

WALSH MIDDLE SCHOOL

3850 Walsh Ranch Blvd.
Round Rock, Texas 78681
(512) 704-0800
Fax: (512) 704-0940
Web Site: www.roundrockisd.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

People to know:

Toni Hicks	Principal
Ryan Smith	Assistant Principal
Shannon Cunningham	Assistant Principal
Carol Tremaine	Counselor
Katherine Pimental	Counselor
Sherry Chambless	Nurse
Lori Loranger	Librarian
Summer Neary	Instructional Technology Specialist
Noreen Brock	ARD Facilitator
Kelly Barrow	Registrar
Kim Johnston	Attendance
Elyse O'Desky	Principal's Administrative Associate
Correne Sucrese	Assistant Principals' Administrative Assistant
Teresa Acosta	Receptionist
Sherry Elizalde	Cafeteria Manager

School Hours for Students

8:20 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

School Hours for Office

7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. M – Th, 7:45 – 4:00 Friday

School Mascot

Wildcat

School Colors

Green and Gold

School Phone Number

704-0800

Attendance Phone Number

704-0803

Bus Information

RRISD Webpage – www.roundrockisd.org

Click on Student/Parent tab

Scroll down: Transportation & Demographic
Information: Mouse over to School and Bus
Route Locator

ASSIGNMENT PLANNERS

All Walsh students are encouraged to use a daily assignment planner. Assignment planners are an excellent tool to organize and remember assignments, classroom projects, and tests. Additionally, the planner notebooks can be a powerful communication tool between parents and teachers. Specially designed Walsh assignment planners are available for \$5.00.

ATTENDANCE

It is expected that all students attend school daily; however, in the event of an illness, emergency or appointments during the school day, the following procedures should be observed:

1. For an absence, please call the school attendance office after 7:45 a.m. to report the absence. Upon return, please have your child bring a note to the attendance window indicating the reason for the absence.
2. If a student needs to leave for an appointment during the school day, please send a note stating the time the student needs to be dismissed from class. Students should present the note to the attendance office at 8:15 a.m. where the student will be given a class dismissal pass. Students will report to the front office to meet their parent/guardian at the time designated on the note. **A PARENT/GUARDIAN MUST SIGN THE STUDENT OUT AT THE MAIN OFFICE BEFORE LEAVING THE BUILDING.**
3. While the above procedures are designed to ease the checkout process, the office staff strongly recommends that parents avoid the afternoon “rush hour” when scheduling appointments. During the last 15 minutes of any school day, traffic around the school starts to build up with the congestion of arriving buses and personal vehicles competing for parking spaces and road access. In the office, last minute arrangements also often infringe on the ability of office staff to send student summons messages to classrooms. We appreciate your cooperation during the end of day “rush hour.” **(Please, if at all possible, DO NOT schedule appointments during TAKS testing.)**
4. If you need to get a message to your child during the school day, please give all messages to the front office prior to your child’s lunchtime. We will make every attempt to deliver messages during your child’s lunchtime. In order to preserve your child’s learning, instructional time will not be interrupted for messages.

The first school bell rings at 8:15 a.m., and the instructional day begins promptly at 8:20 a.m. Students will have 5 minutes to get to their first class and 4 minutes between all other class periods. Having all students in class on time increases valuable learning time for our students and your help is both needed and appreciated. The Walsh faculty and staff are strongly committed to providing each and every student the best education possible. With that in mind, we ask your commitment in ensuring that your son/daughter is at school in his/her classroom on time each day and every class period. Tardiness to class can result in both academic and disciplinary consequences.

The Walsh tardy policy is enforced on a per semester basis with the following disciplinary consequences:

5th Tardy	D-Hall/Parent Notification
10th Tardy*	3 Days D-Hall/Parent Notification
15th Tardy	Saturday D-Hall/Parent Notification
20th Tardy	2 Saturday D-Halls/Parent Notification

10 or more tardies are considered excessive and may result in loss of locker privileges and/or passing periods. Parents may be requested to escort their child to class.

*Any student who accumulates 10 or more tardies prior to any school dance will be ineligible to attend the next dance.

In addition to the tardy policy, Walsh administration may hold a “tardy freeze” to reinforce the importance of prompt attendance. There may be consequences for students who are late to class during a tardy freeze.

Thank you for your assistance in addressing this very important life skill. We value your partnership with us and your efforts in helping us promote the importance of school and learning.

BACKPACKS / BOOK BAGS

Backpacks may be used to transport necessary school items to and from school but may not be taken from class to class. Backpacks must be stored in a school locker during the school day. Small, see-through/mesh, backpacks are permissible. Should you wish to purchase a Walsh logo backpack, it will be available for purchase during schedule pick-up.

