



# Waltham Territory

Waltham C.C.  
Elementary School  
District #185

November 2011

## FROM OUR SUPERINTENDENT, MR. ROBERT ABNEY

Dear Students, Families, and Community Members,

Our primary mission is to focus on the learning that takes place in our classrooms. We would also like to emphasize that our schools have the responsibility to teach students how to be involved in our communities.

The world of education is in a constant state of transformation. Regardless of how education changes, there are cornerstones that remain clear and resolute for Waltham students. They are that we will strive for a constant effort to provide:

- ↪ a safe environment for students
- ↪ a quality instruction for students
- ↪ effective evaluation for students
- ↪ support for teachers in their work with students
- ↪ a positive school/community relationship
- ↪ quality facilities

The biggest key to the overall success of our students and our district, however, is in our ability to work in partnership with our parents and the community. We hope that you feel welcome in our schools and that you will take advantage of opportunities to become involved, to learn more about your school district and to be part of the many things that are taking place.

The strength of our schools comes from parental and community support and from our professional and dedicated staff. Please know that you are welcome at Waltham Schools at any time. Please feel free to come and see me anytime. Together, we will embrace the mission to challenge and support each of our students to prepare them for bright futures. Please visit our website ([wesd185.org](http://wesd185.org))! "Do not follow where the path may lead. Go, instead, where there is no path and leave a trail."

## WALTHAM STUDENT HELPS FEED THE HUNGRY

This year alone Adam Claggett, a 7th grade student at Waltham has collected 6,051 pounds of food and has collected \$1,350.00 in checks for the food pantry. With cash donations, 960 pounds of turkeys were purchased. This is amazing!!

In four years, Adam has raised a staggering 14,000 pounds of food and \$5,300 for Illinois Valley and Hall Food Pantries. We are very proud of Adam and hope that he continues such a generous endeavor.

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### **A Note from our Principal, Mr. Mike Olson**

Our Waltham Elementary Schools have already finished the first grading period, and our staff and students have been making excellent progress. I am very proud of the work that is devoted to our students each and every day by our staff. When I walk through the hallways and into the classrooms, I witness the extra attention and dedication to the students on a daily basis. I am most impressed by the hard work our teachers demonstrate every day. When I am at my office at night or on the weekends, many of our teachers are there putting in extra hours preparing to make the education for our students the best experience they can have. Also every staff member truly works hard to function as a team supporting each other with the same goal in mind- the STUDENTS of WALTHAM!

We are very fortunate at Waltham to have such supportive parents and community members. These parent volunteers are a vital part of the PTCC who serve tirelessly, but often times quietly, to provide outstanding educational opportunities for our students with their fundraising events (like the Golf Outing, and Fall Festival). That immense pride in Waltham is displayed throughout the schools in the Red and Black we proudly wear!

As far as academic performance, Waltham continues to make outstanding progress in that area, due to great parental support and a highly dedicated staff. Our ISAT scores for the Spring of 2011 were outstanding again. The following is an over view of our results of how many scores Met or Exceeded the ISAT Standards as a district:

Grade 3-Reading: 88.2% Met or Exceeded Standards- State average was 74.7%  
Grade 3- Math: 100%- Met or Exceeded Standards- State average was 87.3%  
Grade 4-Reading: 97.1%- Met or Exceeded Standards- State average was 74.7%  
Grade 4-Math: 97.1%- Met or Exceeded Standards- State average was 87.7%  
Grade 4-Science: 100%- Met or Exceeded Standards- State average was 79.3%  
Grade 5-Reading: 90%- Met or Exceeded Standards- State average was 76.4%  
Grade5-Math: 90%- Met or Exceeded Standards- State average was 84.0%  
Grade 6-Reading: 93.5%- Met or Exceeded Standards- State average was 84.1%  
Grade 6-Math: 93.5%- Met or Exceeded Standards- State average was 84.0%  
Grade 7-Reading: 91.7%- Met or Exceeded Standards- State average was 78.8%  
Grade 7-Math: 95.8%- Met or Exceeded Standards- State average was 84.3%  
Grade 7-Science: 95.8%- Met or Exceeded Standards- State average was 81.9%  
Grade 8-Reading: 91.7%- Met or Exceeded Standards- State average was 85.0%  
Grade 8-Math: 95.8%- Met or Exceeded Standards- State average was 86.3%

