Union Valley Elementary PTO

General Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2026 at 7:00 PM
Union Valley Library

I. Principal's Report:

A. Week of Respect ended last week with the hugely successful Boosterthon.
B. CHAMPS program - fall clubs just started, run for 6 sessions every Wednesday. Basketball club (Mrs. Jackson), Chess club (Mr. Alexander), Dance Club (Ms. Martin) and Board Games Club (Mrs. Bollard).
C. SNAP begins on 10/20 for grades K-2 onTuesdays and Thursdays. Another session will begin later for the older students.
D. Picture retakes are 11/17. Don't be alarmed if you don't get the original pictures back until very close to the retake date!
E. On Thursday, a drone will take a picture in the back field of the entire staff and student body for 25 years. The picture will be posted to our website and social media.
F. Tomorrow, 10/14 is the BMX Bike anti-bullying assembly.
G. The Fall Book Fair is getting ready to begin. Go on SignUp Genius to sign up to help Mrs. Lucier and students. If you'd like to shop with your child, find out the date/time from his or her teacher, and you are permitted to shop with them at that time.
H. Tomorrow, a Halloween letter will go home to families. The parade is at 1:30, weather permitting. Costumes are not to be worn to school, but to be sent in a labeled bag.
I. We are looking for someone to volunteer to be the Bulldog for Halloween and other events.
J. Tomorrow, Officer Doug will run the (SIP) Society Improvement Plan with our students.

II. Board Updates:

A. **Board Report:**
   1. Welcome back to the new school year! We have had a busy, but good start to our school.
   2. Mrs. Elwell was honored Saturday in Glendora for her commitment and contribution to the Community Resource K9 programs.
   3. Minutes will be posted following the meeting.

B. **Treasurer's Report:**
   1. Starting the year off well - we had Spirit Wear, Disney on Ice, Boosterthon, Rita's Spring and Fall fundraisers.
   2. Expenses have been Kindergarten welcome gifts, supplies for teachers, custodial and cafeteria worker appreciations, Welcome Back Week (lunch, gift, etc.)

3. School Store Fundraiser (Book Buddies) did very well this year.

III. <u>Committee Reports</u>:·

A. **Communications**

The best source of information will be the PTO monthly newsletters. We will send a paper copy home with students each month and post it on Facebook and Remind. We have heard in the past that for whatever reason some papers just don't make it home, so we encourage all families (regardless of membership status) to either sign up for Remind messages or follow us on Facebook. Our website will continue to remain updated throughout the year with links to any of the handouts sent home.

B. **Student Recognition**

1. The first Spotlight Student event was successful!

C. **School Store**

1. The first school store dates for the year were K-2 last week (made $342) and October 14 tomorrow for 3-5.
2. Items are $1-$2. Please do not send students in with no more than $5.

D. **Yearbook**

1. I spoke to Mrs. Jackson and confirmed that we are going to use Barksdale again this year. Barksdale sent the contract, I just need to sign it and return it with a deposit.

E. **Fundraising**

1. New this year is that we are using Zeffy as a platform to collect payment. In years past, we used Venmo and Paypal, but we were hit with fees that took away money from our organization. Zeffy sends payouts weekly and has been successful so far. We will continue to accept Cash or check as we can manually add them into any campaign we run.

2. Over the summer, we were able to secure many of the same fundraisers that we ran last year with the exception of panzarotti. I know it seems like we do a lot of fundraisers, but with a variety of them, it gives everyone the chance for families to participate in what they can, when they can. We certainly do not expect families to participate in every single one and are appreciative of all the support we receive.

3. So far we have had a Rita's Night (made $319) and our Union Soccer Night (made $55) and upcoming we have a Chick-fil-A Night. The kids love them, they love a chance to see friends outside of school and as a parent, it's nice to attend to meet to meet or see the families of your kids' school friends. And they bring in great money for our organization.

4. Additionally this month, we have Boo Grams which are due on 10/20. Upcoming we will have a sale for Texas Roadhouse Gift Cards (can be holiday gifts or used at our Dine & Donate) & Rolls (picked up at the restaurant), so look out for a flyer about them next month
5. Finally we have Disney on Ice and our Breakfast with Santa at Applebee's Saturday, December 5, 2026 (8:00- 10:00 AM)
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6. Looking ahead we are going to have a Clothing Drive on January 16. We will start promoting it now in case people are doing a cleanout and have room to store it. Additionally this is an outside drop off so open really to anyone so feel free to share with family and friends.

F. **Helping Hands**

We are planning to assist again this year with the Book Fair (items on $5 table) and for Halloween costumes. Last year, we provided the counselors with generic costume items and accessories (pirate, butterfly). These items will be used for students who may not have a costume for the parade, but still wish to dress up. We will reach out to counselors at the end of this month and begin planning for the Giving Tree again in November.

G. **Staff Appreciation**
   1. The Welcome Back Luncheon for teachers went very well.
   2. We honored custodial staff on National Custodian Appreciation Day with mini trash cans filled with candy and gift cards.

H. **Holiday Shop**

I. **Bingo Night**

Will be run by the 5th grade committee. First Bingo Night is Friday, 11/13/26.

J. **Membership**
   1. We gained a few new members since our last meeting. We are up to 107 members of the PTO, (75 families and 28 staff members). We had 83 paid

memberships who will be sent their gifts soon. We entered those paid member names onto the spinning wheel and will raffle off a blanket at this time.

2. Families can join the PTO at any point in the year. While paid memberships give members voting rights, we do have an Information Only Membership. All PTO members regardless of status are emailed Sign Ups for volunteer events. Many present at the meeting likely know this, but if you have neighbors or friends who are interested in volunteering, but are not receiving sign ups, please encourage them to join our PTO.

K. **Council of Schools**

A SEPAG representative came and spoke, and the meeting was basically a collective brainstorm of ideas, fundraisers, etc. for the year.

L. **5th Grade**-

1. Meeting will be held directly following the PTO meeting to discuss Halloween party.

M. **Spirit Wear**

1. The order is currently ongoing, and is due on 10/23.

N. **Fun Run**

The whole day was incredibly successful! Our goal was $15,000, we made just over $10,000. We are thankful for everyone who pitched in.

O. **Parent Child Events**

IV. New Business

V. Open Floor:

Meeting began 7:00 PM
Meeting ended 7:46 PM

Our Next General Meeting is November 10, 2026
Union Valley Library @ 7:00 PM