

Simmons Elementary  
Best Practice Policy  
SISI Standard 8  
Policy Revision Date: August 2004

## **PROTECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL TIME**

Our schedule will provide the required 1,050 hours of instructional time per school year or more, and students will be actively involved in learning throughout those instructional hours. To ensure this:

- I. Broadcast interruptions from the school office will be limited to early morning and emergencies.
- II. Students arriving in each classroom will immediately have work to begin, without waiting for other students to assemble.
- III. When a scheduled activity is unexpectedly delayed or cancelled, students will be given alternative substantive learning activities to undertake.
- IV. Activities that reward or punish student behavior will not be conducted during instructional time unless those activities are strongly supported by the curriculum and instructional policies established by the council.
- V. Videotapes and television broadcasts will only be used when they efficiently convey knowledge and skills called for in the curriculum and are integrated into other activities that require that student's process and apply the information the video provides.
- VI. Our school safety plan, along with the discipline and classroom management policy, will also contribute to ensuring that behavioral problems do not subtract from learning time.

The principal will:

- I. Ensure that each new staff member learns about these requirements.
- II. Check for success in implementing this policy as part of regular classroom observations and evaluation of each teacher.
- III. Include areas needing added work under this policy in recommendations for individual teachers' professional growth.

We will review the implementation and impact of this policy through our consolidated planning process.