#### Settlers Way Elementary

## **Explorer News**

Volume 33, Issue 2

October 2017

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#### rom the Principal

It is hard to believe that we have completed the first nine weeks of school. It seems like only yesterday the buses were rolling in for the first time and we were greeting our students. The first nine weeks have been exciting and full of change but the students and teachers are working hard and learning new things every day.

We have had many exciting events happen at Settlers Way:

- Our Heroes Day on September 28th was a special celebration as we honored First Responders.
- We also had a very informative PTA meeting and Parent Information Night on October 3rd. The teachers and staff enjoyed visiting with the many families that attended this event.

We have many more events planned every month this semester including:

- Campfire Reading Night
- Red Ribbon Week
- Our exciting Boosterthon Fun Run on October 27th
- Veteran's Day Activities and morning program
- Book Fair
- Reflections Ceremony scheduled for November
- 5th Grade Choir Program
- Spelling Bee
- Winter Class Parties going on in December

As a reminder about dismissal:

- Students should not be dropped off before 7:30 a.m. as there is no one on duty to supervise students before this time.
- Students should also have a standard way to go home every day.
- Please do not call the front office after 3:00 p.m. to change your child's route home.
- Inform your child as to what he/she is to do when severe weather conditions exist.
- Walkers and bikers must have a rainy day plan on file with their homeroom teacher.
   Students who usually walk or ride bikes home will not be dismissed until the severe weather conditions are over.
- We will dismiss students when it is sprinkling or misting, so please make sure your child carries an umbrella in his/her backpack.

Please let me know if I can be of any assistance to you this school year. I can be reached at (281) 634-4360 or email at Rachel.Rosier@fortbendisd.com. I consider it a privilege to work with everyone in our Settlers Way family and value your partnership in providing your children with the best education possible. Thank you for all that you do for your children.

Rachel Rosier



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#### **PTA Press Release**

# NEWS

#### **Letter From the President**

This school year has been an interesting one so far, to say the least. I don't think we have ever had TWO first days of school! Since returning to school last month, the PTA has been working hard to get things on track with membership and volunteers. If you have not become a member of the SWE PTA, please send your membership form and fees to school with your child. Also, if you are willing and able, *please* consider volunteering your time! We are in desperate need of volunteers for the Explorer Round-Up in March. We are also in need of some room parents. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Angela Pena, our VIPS coordinator. We would love to meet you and work with you!

\*Please remember to send in your child's party money!

Upcoming PTA events:

October 26<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm – General assembly meeting and Campfire Reading Night October 27<sup>th</sup> - Boosterthon Fun Run November 7<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30am – Board meeting November 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm – General assembly meeting and Reflections Ceremony

Veronica Lorine PTA President

#### **PTA News**

The Membership Committee appreciates everyone who joined the Settlers Way PTA during our 2017-2018 Membership Campaign. We had 177 families including faculty members to become PTA members (last year we had over 249 members). The funds will be used for student field trips, materials, activities and much more.

We have had 100% of our staff join PTA!

Help us help our kids so...YES, our campaign continues! So spread the word! Families, your participation is essential. Pick up a form in the front office or have one emailed to you.

REMEMBER: The classroom with the most memberships will receive a popsicle party.

Support your PTA by joining TODAY.

Thanks for all you do!
Kimberly Taylor - Membership Chairman kimberly.taylor@fortbendisd.com





The Reflections program encourages students to express themselves through their artistic efforts. This year's theme is "Within Reach" and there are 6 categories:

Dance
Choreography
Film production
Literature
Musical Composition
Photography
Visual Arts

All students from Pre-Kindergarten through 5th grade may participate. The deadline for all submissions is Monday, October 30th . All submissions can be brought to the SWE front office. We will have a Reflections Celebration on Thursday, November 16th at 6:30 pm to exhibit all entries and honor our students who participated in the program.

You can find out more information about the Reflections program and requirements at

http://www.txpta.org/programs.



#### **VIPS**

Hello SWE Parents!

It has been a great start to the new school year! Thank you to everyone who has signed up to volunteer. There are still many opportunities to help if you are interested:

- Two of our teachers **Mr. Mercedes (2<sup>nd</sup> grade)** and **Mrs. Vest (4<sup>th</sup> grade)** are still in need of a room parent.
- If you are not able to be a room parent and would like to volunteer in other areas, please consider:

Fundraising help

Library help

Reflections Contest help

Literacy Committee help

Explorer Round Up help - we need many volunteers!

Also, please don't forget to submit your background check.

If you are interested in helping out please don't hesitate to contact me. All volunteer efforts are truly appreciated.

The VIPS of the Month for September is Diana Orbegoso. Diana has two children at SWE and has volunteered in many areas. Diana is a volunteer in the kindergarten classes and the grade coordinator for first grade. She also helps weekly in the library and is on the Explorer Round Up Committee. Diana is simply amazing and has stepped up to help out in so many areas.

Thank you for all you do Diana!!!

Angela Pena SWE VIPS Coordinator volunteers.swe@gmail.com



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#### **News From The Library**



Welcome back to school! We are so excited to get the school year started and to start reading!!

