

# W.O.W

Word of Walden

October 2011

Volume #30 Issue # 2

## NOTICE: THIS IS YOUR FINAL WOW – UNLESS...

The Walden monthly school newsletter, the WOW, will no longer be mailed to your home unless you request it. Please review the following options:

1. Fill out the request form available in this newsletter and we will continue to mail you the WOW each month.
2. Give us your email address and we will send you a reminder when the new WOW issue is available for viewing online.
3. Go to the Walden website at [www.waldeniii.org](http://www.waldeniii.org) on your own each month to view the WOW online.

It is our goal to keep you informed of events at Walden, and we ask you to select the method that works best for you. If you know you won't be viewing the newsletter online, we will be happy to mail it to you – just ask at the office or fill out the form.

In addition the Walden PTSA produces a weekly newsletter called the NOW (News of Walden) with a focus on dates and times, special events, and important news and useful information for parents. Sign up to receive the NOW in your email mailbox, at [now@waldeniii.org](mailto:now@waldeniii.org), or sign up on the form in this newsletter.

Feel free to sign up for both – stay connected to the New & Word of Walden!

## VERY IMPORTANT!!!!!!!!!!!!

### PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF OF STUDENTS

- Drivers – please drop off or pick up your student on the **OPPOSITE** (east) side of Center St., or park on 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> streets east of Center St.
- *The front of school is reserved for buses only!*
- Do not park or stop in the Bus Zones at anytime-you could be ticketed and fines are costly.
- **Do not enter either the north or south parking lots.**
- **Do not enter or block the driveways**
- **while dropping off your student.**

### CALENDAR 2011-2012

#### October

- 3 Scrip orders due in the office by noon
- 8 RACINEkids Spirit Ride at North Beach
- 13 Make A Difference Day
- 13 Carnival in the afternoon
- 13 **Dine Out!** At Sparti's 10:30am-10:00pm
- 14 **Early Release – dismissal at 11:31 pm**
- 17 Scrip orders due in the office by noon
- 18 PTSA Meeting 6:30-7:45pm
- 18 Market Day Pickup 4:00-5:00pm
- 20 Picture Retake Day
- 21 Homecoming Dance
- 28 No school-Staff Development

#### November

- 3 Conferences – dismissal at 11:28
- 4 Conferences – no classes
- 3-4 Book Fair in the Main Hall
- 15 Market Day Pickup 4:00-5:00 pm
- 15 PTSA Meeting 6:30-8:00 pm
- 23 Feast Day
- 24-25 *Thanksgiving Recess*

## PICTURE RETAKE DAY.....

School pictures should arrive soon. If you are not satisfied with your photo, do not cut, fold, or mutilate – return it intact and you can retake the photo. Picture retake day is October 20, 2011.

## BOOK RENT.....

**Book Rental** – book rent is due. The cost is \$40.00 or \$25.00 per semester. This is different than in the past. Make checks payable to Walden III, write “Bookrent” in the memo line. Remit to homegroup teacher or the main office. Note: If past fees have not been paid a student will not be eligible for senior activities.

**Planners** – middle school students are required to purchase a planner for \$2.00 from Walden.

**Musical Instrument Rental** – instruments may be rented for \$30.00 per semester. Please check with Vanessa.

**Athletic User Fee** – high school athletic fees are \$60.00 per sport, with a maximum of \$180.00 per student/family. Middle school extramural fee is \$12.00 per sport.

**Computer Lab Fee** – all students must pay a \$2.00 fee to cover the cost of printing in the lab and library. Please remit to your student’s homegroup teacher.

## YEARBOOK INFO.....

**YEARBOOKS!** It is time to order your beautiful Walden III Yearbooks. Get your order in quickly because they’re going for the low, low price of \$35 in the first quarter ONLY! You may also add a personal name stamp to your Yearbook for the bargain price of \$35.

There are three convenient ways to pay: cash or check to Joe’s mailbox or room 304. Include the student(s) name(s) and homegroup. Or you may go online and order it at [jostensyearbooks.com](http://jostensyearbooks.com). Remember, hurry and get orders in A.S.A.P. Prices increase starting second quarter.

## SUPPLY PANTRY.....

Please help fellow Walden students in need by contributing to the Supply Pantry. Donations may be dropped off in the Main Office. Items most need are:

Mechanical pencils,  
Plastic-coated pocket folders,  
Erasers, both pencil tip and rubber  
Boxes of thin markers  
Glue sticks and Rulers  
Boxes of Kleenex – always needed  
Band-Aids of assorted sizes  
Ice packs, 4”x6”

Thank you in advance for you contributions!

