

“Waltham Territory”

From the Superintendent

Welcome to Summer, but get ready for Fall! Although our school year just ended, we are already hard at work preparing for the 2009-2010 school year! The Waltham School District is committed to delivering an exceptional learning experience for our students. We strive to support the individual needs of our learners by offering a differentiated instructional program. We welcome and encourage family involvement at Waltham as parents are an integral component in the academic success of students. We strive to keep the lines of communication open between teachers, administrators and parents with weekly classroom newsletters, monthly school newsletters, e-mail, voice mail, and fall parent-teacher conferences. The District is proud of all it has to offer and even more proud of its support system – YOU! Thank you Waltham community for your ongoing support and generosity!

As you are aware, we will be making some changes in our busing procedures and requirements for the next school year as follows:

- There will be only one pick up stop in the a.m. and one drop off stop in the p.m. on the bus route. All days must be the same. The a.m. stop and p.m. stop can be two different places – but must stay the same every day of the week and all year.
- There will be fewer, centralized bus stops that will be provided to students at registration.
- Buses will drop off students at the North building first, then the South building after a possible transfer. The start time for classes will remain the same for both buildings as in the past, but this change will eliminate the approximate 40 minute wait until school begins at South. North start time is 8:35 a.m. and South is 8:50 a.m. Students should not arrive at school before 8:20 at the North Building and not before 8:40 a.m. at South.

Questions should be directed to Illinois Central School Bus at (815)-220-8800.

In preparation for the 2009-2010 school year, we ask once again that you take an ACTIVE role in your child’s school experience. PLEASE GET INVOLVED! We need your time, your talents, your expertise and your support! How can I help? Classroom volunteers can assist with reading, interventions, center activities, technology – computer lab, special projects or crafts, educating students on something in your area of expertise, writing a weekly newsletter, helping in the lunchroom or at recess, or simply being another set of eyes and ears for students needs. We want you here!

Last but certainly not least, we are in the last step of creating a School District Foundation to assist with educational needs and wants. The Waltham Elementary Education Foundation will begin upon State Approval. A Foundation is a non-profit organization that is set up to address specific long and short term needs and wants relative to the School District. If you are interested in helping to support the District through the Foundation, please contact Dr. Kristen School at 815-667-4790.

THANK YOU ~ THANK YOU ~ THANK YOU to the following individuals for sharing their time, talents, muscles and creativity with the Waltham School District during the recent playground reinstallation: Mr. Michael Beavers, Mr. Dan Beavers, Mr. Roger Hegland, Mr. Jason Ovanic, Mr. Jim McCabe, Mr. Collin McCabe, Mr. Jeff Ficek, Mr. Ben Ficek, Mr. Brian Hoskins, Mr. Don Bollis, Mr. Jason Depenbrock, Mr. Scott Atkins, Mr. Jason Hamann, Dr. Kristen School & students Joe Ovanic and Jordan Ovanic. We would also like to thank MaryKay Stoneking (Rental Pro’s) for the concrete saw and Joe Cameron (Snook Equipment) for the rental auger.

These individuals gave up a Saturday (and some a Friday evening as well) and assisted with cutting concrete, digging holes, moving playground equipment, pouring concrete, reading blueprints, telling jokes, eating burgers, and preparing the playground equipment for student use! We will likely need another group of volunteers to assist us with the installation of pea gravel later in the summer. The specific date and time will be advertised on our website and on our sign – please keep checking so you don’t miss another fun event at Waltham!

See you
on July 21st
at Waltham
North for
Registration

School Pictures

Mark your calendar!
The dates scheduled
for school pictures are:
Wednesday, Sept. 16
from 9:00-11:30 a.m.
for Grades 4-8 and
Thursday, Sept. 17
from 9:00-11:30 a.m.
for Grades K-3.



A Word From the Principal

Junior high is having the enrichment program again this school year and would like to get started early. Class length will be between 4 and 12 weeks long, and will be from 2:00-3:00 on Fridays. If you have an interest or talent that you would like to share with our junior high students on Friday afternoons please let me know.

Hope you are all having a great summer. I am looking forward to another great school year. Please call me with any questions or concerns you may have at 815-667-4417.

REGISTRATION

The Faculty and Staff are getting ready for the 2009-2010 school year. The following information will help you and your child/children prepare for registration which will be held on Tuesday, July 21 from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and 5:00-8:00 p.m. at 946 N. 33rd Road.

The following fees will be due at registration: Textbook rental-\$75.00 per student; Band fee-\$50.00 per student (Grade 4-8 participants); Sports fee-\$50.00 per student (Grade 5-8 participants); yearly Milk fee-\$100.80 per Kindergarten student (includes milk for snack time); yearly Milk fee-\$50.40 per student (Grade 1-8); Paper fee for grades 1-2 -\$12.00, Tote Bags -\$5.50 for new students in grades K-4 and Computer Stereophones - \$5.50 for Kindergarten and new students.

Health/Dental Examinations

Students in Kindergarten and Sixth Grade are required to provide current Health Examinations prior to the first day of school. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in the student's exclusion from school until the required Health forms are presented to the District. **Note: The Health History and Immunization portion must be completed.**

Dental Examinations are required for all students entering **kindergarten, second and sixth grades**. Sports Examinations are required for all participants and must be on file before the first practice.

Hepatitis B Series: Fifth Grade students are required to have the series completed prior to the first day of school.

Chicken Pox: All students entering Kindergarten are required to have one dose of the varicella vaccine or a physician's confirmation (including dates) of having had the chicken pox.

Diabetes Screening: Students entering Kindergarten and Sixth grade are required to have a diabetes screening as part of their health examination. Diabetes testing is not required.

