

# W.O.W

## Word of Walden

October 2012

Volume #31 Issue # 2

News from Bob Holzem.....

Happy New Year!

As we start the new school year together, I just wanted to take a moment to introduce our new Walden staff members to you:

- Jon Christian, a veteran educator, joins us to offer a wealth of experience in high school science subjects

- Diane Brooks, also a veteran educator, joins us for health and physical education subjects for high school students

- Samantha Schiro, newly minted educator, is eager to engage our students in high school math subjects

- New part-time staff include Kim Sanders, another fresh recruit, teaching both middle and high school social studies subjects, Lara Coler, offering a home tech course, Rebakah Dobke joins us for Spanish subjects, Jonathan Wisniewski, teaching business education courses, and Julie Vakos, working in support of speech goals.

Please say hello to them as you meet them along the way – we look forward to their contribution in helping to make Walden a great experience for its students.

BOB



Supporting Racine Area Schools and Non-Profit Groups

Sat. Oct. 13, 2012 @ 9:00 am

North Beach - Kids Cove

[www.TheRootRiver.com](http://www.TheRootRiver.com)

## 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 Now & 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 2012-2013**

<b>October</b>	
13	<b>Dine Out!</b> At Georgie Porgie's 10:30am-10:00pm
16	PTSA Meeting 6:30-8:00pm
16	Market Day Pickup 4:00-5:00pm
18	H.S. Powder Puff Game
19	Homecoming Dance
25	Picture Retake Day
26	No school-Staff Development
<b>November</b>	
1	Conferences – dismissal at 11:28
2	Conferences – no classes
1-2	Book Fair in the Main Hall
8	Family Night – Infusino's 5:00-8:00
13	Market Day Pickup 4:00-5:00 pm
20	PTSA Meeting 6:30-8:00 pm
21	Feast Day
22-23	<i>Thanksgiving Recess</i>

**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 Thursday, October 25<sup>th</sup>.

**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 \$3.00 from Walden.

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

**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!** For the first time in Walden history, this year we will have a full color yearbook. 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!** You may also add a personal name stamp to your Yearbook for the bargain price of \$5.

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.....**

ZAPS ACT PREP CLASS will be held in the William Horlick High School Library on Wednesday, October 3rd and Thursday, October 4th 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 \$79.00. 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](http://Fastweb.com), [collegeboard.com](http://collegeboard.com) or [anycollege.net](http://anycollege.net). For financial aid information, try [finaid.org](http://finaid.org), [ed.gov](http://ed.gov), or [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov).

**NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR...SEPT. 30**

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](http://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
11/03/2012	10/04/2012	10/19/2012
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](http://www.actstudent.org) or at [www.collegeboard.com](http://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 20, 2012. There will be a \$22.00 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 12, 2012. 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

### **DINE OUT IN OCTOBER**

Dine Out in October at **GEORGIE PORGIE'S** and support Walden's PTSA. Take out or eat in on Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-9:00pm. Tell your friends and family and be sure to mention that you are there to support Walden!

### **LIBRARY NEWS**

**The Scholastic Book Fair** will be held on Thursday, November 1st from 12:00-7:00pm and Friday, November 2<sup>nd</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 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.

### **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 10/4-Pritchard, & the All City Meet is 10/11-Lockwood.

We could use more 7<sup>th</sup> grade boys & girls!

ART  
DEPT.....

## ANNUAL DIA DE LOS MUERTOS FIELD TRIP (DAY OF THE DEAD FIELD TRIP)

Once again we will be taking the Day of the Dead field trip on Oct. 10, 2012. It is open to the whole school so the first 80 students that turn in their permission slip with payment will have a spot. The cost is \$15.00 per student and includes lunch, tour, and bus. It is a whole day from 7:15am – 4:30pm. The exhibit is held at Chicago's Mexican Fine Arts Center. We will have lunch before the exhibit at Los Comales Restaurant and if weather permits stop at Millennium Park on the way down.

