



Frequently Asked Questions

What is a Walk-A-Thon?

In short, a Walk-A-Thon (WAT) is a fundraising event. Over the next few weeks, students are asked to collect pledges and track them in their pledge sheets. On the day of the WAT, all students will walk laps around the field for a set time of 30 minutes.

When is the ÉMJS Walk-A-Thon?

The 3rd Annual ÉMJS WAT will take place on **April 26, 2024**. Grades K-2 will walk for 30 min in the morning, Grades 3-5 will walk for 30 min in the afternoon.

Why is the PAC organizing a Walk-A-Thon?

Money raised will go towards a new outdoor classroom and ecological learning lab that PAC is planning in consultation with ÉMJS teachers. You can learn more about this project here: rb.gy/2u6u1b. Please see the attached info sheet about the outdoor classroom project on the reverse of the pledge sheet. We hope that students can share this information with potential supporters when collecting pledges.

Do students collect pledges based on laps?

NO. Students do not collect pledges on a “per lap” basis but rather collect a lump sum. The day of the WAT is for students to have fun and celebrate their fundraising efforts.

Who should my child(ren) ask for pledges?

Family near or far, friends, neighbours, coaches, teammates...offer mailbox pick up or drop off or ask for an e-transfer.

When should my child(ren) return the pledge forms?

Students can start collecting pledges as soon as they get the pledge sheet. Students should return pledge sheets to their teachers during the week of the WAT (April 22-26).

How should we submit all the pledge money collected by my child(ren)?

- In order to reduce confusion, misplaced cash, and save our volunteers time we would like to encourage families to submit their total pledge amount online at ÉMJS.hotlunches.net or sd61.schoolcashionline.com if you would like a receipt for tax purposes. You can do this during the week of **April 22-26**.
- If submitting via our PAC's hotlunch website, please select **2024 WALK-A-THON Pledges** in the order box and follow the instructions from there.

- If submitting via the SD61 schoolcashionline website, navigate to the donations page, please select **Margaret Jenkins Elementary-PAC** as the Fund Destination and **be sure to include in the message box “Walk-A-Thon”**.
- If your child is bringing in cash, please do so in a clearly labeled envelope, stating your child’s NAME, DIVISION, TEACHER’S NAME and AMOUNT. Thank you for your support!

Are there prizes?

Oh, yes, there are prizes! See this year’s list below.

Amount of Pledges	Prize
\$40	Walk-A-Thon T-Shirt
\$80	2 gift cards for a kid’s scoop at 49 Below Ice Cream (+ prizes above)
\$125	Oak Bay Recreational Centre 5 punch pass (+ prizes above)
\$200	\$15 Gift Card to Ivy’s Books (+ prizes above)
\$250	Walk-A-Thon Bucket Hat (+ prizes above)

Are there any other prizes?

We are so glad you asked, YES, there are more prizes. The primary and intermediate classes with the highest total money raised will each get a PIZZA PARTY.

But are there more prizes?

You bet there is! Every pledge sheet returned, *regardless* of the amount of money pledged (even \$0!), is entered into a raffle for a \$200 Gift Certificate to Oak Bay Bikes. No pledges collected? Just return your pledge sheet with your name on it by April 26 to be entered.

When will the prizes be delivered?

Incentive prizes will be tallied after the WAT and should be delivered within four weeks after. We will communicate should there be an unexpected delay.

This sounds so fun, how can I help?

Great question, thanks for asking! You can sign-up to help with the WAT here <https://rb.gy/age71c> or email us at exec@emjspac.ca. We will need help day-of and in the following weeks!

I have more questions, who do I ask?

Please direct any questions to exec@emjspac.ca, we would love to hear from you.



Student's First & Last Name

Parent Email

Teacher

Division

****Please return this form to your teacher during the week of April 22-26, 2024****

Sponsor's Name	Pledge Amount	Collected? (Y/N)
TOTAL AMOUNT OF PLEDGES COLLECTED		

Pledges have been submitted via (check all that apply, online submissions preferred):
 emjs.hotlunches.net sd61.schoolcashonline.com cash in envelope

**** Please circle T-shirt size if pledges ≥ \$40** YOUTH: S / M / L / XL ADULT: S / M / L / XL**

Parent signature: _____

For committee use only – Prize level achieved						Counter's Initials:					
\$40 T-shirt		\$80 Ice cream		\$125 Punch Pass		\$200 Ivy's Books		\$250 Bucket Hat			

WE ARE FUNDRAISING FOR: THE ÉMJS OUTDOOR CLASSROOM & ECOLOGICAL LEARNING LAB

What is an outdoor classroom & ecological learning lab?

- An outdoor space on the school grounds that allows students and the community to play, learn, explore, gather and connect with nature.

Where will the ÉMJS Outdoor Classroom & Learning Lab be?

- On the school field near the rocks and existing Garry Oak meadow

What will they look like?

- We are designing the space with input from teachers. This photo shows a few of the ideas so far including:
 - o a covered area with seating
 - o sensory garden with native plants
 - o pathways



When will they be ready for students to use?

- This is a long-term project for the PAC and the school! Construction will happen in phases. We hope it can start in 2024/25, depending in part on how much money we raise, and on SD61 schedules.
- **Phase 1:** Outdoor classroom construction (covered seating area)
- **Phase 2:** Rainwater garden & rainfall management
- **Phase 3:** Native plant garden & pathways

How much will it cost?

- We are working on our budget! Similar outdoor learning spaces can cost up to 100K. For reference, previous PAC-supported outdoor projects at ÉMJS have ranged from \$40,000 to \$80,000. We have already raised \$64,688 from the last two Walk-A-Thons!!

What have we done so far:

- Consulted with ÉMJS Admin & staff, SD61 Facilities, & community partners
- Created a vision board that can be shared with the community
- Consulting with EMJS Admin & staff, & SD61 Facilities to ensure designs submitted for permits are safe, sustainable and address the learning needs of children and staff.

Why should you donate?

- This project will allow ÉMJS students to connect with nature and help them value and protect the natural world around them.
- Green schoolyards like this improve student learning & positively impact physical, mental, and emotional development.
- This space will be an environmental legacy for ÉMJS and our community.



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