GEORGE WALTON COMPREHENSIVE HIGH SCHOOL FROM A TO Z

Walton High School
Parent Teacher Student Association
Disclaimer: This handbook is an abbreviated summary based on a variety of official and unofficial sources. This does not replace the need to read and understand the policies listed in the student handbook (known as the AGENDA). As a student or parent it is your responsibility to seek answers to any questions that you have about George Walton Comprehensive High School.

The PTSA makes no representation that this is a complete list of all the unique factors relating to Walton High School.

The most comprehensive source of school information can be found online at...
Absences
The day after an absence your student is required to bring a note explaining the reason for the absence to the homeroom teacher. Excessive unexcused absences could affect your child’s ability to get and keep a driver’s license. For details of returning to school after an absence see the AGENDA. Section 5: Attendance

Absence – Appointment
Students who are absent for part of the day, late for school or must be excused early should bring a note to the Attendance Office when arriving at school on the day of the absence. The note should be signed by a parent or guardian and should include:
• the date/time of absence
• reason for absence
• student’s grade/homeroom advisor
• parent/guardian phone number.
Students should return to PPO after their appointment before returning to their classes.

Academic Planning Guide
This is a complete list of course offerings and academic policies at Walton High School. This is updated and available each year before registration in the spring.

ACT Test
This is a nationally administered college entrance exam taken in Junior and/or Senior year. Check your PTSA calendar for testing dates. Walton is usually a testing center. For strategies in taking this exam multiple times and details regarding test preparation classes, pick up and review the information booklets available in the Counseling Center. If you are unfamiliar with this exam ask your counselor for more information. Information and registration are available at www.actstudent.org.

ADAP
This is an Alcohol and Drug Awareness Program required for a Georgia driver’s license for high school students (even licenses that are being transferred from out of state). ADAP is taught during your Health class at Walton High School.

Advisement Conferences
All students and their parents are scheduled for a meeting in spring of their freshman year and fall of their junior year to review progress toward graduation and post-secondary goals. You should expect to get a letter in the mail with your appointment time.

Advisor
Your advisor is your homeroom teacher and this person generally remains the same throughout high school.

Agenda
The AGENDA is the student handbook. Each student is issued an AGENDA which they are required to carry at all times during regular school hours. It contains Walton and Cobb County School District policies, hall passes and a planner for recording academic assignments and school deadlines.

If the AGENDA is lost, a replacement may be purchased in the Guidance Center, Records Room.

Alcohol
Walton has a zero tolerance policy for alcohol. Refer to the AGENDA for the policy.
**AP/Advanced Placement**

Advanced Placement (AP) classes are academically challenging, college level courses. Students take the national AP exam in the spring of each year. Dates and times of the exams are determined by the College Board and are listed in the PTSA Calendar. Students with sufficiently high test scores may be able to gain college credit for these classes at selected universities. A handbook of AP course offering and requirements are available on the website.

[WaltonHigh.org » Academics » AP Booklet]

**Astroid**

An astroid is a type of geometric plane curve known as a hypocycloid curve. It is generated by the trace of a fixed point on a small circle that rolls within a larger circle. (A Spirograph creates hypocycloid curves.) The Walton High School logo is based on an astroid.

**Auxiliary Gym**

The Auxiliary Gym is the practice gym located behind the main gym, next to the wrestling barn.

**Bell Schedule**

Walton maintains two bell schedules, depending on the time of dismissal from school.

1. Daily Schedule – most days students are dismissed at 3:30 pm.
2. Walton Enrichment Block (WEB) days – students are dismissed from their regular classes at 12:42 pm.

Bell schedule and class times are listed at WaltonHigh.org.

[WaltonHigh.org » General Info » Student Agenda]

**Booster Clubs**

Booster Clubs are parent organizations that support Walton student sport and music activities. A list of booster clubs and contact information can be found at WaltonHigh.org

[WaltonHigh.org » Athletics » (specific sport)]

**Bus Stops/Schedule**

Bus routing and scheduled stop information is centralized in the district transportation office. Bus stop locations can be found at WaltonHigh.org » Students » School Bus Stop Locator or at www.cobbk12.org. Bus routes are also posted during student orientation.

