

Family-Faculty Connection (FFC) General Monthly Meeting December 10, 2025

Attendees:

Dusty Pedrotti, Linnea Miller, Joe Marsella, Amy Boelzle, Adrienne Asdal, Christina Liu, Nesra Senol, Sandra Atkinson, Rukmini Bedhi, Jessica Craig-Huynh, Katarina Mansir, Dora Rowe, Kelly Cortese, Laura Chaidez, Mayumi Caalaman, Rola Elkadi, Ely Exner

Agenda

- I. Call to Order: 5:32 pm
- II. Approval and/or Correction of Minutes
November 12, 2025 General FFC Meeting
Motion to approve the minutes is made Sandra Atkinson; motion second by Dora Rowe.
No further discussion and motion carries.
- III. Administration Reports
 - a. Mr. Pedrotti
Shout out to ASB for leading the Tiger Rallies – they are doing a great job.

The school's new marquee is up at the front entrance.

At January FFC meeting we will go over staffing and budget – looking to see how we will keep additional cuts at bay. Cuts now at the classroom level but it is great to have FFC assistance to circumvent the cuts.

Feels extremely lucky to be part of Dingeman community. Traveling teacher all fight to come to Dingeman, which goes to show the welcoming atmosphere for teachers here at Dingeman.

Wish everyone an amazing break!
 - b. Ms. Miller
No comment
- IV. Staff Reports
 - a. Mr. Joe - none
 - b. Ms. Boelzle - none
 - c. Ms. Asdal
Love that teachers are helping with staff raffle sales. Don't hesitate to ask teacher for help.
- V. Officer Reports
 - a. President
 - a. [Staff Favorites](#)
Christina is asking all the staff to update the favorites list to help families with staff and parent gifts for the holidays and for teacher appreciation week in May.
So appreciative of FFC and for all the volunteers. Wonde4rful to be part of an inclusive group.
 - b. Responses: [Dingeman Staff Favorites](#)
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1K94HWUjvDoQ4IELXiZksMzooop1TdIDqUFNIW9S0yCXg/edit?usp=sharing>

b. Vice President

Happy to be part of the group.

Starting to make plans for the school's Raffle Fundraiser – more details to come.

c. Treasurer

Rukmini provided the following financial summary report for November:

Starting Balance as of November 1 (checking) - \$255,528.78

Ending Balance as of November 30 (checking) - \$237,785.50

Savings account as of November 1 - \$30,578.57

Total November Deposits - \$14,741.53

Total November Expenditures - \$32,484.81

There are no pending checks written in November.

See the following for the full report: [Budget Vs. Actual 11.30.25](#)

VI. Standing Committee Reports

a. EAR – Jessica

We continue to get new volunteers for the program including parents and community volunteers; we are almost in all of classrooms.

We had a coffee chat last week to discuss the programs' progress, issues and best practices with about 9 attendees.

Planning another training in the coming year.

Jessica learned how to write a grant application, partnering with a grant writer at Marshall, and we received it! We hope to keep Jessica on next year in a paid position dealing with grant writing.

b. Tiger Art Academy – Sandra

Things are going really well with about 140 volunteers participating in our program.

Sandra is the art leader in 4 classes.

Sent out a notification to teacher representatives that some lessons are running late but lessons will continue in the new year.

Tiger Art Family night is coming up and RSVP will go out the 1st week of January with two lessons being presented on one night, back to back, to allow more families to attend the lessons.

Remind teachers that to schedule classes in B19, they have to email Principal Pedrotti ahead of time. Art Liaisons should communicate with their teachers ahead of time to allow for scheduling.

c. STEAM - Greg/Kelly

Gregg and Kelly have switched out challenges from Fall to Winter.

Printers are getting a lot of use- teachers are using them in their classroom.

All equipment can be checked out. Kelly will let the teachers know what the available equipment is in a communication along with the method for checking out.

Gregg and Kelly are keeping up with regular equipment maintenance.

d. Yearbook – Laura

Yearbook is coming along. Pictures have been downloaded to the yearbook site and will be organized.

Angela has provided a lot of help gathering and organizing the 5th grade baby pictures.

Presales of yearbooks have started with 75 pre purchased. Eighty one yearbooks are being given out as part of the Pledge donation prizes.

New students who enroll after picture day can contact the photographer and supply the picture to Yearbook staff. Laura will verify if the studio will continue to do this.

