

STAR NEWS

AUGUST 2023

Greetings Simpson Parents,

Thank you for making Simpson Elementary such an awesome place for our students to learn! Our theme for the 2023-2024 school year is, **"Welcome Home where Superstars Dream BIG, Sparkle MORE, and Shine BRIGHT!"**



This theme was inspired by YOU, our family-oriented community which makes EVERYONE feel right at HOME! Your unwavering commitment to the love shown to our teachers, administrators, and staff is what makes Simpson feel so special! This combined shared spirit of collaboration, enthusiasm, and supporting those in need propel student achievement to even greater heights! I want you all to know that I VALUE each and every one of you! I love telling anyone who will listen, that our school is the MOST giving, caring, and thoughtful place to work! I look forward to you all coming HOME! Also please save the date as we will have our Curriculum Night take place for the following grade levels:

- **Tuesday, August 22nd - PreK- 2nd/Small Group at 6 PM**
- **Thursday, August 24th - 3rd-5th at 6 PM**

If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or our administrative team.

Ms. Brandy Bosak-Grades 1st, 3rd, & 5th

Ms. Jeanette Johnson-Grades K, 2nd, & 4th

Ms. Stephanie Wells-Special Needs & Connections

Proud to be your principal,
Dr. Taffeta Connery



AUGUST CALENDAR DATES

August 11th: PTA Charleston Wrap Kick-Off Fundraiser

August 16th: PTA Class Coordinator Meeting from 5:30 PM -7 PM - Media Center

August 17th: PTA Spirit Night-Sushi Osawa

August 22nd: Curriculum Night Grades Pre-2nd/Small Groups at 6 PM

August 23rd: Boy Scout Recruitment Night at 6:30 PM in the cafeteria

August 24th: Curriculum Night Grades 3rd-5th at 6 PM

August 27th: PTA Spirit Night online store closes at 11:59 PM

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:

