WHALE ENGS UP, WALTERIA?

Walteria PTA – Proudly Supporting Walteria Elementary 24456 Madison St - Torrance, CA - 90505 http://pta.walteriaelementary.org - 310-533-4487

Have a Great Summer!

A Message from the President



Oh wow, can you believe it? We are DONE with the school year! I don't know about you, but I feel like it's gone insanely fast. My oldest kiddo is moving on to Richardson in the fall and it's really hard for me to believe that his time at Walteria is over. To all my fellow fifth grade families, it's been such a pleasure getting to know you and your kids over the past six years.

Teaching my last Adventures in Art lesson to their class was bittersweet – I've been teaching art to some of those kids since Kindergarten!

This final issue of our newsletter for the year is going to be mostly filled with pictures of the jam-packed couple of weeks we've had at Walteria. Last month we enjoyed the Hawaiian-themed Family Dance on campus, which was spectacularly well attended and a ton of fun! I'm hoping that next year we will get to do more PTA events on that scale. We also got to attend Portfolio Day and view our annual Adventures in Art show in the cafeteria, which was beautiful as always (yes, I may be a little biased on that one ^(C)). Classes have been going on field trips, the Second Grade had their traditional class luau, we presented our PTA scholarships to three deserving South High seniors, and our Gold and Silver PTA donors had the "Dr. Ponce Experience."

On that note, we are so sad that Dr. Ponce is moving on to Hull Middle School next year. The PTA is so grateful for all of his support throughout the years here at Walteria.

Thanks so much to all of you for making this a special year for all our kids. I hope you have an amazing summer!

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--Katrina Hetrick, Walteria PTA President 2021-22

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Hawaiian Family Dance!

Limbo the Night Away!

How long has it been since we had a big event like this on campus?! Our Dance committee did an amazing job putting together a fun evening full of dinner and dancing, with performances and instruction from a Polynesian dance troop, a photobooth, and more! It was amazing to see so many families attend and have a blast together. Thank you to everyone who pitched in to help with everything.

















Many Thanks to: Randy's Donuts | Sidecar Donuts | Ragin' Cajun The Loft | Domino's Pizza | Susie Cakes for their generous donations for this event!

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A Show of Excellence!

Our annual Adventures in Art gallery showcase is always something special, and this year is no exception. Each student at Walteria has one piece of art on display out of the five that they created throughout the year, and our AIA team dreams up fantastic gallery installations to enhance the beauty of their art. We are so proud of our Adventures in Art program and are so grateful to everyone who puts in the time and energy to make it happen for our students!

Portfolio Day and Art Show













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Field Trip Fun

Learning Outside the Classroom!

The PTA funds all of our field trip experiences at Walteria Elementary. We started this year with the understanding that field trips would not happen, but as time went on and restrictions changed, our classes were allowed to plan and attend field trips to various educational destinations. These are precious memories for our kids, and we are thrilled that they were able to happen this year after all.

















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Celebrating in Style!

The current second grade class is completing their first full "normal" school year, and what better way to celebrate than to bring back our tradition of the 2nd Grade Luau? Teachers and parents put in a ton of volunteer hours making this event special for our kids, and they had a fabulous time!



Walteria PTA Scholarship Recipients 2021-2022

Honoring Outstanding Former Wildcats!

Every year, the Walteria PTA budgets \$1,500 for its scholarship program and accepts applications from previous Walteria students who are now South High graduating seniors. The Scholarship Committee reviews their applications and awards scholarships to students who they feel are exemplary. This year, the Walteria PTA was proud to offer three \$500 scholarships to their chosen recipients. Congratulations to these three South High seniors, and best of luck to them as they start college in the fall!

Sonja Barth Makena Tsuneishi Bailey Kang-Illescas





Walteria Running Club Needs Volunteers for 2022-2023!

The Walteria Running Club has been very popular and successful with our school community. As with any program on our campus, as the leaders move on to middle school, we need families in the lower grades to step up and help to keep things running! If you are interested in helping to maintain the Running Club at Walteria next year, please contact Ann Gerlach at <u>carothersann@hotmail.com</u>.





