

# WHAT'S UP, WALTERIA?

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

## Welcome Back and Happy 2023!

### A Message from the President



We are back to school after a whirlwind December and a hopefully relaxing Winter Break, and I'm excited for the next few months! We have a few fun events on the horizon, starting with STEAM Fair in February, so let's make sure our kiddos start working on those projects so they can have something to display! There is more detailed information on page 5.

We are also asking for your help in gathering nominations for both the Honorary Service Awards and for next year's PTA Executive Board! If you know of people who you think should be recognized for their contributions to our school community this year, consider nominating them for the HSA. Interested in being on the PTA Board, or know someone who is? Fill out the Straw Ballot so we can consider nominating them for a position!

This month we're featuring our school's PTA Reflections winners, so please take a moment to look through the links on those pages and see the impressive work that our Wildcats created for this competition! Direct Donation prize packages will be delivered this month to all of our families who generously gave during our Direct Donation drive. Packages will be sent home with your students, so keep an eye out for those in the next couple of weeks!

And finally, we have our Valentine Grams and our Valentine's See's Candies fundraisers coming up soon! More info to come.

--Katrina Hetrick, Walteria PTA President 2022-23

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# NATIONAL PTA® REFLECTIONS®

Congratulations to all of our outstanding Wildcats who participated in the annual PTA Reflections competition! We are so proud of all of you!

Click on each of the winning entries featured here to view their full submission.



VISUAL ARTS



Intermediate (3-5)  
Award of Excellence  
Isabella Lee, Grade 5



Intermediate (3-5)  
Award of Merit  
Elena Isobe, Grade 5



Intermediate (3-5)  
Honorable Mention  
Lauren Moon, Grade 3



Primary (TK-2)  
Award of Excellence  
Jackson Lee, Grade 1



Primary (TK-2)  
Award of Merit  
Victoria Choi, Grade K



Primary (TK-2)  
Honorable Mention  
Elle Kim, Grade 2



FILM PRODUCTION



Intermediate (3-5)  
Award of Excellence  
Ethan Lee, Grade 3



MUSIC COMPOSITION



Primary (TK-2)  
Award of Excellence  
Hannah Park, Grade 2



Primary (TK-2)  
Award of Merit  
Loy Kim, Grade 2



**DANCE  
CHOREOGRAPHY**



Intermediate (3-5)  
Award of Excellence  
Caroline Hetrick, Grade 4



Intermediate (3-5)  
Award of Merit  
Karis Kim, Grade 5



Intermediate (3-5)  
Honorable Mention  
Annalise Liu, Grade 3



Intermediate (3-5)  
Award of Excellence  
Elle Kim, Grade 3



Intermediate (3-5)  
Award of Merit  
Claire Hahn, Grade 5



Intermediate (3-5)  
Honorable Mention  
Isabella Lee, Grade 5



**PHOTOGRAPHY**



Primary (TK-2)  
Award of Excellence  
Estelle Yi, Grade 2



**LITERATURE**

Intermediate (3-5)  
Award of Excellence  
Emily Wang, Grade 5

Primary (TK-2)  
Award of Excellence  
Rachel Wong, Grade 2

Intermediate (3-5)  
Award of Merit  
Sophia Suh, Grade 4

Primary (TK-2)  
Award of Merit  
Lucas Cato, Grade 2

Intermediate (3-5)  
Honorable Mention  
Iris An, Grade 5

Primary (TK-2)  
Honorable Mention  
Wakana Yoshida, Grade 2

**Congratulations to our Walteria Wildcats  
whose Reflections entries went on to win awards at the District level!**

Hannah Park, Grade 2 – “Show Your Voice”  
Award of Excellence, Music Composition – Primary (TK-2)

Caroline Hetrick, Grade 4 – “My Brave Voice”  
Award of Merit, Dance Choreography – Intermediate (3-5)

Isabella Lee, Grade 5 – “World Peace”  
Award of Merit, Visual Arts – Intermediate (3-5)

Elle Kim, Grade 3 – “My Voice in the Secret Space”  
Honorable Mention, Photography – Intermediate (3-5)



Every year, the Walteria PTA recognizes some of the most outstanding volunteers who serve our school community through the Honorary Service Awards program.

If you know of someone who you feel deserves to be considered for an award, please use the link below to submit a nomination.

[Honorary Service Award Nomination Form](#)

Do you know someone who would make an excellent officer on the 2023-2024 Walteria PTA Executive Board?

Submit their name (or your own name!) on our Straw Ballot so the Nominating Committee can consider them as they prepare the election slate for the coming year.

[Walteria PTA Straw Ballot](#)





Torrance Unified School District students are invited and encouraged to submit a project for the 2023 **STEAM** Fair.

TUSD is emphasizing STEAM, where students will be applying and practicing their **S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering and **M**ath skills, but approaching their projects with a creative, or **A**rtistic, perspective. This perspective is based on the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) where students are encouraged to focus not just on results, but on their process, one that includes trial and error, divergent thinking, dynamic problem solving, and perseverance.

There are three different categories of projects that can be submitted.

