

Fir Grove Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization
General Meeting Minutes
November 6, 2025

Approved at the January 8, 2026 PTO General Meeting

Opening

The general meeting of the Fir Grove Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at Fir Grove Elementary in Beaverton, Oregon on November 6, 2025 by Emily Wolverton.

Present

Emily Wolverton, Heather Beam, Sara Calvert-Kubrom, Aman Kubrom, Abbey McIntosh, Blair Hamilton, Audra Allis, Matt Allis, Kristina Hiersche, Tiffany Schiff, Lindsay Seitz, Emily Davis, Jennifer Mohr Colett, Erin Miles, Meg Strong, Lee Anthony, Beckie Tempel, Athena Banke, Melissa Marquadt, Shawntina Weigland, Melinda Iglesias-Wheeler, Amy Shuster

Welcome, Introductions, & Minutes Approval

Kristina Hiersche moved to approve the September 16, 2025 General Meeting Minutes, Aman Kubrom seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Principal Update - Erin Miles

- Thank you for the conference meals!
- 340 students currently, new students every month, more in 4th grade
- Looking for classified subs- para-educator, have duties like recess, lunch, support kids in class, fill out a substitute application on the BSD website
- Pop up food pantry- Ms. Silver will send info soon- social workers are understanding info and will reach out for volunteers/assistance if needed
- Community members are concerned about immigration issues and are sharing it with us, staff is trained in how to handle it if ICE officials come near school. The district office will let Ms. Miles know next steps if we were to encounter this. Update your emergency contacts if you're concerned about a possible early dismissal. Legally ICE are not allowed on school property.
- Teachers are working on tier 1 ELA professional development, when everyone is getting instruction all their outcomes will improve, we can add additional supports if needed
- Monday is a professional development day and examining data from students about school culture. Collaboration is happening 16 times this year with grade level teachers teaming, then students are getting extra PE or Music at the end of the day,
- Attendance- school goals- 92% or better, meaning every month missing 1-2 days/school. We have 80 kids missing more than that so far, we have an attendance team meeting regularly.
- If you have someone in the Beaverton Rotary thank them!— they bought half of our students books and the other half will get books in spring.

- 3rd grade being added to the winter school concert. 1st and 2nd grade combined specials so there wasn't as much time to get the 2nd graders ready for the concert. Will there be room to host everyone in the gym? Students will be on the stage where the dancing stage would be. Class sizes in the past have been larger so this will work. 2nd graders will perform at an assembly in the spring.

Volunteer Update- Sara Calvert-Kubrom

- Worked well to reach out to teachers to get people for Art Lit and class parties
- Cindy needs 1 volunteer for picture retakes
- Ms. Colett- will need help with chair set up before music concert
- Keep sending content for spotlight features to Sara, helps for people to see volunteering in different capacities, send her pictures and blurbs
- Let's celebrate the transition of the Art Lit coordinator shadowing so if people are interesting in leading they can shadow and feel confident stepping into the role

Art Literacy - Beckie Tempel & Athena

- They went to the BSD Art Lit coordinator meeting
- Training meetings for first artist happened this week- first lessons starting this week
- 2 volunteers for every class which is amazing!
- Athena will take over for Beckie next year

Fundraising Update - Lindsay Seitz, Tiffany Schiff & Shannon Baggerman

- Fun Run Wrap Up- prize portion is wrapping up, Emily is coordinating with Erin to figure out these parties in January, winners will be announced Nov. 21st at the assembly. Over \$45,000 raised so we'll get to pie Mrs. Miles. Prizes will be more equitable this year and spread out throughout classes. Erin & Cindy will send parent square messages to families to let them know if they won.
- Piccolo Mondo Fundraiser Nov 17-22 - toy shop fundraiser in Progress Ridge and Bethany, we get 15% of all purchases and you must mention Fir Grove, take the flier in or call in orders
- Dine for Dollars Ate-Oh-Ate Dec 9 - we need to make a flier
- Future Dine for Dollars- January- Pastini which gives 40%, Lazy Days is responsive, haven't heard much from Binary Brewing yet, McMenamins will hopefully be happening too in May or June

