

**GEORGE
WALTON
COMPREHENSIVE
HIGH SCHOOL
FROM
A TO Z**



WALTON HIGH SCHOOL

PARENT TEACHER STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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 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



Walton A to Z

Frequently used links in this handbook:

- [Academic Planning Guide](#)
- [Agenda](#)
- [Attendance Office](#)
- [Counseling Department](#)
- [Cobb County School District](#)
- [Walton website](#)

A

Absences

A parent emails 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. Click here for the [Attendance Office](#) paperless procedures and staff emails.

Absence – Appointment

A parent emails a note to the Attendance Office when a student will be absent for part of the day, late for school, or must leave early. The email should include:

- Student first and last name
- Cobb County Student ID #
- Date/time of absence
- Reason for absence
- parent/guardian phone number

Click here for the [Attendance Office](#) paperless procedures and staff emails.

Academic Fees

Students pay \$20 each year for online access to the Vocabulary book, access to Turnitin, an internet plagiarism checker, and x2Vol/Naviance, an online tool to record volunteer hours and college and career plans. Parents pay Academic Fees 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 attend a meeting in the 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. The [College Board](#) determines the dates and times for testing. Students with sufficient test scores gain college credit for these classes at selected universities. A handbook of AP course offerings and requirements is on the Walton website.



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 teams, coaches, tryouts, and more.

Visit the [NCAA](#) and [NAIA](#) websites for collegiate sports information.

Attendance Policies

Click here for the [Attendance Office](#) paperless procedures and staff emails.

Attendance Office

Also known as PPO, the Attendance Office is on the left side of the front entrance. All attendance matters resolve here. Click here for the [Attendance Office](#) procedures and staff emails.

B

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 on the [Walton website](#).

Bus Stops & Schedules

The Cobb County Schools Transportation Office provides bus routing and scheduled stop information. Click [HERE](#) for bus stop locations. Download the app "Here Comes the Bus" to monitor the real-time location of their child's bus.

Bus Transportation Changes



Students take a note to the Attendance Office in the morning. The Attendance Office signs the note, and the student gives it to the bus driver. Faxes or phone calls are not accepted.

C

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 on the [Walton website](#). The Walton calendar includes school, athletic, PTSA, Foundation, holidays, and club events.

Certificate of Enrollment

Students who apply for a Georgia driver's license, even if transferring a license from out of state, must have a Certificate of Enrollment. Click here for details regarding [Certificates of Enrollment](#). 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 certificates 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. View the [Walton High School Charter](#) 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 diploma 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 course offerings is in the [Academic Planning Guide](#) online at WaltonHigh.org.

D

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

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 complete description of courses and more info, go to the [Academic Planning Guide](#).

F

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](#).

G

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 to graduate. More information about [EOC courses and tests](#) is online.

GPA/Grade Point Average

In its easiest form, an A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0. For each class, assign the correct number to the letter grade, add all of the grades, and divide it by the number of classes taken.

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.

Letter Grade	College Prep	Honors Class	AP Class
A	4.0	4.5	5.0
B	3.0	3.5	4.0
C	2.0	2.5	3.0

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](#) accounts are created at the time of registration. Online grade reporting is usually available after the first ten days of school. From the [Walton website](#), click the A+ icon 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.



H



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 are required classes 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 an advisement period. Homerooms are assigned alphabetically by grade level. Homeroom will meet as needed and on WEB days. Students will likely have the same homeroom teacher every year.

Homework Policy

Refer to the [Agenda](#) for the most current policy regarding homework missed due to absence. Students who miss three or more days of school may request homework assignments 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% receive Honor Roll recognition.

Students who earn a semester GPA of 4.0 or higher and have no grades lower than an 80% receive the Principal's Honor Roll.

Students who earn a 4.0 or higher for the entire academic school year receive an Academic Letter. Students who do so in a subsequent year receive an Academic Bar.



Hours

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

I

Incentive

Although suspended through the 2021-2022 school year, students who meet incentive requirements may exempt up to two final exams. The [Agenda](#) includes incentive requirements.

Information Center

The Information Center houses books and online resources. The Information Center also provides a quiet and relaxing study space during lunch periods. A teacher issues a pass to students who wish to go during class time, but students simply scan a QR code to come during lunch. 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 and the Ministry of Education of Spain. Students admitted to ISA begin during the freshmen year.



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](#).

L

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.

M

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.

N

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.

O

Open House

Near the beginning of each semester, parents attend a program that allows them to follow the students' schedules and hear a 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. Parents will meet with the administration and PTSA while students take a school tour with the Walton Ambassadors.



P

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 to learn about Walton is by volunteering 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 on the [PTSA Website](#).

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 classes for graduation. School counselors determine if transfer students have met Georgia's requirements for these classes.

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.



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.

R

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.

S

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.

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 post-secondary 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 Breakfast:

This senior event is usually in the fall.

Senior Evening of Inspiration:

A PTSA sponsored non-denominational service for graduating seniors, this event is held off-campus in May.

Senior Picnic:

This annual tradition is at school in the spring.



Senior Portraits:

Look for a postcard in the mail near the end of 11th grade announcing times for scheduling a senior portrait in late summer. Some seniors prefer to choose a photographer and supply a picture for the yearbook.

Senior Skip Day

Walton does not recognize and/or sanction a Senior Skip Day. Students who participate in such an event or activity receive an unexcused absence.

SGA/Student Government Association

Walton's students have a voice in aiding the administration and faculty in carrying out the school's mission and goals 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 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](#), [Cobb Virtual Academy](#), or [Georgia Virtual School](#).

T

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 sent directly to the college from Walton. Each transcript is \$2.00. Students order transcripts in the School Counseling Center Records Room or [HERE](#).

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.

V

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 receive recognition at graduation with a service cord. Details of what types of activities qualify are available online. [Community Service Information](#)

Visitors

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



W

George Walton



George Walton Comprehensive High School is 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 meeting the academic performance goals outlined in the charter. The WGB's duties and responsibilities include school-level decision-making, fiscal management, and various 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, including a pep rally and an election of a Winterfest court.

Work Permits

Students under 16 years of age must have a Georgia Student Work Permit. Instructions are [here](#) or on the Walton High School website under General Information.

X

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](#)

Y

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](#).

Z

Zero Period

There are two options for zero period, which starts before the regular school day:

- Morning tuition allows a student to pay 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.