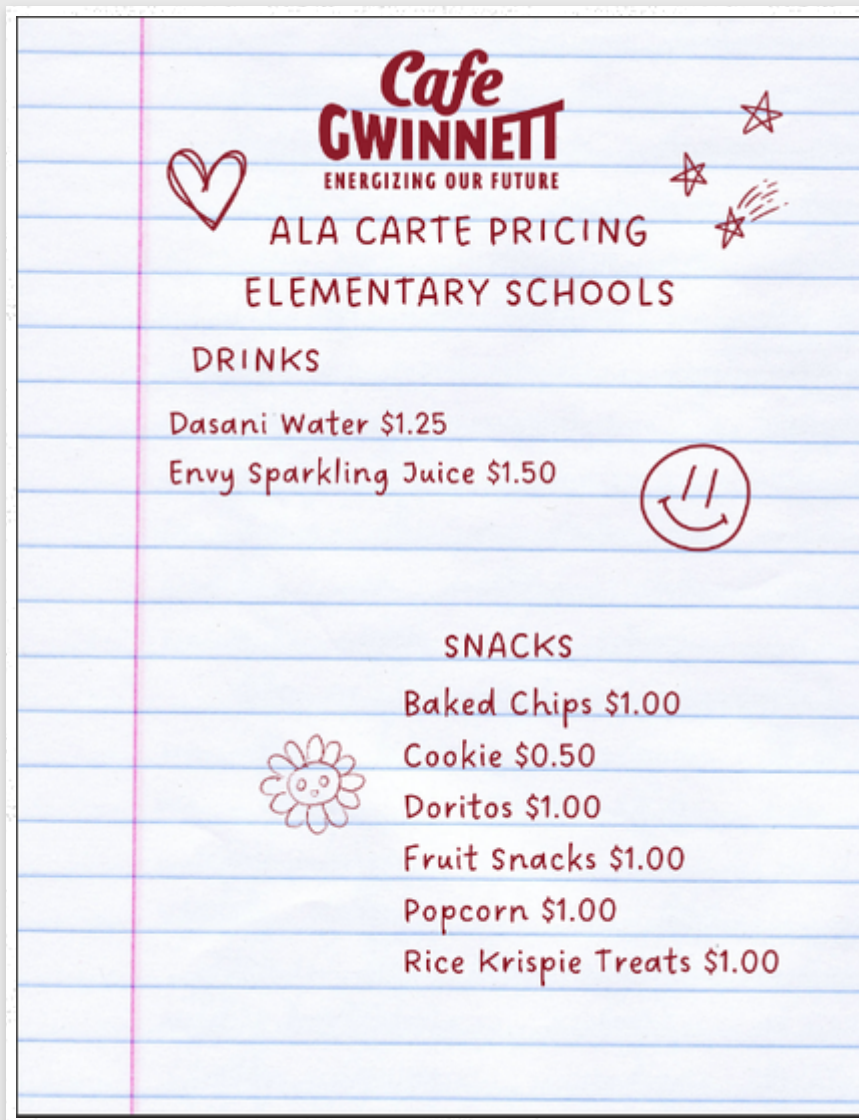
Student breakfast -\$1.50

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.**



CAFETERIA MONITORS NEEDED

Greetings Superstar Parents,

Are you looking to spend time with our little superstars? Are you interested in some pocket change? We are looking to hire cafeteria monitors to support our school climate with duty-free lunch for teachers. Therefore, if you are interested in serving in this capacity for just a few hours a day from 11-1:30 PM please contact Traci Douglas at Traci.Douglas@gcpsK12.org.

Dr. Connery

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.



GCPS School Calendar 2023-24 .pdf

[Download](#)

198.5 KB



What is PBIS:

PBIS is an evidence-based, data-driven framework proven to reduce disciplinary incidents, increase a school's sense of safety, improve school climate, and support improved academic outcomes for all students.

Our Focus:

The purpose of PBIS is to establish a climate in which appropriate behavior is the norm by proactively teaching behavioral expectations and acknowledging students for following them. This is a much more positive approach than waiting for misbehavior to occur before responding.

School Wide Practices

- follow school-wide expectations as documented in schoolwide matrices
- Provide Starbucks to students exhibiting positive behaviors that follow school-wide expectations
- Utilize Starbucks incentive system to reward students following PBIS norms
- Follow the PBIS [flowchart](#) with fidelity when responding to major and minor behaviors

Classroom Practices

- Create and follow individual classroom matrix
- Utilize and deliver first 10-day lessons and revisit lessons as needed based on class needs
- Create a management system for storing individual student Starbucks
- [Tier I support and interventions](#) should be implemented at the classroom level by the teacher. These strategies and

techniques are designed to facilitate a positive and orderly learning environment for all students.

- Document Tier I supports and interventions using the PBIS Leadership Improvement plan; [K-2](#) & [3-5](#)

Norms

- Five-star behavior expectations: Respectful, Responsible, Ready, Safe, and Kind

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

- 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). Also, ***lunch visitation will begin immediately after Labor Day.*** Teachers will utilize this time to put PBIS expectations in place for cafeteria-positive behavior.

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.*

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

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®
School of
Excellence



2021-2023



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.

Become a partner and [donate](#) today!

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](#) today to :

- Become a [PTA member](#)
- [Donate](#) to our PTA programs
- Stay connected to upcoming events
- Contact us with your questions or volunteer interest

Join our [PTA Facebook page](#) as another way to stay connected.

Looking forward to making this a great school year with you!

CHARLESTON WRAP KICK-OFF DAY!



Our Charleston Wrap fundraiser kicks off today! Look for the sales packets, which include the catalogs and information on how to register your child and place orders, in your child's Friday folder on August 11th.

With over 2,500 gift ideas there is something for everyone on your holiday gift list which means your support can really help us reach our goal! Be sure to REGISTER online today at www.registercw.com, and START SHARING our fundraiser with your family & friends! Once you register, TEXT, email and share our fundraiser on social media. Sharing is caring!

#charlestonwrap #fundraiser #fundraiserkickoff #giftwrap #wrappingpaper #candles #homegoods #kitchen #chocolate #cookiemix #personalizedgifts #gifts #giftgiving #belpiatto #charlestonbags #holidaygifts #charlestonwrapfundraiser

Simpson Elementary School

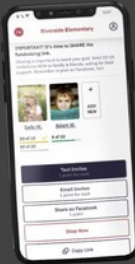


Our Organization ID:

11579

REGISTER. SHARE. SHOP. SUPPORT OUR FUNDRAISER

Check-off your holiday gift list today and help our important cause.
From holiday to hostess to corporate gifts and more,
our online store has something for every occasion - even if it's just for you!



#1 REGISTER

Register participant at www.registercw.com to access our handy invitation tools in the Participant Portal. Very important!

#2 SHARE

Invite friends and family to support! SHARE a link to the sale using the **TEXT & EMAIL** invitation tools. Don't forget to share on **SOCIAL MEDIA**, too!

