

Fir Grove Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization
General Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2026

Approved at the March 5, 2026 PTO General Meeting

Opening

The general meeting of the Fir Grove Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization was called to order at 6:37 p.m. at Fir Grove Elementary in Beaverton, Oregon on January 8, 2026 by Emily Wolverton.

Present

Erin Miles, Spencer Rubin, Lee Anthony, Lindsay Seitz, Kayla Petersen, Anna Petersen, Abbey McIntosh, Shawntina Weigand, Athena Banke, Beckie Tempel, Kristina Hiersche, Sara Calvert-Kubrom, Aman Kubrom, Emily Davis, Tiffany Schiff, Melissa Marquardt, Emily Wolverton, Meg Strong

Welcome, Introductions, & Minutes Approval- Emily Wolverton

Sara Calvert-Kubrom moved to approve the November 6, 2025 General Meeting Minutes, Athena Banke seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Playfitfun Recess Program Presentation- Spencer Rubin

- Other schools using the program for lunch recess, Erin Miles asked if PTO could sponsor it and PlayFitFun could lead one recess once a week during this rainy season and learn new games and skills
- Mission is play- getting kids active and moving, program is like PE + Field Day + Minute to Win It combined, it's not sports
- Other school principal reached out to Spencer because some kids don't know what to do during recess
 - Schools they've worked with in the past or present Sato, West Union, Brookwood, Orenco, Indian Hills, Springville, Findley, Cedar Mill
- They support the kids, school and the recess para educators who could use the boost of fun and energy- games can be competitive but also social; teams compete but also goal is to mingle with different kids
- Goals- Community building- kids are put on teams with others and have fun, and learn sportsmanship and kindness
- Program leaders/coaches build relationships with the kids to encourage them to join if they want to
- Games are self starter games or coach led, some kids might come join for part of recess, some stay the whole time
- Inclusion and feeling welcome is paramount, recess is powerful and fun for all kids
- What to do with kids who don't want to get involved? Some kids watch for a while and Spencer will go over and chat to make some connections to try to encourage kids to try it out, build a relationship with kids so they trust to join a game or two

- PlayFitFun Staff- 30 coaches are on staff, some only work after school and some are both during and after school, they're strategic with their staffing choices, they know how to run their games in different settings

Principal Update - Erin Miles

- First week back has been going smoothly
- Next week- PreK registration starts
- Budget video will come out from BSD soon- cuts to the budget will happen but it shouldn't be as impactful as in other districts
- Monday PD Day- teachers chose where to go in the district based on the different PD offerings
- Attendance-
 - 78% are regular attenders- 275 students
 - 75 students are not attending regularly, missing 8-40 days of school
 - Attendance team meets every other week, attendance is up 6% from last year
 - Red Carpet attenders video- monthly award went to Ms. Beltran's class
- Jan. 26- progress reports and end of 1st semester
 - Assessments for reading and math happening now, and social-emotional learning to see the areas of growth
- Jan. 27- PD Day- all teachers stay at Fir Grove to focus on tribal history and use the lessons for their science and social studies curriculum which is part of Oregon law
- Chess Club- dedicated group comes twice a week at 7am and they have competitions
- Jump Rope Club- starts later Feb. for 3rd-5th grade
- Jan. 15 we'll use Title I funds to have Kevin Ashworth talk about cell phone use and anxious children at Conestoga MS at 6pm
- Jan. 29th- Family Game night, also uses Title I Federal Funds

Budget Update - Emily Davis

- Budget Update:
 - Bottle Drop- almost \$200 at this point
 - Misc. income is pretty high \$2600 mostly donated to Sunshine Fund (\$2200)
 - Waiting for Dine for Dollars from Ate-oh-ate and Piccolo Mondo fundraiser
- Spending- tracking well so far and we'll spend more with field trips in the spring
- Budget surplus at the moment- we're about \$15,000 over for fundraising at the moment
- PlayFitFun request \$2700 from now to Mar. 19 (Spring Break) which is 12 weeks and will be there for all grades for 2 hrs/once a week
 - Aman Kubrom moved to take funding PlayFitFun to a vote, Shawntina Weigand seconded it, and it was unanimously approved.

