Disclaimer: The Walton A to Z handbook is an abbreviated summary based on a variety of official and unofficial sources. It does not replace the need to read and understand the policies listed in the student handbook (known as the Agenda). It is the responsibility of the student and the parents to seek answers to any questions regarding 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 virtual learning environment necessitates policy and procedure changes for the 2020-2021 school year. Implementation of increased safety measures will occur once face-to-face instruction resumes.

The most comprehensive source of school information can be found online at...

Walton High School

Parent Teacher Student Association
1590 Bill Murdock Rd NE
Marietta, GA 30062
(770) 578-3225
Absences
The day after an absence, the student brings a note explaining the reason for the absence to the Attendance Office. Excessive unexcused absences could affect the student's ability to get and keep a driver's license. The Agenda contains full details on absences.

Absence – Appointment
Students who are absent for part of the day, late for school, or must leave early should bring a note to the Attendance Office when arriving at school on the day of the absence. The note should include:

- student's grade/homeroom advisor
- the date/time of absence
- reason for absence
- parent/guardian phone number
- parent/guardian signature

Students should return to the Attendance Office after their appointment before returning to their classes. The Agenda contains full details on absences, checking in, and checking out of school.

Academic Fees
Students pay $20 each year for online access to the Vocabulary book, access to Turnitin, an internet plagiarism checker, and x2Vol/TestNaviance, an online tool to record volunteer hours and college and career plans. Academic fees are paid at MyPaymentsPlus.

Academic Planning Guide
A complete list of course offerings and academic policies at Walton High School is in the Academic Planning Guide.

ACT
The ACT is a nationally administered college entrance exam, taken in Junior and/or Senior year. Walton is usually a testing center. Test preparation information and registration are available in the Counseling Department or at www.act.org.

ADAP
The Alcohol and Drug Awareness Program, required for a Georgia driver's license, is taught during Health classes. Licenses transferred from out of state also require ADAP. Click here for more information.

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. Parents receive a letter in the mail with your appointment time. Counseling Department

Agenda
Each student is issued an Agenda that they are required to carry during regular school hours. It contains school policies, hall passes, and a planner for recording assignments. If the Agenda is lost, a replacement is available in the Counseling Center, Records Room for $10.

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. Dates and times of the exams are determined by the College Board. Students with sufficient test scores gain college credit for these classes at selected universities. A handbook of AP course offerings and requirements are on the Walton website.

Astroid
An asteroid is a type of geometric plane curve known as a hypocycloid curve. The Walton logo is based on an astroid.
Athletics
Walton Athletics has a rich history of winning both region and state championships. Winning the GADA Director’s Cup eight times is an impressive feat. Visit the Athletics website for information on team, coaches, tryouts, and more. Visit the NCAA and NAIA websites for collegiate sports information.

Attendance Policies
See Absences in this handbook or the Agenda for full details.

Attendance Office
Also known as PPO, the Attendance Office is on the left side of the front entrance. All attendance matters resolve here. Detailed information regarding absences, late arrivals, and early dismissals is in the Agenda.

Bell Schedule
Walton maintains three bell schedules, depending on the time of dismissal from school.

• Daily Schedule – typically, students dismiss at 3:30 p.m.
• Walton Enrichment Block (WEB) days – students dismiss from their regular classes at 12:42 p.m.
• Cobb County Early Release days, students dismiss at 11:30 a.m.

Booster Clubs
Booster Clubs are parent organizations that support Walton student sport and music activities. A list of booster clubs and contact information is at the Walton website.

Bus Transportation Changes
Students take a note to the Attendance Office in the morning. The Attendance Office signs the note, and it is given to the bus driver. Faxes or phone calls are not accepted.

Calendar, Cobb County School District
CCSD determines the official school calendar. Visit Cobb County School District for calendar updates.

Calendar, Walton
An updated school calendar is online at Walton website. The Walton calendar includes school, athletic, PTSA, Foundation, holidays, and club events.

Certificate of Attendance
Students who apply for a Georgia driver’s license, even if transferring a license from out of state, must have a Certificate of Attendance. Request a certificate at the Attendance Office or through the link above. The certificate is available after school hours at the front office the day after making a request. There is a $2.00 notary fee required at pick up (exact change only). The certificate is valid for 30 days. 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.

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

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

Clinic
Refer to the Clinic Information page on the Walton website.

Clubs
A current list of student clubs and organizations is online.
Club Fair
Typically held on a WEB day at the beginning of the school year, school clubs provide information and answer questions about the clubs. The Club Fair 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.

