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East Side Handbook

Admission Requirements

- **Age**—Kindergarten students must be five years old, and first grade students must be six years old on or before September 1.
- **Birth Certificate** —A **certified** birth certificate (not hospital certificate) from the State Bureau of Vital Statistics is required for students entering K, 1st, and 2nd grades.
- **Certificate of Immunization**—Required by state law on Georgia form **3231 only**. This form is required for **ALL** students.
- **Dental, Vision and Hearing Screening Form**—Required by state law on Georgia form **3300 only**. This form is required for **ALL** students.
- **Social Security Number**—A copy of the card is required to be on file.
- **Current Visa or Passport**—Required if student is not an American Citizen.
- **Proof of Residence**—Required to show copy of lease, utility bill, or bank statement, purchase agreements, or driver's license. Two forms are required for proof of residence.

***Certificate of Immunization (form 3231) and Dental, Vision and Hearing Screening Form (form 3300) are available from your child's doctor or the Cobb County Health Department located in the Parkaire Shopping Center (678-784-2192).**

After-School Program (ASP)

The East Side After-School Program (ASP) provides after school care for enrolled students beginning immediately after school until 6:00 p.m. on the days school is in session. Students not picked up by 2:30 will be placed in ASP at the parents' expense. On early release days, after school care will begin as soon as school is dismissed. Once the official ASP roll call is taken, the responsible person will pay the full \$7.00 per day charge. A snack, art activities, play time, homework time, games, videotapes, etc., are part of the program. Students may attend every day or stay on an "as needed" basis. A registration fee of \$10.00 per child and a registration card, available from the office, must be on file before a student may stay in ASP. Students who attend as needed must have a note to the teacher on the day they are to stay in ASP. Payment is to be placed in the ASP payment box outside the office by 8:10 a.m. on the day a student is staying. **Payment for this program is made in advance. ASP costs \$7.00 per day, per child.**

(Note: If paying by check, please write separate checks to pay for ASP and student lunches. Also, make payment to East Side Elementary, and write on the check ASP, your child's name, and his/her teacher's name.) All payments must be in brown ASP payment envelope with all info completed.

Enrichment programs are also provided at ASP. Some require an additional fee.

Alcohol/Prohibited Substances (Cobb County Policy)

Cobb County Policy JCDAB/C—Consuming, possessing, storing alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, or being under the influence of alcoholic beverages and/or drugs, narcotics, hallucinogens, amphetamines, barbiturates, marijuana, or any other substance listed under Georgia Controlled Substance Act on school property, school buses, or at a school sponsored event is prohibited. A student shall not falsely identify a substance to be alcohol or other drugs. Sniffing or being under the influence of inhalants is prohibited. Students are prohibited from bringing drug-related paraphernalia to school. Possession of all prescription medication must be in compliance with Policy JGCD. Students are prohibited from bringing diet pills, caffeine pills, or other stimulants to school. Possession of all over-the-counter medication must be in compliance with Policy JCCD. Parents, please remember that you are violating Cobb County School District Policy, as well as Georgia Law, if you send any alcoholic beverages to teachers at school as a gift.

Art Program

Students are introduced to a variety of art, media, tools, processes, and techniques. A positive appreciation and enjoyment of art are promoted through students' experiences creating art works and learning about art history. Students also learn art vocabulary. This permits discussions in which students meaningfully express ideas and judgments about the purposes of art, art forms, and artists.



Attendance/Absences

Daily attendance is a must for students to perform well in school. School begins at 7:50 a.m. each day and is dismissed at 2:10 p.m.

Due to safety issues, students are not allowed in the building until appropriate supervision is available at 7:20 a.m. In cases of abandonment, school personnel will contact parents. Any child who is not in class by 7:50 will be marked as tardy. A parent or guardian must accompany tardy students to the office for the sign-in procedure. A student coming to school after 11:05 a.m. or leaving before 11:05 a.m. will be counted as absent.

Excused Absences

Absences are excused absences for reasons of:

- Personal illness;
- A serious illness or death in the immediate family;
- Observation of religious holidays observed.

In order to comply with state law, all other absences are unexcused. **When students are absent, the teacher must receive a written excuse the next school day. If no excuse is received, their absence is considered unexcused.**

Excessive Absences

The following provision apply to absences during a school year. The parental contacts are the minimum required. The District and/or local school board administrators may require and/or initiate additional contacts with parents/guardians if deemed necessary to address the attendance issues of their respective school communities. Likewise, local school administrators may make a referral to the School Social Worker at any time it is deemed appropriate

1. After Five Absences:

- a. **Excused Absences:** The teacher will contact the parent or guardian by telephone or parental conference regarding attendance when possible. If contact is unsuccessful, then a letter or postcard will be sent.
- b. **Unexcused Absences:** After two reasonable attempts to notify the parent, guardian, or other person who has control or charge of a child of five unexcused absences without response, the school shall send a notice to such parent, guardian, or other person by certified mail, return receipt requested. The letter is to include a copy of the Compulsory Attendance Law (O.C.G.A. 20-20-690.1)

2. After Seven Unexcused Absences by students 14 years old and older, school and/or school social workers shall notify students they have only three unexcused absences remaining prior to violating the attendance requirements contained in the subsection (a.1) of O.C.G.A 40-5-22

3. After Ten Absences:

- a. **Excused:** A letter will be send from a school administrator to the parent or guardian regarding attendance. This letter should not be sent for a child with documented, as defined in Section A above, illness unless administration and/or the school social workers determines it necessary. In addition, an administrator shall confer with a School Social Worker to determine whether a referral is warranted at this time.
- b. **Unexcused:** A letter will be sent from a school administrator to the parent or guardian regarding attendance. If the student has ten or more unexcused absences within the current academic year or ten or more days of unexcused absences in the previous academic year and is between 14 and 18 years of age, his/her eligibility to obtain or retain an instruction permit or driver's license may be impacted.

4. After Fifteen Absences:

- a. **Excused:** A school administrator shall confer with a School Board Social Worker to determine

whether a referral is warranted at this time.

b. **Unexcused:** A referral shall be made to the School Social Worker using the social worker form.

5. **Tardy/Early Check-Out:**

a. **After ten occurrences:** A letter will be sent from the school administrator to the parent or guardian regarding missed instructional time. This letter should not be sent for a child with a documented illness unless school administration and/or school social worker determines a referral is warranted at this time.

b. **After fifteen occurrences:** The school administrator shall confer with a School Social Worker to determine whether a referral is warranted at this time.

