



The Parent Connector

TITLE I & SPECIAL ED NEWSLETTER



WALTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
"In Pursuit of Excellence"

OCT—DEC
2015

CALENDAR

OCTOBER

- 2 End of Qtr 1
- 5 Student Holiday/Teacher Workday
- 8 Report Cards Issued
- 13 Board Meeting 5:30 @ BOE
- 13 Techno Class @ BOE Annex
- 14 PSAT
- 19 - 23 FALL BREAK
- 27 Techno Class @ BOE Annex

NOVEMBER

- 10 Board Meeting 5:30 @ BOE
- 11 Holiday—Veteran's Day
- 12 Progress Reports - Qtr 2
- 12 Title I CLIP Meeting @ BOE
- 16 - 20 EOC GA Milestones
- 23 - 27 Thanksgiving Holiday

DECEMBER

- 8 Board Meeting 5:30 @ BOE
- 18 End of Qtr 2 and Sem 1
- 21 - 31 WINTER Break

GA Milestones Achievement Levels

With the implementation of the GA Milestones Assessment System, Georgia educators have developed four achievement levels to describe student mastery and command of the knowledge and skills outlined in Georgia's content standards.:

Beginning Learners do not yet demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students need substantial academic support to be prepared for the next grade level or course and to be on track for college and career readiness.

Developing Learners demonstrate partial proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students need additional academic support to ensure success in the next grade level or course and to be on track for college and career readiness.

Proficient Learners demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students are prepared for the next grade level or course and are on track for college and career readiness.

Distinguished Learners demonstrate advanced proficiency in the knowledge and skills necessary at this grade level/course of learning, as specified in Georgia's content standards. The students are well prepared for the next grade level or course and are well prepared for college and career readiness.

More detailed and content-specific concepts and skills are provided for each grade, content area, and course in the Achievement Level Descriptors (ALDs): <https://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/Georgia-Milestones-ALD.aspx>

You're Invited!!!

Using Today's Technology to Support Your Child

Oct. 13 9:00—10:30 am
Oct. 27 6:00—7:30 pm

Walton County BOE Annex
1820 GA Hwy 11, NW, Monroe, GA 30656

In a relaxed and informal class environment, parents and guardians will learn how to:

Access Infinite Campus and Schoology
Navigate the BOE and school websites
Email your child's teachers
Set up a free email account

This is a FREE event for Walton County School parents and guardians sponsored by the WCSD Title I Program. Childcare will also be provided FREE.

Please RSVP to one of the District Parent Coordinators listed on the back.

Title I CLIP Program Meeting

November 12, 2015 | 9:30 - 11:00 am

Walton County Board of Education
200 Double Springs Church Rd.
Monroe, GA 30656

The Walton County School District will host a meeting to allow input on the educational decisions, Strategic/Comprehensive LEA Implementation Plan, Strategic Waiver School System, District Parental Involvement Plan, and funding sources for all federal programs in our schools.

ALL school district parents and community stakeholders are encouraged to attend.

Did You Know?

If your family lives in any of the following situations: (1) In a shelter, (2) In a motel or campground due to the lack of an alternative, adequate accommodation, (3) In a car, park or abandoned building or bus or train station, (4) Doubled up with other people due to the loss of housing or economic hardship..... your school-age children may qualify for certain rights and protections under the federal **McKinney-Vento Act**. If you believe your children may be eligible, please contact **Gina Meadows, Homeless Liaison at (770) 266-4510** to find out what services and supports may be available.

McKinney-Vento Act

Move On When Ready

In April 2015, the Georgia General Assembly passed a law that streamlined the existing dual enrollment programs. As a result high school students now have more options for earning college credit, a new way to earn a high school diploma and more college costs are free! Contact your School Counselor or Curriculum Director, Celeste Cannon at: meredith.cannon@walton.k12.ga.us to learn more or plan to attend the Winter information sessions about the new **Move on When Ready** program, which will be held at all Middle and High Schools. Dates and times will be announced soon! You can also find out more about this program at: <http://tinyurl.com/nzbj8oq>

School-wide Title I Schools in Walton County School System are: Atha Road Elementary, Harmony Elementary, Carver Middle School, Loganville Elementary, Monroe Area High School, Monroe Elementary, Walker Park Elementary, Walnut Grove Elementary, Loganville Middle School and Youth Middle School.

Targeted Assistance School in Walton County: Walnut Grove High School.

The Walton County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in admission to its programs, services or activities, in access to them, in treatment of individuals, or in any aspect of their operations. For additional information or referral to the appropriate system coordinator, contact the system coordinator: Wilma Widmer at 200 Double Springs Church Road, Monroe, Ga. 30656, or at 770-266-4410.

