

THE WARRIOR CHRONICLE

Walters Middle School * Fremont, CA * November 19, 2022

Mrs. Edelman's passion for writing leads to her first novel

Ruby Willson Reporter

Special Education teacher, Mrs. Edelman has recently published her fourth book and her first ever novel, [A Lesson Learned](#). Mrs. Edelman was inspired to write this book by someone who used to be her colleague. Her book was published on September 14, 2022.

"When I go through difficult things I tend to write stories about them to process it," said Mrs. Edelman.

Mrs. Edelman was in the military for three and a half years, so to deal with the nightmares she had, she wrote stories. She always wrote stories ever since a young age, so she decided it was time to pursue her passion.

To write this book, Mrs. Edelman attempted to imagine herself in the storyline to see what she would do next. She thought about the outcome that she wanted and planned the outcome before she finished the book.



Photo from Soundharya Kumaresan
Mrs. Edelman published her first novel titled, [A Lesson Learned](#) on September 14.

Mrs. Edelman loves writing (especially murder mysteries) and she enters a lot of writing contests.

Ms. Gai, the 8th grade counselor, said that Mrs. Edelman's ability to write a book while also being

a teacher is a huge accomplishment and that the process must have taken a lot of time and patience. All of the teachers and staff are very impressed with Mrs. Edelman's accomplishment.

After she wrote the novel, Mrs. Edelman felt excited. However, it was also nerve racking to think that people would read the novel that she wrote.

"I think it's great that there's a teacher at Walters who is pursuing other goals in addition to being a teacher. This encourages others to not feel limited by their occupation and instead shows others that multiple careers are possible," said parent Andrea Willson.

If anyone wants to add a new book to their reading list go check out [A Lesson Learned](#), and support Mrs. Edelman.

PROUD Warrior Tickets encourage and reward positive behavior

Riya Venkadesan Reporter

Have you heard about the golden PROUD Warrior Tickets? The letters PROUD stand for perseverance, respect, open-mindedness, understanding, and dedication.

The PROUD Warrior Ticket concept was generated this year. Students can obtain golden tickets from staff members by displaying any of the traits listed on the tickets. But why was the golden ticket created in the first place? Ms. Tibbs, one of the assistant principals, explained, "It was created to motivate kids about school."

Each week, one winner is chosen from each grade at random. That person receives a prize such as candy, a pencil pouch, a front-of-the-line lunch



Photo by Anika Phair
PROUD Warrior tickets offer potential prizes for students who show good behavior and have a positive mindset.

ticket, or access to the Wellness Center.

Some students find it exciting whenever they win a PROUD Warrior ticket, but the idea also has a downside.

Some people get demotivated because they do not win and lose hope of winning the raffle.

But, Mrs. Lemke found a potential solution. "Perhaps in one week, we can have five 6th graders win the raffle and the same for the 7th and 8th," she mentioned.

On the other hand, people who won felt really happy. For example, Sabrina Nian, a 7th grader, said, "I like the golden [PROUD Warrior] tickets and I get to be recognized. It also gives me motivation."

In conclusion, the PROUD Warrior Tickets reward students for commendable behavior and gives the motivation to keep going.

Staff Feature: New 6th grade math and science teacher, Mr. Chizek

Fernas Zaidan Reporter

Mr Chizek is a brand new 6th grade teacher. He teaches math and science in room 41. He also teaches innovations in room 50.

Mr. Chizek came to Walters this year. He used to teach at Patterson Elementary School and Oliveira Elementary School. He came here to teach 6th graders since many elementary schools were moving 6th graders to middle schools. He enjoyed teaching 6th graders at elementary schools, so he followed them up to middle school.

Mr. Chizek enjoys teaching because he likes to help students discover new things.

He mentioned that one difference between elementary school and middle school is how



Photos by Anika Phair

Mr. Chizek teaches math, science, and innovations and is new to Walters this year.

there are different periods and classes throughout the day, so he has to teach multiple different groups of students when he is used to teaching just one.

