

WMS 2026-2027



Student & Parent Handbook

WALKER MIDDLE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Main Phone: 503-399-3220

Attendance Phone: 503-399-3222

Fax: 503-399-5540

Paul Myers, Principal

Erica Anderson, Assistant Principal

Access our [STAFF DIRECTORY](#) to contact any Walker staff directly.

School Hours

Office Hours 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Monday – Friday

Campus Hours 8:55 am to 4:15 pm. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
9:55 am to 4:15 pm. Wednesday

Walker Middle School classes begin at 9:20 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Classes for students will start on Wednesday at 10:20 am.

During regular scheduled classes, students may enter the school building at 8:55 a.m. (or 9:55 am on Wednesday) and remain in the cafeteria or gym until the bell signals access to the rest of the building.

All Salem-Keizer middle schools are “closed campus.” This means students are to stay at school from the time they arrive until school is dismissed. Taking students off campus for lunch by parents is discouraged because of the brief 30-minute lunch period.

Classes are dismissed at 4:00 p.m. and buses leave by 4:10. Students participating in after-school sports, study sessions, or other approved activity must report to the designated area. All other students exit the building. Supervision of students on campus ends at 4:15 p.m. unless

students are participating in a pre-arranged, school sponsored activity. Students must leave the campus promptly after school or after the last activity of the day.

PARENT CONNECTION TO SCHOOL

We look forward to working in partnership with you to help your child have a successful middle school experience. Please become familiar with school policies and procedures as written in this handbook.

Salem Keizer Public Schools maintains an online service that provides information to parents and students about grades, assignments, attendance and more. Each parent will have access to ParentVUE that will be accessible from a desktop computer or mobile app. Students will also be given access to this information through StudentVUE. This is an excellent way to keep up on your student's progress and grades. You may also communicate with individual teachers through this system. You may contact the school office to acquire login information. For more information about ParentVUE or StudentVUE **please visit the [ParentVUE & StudentVUE webpage](#)**.

Walker's website and ParentSquare are the BEST ways to keep up with school activities and events. We suggest if you have questions to check out the district website or the Walker website for links to important information. Please also sign up with ParentSquare to receive instant updates via text or email from the district, school and your child's teachers.

- **[WALKER'S WEBSITE](http://walker.salkeiz.k12.or.us)** (<http://walker.salkeiz.k12.or.us>)
- **[PARENTSQUARE](https://salkeiz.k12.or.us/parentsquare)** (<https://salkeiz.k12.or.us/parentsquare>)
- **[FACEBOOK: Walker Middle School page](https://www.facebook.com/walkermiddleschool)**
(<https://www.facebook.com/walkermiddleschool>)
- **[INSTAGRAM: Walker Middles School Wildcats](https://www.instagram.com/walkermiddleschool.wildcats)**
(<https://www.instagram.com/walkermiddleschool.wildcats>)

Attendance

Daily Attendance

Parents are requested to call the attendance number **(503-399-3222)** on the day of absence to excuse their student. **Please remember that absences must be excused within three days of the student's return.** Please provide the following information:

- Parent name
- Student's full name (spelling the last name)
- Date(s) of absence
- Reason for absence (illness, emergency, appointment)

The above information also applies to tardies. If the student arrives late to school, a call from a parent or note from home signed by the parent must be presented stating the date and reason of the tardiness in order for the tardy to be excused.

Absences that are not excused by a parent will be recorded as unexcused and parents will receive a telephone call with an automated message. The school may contact home to determine the reason for an absence. Oregon law states that parents are responsible for making sure their children attend school. (ORS 339.065)

Most assignments can be located in Canvas. If you are aware in advance that a student will be absent, we encourage parents to request work from teachers by email or ParentVUE. **Please allow 48 hours for requested work to be filled.** Please realize that absences result in missed opportunities for active engagement in class activities.

10 Day Absences

Oregon law requires that students be withdrawn from our enrollment when they miss ten consecutive days of school. If a student is withdrawn, they will need to re-enroll upon their return.

Student Check-In and Check-out

Students checking in late will need to have their student ID number or ID card to check in at the attendance kiosk. Parents/Guardians may send the student with a note or call the attendance line to excuse the absence. It is not necessary to come into the office to sign them in if a call to the office is made.

If a student needs to check out during the day, the student should bring a note to the attendance office before school starts indicating the time to be called from class. Parents/Guardians may call in advance to the main office number or come to the attendance office to check out students.

Please come in to sign them out and bring identification. Please allow at least 10 minutes to retrieve the student. Upon returning to school, the student may check themselves in at the attendance office.

