

# **Walden Academy, Inc. Board of Directors' Meeting Agenda**

## **Monday December 12, 2022, 4:00 p.m. – Regular Meeting**

The meeting will be held at the Walden Main Campus, 1149 W. Wood Street, Willows, California

Leadership Team is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2275075886?pwd=K2FPa2xjWnk5WU0rRHZmOEtJNkVFQT09>

Meeting ID: 227 507 5886

Passcode: 005617

One tap mobile

+16694449171,,2275075886#,,,,\*005617# US

+17207072699,,2275075886#,,,,\*005617# US (Denver)

Dial by your location

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 720 707 2699 US

+1 646 931 3860 US

Meeting ID: 227 507 5886

Passcode: 005617

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/kcr33uR6hd>

### **Call to Order and Attendance at:**

#### **Board Members**

H. Geroy

S. Maben

M. Martin

N. Michaud

A. Philp

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **Resolution 2022-2023. 10 Remote Teleconferencing: Action Item**

In response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Governor Newsom signed AB 361 into law, permitting public agencies to continue conducting meetings remotely. Walden Academy Charter School will consider adopting Resolution 2022/23-10, to make a finding that the current circumstances meet the requirements of AB361 and Government Code 54953 for Walden Academy to conduct meetings remotely-Board will review and take action as necessary.

## **Review & Approval of Agenda**

### **Public Comments:**

- COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR - At this time any person wishing to speak to any item not on the agenda will be granted three minutes to make a presentation to the Board of Directors.
- COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS – Any person wishing to speak to any item on the agenda will be granted five minutes to make a presentation to the Board of Directors.

### **Consent Agenda**

Approval of Minutes: November Regular Meeting

Approval of Check Register: November

Approval of Financials: October

Staff: None

Committee Developed Policy/Procedures: None

Revision of Employee Handbook

### **Administrator/Board Member Reports**

Financial Update

Leadership Team Report

PTC Update

Board Member Reports

Planning Committee

### **Discussion/Action Items**

1. 2021-2022 Audited Financial Statement approval (Vanderwaal). Board will review and take action as necessary.
2. Resolution 2022-09: Check Signer Authorization (Vanderwaal). Board will review and take action as necessary.
3. School Environment (Martin). Information and discussion item

### **Closed Session**

1. Succession planning (Board)

### **Pending/Upcoming Items**

1. SPSA

### **Announcements**

1. Next Regular Meeting: Monday January 23, 2023

### **Adjournment**

**Vision:** Creating a Confident Community Passionate About Lifelong Learning.

**Mission:** Walden Academy provides an innovative learning environment that extends beyond the classroom. Science and challenging academics encourage students to collaborate and exceed in all aspects of life, as modeled by family, school, and community.

THE ORDER OF BUSINESS MAY BE CHANGED WITHOUT NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the order of consideration of matters on this agenda may be changed without prior notice.

REASONABLE LIMITATIONS MAY BE PLACED ON PUBLIC TESTIMONY

The Governing Board's presiding officer reserves the right to impose reasonable time limits on public testimony to ensure that the agenda is completed.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY

Pursuant to the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973* and the *Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990*, any individual with a disability who requires reasonable accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting of the Governing Board may request assistance by contacting Walden Academy at 1149 W. Wood Street, Willows, CA 95988, (530)361-6480, or [smaben@waldenacademy.org](mailto:smaben@waldenacademy.org), as far in advance as possible, but no later than 24 hours before the meeting.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information concerning this agenda or for materials relating to this meeting, please contact Walden Academy at 1149 W. Wood Street, Willows, CA 95988, (530)361-6480 or [smaben@waldenacademy.org](mailto:smaben@waldenacademy.org).

# Walden Academy, Inc. Board of Directors' Meeting Agenda

## Monday November 28, 2022, 4:00 p.m. – Regular Meeting

The meeting will be held at the Walden Main Campus, 1149 W. Wood Street, Willows, California

Leadership Team is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2275075886?pwd=K2FPa2xjWnk5WU0rRHZmOEtJNkVFQT09>

Meeting ID: 227 507 5886

Passcode: 005617

One tap mobile

+16694449171,,2275075886#,,,,\*005617# US

+17207072699,,2275075886#,,,,\*005617# US (Denver)

Dial by your location

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 720 707 2699 US

+1 646 931 3860 US

Meeting ID: 227 507 5886

Passcode: 005617

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2275075886?pwd=K2FPa2xjWnk5WU0rRHZmOEtJNkVFQT09>

**Call to Order and Attendance at: 4:05pm**

### Board Members

H. Geroy-**Present via zoom**

S. Maben- **Present**

M. Martin-**Present**

N. Michaud-**Present**

A. Philp-**Present**

### Pledge of Allegiance

#### **Resolution 2022-2023. 02 Remote Teleconferencing: Action Item A. Phils approved 1st, M. 2nd, unanimous**

In response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Governor Newsom signed AB 361 into law, permitting public agencies to continue conducting meetings remotely. Walden Academy Charter School will consider adopting Resolution 2021/22-7, to make a finding that the current circumstances meet the requirements of AB361 and Government Code 54953 for Walden Academy to conduct meetings remotely-Board will

review and take action as necessary.

