

Lake Park Elementary PTO
General Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2025



Welcome and Introduction of Officers:

Tracey Malone, President
Megan Goebel, Vice-President
Zara Shoham, Secretary
Ilisa Krich, Treasurer
Sara Iannaccone, Communications & Membership Coordinator
Allison Bringardner, Past President
Jessica LeBrun, Digital Communications
Alex Breault, Special Events Coordinator
Dan Barone, Historian
Meredith Curley, Parent Coordinator
Amy Byington, Teacher Liaison

The meeting was called to order at **8:45 AM**.

Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve by Dan and seconded by Jessica.
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Principal's Report – Mrs. Maya

- Thanked everyone for attending.
 - Encouraged new parents to get involved – no experience needed, PTO is welcoming and supportive.
 - Stressed the importance of parent involvement: *"What you do makes a difference."*
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Treasurer's Report – Ilisa Krich

- Tracey noted that finances are in good shape and we're off to a strong start with banner sales.
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President's Report – Tracey Malone

- Welcomed attendees and introduced board members.
- Encouraged all parents to get involved and reassured that even small efforts make a big impact.
- Discussed the importance of donations—both time and financial.



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- Explained where funds go (e.g., \$150 per teacher, classroom bonuses, etc.).
 - Reinforced that participation is optional but greatly appreciated.
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Counselor's Report – Mrs. Saba

- **Mrs. Saba was unable to attend but relayed the following information:**
 - **PTO Scholarship Program:** Designed to help every child participate in activities; Scholarships are given discreetly; contact Mrs. Saba for more info.
 - Returning volunteers must reapply every year; new volunteers need to apply as well.
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Current Events & Fundraisers

- **Banner Fundraiser (thru 9/12):** Businesses can sponsor car line banners.
 - **Spirit Wear (thru 9/15):** We have a new design incorporating our theme; order forms sent home.
 - **Give Back Nights- usually a dinner or shopping event from 5-8 pm where a percentage of sales goes to LPE:**
 - *Southern Sunday* – Date TBD
 - *Vineyard Vines, Il Primo*
 - *Felipe's* – 10/16
 - Looking to host monthly events – businesses or contacts welcome!
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Upcoming Events & Programs

- **LPE Night at NHS:** October 3 - each child will get one ticket sent home; families can purchase the rest.
- **Charleston Wrap Fundraiser:** October 1–28 - Fall's biggest fundraiser; it's a catalog fundraiser, but cash donations are accepted)
- **Penny Wars for Movie Night:** October 1–31- give a chance for the kids to vote on the movie while raising funds.
- **Pumpkin Sales:** October 1–31; pumpkins are \$3 and the kids can decorate for display at the Vocabulary Parade.



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Future Events

- **Vocabulary Parade (10/31):** Annual parade where kids can dress up based on grade level vocabulary options (e.g. nouns, verbs, compound words, idioms)
 - *Costume donations needed* – drop off at the front office.
 - **Movie Night (11/7):**
 - \$5 ticket includes popcorn; pizza and drinks sold separately; scholarship applicable
 - Movie suggestions welcome
 - Students can vote for the movie through Penny Wars.
 - **Thanksgiving Feast:** November 20 - annual Thanksgiving meal served during lunch
 - **Candy Cane Sales:** December 1–5- fundraiser to support 5th grade
 - **Holiday House:** December 9–12
 - Kids shop for gifts for families; items are affordable and non-religious.
 - Preview days included. Many volunteers needed (Sign-Up Genius to come).
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Biggest Fundraiser – Walk-A-Thon (2/28/26)

- Largest event of the year- includes a walk through the zoo, courtyard games and activities and a silent auction. Allison showed everyone a Walk-A-Thon shirt and how the sponsors are on the back.
 - Seeking sponsors and silent auction items; please start reaching out early.
 - Walk-A-Thon T-shirts and sponsorships already in progress, which are included in the banner fundraiser.
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Additional Info & Reminders

- **Donations:** Time, money, or items—everything helps.
- **Teacher Appreciation (May):** Donate to individual teachers or the entire staff.
- **Grade-Level Coordinators:** Needed to organize contact lists and relay info. For example some of the grades / classes made gifts for Walk A Thon, so the grade level parent can push out the information to parents in each grade. Please reach out to Meredith.
- **School Store:** Open every Friday; items include trinkets and spirit wear; supports PTO.
- **Grandparent Involvement Encouraged!**
- **Sign-Ups:** Keep an eye out for Sign-Up Genius emails.



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- **Volunteer Requirements:**
 - Level 1 clearance required (no overnights).
 - Must reapply every year.
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Questions & Open Discussion

- **Teacher Appreciation:** Reach out directly to your teacher or PTO.
 - **Sign-Up Forms:** Available online via PTO website and Facebook group.
 - **Charleston Wrap:** Not just local – option to donate instead of selling.
 - **Buddy Photos:** \$1 donation lets kids get photos with friends for the yearbook – fun volunteer opportunity, where you can come to your child's recess. No need to edit photos.
 - **Panther Path:** Order brick pavers with a message or your family's name; portion of sales supports PTO
 - **Holiday House & Other Events:**
 - Volunteer interest forms going out soon.
 - Monthly emails will include details.
 - **Last Day of School Party:** Not PTO-sponsored but well-loved – Alex will help coordinate again. Tracey said we will still reschedule beginning of the year party, which was rained out.
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Closing Remarks

- Everyone's contributions matter – big or small. Mrs. Maya emphasized that parents' voices matter and, although we can't please everyone, we are open to feedback.
 - Stay connected by opting in to PTO communications.
 - Let the board know if you have questions or feedback!
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The next PTO General Meeting will be on October 24.

Adjournment: Tracey Malone 9:35 AM



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