



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 7, 2011

News Media Contact: Communication and Media Relations, 678-301-6020

Simpson ES and Parkview HS earn state recognition as “Georgia Schools of Excellence”

The communities of two Gwinnett County public schools have another reason to celebrate—their schools have earned a new prestigious title, that of a “Georgia School of Excellence.” **Simpson Elementary** and **Parkview High** have been recognized as being among the state’s top schools for the work they have done to improve student achievement. The Georgia Schools of Excellence awards are granted in two categories, with one school from each congressional district chosen in the following categories:

- **Greatest Gains:** Schools that demonstrate greatest continuous gains in student achievement for the past three years in reading and mathematics.
- **Top 10%:** Schools that are in the top 10% of schools in Georgia as measured by assessments in reading and mathematics.

The two Gwinnett schools earned recognition in the “Top 10%” category.

Both Gwinnett principals attribute their schools’ success to a combination of the work that goes on every day inside the school and the culture of excellence that dwells in their school communities.

“We have wonderful students who study hard and strive to be good leaders every day,” says **Simpson Elementary Principal Bron Gayna Schmidt**. She also credits her dedicated teachers saying, “Our staff members work tirelessly and give so much because they love children and want each child to reach his or her highest potential. The Simpson community is a wonderful example of how school, home, and community work together for the success of children.”

Pride in being named a “School of Excellence” is also found at Parkview High where **Principal David Smith** speaks highly of his teachers and students. “We believe that our students’ academic success is the result of our schoolwide focus on providing engaging classroom instruction; allowing time for teachers to collaborate and plan for improved student learning; and offering enrichment and support opportunities to all of our Parkview students.”

GWINNETT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dr. Robert McClure
Chairman
District IV

Louise Radloff
Vice Chairman
District V

Carole Boyce
District I

Dr. Mary Kay Murphy
District III

Daniel D. Seckinger
District II

J. Alvin Wilbanks
CEO/Superintendent

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.

437 Old Peachtree Road, NW
Suwanee, GA 30024-2978
678-301-6000
www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us

It is the policy of Gwinnett County Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, or disability in any employment practice, educational program, or any other program, activity, or service.

2010 Winner of



-more-

Mr. Smith also attributes this state honor to the support his school receives from parents and the Parkview community. Included in that community are the other schools in the Parkview Cluster. He explains that they work cohesively to support each and every student as they move through their K-12 education career. He says, “We have a supportive community that values education and cluster schools that send us well-prepared students who are anxious to learn.”

Simpson Elementary and Parkview High join a growing list of Gwinnett schools which have been recognized as Georgia Schools of Excellence. In 2009, Osborne Middle and Peachtree Ridge High were presented with the honor.

This year’s Georgia Schools of Excellence will receive a \$1,000 monetary award from Georgia Natural Gas.