

## **Fullerton PTA Meeting March 5, 2024**

The meeting started at 7:00 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Valentine's Day Lunch**

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Valentine's Day Lunch—advertising, decorating, sign-ins, coordinating, etc.—and to all the parents who came in to have lunch with their sweethearts. The students were very happy and the event was a big success!

### **It's Read Across America Week!**

We are celebrating this week with themed days that were printed in the newsletter. Also everyday during this week we have books prerecorded playing during the morning announcements! Thank you to Morgan for getting the videos together!

### **Fundraising Report**

Tuesday, March 19 - Spirit Night at Crumbl Cookies, 3-6pm

Friday, April 12 - Spirit Night at BurgerFi

End of April - World's Finest Chocolate sales

Saturday, May 11 - Savers Donation Drive – The Environmental Club will help run it. Donations will be collected at the school. Donate clothes, toys, decor, books, and small kitchen items (not furniture). We get paid by weight, and there's a bonus for books.

Tuesday, May 21 - Selling flowers at the spring concert. Cathy will need help with preparing the bouquets ahead of time and with selling them. Please reach out to Cathy if you can help.

### **Yearbook Report**

Pre-sales will begin on March 15th via Cheddar Up. They will be only \$16, which is a discounted price. More information will be shared via fliers, Facebook, and our website very soon.

Brit has scanned the student submissions for the yearbook cover contest. Illustrations that met the cover requirements will be shared with Fullerton teachers and staff so that they can vote to determine the winner.

Thank you to parents who sent in photos for the 5th grade baby picture spread.

If you have any fun photos from the year (field trips, spirit days/events) please forward them to Brit at [FullertonES.Yearbook@gmail.com](mailto:FullertonES.Yearbook@gmail.com). The yearbook is close to complete at this point but there is room for a few more pictures.

### Treasurer's Report

|                    |                              |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>\$9,468.00</b>  | <b>Starting Balance</b>      |
|                    |                              |
| <b>Deposits</b>    | <b>To/From/Reason</b>        |
| \$225.00           | Penguin Patch - Rolled Coins |
| \$219.78           | Fundraiser - Frank's Pizza   |
| \$198.00           | Fundraiser - Frank's Pizza   |
| \$84.96            | Fundraiser - Panda Express   |
| \$167.70           | Fundraiser - Box Tops        |
|                    |                              |
| <b>\$10,363.44</b> | <b>Ending Balance</b>        |

### Important Dates

Spring Break: March 23 through April 1

Tuesday, April 2: Next PTA meeting

Friday, April 5: End of 3rd quarter; Schools close 3 hours early

Wednesday, April 10: Schools closed for professional development day

Tuesday, April 16: 3rd quarter report cards will be available in FOCUS

Friday, April 26: Schools close 3 hours early

Monday, April 29: No school for PreK and for Kindergarten (due to parent-teacher conferences)

Tuesday, April 30: No school for PreK

Tuesday, May 14: Election day; Schools closed

Friday, May 17: Asynchronous half-day; No in-person school

Monday, May 27: Memorial Day; school closed

Thursday, June 13: Schools close 3 hours early

Friday, June 14: Schools close 3 hours early; Last day of school

## **Upcoming PTA-Sponsored Events**

At our April meeting, please come prepared to join a committee. We need everyone's help to make the upcoming events happen:

Teacher Appreciation Week (May 6-10) (Sarah)

Runathon (Cathy and Morgan)

Funfest/Field Day (Sarah)

5th Grade Farewell and Fun Day (chairperson needed)

## **Color Run/Runathon**

A proposal was made for Fullerton to have a Color Run or Run-a-thon in May to raise money for the school playground. The proposal was seconded, voted on, and approved.

Cathy and Mr. Lambert have already begun planning for the event, and Morgan has experience with coordinating one at her previous school. The event will raise funds by kids asking their family, neighbors, etc. to sponsor them. In addition, it is a great spirit building and school bonding event, as the kids cheer each other on and parents can come cheer their kids on too.

