



Community Connection

Wisdom works wonders.

August 2025



The first school bell rang on August 13 to mark the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year. Class is officially in session, and our students and staff are already doing amazing things! Click [HERE](#) to view more first day photos from across the district.

The 2021 Bond Project Comes to Completion





The final three campuses, that were a part of the 2021 bond project, officially opened for a historic first day to welcome their first group of students. The excitement is buzzing across the district and the City of Waco for new Waco High, new Kendrick Elementary, and renovated South Waco Elementary. Click [HERE](#) to watch KXXV's coverage and [HERE](#) to watch KWTX's coverage.



Kendrick Elementary School Dedication



Join us as we celebrate the dedication of the newly constructed Kendrick Elementary School.

**11 a.m.
Monday, September 15, 2025
1801 Kendrick Lane**

**Region 12 Teachers of the Year
Awarded in Waco ISD**



Each year, Waco ISD recognizes an Elementary and Secondary Teacher of the Year for the district. This year, Waco ISD is thrilled to announce that both [Mrs. Altamirano](#), a dedicated educator at West Avenue Elementary, and [Mrs. Adame](#), a passionate teacher at Waco High School, earned the Region 12 Teacher of the Year Award for their outstanding achievements in the field of elementary and secondary education.

Their hard work and innovative approaches to education serve as an inspiration to their peers and the entire region. CONGRATULATIONS Mrs. Altamirano and Mrs. Adame! We are so proud to have you on our Waco ISD team. Click [HERE](#) to watch FOX 44's coverage.



Student and Staff Accolades



Waco ISD students and staff continued to work through the summer to prepare our final graduating class of the 2024-2025 school year. Congratulations to the 2025 summer graduates! Click [HERE](#) to view more photos.



Congratulations to the Waco ISD Fine Arts Department for receiving the prestigious District Award of Distinction from the Texas Educational Theatre Association for two consecutive years. This accolade highlights the department's commitment to excellence in arts education, showcasing its innovative programs and dedicated instructors who inspire students to explore their creativity through various forms of artistic expression.

The Waco Education Foundation awarded \$400 First Year Teacher Mini Grants to every Waco ISD first-year teacher, brand new to the teaching profession. This grant helped them purchase supplies to help set-up their very first classroom.



Message from the Board President

Dear Waco ISD Community,

The school year is off to a fantastic start, and I couldn't be more excited to see our campuses come alive with energy, curiosity, and learning from our Pre-K students all the way to the Class of 2026!

It's always inspiring to watch students jump into a new year full of possibilities, building on their successes and continuing to grow academically. I'm confident that this year will be one of incredible progress and memorable moments for our entire Waco ISD family.

A big thank you goes out to our school leaders, teachers, and staff who worked hard to prepare for a smooth and welcoming start to the year. I want to especially recognize the incredible support we've seen from our community. Whether it was handing out backpacks full of supplies, greeting students on the first day, or simply showing up with encouragement and smiles, your presence made a difference. Our students felt it, and so did we.

Waco ISD is truly fortunate to have such strong community partners. In return, we're committed to being a great partner, too. When students, families, educators, and the community work together, there's no limit to what we can achieve.

With appreciation,

With great appreciation,

Jose Vidaña



Board Meeting



Did you miss the August 28 Board of Trustees meeting? Get a quick update by watching the meeting recap video. Check out this [LINK](#) for the full board meeting from August 28, 2025.

The next regular meeting will be held on September 25, 2025, at 6 p.m. in the WISD Conference Center, 115 S. 5th Street.

Outstanding Community Partner

Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers was honored as the Waco ISD Community Partner for the Month for August. They have generously supported the district by donating beverages and food for numerous events at the campus level and districtwide. They have also donated gift cards and gift baskets for Teacher Appreciation Week, partnered with campuses for fundraising events, given their time to help set up learning spaces, and recently gave 125 Box Combo gift cards to students supporting the district's Convocation. Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers supports Waco ISD in multiple facets, and the district is truly grateful for your willingness to give back to the school community!



Message from the Superintendent

Dear Waco ISD Community,

It is my distinct pleasure to officially kick off the 2025-2026 school year!

This year marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter in Waco ISD. The newly built Waco High School, Kendrick Elementary, and the renovated South Waco Elementary have opened their doors to students, families, teachers, and staff. These state-of-the-art learning spaces reflect our deep commitment to creating environments that inspire creativity, support academic excellence, and empower both students and educators to thrive.



This new school year brings with it fresh opportunities for learning, growth, and connection. Our vision — *Rooted in WISDom, Committed to Excellence* — is guiding every decision we make, every goal we set, and every effort we put forth. We are building a district where every student is valued, supported, and challenged to succeed.

I am fully focused on one goal: excellence in everything we do for our students. This journey would not be possible without the unwavering support of our incredible community. Waco is truly blessed with generous and dedicated partners, and Waco ISD is proud to thrive within such a collaborative and caring environment.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Dara Altamirano, named Region 12 Elementary Teacher of the Year and Taylor Adame, Region 12 Secondary Teacher of the Year! It is an extraordinary honor for Waco ISD to have both of our District Teachers of the Year recognized at the regional level. These awards are a testament to the talent, passion, and dedication of our educators.

As we embark on this new year, let us move forward together — united in purpose, inspired by possibility, and committed to the success of every student.

Warm regards,

Tiffany Spicer, Ph.D.

#WISDomWorksWonders

#InspireExcellence



The Howmet Aerospace company hosted a school supply drive and donated the contributions to Waco ISD. Thanks to their immense generosity, many students will receive essential school supplies for class, including notebooks, pens, backpacks, and more!



Waco ISD's 2025 Convocation was a powerful celebration of unity , bringing the entire district together for the first time since 2023.

This formal assembly of all district staff focused on aligning leadership goals , invigorating faculty , and launching the new academic year with a shared vision and purpose.

A heartfelt thank you to Dr. Spicer for expertly uniting the Waco ISD team, enabling us to connect , reflect , and strategically prepare for the exciting year ahead. Together, we are ready to make a lasting impact! Click [HERE](#) to view more photos.



Shepherd's Heart joined with Waco ISD administration, Brook Avenue leadership,

and the Early Childhood Education team to deliver the first food distribution of the year at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church. It is always a blessing to have an opportunity to serve families in need while strengthening our Waco community together. Mark your calendars for the next distribution on September 19th. Click [HERE](#) to view more photos.



Family Fest and the Super Hero Fun Run were a huge successes! It was a morning full of fitness and fun. The event offered free health screenings, immunizations, entertainment, lunch and a free backpack filled with school supplies for each registered student. Many thanks to our numerous community partners and staff for making the event possible for our students and families. Click [HERE](#) to view photos from the Super Hero Fun Run, and [HERE](#) to view photos from Family Fest.

Community Resources



We can all play a part in helping to keep Waco ISD safe! Our anonymous online reporting system, STOPit, is available to all students, staff, families, and the community. You can report bullying, violence, and other safety concerns anytime by following this link: www.wacoisd.org/STOPit.



Did you know ALL Waco ISD students ride FREE on the Waco Transit System? Yes, even during summer break! Take advantage of this great resource today.

Visit <http://wacotransit.ridesystems.net/routes>
Download the Ride System app.

Waco ISD | 501 Franklin Ave | Waco, TX 76701 US

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