## **Review & Approval of Agenda**

### **Public Comments:**

- COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR - At this time any person wishing to speak to any item not on the agenda will be granted three minutes to make a presentation to the Board of Directors. B. Boise has asked to speak, but procedurally we need to wait to speak to the comment once on an agenda.
- COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS – Any person wishing to speak to any item on the agenda will be granted five minutes to make a presentation to the Board of Directors.

### **Board Annual Meeting**

- a. Election of Board Treasurer M. Martin will continue to serve as treasurer
- b. Election of Board Secretary N. Michaud will take over as secretary
- c. Election of Sunshine Secretary A. Philp will take over as sunshine secretary
- d. Elect Directors to Lead Committees  
N. Michaud 1st, A. Philps 2nd, unanimous all

### **Consent Agenda**

Approval of Minutes: June Regular Meeting, June Special Meeting, August Special Meeting, October Meeting. (Consent agenda was approved minus the June Regular and June special meeting. A. Philps 1st, N. Michaud 2nd, vote was unanimous) June Special and regular board meeting was recalled by members that were present and minutes were approved by A. Philps 1st, M. Martin 2nd, unanimous vote).

Approval of Check Register: September & October

Approval of Financials: September

Staff: None

Committee Developed Policy/Procedures: None

### **Administrator/Board Member Reports**

Financial Update

Leadership Team Report (Directors report from November. Working on purchasing more food options. Site overview while preparing for safety plan. Learning opportunity grant for students after school learning. Open enrollment begins Jan. 4th. We will have extended the TK program.)

PTC Update (Possibly a mother/son, father, daughter dance. Not as a fundraiser, but a great community event. Teacher/staff appreciation once a month. Alternate Fall fling and drive by dinner possibly with a raffle)

Board Member Reports (M. Martin shared that he has been approached by several parents and wanted to bring up support. A reminder that we have a grievance procedure in our hand book. A reminder that we want everyone to be heard, and happy that parents are attending the meeting. Utmost important is for anonymity of staff and children. M. White responded to the student behavior issue. Believes there has been much improvement. H. Vasquez is concerned about the student environment moving forward with students coming to our school after being expelled from neighboring schools. P. Bobadilla responded and shared that we are documenting everything and how we see an increase in behaviors after coming back from breaks. Believes that society is shifting and not necessarily this school. A. Boise is concerned about a student that has been in her son's class and feels nothing is being done about it and this student has been here for years. A.

Colonico made a statement about the importance of all students feeling safe. Concerned about matrix not meeting the correct consequences. S. Tefs responded that school can skip the steps when safety is concerned. H. Vasquez chose Walden for smaller class size and community feel and doesn't feel that it makes a difference anymore. S. Maben spoke to the meeting attendees about the board circulating through classrooms. P. Bobadilla encouraged parents with concerns to come and speak with him to learn more about how we handle our children with behaviors. The behavior flow chart is welcomed to be improved upon. S. Maben reminded us that we are all on the side of kids. S. Maben suggested that we do some after school gatherings of family's to get to know each other again.

Governance Committee

Planning Committee

### Discussion/Action Items

1. 1st Interim Budget approval (Vanderwaal) (this is our 1st interim budget. Had increases in funding. ELOP funding as well as increase in attendance, art funding and Learning recovery block. We have made adjustments. It is not finalized as of yet. A. Philips 1st, M. Martin 2nd. Unanimously approved.
2. 2021-2022 Audited Financial Statement approval (Vanderwaal). Moved to **Demember Board Agenda.**
3. Resolution 2022-08: Opening a Credit Card (Vanderwaal). (Has been tedious. Easier to pay using a debit card. Will open as a corporation. N. Michaud 1st, M. Martin 2nd, unanimous).
4. Credit Card Policy (Vanderwaal): (Acknowledgement form along with receipt when using personal credit card. A. Philp 1st, M. Martin 2nd, unanimous).
5. 6th Grade Environmental Camp field trip authorization (Leadership). The board will review and take action as necessary. (A. Colonico, field trip will include herbatology, SEL component, focus on their strengths, visit the ocean, focus on standards, 3 nights, 4 days Feb. 28th - March 3, 2023, 2 adults paid for along with teacher. PTC already paid \$2000. One fundraiser just ended adding \$1000 S. Maben 1st, N. Michaud 2nd, unanimous)
6. BP 6173.1: Education for Foster Youth (Leadership). (funding received so students needs are met through education and can continue to attend Walden. A. Philp 1st, M. Martin 2nd, unanimous vote.)
7. 2021-22 End of Year GCBOE presentation (Leadership). Information only.
8. Legal update from Young, Minney and Corr (Leadership). Information only.
9. School environment (Martin). Discussion item.

