

Good Evening Stallion Families,

Thank you to all the students, staff, PTA, and families that came out for Heritage night this week! In addition, this week is National Counselors week, so please join us in thanking Ms. Pena and Ms. Lockett for their work!

Please look for report cards tomorrow in your child's backpack!

New: Damascus High School Renovation project from the Clarksburg Cluster PTA

As you may be aware, additional budget cuts and delays are being proposed for the Damascus High School Renovation project. This significantly impacts the well-being and safety of our families and community. This was announced at Community Meeting #3 on January 23, 2024. [Click here](#) for the presentation. Your continued advocacy is needed! Opportunities for advocacy include: 1) Signing onto the group letter by completing this form; 2) Writing an individual letter to the county council; 3) Signing up to testify at county council public hearing. We encourage you to engage in all ways feasible for you. This is the time to have our voices heard!

- Group Sign-On Letter: Please see the full letter [here](#) and complete the [form](#) below. Names and Addresses of individuals who sign on will be included at the end of the letter. Let's work to get signatures from all families impacted.
- Personal Letter: Please use this [template](#) to draft a personal letter and send to County Council members individually via email. Copy and paste the text into a new document and edit. Access the list of County Council members and their email addresses [here](#).

Public Hearing Testimony:

- The Montgomery County Council will be holding public hearings on February 6th at 1:30 PM and 7:00 PM.
- If you are interested in providing testimony, please see this site on [How to Testify](#).

- Visit the project's [website](#) for more information on our DHS major capital project.
- If you have questions about the project, you are welcome to email project managers, [Patrick\\_M\\_Schmidt@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Patrick_M_Schmidt@mcpsmd.org) and [Robbie\\_S\\_Badstibner@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Robbie_S_Badstibner@mcpsmd.org) from the Division of Design and Construction.

Let's join together as a unified voice in advocating for our children and community.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Denise James-Smith, Snowden Farm Elementary, PTA President, [president@sfspta.org](mailto:president@sfspta.org) or Arti Varanasi, MCCPTA Clarksburg Cluster Coordinator, [artivpta@gmail.com](mailto:artivpta@gmail.com).

The deadline to sign-on is Sunday, February 4.

Parent Workshop on February 21st at 6:30 PM

Join our school counselors on 02/21 at 6:30 PM to learn more about our social-emotional curriculum! We will discuss the Zones of Regulation and how to help your student(s) cope during rough moments. We will also explore restorative practices and ways to work with your student(s) to resolve conflicts.

### Bowie Baysox Reading Program

We are participating in the Bowie Baysox Read and Hit a Homerun Reading Program! We will be keeping track of students who read at least 4 books from now until Friday, March 1, 2024. These can be picture books, chapter books, novels...any book your child chooses to read alone or with a family member for pleasure is fine!

- Your child is bringing home a book log that can be completed and returned to their teacher by Friday, March 1 in order to win 2 free tickets to the Bowie Baysox Baseball game that will be played on Saturday, April 6 at 6:35 PM.
- This is the night our school will be recognized at the game for our students' efforts!
- Please contact Mrs. Altuner, Snowden Farm's Reading Specialist, with any questions at [Carolyn\\_R\\_Altuner@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Carolyn_R_Altuner@mcpsmd.org).

Let's Raise Some Dough!

The orders are rolling in...We have sold 58 boxes of Otis Spunkmeyer cookie dough so far! Keep the momentum going and remember no effort is too small. One box per student is all it takes!

- Visit [www.raisemore.com](http://www.raisemore.com) (Group ID 43647) today and place an order through February 23rd.
- Each box sells for \$22-24 and contains approximately 36 portioned cookies.
- **Note, this is a local fundraiser only.**
- Supporters will be required to enter the student seller's name upon purchasing.
- **All orders will be shipped to the school for prompt pick up by the seller to be hand delivered to recipients.**

Updates from the PTSA

Please consider joining the SFES PTA

- Please join us for the next PTA meeting on Tuesday, February the 6th at 7:00 PM.
- Visit the [PTA Webpage](#) for more information and link on how to sign up.
- We are also in need of a chairperson to lead the Spirit Wear and PTA Newsletter committees.
  - Please email [vp2@sfespta.org](mailto:vp2@sfespta.org) if you are interested in volunteering to lead one of these committees.

Upcoming Important Dates

- 2/06- PTA meeting at 7:00 PM
- 2/07- 1st Grade In-House Field Trip and @Chipotle Fundraiser, [Chipotle Fundraiser \(5-9 pm\)](#) and Code ZP4WR3Y
- 2/12- Family Life Initial Meeting for 5th grade
- 2/14- Valentine's DayParties, please see information from classroom teacher
- 2/21- Parent coffee at 6:30 PM on Restorative practices and Social Emotional learning

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to reach out to the school, 240-740-5800.

With Gratitude,

Michelle Fortune