

CONSEQUENCES OF CRIME - 2014-2015

The East Cobb County Council PTA is proud to host "Consequences of Crime" through a continuing partnership with the Cobb County Sheriff's Office; the Superior, State and Magistrate Courts; and the Cobb County School District. Since it began in 1980, thousands of Cobb students have participated in this award-winning program. The demand for the program is at record levels. We are indebted to the Sheriff's Office and the Courts for working with us to help young people learn about choices, consequences, and the end results of crime.

OBJECTIVE:

To provide an educational activity that directly helps students understand the consequences involved with making wrong choices and to develop peer leaders.

LOCATION:

Cobb County Prison Unit, 1877 County Services Parkway. If coming from the West on County Services Parkway it is immediately after the Detention Center entrance, on the left. It is gated. IT IS THE RED BRICK BUILDING PAST THE VISITOR CENTER.

CONTENT:

Elementary Schools

Only fifth grade students should participate in this field trip. They will receive information about jail life, the Sheriff's Office and the criminal justice system as a whole. The focus of the program is the importance of making good choices and decisions.

Middle and High Schools

Only seventh and/or eighth grade students should participate in this field trip. It is appropriate for high school students in grades nine through twelve to attend, but we recommend that participants be from no more than two contiguous grade levels. Middle and high school students will experience a more in-depth presentation dealing with drinking and driving, being in possession of drugs and alcohol, and the consequences of such behavior.

FORMAT OF PROGRAM:

Welcome and Overview

Presentation by Sheriff's Office Representative

Inmate speaker

Tour of the Prison Unit at 1877 County Services Parkway

CHAPERONES:

You must provide a minimum of one chaperone for every 10 students. One of the chaperones must be a Cobb County School System employee (teacher, counselor, or administrator). No maximum limit for chaperones.

STUDENT SELECTION PROCESS:

Each school/PTA/PTSA may set their own student selection criteria within the appropriate grade levels. **A maximum of twenty (20) students per school is permitted.** The numbers for the high schools may be higher depending on space availability and scheduling. As participation is very limited, **we encourage you to choose students who have not participated in the program in the past.**

Please select a broad cross section of students in terms of gender, ethnicity, and socioeconomic backgrounds who can "connect" with the diversity of your entire school population. It is expected that participants behave appropriately during this educational field trip. Your group should not be filled exclusively with students who are "at risk" or "need" to have their eyes opened. This is not a "scared straight program". If you are focusing on a particular grade level, choose students from all homerooms or classes. High schools often select relevant a

class such as business law to participate. Please note that the program is significantly more effective, however, when the high school participants are 9th or 10th grade.

All students serve as ambassadors for their schools and peers. The ultimate goal is to extend the benefits of this project to as many students and families as possible. It is expected that participants will share what they have learned, examples:

- * they might write about what they learned and publish it in your PTA/PTSA or student newsletter
- * chaperones might interview a number of students and write an article about the field trip
- * at the high school level, we recommend the incorporation of this field trip into the curriculum through classroom discussion and assignments, articles in the school and PTSA newspaper, creation of a video for close circuit TV, or other means to reach all students and families

SCHEDULING:

The sessions must begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. and will end at approximately 12:00 p.m. Please arrive at the Cobb County Prison Unit on County Services Parkway between 9:30-9:45 a.m. A representative of the Sheriff's Office will meet you outside the building. If you arrive prior to 9:30 a.m., please wait on the bus until directed to come into the building.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

It is imperative that you notify us ***at least one month before*** the scheduled date if your school is not able to attend. For any emergencies occurring on the date of the program, please call **770-499-4719** and **ask that a message be left for Sgt. Stevens. Also, please communicate with the ECCC PTA Youth Services Chair, Victoria Ellis 773-551-6154, youthservices@ecccpta.org.**

PERMISSION FORMS:

No student will be permitted to attend this field trip without a permission form signed by a parent or guardian.

TRANSPORTATION:

Each school/PTA/PTSA coordinates their students' transportation for the field trip. You may choose to transport students by school bus or in cars in accordance with Cobb County Schools' Policy. Drivers normally serve as chaperones and remain with students throughout the program.