Note: **No backpacks / book bags are allowed on the last day of school.**

CAFETERIA

Both breakfast and lunch are served daily. Breakfast begins at 8:00 at a cost of \$1.35. Lunch is served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at a cost of \$2.30 for students and \$2.60 for adults. Cafeteria procedures and rules will be discussed with all students, and failure to follow these policies may result in lunch detention or administrative disciplinary consequences.

Meal Accounts:

Students have an account in the cafeteria that they access by scanning their student identification card. Money may be added to their account on the first day of the school week. Once the money is added to the account, the student may not withdraw money unless they transfer from school or it is the last day of school. Students will not be able to make change or loans in the office.

Students may not “charge” their lunch. Cheese sandwiches with milk will be available for those who have forgotten their lunch or lunch money.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding cafeteria services, contact our cafeteria manager.

Vending Machines:

Vending machines with nutritional drinks are available for student use after school only. According to new state guidelines vending machines are only available after school. Excessive trash and/or violation of school rules/policies may result in suspension of vending machine privileges. The school is not responsible for loss of money in the vending machines.

CLUBS/ORGANIZATIONS

There are numerous opportunities for students to participate in clubs and organizations throughout the school year. All students are eligible to become a member of a club and/or organization if they meet the criteria as specified by that club/organization. For a list of available clubs, please visit our webpage under the "Extra Curricular Activities" link. Club meeting dates and times are announced days in advance during announcements. More information will be given to students along with phone numbers of the sponsors if you should have further questions. Cheerleading is available to all students entering into 8th grade. Information on eligibility criteria will be shared second semester of their 7th grade year.

COMMUNICATION

Communication between school and home is essential. In an effort to ensure that written communication from us will be received by you, we will make every attempt to send all written information home on the same day of the week. (This information will include report cards, interim progress reports, newsletters, important notices, etc.) Please ask your son and/or daughter every Thursday evening if they received any information that should be shared with you. General information such as permission slips, invitations to school-wide events, etc. is also available to be downloaded from our webpage under the link "Backpack".

Please join the Walsh e-news. We also send a copy of all information home via email. The Principal's newsletters are sent via email. To register for e-news, please go to the following website <http://www.roundrockisd.org/home/index.asp?page=124>

It is our hope that as you and our students become familiar with this routine, you will be more aware of the events at Walsh and feel more connected with your child's middle school. (NOTE: If Thursday is a school holiday, information will be sent home on the first day back following the Thursday holiday.)

DANCES

Throughout the school year, dances will be held. The first dance, which occurs in September, is a little different than the others. The dance for sixth grade students will be held immediately after school, and students will wear the clothes they wore to school that day. That dance will be from 4:00 to 5:30. Immediately following will be the dance for 7th and 8th grade students that will be held from 6:30-8:30.

All other dances are held on Friday evenings from 6:30-8:30. Doors will close at 7:00. Any student remaining at school after 8:45 will be prohibited from attending future dances. **Dress will be Sunday dress, good jeans or dresses, skirts of appropriate length, etc. No hats or**

backpacks will be allowed. Any student not able or willing to follow dance rules will be asked to leave and may not attend future dances.

Permission slips to be signed by the student and the parent/guardian will come home preceding each dance. These permission slips will provide specific information about the dance and will need to be returned when the student purchases the dance ticket on the day of the dance.

Dance Dates:

Welcome Back	September 25 th
Fall	October 23 rd
Winter	December 11 th
Valentine	February 12 th
Spring	April 30 th
Eighth Grade	May 21 st

Eligibility Requirements

- Must be a Walsh student
- Must adhere to the RRISD dress code
- Must have no overdue library book and/or outstanding fines
- Must not have received a discipline referral during a two week period preceding and including the day of the dance
- Must be at school on the day of the dance
- Must not have 10 or more tardies prior to any dance

DISCIPLINE

It is our goal to provide a safe, positive and nurturing learning environment for all students at Walsh Middle School. To this end, the faculty, staff, students, and parents of our community have established high expectations for all students regarding commitment to academic progress and appropriate school behaviors. If your student chooses not to meet the school behavior guidelines and policies, he/she will be subject to disciplinary action. These actions include administrative after school detention(s), in-school suspension, out of school suspension, and removal to the RRISD disciplinary alternative education program.

A safe and orderly campus is the responsibility of everyone. We greatly depend on our student body and community to help us in being aware of potential violations of school behaviors. Our goal is to prevent and intervene before an incident occurs. The below system was developed with the input of parents and students to help us in achieving our goal.

Should a student feel as though someone is violating our school behaviors, they may make a report by doing one of the following:

- Tell a teacher;
- Complete an incident report form that is available from any teacher, gym locker room and in the office area. The form then needs to be returned to the office or a teacher who will then turn the report into the office.

