

Accountability Report

Issued 2020–21

Simonton Elementary School

Tamara Perkins, *Principal*

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Local school improvement connected to district’s strategic direction

Gwinnett County Public Schools’ accountability system for improving schools is called the Results-Based Evaluation System (RBES). RBES fairly and systematically measures a school’s progress, providing a process that clearly communicates expectations; reviews, monitors, and supports school performance; and evaluates that performance. With a waiver from federal requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Georgia Department of Education did not administer state tests in the spring or produce related reports on school effectiveness. This abbreviated report reflects available achievement data from the 2019–20 school year. Using local data, school

administrators, teachers, and parent advisory groups developed this year’s Local School Plans for Improvement (LSPI) which outline our improvement goals and guide the work we will do throughout the 2020–21 school year to support student learning. These improvement plans are connected to the school district’s strategic direction and our core business of teaching and learning. Find our school’s LSPI on the website. The Simonton school council and school leaders collaborated on the highlights in this accountability report, which also serves as the school’s annual report. **Please review this report to learn more about our improvement efforts and progress.**

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2019–20 Results: Norm-referenced Assessments: The Iowa Assessments

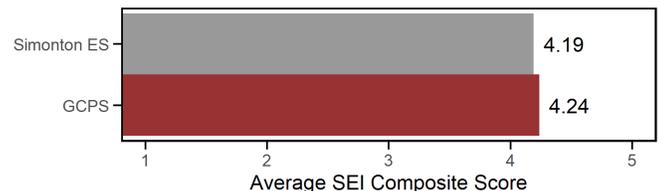
The Iowa Assessments measure a student’s progress in key academic areas and allow for a comparison of their performance to that of students across the U.S. This nationally norm-referenced test was administered in Gwinnett in grades 2 and 5 in 2019–20. Results from the fall administration help identify students’ areas of academic strength as well as areas that need improvement. Teachers and schools use these results during the school year to inform instruction and monitor growth.

Core Composite results reflect overall performance on tests covering a variety of skill areas, including reading, spelling and other language arts conventions, vocabulary, and mathematics, including computation. Scores are expressed as a national percentile rank (NPR), with an NPR of 50 marking typical achievement on the Iowa Assessments. For example, a Core Composite NPR of 60 indicates that students at a school, on average, scored as well as or better than students at 60% of U.S. schools on the test. Simonton’s 2020 NPR for 2nd graders taking the Iowa Assessments is 44, compared to the overall GCPS NPR of 60. For 2020, the Simonton’s NPR for 5th graders is 32, compared to the overall GCPS NPR of 48.6.

2019–20 Student Engagement

The Student Engagement Instrument (SEI) is a survey used to measure how engaged students are at school and with learning. When taking the SEI, students respond to items that cover a variety of topics related to their engagement in their education, including the level of support they receive from teachers, peers, and family, as well as their perceptions of school work and future educational goals. We measure student engagement at GCPS because it is related to important outcomes such as on-time graduation and postsecondary success. The bar graph below shows the average SEI Composite Score— a summary of a student’s responses across all items on the SEI— for Simonton Elementary School compared with an average of results for all GCPS elementary

schools. The Composite Score can range from 1.0 to 5.0, with higher scores reflecting stronger student engagement. This chart shows that the average Student Engagement Instrument Composite Score for Simonton ES in 2019–20 was 4.19, compared to the GCPS elementary school average of 4.24.