Student Insurance

The School offers optional Student Insurance Plans that are available:

24-HOUR-A-DAY PROTECTION

Deluxe Plan \$229.00, Standard Plan \$155.00, Economy Plan \$90.00

AT SCHOOL PROTECTION

Deluxe Plan \$64.00, Standard Plan \$37.00, Economy Plan \$20.00

The Student Insurance Plan applications will be available at registration to complete and pay for. Please do not send cash. Checks are payable to: Student Plans, Inc. Note: Payment for Insurance must be separate from registration fees.

Calendars & Newsletters

Throughout the school year a monthly calendar and newsletter are sent home with the youngest child of each family. The calendar is sent home prior to the 1st of each month. The newsletter is distributed approximately around the 15th of each month. It is very important that you receive and read the calendars and newsletters as they contain dates and information you must know. Please remind your child to give you this correspondence immediately after receiving it from their teacher. If you do not receive the calendar or newsletter, please call either school and speak to Mrs. Lewis or Mrs. Hewitt, or visit either office to pick one up. All newsletters and calendars are also posted on our website. Please visit us at: www.wesd185.org

Medication Policy

If a child is required to take **prescription** medication during school hours and the parent cannot be at school to administer the medication, the following guidelines will be in effect. **Medication must be brought to school by the Parent in a container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or physician.** A form which will become a part of the student's permanent health records **must be completed by the parent** and will include: child's name, name and purpose of medication, time to be administered, dosage, possible side effects, termination date for giving medication, parent's signature and date. Waltham school **will not** dispense non-prescription medication or non-aspirin to students on a regular basis. Special circumstances must be authorized by the Superintendent.

School Schedule

The **first day of school** is Tuesday, August 18 from 8:35-11:40 a.m. (Waltham North) and from 8:50-11:55 a.m. (Waltham South).

Early Dismissal is in effect from August 19 - August 21st. Waltham North dismissal is 2:05 pm Waltham South dismissal is 2:20 pm.

Regular Dismissal begins on August 24. Waltham North dismissal is 3:05 p.m. Waltham South dismissal is 3:20 p.m.

Yearbook Information

Bus route schedules will be available at tition.

The cost of the yearbook will be \$14.25 per book. A copy of the 2007-2008 yearbook will be available to view.

The yearbook is given to your child at the beginning of the school year for the previous year. If you choose not to purchase the yearbook at registration, you will be given another opportunity to purchase a yearbook at a

Sports Sign-Ups

During registration, you will have the opportunity to sign up for the sports you would like to participate in. Look for our Sports table on Registration Day. Physical Forms will also be available. **Transportation will not be provided for athletic events.** Parents are responsible for transporting students to and from games. The school will make every attempt to help. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the school office at 667-4417.

Absenteeism

If your child/children will be absent from school on one or more days, a parent or guardian must telephone the school office by 10:00 am. **each day** informing us of the absence and reason. If the school is not notified, the State Law requires us to contact the parent. Those working parents are to understand that we will call you at your place of employment. Please call us to avoid this disturbance.

Kindergarten

On Monday, August 17, 2009, the parents of all Kindergarten students are asked to bring their student, along with all of their supplies, to the South building from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in order to get acquainted with their classroom and their teacher. This will make the first day a little easier on the student (and parent) as they will not have to carry any supplies with them on the bus.

Bus Loading & Unloading Zone Code

Public Act 91-260, effective January 1, 2000, amends the vehicle code to require that school buses stopped on a roadway or on school property for the purposes of loading or discharging students must have in operation the school bus stop arm and red flashing warning lamps. This law was passed to clarify that the stop arm must be used on school property when stopped to load or discharge passengers, and to allow law enforcement to enter school property to issue tickets to stop-arm violators without a written contract with the District.

Please refrain from parking in the loading zone in front of the school between the hours of **8:30-9:15 a.m.**, and **2:45-3:45 p.m.** on regular school days or **8:30-9:15 a.m.**, and **1:45-2:45 pm** on early dismissal days.

Art Room News

During the fall of 2007, the eighth graders were asked to complete a project titled *Owl Collages—Mixed Media*. Students brainstormed to come up with ideas to give their owl a specific personality or to draw and create the owl in a natural setting. The ideas were fabulous! After completing this project, I was so dazzled by their creations I sent photos and a description of the methods and materials used to *Art & Activities*. I subscribe to this magazine for new art techniques, products, and teaching ideas.

On May 15, 2009, I received word from the magazine that they are going to publish the works of the former Waltham students! No definite date or issue has been given but I am so proud that a group of Waltham students will have their work published in a magazine! I will definitely proclaim it to the community when the published issue arrives in my mailbox! Waltham students are TALENTED!

Mrs. Kathy Schultz

Kindergarten Students

All parents with children entering Kindergarten must be prepared to present your child's **birth certificate** and **social security number** at registration if you have not already done so.

Please refrain from driving around the Road Closed signs at the South

Please refrain from parking in the loading zone during school

Please note: Parking is not permitted in front of the mail box or fuel pump at Waltham

PADLOCKS & LOCKERS...

Grades 6, 7, and 8 will be required to use school locks purchased by the school. If the student loses the lock, he/she will be asked to pay for the lock.

**Waltham Elementary
School**

946 N. 33rd Road
Utica, IL 61373

Phone: 815-667-4417
Fax: 815-667-4462
Email: Waltham@wesd185.org

**TODAY'S WALTHAM
STUDENT IS
TOMORROW'S LEADER!**

*ENJOY THE REMAINDER OF YOUR
SUMMER VACATION! SEE YOU AT
REGISTRATION!!*