

# PTA General Meeting

Apex Elementary School

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January 11, 2022 / 6:00 PM / [Virtual via Zoom](#)

## ATTENDEES - Virtual Sign-In

## AGENDA

### Welcome & Introductions:

PTA President Carissa White

### [Member Sign-in](#)

- Board Members
  - Avery Emery, VP Membership & Fundraising
  - Gloriann Austin, VP of Programs & Hospitality
  - Tamara Cosgrove, Treasurer
  - Sarah Moore, Secretary
- Committee Chairs
- Attendees
  - Carissa White, Avery Emery, Sarah Moore, Katie Carr, Katie Caggia, Shannon McGowan, Lisa Mithcum, Kristina Killian, Tamara Cosgrove, Grace Wood, Gloriann Favale-Austin, Andrew Emery, Erin Carpenter, Karen Meluch, Beth Mayer-Salman, Stacey Johnson, Mark Johnson, Emily Boone, Joy Brunson-Nsubuga, Sandy Nance

Meeting began at 6:02 with 12 people. A quorum was reached at 6:48 pm.

## Updates & Reports:

- [Review & Approve Previous Meeting Minutes](#) Sarah Moore
  - Minutes approved at 6:06.
- Vote for 2022-23 PTA Treasurer Tamara Cosgrove
  - Hoping to vote in Kristina Killian as a Treasurer in Training. Training will begin in March so she can take over for the 2022/2023 school year.
  - Kristina told us a little about herself and her family.
  - Tamara motioned to vote in Kristina, Avery seconded, motion passed. Kristina will begin as treasurer in training in March.
- Budget Report & Funds Transfer Vote Tamara Cosgrove
  - Technology order was placed (see Ms. Caggia's update for what was purchased).
  - Fun Run was above budget.
  - Hoping to vote to add more money to PBIS for signs and Gotcha prizes.

- Tamara presented a vote to add \$350 to the PBIS budget line to cover Gotcha prizes and new PBIS signage.
- Tamara requested to move \$4000 into Spirit Wear to help cover a \$9,000 check for spirit wear from Fun Run. As more shirts are sold, the money will be transferred back. Members agreed.
- Front office employees asked for a few golf umbrellas for carpool. Members agreed.
- **Admin Update** **Principal Caggia**
  - A few new staff members have been added since the first of the year.
    - Ms. Riddle was hired as 1st grade IA.
    - Ms. Valentino and Ms. Sallam have been hired as CCK IAs.
    - Ms. Moore was hired as a 20% Reading Interventionist.
    - Ms. Emery was hired as a Covid Building Support person.
    - There is a vacancy for a CCR teacher.
    - Ms. Caggia has recommended a candidate for a Pre-K IA.
  - Celebrations
    - Thankful for breakfast and hot chocolate bar before Winter Break.
    - Ms. Caggia really enjoyed Principal of the Day.
  - Half Day planning days are planned for the last week in January.
  - Tech order was placed on Jan. 5th. Thank you to the PTA!
    - 8 ipads, a portable sound system, a loaner laptop, a computer cart, 2 projectors, 3 doc cameras, and 8 new walkie talkies for grade level chairs were purchased.
  - Ms. Caggia is asking for a donation of a refrigerator for the 1st grade hallway.
  - Bus Driver Appreciation Week is coming up the second week of February.
  - Thank you to the PTA for making the banner for Officer Joe.
- **Grade Level & Specials Updates** **Grade Level Chairs**
  - Ms. Carr - Kindergarten
    - Thank you for the hot chocolate bar and breakfast.
    - Working on 2D and 3D shapes.
    - Working on mid-year assessments.
    - Finished social studies unit on culture and sent home family culture surveys to learn about students' families.
    - Getting ready to start planning the Letterland parade.
  - Ms. Mitchum - 1st Grade

