

# WHAT'S UP, WALTERIA?

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

## Spring is Nearly Here!

### A Message from the President



Hello, Wildcats! Happy March! It's my birthday month, which also means that this month marks two full years since everything shut down. In 2020 we were planning to go on a surprise trip to Hawaii for my 40<sup>th</sup> birthday – I'll be 42 this year, and we still haven't made it there. But on the bright side, the kids are in school, we're starting to finally do those assemblies and programs that we've been planning all year, and there's even some rumors that field trips and family events on campus might be in the cards this year after all! More info to come on that as soon as it's available, I promise.

We held our annual election at the virtual Association Meeting on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and the PTA officers for the 2022-2023 school year are listed on page 7 of this newsletter. Many thanks to everyone who stepped up to take on a leadership role next year!

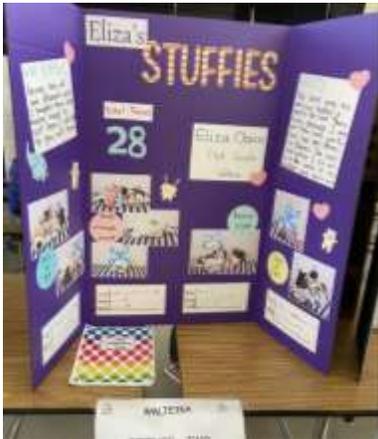
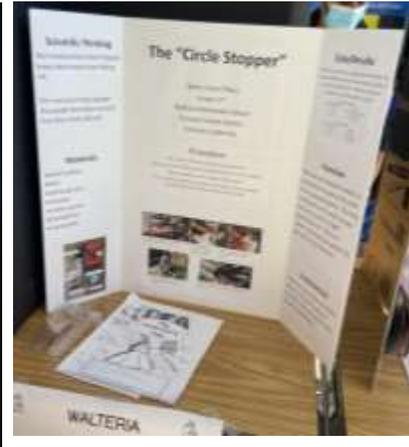
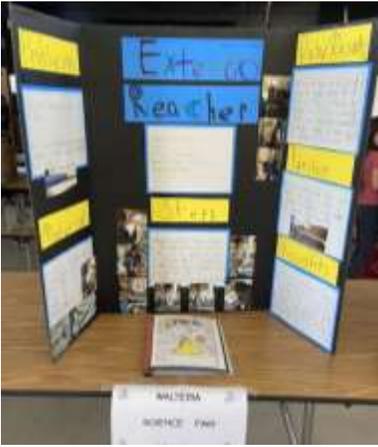
When this newsletter reaches you, Heroes Week and Read Across America day will already be behind us, but coming up this month we have the Bike Rodeo for our 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> graders, which is a great way for them to learn about bike safety and practice their skills. Our new musical theater program will also be starting up for grades 1-5 as part of their weekly P.E. classes, so don't be surprised if the kids come home singing and dancing one day a week. And our annual Fun Run has been rescheduled for April instead of March because our student-free days on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> conflicted with the APEX program, so mark your calendars accordingly. Thanks, and Happy March!

--Katrina Hetrick, Walteria PTA President 2021-22

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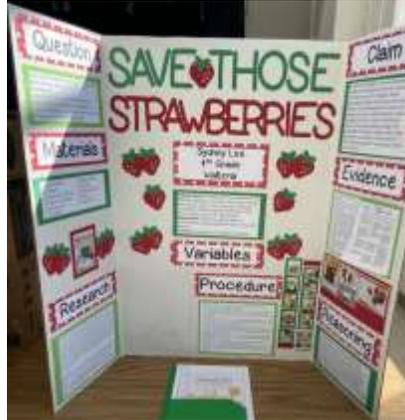
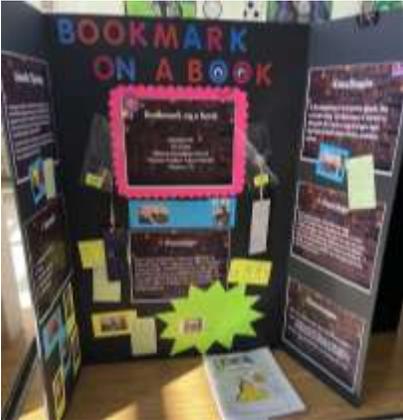
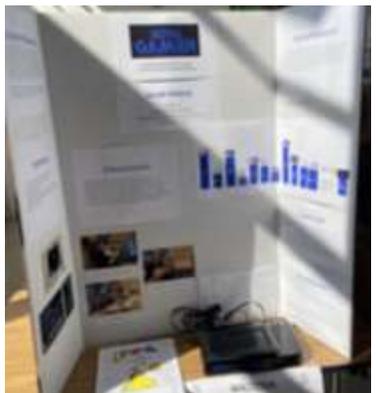
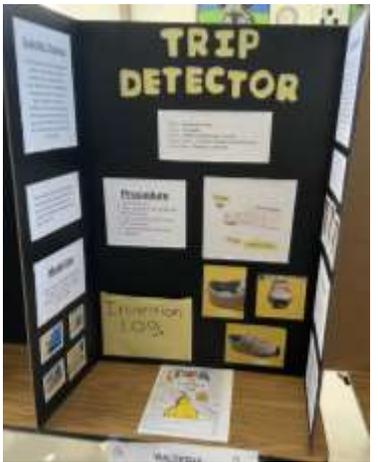




# Walteria STEAM Fair

## Scientific Thinking on Display

Walteria's STEAM Fair was held on February 24<sup>th</sup>, and ten winners were selected to move on to the Torrance Unified School District STEAM Fair on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. All of the top invention projects were also invited to move on to the South Bay Regional Invention Convention! We are so proud of our imaginative and innovative Wildcats who submitted projects to the fair and wish the winners the best of luck as they continue on to the regional competition!



**Inventions:** 1<sup>st</sup> Grade – August Rodriguez, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – Dean Theiss, Annalise Liu, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – Guinevere Chan, Jeremiah Oh, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Grace Chister, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade – Grant Hetrick

**Collections and Experiments:** 1<sup>st</sup> Grade – Eliza Obico, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Sydney Lee, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade – Samuel Eskander

Walteria PTA Proudly Presents our Annual

# BIKE RODEO

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9<sup>TH</sup>

2:30 - 4:00 PM

ON THE BASKETBALL COURTS

The Bike Rodeo is a city-wide bike safety event that is open to 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders.

Riders will take a written bicycle safety test and perform six skill tests on their bikes.

The top two boys and girls in each grade level will move on to the District Bike Rodeo.

Students must bring their own bicycle and helmet in order to participate in the event, and they must have a signed parent permission slip on file.

Visit <http://bikerodeo.walteriaelementary.org> to learn more!



Walteria's **Spirit Wear Shop** will be open  
once again for orders between  
**3/1/22 - 3/20/22**

Don't miss this chance to show off your Wildcat pride!  
Get your orders in ASAP!



<http://spiritwear.walteriaelementary.org>

Orders will arrive approximately two weeks after the shop closes.

### Walteria Running Club is Back!

Do you enjoy running? Would you like to get more exercise?

Join us before school for an informal running club right on campus! All you need is a water bottle, running shoes, and a positive attitude. All students are welcome. Parent supervision required for TK-K. Parents can run, too! We will meet every Friday at 8:00 AM.

Please contact Ann Gerlach at [carothersann@hotmail.com](mailto:carothersann@hotmail.com) with any questions or to volunteer to help.





# COVID-19 TESTING

**TUSD is offering free COVID-19 testing for students and employees. Testing centers are located in the Performing Arts Center/Auditorium at each of the four high schools.**

Students are not required to get regular testing. However, if they are exhibiting Covid-19 related symptoms or have been identified as a close contact of someone with Covid-19 and need access to testing, the District is offering free testing at all four of our high schools for your convenience.

## Testing Hours:

Testing is available Monday thru Friday from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. at North, South, and West High Schools, and Torrance High School.

Testing locations are closed for lunch between 1:00-1:30 pm

Please arrive no later than 5:30 Monday-Thursday.

Please arrive by 5 pm on Fridays to ensure samples are processed over the weekend.

When you arrive at the testing site, you will be asked to register your student, provide an email address (to get test results) and proof of insurance (you can still get tested without this information). Results will be emailed to you, typically within 48 hours.

**Testing site addresses for all four high school campuses:**  
(click the link to open a campus map showing the test site location)

**[North High School: 3620 W 182nd St, Torrance, CA 90504](#)**  
(Testing has moved to outside the East Cafe)

**[South High School: 4801 Pacific Coast Hwy, Torrance, CA 90505](#)**

**[Torrance High School: 2200 W Carson St, Torrance, CA 90501](#)**

**[West High School: 20401 Victor St, Torrance, CA 90503](#)**

**\*The above information is subject to change at any time.  
Please visit the [TUSD Covid Testing website](#) for the most up-to-date info\***

# 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.

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.**

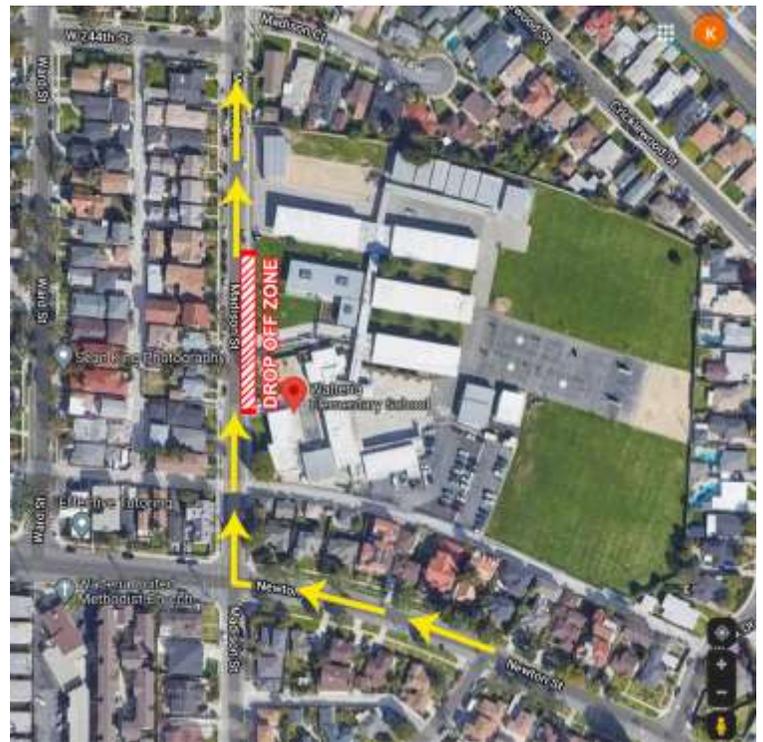
Traffic moves only **ONE WAY** in the drop off/pick up line.

**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!

## PTA Executive Board Officers elected for 2022-2023

President	Katrina Hetrick
EVP	Wendy Ferrigno
1st VP	Ruth Tanouye
2nd VP	Sowmya Chigarapalle
3rd VP	Jill Bickel
4th VP	Sara Means
5th VP	Tiffany Taylor
6th VP	Diane Safah
Recording Secretary	Judi Maylone
Treasurer	Araseli Bucher
Financial Secretary	Stacie Watling
Auditor	Hairim Yoon
Historian	Jinyi Hahn
Parliamentarian	Rebecca Masi

## 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 [clicking here](#).

**One PTA Membership is included in your Direct Donation package.**

**[Click Here](#) to purchase more!**



## Upcoming Events and Important Dates

### March

- 1-4 Heroes Week
- 3 District STEAM Fair
- 3 PTA Association Meeting @ 6:15
- 3 PTA Executive Board Meeting @ 6:30
- 4 Read Across America Day
- 9 Bike Rodeo
- 17-18 Student Free Days – No School
- 30-31 At-Risk Conferences

### April

- 1 At-Risk Conferences
- 4-8 Spring Break
- 14 PTA Executive Board Meeting @ 6:30
- 11-22 APEX Fun Run Activities
- 21 Fun Run
- 18-22 Earth Week

### May

- 2-6 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 5 PTA Executive Board Meeting @ 6:30
- 7 District Bike Rodeo
- 4-8 Spring Break
- 16-27 Grades 3-5 State Testing
- 30 Memorial Day – No 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!**  
[Click here to check it out!](#)

# Directory

- President [Katrina Hetrick  
ptapres@walteriaelementary.org](mailto:ptapres@walteriaelementary.org)
- Executive VP [Wendy Ferrigno  
ptavp@walteriaelementary.org](mailto:ptavp@walteriaelementary.org)
- 1<sup>st</sup> VP [Ruth Tanouye  
waysnmeans@walteriaelementary.org](mailto:waysnmeans@walteriaelementary.org)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> VP [Sowmya Chigarapalle  
communications@walteriaelementary.org](mailto:communications@walteriaelementary.org)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> VP [Tiffany Taylor  
hospitality@walteriaelementary.org](mailto:hospitality@walteriaelementary.org)
- 4<sup>th</sup> VP [Sara Means  
programs@walteriaelementary.org](mailto:programs@walteriaelementary.org)
- 5<sup>th</sup> VP [Jae Kim  
healthnwellfare@walteriaelementary.org](mailto:healthnwellfare@walteriaelementary.org)
- 6<sup>th</sup> VP [Diane Safah-Kanjee  
specialevents@walteriaelementary.org](mailto:specialevents@walteriaelementary.org)
- Rec. Secretary [Judi Maylone  
secretary@walteriaelementary.org](mailto:secretary@walteriaelementary.org)
- Treasurer [Araseli Bucher  
treasurer@walteriaelementary.org](mailto:treasurer@walteriaelementary.org)
- Financial Sec. [Stacie Watling  
financialsec@walteriaelementary.org](mailto:financialsec@walteriaelementary.org)
- Auditor [Hairim Yoon  
auditor@walteriaelementary.org](mailto:auditor@walteriaelementary.org)
- Historian [Jinyi Hahn  
historian@walteriaelementary.org](mailto:historian@walteriaelementary.org)
- Parliamentarian [Jennifer Cassidy  
parliamentarian@walteriaelementary.org](mailto:parliamentarian@walteriaelementary.org)
- Principal [Efren Ponce  
Ponce.efren@tusd.org](mailto:Ponce.efren@tusd.org)
- Teacher Reps [Christine Buchalla  
Buchalla.christine@tusd.org](mailto:Buchalla.christine@tusd.org)  
[Kelly Calhoun  
Calhoun.kelly@tusd.org](mailto:Calhoun.kelly@tusd.org)  
[Rebecca Masi  
Masi.rebecca@tusd.org](mailto:Masi.rebecca@tusd.org)  
[Maria Ruth  
Ruth.maria@tusd.org](mailto:Ruth.maria@tusd.org)