He has been teaching for four years and likes how Walters has some friendly students. He also said that he likes working in the newly

constructed buildings. One thing he dislikes about Walters is how there is no recess or other breaks that would make everyone's morning a little bit happier.

Mr. Chizek is adjusting fine with his new students and new schedule.

Staff Feature: Mrs. Jennings joins school as an ELD Specialist

Qassim Emir Reporter

Mrs. Jennings is one of the new teachers at Walters. She grew up in Fremont. The environment she grew up in was very loving and caring. She went to Horner Middle School and Irvington High School. Mrs. Jennings teaches Level 1 ELD for newcomers to the USA and is the school's ELD Specialist. She loves and cares for all of her students and co-workers.

When she was younger, she wanted to have a job with lots of meaning and a job that can not only help herself, but help other people too. She came to Walters to make other people's lives better and to teach others. Mrs. Jennings thinks



Photo by Anika Phair

Ms. Jennings helps people who are new to English learn the language.

that teaching at Walters has been a good experience so far. She says teaching students is something that she loves to do.

Before she came to Walters, she worked at the district office for ELD. She has contributed her teaching skills and years of experience into teaching students at Walters. She started teaching and working for the district in 2009.

Ms. Anita, an office staff member, said, "My first impression of Mrs. Jennings was that she was very friendly, had a bright mood, and was very loving and cheerful."

Ms. Anita added, "Parents have said she has been very easy to work with."

Mrs. Jennings is a great addition to the classroom because of her loving attitude and experience.

**Happy Native American
Heritage Month**



Photo from Google Images

First-Hand Account: Saving water to end the California drought

Sana Wahab Reporter

Rain is an important part of our environment. In July, August, and September, California gets the most rain. Currently, California is in a massive drought, and we need 18.4 inches of rain to exit the drought, which is 140% of the average rain we get throughout the year.

Ms. Gentry, a P.E teacher, mentioned that the drought here in California is horrible.

Since California's water supply is limited, I want to do my best to save as much water as I can. To save as much water as I can, I use my dishwasher only when it's full so I can save as much water as possible. I also don't water my lawn because it's better to let it die than to worsen the drought. One last thing I do is take short showers. A lot of people take massively long showers and waste gallons of water, so I try my best to take the shortest showers possible. I also brush my teeth in the shower so I don't have to use tap water.



Photo from Google Image

The recent rain is helping the drought, but California still needs a lot more in order to get out of this massive drought.

“The rain helps us with our drought a lot,” Ms. Gentry commented, “I like the rain because when I’m not working, it's very peaceful. It's good for my plants and our environment and the state needs it very badly.”

Jose, a campus supervisor, stated, “The drought is awful. This drought isn't only in California, it's also in north Mexico, as well.”

Sreshta Vadakandra, a 7th grader, mentioned, “I wish the drought did not exist so that I could shower for longer.”

Sreshta also commented, “When I brush my teeth, I always make sure the tap is off so I don't waste water. I also make sure that my dirty laundry is full before I wash it so that I don't waste water either.”

We need more rain in order to exit this terrible drought. In the meantime, we need to conserve water in order to help get California out of this terrible drought.

Staff Feature: New school librarian, Mrs. Subha Varadan

Megan Helgesen Reporter

The school library is a very useful place where you can study, work, and read in a quiet place. This year, we have a new librarian, Mrs. Varadan. This year is her first year working as a librarian. Mrs. Varadan said, “I enjoy sharing my love for books and spending time with the kids that come to the library.”

The new school library website has a lot of information about events. The website has information about holidays happening all around the world including Day of the Dead and many other holidays. It also shows artwork that students here at Walters made.

7th grader, Zahrah Olajide commented, “...I like the school's library website because it brings attention to other topics and gives information about it ... which I enjoy.”

