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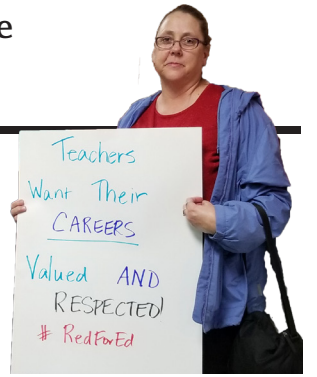
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Washington High School



# THE hatchet

Telling the truth since 1916

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## Teachers demand higher salaries

By JAYANTH PASUPULATI  
Staff Reporter

Starting Monday, January 7, 2019, Fremont Unified School District (FUSD) teachers and other Fremont Unified District Teachers Association (FUDTA) members officially adopted the Work to Rule policy within the school premises.

Work to Rule is described as an action in which employees are entitled to do no more than the minimum required by contract rules. In other words, teachers only work during school hours— which according to the 2016-2019 contract between the FUSD and FUDTA is from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., excluding the 30-minute lunch break. Teachers participating in Work to the Rule are required to be on campus only during the contractually required hours, return emails or phone calls during school hours, and need to follow all the safety and legal requirements.

The Work to Rule policy was implemented when FUSD raised on-schedule salaries from 0.5% to 0.71%, despite the state-initiated 3.71% increase and the 2% increase that is required by law. But, the FUDTA has proposed a 4% increase in teachers salaries on June 2018 and they have remained unchanged since the past six negotiation sessions.

On December 18, 2018, a FUDTA meeting occurred where members needed to vote on

the decision of adopting Work to Rule. Washington High School FUDTA members needed at least

an 80% vote in favor of Working to the Rule. Finally, On December 21, 2018, Work to Rule was passed and teachers didn't work any longer than what they were paid for.

Prior to voting for Work to the Rule, Washington FUDTA members were passing out leaflets in the early morning and after school to parents in an effort to spread information about the district's stance on teachers' salaries. In addition to Work to Rule, Washington teachers are wearing red every Friday in support of "Red for Ed" to raise awareness of the national campaign for fair teacher salaries.

Similar to FUSD, several school districts in California are confronted with the "Teacher's Pay" crisis. For instance, the United Teachers Los Angeles strike in Los Angeles at the start of January and the East Bay Coalition of Public Educators rally in Oakland on Saturday, January 12, 2019, brought the teacher's pay crisis in California to the attention of national media. To put this fact in context, California is a highly taxed state at a 12.3% income tax, but has a lower per-pupil average of \$9,417 than the national average of \$12,526.

In a statement on the FUSD website, district officials point to the lack of sufficient state funds as a central cause for the "Teacher's Pay" strike.

The Work to Rule initiative adopted by the FUSD teachers is part of a statewide crisis to promote giving fair wages to educators.

*"The FUSD Board and the school district are very motivated toward coming to a settlement with the teachers union because we know that they should be focused on their classroom and not negotiations."*

*"Although it is disheartening that we have had to negatively affect students by working to the rule, I participate because I want the community to understand what public education looks like when teachers stop volunteering our time for free."*

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# Statement from *The Hatchet* editorial team

In this special news edition of *The Hatchet*, we reached out to teachers, administrators, and district officials to submit letters regarding their individual experiences and perspectives on the Teacher Pay Hike conflict. In order to prevent bias, each statement was drafted with the liberty of anonymity. However, some people we reached out to chose not to provide their input on the situation.

The FUSD Board and the school district are very motivated toward coming to a settlement with the teachers union because we know that they should be focused on their classroom and not negotiations.

While we are currently at Impasse, it is our hope we will be able to get to a resolution soon. This past summer, FUSD and FUDTA settled salary negotiations for the 2017-18 school year with a 1.05% one-time payment and a 1.05% ongoing raise applied to the existing salary schedule.

The agreement was ratified with over 88% of FUDTA membership supporting the settlement. Though the media has been touting excellent economic conditions in California and that public education is now “fully funded”, it is misleading statement in that it really means school districts have been restored to funding at the 2008 level - nowhere near enough to meet the needs of our schools and community in 2019 and beyond. Every year, the District’s contributions to the State Teachers’ Retirement (CALSTRS) have increased by approximately 2%, yet we are not funded by the state to cover those increases.

These factors, plus the extraordinarily high cost of living in the Bay Area, is certainly limiting our ability to pay teachers what we all know they are worth. Despite being the least funded, yet 2nd-largest, school district in Alameda County:

1. FUSD has a high teacher-retention rate of over 92% annually.
2. Between 2013 and 2018, FUDTA members have received a total of 15.95% in salary increases.
3. Beginning teachers in our district earn the 2nd-highest starting base salary in Alameda County.

4. Over 85% of our general fund budget is spent on employee salaries and benefits. We are very much aware of the high cost of living in the Bay area and how the prices of homes in Fremont have risen exponentially in recent years. We have reached out to the City of Fremont to see if there are ways to work on joint affordable housing projects.

There are also many areas in which teachers, staff, the District and Board all agree. All parties are working together to advocate for “Full and Fair Funding” from the State Legislature.

Together, we released a joint memo and recently attended a rally in Oakland to speak with one voice in support of our students. We also encourage everyone to contact their legislators and the Governor with this same message. Please visit our website for more information.

Michele Berke, Ph.D.  
FUSD Board of Trustees



FUSD Board members listen to comments during open forum.  
PHOTO BY JOE SCHNEIDER

What makes me want to Work the Rule after working in Fremont Unified School District for 23 years? Simple. RESPECT! How excited can a teacher get when offered a less than 1% raise? How annoying does it get having to fight for a “fair” contract year after year? It is truly redundant to say that living in the Bay Area is extremely expensive BUT IT REALLY TRULY is. A less than 1% raise is not even a Cost of Living Increase. So when I’m in my classroom teaching our students about people in history such as Cesar Chavez, Martin Luther King, Rosa Parks, and Alice Paul who have fought for very sensible causes, why too shouldn’t teachers do the same?

How exactly do I Work the Rule you ask? I 100% complete my contractual obligations. I no longer do all the extras that parents, students, and administration have come to appreciate. Instead of grading papers at home on my own time, I grade during school hours which takes more time and doesn’t allow for students and parents to get instant feedback on student work. I no longer answer emails (such as when parents want more details on an assigned oral report or field trip) during the weekend. I will decline meetings that are scheduled after my contractual work hours have been met. I leave school shortly after students leave not allowing for parents or students to stop by and ask for help or a quick conference.

I think about my assigned committee hours and if I should work more hours than I am allocated or just straight out stop even if there is more to complete. I will no longer search the internet for new and improved classroom practices, games, or alternative methods to teaching. I’m convinced most teachers do plenty of work above and beyond what is expected of them. I’m sure parents, students, and administrators appreciate our dedication.

It is my sincere hope and the hope of my fellow teachers that we get appreciated more than the 0.7% raise the district is offering us. Working the rule is not something we enjoy doing (or like in L.A. going on strike) but just as we teach our students, there are definitely issues worth fighting over. This is clearly one of them.

-Anonymous teacher from Parkmont Elementary School

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To whom it may concern:

Every year, teachers are getting a pay cut. Every year, due to inflation, teachers lose real purchasing power because their salaries stay the same. Teachers understand the demands and expectations that come with the profession and more than often work beyond those expectations and demands to put students first, but the people paying teachers and the general public don't seem to fully recognize this effort. This is why I am working the rule (or, well, trying).

Working the rule is the stop and recognition for both teachers and non-teachers of how underpaid teachers are for the unrealistic expectations of how much work - both mental and physical - teachers must do. Working the rule should be a wake-up call and a way for every non-teacher to recognize the unpaid work teachers do every day. From the countless hours of grading and lesson planning to supervising clubs and sports activities, most teachers are working hundreds of unpaid hours beyond their contractual expectations in the interest of bettering their students' chances at academic success - success which has proven to increase students' future salaries, job opportunities, and overall quality of life. Isn't it time teachers are given that same opportunity for overall life success?

-A concerned teacher

To whom it concerns,

Work to Rule has been a strong initiative and stands for even greater morals. It is admirable for all to see teachers—who are generally set as examples for us—to stand up for what they believe in ardent and passionate demonstrations.

However, it saddens me to say that I cannot fully experience the uplifting movement for all it's worth as I unintentionally became caught in the crossfire.

As a student, I have been long accustomed to the balance between teachers and administration and have enjoyed the benefits of such, including teachers serving as school club advisors or providing one-on-one time for extra tutoring.

This all changed, though, with Work to Rule. I found that the school clubs I participated in or the ones I was in charge of could no longer run properly, seeing a lower number of participants or a lack of activities. Teachers could no longer serve as effective advisors or give classroom space for clubs as a result of their restricted time.

Furthermore, the Work to Rule came at possibly one of the most inopportune times for students: finals.

Questions and concerns about finals went neglected, and students rushed around me to find time to talk to their teachers—which was nearly impossible, because the only time was allotted for classroom instruction.

The greatest issue was when grades needed to be submitted for first semester, a time when most students scrambled to do something about their grades. Yet, what stresses us the most is the fact that we are almost defenseless in the situation. We have no control on either side—the administration or the teachers'—and cannot provide a solution for either.

