

Dear Snowden Farm Families,

Thank you for another wonderful week at Snowden Farm! We are grateful to everyone who joined us for **Back to School Night**. It was wonderful to welcome you into the building and share more about the exciting learning ahead for our students. For your reference, here are the slides,  **FY27 Back to School Night**, from the PTA and CORE presentations shared during Back to School Night. We hope these resources are helpful as we continue to partner together for a successful school year!

As we wrap up our second week of school, we also want to thank you for your continued support, partnership, and patience as we establish routines and get the school year off to a strong start. We appreciate all you do to support our students and staff and look forward to a fantastic year together!

As we continue to establish our arrival and dismissal routines, we ask families of students who walk to and from school to please remind their children to **use the designated crosswalks each time they cross the street**. Even when the road appears clear, using the crosswalk is an important safety habit.

Thank you for partnering with us to help keep all of our Stallions safe!

New: Chick-fil-A Battle of the Schools!

Join us on **Tuesday, September 8, from 6:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m.** at Chick-fil-A Germantown Town Center and help Snowden Farm compete in the **Battle of the Schools!**

- Place your order through the Chick-fil-A mobile app and use the mobile code **snowden**.
- The more mobile orders we receive, the better our chance to win a **\$1,000, \$600, or \$200 catering credit** for our school!

New: Calling all Stallion Writers!

Our monthly writing challenge is underway! This month, we are focusing on sentence types. For this challenge, you'll be asked to read about Hispanic Heritage Month and write statements, exclamations, and questions. Remember, sentences must have a *subject (who)* and a *predicate (what)* to be a complete sentence. Using the correct punctuation mark also gives your reader the chance to hear what you wanted the question to sound like.

- Use this [link](#) to guide you through the challenge. Submissions for this month are due by September 25th for recognition.
- Questions? Please email Emily Pinegar, Reading Specialist at Emily_Pinegar@mcpsmd.org

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. Our next meeting will be on 1/27/27 (BINGO Night).

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

New: We are pre-ordering more SFES Sweatshirts!

As we get ready for cooler Fall weather, we want to make sure everyone has a SFES sweatshirt to show their Stallion Pride! These sweatshirts are available in Youth and Adult Sizes (XS - XXL).

Sweatshirts are available for sale until September 18, 2026, and will be delivered early October.

- <https://sfepa.membershiptoolkit.com/store/20329>

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: Quick Answers for Families, All in One Place

Looking for clear, easy-to-use information about MCPS? Visit our Quick Guides for Families, a one-stop resource designed to help families find answers, understand important school information and support their students throughout the year.

- The guides cover topics families ask about most, including ParentVUE and digital tools, transportation, grading and assessments, study skills, school safety, mental health, student conduct, social media and personal mobile devices.
- Many resources are available in eight languages, making important information easier for families across our community to access.
- Bookmark the page and come back throughout the school year as new resources are added.
- [Explore the MCPS Quick Guides for Families](#)

New: New this year: Amplify Desmos Math.

This school year, students in Pre-K through Algebra 1 will use Amplify Desmos Math, MCPS' new mathematics curriculum. The curriculum is designed to help students not only learn how to do math but also understand why it works and how to use it to solve problems.

Students will explore math through engaging problems, discussion and collaboration, real-world connections, and opportunities to explain their thinking. Teachers will provide support when students need it and enrichment and advanced learning when they are ready for more challenges. The goal is for every student to build strong math skills, deepen their understanding, and grow as a confident and capable math learner.

Families are important partners in that learning. At home, simple questions like “What did you learn in math today?” “How did you figure that out?” or “How do you know your answer makes sense?” can help students strengthen their thinking.

- Throughout the year, families will also find resources in the [Caregiver HUB](#) that explain what students are learning and offer easy ways to support math learning at home.
- **Visit the Parent Hub in English:** <https://mcpsmd.info/ParentHubEnglish>
- **Visite el Centro para Padres en español:** <https://mcpsmd.info/ParentHubEspañol>

New: Share Your Feedback for Next Year's School Year Calendar

MCPS is seeking your input as it works to develop the 2027-2028 AND 2028-2029 school calendar. Please complete [this survey](#) by Sept. 20 to share your input. Your feedback is critical to the process. MCPS will consider educational interests, operational needs, mandated school closures by state law, compliance with minimum instructional days and credit hour requirements, inclement weather and other emergencies, staff professional days and early release days, and assessment schedules aligned to MCPS Board Policy IDA, *School Year Calendar*.

- [Take the survey.](#)

New: A Safe Walk to School Starts With a Few Simple Habits

Walking to school is a great way for students to start the day, but staying alert and making safe choices is essential. Families can help by reviewing a few simple pedestrian safety habits with students:

- **Use sidewalks and designated crosswalks** whenever possible.
- **Stop, look left, right and left again** before crossing—and keep looking while crossing.
- **Make eye contact with drivers** and never assume a vehicle will stop.
- **Put phones and headphones away** when crossing streets or walking near traffic.
- **Follow crossing guards and traffic signals** at all times.
- **Be especially careful around buses and school parking lots**, where vehicles may be turning, backing up or stopping unexpectedly.

Drivers also play an important role: slow down, stay alert and watch carefully for students, especially during morning arrival and afternoon dismissal.

A few extra seconds of attention can make a big difference.

Additional Back to School Forms and Information

- **FARMS Applications:** 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. Submit the online FARMS application through [MySchoolApps](#) (translations are available). Only one application is needed per household. [More information.](#)
- [Saturday School:](#) Build student confidence and academic success! Programs run from 8:30-11 a.m. on Saturdays for students in grades K–12, focusing on reading, math, test prep and STEM enrichment, such as coding and robotics. Learn more at the opening ceremony on Sept. 19. Tutoring begins at 8:30 a.m. on Sept. 26. Cost is \$100 for the year (\$50 for FARMS). Free transportation to center sites.
- [Annual MCPS Pest Management Notice](#)
- [Annual MCPS Asbestos Notice](#)
- [Bullying, Harassment, and Intimidation Reporting](#)
-  26-27 Supply Lists for Website

Upcoming Important Dates

- Tuesday, September 8th- Battle of the Schools (Mobile Fundraiser) from 6:00am-10:00pm at Chick-Fil-A in Germantown
- Friday, September 18th- Early Release
- Monday, September 21st- No school for students and staff

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

Strong Hearts, Strong Minds, Strong Stallions!