Cobb Teaching & Learning System (CTLS)
Cobb County Schools developed CTLS, a digital learning environment that identifies what students know, supports student learning, engages parents, and empowers teachers. Refer to the Cobb County Schools website for more information.

College and Career Websites
Helpful websites for students and parents who are navigating college and career paths include:

- **SAT**: Click here
- **ACT**: Click here
- **CollegeSource® Online**: Database of College Catalogs and Profiles: Click here
- **FastWeb**: Scholarships and Financial Aid: Click here
- **Georgia Futures**: Georgia Colleges & Universities: Click here
- **Naviance**: College and Career Planning tools: (see Naviance in this handbook for more information) Click on the baseball at the top of the Walton website
- **Walton Counseling Department**: Click here

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. Refer to College Corner.

Communications
CTLS: Messages from the administration, teachers, counselors, and Cobb County come through the CTLS platform.

PTSA: Several different communications come from PTSA, most notably the weekly eBlast. Other forms of communication from PTSA include social media, the website, and newsletters.

Foundation: The Foundation distributes the 411 eNewsletter.

Course Levels
Walton offers three levels for specific academic courses: college preparatory, honors, and Advanced Placement. A complete listing of current courses is in the Academic Planning Guide online at WaltonHigh.org.

Detention
Refer to the Agenda.

Dining Hall
The Dining Hall is the cafeteria.

Dress Code
Walton has a dress code. Specific details are in the Agenda.

Drugs
Walton has a zero-tolerance policy for drugs. Refer to the Agenda for the policy. Report concerns to Cobb County’s Safe Schools Alert tip line.

Dual Enrollment
Dual Enrollment is a state-funded program allowing high school students to take college courses. Students receive credit for both high school and college courses. Courses taken will appear on both high school and college transcripts. Georgia provides funding for tuition, mandatory fees, and books.

E Lot
The E Lot is the lower parking lot by the stadium.
Elective Courses
Students take required, elective courses that are outside of the four core academic areas. Electives allow students to explore other areas of interest. For a full description of courses and more info, go to the Academic Planning Guide.

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

Fighting
Refer to the Agenda for the policy.

Food & Nutrition Services
Refer to the Cobb County Food & Nutrition website for menus, prices, food allergy information, details on free and reduced meals, and a link to MyPaymentsPlus.

Foundation
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, visit the Foundation website.

Georgia Milestones EOC Test
Students take state-mandated, end-of-course tests, required in certain subjects. The test counts as 20% of the final grade, and students must pass the course and take the EOC in order to graduate. More information about EOC courses and tests is online.

GPA/Grade Point Average (cont.)
Grading Scale: A=90-100%; B=80-89%; C=74-79%; D=70-73%; F=below 70%

A GPA and a weighted GPA are on each student's transcript. The weighted GPA recognizes the difficulty factor of the AP and Honors courses by assigning a higher numerical value to these courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>College Prep</th>
<th>Honors Class</th>
<th>AP Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
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<td>C</td>
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Most colleges calculate GPA based only on core academic classes. Additionally, the GPA for the HOPE scholarship is calculated using only core courses.

Grades Online
ParentVue is the website to access student grades. 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. From the Walton website, click the paper clip at the top.

Graduation
Students must receive credit for all required courses, including those which require a Georgia Milestones EOC test.

Graduation Ceremony
Seniors order caps, gowns, announcements, etc. in the fall. Seniors receive an information packet in the spring with details as to the required rehearsals and graduation ceremony.

Graduation Requirements
Graduation requirement information is in the Academic Planning Guide.

Graduation Unit
One unit 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 (and teachers!) choose to dress in costume on Halloween. Homeroom teachers announce policies regarding Halloween costumes.

Hall Pass
Any student not in a classroom while class is in session must carry a hall pass/agenda issued by a school official. Refer to the Agenda.

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

Health
Health and Personal Fitness classes are required for graduation.

Homecoming
Homecoming is in the fall; see calendar for exact dates. Activities typically include a football game, parade, pep rally and an election of a Homecoming court. The Student Leadership Council organizes the Homecoming Dance.

Homeroom
Homeroom is the advisement period between the first and second periods. Homerooms are assigned alphabetically by grade. Students receive essential information 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 regard to homework missed due to absence. Students who miss three or more days of school may request homework by calling the Records Room, 770-578-3225, ext. 036.

Honors Classes
Honors classes are more academically rigorous than college prep classes.

Honor Roll & Academic Recognition
Students who earn a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher and have no grades lower than a 74 will be placed on the Honor Roll. Students who earn a semester GPA of 4.0 or higher and have no grades lower than an 80 will be placed on the Principal’s Honor Roll. Students who earn a 4.0 or higher for the entire academic school year will be awarded an Academic Letter. Students who do so in a subsequent year will be awarded an Academic Bar.