While undeniably the purpose Work to Rule is completely understandable, its target unfortunately hit the strongest on the wrong group: the students, who are now the greatest victims in a struggle they had no place being in.

-A deeply disgruntled student

Dear Fremont community,

As a teacher who chooses to participate in Work to Rule, I choose to be a part of a larger nationwide movement around the professionalization of teaching. Teachers are professionals, yet we are rarely treated as such, despite the time, energy, treasure, and talent we have dedicated to our craft. Institutions like the district are taking advantage of how much we care. We have been martyrs for too long, but the reality is that expecting teachers to work without just compensation is an injustice itself. The culture around education needs to change, and it starts with us.

-A fearless educator

# Q & A with Principal Moran

*In order to obtain an administrative point of view, Mr. Moran responds to Work to Rule*

**Q: As the principal, where do you stand on this issue? Do you support the efforts of the union/teachers or do you see their efforts as futile? Or are you neutral?**

**A:** I don't believe as principal that I can have a public position on this. This is obviously something that is being negotiated by the teachers union, their labor group, and the management of the district and the school board. But I do believe that both groups are honestly pursuing agendas that they think are in the best interests of Fremont, and I think that there are smart people involved on both sides. And I think that an agreement that's good for kids in Fremont will be reached.

**Q: Why is teacher pay an ongoing issue considering the longevity of the problem?**

**A:** Well, I think that in general, education is underfunded and that we need to make efforts to fund our entire educational process at a higher level.

**Q: What makes this year's work-to-rule different from last years?**

**A:** I believe this year the work to rule started earlier in the year. I believe last year's started later in the year, and this year, it started a couple weeks ago. That is the biggest difference.

**Q: How is Work to Rule affecting your life both professionally and personally?**

**A:** It's not really something affecting my life personally at all, but as a professional, obviously it brings some challenges to getting things done around the school. But we're all working together. We're all professionals and it's working out fine.

**Q: Do you think that Work to Rule is affecting students more than it is the district or administration?**

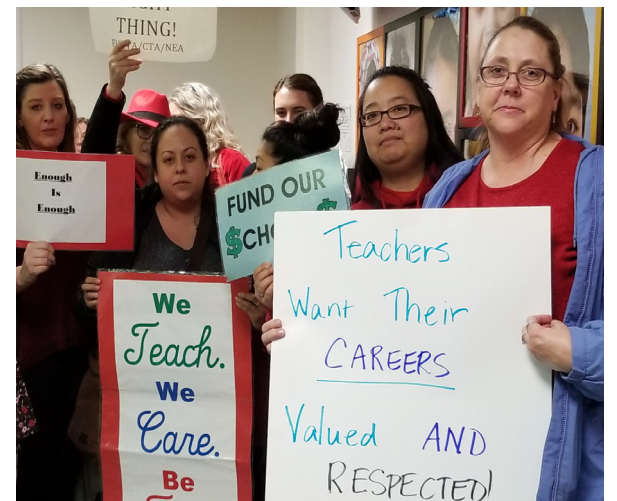
**A:** I hope this is not affecting students.

**Q: What would you suggest students do if they are affected by it?**

**A:** If students have an issue, of course, they are always welcome to see the administration on the Washington campus, and hopefully, we can work to find a solution to any problem that comes up.

I love teaching. I am passionate about the subjects I teach. I love my students. For the past eight years, I have worked countless unpaid hours in order to accomplish through teaching tasks that help students succeed - like planning interactive lessons and providing timely and meaningful feedback. I have spent thousands of dollars on school supplies and treats for my students. However, I am exhausted. I barely see my family. I live in a small apartment. I can't afford to buy a home in the Bay Area, so I commute three hours a day. Although it is disheartening that we have had to negatively affect students by working to the rule, I participate because I want the community to understand what public education looks like when teachers stop volunteering our time for free. If the district does not offer us the cost-of-living raise that they received from the state, I would support a teacher strike. It is important that the district values and respects educators; this not only contributes to morale and allows teachers to continue spending time and money on students, but it helps retain teachers in this district. You can't put students first if you put educators last.

-Anonymous teacher from Washington High School



Teachers hold up large signs asking for fair wages. PHOTO PROVIDED BY JOE SCHNEIDER



Teachers show up to an FUSD board meeting wearing red. As a child hugs her mother in support, others attempt to address the gravity of Work to Rule. Despite love for their jobs, many teachers are clearly upset about their lack of pay. PHOTO PROVIDED BY JOE SCHNEIDER

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The entire legal profession - lawyers, judges, law teachers - have become so mesmerized with the stimulation of the courtroom contest that we tend to forget that we ought to be healers. Should lawyers not be healers? Healers, not procurers? Healers, not hired guns?  
 -Chief Justice Warren Burger

Litigation... merely continues conflict and offends nature; it does not heal.  
 -Confucius

A dispute is a problem to be solved, not a battle to be won.  
 -Mahatma Gandhi



## Crow's nest



### The ins and outs of social cliques

By HANNAH MARTINEZ-CROW  
Opinion Columnist

High school students will always be subjected to different social groups because of the way that society functions. Social cliques have always existed. In those typical high school movies, there are always completely separate groups of students. We always see the jocks, the band kids, the populars, but is that the case in our very own Washington High School? To an extent, yes, this is the case. Obviously we don't see such a huge divide as the media makes it out to be, but there is something there.

Going to Washington, I commonly see a clear disrespect in the way that students treat others. I have often been at the receiving end of this. From having people take pictures of me, to having them throw things. It always has the same goal by the other side. They think they are being funny but they are having a good time at my expense. At this point, I am able to just roll my eyes at the situation however I get more upset when I see it happening to other students. These things shouldn't be happening in our school.

One time in a class, I noticed a group of students talk about how they love everyone in their class. They went on and on about how everyone is their friend and how they would love to spend time with anyone. A couple minutes later, they were making fun of someone on social media. This shift really shocked me. If someone truly believed that everyone is their friend, they wouldn't go out of their way to disrespect someone. Putting someone down to make yourself rise above is not an effective way to feel more confident because it is at someone else's expense.

If you ask anyone in an "In" group, they will say that they believe that everyone at this school is their friend. However, if you as anyone in an "Out" group, they will have a clearer understanding of the divide of the two groups. By having an outside view, someone would be able to witness a situation from a distance. There are clearly different social groups at our school however, the divide isn't as harsh as teen movies make it out to be. There are not popular people who rule the halls at school and everyone else is scared to death. "Popular People" at our school just have a lot of followers on Instagram.

It is entirely possible, though, that social groups have remained steady through generations only due to our ill beliefs that we do not have the power to deconstruct them. Yet, the solution lies within our personal inclinations and actions. Perhaps the most impactful action we can take is to remind ourselves of the basic respect we owe everyone. We should not view each other through labels or certain groups but as one unit under a common umbrella: human beings. When it comes time to more important matters, we will often find that we will not have enough time to examine which social group the other belongs to or what label is placed upon them. Instead, we will only see a helping hand or a friendly face in the midst of disarray and panic. This is why it is important to not be blinded by the effects of social media or popular trends, nor should we be inclined to follow a certain path.

Finally, something we must always keep in mind is that we can get rid of this divide by treating everyone with respect we believe we deserve as individuals. If we live our lives treating people the way we would like to be treated, we uplift others and give them the integrity that they deserve. In turn, we become people worthy of an encouraging and giving society.

# Tackling the lessons learned from the shutdown

## Staff EDITORIAL

The most recent government shutdown, which went into effect because the proposed government funding bill wasn't passed due to it not including funding for a border wall, lasted thirty-five days. During that time, 800,000 federal workers went without pay, airports were backed up from too many TSA workers not showing up to work, and national parks were overflowing with trash because there weren't enough workers to keep the parks clean. But, unless a student's parent was one of the workers who missed a paycheck or they traveled by plane or visited a national park, the direct effects of the shutdown could hardly be felt at Washington High School.

Many students still decided to keep themselves informed throughout the shutdown, and one thing seemed clear: the way the government is conducting itself is childish and it is not setting a good precedent for when we grow up.

Before Trump was president, we had Obama, and before that, Bush. Most students hardly remember when Bush was president, leaving us with only two administrations on which to shape our understanding and opinion on the way the government works.

Currently, we are seeing a lot of petty disputes between top officials that cause helpless American citizens lots of unnecessary strain. President Trump refused to pass any spending bills that did not include a border wall because it was a campaign promise, and would not reopen the government because "I would look foolish if I did that." He was willing to have hundreds of thousands of Americans suffer during a shutdown just because he didn't want to look foolish by not keeping a promise. Instead, federal workers were forced to find temp jobs to make up for the money they were losing from being furloughed from their permanent jobs.

What message does that send to the American people? He is more important than anyone else because he is the president? That is preposterous. A President of the United States should have the interests of all American citizens in mind when they make a decision, not just their own

party's, and especially not just their own personal interests.

It is scary how much power the president wields that they can disrupt the country as much as it has been, especially when the current president is so influenced by his own motives.

The government is temporarily open until February 15, at which point a deal must be struck to decide on border security. If no deal is reached, the government will re-enter a shutdown, and there would be no telling how long it would last or if either side would make concessions to end it. Before the last shutdown, President Trump said, "I am proud to shut down the government for border security," and there are no indications that his mindset has changed. When bipartisan attempts were made to end the most recent shutdown, party leaders would have no part of it and anything proposed failed.