DRESS CODE:

All visitors to the Cobb Work Release facility must be properly attired and meet the following dress code:

- Male visitors must be attired in shirt, trouser and shoes. No running shorts, gym shorts, cut-offs, spandex, fishnet clothing, or hats will be allowed.

- Female visitors must be attired in conservative clothing and shoes. No shorts or skirts above the knee, halter tops, tank tops, scooped neck tops or cut-offs will be allowed. Sleeveless or tight-fitting tops are inappropriate. Shorts and skirts above the knee are not permitted.

We recommend that attendees wear slacks or jeans with comfortable walking shoes. Please note that the tour involves some walking within this air-conditioned facility. **IF SOMEONE IS NOT APPROPRIATELY ATTIRED, THEY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TOUR.**

BEHAVIOR:

Participants must demonstrate respect for inmates, officers, judges and chaperones. If a student fails to behave appropriately, they will leave the tour and wait with school personnel until the program is finished.

CAMERAS AND VIDEO EQUIPMENT:

No one is permitted to bring cameras and video equipment. If they are brought inside the facility, the Sheriff's Office will hold them for you and return them to you at the end of the program.

Consequences of Crime Participation Form 2014-2015

School:

Date of Trip:

School/PTA/PTSA Coordinator & Contact Number:

Participants Names and Grade levels:

Student Name	Grade Level	Chaperones (at least 1 per 10 students - no max)

Please submit this sheet only (not the entire information packet) two (2) weeks prior to your scheduled date to Victoria Ellis ECCC PTA Chair, youthservices@ecccpta.org or mail to Youth Services, C/O Simpson Middle School 3340 Trickum Road, Marietta, Georgia 30066.

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The East Cobb County PTA thanks you participating in our Consequences of Crime program

Please discuss the following questions with your school's participants and return to:
Victoria Ellis ECCC PTA Chair, youthservices@ecccpta.org or mail to Youth Services, C/O Simpon School, 3340 Trickum Road Marietta, GA 30066 within one (1) week after returning from your scheduled tour date.

School/PTA/PTSA _____ **Date attended** _____

Had anyone who attended ever heard of this program before?

What was the part of the program with the most impact to your students?

What didn't you like about the program?

Is there anything you would suggest to add to the program?

Did this program change the way you think about crime and its consequences and how?

What did you hear the kids talking about the most during or after the trip?

Leaders only:

How did you select the students to represent your school on this field trip?

How will your students share their experience with the other students at your school?

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Dear Parents,

Your student has been selected by your school/PTA/PTSA as a (delegate, alternate) to attend an educational field trip to the Cobb County Prison Unit Center on County Services Parkway in Marietta. The East Cobb County Council PTA in cooperation with the Cobb County Sheriff's Office, the State, Superior, Magistrate Courts, and the Cobb County School District sponsors this educational program, entitled Consequences of Crime. We are very proud of this project in which thousands of Cobb County young people have participated.

Consequences of Crime varies by grade level with a focus on shoplifting, smoking, alcohol and drugs, or drinking and driving. Our ultimate goal is to work together with students, parents, and communities to show students the consequences of their choices and the end results of crime. During this two-hour field trip students will observe consequences - from arrest, to the courtroom, to prison - giving them an in-depth orientation of the judicial system. When they return to school, they will share their experiences and impressions with their school community. **This is not a "scared straight" program.** Your students were selected to bring the information back to their classmates.

Cobb County Schools' Behavior Policies apply throughout the field trip. The Cobb County Sheriff's Office Dress Code requires conservative clothing and shoes for all attendees. No shorts or skirts above the knee, spandex, halter-tops, tank tops, cut-offs or fishnet clothing are allowed. Sleeveless, low-cut and/or tight-fitting tops as well as short skirts and shorts are prohibited. Trousers, slacks or jeans with comfortable walking shoes are strongly recommended. No cameras or video equipment are allowed.

Please sign and return this permission form to your school IMMEDIATELY.

School _____

Student _____

I, _____, give my permission for my
Parent/Guardian Printed Name

child _____ to attend this field trip on

_____. He/she will be dressed appropriately. I understand that

transportation will be provided in cars /on school buses/other_____.

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____

Date _____