

Dear Snowden Farm Families,

Thank you for a wonderful first week of school! Our students spent the week getting to know their teachers and classmates, making new friends, reviewing school routines and expectations, and practicing our important safety drills. We are so proud of how well our Stallions have started the year!

This week, students will begin some **baseline assessments** that will help our teachers learn more about their strengths and areas for growth as we begin instruction.

We also look forward to seeing our families at **Back to School Night on Wednesday, September 2!** Our evening schedule will be:

- **5:30 PM:** PTA Meeting
- **6:00 PM:** Welcome Session with our Core Team – schoolwide and curriculum information
- **6:30 PM:** First Classroom Session
- **7:00 PM:** Second Classroom Session

We hope you can join us to learn more about the year ahead and how we can work together to support our students.

New: Join the PTA for the 2026-2027 School Year

Become an integral part of your child's elementary school experience. Fill out the membership form, pay online, and join us for our first meeting on **Wednesday, September 2, 2026 @**

5:30pm

- <https://sfepa.membershiptoolkit.com/form/m/145130>
- Individual Membership \$20
- Family Membership \$40
- Staff Membership \$15

New: Registration for the Fall 2026 season of Girls on the Run at SFES

School is now open! Using a curriculum that creatively integrates running with life lessons, Girls on the Run empowers girls to develop the confidence and character they need to become strong and healthy young adults.

- The season will run from September 27th through November 22nd, with a celebratory 5K on Sunday, November 22nd.

- Practices are on Mondays and Wednesdays after school.
- The standard program fee is \$210, but financial assistance is available for qualified families.
- For more information and to register, visit the Girls on the Run of MoCo [website](#).
- Questions can be directed to our Head Coach, Mrs. Peña, at Allison_N_Pena@mcpsmd.org.

New from MCPS:

New: All You Need to Know for Lunch

It is easier than ever to see your school's breakfast and lunch menus, along with nutritional details, by visiting the [MealViewer webpage](#). Families can also learn how to add money to a child's account through [MySchoolBucks](#). This optional online service is for parents/guardians to make prepayments with a credit or debit card to a student's cafeteria account for breakfast, lunch and à-la-carte items. [Learn more.](#)

New: Have you submitted your Free and Reduced-price Meals (FARMS) application yet?

Apply today! A new FARMS application must be completed every school year, even if your children qualified the previous year. Access is based on household income, but it is easy to apply. Submit the online FARMS application through [MySchoolApps](#) (translations are available). Only one application is needed for all students in a household. [More information](#)

Learn more: [English](#) | [español](#) | [中文](#) | [français](#) | [Português](#) | [한국어](#) | [tiếng Việt](#) | [አማርኛ](#)

New: Turn Saturdays Into Success — Register for Saturday School

Help your child build confidence and academic success with [Saturday School](#) (George B. Thomas, Sr. Learning Academy). Programs run on Saturday mornings for students in grades K–12, focusing on reading, math, test prep and STEM enrichment, such as coding and robotics.

- The opening ceremony is on Sept. 19 for families to register and learn about the program. The first tutoring session is Sept. 26 from 8:30-11 a.m.
- **Cost:** \$85/year (\$40 for FARMS recipients) **Note:** Fees increase to \$100 / \$50 FARMS after Sept. 1.
- **Transportation:** Free MCPS bus routes available to center sites.
- **Details & Registration:** saturdayschool.org

New: Safety Starts Before Students Board the Bus

Getting students to and from school safely is a shared responsibility. MCPS operates more than 1,200 bus routes serving more than 100,000 students each day, and a few simple steps can help keep everyone safe.

- **Know your route.** Families should review their student's bus route, stop and schedule before heading out each morning.
- **Be safe at the stop and on the bus.** Students should stay clear of the roadway, follow the driver's directions, remain seated and avoid distractions while riding.
- **Drivers: Stop for the bus.** Slow down around school buses and stops, and always obey flashing red lights and stop arms as required by Maryland law.
- **Especially early in the year, buses may run late** because of traffic, congestion or student needs. Safety comes first.

Remember to Ride by the Rules!

- **Be at your stop on time** and wait safely away from the road.
- **Wait for the bus to stop and the driver to signal** before approaching or crossing.
- **Board safely**—no pushing, shoving or horseplay.
- **Listen to the bus operator** and follow directions just as you would from a teacher or school administrator.
- **Stay seated, keep the aisle clear** and keep hands, feet and belongings inside the bus.
- **Be respectful of others**—no bullying, harassment, fighting, inappropriate language or disruptive behavior.
- **Respect neighborhoods and property** around bus stops and help keep buses clean.
- **Ride your assigned bus** unless you have permission to do otherwise.
- **Speak up about unsafe behavior** and tell the bus operator or a trusted adult if there is a problem.
- **Remember: Your choices matter.** Safe, responsible behavior helps everyone get to and from school safely.

Ride by the Rules: Be Respectful. Be Responsible. Be Safe.

Additional Back to School Forms and Information

- [Annual MCPS Pest Management Notice](#)
- [Annual MCPS Asbestos Notice](#)
- [Bullying, Harassment, and Intimidation Reporting](#)
- [26-27 Supply Lists for Website](#)

Upcoming Important Dates

- **Wednesday, September 2** - Back to School Night
- **Monday, September 7** - No School

Thank you for your continued partnership and for helping us start the year **Stallion Strong!**

Strong Hearts, Strong Minds, Strong Stallions!