



Darrel C. Swope Middle School

901 Keele Drive
Reno, Nevada 89509
Phone (775) 333-5330 Fax (775)333-5083

Mike Nakashima, *Principal*

Amy Callahan, *Asst. Principal*

October 22, 2020

Dear Swope Families,

At Swope, we as a staff and community hope to provide the most outstanding and well-rounded experience for all our students. We provide challenging and essential academics that are designed with 21st century learning and STEM education in mind. In fact, we are working to become a Governor recognized STEM Academy.

As you all know, due to Covid 19, we are unable to offer after school sports, intramurals, clubs and many other activities as in past years. While our school year is ever changing, so are our needs as a school. Because of this, the staff and PFA are looking for opportunities to promote the Swope community in the parameters of the pandemic. We are saddened that we cannot offer the traditional **PANTHER PROWL** this year but still want to create an opportunity to show collective Panther Pride by involving our students, teachers, and families, all while fundraising for our school.

To support the changing needs of our school, we are going to offer **ONE BIG** fundraiser this year... **THE VIRTUAL PANTHER PROWL!** This year we are going to keep some of the same traditions of the PANTHER PROWL but keep it safe and distanced. We will have a **VIRTUAL PANTHER PROWL!**

How does this work? One student designed T-shirt has been selected based on voting by our school community. Every student in the school, both distance and in-person, will receive a **PANTHER PROWL** t-shirt. Those sponsors who donate a certain amount will get their name on the back of the t-shirt. On **Sunday November 15th** our students and their families will go for a hike, a walk, or a stroll with the Swope student showing off their **VIRTUAL PANTHER PROWL** t-shirts. **STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO WALK WITH THEIR FAMILIES, BUT NOT GATHER WITH OTHER CLASSMATES FROM SCHOOL.** We know this may be difficult, but it is important to consider the governor's mandates. Students will also be working on tie-dyeing their shirts with their Science teachers. We will also have opportunities for distance learning students to safely tie-die their shirts. These shirts can be worn on Wednesdays throughout the year to show school spirit.

What are we raising funds for? At the beginning of the year, the staff and PFA get together and decide what the needs are for the new school year. As you can all imagine, the needs are very different this year. We anticipate "Covid Expenses" like sanitation equipment and materials, replacing computers from laptop carts, and incentives for students and teachers, just to name a few.

How can you help? We know times are difficult for many and understand the sacrifices local businesses and community members have made during the pandemic. If you can donate, we are looking for **VIRTUAL PANTHER PROWL** corporate and/or family sponsors to help us make the **VIRTUAL PANTHER PROWL** a success. The enclosed form outlines the benefits of each corporate/family sponsorship. Sponsorships go directly to covering the costs of the **VIRTUAL PANTHER PROWL** so that every student is able to have a t-shirt without cost. **Deadline to be listed on the back of the t-shirts is October 28, 2020**

Please find sponsorship opportunities at: <https://checkout.square.site/buy/FOHS3IX2NDE52BMBKDPPSJQP>

For more information regarding the **VIRTUAL PANTHER PROWL**, please contact Mrs. Callahan at acallahan@washoeschools.net or (775) 333-5330.

Sincerely,
The SWOPE PANTHER PROWL Committee