

September 11th, 2026 PTO Meeting Minutes

8:30am Call to order and Reading of Mission Statement by **Stephanie Polenz** PTO President

Mrs. Casey Gustafson spoke:

- She has been at Central for 3 years. She is the Front Office Manager, a TCA parent for 14 years, a TCA staff member for 9, and at Central for 3. Why she came to Central: Knew working with Mr. Walters would be a great fit. TCA is beautiful in how it feels like one big family. What does she do? Admin work, answering phones, taking attendance, helping the nurse. Katie DeCoste and her are a great team and have worked together for a long time. The PTO does a great job honoring the staff and Casey also enjoys doing that for the staff. She blesses the staff with coffee carts, meals on Parent Teacher Conference Day, etc. She enjoys working with our PTO, ordering things for us, making sure we have the rooms available for us when we need them, it is her joy and pleasure to do that for the PTO. Katie and her strive to make Central a warm, welcoming place to all.
- Friday Assemblies: they will hold students if they are late past 8:16am because it disrupts the assembly when people join late.
- Lunch Count is called in by 8:45am, if you know you will be late due to appts, etc, please call in the Hot Lunch Order by 8:45am.
- Emailing teachers when a child is sick and out for the day, please let the Front Office know as well, you are fine to call in the absence or email, but if they haven't heard from you, they will give you a call to confirm. You can email your teacher AND the front office staff. (After the meeting, this email was provided to use when emailing about children out for the day: tcacentralelementary@tcatitans.org)
- If your student comes in after 8:16am, we do ask that the parent parks, comes in, and signs them in at the kiosk.
- There are Pre-Arranged Absent Forms found on the Website. Used for planned events, surgery, vacation, etc.
- If calling your children out of school at 3:20pm there may be a delay getting your children-before 3:20PM is better if you need to call your child out of school.
- Kiosk: please make sure your status is up to date. You should receive an email, but you can always call or email the front office to verify.
- Grandparents' Day-need one person for morning and one person in afternoon to greet grandparents at the kiosk and help with badges.
- Nurse Lynsey: please don't tell your sweetie to come to school and to call you if they don't feel well. Please just keep them at home. Because they tend to have many children shortly after school starts coming to the nurse's office to be sent home.

Mr. Walters shared some words:

- He feels everything has gone smoothly for the start of this school year.
- Character trait for this year is: Courage. And part of the Titans Creed they are focusing on this year is: Giving our best to the World.
- At the assembly, he explained to our kids that each of us are Titans, meaning we are working together.
- They discussed the Service Run coming up for The Alzheimer's Association and talked about welcoming our Grandparents next week.
- Carpool is going smoothly, and he has noticed how slowly it is going but they are working on that as well. Thank you for your patience.
- Grandparents' Day: parking is stressful, please let your grandparent know it may be stressful, if Grandparents are able to walk, please have them walk from the Church parking lots. MAKE sure, if they are taking your kiddos out to lunch, please have Grandparents return kids at the west carpool line-there will be signs. Communicate the badging in for Grandparents' Day to Grandparents, as this will be different this year. Please have grandparents wait until after 8:15am to arrive, so that the carpool line and parking lot can clear out. If kids don't have grandparents coming, please encourage them to get to know other Grandparents. There is a lot that can be learned from all grandparents. It's not about the kids on this day, but it is a day about honoring grandparents.
- Please have grandparents prepurchase books ahead of time. A voucher will be given to them when they get to the library.

-CMAS Results discussed today with some stats given but will be talked about more at the Central SAC (School Accountability Committee) Meeting. Parents are always welcomed and encouraged to come. Meeting coming up on September 21st @ 2:30PM.

-Questions and Comments:

Carpool comment from a parent: for carpool pick up the extensive line not allowing East Side pick up to enter in. Mr. Walters is aware of the situation, and they are working on it.

Land Sharks questions: Mr. Walters said they are in talks about how to better advertise Land Sharks. It is on the Land Shark website; they are full this year and may need more volunteers in future years.

Lunch: doing much better this year. There is a new barcode process- to help with food allergies, but the kids have been navigating it well.

Stephanie Polenz: PTO Accomplishments from last year shared: quite the list of accomplishments!

Proposed Meeting Dates for the year were VOTED and PASSED today:

September 11th, October 2nd, November 6th, January 15th, February 5th, March 12th,
April 9th, May 14th

Dates for Staff Appreciation Week were VOTED and PASSED today:

April 21-April 27

Helen Walters shared FUNDRAISING UPDATES: Think about if you'd like to be fundraiser coordinator for next year as her term will be coming to an end.

-MAGNET Sales: well over \$1000 so far!

-In N Out Sales End Sept. 13th, Cook out is Tuesday, Sept. 22nd

Questions about donating to TCA PTO Central. Answer given after meeting: You can now donate to the TCA Central PTO at any time using this link:

<https://secure.qgiv.com/for/centralelementarypto/> Checks made out to "TCA Central PTO" are also accepted but we prefer the online option if possible.

As a reminder you can also donate to TCA Central (not the PTO but the school) using this direct giving link:

<https://secure.qgiv.com/for/otherdesignations>. Be sure to select "TCA Central Elementary" in the drop-down menu.

And finally - the TCA Annual Fund is another great way to support TCA's staff directly:

<https://www.tcatitans.org/giving/>

Aircity Coming up Nov. 13th

EDUKITS raised \$755.74

Jane Blore Treasurer shared our PTO account started July 2025 @ \$43,477.18.

And ended June 2026 with \$42,015.57.

2026-2027 Budget: \$15,350 + Funds Requests Fundraising 2025-2026 brought in \$23,357.90

King Soopers: Jan-March \$2,257.34 and April-June \$1,715.25. Please LINK your account to

THE CLASSICAL ACADEMY- Central Campus-PTO

Funds Requests that VOTED and PASSED:

A. Kinder cubbies 40 cubby bins \$140.95

B. Staff Fall Treats for Oct. 20th \$350

Volunteer Opportunities: Carpool Help & Child Care for PTO Meetings.

Grandparents' Day in need of two more volunteers for the afternoon session

12:30PM-3:00PM-FILLED During Meeting

Announcements from PTO Committees:

Jessica Whitaker Birthday Blessings Party will be October 30th.

Veronica Gearhart on YEARBOOK Committee: In need of a 1st GRADE Photographer!

Sarah Dins on Sunshine Committee: Taco Lunch is September 28th, still need Clean Up Volunteers.

Coffee and Snacks Donated by Chick Fil A and PTO.

Childcare by **Danniel Cea, Karen Polenz, & College Pathways Students**.

6 Ruffled Items!!!!!! At least 40 people, not including children in attendance.

Next meeting is October 2nd.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:31am