



WALTHAM TERRITORY NEWS

Waltham School

January 2012

FROM OUR SUPERINTENDENT, MR. ROBERT ABNEY

Welcome back!

For the rest of the 2011-2012 school year, we will continue to provide students in the Waltham School District with the educational services and support needed in order to be successful. Our mission *is our purpose to provide the opportunity and the positive environment for all students to acquire skills, knowledge, and self-confidence in order to maximize their potential to become productive, responsible, and respectful citizens.* Our primary focus is on improving the academic achievement of all students in the Waltham School District. In addition, we will continue our renewed efforts to provide continual professional development ensuring a quality learning atmosphere for the professionals on our team to best benefit our students and communities.

We have set high expectations for students, teachers, and administrators. We know that a quality education does not come easy. Our success depends on the hard work of our teachers as they prepare effective lessons every day, focusing on the needs of every child.

Our commitment to the district, we have asked teachers to set high expectations for all children. We have asked our staff to ensure all children are provided an education that will serve them well their entire lives. It is our expectation that our students will work hard to reach their full potential and to make good decisions about the life they want to lead. We will work to ensure that each child has a vision and a plan for their futures that include high school graduation and life beyond the Waltham School District. We will continue to ask parents to be involved in their child's education. We will also ask them to find the time to help their children complete school assignments, encourage their children to read and teach their children to take responsibility for learning. As parents we should talk to our children about what they want to do with their lives and help them develop a plan to accomplish their goals. Education is a joint venture. We must work together to enable students in the Waltham School District to thrive and achieve at their highest levels. I am proud to be leading the Waltham School District as we **“achieve excellence every day”**. Together we can do **“whatever it takes”** to reach our goals and meet the needs of our students and community.



Inside this issue:

A WORD FROM MR. OLSON	2
KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION	2
TRIVIA NIGHT	2
ELKS HOOP SHOOT	3
WINTER EMERGENCIES	3
NEW TDAP REQUIREMENTS	3
HISTORY FAIR RESULTS	4
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	5



**A NOTE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL, MR. OLSON**

As we begin the new year and the 2nd semester, I would like to take this opportunity to remind our Waltham family of a few items that make “Waltham a Great Place to Receive an Education!”

One is that all of us are constantly striving to provide the highest quality education for all our students. As a district, we have committed teachers who use data from a variety of assessments to ensure rigor within our curriculum and that the curriculum is focused on student learning. We use such measures as AIMS WEB and Discovery Education Think Link to ensure our students are learning and to provide interventions and support when needed.

Another is communication between home and school. We always strive to have constant communication with our parents. The school website www.wesd185.org is constantly being updated to keep you informed of events and opportunities for all our students. TeacherEase is another way to keep informed of your child’s progress and communicate with your child’s teacher. Also at any time, please feel free to contact your child’s teacher.

The education of the “whole” child is also another belief of Waltham. We strive to provide many opportunities to learn and grow outside the classroom. Among the many opportunities is the Gold Cord Community Service, and the many extracurricular activities like cheerleading, basketball, volleyball, track, Art, Music, and Academic Team.

There are many excellent reasons that students at Waltham are high achieving- parental support, Board of Education support, Administration support, hard working teachers, and most of all GREAT STUDENTS. I encourage you to stop by your child’s school and see the quality education they are receiving.

On a side note- With the winter season approaching, please make sure your child is properly dressed for the conditions- jacket, hat, gloves, etc. If you ever have any questions, comments, or concerns please contact me.

Thank you and looking forward to a fantastic 2nd half of the school year!

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Yes, you read that right! Mrs. Hewitt is already taking appointments for Kindergarten Registration on **Friday, February 3, 2012**. If your child will be attending Kindergarten at Waltham South starting in August, 2012, please call her to make your appointment. There will be a short screening administered by our teachers, Mrs. Kummer and Ms. Siembab. Call 815.667.4790 soon for the appointment of your choice—they are filling up fast!!