- Community Helper parade will be Wed. 1/12
  - Officer Joe and a couple others will be talking to kids about their jobs.
- Welcome Ms. Riddle to the first grade IA team.
- Finishing up how-to writing.
- Finishing up non-standard measurement.
- Thank you PTA for supporting planning days.
- Loving the sunshine cart.
- Thanks to the parents for getting students to school even when buses aren't running.
- Ms. Newkirk - 2nd Grade (presented by Carissa)
  - EL - 'ar' and 'or' sounds and words, irregular past tense verbs
  - Students are pretending to be paleontologists
  - Math - Place value with 3 digit numbers
  - Science - Finishing up matter
- Ms. Vionito (presented by Carissa)
  - Science Fun for Everyone came to the school to talk about bones. Students could touch the bones and bring home information about skeletal systems. 3rd graders loved it!
  - Finishing up module unit on frogs
  - EL - reading Peter Pan
  - Math - Properties of multiplication
  - Working on middle of year MClass and Star assessments
- 4th Grade - Ms. Boone
  - Will have a virtual field trip with NC Zoo on Wed. 1/12 to learn about animal defense mechanisms and adaptations.
  - Math - Long division and division with remainders
  - EL - kids have been researching animals and reading informational text and writing informational text about their research.
  - Social Studies - NC Civics and government
  - Thank you to PTA for fun events before Winter Break.
- 5th Grade - Ms. Wood
  - Looking forward to a field trip in April to Agape Center.
  - The Underground Railroad trip for March was canceled.
  - Math - decimal place value
  - EL - "Promises to Keep" about Jackie Robinson
  - Science - Weather unit

- Working on kindness and weathering many absences.
  - Specials - Ms. McGowan
    - Ms. Graham is asking for donations for prize boxes for the art room.
    - 4th grade for music is going to go on the symphony field trip.
    - Excited about the new sound equipment.
    - Coach Viau got some more recess equipment.
    - Received a parent donation for an electric keyboard.
- Committee Updates
  - Cultural Arts Elsie Ramsey
    - Drum Beats for Change (3/21-3/25) will meet with every class during music class to demonstrate and involve the students in a drum circle and to teach the cultural significance of music.
  - Twos-Day! 2/22/22 - Need ideas! Carissa White
    - Ms. Johnson found lots of ideas on Teachers Pay Teachers
      - 2 scavenger hunt
      - 2 crowns
      - Tutus or twin days?
      - Crazy (Pair) socks day
  - Book Fair Avery Emery
    - Book Fair will be pushed into April. Tentatively planned for the last week of April.
    - More info to come.
- Committee Needs Gloriann Austin
  - Standing Committee Vacancies
    - Nominating
    - Advocacy
- Website & Calendar Updates Sarah Moore
  - The website has been streamlined to delete redundancies and out of date information.
  - A Google calendar was embedded with directions for how people can add and sync it to their iOS devices.
  - Any feedback, suggestions, or questions about the website can be sent to Sarah (ApexESsecretary@gmail.com).
- Upcoming Events:
  - Drums for Change - United Arts Council Artist in Residency
    - March 21-25, 2022
  - Spirit Night Spirit Night Chair Erin Carpenter

- January 13, 2022 - Panera
- February 8, 2022 - Red Robin
- [Next PTA General Meeting - March 15, 2022 at 6:00PM on Zoom\](#)

## New Business & Discussion:

- PTA Vacancies for 2022-23 Carissa White
  - VP Fundraising
  - Advocacy Chair
  - Nominating Committee Chair
  - Communications/Friday Bulletin Chair
  - Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging Committee Chair
  - Will talk more about these openings in March and vote on new people in May.
- [Possible Family Tech Talk presentation for next PTA meeting](#)
  - Working on other presenters from last meeting's brainstorm
  - Family TechTalk provides on-demand parent webinars about gaming, social media, and more tech topics. Hoping to have this presentation at the March 15th meeting or we could have it on another night for just AES families.
- Any new business from members-at-large?
  - Joy Brunson-Nsubuga is very interested in helping to lead the charge of recruiting and engaging new AES families. Joy would like to educate parents about what the PTA is, how it works, and how to be involved. She mentioned potentially better utilizing Spirit Nights to engage more parents.
  - Ms. Caggia mentioned the Parent and Family Engagement Committee is more school based and focused on curriculum nights.
  - Ms. Mitchum reminded newer PTA members what spirit nights and other engagement events looked like before Covid. For example, staff, parents, and kids were encouraged to wear their spirit wear on Spirit Nights.
  - Carissa mentioned in lieu of a Spring Fling (which may or may not happen) that a movie night could be a fun family engagement event.
  - Ms. Johnson suggested monthly spirit wear/theme events.
  - Tamara suggested adding a board position for family engagement.
  - Tamara suggested looking into more options for virtual field trips for other grades.

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- Ms. Wood mentioned that some of the 5th grade teachers are interested in starting a Girls on the Run club after Tamara mentioned that there is \$300 marked for “Afterschool Clubs” in the budget.

Moved to adjourn at 7:01.