Dear Snowden Farm Families,

This past week was filled with excitement, family connections, and opportunities to celebrate our school community at Snowden Farm. Throughout the week, we enjoyed our PTA Book Fair, Breakfast with a Grandparent or Special Friend, 5th Grade Open House, Family Zumba Night, and Mental Health Awareness Spirit Week!

A special thank you to our PTA for organizing the Book Fair and to all of our families who joined us for our school events. It was wonderful to see so many grandparents, special friends, and family members spending time with our students and connecting with our school community.

We also want to thank our students and staff for their enthusiastic participation in Mental Health Awareness Spirit Week! It was a great opportunity to highlight the importance of taking care of ourselves, celebrating what makes us unique, and supporting one another.

New: Happy November Stallion Writers!

For our writing challenge this month, we are asking you to read and write about an article highlighting Native American Heritage Month. If you're in kindergarten, first, or second grade, you'll be changing fragments into complete sentences. Students in grades 3-5 will use varied sentence structures to write interesting topic sentences.

Parents, please use the slideshow to guide your students through the activities. November entries are due December 11th to be recognized on our writing challenge leaderboard. Reach out to our Reading Specialist, Emily Pinegar at Emily_Pinegar@mcpsmd.org with any questions.

New: Girls on the Run Sneaker Drive!

Snowden Farm's Girls on the Run team is collecting sneakers for the SoleKind Foundation! SoleKind is to donate shoes to people who need new sneakers. So please donate new or gently used sneakers to GOTR (Girls On The Run) to share with SoleKind. Sneakers can be brought to the main office from November 16–30. Thank you!!!

New:Pie/Dessert Donations on 11/23

As we get closer to Thanksgiving we would like to show our staff how much we appreciate them. We would love to give each staff member a pie before the Thanksgiving break. We are in need of 100 desserts by Monday, November 23rd.

- Please drop all desserts off in the main office by 4:00 PM on Monday the 23rd.
- If you can donate a pie, please sign up at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084DABAB2FA4F94-67634092-its

New: School Improvement Plan Review on 12/01- You're invited!

You're invited to our School Improvement Plan Review to go over MP1 data and progress towards our goals. The meeting will be on TUESDAY 12/1 from 4:20-4:50 in the media center. Please email Erin_E_Kleinman@mcpsmd.org if you are planning to come so we can ensure we have enough materials.
Thank you, and we really hope to see you there!

New: Attendance Message

If you are planning on being away for any length of time over the next few months, please let Mrs. Cardea know (Sherrie_H_Cardea@mcpsmd.org). In your email, please include the full name of the student(s), dates of the absence and the reason. Thank you for helping us keep accurate attendance.

New: Lost and Found/ Please Check before 11/20

The lost and found is ever growing! If your student has lost a clothing item, water bottle or other item, please have them check the Lost and Found outside the cafeteria. Items will be donated at the end of the week, this Friday, November 20.

Math Challenge #3

Here is your reminder to encourage your child to complete the MATH CHALLENGE this week! This is an optional at home math enrichment challenge that students can engage with to enhance their critical thinking and problem solving skills. It is an easy way to make sure your student is challenged and learn about their methods of math reasoning. Working with your child on these problems will help them build a strong, positive math identity, and enrich your child's math problem solving approach for years to come.

- **Read** the way the challenge works here: Challenge Directions

- Use this **calendar** to see challenge release dates and due dates: CALENDAR
- Use this **Google form** to submit your child's answers before the deadline: FORM *Select **CHALLENGE 3!**
- This challenge is live **NOW** and is due by Thursday 11/19 at 8 pm. Visit CURRENT CHALLENGE to get the challenge now!

Heritage Night- December 16th

Heritage Night is coming up, and we can't wait to celebrate the many cultures, traditions, and experiences that make our school community so special! This is a wonderful opportunity to come together to share what makes us unique. Please keep a look out for a sign-up in a couple of weeks for families interested in hosting a table and sharing their heritage. We hope you'll consider joining us for this special evening!

