

W.O.W

Word of Walden

November 2012

Volume #31 Issue # 3

FROM THE PRINCIPAL..BOB HOLZEM.....

Just a short note to clue you in to one of our instructional emphasis this year at Walden – we are studying UBD, DI, RTI, CRT.....

You might be thinking “Bob, what is that, some kind of new Algebra?” Well, no, it isn’t. What it is, is educational jargon, and these acronyms stand for Understanding By Design, Differentiated Instruction, Response To Intervention, and Culturally responsive Teaching, or Pedagogy.

As a staff, and as staffs across the district will be doing, Walden will continue to examine the content, relativity, and effect of these subjects to determine how they can be utilized to enhance your instructional efforts. You may have wondered, “What do the schools do on those 2 hour early releases dates?” This is a part of the work we do on those days.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.....

Several students have expressed an interest in using the fitness room during lunch hour. We need parent volunteers willing to fill out the WINGS form and commit to staffing the fitness room once or twice a week during the lunch period from 11:17am – 12:47pm. Ideally, we could keep the center open everyday with enough volunteers. Please encourage your child to use the center during the other part of the day when the center is supervised by staff members who exercise during their planning periods. Contact Tom Rutkowski if you have any questions.

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 \$40 in the first quarter ONLY! Prices increase at the beginning of 2nd quarter.

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. Remember, hurry and get orders in A.S.A.P.

Prices increase starting second quarter (Nov. 7th). It goes up to \$40.00.

SENIORS.....

Senior Photo due...Wednesday, Dec. 5th. SENIORS need to have their senior portraits, in color or in black and white, submitted to the Yearbook before Dec. 5th. Please email your CLEARLY LABELED portrait to waldenyearbook@yahoo.com, or drop off a print in Joe Kane’s room, 304.

PARENTS: “ADS FOR GRADS” are photos and messages from parents to congratulate their graduating senior. Design your own, or give your information to our crack design staff. We will, of course, check with you first for your approval. Prices range from \$25 - \$100 for sizes of 1/4 page to a full-page ad. **Ads are due by February 1, 2012.** If you have any questions, please call Joe at 664-6250, or send an email to waldenyearbook@yahoo.com.

COUNSELOR NEWS.....

CURRENT SCHOLARSHIPS

A list of current scholarships for seniors is available in their homegroup. A link is also included in the e-now, online newsletter. Any questions please contact Katie McCauley, Counselor, 664-6262 or Katherine.Mccauley@rusd.org.

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.

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 2012-2013

Test Date	Registration Date	Late Date (Fee Req.)
12/08/2012	11/02/2012	11/3-16/2012
2/09/2013	1/11/2013	1/12-18/2013
4/13/2013	3/8/2013	3/9-22/2013
6/08/2013	5/03/2013	5/4-17/2013

SAT Registration Dates for 2011-2012

Test Date	Registration Date	Late Date
12/01/2012	11/01/2012	11/16/2012
1/26/2013	12/28/2012	1/11/2013
3/09/2013	2/08/2013	2/22/2013
5/04/2013	4/5/2013	4/19/2013
6/01/2013	5/02/2013	5/17/2013

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**.

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.

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

LIBRARY NEWS.....

The Scholastic Book Fair will be held on Thursday, November 1st from 12:00-7:00pm and Friday, November 2nd 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!

FIRST QUARTER CONFERENCES..NOV. 3-4

Parent-teacher-student conferences for the first quarter will be held Thursday, Nov. 1 and Friday, Nov. 2. Students sign up for a conference time with their homegroup teacher – all students must be in attendance for their conference. Dismissal on Thursday is at 11:28 with conferences in the afternoon, and there is no school on Friday, Nov. 2.

PTSA'S FAMILY NIGHT.....NOV. 8

Please join us for Walden's 5th 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 8, 2012 from 5:00pm-8:00pm. 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 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.

FALL SPORTS AT WALDEN.....

The Cross Country season has concluded with a great effort by everyone. The City Wide meet was held Thursday, October 11th at Lockwood Park on a windy, over cast day. Walden wolves overcame those wicked forces and had the following results. The 8th grade boys took first place (8 points better than 2nd place Gilmore) with Galen Weber leading the way with a second place finish (out of 26). The 7th/8th grade girls also took first place (7 points ahead of Mitchell). Leading Walden was Sophia Scekic with 1 3rd place finish (out of 42). The 6th grade boys were 2nd with Jacob Romanski blazing to a first place finish!! Finally, the 6th grade girls place 3rd overall with Marlee Reischl taking a strong 2nd place. Way to go runners!!!

WKCE STANDARIZED TESTING

All Wisconsin students in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10 must take Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examination (WKCE). All 6, 7, 8, and 10th grade students at Walden School will be testing Tuesday, Nov. 6th and Wednesday, Nov. 7th. The 8th and 10th grade students will be testing an additional 3 days, Thursday, Nov. 8 through Monday, Nov. 12th. Students in grades 9, 11, & 12 will have classes in the high school west wing while testing is going on in the other section to ensure a quiet, focused setting for the testing.

The WKCE is an important test. Results are reviewed to: Monitor individual student achievement, Analyze our instruction as it aligns to Wisconsin Academic Standards, Allow us to compare the results with other students across Wisconsin, and Provide data for meeting state and federal achievement guidelines.

