



Dear Fairburn Families,

We are so excited for the new school year! At Fairburn, we are proud to be a community that is dedicated to excellence in education and committed to our community, environment and the future of our children.

Today, we would like to encourage your participation in *Fairburn Avenue Elementary's "Pledge Drive"*. This fundraiser is a once-a-year upfront donation to the school to support our programs such as Instructional Aides, Physical Education, Technology, Art, Drama, Dance, and other enrichment. This year, we aim to cover the cost of over 1,000 instructional hours, providing our children with a dynamic educational experience.

The public funding our school receives does not provide enough funds for many of Fairburn's programs and specialized teachers. Without your support, we may be forced to eliminate or reduce these valuable programs. We are asking our parent community to help preserve these necessary programs that benefit every child at Fairburn.

We know that our families are economically diverse. We treasure our diversity and anticipate gifts in varying amounts. We ask you to strongly consider giving the most that you can at a level that is comfortable for your family. We also welcome "matching gifts" or additional donations from corporations, or interested family and friends. We, as a community, are building a future for our children and our school. **No gift is too small, and every gift is important. Our goal is 100% participation!** We need each and every family to give what they are able. Everyone gives because everyone benefits!

Together we can ensure our children will receive the best elementary education available. Enclosed is a Pledge Drive Information sheet and a Pledge Form to turn in. Your gift will enrich the lives of our students each and every day! Please make a difference and make a 100% tax-deductible donation today. Watch our thermometers at the school entrance and track the progress of the Pledge Drive!

Sincerely,

John Lee  
Fairburn Pledge Drive Committee Chair

# FAIRBURN 2011-2012 PLEDGE DRIVE

The Fairburn Pledge Drive is the single biggest fundraising effort of the year. Last year's Pledge Drive raised over \$200,000 with participation from over 90% of our families! As one of LAUSD's highest performing schools, Fairburn serves over 400 K-5 elementary students. While academically rigorous, our school provides a well-rounded curriculum that includes the arts, science and computer labs.

## What is FYA?

FYA is an incorporated, non-profit organization and is the primary fundraising group at Fairburn. FYA pays for important personnel and services NOT provided by the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). Your contribution to FYA makes the following possible:

**Hiring and funding of:**  
Teaching Assistants  
Computer Network Administrator/Instructor  
Physical Education Instructor  
**Classroom Supplies**  
**Field Trips**  
**Computers and a computer technology program**  
**And much, much more!**

## Major Fundraising Efforts

FYA's major fundraising initiatives for the 2011-2012 school year are:

**The FYA Annual Pledge Drive**  
**Walk For Education**  
**Online Auction**

### Why do I need to give?

Our school benefits greatly from the high levels of parent and community support. In addition to the time that many of our parents generously donate, it is also their financial donations that help to underwrite our children's educational opportunities.

1. California educational funding levels are among the lowest in the nation.
2. Due to the downturn in the economy LAUSD has had to cut its overall budget several times in the last few years.
3. Fairburn's allocation of the district's budget is lower than in most LAUSD schools because schools in less affluent communities are allocated additional funding to close the achievement gap between schools.

### Can you help me with matching gifts?

YES. Many employers have matching gift programs and will match any charitable contributions made by their employees. To find out if your company has a matching gift policy, contact your Human Resources Department. If you have questions about matching gifts, please contact John Lee at [jlee525@gmail.com](mailto:jlee525@gmail.com).

### How do I pledge?

To reduce administrative costs, save paper, and protect your privacy we **STRONGLY ENCOURAGE** you to use our online payment system at [www.fairburnschool.org/pledgedrive](http://www.fairburnschool.org/pledgedrive). Make your pledge online with **AcceptPay**, our safe secure online payment option.

Alternatively, you may complete a pledge form and turn it along with your donation in to the FYA box in the main office, or mail to:

Fairburn Youth Association  
c/o Fairburn Avenue Elementary School  
1403 Fairburn Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90024

Questions? Contact [FairburnFYA@gmail.com](mailto:FairburnFYA@gmail.com)

## How much should I give?

No gift is too small, and every gift is important. Everyone gives because everyone benefits. Our goal is 100% participation!

All participants in the Fairburn Pledge Drive have the opportunity to be listed in the annual directory. We are ONE community, but within our community people have varying amounts which they can afford to contribute. Below is a table of suggested amounts that FYA requested from Fairburn families last year:

Per Child Donation	Rationale
<b>\$2,000</b>	Many of us have paid for our children to go to private pre-schools and we could afford to send them to private elementary schools too. We choose to send our children to Fairburn because it is a superior public school and we value the overall educational experience our kids receive there.  We recognize that many parents at Fairburn are not in our same financial position and cannot afford a large donation at this time. We are willing to step forward and provide a leadership level gift knowing that ALL parents are being asked to give generously for the good of our overall school community.
<b>\$1,250</b>	Some of us would like to be able to give at the leadership level, but we are just not in that position currently. We still want to stretch to support our children's education because it is one of our highest, if not the highest priority. This is currently the limit of what we can afford.
<b>\$1,000</b>	FYA does not put forward a "suggested" donation, but some other public schools in our neighborhood ask for \$1,000 per student. If you can afford to give at this level please do so.
<b>\$750</b>	This is the average amount FYA plans to spend on each Fairburn student this year.
<b>Other</b>	Whatever amount you can afford to donate to the FYA Pledge Drive is greatly appreciated. The most important thing is that <b>EVERYONE gives because EVERYONE benefits!</b>

To encourage 100% participation, we are proud to announce a Lead Gift from the Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation. FYA has received a \$5,000 grant to help us kick start the Fairburn Pledge Drive. We thank the Foundation for their support of our school!

Additionally, each class that reaches 100% participation in the Fairburn Pledge Drive will receive a class Pizza Party. You give your dough and your children get to have pizza!