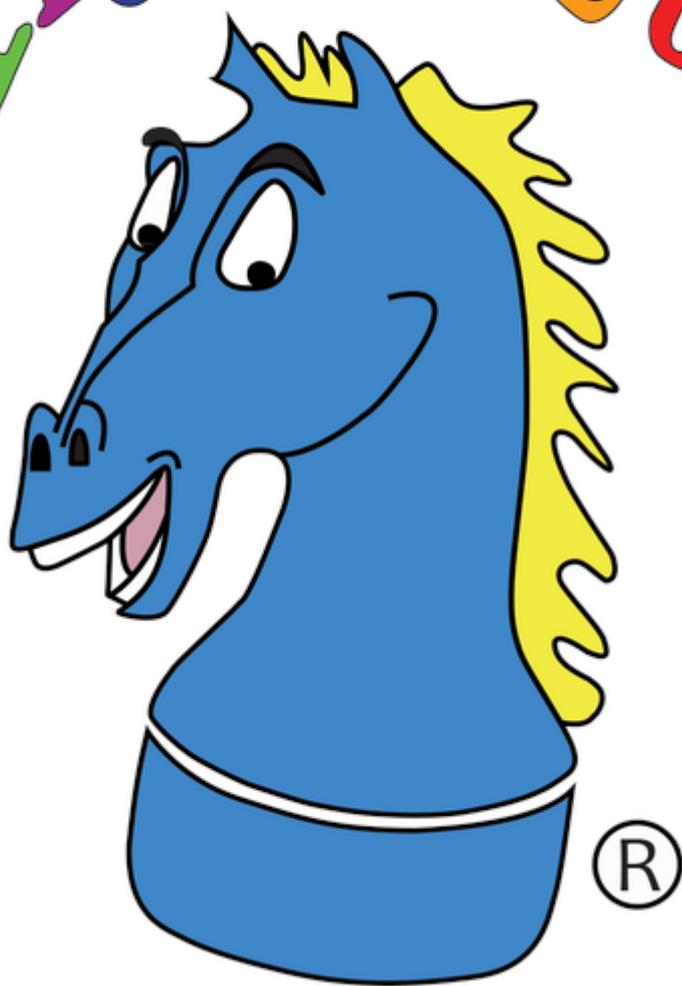
### GOLD LEVEL SPONSORS



**SILVER LEVEL SPONSORS**



# Kid Chess



美国跆拳道协会

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## BRONZE LEVEL SPONSORS