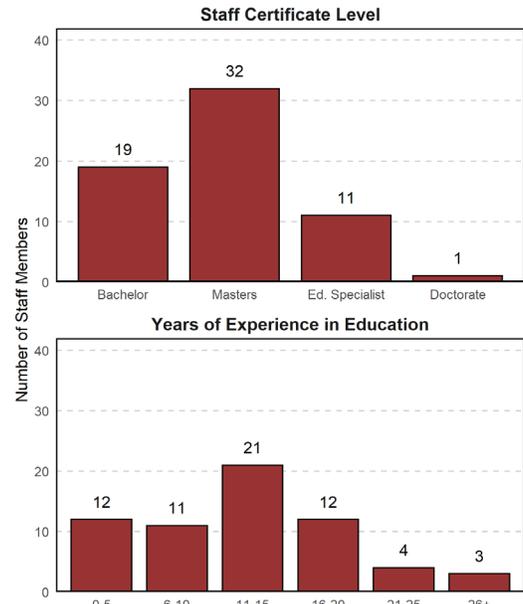


Simonton Elementary School

Other 2019–20 Highlights...

- Simonton Elementary School is committed to dynamic, high-quality instruction, resulting in a passion for learning, leading, and excelling. We hold fast to our core belief that “Every Student Every Day, Deserves to Learn, Lead, and Excel.”
- Simonton Elementary School hosted a Robotics Team, called RoboKnights, for students in grades 3–5. The students competed in the FIRST LEGO League competition.
- Simonton held schoolwide events such as Literacy Night, STEAM Night, and a Black History Night Celebration for our school community.
- The Simonton ES Readers Rally team participated in the annual GCPS Readers Rally competition.
- Students had multiple opportunities to be involved in extracurricular activities at Simonton Elementary School, including Chorus, Robotics Club, Readers Rally Team, and Girls on the Run, which were sponsored by Simonton ES teachers. An outside sponsor offered the Good News Club, Chess, and Young Rembrandts.
- Several student entries for the PTA Reflections competition received recognition at the district level.
- Simonton Elementary School continued to participate in a K–12 vertical team supporting students learning English in collaboration with Central Gwinnett Cluster schools, GCPS’ Office of English Learner Programs, and the University of Georgia’s Center for Latino Achievement and Success in Education (CLASE).
- The Aurora Theatre displayed artwork from several of our students.
- Simonton continued implementation of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS). PBIS encourages positive behaviors with recognition for those students who exhibited appropriate conduct.
- Student recognition continues to be a priority at Simonton. Monthly, we recognize individual students, teachers, and classes demonstrating the qualities of Learners, Leaders, and Excelling as defined by the PBIS Award, and the Black Knight Character Award.
- Sheron Jones, representing our dedicated and talented teachers, was selected as Simonton Elementary’s Teacher of the Year by our staff.
- We would like to thank our parents, community, and business partners for supporting our school and helping us create a warm and inviting school where student achievement is a priority and student success is celebrated.

2019–20 Staff Data



Student Data (2017–18 to 2019–20)

	School Year		
	17–18	18–19	19–20
Enrollment	816	826	783
+American Indian/Alaskan Native*	0%	0%	0%
+Asian*	5%	4%	5%
+Black/African American*	43%	43%	39%
+Hispanic or Latino, <i>any race</i>	33%	33%	37%
+Multiracial, <i>two or more races</i> *	4%	4%	5%
+Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander*	0%	0%	0%
+White*	15%	15%	13%
Special Education	11%	14%	14%
English Learner**	29%	29%	30%
Gifted Eligible	4%	4%	3%
Free/Reduced Lunch	80%	80%	75%
Average Attendance***	96%	95%	95%

*Not Hispanic or Latino

**Since 2017–18, the category for English Learners has reflected both students who qualify for services and those being monitored.

***Based on in-school attendance through March 12, 2020. Students participated in online learning from March 16 to May 20.

School Safety Perceptions

Based on responses from those with an opinion who responded to the 2019–20 RBES Perception Survey...

- 80.5% of students agreed or strongly agreed that they felt safe at Simonton Elementary.
- 100% of parents agreed or strongly agreed that their child’s school was safe.

The mission of Gwinnett County Public Schools is to pursue excellence in academic knowledge, skills, and behavior for each student, resulting in measured improvement against local, national, and world-class standards.

Simonton Elementary School

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