Fairfield SEPTA General Meeting
Wednesday September 30, 2026
Agenda and Reports

General Meeting:
Start time 7:06pm

- Welcome and introductions
  - President **Christy Vitale**; Secretary **Rhiannon Kogan**; 1st Co-VP Fundraising **Emily Lusk**; 2nd VP Membership **Sarah Gillespie**-Heyman; Treasurer **Aimee Connors**
- Membership report
  - Currently 83 members; almost 30% of membership Fairfield staff!
  - SEPTA Reps: 9 of 18 schools with parent reps; 2 schools with staff reps
    - Looking for parent reps: ECC, Burr, Dwight, Sherman, Holland Hill, Fairfield Woods, Tomlinson, Warde, Walter Fitzgerald
- Budget update
  - On track.
  - Expenditures to date - lawn signs and PTA conference
- Programming and fundraising
  - Next Teen Night second outing Oct TBA
  - Fairfield Celebrates Down Syndrome Day Oct 3, Veterans Park 10:00-4:00
    - SEPTA will have an information table
  - Trunk or Treat Oct 18 (North Stratfield Elementary) 3:00 - 5:00
    - Looking for more trunks and teenagers to help out with crafts
    - Crafts, touch a truck, Inclusive Brew
  - Holiday Sweet Treats: Lyman Orchard Pies/Cookies and more: plan ahead for Thanksgiving AND Christmas!
    - SEPTA Store front opens tonight: 2026 Fall - Fairfield SEPTA | Fairfield SEPTA • MCM Fundraising
    - Sales end October 19
    - Sign up for own page: MCM Fundraising • Sign Up
    - **Local pie/cookie orders to be picked up at Event chair home on November 18.** SEPTA still will deliver to teachers at schools with prior arrangement
  - Harlem Wizards vs teachers basketball game fundraiser in the works for January
  - Dunk tank at one of the carnivals - McKinley or Riverfield
- **Next meeting: Oct 28 at McKinley Elementary School**
  - Panel presentation and Q&A with our local program directors and coaches: Adaptive Recreation, Hoops for Heroes basketball, Challenger Baseball, and more...
- **SPED Report:** Rob Mancusi, Special Education Executive Director, will speak about this year's SPED initiatives, and introduce the Program Director team: **Kristen Bruno** (ECC), **Bridget Adams** (Elementary), **Natalie Galluci** (Middle School), **Chantelle Palumbo** (FLHS/CPP), **Lauren Lukasz** (FWHS/CPP), and **Karen Baldwin** (Walter Fitzgerald) and Mike Sanzaro (Transition Specialist). *CPP, Community Partnership Program (18-22Y program)
  - Director focus areas: Literacy Academy (K-8) - expanded to Grade 8 this year, 6th year in place; continued partnership with Literacy How, 504 programming, School Climate Coordinator (BOE presentation on 10/13 - reviewing results of parent survey)

- Warde & Ludlowe: Co-teaching PD partnership with CES
- ECC: Focus on self-regulation and group skills through play
- General: new SEL program: Wayfinder. Using Waypoints as a screener. Teachers will get data and tailor instruction. By request, parents can get their student's scores.
    - All teachers and paraprofessionals were trained by Wayfinder.

- **Fairfield Public Library:** Children's Services Librarian, Laurie Parnell, shared plans for a Sensory-Friendly program at the Children's Department starting in November. Expected to cater to both children and teens at same time, with more details to come
    - November 15th from 12:00 - 1:00: Browsing hours to open up the library before opening hours for special needs families at the main library.
    - Working developing a collection of dyslexia-friendly books.

End time: 8:26pm

Membership