

November 26, 2018

Dear Titan Parents,

We had a great first day back after Thanksgiving, and we hope that you and your family had an opportunity rest and enjoy time away from the usual routine. The semester continues to move along at a fast pace, and before you know it we will be starting semester exams (info below). Here are some items of general interest for all SLMS families, including an item regarding safety that needs to be shared again, based on observations in the car rider line this morning and this afternoon. **Last, this is the final time you will receive our weekly newsletter through School Messenger**. The district's new platform, *Blackboard Connect*, goes live on November 28. You should have received an email from the district about this change already. Just in case you did not, you may want to [download this helpful document](#) that explains the new system and how to login and set up your account. This is important to do, since you may not receive messages from us any longer without taking further action, and you may miss crucial conversations and information. Please follow us on Twitter at [@SLMSTitans](#), as well. Remember that you may also [view previous weekly parent newsletters on our campus webpage](#).

Ongoing Safety Concerns during Morning Arrival and Afternoon Dismissal

Student safety has been and always will be *our number one priority* at SLMS, and to underscore this point, we sent a reminder to parents in the last two editions of this newsletter regarding a few driver behaviors that have become increasingly problematic. We continue to observe drivers making left-hand turns out of our circle drive, which is clearly marked with a no-left turn sign. [Please click here to read that information](#). Please help us keep all children safe, as well as avoid unnecessary traffic tickets for yourself, which are expensive in school zones.

Important Emergency Drill Information

This week we will conduct a Lockdown drill. This drill was scheduled to occur the week before Thanksgiving, but unforeseen circumstances prevented us from completing it. We have prepared the students and staff ahead of time with our expectations and instructions of what to do if a Lockdown occurs during a passing period or during lunch. We are alerting you now that we are doing this so that when we conduct it, you will know it is a drill. We want students to take it seriously, but we also do not want them to panic and start to call or text parents saying that something terrible is happening at school. Safety is our number one priority. Note, also, that FBISD Police will be on hand during this drill to observe and provide feedback to us so that we do the best possible job of keeping everyone out of harm's way. We will conduct another similar drill during the second semester, as well.

Semester Exam Information

Semester Exams are coming up in mid-December (just around the corner!). [The semester exam schedule is available on our campus webpage](#). **Please note that no exams will be administered early**. Students who miss an exam in December will make it up during the first two weeks in January, once the school year resumes and we start the second semester.

Information Regarding Ingredients, Such as Pork, in Food Served in SLMS Cafeteria

Some students and families have asked questions about ingredients in food prepared in our cafeteria. The district realizes that many students, for a variety of reasons, cannot eat pork. Please note that according to the FBISD Child Nutrition Department's Dietitian, Linda Ankner, the only item that is served in FBISD middle school cafeterias that contains pork is the "sausage on a bun". All other meat-

based food is made of beef, chicken, or turkey, with no pork by-products. This includes when we do our sack lunches during the two early release days at the end of the semester when ham sandwiches are served—the ham is actually turkey, not pork. Here is a list of items served and what their actual content is:

- Pepperoni Pizza (turkey pepperoni)
- Breakfast Sausage Pizza (turkey sausage)
- Hot Dogs (beef hot dogs)
- Sausage Patties (chicken sausage)
- Ham Sandwiches (turkey ham)
- Meatloaf (ground beef)
- Sausage on a Bun (this is the **ONLY** pork product served in FBISD MS cafeterias)

If you have additional questions or concerns about the ingredients of food products or anything related to our food service operation, please reach out to our cafeteria manager, Vivian Getro, at (281) 634-3080.

Yearbooks on Sale!

Yearbooks continue to be on sale for \$35. Please visit www.balfour.com, search for Sugar Land Middle School, and order the package you want. If you have questions about the yearbook, please contact Ms. Childs at molly.childs@fortbendisd.com. Purchase yours now before prices increase.

Spirit Night at RC's Tex-Mex Kitchen – Friday, November 30

If you have lunch or dinner plans for this Friday, please consider heading over to RC's Tex-Mex Kitchen on the southwest corner of Jess Pirtle and Eldridge. 15% of proceeds go back to SLMS!

Campus Wide Tutorial Schedule

To view teacher availability for tutorials before school, during lunch, and after school, please [visit our new campus webpage dedicated to tutorial information](#). It contains the entire tutorial schedule for the school. It is updated from time to time, so check the master tutorial schedule first. Students are encouraged to attend tutorials whenever the need arises, and if their teacher is not available, oftentimes another teacher who teaches the same grade and subject is available to see.

We hope you have a great week!

- The SLMS Titan Team