

Fullerton PTA Meeting November 7, 2023

The meeting started at 7:04 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Voting

Nominations were taken for the open position of Vice President of Membership. Joe Kirby, dad of two students at Fullerton, volunteered for the role and was voted into the position. Welcome, Joe!

American Education Week

Parents are invited to visit their children's classrooms during the week of November 14-16, from 9:30-11:30 each morning. A schedule (printed on green paper) has been sent home via teachers. If you plan to attend, please be sure to complete it and send it back. If you have had your ID scanned this year, a name tag will be pre-printed and available to you. If you have not had your ID scanned this year, please stop by the office before American Education Week or plan to have it scanned the morning you visit (but note that lines can be long).

To support teachers through this week, Calliday has donated \$500 to the PTA to buy the staff lunch that Friday on the 17th. Thank you, Calliday!

In addition, Sarah is coordinating "Build a Fridge." If you want to donate treats for teachers and staff, you can drop off the items at the office on Monday or Tuesday of next week to be placed in the faculty lounge fridge. More details will be shared via a flier sent home later this week.

Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair runs concurrently with American Education Week. Thank you to the parents who have signed up to help with the book fair.

Each class will visit the book fair during a designated time. Please use the flier sent home to fund your child's e-wallet.

Parents and guardians can also shop by themselves (to buy holiday gifts, etc.) on Friday, November 17, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Fundraising Report

The cookbook has fallen through due to lack of submitted recipes.

Cathy is coordinating flower and snack sales at the winter concert.

Cathy has proposed a Holiday BINGO event. The suggestion received positive feedback, so she will begin coordinating that with the Rec Center and will share the date on Facebook soon. It will take place in the evening. Participants will purchase cards/tables (details TBD) and will win donated prizes/baskets. There will also be winter/holiday themed photo booth opportunities.

Cathy is also working to schedule a Spirit Night at Frank's in December.

Yearbook Report

All the school photos from Strawbridge have arrived, and Brittany has started organizing them. Thank you to everyone who has been sending Brittany their candid photos. Please continue to send them to her at FullertonES.Yearbook@gmail.com.

October Treasurer's Report

Expenses		Received By	Reason
	\$212.00	Wicks Embroidery	Spiritwear Batch 3
	\$193.00	Wicks Embroidery	Spiritwear Batch 4
	\$260.99	Perry Hall HS	Steel Drums (from May 2023)
	\$84.00	Scholastics	Periodicals
Total Withdrawals	\$749.99		

Deposits		Received From	Reason
	\$962.00	CheddarUp	Spiritwear
	\$472.93	Fullerton PTA	Spirit Night - Chickfila
	\$60.00	Fullerton PTA	Spiritwear Check
	\$100.00	Fullerton PTA	Fundraiser- Penny Wars Deposit*
Total Deposits	\$1,594.93		

Ending Balance **\$12,923.32**
*More Penny Wars deposits to be made

December Music Concerts

The Vocal Club Concert is on Tuesday, December 12th at 6:30 in the Fullerton Cafeteria.

The Winter Concert (featuring 4th and 5th grade vocals, and 5th grade band and orchestra) is on Tuesday, December 19th at 7:00 in the Parkville Middle School Auditorium.

Thank you Ms. Jones for putting all of this together!

Penguin Patch

Penguin Patch will take December 12-15 during school hours. Families can send in cash with their children so that they (the children) can buy (secret) gifts for their parents, siblings, grandparents, etc. Fliers will be sent home with more information for families as the date gets closer.

Volunteers are needed to help with Penguin Patch. The Sign-up Genius will be posted on Facebook this week. Sign-up and bring your math skills! It's a lot of fun to help the kids with their purchases. Please note that you must be [BCPS volunteer trained](#) to volunteer at this event.

Principals Report

First quarter grades are coming out on November 14 and will be accessible through the FOCUS portal. Grades will be posted electronically in FOCUS at the conclusion of each quarter. For first and fourth quarter, they will also be printed and sent home with students.

Please remember to sign-up for Parent-Teacher-Conferences. Teachers have sent home information on how to do this. To meet the varying needs of families, every teacher is offering different meeting options, including Google Meet, in-person, and on the telephone.

Please send in a water bottle with your child each day. The Environmental Club is reminding their fellow students that this is a good way to reduce waste at the water coolers and to reduce time out of class. In addition, the Environmental Club is collecting classroom recycling each week.

Playground Upgrade

Last year, half our playground was redone through a grant funding process. Unfortunately, we do not currently have funds available to redo the other half of the playground, which many people have noted is in desperate need of improvements. Initial requests for financial assistance from BCPS and from the state of Maryland have been turned down.

Parents and families can help by writing letters to our state representatives: Kathy Klausmeier, Harry Bhandari, and Nick Allen. More information about how to do this will be shared soon via Facebook and email.

Several other proposals were suggested: having students write letters, planning a special fundraiser (such as a Color Run), starting a petition, providing form letters.

A recommendation was made that a new PTA position be added to the Executive Board so that we can have one person spear-head this initiative and lead a committee of interested parents. The proposal was seconded and nominations and voting will take place at our next PTA meeting on December 5.

Parents can also share their voices at the Linover Community Association meetings. The next one is next Wednesday, November 16 at 7pm at Fullerton Elementary. They also offer a virtual option – the link will be posted on [their Facebook page](#).

Speaking at BCPS Board meetings is also powerful for parents to share their voices. In addition, there is a community meeting regarding the BCPS budget for fiscal year 24-25 taking place at Parkville High School on November 9 at 6pm.

Finally, Ms. Salkowski put in a request for the slide to be fixed as soon as it broke last spring. Unfortunately, the part is on backorder and there is only one BCPS approved vendor that we can work with. She has explored other options, including repairing the slide, but none will work.

Other

A parent expressed concern that at Trunk-or-Treat a volunteer grabbed her young daughter's wrist when she tried to take too much candy. Ms. Salkowski thanked her for sharing her feedback. We really want Trunk-or-Treat to be a positive experience. This can be a learning moment for volunteers (and something that they will be reminded of in the future) that, as per BCPS volunteer training, we should use our voices to address concerns with children, and not touch them.

Upcoming Dates

November 13: Professional Development Day – no school for students

November 14: Report Cards Distributed

November 14-17: American Education Week

November 14-20: Scholastic Book Fair

November 20: PreK Conference Day – no school for PreK

November 21: Parent-Teacher Conference Day – no school for elementary students

November 22-24: Thanksgiving Break

December 5: PTA meeting @ 7pm (in person and online)

December 12: Vocal Concert @ 6:30pm in the Fullerton Cafetorium

December 19: Winter Concert @ 7pm @ Parkville Middle

In-Person Attendance

Sarah Twist, President

Cathy Neisser, Vice President of
Fundraising

Joey Kirby, Newly Elected Vice President of
Membership

Susannah Ray, Secretary

Brittany Jeffries, Yearbook

Tara Jones, Teacher

Nonni Merendino

Monica Moore

Online Attendance

Britni Hazel, School Spirit Coordinator

Candace Winterson, Principal

Aleshia Shifflett

Alicia Sasser

Brittani Carolan, Teacher

CeCe

Charlene Andryszak, Teacher

Glenda Anene

Holly Gilmore, Teacher

Jessamyn Scott, Teacher

Lori Tagliaferro, Teacher

Mary

Morgan Edwards

Mrs. Daye

Regina Smith

Taisha Andrews

Tanae D

Tanelle Schrock

Yesenia Romero