January 14, 2019

Dear Titan Parents,

We hope your children had a great first week back at school after their well-deserved Winter Break. As we start the second semester, we wanted to bring you up to speed on a few important items at SLMS.

## **Laptop Lending Library**

Starting this month, our library will have 100 Windows 10 laptops, each with a carrying bag, power supply, and a mobile WiFi hotspot available for checkout by students for a two-week period. Mrs. Hansen, our librarian, has begun visiting with students through their ELA classes about these devices and how to check them out. There are some steps that parents must take FIRST before we will permit students to check out a device. Please <u>visit</u> the SLMS Library Webpage to find out all the details and steps to take in order for your child to check out a device.

# **Change in Office Hours - Effective January 14, 2019**

Effective January 14, 2019, the SLMS office hours will change to be 8:20 AM to 4:20 PM daily.

#### Course Selection for 2019-20 School Year

The course selection process begins soon for next year. 8th grade students will have a visit from the Kempner HS counselors in late January, and our 6th and 7th grade students will start hearing from their counselors about course selection in February. Course selection is important because we base our staffing from courses that students choose. Related to the course selection process are these items:

- Mid-Day Break with the Counselors Wed., January 16, at 11:15 AM
- Kempner HS "Coog Fest" for ALL ages Wed., January 30 Visit SLMS website for details
- AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) Elective Inquiry <u>visit this page of the SLMS</u>
  <u>campus website</u> to find out more about the benefits of AVID and the process of demonstrating interest
  for the 2019-20 school year

### Drive-Thru Dinner - Wednesday, January 23

Orders are being taken now for our drive through Chicken Fried Chicken dinner for only \$10/plate. Drop off your payment and pre-order at the receptionist's desk by January 18. Cash or check only. Dinner pick up will occur 4:30-7:00 pm on January 23rd at the bus ramp (east side). Make dinner plans easy for a Wednesday night!

### Semester Exam Make-Ups - through Friday, January 18

Students who missed any first semester exam needs to make it up by Friday, January 18. Opportunities are available daily after school in room 104. Staff will be on site until 6:00 PM through Friday to make sure students have an opportunity to take their missed exams and have their zeroes replaced with their earned grade.

# STEAM Games - Latest Threat to the Well-being of Children Online and on Devices

The phrase, "what will they think of next?" comes to mind with regard to this newest threat to student online safety. Please take a moment to <u>view the information at SmartSocial.com regarding "STEAM" games</u> and how to keep your children safe online and when they use their devices.