Please avoid picking up your student for the last 15 minutes of the day. We will not guarantee they can be dismissed before the final bell.

Tardy Policy

In order to optimize learning time, it is important that students are ready to learn when class begins. Students are considered tardy when they are outside the classroom without permission when the bell rings for class to begin. To be excused, students arriving late must have a written pass signed by a staff member. Excessive tardies may result in a parent conference, interventions, and/or discipline consequence (ie lunch detention).

School Closures and Delays

In the event of school closures or delays, information will be shared out via ParentSquare, email, district website and news media. Please refer to the Emergency School Closures and Delays for more information.

Academics

Grading System

In middle school, a student's GPA is based on a four-point scale: A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0. Letter grades are given in all academic classes. Student aides receive a grade of P (Pass) or NP (No Pass). Students on Individual Education Plans may receive modifications in accordance with their IEP. Grades are based on criteria set by the teacher and teaching team. Grades may also include grades for citizenship and work habits.

Parents and students may track student progress using ParentVUE and StudentVUE. Our District approved learning platform is Canvas. Teachers place syllabuses, assignments, and grades in Canvas. Grades in Canvas should sync overnight to ParentVUE. If you notice a discrepancy, please reach out directly to the teacher.

AVID

The AVID elective focuses on college and career ready skills. Students receive intentional support and mentoring in the development of academic skills, setting goals that support long-term aspirations, persisting through obstacles and activating their academic, social, emotional, and professional skills to reach their potential.

UNIFIED

A program that creates a community of inclusion and support throughout our school a cultivates authentic relationships and build a sense of belonging for all students. Walker is the first middle school in the district to receive a Special Olympics banner for the Unified Schools.

These classes and activities are dedicated to creating meaningful opportunities to build relationships for students with and without disabilities through inclusion of shared experiences, athletic games, Unified games, and other Unified sporting events. These events are open to all students interested in participating.

Talented and Gifted (TAG)

The Salem-Keizer School District identifies and serves intellectually gifted students and academically talented students in grades K-12. Students are identified by scoring in the top three percent on a nationally standardized test of ability and achievement or by a parent or staff referral. Information may be obtained during back-to-school night, parent conferences, or by directly contacting Walker's TAG coordinator, Whitney Hines.

PE

Students are required to participate in PE for at least two Trimesters each year. Walker PE uniforms consist of a forest green T-shirt and athletic bottoms. The Walker PE shirt may be purchased from Walker for \$9 or these can be purchased outside of school. Students are assigned a basket and a lock in the locker room. Students are expected to keep PE clothes and belongings secured. Walker is not responsible for stolen items.

Homework Help

Walker Middle School offers students the option of homework help or a quiet place to study in a designated classroom before school hours. On occasion a teacher may assign your student homework help to finish tests or assignments not completed in class. Days and times will be posted in the school newsletter.

Library and Computer Use

Students are welcome to access books and information in Walker's library. Students use their school ID to check out library materials and their Technology ID to use the computers.

Students will be assigned a Chromebook to be carried from class to class. Students will leave their Chromebook at Walker Middle School each day. Misuse or violations of the technology use

can result in reduced access to a device. Students are responsible for intentional damage to their device and will be charged to their student account.

District Internet Filtering: Technology and Information Services operates within the guidelines set by various policies and laws. Internet access provided by the district is run through an internet filter that will attempt to block various content. Which sites configured to be blocked or allowed while students are in school are based on federal requirements and decisions of the Website Advisory Team.

Learn more about [Student Internet Activity on our Technology page](#).

Behavior Guidelines

Student Rights and Responsibilities

The district maintains the [Student Rights and Responsibilities](#) (INS-M001) which can be found on our school website. For complete information on district policies, please refer to this site.

Cell Phones and Electronic Devices

Electronic devices can be disruptive and distracting to the learning and school environment. These devices include, and are not limited to cell phones, watches, earbuds/headphones, tablets, and electronic games and devices that interfere with the learning environment.

Students will be checked out a YONDR pouch to store devices in during the school day. Students are responsible for the pouch and can be charged a fine for damage or loss of the pouch. Students not complying with rules of pouch use or use of devices during the school day may be assigned a consequence or require a parent to pick up the device. The district is not responsible for the security or damage of electronic devices brought to the school.

Parents who need immediate communication with their student are asked to call the school main office. Office personnel will take a message and have the student return the call at the earliest convenience.

Interventions

The goal of Walker's discipline process is to help students learn appropriate, responsible behavior. Some interventions may include 1:1 conversation with behavior specialist, counselor, teacher and/or administration, a classroom thinking break, lunch detention, after school detention, suspension, or another learning opportunity depending on the violation.

