



8th Grade to 9th Grade Transition





Objectives



Walton Stats and how to get involved



Learn about graduation requirements



Understand how your schedule is created for 9th grade



Learn about Walton schedules



See different schedules with GPA



Learn about course offerings and the differences in course levels



Tips on how to be successful in high school



Advice/Information from current WHS Seniors





Walton High School Stats

- ▶ Nationally recognized School of Excellence serving 2700 students
- ▶ 93% attend a 4-year college and 3% attend a 2-year college
- ▶ Strong college-preparatory program offering a variety of programs, courses, and educational experiences designed to meet the needs of all students
- ▶ Georgia Conversion Charter School
- ▶ Accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools





Walton High School

Class of 2020 – By the Numbers

590
Graduates

93% 4-year College Enrollment
3% 2-year College Enrollment

386
Honor Graduates

3 Military Enlistments

127
Colleges enrolled for fall 2020

\$14,724,108
Offered in scholarships (not including HOPE)

2,005
Total college Acceptances



444 Students took at least one AP course



8 Acceptances

4.0 GPA
200 Seniors with a 4.0 or higher

In four years:



9 State Championships

1 GADA Director's Cup



54 AP Scholars*

124 AP Scholars with Distinction*

54 AP Scholars with Honors*

46 National AP Scholars*

* Not including 2020 tests



44,693 Hours of Community Service

36 National Merit Semifinalists



60 Dual Enrolled



28 College Athletes





Opportunities for Everyone, get involved!

Clubs & Organizations

- ▶ Walton has established a wide variety of interest clubs, community service groups and honor societies. For an updated list - [Clubs & Organizations / Clubs & Organizations](#)



Interscholastic Sports

- ▶ Basketball, Baseball, Cheerleading, Cross Country, Football, Golf, Gymnastics, Lacrosse, Riflery, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Track & Field, Volleyball, Wrestling
- ▶ Freshman are eligible for sports first semester. Going forward, you must pass 5 classes (2.5 units) at the end of fall semester in order to be eligible to play sports in the spring semester





Academics for Everyone!

Walton offers a variety of levels of classes:



College prep/on level classes



Honors-level college prep classes



33 AP (Advanced Placement) courses



Multiple Pathways and Academies





Graduation Requirements

Area of Study	Required Credits
English/Language Arts	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits
Science	4 credits
Social Studies	3 credits
World Language/Technical/Fine Art	3 credits
Personal Fitness	0.5 credit
Health	0.5 credit
Electives	4 credits
TOTAL CREDITS:	23





How is my schedule created?

Your 8th grade teachers will make recommendations for core classes based on the following criteria:

- Walton guidelines based on historical data
- Test/quiz/project grades
- Quarter middle school grades
- Standardized test scores

You choose your electives!

Summer reading and assignments will be posted in May and are due the first day of school.





Walton Schedule

2 semesters (Fall, Spring)

Seven period schedule (8:20-3:30)

Six classes

Almost 1 hour for lunch!





GPA Examples

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----|-----------------------|---|-----|
| ▶ Honors 9 th Lit/Comp | B | 3.5 | ▶ 9 th Lit | B | 3.0 |
| ▶ GSE Algebra | A | 4.0 | ▶ GSE Algebra | C | 2.0 |
| ▶ Honors Physics I | B | 3.5 | ▶ GSE Alg Support B | | 3.0 |
| ▶ AP Human Geography | A | 5.0 | ▶ Physics I | B | 3.0 |
| ▶ Spanish II | A | 4.0 | ▶ World Geo | A | 4.0 |
| ▶ Health | A | 4.0 | ▶ Chinese I | A | 4.0 |

▶ Total points/Total Classes=GPA

▶ 24 points/6 classes= 4.0

18 points/6 classes = 3.0





Grade Point Average (GPA)

- ▶ 90-100 = A (4.0)
- ▶ 80-89 = B (3.0)
- ▶ 74-79 = C (2.0)
- ▶ 70-73 = D (1.0)
- ▶ 0-69 = F (0.0)

**Total points divided by number of classes = GPA*

**Honors classes receive half (.5) an extra quality point (EQP)*

**AP classes receive a full (1.0) extra quality point (EQP).*





High School Classes in Middle School



High school courses completed in middle school will be recorded on the high school transcript.



High school credits earned in middle school will count toward graduation requirements.



Grades for these courses will not be calculated into the student's high school GPA.