As students who cannot vote and who can only watch in fear, we hope that for the sake of our fellow Americans and our futures, there will not be another government shutdown, and that efforts will be made to eliminate the personal bias of high ranking government officials.



## Students become the unintentional victims of Work to Rule

By MEHREEN CHAUHAN  
Staff Reporter

Work to Rule is a form of industrial action to challenge employers on current employee benefits. Employees do the bare minimum of work required which can cause a decrease in productivity and no longer working during breaks and unpaid hours.

Fremont teachers have been applying this practice after a long year of unsuccessful salary negotiations. Their current salary does not keep up with the Bay Area's high cost of living. As a result, Work to Rule was declared on December 21, 2018 and January 7, 2019 became the first day educators started using this type of protest. Since then, teachers work from the beginning of their first class to the last bell of the day. Lunches and after school hours are no longer used as an opportunity for teachers to do work.

This method of protest has affected many of the students of Washington. Now, it's become even more difficult for students to get any

of their work done and to participate in extracurricular activities. As part of their job description, teachers who are supervisors must be present for their respective clubs, which are held during lunches and after school. These are the very same hours that are now being used as non working periods.

As a result, students are not allowed to participate in the clubs that their members or officers of. It doesn't help that this year IOC is enforcing the rule of always having supervisor's presence for every club activity. Most can agree clubs and extracurricular activities provide an escape to the stressful and challenging lives of a student. Why should something as important as a stress-free environment be taken away from students because of an argument that needs to be resolved between the school board and the educators?

Not only are extracurricular activities being taken away, but also an accessible way for students to learn and understand concepts better.

Tutoring for math, english, science, and many other subjects were held after school for struggling students. This was so they could get one-on-one teaching that a large percentage of the student population needs in order to succeed. Work to Rule interfered with the tutoring programs by not allowing teachers to help students further learn and educate themselves.

Additionally, make-up work for excused students now has to be held during husky period. One hour tests and quizzes now have to be taken in the span of thirty minutes. How do educators expect students to complete an entire test during husky period? The insane lack of time is one of the causes of the lower scores. Because of this, some students have started coming into class ill, contaminating objects and putting other student's health at risk, so they have enough time to complete an assignment. In order to protect their grades, they actually need to risk theirs and others health by coming into school sick.

Although Work to Rule is to help teachers earn a much higher salary in order to compensate for high cost of living, it still affects student's lives, especially graduating seniors. Most seniors in WHS have to get recommendation letters as one of the main steps to getting into the college of their dreams. However, since writing recommendation letters is an after school job, some teachers began refusing to write such letters due to Work to Rule. After years of hard work, stress, and challenges, Work to Rule has become the one thing standing in front of a student's future and success.

To stand in the way of someone's future and success is a heinous act and should be removed immediately. Work to Rule has become the biggest obstacle for students, especially graduating seniors. A fight that should solely be between the educators and the school board now indirectly involved students of all ages. This does not stand right with me. Student's education, future, and stress-free areas are now at risk.



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The Hatchet is a forum for student expression uncensored by school officials. The staff seeks to ethically produce an accurate record of the news, sports, issues, and people residing in WHS.

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The Hatchet encourages and welcomes public opinion and feedback through Letters to the Editor. Address letters to "the editor," and deliver to room E221 or submit online at <https://goo.gl/forms/nV7llLoKxTEOv4m33>

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## I don't speak broke



Satire By **JOE SCHNEIDER**  
Editor-in-Chief

Gucci flip flops, Supreme shirts, Bape hoodies, clout goggles, and Yeezy's are all symbols of wealth and high status in the Valley. Wearing any of these products will immediately cause any peasants nearby to worship the wearer like a god.

Sadly, for most people, such items are unattainable. Luckily, the little-known Silicon Valley-based tech company, Apple, has come up with a solution. They call it "AirPods."

Not only does this product allow its users to listen to music without any annoying wires, but it also allows users to enjoy feeling pretentious at the same time! There's really nothing else on the market like it which is why it feels absurd to be able to obtain a pair of AirPods for the low price of only \$159.

Now any commoner can join an elite group of AirPod wearers by simply forking over the change found under their couch cushions to Apple. The abundance of availability may make it sound like this product will lose its holy status after enough people buy them, but that's not the case. The more people that own AirPods, the more coveted they become.

"Some people tell me AirPods are silly and are a waste of money. They're just jealous," Stephen Careers said about the haters he has encountered. Careers continued to talk about an experience when an envious onlooker tried to steal his AirPods, only to be dismayed upon the realization that there were no wires to rip out of Careers' ears.

Timothy Chef said, "My AirPods are my prized possessions. They let me listen to music with reasonable quality and answer phone calls handsfree. I also can't get enough of the feeling when somebody who doesn't own AirPods passes by me and is only able to stare in awe as I flex on them. It really strokes my ego."

AirPods owners feel such a sense of community that many are even hosting public "AirPods owners meetups." At these events, many of which are being held as close as San Francisco, AirPods owners can gloat over their statuses in the upper echelons of society. To ensure there are no fakers, AirPods owners can only talk to one another by calling each other through their personal AirPods devices. In addition, any Android user that might end up at these events has a high likelihood of being shunned and even harassed.

"I was just walking to BART to go home after a long day at work," Samuel Sung said, "when I ran into a large, wealthy group of people, all wearing AirPods. They took one look at the Bose wireless earbuds I had in and the Samsung Galaxy Note 9 phone they were connected to and started hurling insults at me. I tried to ask one of them what they were doing but he told me 'I don't speak broke' and kept on yelling. I was scared, but I really just wanted to be one of them. They looked like they were living their best lives."

The rise of AirPods has created a change for the better in the Valley. Now residents who previously had no chance at raising their social status can easily raise their prestige thanks to Apple.

## End the stigma around community college

By **GABRIELA CALVILLO**  
Staff Reporter

Normally, the aspect of college in general is daunting to many of us. As we near the end of our high school careers, thinking about the future becomes more and more prominent. Many of us see ourselves in a university, taking a gap year, or moving somewhere else. Some even consider community college. But the thing is, most people don't see community college as a good option.

A lot of us believe it's a no brainer--you can't go to community because you'll be seen as a failure among your peers. That's not true. It's a valid alternative; it's sometimes the best and only option some people have. We've been conditioned to believe it isn't by standards that are sometimes unrealistic. And oftentimes, we tend to look

down on those who do decide to continue their education, but just at a community college. The stigma surrounding the topic doesn't give you a right to assume someone isn't equally as intelligent as you are. It shouldn't give you a license to remain biased and make people feel bad about choosing to go to something that may not be seen as "fantastic" to you. In some instances, going to a two-year college is better than going to a four-year university.

From a financial standpoint, the cost of it all is overwhelming to those who can't afford it. is the biggest problem concerning why multiple ambitious students choose to go to community college instead. And while you can argue that financial aid is a good option, a lot of the times, there's issues with applying or even being considered for it.

Additionally, community college is a

great way to figure out what you want to do with your life. A lot of us tend to put pressure on choosing what we're passionate about enough to make a career we can support ourselves with good paying career out of it. There's a lot of pressure coming from all sides: schools, friends, family, etc. to make that choice when it isn't an easy one to make. Varying on the students, it'll be different for everyone. Your friend may have already had their heart set on a school that is one of the best ones in the state while your classmate sitting across from you, might have no general direction of where they want to go after high school. Why would you waste thousands of dollars on tuition when you can save up? Why would you waste four years of your life going to a university, studying a major that doesn't even remotely interest you?

## Give people second chances to learn from their mistakes

By **RITA MENCHACA**  
Staff Reporter

You should not judge people based on their past decisions. For this year's Oscars, the Academy chose Kevin Hart to be their host. But afterwards, the public got the word of some of the things that Hart has said in the past. In the years between 2009 and 2011, Hart had made some bad decisions, one of which was calling someone fat. In 2011, Hart harshly tweeted that "yo if my son comes home and tries to play with my daughters doll house I'm going to break over his dead and say n my voice 'stop that's gay.'" Hart then realized what he had done was very irresponsible and apologized for the mistakes he had made.

Even though he apologized many years ago, people still believe that he is the same person he was back when those statements were made. Hart had been aware of the mistakes; that is why he apologized back then, but having all of this come back right when one of his dreams was coming true was unnecessary.

Many people believe that people don't change. Everyone in this world has made a mistake in the past that had affected others, but eventually we realized that what we said or did was wrong and apologized. We learned from our mistakes. It may be hard for some people to believe that others can change, but it is possible.

After Hart noticed that nobody was leaving his situation alone, he felt forced to apologize again for something he thought was forgotten in the past and for that reason he felt that others did this on purpose to make him, as a celebrity, be bad and for others to not support him. In an interview he had with Ellen Degeneres, he stated that having all of those things come back

made him feel that it was not the time for him to host the Oscars for so many reasons. Hart didn't want the Oscars to be about him and the things he had done, with this conclusion he decided to tell the Academy he wouldn't host the Oscars this year.