Again our district continues make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), and we are very proud of that! As we continue to align our curriculum K-8 and with the Common Core Standards, we expect our students to continue the outstanding academic achievement Waltham is well-known for. This truly a great place to work and I am very honored to be here!

**IT'S GREAT TO BE A WALTHAM REDSKIN!**



## WINTER PROGRAM

This year both Christmas programs will be held at the South building on two separate nights. Please mark your calendars accordingly! The Waltham Christmas Concert dates are as follows: Grades 4-8 will perform on Monday, December 12th at 6:30 pm at Waltham South. Grades K-3 will perform on Tuesday, December 13th at 6:30 pm at Waltham South. We hope to see you there!

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

Band members for the 2011-2012 school year are:

**8th grade:** Kyle Small—Clarinet

**7th grade:** Nic Bollis—Trombone, Julia Browning—Flute, Emily Ficek—Flute/Keyboard, Jace Hardy—Saxophone, Kathryn Henry—Flute, Andrew Kim—Trumpet, Sydney Miller - Trumpet

**6th grade:** Abigail Kamke—Flute, Jordan Ovanic—Saxophone, Claire Senica—Keyboard

**5th grade:** AJ Bollis—Drums, Paige Bunzell—Guitar, Meygan Echols—Flute, Billy George—Alto Sax, Ethan Henry—Trumpet, Robbie Linn—Cornet/Percussion, Hunter Monterastelli—Guitar, Ron Moriarity—Clarinet, Malcolm Roebuck—Trumpet, Caleb Tomaseski—Alto Sax, Mary Claire Tomminello—Keyboard

**4th grade:** Cassidy Antle—Trumpet, Evan Hardy—Drums, Emma Mertes—Flute, Jacob Ovanic—Drums, Abby Stock—Trumpet

Mrs. Smythe

## IMEA MUSIC FESTIVAL

Abigail Kamke, Kathryn Henry, and Emily Ficek will be performing at the IMEA District II Music Festival on Saturday, November 12th at Augustana College. The Junior Concert will begin at 4:00 pm in the Carver P.E. Center.

## STORE CERTIFICATES

Don't forget to utilize store certificates for your upcoming holiday shopping! It is as easy as calling Renee Kim at 815.223.2847 or Tiffany Lewis at 815.667.4417. Happy Holidays!!!!

## FIRST QUARTER HONOR ROLL RESULTS HIGH HONOR ROLL

**Eighth:** Olivia Graham, Aaron Kamke, Madeline Luce, Gabrielle McCabe, Amber Sharp, Melanie Wilson,

**Seventh Grade:** Matthew Adams, Cole Bokus, Nic Bollis, Emily Ficek, Jace Hardy, Kathryn Henry, Bryanna Hoskins, Andrew Kim, Chase Ludford, Keegan Miller, Ryan Pijanowksi, Owen Stoneking

**Sixth Grade:** Abigail Kamke, Jack Mertes

## HONOR ROLL

**Eighth:** Garrett Andreatta, Fred Becker, Kaleigh Cox, Mariah Gibson, Logan Guerrero, Nevada Halm, Taylor Moriarity, Roberta Rehor, Adam Schwartz, Frank Senica, Max Senica, Kalli Steele, Kendra Yade

**Seventh:** Julia Browning, Adam Claggett, Katie Corcoran, Cody Corneglio, Carter Funfsinn, Joe Jansen, Nicholas McTee, Sydney Miller, Adam Payne, Brendan Pode, Carly Ramirez, Brendon Sebastian, Conner Wheeler