Students who are out-of-school suspended may be excluded from extracurricular activities such as sports or dances.

All district policies including drugs, alcohol, bullying, weapons, and sexual harassment, can be found on our [Student Rights and Responsibilities webpage](#).

Dress Code

Shirts must be opaque and cover the majority of the torso from armpit to waistline. Coverage needs to be maintained in all positions, including standing, sitting, reaching and bending. Shirts and tops must have straps or sleeves that are worn over the shoulders. Tops that are secured with ties are not permitted. Learn more on the district's [Student Dress Code](#) page.

Students cannot wear:

- Violent language or images
- Gang-affiliated clothing
- Images or language depicting drugs or alcohol (or any illegal item or activity)
- Hate speech, profanity or pornography
- Images or language that creates a hostile or intimidating environment based on any protected class or consistently marginalized groups
- Any clothing that reveals visible undergarments (visible waistbands and visible straps are allowed)
- Swimsuits
- Accessories that could be considered dangerous or could be used as a weapon
- Any items that obscure the face or ears (except as religious observance)
- Please refer to the district dress code for more information

Displays of Affection

Behaviors such as hugging, handholding, and kissing are inappropriate at school. Students who violate this policy may be subject to disciplinary consequences.

Health and Safety

Student Arrival and Departure Safety

Students being dropped off must enter through the front entry no earlier than 8:55 am, unless other arrangements have been made with the school office. Stopping or dropping students in the crosswalk is strictly forbidden. Be alert to moving buses and cars in the loading area. **Do not walk or ride bikes or scooters in traffic areas.** Students riding bikes, scooters or skateboards must

walk on school grounds and lock bikes or scooters securely in the bicycle rack provided. Skateboards may be stored in the lobby. Students must wear helmets.

Parents with students who are bus eligible must **register their students for the bus through ParentVUE**. Bus riders are dropped at the bus lane and must walk to the front of the building for entry. Students riding buses home wait in line for the bus. **Do not step off the curb until given permission.**

Drivers are to pick up students on the street in front of the building or in the back parking lot. **Cars are NOT allowed to load in the crosswalk area, the EDGE parking spaces, or in the bus loading area.**

Health Room

Walker's health room is staffed by a School-based Health Assistant to care for students with minor illnesses or injuries and to dispense medication. A registered nurse is not staffed on-site but is available on an on-call basis. School Nurses are available to assist students, staff, and parents with health-related questions and can be reached by calling the Nurse Help Line, (503) 399-3376

Parents are notified of major injuries and may be called to pick up ill or injured students in the Health Room. Students need to attend school, but should stay home when they have a fever, are vomiting, or are contagious to help protect other students and staff.

Medications

Parents must complete a form to allow students to take medication at school. All non-prescription and prescription medication must be brought to school in its original container with the physician's instructions on the bottle. Health room staff will dispense medication. Students may not carry medication on his/her person at school, **except with a signed physician statement and approval of the principal.**

Immunizations

By law, all school-aged children must be immunized against certain contagious diseases. The school requires a record of those shots at the time of registration. Parents receive notification if there are insufficient immunizations on file. Parents are responsible for bringing written verification when additional shots are received to avoid student exclusion from school.

Food in the building

Beverages - Water is allowed throughout the building in a closed container. No glass containers and no squirt bottles are allowed.

Food/snacks – No consumption of food, soda or specialty drinks in the hallways.

Healthy snacks – Healthy snacks may be permitted in classrooms based on teacher preference/approval. Junk food (ie. Chips, cookies, takis, ramen, soda) may be confiscated.

Cold lunch – Students that bring cold lunch should bring a single serving of lunch. No sharing food between classmates. This includes bags of chips, cookies, sodas, etc.

Breakfast and Lunch

Breakfast and lunch will be offered to all students **at no cost during the school year.**

Breakfast is served from 8:55-9:15 (9:55-10:15 Wednesday). Lunch periods (A or B) are determined by the 3rd Period class the student is assigned to.

Outside food delivered during the school day is discouraged. Food delivered during a student's lunch is not guaranteed to be delivered during their lunch period.

Food Delivery Services: For safety reasons, Doordash and other outside delivery services are **NOT PERMITTED** without prior approval through the office. Food deliveries can be accepted by legal guardians only.

In the Cafeterias, good manners and behavior are expected at all times.

- Wait patiently in line. No cutting, crowding, or shoving.
- Do not handle, share, or take another student's food.
- All food and drinks are to be consumed in the cafeteria.
- When finished eating, remain seated until the dismissal time, raise your hand, and wait to be excused by an adult.
- Clean up after yourself: recycle waste and return your food container. Students may be asked to help clean up when appropriate. No throwing food.
- After dismissal, students may remain in the cafeteria, go to the gym, sport court, or library.