Pursuant to the Georgia Compulsory Attendance Statute, O.C.G.A. & 20-2-690, et seq., a parent or legal guardian who fails to send his or her child to school may be charged with a misdemeanor. At its discretion, a court having jurisdiction may subject the parent or guardian to a fine not less than \$25.00 and not greater than \$100.00, imprisonment not to exceed thirty (30) days, community service, or any combination of such penalties, if found guilty of violating the Compulsory Attendance Statute. Each day's absence after the child's school system notifies the parent, guardian, or other person who has control or charge of a child of five unexcused days of absence for a child shall be considered a separate offense as related to the penalty.

Clinic

A registered nurse is on staff from 7:30 a.m. to 2:10 p.m. to administer minor treatments, medication, and "Tender Loving Care." Extended care for children who are sick or are seriously injured cannot be provided. Parents will be called when an injury or illness is of a serious nature so those children can be picked up. A parent (or person designated by the parent) should arrive within one hour of being called. If the child has a fever of 104 degrees F or higher or a serious injury, the parent or designated person must arrive within 15 minutes, otherwise 911 will be called.

Parents who are signing out a sick or injured child are to sign out from the clinic. It is vital that every child has an **updated telephone number on file in the office and clinic. If for any reason your home or office number should change, please call the office.**

Please note that the clinic keeps a limited amount of children's clothing on hand in the event a change of clothing is needed and the parents cannot be reached. **If your child comes home with some of this clothing, please return it to school cleaned as soon as possible so that it will be available for other students as the need arises.**

PLEASE NOTE "MEDICATION" section in this handbook for additional information on Cobb County clinic and medication policies.

Computer Lab

Students are introduced to beginning computer skills through the use of several software programs. Students learn how to use the computer as a resource tool to complement other academic subjects. Basic keyboarding and a general familiarity with computers are taught.

Conferences

Parent/teacher conferences are scheduled for the week of Jan 25-29, 2010. A twenty-minute conference will be scheduled by teachers to meet with each student's parent concerning student progress.

Be aware that all students will be dismissed from school two (2) hours early at **12:10 p.m. during conference week.** School buses will drop students off at their bus stops 2 hours early. Car pool riders not picked up by 12:30 will be placed in ASP. ASP will begin at 12:20 p.m.

Counselors

The school counselors conduct classroom guidance lessons, as well as provide short-term groups and individual counseling. Counselors help students focus on developing their full potential as individuals and citizens. They encourage students to accept responsibility for their own choices and actions. The counselors also consult confidentially with teachers, parents, and other community resources, and make referrals as needed.

CRCT

The Criterion-Referenced Competency Test (CRCT) is designed to measure student acquisition of the knowledge, concepts, and skills set forth in the Georgia Quality Core Curriculum (QCC). Only the content standards outlined in the QCC will be assessed. The testing program serves a dual purpose—to diagnose individual student and program strengths and weaknesses as related to instruction of the QCC and to measure the quality of education in the state. Assessments and reports yielding information on academic achievement at the student, class, school, system, and state levels will be produced by the CRCT.

Discipline

Positive Discipline is followed at East Side. This approach is based on mutual respect, kindness, firmness, encouragement and personal responsibility. Parents and teachers who show understanding and compassion will encourage cooperation, good behavior, and problem solving skills in young people. Ideally, school discipline is an extension of home discipline. We will work closely with parents to assist all students in maintaining appropriate behavior. A parent overview of the program will be sent home the first week of school.

East Side follows the discipline policies as outlined by the Cobb County Board of Education. The Cobb County Public Schools Policy Manuals are available in the East Side Media Center or on-line at www.cobbk12.org.

East Side Elementary School Rules

Every child should follow the instructions of supervising adults

And remember to walk quietly on the right

Side of the halls.

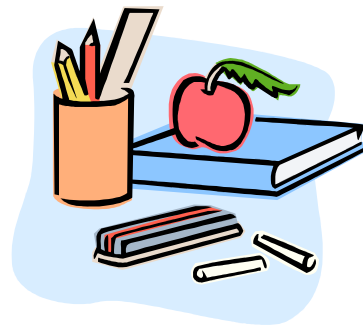
TO keep hands and feet to yourself is important.

Show respect for others and property.

In helping to keep the school clean, we show good citizenship.

Don't forget to be polite and thoughtful.

Every person is important at East Side and deserves respect.



Please note that the following **SEVERE** infractions will result in an automatic office referral: profanity, destruction of property, insubordination, bullying, and fighting. The following could result in an automatic, out-of-school suspension: possession of weapons or weapon look-a-likes (toy guns, knives, etc.); drugs, alcohol, or tobacco; fighting; threatening someone's life; and sexual harassment (Cobb County School District Policy).

Discrimination Policy

Discrimination on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, and veteran status is prohibited in all CCSD programs and activities. Questions concerning policies and practices of an individual school in the Cobb County School System may be addressed to the Principal, or to the Cobb County Board of Education, P.O. Box 1088, Marietta, GA 30061, (770) 426-3300. Discrimination complaints may also be filed directly with the EEOC, (404) 562-6800, or the US Department of Education, (404) 562-6350.

Dress Code

Every student is encouraged to observe a standard of grooming and personal hygiene that **refrains from disrupting the learning process**. Administrators and teachers will enforce the dress code that includes but is not limited to the following:

- Shoes must be worn at all times, tennis shoes on PE days.
- Caps, hats or bandanas may not be worn in the building except as authorized for special occasion.
- Clothing or ornamentation displaying illegal substances for minors, suggestive phrases, markings or profanity are prohibited.
- Students may wear shorts as appropriate and at the discretion of the administration. Appropriate shorts are those that are near finger-tip length.

- No bare midriffs, bare backs or halter tops allowed.
- No spaghetti-strap tank tops. Tank top straps must be three fingers in width.
- Tennis shoes with wheels are not to be worn unless the wheels are removed from soles of the shoes.

Early Dismissal

Appointments should be scheduled outside of school hours. If a child must be dismissed early, he/she should bring a note to the teacher stating the time and reason for early dismissal. The student is marked absent if one-half of the school day is missed. Parents must sign the child out from the school office. Office personnel will call the child from the classroom. **WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT IN NOT CHECKING OUT STUDENTS AFTER 1:50 PM.**

Early Release

There will be two stand-alone early release days for local staff development, plus 5 early release days for teacher conferences. The early release dates are October 21, 2009 and March 10, 2010. Dismissal will be at 12:10 p.m. on these days. Children not picked up by 12:40 will be sent to ASP at the parents' expense.

