

Central Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting Agenda

Monday, November 20, 2023, 7:00-8:30 pm

Zoom Conference Call

November 2023 PAC Meeting [Agenda](#)

7:00 pm **Welcome** — Sunny Kase, PAC

- Sunny oriented everyone to the Zoom meeting. We have live interpretation in Spanish, Karen, Hmong, and Somali.
- What is PAC? Who are PAC? Where is PAC?
 - PAC is the Parent Advisory Council. We are parent volunteers. All are welcome. Our mission: PAC is a group of parents, guardians, community
 - members, and others with a connection to Central High School who meet (via Zoom) on the first Monday of the month (7:00-8:30 PM). All are welcome at these meetings. PAC's mission is "(t)o support and enhance the education of students and the experience of staff and the school community". We do this by raising and distributing funds, supporting special projects and initiatives, fostering communication between families and the school, organizing parent volunteers, and finding ways to show our appreciation for Central teachers and staff members. Note that the Central High School PAC is also a registered non-profit group, or 501(c)(3) Organization.
- Format of PAC meetings

7:05 pm **Student Sharing - SCU Club - SPIRIT is to CREATE commUNITY**

- Student Council subgroup, SCU Club, created the "[Best Part of Being A Teenager](#)" [video](#). PAC and the Booster Clubs used this in our fundraising campaigns. Eric Sturm is the Central advisor
- They learned about working as a team, and more experience developing skills and ideas to work on collaborative projects
- Next projects: The Principal gave SCU some topics for additional videos. The next one is going to be a "phone policy" video.
- Parents that partnered on it: Eric Sturm and Leon Wang - they gave ideas and helped make the student ideas get realized. The students got a lot more realism from the students they interviewed. It was a lot of fun to make. Sam's amazing interview with the Principal was amazing.

7:15 pm **CHS Updates** — Anika Carter Ward, PAC and Cherise Ayers, Principal

Check in with the principal! New Challenges or opportunities that are happening now:

- **Grades!** 1st quarter grades were posted and we should get emails to let us know. Schoology is where gradebooks are set up. Infinite Campus is the other system they use. These two systems need to talk to one another. Once that connection is fixed, they'll send out report cards (likely next week).

- **Video:** Talking to the kids for the video was amazing. It was a confirmation of the beauty at the school!
- **Cell phone use policy - This is coming soon.** It's a newer rollout. We've always had a policy that teachers can ask students to put their phones away, but they are going to have a more intentional policy. Students have been asking for this - asking for help getting pulled off their phone. They're focusing on the educational benefits and the impact that phones have on learning. A video that was shared with the students will be shared with families. The messaging is focused on the negative implications of phone use during learning times in the school day. They are rolling out the new policy in partnership with the students under the philosophy.
 - Request to parents: Please don't call during the school day. If you text, don't have expectations that they can respond immediately.
- **Important dates:**
 - December 9th: School Choice Fair for the district.
 - After winter break is over, there will be regular tours on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10am.
 - February : Showcase for prospective families. Curriculum night will be combined with that.
- **Questions for Principal Ayers and her staff**
 - What brings you hope? Excited about the possibilities for the students. When things are going wrong, we can turn it around T.O.G.E.T.H.E.R. Students are coming together in an open way. They want to keep engaging and collaborating. It's exciting.
 - Roots & Shoots group: Has written to Tom Parent at the SPPS Facilities and Planning office. They're looking to get support from SPPS to increase recycling and composting.

7:45 pm Programs at Central - Jessica Ostrov, PAC Communications

- **Scott Howell, Title One Coordinator**
 - Looking forward to Thanksgiving!
 - Coming up: SPPS is hosting a Reads movie night. The right to Read, produced by PBS, produced by Lavar Burton. A viewing at Central from 5:30 to 8pm. There will be dinner served! Please register here:
 - **Emily Punko is looking for volunteers to do mock interviews with students.** Email emily.punyko@spps.org if you need more information. They are looking for 8-10 parents to come help with this. December 8, from 8am to 11am. The link to sign up:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc7a6JpR2KQU2utR39ji_ypCC-TLM2HA6xcg13BJLgcg_K0Q/viewform
 - Thank you for filling out the lunch forms! That helps Central receive extra dollars. The forms
 - **EDL (Extended Day Learning)** starts 12/11 until 1/18. It's a great opportunity to make up credits for students who failed a class.