## COUNSELOR NEWS.....

**ZZAPS ACT PREP CLASS** will be held in the William Horlick High School Library on Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> from 2:45-5:15 pm. Please call A. Snow or S. Margraff at 619-4314 or 619-4315. The cost of the class is \$75.00. Please sign up on line at [www.zaps.com](http://www.zaps.com) or call 1-877-927-8378 for more information.

## ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is available for the senior with the highest grade point average and does not require an application. In the event of more than one eligible senior with an identical grade point average, the tie-breaking procedures are:

1. The grade point averages will be computed to as many decimal places as needed to break the tie.
2. If the first criterion does not determine the recipient, the student with the higher ACT composite score will be ranked higher.
3. If the first two criteria do not determine the recipient, the student with the greater number of credits used to compute the GPA will be ranked higher.
4. If the first three criteria do not determine the recipient, the student with greater number of weighted credits will be ranked higher.

## **YOUTH OPTIONS PROGRAM**

Racine Unified, in conjunction with Gateway and Parkside, have created a Youth Options program, which allows juniors and seniors in good academic standing to take college courses. Both fall and spring classes can be paid for by RUSD if the district does not already teach that specific course. Deadlines for approval are October 1 for spring courses and March 1 for fall courses options.

## **COLLEGE/SCHOLARSHIP WEBSITES**

There are many websites to search for information about colleges and scholarships. Go online to **Fastweb.com**, **collegeboard.com** or **anycollege.net**. For financial aid information, try **finaid.org**, **ed.gov**, or **fafsa.ed.gov**.

## **NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR...OCT. 9**

Frontier Airline Center in Milwaukee  
12:00 – 3:30 – FREE admission

**Sophomores – Juniors – Seniors:** The National College Fair is an excellent opportunity to meet with admission representatives from a wide variety of colleges from across the country to discuss course offerings, admission and financial aid requirements, and general college questions.

Students who plan on attending college are strongly advised to begin this process in their **SOPHOMORE YEAR**. Before going, download tips for how to make the most out of the college fair, as well as a checklist to take with you at **www.nationalcollegefairs.org**.

## **ACT Registration Dates for 2011-2012**

Test Date	Registration Date	Late Date (Fee Req.)
12/10/2011	11/4/2011	11/5-8/2011
2/11/2012	1/13/2012	1/14-20/2012
4/14/2012	3/9/2012	3/10-23/2012
6/9/2012	5/4/2012	5/5-18/2012

## **SAT Registration Dates for 2011-2012**

Test Date	Registration Date	Late Date
11/5/2011	10/7/2011	10/21/2011
12/3/2011	11/8/2011	11/20/2011
1/28/2012	12/30/2012	1/13/2012
3/10/2012	2/10/2012	2/24/2012
5/5/2012	4/5/2012	4/20/2012
6/2/2012	5/8/2012	5/22/2012

**Register online** to take the ACT test at **www.actstudent.org** or at **www.collegeboard.com** for the SAT. The code for Walden is **501-919**.

## **PSAT TESTS FOR JUNIORS**

The PSAT (Preliminary SAT) will be given at Walden on Saturday, October 15, 2011. There will be a \$20.00 fee to cover the test fee and administrative costs. Checks should be made out to Walden or exact change cash. The deadline for registration is October 7, 2011. Please contact Katie McCauley with any question at 664-6250. Thanks.

## **Fall Visit Days**

Many colleges have scheduled Fall Visit Days during the month of October. Check with your college or see Katie for more information.

**WisCareers** is a computer-based program to help students explore colleges and occupations as well as take an interest inventory. Students can access this program at school or at home. Opportunities to set up an account will be provided throughout the year, or call Katie to schedule at 664-6250.

## **MISSED HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS**

You may receive your child's homework assignments if s/he has been home ill for 2 or more days. Call the attendance line (664-6259) to put in a request, and assignments can be ready for pickup at the end of the day.

**REMINDER:** You must call every day that your child is home ill, or s/he will be considered truant. After 3 or more days, a doctor's excuse is required. RUSD and state law state that a student may miss no more than 10 days per year.

## **HONORS INFORMATION**

RUSD Central Office sends honors information to the Racine Journal Times, using the following criteria:

High honors = GPA of 3.5 and above

Honors = GPA of 3.25 – 3.49

## PAPERLESS WOW – read it online.....

Consistent with Walden's green principles, Walden's monthly newsletter, the WOW, will no longer be mailed to your home unless requested. Produced monthly, it can be viewed online at [www.waldeniii.org](http://www.waldeniii.org). In addition you can sign up to receive the Walden PTSA award-winning weekly newsletter the NOW to be sent to your email mailbox. To request that the WOW be mailed to your home or to sign up for the NOW, please fill out the form located in this newsletter and return to the main office.

