

Walden Weekly Back-to School

A Newsletter for the Walden Community

First Day! Monday, August 21, 2023

Parents, Guardians, and students, we are on the final countdown to the first day of school which is Monday, August 21, 2023. Remember that we have a new start time this year and classes begin promptly at 7:15 am. The building will open at 7:00 am.

You can access the Park Hill School District Calendar at the weblink below:

https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1688133394/parkhillk12mous/es6kgnrkfnmlufvdwfoa/BoardApprovedAmendedAcademicCalendar2023-2024_1.pdf

WALDEN MIDDLE SCHOOL

LEARN, LEAD, SUCCEED TOGETHER

TEACHING ADOLESCENTS TO BE RESILIENT
PROBLEM-SOLVING AND COMPASSIONATE ADULTS

GREETINGS WALDEN MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY!

Upcoming Events

August 21, 2023 - First Day of School
August 21, 2023 - Volleyball tryouts begin
August 21, 2023 - Pick up Musical Audition Forms in the Choir Room #D120
August 31, 2023 - Picture Day
September 4, 2023 - No School - Labor Day
September 5, 2023 - 2:20 to 4:00 pm Musical Help Session
September 6, 7, and 8, 2023 2:20 to 5:00 pm Musical Auditions
September 13, 2023 - Early Release Day - Students dismiss at 12:20 pm
September 19, 2023 - PTA Meeting 6pm
October 4, 2023 - Early Release Day - Students dismiss at 12:20 pm
October 9 to 13, 2023 - Red Ribbon Week
October 12, 2023 - Picture Retakes
October 13, 2023 - Mixer (Grade 6 - 2:20 to 4:00) and Dance (Grade 7 and 8 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm)
October 16, 2023 - Choir Concert 7:00 pm
October 19, 2023 - End of Quarter 1 - Incentive Day
October 20, 2023 - No School - Teacher Work Day
October 25, 2023 - Parent Teacher Conference 5:00 - 8:00pm
October 26, 2023 - No School - Parent Teacher Conferences 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm
October 27, 2023 - No School

WALDEN MIDDLE SCHOOL'S NEW DAILY SCHEDULE

NEW START AND END TIMES FOR WALDEN STUDENTS

During the Park Hill School Board Meeting on June 22, 2023, the board voted unanimously to revise the start and end times for Walden Middle School and a few other Park Hill Schools to help mitigate the impact of the bus driver shortage.

Starting this year Walden Middle School students will start school at 7:15 am and their day will end at 2:20 pm. The building will open at 7:00 am to greet students and allow many students time to get breakfast, eat in the cafeteria, head to their tutorial class, and prepare for their day. One benefit of this schedule change in addition to improving bus service will be that now all middle schools will be on the same schedule which will allow for streamline afterschool activities and events. You can find the full daily schedule at the link below.

<https://walden.parkhill.k12.mo.us/about-our-school>



Student IDs

Student School IDs are here and as in the past, all students will receive and be required to wear a Park Hill School District issued ID along with a special team lanyard in their team colors. This ID is one of our first lines of school safety. It provides a way for school personnel to identify a student as a Jaguar and if they are where they are supposed to be in the building. Additionally, students will need to scan their IDs to get on and off the bus which allows us to ensure they are on the correct bus and get off at the correct stop, allows them an easy way to pay for lunch by simply scanning their badge, it is used to check out library books, and earn PBIS rewards.



If a student damages or loses their badge, we will replace it once at no cost. Additional replacement badges are \$5.00. Lost lanyards are \$2.50. Students may not bring a lanyard from home to wear as our lanyards are color specific to their team. IDs must be free of stickers and other items that block a student's photo.

Please reinforce with your student the importance of wearing their ID. We appreciate your help!

Student Technology Distribution

All students new to Walden Middle School, including our 6th graders, will receive their district issued laptops on Tuesday, August 22nd. Any returning students who left their laptop on campus during the summer can visit the technology office to pick up their laptop.

TRANSPORTATION CHANGES

Bus Riders: **BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR INFINITE CAMPUS FOR YOUR BUS TIME AND BUS NUMBER.**



In June, PHSD adjusted the bus transportation boundaries to help alleviate the shortage of bus drivers in Park Hill School District. This adjustment includes only offering bus transportation to students living within a defined distance from their school. For the 2023-2024 school year, the Park Hill School District will provide transportation services to middle school students who live beyond 1.0 mile from their school.