### Closed Session

1. Succession planning (Board)
  - Send survey to staff
  - Create a survey for parents

**Report out of Closed Session any action taken.**

### Pending/Upcoming Items

1. None

### Announcements

1. Next Regular Meeting: Monday December 12, 2022

**Adjournment 5:50pm**

**Vision:** Creating a Confident Community Passionate About Lifelong Learning.

**Mission:** Walden Academy provides an innovative learning environment that extends beyond the classroom. Science and challenging academics encourage students to collaborate and exceed in all aspects of life, as modeled by family, school, and community.

THE ORDER OF BUSINESS MAY BE CHANGED WITHOUT NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the order of consideration of matters on this agenda may be changed without prior notice.

REASONABLE LIMITATIONS MAY BE PLACED ON PUBLIC TESTIMONY

The Governing Board's presiding officer reserves the right to impose reasonable time limits on public testimony to ensure that the agenda is completed.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY

Pursuant to the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973* and the *Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990*, any individual with a disability who requires reasonable accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting of the Governing Board may request assistance by contacting Walden Academy at 1149 W. Wood Street, Willows, CA 95988, (530)361-6480, or [smaben@waldenacademy.org](mailto:smaben@waldenacademy.org), as far in advance as possible, but no later than 24 hours before the meeting.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information concerning this agenda or for materials relating to this meeting, please contact Walden Academy at 1149 W. Wood Street, Willows, CA 95988, (530)361-6480 or [smaben@waldenacademy.org](mailto:smaben@waldenacademy.org).



Walden Academy  
1149 W. Wood St.  
Willows, CA 95988  
(530)361-6480

*Creating a confident community passionate about lifelong learning*

## **Director's Report and LCAP Update**

**December 2022**

*The mission of Walden Academy is to provide an innovative learning environment that extends beyond the classroom. Science and challenging academics encourage students to collaborate and exceed in all aspects of life as modeled by family, school, and community.*

**I. LCAP Goal 1:** Through the implementation of state academic content, performance, and ELD standards, Walden Academy will provide engaging and challenging learning opportunities in a broad course of study emphasizing science and instructed by highly qualified professionals with sufficient instructional material on a well maintained campus.

### **Conditions of Learning**

#### **1. Basic**

##### **A. Credentialed teachers**

Teachers held parent teacher conferences the week before the break.

##### **B. Access to standards-aligned instructional materials**

We continue to provide standards-aligned material to all Walden Academy students.

##### **C. Facilities in good repair**

Mr. Medina continues to take excellent care of our campus. He and Mr. Bobadilla finished the FIT (Facilities Inspection Tool) report in preparation for the SARC.

#### **2. State Standards Implementation---English language development standards and academic content & performance standards**

##### **A. CAASPP preparation**

Teachers will start preparing students for CAASPP testing with interim assessments when we return from the break.

#### **3. Course Access---broad course of study**

##### **Broad Course of Study**

A. Teachers will continue to provide a broad course of study within the classroom.



**II. LCAP Goal 2:** Through the implementation of CCSS, Walden Academy will provide learning opportunities that result in increased academic achievement for all groups of students.

### **Pupil Outcomes**

#### **4. Student Achievement**

- A. Me Time (grades 1-5) and OTI (middle school) resumes on 1/9 after the break.

**III. LCAP Goal 3:** A positive school climate with all stakeholders participating in activities which increase student engagement and parental involvement.

### **Engagement**

**5. Parent Involvement**---*efforts to seek parent input in decision making & parent participation in programs for special need subgroups*

- A. A stakeholder survey went out to parents in November. Due to the low completion rate, I've extended the date for completion 2 weeks ago. Results are attached. In January, we will share responses to comments.
- B. School Site Council (a requirement for schools receiving Title money) met in October and November. Due to a delay in the release of data by the CDE, I'll bring the SPSA to the January meeting.
- C. January 11th is Mad Science. Parents and students come to see what we are doing in the classrooms for math and science. We have invited parents of preschoolers to attend. I will have a booth for the Toolbox Program being implemented in January.
- D. Toolbox Program will be implemented in January for students in grades TK-3. Parent education sessions will be announced later in the week.

