Lufkin Road Middle School PTA
General Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2025
LRMS Media Center

Meeting Began: 5:30pm

Members Present: Brooke Kelley, Melissa Carroll, Linda Gardner, Elizabeth Hanna, Megan Delaney, Alissa Turnbull, Johna Ritchie, Mandy MacNaughton, Stacey Waltzer, Michael Burch, McKenzie Ziegler, Kay Campbell, Miguel Harrington, Kimberly Harrington, Jennifer Hatchell, Teresa Porter, Jill Brooks, Jennifer Walzcak, Joy Perry, Megan Irby, Raena Burch, Taylor Stone, Tony Cesarez

Current PTA Membership: 184 Members (69 faculty)

Upcoming Dates:

Sept 23: Spirit Night at Ruckus

Sept 26: BOLTS Cart

Sept 26: Cafeteria Crew

Oct 15: Spirit Night at Burrito Shak

Oct 17: 7th Grade Social

Oct 18: Campus Beautification

Oct 22: Fall Fest

President's Welcome, Brooke

- Approval of 8/19 minutes
  - Mandy M motioned to approve, Melissa C seconded
- Grant requests - Ms. Stone, Ms. Oxendine, Ms. Hatchell
  - Hatchell (intervention coordinator and reading intervention) - Scholastic reading resources to provide individualized instruction/support
    - Brooke K motioned to approve, Melissa C seconded
  - Oxendine (AIG) - Breakout EDU - digitized escape rooms
    - Mandy M motioned to approve, Brooke K seconded
  - Stone (7th grade ELA teacher) - funding for 30-35 books in the native language of their students to support ESL instruction and class participation
    - Mandy M motioned to approve, Stacey W seconded

Treasurer Updates, Melissa

- 25/26 Budget Update
  - Current cash balance $35,900
    - Spirit Night at City BBQ made $500
    - $1100 Membership fees
    - $1467 concessions at 6th grade dance
    - $3400 on spirit wear sales
      - Have decided that we will keep spirit wear sales open throughout the year, so we can continue this stream of income for the PTA
      - Looking for someone who may be interested in helping to coordinate spirit wear (helping with fulfilling periodic orders at school)
    - Spent $1500 in grants so far, $4500 remaining
    - We have already exceeded our expected income for lightning bolts ($405 so far)

Principal's Updates

- Thank you for support as the school navigated internet/phone service outages yesterday
- Amazing volunteer support for food pantry, BOLTS cart, lunch coverage so far!
- Friday, September 26th - BOLTS cart & lunch coverage opportunities
- Spirit Night at Ruckus next Tuesday, September 23rd - Join Us!
- Next social is the 7th grade social on October 17th!
  - 6th grade students & staff gave feedback that they loved the games in the cafeteria

Committee Updates:

- **Fundraising**
    - Teresa Porter will lead our fundraising efforts!
    - No Fuss Fundraiser launching in October ($25,000 is our top tier goal)
        - We already have a page on our website that already provides information about where fundraising dollars go, as well as a link to donate.
        - Areas for improvement - how do we engage students in the process? What incentives would motivate them to participate?
            - Joy Perry (Mathnasium on Holly Springs Road) would like to partner with our school to provide parents night out, student incentives, etc.
            - Brainstorming other incentives:
                - Top Fundraisers: Principal for a day, opportunity to read morning announcements, 2x multiplier for your BOLTS cart purchase, choose a "walk out" song at dismissal for the day, behind the scenes tour of the school
                - Team Incentives - pizza party, donuts during lightning time, kids vs. staff kickball game, water balloon activity
                    - 130 kids per team in 6th grade
                    - 110 kids per team in 7th grade
                - Whole School Incentives - free choice seating at lunch, extra outside time, teacher tricycling match, inflatable teacher dress up at bus loop or carpool loop
            - Need to collect name, grade, and track on all donations
            - Raffle for spirit wear (PJ pants are particularly popular)

        - Timeframe
            - Launching in October - 4 weeks is ideal (to cover all tracks)
            - Dates to keep in mind
                - October 9th - field day and school pep rally
                - October 22nd - Fall Fest
                    - Coin Wars - competition to collect coins/cash by grade/track teams – will need volunteers to staff these donation tables
                        - Explore banks who may be willing to provide matching funds or other support

    - Corporate sponsorships
        - Sponsorships are live on the website
            - 4 sponsorship tiers ranging from $250-$1,500 with varying promotional benefits. Opportunities for banners on the fences, sidewalk lightning bolts, promotion in the vestibule, social media shoutouts, PTA newsletter mentions, link on PTA website, etc.
        - Other Resources:
            - Alissa Turnbull is a member of a local women's resource group and would be willing to share a pdf with sponsorship information to other members of her group
            - Joy Perry would be willing to share donation opportunities to contacts through her Chamber of Commerce membership

    - Golden Cone fundraiser launched
        - Those who purchase a golden cone will be able to skip the carpool line entirely
        - Initial "buy it now" offering was purchased immediately
        - Will continue to offer additional spaces as an auction with a high "buy it now" price

        - Consider offering additional golden cone for morning drop-off (ideal for those who need to drop off right at 7:45am when doors open)

- **Social Committee**
    - Fall Fest - Oct 22nd - 4-6pm
    - Food trucks update - aiming for 3-4 food trucks and 1 dessert-type truck
    - Band may perform at some point at the event (Ms. Hanna will confirm)
    - Art Club will do face painting at the event (Ms. Stone needs PTA to buy 1 or 2 more sets of face paint and a volunteer or two to help with painting using stencils)
    - Activities plan - Board games needed
        - Summit Church will provide some outdoor games for us to use
        - PTA has some games, will put out a request for more donations via Amazon wishlist
        - Additional outdoor games welcomed for drop-off
    - Volunteer needs
        - Managing lines at the food trucks, facepainting, setting up games before and clean-up after

- **Campus Beautification**
    - Summit Church is supporting our school through a campus beautification day on Saturday, October 18th. The focus will be on the entryway areas of the schools. Times and details are still in the works. The school community will be welcomed to join the efforts - more information coming in a future BOLTS Broadcast. Summit also provides a meal for staff during Thanksgiving week.

- **Cultural Arts**, Johna Ritchie
    - November 13th - The Beast - history of African American music (tribal songs, blues, rap, beat boxing, etc.)
    - February - A Capella group - “Magic of A Capella” performance
    - We got approval for a grant that will provide $400 of funding for each event
        - Budgeted $4000 for the year, will spend about $4100 after the grant funding

Advocacy Updates

- Food pantry open! Sign up to host a drive
- Our school board representative has recently stepped down, so we are awaiting more information about who our new representative will be.

Communications Updates

- Help wanted! Contact LufkinPTACommunications@gmail.com

Meeting Adjourned: 7:00pm

