

W.O.W.

Word of Walden

January 2010

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CALENDAR 2008-2009

January

- 4 *School resumes*
15 **Early Release** – dismissal at 12:31pm
18 Martin Luther King Day – No School
19 PTSA Meeting 6:30-8:00 pm
21 **Conferences – dismissal at 11:28 am**
22 **Conferences – no school**
22 Winter Formal 5:30-9:30
26 Market Day Pickup 4:00-5:00 pm

February

- 16 PTSA Meeting 6:30-8:00 pm
23 Market Day Pickup 4:00-5:00 pm
Music Dept. hosts – staff advisor is Vanessa

March

- 19 **Early Release –dismissal 12:31pm**
17 PTSA Meeting 6:30-8:00 pm
23 Market Day Pickup 4:00-5:00 pm
25 **Conferences – dismissal at 11:28 am**
26 **Conferences – no school**

Applications for Walden 2009-2010

Walden is accepting applications for the 2009-2010 school year – early applications help! Download a copy from the walden website at www.waldeniii.org or pick up a copy from the office.

WALDEN III

In the Process of Discovery

A Word from Principal Bob Holzem

POINTS OF PRIDE

Just a moment to congratulate those connected to Walden for recent efforts, and on a few recognitions you may or may not be aware of...

Did you know that Walden groups donated 336 boxes of food weighing 10,300 pounds and raised \$6,000 for the Racine County Food Bank in November? Walden also raised \$525 for a family in need this season. There were also over 1000 books donated through Walden to Cops 'N Kids reading program this fall.

Did you know Walden Middle School was named an "Exemplary Middle School" (second year in a row) by the Association of Wisconsin School Administrators? This week U.S. News and World Report recognized Walden High School as one of the best high schools in the country. Recently Walden staff and students spoke to the RUSD School Board about its experiences with the Green movement.

I call these items to your attention – and they make us feel good about our choices, our work, and the practices we share in common – but they are a small portion of what Walden is about. It is truly about discovery and finding ways to make learning fun, and meaningful, to our students.

We all hear messages of peace, hope and love during this season, and I personally want to thank you for the trust you share with us by allowing us time for learning with your sons and daughters. Our staff is dedicated to the mission of Walden. From all of us to all of you, peace, hope and love in this season and all other seasons...

IMPORTANT NOTICES

INCLEMENT WEATHER CLOSURES

Walden follows RUSD emergency closing procedures when schools must be closed because of a snowstorm or other emergency conditions. This decision is made as early in the morning as possible but usually by 6:15 am.

It is also possible that we could have a **delayed start** (usually 2 hours) or an **early release**. School closings will be broad-cast on WRJN (1400 AM dial), the local channel on TV, and on the RUSD website at

www2.racine.k12.wi.us.

*Make sure your student knows what to do
in case of early release*

RECEIVE RUSD EMAIL EMERGENCY NOTICES

Sign up on the RUSD website at www2.racine.k12.wi.us to receive up-to-the-minute closing and emergency announcements by email. Click on Emergency Announcements in the upper left-hand corner of the home page.

STUDENT PARKING

Students may use the South parking lot during 2nd (Nov. 12-Jan 25) and 3rd (Jan 29-April 4) quarters for parking.

ALL DRIVERS: Please **use caution** when entering or leaving the parking lot! The safety of our students depends on it!

WALDEN BLOOD DRIVE....Feb 24

The American Red Cross is the largest supplier of blood and plasma in the US. Did you know that:

- Every 2 seconds, someone in the US needs blood.
- A heart surgery uses an average of 6 pints of red blood cells and 6 units of platelets.
- Red blood cells have a shelf life of 42 days.
- Platelets last only 5 days – donors are always needed!

Next month on February 24, **Walden seniors** will be sponsoring a blood drive to benefit the American Red Cross. We encourage *all adults*: parents, grandparents, and anyone 17 or older to participate. We are proud of the tradition of our students who continually seek new ways to be of service to our community. Please take part in Walden's Blood Drive and support this event.



Contact Chris if you or someone you know can donate blood or if you can VOLUNTEER to help on February 24.

Walden III Harvest Food Drive

Expectations were exceeded with nearly **10,300 pounds** of food collected and over **\$6,000.00** received in donations. This is an incredible achievement for a week's worth of work!