Early Intervention Plan (EIP)

Children start school at a designated chronological age, but differ greatly in their individual development and experience base. The Early Intervention Plan (EIP) Program is designed to serve students with identified development delays that may prevent them from reaching a level of performance consistent with normal expectations for their respective ages. While the focus of EIP is on early intervention and prevention for an identified population of children, the program structure allows for an emphasis on improved instruction and increased academic achievement for all students.

Emergencies

In an emergency situation, parents needing to pick up their child must use the sign-out form in the front office. **For safety reasons, parents are prohibited from going directly to the classroom.** The office will call and give the teacher permission to release the child.

Encore

This is the name of the East Side chorus. Students in Grades 4 and 5 may participate in this chorus. Practices are after school.

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

ESOL is a program designed to facilitate the learning of English for students whose native language is other than English. The ESOL teacher works with identified students for part of the school day.

Field Trips

Teachers are encouraged to schedule educational field trips to enrich classroom instruction. Donations to cover the cost of field trips are collected prior to the trip. These costs are based on transportation costs and any destination admission fees. While no child is denied the opportunity to participate in field trip experiences, **failure to receive sufficient funding for the trip may result in cancellation of the trip. However, each student must have a permission slip signed by his/her parent or legal guardian by the date specified on the permission slip.**

If a student is absent on a field trip day, and has paid for the field trip, the parent must submit a request in writing for reimbursement. Only entrance fees and a paid lunch may be reimbursed, as the bus fee is prorated among all students going on the trip.

Forgotten Items

Non-instructional items that are forgotten and brought to school by parents will be placed in the teachers mail boxes or bins outside the classrooms. These items will be admitted into the classroom upon teacher discretion.

Forgotten non-instructional items such as P.E. equipment, and Show and Tell items will be placed in the teacher's mailbox to be accepted into the classroom upon the teacher's discretion.

Forgotten snacks will be placed in plastic bins outside of the classroom. If snack is received after snack time, student may eat snack with lunch.

Forgotten homework will be placed in the classroom teacher's mailbox and accepted upon his/her discretion.

GKIDS

The goal of the Georgia Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (GKIDS) is to provide teachers with information about the level of instructional support needed by individual students entering kindergarten and first grade. The primary purpose of GKIDS is to provide ongoing diagnostic information about kindergarten students' developing skills in English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Personal/Social Development, and Approaches to Learning.

HEROES

Heroes is an essay contest sponsored by the Eastern Cobb County Council of PTA's. Students write about their real life heroes who have impacted them personally.

Homework and Make-Ups

The East Side faculty believes that homework is an integral part of the learning process. The purpose of homework is to reinforce concepts and skills that are taught in the classroom. Homework is also valuable in aiding students' development of organizational skills, ability to follow through on projects, and making wise use of their time. Time spent on homework should not exceed sixty (60) minutes for intermediate students (grades 4-5) and no more than thirty (30) minutes for primary students (grades K-3). Students who miss school have the opportunity to make up class work within a specified period of time upon returning to school. **If the absence is more than TWO (2) days and you would like to have work sent home, please call the office before 8:15 a.m. on the third day. Work can be picked up after 2:10 p.m.** The teacher is under no obligation to provide lesson plans and/or work for students who have an unexcused absence. This includes family trips.



Instructional Time

The cooperative goal of home and school is to provide the best educational experience possible. Therefore, your cooperation is solicited in guarding valuable instructional time. **Please schedule all classroom visits through the office.** If a conference with a teacher is needed, please contact your child's teacher to schedule an appointment.

ITBS

The Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (ITBS) are administered to students in grades 3 & 5. The purpose of the ITBS is to obtain information about how the performance of Cobb students compares with that of other students in the nation. Results of these tests will also be used by schools to help improve instruction.

Lice

We suggest the following procedures for inspecting your child for head lice:

1. Under a bright light begin looking at the back of the head just above the neck area.
2. Part the hair section by section and look closely for head lice or nits (eggs). Eggs will usually be located near the scalp.
3. Depending on the length and thickness of the hair, it should take between 5 and 15 minutes to properly inspect a child's head.

If your child has head lice, you may wish to consult your family physician, a local pharmacist, or the school nurse. Upon return to school, the school nurse will determine if the head lice infestation has been effectively treated. This means that your child must be free of all lice and nits (eggs). Often times the administration will ask to see the empty bottle of treatment.

Lost and Found

Lost and Found items are placed inside a container in a predetermined location within the school. If you need to check the Lost and Found, please check the bins located by the ASP desk. Please label your child's sweatshirts, jackets, gloves, etc. with your child's first and last name. Unclaimed clothing will be donated to a charitable organization at the

end of each month.



Lunch Program

A nutritionally balanced lunch as prescribed by state and federal standards is served each day in the lunchroom. Three choices are available for students: a classic hot lunch, a fast food lunch with fruit and dessert, or a salad plate with protein. A lunch menu is published monthly. Students who bring their lunch from home may purchase milk or juice at their scheduled lunch-time. Lunches from home should not contain candy, glass containers or soft drinks. Be advised that it is county policy that **NO FAST FOOD IS TO BE BROUGHT INTO THE LUNCHROOM.**

We welcome parents having lunch with their child. Please sign in at the visitor table in the front lobby, get a visitors badge, and wait for your child's class to arrive outside the lunchroom door.

Lunch Prices:

Elementary Student Lunch	\$ 1.60 per day
Adult/Non-Student Lunch	\$ 2.50 per lunch
Extra Milk	.60 per carton

School lunches can be purchased daily by sending money with your child each day. Computerized lunch accounts can be set up by sending cash or checks in an envelope on Mondays and Tuesdays. Make checks payable to "East Side Elementary" and write on the check "School Lunch," your child's name, and his/her teacher's name. **NOTE: If paying by check, please write separate checks to pay for ASP and student lunches.**

Cobb County School District now offers a system called Mealpay, which allows you to make prepayments to your child's meal account via the telephone or internet. You can prepay with your VISA, MasterCard, or Discover credit card online 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Payments made online will be credited to your child's account approximately 24 hours from the time of credit card payment.

Mealpay also provides easy access to view your child's account balance and payment history. You can even be notified by email when the account balance is low. You do not have to make prepayments to utilize these features. You simply have to register with Mealpay online at www.mealpay.com.