Si usted necesita ayuda con la traducción de esta carta, por favor comuníquese con la Senora Eleanor Scott en Walton County

Countdown To School Success

NEWS YOU CAN USE

1 Review that report card

Pay careful attention to all progress reports, but particularly the first one—it will be coming soon if your child hasn't received it yet. You want to get help for any problem areas before your child falls too far behind. Ask your child's teacher how grades are determined and for suggestions on how your student can improve. Review grades and the teacher's comments with your child—always starting with something she's doing well, then pointing out areas that need attention, and ending with something positive again.

2 Encourage creativity

Urge your children to enter

the National PTA Reflections arts contest. They can submit works of art in six categories: visual arts (such as painting, drawing, or collage), literature, musical composition, photography, film production, and dance choreography. This year's theme is "Diversity Means..." Contact your local PTA for additional details or go to pta.org.

3 Connect with your kids'

teachers Many schools schedule parent-teacher conferences in October and November. Attending this meeting should be a priority for all parents and guardians. This is your chance to see how things are going with your children and to partner with their teachers on

improving performance. Ask:

"What could we be doing at home to practice what they're learning?" National PTA has created grade by -grade Parent Guides that can be a resource for what to discuss at conferences. Find out more at pta.org/parentsguide.

4 Be a good citizen

Your child will be learning about the importance of voting and how elections work, and she'll be thrilled to go with you when you cast your ballot on November 8. Go to free.ed.gov to learn more about how government works.

A **month-by-month** guide to help your children have a school year packed with fun and learning. <http://www.ed.gov/parents/countdown-success>

> 2014 College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) for WCSD and schools is now online at <http://ccrpi.gadoe.org/2014/ccrpi2014.aspx>

↔
> To stay current about all of the tests your child will be required to take, you can access the 2015-16 District Assessment Calendar here: <http://www.walton.k12.ga.us/testingcalendar.html>

District Parent Coordinators

Donna Hawk: ARES, HES, MES, WPES, CMS 770-266-4530 donna.hawk@walton.k12.ga.us - Title I

Kathy Ellington: WGES, YMS, MAHS, WGHS 770-207-3107 katherine.ellington@walton.k12.ga.us - Title I

Tonya McCullohs: LES, LMS 770-266-4532 tonya.mccullohs@walton.k12.ga.us - Title I & Special Education Parent Mentor



The Special Needs Database

Parent to Parent's comprehensive [resource database](#) contains over 5,000 resources in over 150 categories. The Special Needs Database is a user-friendly, online searchable resource available to individuals with disabilities, their families, and professionals throughout Georgia. You can [search online](#) or call them at 1-800-229-2038 and they will search for you!

<http://p2pga.org/index.php/database>

Preschool Special Education Program

If you or your doctor suspect that your 3-5 year old child has a disability, you may contact Melanie Cooksey at 770-266-4502 to schedule a screening appointment at the PEEP Round-Up on November 4, 2015 at Monroe Elementary.

Special Education News

What's Happening...

- **October 31 - FAMILY FUN DAY**
Hosted by the Walton County Navigator Team 11:00 am—2:00 pm Come join us for a day filled with FUN! Halloween Costume Contest, Cupcake Walk, Bounce Houses, Face Painting, Games, Hay Ride, Resource Fair, & More... Hot Dogs, Chips, Drinks, Popcorn & Cotton Candy...FREE EVENT for Families of Children with Disabilities. Hammond Park, Monroe (150 Russell Circle, Monroe 30655) For more information: Sue Rowe (770-300-7988 bobbyandsue@yahoo.com)
- **November 7 - Donut Dash 5K Run**
Sponsored by Loganville Police Dept. at Loganville H. S. to support Special Olympics!
- **December 12 - Jingle Jog** at Loganville High School. Fun Run starts at Noon and 5K starts at 12:30 PM. SANTA LAND open 10:00 - 2:00 with Holiday Vendors, Santa Photos, Bounce House, Face Painting, & Fun!

New...Lunch 'N Learns!!!

If you have not applied for Medicaid for your child yet, please join us for Parent 2 Parent of Georgia's video series on the Katie Beckett Deeming Waiver. We will have applications on hand for you to take home and complete to apply for this much needed resource.

- **November 6 - First Fridays Lunch 'N Learn** ("Katie Beckett Deeming Waiver Basics", 12:00 - 1:30 pm in Room 623 @ Loganville Middle School, 4869 Bay Creek Church Road, Registration is required. RSVP: Tonya McCullohs 770-266-4532 or tonya.mccullohs@walton.k12.ga.us)
- **November 15 - Third Thursdays Lunch 'N Learn** ("Katie Beckett Deeming Waiver Application Process", 12:00 - 1:30 pm in Room 623 @ Loganville Middle School, 4869 Bay Creek Church Road, Registration is required. RSVP: Tonya McCullohs 770-266-4532 or tonya.mccullohs@walton.k12.ga.us)

For more information and resources, please visit the Parent section on the Special Education Department page on the WCSD's website: www.walton.k12.ga.us or contact the Parent Mentor:

Tonya McCullohs at 770-266-4532 or tonya.mccullohs@walton.k12.ga.us.