## Inventions

(TK – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Create an invention with an explanation of what it is, how it works, and what problem it solves.

## Collections

(TK – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade)

Create a collection of items to be sorted four different ways.

## Experimental Design

(4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Create an experiment to learn more about how to answer a question or solve a problem.



Projects entered in the Inventions category may be eligible for additional awards and the chance to continue on to the South Bay Regional Invention Convention.

Walteria-specific details and instructions, due dates, and scoring rubrics will be coming soon from your child's teacher.

Please check the Weekly Wildcat regularly for any updates.

Questions? Contact Mrs. Masi at [masi.rebecca@tUSD.org](mailto:masi.rebecca@tUSD.org)

For general information about the types of projects, rules, expectations, and more, please [click here to visit TUSD's STEAM Fair website.](#)

# See's CANDIES®

A Delicious Fundraiser  
Supporting the Walteria PTA



Click here to visit  
[seescandies.walteriaelementary.org](http://seescandies.walteriaelementary.org)  
and place your order online!

Online ordering will be open  
starting January 11<sup>th</sup>  
See's will ship directly to each customer



Stock up on Valentine's gifts and treats  
for your sweetheart or your friends and family  
at the same retail prices you'd find in stores  
and help our school at the same time!

The word "YEARBOOK" is written in large, white, 3D block letters. It is set against a background of vibrant, multi-colored brushstrokes in shades of purple, blue, green, yellow, and orange, creating a dynamic and artistic effect.

# YEARBOOK

**Yearbooks are now  
available to order !**

**Price: \$30**

Visit <http://buytheyearbook.com>

and use School ID #710311 to purchase

**Need help? Contact**

[walteriayearbook@gmail.com](mailto:walteriayearbook@gmail.com)

# DROP OFF / PICK UP LINE PROCEDURES



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.

Our new valet volunteers are doing their best to help keep traffic flowing safely in the mornings, but they need your help and cooperation!

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 significant 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.**

**Double parking is ILLEGAL and creates a very dangerous situation for all involved. Do NOT double park under any circumstances.**

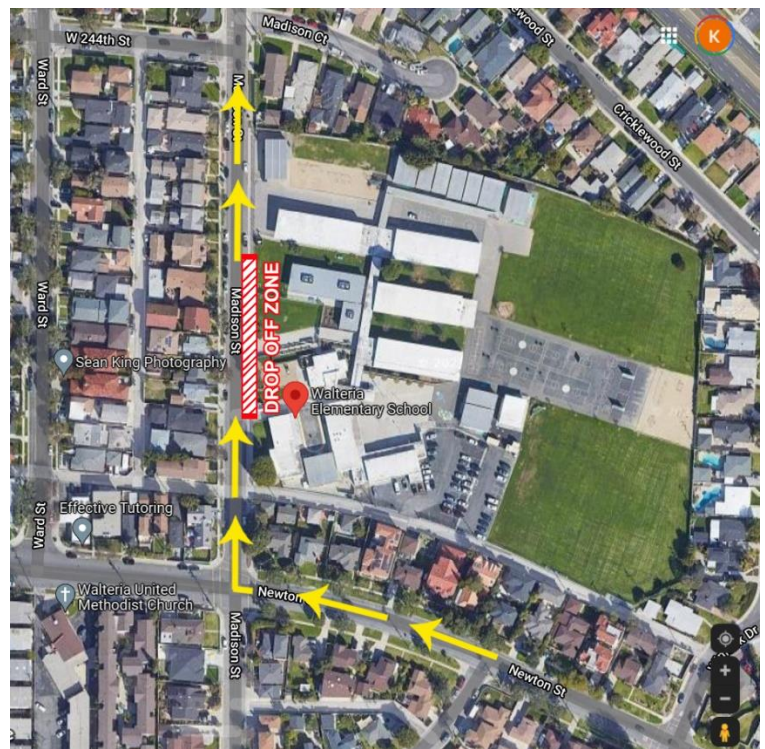
Traffic moves only **ONE WAY** in the drop off/pick up line.

**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 or after exiting 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

### January

- 5 PTA Executive Board Meeting
- 16 MLK Day – NO SCHOOL
- 23-31 Parent Conferences
- 28 Winter Grams sale begins
- 31 Coffee with the Principal

### February

- 1 Parent Conferences
- 2 PTA Executive Board Meeting
- 6-10 Valentine Grams Sale
- 13 Lincoln's Birthday – NO SCHOOL
- 14 Valentine Grams distributed
- 20 President's Day – NO SCHOOL
- 23 STEAM Fair @ Walteria (3:15-4:30)
- 27-28 Heroes Week
- 27-28 Spring Book Fair
- 28 Coffee with the Principal

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.

## Directory

President	Katrina Hetrick <a href="mailto:ptapres@walteriaelementary.org">ptapres@walteriaelementary.org</a>
Executive VP	Wendy Ferrigno <a href="mailto:ptavp@walteriaelementary.org">ptavp@walteriaelementary.org</a>
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6 <sup>th</sup> VP	Diane Safah-Kanjee <a href="mailto:specialevents@walteriaelementary.org">specialevents@walteriaelementary.org</a>
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