

PTA Meeting (General Membership)

August 25, 2025 | 6:00PM - 7:00PM

Purpose:	First PTA meeting of the year. Objective is to introduce our new board members, vote on the budget for the school year, and discuss what the plans for the year are.
Host:	Rebecca Yu, President
Note Taker:	Michelle Luiken, Secretary
Attendees:	
Location:	Virtual

Call to Order	6:00 PM	Rebecca Yu, President
Rebecca Yu called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.		
Approval of Last Meeting Minutes	6:01PM	Rebecca Yu, President
Meeting minutes from the previous meeting in June 2025 were emailed out ahead of time for review. There were no objections to the minutes, so they were approved.		

Updates since June Meeting

- **Volunteer Appreciation Event was held on June 6th**
- **Financial Review took place in July 2025.** There was one recommendation to include monthly treasurer's reports in the email that goes out with the agenda and previous meeting minutes for review. There was also one check found with a missing second signature for the holiday market petty cash, but all other financial aspects were compliant.
- **K/1st Summer Playdates** - Alexandria Grant-Presser discussed the successful kindergarten and 1st grade playdates that happened over the summer, which aimed to welcome new families and help them connect with the CES community. She expressed hope for continued meetups to provide support and foster a sense of belonging among new families.
- **Four officers were appointed to the board** following the decision to add more board positions: Youssef Takhssaiti, Rachel Edwards, and Amanda Reeping returned to the board this year as Vice Presidents and Alexandria Grant-Presser has joined the board as our President-Elect.

Board Introductions	6:07pm	Executive Board
At our last meeting we had our election for the new board for the upcoming school year and we also voted on expanding the possible board positions. As previously mentioned, we have added three additional VPs and a President-Elect. Each board member gave a brief introduction.		
Rebecca Yu and Shannan Winkler both indicated this would be their final year in their respective positions as President and Treasurer.		
Principal's Updates	6:15pm	Jen Killingsworth, Principal
Jennifer Killingsworth, the new principal, expressed excitement about the increased involvement and appreciated the PTA's support during the first week of school, including donations for sweatshirts for the staff		

and providing meals for the teachers. She highlighted the safe and smooth start to the school year. Ms. Killingsworth also provided important updates on Back-to-School Nights, Early Release Wednesdays, and the new volunteer process, emphasizing the need for volunteers to complete the necessary background checks, especially for unsupervised roles or field trips. She reminded parents that the deadline to opt-in for after-school care on Early Release Wednesdays was coming up and that it is better to opt-in and change it later than to opt-out and try to opt-in later because it's harder for the school to plan for extra bodies.

Budget Approval	6:20pm	Rebecca Yu, President
Rebecca Yu presented the proposed budget for approval, noting that it was sent out prior to the meeting and that members needed to be present to vote. Shannan Winkler added that the budget as developed in close collaboration with the new principal to align with the school's needs, aiming for a small surplus or to break even, a goal successfully met in the last couple years. A quick poll was taken to see if enough members felt they had enough time to review the budget to vote on it at today's meeting (otherwise a separate meeting would be scheduled in a couple weeks just to take the vote). There was enough interest in voting at this meeting.		
Treasurer's Report	6:24pm	Shannan Winkler, Treasurer
Shannan Winkler presented the annual treasurer's report from the previous year, indicating the PTA nearly broke even last year despite significant investments, such as t-shirts. She emphasized the goal of increasing membership this year, noting the current membership stands at 92, with a goal of 200. The PTA is running a membership contest ending September 30th, where the class with the highest percentage of PTA members wins a pizza party.		
Membership	6:25pm	Rebecca Yu, President
Rebecca Yu discussed the current membership numbers, emphasizing the goal of increasing membership this year, noting the current membership stands at 92, with a goal of 200. The PTA is running a membership contest ending September 30th, where the class with the highest percentage of PTA members wins a pizza party.		
Fundraising	6:27pm	Rebecca, Yu, President
Rebecca Yu detailed various fundraising activities planned for the year, including ongoing spirit wear sales. Key fundraisers include the Charleston Wrap and Holiday Makers Market in October, the Holiday Market (in tandem with the book fair) in November, and Square1Art sales in January. The PTA also will plan Parents Night Out opportunities as well as paint/craft nights. Additionally, there will be ongoing sales through Mabel's Labels, Magic Story, and Sarris Candies.		
Danielle Hutson suggested offering samples of Sarris Candies at the next in-person meeting to encourage sales, a suggestion supported by Jessica Scott, Rebecca Yu, and Shannan Winkler.		
Rebecca Yu also discussed the "Dining for Dollars Tuesdays," which are spirit nights at local restaurants, giving families multiple opportunities to support the school. Upcoming events include The Habit Burger Grill (September 2nd), Chipotle (September 16th), Lazy Dog (full week in October), El Fresco (November 18th), and a Skate N Fun Zone night on November 3rd.		
After-School Programs	6:41pm	Rebecca Yu, President
The PTA also brought back after-school programs, scaled down to two 12-week sessions. The current schedule and classes were presented and teachers were encouraged to remind parents to register before September 12th.		

Timeline of Events	6:42pm	Rebecca Yu, President
A timeline of events was provided, including covering the Welcome Back Picnic that happened last Friday:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Movie Night (Sep 19) • Trunk-or-Treat (Oct 30) • Holiday Market (Nov) • Paint Night (Nov 14) • Bingo Night (Dec 10) • Extreme Science Assembly (Dec 2) • Winter Dance (Jan 23) • Chili Cookoff (Feb) • Spring Carnival & Silent Auction (Mar 7) • Volleyball Spirit Night (Apr 17) • Staff Appreciation Week (May) 		
Volunteer Opportunities		
6:45pm		
Rebecca Yu, President		
<p>The PTA is actively seeking volunteers for various events and committees. Shannon Winkler encouraged participation highlighting that many events are fun and management, even for those new to volunteering. Rebecca Yu reiterated the importance of early registration for volunteers, especially for roles requiring background checks.</p> <p>Specific needs include committee and event chairs, committee members for advocacy or fundraising, and after-school monitors for Thursdays and Fridays. Danielle Hutson and Matt Hutson volunteered to monitor on Thursdays.</p> <p>Teachers were encouraged to sign up their trunks for the Trunk-or-Treat and it was mentioned that we will also be collecting candy donations as we had such a huge turnout last year. Rebecca Yu plans to create a (trash can) "candy monster" for candy collection in October.</p> <p>The PTA also needs judges for the Reflections contest (visual arts, music photography, and literature) and volunteers for the Silent Auction Committee, which is their largest fundraiser.</p>		
Announcements & Final Remarks	6:57pm	Rebecca Yu, President
<p>Rebecca Yu announced a 20% off flash sale on t-shirts until September 30th, the same day the membership contest ends. She also mentioned the Giant Community Bag program in September, where a dollar from each reusable bag purchased at the St. Germain Gian goes back to the school. The last day to register for after-school programs is September 12th, with a late fee applied afterward.</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for October 27th. This will be an in-person meeting and will include pizza and childcare...and Sarris Candies samples.</p>		

Voting Matters (if applicable)	N/A	Rebecca Yu, President
<p>The proposed budget for the 2025-26 school year was voted on and passed.</p>		

The next meeting will be October 27th and it will be an in-person meeting at CES.