

Montclair's 2010 WATSA: The Top 10 Things You Need to Know!

1. **WATSA is Family Friendly.** *The campus is transformed into a carnival. Kids walk laps around the school, parents visit the Auction in the GLC, and everyone enjoys games and food booths in the courtyard. One lap is approximately 1/3 mile, and last year our students walked nearly 5,000 miles collectively! Family members of all ages are welcome to walk some laps with the students, and the kids take breaks throughout the event to eat, play games, and rest. If you have preschoolers or toddlers, they will have fun too! Everyone is a winner at the lollipop game! Bring your neighbors – this truly is an event that everyone in the community can enjoy!*
2. **Purchase a WATSA T-Shirt for Your Child** (and yourself, and everyone). *EVERYONE WEARS THESE “MUST HAVE” fashion statements, so don’t miss this deadline!!! T-shirts are not sold the day of the event!*
3. **Donate Tickets, Items, and Services!** *Parent Donations make up over 50% of the Silent Auction profit, so please help us to continue, or even increase that percentage. Sports tickets, ballet tickets, vacation house weeks, or smaller items – special cakes, special lessons (music, swimming), whatever talents you have. Get together with a group of friends and host a special party (brunch, wine tasting, pool party, etc) – these are the most fun for hosts and guests. Talk up the things you are donating to your friends so they will bid on them!*
4. **Support Your Child, Your Teacher and Your Class.** *Sponsor your child for the Walk-a-Thon, contribute to your class gift basket, and bid on your teacher’s donation (usually an exclusive small group event with the teacher) and your child’s class project. There are also upper grade (4/5) student donations of sports clinics and other “kids only” parties that your kids will want you to bid on for them!*
5. **Browse the Silent Auction Catalog and plan your bids.** *The catalog will be sent home on March 19th. There are some great items from local merchants, Montclair parents and kids. Make sure to check out your child’s handmade grade project, teacher, student and staff donations, and the very popular parties hosted by Montclair parents.*
6. **Bid on Parties and Items with your Friends.** *Get a group together and each bid the same price on a party – that way you have fun with your friends!! Make sure the date is free in your calendar, as the party dates are fixed in advance. If you really want to go to a party, bid high – popular parties sell out!*
7. **Plan To Be There All Day.** *Get there early – and walk or ride a bike to campus if you can. Registration opens at 8:00 a.m., warm ups begin at 8:45 a.m. and the Walkathon starts at 9:00 a.m. The Auction is open from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. and auction check-out (payment and item pick-up) happens at 2:00-3:30 p.m.*
8. **Volunteer the Day of WATSA.** *There are many different ways to help at the event, including food booth duty, course monitor / water sprayer for walkers (especially key if it is a warm day), games duty, lap punching for the walkers, set-up or clean-up. Make sure you have child care or trade off with a friend to watch the kids so you can work your shift. Also, turn in your volunteer sheet early so that you can get the slot and job that you want.*
9. **Don’t forget Money for Food/Games & your Checkbook for the Auction.** *You will need to buy tickets for food items and kids games. There is a wide variety of delicious food choices which reflects the diversity of our community. The kids’ game area is incredibly fun for kids of all ages and there’s face painting and a dunk tank too! Don’t forget your checkbook, as auction items need to be paid and taken home on event day.*
10. **Have Fun!** *Every year, about 90% of Montclair families come to WATSA and most agree that this is the best day of the year for the Montclair community. Mark your calendar for March 27, 2010!!! Don’t miss it!*