We ask for your help as parents:

1. **Please encourage your child to do his or her best.** Some children may become anxious about testing situations. Reassure your son or daughter. A positive attitude goes a long way in making a child feel comfortable about being tested.
2. **Make sure your child is present for the testing days.** If your child is absent during any of the testing dates, he or she will make up the portions missed upon return to school.
3. **A good night's rest and a healthy breakfast are positive contributors to test performance.** On testing days, please provide breakfast at home for your child. In addition Walden School does offer breakfast, prior to the start of the school day, for \$1.20, or for free for students who qualify for free/reduced meals. Students in grades 6, 7, 8, and 10 will be provide with a snack on the first two days of testing. In addition, healthy snacks are available for purchase in the school store prior to testing.

HARVEST FOOD DRIVE NOV. 12 - 21

Walden will soon begin its annual food drive for the Racine County Food Bank. This has become one of Walden's signature events, one in which staff, students, and parents join to help people in our own community. This year, the food drive competition between homegroups will start on Monday, November 12th and will run through Wednesday, November 21st. The food drive will conclude with an assembly where Walden presents food and money to the Food Bank in the morning, then celebrates with a Thanksgiving feast at noon on the 21st.

- How can parents help this be a success?
- Walk with your child through your neighborhood to ask neighbors for contributions.
 - Let your child go with to the grocery store to help pick up items for the food drive.
 - Hold a food drive at your place of work and bring the items to your child's homegroup.
 - Help your child raise money which he or she can donate or use to purchase food items.

A list of items needed by the food bank and used in our competition is enclose in this mailing and will be available from your child's homegroup teacher at conferences as well. Let's all work together to make this a year of generous and joyous giving!!!

NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPT.....

Upcoming concerts:

Dec. 11· 2012 is the Cocoa Concert. This concert will feature the 6th grade band, 7th & 8th grade band, 7th & 8th grade jazz band, & the High School jazz/rock/funk/r&b band.

We will have the Poinsettia plants ready for pick-up that night. Forms will go out the 1st week of November. Hot cocoa and bake foods will be for sale to support the music dept. If you would like to donate bake goods it would be greatly appreciated!

Dec. 13, 2012 will be the Middle School Choir and Middle & High School Orchestra Concert at Holy Communion Church.

An information sheet about the concerts will be going home towards the end of November.

NEWS FROM THE THEATER DEPT.....

The fall production of *The Outsiders* will be performed Thursday & Friday, November 29th & 30th and December 6th & 7th.

Ticket order forms will be available soon!

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 8 & 9, 2012 and the Model United Nations Conference at UW-Milwaukee on March 21 & 22, 2013. The Model U.N. Conference will be an overnight fieldtrip. Advisor is Michelle Nichols. This years delegates are: Chandler Adams, Amanda Ali, Heba Ali, Lena Ali, Ethan Bloom, Mariah Breckenridge, Natassja Dubinsky, Collin Flynn, Arthur Gasca, Christian Gonzales, Kristian Iliev, Lauren Instenes, Chrisopher Kozenski, Willard Kwak, Devon Lang, Alejandro Maldonado, Angela Martini, Kyle Matson, Parker Munoz, Isabel Orno, Datriona Reynolds, Deshawn Roberts, Tyler Smith, McKim Stropes, Monae Taylor, Ryann Kosterman-Thillemann, Keith Thompson, Adrian Traverso, Breanna Vanderplow, Emily Weiss, & Chardonay Wingfield.

ADOPT-A-BEACH FIELD TRIP TO LAKE MICHIGAN.....

Pam Veenstra’s middle school elective Adopt-a-Beach took a walking field trip to Samuel Meyers Park. Students participated in the International Coastal Clean-up, tallying and picking up litter. Students collected about 80lbs. of trash. The most unusual “find” this year was a plastic bag of cremated remains. After contacting the crematory, students learned that the individual was a woman in her fifties. We speculate that she had a fondness for nature or Lake Michigan.

Students also conducted a beach survey, taking and recording data about the water, shoreline, and beach users. Information was sent to the Alliance for the Great Lakes as part of the on-going collection of Lake Michigan data.

Students, staff, and volunteer parents were surprised at the low water levels. Participants were able to walk around the west shoreline Samuel Meyers Park to 16th street by the Frank Lloyd Wright Hardy House. Activities had to be modified since there was no “wetlands” due to the summer drought.

NEWS FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT.....

The Art Department can always use your old towels or dishrags for clean up in the classroom. Also any containers with tight fitting lids are needed, for example: yogurt, sour cream, large powdered supplement containers, & large peanut butter containers. The Art Department is also looking for large amounts of sawdust or wood shavings. We will be using this for outdoor pit firing. We could also use any amount of small sticks, pieces of wood, or branches for the outdoor firings. Thank you to everyone who has already donated these to the Art Department and please keep them coming!

OLYMPIAN ERIN MIRABELLA CONDUCTS SPIN CLASS.....

Erin Mirabella, two-time US Olympic track cyclist, visited Walden and conducted spin classes for students on the new fitness spin bikes. About 50 students participated in 20 minute sessions and other students watched. Students were introduced to the basics of bike adjustments and sample workouts. Participants seemed to enjoy the opportunity, despite the burning of muscles, and will hopefully continue to use the fitness bikes.