- Look for upcoming communications about Title One meetings.
- They're planning for African American Day! The Black Student Union is going to assist in the planning for a weeklong event centered on parent involvement and Black history.
- **Emily Punyko** - Primary role is to support students in career opportunities. Activities include: Earn & learn. Bring in mentors. Matching recruitment with local businesses.
 - **March 1: Opportunity Fair.** Looking for family and community input. Look to the newsletter for information on how to get involved.
 - **Mock Interview events: December 8th.** For two social media and AVID classes and some other students. Will do small groups with a professional employer to practice their interview skills. Another will be on April 19th. See above for volunteer info.
- **Ed Johnson, Special Ed Teacher: Looking for volunteers.**
 - **American Federation of Teachers is sponsoring a "Reading Opens the World bookdrop event** on December 16th at The Neighborhood House, 179 Robie St E, St Paul, MN 55107. **On December 14 & 15 they need volunteers for the event being held on 12/16.** They're giving away 40,000 books. Families can select 30 books, kids can select 10 books. It will be hard for students to volunteer because it's so close to the holidays. Please help as you can with setup, during the day at the event. Etc. Sign up here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfpk93LpiOgopaGf2mQm85k7V5vnFJZqDhwdr_YUMOR3gkarA/viewform
 - How else can families get involved along the way? There are some stewards for the union. Can reach out to edmund.johnson@spps.org for more information.

8:00 pm Booster Programs at CHS

- Report of GiveMN - This year we tried to co-market the opportunities to give equal access to all the donation opportunities.



Minutebot Boosters

✓ A nonprofit organization

Donate

Fundraise

↗ Share this organization

\$2,037 raised by 10 donors



St. Paul Central High School Theater Boosters

✓ A nonprofit organization

Donate

Fundraise

↗ Share this organization

St. Paul Central Sports Boosters

- Raised \$14,152.55 on Give to the Max Day 2023
 - \$568.54 designated by donors to specific sports
 - \$13,584.01 directed to the campaign for coaching, uniforms and equipment upkeep/maintenance that is not covered by district funding



THANK YOU!

Your generosity is AMAZING, your support of Central's 27 teams is so appreciated.

During this season of gratitude, we would like to express our thanks to everyone who donated!

Each and every dollar makes a difference for the 1,308 student athletes at Central.

A special thank you to the O'Reilly-Wilmes family for their donation in loving memory of Gregory, we are honored.

And most of all thank you to this community for the dedication and commitment to Central Athletics!

Saint Paul Central Music Boosters

✓ A nonprofit organization

Donate

↪ Share this organization

\$21,454 raised by **105** donors

100% complete

\$20,000 Goal

- St. Paul Central Music Boosters: Raised \$21,454. They surpassed their goal!
- Sports Boosters raised: \$14,152.55. \$568.54 was designated to specific sports. The rest was given to the campaign for coaching, uniforms and equipment upkeep/maintenance for items NOT covered by the district funding.
- St. Paul Central High School Theater Boosters: Raised \$12,750 by 36 donors. They surpassed their goal! They are raising money to replace their microphones. They need funds for costumes, scenery, licensing rights, etc.
- Minutebot Boosters: \$2,037. They run robotics throughout the school year. They give back to middle and grade schools as part of their mission. All of their money will go to support students going w/out charge to offsite tournaments.
- PAC Fundraising: On Give to the Max day we raised \$9,939.25. Throughout the fall we've been running our annual campaign. \$26,305. Collected: \$16,975. Workplace matches: \$956.20. Total raised this year: \$54,175.45. The Campaign runs through the end of December this year. Our goal is \$70,000.

- Note: One of the donation checks was from Valerie Castille for \$10,000! She has



been an amazing supporter of our school in memory of her son Philando and his legacy.

- Fundraising is hard work, but our school community did an incredible job supporting our school!