Hosting the Oscars was one of his biggest dreams, but he wanted his situation to be left alone. Some celebrities, such as Ellen Degeneres and the Academy, believe that the ones who brought all of his past tweets were being irresponsible and believe that Hart should still host the Oscars and prove those people that they were wrong about him and that he has changed. Some people may think that it is okay for them to talk bad about someone and assume they're still the same person they were many years ago just because they're a celebrity, but that is not the case. Celebrities are just like us and have feelings. Having all of his mistakes come back could have probably affected Hart in a negative way and made him think that people don't really see his talent and all the good things he has done.

Just because he's a celebrity doesn't mean he doesn't deserve a second chance. Everyone deserves second chances.

Judging someone by the mistakes they have made in the past and forcing them to just give up on one of their dreams is reckless and can bring someone down and making them think that they are not good enough. Sometimes we have to put ourselves in other people's shoes and walk a mile to see how they feel and the struggles they have in life before judging them. If we don't, we do not really know who they are.

Just by making one wrong choice in the past can lead to others treating you differently now, because they believe that you are still the same person you were ten years ago.



## HUSKIES IN THE HALLS

Today, we have reached the end of one of the longest government shutdowns in history. Though it may feel like something that would not affect our day-to-day lives, its underlying cause and its far-reaching effects are a source of much debate. We asked our fellow Huskies what they think about the government shutdown.



**Noel Chowdhury**  
Freshman

"It's evidence that us, as Americans, have to look out for ourselves. You can't expect the government to help you out. It also shows for the growing divide between the parties."



**Mahdy Morrar**  
Sophomore

"What I think about the government shutdown is that it's dumb. The economy can't handle the government shutdown."



**Brooke Allen**  
Junior

"I think the government shutdown is irresponsible and pointless."



**Sanam Kareemzadeh**  
Senior

"What I think about the government shutdown is that it is unnecessary but the fact that Trump has people working for free is BS."



**Steven Chow**  
Staff

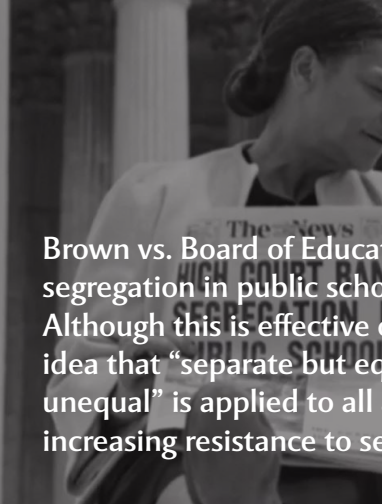
"I think the cornerstone of any healthy democracy is compromise. I think that the shutdown is the polarization of our country."



By HANNAH MARTINEZ-CROW  
Staff Reporter

Black History Month is an annual celebration honoring the accomplishments of African Americans. Initially, the second week of February was chosen to celebrate Black history by President Woodrow Wilson, as it includes the birthdays of both Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. Wilson stated the importance of recognizing African Americans, as "[i]f a race has no history, it has no worthwhile tradition, it becomes a negligible factor in the thought of the world, and it stands in danger of being exterminated." In 1976, however, President Ford decided to make the entire month of February dedicated to the efforts of African Americans, calling on the public to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history." Each year, the month centers around a different theme, 2019 being Black Migrations. Black Migrations involves the movement of people of African descent to new destinations, especially throughout the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. From the twentieth-century to today, the migration patterns of African Americans have included their relocation from the South and the Caribbean to the rest of America and Europe, especially Paris and London following the end of the first and second world wars. Their migration across the globe has had a major impact on the culture and social structure of different communities, resulting in far more diverse, yet stratified urban environments. With their integration into different communities, the world has seen increasing varieties of African American based churches, religions, and music. African American music has especially become more widespread, with the addition of blues, jazz, and ragtime. While Black History Month revolves around the achievements of African Americans, it is also representative of critical parts of American history as a whole. It is important to recognize and be appreciative of the achievements of African Americans, including Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks, in our society year-round, as it exists to help continue to eradicate racism and discrimination on a national level. While federal policy has helped to deliver this, in many ways, it has been ineffective. State laws are implemented that disproportionately affect black voters, African American wealth is nearly ten times less than white wealth, Black unemployment continues to remain a major issue, and African Americans as a whole are incarcerated over five times more than their white counterparts. African American History Month was created as a means of combating these issues. Thus, while celebrating Black history throughout the month of February, it is important to remember why it is being celebrated -- to recognize and respect the equality and relevance of African Americans today and in the future.

### Brown vs. Board of Education (1954)



Brown vs. Board of Education declares that racial segregation in public schools is unconstitutional. Although this is effective only in public schools, the idea that "separate but equal" is still "inherently unequal" is applied to all aspects of life, leading to increasing resistance to segregation.

http://thefederalist.com



### Rosa Parks

PHOTO FROM EVERETT COLLECTION

Rosa Parks' refusal to give up her seat to a white man on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama and her subsequent arrest leads to the year-long Montgomery bus boycott.

Due to the massive protests against allowing nine black students to attend Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, President Dwight D. Eisenhower sends federal troops to assist the "Little Rock Nine" in attending class.

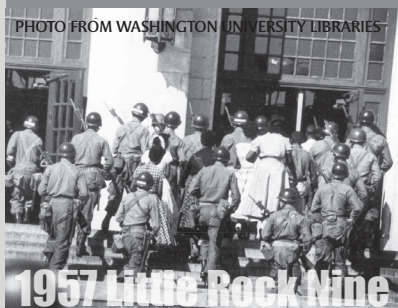
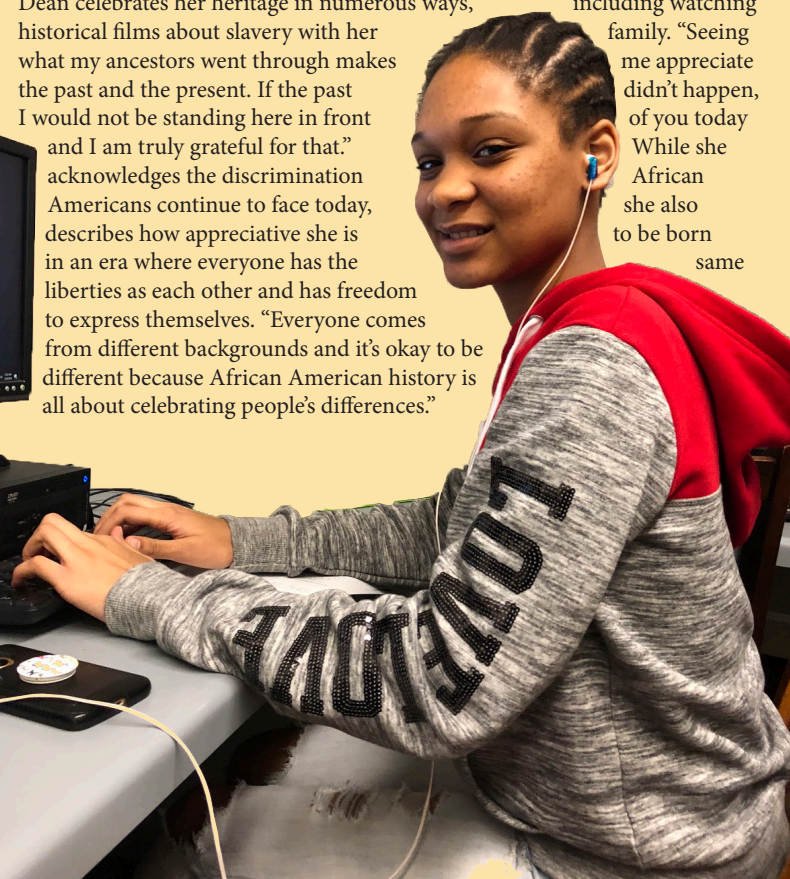


PHOTO FROM WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

### 1957 Little Rock Nine

By DA'SHAE HALL  
Staff Reporter

For Sophomore **August Dean** African American History Month is meaningful because "it's a celebration of all the heroes who made sacrifices so that I can live in the world freely." Dean values her heritage as an African American because she believes that it has shaped her into the person she is today. While she knows that she will never be able to fully understand the hardships her ancestors endured, she is nevertheless grateful for them. Like her predecessors, Dean hopes to make her mark on the world by being the best version of herself she can be. With this opportunity "I hope to inspire other people in the way that the actions of my ancestors have inspired me." Dean celebrates her heritage in numerous ways, including watching historical films about slavery with her family. "Seeing what my ancestors went through makes me appreciate the past and the present. If the past didn't happen, I would not be standing here in front of you today and I am truly grateful for that." While she acknowledges the discrimination Americans continue to face today, she also describes how appreciative she is to be in an era where everyone has the liberties as each other and has freedom to express themselves. "Everyone comes from different backgrounds and it's okay to be different because African American history is all about celebrating people's differences."



Singer, actress, and fashion designer **Vanessa Lynn Williams** gains recognition as the first woman of African-American descent to be crowned Miss America in 1983.

PHOTO FROM PINTEREST



**Bryant Gumbel** is a journalist and sports caster who hosts HBO's investigative award-winning program, *Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel*.