#### **6. Pupil Engagement**---*attendance rates/chronic absenteeism*

- A. We sent out 18 attendance warning letters and five 1st letters and 2 second letters and 2 attendance contracts. Mr. Bobadilla and I made one home visit regarding attendance.

#### **7. School Climate**---*suspension/expulsion, school safety & connectedness*

- A. Behavior:  
We continue to use the Walden Academy Behavior Matrix when working with students that struggle with appropriate behavior.
  - 1. Collaboration meetings were held with teaching and aide staff. Each group is working to identify the strengths and weaknesses in regards to students behavior and behavior management at Walden.

- B. Toolbox begins in January. This program is geared towards students in TK-3rd grade and teaches students tools to manage their emotions. We are already seeing progress in the pilot group led by the school psychologist intern, Siera.
- C. Suspensions:  
3 suspensions this year.
- D. CAR<sup>2</sup>ES Store opened up this month.
- E. Sports: Boys and girls basketball this month.
- F. Student Council planned activities for December.
- G. Winter Song Fest for families on December 16th.

### **Current Enrollment**

#### **2022-23:**

<b>TK</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
8	24	28	23	19	21	24	19	13	10

**TOTAL ENROLLMENT for 2022-23: 189**

Additional information:

- A. Open Enrollment TK/K begins January 4-24th. Kinder students must turn 5 before September 1, 2023. We can accept TK students who turn 5 between September 2, 2023 and April 2, 2024.
- B. We are hosting Winter Camp for students on December 19-21 and December 27 & 28 through the Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant. These days will go towards the additional 30 days of learning schools are now required to provide. We will hold camp for 2- 3 days for both the February break and April break. This enables us to support working families and provide academic/recreation/enrichment opportunities for students.
- C. The Transitional Kindergarten Grant Update: Although Walden Academy has offered Transitional Kindergarten for 8 years, we are required now to expand our offerings. We are in the planning stages of preparing for full implementation. At this time, we plan to build a bathroom off room 7 and purchase additional TK size play equipment.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Tefs

# What Matters to You Survey Comments

## November/December 2022-23

### 39 Total Responses

#### 1.What are the pros and cons of a smaller vs a larger middle school?

32 responses

Smaller classrooms,more one on one

Pros- the security and the family friendly environment

A smaller school might have a more personalized approach and the families might have a direct connection with teachers and administrators.

The cons of a small school are the services provided. Bad food, no electives, and no extra curricular activities, not to mention resources.

Pro: more electives, sports

Con: larger class sizes, more expose to drugs and alcohol

Smaller classes

Pro: Teacher to Student ratio. Con: Smaller may have a "paved" playground vs "grass" playground.

Pros of a small middle school:

Smaller teacher to student ratio

More individualized education plan

Closer knit community

Cons of a smaller middle school:

Less diversity of students

Possibly less resources and options for classes

Student relationships issues may be more difficult to resolve

More individual attention in smaller schools. Kids don't get lost in the shuffle

Smaller schools should be able to provide more 1:1 help. Bigger schools provide more social development.

More teacher interaction with students

Smaller classroom size.

Pros: More one on one teaching with each child. Staff know and understand issues that Children are facing. Cons: There are more "click" type issues and less options for children who may have a harder time making friends. If certain children don't get along it is harder for them so physically separate.

There are less extra curricular activities.

I think Walden needs to be TK- 5th.

Our middle school students are not getting the middle school they deserve at this time. I believe our focus needs to be on early childhood education within the earlier grades so they are more prepared for middle school. We don't have the admin support to support our teachers so that they can support our students. When we've perfected the TK-5th grades, providing them with more intervention, discipline and educational support, then I think we can expand with a middle school again.

Less influence ( for students)and more individualized learning if it's smaller.

Less bullying more one on one teaching and learning less extra circulars mainly music

A small school has a safer environment, Academy classes, and closer relationships between students and staff than a big school.

Pros of small school- more individualized attention and education

Small school community- makes you feel part of a group

Kids have opportunity to form close friendships with classmates as they continue to stay together

Cons of small school- not as many opportunities for different friends

If class has kids with behavior issues, it is difficult to continue year after year together in certain situations student to teacher ratio was a big factor in our decision to attend Walden. It was my understanding that every class (up until 5th, I believe) had a teacher and an aid. That was and is very important especially in the young classrooms.

I honestly haven't put a lot of thought into it middle school yet because of the ages of my kids.

Cons is no buses. But pros is that the students get more attention and resources.

