

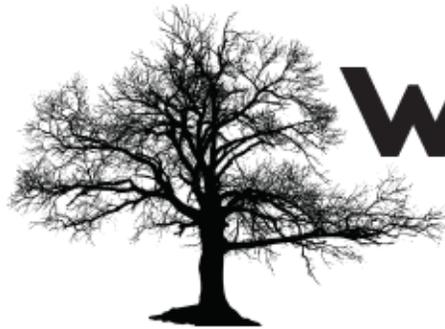


WALDEN SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS



*Diana West, Founder and
Title I Coordinator*

Walden is a place where social, emotional, and academic growth are valued equally, a place where students see possibilities, make meaningful choices, take risks, and emerge with a stronger sense of identity, belonging and purpose. It is a place where critical thought, creativity and independence are nurtured; where empathy, cultural awareness and tolerance are valued. We champion student choice and autonomy, authentic research and project work. Our purpose is to develop competent, self-motivated learners dedicated to making positive contributions to society.



WALDEN SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS



Walden is a Title I school.



Please watch this presentation to learn more about Walden's programs and your rights as a parent.

The Walden Way



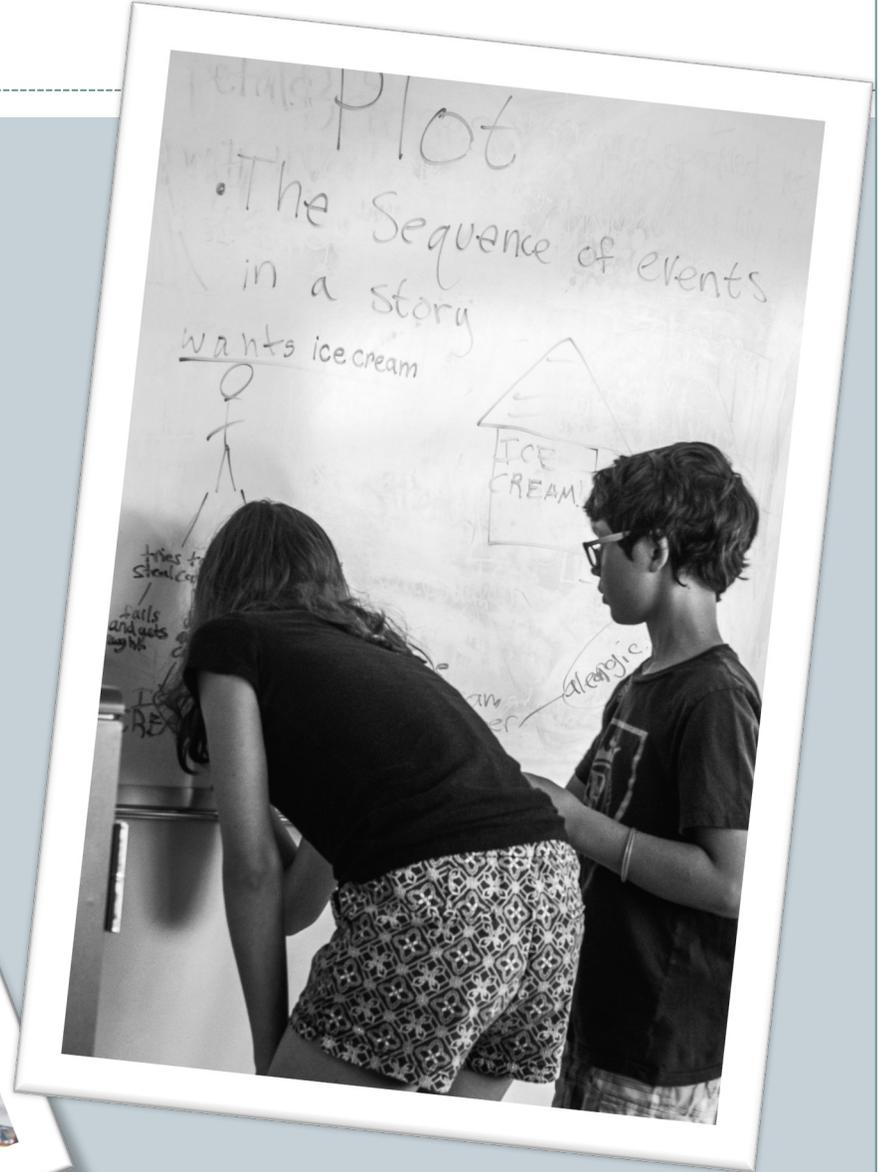
- To be empowered to make a positive difference in the world
- To foster the development of your own unique identity and voice and walk your own individual path
- To find a personal and compelling purpose in your learning experience and make it your own
- To contribute the best you have to yourself and your learning community—knowing the reward that comes from effort. What you put into your education is what you get out of it.
- To be fully included in a community of learners of all ages