English Level Differences

▶ 9th Lit

- ▶ 1 summer reading novel
- ▶ 3 parallel readings per semester
- ▶ Vocabulary book
- ▶ Fundamentals of argumentative, expository and narrative writing
- ▶ Homework: 30-45 minutes per week
- ▶ Most reading assignments completed in class

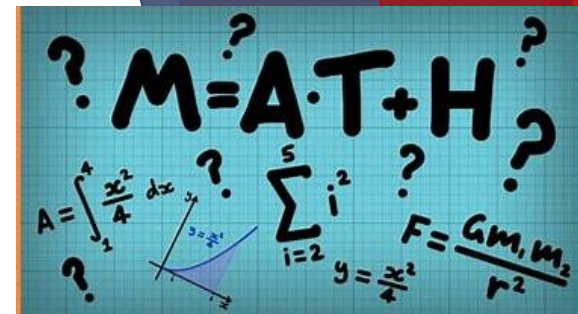
▶ 9th Lit Honors

- ▶ 1 summer reading novel
- ▶ 3 parallel readings per semester
- ▶ Accelerated vocabulary book
- ▶ Longer, more analytic writing pieces
- ▶ Homework: 2-2.5 hours per week
- ▶ Independent reading is expected





Math Level Differences



College-prep/on-level GSE Algebra I: a rigorous math course that includes data analysis and collection; organizing and interpreting data; understanding functions and factoring.

▶ Honors Courses

- ▶ More rigorous
- ▶ Higher-order thinking, questions
- ▶ Can take two math courses during sophomore year to reach calculus
- ▶ Less Calculator usage
- ▶ Honors courses earn .5 extra quality point

▶ Accelerated Courses

- ▶ Go at a faster pace
- ▶ Include 1.5 years Curriculum
- ▶ Very little calculator usage
- ▶ Accelerated courses earn .5 extra quality point





Science Level Differences

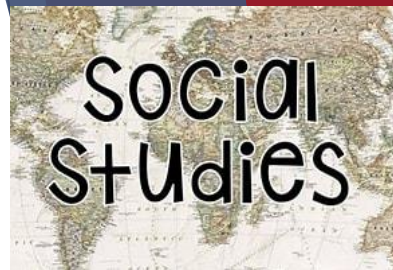


- ▶ Physics I - Course which includes all standards of Physics I plus an Intro to Chemistry. It is not a repeat of Middle School Physical Science. It is considered a Lab Science by Colleges
- ▶ Physics I 93
- ▶ Honors Physics - Receive .5 extra quality point
 - ▶ 1.5 hours of homework per week/independent reading/ must be in H Algebra I or higher
- ▶ Honors Biology - 101
 - ▶ Co-requisite is H Algebra I or higher
 - ▶ 3 hours of homework per week/ Honors English is recommended





Social Studies Level Differences



- ▶ World Geography
 - ▶ Summer Reading: 1 book
 - ▶ Semester 1: Physical & Cultural Geography & Demography
 - ▶ Semester 2: Political, Environmental & Economic Geography
- ▶ AP Human Geography
 - ▶ Summer Requirements: Reading - 1 book; know the relative location of most of the countries in the world, plus several subnational regions
 - ▶ Catch up physical geography; general geographical concepts; culture unit; political geography; agriculture & rural land use; urbanization





9th Grade Schedule Elective Options

Electives

Acting

Broadcast

Chinese

French

Graphic Arts

Health

Intro to Business

Intro to Engineering (honors)

Intro to Healthcare

Intro to Lifetime Sports

Intro to Team Sports

Journalism/Yearbook

JROTC

Latin

Personal Fitness

Spanish

Technical Theater

Visual Arts

Weight Training



Class Waivers

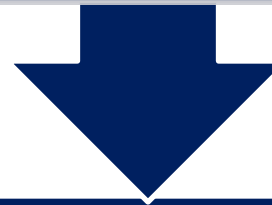


Form to change course level
from teacher recommendation

Allowed to
waive up or
down (one
level)

Must still meet
course pre-
requisites

Deadline is
May 1st!



If you choose to waive into a
class, then you are required to
remain in that class for the
semester.





Volunteer Hours

Not required for graduation

Can receive a service cord to wear at graduation if you complete 180 verified hours.