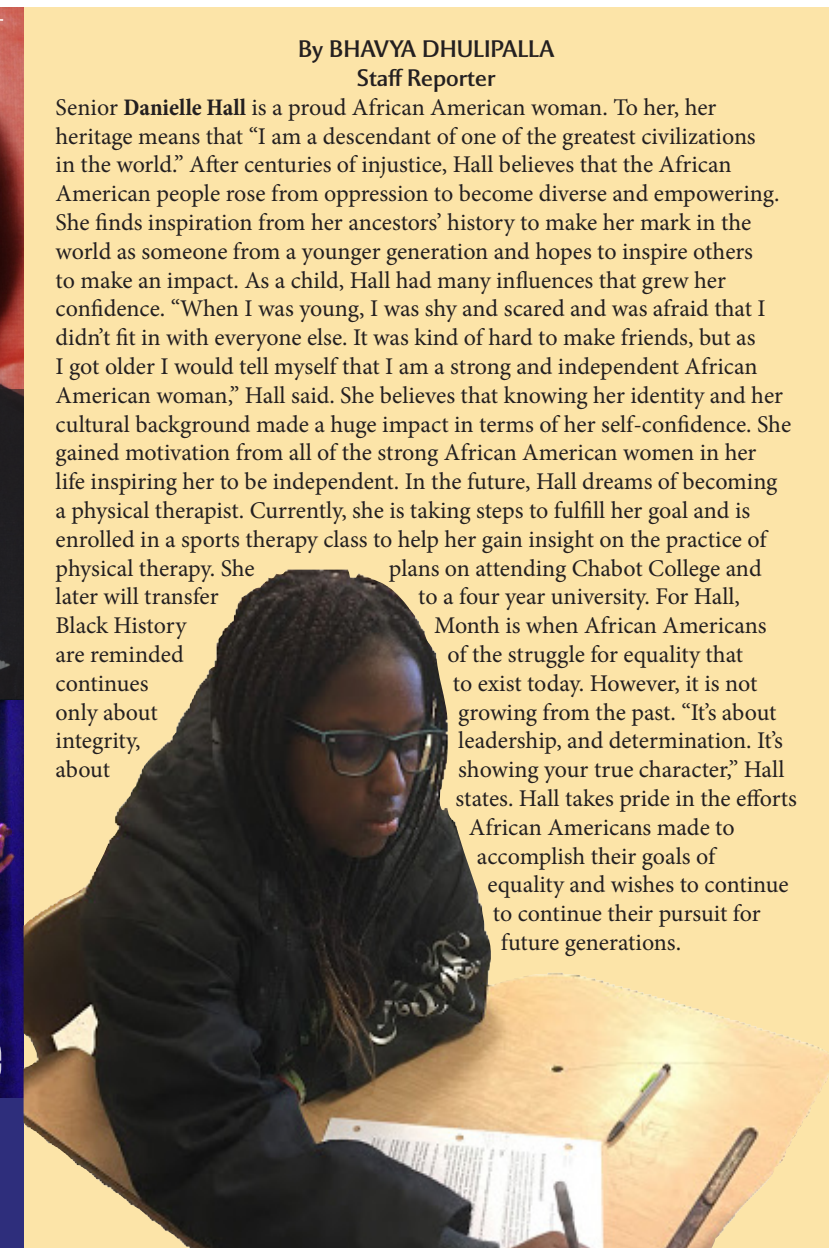
PHOTO FROM PINTEREST



PHOTO FROM BILLBOARD

### Prince

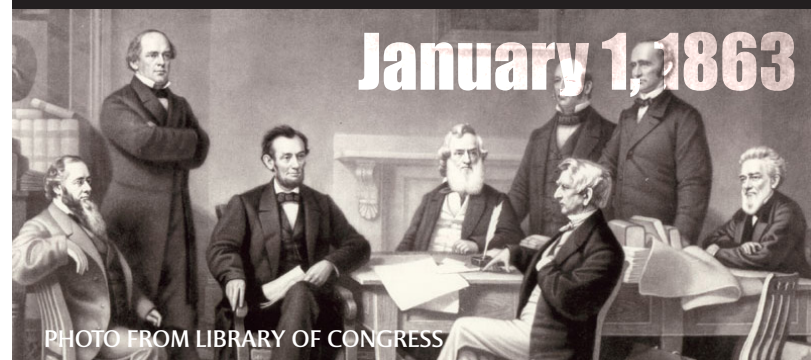
Prince has sold over one hundred million records globally, first reaching worldwide fame with the release of his song, "Purple Rain."



By BHAVYA DHULIPALLA  
Staff Reporter

Senior **Danielle Hall** is a proud African American woman. To her, her heritage means that "I am a descendant of one of the greatest civilizations in the world." After centuries of injustice, Hall believes that the African American people rose from oppression to become diverse and empowering. She finds inspiration from her ancestors' history to make her mark in the world as someone from a younger generation and hopes to inspire others to make an impact. As a child, Hall had many influences that grew her confidence. "When I was young, I was shy and scared and was afraid that I didn't fit in with everyone else. It was kind of hard to make friends, but as I got older I would tell myself that I am a strong and independent African American woman," Hall said. She believes that knowing her identity and her cultural background made a huge impact in terms of her self-confidence. She gained motivation from all of the strong African American women in her life inspiring her to be independent. In the future, Hall dreams of becoming a physical therapist. Currently, she is taking steps to fulfill her goal and is enrolled in a sports therapy class to help her gain insight on the practice of physical therapy. She plans on attending Chabot College and later will transfer to a four year university. For Hall, Black History Month is when African Americans are reminded of the struggle for equality that continues to exist today. However, it is not only about integrity, but also about leadership, and determination. It's showing your true character," Hall states. Hall takes pride in the efforts African Americans made to accomplish their goals of equality and wishes to continue to continue their pursuit for future generations.

# AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH



### January 1, 1863

PHOTO FROM LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

### Emancipation Proclamation

President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, ensuring that slaves "shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free."

### Harlem Renaissance

African American literature, music, art and politics gain attention across America during the Harlem Renaissance.



### 1920s

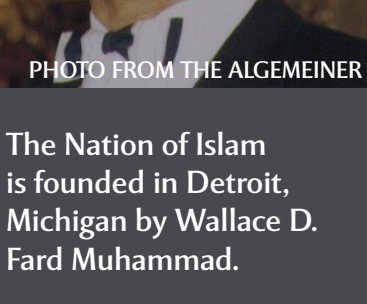


PHOTO FROM THE ALGEMEINER

The Nation of Islam is founded in Detroit, Michigan by Wallace D. Fard Muhammad.

By CINDY WANG  
Staff Reporter

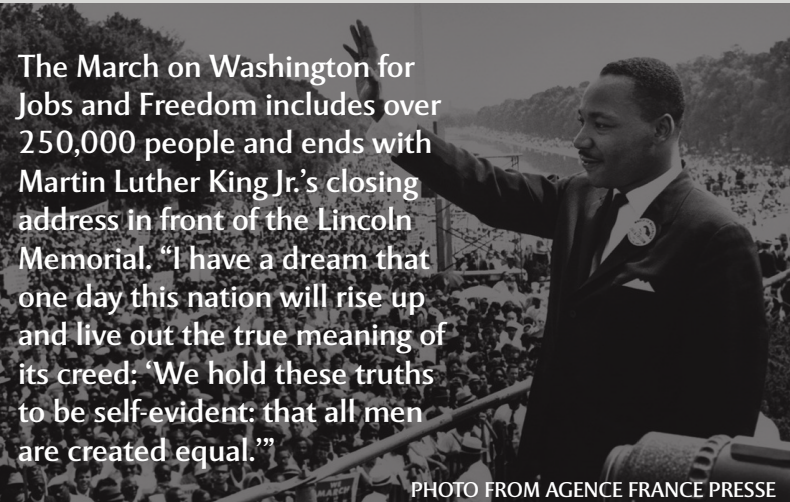
Freshman **Mailla Britton** appreciates the recognition Black History Month gains. "Few people celebrated it before, but since it is so important, it's really great that more people are doing so." Britton has a diverse cultural background, her ancestors being Mexican, African American, and Chumash. Thus, she sees Black History Month as a way for herself and others to celebrate their heritage. "When I was little, I rarely told anyone about my background. But as I grew older, I began to open up and tell more people who I am," Britton said. "What Black History Month means to me is to be confident with yourself and who you are." Britton cites her mother as a person that she looks up to and aspires to be like in the future. "[My mother] is incredibly hardworking. Even when she comes home late from work and is very tired, she will always find the energy to spend time with me, such as shopping together." In the future, Britton plans to be a photographer. "I really like to take pictures because they allow you to capture a moment, such as a sunset, and enjoy all the memories and emotions felt during that time every time you look at that picture again." In her free time, Britton learns more about her background as an African American, Chumash, and Mexican. "Since I am not as familiar with my Native American side, there are so many new things to try and to learn, including the food. To me, Black History Month is not only a celebration of African American history and the struggle from slavery to equal citizenship, but it is also a reminder to be open to all ethnic groups."

### Black History Month Founded



February 1969 PHOTO FROM SUN-TIMES

Black History Month is proposed by black educators and the Black United Students at Kent State University. Six years later, Black History Month is celebrated across the country when President Gerald Ford recognizes the month, urging Americans to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history."



The March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom includes over 250,000 people and ends with Martin Luther King Jr.'s closing address in front of the Lincoln Memorial. "I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal.'"