We Work Hard



I know of no more encouraging fact than the unquestioned ability of a man to elevate his life by conscious endeavor.

~ Henry David Thoreau



We are Adventurous



We are Ethical & Compassionate



What lies behind us and
what lies ahead of us
are small matters
compared to what lies
within us.

~ Henry David Thoreau



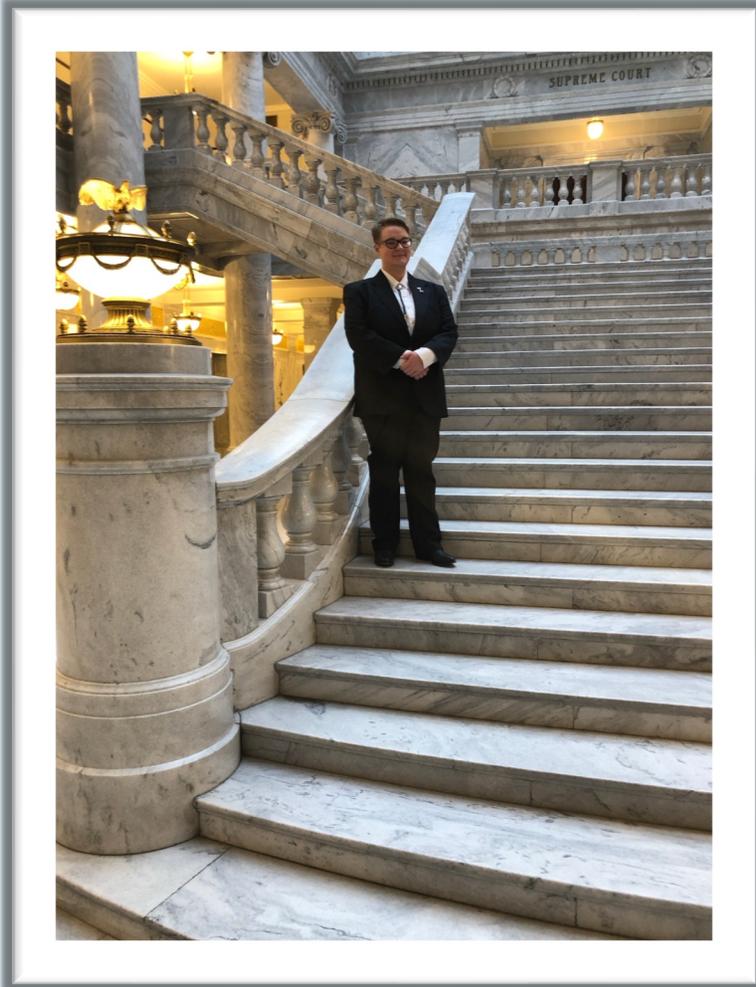
We are Exuberant



All good things are
wild and free
~ Thoreau



Our Students Achieve National, State, & Local Honors



Are the flowers not worthy of the
bees?

Are the deserts not worthy of
rain?

Are the mountains and valleys
and forests and lakes not worthy
of their own given beauty?

Are we not worthy of love?

*~Jordan Hunter (Walden
Graduate) from
A Collection of Four Poems*

We Travel the World on Expeditions



We should come home from adventures, and perils, and discoveries every day with new experience and character.

~Thoreau



Juniors & Seniors Go College Hopping



Learning At Walden



Walden students have many unique opportunities to broaden their learning experiences. The following slides highlight some of these unique aspects of a Walden education.

Prioritizing Student Wellbeing and Learning



There is a crack in everything; that's how the light gets in.
~Leonard Cohen

Seminars



Students engage in a rigorous process of learning that prepares them for college and career creating a competitive post-secondary portfolio that can be used for college and career applications.