Should your child come home and tell you of an incident that you would like to bring to the attention of administration, you and/or child may make a report by doing one of the following:

- Call an assistant principal at one of the numbers listed on the first page of this handbook;
- Complete an incident report form that is available on our webpage under the link “Backpack” and emailing it to an assistant principal.

General information:

- Not all incident reports will result in parent notification. Many middle school behaviors are resolved through discussion and problem-solving.
- Administration will call parents should the incident involve physical contact.
- Administration visits with grade level teams at the beginning of the year to discuss appropriate behavior and how to make a report.
- An incident report form is NOT a disciplinary form. A disciplinary form can only be completed by a staff member.

Along with this information, your student is bringing home a copy of the Student-Parent Handbook and Student Code of Conduct. This handbook provides important information regarding school rules and procedures developed by RRISD to provide the best learning environment for each student. **Please read this publication carefully, discuss it thoroughly with your child, return the signature page (last page) no later than Friday, August 28 and keep the handbook at home for future reference.**

DRESS CODE

There is a close relationship between high standards of dignity and pride and proper grooming; therefore, Walsh Middle School adheres to the dress code found in the Student Code of Conduct. Dress code violations may result in disciplinary consequences. PLEASE BUY SCHOOL CLOTHING WITH CARE. Modesty will be the dominant feature in all clothes. Routine dress code checks will be conducted regularly throughout the school year, and students will be expected to be in compliance. The length of shorts is a particular concern and will be monitored.

GRADING

90 – 100 = A	70 – 74 = D
80 – 89 = B	Below 70 = F
75 – 79 = C	

Interim Progress Reports

ALL students will receive an interim progress report after three weeks of a grading period. The exact grade will be reflected on the IPR which gives the parent and student(s) an account of their academic progress in every subject at the end of the third instructional week.

If a student’s grades or behavior drops severely, parents will be notified via email, note home and/or phone call. Parents should never learn that their child did not pass or had a difficulty (either academic or behavior) when they receive their child’s report card.

Return Procedures for IPRs and Report Cards

- Day One: Due Date No Consequences. Reminder is given to bring copy back signed.
- Day Two: Warning that detention will be assigned the next day.
- Day Three: If a student doesn't return the signed copy, a 15 minute detention will be written that doesn't have to be served if the signed copy is returned the next day with the signed detention slip. If the copy is not returned, then the parent is called.
- Day Four: If the signed copy is not returned, the student serves the 15 minute detention and is informed that tomorrow he/she will receive a discipline referral.
- Day Five: If your signed copy is still not returned, the student must be referred to the grade level assistant principal.

Grade Requirements

We encourage students to participate in extra-curricular and school-sponsored activities. Hand in hand with that participation is classroom performance. For many extra curricular activities, classroom performance requirements are strictly enforced.

Grade Maintenance Requirements:

Student Council

- No grade below a 70.
- Monitored at six-week intervals.

Cheerleaders

- No grade below a 70.
- Monitored on a weekly basis during football season, by six weeks thereafter.

U.I.L. Activities

- No grade below a 70.
- Monitored on a three-week grading period. In addition, students will be monitored on a weekly basis.

NJHS

- Must maintain a 93 overall average each six weeks.
- Monitored on a six-week basis. The principal is the final authority to determine eligibility status.

HOMework/LATE WORK POLICY

In an effort to ensure success for all students and because we believe that every assignment contributes to that success, the following is the homework/late work policy.

The assignment is due on the day assigned. Should an assignment be turned in late, points will be deducted each day the assignment is late.

As all assignments are important to determine the level of understanding, students may be required to miss an elective and/or stay after school to complete any missing assignments.

LOCKERS

All students will be assigned a locker with a built in combination lock. Combinations will be given to the students at the beginning of the school year. Lockers should be kept locked at all times, and locker “setting” is not permitted. Students are **not to share lockers with another student at any time.** Any locker problems, combination problems, or other locker related concerns should be shared with the student’s teacher or the front office personnel. Tape, glue, or writing of any kind will not be allowed on lockers. **Locker decorations for special events will need prior approval from an administrator.** Lockers are the property of Round Rock ISD and loaned to students for use. **Failure to follow all locker procedures may result in loss of locker privileges.** Authorized personnel have access to lockers at any time.

Note: Students should take home all personal possessions from their lockers on the day before the last day of the school year. **Students will not have access to their lockers on the last day of school.**

NURSE

Students may see the school nurse for illness or an injury received at school. Students must have a pass from their teacher, and may not go to the nurse between classes unless it is an emergency (i.e., difficulty to breathe or profuse bleeding). **Students with a fever of 100 degrees or more are not allowed in school. Additionally, students must be free of fever for 24 hours before returning to school.**

Medical Needs:

Please notify the nurse as soon as possible if your child has a medical need, such as diabetes, seizure disorder, heart or kidney problems, or severe allergic reactions.