### Chaperones

We need at least 4 adults who would be willing to go with us to the Day of the Dead please have any interested adults contact Sharon in room 322. They will need to have signed up with wings so do not delay.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL ART SUPPLIES

These are the basic Art supplies that each student will need through the school year in middle school: Sketch Book(Book size), Pencils(a variety of hard to soft), Erasers(Kneaded or Pink), Scissors(size to fit students hand), Markers, Glue(stick or Elmers), Ruler 12", & colored pencils.

8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE WASHINGTON DC  
TRIP.....

TO: Parent/Guardian of Interested Washington DC Student

FROM: Mr. Jon Christian ([jon.christian@rusd.org](mailto:jon.christian@rusd.org) or 664-6250 (x5574))

1. Your child has expressed an interest in participating in the June 2013 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Washington, DC class trip for Mitchell Middle School and Walden III Middle School.

2. I'm the program leader. I taught at Mitchell Middle School for 19 years and at Park HS for 5 years. I currently teach 9 Lab, Chemistry and

Physics at Walden III H.S. I have led trips to Washington, DC for sixteen years. Mrs. Tamara Benzow is my liaison at Mitchell School and I am located in room 300 at Walden III High School.

3. WorldStrides organizes the trip. Please review the brochure your child brought home to better understand the benefits of going to Washington with this reputable company.

4. Procedure for registering:

- a. Read the contents of the envelope your child brought from school--especially the Terms and Conditions and the Cancellation Policy.
- b. The cost to reserve a seat is \$99. If you cancel, this money is not refunded. The \$99 goes toward the total cost of the trip. The cost of the trip is based on 35 students register for the trip. Ways you can register:
  - 1) Online at [www.worldstrides.org](http://www.worldstrides.org) (use Trip ID# 80007)
  - 2) By phone at 800-468-5899 (use Trip ID# 80007)
  - 3) By credit card: Complete Credit Card Payment Form located on the Terms and Conditions insert and the blue registration form at the bottom of the letter from WorldStrides. Place both forms in the provided envelope, stamp and mail to WorldStrides.
  - 4) By check: Complete the blue registration form, write check to WorldStrides, put in envelope, stamp and mail to WorldStrides.

5. There is an insert that refers to fund-raising options through WorldStrides at [www.worldstridesfundraising.com](http://www.worldstridesfundraising.com), social networking at [www.facebook.com/Worldstrides](http://www.facebook.com/Worldstrides), ways to pay/manage your trip using [mytrip.worldstrides.org](http://mytrip.worldstrides.org) and a way to earn free high school credit.

6. Don't hesitate to email me at [jon.christian@rusd.org](mailto:jon.christian@rusd.org) if you have any questions about this wonderful opportunity to see our nation's capital and the Colonial Williamsburg, VA area.

7. My RUSD website is at:

<https://sites.google.com/a/rusd.org/jethropond/home>. I will post announcements for the DC trip throughout the year on this site. Documents can be loaded from the files/documents link along the right side of the web page.

8. Your child can stop by room 300 during lunch to get any additional information.

## SPECIAL EVENTS.....

### 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 or 664-6611.

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

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 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](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).

## THE NEW FITNESS ROOM.....

We are excited to announce a new fitness room at Walden in room 102.

Coral Buchaklian, a 2012 graduate of Walden, wrote a Senior Thesis about the correlation of fitness and academic performance. She, along with Green School coordinator Tom Rutkowski, wrote a grant for fitness equipment to the Racine Community Foundation. This aligns with Walden being a Green and Healthy School.

We now have 10 spin bikes and 3 ellipticals for student and staff use. Various staff members are supervising the fitness room during their prep periods.

We are encouraging all home groups and classes to take advantage of the fitness room. Physical exercise makes you more mentally alert, more physically fit, improves your mood, and helps you sleep better.

Any monetary donations for additional equipment would be appreciated.



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