Small, more intimate classroom services, help and teacher time; less teacher burnout (just a guess 😊); students and staff all know and care more deeply about each other and their school.

Teachers and staff are able to have good relationships with smaller class sizes and know the kids and families strengths and weaknesses.

I believe if a classroom is smaller that gives each student more space and liberty to do more things and give the teacher more time to focus on each student

The biggest pro for me is the ability to really create a supportive environment for the kids. They are able to receive so much more hands on support from their teachers, and can focus more on academics than socializing. However the lack of a bigger pool of kids means we have more clicky behavior, and some kids will struggle more to find friends than they might with a larger group to pick from. Also a larger middle school offers the ability to get used to multiple teachers, and multiple periods, before heading to highschool. The transition was a big difficult, but black scheduling at the highschool has helped a lot.

Staff tend to know your child better at small schools and there are more eyes on students.

personalized instruction, individualized care, more 1x1,

I don't think Walden should do a middle school but focus more on a K-5

Less kids per teacher. More time for individual learning.

Pros: smaller class size more one on one instruction. Sexually, physically and emotionally safer.

The cons of a larger middle school are that students might get lost or get more tardies due to the larger campus. The pros of a larger middle school are that there could be more classes that students can take to earn more experience and have inspiration to decide what their careers to be when they are older. The cons of a smaller middle school are that the government doesn't fund smaller schools due to the small amount of children attending the school. The pros of a smaller middle school are that there could be a less amount of tardies due to the small campus and the children will have more supervision from the teachers and be safe.

My students get more attention. Discipline can be a little more direct rather than at a class

More focus for individual student needs is available. Closer community.

## **2. What type of electives should Walden provide?**

### **30 responses**

Language, musical theater (not w Mrs otterson), and some sort of cooking or more elaborate arts and craft

Music, art

Spanish

Languages, music/band,

Art, MUSIC

Opportunity to learn a second language (preferably Spanish/Mexican).

Art  
Music  
Language  
Yearbook  
Computer Skills  
Culinary skills  
Resource/ Study Skills

Some kind of music or instruments, art, sewing

Art, music , library,

Theater

Technology driven, life skills, student to student mentorship programs.

I think this is something that the children should get to have a say in. I would like to see a poll of what electives the students want.

Music, art class, an actual PE teacher...

Consumer Math 10/10

Music and band

Geography class, PE, and teamwork skill

Woodshop is a fun elective for boys. Sign language. Maybe some art electives. Photography.

Yearbook

Agriculture, home economic type classes, physical activities and also an opportunity class for kids who may be falling behind or disruptive to their class. There should be a place for disruptive children to go who are interfering with the students trying to learn, especially for teachers who do not have aids for support. Someone needs to be free to TEACH.

Art

gardening

foreign language

No sure

Baseball

Weight training, creative writing, public speaking

Music! Also art, possibly a language? I'd love to see more options that get kids thinking of their future.

Cooking, foreign languages, gardening, storytelling through art, photography, yoga, other athletics  
art, sports, computer science,

Band

Foreign language, Art, Health Class/Human Anatomy, Basic Life Skills, i.e cooking, sewing, etc.

The types of electives that Walden should take are music, a variety of different clubs, art, extra machines and English classes.

music, art, stem

Art, Life Skills(Sewing, Cooking, Etc.)

### 3. What do you know about Responsive Classroom methods?

27 responses

Nothing

I know that it is the classroom management system adapted by Walden

A lot

Good

Not sure what this is.

It's a way for the class and teacher to start and end the day on a positive note. It also includes brain breaks and movement for the class in order for them to stay focused and on task.

A focus on social-emotional learning and they consider the whole child not just academics

I don't know much about it. I just know my child's teacher is doing a wonderful job in keeping the same values in the classroom that we have at home for her.

It's based on social emotional learning, teaching, empathy, responsibility, self control and in doing so children will treat others the same way creating a safe fun learning environment where they can fulfill their learning potential.

A different approach to learning. Combining academics, community, and effective classroom management

Great a safe and supportive environment in the classroom and communities.

I don't know a lot about responsive classroom

I don't

NA

Social and emotional support and learning.

Student centered and lead ideas

I know they created a safe no nonsense environment

I have not studied it, however, my understanding is that it is an approach to teaching/learning that takes into account both academics and socio-emotional learnings.

that it is used in the classrooms everyday and a tool

It is a different way to talk to students and help them speak up for themselves

Not sure

RC is supposed to create safe, happy and engaging classrooms. Also should be focusing on mindfulness, emotional wellbeing, etc.

These methods teach discipline and ways to learn better.

