

The Whats, Whys and Hows of SCRIP

What is SCRIP and how does it work?

SCRIP is substitute money in the form of a gift card. SCRIP has been used since the 1800s, especially in coal-mining towns where money was not readily available. Today, we can use SCRIP to raise funds for Fallsmead Elementary. It is a powerful fundraising alternative that involves no selling. The beauty of SCRIP is that we don't have to buy anything we don't already need! Families can shop for SCRIP online at www.shopwithscrip.com and pay for their SCRIP by check or automatic debit from your checking account. The cost of SCRIP to us is the face value of the gift card. There are hundreds of retailers to choose from. Retailers pay 2% to 25% of the face value directly to the Fallsmead PTA for each card purchased. We are 390 families with enormous purchasing power. We can put our shopping dollars to work for our children. If 100% of our families buy and use SCRIP in the amount of \$500 per month, our school could earn over \$75,000 in one year!

What does your PTA do with the funds it raises?

Every year our PTA raises funds to sponsor community events, sponsor before & after-school activities, enhance cultural arts programming, provide recognition and support for our teachers and expose our children to the wonder of community service. Our funds also pay for services such as our directory, our website, our newsletter. Last, but not least, each year we make a gift to the school to enhance educational experience. In the last three years we have given financial gifts in the amounts of \$8,000, \$7,500 and \$2,500 that have been used to purchase computers, books for our new media center and math lab materials. What gift shall we give this year????

- Additional books for our school library?
- A rolling cart of laptops with wireless access for classroom use?
- A school television studio to be used with our Promethium boards?
- An outdoor classroom?
- An astronomy lab for science explorations?

How can you get started?

1. Go to www.shopwithscrip.com to create an account.
2. Link your account to Fallsmead Elementary with the code E4FB282121943.
3. Shop for the gift cards you wish to purchase and add them to your cart.
4. If you wish to pay by check, checkout and print your order. Place your order form with your check for the face value of your order in an envelope addressed to "Fallsmead PTA SCRIP Coordinator" and send it into school with your child. Your child's teacher will deliver it to the SCRIP Coordinator's mailbox at the school. The SCRIP Coordinator will place your order.
5. If you wish to eliminate the need to write a check, sign up for PrestoPay. Follow the steps for a one-time verification process of your checking account. Your future purchases can be automatically debited from your checking account in the amount of the face value of your order plus a \$.39 convenience fee at checkout. You must provide your checking account information. It takes a few days to verify your account information by sending two random deposits to your checking account that you must verify online.
6. Credit cards are not accepted for purchases, because the cost of using services like PayPal significantly reduces the funds raised for our school.
7. No matter how you pay for your SCRIP, your cards will be delivered to the SCRIP Coordinator who will deliver them to you. Your cards can be sent home with your child, or you can choose to have them delivered to your house by the SCRIP Coordinator.

Direct your questions to the SCRIP Coordinator at SCRIP@fallsmeadpta.org.