

Waller Junior High

2604 West Randolph Enid, Oklahoma 73703

About Our School



Waller Junior High

is located in the rural urban community of Enid, Oklahoma, in the Enid School District. Forty-one teachers, one librarian, one and a half counselors, and two administrators serve the

five hundred and forty-three students who attend our school in forty-two classrooms. Currently, 198 seventh graders, 185 eighth graders, and 160 freshmen will attend Waller Junior High School during the 2004 -2005 school year. These students represent the spectrum of young adolescents, including high achievers, Limited English Proficient, special education, at-risk, disadvantaged, and displaced young adults. Waller Junior High School serves a rural urban city, including a wide socioeconomic population. Because we are fortunate to serve the Vance Air Force Base, eight percent of our students come from a military background.



School History

The Board of Education dedicated the building on November 8, 1959 and named the school after a

great man and educator, Mr. DeWitt Waller. Having come to Enid as a teacher and a coach, Mr. Waller moved on to the position of principal and finally superintendent of the Enid Public Schools. He gave a total of forty-eight years of his life to better the lives of children. Having our school bear his name honored his distinguished leadership. With the philosophy of "Students go to school to learn," Mr. Waller placed academic fundamentals first through his years, and at one time, was recognized as one of the top three educators in America. A year after his death, Mr. Waller's family donated mementos of the high points of his career. These articles may be viewed in the Student Center in a lovely display case.

School Learning Results The schools Academic Performance Index or API is above the state baseline average of 1,000. The school reported in 2002 an API index of 1095 and in 2003 an API index of 1221. This was a yearly increase of 11.5 % over the required 6% by law and an overall increase of 126 index points in one year. The fact that the Academic Performance Index for our school is significantly higher than the state average represents a positive trend for high standards and achievement.

School Culture The culture of Waller Junior High provides a positive and supportive environment in which the individual student is provided the opportunity to explore, learn, grow, and use their skills to become independent learners and thinkers. A flexible schedule combined with an evolving, progressive curriculum and a highly educated and enthusiastic faculty allow for exceptional learning opportunities for each child.

Home School Communications

Parents play a key role in our school.

Research shows that the gulf between parent and school widens during the middle school years. In an effort to reverse this trend, we offer parents many opportunities for meaningful involvement, and we go to great lengths to keep them involved. Our communication with parents starts well before the first day of school since we provide detailed information about the school rules and procedures. Parents play a central role in the school program by joining in on the decision making process concerning school wide issues and problems. Conferences among families, teacher teams, and students offer parents the opportunity to understand the child's performance and to become more familiar with the school program.

Grade Checks At any time during the school year, a parent may request a grade check on his/her child by calling the counselor's office at 237-7500. The grade check may be picked up in the front office on the Friday following the request.

Principal's Newsletter The principal's newsletter is sponsored by the PTSA and will be mailed home once a month. This newsletter will contain information about school activities and important events.

Student Planners On the first day of school students are given a planner that includes the student handbook, a study skills help guide, and a daily assignment planning calendar. Each student is required to carry his or her planner to class and record daily assignments. The planner is used as a communication tool between parents and teachers, since teacher notations can be made in the planner. Parents are encouraged to look at the planner nightly to verify homework assignments and check for teacher comments.

Mid Term Progress Reports During the mid-term of every nine-week period, parents receive reports on their child's progress in school. These reports are designed to make parents aware of any academic concerns that a teacher might have.

Waller Mission Statement

Waller Junior High School is dedicated to providing a safe learning environment where each student can become a responsible and productive citizen, as well as an independent, life-long learner.

Our Expected School wide Learning Results

have been established to further our goals under the North Central Accreditation process. We expect that every student will

- ? Be able to communicate effectively
- ? Have a basic technological literacy
- ? Have an awareness of the world's various viewpoints, belief systems, and cultures
- ? Be a contributing community member
- ? Be a complex thinker
- ? Have the skills to be a life long learner

The Enid Public School system does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex/gender, age, disability, or veteran status. Inquiries concerning application of this policy may be referred to the Enid Public Schools, Compliance Coordinator 500 S. Independence, Enid, OK 73701 – 580-234-5270

Testing Program Waller Junior High follows all requirements of the state testing programs. Ninth grade students take the End-of-Course exams in both Algebra I and Biology I, except for students who are not enrolled in these classes. These tests are given in mid-April. Additional tests during the year include the state Criterion Reference Writing Test administered to eighth grade students in February. The remaining 5 PASS subtests; mathematics, science, reading, geography and U.S. history, will be given during the month of April. Occasionally, our students participate in field testing of new tests under development by the state. Eighth grade students are also given the explore exam during the month of October. The EXPLORE exam is an assessment developed by ACT, designed for students to assist in planning their high school years and beyond.

