

**Family-Faculty Connection (FFC)**  
**General Monthly Meeting: November 13, 2024**

**Agenda:** [11/13 FFC Meeting Agenda](#)

I. Call to Order: 6:32 p.m.

In attendance: Joe Marsella, Ivy Lam, Linnea Miller, Dora Rowe, Katarina Mansir, Mia, Dusty Pedroti, Michelle Becker, Blaine Sheppard, Becca Ung, Karthica Arunachalam, Alekhya, Alicia Pita, Karthika Arunacha, Kelly Cortese, Mark Tachiki, Eydie Strouse, Sandra Atkinson, Mayumi Caalman, Nesra Sonol, Ely Exner

II. Approval and/or Correction of October 9, 2024 Draft Minutes

Motion to approve – Ely Exner

Second – Katarina Mansir

Motion passed

III. Administration Reports

Mr. Pedrotti – everything going well; we're going on our Fall break followed by Winter break. Year off to a great start.

Recognize and appreciate FFC for all they do for our school.

Teachers feel supported with reimbursement, Tiger Art and Steam and T-shirts.

Proposition money going towards new lunch tables. Met with Dora, Sandra and Christina and together, we have chosen new furniture for Tiger Art room, staff room.

Ms. Miller – safety patrol – new police chief elected recently, and changes have trickled down to us. Amazing new safety officer appointed to us has created new challenge for kids. New whistles created through 3-D printer have been created for each member of the safety patrol.

IV. Staff Reports

Mr. Joe - no report

Ms. Becker – Thank you to FFC for purchasing and distributing paper planners to Dingeman 3-5 graders. During Martial Middle School presentation, Martial counselors highlighted use of planners. Good for students to learn this now in elementary school.

V. Officer Reports

A. President - Christina

Not too much to share. Thankful for wonderful FFC board taking on so much and so many new projects this year, and for going above and beyond.

B. Treasurer-Katarina

State of Financial Position as of 10/31/24

Checking: 10/1/24 - \$221,763.02

Checking: 10/31/24 - \$222,969.91

Savings: \$30,572.08

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Total: \$253,544.99

Overview - Budget vs. Actuals: Budget\_FY25\_P&L-FY25 P&L

Total Revenue: \$95,439.01

Total Expenditures: \$32,209.37

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Committee Report –

Next week, starting collaboration with STEAM to sell Tiger bookmarks and Cultural Committee. STEAM Tiger bookmarks for sale, and Cultural committee finger food snacks for sale including samosas, falafels and hot cocoa, apple ciders and treats for sale during the Book Fair evening.

Other events planned to help meet fundraising goals include a virtual popcorn fundraiser – 50% goes to Dingeman, to occur for three days in December; E-waste recycling, December 7<sup>th</sup>; Goodwill fundraiser at the beginning of the year.

Open to suggestion to how to make fundraiser successful.

C. VP of Fundraising:

1. FFC Sponsorships-Sandra

Sponsorship – Dingeman sponsorships is up to \$1800 for Soccer Shot, Venture House, Kick Force, etc. Fitness 10, Will Connect with Social Media person to get them on our social media site.

Some additional prospects still in the works.

Rebranding Book Fair to Winterfest to allow for showcase different sponsors through booths. Allow for pictures, special dishes, and hot drinks.

Want to bring in sponsors to events to allow us to pull in annual sponsorships.

If you have any leads, shoot Sandra an email

2. Fall Festival recap-Claudine (not present but sent in a report)

a) good feedback during and after the event

b) trick or treating lines worked (closing off 30 minutes prior)

c) families don't seem to be interested in paying for face painting, balloons or photo booth (maybe we remove for next time and just try to have something to collect small donations at each of the stations)

d) good volunteer turnout after all, just enough with sibling volunteers

e) if we can light more areas, we can open to more activities (challenging with space, lighting and volunteers)

f) Worked well with closing off the line 30 minutes prior

## VI. Standing Committee Reports

A. Tiger Art Academy-Sandra/Dora

We're in the middle of Lesson 2, with at least half of the classes completed to date. Dora has been dropping in to watch some classes live. Program has been successful so far; notice that parents are doing a good job encouraging students, slides being used and doc cam, students are

having a good time. Had some adjustments made to Kindergarten turtle art to allow for time to complete.

Feedback spreadsheet is checked often and a couple of comments provided. Will incorporate feedback to next lessons.

Next week is training for next lessons – details are on Tiger Art Academy page.

Working on incorporating Square One Art to allow parents to buy swag with their student art. Allow parents to use special paper to allow for printing on swag. Still working on details but will share.

#### B. STEAM- Greg/Kelly

3D printers are getting a lot of use: safety patrol whistles, 5<sup>th</sup> grade bookmarks; plans to use the 3D printer for STEAM challenges for Fall and Winter; 3 classrooms have used or plan to use 3D printers for projects. Fall STEAM challenge bins will be switched up for Winter in December. Gregg has stored bots into lockable cabinets to ensure security.

Mayumi has done a lot of cleanup of the Maker Space and she has gotten all the Probots functioning.

At the end of this year, all steam challenges for each grade will be finished.

#### C. EAR- Jessica

1. Things are moving along and we continue to add on more as we go.

- a) 1. We hope to have an EAR Volunteer Coffee Chat/ Check-in in early December. We are considering December 4th at 9:45, but that has not been confirmed yet.
- b) 2. We will be reaching out to any volunteers who have not completed EAR training, and to others who may be ready to observe or set up a schedule, etc.
- c) 3. Volunteers have been and are reading with most of the classes in grades 1-5
- d) 4. We are considering a date for another EAR training either in late January or early February. No date set yet.
- e) 5. We will be reaching out to kindergarten teachers to set up their EAR schedules and details soon.

