

DRAFT

Garfield Elementary PTA Community and Board Meeting

Tuesday May 13th 2026

Meeting Minutes

Call to order by Terra Sullivan at 6:32pm.

Attendees and Intros:

- Terra Sullivan – Treasurer
- Cassie Meigs - Book Keeper
- Crisha Yantis – Secretary
- [Paul] – Staff Representative

- Brenden Chertok
- Patrick Murphy
- 6 Community members

Finances & Meeting Minutes: Minutes approved. Financials nothing notable all came together well and balanced in the end. Mostly outgoing expenses for procession and other events.

School Updates – Brendon Chertok & Paul Diaz: Nothing to report from Paul. Mr. Chertok updates about the science fair and a couple dates where the 5th graders are going to Jefferson Middle school to get acquainted for next year.. 10th of June we will have a talent show at Garfield. It may be modified to a short production of 45 min - 1 hour. In discussions about how to run it, either a few slots per class or geared to the older kids. Auditions will be offered during school and show will happen during school day. Market place will happen on the 12th June for 4th graders.

Special Guest – Patrick Murphy: Brendon starts by sharing our lower enrollment and how we continue to decline at about 270 kids versus around past numbers of 400+. We are also getting less title 1 funds this year. We are still a 2 track school meaning two classes per grade level. Next year we will rent space to childcare authority but run independent from Garfield. Reductions also include decrease in Dean position and the family liaison position. Discussions are still in place to see what type of services we can still continue that were done by Mo's position and having Mo around in some role, but it will shift. Acknowledgment made on the importance of Mo to our community. Also reduction in Para hours. Tough time and creative problem solving needed but possible.

Patrick continues.

- Mentions new hire of principal at Jefferson Middle School. Janet Hubbard and how this looks to be a solid path forward for Jefferson.

- Recognition of academic and community strengths of Garfield community.
- SBA test is discussed and how it is modeled. We use a 1-4 measurement of meeting certain standards but he is highlighting the importance and recognizing the growth one makes individually from where they started to where they have grown. Garfield had lower growth last year and this year data shows an increase in growth. Social, emotional, physical support leads to that growth, something Garfield has as a strength. Continues to communicate why we are in a reduction phase. One is enrollment decline. Two is due to state not fully funding education. The last legislation didn't provide any extra funding. Operation costs and insurance rates are all going up and we are having to use local levy finances to compensate. All part in why a 3.5 million dollar reduction plan was provided by Patrick. May 28th there will be an important boundary review report at the board meeting. Watch the board meeting for information on that discussion of shifting boundaries for schools. Leadership is strong while fiscal challenges are happening. Technology: how can we use it to enhance learning but not replace it. We are seeing how it is affecting students and what to find a balance. Good books to read at this time on the matter include Anxious Generation and the Digital Delusion. As a whole our school district is strong and one can see that at a graduation ceremony and where many of our Seniors head off to after graduation.

Floor opened to Questions:

- Budget and where money comes from is discussed.
- OSD has a FAQ to review for more indepth responses.
- Question about reductions of music and art at elementary level. There will be a reduction. Currently we have 4 specialists, music, art, library, PE. Currently we have 2 PE per week. 2 music per week. 1 library per week. 1 art per week. So it seems YES art will be cut and it will now be the responsibility of the classroom teacher to teach art. Questions are asked on how we will still meet art standards and Patrick communicates there will be a process for and rules followed to meet standards, (perhaps this is referring to state art standards...?) Still in process.

PTA Fundraisers Spring Letter Campaign – In Progress until May 22nd. We are in our big fundraiser currently. Our goal is 10,000 and we are at about 3,300. Click [HERE](#) to donate to the fundraiser.

PTA Events

- Garden Work Party. – We have had 2 so far that have been successful and another date to come on a Sunday in June. The president of the NW associate is looking to support. Terra has information and will be in touch. How could we have volunteers come off schedule and support us? Perhaps someone to water. There is a white board between b pod and c pod and there is a list of items to do and not to do. Perhaps we could utilize that more.
- Barnes and Noble Book Fair – May 17th – Terra. We hand out vouchers and ask people to mention us to get partial funding. We use it for library books. 12 noon - 5pm. Mr. Kirk will read a story at 1pm. We could still use volunteers for this.
- Science Fair – May 28th – Terra. 6-7pm evening. We could use volunteers. See QR code below for sign up.
- End of Year PTA Celebration June meeting and nomination/voting for 2026/2027 board will take place June 3rd at 3 magnets brewery. We will nominate and elect board members then. 6:30-7:30?
- 5th Grade Celebration – June 12th
- Field Day – June 15. This takes a large number of volunteers and we could still use sign ups.






Other Discussion Items

Pavers & Yearbooks

- Will open orders for both this week, email and flyer. Oftentimes 5th graders do this. Perhaps we could do a special one for Mr. White!!!
- Yearbook Submitted to printer last week. This is off to the printer and put together by April Pique. Orders will be available soon for \$13.

Meeting Adjourned 7:32pm

Volunteer Needs and Donations

<p>Barnes & Noble Bookfair</p> 	<p>Science Fair</p> 
<p>Field Day</p> 	<p>Classroom Snacks or click HERE</p> 
<p>Popcorn Fridays or click HERE</p> 	<p>Track Stars or click HERE</p> 