Athletics

Students are encouraged to participate and have fun while developing skills that will help them stay active throughout their life. Sign-ups for athletics is easy through [ATHLETICS link](#) on the school website. Currently, sports physical is required for 7th and 8th grade students. Some sports are open to all, and some sports require try outs to make a specific team. There is a participation fee for \$20 per sports.

**Volleyball, Basketball, and Soccer require try outs to make the teams.*

Fall Sports

- Football – Open to 7th & 8th graders (August – October)
- Cross Country – Open to all grades (September – October)
- Volleyball * - Open to 7th & 8th grade girls (October - December)

Winter Sports

- Wrestling – Open to all grades (January – February)

Spring Sports

- Basketball * - Open to all grades (February - March)
- Track & Field - Open to all grades (March – May)
- Soccer * - Open to all grades (April-May)

Student Recognition

Walker takes great pride in knowing that our students have proven to be Respectful, Organized, Active participants and Responsible. Student citizenship and accomplishments may be recognized in these ways:

Student of the Month: During the year, staff members will nominate students who best demonstrate various positive character traits.

Positive Recognition: Students may receive this award from any staff member for a variety of reasons. These recognitions are celebrated with both administration and student.

ROAR Cards: Staff members may recognize positive student behaviors with a ROAR card. Students may use these in the ROAR store offered every other Friday in addition to the drawings throughout the year.

Honor Roll: Students who earn a 3.5-4.0 GPA will be recognized for their achievement.

National Junior Honor Society: Students who have a cumulative GPA of 3.5-4.0 after a minimum of 3 trimesters in middle school are invited to apply for the induction into NJHS.

Presidential Award: Awarded to 8th grade students at the end of the year based on GPA requirements, testing results and recommendations of teachers.

School Supplies List

All students should have a backpack sufficient to carry their supplies and Chromebook from classroom to classroom throughout the day. Below is a list of suggested supplies. Not all supplies need to be brought to school each day to minimize the weight of the backpack. Please be sure to update items such as pens and pencils throughout the year. Please note that some teachers may require additional supplies.

- Backpack (large enough to carry a Chromebook and supplies)
- Wired Earbuds or headphones (no wireless/Bluetooth devices)
- Pencil pouch or case
- Choose one: 5 sturdy folders OR (1) 2 inch plastic binder with dividers
- College Ruled Spiral Notebooks (6)
- Ball Point Pens (blue or black)
- Highlighter Pens (at least 2 colors)
- No. 2 Pencils (purchase plenty for the entire year)
- Erasers
- Set of Colored Pencils
- Pencil Pouch
- Box of Tissue – to be given to 1st period teacher
- Refillable Water Bottle - (non-spraying)
- PE Clothes- Dark Green shirt and athletic bottoms, athletic shoes. (PE Shirts may be purchased from the school for \$9)

Bell Schedules

**Lunches are determined by the student’s 3rd period classroom letter. Classrooms designated “A” will take A lunch and then go to 3rd period. Classrooms designated “B” will go to 3rd period class and then take B Lunch.*

Regular Bell Schedule

The bell schedule for **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday** will include an Advisory period each morning.

Advisory	9:20-9:35 am	
1 st Period	9:39-10:34 am	
2 nd Period.....	10:38-11:32 am	
3 rd Period with A Lunch	*A Lunch 11:32-12:04 pm	12:09-1:03 pm
3 rd Period with B Lunch	11:36-12:31 pm	*B Lunch 12:31-1:03 pm
4 th Period	1:08-2:02 pm	
5 th Period	2:06-3:01 pm	
6 th Period	3:05-4:00 pm	

Late Start Wednesday Bell Schedule

Every Wednesday the school day for students starts one hour later.

1 st Period	10:20-11:08 am	
2 nd Period.....	11:12-1:00 pm	
3 rd Period with A Lunch	*A Lunch 12:00-12:30 pm	12:35-1:23 pm
3 rd Period with B Lunch	12:04-12:53 pm	*B Lunch 12:53-1:23 pm
4 th Period	1:28 – 2:16 pm	
5 th Period	2:20-3:08 pm	
6 th Period	3:12-4:00 pm	

Salem-Keizer Public Schools does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, marital status, age, disability, veterans’ status or other categories protected by ORS Chapter 659A in its programs and activities. This policy implements state and federal laws (including Title IX); inquiries about the non-discrimination policies should be directed to: Compliance Officer, Human Resources, 2450 Lancaster Dr. NE, Salem, OR 97305.