

MINUTES

TCA North Elementary PTO General Meeting

Friday, February 6, 2026 8:45 AM, Cafeteria.

BOARD MEMBERS

<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ President, Taylor Hart (Absent)▪ Vice President, Jenna Kester▪ Treasurer, Shanthi Vandervalk▪ Secretary, Coral Laski	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Member At Large, Evelyn Whitehorn▪ Member At Large, Cassie Meier▪ Member At Large, Kathy Gehauf
---	---

BUSINESS

Time	Item	Speaker
8:45	Welcome & Pledge of Allegiance	Jenna Kester
8:50	Principal's Report Jody kept her remarks brief to allow time for the guest speaker, but shared a few important updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• She expressed appreciation for the administrative and curriculum support team, noting that even experienced teachers need training to align with TCA's unique philosophy and approach.• Submissions for school board candidacy closed yesterday - 3 candidates applied.• The Parent Survey is now open through the end of February. Participation dropped by 40% last year, and North Elementary had the lowest turnout. Jody and Erin spend a full week reviewing feedback, and it truly makes a difference. Please take a few minutes to complete it.• Teachers are currently in their mid-year goal and reflection meetings.• Two teachers will be retiring, and one will be stepping away to focus on her family.• TCA job fair on February 21 - families are encouraged to help spread the word.• The Performing Arts Showcase will be held in the auxiliary gym next week, with select performances featured at the following Friday's assembly.	Jody Peterson
9:10	Guest Speaker Emily shared about her role supporting teachers, reviewing curriculum, and helping integrate new staff into TCA's educational philosophy. She also works with panels of teachers and parents to evaluate curriculum. This year, they are reviewing Spalding and reading programs, and a new Fix It Grammar curriculum for grades 3-6 will be available in March for parents to review in the front office. She spoke about the importance of allowing children's stories to unfold naturally and the value of challenge & struggle in growth. Using famous opening lines from The Hobbit, Pride and Prejudice, and Moby Dick, she illustrated how stories require conflict and journey to be meaningful - just like children's development. Emily emphasized: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We cannot remove every challenge from our children's lives, and we shouldn't try.• Struggle builds resilience, grit, and confidence.• Failure is inevitable and necessary for growth.• Parents play an important role in helping children develop a growth mindset and perseverance. She recommended the book The Gift of Failure and shared that she has copies available for parents to borrow. She also provided an article that has a	Emily Velez, Dean of Philosophy



Coffee Donated by Mission Coffee! A proud supporter of TCA North Elementary PTO.

	nice summary for parents.	
9:20	Business- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Open board positions for next term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vice President, Secretary, and 1 Member at Large Nominate by March, vote in April Treasurer's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were no major updates since the last meeting. PTO received just over \$1,000 from King Soopers in January - Families are encouraged to sign up for King Soopers Community Rewards - it's an easy way to support the school. The Taekwondo fundraiser has raised approximately \$500 so far, with additional funds expected. Secretary Minutes Motion to approve January minutes: Matt Giesman Second: Elizabeth Meyer Status: Approved 	Jenna Kester Jenna Kester Shanthi Vandervalk Coral Laski
9:30	Committee Reports- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Community Events Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Fun Run is coming up soon, volunteers will be needed. More details to come. Gratitude Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Today's staff lunch is soup and salad, hosted by 3rd and 4th grade families - thank you! Last month's Panda Express lunch was a huge hit, thank you to everyone who supports staff appreciation efforts. Fundraising Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taekwondo graduation is in two weeks and is expected to raise around \$2,000 total. AirCity360 fundraiser is on April 10. Families are encouraged to attend - there's a fun competition between campuses, & North hopes to win this year! Plus, the Titan and Cheerleaders will be present at the event. Yearbooks are now on sale for \$22 each - order deadline April 5. Families are encouraged to submit photos for the yearbook. The committee is looking for 1-2 additional volunteers to help next year. Room Parents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As we head into the final stretch of the school year, Jodie encouraged parents to continue supporting and appreciating teachers and staff. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Sign-up links have been shared. Volunteers are needed for the Performing Arts Showcase, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Walking performers between locations Sitting with students before performances Helping backstage with props and microphones 	Jenna Kester Wei Hui Jenna Kester & Cassie Meier Lyndze Daly & Evelyn Whitehorn Jodie Collins
9:40	Raffle Prize and Winners <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Hat – Wei Hui Shirt – Meredee Berg 	



Coffee Donated by Mission Coffee! A proud supporter of TCA North Elementary PTO.

	Breakfast Sponsor - Laura Karan, Realtor	Jenna Kester
	Adjournment	



Coffee Donated by Mission Coffee! A proud supporter of TCA North Elementary PTO.