



## SFES PTA Newsletter, 2015-2016 Volume 3

### A Message from Our President

As most you have noticed, the first phase of renewing our standing as a National PTA School of Excellence has begun with the family surveys that went out a few weeks ago. This is an important step because it gives your PTA leaders and school administrators an idea of what is important to you and identifies areas of improvement. Thank you to all families that took the time to complete and return the surveys! Once we receive recommendations from National PTA on how we can further improve the partnership between families and the school, we will share that information with you.

I would also like to remind you that I along with the board of directors are always here to listen to you and speak on your behalf. Your membership is so important because as a SFES PTA member, you are linked to many other members of your school and community, and as a collective voice, we can work together to improve the educational experience for all of our children. If you have not joined the PTA yet, please join today. Our membership form is available on our website at <http://sfespta.weebly.com/documents.html>  
We need your input, ideas and support!

Finally, I would like welcome Jessie Patterson to our Board of Directors as Treasurer. I would like to thank Jill Edelson and Margaret Mauro for all the work they have put into our Butterfly Garden. I would also like to thank Sugey Brenes, Evelyn Love, and Melva Vega for providing Spanish translation services to the PTA.

-Quiana Holmes, SFES PTA President

### Reflections Art Program

We have extended the Reflections deadline to November 9 to accommodate students who need

a little more time to complete their projects. This year's theme is, "Let Your Imagination Fly!" A letter to parents went home in the September 18 Friday Folders along with an entry form. You can also download entry forms from our website at [sfespta.weebly.com/documents](http://sfespta.weebly.com/documents). Entries are due November 9.

### Turkey Trot November 13

The annual SFES Turkey Trot is next Friday, November 13. Thank you to everyone who returned labels so the PTA can ask your family and friends to sponsor your children. The Turkey Trot and Auction are our only major fundraisers of the year, so we are counting on your support to help us succeed so we can fund the programs and events we proposed with our budget at the beginning of the school year.

If you have not yet returned your Turkey Trot labels, please send them back to school with your child in this folder on Monday. Thank you for your support!

### Clothing Drive

The Columbia Association is holding its annual clothing drive through November. If you have clothing to donate, please drop it off at the Oakland Mills Community Association office in The Other Barn or at the Youth and Teen Center in The Barn. Both are located in the Oakland Mills Village Center.

If you need clothing, there will be distributions on Saturday, January 16 and Sunday, January 17 at The Youth and Teen Center.

### Volunteer!

The PTA can always use volunteers. Look for opportunities at <http://sfespta.weebly.com/volunteer>