Field Trip Fridays



- Field Trips
- Expeditions
- Walden Walk
- Collaborative Classes
- Project Work
- Service Days
- Collaboration
- Communal Lunch

Healthy Living



Every other day, students participate in their **Healthy Living** section. Some examples include:

- Basketball
- Off campus walk
- Gardening
- Pickle Ball
- Field games
- Yoga
- Mindful movement

Healthy Living is a time for students to set physical and nutritional goals to develop healthy living competencies.

Collaborative Classes



Collaborative Classes are a designated time for group and individual **projects** when **Deeper learning** on seminar work can occur.

Collaborative classes prioritize serving others in the community through Walden's **Community Connections**. Examples include helping to shape Walden's future by participating in **Walden Way committees**; planning **Walden expeditions and events**; and preparing for upcoming **performances and competitions**

Montessori Curriculum



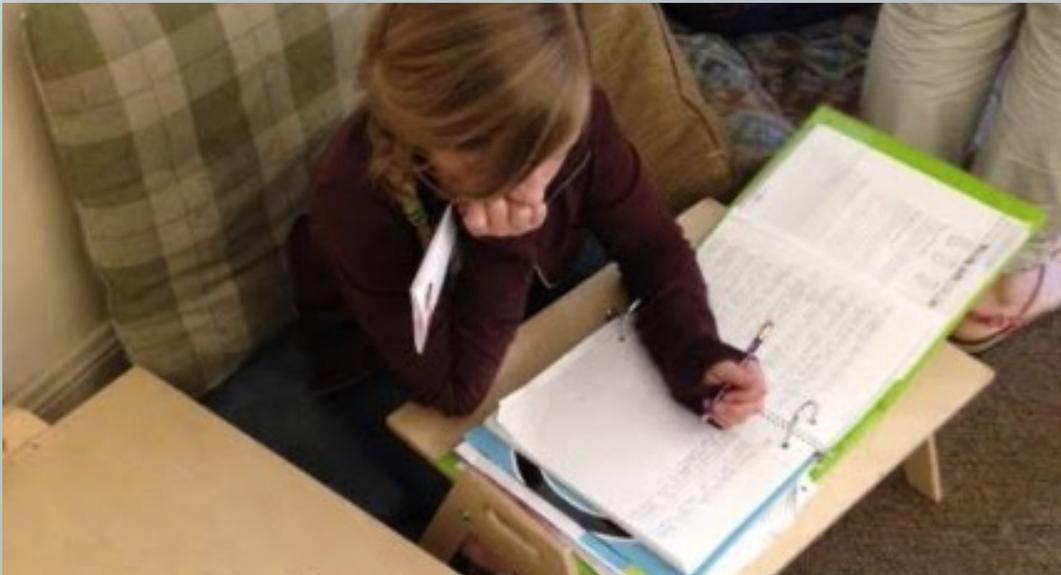
Individualized Instruction



Active Learning & Community Volunteer Academies

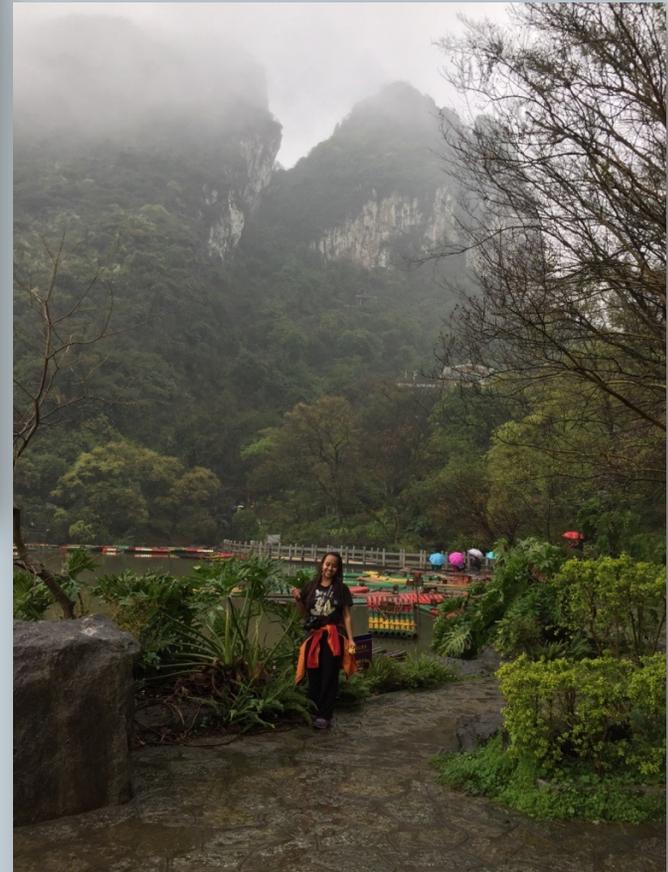


Personal Pathways



“If one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavors to live the life which he has imagined, he will meet with a success unexpected in common hours.”

~Thoreau



Hands On Learning



“He does it with his hands, by experience, first in play and then through work. The hands are the instruments of man’s intelligence.” ~Montessori



Strong Parent Community



Walden School of Liberal Arts Strengths and Challenges



Strength 1: Students



Our focus is on our students. . .



Strength 2: Small Classes

Every student is known and mentored by multiple adults.



Strength 3: Amazing Faculty

Dedicated teachers and support staff work together to create amazing learning opportunities for all students.



Strength 4: Grand adventures



Strength 5: Before and Afterschool Programs



- C.A.S.A.
- 21st Century Grant
- Community Partnerships
- Mommy and Me
- Homework Help and Tablet Time
- Enrichment Programs
- Breakfast Club
- More



Strength 6: Parent Participation



- Classroom Volunteers
- Fundraising Support