Food Bank Director Dan Taivalkoski was visibly moved when handed the check, and said that the generous amount donated will guarantee that there are enough food supplies to last throughout the winter months. He was extremely pleased with the quality of the food collected. Walden's generosity in purchasing expensive food items such as peanut butter allows the Food Bank's money to stretch that much further. Even though our economy is faltering, the students, staff and families of Walden III gave generously and surpassed our goal. **Thank you** to all who helped to make this a success.

New Rules High School Athletic Events

All Middle School or Elementary School age children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian to obtain admission to RUSD High School (Park, Horlick, Case) Basketball or Football athletic events.

Yearbooks for Sale

Hurry and buy your yearbook today. The price goes up in 3rd QUARTER! Wonderful and creative work in this unique yearbook for only \$40! This yearbook would make a great Christmas present for any member of the family.

Make checks out to Walden III; we also accept cash. Deliver to the office or Joe Kane's room, 304. Please include your student's name and homegroup teacher!

PARENTS OF SENIORS:

“**ADS FOR GRADS**” are photos and messages from parents to their graduating senior to be printed in the **Walden Yearbook**. Parents – this is your **last chance** to buy a small senior ad for your student. Prices range from \$15.00-\$100.00 for a variety of sizes from 1/8 page to a full-page ad.

Please turn them in as soon as possible – by the end of January or the first week in February.

Hurry and buy your yearbook today – the price goes up in 3rd Quarter! Wonderful and creative work in this unique yearbook for only \$40! Make checks out to Walden III. If you have questions call Joe Kane at 664-6250.

RACINE PTA COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP

Seniors – if you are enrolled in college next fall don’t pass up your opportunity to receive a **\$1,000.00 scholarship** from the Racine PTA Council. Applications must be completed by the student and postmarked no later than **March 6, 2010**. See Katie for an application.

CREDIT RECOVERY CLASS

Lighted Schoolhouse courses are open to students who need **to recover a failed grade in order to graduate**. Priority is given to seniors. There will be a module from **Jan. 26 to Mar 31**. The class is held Mon-Wed for 1.5 hours at the end of the school day at Case, Park, or Horlick. See Katie for an application or more information.

College Goal Sunday

“Weekend Edition”....February 20 & 21

College Goal Sunday is a free event held at Gateway Technical College to help families complete the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** form. This form *is required* in order to apply for federal assistance for college and may also be necessary to receive college scholarship money. This is a great opportunity to receive assistance in filling out the form. Students should bring both their personal and parents’ completed income tax return for 2009 and W2 forms.

For more information, call 866-578-4625, or go to www.wicollegegoalsunday.org. FAFSA applications can be found online at www.fafsa.gov.

**RECEIVE COLLEGE CREDIT
IN HIGH SCHOOL**

The Youth Options Program allows juniors and seniors in good academic standing to take college courses at Parkside or Gateway. Fall courses will be **paid for by RUSD** if the district does not already teach that specific course. Current Sophomores & Juniors should see Katie for an application.

Sign up by March 1 for fall of 2010 classes.

Seniors who plan to attend college in the Fall 2010, should fill out the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid**. Seniors & their parents can begin to fill out this form after January 1, 2010. The federal government uses this form to determine your eligibility for federal financial aid, which may include: grants, scholarships, work-study, and loans. Log on the www.fafsa.gov for more information and to fill out the application.

PSAT results are in!

Students who took the PSAT can get their results in room 319. Parents – please ask your students for their results. Call Katie at 664-6262 with any questions.

2008-2009 ACT/SAT TESTING DATES

ACT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
Feb. 6	Jan. 5	Jan. 6-15
April 10	Mar.5	Mar 6-Mar 19
June 12	May 7	May 8-21

SAT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration
Jan. 23	Dec. 15	Dec. 30
March 13	Feb. 4	Feb 18
May 1	March 25	April 8
June 5	April 29	May 13

Register online to take the ACT and SAT tests at:

ACT: www.actstudent.org

SAT: www.collegeboard.com

The code for Walden is **501-919**.

Badger Girls & Boys State

Badger Girls & Boys State is an annual event for male & female students in their junior year. This is a unique, educational, citizenship opportunity for one of our students.

Badger Girls takes place at UW-Oshkosh June 20-25, 2010. Badger Boys takes place at Ripon College June 12-19, 2010.