I am probably aware of the things but not in a the framework of Responsive Classroom methods

I know all the basics. I know mostly all that there is to know, and continue to refresh myself by watching videos, or reading articles.

#### 4. What do you know about our C.A.R.E.S philosophy?

26 responses

Cooperation,respect,assertion

I know that this is how we encourage our children to built character

A lot

Good

Love it!

It's a way for students to focus on positive character traits.

Yes

Cooperation, Respect, Responsibility, there's a new focus at the end of each month

It's a good incentive for children to do the best thing in every situation to hopefully get caught a get a cares ticket. They all want to buy from the student store.

Yes, cooperation, assertiveness, responsibility (and respect), empathy, self-control

It is a positive acronym reminding/motivating students staff and community to implement core values into children

Care

I know what CARES stands for and I like that awards are given for kids who demonstrate these.

Just what it stands for.

I know what it stands for.

It is a rule or policy about showing respect to others and success.

Cooperation, assertion, respect, responsibility, empathy, and self-control

I know that I love it!!! Love the idea !!

I love the cares philosophy, anything that encourages kindness and also assertiveness is awesome in my book.

These are character traits being cultivated in our children.

that it is how we enforce character in the classrooms and school

I know what it stands for and that they are talked about each month then an award is given.

I dont remember what these stand for but I do remember the philosophy and I like it.

COMPASSION ASSERTIVENESS RESPECT.... the other two letters not so sure. I also believe it is a reward system for kiddos to be kind to each other. (but now I see them below).

Each letter stands for a quality that you would like to see in the students.

I know all the words, and definitions. I know how to apply it and remind students to use cooperation, assertion, respect/responsibility, empathy, and self control.

#### 5.What are your academic priorities?

31 responses

Good grades, goals for future

Reading and history

High quality teaching w 21century approach and technology, high children engagement, and grade level achievement

Meeting standards, ready for high school by tue end of 8th grade

Reading, writing and arithmetic NO CRT

For our children to get the best education, in the best academic environment available.

My hope is that by the end of the year my child is proficient in all grade level standards.

For him to learn and pass

Praising my child on the smallest wins with her education. Also That my child is being taught a way she can remember. Each and every single child learns differently and to respect the way they learn and find ways to help them.

Math, Read, Science, Writing

My child is very competitive academically and my priorities are to remind her to be respectful in the classroom and support her in whatever she would like to succeed. I believe this would also be the job of the school and together we will have a successful child.

Attaining an academic environment that is conducive to excelling academically, as well as socially

That each teacher has at least one aid, we have a stronger intervention plan and discipline plan for students. Following through on discipline rules.

Our teachers can't teach when they are constantly having to handle discipline within the classroom without support from our admin. Keeping class sizes small.

I prefer my children to enjoy learning about a multitude of subjects that will genuinely apply to real life. Interest motivates learning and positive behavior

Education and fostering creativity

Math and project design

High academic standards for kids. More science and arts. Opportunity for kids of all levels to be pushed and encouraged to do their best. Discipline outside the classroom from admin that would allow teachers to be able to teach and not to have to take away from the other kids in doing so.

Organized classrooms are something that are important to me so that students can learn organizational skills themselves for their own future success.

Reading, writing and Math

My academic priorities are keeping as calm of a learning environment as possible.

For my boys to do well in school both behavioral and academic

I hope he graduates...kindergarten. 😊 Maybe learns to write a little.

Learning proper note taking techniques early.

For my son to learn as much possible

Making sure we teach the kids where they ARE not where the state thinks they should be.

Interventions have really helped here.

Ideally I would like my son to excel in all academics while also learning the skills needed to transition into adulthood successfully; how to work with others and manage his own behaviors. I've seen a remarkable improvement in his assertiveness since starting school this year.

that my child is learning at their level and that eventually the child is at level.

To have small groups to help push students that need extra help and to meet students where they are at and not just think all kids learn the same.

Math, reading, comprehension, writing

For my child to succeed in ELA, Math, Science and to be prepared for college and the real world.

I want to see students learning the basics. But also being held to produce results. Not just play time.

I like to meet students where they are at and help them reach their goals. It is important that all students receive equal learning opportunities.



## 6. What academic and character traits should a student have by 8th grade?

### 24 responses

Confident, hard worker, meet standards

They should be academically ready for highschool but they should also be prepared with 21 st century skills and life skills. They should be prepared for life beyond the classroom

Academic: meeting standards in math and English, be able to excel in individual and group learning

Character: problem solving, motivation

The ability to move forward to High School with confidence and knowledge to succeed and/fairly compete with their peers.

They should be meet or exceed all academic standards, show respect, responsibility, integrity towards themselves and other. Most importantly they should be a well rounded person.