We know this may be difficult for some families. If you have questions you'd like to share with our Transportation Department, please email them at transportation@parkhill.k12.mo.us.

Thank you for working through this change with us. As we continually look for additional bus drivers, please visit First Student's webpage at [WorkAtFirst.com](https://www.firststudent.com) if you can help. Again, thank you for making this adjustment with us, and please connect with us if you need support.

Transportation Pamphlet -

<https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1659968080/parkhillk12mous/bpxihmljk56qrypdlr5n/PHStudentTransportationPamphletRev2022.pdf>

School Store - Now Open

The Walden Middle School school store is now open! Buy your team gear today! Click on the link below:

<https://www.agpestores.com/amcgraphics/groups.php>

Meet Our Teams

Each of the links below will take you to a team or a teacher so you can learn more about them and their classes before the first day of school.

- [Eagles](#)
- [Falcons](#)

7th Grade

- [Cyclones](#)
- [Thunder](#)

8th Grade

- [Comets](#)
- [Monarchs](#)

Encore / Imagineers:

- [Mrs. Peeler](#) - Drama/Speech/Publications
- [Mr. Peterson](#) - PLTW
- [Mr. Bellof](#) - Music/Choir
- [Ms. Wenzel](#) - Art
- [Mrs. Kerns](#) - FACS
- [Mr. Jolliff](#) - PLTW
- [Mrs. Gibbs](#) - World Cultures/Spanish
- [Coach Washington](#) - PE
- [Coach From](#) - PE
- [Mrs. Brooke](#) - FACS
- [Ms. Ward](#) - AVID
- [Mr. Aguilar](#) - Orchestra
- [Mrs. Wagoner](#) - Band
- [Mr. Gillespie](#) - Band



Walden XC 2023

Walden is looking forward to a new season of cross-country! Click on the link to [sign-up](#) and visit our [website](#) for more information. Students must have a physical on record to participate. Practices vary, some days practices will occur before school from 6:00 am to 6:55 am and other days practices will occur after school from 2:30 pm to 3:45 pm. Students will meet on the track. Check with Coach Jolliff and Coach Clippard for more specific details.

Walden Volleyball

Walden volleyball begins with tryouts on Monday, August 21 (first day of school). The players will have a great season and will meet the program goals of having fun, growing as volleyball players, and experiencing



personal and team success. We will get a chance to compete against the other Park Hill School District middle schools as well as teams throughout the city. Be sure to join us for a great season of volleyball! Tryouts will end at 4:30 pm and students will be released out to the main parking lot to meet you. Students must have a physical on record to participate.

Student Morning Drop Off

Students who walk to school or who are dropped off by a parent or guardian will enter through the front doors. If you are driving your student to school, proceed up NW 56th street to the Walden Middle School parking lot entrance and proceed to the front stairs. Students should not be dropped off in other areas as their safety is our number one concern.