There are two library sponsored reading clubs at SWE. For all students in kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, there is the Texas Readers Club. The classroom teachers have all the information for this and they will organize the tracking. Some things to know:

- 1) Students who read 15 or more books from various genres and complete one project will earn their Texas Readers Certificate and receive an award on Awards Day.
- 2) Students will also earn reading tags based on the number of books read.
- 3) There are different book requirements based on grade level.
- 4) In order to earn reading tags after the first tag, students will need to read the required 15 books and complete one project.
- 5) After students read the 15 required books and complete one project, they get additional tags.
- 6) The deadline for all reading and projects is the first Friday in May.

The second program is the Texas Bluebonnet Reading Program, and it is off to a great start too! Each year, the list features 20 books. Students who are in the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grades in the state of Texas who read at least five of these books can vote for their favorite in January. You can see the list on the Texas Library Association Website at <a href="http://www.txla.org/TBA-nominees">http://www.txla.org/TBA-nominees</a>. We have the books in our library and students have several opportunities to read some of the nominated books during library class. "Read 5 then decide!" We will be voting in the library the last week of January.

As a reminder, library is part of the outclass rotation along with, art, music, and P.E. Students will be on a four-day rotation. This means they will go to a different outclass every 4 days. To help learn the rotation, you can learn the acronym: **P.A.L.M**. The students will rotate through outclasses in this order:





<u>A</u>rt **L**ibrary







Parents, please remind students that they need to return **all** of their library books on their scheduled library day; just check with your child to find out his/her color group. If a student is not finished reading a book, please bring it to library class, and I will re-check the book out to him/her again. In addition to checking out books in the library, students learn skills that teach them to become independent lifelong learners.

There are several opportunities to volunteer in the library. Every year we hold two book fairs. This year one is in November and one is in March. If you would like to help with these, keep an eye out for volunteer emails. We also have volunteers who help every day from 12:30-1:30 with our first grade students and with book shelving!

Just email me if you are interested at Tracy.Sackllah@fortbendisd.com.

Happy Reading and I look forward to seeing you in the library!

Mrs. Sackllah

#### **News From The Counselor's Corner**

#### **Stand Tall! Stand Together! SWE Strong!**

What a start to the 2017-18 school year! We made it through Hurricane Harvey, and we are now on the road to recovery. SWE has adopted the motto Stand Tall, Stand Together, SWE Strong for the remainder of this school year. This motto serves as a reminder that we are all in this together and we are strong!

#### **Core Essentials Character Traits:**

October – Creativity November – Gratitude December - Generosity

#### Look at what is coming up!

Kindness Champaign begins
Leading Ladies of SWE
Gentlemen of SWE
Junior Achievement in a day
NPFH – Grinch Day
October
October
November 3rd
December 20th

#### **GT Testing**

Identification Testing October 30th - November 10th

Parent Notification Letters Mailed February 2nd, 2018

Anetria D. Woodard M.Ed. School Counselor Phone: (281) 634-5321 Email: Anetria.Woodard@FortBendISD.com



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#### **ORDER YOURS TODAY!**

jostensyearbooks.com | 1-877-767-5217

## ORDER YOUR 2017-2018 SETTLERS WAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YEARBOOK TODAY.

There's nothing like getting your yearbook. It's the limited edition collection of our school's stories for this year. Don't let your student miss out on sharing and reliving the big events that will make this year special.

Yearbooks are now on sale for the lowest price of the year. **ORDER NOW AND SAVE \$10.00!** 

Yearbook	\$30.00
Signature Package Includes: Yearbook, Personalization, Color Autograph Section, Autograph Pens	\$43.00
Personalization	\$5.00
Icons	FREE!
Autograph Section	\$2.60
Photo Pockets	\$2.60
Clear Protective Cover	\$2.60

<sup>\*</sup>Tax and handling will be added, if applicable

**BOOK PRICE: \$30.00** 

ORDER DEADLINE: 10/27/2017

**ORDER NOW** 



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## Following Hurricane Harvey,



SWE Explorers united to help their neighbors and community.

# Stand Tall Stand Together SWE Strong

## Family Fun Night















Music Games Play Teachers
Love
Support









## Heroes Day

Thankful for those that work hard to keep us safe







3015 Settlers Way Blvd. Sugar Land, TX 77479

Phone: (281) 634-4360 Fax: (281) 634-4376

### SETTLERS WAY ELEMENTARY

Shoots for the Stars

#### Settlers Way PTA Board

President Veronica Lorine

Vice President Jamie Rodriguez

Treasurer Veronica Naera

Secretary Vasu Santhanam

Parliamentarian Kristie Crandall

#### **Calendar of Events**

October 26th - PTA Meeting and Campfire Reading Night, 6:30 pm

October 27th - Boosterthon Fun Run

November 1st - PPCD, PK, KG Field Trip to Farm

November 2nd - Jason's Deli Spirit Night, 5 - 10 pm

November 3rd - Junior Achievement for 3rd - 5th grades

November 5th - 10th - Book Fair Week

Lunch with a Loved One for K, 3rd and PK pm on Tuesday, 11/7

Lunch with a Loved One for PK am, 2nd and 5th on Wednesday 11/8

Lunch with a Loved One for 1st and 4th on Thursday, 11/9

November 10th - Veteran's Day and Program

November 13th - Marco's Pizza Spirit Day, all day, in Missouri City

November 14th - Picture Retake Day

Novemeber 16th - PTA Meeting and Reflections Program, 6:30 pm

