

## Welcome Back! 2024-2025

Dear Titans,

Welcome back to another amazing school year. We hope that you enjoyed a relaxing summer with friends and family. We are ready to welcome all of our Titan students back on Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup>!

### A few reminders:

- **School start time** – Each day the building will open at **8:20 a.m.** and students must be **in their classroom by 8:50 a.m.** The tardy bell rings at **8:50 AM**. School dismisses at 4:10 p.m.
- **Please make sure you have completed the online verification of student information and enrollment in Skyward Family Access.** [Link to Skyward Family Access](#) |
- **Ensure you are set to receive information from the school through Blackboard Connect.** Follow the instructions at [www.fortbendisd.com/blackboardconnect](http://www.fortbendisd.com/blackboardconnect)
- **Look for your child(ren)'s bus route information**, if applicable by visiting the [Bus Route Info page](#)
- **Complete or renew your application for Free or Reduced Meal Program** by [visiting the Free and Reduced Meal program web page on the district website](#)
- **Ensure your child(ren)'s vaccination/immunization records are up-to-date.** This is particularly important if your child will be in 7th grade this year, as there were some updates your child needs to have before attending school. Our deadline to receive your information is August 7 at noon in order for your child to attend school on the first day. For more information visit the district's [School Health Services web page](#)
- **Be sure to check your students' lunch account** <https://fortbendisd.revtrak.net/>
- **Dismissal** –At the beginning of the year our dismissal lines are long so please be patient as our new families get accustomed to our dismissal. In order to assist with expediting the line and to make sure all students are dismissed safely, we ask that you follow our dismissal plan. If your student is a car rider, they will need to be picked up in the driveway at the front of the school. There is no pickup or drop off along the street as this is a huge safety concern. The bus ramp is for buses only.
  - **Please do not park your car in any of the teacher parking lots or in the parking lot near the park.** The parking lot by the park is for parents of students in our specialized programs only and their busses. Those parents will be given a car rider sign to enter the parking lot. We thank you in advance for your assistance to ensure a safe and efficient dismissal.

## **EquippED 1:1 laptop program**

We are excited to announce the implementation of a student 1:1 laptop program (EquippED) for all secondary students starting with the 2024-25 school year. Each student in grades 6-12 will receive a laptop to use for their academic and personal growth. Students will take the laptop to and from home/school for online learning, research, communication, and collaboration. The laptop will also feature advanced end-point protection software to ensure the safety and security of our students and the district network.

The EquippED 1:1 program supports the district's vision of preparing students for their future. It aligns with Fort Bend ISD's instructional goal of providing differentiated learning opportunities that promote purposeful technology integration. The program will foster student agency and voice while enhancing student engagement and achievement and will help empower our students to become lifelong learners and leaders.

**Note: All students are required to have an EquippED 1:1 laptop for classroom instruction.** Texas Education Agency (TEA) requires state tests like STAAR & TELPAS to only be conducted on a district issued device, personal laptops/tablets are not allowed.

### **Required Actions for Parent/Guardian:**

- Complete online verification process in Skyward (<https://www.fortbendisd.com/enrollmentverification>)
- Decide whether you want to purchase the optional insurance and follow the prompt when registering to make the payment.

We have a great year planned for our students. I am looking forward to welcome our Titans back!

Sincerely,

Dr. Latoya Garrett, Principal

Sugar Land Middle School