Study skills, ability to learn and comprehend, respect for others and the rules

I have a first grader. I can't answer this.

Responsible, self motivated, curiosity, good team member, leadership, maturity, problem solving

They should be able to read, write and test at state level for 8th grade. They should also have some experience with keeping time. The only reason my husband and I consider taking our child out of Walden in 7th grade is because we worry about her going from Walden to the highschool and having to have all the classroom changes. Maybe if there was some practice with accountability and time in 7th and 8th grade to prepare our children?

Works well in group settings, openly questions ideas and beliefs, enjoys trying new ways and things, is able to work and keep attention focused for longer periods of time. Gets board easier if not challenged.

Strong GE foundation, Grit, a plan for what to do after HS (so appropriate classes are chosen),

Independence

Studies habits and management skills. How to make a good choice and be responsible.

Making kids responsible for their own education and actions is a big one for me. Responsibility and respect are big. Also teaching kids empathy is very important.

responsibility, kindness, empathy

Being at grade level and being able to get along with their peers complete work without being redirected all the time.

Respect and value

Good study habits, being a good human

The ability to write a detailed essay with slides. The ability to research on their own, and translate that research into their own words. Learning to be more self sufficient and responsible for their own assignments and behavior.

life skills, 21st century skills, general knowledge to be on their own, how to cook, clean, wash clothes, dishes, clock in/ out, write a check and balance checkbooks, pay bills,

Fully understand each subject before graduating and respect towards the teachers.

Academic: Reading comprehension and retention, note taking skills, test taking skills, Character: Honesty, Respect, Empathy, Assertiveness, Compassion.

He should be competent and confident to enter high school. By 8th grade, a student must be exposed to challenge in each subject so that high school doesn't scare them.

Students should have comprehension, fluency, and good arithmetic skills. Behaviorally should have the C.A.R.E.S. philosophy down and be able to apply it to their daily life.

**7. What type of parent workshops or information would you be interested in?  
(Example -Computer Literacy, parenting information, What If presentation,  
Career readiness)**

**21 responses**

Career readiness, life skills

If your child is not at grade level, what can you do?

How to raise responsible children, resources for better parenting

N/a

Help with student learning, parenting info ,

CPR

Computer literacy

Cyber awareness for parents, how to successfully talk to teens/preteens about the danger of drugs.

I would like to see our discipline rules and guidelines formally presented to the parents. I'd like Walden admin to take the time to listen to student, teacher, and parents concerns about discipline and safety on campus.

Electives brainstorming

Parenting support

Identify children 's strengths.

Parenting info, current issues in Glenn county regarding kids like when the assistant DA came

Parent informs for the children struggling to perform in class. If your child is aggressive or disruptive so many times you are requested to come and receive information on dealing with those issues at home to make classroom time more useful.

Parenting information

I'd love to see the school offer the option to take classes helping parents learn the new math methods, especially for you get kids who can't remember how to do the work once they're home.

I would enjoy hearing about any available.

anything that would help my child be a good human in the world

None

More info on Responsive Classroom. Community awareness of the realities of Fentanyl OD & misuse of Rx drugs, etc. Annual "What if" with the latest internet/social media threats, human trafficking, etc.

Parenting info

career readiness

**8. Thank you for your time. If there is anything else you'd like to share with us,  
please add it below. 12 responses**

Thankful for Walden, being closely involved with academics, feedback from teachers ,caring about all students,goals

My husband and I are very impressed with Walden coming from a public school. The teacher to parent communication, school security, rules and overall environment is a huge blessing.

We LOVE Walden and their academic approach to teaching our children. We also love the opportunity to get as involved with school activities whenever we like.

I would like to see us go back to enrichment Wednesday. Even if that means extending the day back to 1:30.

The school needs to be more positive as a whole. Celebrate students small achievements. Make students feel like they belong. They should be more open to not isolating children who have learning and behavioral difficulties. Maybe looking into having aides in the classroom at the start of the year to help students who seem to be struggling.

I believe that Walden is at a crossroads and I feel like the staff and teachers are not being supported. We are going to lose good teachers and students if we do not stick to the foundation values of what Walden was built upon and hold high standards for academics AND BEHAVIOR. Our class sizes need to remain small. Our teachers deserve a full time aid in their classroom. We can't go on saying that we have no issues with students at board meetings. Students and teachers are likely not reporting because they aren't being supported. We need to enforce detention, suspension and expulsion for those students who are in need of it. When we don't, to me personally it just says that all our admin cares about is the dollar per student they earn. Stop opening the door to new students when our class sizes are already big enough. I think that Walden would benefit from losing the middle school grades. Allowing more intensive focus on our earlier grades so we can better prepare them for middle school, academically and emotionally.