To prepay for meals by telephone, simply dial 1-866-210-3679. To prepay online, go to www.mealpay.com to log on and use your credit card to fund your child's meal account. There is a convenience charge. You will need to know your child's Cobb County Student ID Number (6 or 7 digit number). You can obtain this number from the Cafeteria Manager.

If your child arrives at school without money for lunch, we will allow up to \$4.80 in charges at elementary school and \$3.50 at middle school. Charges are not allowed for a la carte, adults, or at high school. If your child exceeds the charge limit, he/she will be provided an alternate meal (peanut butter sandwich and milk or cheese sandwich and milk.) All charges should be paid back immediately.

Media Center

The Media Center is open for student use anytime during the school day. Students are permitted to check out one-two books at a time for up to one week. Additional books cannot be checked out until outstanding books have been returned. Students must purchase books lost or damaged beyond repair.

The Media Center contains a wealth of information resources for student, teacher, and parent use. For example, books, tapes, and videos on topical issues are available for parent checkout. These are located on the parent shelf in the Media Center.

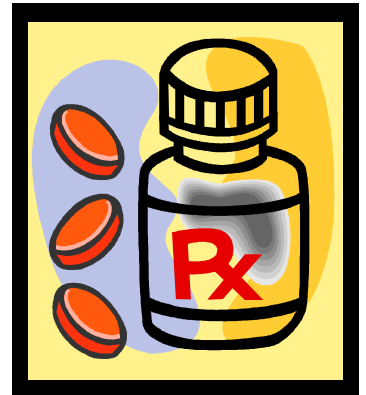
Students and parents also have access to CD-ROM software, such as [The World Book Encyclopedia](#) and Internet access.

Medical Alert

Previously, we have had students with severe health problems. Due to their fragile immune systems, they are medically at-risk to infections, especially to communicable diseases such as chicken pox and measles. We have been advised by medical personnel to monitor their conditions and to ask parents to **contact the school in the event that their child comes down with the symptoms of chicken pox or measles**. As a special precaution, the families will be notified. Thank you for your support!

Medication Administration Guidelines at School (Cobb County Policy)

- **Parents must complete an “Authorization to Give Medicine at School” form available at school for each medication given.** Authorization forms are available in the front office, school clinic, and online. To find forms online, go to www.cobbk12.org. Locate “Superintendent” on the left hand side of the page, then click on “Administrative Rules.” Click on Section “J-Students.” Find Administrative Rule JLCD (Student Welfare: Medication). Click on the form needed.
- **All medication must be in the original, labeled container.** Medications sent in baggies or unlabeled containers will not be given. Please send an extra empty pharmacy bottle to be used for field trips and ASP. Pharmacists may provide two labeled bottles for this purpose
- **Medications must be brought to the school office/clinic by parents.**
- A parent/guardian may come to school and give their child medication. Appropriate visitor sign in procedures should be followed.
- **Parents must inform the school of any medication changes.** New medication or different doses will not be given unless the parent completes a new medication form. The information on the prescription bottle label must match the new consent form.
- **The school will not supply over-the-counter medications.**
- **Over-the-counter medications** may be given for up to 10 consecutive days with written parental permission. A doctor’s note is required for over-the-counter medication that is given for more than 10 consecutive days.
- **A doctor’s note is required for adult strength over-the-counter medication given at school**, even when the doctor has told the parent that this is appropriate for the student’s weight or condition. This policy is in place because the school nurse must follow guidelines for dosage recommended by the manufacturer.
- Over-the-counter diet pills, vitamins, dietary supplements, including minerals or herbs will not be given.
- All medications not picked up by parents by the last day of school will be destroyed.
- **Students may carry inhaler, Epipen or insulin with a completed “Authorization for Student to Carry a Prescription Inhaler, Epipen, or Insulin” form on file in the clinic.**
- Cough drops and throat lozenges may be carried by the student as long as an “Over-the-Counter Medication Permission” Form is completed and on file with the school nurse.



Medication Form

See Cobb County Policy Appendix B for a copy of the Medication Authorization Form.

Messages

Please be sure that your child comes to school with all the instructions and supplies needed to ensure a successful school day. **If an emergency should arise, please leave a note in the office for delivery to the teacher/student. Messages to teachers should be kept to an absolute minimum so as to preserve the instructional day.**

Transportation changes must be submitted in writing. AS A SECURITY MEASURE, FAXES AND TELEPHONE CHANGES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Students may only use the telephone in the front office in cases of illness, injury, or other emergencies.

Music Program

The Music Program's goal is to increase the sensitivity of all children to the power and beauty of music as an art. A wide variety of activities are offered which promote musical skills and concepts, including listening, singing, playing instruments, moving, creating, reading and writing musical notation, and performing in stage musicals.

Nutrition Break

Each day all students are given an opportunity to have a nutritious snack sent by the parent. **Students are permitted to have water bottles in the classroom filled with water only (no juice or soda).** Please send a snack that consists of either fruit, vegetables or healthy carbohydrates. Limiting the nature of snacks and drinks will help with our nutritional program.

Parties

The Cobb County Board of Education policy permits one (1) party each year during school hours. East Side class parties are held the Wednesday before the start of Winter Holidays from 1:00-2:00 p.m.

A birthday snack may be sent to school for your child's birthday. These snacks will be enjoyed during regularly scheduled snack time, not in the lunchroom. No snack (e.g., pizza) is to take the place of the student's opportunity to buy/eat lunch in the lunchroom. **The teacher must be consulted before plans are made to bring food and/or drink into the classroom. At no other time is food or refreshment permitted in the classroom unless the food or drink is to supplement a unit of study or is part of a nutrition program for students.** Exception to this policy requires administrative permission. **Please note: Invitations to private parties may NOT be distributed at school. Personal items, such as balloons, flowers, or other gift deliveries may not be delivered to students at school.**

Performance Series Online Testing

The Performance Series Online Testing program aids teachers in assessing the progress and mastery of skills currently being taught in the classroom and allows the faculty to adjust teaching programs based on these results. Testing falls within a four-week window. Parents will be notified when their child's class will be testing.

Performing Arts

This program allows students to attend selected programs in the areas of music, dance, and drama. The programs take place during the school day. A voluntary donation to cover the cost of the performance, transportation (when needed), taxes, and teacher study guides will be requested. No child, however, will be denied the opportunity to attend these programs for failure to contribute unless the programs were to be cancelled for all the students due to lack of funds. **However, a permission slip signed by each parent or guardian must be returned for each student in order to participate.**

Pets

Prior approval by administration and the teacher is needed before a pet of any type may be brought to school. Pets are not allowed on the bus and must be delivered by the parent and picked up when the lesson or demonstration has been completed.

