



General Meeting Agenda

September 16, 2022

6:00 - 7:30 pm

6:00 Pizza (Meal + Activity)

Families sat at tables based on their child's grade level and worked together to create a "Perfect PTA Pizza" describing what each ingredient represented in their ideal PTA while enjoying pizza, drinks, and conversation.

6:30 Welcome and Introductions PTA Board

Each board member introduced themselves and told a little about their role on the PTA.

6:35 Pizza Presentations Groups

Group 1: Foundation is the administration, sauce is the teachers, cheese is the kids, pepperoni and sausage are parents and others that make things spicy and flavorful.

Group 2: Detroit style pizza - school and teachers are the foundation, the cheese represents the kids, the olives are diversity, and the green bell peppers are knowledge.

Group 3: The crust is the staff, the sauce are the parents, the cheese is communication, the ham is fun activities, the pepperoni is the fundraiser, and the green peppers are teacher appreciation.

Group 4: Red is fun, green is networking and building community, the yellow is staying informed, the tan (crust) is enriching education for the kids, and the black (olives) are supporting teachers and administration.



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Group 5: Pizza pie chart - pink is events, green is fundraising, orange is what makes the PTA great, volunteers!

6:45 PTA Information + Membership Carissa White

Even the board had different ideas about what the PTA looks like, what our goals should be, and we decided to ask the community at this first meeting. The crust, sauce, and cheese are the teachers/admin, kids, and parents. Toppings are equity and inclusion, fun things, and all the extras.

There are 3.5 million members in the National PTA, which is the largest advocacy group. By joining the Apex PTA, you are automatically a member of the National PTA.

What we do...

We **Support Education** - curriculum needs, classroom supplies, day to day classroom activities, Scholastic News

We are an **Advocacy Organization** - offer our members an opportunity to add voices to important educational

We **Build community** - The PTA is for everyone, parents, caregivers, community members.

When you pay your dues, your money goes directly to benefit students at AES. Curriculum support for teachers, advocacy efforts at the state and national level, and strengthening connections in the community.

Membership dues are \$15 for an annual membership which includes the fiscal year of July 1 - June 30.



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6:55 Upcoming Events Carissa Ausenbaugh

9/15/22 - GoPlaySave books due

9/20/22 - K-2 Curriculum Night/Open House 5:30-7 (two sessions)

9/22/22 - 3-5 Curriculum Night/Open House 5:30-7 (two sessions)

9/22/22 - FRESH Spirit Night in Apex (15% of proceeds go to AES).

- Spirit Nights are informal evenings where the AES community can gather, eat or play, and help benefit the school. Also an opportunity to partner with local businesses.

10/13/22 - Red Robin Spirit Night

11/18/22 - Fun Run

- One of our most pressing needs is Fun Run planning, which will include the need to talk to corporate sponsors, local companies about silent auction baskets, t-shirt orders, volunteers for the day of the Fun Run, and After Party planning. If anyone has community connections please let Carissa A. know.
- The Run will happen during the school day during the kids' specials time. Bach to Rock will be there to DJ. Parents are invited to cheer on their kids as they walk, run, jog, dance, skip and have fun!
- The After Party is after the school day and includes raffles, a silent auction, a dance party in the gym, administrators have been silly stringed in the past, a talent show is possible, pizza, and Kona Ice have occurred in the past.



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Upcoming PTA Meetings

- Monday November 14 at 6 pm
- Wednesday January 18 at 6 pm
- Thursday March 2 at 6 pm
- Tuesday May 16 at 6 pm
 - At this final meeting, we will vote on next year's board officers and the budget.

PTA Google Calendar

- The PTA website (apexespta.com) has a Google calendar that people can imbed with all meeting dates, Spirit Nights, fundraisers, etc.