Possibility is to group all the kids who miss pictures and designate a page in the yearbook labeled as 'new Tigers on the block'.

Timeline to have everything in is the beginning of April to allow for later activities like the Spring Cultural Fair.

e. Cultural Committee – Rola

Doing really well. Nothing new.

Planning international food fair at the Art Show including homemade falafels, tacos and pizza.

Paper dolls – not able to do it before Winter Break; we need to decide when we do this but currently scheduled to be distributed after winter break. Paper dolls this year are smaller so materials are not as heavy. The plan is to display the decorated dolls in the rooms and then display them school wide for the Art Show.

Question as to when the dolls will go from the classroom to schoolwide display. Send survey to teachers to see who want to display in the classroom for open house.

Some classrooms did not celebrate certain holidays because no parent volunteers were able to lead out in the celebration. In future, committee volunteers can provide resources for those classrooms with no parent representative. Suggestion by Mr. Pedrotti to tap into Ms. Morgan as an additional resource for cultural holidays.

f. Box Tops – Mayumi

\$760.80 raised at Dingeman on box tops to date.

In November, 22 people participated in scanning bar codes for the program!

- g. Family Dinner Night – Anne was unable to attend but provided the following report:
We raised \$266.76 from TKS.
Our next FDN is tomorrow, Dec. 11th at On The Border 4-9 PM with 20% of sales going to the fifth grade class.
Panda Express on February 19 in light of Lunar New Year. Lunar New Year with coupons will be given to teacher
- h. Spirit Gear - Ely
No report.
- i. Volunteering – Karthika
 - i. 1/09: FFC Q&A and Volunteer Social, 9-10 am, Library
 - ii. invite the entire board for the recruitment event for FFC positions
 - iii. Be there to talk about your positions
 - iv. Ask teachers to put in name of parents who would be good for the FFC

VII. Special Committee Reports

- a. Food Drive – recap – Brie not present
Went well; appreciate Mr. Pedrotti and Mr. S helping with the bins

1,185 lbs of food was donated.

- b. Literati Book Fair – recap- Sandra
We had a great turn out for the Book Fair in spite of the weather.

We did a lot more sales to kids during the week and sales were better with Literati than Scholastic. Over \$8,000 in sales before the book fair and ended up with over \$14,000 with in person sales.

However, Scholastic had more trinkets and provided timely replenishments. Literati did not have as many trinkets and replenishment came late, with poor communication. Big titles were not available. Scholastics allowed for bigger titles. For these reasons, we will use Scholastic next year for the Book Fair.

- c. Winter Family Social – recap – Sandra
Good job posting and promoting the event on social media. There were about 45 people attending, mostly 2nd grade students families and under. Everyone had a great time. Great community event for younger Dingeman families to meet each other.

- d. 5th grade Committee report – Cathryn could not attend but provided the following report:
Announce tomorrow's Family Dinner Night Fundraiser to benefit 5th Grade at On the Border Restaurant in Mira Mesa, Thursday Dec 11, 4-9pm. Show the flyer/mention Dingeman, and the 5 Grade Committee gets 20% of all food and drink sales (alcohol included). Families can dine in or get take out. Happy Hour and delivery do not count towards the fundraiser. Should be warm weather again and they have patio seating!

- e. Annual Raffle Fundraiser
Our Annual Raffle Fundraiser is scheduled for January 12-16, 2026.

We are asking FFC committees and teachers to offer raffle opportunities for the event.

Posters with QR codes will be put up around school and passed around to allow for easy access to the raffle prize list.

Sandra and Nesra are helping Christina with the Raffle Fund Raiser this year.

VIII. Old Business

a. Goodwill Fundraiser Opportunity

ASB will take it on. Katarina will send information to Ms. McConnell and Ms. Walker.

Possibly schedule for February.

IX. New Business

Mia Hurensky has been doing our taxes for decades pro bono but now moving forward with costs (around \$800). Is there anyone else who can do it pro bono? Happy to pay for the service if no one else available. Sandra will contact her uncle's CPA firm to see if an arrangement can be made. Also outreach for other pro bono sources.

X. Announcements

- a. 1/09: FFC Q&A and Volunteer Social, 9-10 am, Library

XI. Adjournment

6:29 p.m.

*Next FFC meeting: January 14, 2026 at 6:30 pm on Microsoft Teams