## WALDEN III/RAM KARATE CLUB.....

**BACK TO SCHOOL SPECIAL!!!!** Walden III has its own Karate Club. The Walden III/RAM Karate Club is open to all Walden III students and family members. Walden's former Building Engineer, Roy Moralez is a Third Degree Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do. Along with Karate, Roy teaches self-defense, discipline, respect and patience. Classes meet Tuesday and Thursday's from 5:30 - 7:30pm At Walden School. The cost for Walden III students is \$10.00 per month. Family rates are available. **Here's the back to school special:** Through the month of September, you can get one month of lessons and a Karate uniform for only \$20.00. Please come and watch a lesson and ask questions or call Roy at home (886-1058).

## LIBRARY NEWS.....

The **Scholastic Book Fair** will be held on Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 12:00-7:30pm and Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-10:00am in front of the Office during conferences. A large selection of great books will be available, including suggested reading for English classes. This is an important fundraiser for the Library, so please stop by during conferences and bring your checkbook or credit card!

## MODEL UN/OAS.....

Walden's Model O.A.S./U.N. Club will be attending the Model Organization of American States Conference at UW-Parkside on November 10 & 11, 2011 and the Model United Nations Conference at UW-Milwaukee on March 22 & 23, 2012. The Model U.N. Conference will be an overnight fieldtrip. Advisor is Tom Kohl & the Asst. Advisor is Michelle Nichols. This years delegates are: **Nick Vantubbergen, Katelyn Flynn, Jacob Spiegelhoff, Paku Thor, Matalin Schoone, Sergio Reza, Coral Buchaklian, Henry Clickner, Emily Weiss, Ethan Bloom, Erin Peterson, Tyler Smith, Keith Thompson, Willard Kwak, Ryann Thilleman-Kosterman, Breanna Vanderplow, Isabel Orno, Heba Ali, Lauren Instenses, Alejandro Maldonado, Alex Hampshire, Mariah Breckenridge, Arthur Gasca, Angela Martini.**

## POSITIVE IMPACT.....

This year, Positive Impact includes 9 – 12 grade students who mentor fellow Walden 6<sup>th</sup> graders and Julian Thomas 4<sup>th</sup> graders, and is in need of parent **VOLUNTEERS** to provide regular transportation. We visit once a month, usually between 11:00-12:40pm. You will need to fill out a Wings volunteer form, available in the school office. Please contact Julie Fornary.

**\*Note: this will not happen this year if we don't have any volunteer drivers.**

## FALL SPORTS AT WALDEN.....

### WALDEN'S CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

The cross-country season has begun! Team practices have started and will continue through October 13<sup>th</sup>. Cross-country meets will be held at Lockwood & Pritchard Parks from 4:00-6:00pm on Thursdays, 9/22-Pritchard, 9/29-lockwood, 10/6-Pritchard, & the All City Meet is 10/13-Lockwood.

We could use more 6<sup>th</sup> grade boys & girls!

Looking ahead Volleyball begins on October 24<sup>th</sup>

## **STUDENT GOVERNMENT.....**

The student body has elected the 2011/2012 student government. This years representatives are: **12<sup>th</sup> grade – Alex Aviles, Nareeman Ali, Anneka Barrow, Jacob Spiegelhoff**, alternate – **Coral Buchaklian**  
**11<sup>th</sup> grade – Josh Fick, Lauren Instenes, Alejandro Maldonado**, alternate – **Bevin Murphy**  
**10<sup>th</sup> grade – Teahelahn Keithrafferty, Kyle Sandow**, alternate – **Zach Moore**  
**9<sup>th</sup> grade – Arthur Gasca, Alex Hamshire**, alternate – **Marissa Joers**  
**8<sup>th</sup> grade – Zoe Dahse, Declan Dilley**, alternate – **Eddie Martinez**  
**7<sup>th</sup> grade – Kaitlin Hutchinson, Henry Kinnard**, alternate – **Michael Anderson**  
**6<sup>th</sup> grade – Grazia Bragella, Hannah Joers, Hannah Wittke**, alternate – **Sarah Kozenski**

Congratulations, strap your boots on!

## **ART DEPT.....**

Hello Walden parents and guardians! I am the new high school art teacher. My name is Amy Bixler. I am asking for some donations this quarter to help the students with their art projects. If you could donate shoeboxes we use them all the time! Also old washcloths and towels you were going to throw out because they have a stain or tear, please don't throw them out! Donate them to the art classroom; we would love to use them. We also need containers with snug fitting lids. Well rinsed out butter, cool whip, sour cream, or frosting containers are great! If you have any of these things and could donate them we would greatly appreciate it. Just tell your students to drop them off at room 221. Thanks so much!  
Amy Bixler, Room 221, Art Teacher

## **MUSIC DEPT.....**

The music program is going great! Looking for more to join next quarter, especially in the High School Orchestra and Band. Looking for more cellos, violas, pianos, violins, flutes, clarinets,

banjos, ukuleles, French horns, didgeridoos, vocals, drums, guitars, basses, oboes, bagpipes, saxophones, tubas, trombones, etc...Just about anything. If you don't know how to play an instrument, **but are willing to learn and put in the time to practice**, see Zach, and we'll make it happen!