## **Principal's Report**

Thank you for coming to the Valentine's Day sweetheart lunch. It was a really positive event for the kids and the school.

Kids are having a blast with Read Across America Week.

Thank you for the PTA newsletter. Parents have commented that they appreciate it as a quick reference throughout the month.

PTA helps support the cost of field trips, as the cost of the trips plus the transportation costs keep going up, and not all families can afford to pay the fees. Today, every single kindergartner was able to attend "The Cat in the Hat" field trip, and the PTA made that possible.

MISA (Maryland Integrated Science Assessment), which students take in 5th grade and 8th grade, is this week and next week. It is a very short window, so good attendance is super important!

Third, fourth, and fifth grade students have been completing the BCPS Stakeholder Survey in their classes this week. It is very short this year: it only takes about five

minutes to complete. We would love for parents/caregivers to complete the survey too. It closes on Friday. [https://www.bcps.org/system/b\\_c\\_p\\_s\\_news/bcps\\_climate\\_survey](https://www.bcps.org/system/b_c_p_s_news/bcps_climate_survey)

We are past the halfway point for 3rd quarter, so parents (especially of 4th and 5th graders) should be checking grades on Schoology and following up on any make-up work or redos. The quarter ends the Friday after Spring Break.

June 14 is the last day of school. The dates for 5th Grade Farewell and 5th Grade Fun Day are still to be determined.

### **Other**

BCPS is accepting nominations for school counselor of the year awards! Fullerton has the BEST counselor with Mrs. C who provides guidance, love, support, and kindness to ALL kids at school. She is amazing resource and person. Let's vote for her using this form as we are so lucky to have her support every day!!

<https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLSdGxjd5KNF5cL.../viewform>

Will there be a prize for the class/grade that earns the most via Box Tops? The idea was seconded, voted on, and approved.

Fullerton has been signed up for the Bengies reading challenge. More information about that will be shared soon.

A parent shared that they really enjoyed attending the Chuck E Cheese spirit event with their child and seeing the other Fullerton families there. She hopes that there can be more events like this in the future.

Ms. Thackston shared that over 100 students donated items for the 2/22 donation drive. The Care Closet at Fullerton is now well stocked with toothbrushes, toothpaste, socks, and undergarments for any students and families that are in need. Ms. Wall (our school nurse) also pulls from these items when students need them. Every student who donated had their name put into a random name generator, and 10 students were selected to receive a prize.

There was also a request put out for deodorant donations, as the weather is getting warmer.

Will there be a first grade field trip? The field trip that first graders used to go on is no longer an option, so the first grade teachers are working to find an alternative.

How is it determined who goes on field trips? Ms. Salkowski shared that she likes to see every student have an opportunity to go on a field trip each year. The details for each field trip are determined by the teachers of that grade level. There are a number of factors that must be considered: admission costs at the location, time and distance, cost/availability of transportation, how it connects to the curriculum, and safety.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45

**In-person attendance:**

Sarah Twist (President)  
Joe Kirby (VP Membership)  
Susannah Ray (Secretary)  
Britni Hazel  
Christina Peacock  
Morgan Edwards  
Holly Gilmore (Teacher)  
Tara Gurley

**Online attendance:**

Cathy Neisser (VP Fundraising)  
Monica Offerman (Treasurer)  
Candace Salkowski (Principal)  
Vicki Waite (Assistant Principal)  
Taisha Andrews  
Charlene Andryszak (Teacher)  
G Anene  
Jessica Benitez  
Brittani Carolan  
Cassandra Chaney  
Tanae D  
Amera Daye  
Kendra Massey  
Jane Nebolisa

Brooklyn Paige  
Jaki Scott  
Jessamyn Scott (Teacher)  
Regina Smith  
Courtney T  
Lori Tagliaferro (Teacher)  
Zach Tawney  
Danielle Thackston (Teacher)  
Anthony Thomas  
Marlenne Villarreal  
Al  
Jason  
M