

Welcome to Simpson. We are excited to be a part of your child's educational journey. We have designed a campus handbook to inform you of our campus guidelines and procedures. We have created the following procedures to help ensure we create a safe and productive learning environment for your child.

➤ **Beginning of School Day and Tardies**

Our building opens each instructional day at **7:30 a.m.** and **classes begin at 8:05 a.m.** Students who arrive prior to 8:05 a.m. will be directed to wait in the gym (Grades 2-5) and hallways (Kinder & 1st), under adult supervision, until dismissed to their class. If students need breakfast, they will purchase breakfast from the cafeteria. **Any student arriving after 8:05 a.m. will be counted tardy for the day and must report to the office escorted by a parent to check-in before going to class.** Guidelines regarding tardies for 2024-25 school year are outlined in the Elementary Handbook and are available online at www.wisd.org. **Please do not drop your child off before 7:15 a.m. as there will be no adult supervision available to ensure safety.**

➤ **Arrival**

Morning drop-off has 3 locations. The front entrance of the building, and both the East (Tyler St.) and West (Victoria St.) drives. Walkers and bike riders may use the Tyler St. to Victoria St. entrances.

Do **not** exit your car to assist your child, but please teach him/her to exit independently. Specific directions regarding our arrival procedures will be uploaded to the Simpson Facebook page.

➤ **End of School Day and Dismissal Plan**

School ends at 3:40 p.m. each day. We ask that you do not request to come to classrooms or enter the building during dismissal time. The safety and security of all learners and their leaders is our first priority. Our dismissal procedures allow us the opportunity to end the day in a safe and organized manner. It is important that your child has a regular going-home routine each day and it remains **consistent**, as this will help avoid confusion at dismissal. Bus riders, daycare riders, bike riders, and walkers are designated to wait in specific areas of the building for a safe dismissal; your child will know where to report. ****It is preferable that changes to your child's usual afternoon transportation be made in writing or sent via Parent Square message/email to the classroom teacher and only when absolutely necessary.** If you need to pick up your child before school ends, or make changes to pick up, please be sure to call the school front office (972-923-4740) before 3:00p.m. If you need to pick up your child early, please do so by 3:15 p.m.

➤ **Car Riders**

All family groups (siblings) and single Kindergarten students will dismiss from the West side drive (Victoria St.) 2nd and 3rd grade single car riders will dismiss from East side drive (Tyler St.) All 1st/4th/5th single car riders will dismiss from the *front* of the building after all school buses and daycare have exited the drive.

If you are using the car pick-up lines, please be sure to have your child's pickup tag displayed in the window of your vehicle. This is for your child's protection. If you lose your student's dismissal tag or require an extra card, please call the front office. A replacement card can be printed and sent home in your child's backpack. Classroom teachers will escort students to their cars. Our car lines for pick-up will move quickly if your child can enter your car from the rear passenger side. *Do not exit your car* to assist your child, but please teach him/her to enter independently. Be sure to utilize the car pick-up lines and follow procedures as stated. Specific directions regarding our dismissal procedures will be uploaded to the Simpson Facebook page.

➤ **Walker and Bike Riders**

All walkers and bike riders will dismiss near Tyler St. or Victoria St. depending on their home direction. They will be monitored by adults/crossing guard at all times until they are safely past the crosswalk. **Walker status is reserved for only those students who live close to the school. Please do not stop on Vista Way/Victoria St./Tyler St. to pick up students who are walking home as this poses a safety risk for students.** Any student being picked up by car must be labeled a car rider and car rider procedures must be followed.

Bike riders will be escorted to the bike racks and will be released on the sidewalk adjacent to the school building, leading to the crosswalk. They will be monitored by adults/crossing guard at all times until they are safely past the crosswalk. Please be sure to review bike safety, as well as safety reminders for walking if your child is going home alone.

➤ **Absences**

Texas has a **Compulsory Attendance** law, and schools are required to report certain attendance violations. A complaint against a parent may be filed in the appropriate court if the student is absent **10 or more days** or parts of days within a 6-month period (*TEC Section 25.093*). Upon return to school, students will submit a written note signed by the parent listing the full name of the student, teacher's name, grade, date of absence, reason for the absence, and parent contact information. If your child violates the 90% attendance standard, parent notes may no longer be sufficient documentation. Attendance laws make allowances for absences caused by extenuating circumstances; please contact Karen Morales for more details at 972-923-4740.

Truancy: A complaint against a parent may be filed in the appropriate court if the student has unexcused absences of 10 or more days, or part of days, within a 6-month period (*TEC Section 25.093*) (*TEC Section 25.087*). Upon return to school, students will **submit a written note signed by the parent listing the full name of the student, teacher's name, grade, date of absence, reason for the absence, and parent contact information.** This can also be submitted via email to simpson@tch.wisd.org. *Notes must be received within three days of the student's return to school. Parent notes will not be accepted for more than 5 days/absences.* Attendance laws make allowances for absences caused by extenuating circumstances. Please contact the attendance office for more details.