7:50 pm ByLaws & Decision Making - Kate McCreedy, PAC Secretary

- New bylaws have been drafted. We've been updating them to reflect the work that we're doing to be more student centered, build community, and to

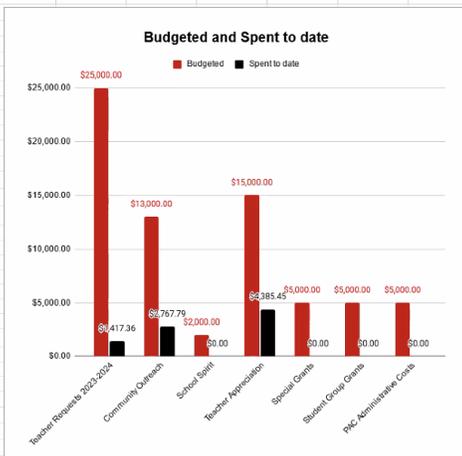
7:55 pm Financial Report — Heidi Van Schooten, PAC Treasurer

- Overview of the PAC Budget. The annual campaign has been going since our fiscal year began in July. We are still a little bit short of what we'd like to fundraise for this year.
 - Mini-grants to teachers: We've spent about \$8000
 - Other spending has been on community outreach (homecoming, back to school night, teacher meals):

2023 - 2024 Fiscal Year Budget			
Budget Items	Budgeted	Spent to date	Remaining
Teacher Requests 2023-2024	\$25,000.00	\$1,417.36	\$23,582.64
Community Outreach	\$13,000.00	\$2,767.79	\$10,232.21
School Spirit	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Teacher Appreciation	\$15,000.00	\$4,385.45	\$10,614.55
Special Grants	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Student Group Grants	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
PAC Administrative Costs	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Total	\$70,000.00	\$8,570.60	\$61,429.40

Current Balance in Checking:	\$20,977.43
Account Balance 7/1/2023	\$1,126.06
2023 Transactions	\$3,104.85
Checks cashed from 2023 SHORT budget	\$447.37
Checks uncashed from 2023 SHORT budget	\$8,596.14
Expenses	\$1,352.36
Deposits	\$20,330.06
Balance Less Unreconciled Checks	\$20,977.43

2023 - 2024 Fundraising			
	Goal	Raised to Date	Remaining
Individual Donations	\$70,000.00	\$54,175.45	\$15,824.55
Total	\$70,000.00	\$54,175.45	\$15,824.55



8:00 pm. News from Central's Counselors. Ashley Welke

- Central's Counseling department has three interns currently.
- They are in the process of giving lessons in their advisory classrooms. The "Academic Lesson" is about the number of credits they need to graduate, what those need to include to graduate. They give similar information to 9th and 10th graders. 11th graders get some of the same information but start thinking about the next steps as they move toward graduation.
- Xello - helps with college search and goal setting. Also helps students get organized.
- Credit Recovery - Students who failed a core class in Q1 of the 2023-2024 year, they are automatically enrolled in courses to get the credit they need. If students failed something

last year, then they need to apply to get registered for the credit recovery class. Deadline to register: 11/22/23

Counseling Updates

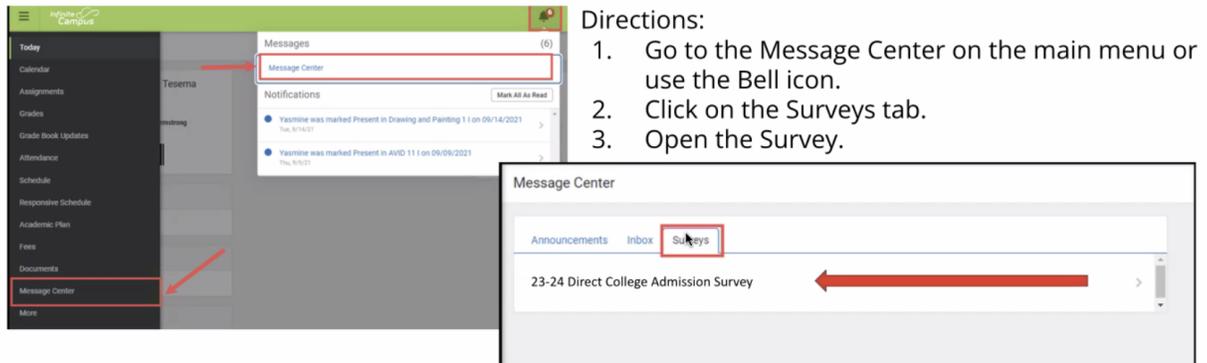
- 3 Interns from the University of Minnesota
 - Hailey Berg
 - Abby Olson
 - Isaac McClosky
- Academic Lessons
 - 9th Grade Advisory Week of November 13th
 - 10th Grade Advisory Week of November 27th
 - 11th Grade Advisory Week of December 11th
- Xello - Goal Setting
- Credit Recovery
 - Application opens November 22nd
 - Credit Recovery classes start on 12/11-1/18
- Direct Admissions
- Career Pathway Center (CPC)
 - Met with 60% of seniors in quarter 1
 - Met with 32% of entire student body in quarter 1
 - Hosted the MNACC college fair
 - Hosted the HBCU College fair
 - 79 Students/59 adults attended
 - 32 students from Central
 - FAFSA will be released on December 31st
 - Planning the Opportunity Fair
 - Planning a Dunwoody field trip in January for Juniors and Seniors