[WaltonHigh.org » Students » School Bus Stop Locator]
Calendar, Cobb County School District
The official school calendar is determined by CCSD. Visit www.cobbk12.org for calendar updates.

Calendar, PTSA
The PTSA compiles information for and sells school calendars. These list valuable information about Walton, including AP test dates, holidays, WEB, and in-service days. Calendars are sold at the beginning of each year during orientation and through PTSA pre-sale orders. During the school year calendars can be purchased at the front office (limited quantities available).

An updated school calendar can be found online at WaltonHigh.org.

Carnegie Unit
A Carnegie Unit is a measurement of classroom attendance at the secondary school level. One unit of credit is awarded for a minimum of 150 clock hours of instruction. Two semesters = One Carnegie Unit of credit.

Carnegie Unit, Summer School
This is a measurement of classroom attendance at the secondary school level. One unit of credit is awarded for a minimum of 120 clock hours of instruction.

Certificate of Attendance
This is required for all high school students who apply for a Georgia driver’s license, even if they are transferring a license from out of state. Requests are made at the Attendance Office during the school year. The certificate may be picked up after school hours at the front office the day after making your request. There is a $2.00 notary fee required at time of pick up (exact change only). The Certificate is valid for 30 days. Instructions on how to obtain a Certificate of Attendance can be found on the WaltonHigh.org site under Students.

NOTE: Students with summer birthdays should get their Certificate at the end of the school year. The Certificate will be valid until the beginning of the next school year. Check the State of Georgia’s website for more information.

Charter School
Walton became a Georgia Conversion Charter school in 1998, which allows for more local decision making. The Charter may be reviewed online at WaltonHigh.org.

Class Rings
Look for ordering information during sophomore year and delivery during junior year.

Clubs
A current list of student clubs and organizations can be found online.

Club Fair
This is held on a WEB day at the beginning of the school year. School clubs have representatives that can provide information and answer questions about the clubs. This is a good time for students to become familiar with many of the different opportunities at Walton. Freshmen are required to stay at school for this WEB.

A complete list of Student Organizations can be found on the WEB site.

WaltonHigh.org »Students »Clubs
College Entrance Exams
See ACT and SAT in this handbook.

College and Career Website Listings:
- SAT Registration and information: www.collegeboard.org
- ACT Registration and information: www.actstudent.org.
- Georgia Career Information System (GCIS): www.gcic.peachnet.edu
- CollegeSource® Online: www.collegesource.org. Scholarship information: www.fastweb.com
- Georgia Colleges & Universities: www.gafutures.org
- WHS Naviance: WaltonHigh.org »General Info »Naviance

College Corner
The College Corner, located in the School Counseling Center, is a resource center for juniors and seniors. College and scholarship information is available to students and parents with an individual appointment or students may visit the College Corner during their lunch or WEB.

Dining Hall
This is the cafeteria. Students arriving late to lunch are considered tardy.

Counselors
See section on School Counseling.

Course Levels
Certain academic courses may be taught on any one of three levels: college preparatory, honors, and Advanced Placement. A complete listing of current courses can be found online at WaltonHigh.org.

Detention
Refer to the AGENDA
- Section 3: Student Behavior
- WaltonHigh.org »General Info »Student Agenda

Directory
See Student Directory in this listing.

Dress Code
Walton has a dress code. Check for details in the AGENDA.
- Section 3: Student Behavior
- WaltonHigh.org »General Info »Student Agenda

Drugs
Walton has a zero tolerance policy for drugs. Refer to the AGENDA for the policy.
- Zero Tolerance Policy
- WaltonHigh.org »General Info »Student Agenda

Dual Enrollment: "Move on When Ready"/Post Secondary Options
This is an arrangement between the Cobb County School District and a regionally accredited post secondary public or private institution allowing a student to enroll in post secondary classes and earn Carnegie units of credit that count toward high school graduation requirements and hours for post secondary credit.