Hours
The main office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Incentive
Although suspended for the 2020-2021 school year, students who meet incentive requirements may exempt up to two final exams. Incentive requirements are listed in the Agenda.

Information Center
The Information Center houses books and online resources. The Information Center also provides a quiet and relaxing study space during lunch periods. An Information Center staff member must stamp lunch Passes issued during the change of classes before the start of each lunch period. The sign-in table is just inside the entrance to the Information Center. Additional information about the Information Center is online.
International Spanish Academy
The International Spanish Academy (ISA) at Walton High School is a rigorous educational program in Spanish and English offered through the collaboration of Walton High School with the Ministry of Education of Spain. Students are admitted as freshmen.

International Students & Families
The Cobb County School District International Welcome Center (IWC), facilitates home-to-school and school-to-home communications by providing local schools, parents, and community with the following support services: English language proficiency assessments for international students which includes advisement, grade placement, and transcript evaluation, as well as translation of district policies and local school documents, interpretation of school-related meetings, student evaluations, parent conferences, special education meetings, and hearings.

ISS/In-School Suspension
Refer to the Agenda.

Leaving Campus
Students leaving campus must either check out through the Attendance Office or have permission from an administrator.

Late Arrival/Tardies
Accumulated tardies may result in the loss of incentive and parking privileges and may lead to disciplinary consequences. Refer to the Agenda.

Letter Jackets
For achievements in sports, fine arts, and academics, students can wear a letter jacket. Jackets are available for sale in the fall of the school year through an outside vendor. Students receive ordering information during homeroom.

Library
See Information Center.

Lockers
Walton does not have lockers. Students are encouraged to utilize online textbooks.

Lost and Found
Lost and Found is in the Front Office.

Media Center
See Information Center.

Minimum Day
Seniors with sufficient credits for graduation qualify for a shortened day. School counselors assist in determining if a minimum day schedule is appropriate for each student.

Morning Tuition School
See Zero Period.

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

Open House
Near the beginning of each semester, parents attend a program which allows them to follow the students’ schedules and hear a short summary from each teacher. Refer to the Calendar.

Orientation – Freshmen
Ninth-grade students and parents attend a Freshman Orientation the week before school starts. Parents meet with Administrators and Counselors. Students go to homeroom to get class schedules.

Orientation – New Student
New Cobb County students attend an orientation geared to transfer students. Students and their parents attend this orientation in addition to the regular orientation where students pick up schedules from their homeroom.
Walton High School 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 encourages parental involvement in the school, provides funding for teacher grants, supplies health and safety supplies, 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 allows access to the online student directory and all PTSA communications. Additional information, including PTSA newsletters, forms, and legislative updates, can be found at the PTSA Website.

Prom
Prom, a school-sanctioned formal dance for juniors, seniors, and dates, is in the spring. Ticket sales take place the week before the event.

Prom Promise
A PTSA sponsored program held the week before prom, students give their commitment to maintain safe behavior before, during, and after the prom.

PSAT/NMSQT Tests
Administered nationwide, the PSAT/NMSQT measures critical reading, math, problem-solving, and writing skills. Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors take this exam as practice for the SAT.

Raider Joe’s
Student-led, Raider Joe’s is open each morning for a hot cup of coffee.

Records Room
Located in the Counseling Center, transcripts, work permits, etc. can be ordered here.

SAT
The Scholastic Aptitude Test, often used to determine college admissions, is taken in the Junior and/or Senior year. Walton is usually a testing center. Additional information and online registration are available at www.collegeboard.org.

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, as well as the ability to apply that knowledge. Visit www.collegeboard.org or the school counselor for more information.

Parking- Students
Senior students who wish to purchase a parking permit each semester apply for a limited number of student parking spaces. Juniors apply for remaining spots through a raffle system.

Parking - Visitors
Visitor parking spaces are off Bill Murdock Road, in the main lot in front of the school, marked as Visitor Parking. A satellite lot with spaces B-153 to B-186 is on Baseball Drive near the school's gymnasium. If all visitor parking spots are unavailable, the bus lanes are available between 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Vehicles must be moved by 2:30 p.m. as buses arrive for dismissal. See Visitors in this handbook for more information.

Personal Fitness
Personal Fitness and Health classes (see Health in this handbook) are required for graduation. School counselors determine if transfer students have met Georgia requirements for these classes.
Saturday School
Saturday School is a consequence assigned by an administrator for various categories of misconduct. The hours are 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Refer to the Agenda.

