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What is Walk-a-thon?

Walk-a-thon is a long-revered community building event as well as one of our major fundraisers. We hope to see all students and their families attend. The entire school comm(unity) comes together to walk laps around the school track. It's an opportunity for walking, dancing to the DJ's music, socializing, munching on snacks and visiting our school mascot Champ! All donations count towards fundraising prizes for students. Since this is a fundraiser, participation is any donation to Cherry Crest PTSA - \$1 counts! A student must raise at least \$100 to be eligible for individual prizes. Our goal per student is to raise \$200 per student, but we appreciate any amount that you can spare.

FAQ

When and where is Walk-a-thon?

Walk-a-thon is on Friday, May 9 at the Cherry Crest school track. Students with a submitted permission slip walk during lunch recess and/or after school from 2:30-4:30pm. Click [here](#) to complete the online permission slip. Please complete one permission slip **per student**. Be sure to arrive early to watch the Torch Bearers kick off the Walk-a-thon!

Who watches my child after school?

You are responsible for your child after school. Consider arranging a chaperone to meet your child if you are unable to attend. Each student requires a submitted permission slip to participate at lunch recess and/or after school. Click [here](#) to complete the online permission slip. Please complete one per student.

What does my child need to bring to Walk-a-thon?

Students who [pre-purchased](#) a shirt should wear their white Walk-a-thon t-shirt to school. If your student did not purchase a t-shirt, we recommend they wear white if they want to run through the color/foam run (if we raise \$80,000 or more by April 24th) to showcase the colorful powders! Wear something old or inexpensive as it may get stained. All students should wear appropriate walking shoes.

How does my child register?

Parent's register their students [here](#). Each student will have their own page for collecting pledges and donations. Be sure to complete one registration and [permission slip](#) per child! Make sure to have your student's digital permission form submitted before **April 24th**! If their form is in before April 24th they will get a ticket on April 25th during lunch which they can place into a drawing to win a teacher experience!

The Marapod registration site for the Walkathon isn't working for me. What should I do?

Email help@marapod.com and they'll be able to help.

Some common tips:

1. You will need to create a new account to register for the Walkathon, even if you already have an existing Marapod account.
2. If you're viewing the site on your phone and you have "Dark Mode" on, the bottom of the Marapod app has a toggle where you can turn the screen to "Light Mode" where you will then be able to view everything more easily.

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What if it rains on Walk-a-thon day?

We walk rain or shine, so please send your student(s) to school with appropriate clothing and shoes – including rain gear.

Do the kids get refreshments?

Snacks and water will be provided to all students during the Walk-a-thon for free. Additional snacks are available for purchase for family members.

Do the grown-ups get refreshments?

KONA ICE will be on-site for purchase. We will also have other snacks and drinks (tea, cocoa, etc) available for purchase at the Walk-a-thon.

Where to park?

Expect to park off campus and walk 10-15 minutes to school. Please respect our neighbors and park responsibly. Make sure school buses and emergency vehicles can access all roads. Keep clear of driveways, crosswalks and stop signs. Parking on campus will be filled by staff, vendors and volunteers doing setup. Consider carpooling or connecting with families you know live close to Cherry Crest.

Are pets allowed?