- Safety Committee
- Mommy and Me Class
- Field Trips Chaperones
- A Diverse Community
- More



Challenge 1: Strengthen Academic Outcomes for all Students

Walden has a high number of students with learning challenges. We want to make sure that our instructional model allows for each student to learn at their optimum level.



Challenge & Strength: HS Academic Outcomes



Academic Performance Data

As a public charter school, Walden School of Liberal Arts is responsible for educating students according to the standards set for all Utah public schools. As of SY26, Utah uses the RISE and ASPIRE assessments for state accountability for elementary students. These tests measure proficiency and growth in three subjects: English Language Arts, Math, and Science.

USBE Academic Data

Table 5. USBE Accountability Performance of Walden School of Liberal Arts High School (9-12).

High School	SY22	SY23	SY24	UT 9-12 Average SY24
Achievement	Typical	Typical	Developing	--
English	53.1%	47.8%	42.9%	44.3%
Math	25.5%	15.6%	13.0%	31.8%
Science	32.8%	24.6%	23.7%	38.1%
Growth	Exemplary	Exemplary	Commendable	--
English	64.2%	71.1%	61.5%	49.2%
Math	72.7%	70.9%	48.0%	49.4%
Science	61.0%	50.8%	48.5%	49.4%
Low. 25% Growth	60.0%	67.9%	84.0%	59.1%
EL Progress	--	--	--	--
Adequate Progress	ND	ND	ND	33.0%
Reaching Proficiency	ND	ND	ND	7.9%
Postsecondary Readiness	Typical	Commendable	Exemplary	--
ACT 18+	66.7%	67.9%	71.4%	62.3%
4-Year Graduation Rate	90.9%	85.7%	96.0%	88.3%
Readiness Coursework	77.4%	100.0%	96.0%	79.2%

Table 5: The table shows the performance of Walden School of Liberal Arts on the ASPIRE assessments for the past 3 years.

No data was collected in 2020 due to the disruptions in education caused by the pandemic. Furthermore, the data collected in 2021 is for information only and will not be used for accountability purposes. (ND = No Data based on too small of sample size)

*Due to the impacts of COVID-19, interpret 2021 scores with caution. Comparisons of 2021 scores to other years or across student groups, schools, and districts are not advised.



Challenge & Strength: K8 Academic Outcomes



Table 6. USBE Accountability Performance of Walden School of Liberal Arts K-8.