Schedule Changes
Class registration for the following year occurs each March. Teachers make and confirm schedule recommendations. Students and parents request schedule changes in the event of an error.

School Counseling Department
The school counselors' mission is to facilitate the process by which students meet the challenges of their postsecondary goals. Counselors are assigned alphabetically by student's last name. They are available for classroom guidance conferences and individual counseling. Located near the front office, the Counseling Department is home to counselors, the Records Room, and the College Corner. The School Counselors and the School Counseling website provide information on academics, parent nights, college admissions, college visits at Walton, scholarships, and service hours. Visit the Counseling Department for counselor assignments.

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

Senior Events
Refer to the Senior Info Page for additional information.

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.

SGA/Student Government Association
Walton students have a voice in aiding the administration and faculty in carrying out the mission and goals of the school by providing leadership and serving as a liaison between the students, faculty, and administration.

Spirit Wear/Raider Store
Located in the Dining Hall, the Raider Store is open on Fridays during lunch periods for purchases of spirit wear and Walton memorabilia. Look for special hours in December. An Online Spirit Store is also available.

Sports Eligibility
Detailed information about sports eligibility can is in the Academic Planning Guide.

Stem Academy
The Walton Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Academy offers students a rigorous curriculum driven by problem solving and discovery in a student-centered environment.

Student Directory
The PTSA provides an online directory. It contains students’ addresses and phone numbers. Directory forms for listings or changes are available on the PTSA website. Access to the directory is only available with the purchase of a PTSA membership.
**Student ID**
Only students who have a picture taken at school in the fall receive an ID.

**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. Students complete a written assignment, due the first week of school, and take a test on the book. Several mathematics courses require students to complete a packet. Refer to Summer Assignments for details.

**Summer School**
Summer school course offerings, associated costs, and schedules are on the Counseling Department Website.

**Tardies**
Accumulated tardies result in the loss of parking and disciplinary consequences. Refer to the Agenda.

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

**Threatening Behavior**
All threatening behavior and threats are treated seriously for the safety of others. Refer to the Agenda. Report concerns to Cobb County’s Safe Schools Alert tip line.

**Transcripts**
A student’s cumulative academic record is on their transcript. Students are responsible for checking the accuracy of the transcript; this is especially important for transfer students. College applications require official transcripts. Official transcripts are ones that are sent directly to the college from Walton. Each transcript is $2.00. Students order transcripts in the School Counseling Center Records Room or Online.

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

**Volunteer Hours**
Students are encouraged to perform community service and may record volunteer hours on x2vol through the 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 are available online. Community Service Information.

**Visitors**
Visitors to the school 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.

**George Walton**
George Walton Comprehensive High School was named for George Walton, (1749 – 1804) who signed the Declaration of Independence as a representative of Georgia. He also served as the second Governor of Georgia and in the U.S. Congress and the U.S. Senate.
**Walton Governance Board**
The WGB is a non-profit board that holds the charter for the school. The WGB is responsible for ensuring academic performance measures set forth in the charter are met. The WGB’s duties and responsibilities include school-level decision making, fiscal management, and a variety of school operations.

**WEB (Walton Enrichment Block)**
Walton Enrichment Block is from 12:42 p.m. to dismissal at 3:30 p.m. 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 club meetings, tutoring, research, study groups, make up tests/quizzes, etc. WEB days are on the Walton Calendar. Details of the WEB program are in the Agenda.

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

**Website – Foundation**
The Foundation website address is https://whsfoundation.wpengine.com/

**Website – PTSA**
The PTSA website address is https://waltonhighschoolptsa.membershiptoolkit.com/

**Website – Walton High School**
Walton’s website address is www.WaltonHigh.org.

**Weapons**
Zero tolerance applies to weapons. Refer to the Agenda. Report concerns to Cobb County’s Safe Schools Alert tip line.

**Winterfest**
Winterfest is the basketball homecoming event, usually held in January and including a pep rally and an election of a Winterfest court.

**x2vol**
x2Vol is one component of the Naviance system. Students log service hours through their Naviance x2vol account. Tutorials to use this system are on the Counseling Department Website.

**Yearbook**
Online ordering of yearbooks is in the fall. Homeroom teachers distribute yearbooks near the end of the school year (usually on a WEB day). Order now.

**Zero Period**
There are two options for zero period, which starts before the regular school day:
- Morning tuition allows a student to pay a tuition for an additional class, giving them seven courses. The demand for zero period classes determines the course offerings.
- Flex schedule allows students to begin their day during zero period and leave early after the sixth period class is completed.