

CRAGIN COUGAR PTO

PTO Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 10, 2026 • 5:15 PM

Cragin Elementary Library & Zoom

1. Welcome & Call to Order 5:15pm

- Meeting opened by **Bridgett Patterson, President.**
- Motion seconded by **Brandi Mitchell, Secretary.**

People in Attendance:

- Bridgett Patterson — President
 - Africa Corona — Vice President
 - Kathleen Shooshtari — Treasurer
 - Brandi Mitchell — Secretary
 - Jeanette Apaez-Gutierrez — Principal
 - Karina Acuna — Community Liaison
 - Jennifer Sanchez — Parent
 - Christina Raiola — Parent
 - Kilee Purcell — Teacher
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2. Principal / School Update

Principal Jeanette Apaez-Gutierrez

- Principal Apaez-Gutierrez is very encouraged by the start of the school year.
- She expressed her gratitude for everything the PTO has provided to help kick off the new school year.
- Staff members are very happy with their new refrigerator and are looking forward to a great school year.
- **Garden Update:** The garden project is currently in progress.

- The **garden design** has been generously donated by **Sundrea Designs**.
 - **School Letter Grade Update:** The school's official letter grade is expected to be updated around **November**. Current data indicates that the school has shown improvement.
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3. Back-to-School PTO Update

- **Welcome Back Activities Recap**
 - **Teacher & Staff Breakfast**
 - **Teacher Lunch**
 - **Tucson Appliance Refrigerator Donation:** \$879 value
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4. Treasurer's Report

- **Current PTO Balance:** \$902

Recent Income:

- Meet the Teacher — **\$162**

Recent Expenses:

- Water bottles purchased over the summer

Upcoming Expenses:

- Library bulletin board materials
 - **PTO Insurance:** Shopping for a more reasonably priced insurance option. Insurance is due by the **end of September**.
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5. Upcoming Events

Peter Piper Pizza Night — August 28

- **Time:** 5:00–8:00 PM

Movie Night — September 25

- **Showtime:** 5:30 PM

Student Movie Vote:

- Swapped
- Zootopia
- Minions

Food & Concessions:

- Nachos
- Hot dogs
- Pretzels with cheese
- Popcorn
- Baked chips
- Water
- Lemonade
- Tea

Volunteers Needed:

- Snack bar
- Setup
- Tear down

 Fall Festival — October 23

- **Time:** 5:30–7:30 PM

Activities:

- Fall-themed games
- **Emphasis on prizes rather than candy**

Food & Concessions:

- Snack bar will be open

Donations & Sponsors:

- Seeking donations and sponsors to help support the Fall Festival

Volunteers Needed:

- Games
- Snack bar
- Setup
- Tear down

Additional Needs:

- Lighting
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6. Fundraisers & PTO Programs**Tattoo Your Teacher Fundraiser**

- Planned as a **fall/winter fundraiser, sometime between October and December.**
- Participating teachers will volunteer to be part of the fundraiser.
- Students can purchase temporary tattoos to “tattoo” participating teachers:
 - **Small tattoo — \$1**
 - **Medium tattoo — \$3**
 - **Large tattoo — \$5**
- Purchased tattoos will be placed on participating teachers as part of the fundraiser.
- **Seeking donations for teacher incentives** to encourage teachers to participate.

Spirit Wear / First Fridays

- Will be held on the **first Friday of each month from September through May.**
- The **class with the most students wearing spirit wear will win the Spirit Trophy.**
- The winning class will keep the trophy and have **bragging rights for the month.**
- The trophy will be used as the incentive instead of a class party.

Current PTO Merchandise

- T-shirts — **\$13**

- Water bottles — **\$6**
- Personalized water bottles — **\$8** (\$2 additional for a name)
- **Coming in September:** Hats and hair bows

Pop Tab Contest

- Will run **March 1–May 15** during the spring season.

Additional Fundraising Ideas

- Restaurant nights
- Skate Country
- Yard sales
- Car washes
- Paint nights
- Fundraising events will be scheduled throughout the school year, with events generally concentrated in the fall and spring.

7. Meeting Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned by **Brandi Mitchell**.
- Motion seconded by **Principal Jeanette Apaez-Gutierrez**.

Cragin Cougar PTO

From tiny paws to giant steps, Cougars grow in excellence.