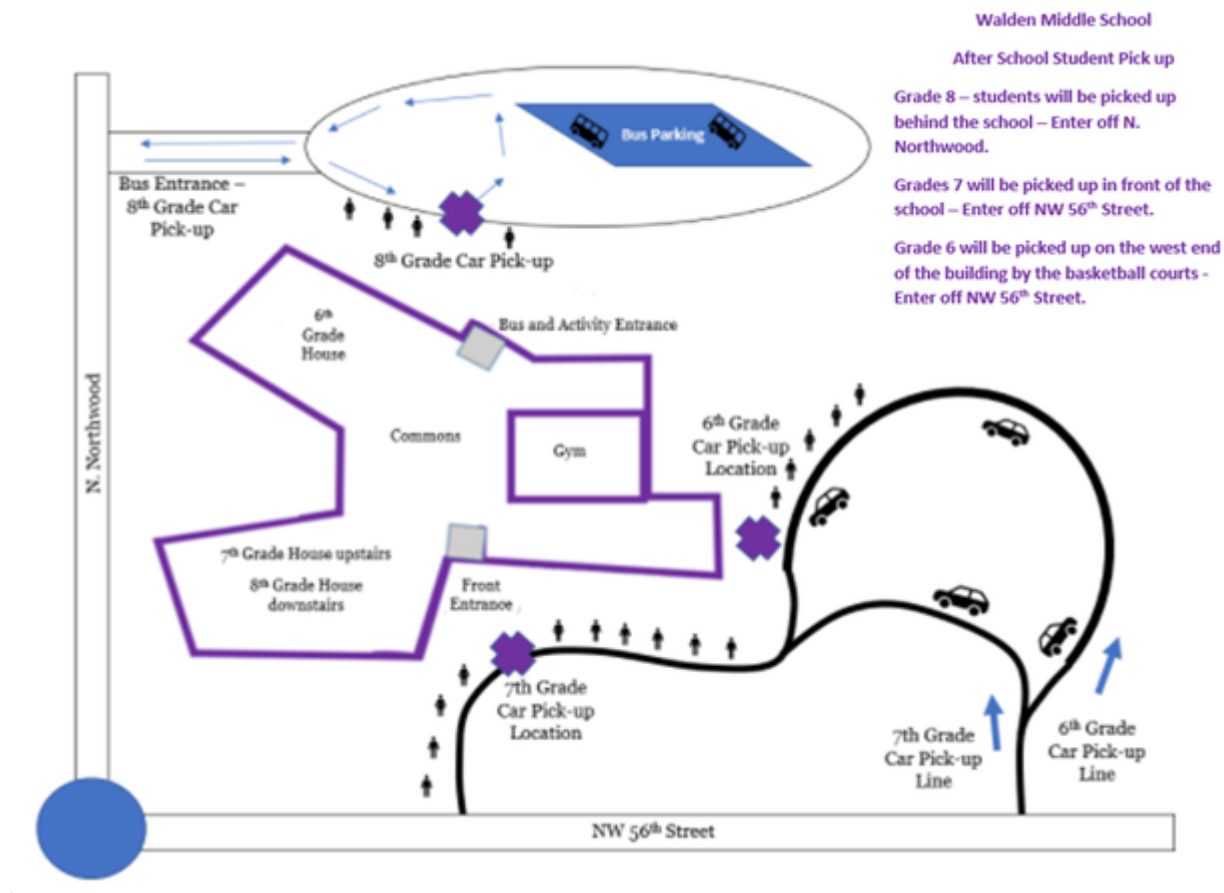
**** Students should not be dropped off or picked up in the parking lot. This is unsafe. Please make your way to the sidewalks near the building. ****

Student Afternoon Pick Up

In order to ensure the safety and to expedite the pick up process after school, students pick up areas are in separate areas of the campus. The map below highlights the pickup locations.

- Grade 8 students will be picked up behind the school – Enter off N. Northwood.
- Grade 7 will be picked up in front of the school – Enter off NW 56th Street.
- Grade 6 will be picked up on the west end of the building by the basketball courts - Enter off NW 56th Street.

**** Students should not be dropped off or picked up in the parking lot. This is unsafe. Please make your way to the sidewalks near the building. ****



WALDEN PTA - JOIN TODAY

Walden Middle School is lucky to have a very involved PTA that connects with students, staff, families, and the greater community. They provide items for teachers and students to enhance learning and promote a positive and fun learning community. Just a few of the initiatives that PTA supports are:

- Spirit Carts
- Classroom Supplements
- Cultural Arts Events
- Awards Assemblies
- Reflections Art Contest
- Student Appreciation
- Staff Appreciation
- Student Incentives and more.



Individual memberships are \$15, family memberships are \$30 and business partner memberships are \$100. For family and business partner memberships, a portion is tax deductible. A few benefits of a business membership is your logo in the PTA newsletters, social media posts, and banners.

You can join our incredible PTA today by logging in to the weblink below:

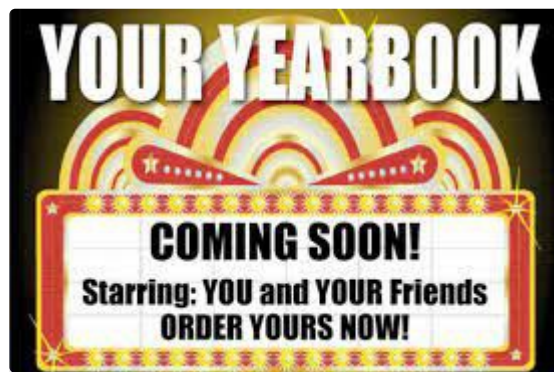
<https://walden-pta-membership-2023-2024.cheddarup.com>

If you have questions about how to get involved and volunteer for this coming school year, please feel free to reach out to us at waldenjaguarspta@gmail.com

For more information, check out the PTA page on the Walden Middle School webpage.

