

Fairfax County SEPTA

October 19, 2021

General Membership Meeting

7:00-9:00 PM, Virtual - Zoom



7:05pm **I. Call to order, Quorum Count & Approve Agenda (10 Members = Quorum)**

7:05pm **II. Announcements & Introductions**

- Armchair Fundraiser
 - <https://fcsepta.ptboard.com/home>
- Vacancies & Opportunities:
 - Chairperson needed: Fundraising
 - SEPTA Membership Status Poll - 69% of 37 participants are paid members
 - <https://fcsepta.ptboard.com/home>
 - Committees to join: Advocacy, Fundraising, School Liaisons, 2e, Communications, Underserved Populations, Reflections, Mini-Grants, Events, Exhibits, Military Family Liaisons
- SEPTA at Work
 - Quarterly meetings with DSS Administration
 - Interview panel member for FCPS Trauma Informed SEL Specialist
 - Interview panel member (upcoming) FCPS Coordinator SEL & SEL Systems Specialist
 - Meetings with School Board Members: Middle School Start Times
 - Meetings with FCPS Instructional Services Team & DDVA (Decoding Dyslexia) regarding Literacy/SOR
 - Seat on FCPS Literacy Steering Committee
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - **School Board Meeting** - Thursday, October 21 at 7pm
 - Presentation of 2021-2022 Legislative Program, Taking Action on Increasing Substitute Pay and Division-wide comprehensive plan, More changes proposed to Community Participation up for a vote.
 - **ACSD Meeting** - November 10 at 7PM, Gatehouse Room 1600.
 - Public comment can be submitted via email until Tuesday night at 5pm, or show up in-person on the night of the 10th to speak.
 - **SEPTA General Membership Meeting** - Tuesday, November 16th at 7pm
 - **Inclusive Schools Week 2021** is December 6 - 12; "Rebuilding Our Inclusive Community Together."
 - **Northern Virginia Family Network:**
 - **The ARC** - upcoming webinars, workshops, & conferences
<https://thearcofnova.org/workshops/>
 - **Formed Families Forward** - In-person peer support group for adoptive & foster parents & kinship caregivers

<https://formedfamiliesforward.org/event/formed-families-together-in-person-peer-support-group/2021-09-15/>

- **PEATC** - upcoming workshops (virtual) <https://peatc.org/events/>

7:15pm

III. Treasurer Update:

- [2021-22 Budget Proposal](#) has been approved by the board and posted on the website for the past month. Our budget has been affected by Covid. The largest expenses are for teacher grants and awards. There are fixed costs like dues to VA and National PTA, insurance and the Post Office box. We have \$11,000 in the reserves right now and are proposing to spend approximately \$7,000 from those reserves this year. Ally Baldassari moved to approve the budget, seconded by Heather Scharre. Motion approved by a majority with no one opposed and Rich Hem abstaining.
- [Sept Financial Statement](#)
- **Audit Proposal** The Audit committee found that the treasurer did a good job keeping track of expenses and had excellent documentation of expenses. The recommendations were to use the track register to keep track of the checks. We recommended getting a debit card to help process reimbursements as SEPTA is county-wide PTA it is difficult to be in physical contact for reimbursements. The committee also recommends SEPTA establish protocols and safeguards to ensure no misuse of the debit card. Motion to approve the Audit committee report was approved by a majority with no one opposed and Rich Hem abstaining.

7:20pm

IV. Committee & Liaison Updates:

- **Advocacy**
 - Literacy Plan Update - FCPS is beginning to unroll a new literacy plan and SEPTA fully supports FCPS plans to adopt a Science of Learning approach to literacy.
- [ACSD](#)- Ally Baldassari is the SEPTA representative on the Committee.
- **Reflections**
 - Theme/Submissions/Deadlines - Submit to Reflections@FairfaxCountySEPTA.org by November 8, 2021
 - Submissions <https://form.jotform.com/212856873881167>
- **Mini Grants**
 - First round of projects for this year were approved by the board on Oct 5, 2021. A total of \$2,937.49 for 7 projects
 - Woodburn ES - hosting "A Walk in My Shoes"
 - Cedar Lane HS - setting up student-run coffee shop; membership to formative.com for math department
 - Poplar Tree ES - switch accessible toys
 - Freedom Hill ES - student materials for multisensory instruction & sensory tools
 - Centreville ES - light table
 - Westgate ES - large sensory and cause & effect items

7:38 pm **Adjourn Business Meeting**

Followed by presentation - IEPs in Our New Reality: A Roadmap to Drafting IEPs presentation by Maria Blaeuer, Director of Programs and Outreach at Advocates for Justice and Education (AJE), the District of Columbia's federally designated Parent Training and Information Center

Thank you for attending; we hope to see you at our next event!
Feel free to contact SEPTA any time via email or Facebook.
Visit us online at www.FairfaxCountySEPTA.org

SEPTA Board and Delegates

All email addresses are @fairfaxcountysepta.org

TITLES IN BOLDFACE ARE COMMITTEES - EMAIL CHAIR TO JOIN OR COMPLETE THIS FORM:

<https://fairfaxcountysepta.org/volunteercommittee-sign-up/>

President: Michelle Cades - president@

Vice President: Amanda Campbell - vicepresident@

Secretary: Stephanie Smith - secretary@

Treasurer: Rich Hem - treasurer@

ACSD liaison: Ally Baldassari - acsdliasion@

Advocacy chair: Diane Cooper Gould - advocacy@

Awards Chair: Jenn Benecke - awards@

Communications co-chairs: Luis Larazabar (graphic design) & Helen Minor (website)
& Christina Caporale (social media moderator) - communications@

Educator: Amy LaCrosse - teacherliaison@

Events & Programming chair: Cheri Belkowitz - events@

FCCPTA delegate: Michelle Cades

Fundraising chair: **VACANT** - fundraising@

Membership & Outreach chair: Lenora Gumbs - membership@

Military Families liaison: Kait Erkkila - militaryliaison@

Mini Grants chair: Lauren McCaughey - minigrants@

Reflections chair: Jenn Benecke - reflections@

Special Ed Liaisons chair: Kate Volpe - spedliaisons@

Twice Exceptional chair: Emily Haeckel (**co-chair position available**) - 2ecommittee@

Underserved Populations chair: Margaret Behrns - underserved@

Volunteer coordinator: Cathy Greulich - volunteer@