**Sixth Grade:** Katie Cummings, Annabelle Heitz, Tony Jefferson, Autumn Lucas, Jordan Ovanic, Ana Plankenhorn, Rylee Radke, Kirsten Rolando, Claire Senica, Daryl Senica, Austin Snyder, Hannah Turigliatti, Dylan Vizzone, ZomNyet Webster

## A WORD FROM MRS. WASILEWSKI

The eighth grade math class is working on Chapter 4 which is Applications & Proportions. To make this meaningful, the eighth graders used indirect measurement to find the height of a pole and two trees on the play ground. The seventh graders are finishing the chapter on Equations & Inequalities, in which they are solving and graphing equations and inequalities. The seventh & eighth graders worked on making a scarecrow in which they used symmetry. The sixth graders are working on the divisibility rules, exponents, factors, and the greatest common factor.



### REMINDER ABOUT SCHOOL TREATS

It is our goal to ensure that every student in our district is safe. Our District has adopted a policy for managing students with food allergies. Our policy is in compliance with Public Act 96-0349 and meets the guidelines created by the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Public Health. Because these students cannot be in contact with foods containing this/these allergen(s), we are requiring that when you send these foods to school for snacks or treats they have to be individually wrapped (Handbook p20). Even trace amounts of these allergens could result in a severe allergic reaction. Sometimes these elements may be hidden in processed foods.

#### What types of treat are allowed?

1. Anything pre-packaged/individually wrapped
2. Examples are mini candy bars, Suckers, Hostess/Little Debbie Snacks, Ice cream treats.

#### What types of treats are not allowed?

1. Home made treats
2. Bulk packaged treats-cupcakes/cookies from Wal-Mart, for example.

Please make an effort to adhere to this policy. Treats that do not meet the guidelines will not be distributed to the students. If you have any questions about the policy or questions about any treats being acceptable or not, please do not hesitate to contact me.—Mr. Olson

### PICTURES WANTED

If you have pictures of any events that have happened at school or any sporting events, please email them to Miss St. Germain and they may end up in the yearbook! My e-mail address is [nstgermain@wesd185.org](mailto:nstgermain@wesd185.org). You may also send them to school with your child in an envelope, marked with your child's name and teacher, and I will scan them and send them back to you. Thank you so much!

### GOLF OUTING

The **2012 Golf Outing** date has been set for Sunday, June 3rd. Hope to see you there!

### WALTHAM'S TRIVIA NIGHT

Mark your calendars!! **Waltham's Trivia Night** is scheduled for Saturday, **February 11, 2012** at Senica's Oak Ridge in the reception room!!! Doors open at 5:30, Trivia starts at 7:00 p.m.

**FALL FESTIVAL** turned out to be another evening of fun and laughter. Thanks to all who attended this annual event. Kudos to the McCabe family and their committee for their efforts to make this night a special time for Waltham families. A very special thank you to Stacy Andreatta for her 16 years of service to help make the night a success. Thanks to our teachers and 8th grade students who volunteered their time and talent to the fall festival. McDonalds in Utica graciously donated orange drink and cheeseburgers. Both were a hit. HyVee donated all of the two liter bottles of soda for the ring toss game. The Water Store donated the water used during the evening. Thank you to the cake and cookie donors along with our business donors, HyVee, McDonalds & The Water Store!!