<https://walden.parkhill.k12.mo.us/families/pta>

Thank you for your help and support by joining the Walden PTA! We wish all of our Jaguars a very successful school year!



Order Your Yearbook Today!!!

2023-2024 is going to be the best year ever at Walden! Buy your yearbook today to remember all the incredible memories from this awesome year! You can order at



School Lunch and Breakfast

The price for school lunches for the 23-24 school year are as follows:

Breakfast

- \$1.75 (regular)
- \$1.90 (premium)

Lunch

- \$3.10 (regular)
- \$3.50 (premium)

Beverages

Milk

- \$0.70

Juice

- \$0.40

Adult/Visitor Breakfast - \$2.00

Adult/Visitor Lunch - \$4.00 (without drink)

Meal Payment Options:

If your student plans to purchase breakfast or lunch, please make sure money is in your child's account. You can make payments at your school (with cash or check) or online through **SchoolCafe.com**. If a parent needs assistance or their student's ID number to set up an online account, they can contact the Nutrition Services office at 359-4090 or your student's cafeteria manager.

Free and Reduced Meal Benefits:

Applications for the 2023-24 school year will be available for completion after August 1, 2023.

Students who receive free or reduced-price meal benefits during the school year will continue to receive those benefits during summer school. If you have any questions, please contact Park Hill Nutrition Services at (816) 359-4090.

Completed applications can be mailed or dropped off at any school building.

For more information, check out the Park Hill School District Nutrition Services Pages at <https://www.parkhill.k12.mo.us/families/menus-and-nutrition>

Join Our Team

When you work in Park Hill, you work with the top professionals in education. Whether you measure their success by the safe, caring learning environment they create for our students or by the list of top regional, state and national awards they bring home, our educators and support staff are the best around. Current openings at Walden Middle School include:

- Specialized Teacher Assistant - \$18.20 per hour + \$1 per hour bonus paid 2 times per year.
- Assistant Track Coach - \$2,145 per year
- Middle School Tutor - 7:00am to 2:00pm Monday to Thursday - Split with Lakeview MS (AVID Program) - \$15.56 per hour
- Building Assistant - 3.5 hours per day - \$15.56 per hour
- Building Assistant - 2.5 hours per day - \$15.56 per hour
- Nutrition Services Assistant - full-time 6.0 hours per day - \$16.18 per hour + \$1 per hour bonus paid 2 times per year.
- School Crossing Guard - - \$15.56 per hour
- Assistant Girls Basketball Coach - \$2,145 per year

Apply at <https://parkhill.tedk12.com/hire/index.aspx>

PHSD MIDDLE SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST



Park Hill School District Middle School supply list for 2023-24

Quantity	Core Classroom Supplies
1 Pkg.	Colored Pencils
1 Pkg.	Blue or Black Pens
2 Pkgs.	#2 Pencils (minimum 24 pencils)
1 pair	Earbuds/Headphones – not to exceed \$10.00 (wired, not wireless)
4	Composition Notebooks
1 Pkg.	Markers
1	Three-hole Pencil Pouch
1 pkg	Highlighters (multi-colors)
1 pkg	8 Index Dividers for binders
4	Dry Erase Markers
1 Pkg.	Loose Leaf Notebook Paper

Supplies Needed for Specific Exploratory Classes

Subject	Exploratory Classroom Supplies
Band / Orchestra	Students may purchase or rent their own instrument for use in this course.
7 th and 8 th Art	1 pack of pencils, 4 black sharpies, 2 erasers

Optional Items

These items help support needs of learning environment but are not mandatory for the education process.

Tissue Box	3 x 3 Post-Its
	3 Ring Binder, 2 inch

Please Note: Students will be provided a laptop bag for their district issued device.

If you need assistance with any of these supplies please contact your school office.

Updated: 5/9/23

Middle School Lunch Menu

Parent Portal - Infinite Campus

Technology Support

2023-2024 Parent and Student Handbook