

Simpson Middle School PTSA (GA) Roadmap to Excellence Action Plan 2022-2023

FOCUS AREA: Improve Education			
Objective: To increase family engagement supporting student success			
Activity	Standard	4 'I's	Committee
Principal Coffee and Chat	Welcoming all Families; Communicating Effectively; Supporting Student Success; Speaking up for every child	Inclusive; Individualized; Integrated; Impactful	Execs
STEAMapalooza	Welcoming all families; Supporting Student Success; Collaborating With the Community	Inclusive; Individualized; Integrated; Impactful	Events
International Night and DEI themed panel exhibits	Welcoming all families; Collaborating With the Community	Inclusive; Integrated	Events
Grant for Sensory Room enhancements (\$400)	Speaking up for every child	Inclusive; Individualized; Impactful	Execs
Simpson Families in Need	Supporting Student Success; Collaborating with community	Impactful; Inclusive	Kindness
Earth Day PTA Day of Service	Welcoming all Families; Collaborating with community	Inclusive; Integrated; Impactful	Execs

<p>Long-Term Goal (intended outcome on how investments in family engagement will translate to continuous, positive change)</p>	<p>Support our students' academic and emotional learning through increased partnership between the school and families.</p> <p>Increase family engagement by facilitating interactions and communication with our school/administration.</p>
<p>Short-Term Goals (intended measurable outcomes produced as a result of the work)</p>	<p>Students and families feel better prepared for future milestones, transitions and an enhanced connection to our school.</p>
<p>Responsible Team</p>	<p>Excellence Committee, Principal, Parent led organizations (PTSA), Staff, students, extended Simpson community</p>
<p>Connection to at least one of the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships</p>	<p>Supporting Student Success: Families take an active part in activities, potentially building stronger connections with other families, school staff, and a better understanding of what their students are learning. Helping families feel welcomed, valued and facilitating effective communications between school and families will contribute to supporting our students' overall success.</p> <p>Connection to The Four 'I's of Transformative Family Engagement –</p> <p>Inclusive – Simpson PTSA will intentionally build relationships with families by encouraging parents to volunteer time, talent and resources for community events like STEAMapalooza, International Night, approve teacher grants (e.g. Sensory Room needs) and facilitate participation for Principal Coffee & Chat sessions. In person community events are being hosted after a couple years break due to the pandemic.</p>

	<p>Individualized - Through our “Simpson Families in Need” program PTSA is facilitating Simpson families help other Simpson families in need ease their financial burden over the holiday season, ensuring they feel emotionally supported and seen.</p> <p>Integrated – STEAMapalooza - STEAMapalooza integrates with what students are learning in the classroom and they will contribute to the event by creating posters to drum up interest in the event. Several activity stations are teacher led. This year, we have speakers and activity leaders from other esteemed organizations as well, who are doing this as outreach. High school student volunteers from clubs like Society of Women Engineers will help support activity stations. Partners in Education and the broader community including local businesses, Simpson families are sponsoring or donating items needed (raffle prizes, bottled water, supplies for make&take kits, coupons and giveaways to all families). The PTSA STEAM donations fund will help with any specific teacher needs and reach all students.</p> <p>DEI panel exhibits (during Black History Month, Women’s History Month and Jewish American Heritage Month) on loan from Kennesaw State University’s Museum of History and Holocaust are being leveraged to highlight aspects in Social Studies and ELA lessons (schedule of exhibits can be found here).</p> <p>International Night PTSA is hosting for the first time this year, taking over from teachers who had organized it for several years in the past. It promises to be a great experience for the entire Simpson community. Families will participate by bringing in food samples, performing traditional dances, music etc. along with other cultural activities.</p> <p>Impactful – By offering many opportunities to volunteer and participate, PTSA is able to provide opportunities for all families to feel welcomed and be an active part of the community, directly tying into supporting student success. This year’s PTA Day of Service is on Earth Day, April 22nd 2023. PTSA would like to collaborate with the Simpson Eagles Environmental Team (SEET) club to help with any projects in and around school grounds by providing volunteers and needed items.</p> <p>Testimonials</p> <p>SSA Grant Request: Simpson serves many students who have Autism, ADHD, and Emotional and Behavioral challenges. Some of these students are served through Special Education or 504s, but there are also other students who need a safe space to calm down and regulate. The space would be available for all students to use if needed. We have a dedicated space and some items, but the items have been heavily used and need to be replaced.</p> <p>Action taken: PTSA provided a \$400 grant to help fund much needed items like a Sensory Swing, Lights and Noise Machine, Light Covers, Sensory Items, Large Beanbags.</p>
<p>Barriers, Opportunities, Organizational Considerations (e.g., Constituents, Allies, Opponents)</p>	<p>Barriers: Many families have both parents working full time, making it challenging to get involved during school hours. Language barriers have been addressed by providing Google Translate on PTSA’s website so families can consume information in the language of their choosing. Opportunities: continue offering programs such as Simpson Families in Need, making changes as relevant; shore up the newly created Health and Wellness program, possibly apply for National PTA Grants</p>