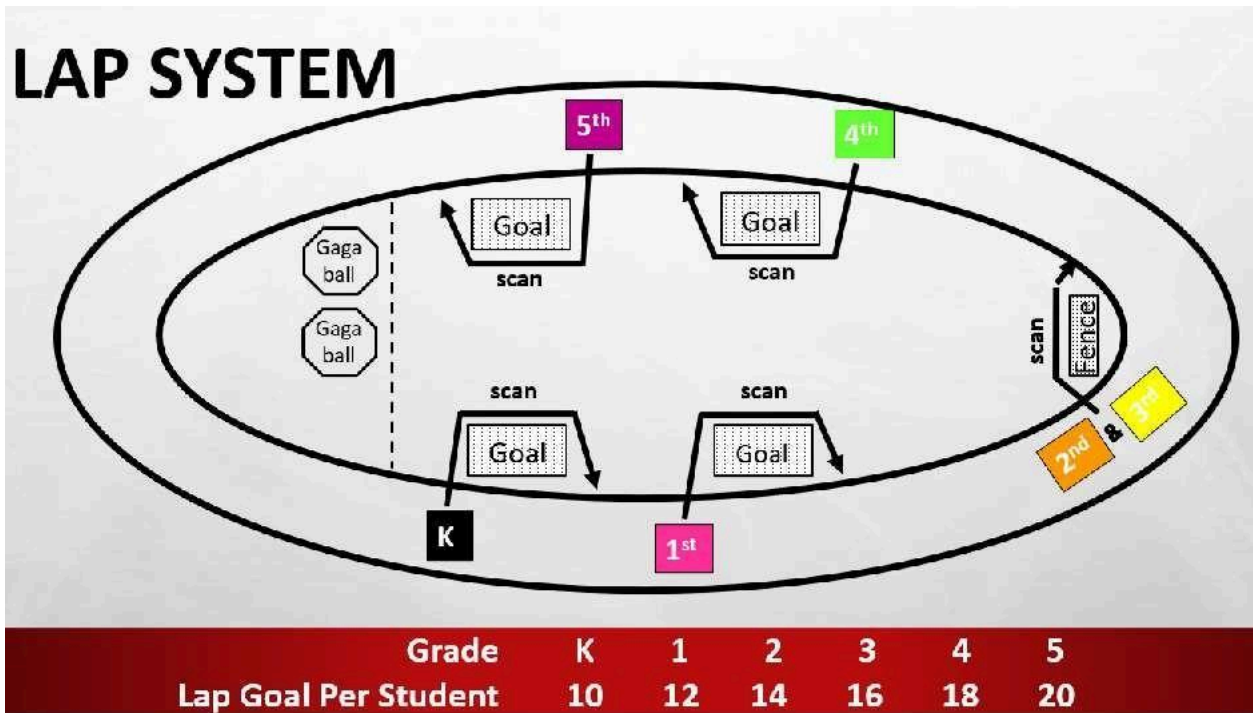
No.

How are laps tracked?

We use the EZ Tally application to track laps. Each student receives a QR code badge on a lanyard to be scanned by volunteers at their grade's area around the track. Teachers will distribute student badges just before walking begins.

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What are the Lap Goals? Where does my child get their badge scanned?



How is participation tracked?

Participation is any donation to Cherry Crest (\$1 counts!) since this is a fundraiser. A student must raise at least \$100 to be eligible for individual prizes. Be sure donors note your child's name in the provided fields when making a donation of any kind! All students who collect at least \$1 will be entered into a drawing to be the torch bearer for their grade.

What is a torch bearer?

The torch bearers get to lead their grade onto the field with the Torch. They will be announced at the start of the Walkathon and they will start the opening lap for the grade. And of course, the torch bearers get to take some cool pics with Champ!

Can Grownups Walk too?

YES! We would love to have you walk! Grownups can pick up a badge at the table and get punches for their laps. With their walking badge, they get a free drink ticket to use at our tea/cocoa/drink station. Their laps count 4:1 for their selected teacher's class. In addition, the grown-up with the most laps wins a giant stuffed animal and starbucks gift card!

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Can Grandma, Uncle, or someone else walk as my adult? What about my kid brother or sister? Can they walk in addition to my parent? Do they all count for my parent laps?

Of course! Any non-Cherry Crest Student can pick up a punch card, write down their name, the teacher name, and get walking! All of these laps count 4:1 for the selected teacher's class.

My parent wants to walk but they have 3 kids at the school. Do the laps count for all 3 students' teachers?

Your grown-up or other extra person can write down all 3 (or 2) teacher names on their punch card, and we will divide up their laps between the teachers they select.

What if I don't want to Walk?

There will also be a raffle, silent auction, and sponsor tables. Come and check them out while your student walks their laps and dances across the track! And of course you can stop by our Photo Booth where you can dress up and take home a printed pic; or buy some Kona Ice to enjoy while you are here.

What is a raffle?

A raffle is a game of chance where participants purchase tickets, and at the end a winner is drawn randomly from the tickets in the bucket. There will be various items available to win: donated experiences such as Principle for a Day, Librarian for a Day, or donated items such as gift baskets. Tickets will cost \$5. Place your purchased ticket into the bucket matching the prize you would like to have a chance to win. Winners will be picked at the end of the Walk-a-thon. You must be present to win and collect your prize. The money collected for the raffle tickets goes directly to the PTSA & Cherry Crest Elementary! (Raffle tickets do not count towards award and prize goals)

What is a silent auction?

A silent auction is a fundraising event where items or experiences are displayed for participants to bid on. Bids are placed silently on paper. There will be a piece of paper next to each auction prize. On that paper you may write down the dollar amount you would pay to win that item or experience. At the end of the Walk-a-thon we will announce the winners, collect the bid payments, and send the winners home with their prizes. The money collected from the auction winners goes directly to the PTSA & Cherry Crest Elementary!