Spending time in the library can be very calming and students can



Photo by Shrinidhi Ivaturi and Anika Phair

Mrs. Shubha Varadan is the new librarian at Walters. She came to replace Ms. Kent-Berge, who retired last year.

get more work done because of the quiet environment. Although, only a certain number of students are allowed in the library during lunch due to students being irresponsible and roaming the courtyard instead of going into the library.

Students in Walters seem to like the new librarian. 7th grader, Paloma

Campos said, “I like the new librarian. She is really kind and I think she enjoys her job very much.”

Before Mrs. Varadan worked as a librarian, she did yard duty. She always enjoys sharing her love of books to students and spending valuable time with them.

Black Friday creates crowds of crazy shoppers in stores, outlets and malls

Sara Ben Ali Reporter

Black Friday takes place on the fourth Friday of November- always the day after Thanksgiving. That means this year, Black Friday will be on the 25th of November. It originates in the US, but is observed in many other countries around the world, like the United Kingdom, France, and Germany.

As many know, Black Friday is a day on which lots of stores offer many appealing sales, deals, and discounted prices on a variety of items.

Lochan Polisetty, 7th grader, said, "It's great, you get lots of deals, and that you can buy at the lowest prices".

Many do their holiday shopping on this day as well.

Tricelle Alexis Mendoza, 8th grader, said the day is a "good thing for Christmas, since you can "buy more expensive gifts."

But Black Friday signifying the coming of great deals and low prices hasn't always been the case.

According to Investopedia, the phrase Black Friday used to commonly refer to the day in 1869 when the gold market crashed. However, that is



Photo for Google Images
People shop early for holiday gift on black Friday with the annual sales. With all the deals on black Friday crowds are crazy

unrelated to the development of how we use the phrase today.

There was usually an Army-Navy football game on the Saturday following Thanksgiving, and many tourists and fans would come over in advance. Not only was it really crowded, there was lots of traffic, and shoplifters took advantage of the commotion as well.

This, coupled with the fact that on top of the police not being able to take the day off, they also had to

take longer shifts, led them to dread the day, thus calling it Black Friday.

Meanwhile, the librarian, Mrs. Subha, said, "[Black Friday] is great for businesses. We consumers buy into the whole thing and buy a lot more." So how did it go from chaos in the city to chaos in the stores? Well, city merchants saw potential in Black Friday.

But before getting to the point of marking the start of holiday shopping, Black Friday still had some negative connotations that city merchants tried to erase. They tried calling it "Big Friday" instead of Black Friday to put the day in a better light, but that didn't stick.

However, the "red to black" concept worked, where according to Britannica, businesses that "operate at a financial loss, or are 'in the red,'" gain profits from all those sales that day, or are put "in the black." The name stuck- so much so that people began to misunderstand the actual origin of the name.

Eventually, Black Friday as we know it, spread to the rest of the US, and to other countries.

WALTERS' SPIRIT WEAR IS NOW AVAILABLE



Check your school email or Infinite Campus for link to Spirit Wear. SALE \$20 off when you spend \$125 or more. Use code SNEAK20

People celebrate the eight days of Hanukkah with family and friends

Ruby Willson Reporter

This Jewish holiday is a celebration of lights for eight days of playing games, celebrating family, and eating traditional foods, for example, that all started in Jerusalem 167 BC. This holiday usually begins in late November or in December. This year Hanukkah starts on December 18 to December 26.

In 167 BC, a king named Antiochus invaded Jerusalem and tried to get the Jewish people to worship Greek gods. He destroyed their holy temple and all the relics inside, but a Jewish group called the Maccabees fought against Antiochus and defeated him. The Maccabees returned to their destroyed temple and found the *menorah*. They realized that there was barely any oil left and only enough for one day. They lit it anyway, and amazingly it stayed lit for eight whole days.

During this holiday, people use the *menorah*, which includes eight arms that hold the candles, and the candle in the middle (called the *shamash*) that is used to light all the



Photo from Google Images

Hanukah is celebrated by playing the dreidel eating latkes, and lighting the menorah for eight days with friends and family.

other candles each day. On each day one candle is lit until all eight are lit.

