

Simmons Takes the Lead

Technology: Simmons teachers and staff strive to remain on the leading edge for instructional technology solutions, taking advantage of classrooms transformed into learning laboratories through the purchase of equipment funded by the Hoover Technology Initiative. This equipment included a ceiling mounted DLP projector, 100" light screen, digital overhead projector, an interactive writing tablet, audio enhancement system, and a student response polling system.

Simmons is an active MMGW school. "Making Middle Grades Work" is an initiative of the Southern Regional Education Board committed to implementing 10 essential elements focusing on a rigorous and challenging academic core curriculum for all students and on the teaching and learning conditions that support continuous improvement in student achievement.

SIOP: Simmons was chosen by the State Department of Education to implement the Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) model for improving English acquisition among our students who are learning English as a second language. SIOP teams at each grade level are using both content objectives and language objectives to increase student understanding of academic language while increasing academic literacy.

Anti-Bullying Initiative: Simmons Middle School students participated in an anti-bullying initiative where all the students read and discussed the novel, *The Bully*, by Paul Langan. The students engaged in strategic reading activities that enabled high level discussions, interactive experiences, and integration of the arts.

Distinguished Awards

Simmons Middle School is proud to have on staff:

6 Nationally Board Certified Teachers

43 Teachers holding a Master's degree

6 Teachers with other advanced degrees

Kevin Erwin:
Teacher of the Year SMS

Anita Israel:
Jacksonville State Hall of Fame Nominee

Krystal Pettit and Dave Scott:
\$1650 grant from Hoover Foundations
\$650 grant from Hoover Foundations

Susan Ogle, Julie Falkner, and Delle Lloyd:
\$1375 grant from Hoover Foundations

Brent Brizendine:
2008 7th Grade Metro Coach of the Year

Academic and Athletic Success

Over the past 16 years SMS has been recognized for exceptional accomplishment in both academics and sports. The following are a few of the awards received.

Academic

Math Team	Consistently among the top in the state
Spelling Bee	State and National Competitors
Geography Bee	State and National Competitors
Writing	Local, State, and National award winners

Athletic

2005-2006 All-Metro Sports Trophy	
Boys Basketball	6 Metro Championships
Girls Basketball	10 Metro Championships
Cross Country	1 State Championship
Football	10 Metro Championships
Softball	3 Metro Championships
Tennis	2 Undefeated Seasons
Outdoor Track	12 Metro Championships
Volleyball	15 Metro Championships

In addition to the above, Simmons' students consistently excel in other sports such as Cheerleading, Swimming, Diving, Wrestling, Golf, and Dance.

Middle School of

Deidra Downs Miss America 2005
Taylor Hicks American Idol 2006



Administration

Brian Cain

Principal

Paul Litten

6th Grade Unit Principal

Kimberly White

7th Grade Unit Principal

Phone: 205 439-2100

Fax: 205 439-2101

www.hoover.k12.al.us/sms

Updated December 2009



SIMMONS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Hoover City Schools

Quality middle school education for students in grades six through eight.

"Doing what is best for every child"

1575 Patton Chapel Road
Hoover, Alabama 35226

Developing the Whole Student:

Intellectually

Emotionally

Socially

In partnership with parents and community, the mission of Simmons Middle School is to educate the whole child and to empower individuals to become lifelong learners and responsible citizens. To accomplish this, students will be provided the opportunities to successfully meet or surpass local, state, and national standards. Our faculty commits to a comprehensive system of support for students, parents, and each other as we pledge to make the goal a reality.

Enrollment: 865 students

Class Size: Average is 24 students per classroom.

Student Teacher Ratio: (16:1)

School Day: The school day starts at 7:55 and ends at 3:00.

Class Format: Students are taught in a departmentalized environment. All students change classrooms and teachers with each academic course.

Teaming: Each student is assigned to an academic team of teachers. This team meets daily throughout the school year to discuss students' academic, social and emotional progress in hopes of assuring a successful middle school experience.

Academic Courses: The curriculum includes instruction in language arts, math, social studies, science and reading.

Other Special Services:

Instructional Specialist: Identifies and works with students to improve learning, models literacy lessons in classrooms, and manages and monitors school data.

Counseling Services: The school provides three counselors to assist students and parents in a variety of ways.

English Language Learner: The school offers small-group English instruction for children who speak a primary language other than English.

Speech and Language Services: Students with articulation or language development difficulties may be eligible for participation in the speech program.

Special Education: The school provides special education programs and services for students with educational disabilities including self-contained classes, and an in-class support resource program.

Technology: Students have access to a variety of technology through open computer labs, instructional computer labs, wireless carts and classroom computers.

Library Media Center: The library maintains 17,956 titles in its collection. Two full time library staff members facilitate patron activities. The library houses 21 computers for student use.

Electives:

In addition to the academic core curriculum, students at Simmons Middle School participate in elective courses in a variety of subject areas that carry students from basic fundamentals to advanced concepts and skills.

Art: Students are exposed to principles of design through a variety of media. Students develop skills and techniques as they establish a vocabulary related to various mediums.

Band: As students continue musical education on selected instruments, they also learn the fundamentals of instrumental performance. SMS band students participate in competitions at both local and state levels, perform in concerts, and build school spirit at pep rallies and football games.

Choir: Through their exposure to choral music, students have the opportunity to develop sight reading skills, basic theory knowledge, music history fundamentals, as well as vocal technique. Students participate in local and state competitions, and perform in school concerts and other events.

Technology: Students receive training on state-of-the-art equipment as they learn keyboarding, software applications and broadcasting. Select students have the opportunity to write scripts, anchor the news, and create video for the production of a weekly news show.

Theatre: Students develop skills for acting and play production as they write and perform skits, short plays and improvisations.

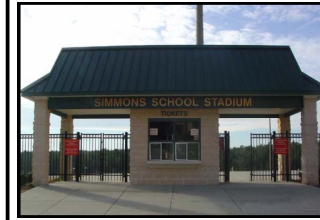
French: Students enjoy interactive language learning and exposure to the culture of France and the French-speaking world.

Spanish: Students build language proficiency skills in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, as they gain knowledge and appreciation of the Hispanic culture.

Family and Consumer Sciences: Students explore the basic needs of personal development, grooming, interpersonal relationships; management of food, clothing, time, and housing. Students participate in cooking and sewing labs.



SMS Stadium



Simmons' athletic complex was recently renovated to include a football field, track and softball field, along with expanded spectator seating and a new concession stand.

ACADEMIC TEAMS, CLUBS AND HONORARIES

Academic Teams:

Math Team
Scholars Bowl
Robotics Team
Strategy Club

Clubs:

BUC-TV Staff
Conservation Club
French Club
Library Assistants
Tomorrow's Leaders Scholars
Peer Assistants
Peer Mediators
Student Advisory Council (SAC)
Classroom Helpers
Video Club
Yearbook Staff

Fine Arts

SMS and Girls Chorale
Jazz Band
Honor and Ensemble Bands

Academy Classes

Academy class allows time during the school day for remediation and enrichment. Students rotate through classes set up by the teams to meet the needs of all students.

Honoraries:

National Junior Honor Society
Duke University Talent Identification Program (TIP)