Begins on the first day of your 9th grade year (anything completed in the summer between 8th and 9th *will not count!*)

**BE THE
CHANGE**
VOLUNTEER &
MAKE THE DIFFERENCE





Steps for Success



Set

Set realistic goals and think of balance

Take

Take advantages of resources - which include teacher support, peer tutoring, Naviance

Get

Get involved (volunteer activities, clubs, arts, service and athletics)



College Planning



- 8th grade sets the path to your freshman year!
- What do colleges consider?
 - GPA
 - SAT/ACT Scores
 - Rigor of classes taken in high school
 - Student activities and leadership

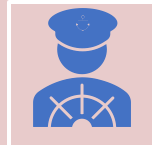




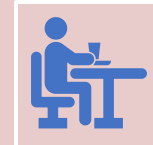
High School Tips



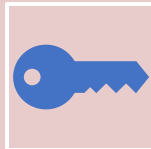
GRADES ARE BASED MOSTLY ON TESTS, PROJECTS, PAPERS AND QUIZZES, RATHER THAN COMPLETION OF HOMEWORK



YOU WILL ATTEND CLASSES IN ALL PARTS OF THE BUILDING AND WILL MINGLE WITH ALL GRADE LEVELS.



LUNCHES ARE EATEN WITH ALL GRADE LEVELS AND YOU DON'T HAVE "ASSIGNED" SEATING.



PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND TAKING INITIATIVE ARE KEYS TO SUCCESS. YOUR TEACHERS WANT TO HELP YOU! DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK.



ONCE YOU ARE AT WALTON, IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN OR QUESTION ABOUT A CLASS, PLEASE CONTACT THE TEACHER VIA EMAIL.





Balance



- ▶ We want you to challenge yourself in academic areas that you are passionate about and enjoy, but always be mindful of BALANCE
- ▶ [School Counseling-Virtual Calming Center - Cobb Academics \(cobbk12.org\)](https://www.cobbk12.org) - This link provides information on breathing, relaxation, staying present, exercise, support services, apps and visual relaxation





MEET YOUR WALTON SCHOOL COUNSELOR!

LAURA CLARY, A-CH



BETSY ALPERT, CL-G



DONNA DUNHAM, H-K



ERICA WATFORD, L-N



TINA HARWOOD, O-SL



LISA FAY, SM-Z



**NATALIE MATHENY,
SPECIAL PROJECTS**



We are excited to begin working with you in August!





Tips from Walton Class of 2021

► “For current and incoming freshman, this transition must be so difficult. I remember all the new experiences I had coming into Walton, and it made it so fun to be part of such an amazing high school. The club fair, pep rallies, football games, WEB events, and growing close to teachers made me look forward to school (mostly) every day. Walton is special because of the community it fosters. Raiders are extremely supportive, encouraging, and diverse. Whoever you may be, you will find all sorts of amazing people to interact with at Walton. Most of you probably have no idea what to expect from this school, but you’ll graduate with a special appreciation for this rigorous high school.” Eric Chen





►“The biggest piece of advice I would give to rising ninth graders is to learn to set healthy boundaries and say no. To go along with that, I would say that it is okay to drop down a level in a class if your current level isn’t working for you. Self-advocacy is so important because school is so much easier when it doesn’t feel like a chore, so it’s important to create a schedule that interests you and challenges you where you want to be challenged, not a schedule that follows someone else’s desires. In the same vein, when you’re deciding how to get involved at Walton, choose something you’re interested in. If you don’t want to do Pro Mod, then do not do Pro Mod because I guarantee it will begin to feel like a chore, and then your presence there isn’t benefitting anyone. “Getting involved” is supposed to help you fit in at Walton, so if you feel like you don’t have time to join any clubs or sign up for any service activities, don’t worry about it—there are other options! Personally, I joined academic programs (Sports Medicine CTAE track and Foreign Language pathway) because I wanted to find my niche but didn’t have a lot of time outside school to join any clubs. Lastly, Walton is special to me because the administration as a whole, as well as each of my individual teachers, has been incredibly accommodating of my crazy dance schedule. Walton is a place where you can strive for academic excellence as well as be a pre-professional dancer, and there are people that will make that happen for you as long as you advocate for yourself.” -Shannon Maloney

► “Self-advocacy is extremely important. ALWAYS speak up for yourself. You know what is best for you and do not allow other people to tell you otherwise; however, do not set yourself up for failure, if a school counselor or upperclassmen recommends that you take a specific class, use their advice since they know more about the students and classes at Walton that would benefit you. My time at Walton has been extraordinary and Walton will always have a piece of my heart. I have met my best friends at Walton, met my favorite teachers who I appreciate greatly, I have even gone to Paris with the Walton Chorus Tour Choir, and grew to being an adult through this school. If I could go back, I would not change a thing. Walton has prepared me for heading off to college and even though the school-work may sometimes be challenging, it is worth it and has taught me wonderful learning techniques that will last with me throughout college.” -Oliva Dao



