

## Fullerton Elementary PTA Meeting 10.3.23

The meeting started at 7:01pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Treasurer's Report

Starting Balance: \$13,366.42

Expenses: spirit wear, Scholastic subscriptions, reimbursement for fall decor

Deposits: spirit wear, membership dues

Final Balance: \$12,454.08

To be deposited: \$ from Penny Wars and CFA spirit night

### Fundraising Report

We made \$279.43 from the Chick-Fil-A spirit night. Our Chipotle spirit night is October 4th, 5-9pm at the White Marsh location. Our next spirit night will be at &pizza (an artisan pizza place) in White Marsh in early November. Fliers will be sent home for this.

We made \$312 from the Penny Wars, and Purple House was the winner. Thank you to everyone who made donations!

BoxTops are an easy way to raise funds. Last year we earned over \$300. Just download the app and scan your receipts. If you would like for us to scan your receipts (within two weeks of your purchase), you can give them to a PTA officer.

Our [Scentsy Fundraiser](#) ends on Friday.

[Spirit Wear](#) is now available! We are selling House Color t-shirts, hoodies, and more. Be sure to place your order by October 20th.

### Membership Report

As of Tuesday, 57 people have [joined our PTA](#) this year. If you have not already become an official member of the 2023-24 Fullerton PTA, please do so. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Aleshia Shifflett has stepped down from her position as Vice President 2 (Membership). At our next meeting, we will hold an election for this open position. If you are interested in this position, please reach out to one of the current board members for more information about what is involved. A description of the position and how to nominate will be posted on [Facebook](#) and shared through the school in the coming weeks.

## **Trunk-or-Treat**

Trunk-or-Treat is scheduled for Thursday, October 19th, from 5 to 6 pm. This event is free and open to all Fullerton students and their younger siblings, but every child must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Children and adults are encouraged to wear costumes, but toy weapons are not allowed.

If you would like to host a trunk, [please sign-up here](#). So far, 20 spots out of 40 have been accounted for. If you are hosting a trunk, set up will begin at 4:30. Please plan to bring lots of candy as last year's participants each gave out more than 1,000 pieces.

If you are interested in donating candy, you can send the items to your child's homeroom teacher.

Alternatives to candy are also welcome: stickers, pencils, bubbles, glue sticks.

Sarah is planning some games for the kids and a photo booth. We are also planning to sell apple cider, hot chocolate, and cotton candy. If you would like to help with running one of these stations, a sign-up genius will be forthcoming.

As a reminder, if you are hosting a trunk or volunteering at one of the stations, you must complete the [BCPS volunteer training](#). It's online, pretty short, and must be done every school year. Please complete it and submit your certificate and application to Fullerton as soon as possible but no later than Tuesday, October 17th, so that your information can be verified.

## **Upcoming Dates**

Oct 20 - Schools are closed

Nov 3 - First Marking Period Ends; schools close 3 hours early

Nov 7 - PTA Meeting (will again be both online and in-person)

Nov 13 - Schools are closed for students; professional development day for teachers

Nov 14 - Report cards

Nov 20 - PreK conferences; schools closed for PreK students

Nov 21 - Elementary & PreK conferences – schools closed for all PreK and elementary students

Nov 22-24 - Schools closed for Thanksgiving Break

## **American Education Week**

American Ed Week is November 14 -17th. Classrooms will be open for parents to visit. More information will be shared in early November.

## **Playground**

The slide has been broken since June. A work order was put in immediately, but there is only one BCPS approved vendor that sells that slide, and it is on backorder. The school was told in August that it was still 3 months out. The school keeps putting up the orange tape and the board, but then someone takes it down during non-school hours.

That whole section of the playground needs to be updated. Ms. Salkowski has been discussing this with BCPS and council members. Britni Hazel has been discussing it with the [Linover Improvement Association](#), LIA President Caitlin Klimm-Kellner, and Representative Harry Bhandari. They are all working on finding sources of money to have the playground redone. We have been told that to redo the playground, it will cost about \$70,000.

To make things happen faster, we need more people sharing their voices and showing up at Linover Improvement Association Meetings and BCPS meetings. LIA meetings are every-other month and open to the public. To learn more, please reach out to Caitlin Klimm-Kellner at [president@linover.org](mailto:president@linover.org).