➤ **Parents Walking Students to Classroom**

For the 2024-25 school year, all parents are welcome to walk their child to their classrooms **only on the first day of school**. Safety is a priority. All parents walking their child to class must check-in to receive a visitors' badge. To avoid long lines on the first day of school we encourage you to pre-register via the registration link listed on our Simpson Facebook page and Parent Square email.

Kindergarten parents will be allowed to walk their child to class on the first 3 days of school (August 14th-16th) as well, but starting the following week (August 19th) students will walk to class independently. Staff will be available in the hallways to ensure students are escorted to their classrooms.

➤ **Required Student Forms**

Please check your child's backpack daily for any additional or missing required registration forms; please complete and return these forms to school as soon as possible. *In the event you change addresses, jobs, or phone numbers during the school year, please notify the school office so current information is always on file for emergencies.* Should you have any questions about these materials, please call the school office at 972-923-4740.

➤ **Breakfast/Lunch**

Breakfast will be served from 7:30 a.m-8:00 a.m. Breakfast. Lunch is not free for every student this school year. **All parents must submit an application to be eligible to receive free or reduced-price school meals this year. Households that do not meet the program eligibility requirements must pay for meals.** The cost of a student

breakfast is \$2.25, and a student lunch is \$3.00. For visitors, the cost of an adult breakfast is \$3.00, and the cost of an adult lunch is \$5.00.

Please make sure your child arrives early if breakfast is desired. If your child would like to purchase snacks or additional entrees, you may deposit money in your child's meal account daily, weekly, or monthly through [MySchoolBucks](#) viewable on the WISD website. A monthly menu selection is posted online to provide meal-planning options. Parents and visitors are welcome to eat lunch with their child **only** at the side tables near the cafeteria windows. For the safety and security of our students, only adults that are on the emergency contact list in the office are allowed to eat lunch with a student. Per district policy, students are not allowed to invite friends to eat lunch with them when guests come for lunch. Parents are not allowed to provide food for students other than their child due to food allergies and other health reasons.

➤ **Visiting**

We highly encourage and welcome parents and community members to visit our school throughout the year. For the continued safety and security of everyone during the instructional day, you may park in the front parking lot and use the main secured front entrance. All other doors will be locked during school hours. You will enter the main office where you will discuss visiting needs with the receptionist, sign in, present ID to scan in the RaptorWare Program, and receive a visitor's badge sticker to wear while on campus. All bags including purses, backpacks, etc. are subject to search by district staff. All guests are subject to additional security measures including the use of metal detectors by trained staff. For schoolwide events, classroom teachers will ask for you to notify them of your attendance by a designated deadline as this will allow our front office staff and security to ensure safety protocols are followed for campus visitation. *Please complete the required background check form located online at www.wisd.org (Click "Departments," Click "Community Outreach," & then click "Register to Volunteer & Visit") if you or other adults in your family plan to volunteer. Visitors **must** exit through the front office and return their badge.

➤ **Campus Security**

We are committed to providing a safe, calm learning environment for all learners and leaders. We routinely practice our Emergency Operations Crisis Plan, so do not be alarmed if your child talks about Evacuation, Lockdown, or Shelter-In Place drills. If you happen to be on campus during a drill (or actual event), you will be expected to follow the instructions given. Achieving the highest safety standard possible is critical to daily success.

➤ **Communication**

Good communication and collaboration builds trust amongst all of us. At Simpson, we strive to be the BEST each school day at making a positive impact in the lives of our learners, helping each child realize his/her potential, and providing meaningful, engaging learning experiences. Classroom teachers use daily folders or weekly folders to keep you informed. Classroom teachers will also make class announcements and communicate with parents individually via Parent Square. All Simpson Families will be provided with a weekly or monthly class newsletter as well as a monthly school calendar of events. We also regularly post updates on our Facebook page, and we send school messages via email.

➤ **Dress Code Additions**

Our students are expected to follow the district code of conduct guidelines. You may read these on the district's webpage at www.wisd.org, or ask for a copy in the school office. We will also send a copy of the campus addendum to the district student dress code.

On behalf of the entire staff at Simpson Elementary, please join us in our campus enthusiasm and great expectations for the 2024-25 school year where we are **Simpson Strong** and are collectively working to be a district where innovation thrives, and growth is limitless!

Here's to an amazing school year!

Your Partners in Education,

Christy Bragg, Principal

Karen Morales, Assistant Principal