

Walker PTA meeting: Thursday, May 19, 2022 @ 7:30pm
Location: Walker Outdoor Picnic Tables

Principal's Announcements

Teacher Announcements

Executive Committee Announcements

- Adults' Night Out recap. (Michelle Mantel)
- Teacher Appreciation Week
- Walkerfest 5/21 11 am-2 pm rain or shine. (Patty Harris, Michelle Henley)
 - Volunteers needed 7 am – 4 pm for set up, stations, and clean up shifts. Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4aa4a82ba7f9ce9-walkerfest>
 - If you cannot attend, concessions are needed. Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084aaca62baaf85-walkerfest>
 - Raffle tickets were sent home with students. Money and tickets can be returned to school Friday.
- Kindermixers for incoming 2022-23 K families started 5/11 3:45-4:30 pm.
 - Thank you to Ms. Mullins, Ms. Simmons, and Ms. Wittenberg for coming and meeting new families. Several families new to Walker heard about the mixer and attended.
 - Additional meet ups 6/26 3-4 pm and 8/20 3-4 pm at Central Park (location change) for bathroom and drinking fountain access and shade.
- Garden Club update. (Katherine Walts)
 - Received PEP sale plants last weekend. Planting date will depend on weather.
- PTA Council/PEP update. (Erin Sacluti, Ashanti Henderson)
 - PEP Fest 6/4 11 am – 6 pm is a fundraiser and community party at Washington School.
 - All schools have been asked to staff a table with a free activity. Walker will be there, stop by and email Stacey Masliansky (staceymasliansky@gmail.com) or Allison Bull (alliackerman@hotmail.com) to volunteer if you are free for an hour or two.
- Field Day 6/1 (rain date 6/2).
 - K-2nd grades 9:15-11 am, 3rd-5th grades 1:30-3:15 pm.
 - Volunteers needed to set up 8:45-9:15 am, run stations 9-11 am or 1:15-3:15 pm, and clean up 3:15-3:45 pm.
 - Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b084ea4a82ca7fd0-walker>
- Grade wide picnics 6/3-6/7. Room parents are coordinating with teachers and parents.
- 5th grade promotion ceremonies 6/6.
 - 10:15 am (Oldfield), 1:45 pm (Ahmed), 2:45 pm (Vrba)
- Audit Committee could use one or more additional members.

Treasurer Update

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Update

- Black Boy Joy Book Fest, organized by Ms. Arceneaux and former Walker teacher Ms. Tertulien, will have a food truck 5/19 5-7 pm and speakers.
 - Curtis Wideman, author of "Top Dog," and William Moss, a horticulturist, Skokie Fire Department, and Skokie Bookmobile will attend.

- FAN Events: <https://www.familyactionnetwork.net/upcoming-events/>; free, but registration is required to obtain a personal link.

Fundraising Committee Update

- Walkerfest 5/21 11 am-2 pm rain or shine!
 - Masks are strongly encouraged if the event has to be held inside on the first floor of the school due to rain.
 - Volunteers needed for these shifts:
 - Set up 7-9 am and 9-11 am.
 - Shift 1 for games, food, ticket sales, etc. 10:45 am-12:30 pm.
 - Shift 2 for games, food, ticket sales, etc. 12:15-2:15 pm.
 - Tear down 2-4 pm.
 - Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4aa4a82ba7f9ce9-walkerfest>
 - Concession donations are still needed. Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084aaca62baaf85-walkerfest>
- Restaurant day 5/4 recap.
- Please sign up at smile.amazon.com and select David E Walker PTA as your charity before you shop at this website.

Community Engagement Update

- Spring dance and donation drive recap.
- Rice Center wish list collections in May.

Room Parent Update

Volunteer Needs

- Walkerfest 5/21 11 am-2 pm rain or shine. Volunteers needed 7 am-4 pm. Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4aa4a82ba7f9ce9-walkerfest>.
- Walkerfest 5/21 concessions needed by 9 am. Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084aaca62baaf85-walkerfest>.
- PEP Fest 6/4 11 am-6 pm at Washington school. Volunteers needed to staff Walker table; email Stacey Masliansky at staceymasliansky@gmail.com or Allison Bull at alliackerman@hotmail.com.
- Join Walker Climate Action Team; email Jennifer Gilbert at jennifergilbert333@gmail.com.
- Join Garden Club; email Katherine Walts at kkwalts@gmail.com.

New Business

- Vote to approve 2022-23 teacher grant applications totaling \$1,350.
 - Ms. Nelson offers a free knitting club to 3rd-5th graders. Supplies totaling \$200 (needles, yarn, loom kit) will be purchased for 20 students.
 - Ms. Hertel would like \$400 to expand Books of Belonging to provide one book in September to around 66 kindergartens for their personal library to celebrate the diversity of our Walker community. Books of Belonging provides three books per year to each 1st grader that is tied to equity weeks or celebrates other under-represented groups. Titles in the past included “Last Stop on Market Street” (BLM), “And Tango Makes Three” (LGBTQ+), “Mitzvah Pizza” (Jewish), “Dreamers” (LatinX and immigrant experience), and “Eyes That Kiss at the Corners” (AAPI).

- Ms. Oldfield, Ms. Matten, Ms. Vrba, and Ms. Ahmed requested \$750 to fund two buses to and from the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center in Skokie and admission fees for around 70 5th graders to focus on how to be an active member of one's community.

Announcements:

- Chess Playdates Fridays at picnic tables around 3:45 pm.
 - Allen Alexander and Mustafa Bilgic, 4th grade parents, will organize weekly after dismissal.
 - Parents must pick up students first and stay, this is not a drop off activity.
 - Weather permitting; if it rains or coordinators are not available and you do not see them at picnic tables, it is cancelled that week.
- Reminder to submit vaccination card images.
 - If your child has received both rounds of the covid vaccine, please send the card image to school nurse Emily Erickson (ericksone@district65.net). She will save vaccine records in the system.
 - If your child has both vaccinations recorded, they will not need to quarantine as a close contact to a positive case unless they develop symptoms or test positive. Vaccine records on file make communication to close contacts faster.
- PTA membership levels, including no barriers membership, allow you to vote on PTA matters like budget items and PEP (PTA Equity Project) decisions.
 - A link to MemberHub and the no barriers membership sign up is on the PTA website now (walkerwoverinespta.com).
 - The next meeting is Thursday, June 9th.
- Walker Cookbook is available to purchase on MemberHub (<https://walker.memberhub.com/store/items/493498>) at a suggested donation of \$10.

Important Dates:

- May 19th, 5-7 pm: Black Boy Joy Book Fest
- May 19th, 7:30 pm: PTA Meeting, in person only
- May 21st, 11 am-2 pm: Walkerfest (rain or shine!)
- May 24th, 6:30-7:30 pm: Zoom discussion on enhancements to K-5 math curriculum (including i-Ready Classroom)
- May 30th: No School, Memorial Day
- June 1st: Field Day 9:15-11 am K-2nd, 1:30-3:15 pm 3rd-5th (rain date 6/2)
- June 3rd-7th: Grade wide picnics
- June 4th, 11 am-6 pm: PEP Fest at Washington School
- June 6th, 5th Grade Promotion Ceremonies: 10:15 am (Oldfield), 1:45 pm (Ahmed), 2:45 pm (Vrba)
- June 8th: Last Day of School
- June 9th, 7:30 pm: PTA Meeting

Adjournment