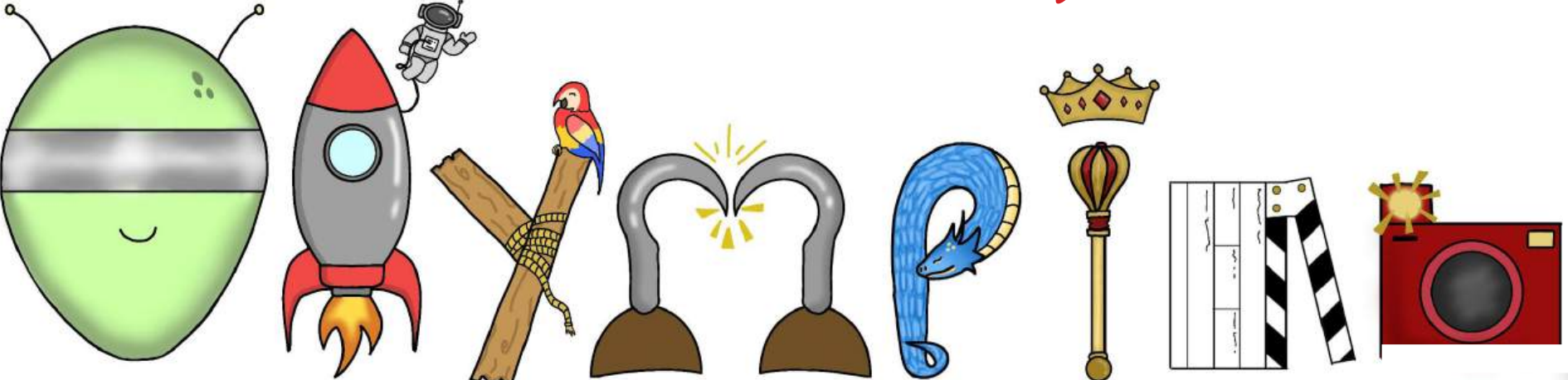
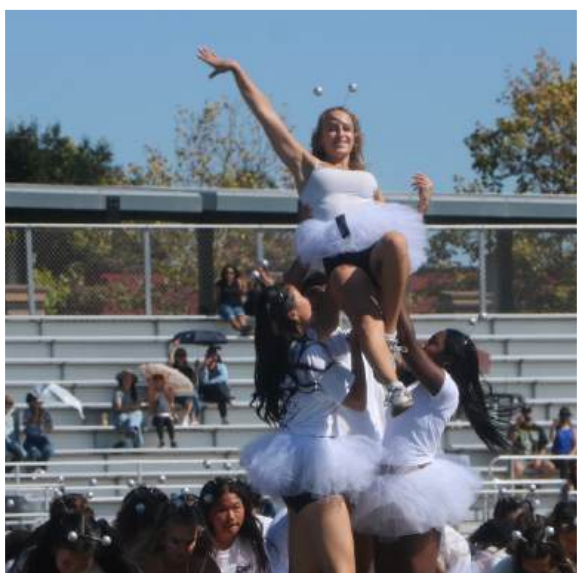


Special Homecoming Edition



MADISON LEE

Seniors surge to future

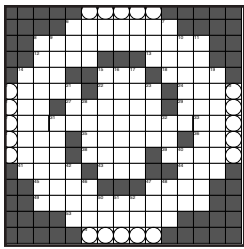




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Puzzle



THE CASTRO VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL Olympian

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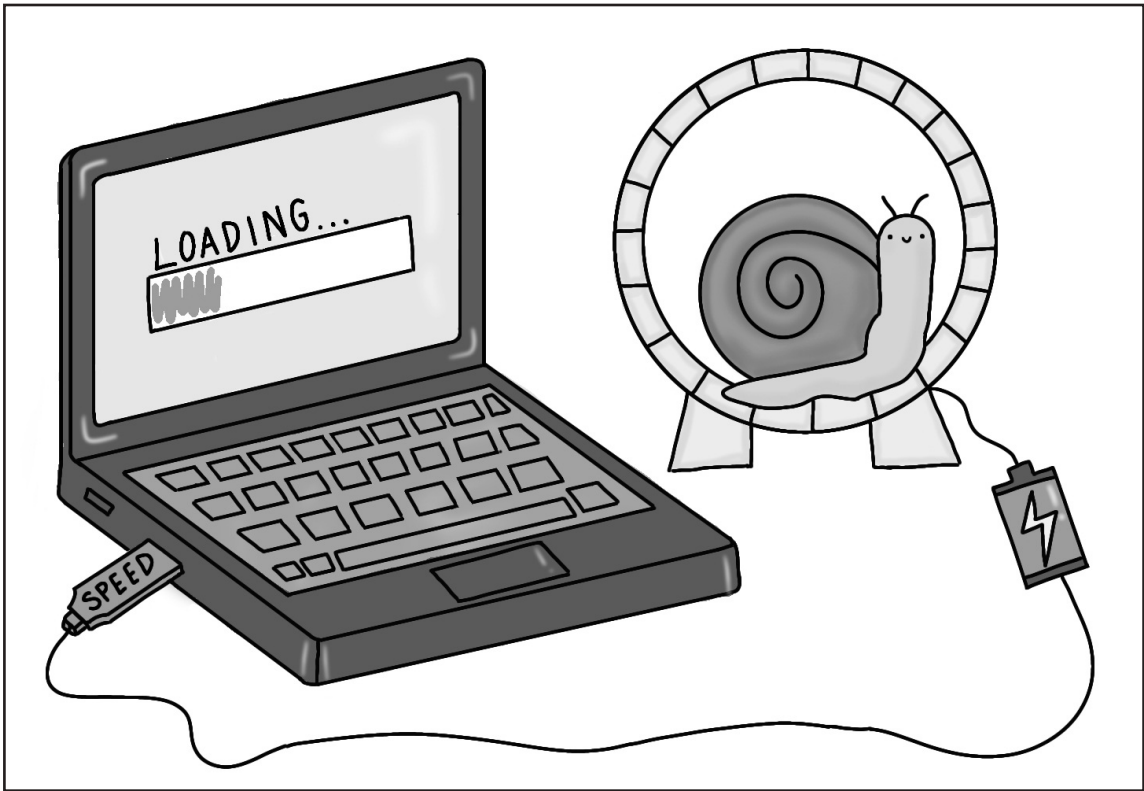
Slow Dynabooks slow down students