### BOOK FAIR

Thank you to all of the Waltham parents, teachers and community members that helped to make the Scholastic Book Fair a success! Total sales were \$3,300, with a book profit of \$1,550. **100%** of the book profit will be used to purchase books for **ALL** classroom libraries. That helps to put many more books into the hands of **ALL** Waltham students. A **HUGE** thank you to the following volunteers: Kristen Adams, Rhonda Aimone, Jen Andrews, Shelley Berry, Jill Bollis, Sarah Duggan, Kathy Jereb, Kris Kamke, Renee Kim, Nanci Monroe and Jami Sebastian. Without their help, the book fair would not have been a success. Thank you to Mr. Hegland and Mr. Beavers for helping transport books to and from each school. Thanks to Miss Twidell and Mrs. Papineau for generously donating their classroom. A special thank you to student volunteer, Kirsten Rolando for volunteering her time to help set up. Thanks again for supporting our school's love of reading!  
Kelli Funfsinn



## PROJECT SANTA

For our sixth year, Waltham students have “printed” stockings and written letters to the soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Waltham families have donated supplies and groceries that will fill some of the stockings. One-hundred and thirty eight stockings, 138 heart-warming letters, boxes of groceries and supplies show the spirit of the Waltham community once again! Thank you to all of you who helped in any way to make Project Santa a success at Waltham.

## A WORD FROM MRS. WILSON

Thank you to all who helped out the 8<sup>th</sup> grade by buying candy bars or Bergner’s Coupon Books. We sold over 120 coupon books; are in the top 10 and are eligible for the bonus. Our class trip will be May 18, 2012 and will include a performance of Blue Man Group and dinner at Ed Debevic’s.

7<sup>th</sup> grade will begin working on their study of the United States Constitution on November 3<sup>rd</sup> and will finish by taking the test on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

The Waltham History Fair will be on December 15<sup>th</sup>, here at Waltham North with the Superior rated projects going to the Regional History Fair in DeKalb on February 25, 2012.

8<sup>th</sup> grade is entering the 20<sup>th</sup> Century in US History and will start work on their Christmas around the World project after Thanksgiving.

Thanks to Joan and Dale Graham for letting the 8<sup>th</sup> graders have 24 pumpkins for our globe project. Students needed to put the equator, the Prime Meridian and the seven continents on the pumpkins. We had a lot of fun with this and learned a lot about location and perspective.

## SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Thanks to Ed and Nanci Monroe for compiling our 2011-2012 **Waltham School Directory**. It is a great tool to have for rapid communication with our Waltham families. We appreciate your time and effort in organizing the data!!

## WALTHAM ART ON DISPLAY

The artists of Waltham School have their chance to shine from November 28-December 12<sup>th</sup> at the Ottawa Regional Hospital. If you have a reason to visit the hospital or just passing by, students work will be hanging in the hallway in display cases. It is always a pleasure hanging the work, as I receive so many compliments about the students’ work. Way to go, Waltham artists!

## WALTHAM’S NEWSLETTERS ARE GOING GREEN

In an effort to go green, Waltham’s Newsletters for the 2011-2012 school year will only be mailed to you if you contact the school and ask to be put on our mailing list. If you are a community member and would like the newsletter e-mailed to you, please let the school know of your current e-mail address. All parents will automatically have the newsletter e-mailed to them through TeacherEase so please let us know of any changes to your e-mail. The newsletter will also be posted on Waltham’s website along with all of the monthly parent newsletters. Our web address is [wesd185.org](http://wesd185.org)

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Nov. 22—Early Dismissal 2:05 N, 2:20 S**

**Nov. 23-25—No School Thanksgiving Break**

**Nov. 29—Early Dismissal 2:05 N, 2:20 S**

**Dec. 1—Hot Lunch (Pizza Hut)**

**Dec. 6—Market Day Pickup @ South**

**Dec. 6—Early Dismissal 2:05 N, 2:20 S**

**Dec. 7— Mobile Dentist**

**Dec. 12—Winter Program 6:30 pm 4th-8th**

**Dec. 12—Hot Lunch (Soup & grilled cheese)**

**Dec. 13—Early Dismissal 2:05 N, 2:20 S**

**Dec. 14—Winter Program 6:30 pm K-3**

**Dec. 15— History Fair**

**Dec. 19—PTCC Meeting at Waltham South**

**Dec. 21—K-3 Holiday Parties; 2:20 Dismissal**

**Dec. 21—4-8 Holiday Parties; 2:05 Dismissal**

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