One suggestion for the Good Morning Walden is to do away with class chants because it's something the teachers have to take time out of their learning time to do. It's one more thing each month that they have to do. Also to hand out attendance awards within classrooms rather than take that time at the GMW. Parents and families want to come for their children's awards but feel like they are taking too long. Also many parents seemed frustrated that they received messages that their children were receiving an award and then it was either perfect attendance or honor roll. They took time out of work. Maybe let parents know what the award is for when they are messaged.

Classroom behaviors this year and last year are a big concern for us. Would like to know better how these things are being handled.

1. As a Parent to young children: small classroom sizes with a teacher and an aid in classes k-5. Two second grade classrooms, if we combine the current two 1st grade classes it will too large with too many distractions.
2. A designated class "opportunity class" for kids falling behind or interfering with other students learning.

I love so many great things about Walden and I love the staff, connections between teachers/classrooms and family like closeness of the school. I think it has great potential for our students to thrive. There are a few concerns I have that I think if worked out could be amazing for Walden.

My main concern for right now is that I think first grade needs a full-time aide in both classes.

I'm very interested in hearing a plan for next year's second grade classroom. I would really like to see 2 classes.

I'm concerned about the discipline and behavioral issues. It concerns me how much learning can happen for my the children when the classroom is short on aide help. I really think the teachers need more support for these early and important years in our children's learning. I also think the teachers could have more time and energy for our children if they're less distracted.

I've talked about the idea of an opportunity classroom with a few other parents and we agreed that could possibly be a great change for Walden.

Love all the support and genuine interest in my kids success and future!

My husband and I feel blessed to have our son at Walden 😊

\*\*\*\*Walden really needs to prioritize and increase PE in all grades for a minimum of 30 min to benefit mind and body. Recess is not PE. They should be running the mile, pushups, pullups, situps, etc.\*\*\*\*  
CARES & Responsive Classroom methods should be included in Family & Volunteer Handbook and on the Walden Website.

**WALDEN ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL**  
**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-23. 10**  
**AUTHORIZING USE OF REMOTE TELECONFERENCING PROVISION (AB 361)**

**WHEREAS, Walden Academy** ("Governing Board") is committed to open and transparent government, and full compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act ("Brown Act"); and

**HEREAS,** the Brown Act generally requires that a public agency take certain actions in order to use teleconferencing to attend a public meeting virtually; and

**WHEREAS,** the Governing Board recognizes that a local emergency persists due to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS,** the California Legislature has recognized the ongoing state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic and has responded by creating an additional means for public meetings to be held via teleconference (inclusive of internet-based virtual meetings); and

**WHEREAS,** on September 16, 2021, the California legislature passed Assembly Bill ("AB") 361, which amends Government Code, section 54953 and permits a local agency to use teleconferencing to conduct its meetings in any of the following circumstances: (A) the legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency, and state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; (B) the legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency for the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; or (C) the legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency and has determined, by majority vote, pursuant to subparagraph (B), that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; and

**WHEREAS,** in order for the Governing Board to use teleconferencing as allowed by AB 361 after October 1, 2021, it must first adopt findings in a resolution, allowing the Governing Board to conduct teleconferenced meetings for a period of thirty (30) days; and

**WHEREAS,** Governor Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency for the State of California due to the COVID-19 pandemic in his order entitled "Proclamation of a State of Emergency," signed March 4, 2020; and

**WHEREAS,** the Governing Board hereby finds that the state and local emergencies have caused and will continue to cause imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; and

**WHEREAS,** the Governing Board is conducting its meetings through the use of telephonic and internet-based services so that members of the public may observe and

**WALDEN ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL  
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-23. 10  
AUTHORIZING USE OF REMOTE TELECONFERENCING PROVISION (AB 361)**

participate in meetings and offer public comment.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the recitals set forth above are true and correct and fully incorporated into this Resolution by reference.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Governing Board has determined that given the state of emergency, holding in-person meetings would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the actions taken by the Governing Board through this Resolution may be applied to all Board committees governed by the Brown Act unless otherwise desired by that committee.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Governing Board authorizes the Superintendent or their designee(s) to take all actions necessary to conduct Governing Board meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and all other applicable provisions of the Brown Act, using teleconferencing for a period of thirty (30) days from the adoption of this Resolution, after which the Governing Board will reconsider the circumstances of the state of emergency.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by Walden Academy Charter School on this 12th day of December, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES

NOES

ABSENT

ABSTAIN

---

Sera Maben, Board Chair

---

Suzanne Tefs, School Director