Physical Education Program

Physical Education is taught to all students. The program focuses on the development of physical fitness, locomotion and manipulative skills, creative expression, cooperation, and maintaining a positive attitude. Social development is stressed. Students learn good sportsmanship. Some activities include: physical fitness tests, tumbling, rhythmic (e.g. square dance), jump rope, hoops, and ball-centered games.

Students need to wear clothing appropriate for class and weather conditions. **Tennis shoes are required.**

If illness or injury prevents participation in PE, a dated, written note from the parent is to be given to the PE teacher. This note will be accepted for up to **five** days. Should an injury or illness exceed five days, a doctor's note explaining the need and amount of time needed before participation may be resumed is required.

Policy and Procedure Manuals

Cobb County School Policy and Procedure Manuals are available on line at www.cobbk12.org for parent/staff use.



Cobb policies are provided to parents at the beginning of the school year. Parents are expected to discuss these policies with their children. The teacher will also discuss these policies with the students.

Psychologist

The Cobb County psychologist administers appropriate psychological tests, evaluates and interprets testing results to teacher, administrators, and parents. The psychologist also works with the student support team in developing educational strategies for students.

PTA Eat Out Night

PTA partners with Six Beans, a local restaurant located in the Target shopping center to have “PTA Eat Out Nights.” A portion of the receipts from that day are donated by the restaurant to the PTA. Check www.sixbeans.com for menu and other information about the restaurant. The PTA also partners with Domino’s Pizza for a monthly family night. Again, a portion of the total receipts from East Side families are donated back to the PTA. Check the calendar for dates.

Reflections

Reflections is a National PTA Cultural Arts program featuring competition by grade level in four areas: Visual Arts, Photography, Music, and Literature. Official rules are distributed in the fall to all children who are interested in participating.

Registration Card

Parents/guardians must register their child each school year. A registration card will be sent home each spring for students already enrolled at East Side. A scheduled spring registration will be held for all incoming kindergarten and new first grade students. (See Admission Requirements.) **Please update information on a timely basis. Should an emergency arise, we need to be able to contact parents/guardians immediately.**

Resource

Resource refers to a special education program in which students leave the regular classroom for a portion of the day or receive instruction within an inclusion model (students remain in regular classroom, special ed teacher collaborating with regular ed teacher).

Safety

Because of **fire safety regulations**, hallways may not be blocked. Please **do not bring strollers into the building**.

Safety Patrol

All students in 5th grade are given the privilege of serving on Safety Patrol throughout the school year. Patrols rotate every 8 to 10 weeks. Morning duties begin at 7:20 a.m., afternoon duties begin at 2:10 p.m. Students are provided a choice of morning or afternoon duties.

School Closing

When the Cobb County School System is going to be closed because of inclement weather, the decision for closing schools is usually made and given to the radio and television stations by 6:00 a.m. If a decision is made to close the school during the school day, the statement will also be given to the media. During inclement weather, listen for this information prior to leaving for school and during the school day.

Please understand that telephone calls cannot possibly be made for all students at East Side. Therefore, each student should have an Inclement Weather Form on file with current emergency information. On this form, parents should have indicated where their child will go and who will transport their child in the event of snow, icy road conditions, or any other inclement weather that necessitates the close of school. Parents, please be sure you have communicated your alternative plans to your child so he/she knows where to go and what to do if no one is home.

When school closes, the After School Program also closes. School buses will transport the children home. **Please do not call the school office, as all phone lines must be used for emergencies.**

School Council

Our School Council meets three times a year to share dialogue regarding our school goals, test results, and program planning. The School Council is comprised of the principal, local community business partners, parents, and staff members.

Sexual Harassment (Cobb County Policy)

It is the policy of the Cobb County Board of Education that its students shall be able to enjoy an educational environment free from all forms of discrimination, including sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is unlawful under federal law and is specifically prohibited by the Board of Education and will not be tolerated. A copy of this policy (JAB) will be sent home at the beginning of the school year and is given throughout the school year to parents who register children at a later time. Please review this policy with your child. See the Cobb County School Policy Manual in the Media Center.

Small Electronics and Headphones

These items may not be brought to school without permission from the classroom teacher. This includes field trips.

Social Worker

The Cobb County social worker's job is to address concerns such as attendance and to be a resource to parents, teachers, administrators, and other school personnel in understanding and meeting students' needs.

Specials

"Specials" refers to specialized educational programs such as Art, Music, Physical Education, and Computer Education. These classes are taught by teachers certified in their respective fields. Student evaluations in these classes are based on several factors: following directions; understanding tools and equipment; active participation; expressing a positive attitude; and practicing good sportsmanship in Physical Education.

Special Education

Special Education services provide assistance to students who have been identified with a physical impairment, a learning disability or a behavioral disorder. An individual educational plan (IEP) is developed and implemented by the Inter-related Resource Teachers.

Speech

The Speech and Language teacher works with students diagnosed with speech or language disorders. Additional special education services are provided by itinerant resource teachers. (Itinerant teachers serve students in more than one school).

Student Council

This service organization is made up of two elected representatives from each third, fourth and fifth grade homeroom. Representatives are responsible for informing all grades regarding service events (i.e. toy collection for Salvation Army, donations for American Red Cross, selling of school spirit items).

Student Insurance

Two student accident insurance plans are available through the Cobb County Board of Education. One plan covers the student at school and the other provides 24-hour coverage. Specific information about the plans and how to purchase them will be sent home with the students the first week of school.

Student Planners

The East Side PTA has purchased a student planner (assignment book) for each student enrolled in grades 3, 4, and 5. The student planner will be used to record assignments on a daily basis. If a planner is lost, another must be purchased for \$5.00 from the office.

Students Returning to Class After Hours

We ask that parents and students refrain from returning to classrooms to pick up forgotten items after dismissal. This request is to help build student responsibility and to protect the planning time for teachers after school. Please realize the difficulty it causes when we are asked to make exceptions.

Student Support Team (SST)

The Student Support Team (SST) consists of a team of teachers, administrators, and parents brought together to develop strategies to assist a student having academic or behavioral difficulties.

T-shirt Day

On selected Fridays, students and staff are encouraged to wear their East Side T-shirts to promote school spirit.