PHOTO FROM AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE

By SONALI WHITTLE  
Staff Reporter

Junior **Dominique Robinson**, who recently transferred to Robertson High School, was an active part of Washington's African American community. She believes that recognizing Black History Month is important because it symbolizes the dedication and perseverance of those who have and continue to contribute to the history of African Americans. Robinson said, "I think it is important for everyone to understand that not everything is equal for everyone. Not everyone has the same opportunities as others in this country." Despite the United States being in a "post-racial era" and racial profiling being patently illegal, minorities continue to face discrimination daily across the country. Robinson detailed her experience with racial profiling while shopping at Ross. "I noticed I was being followed by a security guard and it offended me, but I know that is how some things are in the world." Robinson cites Michelle Obama as one of her main inspirations. An advocate for education, health, and poverty awareness, she was awarded the Mary Hatwood Futrell Human and Civil Rights Award by the National Education Association this year. Robinson is proud of her African American heritage, expressing it through her love of cooking soul food, food traditionally eaten by African Americans from Southern states, including biscuits, black eyed peas, collard greens, and macaroni and cheese. The importance of Black History Month has a positive effect on the world, highlighting how the African American community has helped make the world a better place.



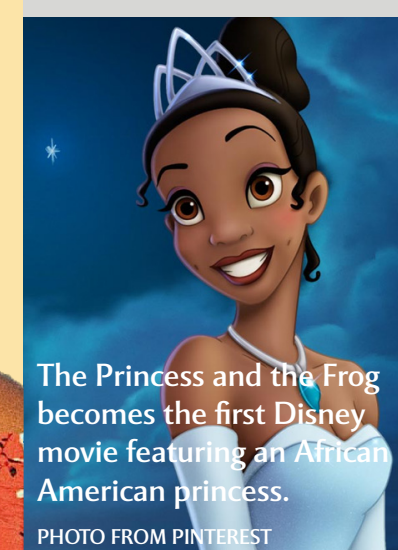
PHOTO FROM TIMOTHY A. CLARY

PHOTO FROM THE INDEPENDENT

Halle Berry is the first Black woman to win best actress at the Academy Awards.

Serena Williams becomes the first woman to win over \$60 million in prize money and the first Black woman to be awarded first in singles by the Women's Tennis Association.

### 2000s



The Princess and the Frog becomes the first Disney movie featuring an African American princess.



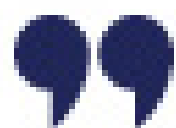
Barack Obama becomes the first African American president of the United States.

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# How bad are Grammy Snubs?

The Grammys have stirred up debate with many disappointed fans questioning why their favorite artist didn't get a nomination

By Vaishnavi Sunkari  
Staff Reporter

The Grammys: audiences all over the world are eager for the special day to see if their favorite artists and albums win this prestigious award. This year, however, many people seem to be disappointed with the nominations, pointing out that many influential artists have been snubbed. Rapper Nicki Minaj wasn't nominated for a single Grammy, even after she released two relatively popular songs, "Chun-Li" and "Barbie Dreams."

The categories that everyone is looking forward to the most are the Big 4: Record of the Year, Album of the Year, Best New Artist, and Song of the Year. Artists like Cardi B, Brandi Carlile, Drake, and Kendrick Lamar got nominated for more than one category out of the Big 4. It's

not easy getting into the Big 4. More than 11,000 members of the music community, which includes vocalists, songwriters, etc, come together to decide which artists and which songs were the best of the best that year.

The Record of the Year acknowledges not only an artist's performance on their track, but also the contributions of the producers and recording engineers. The Album of the Year looks at an artist's album as a whole and awards the artist, producers, and recording engineers. Song of the Year awards the songwriters who are responsible for writing the track. It doesn't always go to the artist, unless they themselves wrote the song. Best New Artist recognizes the artist who has established himself or herself in the music industry. This award, however, is considered a curse to many. It's

known as a "career killer." Whoever wins this award, allegedly can never duplicate their success following the win. Only time will tell if the Best New Artist of 2019 will be a "victim" of this curse.

2018 was a great year for music, making the nominees list very competitive. Nevertheless, people are still perplexed with the list. For example, Taylor Swift who won five Grammys, which included two Album of the Years, didn't get nominated for any Big 4 category this year. Instead, Swift got nominated for only one Grammy: Best Pop Vocal Album for her album reputation. Her album did include hits such as "Look What You Made Me Do" and "Delicate," but many argue that it wasn't as good as her previous album, 1989. Perhaps, that's why the voting committee didn't let her make the cut for the Big 4.

Another significant artist, Ariana Grande, wasn't nominated for any awards in the Big 4 as well. Grande released hit songs such as "No Tears Left to Cry" and "God is a Woman." Even though "Thank U, Next" was arguably the biggest hit of 2018, Grande will have to wait until next year to see if she will get nominated for that single. She only got nominated for two Grammys this year: Best Pop Vocal Album for Sweetener and Best Pop Solo Performance for "God is a Woman."

Even more surprising for many is the fact that The Carters, aka Beyonce and Jay-Z, weren't nominated for any of the Big 4 Categories as well. Their album Everything Is Love, didn't make the cut for Best Album of the Year, causing many people to question why such talented artists didn't even get a nomination. Their song, "Apes\*\*t," was

at #13 on the Billboard Hot 100, but still didn't get nominated for Record of the Year.

In the Cardi B versus Nicki Minaj drama, Cardi got nominated for five categories; two in the Big 4, while Minaj got nominated for none. Cardi's song "Be Careful" got nominated for Best Rap Performance of the Year, but any argued that Minaj's "Chun-Li" was more known. "Chun-Li" was on the Billboard Hot 100 at #10, while "Be Careful" was at #11.

Overall, people seem excited for the Grammys, which are set to take place on February 10th. The pre-Grammys coverage, which also includes the red carpet coverage, starts at 4:30 p.m. The award ceremony itself starts at 5 p.m. with Alicia Keys as the host. Performances by Shawn Mendes, Post Malone, and other artists are set to take place as well.

## Winter Wardrobes: Sure to serve looks

By MEHREEN CHAUHAN  
Staff Reporter

The most difficult and destructive force known to fashion is here: winter. The season that makes it so hard to maintain your sense of style while protecting yourself from the harsh weather. That has to be the only explanation as to why people wear sweats and puffy jackets, right?

If so, how can we avoid those types of decisions where we choose comfortable over stylish? Well, the first trend that can often go wrong is layering. According to senior debate captain and fashion connoisseur, Kunal Patel says that, "Layering is your friend so try to mix and match different textures." In Patel's case, he often gravitates towards thick wool coats on top of a timeless button-down. Sometimes if the weather is too harsh, he will add knitted sweater on top of his button-down shirt in order to present an aura of, "antiquated and dramatic," and simultaneously, "giving the illusion of being put together." His combination of textures

and materials allows him to be warm while presenting an eye-catching and modest outfit. Patel has astonishingly managed to create a look that is not only simple enough to blindly pick and throw on, but also very effective against the weather. Also, it can be used for anyone.

Colors this winter often incline towards neutral muted tones and outfits tend to be monochrome. However, a little pop of vibrant color in an accessory or pattern can lead to heads turning. Style icon and student of class 2020 Safa Kibboua agrees that this winter, "Stay monochromed. If you want to mix it up, you can use a pop of color in your scarf, nice shoes, or a jacket as a staple piece."

Accessories should not be limited to the weather. 2018-2019 winter has been the season of glamorous and fun accessories that ultimately completes the entire look. Trends this year have been towards sharp and simple statement pieces that pulls the look together as a whole. There has nothing been more revolutionary than tiny sunglasses. Add a cat eye lens, and you will portray a sharp and sophisticated

personality. However, large shades are also in style to form a no-nonsense and an alluring piece. Jewelry is most definitely not ignored this winter. Captivating pieces with intricate designs are more than likely to steal the show.

Overall, this winter fashion is no longer dictated by designers and instead it is dedicated to the people. Everyday and street wear are taking over. We are celebrating individuality and timeless style with a variety of beautiful, sleek, and trendy outfits to express our personality in the best way possible. Even though keeping up with trends is the simplest way to create your wardrobe, "Trends are for shmucks," says Patel. "I don't follow them. In my opinion, classics never go out of style and I pretty much just wear what I like." Likewise, Kibboua stays true to her style. Following your own fashion ideology and not letting anything rule your individual ideas is the best way to go this winter.



Junior Safa Kibboua poses, displaying her monochrome style. PHOTO PROVIDED BY SAFA KIBBOUA



Senior Kunal Patel unleashes his inner model in a photoshoot. PHOTO BY MEHREEN CHAUHAN

## Humans of Washington High School

By JAYANTH PASUPULATI  
Staff Reporter

Washington High school relies on its able staff in order to be efficient. The staff includes more than just the teachers; from custodians to cooks to campus supervisors, all contribute to our education in some way.

### WHAT IS THE BEST PART OF YOUR JOB?

KEN CULP,  
SUPPLY CLERK

"The best part of this job is relating and interacting with teachers and students every day. I like the people- meeting them and serving them."

GILBERT MANDOZA,  
CAMPUS SUPERVISOR

"The best part of this job is that I can interact with many students, and help them get through tough times."

KATHY,  
CAMPUS SUPERVISOR

"The best part of working in this school is keeping the campus safe for the teachers and students. In general, I like walking as it is healthy. I also like to see how students are inside and outside the classroom and help them by ensuring a good environment inside the classroom."