Budget Update - Emily Davis

- Music budget status update- Jennifer Mohr Colett, funding was given by the PTO the last 3 years. She's not asking for new funding, but hopefully keeping it going.
 - Music funding- concerts and instruments have to come from the building budget, no budget for maintaining or replacing instruments for existing schools

- As of 2021 the principal could no longer fund instrument maintenance/replacement from the budget, outside grant used for piano, annual funding was unsustainable so the PTO stepped up to help and it's been sustainable
- PTO covers 75% of the building music budget which is \$3700. It's been really successful the last 3 years so that Ms. Colett can focus on teaching and not fundraising and maintenance.
- Music curriculum- doesn't have a state mandate, community supports music and the school board does too, 85% of the program is curriculum- singing, playing instruments, moving, composing, 15% of time is on performance
- Concerts- Combine 3rd, 4th, 5th grade winter concert, 2nd grade will perform at an assembly in the spring. Reason- lower enrollment, new scheduling changes, combining grade levels, specials schedule has changed for this year (Music, PE, STEAM, Library) so they need to move to one concert
- Sunshine Fund & Snack Pantry budget increase proposal- vote to increase the funds. Sunshine fund is gift cards for a family that is in urgent need and the social worker can help in an emergency situation. Increase it by \$250. Snack pantry (bring a snack pack home) increase to \$500. You can also donate directly to the Sunshine Fund through the
- Feed Body Feed Brain campaign contribution- district fundraiser that's like the sunshine fund for them to distribute to families during winter break. We gave \$100 last year. Joyce DeBusk request
- Teddy Bear Clinic request- for Kindergarten this year, \$620, HS health careers students come to teach the kids how to care for their teddy bear.
- Joyce Debusk request- games from indigenous creators that have been really popular with students in the past, \$280
- Emily Wolverton made a motion to increase these budget items- unanimous vote in favor to increase or add these items to the budget.

Bicycle Upcycle Update - Tiffany Schiff

- 15-20 bicycles getting refurbished with the help of MS students. Tiffany is taking them to get them repaired by students. Cost us \$50 so far. Aiming to get as many repaired as possible and not worry about sizing.

Former Furry Grover College/Career Scholarship - Emily Wolverton

- \$1000 scholarship fund for current BDS seniors that went to Fir Grove, launched it this week and sent to counselors at HS, have 1 applicant so far, brief application and brief essay, transcript, support someone in our neighborhood community (2 \$500 scholarships), spread the word

Costume Dance & 5th Grade Sendoff - Kristina Hiersche

- Nov. 14th from 6-7pm, come with your child and dressing up is optional, 5th grade leaders are selling concessions (food, drinks, glow sticks, etc.) to support their send off

(end of the year celebration), bring cash, dance set up after school like the disco ball, speaker, concessions if you can come help

- 5th grade sendoff- doing well with 5th grade leaders and parents are communicating well
- Multicultural night- raffle being set up to win some of the prizes and support the 5th grade send off

Eco School Network/Green Team Update - Abbey McIntosh

- Lee is doing the teacher for Green Team again
- Projects you can help or join if you're interesting
 - Native plant sale- march 5th, kids can be subject matter expert, to support 5th grade send off this year
 - Help with Urban Gleaners if the timing works- someone to collect the 5th grade leaders to bring them to location/trucks would help
 - Atmospheric gasses, no idling campaign as a reminder for families, plastic film recycling, earth day projects
 - Metro did a food waste audit- 55% of what we put in garbage was food scraps so how do we improve that, composting here on site so it's tricky with rodents. Kinnaman and others will compost it off site. Then it has to be collected in buckets and moved off site. Still brainstorming options.
 - ESN has grants for no waste party packs- plates, bowls, silverware, etc. Exploring that as a possibility for us for in the future
 - Regular silverware is being used for lunch
 - We might need help with Green waste composting to teach kids a new habit at lunch time. 5th grade leaders and PTO helpers would be helpful.

Next PTO General Meeting - January 8, 2026 at 6:30pm in the Community Room, enter via the Main Office

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm by Emily Wolverton.