E

E Lot
The E Lot is the lower parking lot by the stadium.

Elective Courses
These are courses that are taken outside of the four core academic areas. Students often use electives to explore different areas of interest. For a full description of courses and more info, go to WaltonHigh.org
- WaltonHigh.org »Academics »Academic Planning Guide
FAFSA/Free Application for Federal Student Aid
This is a free Application for Federal Student Aid (for college) which is available in January of your senior year. Check with your School Counselor for more information on this.

Field House
The Walton Field House, located near the bus lanes, houses the football lockers and the weight room.

Fighting
Refer to the AGENDA for the policy.

Foundation/Walton Foundation, Inc.
The Walton Foundation, Inc. is a charitable, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose primary purpose is to raise funds used exclusively for enrichment, enhancement and preparation of students at Walton High School.

The Foundation is student-focused, and is committed to promoting safety, scholarship and personal development of every child at Walton High School.

To learn more about Foundation activities or to donate, go to: WaltonHigh.org.

Freshman
Ninth grade students are freshman if they have earned less than five Carnegie units towards graduation. To advance to 10th grade students must earn five units of credit including one unit each of English, Science and Mathematics.
• Grading Scale: A=90-100%; B=80-89%; C=74-79%; D=70-73%; F=below 70%.

Be aware that most colleges recalculate GPA based only on academic classes. Check with the individual school for weights given to honors and/or AP classes. Unofficial transcript information is available to students and parents at WaltonHigh. org »Quick Links »Grades.

The GPA for the HOPE scholarship is calculated using only core courses. This calculation changes and the most updated information is available at www.ga.futures.org.

Those students who wish to participate in athletics in college will need to be declared eligible through the NCAA. Information can be obtained at www.ncaa.org.

Grades Online
Grades can be accessed through CCSD’s ParentVue: www.parentvue.cobbk12.org
Students new to the Cobb County School District can obtain an access code to create a ParentVue Account by visiting the Records Room in the Counseling Suite.

»Online grade reporting is usually available after the first ten days of school.

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Graduation Requirements
Graduation requirement information is outlined at WaltonHigh.org.

Graduation Unit
This is equivalent to one year’s course work. For example, one year of English equals one unit. Each semester course is equal to .5 units.

Guidance
See section on School Counseling.

Halloween
Many students choose to dress in costume on Halloween day. Announcements will be made in homeroom regarding policies on costumes.

Hall Pass
Any student who is out of his/her classroom during a class period must carry a hall pass/agenda issued by a school official.

Hats
Hats are not allowed except on special “hat days.” Refer to the AGENDA.

Health
Health and Personal Fitness classes are required for graduation. If you have taken Health out of state, have your previous school send your counselor a course description if the course will fulfill this requirement. This should be discussed at registration.

Homecoming
Homecoming is in the fall; see calendar for exact dates. Activities include a football game, parade, pep rally and an election of a court.
Homeroom
This is an advisement period between first and second periods. Homerooms are assigned alphabetically by grade. Homeroom teachers are also referred to as advisors. Students receive important notices during this time and watch Walton’s news station for announcements. Students will likely have the same homeroom teacher every year.

Homework Policy
Refer to the AGENDA for the most current policy in regards to homework missed due to absence.

The Records Room and Guidance Center have very limited summer hours (check recorded message).

Incentive
Students who meet incentive requirements may choose to exempt up to two final exams. Incentive requirements are listed in the AGENDA.

ISS/In-School Suspension
Refer to the AGENDA.

Junior/Senior Dues
Class dues are paid once during either junior or senior year. Class dues are used to cover class activities, prom and graduation. If class dues are paid junior year it gives students the privilege to attend the prom their junior and senior years. Dues also cover senior activities such as senior breakfast, senior picnic, prom, graduation expenses, and the class gift to the school.

Juniors
Eleventh grade students are juniors if ten graduation units have been earned, including two full units each of English, Mathematics and Science.

