# Please help the PTA welcome new families to SMOS!

The SMOS PTA has a beautiful tradition of welcoming new families in an effort to build community by creating meaningful connections.

Please join us in this effort for the 2025-26 school year.

## Please review the following and complete the Welcome Family Survey by May 9th.

This year we are slightly restructuring the program, so please read the options available.

#### Option 1: Become a new family mentor

- 1. We will be matching existing families with incoming families. We are matching based on interest, so it may not be a direct age match. This means that we will eagerly accept mentors of kids in all grades! (We do specifically match middle school students with those in the same grade.)
- 2. Expectations: Mentors will be expected to contact their incoming family via text, as well as email. You will be the new family's point person to answer questions that fall outside of school administration. Examples include questions about uniforms, potty training expectations for preschool, drop off/pick up, etc. In addition, we will ask that mentors let new families know to expect a welcome bag drop off, and let them know the dates for the SMOS Playground Meetup/Blacktop Picnics.
- 3. Mentors will NOT be expected to organize playdates, drop off welcome bags, and will not be obligated to attend the scheduled meetups at the SMOS playground.
- 4. **Worried you won't know the answers?** It is OKAY to say you don't know the answer, we are here at the PTA to help you answer those questions to relay to your family.

### **Option 2: Help Deliver Welcome Bags**

These volunteers will drop off welcome bags to designated families on front porches the weekend of May 31st between Fri-Sun. Bags will be distributed the last week of school.

## SMOS New Family SMOS Playground Meetups/Blacktop Picnics

- 1. The PTA will organize two after camp/early evening meetups at SMOS, one in June and one in July, dates TBD. These events will be for all families of students in all grades. The main questions we get from incoming families involve parking, drop off, pick up and carpool lines, so it will be awesome to be able to show the new families directly!
- 2. We encourage mentor families to attend, but this is open to ALL families. We only ask that mentor families inform their new family about the meetups.

Please contact Jenny Hill with any questions! jennyhillstl@gmail.com