

Principal's Message on 09/22

Good Evening SFES Families,

We had a great week of learning together! This week we practiced several of our safety drills including a fire drill evacuation, reverse evacuation, shelter, and lockdown. Thank you to our students and staff for doing a great job!

Thank you to our PTA for sponsoring our Hispanic Heritage Assembly on Thursday! Students got to sing, dance, and some were selected to play instruments on the stage!

### **Spirit Week during the Week of September 23rd**

Mark your calendars! To celebrate the first month of school and the start of fall, we will be doing a Fall Vibes Spirit Week during the week of September 23. See below for the days so you can help your kids plan their outfits accordingly!

- Monday, Sept. 23: Pajama Day
- Tuesday, Sept. 24: Color Contest (K - blue, 1st - white, 2nd - purple, 3rd - red, 4th - green, 5th - gray and non grade level - black)
- Wednesday, Sept. 25: Mad for Plaid
- Thursday, Sept. 26: Jersey Day
- Friday, Sept. 27: Snowden Farm Gear

### **New: NAACP Representative Needed**

We are looking for an NAACP representative for our school, please email Mrs. Fortune or your child's teacher if you are interested.

- The Formation of the Parents' Council of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) came about as an outgrowth of ideas put forth during the 1995 and 1996 NAACP Youth Summits. The Parents' Council is one of the vehicles created to empower African American and other minority parents to take a more proactive role in the education of their children. The Council is made up of parents, guardians and grandparents of minority children enrolled in the Montgomery County Public School System (MCPS) and residents who may not have children in school but who share the goal of equal education for all children, particularly minority children.
- The Purpose of the Parents' Council is to provide a forum through which interested citizens may offer assistance, guidance and support to African American parents and students of Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) to pursue the highest qualified education possible through encouragement, information sharing, positive motivation, critical evaluation and advocacy.

### New: Walk to School Day on 10/09

Walk to School Day is Wednesday, October 9th! Please help to make this a great event for our students by participating in a variety of ways.

- ALL PARENTS/GUARDIANS/COMMUNITY MEMBERS: We would like to line the sidewalks with as many parents, relatives and neighbors as possible to clap in and cheer on our students. We are also asking that you wear our school colors of Purple or Turquoise. See the map on the back. Please plan to arrive at 8:35 a.m. to line the sidewalk. Your child can stand next to you until 8:45 a.m. We will make an announcement at 8:45 a.m. signaling the beginning of the day and starting the clap in.
- Car Rider Families: Please consider parking in the close by and having your student walk to school.
- Walk to School Spirit Week:
  - Monday: Favorite Footwear - wear your favorite socks or shoes.
  - Tuesday: WILD about Walking - bring your favorite stuffed animal.
  - Wednesday: Stallion Pride - Wear SFES gear or colors to show your stallion pride.
  - Thursday: Wear neon/bright colors - great walking safety tip.
  - Friday: Fit Friday - Wear athletic wear to celebrate walking as a great way to stay fit.

## **SPIRIT WEEK to CELEBRATE OUR WALKING COMMUNITY!**

Mon 10/7	Tue 10/8	Wed 10/9	Thu 10/10	Fri 10/11
 <b>Favorite Footwear</b> Wear your favorite socks and/or shoes!	 <b>WILD About Walking</b> Bring your favorite stuffed animal.	 <b>Stallion Pride</b> Wear SFES gear or colors to show your stallion pride.	 <b>Bright Colors</b> Wear neon/bright colors – great walking safety tip!	 <b>Fit Friday</b> Wear athletic gear to celebrate walking as great way to stay fit!

***We look forward to seeing you at 8:35 a.m. in your Purple and Turquoise!***

### **Free and Reduced Meals (FARMS) Applications Are Now Open**

Every year, students must apply and be approved to receive FREE breakfast and/or lunch. The Division of Food and Nutrition Services (DFNS) is excited to provide regular meal services during the 2024-2025 school year.

- Students in Maryland who qualify for reduced-price meals will not be charged for meals! Breakfast: Regular Price: \$1.30; Reduced Price: No Cost, Lunch: Regular Price: \$2.55, Reduced Price: No Cost
- Apply before school starts. One application covers the entire HOUSEHOLD. Translations in other languages are available through the online application.

- Apply now at <https://www.myschoolapps.com/>
- Here is a video about how to apply:
  - English Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TJUapGLarBo>
  - Video en Español: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dsdCrtCIFJc&t=4s>

### **Volunteers Needed to Support Our PTA**

We need volunteers to chair many of our PTA sponsored events this year. Please visit our [Committee/Volunteers site](#).

Below is a tentative listing of our events for the year, but we need your help! We need chairs and volunteers to organize and execute our events. Without your help, we simply cannot offer the beloved events that our students look forward to.

- Please send an email to [info@sfespta.org](mailto:info@sfespta.org) to chair an event or non-event.

You will have the support of the PTA board to assist you every step of the way!

- **Event Chairs Needed!**
  - **Trunk or Treat**
  - **Grandparents Day**
  - **Spelling Bee**
  - **Heritage Night**
  - **Geography Bee**
  - **Pastries with Parents**
  - **STEM Fair**

### **Non-event Chairs Needed!**

- **Communications** - Communications are critical in seeking event volunteers and keeping our Stallion families informed of upcoming events and opportunities. We are specifically looking for someone to manage our membership email listing and monthly newsletter.
- **Yearbook** - The Stallion yearbook is a treasure each year to our students and a hot commodity. The PTA needs a yearbook coordinator starting at the beginning of the year. Much of the yearbook work is done at home at a time that's convenient.
- **Photography** - We need photographers to attend PTA and school events throughout the year to take pictures for our yearbook.
- **Spirit Wear** - This is a creative role in that you get to help the PTA design and restock our in-person spirit wear. New ideas are always welcome to help our Stallions stride with pride!
- **Teacher Appreciation-** We need a coordinator for those times where we show our teachers and staff how much they are appreciated. Coordinating breakfast and lunches throughout the year.

Key Dates:

- 09/23- Pajama Day

- 09/24- Color Contest (K - blue, 1st - white, 2nd - purple, 3rd - red, 4th - green, and 5th - gray)
- 09/25- Mad for Plaid
- 09/26- Jersey Day
- 09/27- Early Release and Snowden Farm Gear

With Gratitude,

Mrs. Fortune