ADRIANA,  
CAFETERIA STAFF

"The best part of this job is that the working hours are flexible and I can align my work schedule parallel to my kid's school schedule. So, during break time, I can stay with my children and I can work during their school time. In addition, I also like working outdoors because it feels very relaxed."

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# Chocolate Taste Test

By CINDY WANG  
Staff Reporters

There is nothing in this world more luscious, more indulgent, and more delightful than a perfectly crafted piece of chocolate. A possible taste of true love, this perfect combination of sweetness, creaminess, and bitterness stole the hearts of many throughout history, including Linnaeus, who gave it its scientific name *Theobroma cacao*, meaning “food of the gods.” So, in honor of February, which is National Chocolate Lover’s Month, the journalism class taste-tested 14 different kinds of dark and milk chocolate to bring you the best of the best. Happy eating!



**Journalism students taste-tested various types of dark and milk chocolate.**  
PHOTO BY CINDY WANG

## What makes chocolate good?

A high quality chocolate bar should have a shiny surface: any sort of discoloration or white film on top indicates that the chocolate has been sitting too long or has been exposed to extreme temperatures. When you break off a piece of chocolate, a good dark chocolate bar should have a clean, crisp snap. Milk chocolate and white chocolate should bend ever so slightly, as they contain higher proportions of sugar and cream. Make sure to stay away from chocolate that is brittle or has a dull snap. This indicates that the chocolate is not fresh or that it contains unnecessary fillers. High-quality chocolate made with real cocoa butter feels smooth and velvety in your mouth. Low quality chocolate often results in a gritty or waxy texture. Since cocoa butter melts at or just below body temperature, good chocolate melts quickly in the mouth or in the palm of your hand. Contrary to popular thought, this category the least important, as it mostly comes down to personal preferences. Some people like a deep, roasted flavor while others prefer a fruitier profile. Just make sure that the chocolate is not sickly sweet or has artificial flavors that shouldn’t be there. The milk and dark chocolates contestants are Dove, Cadbury, Hersheys, Valrhona, Trader Joe’s, Lindt, and Ghirardelli.

## Milk and cream lovers

For the milk and cream lover: Lindt  
The crowd favorite, this chocolate bar focuses heavily on the cocoa butter and cream, without being overly sweet. One classmate remarked how it was exactly what they expected in milk chocolate: creamy, smooth, and with rich flavor. Definitely not for someone who is looking for a darker milk chocolate. In my opinion, the Lindt chocolate is super creamy and smooth once it hits your tongue. Overall, the whole class enjoyed this specific chocolate.



## Most sophisticated palate

Most sophisticated tasting: Valrhona  
Although at \$7.50 a bar, Valrhona Jivara is definitely worth splurging on if you want to enjoy a seriously good quality chocolate bar. Classmates loved the mild chocolate profile that hinted notes of vanilla and caramel. Coupled with a perfect melt in your mouth texture, this chocolate is the ultimate treat-yourself bar. If you don’t like plain milk chocolate, then I definitely recommend Valrhona since it has a combination of other flavors like caramel and other sweet extracts.



## Classic lover

Most classic lover: Hersheys.  
Super sweet, gritty, and tasting slightly of malt powder, Hershey’s evokes memories from childhood and it gives you instant flashbacks. You can taste the sugar before you can taste the actual chocolate. When you bite into the chocolate and it’s melting in your mouth, it comes out very chunky rather than smooth like the other chocolates I presented to my classmates.



## Best texture

Best Texture: Lindt  
Lindt is definitely for the classic dark chocolate lover. The flavor is rich and nutty, with a slight twinge of bitterness. It is also very creamy—creamy in the way milk chocolate is but dark chocolate isn’t always. A very good bar for snacking and a good indulgent when you’re in the mood for something sweet. I recommend this chocolate to the ones who aren’t into sweets as much.



## Crowd pleaser

Crowd Pleaser: Dove  
A word to all dark chocolate snobs: this is a milk chocolate bar masquerading as dark chocolate. Sweet, creamy, not too bitter, this is perfect for bringing to a party or giving to friends who potentially hate dark chocolate. The only people who will hate this are the dark chocolate elitists (who may regard the chocolate as trash). The class mentioned how this is a good and classic chocolate that isn’t too fancy or too cheap and that it can be enjoyed for everyone.



## Best deal

Best Deal: Trader Joe’s  
Dig up your old change from between the couch cushions and cash in at Trader Joe’s for \$1.50 for three bars. Your crumpled dollar bill and your grimy quarters will be put to good use. Smooth texture, with a perfect balance of sweet, nutty, and bitterness. If you want something quick and affordable to satisfy your sweet cravings, Trader Joe’s chocolate is the perfect solution. Trader Joe’s shows that you don’t have to break the bank to enjoy a seriously good bar of chocolate. You can also buy the Pound Plus version for \$4.99, a great option if you are looking for high quality but inexpensive chocolate for baking.



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# Tiffany Wong brings her talent to the dynamic field

## Athlete OF THE MONTH

By GABRIELA CALVILLO  
Staff Reporter

Junior **Tiffany Wong** has certainly made her mark on the varsity girls soccer team this season. Contributing to the team through words of encouragement, both out in the field and during practice, is what makes her an outstanding player.

Being involved with the sport since third grade, Wong has been playing for a total of nine years now. She has been a part of the team here at Washington since the beginning of her high school career, and continues to show nothing but good sportsmanship and dedication to. On top of that, she's also associated with a club team called Fremont Rush, and has been playing for them since seventh grade.

Most individuals that begin a sport as young as she did, lose passion for the activity over time; but for her, it's different. As she's

grown older, her appreciation for soccer has as well. "I love soccer so much because I get to be surrounded by amazing teammates who always support me. Along with that, the excitement you get while scoring a goal is the best feeling ever."

Yet, participating in such a demanding sport like soccer comes with its own set of challenges. For Tiffany, trying to stay positive when they're losing or when she misses a goal is difficult, but she remains optimistic. "It can also be hard to focus during games because of all the distractions that can happen around you, but regardless, we try our best." The frustration is sometimes hard to overcome, but Tiffany doesn't let it affect her in a negative way. Instead, she uses that incentive to try harder and learn from her mistakes in order to improve, rather than seeing it as an obstacle she just can't get past.

Not only does she excel on the field, but also in the classroom. While there is an assumption that school is tough to balance with extracurricular activities, Tiffany has been able to find that

balance easily. "It's not too difficult managing school and sports because I try not to procrastinate on homework and to start it right away once I get home from practice or a game." Because of this, she's cultivated a routine that works best for her in dealing with both of these things.

At some point, many athletes consider the path of continuing sports after high school, even attempting to make it a career. When asked about this, Tiffany said she would be interested in playing the sport recreationally or on an intramural team, but as for doing it professionally, we'll just have to wait an see.

Because the season is off to a close soon, her goals are simple. "My main goals for the rest of this season are to work on my ball control and to score more goals when I get the chance. Also, I want to work on my conditioning too so I can build up my stamina and be at full strength for all of my games." She will be trying out next year, as well. Overall, Tiffany and the varsity girls soccer team remain unmatched in both their spirit and hardwork.



Junior **Tiffany Wong** plays hard through her nine-year career.  
PHOTO PROVIDED BY TIFFANY WONG

## Husky Scoreboard

### BOYS SOCCER

WHS 1 VS MOREAU 0 (W)  
WHS 0 VS LOGAN 4 (L)  
WHS 1 VS IRVINGTON 2 (L)  
WHS 3 VS MISSION 2 (W)  
WHS 1 VS AMERICAN 2 (L)  
WHS 0 VS NEWARK 2 (L)

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

WHS 31 VS MOREAU 51 (L)  
WHS 29 VS AMERICAN 48 (L)  
WHS 41 VS IRVINGTON 39 (W)  
WHS 43 VS NEWARK 53 (L)  
WHS 31 VS LOGAN 65 (L)  
WHS 32 VS MISSION 64 (L)

### BOYS BASKETBALL

WHS 48 VS MOREAU 82 (L)  
WHS 73 VS AMERICAN 56 (W)  
WHS 65 VS IRVINGTON 60 (W)  
WHS 54 VS NEWARK 62 (L)  
WHS 48 VS JAMES LOGAN 75 (L)  
WHS 74 VS MISSION 43 (W)

### WRESTLING

WHS VS IRVINGTON (W)  
WHS 10 VS MISSION (L)  
WHS VS AMERICAN (L)  
WHS VS LOGAN (L)  
WHS VS NEWARK (L)  
WHS VS KENNEDY (W)

### GIRLS SOCCER

WHS 0 VS MOREAU 3 (L)  
WHS 0 VS KENNEDY 2 (L)  
WHS 1 VS NEWARK 8 (L)  
WHS 2 VS IRVINGTON 4 (L)  
WHS 1 VS MISSION 3 (L)  
WHS 1 VS AMERICAN 1 (T)

## Wrestling tackles their game

By FAIZ KHAN  
Staff Reporter

One of the most commonly used metaphors for a high school sports season is referring to it as a "grind." The depiction is usually a reference to the aspects that go beyond the box score from the grueling practices and lengthy road trips, to the inevitable injuries and heartbreaking losses.

Although those challenges occur in nearly every sport, few high school seasons deal with the mental and physical strain as much as wrestling.

