

Walker PTA meeting: Thursday, March 16th @ 7:30pm

Location: Zoom - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82667847954?pwd=ajljWUgyWGZvbHhONWVaUWFHT21Odz09>

Meeting ID: 826 6784 7954      Passcode: walker

## Agenda

### Principal's Announcements

Teacher Announcements: Khristie Kaplan is PTA teacher liaison

### Executive Committee Announcements

- ANO: Thank you so much for all the hard work put in by Kathy Vyas, Nicole O'Connell and [Liz Mauck Ribeiro](#) for planning, organizing this amazing event from day one. Thank you to all the people who brought food, helped set up and clean up.
- Congrats to the 7 players of the Walker Chess Team who played in the Evanston Scholastic Chess Tournament at King Arts! The team was represented by Emin Bilgic in Kindergarten, Adrian Horopciuc in 2nd grade, Ari Gassel, Emma Alexander, Kuba Sheaff, Norman Yao, and Yusuf Bilgic in 5th grade.
- Congratulations to the Walker 5th grade basketball teams and 4th grade boys basketball team for making it to the playoffs!
- Spirit Week is coming up: March 27th-31st

### Treasurer Update

- Budget Update: ESSCA & Justin Wynn donations went through, received some MemberHub giveback funds
- Check Reimbursement Form: <https://forms.gle/5TUUA8DAi36PsaD59>

### Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Update

- A huge thanks to Brandis Friedman and our guests at our One Book, One School event! Done really well, teachers were able to keep the books in their classroom (all books donated by PTA).
- FAN: <https://www.familyactionnetwork.net/>

### Fundraising Committee Update

- March Restaurant Night Results: Rosati's
- April Restaurant Night
- Spiritwear: OUR NEW SPIRITWEAR STORE IS OPEN!! Many items and designs to choose from. Check out our store here: <http://1stplace.sale/30464>. Take advantage of the shipping sale on now. Great gift ideas for Teachers & Staff, Athletic wear, Winter attire, Blankets, hats, scarves, and more!

### Adults Night Out Recap:

- Good turnout, great community event - new parents and staff came, lots of mingling and getting to know each other. Great variety of raffle prizes. Everyone loved the food that families shared!
- \$1290 for the 50/50 raffle
- \$4106 raised after expenses

### Book Fair

- The Walker All for Books Coin-A-Day Challenge: March 13-17
- Book Fair: March 18th-22nd
  - Shop in person on Saturday, March 18th at 1pm-4pm during the BINGO event, on Tuesday & Wednesday, March 21st & 22nd after school at 3:30pm-6pm, and during our special GRANDS event (invite your GRANDS: Grandparents, Relatives, Aunts and Uncles, Neighbors, and Dedicated Caregivers to SPRING into Walker's Book Fair with you!) on Wednesday, March 22nd during students' recess times (10:30am-1pm).
  - Shop the fair online at [bit.ly/WalkerFair](http://bit.ly/WalkerFair) from March 17th-22nd
  - Free & Reduced lunch students will all receive a voucher for a free book. Families that are not free & reduced lunch but would still like a voucher, please email Mr. Gray and he will add your student.
- Need volunteers: [Sign up here](#)

## Community Engagement Update

- March Events
  - Bingo on March 18th @1:30-3:30pm
  - March Walker Service Project: Birthday in a Bag, donated to a food pantry
    - Fill a gift bag with a foil cake pan, cake mix, icing, cake decorations, party decorations (balloons, streamers), possibly a small present. So can be picked up at a food pantry and can easily celebrate a family member's birthday
    - Drop off during our Bingo event or send to school by March 31st
  - April Walker Service Project: Earth Day Walker Yard Clean Up
  - May Walker Service Project: Collect donations for pet food/supply pantry

## Climate Action Team Update

- Earth Day Cleanup at Walker: Families can celebrate Earth Day by helping to clean up the Walker grounds. Saturday, April 22, 10 - 11:30 am. Find out more and sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D45AFA82CA3FCC43-walker2>
  - A few volunteers are needed to help with check-in and other tasks at the Earth Day cleanup. Contact Jen Gilbert at [jennifergilbert333@gmail.com](mailto:jennifergilbert333@gmail.com) if interested.
- All are invited to the D65 Climate Action Community Meeting on March 21, 6:30-7:30 PM at Lincolnwood Elementary. Find out more about D65 Climate Action Teams: <https://www.district65.net/domain/791>
- Save the date! Come celebrate Earth Week with D65 Climate Action Teams at the fourth annual 10 Second Film Festival on Friday, April 21st at 6:30 PM in the One Rotary auditorium (1560 Sherman Ave). Visit <https://10secondfilmfestival.com> to get your free tickets and learn more. Walker students can submit films! Submission deadline is April 19th. Find out more here: <https://10secondfilmfestival.com/submit/>

## Garden Committee Update

- Getting 10 free trees to plant (Girl Scouts donating 4, Natural Habitat Evanston matching the Girl Scouts donations & giving 4, 2 are donated from the plant sale)
  - Girl Scouts will maintain 7 trees that will be planted together and the garden team will care of the other 3 that are planted in another area
- Planning raised beds
  - Looking for ways to get donations/grants to cut costs
  - Planning to build them in April
  - Talking with teachers on how they want to use them

## Volunteer Needs

- Book Fair: [Sign up here](#)
- Coaches Needed for Track & Field and Soccer Teams
  - 4th and 5th grade spring sports (Track & Field and Soccer). The season for both is April 10- May 20. We are hoping there will be 2 teams per grade: girls/non-binary and boys/non-binary. There will be one practice a week for both, one track meet at the end of the season and weekly Saturday soccer games at Quad in the afternoon. If you are interested in coaching please reach out to Tamiya wilborn at [wilbornt@district65.net](mailto:wilbornt@district65.net).

## New Business

- Save the Date for PEP Fest: Saturday June 3rd, 11-5pm, on the Washington Elementary School playground, 914 Ashland ave, Evanston
  - Pep Fest is a family focused, collaborative community effort to raise PTA funds, that will be equitably distributed to support all of our school district 65 students.
  - This festival will feature family friendly FREE activities, vendors from ages kid to adult bringing us art, crafts, clothing, jewelry, goods, and food.
  - Last year we did thank you cards as a craft. If you have any low cost easy ideas to do at our PTA booth, please let us know.

## Announcements

## Important Dates

- March 18: Walker Bingo@ 1:30pm

- March 18, 21-22: Book Fair
- April 3-7: No School, Spring Break
- April 20: Restaurant Night & PTA Meeting

Adjournment

Mark your calendars! Our next meeting: Thursday, April 20th at 7:30pm on Zoom