To celebrate the oil lasting eight days Jewish families mostly eat foods that are fried in oil. This includes *latkes*, which are fried potatoes, jelly-filled doughnuts, and *gels* that are chocolate coins. But they also aren't allowed to eat pork, shellfish, and meat with milk or bread

Hayden Tesler, 7th grader, said, "I like making food with my

parents, latkes and *challah*, which is a sweet bread."

One of the traditions of Hanukkah is exchanging gifts, this is called *mishloach manot*.

Carly Mares, an 8th grader, said, "It depends on what family you have, sometimes you get it on all days, and others get them on the last."

They sing songs like "The Chanukah Song," "Light One Candle," "Maoz Tzur" and "I have a Little Dreidel." Mainly children play but sometimes adults play dreidel using chocolate gels or any small thing that comes in bigger quantities.

Ms. Gonzalez, a 6th grade counselor, explained that the school should try to include other holidays, like Hanukkah, and traditions so that all students feel included and know that their culture is represented in this school.

Hanukkah is a lively and festive holiday that involves many fun traditions. Hanukkah Sameach! Or Happy Hanukkah!

Families and friends patiently await the Christmas season

Marlee Tubera Reporter

Most people like Christmas because they like to receive and give presents to others and also spend time with friends and family. Some people also like to do Secret Santa where they pick family members or friend's names but don't tell anyone who they got and get them gifts

Most people like to decorate their houses for Christmas using lights. It can be traced all the way back to Yule, a Norse tradition celebrating midwinter. The tradition involves drinking "Yule," (an ale) while watching the "Yule" log burn. Lighting the Yule log was believed to summon the sun's return while driving away evil spirits.

Vincent Le, 8th grader mentioned that he likes December because it is cold and his birthday is in December. So when Christmas comes, he gets to have extra presents because of his birthday. He also mentioned that he



Photo from Google Images

People celebrate Christmas in different ways compared to the traditions from hundreds of years ago.

thinks that some people like to celebrate it early because of gifts and because it's where people get to wear warm clothes.

**Don't worry,
Winter Break
is coming
soon, week
of 12/23-1/6**



MESA club highlights creativity and fosters innovation in students

Tristan Kyle Posadas Reporter

MESA Club is a part of the MESA program that started in the Bay Area with the goal of providing academic support and resources to help increase the number of students, specifically minority students, graduate from engineering programs. The term MESA itself stands for math, engineering, science, and achievement.

MESA does many things, but the primary thing they do is plan, create, and build an engineering project.

Mr. Bae, one of the 8th grade science teachers and the sole advisor of MESA, explained, "MESA club is where students work on an engineering project, and use that project to compete against other students in the bay area." He also added, "The competition is held in March of every school year. Students will compete at California University East Bay."

The competition consists of building an engineering project to test and compete against other students, and MESA helps students at our school practice for that competition. Students in MESA get to experience working in a team, practice teamwork and cooperation, learn how to think like an engineer, and also practice working out the flaws in their own designs and prototypes.

The club itself was created 17 years ago, started at Walters by Mr. Kuhlmann and Mr. Kilcrease. Mr.



Photo by
Tristan Kyle
Posadas

Some projects people can make in MESA are Moon Base, MESA Machine, and Math Escape Room.

Kuhlmann no longer advises the club and Mr. Kilcrease has retired from teaching, but Mr. Kuhlmann stated, "It presents an excellent experience for students if students are willing to participate. There are many opportunities through MESA to grow in science and technology.

MESA is a place where students can have fun while also learning valuable skills throughout the school year. Students learn how to think like an engineer and how to design a project while also fixing problems that may arise throughout the design process. Daniyal Satpalkar, an 8th grader and the club president, explained, "MESA helps you discover skills you might not have known about."

