

November 27, 2017

Dear Titan Families,

We hope that this message finds you and your family having had an enjoyable, relaxing, and restful week away. Before you know it, we will be back in school with only a few weeks to go before our Winter Break. Below are a few items for you to consider as we head into the last part of the first semester. But before reading them, please take some time to [consider this article](#) that I came across over the Thanksgiving Holiday. It addresses research concerning too much screen time and the proliferation of smartphones and possible effects on teenagers' mental health. As a father of a teenager who has had a smartphone since middle school, it raises some sobering questions concerning how the device may have affected her social development. It is in that spirit that I share this article with you, as well--as a concerned parent.

PTO Fundraiser Ends Wednesday, November 29th

Thank you for helping out our PTO to raise funds for our school. We will collect order forms and money before school starting this Wednesday, November 29th and going through Friday, December 1st. [Here is a link to the sales brochure.](#) Delivery will occur on December 14th.

Semester Exams

Please see the [semester exam schedule](#) for this school year. **Please note that exams will not be administered early for any reason.** Students who miss an exam in December must make it up in January, and students who miss an exam in May must make it up in June. **First semester exams will be able to be made up starting Friday, January 5, 2018 (teacher work day), as well as every day after school from Monday, January 8th through Friday, January 19th. Students are also reminded to stay off of other FBISD property after we dismiss on early dismissal days.** Elementary campuses will still be in session until their regular dismissal time.

Electronic Report Cards Coming Soon

Starting with the first progress report of the second semester we will no longer print and mail paper report cards and progress reports. It is critical that every family acquires access to **Skyward Family Access** and that they keep their email address current with the school. If you do not have access to Skyward Family Access, please contact Tandi Phillips at (281) 634-3118 or via email at tandi.phillips@fortbendisd.com to get set up and/or to make changes to your contact information. [See this two-page brochure](#) on the benefits and tools available through Skyward Family Access. Note that for Progress Report 4 and Term 2/Semester 1 report card will still come to you via the U.S. Mail. After that, progress reports and report cards will be made available exclusively online through Skyward Family Access.

Immunizations for Current Sixth Graders

Letters will be sent home the first week of November and through the remainder of the school year for all 6th-grade students for their 7th-grade immunizations. They will need to have those at their earliest convenience and proof returned to the clinic afterward. If your child has already received the vaccines stated on the letter please send the most current copy to SLMS Clinic. You can send it with your child, bring it to us or fax it to us at (281) 327-8745. If you have any questions, please call us and we will be happy to assist you. The letters will continue monthly as it is very important that the vaccines are done and entered into our system before the end of the 17-18 school year, this will ensure that your child begins 7th grade on the first day of school in August 2018. Please contact the SLMS Clinic at (281) 634-3091 with your questions.

Opportunities to Connect with our Counselors and the Principal

I would like to invite you to attend two important events this week. On Wednesday, November 29th, at 11:30, please join our counselors for their monthly **Mid-Day Break with the Counselors**, in the library. On Friday, December 1st, at

9:30, please join me for our monthly **Coffee with the Principal**, also in the library. Both are great opportunities to visit informally with campus staff. We hope to see you at one or both of these events!

Career Day -- Volunteers Still Needed

We are still looking for parent volunteer assistance through our PTO and our VIPS program. Career Day for our 8th graders is coming up on **Friday, February 2nd**, and we still need guest speakers and volunteers for the day. Please contact Melissa Snyder, PTO president and Career Day parent volunteer, at careerday2018@gmail.com if you are able to help volunteer or Nafecia Brinson, counselor, at Nafecia.Brinson@fortbendisd.com if you are interested in being a guest speaker/presenter for Career Day. You may also [download this flier](#) for additional Career Day information. **Sixth and seventh grade parents are urged to get involved, as well, as we seek to make this a better event year after year.**

Kindest regards,
Keith Fickel, Principal