Central Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 4, 2026, 7:00-8:30 pm

7:00 pm Welcome *— Sunny Kase, PAC Co-Chair*

- Format of PAC meetings
- What is PAC? Who is PAC? Where is PAC? Why do we need a PAC?

7:05 pm CHS Principal Updates *— Cherise Ayers, Principal*

- Just completed prom: great event
- Budget Update: Budget meeting will be posted for people who couldn't be there. Despite the referendum passing, SPPS is still experiencing a deficit. Lower enrollment in general due to smaller families. Central itself is anticipating an increase in students. Central had a waiting list of 80 students; now down to 40. Central got a cut from counseling; Ayers used supply money to purchase position; cuts some in para staff. Other than that, there were no budgetary cuts for Central. This is not the position of other SPPS schools. This reflects a strong community at Central.
- AP/IB Testing: Testing started May 4 and will go for a few weeks. After testing, should students stay at school? That is a question for parents.
- Summer/Fall 2026: After school is done for the year, the building is cleaned. Work will start to prepare for the fall. No summer programming at the school due to building temperatures. Some sports practices will be starting over the summer. Student leaders will be also involved in helping with new students.
- Back to school rally may happen in late August as an open house for new families. PAC set aside funds for that.
- Questions: Messages about absences: Ask your student if they are going to advisory. A lot of times that is where the absences occur. Parents can look in the Campus profile and see what class they are marked absent from. The school can also give parents an attendance report. It's a good point of connection with your child about what is happening. If class is missed, school staff have to verify with the teacher or staff about where the student was in order to change the attendance.

7:25 pm Central Booster Clubs

- Sports Boosters – Jen O'Malley: Supporting all the teams' fundraising efforts; the summer will be busy with summer programming; some teams work with younger kids (basketball, soccer, volleyball); there is a meeting this coming Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. (at the school, in the gym); summer sports practices schedules are on the agenda; all summer practices are optional; spread the word about summer sports practices (sometimes freshmen don't always know about summer practices); Central has 1,500 registrations for sports; fundraising dollars go toward hiring coaches because sports program is so big at Central
- Theater Boosters – Jenia Strom: Finished off spring programming; Emma was a great success; introduced reserved ticketed seating; went to Chicago and visited DePaul University (along with Chamber Choir) and saw a play; there will be a volunteer appreciation gathering at Green Mill and then an end-of-the year picnic; will be doing succession planning for next year and later. Outreach to freshmen families before school starts in the fall and invite families to participate.

- Music Boosters - I Wanna Dance With Somebody - Retro Prom, Saturday, May 9th 2026, 7:00 pm

7:45 pm Senior Events

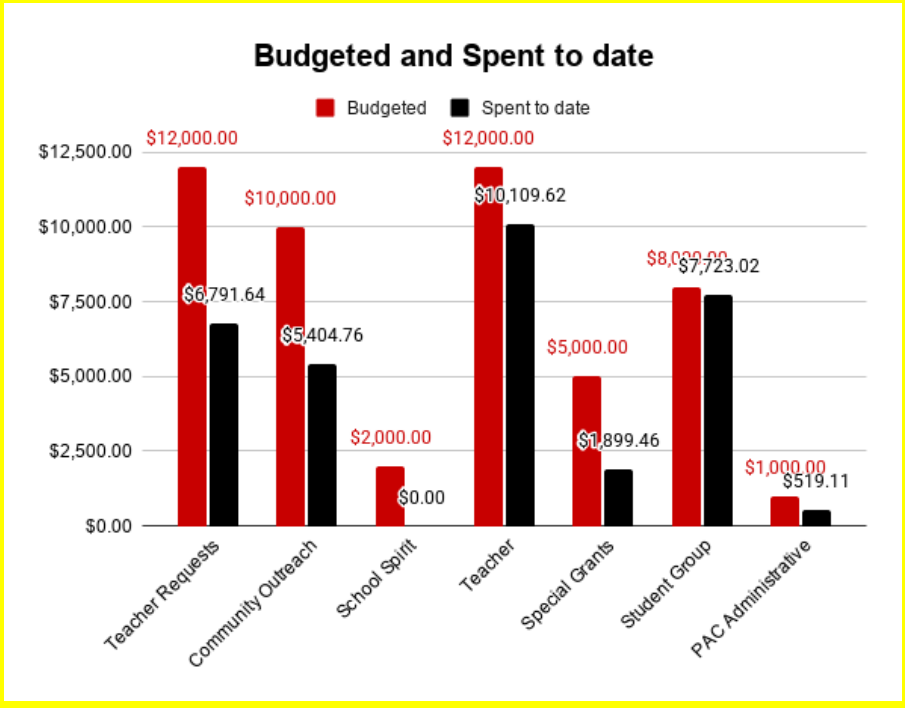
- Staff contacts: Erica Hunt and Melissa Chaffee: meet with senior class representatives and then the representatives inform the seniors; seniors inform the parents
- Grad Party: seniors can go to party free of charge, but they have to do a lot of fundraising to do that. There is a need to help with food coordination for this year. Central needs a person to take over for the class of 2027.
- Senior Events: picnic; senior walkout (last Friday before end of school)
- Lawn Signs: a few families of seniors contributed for this so families can have them (the district does not pay for these)
- Graduation itself will be at new venue space at St. Thomas

8:00 pm Future Opportunities with the PAC Board — *Brenda van Dyck, PAC Secretary*

- Board members will be cycling off in coming years and the board needs new people
- Board positions descriptions
- Chair: Sunny will be done in spring of 2028, but is looking to have someone shadow the PAC chair to learn the ropes and take over in 2027/28
- Treasurer: Immediate need for someone to shadow Heidi and take over duties
- Secretary: Brenda will be done in Spring of 2027; will continue for the 2026-27 school year
- Questions can be addressed to centralhspac@gmail.com

8:10 pm PAC Fundraising & Financial Report — *Heidi Van Schooten, PAC Treasurer*

- Fundraising: We raised $45,000 apx (had a budget of $50,000)
- End of year report: teacher requests come in late, so they are not updated yet in the financials; teacher appreciation is where we max out; student group grants and special grants are in process right now; small PAC administration costs
- The budget helps us to have a plan for when requests come in; the majority of the funds come from current families
- Question: School spirit line: Principal Ayers has used it for Frosty Bingo or Springo; student grade-level happenings



Positive PAC News *— Sunny Kase*

- Positive note for the year was community built with neighborhood observers.
- Student leaders came forward for the walkout; parents came in behind them to help support. Central was a leader in that effort, and that created an opportunity for outside observers during the Metro surge. It became a movement moment. The observers gave countless hours in the rain and cold; an incredible group of adults.
- After spring break, the community members met with student leaders to help keep the bond and relationships. They are continuing to do that work at Central; some of the funding came from the St. Paul Foundation for part of that.
- This model has now been used across the state and country.

8:30 pm Meeting ends