

Ben Franklin PTA Meeting Minutes

Date: February 18, 2026

Location: Jason's Deli Backroom

Start Time: 12:06 PM

Adjourned: 12:51 PM

Attendance: 23 members present

Administration Updates

- Murdoch is currently meeting with playground vendors.
- Mandy Springs – Absent

Good Things

- Volunteer of the Month: Farrah Stahler
- Academic Updates (Kerry):
 - Middle-of-year benchmarks for 3rd–5th grades show growth.
 - 3rd grade scores were slightly low
 - The school as a whole is one point away from ending the year with a B rating
 - MAP Math scores increased across all grades.
 - Tutoring will continue through the end of the school year, including after STAAR exams.
 - 339 referrals involving 62 individual students and 12 SPED VAC.
 - Students appear more emotional/sad following the snowstorm (reported by Mrs. Pando).
 - WFISD instructed elementary schools to post mid-year scores.
 - School is earning recognition for progress already made.

President's Report (Lindsey Lunn)

- Slating for next year has begun.
- Nominating committee forming; reaching out to new members.
- An odd number of board members is needed.
- Slate and 2026–2027 budget will be approved at April or May meeting.

Treasurer's Report (Carolyn)

- No new financial updates.
- \$28,500 will be needed for the 2026–2027 school year (to be allocated from the current budget).

Committee Reports

Fundraising

- March 5: Centennial Day Celebration
- March 30 (3 PM): "Teacher for the Day" – Make Coach Kenner a Taco
- April 22 (10 AM–8 PM): Jason's Deli Fundraiser
- May 13: Kindergarten Graduation
- Follow-up needed regarding popcorn and reading incentive participants.

- Many PTA parents will be aging out this year.

Yearbook

- Shannon absent.
- 5th Grade Ads: 1/8 page size only.
- The yearbook link will be sent soon.
- Mrs. Lunn volunteered PTA members to assist (“boots on the ground”) to disseminate information about the yearbook when the time comes.

Hospitality

- February 19: Soda Bar for teachers
- April: Jason’s Deli
- May: Teacher Appreciation Month (details TBD)

T-Shirts

- Spring shirt design in progress.
- The Centennial shirt store closed.
- Discussion: Will we sell additional Centennial shirts at the March 5 event? Everyone agreed that a table at the centennial event would be beneficial.

Volunteers (Amy Berry)

- 10 more slots needed for Spring Book Fair.
- Will pin the signup in GroupMe.
- Allocating 5 volunteers for the Spirit Table.

Centennial (100th) Celebration – Farrah

- All food trucks are unavailable.
- American National and Investar donated food and crew.
- Volunteers needed for:
 - Bounce house & waivers
 - Food tables
 - Dessert table
 - T-shirt table
 - Setup
 - Cleanup
- Vendors/Options:
 - Razzle Snow Cones
 - Cotton candy
 - Circle M Cookies (discounted)
 - Crumbl (possible addition)
- Yard games and activities provided by Coach Kenner.
- Robyn is awaiting confirmation for face painting.
- \$3,000 worth of swag bags, signs, and shirts sold.

Playground Update (Murdoch)

- Budget goal: Keep the project closer to \$70,000.
- Additional concrete space will be added.
- Rope climbing feature included.
- A new rendering will be available by March 5 to display at the Centennial event.
- Any unfunded portion will be removed to stay within budget.
- The Dermatology Association will only donate if a local dermatologist sponsors.
 - Okoli will ask Grace Ayandibu about potential sponsorship.

Question Raised:

If we do not reach the goal of \$70k , can we still proceed? Answer from Murdoch: Then the budget will be cut to accommodate what money was actually raised.

- Custodial staff will conduct deep cleans leading up to the event.

Communications

- Cremeens suggested:
 - Printing physical flyers (Print Shop or Office Depot).
 - Mailing envelopes to older neighborhood residents around Franklin.