February 2025

Dear Forsythe Families,

Happy second semester to all! We are reaching out with an important update about the Forsythe PTSO's financial situation and to provide some context for the Game On/Pop4Kids fundraiser that's beginning this week.

The all-volunteer Forsythe PTSO Board is dedicated to raising funds that benefit our students, teachers, and school community. Over the years, your generosity has allowed us to support essential programs and activities that enhance the Forsythe experience. Here are just a few examples of what PTSO funding has made possible:

- Teacher grants for classroom supplies
- **Transportation** for academic field trips
- Student planners for organizational success
- Support for student clubs and athletic uniforms
- Celebrations for **Teacher Appreciation Week**
- Assistance for end-of-year class trips, picnics, and the 8th grade celebration
- Scholarships to ensure every student can participate in activities

However, our current financial situation is serious. Before the pandemic, an annual auction provided much of our funding. Since 2019, that event has not returned, and the critical role of fundraising chair has remained unfilled for two years. Despite careful planning and the use of reserves, our funding for this year's activities is falling short.

This week, we began the Game On/Pop4Kids fundraising campaign. This company essentially allows us to outsource the fundraising chair role and has been effective at raising funds for the school in the past while providing a lot of fun for students. We are hoping that this program will help us make up part of the budget shortfall we now face. However, the school will only receive about 50% of the funds raised after the company's fees plus expenses for prizes and the Best Day Ever Reward Party.

Here are some ways you can help:

- 1. Participate in the Game On/Pop4Kids Fundraiser
- Make a direct donation to the PTSO Any amount is appreciated and will make a difference, and nearly 100% of direct donations (after a small PayPal processing fee) go toward supporting the school.
- Volunteer as the Fundraising Chair or Co-chair This is a vital role, and a team of volunteers is ready to assist.
- 4. Link your Kroger or Busch's grocery card to the PTSO, and we receive a small percentage each time you shop without any additional cost to you.
- 5. <u>Follow us on Facebook</u> or on <u>our website</u> Get updates about upcoming fundraisers and share our posts to spread the word!

6. Consider supporting our <u>Spirit Wear store</u>.

We know this is a challenging time for many, and we are grateful for any support you can offer—whether through donations, time, or spreading awareness. Together, we can ensure that every Forsythe student continues to have access to the enriching opportunities they deserve.

With gratitude and hope, Your Forsythe PTSO Board

P.S. Donations can be made easily through our <u>Paypal Link</u>. If you have questions or are interested in volunteering, please contact us at <u>forsytheptso@gmail.com</u>. Every contribution matters—thank you for helping us make a difference!