

March 3, 2019

Dear Titan Parents and Guardians,

It has been a few weeks since we last communicated about the goings-on at SLMS, and there is a lot to update you on for the upcoming week, especially as we approach a much-needed break. I want to congratulate our 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls' track team for their meet victory last week. Way to go, ladies! The third nine-week grading period (Term 3) ends this Friday, March 8. Please help your child do their best by ensuring they are fully prepared this week, every day, do their best. Furthermore, as we go into this week before Spring Break, please know it is typically a week where some students can lose focus and find themselves in trouble. We want everyone to have a great week so that we go into Spring Break on a high note!

Congratulations to **Sarah Rentcome**, one of our theater teachers, on being named as the **2018-19 FBISD Middle School Rookie Teacher of the Year!** This is the second year in a row that a first-year teacher at Sugar Land MS has been awarded this honor. Last year it was Ashley Shamburger, one of our sixth and seventh grade math teachers!

**Spring Open House / International Festival** – Please come out and join us for our annual International Festival this **Tuesday, March 5, at 6:30 PM**. You will get a chance to experience the culture and traditions, as well as food, of more than 20 nations, as displayed by our students and their organization sponsors. It will conclude with an awesome demonstration by our Kickstart Demo Team. Enter the commons through the doors on the bus ramp (east side).

At Open House, there will be a **Giving Tree**, for parents and community members to meet some needs on our campus. While you are at the International Festival, please drop by the **Giving Tree**, and see what opportunities there are for you to help with your time, talent, or treasure.

Our **Spring Book Fair** is also going on this week – The library will host **extended hours on Tuesday, March 5 from 4:30-6:00**, just ahead of our Open House/iFest that starts at 6:30. Come on out and browse our book selection and support literacy at our school and in our community.

Then, come out and watch our musical, **Seussical, Jr.**, involving a tremendous number of our student actors from all grade levels. There are two opportunities to see it this week. The first is **Wednesday, March 6, at 6:30 PM**, and the other is **Thursday, March 7, at 6:30 PM**. Come on out and support our theater department!

Tickets will be sold during lunches this week **Tuesday through Thursday**, for our annual **Student v. Staff Volleyball game** that will happen on **Friday, March 8** at the end of the day. **Tickets are \$5**, and are first-come, first-serve.

Please **wear orange** on **Thursday, March 21**, in support of **Kidney Cancer Awareness**. It would be awesome if we could have a sea of orange on that day, as the whole of FBISD is observing this day in honor of a teacher at an elementary school who is losing her battle with the disease.

We also want parents to come out on **Friday, March 22 at 9:30** to attend our **Coffee with the Principal** in the Library. We will be talking this time about technology and its effect on tweens and early teenagers, and this may shape some of the direction we may go next year. Mr. Fickel really wants to connect with parents to help our school do its best job of meeting students' needs, so please make plans to attend. If you are friends with a parent of an upcoming fifth grader, please invite them to come, as well.

On **Wednesday, March 20 and Thursday, March 21**, students whose parents have given permission to be included in district surveys will take the annual **School Quality Survey** through their PE, Health, or Kickstart classes. Parents have also been sent a link to do the parent version of this survey. In case you missed it, you may visit this [School Quality Survey Parent Link](#) to take the survey.

You may have heard about the recent resurgence of the **Momo Challenge**, which involves a scary, bird-like face and often accompanies videos on You Tube and other places. Please take a moment to [check out this web post](#) about it.

**High School Graduation / Semester Exam Conflicts** - If you have a child or family member who is graduating from Kempner HS on Friday, May 24 at 1:00 PM, (or from another school) and your SLMS child will need arrangements to take semester exams early, [please complete this form by March 29](#).

Last, this **Wednesday, March 6**, feel free to stop by **Lopez Mexican Restaurant** on Wilcrest to support the [PTO's Bite Nite](#). Grab dinner and head out to our Suessical, Jr. performance. We hope that your family has a safe and restful Spring Break, and we will see your children on Monday, March 18.

Sincerely,

Keith Fickel, SLMS Principal