Late Arrival/Tardies
Accumulated tardies may result in the loss of incentive. Refer to the AGENDA.

Leaving Campus
Students who must leave campus must either check out through the Attendance office or have permission from an administrator. Students
who do not follow this procedure will have disciplinary consequences including the loss of parking privileges. See the AGENDA.

Letter Jackets
Letter Jackets are available for sale in the fall of the school year through an outside vendor. Order information will be provided to students during announcements. Letters are awarded for achievements in sports, fine arts and academics.

Library/Information Center
The Information Center houses books and on-line resources. Additional information about the Information Center can be found at WaltonHigh.org.

Minimum Day
Seniors with sufficient credits for graduation may apply for a shortened day. Ask your counselor for more information.

Morning Tuition School
Students who wish to take an additional 7th class may do so during zero period which starts before the regular school day. Course offerings are based on demand. Tuition is charged. Check with your counselor.

Naviance
Naviance is a web-based college and career planning tool. Students will be registered for an account at the beginning of their freshman year. Parents can monitor their student’s account through their parent login. Students will also use Naviance to request transcripts and log their service hours through x2vol. Tutorials are available on the Counseling website.

Open House
Near the beginning of each semester, parents are invited to an evening program which allows them to follow their student’s schedule and hear a short summary from each teacher. Go to WaltonHigh.org>Quick Links>Calendar of Events or the PTSA Calendar for dates.

Orientation – Freshmen
The week before schools starts, ninth grade students and their parents will attend a Freshman Orientation at school. Parents will meet with Administrators and Counselors. Students will go to their homeroom to get their class schedules.

Orientation – New Student
This is held before school starts. It is geared towards students new to the Cobb County Public School system. New students and their parents attend this orientation in addition to the regular orientation where students pick up their schedules from their homeroom.

Parking- Student
A limited number of student parking spaces are available and senior students have priority. Students who wish to park at school are required to purchase a student parking permit which is good for one semester. Go to WaltonHigh.org

» Students
» Parking for details regarding when and how to apply for a parking space.
Parking - Visitor
A limited number of visitor parking spaces are available in the main lot in front of the school in spaces marked Visitor Parking. All other numbered spaces are reserved for staff and students.
If these spaces are taken and it is between 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., please park in the bus lanes. These spaces are not numbered so parking is in any open, marked space. Vehicles must be moved by 2:30 p.m. as buses start arriving and will need to be able to park.
The entrance to the driveway for carpool or Visitor Parking is off Bill Murdock Road. This is a one-way drive.
Remember to sign the visitor’s log in the front Welcome Desk upon entering the building and to also sign out when leaving the school.

Personal Fitness
Personal Fitness and Health (see “Health” in this handbook) are required classes for graduation. If you have taken a Personal Fitness class out of state, have your previous school send your counselor a course description to determine if the course will fulfill this requirement. This should be discussed at registration.

Prom
This is a school sanctioned formal dance for juniors, seniors and their dates.

Prom Promise
This is a PTSA sponsored program held at school the week before prom. Students are encouraged to give their commitment to maintaining safe behavior before, during and after the prom.

Promotion/Graduation
Promotion to each grade is based on units of credit earned. Five units, including one full unit credit in English, Math and Science are needed to be promoted to 10th grade; 10 units, including two full units of English, Math and Science, are needed to be promoted to 11th grade; 16 units of credit are needed to be promoted to 12th grade; and a minimum of 23 units are needed to graduate (24 to graduate with honors).

PSAT/NMSQT Tests
The PSAT®/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test is a co-sponsored program by the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC).

The PSAT/NMSQT measures the critical reading, math, problem-solving, and writing skills that students have developed throughout their studies. It does not measure things like creativity and motivation, and does not recognize special talents that may be important to colleges.

These tests are given nationwide once a year in October. Freshman, sophomores and juniors take this exam as practice for the SAT. Juniors who take it may qualify for scholarships. At Walton this exam is given to all sophomores at no cost. Freshman and juniors may choose to take it for a nominal fee.

For more information see your Counselor.

