

# W.O.W

## Word of Walden

January 2012

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### Welcome to the Holiday Season!

Despite the colder weather, we hope our students and their families enjoy the season and its highlights. Let's all work toward making this the best spring semester ever.

The other morning as I pulled into the parking lot, I was nearly hit by a car that had dropped off a student at the door of the staff parking lot. The car was even exiting the wrong way around the parked cars. Please help us prevent potential injury to everyone at Walden by following the simple rules we abide by. Unless previously arranged with staff due to a qualifying reason, please do not drop students off at the doors.

Likewise, Walden doesn't have hall assistants or extra staff to supervise before or after school. Students should arrive no earlier than 6:50am. Unless involved in a planned activity, students should all be on their way home by 2:45pm. Office staff hours end at 3:00pm. So please understand that we cannot have students waiting in the school without adult supervision, and make any plans for pickup accordingly.

We hope your ongoing experience with Walden is continuing to prove beneficial.

**Bob**

**MAP Testing** in Reading & Math for grades 6,7,8, & 9 will be happening at Walden on Jan. 30 – Feb. 7.

## CALENDAR 2011 – 2012

### JANUARY

- 3 School resumes
- 16 MLK Day – no school
- 17 PTSA meeting 6:30-8:00
- 19 Conferences – dismissal at 11:28
- 20 Conferences – no school
- 20 Winter Formal 6:00-9:00pm
- 24 Market Day pickup 4-5:30pm

### FEBRUARY

- 20 Staff Development Day– no school (contingent snow day)
- 21 PTSA Meeting 6:30-8:00pm
- 21 Market Day Pick-up 4-5:30pm

## WALDEN MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS.....

The Walden volleyball Teams enjoyed a stellar season. They traveled to all 5 of the other middle schools. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls' team went 5-0 on the season, the 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> grade boys were 4-1 and the other 2 groups were also very successful! Sam and Sue really enjoyed watching you improve. A big thanks and shout out to the high school girls volleyball players who helped coach this season.

Boys basketball season begins immediately following the holiday break. All 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys are allowed to play. The season lasts 8 weeks. See Sam for more information or to sign up. There is an activity bus that leaves Walden at 4:00pm.

After school Wii program also begins after the break. On Mondays and Wednesdays after school until 4:00 (you can take the activity bus home only if you are already a bus rider). Come to Sue's room (306) to participate in Wii games. Challenge your friends.....bring your games. Everyone is welcome to attend. Talk to Sue if you are interested.

**WALDEN MUSIC DEPARTMENT .....**

**“The concerts were fantastic!” “The students performed amazingly!” “Congrats to all involved!!!”**

Secondly, the music department is looking donations of money, working instruments, guitar stands, etc..... I am trying to build up our music department here and I would love to add Timpanis and mallet type instruments, but we don't have those yet. And we are always in the need of band and orchestra instruments that work.

Lastly, we are contacting elementary schools to tour once again! The students had a great time last quarter and are looking forward to it again!

See you at our next concert! More information to follow.

**COUNSELOR NEWS...Katie McCauley**

**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**.

**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

**ACT Registration Dates for 2011-2012**

Test Date	Registration Date	Late Date (Fee Req.)
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
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](http://www.actstudent.org) or at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) for the SAT. The code for Walden is **501-919**.

**SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE TO SENIORS**

A variety of scholarships are available to seniors. They should stop and see Katie McCauley for more info and deadlines in room 319.

**COLLEGE GOAL WISCONSIN** is a free event held annually at Gateway Technical College and other colleges in the area. The program is designed to help families complete the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** form, which is required to apply for federal assistance for college fees. The event takes place Saturday, February 19, 2011 & Sunday, February 20, 2011. Go online at [www.wicollegegoalsunday.org](http://www.wicollegegoalsunday.org) for more info.

**Selective Service:** All 18-year old men must register for Selective Service. If you fail to register, you cannot qualify for federal student grants or loans for college. Registration is easy and can be completed in less than two minutes via the Internet at [www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov). Register today!

**RACINE PTA COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP**

All seniors enrolled to attend an accredited college or university in the fall of 2011 are eligible to apply for a \$1,000.00 scholarship form the Racine PTA council. Applications must be completed by the student and postmarked no later than March 6, 2011. The scholarship recipients and two guests will be invited to attend the Annual PTA Council Banquet at the Racine Marriott. See Katie in room 319 for an application.

**FEDERAL STUDENT AID APPLICATION**

Seniors can apply online at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov) for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. This is the form needed to apply for government aid and may be required by your college. Seniors & their families can apply after Jan. 1, 2011. See Katie in room 319 or call 664-6262 for more information.

**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<sup>st</sup> for fall of 2011 classes.**

### **CREDIT RECOVERY CLASSES**

Lighted Schoolhouse course are open to students who need to **recover a failed grade in order to graduate**. Priority is given to seniors. See Katie for an application or more information.

### **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](http://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 [www.racine.k12.wi.us](http://www.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.

### **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 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter! Wonderful and creative work in this unique yearbook for only \$40.00! Make checks out to Walden III. If you have questions call Joe Kane at 664-6250.

### **STUDENT PARKING**

Students may use the South parking lot during 2<sup>nd</sup> (Nov. 7-Jan 19) and 3<sup>rd</sup> (Jan 23-March 30) quarters for parking.

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

**Also, no driving from the south to north parking lot to exit.**