Eli Meza Boch, an 8th grader in MESA, also said that he enjoyed MESA "because you get to be with your friends while also working together to compete in a fun and educational way."

The club meets every Thursday and the meetings start at 2:30 PM and end at 3:30 PM. The meetings are hosted at Mr. Bae's classroom by Mr. Bae at room 36. You can find a Google classroom code to the MESA Google classroom online at [walters-fusd-ca.schoolloop.com](https://www.walters-fusd-ca.schoolloop.com). Anyone can join, but there is a limited amount of space, which is why Mr. Bae is making students compete in a small competition to stay in MESA, as there are around twice as many students the club can hold.

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NOVEMBER/DECEMBER CALENDAR

November 22-26: Thanksgiving Break

December 5-9: Season of Giving-
Adopt an Angel

December 5: Flag Football Tournament
@ lunch

December 14-20: Winter Door
Decorating Contest

December 23- January 6: Winter Break

K-pop fans have varying takes on BTS joining Korea's military

Riya Venkadesan Reporter

The K-pop industry's leading band is BTS. The band was created by director Keeree Kanjanapas in 2013. Seven members comprise the band: RM, Jin, Suga, J-Hope, Jimin, V, and Jungkook. BTS is an acronym for Bulletproof Scouts. It is called Bangtan Sonyeondan in Korean. BTS is more than just a band; it serves as motivation and a source of inspiration.

Some fans are concerned about BTS joining the military. The primary cause of the fans' anxiety is their concern that BTS won't make it through the military.

7th grader Aditi Baswapuram Chaudary commented, "I like their comedy, entertainment, fashion, motivative lyrics, and their music...I love their friendship, synchronization and the way they support each other...I feel neutral about them [going to the military] but I feel happy because they're going to fulfill their duties as Korean citizens."

Biswamohini "Ripun" Panda, 7th grader, stated, "I think that they're going to come back but sad that they are gone for two years... They have good songs that have a vibe to them."

7th grader Kirsten Caleigh Malicad has been a BTS fan for years. She explained, "BTS is the reason I love myself, their music cheered me up when I felt down. I will miss them but I know they will always come back."



Photo from Google Images

Under South Korean law, men between the ages of 18 and 35 are required to do 18-21 months of military service. This conscription has been going on for 65 years since its start in 1957.

The Swiss make world record for longest train

Finnegan Barszo Reporter

A Swiss train has broken the record of longest train while on its first trip. The entire journey of the trip took about an hour. While the train was making its trip, crowds of people lined up around several parts of the Alps to watch the train on its journey. During this journey, the train traveled under 22 tunnels and 48 bridges. This journey, as well as the train, was done to commemorate Switzerland's first railway.

7th grader Caleb Del Rosario explained that while he has never ridden a train before, he would really like to ride this one.

According to CNN.com, this train has 100 coaches and requires 21 technicians to operate it. Also, the train itself has a system that can let the drivers, conductors and other train workers know the speed and direction of the train itself.

Mr Buchter, 8th grade core support, described that riding this train could give people a lot of opportunities to have meetings and private discussions. He also added that you could easily get lost on this train.



Photo from CNN travel, by Philipp Schmidli
The record attempt was organized by the Rhaetische Bahn (Rhaetian Railway, or RhB), supported by Swiss train-builder Stadler.

According to smithsonian.com, the creators of the train had been doing trial runs and testing safety features for several months, trying to make sure the train would work correctly. The train track itself was completed in the early 20th century and is still currently used today. The previous record was also held by this same company.

7th grader Brandon Perez argued that the length of the train could be possibly dangerous but the safety equipment would definitely help out. For a long time, this train will most likely hold the world record for longest train in the world.

TURKEY TROT

THANK YOU TO
EVERYONE WHO
PARTICIPATED!

CONGRATULATIONS TO
MS. HAYWARD'S
HOMEROOM (1ST) AND MR.
SACH'S HOMEROOM (2ND),
FOR WINNING!

