

Waltrip High School PTO
General Meeting Minutes - DRAFT
Tuesday, November 18th, 2025 6pm
Waltrip High School Library

Call to Order at 6:13pm by Michelle Schoene, President

Attendees: See attached list. Quorum established.

Review of Minutes – move to end of meeting to give time to review.

1st Vice President's Report - Rachel Riebeling

- There is limited Spirit Wear inventory available. Can be purchased online - waltriphpto.org/spirit-wear.

Treasurer's Report - Nghia Dang

- Budget update – presented budget, with current total account balance being \$119,149.04.

Committee Reports:

Membership - Yanira Dudley, not present. Michelle Schoene presented.

- Update on tennis court cleanup – worked to get it soft washed. Working with an outside community member to build the tennis program.

Events - Amy Roe-Soliz

- Jazz on 34th update – came in under given budget on expenses and over on anticipated income. There are socials still open to purchase, so income will continue to rise. Please support. Unexpected win - the Mardi Gras social hired the jazz band!
- DJ Bingo – new date 3/28/25. Will need donations of silent auction items.

Staff Appreciation - Suzy D'Souza, not present. Michelle Schoene presented.

- Thanksgiving luncheon was awesome! A lot of fun to serve teachers – huge turn out. Staff baking contest with prizes. Food from Kojacks.
- Staff Holiday luncheon 12/19/25 (12p-3p) - please volunteer
- This Friday 11/21 – staff social mixer at Union Kitchen right after school.

School Store – Rachel Riebling & Megan Rasmussen presented.

- Volunteer and donation opportunities—please sign up for shifts and encourage other parents to sign up for shifts. SignUp Genius is up. Have narrowed to 2 slots per time.

Student Culture - Kat Creech

- Next victory date 11/21 – ice cream treats for highest attendance. Last month's victory date for fewest tardies – seniors won.
- Upcoming Ram Fest Dates: 2/4 Black History, 2/27 Go Texan Day, 4/29 One Love, One Community
- "Lock'd In" - Possible date is 1/9 or 1/16 – 6pm to midnight. Locked in at 7, \$10 ticket for buy in purposes - food, drinks, activities, etc. Open gyms, escape room challenges, games, lounge, movies, etc. Will need parents to man activities, etc. Band used to do one. School will supply security, admin, custodial staff (about \$2000).

Parent Engagement - Rachel Riebeling

- Working on recruitment event with Ashley Clark. Details to come.
- FBMS Parent hosted a private event which was a success!

Educational Support -Megan Rasmussen, no report

Scholarship - Susie Molina, not present, no report

Communications - Angie Gunden, no report

Community Partners - Erin Field, not present. Michelle Schoene presented.

- Upcoming Spirit Night - 11/19 at LaViva
- New community partner - Lifesavers ER at \$3000!

Capital Improvement/Campus Beautification-Angelica Sullivan

- Campus Cleanup was on 11/15 – was a reschedule. Small group. Scrubbed tennis courts and worked on the vines.
- Upcoming capital expenditure projects – 2 bathroom revamps, side courtyard refresh
- Clean ups and capital expenditures need manpower! Many expressed that students need to be actively engaged/take pride in their campus.
 - Principal Randall will communicate to campus leaders the expectation that students who participate in a spring activity need to participate in a volunteer day.
 - Other ideas to boost volunteerism: Volunteerism Victory Day; consider making this a requirement for PTO Scholarship.

Legislative Liaison - Jennifer Perry

- There is an HISD effort to propose another, more targeted, bond.
- Renewed interest in special education parents suing the district for not making needs met. May move the needle on special education funding/interest.
- Still a lot of shift in the district. Not as much in our school, but at the district level.

Teacher Liaison – Stephanie “Spoony” Witherspoon

- Everyone needs a break! But things really are going well. Lunch was fantastic. Looking forward to the social on Friday.

Class of 2026 - Melanie Barr Fitzpatrick

- Polar Express Day – school wide fundraiser. Must be 12/15. At 3:15, kids check into last period - \$2 wristband (as a small buy in) – hot cocoa, cookies, additional add ons – gingerbread man decorating, etc...will lead into the movie. Working on the logistics.
- Friday – Boys volleyball tournament

Class of 2027 - Brooke Persyn, no report

Class of 2028 - Tracey Rios, not present. Michelle Schoene presented.

- 28 made \$650.00 at Ram Fest
- Stop by Mytiburger after the meeting, mention Waltrip to support Class of '28

Class of 2029 - Dana Gallegos, absent.

- Still looking for a faculty member.
- Principal Randall may have someone, but not ready to announce until confirmed.

Review of Minutes of October 21, 2025 General Meeting.

- Brooke Persyn makes a motion to approve as presented. Second by Amy Roe-Soliz. Minutes approved as presented.

Unfinished and New Business

- Jennifer Perry made a motion to amend the budget to create a budget line item for Lock'd In . Second by Stephanie “Spoony” Witherspoon. Discussion - are we on target to meet goals? Yes. Have exceed income goals for community partners, homecoming dance, and Jazz on 34th. Likely 200 tickets. Event will likely need 16-17 adults, including

school staff. For reference, HOCO dance had 18 volunteers for 600 kids. Jennifer Perry amends motion to clarify \$3000 income and \$3000 expense budget. Motion passed.

- Kat Creech made a motion to set aside \$10,000 from Special Projects Fund to purchase 200 \$50 grocery gift cards for food-insecure families at Waltrip. Second by Amy Roe-Soliz. Discussion – gift cards will be monitored by counselors and Principal Randall. Must be handled through HISD Office of External Funding as a grant. Do in installments. Secure location, manageable number of cards, streamline process, tight policies on how they are distributed. This will be helpful as there are a lot of kids on their own. Motion passed.
- Principal Randall provides an explanation of Student Council election timeline:
 - May 2026 - Rising 10th, 11th, 12th graders will re-run for office (between STAAR and AP exams)
 - 1st week of school year (beginning 2026-2027) - Freshman will run for office
 - 2nd week of school year - Freshman will hold elections

Adjournment – 7:39pm

Secretary, Michelle Kelley, absent. Minutes taken by Carrie Jaeger.