Target

Target is the name given to the gifted program. The Target teacher helps to identify students who meet the state criteria in the areas of mental ability, achievement, creativity, and/or motivation. The Target teacher also teaches students enrolled in the gifted program for a half to a full day (depending on the grade level), presenting lessons which focus on higher thinking skills, research, and production. Standardized test scores in grades 2 and 4 are used to refer students who may be eligible for this program. See Appendix B for Cobb County Gifted Services chart.



Technology

The computer, multi-media lab is available for use. All students will have access to this lab on a “teacher sign-up” basis. In addition, all regular classrooms in grades 1-5 have four to six computers connected to a local area network with access to language arts and math software. Kindergarten classrooms have one computer connected to a local area network. As part of East Side’s technology plan, all classrooms have access to a CD-ROM computer and are outfitted with TV’s and video recorders. Each hall also has a cart with up to 18 lap top computers available for classroom use.

Testing Program

Standardized tests results are used to determine students’ strengths and needs. Test scores are also used to modify the curriculum to provide a more effective education program for all students. Specific information regarding Cobb County’s standardized testing program for the 2008-2009 school year will be distributed by the Administration at the beginning of the school year.

Textbooks

Textbooks are provided for students by Cobb County and State of Georgia funds, without cost to students’ parents or guardians. Textbooks that have been issued to a student, however, are the student’s responsibility. The student must pay for lost, damaged, or stolen textbooks.

Thursday Folders

Announcements, flyers, classroom work, test results, etc. come home on a weekly basis in the Thursday folder.

Tiger’s Cage—The East Side School Store

The Tiger’s Cage is open from 7:30-7:50 a.m. in the East Side lunchroom. School supplies are available for purchase (i.e. Top Flight Primary paper, pens, pencils, etc.) The Tiger’s Cage is operated by the PTA at cost. For 09-10, the schedule (by grade) for use of the Tiger’s Cage is as follows: Tue—K & 3rd, Wed—2nd & 4th , and Thu—1st & 5th.

Tiger Times (East Side PTA Newsletter)

The Tiger Times is published on Thursdays, 6 times a year and is distributed on a per-family basis. Families also have the choice to receive the newsletter electronically. Be sure to check your child's folder/backpack.

Tobacco (Cobb County Policy)

Since tobacco is not in the best interest of students or employees, the use of tobacco products by students, employees or visitors shall be prohibited in all school system buildings, offices and vehicles, or while they are in the presence or view of students or while supervising student activities or school-sponsored events. School staff members shall be responsible for enforcing policies and regulations concerning student use of tobacco (Policy JCDA). See the Cobb County School Policy Manual in the Media Center.

Transportation

School Bus Statement

Our goal is to provide each student that is eligible to ride the bus the most safe and sufficient means of transportation to our schools. We believe that students are citizens of Cobb County and have a right to a safe and comfortable trip to and from school. Bus safety rules and regulations have been developed to assure that these goals can be accomplished. It is each student's responsibility to follow these rules. When rules are broken, the privilege of riding the bus will be interrupted. We encourage our parents to help instill the rules of conduct to bring about an atmosphere of respect and safety for one another.



School Bus Information

Bus drivers have a tremendous responsibility in transporting our students safely each day. As hard as we try to provide a timely service each and every day, there are times when a driver is absent from work or delayed.

Parents leaving their children at a stop before going to work are encouraged to have a contingency plan, such as a neighbor or a family member they can go to, a way to get back in their house, and a phone number for your work or an other family member. Perhaps there can be an agreement among parents in your neighborhood to supervise or carpool students to school if the bus is extremely late. We cannot emphasize enough the need for supervision at the bus stop.

Any further concerns of policy and procedures should be directed to the Transportation Department at 678-594-8000.

Transportation Changes

Changes as to how your child will go home:

Please make transportation arrangements and let your child know how he/she will go home each day before coming to school. If there is a change on a given day from the usual routine as to how your child is to go home, write a dated note with specific instructions to the teacher. **No changes will be accepted over the phone or fax because of security reasons.**

Car Riders

All students who reside within bus transportation boundaries are strongly encouraged to ride the bus daily. To ensure the safety of your child and other East Side students, please follow the drop-off/pick-up procedures listed below:

CAR TAGS NEEDED TO PICK UP STUDENTS

All cars picking up students in carpool must have a Car Rider ID tag on their rear view mirror. Cars not having this tag will be required to park and come in the building to sign their child out. Students will be dismissed cars based on the ID number. Please make sure your child knows the number that has been assigned to your family. This card may be picked up at Meet and Greet or during the year in the front office.

- **Students are to be dropped off no sooner than 7:20 a.m. (when supervision is available) and are to be picked up beginning at 2:10 p.m.**
- **When dropping children off, parents should move their vehicle as far as possible in the carpool lane to accommodate all cars. East Side is a No Idle Zone. Please turn off your engine while waiting.**

- **Drop off or pick up children, only at the covered front porch area.**
- **Drop your child off only from the lane closest to the building. Students coming from the parking area are to be escorted by an adult. Additionally, NO STUDENT should be unloading from the center passing lane.**
- Students are to exit from the passenger's side of the vehicle **ONLY**.
- **Stopping next to the curb in the driveway of the church parking lot across from East Side is a safety hazard. Please park in a parking space and escort your child to the crosswalk.**
- **Under NO circumstances are children to be dropped off or picked up along Indian Hills Parkway.**
- Parents, **PLEASE drive slowly through our campus.** Be sure to **STOP** at the two stop signs in front of the building. One is at the playground crosswalk as you enter and exit the campus. The other is by the Media Center/After School Program checkout desk doors.
- The back driveway and parking lot are reserved for buses and staff parking. Additionally, PE classes and the After School Program use the paved turnaround during and after the school day. Therefore, carpool vehicles and visitors' cars are not permitted in this area between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- **Handicapped parking** is reserved for only those with a handicapped sticker. **DO NOT PARK** in these spaces.
- Please park within a parking space. For special events, parking is at a premium. Be aware that buses load and unload for field trips at the side door.

In the afternoon, promptly pick up your child by 2:10 p.m. Students not picked up by 2:30 will be placed in the After School Program at the parent's expense.