Fundraising Update - Lindsay Seitz, Tiffany Schiff

- Fun Run Prize Events- events happening this month and many have volunteered
- Dine for Dollars Update from Shannon Baggerman-
 - Pastini (Cedar Hills) Jan 15 all day for dine in or called in orders and mention Fir Grove

- Lazy Days Sunday, Feb 1 all day all sales and you don't have to mention Fir Grove and we get 10%,
- Possible future Dine for Dollars- March- Shake Shack, April- Burgerville, May- McMenamins

Volunteer Update- Sara Calvert-Kubrom

- Volunteers have been amazing! Please send photos for volunteer spotlight
- Please give requests to Sara by Sunday night or Monday morning to be included in the weekly volunteer update

Family Emergency Planning Event- Sara Calvert-Kubrom

PTO provided pizza over winter break event

- Community members, volunteers, and city leaders helped families with legal guardianship planning and paperwork
- turn out was lower than hoped for but some people may not feeling safe coming
- Cases are complicated and time intensive with notary and interpreters, it was hard for even for green card holders to feel comfortable coming to this event
- How can we support people and make them feel safe? Home visits for interpreters and notaries and doing one-on-one visits rather than larger events is something that's being discussed and tried
- Keep giving more opportunities for people to access resources

Walking School Bus Update- Emily Wolverton

- We investigated doing a walking school bus, survey was only responded to by 13 people and 10 were volunteers, no one mentioned needing immediate support getting to and from school in the survey
- Maybe we can match nearby families and neighbors through attendance or office staff
 - Emily & Sara will give list of walkers to office staff to connect needs with raptor approved walkers
- People who need help probably are not filling out surveys and reaching out for help- reach out to the office if you hear of any needs by word of mouth
- Give feedback to us if you have ideas to help volunteers meet community needs

Bicycle Upcycle Update - Tiffany Schiff

- We need more larger bikes, so we'll try to collect them on the last 3 Fridays in Jan.
 - Sara will add it to the volunteer update, Meg will add to newsletter

Donuts with Your Grownups - Emily Wolverton

- Feb. 26 at 7am- popular event and well attended
- We need volunteers to help set up tables and chairs and to clean up after, we'll end 5 minutes earlier this year to help Mr. John and prepare for 5th graders
- Emily will send out job sign ups soon

Multicultural Night- Athena Banke & Val Roberts

- Planning meeting is next Tuesday, Jan. 13th
- Looking for donations for raffle
 - Include in volunteer update and Tiffany will reach out to places too
- More family involvement- instead of just presenting our culture you could also present a place or culture you've learned about

Eco School Network/Green Team Update - Abbey McIntosh & Lee Anthony

- Plastic film recycling bin, Jan-May bins put in cafeteria, teachers rooms, front office
- Ridwell drive coming in spring
- Composting will start mid February,
 - Volunteers needed for 3-5 grade lunches to help them practice this- Feb. 10-20 11am-12:30pm
 - This is a 2 week trial and then hoping to include 1st and 2nd grade. Kinnamon does this and it's gone well there.
- Maybe we can send information home to families so they can practice composting more at home- Kayla could help with this
- Kitchen staff already composts food scraps but this is the first time students will be participating with their food waste
- Family Game Night composting- Metro will bring composting game to educate families
- Eco School Network- Annual Beach Clean Up - mid-July at Cannon Beach
- Lee Anthony- Garden Club starting next month,
 - Will work on garden beds and plant hydrangeas in front by south parking lot
 - Plants need watering over the summer. We'd need volunteers to water over the summer so plants don't die. Look for that in the future

Former Furry Grover College/Career Scholarship- Emily Wolverton

- Please let seniors know because the deadline is end of Feb. and we have only 2 applicants

5th Grade Sendoff- Kristina Hiersche

- Planning going well so far

March PTO Meeting- Emily Wolverton

- Board openings for next year- Treasurer & Co-fundraiser and Members-at-large; Invite others to our March meeting

Next PTO General Meeting - March 5, 2026 at 6:30pm in the Community Room, enter via the Main Office

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm by Emily Wolverton.