#3 SHOP

Go online to **SHOP** and help us reach our **GOAL** today! With over 2,500 gift ideas there is something for everyone, including you!



REFLECTIONS



2023-2024

**CALL FOR
ENTRIES!**

**I am
Hopeful
Because...**

**Explore the arts and
express yourself!**



**Learn more and get involved!
PTA.org/Reflections**

The [PTA Reflections Contest](#) is a fun opportunity for students to get creative and share their thoughts and feelings on a provided theme. This year's theme is *"I am hopeful because..."* Please click on the image to learn more. We are so excited to see what our Superstars create this year!

Visit the [PTA Reflections page](#) for registration information.
Please contact reflections@simpsonespta.org with any questions.
Flyers will be coming home in Friday folders soon!

FIRST GENERAL PTA MEETING



The Simpson PTA will hold its first **General Members Meeting** on **August 22 and August 24** in conjunction with Simpson's **Curriculum Nights (6:00 PM - 7:00 PM on both dates)**. We will be voting to approve the PTA school budget for the year. Please be sure to come by the PTA table in Simpson Square to vote. Thank you for being a member!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Please visit the [Volunteer page of the PTA website](#) to stay current on all volunteer opportunities which currently include :

- Contributing to [Special Education Staff Breakfast](#) , the first of which is September 8th
- [Kindergarten Lunch Helpers](#) who will assist Kindergarten students in learning their way around the lunchroom during their first few weeks of school.
- [Media Center Volunteers](#) who will assist with shelving books, and other small tasks with which Mrs. Dierkes might need assistance.

SPIRITWEAR ON SALE THROUGH AUGUST 27TH



Each year the PTA sells new spiritwear for youth and adults as a way to fund our 30+ programs. Please check out the new offerings available for your Simpson Superstar Families and help us celebrate the start of another school year! ***Store will close on August 27th at 11:59 PM and no late orders can be made. Additional Spiritwear will be sold again in November.*** Visit this [link to the Simpson Spiritwear Store](#) to purchase your gear!

STARBURST SHIRTS ON SALE THROUGH AUGUST 27TH



Starburst is our field day at Simpson Elementary and though it happens in May, our classes love to wear these color coordinated shirts throughout the school year for field trips or just to show their Simpson pride! ***Please purchase your child's Starburst shirt by August 27th at 11:59 PM as no late orders will be taken.***

[Click here](#) to order your Starburst and Spiritwear shirts

AUGUST SPIRIT NIGHT

Please join us for our first Spirit Night of the year on **Thursday, August 17** at **Sushi Osawa**. Our PTA will receive a percentage of proceeds from orders received all day!! Be sure to mention Simpson Elementary when you dine in or take out. Hope to see you there!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

August 11 | [Charleston Wrap Fundraiser](#) Kicks Off - packets will come home in Friday Folders!

August 16 | Class Coordinator Orientation 5:30 - 7:00 PM

August 17 | [Spirit Night](#)

August 18 | Class Coordinator Orientation 9:00 - 10:30 AM

August 22/24 | First PTA General Members Meeting (during Curriculum Night)

August 22 | K-2 Curriculum Night 6:00 - 7:00 PM

August 24 | 3-5 Curriculum Night 6:00 -7:00 PM

September 7 | Bike Safety Class 4:30 - 6:00 PM - permission slips will come home soon

September 8 | Special Education Staff Appreciation Breakfast - click [here](#) to contribute

Keep your eye on the [PTA website](#) for updates and important dates.

THANK YOU

Big thanks to all of our PTA volunteers who put in so much time behind the scenes + over the summer break to get everything ready for Meet Your Teacher Day and the start of another great year!

Thank you to **Leigh Anna Lang** for all your hard work to make joining the PTA a breeze! **Kelly Loder + Dorian Clayton** for all your time + efforts on Spiritwear over the summer months! **Laura Pusateri** for another successful supply kit fundraiser, as well as **Tina Lee-Levi, Samantha Morgan, Caroline Dotts, Patricia Mendez, Heather Owens**, who helped with organizing, sorting and distributing kits for each of our families, and their teachers!

Thank you **Emma Keith** for beautifying our flower beds at the front of school, **Mallory Thornton** for arranging lunch for our teachers on Meet Your Teacher Day, and **Maxine McClure** for your amazing work on our digital communications: simpsonespta.org, our [PTA Facebook page](#) and [Star News](#)! Also, thank you to the **Executive Board** members for welcoming everyone into another school year and serving our PTA.