We typically have a very large number of students coming to the clinic. We would like to enlist your help in preventing this from becoming a problem. Certainly we want to see the children to which we can be of some service, but if many come who only want a break from class, it will make it very difficult to devote adequate time to those students really in need of our help. We have listed some suggestions of things for which we can and for which we cannot be of service. We think that if you will share these guidelines with your child, we will be able to provide better health care for the students.

EXAMPLES OF WHAT TO SEND TO THE CLINIC

Any rash
Red eyes
Itching scalp-possible lice
Specific complaint of headache, stomach, dizziness, etc.
Flushed cheeks, warm skin-possible fever
Any fall which could have caused injury
Bleeding cuts or open wounds requiring a bandage

EXAMPLES OF WHAT NOT TO SEND TO THE CLINIC

Paper cuts and old scratches
Scabbed over abrasions
Splinters-we cannot remove them
Aspirin requests-we can only provide a student with medicine that the child has on file in the clinic with proper documentation
Sleepy, fatigue-we do not have facilities to let children sleep
Sewing-clinic personnel do not repair torn clothing

We hope that these guidelines will be of help to you. Of course, this is only a guide. Please feel free to discuss any special problems with clinic personnel.

Immunizations:

The state of Texas has instituted immunization requirements which may affect your child's enrollment. **Prior to the student's 12th birthday**, students must have 2 measles vaccines, 1 dose of varicella for children born between 9-2-1988 and 9-1-1994 (a history of chickenpox illness is also acceptable), and 3 doses of Hepatitis B if born after 9-2-1988, but before 9-1-1992. A Tetanus/Diphtheria booster is required 10 years from the last booster. There are several local community agencies available for free/reduced immunizations.

Medicine Policy:

Students are not allowed to carry medications on campus AT ANY TIME. Parents should bring all medications to the nurse's office in their original containers at the first school bell. All medications must be accompanied by a written parent permission note and instructions for school administration of the medicine. Asthma inhalers must have doctor documentation and parent permission for a student to self medicate.

STUDENT DROP-OFF/PICK-UP PROCEDURES

Morning Drop-off:

The school building opens at 7:45 a.m. Students may await the 8:15 a.m. bell in the cafeteria or on the commons area. The library opens at 7:50 a.m. for a limited number of students each morning. **Note: Each Wednesday morning all faculty members are involved in meetings, therefore students are not allowed in classrooms/hallways.**

Car riders should be dropped off on the north side of the school (next to Behrends Pkwy). Bus riders will be dropped off on the south side of the building (near the gym.) For safety reasons, **students should not be dropped off behind the building.** Car riders may be picked up on the north side of the school OR the front of the school. Car drivers should adhere to the following

procedures to ensure the safety of all students:

1. Remain in a single line along the curb on the side of the building (side and front in the afternoons). Attempting to form a second/outside lane of cars will require children to walk between vehicles and create a safety hazard. If you need to enter the building, please park in a designated parking area.
2. After you have dropped off or picked up your child, please exit through the driveway slowly and carefully.

Bike Riders:

If your child rides a bike to school, please remind him/her to walk his/her bike across the street **WITH A CROSSING GUARD/CROSSWALK**. Bikes may not be ridden in the school parking lot or on campus sidewalks.

Students may use chain locks to secure their bike to the bike rack. U-Locks are not permitted.

Roller blades, Skateboards, Scooters, and Roller skates: District policy prohibits any roller blades, skateboards, scooters, and/or roller skates on any RRISD campus. Please do not allow your student to bring them to school for ANY reason. If your child is a member of the skateboarding club, they may bring their skateboard ONLY on club meeting days.

OPEN HOUSES

You are invited to attend Walsh Open House and the Walsh Book Fair on:

Tuesday, September 15th

6:00 p.m.-PTA General Meeting (cafeteria)

6:30 p.m.-Meet teachers/walk schedule

Please join us for the opportunity to support our outstanding PTA as well as meet your child's teachers. (Please note that this event does not provide adequate time to conference with your child's teachers. Teachers must be back bright and early the next morning to greet our children!)

SCHOOL PICTURES

Individual school pictures will be taken during the regular school day on September 30th. Information will be sent home with your child as soon as it is made available by the photographer.

Wildcat Notes Signature Page

Print Student's Name:	Grade:
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Student Signature:	Date:
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This is to verify that I have received a copy of the Wildcat Notes. I understand that I will be held accountable for the contents of this booklet.

Parent/Guardian Signature:	Date:
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As a parent/guardian of the above named student, I understand that the Wildcat Notes contains specific information, policies, and guidelines about Walsh that are important for me to discuss with my son/daughter. I understand that my child and I will be held accountable for the contents of this booklet.