Walden K-8	SY22	SY23	SY24	UT K-8 Average SY24
Achievement	Typical	Typical	Typical	--
English	38.5%	51.8%	61.5%	45.9%
Math	26.4%	31.0%	35.7%	44.8%
Science	45.0%	46.9%	65.5%	50.9%
Growth	Commendable	Exemplary	Commendable	--
English	55.5%	73.4%	58.0%	50.9%
Math	62.7%	71.1%	50.9%	51.2%
Science	53.7%	58.2%	62.5%	51.0%
Low. 25% Growth	47.1%	78.7%	61.8%	61.1%
EL Progress	Critical Needs	--	--	--
Adequate Progress	20.0%	ND	ND	36.6%
Reaching Proficiency	0.0%	ND	ND	12.0%
Early Literacy	--	--	--	--
Students on Grade Level	41.2%	40.0%	43.6%	48.2%
Students Making Progress	67.1%	63.5%	57.7%	67.9%

Table 5: The table shows the performance of Walden School of Liberal Arts on the RISE assessments for the past 3 years.

No data was collected in 2020 due to the disruptions in education caused by the pandemic. Furthermore, the data collected in 2021 is for information only and will not be used for accountability purposes. (ND = No Data based on too small of sample size)

Due to the impacts of COVID-19, interpret 2021 scores with caution. Comparisons of 2021 scores to other years or across student groups, schools, and districts are not advised.



School Improvement Goal 1: **Improve school wide mathematics proficiency**

Raise mathematics proficiency scores by 3% per year in third, sixth, and ninth grades.



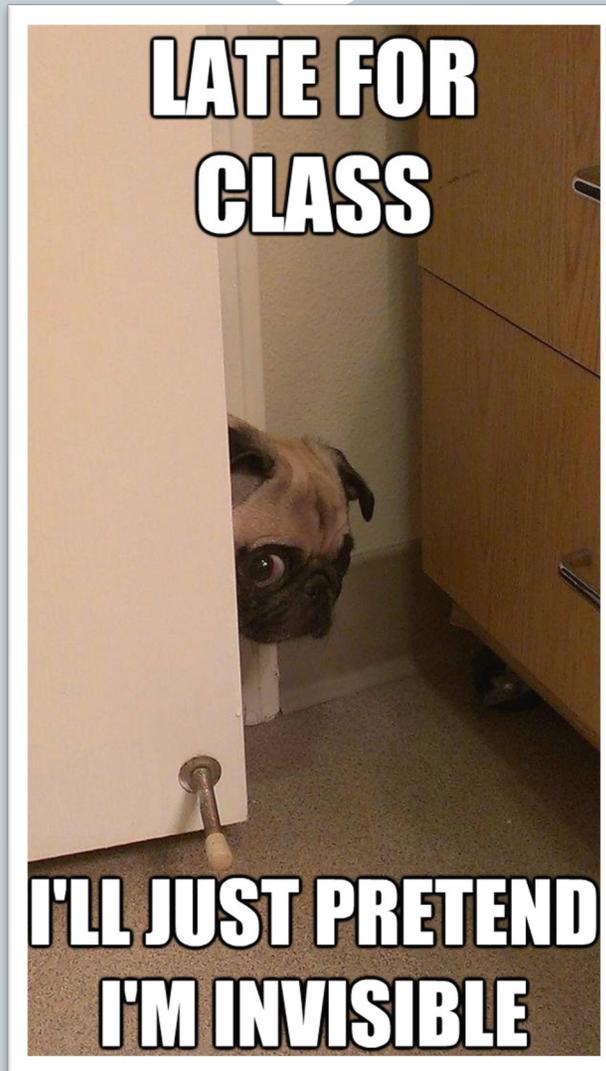
Challenge 2: Improving Schoolwide Attendance



Transportation is perhaps the biggest challenge facing Utah charter school families.

However, data show that regular school attendance is a signal indicator of school and lifelong success.

School Improvement Goal 2: Improve Attendance & Timely Arrival



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THIS MEANS THAT:

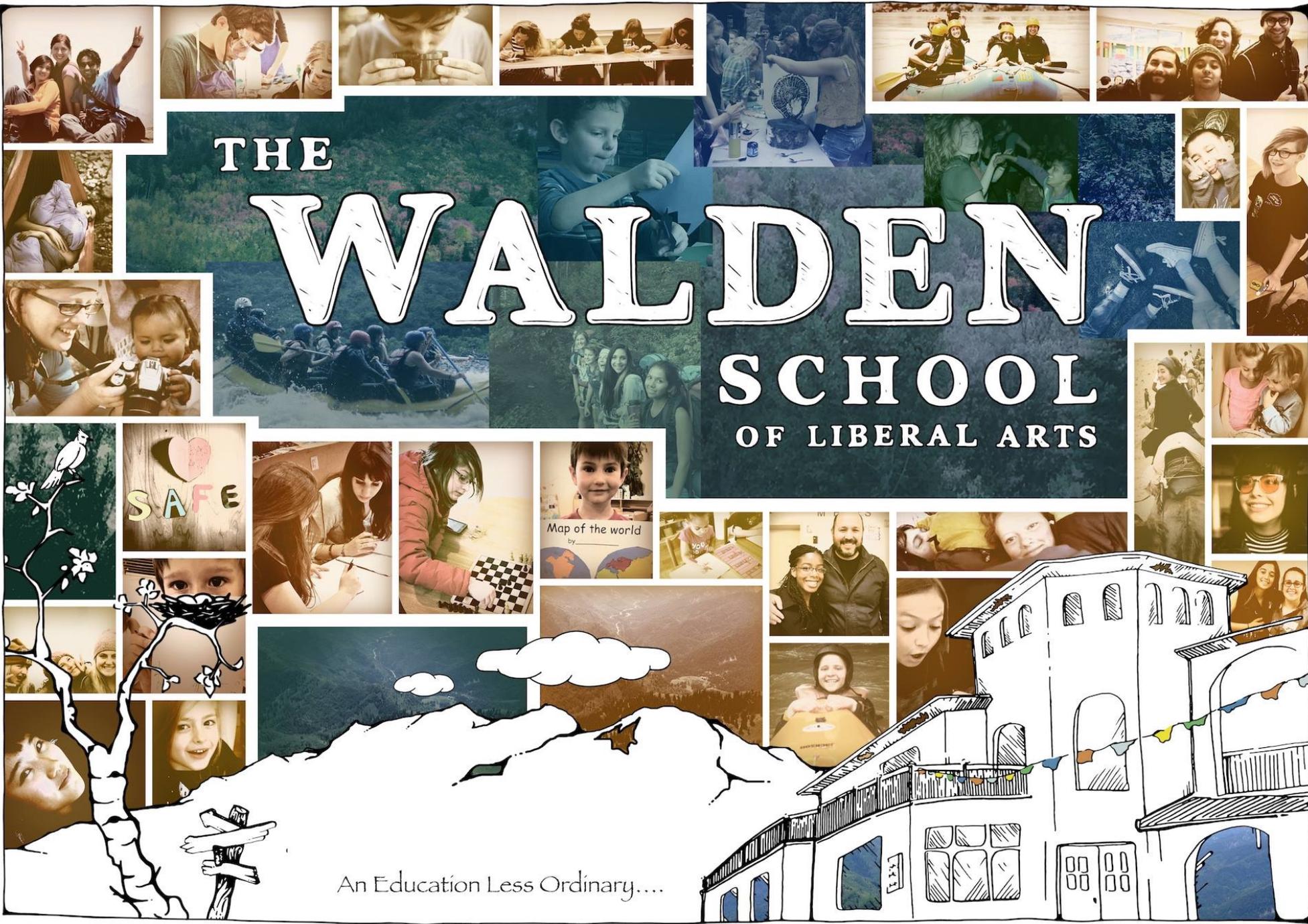
- ❖ **WE HAVE A LARGE ENOUGH PERCENTAGE OF FAMILIES THAT FALL INTO THE QUALIFYING RANGE OF LOW INCOME.**
- ❖ **THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT GIVES US FUNDING TO USE SCHOOLWIDE TO IMPROVE LEARNING OUTCOMES.**
- ❖ **YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE INVOLVED!**

How Can You be Involved?



- 1. VOLUNTEER**
- 2. ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR ASSESSMENT PROCESSES AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**
- 3. REVIEW THESE HANDOUTS:**
 1. Parental Involvement Policy
 2. School-Parent-Student Compact
 3. School Report Card
- 4. ATTEND/REQUEST REGULAR STUDENT PROGRESS MEETINGS**
- 5. SHARE YOUR IDEAS ON HOW WE CAN BEST SERVE WALDEN STUDENTS**

THE WALDEN SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS



An Education Less Ordinary....