Any boy or girl who is interested needs to meet specific eligibility requirements—

- Be enrolled in their junior year of high school
- Be a citizen of the United States
- Imperative that she have an interest in government & citizenship
- Have outstanding qualities of leadership, good moral character, cooperativeness, dependability & participate in extra-curricular
- Be in good health and physically fit

Junior boys or girls who are interested will need to complete a statement on “How will attending Girls/Boys State help me to make a difference in my Community.” There will also be a monetary fee that will need to be made prior to attending.

Forms/statements need to be returned to Katie by January 15, 2010.

WALDEN III CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

For a complete listing, pick up a Student Activity Guide from the Office or from the PTSA

SKI CLUB.....Annette Terselic

For all students interested in skiing & snowboarding

Join the Walden Ski and Snowboarding club! All students must turn in a one-time permission slip and purchase a ski club ID for \$15 – this buys you one free lesson and gives you a discounted rate of \$15 for lift tickets and \$15 for equipment rental. There is an additional fee of \$15 for the bus which picks us up from Walden, and returns to the Case HS parking lot at 10:00 pm.

PARENTS - PLEASE BE PROMT AT PICKUP TIME!!!

Bring a bag lunch or \$\$\$ for dinner (food is expensive at the ski hill). Wear warm clothes, hats, gloves, and snow boarders **MUST** wear helmets!

Ski Trip dates are:

Jan 5	Jan 12	Jan 26	Feb 2
Feb 17	Feb 25	Mar 2*	Mar 11*

* - Make up days

You can fundraise to cover personal trip expenses by selling candy bars – see Annette for details!

Club rates apply to family members on ski nights – please join us! Contact Annette for more information.

DISCOVERY WORLD MILWAUKEE ART MUSEUM TRIP

On Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2009 Pam & Alex took a group of students to the Discovery World & Milwaukee Art Museum (funding provided by Discovery World's Discovers Fund, RUSD Science Dept., and Walden's school store).

Pam's group went to discover the concept of biomimicry and how knowledge of animal and insect behavior can influence our understanding of architecture. Students investigate some of the structures these creatures build, and adapt their designs as they create architectural models.

Alex's group learned about the creative design process combining art, science, and technology. This program included a one-hour docent-guided Calatrava tour at the Milwaukee Art Museum and a one-hour hands-on experience in Discovery World's Rockwell Automation Dream Machine exhibit and the Prototyping Lab. Using the work of Santiago Calatrava at the Milwaukee Art Museum, students explored Calatrava's innovation and the creative design process from the idea through the product. Using the interactive Rockwell Automation Dream Machine exhibit and hand-on Prototyping lab at Discovery World, students continued to explore the creative design process through technology, including prototyping and industrial automation.

MUSIC DEPT.....Vanessa Marciniak

Congratulations to all Walden musicians! The Cocoa Concert was a big success. Everyone did a wonderful job!

Thank you to all the Volunteers who helped out that evening and to all who donated items for the Silent Auction and delicious baked goods. We had a successful fundraiser and couldn't have done it without all of you.

PERFORMANCE ANNOUNCEMENT

Park Jazz Festival.....Tuesday, March 9

The Jazz Band and 4th hour HHB will be performing at the Park Jazz Festival at Park High School in the evening hours. More information will be available as the time gets closer.

Solo.Ensemble.....Saturday, March 13

Solo/Ensemble will be at Case High School on Mar. 13.

Participants must sign up with Vanessa by **January 30**.

Both high school and middle school orchestras will participate – this is a **required performance**.

Other students who plan to participate should be working on their piece by now. If you would like to participate but do not yet have your music selected see Vanessa immediately. Registration will take place toward the end of January.

Walden bands will be participating in the Park Area Band festival on Saturday, March 20th. This is a required performance. There will be a morning rehearsal and an evening concert. Both are required. Middle School band members will be involved.

BASKETBALL/FLOOR HOCKEY NEWS

Middle School Intramural Boys Basketball

Jan. 4 – Feb. 25 Monday – Thursday

Must be picked up by 3:50 pm

Activity bus is available

Sign-up with Sam

Middle School Intramural Girls Basketball

Mar. 1 – 18 Monday – Thursday

Must be picked up by 3:50pm

No Activity bus

Sign-up with Sam

Flooryhockey

Mar 22 – April 15 Monday – Thursday

Must be picked up by 3:50

No activity bus

Sign-up with Sam