

Good Evening Snowden Farm Families,

I hope you and your families had a wonderful and relaxing spring break!



We are excited to welcome everyone back to school tomorrow. Classes will begin promptly at 9:00 AM, so please plan accordingly to ensure students arrive on time and ready to start the day.

We look forward to seeing all of our students back in the classroom!

New: Game Changer Conference on 04/25

We are excited to invite you to attend The Spring 2026 Game Changer Conference for Young Males & Parents hosted by Unity Christian Fellowship, Inc. (UCF), also known as UCF Aim High Youth Organization, which celebrates 20 years of "promoting students' success one student at a time". Our mission is clear: to create meaningful pathways for growth, leadership, to uplift, equip, educate, and empower young people and families to excel academically and socially, to reach their full potential.

- This transformative event in its 14th year is set to take place on Saturday, April 25, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon at Montgomery College, Germantown Campus – Bioscience Education and Conference Center, 20200 Observation Drive, Germantown, MD 20876
- 🌟 Conference Goal: Our mission is to create a transformative experience that enhances the social-emotional well-being, confidence, and values our young males need to succeed and become true success stories. This conference serves as a beacon of hope and empowerment. We encourage young males to adopt a positive mindset and strive for academic excellence, inspiring them to reach their full potential and improve high school graduation and college readiness rates.
- 🌐 2026 Theme: Future Ready – Inspire Change and Leveling Up is a Game Changer!
 - This year's theme inspires our students to recognize their growth potential and cultivate their skills in a world that is evolving before our eyes. We encourage students to compete and pursue their goals with the same determination that our ancestors demonstrated. We challenge each of you to think boldly and wisely, develop effective strategies and put forth your best efforts to create successful plans for achieving your dreams. We invite you to reflect on how you can inspire change, give your all, set high aspirations, and passionately pursue your dreams with all your heart. Let's not just aspire—let's act and turn your ambitions into reality!
- 🎉 Conference Features:

- ● Life Skills Stations and Enrichment Forums: A variety of interactive sessions designed to improve your skill sets to unleash your best self to aim higher by doing your very best.
- ● STEM Exposure Experience: An opportunity for students to explore and engage with STEM-related activities and learn essential life skills and knowledge.
- ● Parent Advocacy Academy Roundtable: Parents are encouraged to attend workshops themed "New School Parenting for Old School Issues" to learn how to better advocate for their students.
-  Essay Writing Competition: THEME: Future Ready – Inspire Change and Leveling Up is a Game Changer! What are your goals for improving your skills to win your future? To foster academic excellence, we are excited to announce the Essay Writing Competition for students!
 - Participants are encouraged to submit a 300-word essay answering the essay theme question.
 - Essay Submissions are due by Sunday, April 19, 2026, at GC Essay Contest Submission. Huge prizes await the winners in each age division!
-  Register Now: Don't miss out on this golden opportunity! Secure your student's spot by registering through the Spring 2026 Game Changer Conference before the cut-off. Spaces are limited, and we are anticipating a great turnout! (Preregister by Monday, April 13, 2026).

STEM Fair on Thursday, April 23rd

The Snowden Farm Elementary School PTA is holding the 5th STEM Fair from 6-7pm on Thursday April 23rd, 2026! We invite all our students and their families to participate in this exciting and educational event. Students, or teams of students, feel free to work with your family or friends! The participants will explore a topic in the world of Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math. You will then present your project in any of the following ways: Make a traditional tri-fold display; present it on a short video and display it on a computer; write a short report; make a Google slides presentation; make a short video news report; make your own website; or use a combination of these methods. If you have another presentation idea, let us know! Whichever presentation format you chose, each project should contain the following:

- Title: Every great project needs a name!
- Purpose: What do you want to learn from this project? What questions did you have that you would like to have answered?

- Hypothesis: What do you think will happen? What were your observations? Explain the steps of your experiment or present your research (tell us what you did, what you learned, what happened and what you noticed.)
- Conclusion: What did you learn? Were your questions answered? If you did an experiment, was your hypothesis right? Why do you think that was?

If you are interested in doing a STEM Fair project:

- Please sign up [HERE](#) no later than 4/19/2026
- Let us know who you are, what grade you are in and who your homeroom teacher is, what you are working on and with whom!
- If you have any questions, please ask! If you are interested in volunteering (students may earn SSL hours) please reach out to:
 - Alex (Ruoqiu) Wu, at aquiuaa@hotmail.com

New: MCAP Assessments

MCAP assessments are coming up at the end of April and early May (change from earlier planned dates due to MCPS's recent communication about pushing them back due to scheduling disruptions) for grades 3-5.