PTSA
The Parent Teacher Student Association is an organization whose mission is to connect parents, students and teachers...
to promote the welfare of students. The Walton PTSA promotes parent involvement in the school, provides parenting programs and serves as an advocate for students. One of the best ways for learning about Walton is to volunteer for one of the many PTSA committees.

PTSA membership information is sent to each student’s home in July. Parents are encouraged to become involved by volunteering on PTSA committees. Additional information, including PTSA newsletters, forms and legislative updates, can be found at WaltonHigh.org.

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**SAT II (Subject Tests)**

Many colleges require or recommend one or more of the SAT II Subject Tests for admission. These tests measure a student’s knowledge or skills in a particular area of study and the ability to apply that knowledge. A student should find out if a particular college has any specific testing requirements.

Depending on the college, SAT II scores may be a factor in admission decisions or used for placement purposes once a student is enrolled. Ask your counselor for more information. Information and online registration are available at www.collegeboard.org.

**Saturday School**

Detention may be served during Saturday morning at school. Refer to the AGENDA.

**Schedule Changes**

Changes are only made based on teacher recommendation or when a student has been incorrectly scheduled. It is extremely important that students register carefully for classes for the following year each March.

**School Counseling Blog**

The School Counseling Blog includes important information regarding academics, parent nights and college admission process. Additionally, seniors should check the School Counseling Blog periodically for scholarship information.

**School Counseling Center**

This is home to counselors, the records room and College Corner. Check the School Counseling website periodically for information on college admissions, college admissions visits at Walton and scholarships.
School Counselors
The mission of the school counselors is to facilitate the process by which students are prepared to meet the challenges of their post-secondary goals. Counselors are assigned alphabetically by student’s last name. They are available for classroom guidance conferences and individual counseling. Check WaltonHigh.org and the PTSA calendar for counselor assignments.

Semester Scramble
Each semester is like the start of a new year. Teachers and classes are reassigned to allow for flexibility in schedules.

Senior Breakfast
This event is held at school in the fall for seniors.

Senior Evening of Inspiration
This is a PTSA sponsored non-denominational service for graduating seniors. The event is held off campus in May of each year.

Senior Skip Day
Walton does not recognize and/or sanction a Senior Skip Day. Students who participate in such an event or activity will be credited with unexcused absences.

Senior Picnic
This event is held at school in the spring for seniors.

Seniors
Twelfth grade students are seniors if at least 16 graduation units have been earned.

Senior Portraits
Look for a postcard in the mail near the end of 11th grade announcing times for scheduling a senior portrait in late summer. Some seniors prefer to choose their own photographer and must bring in their own picture for the yearbook. Deadlines are in August, so please schedule your picture early.

SGA/Student Government Association
See club information listed at WaltonHigh.org.

Sophomores
Tenth grade students are sophomores if five graduation units are earned, including one full unit of English, Math and Science.

Spirit Wear: Raider Store
This is open on Fridays during lunch periods for purchases of Spirit Wear and Walton memorabilia. Look for special hours in December. It is located in the Dining Hall.

Sports Eligibility
Detailed information about sports eligibility can be found at WaltonHigh.org.

Student Directory
The directory is compiled and sold by the PTSA for a nominal cost. It contains students’ addresses and phone numbers. Directory forms for listing are available at the beginning of the year. Directories are delivered in October.

Student ID
This is a picture ID made through the school. Only students who have picture taken at school in the fall can receive an ID.

Student Parking
See Parking in this listing.

Summer Camps
Walton offers fine arts and sports summer camps. Check with department heads or coaches for information.

Summer Assignments
All English and Social Studies classes have required summer reading assignments. These books are to be read so students are ready to be tested on them the following fall. The books have an accompanying written assignment which is due the first
day of school or students will take a written test during the first week of school. Students may also have a mathematics packet to complete. Look for the complete list of Summer Assignments in the registration booklet or at WaltonHigh.org.

**Summer School**
Information on summer school course offerings, associated costs and schedules may be obtained on the WHS Website.