How can I help?

It takes a lot of volunteers to make our community events a success! We would love to have you help scan badges, run a snack table, run a raffle table, be at our first aid or checkout tables, or be in the cleanup crew, among other things. Sign up to help on Marapod [here](#).

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What are the awards and prizes?

Individual Prize DONATION Incentives:

- Bronze: \$100 -> Choose 1 of 3 options (Cherry Crest dart rocket 'football,' OR pop disc flyer OR expandable disc)
- Silver: \$200 -> Choose 1 of 3 options (Cherry Crest Beanie OR Cherry Crest Scarf OR Cherry Crest Baseball Cap)
- Gold: \$450 -> Choose 1 of 3 options (Personalized sports light (choose your sport, light color, & name) OR Personalized Bigfoot Suncatcher (choose your name, background, & wood color)
- Platinum \$850 -> Choose 1 of 3 options (Beginner Friendly Drone OR Weighted Huggable Stuffed Animal OR Cherry Crest Pickle Ball Set)

PRIZE SELECTION DETAILS:

Similar to redeeming tickets at an arcade. The more you raise, the more you can redeem! Prizes will be redeemable after the Walk-A-Thon laps have been tallied. Your student will receive 'credit' to use in the Walk-A-Thon Shop. Remember to redeem all your credits before the Shop closes. Redeeming tickets can be done in one of two ways:

- Pick **one prize** from the highest tier you qualify for **OR**
- Mix and match multiple lower-tier prizes (e.g., \$500 = 1 Gold prize OR 2 Silver + 1 Bronze).

Group/Class Prizes and Awards:

- Each grade that works together to raise \$18,000 will get popsicles during an extra recess and students in that grade get the chance to race the Principals and Champ in a 50 yard dash at the Walkathon Event!
- Top Laps per grade (1 class winner per grade) wins an outside lunch and extra 20 minutes of Choice Time in Class! Note: Grown-ups laps count here 4:1.
- Class with the Most Laps of the Entire School wins Big Foot honors (name of class on Big Foot plaque and Big Foot trophy in their classroom for the rest of this school year) plus gets to "Silly string the Principals" at an extra recess!
- 70%+ *Participation by class wins extra recess!
- 90%+ *Participation by class wins extra tech time in class!
- 100% *Participation by class gets to soak the principal at extra recess!

**Participation = \$1 or more donated for the student*

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What do we do with the badges after Walk-a-thon?

- Please return all badges before leaving Walk-a-thon. There will be a check out table to collect badges. As a bonus, each student receives a Cherry Crest Sticker when returning their badge.

What is the suggested donation?

- Our recommended donation is \$200 per student. Our fundraising goal for this event is \$80,000! Click [here](#) to create your student's donation page.
- Donations are tax deductible and eligible for [corporate matching](#) so please check with your employer to see if they will match your donations. During this fundraiser, if you Corporate Match \$300 or more, you'll earn a Cherry Crest blanket. Matched funds are not factored into individual prize eligibility.

What do the funds raised support?

In the Bellevue School District, budget shortfalls are overcome with levies, grants, and local fundraising. Cherry Crest PTSA has budgeted approximately \$200,000 this school year to support Cherry Crest Elementary students, families, and staff. We have talented teachers who rely on these funds to maintain the educational programs and additional classroom support staff that distinguish Cherry Crest Elementary as a top school. Your donations impact student learning and well-being!

What does this look like?

- Fully funded Curriculum Enrichment programs & Field trips selected by our teachers
- Educational materials & supplies for each classroom
- More opportunities for differentiated learning with additional General School Assistants (GSAs) to ensure each grade as a dedicated GSA
- Student Clubs (Math, Science, Robotics, Passport, Running)
- Student Competitions (Art Reflections, Spelling Bee)
- Family Engagement & Activities (Online Directory, School Dance, PTSA Family Dinners, Variety Show, Family STEM Night, Movie Nights, Cultural Fair and more!)
- Teacher appreciation & teacher funds
- And much more!!
- You can see more information about where our funding goes on the [Giving Month webpage here](#) including the impact to our teachers and staff.

Your donations directly fund the experience of your student at Cherry Crest. Thank you for your generosity and help!

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How do I make a donation?

Use your student's Walk-A-Thon page [here](#) to donate! All donations are 100% tax deductible. You have the option to support one or more specific students so they can meet fundraising goals and be eligible for fundraising prizes.