- **Career Pathway Center** - Held a college fair and an HBCU college fair. The counselors there met with many of the students. They are asking all seniors to get their FSAID in December to help with the ability to apply to the FAFSA. BOTH parents and students need to create an FSA ID in order to fill out the FAFSA (which helps with finances for college applications).
- **In-State Direct Admissions!** The Counselors emailed Students to participate in a survey regarding Direct College Admissions. This tells students who are on-track to graduate which colleges they've automatically gotten into. Once they find out where they've been accepted, they need to apply to the school as well! As of now, only 15 students have checked their email! Here is a view of what the students need to do. They just need to pick up to 10 schools that they have applied to or have been directly admitted to. They can add schools to apply to until 12/20/23. They need to go in and double check this now. The knowledge of where they get in is powerful! It tells students where they have been admitted already. The counseling department will meet with any students who need help! They are also trying to get into the senior advisories to explain this information. It's a great way to know where they can get into college. There will be lots of news about this at the school.
- PAC will work with the counselors to help promote this news.
- PSAT Scores are sent directly to the students via their College Board accounts.
- The ACT will be in the spring. It will be hosted at Central. It is still a paper test but will be moving to an all electronic format. It is offered to all 11th graders. There are other national test dates that you can also sign up for. If you have educational benefits through Central, you can get additional tests for free.
- Xello has some test prep resources.

Email Message to Students

You've been invited to participate in a survey regarding (Name of Survey, example Direct College Admissions 23-24). This survey will be accepting responses from 11/15/23 until 12/20/23.

To access this survey log onto your district's Infinite Campus Student Portal at <https://spps.infinitecampus.org/campus/portal/stpaul.jsp> and select the survey link in your inbox. See directions below:



The image contains two screenshots from the Infinite Campus Student Portal. The left screenshot shows the main menu with 'Message Center' highlighted in the left sidebar and a red box around the 'Message Center' link in the top navigation bar. The right screenshot shows the 'Message Center' page with the 'Surveys' tab selected and a red box around it. Below the tabs, a survey titled '23-24 Direct College Admission Survey' is visible with a red arrow pointing to it.

Directions:

1. Go to the Message Center on the main menu or use the Bell icon.
2. Click on the Surveys tab.
3. Open the Survey.

8:05 pm PAC Committees - Sunny Kase, PAC Co-Chair

- PAC Standing Committees - Places for you to volunteer and help out!
 - Staff Appreciation: Food truck event, Culinary Arts class event
 - Communications & Marketing: We need someone here
 - **Volunteer Coordination: We need someone here! Please consider joining us. We're nice, fun, and love more company. :)**
- **Graduation Party** - Overnight Party. They're looking for people to fill positions! They're looking for a co-chair to run the party. They need 8 more people to run specific areas: food, wayfinding, treasurer, vendors, decorations, etc.
 - The central community helps to staff the event.
 - They have a goal to offer this party to all w/out charge this year again.
 - **If you can help, please reach out to Lindsay!** It's a super fun way to get involved.
 - **Lindsey's contact info: lindseyfarwell@gmail.com**

8:26 pm CLOSING