



# Young Achievers Christian Academy Parent Teacher Organization

*Date | time* August 21, 2025 | 6:30pm | YACA | *Meeting called to order by* Kimberly Clayton at 6:30 pm

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## In Attendance

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Ms. Smith, Academy Director  
Kimberly Clayton –President  
Shenita Dunkley-Vice President  
Katrina Saxton, Treasurer  
Roll Call - by sign in sheet (26 members present)

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## Adoption of Agenda

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- Kimberly Clayton

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## Adoption of Minutes

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- Carmen Croffie

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## Principal's Report

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## Treasurer's Report

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Katrina Saxton:

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## Yearbook Committee

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Chair: Shana Gray

Requested assistance from the YACA community to collect pictures throughout the year. A Google folder will be created and linked on the school's website, allowing parents to easily share photos. Additionally, we are exploring the possibility of working with a new yearbook vendor this year.

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## Community Engagement Committee

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Chair: Alisha Harris

**Goal:** To volunteer and increase visibility within the community.

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- **Beautification Project**
  - Fully sponsored project; volunteers will be needed to assist with implementation and provide routine landscaping maintenance throughout the year.
- **Chillin' & Grillin' Community Engagement Event**
  - In partnership with the Family Fun Committee, this event will foster relationships within the YACA community while also building strong connections with the broader community.
- **Spring 2026 Field Trip**
  - Planned trip to the National Juneteenth Museum in Fort Worth, Texas. The goal is to partner with two other African American schools in the community (Thelma Parks and Pleasant Hill) to charter students for this educational experience.
- **Recycling Effort**
  - Ongoing initiative to promote sustainability within the school and community.
- **Thanksgiving Baskets**
  - Annual project to provide Thanksgiving meals for families in need.
- **Angel Tree Sponsorship**
  - Holiday initiative to support children and families through gift sponsorship.
- **Community Engagement / Helping Hand Project**
  - Year-round opportunities to serve community needs, such as volunteering at community kitchens and other local service efforts.
- **Bags of Hope & Care by Carmen Croffie**
  - Partnership to collect gently used purses, backpacks, winter items, and personal hygiene products to support individuals experiencing homelessness. Bags will also include resource information to help connect them with needed services. Carmen will provide Alisha with a list of requested items so donation collection can begin.

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## Family Fun Committee

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Chair: Carmen Croffie

Events for the 2025–2026 school year have been outlined; however, it was requested that the PTO community come together to:

- Confirm which events we want to commit to,
- Gather additional suggestions, and
- Pull our resources to ensure our family fun events are engaging, memorable, and successful.

PTO Member Poll Items:

- October: Host a Fall Festival *or* plan a trip to Orr Family Farm
- December: Ice Skating, Christmas Lights, *or both*

Once the polls are completed, the committee will begin meeting to gather resources and move forward with planning.

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## Special Events Committee

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Chair(s): Kimberly Clayton, Queen McDaniel, Carmen Croffie:

## Safety & Training Updates

- **Queen McDaniel** discussed school safety, active shooter training, and situational awareness.
- **Student Drills** – Phased approach with staged, instructor-led training to build preparedness.
- **Teacher & Staff Training & Awareness** – Includes conduct training, de-escalation techniques, threat assessments, emergency procedures, and role-specific guidance during incidents.

## Financial Literacy Program: Money Moves

- Targeted for middle school students (6th–8th grade).
- Activities designed to teach students how to stimulate the economy and make smart financial decisions. *\*Suggested format: host on weekends and open to the community. Admission could be \$10–\$15 for community guests, while YACA students attend free of charge. A portion of the admission will go toward providing food, such as pizza, with the remaining proceeds supporting fundraising efforts (Kimberly). The event also serves as a valuable opportunity for community engagement (Aisha).*

## End-of-Year (EOY) Trip Destination Options – Poll Needed:

- Big Cedar Lodge (Angler’s Lodge) – Branson, Missouri
- Kalahari Resort – Round Rock, Texas
- A Weekend in Oklahoma – Keeping it local
- Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park – Burleson, Texas

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## G-Squad Committee

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Chair: Fonda Bean:

More to come

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## Fundraising & Grants Committee

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Chair: Kimberly Clayton

This year, we are working to expand our fundraising efforts.

- **World’s Finest Chocolate**  
Last year was a great success, and the company is looking to partner with YACA again this school year. Please note: chocolate bars have increased in price from \$1 to \$2.
- **Community Shoe Drive**  
Currently underway and runs through November 2025.
- **Otis Spunkmeyer Cookie Fundraiser**  
Upcoming opportunity to support YACA through cookie sales.
- **2026 Spring Fashion Show**  
Venue identified SotoCreation (Christian venue). Next steps include finalizing the date, budget, logistics, and planning.

- **Performing Arts**  
Considering a student play to showcase the artistic, acting, and creative talents of our kids.
- **Duck Derby**  
Students decorate rubber ducks and race them! *This event may also be combined with the Fall Festival. Parents can vote (\$\$\$) on kids ducks*
- **Snack Day Friday**  
Launching August 29th. JotForms are now active – submissions must be completed by Wednesday, and payments are due by Thursday each week.

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## Upcoming Events

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- August 29th - Snack Day Friday
- September 1st- Labor Day (No School)
- September 3rd - Grandparents Day

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## Unfinished Business

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- Determine budget for the 2025-2026 school year
- EOY Trip solidify date and location
- Fall Festival or Orr Family Farm Decision

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## New Business

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- New Committee: “Dadication”- Led by Mr. Daniels. We are inviting all men – fathers, brothers, uncles, and grandfathers – to make an impact within the YACA community by uplifting, mentoring, and supporting our sons and daughters through a strong and consistent presence.
- Parents’ Night Out Event
- Box Tops Fundraiser
- PTO Dues: \$50 (includes a T-shirt)

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## Next Meeting

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- September 25, 2025, via zoom. A zoom link will be sent via email to all members.
- **\*\*Please remember to have your PTO dues paid by September 30<sup>th</sup>\*\***

Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm