



August 17, 2016

Dear Walker Parents,

I hope this letter finds you enjoying the last days of summer with your families and friends. This communication will include much of the necessary information to get the year started. I am excited to begin a new year at Walker School—a truly special place with an outstanding collection of students, staff, and parents!

We have enjoyed a wonderful summer, as my wife, Gwen, and I welcomed our third child, Sean Henry, born on July 11. My other sons, Colin (8) and Liam (5), have adjusted nicely to their little brother—even giving mom and dad a break when it took longer to get breakfast ready in the mornings. We spent most of our summer doting over baby Sean, running between baseball and soccer games, swimming, and occasional treks, looking for *Pokémon*® around the neighborhood 😊

I love the excitement and anticipation that comes with every August before the students' first day. Walker School is sparkling clean and ready for our students and staff, thanks to Mr. Jose, Ana, Fernando, and the D181 custodial crew! And special thanks goes to Jan Martin (secretary) for ensuring our Walker office is ready for the school year to begin! Our teachers and staff have been very busy preparing the building, setting up classrooms, and receiving training over the summer—in the effort to continue to move Walker forward in our pursuit of excellence.

I'd like to thank the PTO, especially Co-Presidents Jen Backus and Jacquie Korella, who have been a tremendous support as we have planned many fun events for the Walker community throughout the school year. I look forward to working with the PTO all year to enhance our students' educational experiences at Walker. Our students greatly benefit from the care and attention of the entire Walker community. I look forward to working with you to support your child in having a terrific school experience this year!

Teacher Assignment via Parent Portal (New this Year!)

This year, you will visit the Parent Portal to find your child's classroom teacher assignment. This is the same way you access other information through the Parent Portal. Please refer to the attached flyer for assistance.

Please remember that many hours of preparation go into making class lists. The Walker staff strives to place your child with the teacher whom they feel can best meet their academic, social, and emotional needs. We will support all students to have a great experience at Walker.

Some teachers may opt to email their welcome letters. If you have not received the letter by this weekend, you may want to check your spam folder.

It Takes a Village

We have a few new faces at Walker this school year—and some familiar faces in different roles. I am certain you will enjoy getting to know the following staff, *new* to Walker:

Staffing Changes/Updates

- Rachel Chorley, Pupil Service Administrator
- Jessica Czerniuk, PE (Walker in AM daily)
- Kristin Smiley, PE, (Walker in the PM daily)
- Lisa Oddo, Instructional Assistant

Next Monday (8/22) Back to School Events

Thanks to the careful coordination of the Walker PTO, we have planned a comprehensive schedule for getting ready for school with a full schedule on Monday (8/22):

- New Family Orientation at Walker MPR 3:00 – 4:00 PM
- Bike Rodeo at Walker Parking Lot 3:00 – 4:00 PM (For students in grades 3-5 who plan to ride their bikes to school. If your child participated in this safety check previously, he/she does not need to gain approval again.)
- Back-to-School Social, T-Shirt pickup, and Walker Spirit Wear on Blacktop/Gym 4:00 – 5:30 PM

Pre-Ordered Supply Kits Delivered to Classrooms (New!)

New this year, for those who pre-ordered school supply kits, our Walker PTO has arranged for kits to be sent to classrooms so they are awaiting students on the first day. Teachers will help students unload the supplies and return the storage box to parents on the first day of school. All students may pick up their Walker t-shirts that were pre-ordered in the spring and hang around for the Back-to-School Social. (If you did not pre-order in the spring, no extra supply kits will be available for purchase.)

You Can Make a Difference, Too!

If you have not already, I'd like to encourage you to sign up to support our Walker PTO. The PTO continues to need volunteers to support our many Walker activities. There are opportunities for everyone, so please check out the Walker PTO website: <http://www.walkerpto.com/>

Milk Does a Body Good!

The district offers a prepaid milk program for \$52 that covers the cost of one carton of milk for each lunch day. Please refer to the attached flyer for instructions on how to sign up for prepaid milk through the Parent Portal. This option is only available to families until 9/15/2016. If you do not choose to participate in the prepaid milk program, you will need to send your child with 30¢ daily if they want to purchase milk. The prepaid option is available ***only at the beginning of the school*** year as a convenience to families who purchase milk everyday, or to families who choose to make one payment for the entire year. There are no credits or refunds given if your child goes home for lunch periodically or chooses to bring a drink from home. ***September 15th is the last day on which to pay for prepaid milk.***

Birthday Lunches with the Principal (LEGO® Fun!)

This year, we will continue the monthly Birthday Lunch celebrations with the principal, recognizing student birthdays (or half-birthdays for those born in the summer months); however, we will *not* be making birthday buttons...Instead, I will read a story to students and we will have fun designing different configurations with the LEGO® furniture—new in the MRC! Please refer to the attachment to better understand how we recognize

your child's birthday. The first Birthday Lunch is Monday, August 29 for **September** birthdays.

Drop-Off and Traffic Flow

To ensure the safest possible experience for our students at drop-off and pick-up, please be sure to review the attached WALKER SCHOOL INFORMATION and accompanying traffic flow map. We will continue the same drop-off and pick-up procedures as last year. Special Note: Kindergartners should be dropped off in the marked **drop-off zone** along the sidewalk. Kindergartners *only* will proceed to the Kindergarten door where they will line up and be greeted by a staff member from 8:25 – 8:35 AM until they enter the Kindergarten classroom. All other students in grades 1-5 should line up on the blacktop where staff will supervise them until they enter the school. (During inclement weather, we will open the doors for student arrival at 8:30 for students to line up in the hallway by the gym.)

Note the following for safety and traffic flow:

- Extra staff will be available for supervision and to assist children in locating vehicles during pick-up after school. Children will wait for their ride along the sidewalk at the **top of the traffic loop**.
- Similar to the morning drop-off, students only enter vehicles between the two white signs along the upper area of the traffic loop. Students will not be allowed to enter vehicles by the main entrance area. (This should keep the traffic flow moving with greater ease.)
- Children are not allowed to play on the playground during afternoon dismissal.
- Please remember to place the name placard in your right hand dashboard starting on Tuesday, August 23; our staff will use this name placard to call children to the loading area as their rides idle along the curb during afternoon pick-up.
- Name placards will be provided to new families on the first day of school.
- If you need to purchase or replace a name placard for \$2, please visit the school office.

Back to School Assembly

On Tuesday, August 23, we will have a Welcome Back assembly at 9:00 AM for students in grades 1-5 to kick off the new year and to go over some routines to help us have a safe and exciting start of the year!

The Walker Way

The entire Walker staff is committed to every child's academic, social, and emotional success. Our SELAS (Social Emotional Learning for Academic Success) curriculum is interwoven in daily routines at Walker. Unique to Walker, we have adopted the FiSH! Philosophy, which reminds us we are all responsible for each other and that we all must work together to make Walker a great place to learn and grow. We will continue to promote these ideals at Walker:

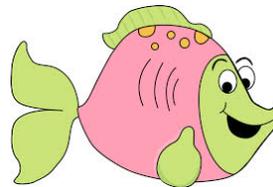
FiSH! Philosophy

Choose Your Attitude

Make Someone's Day

Be There/Be Present

Play



Our Walker Staff will model the SELAS and FiSH! ideals, and I'd like to ask you to do the same as we work together to create a safe and positive learning environment! This year, we will continue our CHAMPS implementation, as well, where all staff will be apply common language and common expectations throughout Walker to support our students to have a positive experience every day.

Mark Your Calendars!

8/22	3:00 pm	PTO Bike Rodeo (Safety Check)
8/22	3:00 pm	New Family Orientation
8/22	4:00 pm	Back-to-School Social, T-Shirt Pickup, Spirit Wear
8/23	8:35 am	First Day of School (Full Day)
8/23	9:00 am	Welcome Back Assembly
8/29	lunchtime	September Birthday Lunch with Mr. C

8/30	6:00 pm	Kindergarten Curriculum Night
8/30	7:00 pm	Gr. 4 Orchestra Meeting at CHMS
8/30	7:30 pm	Gr. 5 Orchestra Meeting at CHMS
8/31	6:00 pm	Grades 1-5 Curriculum Night
9/5		No School – Labor Day
9/8	9:00 am	PTO Room Parent Meeting in MRC
9/15	All Day	Student Picture Day
9/15		<i>Last Day to Pay/Sign-up for Prepaid Milk</i>
9/20	7:00 pm	Beginning Band Parent Meeting at CHMS
9/22	7:00 pm	Gr. 5 Outdoor Ed Parent Meeting
9/23	<i>Evening</i>	PTO Walker Fall Festival and Fun Run
9/28	12:20 pm	All School Picture – Blacktop

Please check the Walker Wednesday News for more information throughout the year. The first Walker Wednesday News will be sent home electronically on 8/24/2016.

As a father of three little boys—one entering third grade this year and one entering Kindergarten—I realize that many times parents have questions or concerns about what is going on at school. Please know that we are available to help answer any questions you may have, and feel free to email or call us any time. Our partnership in your child’s education is forged with strong communication and a passion for working with children. In advance, thank you for your involvement in your child’s education. I feel so fortunate to work with such outstanding students, dedicated staff, and supportive parents. Together, we will have a terrific school year!

Sincerely,

Eric L. Chisausky

Eric L. Chisausky
Walker School Principal

**2016-2017
Walker School
Grades 1-5
Prepaid Lunch Milk Program**

Parents have the option to purchase milk for the full year with one easy payment. Please follow these simple instructions to make your payment via the Campus Portal. **The deadline to order prepaid milk is September 15th.**

1. Login to Infinite Campus Parent Portal
www.d181.org
*Login (located in upper right corner)
Parent/Student Campus Portal*
2. District 181 Fee Payment Center (lower left)
3. Fee Summary Page will open
4. Click on small tab with First Name Only
5. Additional Item needed
6. Add to Cart
7. "X" to close
8. Checkout and Make Payment

If you prefer, your student may pay for milk on a daily basis for 30¢.

Prepaid milk is only available at the beginning of the school year. **Payments will not be accepted after 9/15/2016.**

If you have any additional questions, please contact the school office at 630-861-4600.

◉ D181 PARENT PORTAL ACCESS ◉

LOGIN (Username / Password)

<https://hinsdalecommunityil.infinitecampus.org/campus/portal/hinsdale.jsp>

TIP: Bookmark This Page

*Note: You can also access this login from the district website (upper right corner)
www.d181.org > Login > Parent / Student Campus Portal*

PAY FEES Registration Fees, Milk Prepay, Clubs, Other

- ▶ LOGIN
- ▶ DISTRICT 181 FEE PAYMENT CENTER
- ▶ CHILD'S FIRST NAME
Small Tab
- ▶ ADDITIONAL ITEM NEEDED
- ▶ ADD TO CART
- ▶ CLOSE
- ▶ CHECKOUT/MAKE PAYMENT

ACCESS REPORT CARDS

- ▶ LOGIN
- ▶ SELECT A STUDENT
- ▶ GRADES
- ▶ PRINT
Grade Level Report Card
- ▶ Print (Open PDF to print)

TEACHER ASSIGNMENTS

- ▶ LOGIN
- ▶ SELECT A STUDENT
- ▶ SCHEDULE

Technical Assistance

Stephanie Gardner
Student Data Specialist
D181 Administrative Center
sgardner@d181
630.861.4948

Questions

Jan Martin
Administrative Assistant
Walker School
jmartin@d181.org
630.861.4601



Please join Mr. C. and other Walker kids to celebrate your birthday!

Birthday Lunch: Bring your own lunch. Mr. C will read a story and then you'll have fun with the new LEGO® furniture!

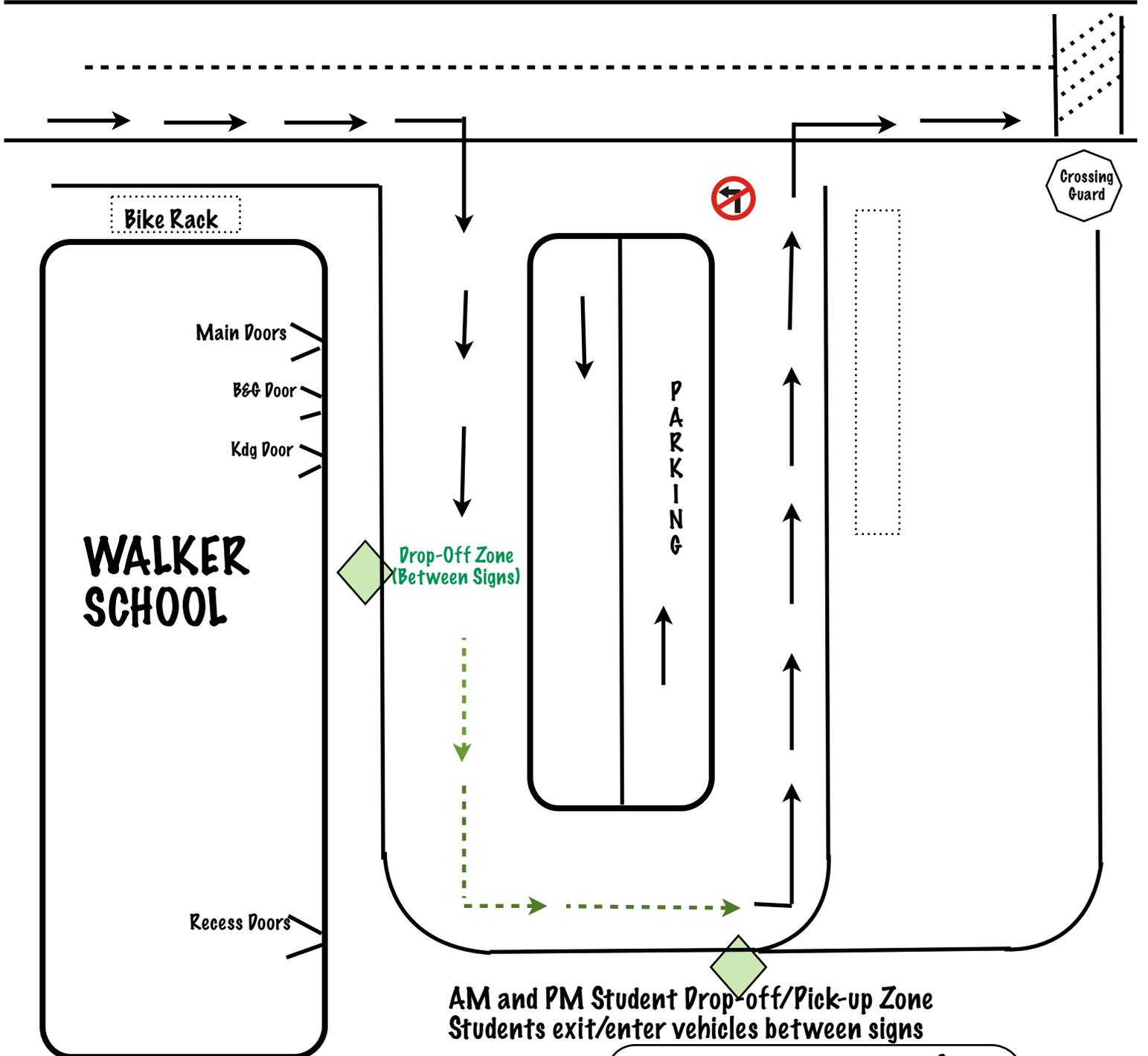
On Your Birthday: Come to the office to get a birthday pencil and sticker!

It will be so fun for friends and Walker staff to wish you a "Happy Birthday" on your special day!

	<h1 style="text-align: center;">Birthday Month</h1>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mark your calendars! Students will attend their scheduled recess.</p>
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">September</h2>	<p style="text-align: center;">Monday, August 29th</p>
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">October</h2>	<p style="text-align: center;">Monday, October 3rd</p>
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">November</h2>	<p style="text-align: center;">Friday, October 28th</p>
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">December and June Half-Birthdays</h2>	<p style="text-align: center;">Monday, November 28th</p>
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">January and July Half-Birthdays</h2>	<p style="text-align: center;">Monday, January 9th School reopens</p>
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">February and August Half-Birthdays</h2>	<p style="text-align: center;">Monday, January 30th</p>
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">March</h2>	<p style="text-align: center;">Monday, February 27th</p>
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">April</h2>	<p style="text-align: center;">Monday, April 3rd School reopens</p>
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">May</h2>	<p style="text-align: center;">Monday, May 1st</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Students should bring their lunch to the MRC to eat with Mr. C. They will go outside for their lunch recess.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Summer is almost here!</p>

Walker Avenue

No Lefthand Turns
Into or Out of Parking Lot



AM and PM Student Drop-off/Pick-up Zone
Students exit/enter vehicles between signs

AM Line-Up



Kindergarten (Kdg) students line up at the Kdg Door and are dismissed from the Kdg Door.

Grades 1-4 Students Line Up On Blacktop



WALKER SCHOOL INFORMATION

REMEMBER: First Day of School is a Full Day!
Tuesday, 8/23/2016 8:35 am – 3:05 pm
Don't Forget to Pack a Lunch!

WALKER SCHOOL

AM Session: 8:35 -11:25 am Office Hours : 8 am – 3:30 pm
PM Session: 12:15 – 3:05 pm Phone: 630.861.4600

Principal: Eric Chisausky echisausky@d181.org Phone ext. 4604
Secretary: Jan Martin jmartin@d181.org Phone ext. 4601
Nurse: June Zogas jzogas@d181.org Phone ext. 4608

SUPERVISION ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

Supervision begins at 8:25 a.m. For the safety of all children, students are not allowed on school grounds prior to 8:25 a.m. Students in 5th grade enter the building through the recess doors at 8:30. Students in Grades 1-4 line up by homeroom teacher on the playground blacktop and enter through the recess doors between 8:35-8:40 am; kindergarten students line up outside the kindergarten door and enter at 8:35 am. Late arrivals (after 8:40 am) should use the main doors and check in at the office. In the event of inclement weather, students will assemble in the building at 8:25 am.

REPORTING OF ABSENCES

Report a student absence by calling school before 8:30 am: **630.861.4698**. Afternoon absences should be reported by 12:15 pm. We will call home to verify an absence if a student is absent and we have not received a call. Always call the office to report an absence; *teachers do not relay student absences to the office.*

BICYCLE RIDING TO WALKER

Students in Grades 3-5 may ride their bikes to school only after they have completed the bicycle safety check that is held at the beginning of the school year.

SAFETY TO AND FROM SCHOOL

Students may only cross Walker Avenue at the manned crosswalk. Please do not park across the street and wave your child across the street.

Please review safety practices with your child, including the use of the crossing guard intersection, looking both ways, crossing at intersections, avoiding strangers, walking with friends/siblings, and utilizing the safest route to and from school.

PARKING LOT PROCEDURES

1. **Pull your car all the way forward through the loop.** Children should exit from cars on the curbside in the zone between the two large signs.
2. You may also drop off your child at the NE corner of Harris/Walker or the SW corner of Ridge/Walker.
3. Do not park on the east side of Walker (the street is too narrow).
4. **Walker Avenue is a one-way street in the morning and at school dismissal.**
5. Please inform all caregivers, grandparents, or anyone else who may be picking up your child from school about the parking lot procedures.

VISITORS – ENTRY TO SCHOOL

All visitors enter Walker School through the main entrance doors and use the buzzer/intercom system for entry into school. Visitors should sign the Visitor Log, wear a visitor badge and sign out before exiting the school. Event doors are locked during the school day.

AFTER SCHOOL HOURS ENTRY

The main entrance doors into the foyer area are unlocked on most days until 3:30 pm. When students return to school for forgotten items, we will do the following:

1. We will call into your child's classroom to see if the teacher is still in the classroom;
2. If the teacher is in the classroom, your child may return to the classroom to obtain the forgotten homework or other items;
3. If the teacher is not in the classroom, your child will not be allowed access to the classroom. Teachers lock their classroom doors at the end of the day.
4. If your child is not allowed to re-enter the building, he/she should inform the classroom teacher the next day that they returned to get the forgotten homework, but couldn't enter the building. The classroom teacher should allow the student to complete the homework. Students may also contact another classmate to obtain copies of assignments.
5. The doors to the school are locked at 3:30 pm each day and students will not be permitted to enter the building after that time.
6. Please do not ask staff (including custodians) for access after 3:30 pm.

FORGOTTEN ITEMS/MESSAGES DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

- **Messages/Play Dates:** If there is a change in plans for the end of the day (except for emergencies), please meet your child after school to discuss it with him/her.
- **Grades 1-5 Lunches:** Please tell your child that if they don't have a lunch, they should always tell a lunch supervisor and/or check with the school office staff. The lunch supervisor will send any student without a lunch to check the lunch cart (located inside the main office doors). If you deliver a forgotten lunch during the school day, place it on the cart that is located inside the main doors.
- **Grades K-2 Other Items:** We try to minimize disruptions to the classroom, but we will deliver items to the classroom when necessary.
- **Grades 3-5 Other Items:** By the time your child reaches the intermediate grades, the teachers expect children to come prepared for school. Teachers in Grades 3-5 have requested that instruction time not be interrupted for these items, including forgotten homework. Therefore, the item will be put in the teacher's mailbox. Teachers will work with students when a homework assignment is forgotten.
- **Eyeglasses** will be delivered to the student as promptly as possible.