COVID-19



Testing Update:

TUSD's COVID-19 testing needs have significantly decreased. For this reason, as of Friday, April 29th, The Torrance High School testing site permanently closed. TUSD will continue to provide at-home test kits for students and staff as needed.

Please visit the <u>TUSD Covid Updates</u> page for the most up-to-date info on the district's COVID policies and procedures.

Become a Member! Joining the PTA benefits you AND your school!

The PTA...

- supports our teachers and classrooms with enriching materials and supplies.
- links families to important school and community information.
- hosts fun and educational clubs, programs, and events for our families.
- raises money to support the specific needs of our school.
- engages in school and digital safety initiatives.
- offers kids the opportunity to explore the arts and develop critical thinking, teamwork, and creativity.
- inspires a love of reading and enhances book and literary options for students.
- tracks local, state, and national policies every day so we can advocate for what's best for our students, families, and schools.
- believes we can make every child's potential a reality.

PTA Membership Perks

When you join the PTA, your membership includes discounts and special offers from a variety of businesses.

Browse the Member Offers by <u>clicking here</u>.

One PTA Membership is included in your Direct Donation package. <u>Click Here</u> to purchase more!



Every weekday morning, approximately 650 children are dropped off at Walteria between 8:35 and 9:00 AM. This creates a surge of traffic, and many people are exhibiting very unsafe behavior as they approach this crowded area.

In order to protect our kids and keep everyone safe during drop off and pick up, here are a few helpful reminders about the official process.

Traffic moves CONTINUOUSLY in the drop off/pick up line.

Do NOT park your car anywhere within the drop off zone during drop off/pick up times. LOADING ZONE: NO PARKING signs are clearly posted along the street. Drivers should NOT exit their vehicles during drop off or pick up.

If your child needs assistance getting in or out of the vehicle, park your car on a side street and walk with them.

Do NOT allow children to exit the vehicle into the street. They should exit on the curb side ONLY.

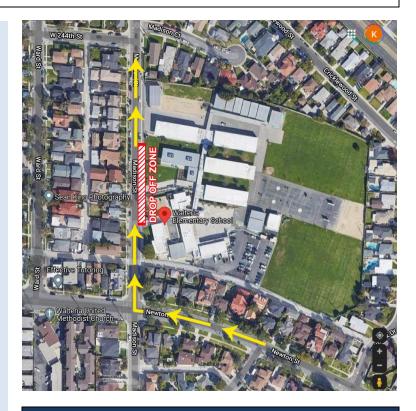
Traffic moves only ONE WAY in the drop off/pick up line.

Do NOT back up into the line to parallel park at the curb. Drive forward only, and pull as far forward as you can to make room for others.

DO NOT make a U-Turn across Madison to cut into the line.

If you park facing south on Madison (opposite the school) you MUST walk to one of the crosswalks to cross the street.

Do NOT jaywalk across Madison or send children to do so on their own.



Pedestrian Safety

Our crossing guards are hard at work every day trying to keep everyone safe on their way to and from school. Please follow their cues when crossing the street, and be sure to wait for them to clear the intersection before stepping out into traffic.

Do not park your car too close to the crosswalks. It creates a dangerous lack of visibility for everyone involved – motorists, pedestrians, and the crossing guards.

Jaywalking is not only illegal, it's also extremely dangerous. Only cross the streets at the crosswalks, please!



Upcoming Events and Important Dates

June

- 2 Portfolio Day/Art Show
- 2 PTA Association Meeting
- 9 PTA Executive Board Meeting
- 15 5th Grade Promotion/Field Day
- 16 Last Day of School

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, events on this calendar may change at any time. Please check the eBlast regularly, visit the school website, or verify with an Executive Board Member if you have any questions.

Our PTA website has many helpful links, calendars, volunteer forms, and more! <u>Click here to check it out!</u>

Directory

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