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://sfepta.membershiptoolkit.com/form/m/145130
  - Individual Membership $20
  - Family Membership $40
  - Staff Membership $15

New from MCPS:

New: Tell Us What You Think! Districtwide Culture & Climate Survey Opens Now Open

Families, staff and students are invited to share feedback through the Districtwide Culture and Climate Survey. Your input helps us understand what is working well and where we can improve programs, services and supports across the district.
The survey is being administered by **Sogolytics, an independent research and data organization working on behalf of MCPS.** While the Sogolytics name may be unfamiliar, please be assured that this is an **official MCPS survey** and the invitation is legitimate. All responses are confidential, and the survey takes less than 10 minutes to complete.

- **NOTE: Families:** Check the primary email address linked to your child's student profile for your invitation link.
- **The survey is open through Nov. 20.**
- Your voice matters! Read more.

New: For the Fridge!: Quarter 2 Curriculum Overview Now Available

The Refrigerator Curriculum for Quarter Two of the 2026–2027 school year is now available. This is a one-page, easy-to-read overview of the written curriculum for what K–12 students are learning each marking period, including major topics, themes and texts.

New: MCPS Invites Multilingual Families to Special Events

MCPS is bringing families together for a series of six Regional Family Engagement Events designed for Emerging Multilingual Learners (EMLs) and their families.
These free events are an opportunity for families to connect with school staff, learn about MCPS programs and community resources, ask questions and meet other families. Whether your child is in elementary, middle or high school, there's something for everyone!

All families of Emerging Multilingual Learners are welcome! Each event celebrates the languages, cultures and experiences that make our school communities special.
To make participation easier, materials will be available in eight languages: English, Spanish, French, Portuguese, Amharic, Chinese, Vietnamese and Korean. Free childcare will also be provided at every event.

Upcoming Events:

- Monday, Nov. 16: Seneca Valley High School, 5–8 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 17: Wheaton High School, 5–8 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 21: Montgomery Blair High School, 9 a.m.–noon
- Wednesday, Dec. 2: Richard Montgomery High School, 5–8 p.m.

Families are welcome to attend one or more events, regardless of which school their children attend. Come connect, learn and celebrate with us! We look forward to welcoming you and helping every family feel connected, supported and empowered to help their children thrive.
View Event Flyers and Details

New: The Hard Truth: Infrastructure, Costs and the CIP



As MCPS works its way through the Fiscal Year (FY) 2028 Capital Budget proposal and amendments to the FY 2027–2032 Capital Improvements Program (CIP), the district is facing very difficult decisions. **The hard truth**: our facilities are aging and inefficient; costs have exploded and our bus depots are over capacity.
Watch videos on The Hard Truth.

New: Shorter Days, Extra Caution–Please: Keeping Students Safe

Now that we've turned our clocks back, the sun is setting earlier, making it more important than ever to watch out for students traveling to and from school. With less daylight during afternoon activities and commutes, we're reminding everyone to slow down, stay alert, and look out for one another.

- Drivers: Please slow down in school zones and neighborhoods, watch carefully for students at crosswalks and bus stops, avoid distractions, and always stop for school buses when required.
- Families: Remind students to use sidewalks and designated crosswalks, look both ways before crossing, put phones away while walking, and wear bright or reflective clothing when visibility is low.

A little extra attention will go a long way to making our travel safer for everyone.

Additional Information

- **Chromebook Acceptable Use Policy**
- **KID Museum's** BioInnovation Day: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 15. General admission is free to families who register through the QR code on the flyer or pre-register.
- Learn more and register.Annual MCPS Pest Management Notice
- Annual MCPS Asbestos Notice
- Bullying, Harassment, and Intimidation Reporting

Upcoming Important Dates

- Monday, November 16th- Meet-ups and Book Fair
- Tuesday, November 17th- Book Fair and 2nd Grade Field Trip to Strathmore
- Monday, November 23rd- Wednesday, November 25th- Early Release

We are grateful for the continued support and involvement of our Snowden Farm families. It is this strong partnership that makes our school such a special place to learn and grow!

Strong Hearts, Strong Minds, Strong Stallions!