- Feel free to use publicly released items to review with your child what to expect on these assessments at <https://itempra.org/public/>

Snacks for State Testing

State testing is coming up in March (MISA- 5th grade only) and in April (ELA and Math MCAP- grades 3-5). We like to provide snacks for students upon completion of each section of each assessment when possible to help encourage students to try their best. We would love any and all snack donations to further this cause! We appreciate it if you are able to bring/send snacks to the main office clearly labeled TESTING starting on March 2nd so we can offer to students taking the MISA the week of March 9th. Thank you in advance to anyone able to support!

- Please see the sign up genius link for more information as well as places to sign up. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F45AEA92BA7F5C70-62469545-misa>

Kindergarten Registration Now Open

For the 2026-2027 school year, [kindergarten registration](#) is now open and being held online through the [ParentVUE portal](#). Children who will be 5 years old by Sept. 1, 2026 are eligible. If your family is new to MCPS, you will need to create a ParentVue account [here](#). After creating an account, you will be prompted to register when you first log in.

Registration sessions will be held in person beginning Monday, March 16. Schools will share further information about kindergarten registration with families. Early entrance to kindergarten and first grade opens on Monday, March 9.

Join the PTA

Join the PTA to become an integral part of your child's elementary school experience.

- Fill out the membership form online,
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc98gaet2hNbdVBLPQMYyjdDemfgWNSvYCWmhazRDuDsSE-8w/viewform?usp=preview>
- Pay Dues
 - Pay online via Zelle: treasurer@sfespta.org
 - Individual Membership \$20
 - Family Membership \$40
 - Staff Membership \$15

New: Important Information from MCPS

Preparing for Spring Assessments: What Families Need to Know

End-of-year assessments are important because they showcase what our students know, understand and are able to do. The Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program, or MCAP test, is the main component measuring student academic performance in Maryland's accountability system. MCAP performance is a key component of the Maryland School Report Card, including star ratings for each school. This is how the outside world assesses and views our students' performance, our schools' performance and our performance as a district. In case you missed it, [we shared information with families](#) on changes to the testing schedule and [how you can help](#) your student prepare for upcoming assessments.

Join Us to Learn the Latest on Special Ed Services, Staffing and Support

The Division of Specialized Support Services will hold a webinar for families from 6-7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 6, focused on what's new in special education services, staffing and supports — and why. MCPS special education leaders will provide context for what this means for schools and classrooms. The session will be held virtually, featuring a brief presentation followed by questions and answers. More details, including the Zoom link for the meeting, will be shared in the coming weeks.

Spots Are Going Fast; Sign Up Soon!

Other Student Opportunities

- [Pedestrian Safety Art Contest](#): K–5 students are encouraged to create artwork demonstrating pedestrian safety. Deadline: Friday, April 17.

Additional Information

- [At-Home Student Device Request](#)
- [Bullying, Harassment, and Intimidation Reporting](#)
- Food Assistance: Call Manna’s main office during regular business hours, Monday through Friday 9:00 am-4:00 pm, at (301) 424-1130.
- [Menus - Department of Food & Nutrition Services - Montgomery County Public Schools, Rockville, MD](#)
- School Cash Online- <https://mcpsmd.schoolcashonline.com/>
- Maryland Anonymous Tip Line - 1-833-632-7233- Report threats or situations that put your safety, or others' safety, at risk.
- In Case You Missed It:
 - [Refrigerator Curriculum](#): See what your children will be learning each marking period.
 - [Register for Saturday School](#). The tutoring sessions are available to students in K–12 in math and English/Language Arts and have in-person and virtual options.
 - MCPS welcomes volunteers! [Here’s how to do it](#).
- More MCPS Resources
 - [School calendar](#)
 - [Parent resource page](#)
 - [Student Code of Conduct](#): [Read the revised document](#) and [watch the video](#).

Upcoming Important Dates

- Tuesday, 04/07- Math Challenge at 6:00 PM
- Wednesday, 04/15- Early Release for Students
- Thursday, 04/16- Spring individual pictures and class pictures
- Friday, 04.17- 5th Grade Field Trip to Robinson Nature Center

With Gratitude,

Mrs. Michelle Fortune, Principal