

1st Day of School

Good Evening Stallion Families,

We are so excited for our first day of school tomorrow! The staff has worked hard all week to ensure that each part of the school is ready for our students on Monday! Thank you to all the families that were able to attend Open House on Thursday!

Doors will open at 8:45 and parents/caregivers will be able to walk their child(ren) to the classroom door to drop them off. Dropping them at the door allows our staff to get started right away!

New: Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

We are excited to welcome you to our school and meet the wonderful teams that will be filling our classrooms this school year. In an effort to keep all students, staff, and community members safe, we are sharing our dismissal expectations with you. Please use this link to view the updated map, [Updated SFES Dismissal Expectations 2023-2024](#). Thank you in advance for doing your part to keep all of our Snowden Farm students safe!

Car Riders:

- Car riders are students who come through the car rider loop and have an assigned number.
 - They will enter and exit through the main entrance of the building.
- Numbers were assigned during open house, will be assigned the first day of school, and then on an as needed basis.
- All car riders must enter the loop from Grey Squirrel St to Sweetspire Dr by making a left.
 - When leaving the car rider loop, you may only turn right.
- **Drivers are not to get out of the car when dropping off students.**
 - Staff members will be present to help students out of the car and into the building.
 - It is helpful to have students on the right side of the car with their backpacks and lunches so they can make an easy exit from the car.
- Cars in the loop **may not cut through the parking lot or pass cars in front of them** to exit the loop faster.
- Remember that in poor weather conditions we will be expecting more cars which may mean more delays.
- We are asking that you remain patient and continue to follow the expectations shared above at all times.

Walkers:

- Walkers are students who walk home or to a vehicle that is not in the car rider loop.
- Entering the Building:
 - Walkers will enter through the entrance by Snowden Farm Pkwy
- Leaving the Building:
 - Kindergarten walkers will exit through the door by the Gym
 - 1st-5th grade students will exit through either the side door.
 - Parents/Caregivers picking up walkers should wait on the outside of the gate.
 - Students will walk down the stairs and meet you to go left or right on the walking path.
 - No students are permitted to cross the front of the school/field to walk home.

Bus Riders:

- Bus riders are students who are riding a bus to a special program, live in a busing portion of the community, or students who are a part of our SESES program.
- Bus Riders will enter and exit through the side entrance by Snowden Farm Pkwy.

****Any change in dismissal plans needs to be in written form and sent to the teacher and main office in the morning. Last minute requests are challenging and a phone call should be made to the front office as teachers will most likely not be able to check their emails.****



New: 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.
- The night will be broken into three twenty minute sessions where caregivers 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! Please complete the survey if you are interested in playing, <https://forms.gle/kDMYRo47mgCpVHr67>

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

Treasure: Jennifer, treasurer@sfespta.org

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

Secretary: Irene, 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 17th at <https://www.girlsontherunofmoco.org/>

Upcoming Important Dates

- Monday, September 4th- Labor Day—Schools And Offices Closed
- Wednesday, September 6th, Back to School Night and Kickball game from 6:00-8:15 PM

Links to Important Information

- [Welcome Back Parent Packet 2023-2024](#)
- [23-24 Supply Lists](#)

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