Bus Transportation Changes

As stated previously, the bus driver wants to make sure your child is picked up for school and taken home in the afternoon in the most safe, appropriate and orderly way possible. For this reason, parents are to send a **written note** in advance to the teacher any time the routine transportation procedures are changed: walking or riding in a car instead of riding the bus; riding a bus to a friend's house; riding a different bus; and/or getting off his/her bus at a different stop. The note is critical and is for your child's protection. Approval of the change for the bus is contingent upon available seating space on the bus. The bus driver is under **direct orders**. If the written permission has not been sent by the parent and signed by the office staff, the child will have to ride the regular bus home and get off at the regular stop. We thank parents and guardians in advance for your understanding and cooperation in keeping our children safe.

Late Bus Rules

On occasion a bus is delayed at dismissal time, causing students to be picked up from school as a "second load" bus. Given this situation, be advised that students **will not be permitted to call home** (50-60 students would be making phone calls). If there is a need for your child to be home at a given time, you may call the school, come by and pick up your child.

When this occurs, routes may be run as a second load. This will cause the route to be run late. In these instances, we ask the parents and students to please be patient. Students should not leave their assigned stop. A bus will be by to pick them up as quickly as possible.

Bus Conduct Rules

The behavior of students on school buses is considered an extension of classroom behavior. Maintaining proper conduct while on the bus shall be the joint responsibility of the student, parent, bus driver and school officials. Students shall observe the following code of conduct established by the Cobb County Public School:

1. Students must show proper respect to the driver at all times and obey all driver instructions.
2. Large toys, insects, glass bottles, animals, plastic bags, straight or safety pins, skateboards or objectionable and dangerous items are not permitted.
3. Tobacco, illegal drugs, alcohol, weapons or weapon look-alikes are prohibited.
4. Students will keep arms and heads inside the bus at all times.
5. Nothing is to be thrown in, out, or from the bus.
6. The use of obscene language or gestures is forbidden.

7. Destruction or defacing school property is prohibited.
8. Fighting or physical play is prohibited.
9. Unnecessary noise is prohibited.
10. Food, gum, or drinks cannot be consumed on the bus.
11. Drivers are required to assign seats to elementary and middle school students.
12. Students must be seated at all times unless otherwise directed by the driver.
13. Students must be quiet at railroad crossings.
14. When crossing a street is necessary, students will wait for the driver to signal to cross the street and then cross in front of the bus in full view of the driver.
15. Students may transport band instruments only if space is available.
16. The emergency door, windows and hatches are to be used only at the direction of the driver.
17. Students are to be at the bus stop five minutes prior to the scheduled time and are to wait in an orderly manner. The bus is not considered late until five minutes past the scheduled time.
18. Students may be allowed to ride a bus and to disembark at a bus stop other than that assigned for their residence provided the parent/guardian submits the request in writing to the principal for approval.
19. Any disruptive behavior will be referred to the principal as deemed necessary to insure safe transportation of students.

Visitors

ALL VISITORS ARE REQUIRED TO COME IN THE FRONT DOORS, register in the front hall and secure a visitor's badge and/or access control card. This is a rule for the protection of students. Parents who are bringing something to their child during the instructional day such as a lunch, books, snacks, etc., must come by the school office. One of our office staff will deliver the items, so as to minimize interruptions to our instructional program. If the item is a non-instructional item, it will be accepted into the classroom at the discretion of the teacher. **Teachers are on duty from 7:20 a.m. until 2:50 p.m. Please do not visit the classroom unless you have a scheduled appointment.** Thank you for your cooperation in preserving instructional time.

Volunteers

We encourage parents to be active participants in their child's education. **ALL VOLUNTEERS ARE REQUIRED TO COME IN THE FRONT DOORS, REGISTER IN THE FRONT HALL, AND SECURE A VISITOR'S BADGE AND/OR ACCESS CONTROL CARD.** This is a rule for the protection of students. Please do not bring pre-schoolers into the classroom when you volunteer. Thank you for helping as we work to maintain the instructional integrity of our classrooms as well as safety and security in our building.

Weapons (Cobb County Policy)

A student shall not use or threaten to use, or sell, attempt to sell or conspire to sell, or possess, handle or transmit or cause to be transmitted, a weapon, either concealed or open to view on school property, as hereinafter defined. School property includes, but is not limited to, (i) the land and improvements that constitute the school, (ii) any other property or building, including school bus stops, wherever located, where any school function or activity is conducted (iii) any bus or other vehicle used in connection with school functions and activities, including but not limited to, school buses, buses leased by the Cobb County School District and privately owned vehicles used for transportation to and from school activities, and (iv) personal belongings, automobiles or other vehicles which are located on school property. A suspension may be assigned for a minimum of five days up to and including the last day of the current school quarter or semester. An expulsion is any suspension that runs beyond the current school quarter or semester. A copy of this policy (JCDAC) will be sent home with students at the beginning of the school year and will be given to parents who register their children at a later date. Please review this policy with your child. See the Cobb County School Policy Manual in the Media Center.

Web Site

The address for the Cobb County School District is: www.cobbk12.org . The address for East Side Elementary is <http://www.cobbk12.org/~eastside> . Current school information may be found on the East Side web site by clicking on "The Front Office." The PTA website address is www.eastsideelementary.com and the East Side Foundation can be found at <http://www.eastsideelementary.com/Foundation/index.html>.

Withdrawals

When a student is going to withdraw from school, the parent or guardian should notify the classroom teacher and school office in writing at least three days prior to withdrawal. A note stating the last day the student will be in attendance, the area the family is moving to, and the school the student will be attending (if known) is necessary. The student should give the note to his/her teacher to take to the office. Be aware that it will take at least a full day to prepare a withdrawal form that you will need to enroll your child in another school. All lunch charges must be paid, all classroom and library books must be paid for or returned, and all After School accounts must be paid in full prior to withdrawing. The teacher will give the student a copy of the withdrawal form on the student's last day of school.