Also, there is, in the planning stages, an end of the year spring trip for all music students that are in at least the last 3 quarters of music class\*. There are 3 places that are being thought of right now (that could change to something else):

1. New Orleans, Louisiana
2. Honolulu, Hawaii
3. Dublin, Ireland

FUND RAISING will be the determining factor in where we decide on going. Talk to Zach in Room 310 if you have any questions.

\*Exceptions can be made, see Zach.

## **SPECIAL EVENTS.....**

### **MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY.....OCT. 13**

Make A Difference Day is an annual tradition for Walden students. The entire school takes part, and this is one of the unique ways Walden gives back to the community. We do a variety of outdoor projects focusing on those taking place in our neighborhood. If you an idea for a middle school or high school project, please call Chris at 664-6252.

We could use 20 parent VOLUNTEERS from 9:00-11:00am. If you can help, call Chris and come dressed for outdoor work. You can get an RUSD Wings volunteer form from the office or online at [www2.racine.k12.wi.us](http://www2.racine.k12.wi.us).

### **SOCK CARNIVAL.....OCT. 13**

Walden concludes our Make A Difference Day Activities with a carnival, hosted by the Student Government. It takes place during 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> hours of the regular school day. Tickets are \$3.00 and must be purchase by Wednesday, October 12. There is dancing and many games. Every time a

student wins a game, his or her name is entered into a raffle for great prizes. At the end of the carnival, a drawing is held for the prizes which in the past, have included Ipods, footballs, basketballs, gift cards, gas cards, duct tape, soda, and other smaller items. Raffle ticket for prizes will also be sold in homegroup and at lunch the week before the carnival. Tickets cost \$.50 each or 3/\$1.00.

If you have prize you could donate, please call Kate at 664-6250. We would love electronics, skateboards, sports equipment, gift cards or other fun things, One year character slippers (Elmo!) were the most coveted item!!!

Thanks! Kate and student gov't reps

### **VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

As of October 4, 2011 the last year's status of free/reduced eligibility **ends**. A new family application is a **must** for students to continue receiving the benefits of free/reduced lunches along with other benefits (such as free breakfast, book fees, ACT & SAT test fees, and more).

Many would agree that these are difficult economic times. If finances are strained in your family you may now qualify for some assistance. Please see Suzette form more information.

If you are not sure a new application has been completed check with Suzette. You can get a new form from her or in the main office. Return to Suzette or the main office ASAP.

Sound medical research shows that those who eat a healthy breakfast may have a healthy working brain for hours. If you qualify for free and or reduced lunch the breakfast is free, otherwise it is \$1.10. Call Suzette at 664-6261.

## **BEACH CLEANUP.....**

Students in Walden's middle school elective Adopt-a-Beach again participated in the annual international coastal cleanup. Thirty-five students and three adults took water quality measurements and picked up 47 pounds of trash at Samuel Meyers Park.

"I picked up 260 cigarette butts all by myself." – Bethany Karasak

"Our group got to see a ferret, but it ran back into tall grasses." (The animal was feeding on a large dead salmon.) – Alexia Kach

"Collin and I even saw a weasel that ran right on our feet and scared us." – Braiden Murray

"The cleaning up was my favorite part. Knowing that I made a difference made me feel good." – Joe Johnson

"I felt that I was helping and was part of a larger community." – Kijung Kwak

"I found a crab claw!" – Paige Haney

"It was sad because of all the litter that was down there. I don't think people notice what they are doing to the environment until they actually see all the pollution themselves." – Kayla Peterson

### **PTSA'S FAMILY NIGHT.....NOV. 11**

Please join us for Walden's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Family Night. This is Walden's annual kick off of the new school year and to welcome new families, staff and students. This event will be at Infusino's Banquet Hall on November 11, 2010 from 5:30pm-8:30pm. There will be a Silent Auction, raffle prizes, T-shirts, good food, music and great company! Don't miss it!!

Tickets are \$10.00 and include dinner, beverages and entertainment. Tickets will be available at [www.waldeniii.org](http://www.waldeniii.org) or in the school office or homegroup teachers soon.

**DONATIONS REQUESTED FOR SILENT AUCTION** – if you can contribute a door prize please contact us at [fundraising@waldeniii.org](mailto:fundraising@waldeniii.org).