WALTHAM TRIVIA NIGHT

Trivia Night sponsored by Waltham Elementary Parent Teacher Community Club (PTCC) is on Saturday, February 11, 2012 at Senica’s Oak Ridge Banquet Hall on US Hwy 6 in LaSalle. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and Trivia begins at 7 p.m. Six - ten people per team with a \$10 entry fee per person. Cash prizes awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams! Call Jerilyn Summers at 815.343-7733 (e mail: summersus1@aol.ciom) or Angie Hartman at 815.667.4385 email:ajhartman103@sbcglobal.net to register your team!

If your business or family would like to sponsor a table for the event, contact Jerilyn Summers at 815-343-7733 for more details!

Cash bar and light supper items are available for a fee. Raffle items include Apple iPad 2, Car Detail Package, themed baskets (Movie Night, Dinner Night, Easter, Tex-Mex, Italian, Game Night, Kitchen Gadgets, Cleaning, Lottery, Coffee basket, Tastefully Simple, Scentsy, Guy’s Night, Lady’s Night, Thirty One Gifts..... plus 50/50 raffle. Beat the winter blues and enjoy a night of fun and friendly competition. Proceeds will benefit several programs funded by Waltham PTCC including mobile computer labs, smart boards, and educational school assemblies.



ELKS HOOP SHOOT CONTEST

Results of Elks Hoop Shoot Contest

Girls 8-9	Nicole Pocivasek—Winner None-Runner Up
Boys 8-9	Devin Schrader—Winner Tyler Hartman—Runner Up
Girls 10-11	Jolene Flynn—Winner Mary Claire Tomminello-Runner Up
Boys 10-11	Zach Hartman—Winner Ryan Skoog—Runner Up
Girls 12-13	Chase Ludford—Winner ZomNyet Webster—Runner Up
Boys 12-13	Jace Hardy—Winner Lukas Schwartz—Runner Up

WALTHAM PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The annual Pancake Breakfast will be held on Sunday, March 11, 2012 from 8:00-12:30 p.m. in the Waltham North gym. Save the date! Hope to see you there!!!!



WINTER EMERGENCIES /SNOW DAYS/ EARLY DISMISSAL

In preparation for the Winter season, please listen to your radio regarding snow days and early dismissal procedures. The following stations will keep you posted to any closings:

1220 AM WLPO 95.3 FM WRKX
1430AM WCMY 99.3 FM WAJK

You can also check our school website at www.wesd185.org for any cancellations.

You will be notified through our AlertNow emergency call system of any school closings or early dismissals.

Tdap REQUIRED FOR GRADES 6-12

Beginning in the fall of 2012 a Tdap vaccine will be required for all students in grades 6th-12th before admittance to school. The Health Dept. will not be holding vaccine clinics at schools this year. They do however have after school clinics once a month. You may call the Health Dept. for dates and times or make an appointment with your family physician. Please make sure your child has had the Tdap vaccine before the first day of student attendance in August if they will be entering 6th-8th grades. Thank you!!

YEARBOOK PICTURES NEEDED

If you have taken any pictures of: basketball (boys and girls), volleyball, cheerleading, classroom celebrations, Christmas programs (north and south buildings), Halloween parade, or anything else...

Please email the pictures to Miss St. Germain nstgermain@wesd185.org or send the pictures in an envelope with your student's name and classroom teacher (I will get these back to you when I scan them)

STUDENTS: If you take pictures at a game on your phone (and have internet) you can send these to me as well.



**WALTHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 2011-2012 HISTORY FAIR RESULTS
DECEMBER 15, 2011**

SUPERIOR:

Jace Hardy
Katie Corcoran
Chase Ludford
Emily Ficek
Andrew Kim
Kathryn Henry

Joe Jansen, Devin Oberjat, Declan Zuchora
Brendon Sebastian
Julia Browning
Bryanna Hoskins
Ryan Pijanowski
Carter Funfsinn
Carly Ramirez
Matthew Adams, Nic Bollis
Cole Bokus
Brendan Pode
Cody Sondgeroth
Keegan Miller, Conner Wheeler
Sydney Miller
Adam Payne
Levi Bottomley
Adam Claggett
Cody Corneglio
Owen Stoneking
Nick McTee

**The following students are eligible
To go the Regional History Fair held
in DeKalb on Saturday, February 25, 2012**

Jace Hardy-
Andrew Kim
Joe Jansen, Devin Oberjat, Declan Zuchora
Julia Browning
Carter Funfsinn
Cole Bokus
Emily Ficek
Chase Ludford
Adam Claggett
Carly Ramirez
Katie Corcoran
Kathryn Henry
Brendon Sebastian
Bryanna Hoskins
Cody Corneglio



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHY BEE 2012

These students won at their classroom level and so they will be competing at the School-wide competition on Friday, January 13, 2012, at 2:00 pm in the North Gym.

4th grade Christine Senica, Riley Pode

5th grade: Jalen Depenbrock, Jacob Pocivasek

6th grade: Annabelle Heitz, Jack Mertes

7th grade: Cole Bokus, Nic Bollis, Carter Funfsinn

8th grade: Madeline Luce, Kyle Small, Fred Becker

The School winner was Carter Funfsinn— 7th grade.

The School runner-up was Jalen Depenbrock, 5th grade

The School winner will take a written test and if eligible will be competing at the state level later this year.

A WORD FROM MRS. WILSON,

6th grade read “Christmas After All”, a diary about 1932 and trying to have a Christmas during the Great Depression. We also made decorated boxes in class like they did in the book.

7th grade took their United States Constitution test and every student passed with flying colors.

7th grade completed their History Fair Projects. The School History Fair was Thursday, December 15, 2011, and the regional Fair will be Saturday, February 25th in DeKalb, Illinois. Thank you to the 5 teachers from IVCC who came to judge the projects.

Grades 4th through 8th are finishing their classroom Geography Bees. Two students from 4th -8th will participate in the School Geography Bee on Friday, January 13, 2012.

Eric Bara has joined us this January as a Junior High Student Teacher. I look forward to working with him as he completes his requirements to become a full-time teacher.

Mrs. Wilson.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY

16 **NO SCHOOL** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
 17 Market Day@ South 4-5:00
 17 Early Dismissal, 2:05 N, 2:20 S
 18 Board of Education Meeting 6:00 p.m.
 20 Volleyball Pictures 3:30 p.m. (South)
 20 Hot Lunch Day
 20 Spelling Bee—2:15 pm North gym 6-8 grade
 23 Vision & Hearing Screening, K—2nd, 9:00 am
 24 Vision & Hearing Screening, 3rd—8th, 9:00 am
 24 Early Dismissal, 2:05 N, 2:20 S
 25 Vision & Hearing Make-Ups (both buildings)
 31 Early Dismissal, 2:05 N, 2:20 S

FEBRUARY

3 Progress Reports Distributed
 Market Day, South, 4:00-5:00 pm
 6 PTCC Meeting, 6:30 pm
 6 Vision & Hearing Rescreening, South 9:00 am
 7 Vision & Hearing Rescreening, North 9:00 am
 7 Early Dismissal, 2:05 N, 2:20 S
 8 Hot Lunch Day
 14 Valentine Class Parties, 4th-5th, 1:30 pm
 14 Valentine Class Parties, K-3rd, 1:45 pm
 14 Early Dismissal, 2:05 N, 2:20 S
 15 Board of Education Meeting 6:00 p.m.
20 No School, President's Day
 21 Early Dismissal, 2:05 N, 2:20 S
 22 Hot Lunch Day
 25 History Fair in Dekalb
 28 Early Dismissal, 2:05 N, 2:20 S

**March 5-16 ISAT Testing Attendance
 Very Important**