Appendices: Common Forms

Appendix A

CHART OR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR RESPONSES TO CIVIL RIGHTS CONCERNS

Policies of the Cobb County Board of Education require full compliance with all federal and state non-discrimination laws, including:

- ⇒ **Civil Rights Act of 1964:** Title VI and VII, along with Title IX Educational Amendments of 1972 (Title VI, Title VII, and Title IX)
- ⇒ **Age Discrimination and Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA)**
- ⇒ **Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 :** Titles I, II, and III (ADA)
- ⇒ Section 504 of the **Rehabilitation Act of 1973**
- ⇒ Public Law 101-476-**Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)**

Discrimination on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, and veteran status is prohibited in all CCSD programs and activities. Below is a list of individuals designation to handle inquiries regarding the District's non-discrimination policies:

Facilities Accessibility
770-590-4518

Director of Construction
514 Glover Street, Marietta, GA 30060

Title IX Student Issues
770-426-3340

Director of Student Activities
514 Glover Street, Marietta, GA 30060

Title VI Student Issues
770-426-3304

Assistant Superintendent, Policy & Planning
514 Glover Street, Marietta, GA 30060

Student Program Accessibility
770-426-3573

Assistant Superintendent, Special Student Services
514 Glover Street, Marietta, GA 30060

Employee Issues
770-426-3543

Diversity & Equal Employment Opportunity Mgr.
514 Glover Street, Marietta, GA 30060

Questions concerning policies and practices of an individual school of the Cobb County School System may be addressed to the building Principal; to any of the persons listed above at the Cobb County Board of Education, P. O. Box 1088, Marietta, GA 30061, 770-426-3300.

Discrimination complaints may also be filed directly with:

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
100 Alabama Street, SW, Suite 4R30
Atlanta, GA 30303

(404) 562-6800
Employees or applicants with complaints alleging discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or religion.

The U.S. Department of Education
Atlanta Office For Civil Rights
61 Forsyth St. S.W., Suite 19T70
Atlanta, GA 30303-3104

(404)562-6350
Individuals with complaints alleging discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age.

Appendix B

**COBB COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HEALTH SERVICES**

AUTHORIZATION TO GIVE MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

If medication can be given at home, before or after school hours, please do so. If medication must be given during school hours, this form must be completed.

STUDENT'S NAME: _____

TEACHER: _____ **GRADE:** _____

I authorize the Cobb County School System to assist my child in taking this medication. I understand that:

- Medications must be in the original labeled container. Pharmacists may provide two labeled bottles for this purpose. Medications sent in unlabeled containers will not be given. If your child takes daily medication, please send an extra bottle to be used for field trips and After School Program.
- Written permission of the parent/guardian is required for the administration of all medications.
- The parent/guardian must inform the school of any medication changes. New medication or new doses will not be given unless a new form is completed.
- Medications must be brought to the office/clinic by the parent/guardian.
- Unused medication will be disposed of unless picked up within one week after medication is discontinued. If medication is given throughout the school year, medication will be disposed of according to the medication Rule Section IX..

NAME OF MEDICATION: _____

DOSE: _____ **ROUTE*:** _____ **TIME(S) to be given** _____

DATE TO DISCONTINUE MEDICATION: _____

CONDITION/ILLNESS REQUIRING MEDICATION: _____

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS, IF ANY: _____

LICENSED HEALTH CARE PROVIDER: _____

LICENSED HEALTH CARE PROVIDER'S PHONE : _____

I hereby release and discharge and further agree to indemnify, hold harmless, or reimburse the Cobb County Board of Education, the Cobb County School District, its employees, agents, representatives, and all other officials, from any and all claims, actions, suits, losses, costs, expenses and liability in case of accident or any other mishap because of negligence in administering such medication or because of side effects, illness or any other injury which might occur to my child through administering such medication. And, I hereby release said aforementioned board, district, employees and officials from any liability, suit or claims of whatever nature and kind, which might arise as a result of administering the medication in accord with this request.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

Date

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Pager/Cell Phone: _____

*Route: The method that medication is administered, such as by mouth, injection, inhaler, rectum, etc.

Appendix C

COBB COUNTY GIFTED SERVICES

Elementary

The Georgia State Board of Education defines a gifted student as “. . .a student who demonstrates a high degree of intellectual, creative and/or artistic ability(ies), possesses exceptional leadership skills, or excels in specific academic fields and who needs special instruction and/or special ancillary services to achieve at levels commensurate with his or her abilities.”

Cobb County provides services for identified gifted students at all levels. The gifted program is designed to meet the very specific needs of these students and extend competencies in the areas of cognitive skills, learning skills, research and reference skills, communication skills, and metacognitive skills beyond the experience of the regular classroom.

Cobb’s gifted program is part of the School Improvement Division and is funded by the state. The procedures for identifying and placing students in the gifted program are governed by the Georgia State Department of Education.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for gifted services, the criteria must be met in three of the following four areas:

1. Mental Ability

- 96th percentile on a national normed test

2. Achievement

- 90th percentile on Total Reading, Total Math , or Composite on a nationally normed test

Or

- A superior student-generated product or performance

3. Creativity

- 90th percentile on a nationally normed test
or
- Superior rating on a standardized creativity rating scale
or
- A superior student-generated product or performance

4. Motivation

- Superior rating on a standardized motivation rating scale
or
- A superior student-generated product or performance

- A qualifying score on a nationally normed test is required to meet the criteria in at least one area.
- Any data used to establish eligibility in one area shall not be used to establish eligibility in another area.
- Any test score used to establish eligibility shall be current within two years.
- Outside testing may not be substituted for school generated data to determine eligibility.

Appendix C (continued)

<u>Identification</u>
Elementary students have three opportunities for evaluation for gifted services.
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. First Grade: Students are referred for evaluation through process that considers information provided by kindergarten and first grade teachers, and from parents. (A request for consideration form will be issued to all parents of first grade students during conference week in October.)2. Second Grade: All student are evaluated through system-wide assessment in the spring.3. Fourth Grade: All students are evaluated through system-wide assessment in the spring.
No referrals are necessary for second and fourth grade students.

Transfer Students

A student already participating in a gifted program in Georgia will most likely be transferred into the Cobb County program. However, the student’s records and test data will be reviewed by the eligibility committee before a final placement decision is made. Students who transfer from out-of-state must meet Georgia requirements for placement in the Cobb County program. Test data from a previous school will be considered if the test results are less than two years old and if they meet the Georgia eligibility criteria. Referrals for transfer students are available from the school office or from the Target teacher.

Gifted Curriculum

Gifted services must meet Quality Core Curriculum objectives while providing differentiated curriculum based on the assessed needs of the study. This gifted curriculum includes a more elaborate complex, and in-depth study of major ideas, problems, and themes than would ordinarily be available in the regular classroom. The curriculum blends instruction in math, science, social studies, and language arts into units that examine central themes, issues, problems and topics.

Fundamental to curriculum developed for gifted students are learning experiences that develop the use of thinking skills and processes. This instruction enables students to apply these skills and make informed decisions, to understand and apply concepts, to make judgments and to define, create, and implement strategies for solving problems.

For questions, contact the Target teacher at the local school.