

## **Principal's Message on 09/04**

Good Evening Stallion Families,

Thank you to the students and staff for a great first week of school. This week was filled with team builders, learning routines and procedures, and of course content. The 4th and 5th grade learned more about our instrumental music program with Mr. Spitz on Friday. Then we ended the week, with our kindergarten students learning who their teachers will be for the year! It truly was a great week of learning!

We had our first fire drill of the year on Friday. Students did a great job of exiting the building quickly and quietly. Throughout the year we will be practicing the various emergency drills such as fire drill, lockdown and shelter, reverse evacuation, severe weather, and many more.

### **Back to School Night on 09/06 from 6:00-8:00 PM**

We hope to see you at Back to School Night on Wednesday, September 6th from 6:00-8:00 PM. We will be trying a new format this year where families will have the opportunity to choose from three different sessions in the evening.

- There will be a food truck available if you would like to purchase food from B-Dub's Island Soul Food Truck and Kona Ice.
- The night will be broken into three twenty minute sessions where caregivers/parents and their student(s) will get to choose the session they want to attend.
  - 6:00-6:20: Rotation 1
  - 6:25-6:45: Rotation 2
  - 6:50-7:10: Rotation 3
- Parents/Caregivers can choose from the following sessions:
  - Overview with the administrative and core team in the APR/ cafeteria
  - Classroom Visit in your child(ren) classroom
  - Time to hear from the specialists (music, art, PE, and instrumental music)
  - Media Center and ParentVUE help
  - Visiting with various school/ community groups in the main hallway (PTA, BAR-T, Cafeteria information, etc...)

The evening will end with the staff versus parent kickball game from 7:15 PM-8:15 PM! **We are in need of some kick ball players, please complete the survey if you are interested in playing,** <https://forms.gle/kDMYRo47mgCpVHr67>

### **New: NAACP Representative for SFES**

We are looking for an NAACP representative for our school, **please email Mrs. Fortune or your child's teacher if you are interested.**

- The Formation of the Parents' Council of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) came about as an outgrowth of ideas put forth during the 1995 and 1996 NAACP Youth Summits. The Parents' Council is one of the vehicles created to empower African American and other minority parents to take a more proactive role in the education of their children. The Council is made up of parents, guardians and grandparents of minority children enrolled in the Montgomery County Public School System (MCPS) and residents who may not have children in school but who share the goal of equal education for all children, particularly minority children.
- The Purpose of the Parents' Council is to provide a forum through which interested citizens may offer assistance, guidance and support to African American parents and students of Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) to pursue the highest qualified education possible through encouragement, information sharing, positive motivation, critical evaluation and advocacy.

### **New: News from the Cafeteria and Free and Reduced fee Meals**

Breakfast and lunch are available for all students. The cost for breakfast is \$1.30 and lunch is \$2.55. Students can pay for lunches by paying on-line through MySchoolBucks or via a check to the cafeteria manager.

To enroll in MySchoolBucks:

- Go to [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com) and click on "Sign up today!"
- Create an account for yourself, and add your children. You will need the student's name (exactly as it appears on their report card), school, grade, birth date, and six-digit **student ID** number.
- (OPTIONAL) Provide credit or debit card information, if you would like to make prepayments to your child's cafeteria account.

- Select a Meal Payment Option to make a prepayment, or select your child's name to view recent cafeteria purchases.

DFNS encourages all families with students enrolled at non-CEP schools to complete a [Free and Reduced-price Meals Application](#). All meals are free for students who qualify for free and reduced-price meals.

### **Message from the PTA**

We hope you are having a great summer! As we gear up for the start of the new school year, the PTA needs your help more than ever!

Currently, we are still looking to fill the following positions:

- VP 2- Fundraising
- two MCCPTA Delegates
- a Gifted & Talented (GT) Liaison
- NAACP Parent Council Rep, an Art Liaison
- Communications Chair.

Any amount of help is valuable, and a team will support and guide you throughout the process.

In addition to the board positions, we need volunteers for our events. There's a listing of our events with descriptions and a signup sheet located here:

<https://sfepa.membershiptoolkit.com>.

At the request of parents, the PTA is considering adding two new activities to our roster. We'd like to hold our very first Geography Bee and start a Robotics Club! We'll need parent volunteers to form and lead these activities. We are inviting experienced coaches to our first General Membership meeting, September 12th to go through the steps of forming a Robotics Club. For more information, please visit <https://www.firstlegoleague.org>.

For parent volunteers please sign up here: <https://sfepa.membershiptoolkit.com>

Without parent volunteers, we may not be able to hold the events our kids look forward to and enjoy immensely. As a board made up of parents with busy lives like yours, we truly understand trying to find the time to add one more item to an already full plate. But the saying, many hands make light work has never been truer and applicable.

Please sign up to support your PTA through membership and/or volunteering at <https://sfepa.membershiptoolkit.com/>. It truly takes a village!

Should you have any questions, please contact the current PTA board members:

President: Denise, [president@sfespta.org](mailto:president@sfespta.org)

Treasure: Jennifer, [treasurer@sfespta.org](mailto:treasurer@sfespta.org)

VP1: Alex (Ruoqiu), [vp1@sfespta.org](mailto:vp1@sfespta.org)

Secretary: Irene, [sec2@sfespta.org](mailto:sec2@sfespta.org)

### **Girls On the Run Sign-Up for 3rd-5th grade**

Girls on the Run is coming to Snowden Farm Elementary! GOTR is a physical activity-based positive youth development program for girls in 3rd-8th grade. The program teaches life skills through dynamic interactive lessons and running games. The goal of the program is to unleash confidence through accomplishment while establishing a lifetime appreciation of health and fitness.

- Starting the week of September 11th, the team will meet every Monday and Wednesday from 3:30-5:00 pm.
- The program culminates in a celebratory 5K, at the Westfield Mall in Bethesda, at the end of the season!
- The standard program fee is \$187.50 and includes 20 lessons/practices, a t-shirt, a water bottle, entry into the 5K, a 5K medal, and more.
  - Financial assistance is available for anyone needing it, with the lowest program registration cost of \$20 for the season.
- Registration opens August 17<sup>th</sup> at <https://www.girlsontherunofmoco.org/>

### **Upcoming Important Dates**

- Wednesday, September 6th, Back to School Night and Kickball game from 6:00-8:15 PM
- Friday, September 15th, Begins Hispanic Heritage Month
- Friday, September 22nd- Early Release for students
- Monday, September the 25th- No school for students and staff

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to reach out to the school, 240-740-5800.

With Gratitude,  
Michelle Fortune