7:00 Treasurer's Report & Vote Kristina Killian

- How do we raise money?
 - We raise money through Spirit Nights, Go Play Save, Box Tops, Yearbook, the Spirit Shop (spirit wear, rent the Spirit Rock, Friday Spirit Shop where kids can buy items), membership dues, and two major fundraisers (The Fun Run and the Book Fair).
- How do we spend the money?
 - Curriculum Funds (each teacher gets a certain amount of money to spend on materials or resources for their class).
 - Instructional Support (subscriptions, professional development)
 - Hospitality for teachers
 - Library books to replenish the library supply and get new books
 - Cultural arts programs like Drums for Change and visiting authors.



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- Positive behavior incentives in which students earn Gotchas and get rewards.
- Field Day (during the school day) at the end of the year with outdoor activities and games, bounce houses, and water play.
- Spring Fling is a carnival-like evening event where families can come together to play, socialize, and eat. In 2021 the highlight was a foam party.

Note: we need to vote to move \$231 from our technology budget into our Instructional Support budget for Tools for Reading literacy program.

- Tools 4 Reading is for a four part literacy instruction program that includes an intervention program for grades 4/5, instructional materials for grades K-5, and PebbleGo, which is an online subscription of books for K-5.
- Carissa White put the motion up for a vote and Carissa Ausenbaugh seconded the motion.
- 31 members voted to approve the vote, which was a majority.
- Motion approved.

7:10

Get Involved

Joy Brunson-Nsubuga

- We want to hear from you! The community is changing and we want to know how you want to be involved and we want to be as inclusive as possible.
- We want to make sure we have provided enough opportunities for you to lend your voice and your participation.
- Engagement - we want as much involvement as possible either by volunteering at school or events, doing administrative things at home, attending PTA meetings, etc.



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- We are also happy to hear your ideas for more engagement.

7:15

Q & A

Gloriann Favale-Austin

- What is the biggest current need from parents?
 1. Fun Run volunteers - see the interest form on the website.
 2. Room Parents - We still have 18 slots we have to fill mostly in 1st or 4th grades.
 - A Room Parent can be done solo or with a partner. Their main job is to help disseminate information to parents. Room Parents also celebrate teachers and are also assigned a buddy (someone else on the staff without a class) to celebrate.
 - Room Parents might also help with classroom activities by volunteering or organizing volunteers.
 3. Items for Gotcha prizes and the Sunshine Cart.
 - The Friday Bulletin is emailed to PTA members every Friday and includes a link to Amazon wishlists for Gotcha prizes and Sunshine Cart items that we are in need of.
 - Sign Up Geniuses go out often also to ask for items for hospitality events, Sunshine Cart, Gotcha prizes, etc.
 - The Sunshine Cart is a snack cart that is pushed around on Fridays by Ms. Caggia and Ms. Chi for teachers to choose a snack or drink.
- What is the Green Badge process for volunteering?
 - People who had Green Badge clearance last year, still do.



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- If you are new, you will have to come to the school to use the media center between 10-3 to sign up for Green Badge clearance on a media center computer.
- You'll do the first step at school and then will be sent a link by email to finish the process at home. Once the second step has been completed, it will take a number of weeks to be cleared by the district.
- The company that runs the background checks is Castle Branch and often emails go to spam.
- No appointment is necessary to come in to sign up for your Green Badge clearance.
- Check with Ms. Andrade or Ms. Chi to find out if your clearance has been completed.
- A Green Badge is only needed if you will be volunteering with students. Those without green badges can still help on planning committees, with administrative tasks at home, or contributing items as listed above.

- Will Donuts for Dads or Muffins for Moms be back?
 - One combined event will probably be back but nothing is currently planned.

- How can we get involved right now?
 - Potential volunteers can go to the website and fill out the Interest Form. Joy will get back to you after filling out the form about your interests and availability.

"You Belong in PTA" photograph was taken for a PTA video that will be shown at Curriculum Night.

Thank you to Peak City Sitters for free childcare during the meeting!

Meeting adjourned at 7:28.