

Fullerton PTA Meeting 1.10.23

In attendance:

Cathy Neisser, Vice President (virtual)
Aleshia Shifflett, Vice President
Susannah Ray, Secretary
Brittany Jeffries, Yearbook
Candace Winterson, Principal (virtual)
Tara Jones, Teacher
Kellie Cordell, Teacher (virtual)

Jessamyn Scott, Teacher (virtual)
Glenda Anene
Fawn Lindsey
Ally Aro (virtual)
Kris O (virtual)
Taisha Andrews (virtual)
Yesenia Romero (virtual)
Courtney Thiessen (virtual)

Aleshia started the meeting at 7:02 with the Pledge of Allegiance and an ice-breaker. Everyone shared what they enjoyed about winter break.

Treasurer's Report

In December we had **\$7,226.41** in withdrawals:
\$410.67 for allotments to 3 teachers classrooms
\$55.00 to support field trips
\$1059.60 to ADKO Associates (Joe Corbi's)
\$227.42 for assemblies (December's House Color Party)
\$829.30 for Ridgely's Choice breakfast for teachers and staff
\$4,495.50 for Penguin Patch
\$148.92 for Concert Flowers

We had **\$4,091.00** in deposits:
\$4,091.00 Penguin Patch
\$30.00 Joe Corbi's
\$1,181.00 Holiday Shop/Flower Sales

Current Total Balance: **\$22,344.64**

Principal's Report

Thank you for the teacher and staff appreciation breakfast. All of it was so appreciated, especially considering how busy and stressful things are in December. The faculty lounge was decorated so nicely (check out the pictures on Facebook), and the gift cards were really appreciated, too.

The playground installation on part of the playground is mostly finished. We are just waiting on an audit so that it can be opened, hopefully this week or next. The \$70,000 installation was funded through a grant.

There are several standardized tests happening now or soon. The DIBELS winter assessment (regarding early reading skills) runs through the end of January. It is for kindergarten, 1st grade, 2nd grade, and some 3rd graders.

WIDA testing, which is for students receiving ESOL services, is happening now through mid-February. It helps identify if those students need testing accommodations and services.

Vision and hearing screening will be January 12-25. It is for students in PreK4, kindergarten, 1st grade, 4th grade, and those new to BCPS. Parents will only receive a report if there is a concern.

Winter MAP testing, which is for math and reading in K-5, will be January 24-February 24. Parents will receive reports on this.

Other important dates:

Jan 16 - Martin Luther King Day – schools and offices closed

Jan 17 - End of 2nd Quarter – schools close 3 hours early

Jan 20 - Fullerton's monthly house event (Red house is hosting and the focus is leadership)

Jan 23 - Professional Development Day – schools closed, teachers on duty

Jan 25 - Report Cards

Mr. Boyer (3rd grade teacher) has resigned from BCPS to take another job elsewhere. His last day is January 20, and letters were sent home to parents earlier this week. Ms. Andryszak will be teaching the class. She is an instructional assistant who knows the kids and curriculum really well. She has served as a long-term substitute for 3rd grade before.

Yearbook

Brittany, Aleshia, and Morgan are coordinating with Ms. Salkowski, Ms. Jones, and Ms. Nossel to take pictures of clubs, as well as make-up pictures of students and staff.

If your child is in 5th grade, please send your baby pics to Brittany at fullertones.yearbook@gmail.com by February 1st. Please be sure to label the file with your child's name.

The finalized yearbook pages are due to the printer April 25th, and the books will be delivered May 23rd. We have pre-ordered 300 copies. We sold every copy last year. Brittany will put together a flier so that everyone will know they are available when they come in. She will coordinate with Fawn to have the flier printed in Spanish as well.

Upcoming Events – We Need Volunteers!

We didn't have time to plan the Winter Dance as we had hoped, but we would like to form a committee to research the possibilities for this spring or next winter. One possibility is doing a dance just for the 5th grade after they finish their ballroom dance unit in P.E. (which is tentatively in the works). Ms. Salkowski will also reach out to Elmwood Elementary about the dance that

they have held, so we can learn more about their logistics. If you are interested in helping with a dance, please reach out to Britni or Aleshia on Facebook or [sign-up here](#).

We also discussed the possibility of adding a new position to the PTA Board for an Events Coordinator—someone who can know the logistics of safety and clean-up for every event. If you are interested in this position, please reach out to Britni or Aleshia on Facebook or [sign-up here](#).

Fun Fest (which is for all grades) is the Friday before Memorial Day (May 26) and will also require volunteer help and coordination. If you are interested, please reach out to Britni or Aleshia on Facebook or [sign-up here](#).

Fifth Grade Farewell and related activities also require a lot of coordination between the PTA and teachers: photos, refreshments, flowers, t-shirts, balloons, etc. There is a binder/file of information about past years that can be referenced. Courtney has volunteered to help with this. We would love to have some additional 4th/5th grade parents help with this. Fifth grade parents usually like to be involved because it is for their kids. Fourth grade parents like the opportunity to “learn the ropes” for future years. We hope the 4th and 5th grade teachers can reach out to parents in their weekly emails. Also, if you are interested, please contact Britni or Aleshia via Facebook or [sign-up here](#).

Fundraisers

The Penguin Patch netted over \$500 and was a lot of fun. Every class was able to visit. The children enjoyed shopping for gifts for their families, and volunteers enjoyed practicing their math skills and helping the kids.

The Opt Out Fundraiser has raised over \$300.

The Chipotle Spirit Night is January 11 in White Marsh. If you go in person, just tell them you are there for the fundraiser. If you are ordering online, use the code (on the flier that was sent home and posted on Facebook).

The next Spirit Night will be at Noodles and Company in White Marsh on February 1st.

Spirit Wear: an order form for house color shirts is going home next week. They are ordered quarterly. If you ordered previously and did not receive your shirt, it will come in with this order. The other spirit-wear shirts with the mouse and flag/rainbow are still available as well.

Box Tops has been a huge success. We’ve raised \$209 from midsummer until now. If you want to send your receipts into the school rather than scanning them, you can. They just need to be under two weeks old. Box Tops has a referral bonus going right now, so if you use this opportunity to have friends and family sign up.

Cathy is also working on a Savers donation day for the spring. They will pay us per pound for our donations of clothing, toys, and household items. We may need some volunteers with trucks to take the items to Savers.

Teach Appreciation

The Dunkin' Cruiser is coming at 8:30 on January 29 to give free coffee samples. It will be parked at the end of the bus loop and will be for anyone at the school or Senior Center.

Aleshia is scheduling a Food Truck for the first day of spring.

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 8-12. We would like to do something for the staff each day. If you are interested in helping with this, please let Britni or Aleshia know via Facebook or [sign-up here](#).

Other

The Winter Concert was amazing. Thank you for putting that together, Ms. Jones!

The new apartments at White Marsh Mall (which were discussed at the last meeting) are zoned for Rossville, not Fullerton.

The nurse still needs spare clothes in all sizes, especially for girls. If your child has been sent home in spare clothes, please send them back. If you would like to donate clothes to the nurse, please organize them by size and then bring them to the school. You will need to check-in with the front office and then can take the clothing to the nurse.

Aleshia is coordinating to have the windows around the school's front doors painted each season/month. Keep an eye out for that fun new addition to the school.

Our next meeting is February 7.