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**Tardies**
Accumulated tardies may result in the loss of incentive. Refer to the AGENDA.

- Section 5: Attendance
- WaltonHigh.org »General Info »Student Agenda

**Telephone Directory**
See Student Directory in this listing.

**Threatening Behavior**
All threatening behavior and threats must be treated seriously for the safety of others. Refer to the AGENDA.

- Zero Tolerance Policy
- WaltonHigh.org »General Info »Student Agenda

**Transcripts**
A student's cumulative academic record is listed on their transcript. You should check your own transcript to make sure that it is correct. This is especially important for students transferring grades from outside of Cobb County. Official transcripts are required for all college applications. In order to be valid, transcripts must be sent directly to the school from Walton.

Walton transcripts are ordered from the School Counseling Center Records Room. Each transcript is $2.00. Grades can also be accessed at WaltonHigh.org »Quick Links »Grades. Students transferring international records can get help in translating their overseas records at Cobb County's International Welcome Center.

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**Tutors and Tutoring**
Names of professional tutors are on file in the School Counseling Center. Peer tutoring is available through the NHS (National Honor Society) and other Academic Honor Societies. To sign up for Peer tutoring, visit the WHS Website: Students: Student Tutoring. WHS teachers are available for tutoring during WEB.

**Volunteer Hours**
Students are encouraged to perform community service and may record their volunteer hours on x2vol through their Naviance account. Students earning at least 180 hours of community service will be recognized at graduation with a service cord. Details of what types of activities are recognized and the online log sheet are available at WaltonHigh.org »Students »Community Service Log Sheet.

**Visitors**
Visitors to the school must register in the school office and receive a visitor's pass. Students are not allowed to have students from other schools or out of town guests attend classes with them.

- Section 7: General Information

**Weapons**
Zero tolerance applies to weapons. Refer to the AGENDA.

- Zero Tolerance Policy
- WaltonHigh.org »General Info »Student Agenda
Weighted Courses
Students can earn additional quality points toward their Grade Point Averages (GPA) by enrolling in certain courses considered to be challenging and difficult. Typically, the higher level of some required courses, such as the honors, Advanced Placement and IB courses are weighted for extra credit.

Note: Weighting for advanced courses is used only by the high school in calculating GPA for determining Valedictorian, Salutatorian, class rank and honor graduates. Most colleges and universities re-calculate the GPA for admissions purposes.

Walton Governance Council
The Walton Governance Council (WGC) is composed of parents, students and teachers. It provides input to the administration for school policies.

WEB (Walton Enrichment Block)
Walton Enrichment Block is the period of time from 12:42 pm to dismissal at 3:30 pm on most Wednesdays, and occasionally on another day of the week. This block of time is devoted to academic enrichment.

On WEB days each of the regular seven periods is shortened to 30 minutes to free up the afternoon for labs, tutoring, research, study groups, ADAP classes, etc. WEB days are listed on the school calendar published by the PTSA. Details of this program are given in the AGENDA.

Website – Cobb County
Cobb County Public School District’s website address is: www.cobbk12.org.

Website – Walton High School
Walton’s website address is: www.WaltonHigh.org. It is the best way to keep up to date on grades, transcripts, calendar events, attendance and lots of information about Walton High School.

Winterfest
Winterfest is the basketball homecoming held in January (check calendar for date). Festivities include a pep rally and an election of a court.

Wrestling Barn
This is located immediately behind the main gym.

x2vol
x2Vol is the a part of WHS’s web-based Naviance system, a college and career planning tool designed to assist students in setting goals, identifying strengths, and applying to colleges. All students will log their service hours through their Naviance x2vol account. Tutorials to use this system can be found on the WHS Website * Counseling Department* Naviance

Yearbook
Yearbooks may be ordered online. Yearbooks are delivered via homeroom near the end of the school year (usually on a WEB).

Zero Period
There are two options for zero period:
- Morning tuition allows a student to pay for an additional class, giving them seven courses.
- Flex schedule allows students to begin their day during zero period and leave early after sixth period is completed.