Not only do wrestling practices often push the grapplers to the point of pure exhaustion, but no other high school sport requires its participants to be at or under a certain weight in order to compete.

This often results in most competitors needing to maintain a strict, low calorie diet and sometimes enduring long periods of time with minimal to no food or liquid intake. Empty stomachs, sore muscles, and bruised egos are commonplace in the sport.

It's no secret that in order to be an elite high school team, an arduous amount of dedication and diligence is required. Success does not come easily or quickly.

So a large part of a high school coach's responsibility is retention of those marginal wrestlers who start to consider that the setbacks are not worth the sacrifice.

Promoting wrestling as a "fun" sport rarely works.

Even if a competitor considers "winning" as the most fun part of the sport, many are driven more by a hatred of losing than a love of winning. Wrestling season competition begins in late October or early November and continues until the end of January.

Throughout the wrestling season, the team has dedicated weeks of strength and conditioning workouts.

Unlike "open gyms" which are common to other sports during the pre-season, having an "open mat" is more advisable.

"There is really no other high school sport like it where athletes need to re-acclimate themselves to the physical rigors of a two-hour practice." Varsity wrestler Junior **Shawn Vaishnav** explains. Wrestling is one of the best examples of a "you get out of it, what you put it to" sport.

As the Husky wrestling season draws to a close, coming off a record of 6-16, with two weeks left of regulatory play. They now set their eyes on MVALs.

## Boys soccer takes command the field

By ERIC MEDINA  
Staff Reporter

The boys soccer team here at Washington not only focuses on just the sport, but also enhances the moral value of an individual. There are three core values of the team: excellence, responsibility, and service. Each one of these values helps build up an athlete on and off the pitch. Coach **David Cordova Marroquin**, boys varsity soccer coach, sees these values as a fundamental, key elements in creating this team and help players move on forward.

"Excellence is doing the right thing at the right time, all the time," says soccer coach David Cordova Marroquin. This means that when playing, press the opponent when it means to defend or generate and perform a play at the right moment. According to Marroquin, "responsibility is to be of service to one another and pursue excellence. We apply this to committing to excellent defensive shape with relentless pressure on the ball to cause a turnover that will yield offensive scoring opportunities."

The season is currently going really well for the JV team. They are currently at a 7-3 record in league. Their Varsity team is currently holding a 4-5-1 record in league and placing fifth place in league. Their objective this season is to make it to postseason competition, NCS, and to improve upon the previous season.

Coach Marroquin has been coaching for 20 years now. He began coaching in 1999 for the boys JV team at Irvington High School. He had coached the Irvington boys at the varsity level until 2010. David also coached for the women's soccer team at Ohlone College from 2003 till 2015 and also made a transition in coaching the men's soccer team.

He was the coach for the Girls Varsity Soccer team from 2010 till 2016. David has recently made the transition of coaching the Boys Varsity Soccer in the year of 2017.

This year, JV acquired a new coach, **Jesus Radillo** who has an alumnus history here at WHS. In addition to the team herer, he also coaches for a local soccer team for Fremont Youth Soccer Club. Coach Radillo also mentioned, "Being a former husky alumni and soccer player, now being able to coach, is a surreal feeling. I knew I wanted to be a coach here eventually, I just never thought I would've gotten the opportunity at this young age, but regardless of it all, I feel blessed to be able to give back to something that's given me so much as well." This demonstrates how Coach Radillo is very humble to Washington and thankful for what this school has offered to him by giving him the opportunity of coaching the JV boys soccer team, showing his Husky pride.



Junior **Biniam Mitiku** defends the ball during a game against Kennedy High School.  
PHOTO BY ERIC MEDINA



## Boys Basketball strives far

By VIVIANA GARCIA  
Staff Reporter

Lifestyle or just a game? Many people think basketball is a simple sport to play. However, it is not as simple as it may seem. Basketball involves a lot of coordination, athletic ability, team chemistry, and self-discipline.

The game of basketball originated in December 1891 by a Canadian-born man named James Naismith. The sport was created to keep young men active during the cold winter months. It was originally played with peach baskets and soccer balls (you can see the problem with that.)

With a disproportionately large ball, they had to get a ladder and/or very long stick to hit the lodged ball out of the basket. Over the years, basketball has evolved to what we now call basketball. In Toronto, Ontario, Canada on November 1, 1946, the first-ever national basketball association game was played between the Toronto Huskies and the New York Knickerbockers.

This year, Washington's varsity basketball team has been fairly good. With a 9-10 record they have played the best they can.

The competition in our school district has drastically changed over the past couple seasons with the competition a lot stiffer this season than in the past.

With all the new incoming talent each team is becoming physically and mentally stronger day by day, but Washington has been able to do their best and hold off some of those teams.

In one of Washington's most recent games against Newark Memorial High on January 12, WHS put up a good fight. They kept the game very close throughout the 3rd quarter and the beginning of the 4th, but Newark's team advanced their lead, and eventually a win was out of Washington's reach with a score of 54- 62 .

Everyone has their own ways of preparing for these games. Senior **Rashaad Frazier** said he always has the mindset of picturing as though each game could be the last game he might play.

"I remember not to fear anyone, have fun, and listen to music — that gets me hyped for game time. It's important being the best player I can be and play how I do when I'm street hooping, so I hope to just have fun and to not overthink."



The boys basketball team comes together after their big game at Oracle Stadium  
PHOTO BY MR. HAASTRUP

## Girls Basketball stays strong

By JOVAN BENIN  
Staff Reporter

As a sport that many people enjoy watching in their free time, basketball has taken a strong stance in American culture, now being a sport where both boys and girls can play. A total of five people play in a court at one time aiming to win by making the most shots in one's hoop. It's a fast-paced game and requires a lot of athleticism and agility.

This season, our Varsity girls team has achieved a win of four out of the five games they played.

The JV team has been doing pretty well with a record of 2-4, with still more games to go. According to JV player **Alyssa McDonnell**, "The team has had its ups and downs, but when it comes to our games they all have the mindset to win."

They are also faced with the challenge of only playing with a certain handful of teammates because of recurrent medical problems and injuries. According to

Alyssa "Despite any issues they face, they will work together to overcome these challenges."

Varsity player **Hannah Rankin** has tried to make the most of her training by eating healthy meals with protein the night before the games so the next day she can feel her best. In her opinion, though, eating right is not the only key ingredient to feeling good. Hannah also tries to sleep at a reasonable time so that she is not drowsy the next day. Hannah has a good relationship with the team because they all get along and they are all friends as Hannah says "we are all friend on and off the court..." and they all supportive for each other and have each other's backs

The Washington high school basketball team is very serious and passionate about the sport and does their best to win and to have fun at the same time. All in all our girls' basketball teams play hard and with energy, having the determination to push through their toughest games.



Sophomore Lexi Romero Williams steps up to the free throw line during a game at Logan.  
PHOTO BY MRS. RANKIN

## Girls Soccer becomes one to win the season

By COLTER ADAMSON  
Staff Reporter

After returning from last season, the WHS girls soccer teams have set its sights on improving their knowledge and solidifying the roles on their team. As of right now the JV girls soccer team, lead by **Christopher Kim**, an english teacher here at Washington, have an overall record of 3-9-2, and a league record of 3-7-1. The varsity girls soccer team, lead by Paul Lambert, has an overall record of 2-13-1, and a league record of 1-9-1.

Going into the season the teams had goals on building what had started the previous season. JV coach Christopher Kim outlined the goals of the team by saying, "Team's goal was to grow, not just for our record's sake, but in our knowledge of the game and of our individual roles and positions. If the growth happens in our understanding of the game, then our record will get better." This supports the idea that the intangibles when it comes to sports are the most important factors in determining a team's success.

Since last season the teams have both sought improvement, and when asked about what the team had improved on, coach Christopher Kim acknowledged his veterans, saying, "Some of the improvements we have made as a team from last season is the understanding of how some of our teammates work or play. About a third of the team is returning, including myself as a coach, so in terms of improvements, these six girls have stepped up into leadership roles, and have internalized the way in which we play and are doing a great job of calling the shots. In short, the improvements being made are the players who are stepping up into leadership roles which is vital for any team."

It is no secret that the veterans of the teams is essential to success, because without their guidance and knowledge of the sport, the new athletes would not be able to have the necessary skills to train the next generation of athletes.

When asked about the season thus far, coach Christopher Kim stated, "Regarding the season record so far, we are consistent with the results from last. The season is going well particularly with the team's attitude and positive disposition, which gives us the opportunity to want to play

for each other, and not simply as individual parts of a disjointed puzzle." With that said, it is clear the teams are not focused on score, rather they are concerned with creating a close-knit team that operates on the foundation of getting along, understanding the game, and having fun.

With the season coming to a near end, the team has already experienced most of its ups and downs.

When asked about the moments that defined the teams, coach Christopher Kim said "The essential thing that defines the team, would be their attitude after falling back in the score, or post-defeat. The positivity of the team, the captain's' ability to set the tone for the team is far and away the thing that separates the squad as people themselves as paramount, versus any score or result. They fight on and as a coach it is something that helps keep me positive as well."

Overall the girls soccer teams have met their goals of improving the sense of community on the teams, leadership building, and knowledge of the game. The athletes, JV coach Christopher Kim, and Varsity coach **Paul Lambert** can be credited with the success made in these improvements.

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