Christina is setting up a new curriculum for non readers set up to assist them with getting up to second grade level.

Contact Jessica for any questions regarding EAR.

D. Yearbook-Eydie

December 25<sup>th</sup> deadline to get 25% of the yearbook completed. We have enough material to get our first round of proofs.

Four photographers were deployed to capture photos of the costume parade and Biz Town.

Major events coming up to be covered for the yearbook – Star of India trip.

Year book cover contest for 5<sup>th</sup> grader to create year book cover.

Cover Art Contest: students will vote and the winning art piece will be used for the yearbook cover, maybe incorporate the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners into the yearbook as well. She is creating some requirements for the cover art contest and this should be ready by the end of winter break.

Makeup picture day is next Tuesday.

E. Spirit Gear- Ely

1. We had a successful sale of our existing shirts at the Fall Festival, selling shirts with the current design, and also quite a bit of our shirts with the old design.
2. We may have another in person sale in December to allow our families to buy shirts to gift for the holidays.
3. Our on line store is live, and we are encouraging purchases of customized swag from the website. Orders shipped directly to families and FFC will receive 10% of all orders.

F. Family Dinner Night- Anne (Anne was not able to attend but provided notes)

1. Rubio's FDN raised \$264.11
2. 11/19: Family Dinner Night, [Poway Habit Burger](#), 4-9 pm, 20% of sales is donated back to Dingeman
3. 12/5: Family Dinner Night (FDN), [Scripps Ranch Mendocino Farms](#), 11 am - 9 pm, 50% of sales is donated back to Dingeman
4. Looking at Panda for end of January
5. Maybe Surfside in February

G. Cultural-Rola (Rola was not able to attend but provided notes)

1. From the last meeting our cultural group discussed and decided the following:
  - a) - Celebrating Dewali, Día de los Muertos and Veterans Day were a success. Parents show appreciation and were happy that the school acknowledged them 🙏 we celebrated by posting social media posts and posters at the campus.
  - b) - Our next event is participating at the book fair, in order to encourage parents about the program and support the 5th grade students.

- c) - For some holidays we will be celebrating them by having a banner that will be used for next years. We're still in the process to figure out the budget for the banners. Dora is helping us with the design ( thanks to Dora!)
  - d) - Encouraging parents to donate books about their holidays and we ask them if they would like to leave a note for the students.
2. Next meeting: 12/5: Cultural Liaison Committee Meeting, Room B5, 8:30-9:30 am

H. Box Tops- Mayumi

- 1. Many families signed up
- 2. Almost at \$596 raised!
- 3. For November only, if you have link your Walmart account to Box Tops App before 11/30, Dingeman will earn an extra \$5

VII. Special Committee Reports

A. Scholastic Book Fair-11/18-11/21 (Ms. DaVersa)

- 1. Use this link to check out our Online Scholastic Book Fair: <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/dingeman>
- 2. Students will visit with their classrooms and have an opportunity to shop the book fair. Every purchase earns books for our Dingeman library and classroom libraries!
  - a) Set up an E-Wallet Here for your student to use while shopping or send cash.
  - b) No credit/debit card use for students.
- 3. Teachers can also set-up E-Wallets for their families to contribute to.
  - a) "Invite others to fund" and Copy the link to their eWallet and share it with families, like emails, apps, etc.
  - b) Teachers will be alerted by email anytime someone contributes to your eWallet
- 4. The Book Fair will also be open after school on Monday-Wednesday, 11/18-11/20, for family shopping from 12:20-12:50p

B. Thursday, 11/21 Winterfest Family Event featuring Scholastic Book Fair and Student Performances, Library/Courtyard, 5-7pm (Christina)

- a) Shop the Book Fair as a family, watch student performances, and enjoy treats sold by the 5th Grade Committee (CASH ONLY).
  - b) Get some early shopping done at the fair and enjoy time with our school community.
2. We need lots of help! Please sign up using this Winterfest Family Book Fair Night Sign Up Link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A084EAAA929A0F58-51970451-fall#/>

VIII. Old Business

A. FFC Monthly Social-Sandra

This month's parent social was at Surfside with a better turnout. December family social will be at Public House at 6 pm on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, preceded by the Merry-tage event at Sycamore Park. Percentage back to Dingeman from the Public House for proceeds.

IX. New Business

- A. 12/2-13: Toys for Tots Holiday Donation Drive: bins on campus and accept new and wrapped toys
- B. Winter Family Social, [Sycamore Canyon Park](#) & [Merry-tage Neighborhood](#), 3-6 pm and Public House with 10-20% proceeds back to Dingeman

X. Announcements

- A. Gardening Day, this Saturday, 11/16: 8:30a-11:30a
  - 1. Join us for a morning of outside fun making our campus beautiful! Meet by the Butterfly Garden entrance to school from the White Top.
  - 2. Bring your own gardening gloves and tools if you have them.
  - 3. Kids are welcome but need to be supervised.

XI. Adjournment 7:25 p.m.

\*Next FFC meeting: December 11 FFC Cultural Potluck at 5 pm & General FFC Monthly Meeting, 5:30 pm (including special raffle for prizes!)