Ms. Salkowski notes that BCPS will often help out with playgrounds if the community provides some funds. Do we want to plan a Go Fund Me campaign or some other fundraising drive just for the playground? Ideas are welcome. The Board will discuss and bring some proposals to our next meeting.

## **Principals Report**

Students can redo an assignment once. Be sure to check your child's grades on Schoology and reach out to teachers before the end of the marking period if you want your child to redo an assignment.

Please join the PTA. Thank you for the warm welcome provided by the PTA at the beginning of the year and for helping teachers with their classroom expenses.

## **Testing Updates**

MAP testing will be done by Oct 19.

Kindergarten Readiness Assessments will be completed by Oct 9.

At the end of November, COGAT testing for 3rd graders will start, which helps identify students for advanced classes. The exact dates for each component are still to be determined, but they will be shared with parents ahead of time.

Amira is part of our new HMH curriculum. It uses AI to assess students, provide them with customized assignments, and provides them with coaching. Data from this will be shared at parent-teacher conferences.

## **School Attendance**

The Superintendent is really pushing for improvement of attendance throughout the county. Teachers can't help students learn if they are not in school.

Last year, 35% of Fullerton's students were chronically absent from school. We have an attendance committee that is developing and implementing strategies for improving attendance, including reaching out to individual parents and families, as well as offering an array of ongoing rewards (such as extra recess for the grade with the highest attendance each month) and periodic prizes for kids who are HOT ED (here on time every day). Can the PTA help fund some of these prizes? This motion was seconded. The PTA board will discuss and bring it back to the floor at our next meeting.

The goal is for students to miss no more than 2.5 days per quarter or 10 days per year.

One parent asked: When do you send a kid who is sneezing and coughing but no fever?

Ms. Salkowski explained that the BCPS policy is that as long as a child has been vomit free and fever free for 24 hours, they can attend school. Ultimately it is parent discretion about when to send a child, and Fullerton trusts parents to make a wise decision. But if you have a question, you can reach out to our nurse, Mrs. Wall.

As a reminder, students can not hold onto their own meds in school. Remember to turn in discretionary meds forms (for Tylenol, Advil, Tums, cough drops, etc.), if you have not already. If a student has a prescription that needs to be taken during school hours, it must be delivered to the nurse's office.

### **Other Questions from the Floor**

Will the speed hump be put back in? Yes, eventually, but not for a very long time. The water main break compromised the integrity of the road. Engineers determined that the entire section in front of the road had to be taken up and repaved. Ms. Salkowski got them to repaint the crosswalk. There are plans for raised crosswalks with brick around them to be installed around the county, but it will not be for a while.

Is there money in the PTA budget for after school programs this year? Yes, we have set aside \$500 to be divided among the clubs.

What clubs are available? We have clubs for grades 3 and up: media club, environmental club (grades 4-5), vocal club, school safety assistants, and peer mentors.

Where can teachers find paper copies of the staff reimbursement form? There are paper copies available on the bulletin board in the faculty room.

Is Fullerton slated for an overhaul and infrastructure update? We are slated to have a vestibule installed in the entryway (for safety reasons). This is a special project, specifically for that improvement.

### **In Person Attendance**

Sarah Twist (President)  
Catherine Neisser (VP1)  
Susannah Ray (Secretary)  
Brittany Jeffries (Yearbook)  
Britni Hazel (School Spirit)  
Vicki Waite (Assistant Principal)  
Morgan Edwards  
Christina Peacock  
Danielle Zurick  
Samantha Jerbi  
Joey Kirby  
Monica Moore  
Holly Gilmore  
Tara Welsh

### **Online Attendance**

Taisha Andrews  
Charlene Andryszak (teacher)  
G Anene  
Brittani Carolan (teacher)  
Kellie Cordell  
Tanae D  
Mrs. Date  
Aleshia Shifflett  
Lucia Matos  
The Merendinos  
Monica Offerman (Treasurer)  
Ms. Scott (teacher)  
Jaki Scott  
Regina Smith  
Lori Tagliaferro (teacher)  
Danielle Thackston (teacher)  
Candace Salkowski (Principal)