

WEEK OF AUGUST 21ST

SPARK FAMILY NEWSLETTER



Calendar

August 24 - SPARK Back to School Night

- 5:30pm to 7pm
- Join us to learn more about the instructional day at SPARK!
- You only need to attend one session per child.

MAP Testing

Grades K -5

-**August 22** - MAP Reading

-**August 24** - MAP Math

Grade 5

-**August 29** - MAP Science

Grades K -3

August 28 - September 1: MAP Reading Fluency

September 4 - Labor Day, no school

September 7 - Progress Reports go home

September 15 - Fall picture day



Events

SPARK Parent Back to School Night: Join us for Parent Back to School Night on August 24th to learn more about your child's instructional day at SPARK! We highly encourage only parents/guardians to attend this event.

4:45pm: GATE Presentation for **current** GATE students in the cafeteria.

5:30pm: Admin. presentation in the gym

6pm: Session 1 in your child's classroom

6:30pm: Session 2 in your child's classroom

Grandparents & Grandfriends Day: Bring someone who is GRAND to you and join us for some GRAND fun! Bring your lunch to join your student on September 8th their lunch time. Fill out [CLICK HERE](#) to RSVP!

Remembering Jenny Lockwood: Join us on Thursday, August 31st from 6:00 - 8:00 pm to celebrate the life of a beloved SPARK teacher, Jenny Lockwood. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more.

APS 5K and Fun Run: Get your running shoes on! Join us as we celebrate 150 years of APS with the APS 5K and Character Fun Run at HJ Russell West End Academy. Register [HERE!](#)



Reminders

Join SPARK's Parent Teacher Organization:

We strive to have 100% of families join the PTO, which helps support the enrichment, community, and fundraising of our school. Click [THIS LINK](#) to join the PTO for the 23-24 school year!

Dismissal: Dismissal begins at 2:45pm. All students must be picked up by 3:05pm. Students who are not picked up by 3:05pm will be sent to SPAS Aftercare and charged a drop-in fee.

SPARK Teacher Sponsored Clubs: Click [THIS LINK](#) to express interest for SPARK teacher sponsored clubs!

Walking School Bus: [CLICK HERE](#) to learn routes, timetables, and more. [CLICK HERE](#) to receive weekly emails about Walking School Bus.

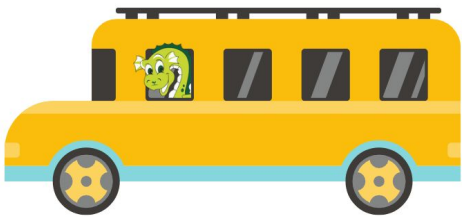
PRINCIPAL'S CORNER



SPRINGDALE PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Dr. Jennifer Toney, Principal • Mrs. Sara Prueff, Assistant Principal
803 Briarcliff Road, NE Atlanta, GA 30306 (404) 802-6051

ABC'S OF SPARK



“B” is for BUSES

Students can only ride the bus that has been assigned to them. This decision has been made in collaboration with our transportation department to enhance safety measures and streamline communication between parents, students, and SPARK. Ensuring the safety of our Dragons is our top priority. Having students on their designated buses helps us maintain accurate passenger manifests and ensures that each student reaches their destination securely. Following assigned buses makes it easier for us to keep you informed about any changes or delays that may occur on your bus through the [Here Comes the Bus Application](#).

“B” is for BEDTIME

"Can I stay up just a little later?" – Does this sound familiar to any of our Dragon grownups? We understand that the allure of a few extra minutes before bedtime can be quite persuasive, but we want to emphasize the importance of ensuring our students get the right amount of sleep each night. On average, children need 8 to 10 hours of sleep each night. Sleep is not just a routine activity; it plays a vital role in the development and overall health of our young learners. Lack of sleep can lead to hypersensitivity, impatience, and crankiness, making it harder for children to manage their emotions effectively. Sleep is also closely linked to cognitive functioning and academic success. When children are well-rested, they find it easier to concentrate, absorb new information, and learn effectively. In fact, some medical experts even suggest that during sleep, the brain consolidates and organizes the knowledge acquired during the day, helping students retain what they've learned.

To help facilitate a smoother transition into bedtime, we encourage quiet activities such as reading just before sleep. Engaging in calming activities helps children wind down and relax, setting the stage for a more peaceful and restful sleep. As we partner in nurturing the holistic growth of our young Dragons, we kindly request your support in ensuring that they adhere to a consistent and sufficient sleep schedule. By doing so, we create an environment that supports their physical, emotional, and intellectual well-being.

Thank you for your dedication to your child's education and overall development. We look forward to another enriching school year and wish our students sweet dreams as they embark on their journey of learning and growth.

With Love,
Dr. Jennifer Toney