



The Franklin Sherman SCRIP Program!

One of the Fundraising Programs for the Franklin Sherman PTA, is the SCRIP Program. The good news is that we're not asking you to spend any additional money and the *better* news is that the PTA profits from your normal retail purchases.

SCRIP means simply "substitute money." It comes to you in the form of gift cards that are used just like cash. They don't expire and you continue to use the card until your balance is depleted. The retailer gives the PTA the profit -- not you. You simply purchase these gift cards at face value. It's money you're spending anyway.

We are making some big changes in the SCRIP Program for the 2008-2009 school year. Despite selling nearly \$170,000 in gift cards last year, we only made a profit of \$6,400. This is due largely to the fees we incurred on credit card purchases, shipping fees and minimal rebate percentages. In addition, the program required considerable volunteer hours to run and significantly increased the financial reporting and liability for the PTA.

In light of those points, we are only selling gift cards for Giant Food and Safeway rather than offering the hundreds of gift cards that we made available in prior years. Also, we will no longer be accepting credit cards for payment on any SCRIP purchases.

We hope our community will consider using gift cards for purchases at Giant Food and Safeway. Gift cards can be used for Giant's Peapod service and Safeway's Shop Online service as well.

One-Time Order or Monthly Order?

Many of our families have found a standing Monthly Order to be a convenient way to ensure gift cards are available whenever you go shopping. Simply calculate how much you spend on groceries each month and purchase that amount in gift cards. The cards are delivered automatically to you on the first Wednesday of each month. For One-Time orders, cards are delivered within a week of receiving your payment.

Cash, Check or Online Bill Pay?

Payment for SCRIP can be made with cash, check or Online Bill Pay. Online Bill Pay is an easy option for those that pay most of their bills through a bank's Bill Pay service. Simply set up FSES-PTA as a vendor in your account and send payment for the gift cards you need. To set up, go to "add a company or person to pay" (each bank will have its own language) and enter the following information:

FSES-PTA
6630 Brawner Street
McLean, VA 22101
(703) 506-7900

Contact Katie Maness at ktmaness@aol.com for more information.