The "W" Award The "W" for Academic Excellence is awarded to students in grades 7 through 9 who meet the following qualifications. The student must achieve a Grade Point Average (GPA) ranging from 3.6 to 4.0 for two nine weeks periods. (The two nine week periods do not have to be consecutive.) The students' GPA's will be calculated each nine week period, and a student can earn recognition as soon as he/she has achieved the required GPA in any two of the first three nine week periods. A student will be disqualified from consideration for the award if he/she has a U for conduct on the report card and/or more than two tardies per nine-week period. No student can receive this award more than one time per school year. The first year a student qualifies for the "W" Award, he/she will receive an academic letter for this achievement. After the student earns the academic letter, each year thereafter he/she qualifies for this award, a bar for the letter will be awarded.

The Arts Waller Junior High prides itself in having an exceptional art program where students can learn to express themselves in artistic aesthetic, forms while pursuing knowledge and personal expression. Students of art discover the principles and elements of art through drawing, painting, design, sculpture, advertising, and pottery.

Parent Volunteer Program A major new outgrowth of the PTSA has been the development of a parent volunteer program. Parent volunteers are organized by PTSA committee members and are designed to assist teachers and students in a multitude of ways: directing drill work, assisting individuals or small groups to read or do project work, preparing displays of student work, preparing materials for class work, and providing refreshments for special celebrations. Volunteers for tutoring students are trained through the district public relations office. These tutors provide the essential one-on-one help that is so necessary to the success of our "at risk" students. The volunteer program serves as an invaluable link between home and school. These special parent volunteers are honored at a reception held in the spring of each year.

Student Conduct At Waller Junior High we take pride in developing appropriate citizenship skills. It is our policy that all children have a right to learn and teachers have the right to teach in an environment free from disruptions. We encourage all students to be responsible for getting to class on time and not interrupting their teacher by causing distractions. An individual's conduct at school is a part of an overall view of his/her academic performance, and we encourage all students at Waller to be on their best behavior at all times. Any student receiving an after school detention notice must have his/her parents sign the slip before they will be admitted into after school study.



Technology It is our philosophy that technology should be utilized to support, reinforce, and enhance our core curriculum. Currently, we have 148 computers within our school including one computer lab and a technology center. Sixty-three are available for student daily use; forty-four are utilized by teachers within the classrooms; and twelve are used in the administrative, counseling, and physical education offices. Nineteen computers are available for student use throughout each day in the school's library. The administrative office, computer lab and all classrooms have network access to the Internet.

Performing Arts Waller Junior High offers an exceptional music program that is designed to give students the opportunity to gain lasting enjoyment of music. Students may choose to participate in the following music classes: band, jazz band orchestra or vocal music. **Band** includes marching skills, concert literature techniques, and sight-reading. **Jazz Band** includes the basics of reading jazz, pop music, ear training, and jazz improvisation. **Vocal** students learn about the fundamentals of choral singing with an emphasis on vocal production techniques, breathing, diction, and choreography. **Orchestra** introduces instrumentalists with experience to more advanced full orchestra and string orchestra concepts of ensemble rehearsal and performance.

School Sports Enid Public Schools takes pride in its athletic programs. Students compete against other schools and travel within the state to compete in games, matches, tournaments, and invitational. Parents needing information about their child's participation in school sports may contact the schools athletic office at 234-2407. The athletic office can answer questions on school physicals, time and dates for individual sports sign ups, eligibility requirements, dates practices will start, names of coaches for each sport, and the dates of important parent meetings. All ninth grade sports are held at Enid High School during seventh period. Transportation to Enid High is provided daily at 2:30 by the school. Seventh and eighth grade sports are held after school. Below is a list of sports by grade level offered by Enid Public Schools; (7th – 9th Grade **Football**) (9th Grade **Soccer** Boys & Girls) (7th – 9th Grade **Cross Country** Boys & Girls) (7th – 9th Grade **Basketball** Boys & Girls) (7th – 9th Grade **Wrestling** Boys) (9th Grade **Softball** Girls) (9th Grade **Baseball** Boys) (7th – 9th Grade **Track** Boys & Girls) (7th – 9th Grade **Tennis** Boys & Girls) (7th – 9th Grade **Golf** Boys & Girls) (7th – 9th Grade **Swimming** Boys & Girls) (7th – 9th Grade **Volleyball** Girls)

Physicals All students intending to participate in interscholastic or tryouts must have a physical examination by a licensed medical doctor once within the school calendar year. Physical forms are made available through the school office.