



Dear SFIS Family,

We are officially in the first week of school and on behalf of my staff, we are so excited to welcome you and your students back to their home away from home. We know that as students transition to being in the dorm, there will be some tough adjustments and encouraging conversations. Homesickness is always present, and we understand those feelings intimately, many of us have been dorm students too. Please know that we will support your students every step of the way, we want them to enjoy their time at the dorm, and we will do our best to help them feel happy and comfortable. School Year 2026-27 will be amazing, and your students will lead the way, as they always do.

As we have done in years past, we are notifying families that the Rail Runner privilege will not go into effect until after Labor Day, meaning Friday, September 11th, will be the first day. This allows our parents to become used to the dorm's processes and help create those one-on-one interactions so our community gets to know one another. We appreciate your cooperation and thank you for respecting this initial waiting period while everything settles at the dorm from the beginning of the year. As a courtesy, for August the following Fridays: Aug. 21st and Aug. 28th, and Sept. 3rd are Early Release days; 2:35pm.

It is never too early to mention the ever-so-vital Residential Count Week, which goes Sun., 9/27/26 - Sat. 10/17/26. This three week period is of the highest importance to our Student Living (SL) program because it dictates the amount of funding SFIS receives related to the SL program in future years. We request that you please take note of this critical time, and do your best to support the entire SL program by making sure your student(s) are present in the dorm each weekday during that time. To kick-off the start of Residential Count Week, we will host our annual Open House on Sunday, September 27th, 2026. Specific details will be shared as we get closer. Thank you to each of you who attended last year, it's because of you and your students we have been able to go all out each year! It is quite a party!

Student Living has seen some policy updates coming into this school year, with most changes being minor language adjustments or clarifications on certain already in-place procedures. If you would like to read what those are, please review the School Year 2026-27 Partnership for Student Success Handbook on the SFIS website, which to my knowledge will be posted near the end of the month after final Board of Trustee approval. For now, the 2025-26 Handbook remains in effect.

This newsletter is Student Living's way of having more direct communication with our Parents each year, our returning families are aware a fresh letter will arrive each month. I do my best to have it sent by the 1st, but I can't claim perfection, though we do get close. Usually, I include a monthly Activity Calendar showing what's going on in the dorms, but Student Living tends to not put one together for August because it's a time of building connections and relationships with more directed in-house activities meant to achieve those goals. I have attached the floor emergency cell phone numbers to this letter for you to save for your records and a reminder flyer of What To Bring To The Dorm, being that we've had a few questions. Please see the website under Campus Life if you'd like to see the month-to-month updates beyond just this letter.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact any of our Student Living Staff, including myself. I can be reached at my office number (505) 216-7307, my cell phone number (505) 490-5990, or via email at (ltromero@sfis.k12.nm.us).

Sincerely,
Leslie Romero
Student Living Director

STUDENT LIVING FLOOR CELL PHONES

NOTICE:

Student Living has received cell phones for emergency communication to the floors. Be aware, these cell phones are not in the sole "ownership" of the SLAs, they are cell phones meant for the whole floor, mainly for emergency-type purposes. Please do not be afraid to call these numbers, but be aware that it may take time if you are looking for a specific staff member to speak to. As a courtesy we would request that parents please clarify who the message is for whenever you text or when leaving a voicemail. These phones are not "manned" from 8AM-1PM Mon.-Thurs. Student Living Leadership's cell phones are always on-hand.

Middle School Student Living	
MSSL Boys	(505) 372-9724
MSSL Girls	(505) 372-9725
High School Student Living	
HSSL 1st A-Wing (Girls)	(505) 396-1391
HSSL 2nd A-Wing (Girls)	(505) 396-1396
HSSL 3rd A-Wing (Girls)	(505) 396-1374
HSSL Pod C (Girls)	(505) 396-1387
HSSL 1st B-Wing (Boys)	(505) 396-1389
HSSL 2nd B-Wing (Boys)	(505) 396-1382
HSSL 3rd B-Wing (Boys)	(505) 396-1394
Student Living Leadership	
Leslie Romero, Student Living Director	(505) 490-5990
Delilah Crespín, HSSL Coordinator	(505) 699-8560
Martina Valdo, MSSL Coordinator	(505) 490-2845



SFIS STUDENT LIVING DORM ESSENTIALS

What to bring-

- Linen: twin sheets with pillowcase (2 sets), pillow, blanket
- Toiletries: toothpaste, toothbrush, brush or comb, shampoo, lotion, body and/or foot powder, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, shaving supplies, facial tissue, and bath soap
- Water appropriate clothing: shower shoes, swim suit, etc.
- Towels: two sets of bath hand towels and washcloths
- Shower caddy for the storage of personal shower/ bathing needs (shampoo, conditioner, soaps, sponge, etc.)
- School clothes (see dress code): casual and dress clothes, gym shoes, gym clothes, warm coat, light jacket, and under garments
- Laundry supplies: liquid detergent/ pods, laundry basket/ bag, fabric softener, and clothes hangers
- Personal appliances: curling iron, blow dryer, and alarm clock
- School supplies: notebook, loose-leaf paper, pencils, pens, tape, 3-ring binder, scissors, combination lock, and reusable water bottle
- Healthy snacks with storage container



What NOT to bring-

- TVs or monitors
- Refrigerators
- Undocumented medication (over-the-counter/ prescription)
- Electronic appliances (hair clippers, microwaves)
- Videogame consoles (PlayStation, Wii, Xbox, Nintendo Switch, etc.)
- Sharp utensils
- Coffee makers
- Fragrance plug-ins
- Essential oil diffusers/ wax warmers
- Hot water kettles
- Home pest deterrents
- Aerosol sprays (hygiene and cleaning supplies)
- Protein supplements/ muscle enhancers
- Individual weights and dumbbells
- High valuable items: family heirloom(s), jewelry, expensive designer clothing/ accessories, performance electronic devices, large amounts of money, etc.