By Rachel Zhen

CVHS switched from Chromebooks to Dynabooks two years ago, hoping to provide the best technology for our students. Are the new Dynabooks really an upgrade? Since switching from Chromebooks, students and staff say the devices are frustratingly slow, raising questions about whether the change was worth it.

"Dynabooks are not up to par with our current school standards. They are painfully slow, which causes many kids to be left behind during lessons. Additionally, they also block random academic websites. For example, I was researching for a project during one of my classes, and my Dynabook decided to block Google," said junior Sophia Li.

Students are not the only ones noticing issues. Teachers have also reported that the Dynabooks' slow performance has created delays in lessons. Some students have had to resort to using their cell phones to keep up, even when there is



MADISON LEE

a new district-wide policy for phones in classrooms.

"Technology is an essential resource for language acquisition. I use a variety of websites that support my students' understanding of the vocabulary and grammatical concepts learned in class," said Spanish teacher Dulce

Christensen. "Not having a working computer (that can load the websites in a timely manner) severely impacts their performance and can lead to low assessment grades as they are unable to practice during class or even at home."

The Information Technology (IT) Department

has acknowledged technical problems, according to district guidance, because the laptops sat unused for over a year before being distributed. Many Dynabooks have been backed up with software updates requiring large-scale Windows, Chrome, and security updates that cannot run in the background without

slowing down performance.

To address this issue, IT has adjusted the power and battery settings so devices can complete updates while being unattended. The department recommends students leave their laptops plugged in and connected to Wi-Fi for extended periods of time to allow them to complete the necessary updates.

"Our Technology Department is continuously working to improve the user experience. We are implementing changes to the device's software configuration to help manage and expedite the initial update process, ensuring that students can get up and running more quickly," said Director of Technology Greg Ko.

"We are confident that providing students at CVHS with Windows OS devices will enhance their exposure to a more authentic technological environment, reflecting the demands of college, professional careers, and the real world," CVUSD Technology said in a statement at the first distribution.

For now, students and staff are left waiting to see if these Dynabooks eventually live up to expectations.

Campus reflects on bathroom policy

By Amaya Rambel

As students return to the classroom once again this year, many will face countless different syllabi from their roster of teachers. While each policy may differ for each course, one remains the same: the school's bathroom policy.

This year, teachers have been required by the administration to include the same policy statement regarding students' bathroom use during class. It states that students will only be allowed to leave with teacher permission, hall pass included, and not within the first or last ten minutes of class. Additionally, students may only leave one at a time and must leave all possessions

inside the room. The policy also mentions that those who are consistently missing class for extended periods are subjected to disciplinary action.

The administration is keen on strictly enforcing the bathroom policy this year, claiming this will help reduce the number of property damage, student conflicts, and overall provide a safer campus environment.

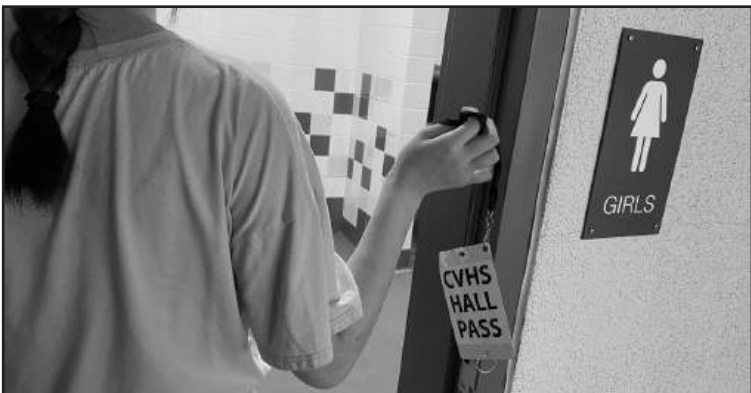
According to a survey of 193 students, most participants reported having neutral feelings towards the bathroom policy. Around 10% claimed to have overwhelmingly negative feelings, while around 5% had overwhelmingly positive feelings. Additionally, a majority of students considered the policy to be relatively reasonable. Only around 7% deemed the policy

unreasonable.

Regarding the specifics within the policy, teachers seem supportive of the ten-ten rule.

"I noticed that when the bell rings, the hallways are more clear," said English teacher Elisa Frozena when asked about how the policy has affected campus so far.

Photography teacher Karissa Robinette also expressed her support for the rule, stating that, "The reason I like the ten-ten is because I want to get the class started first before I have kids disappearing and stuff. And then the last ten minutes, I'm trying to finish up my class, and then I realize somebody's gone." Students, for the most part, believe the rule should be the first and last five minutes of class, rather than ten.



AMAYA RAMBEL

Students need a pass for the bathroom.

"I can understand teachers wanting students to be present during instruction; however, a major reason a lot of kids use the bathroom during class is because they are so incredibly crowded during break and lunch. The last ten minutes of class is fine, I guess, but I think students should be allowed to go

during the first ten minutes so long as they make it quick," said student Liya Kennedy. r a r e largely similar across students, some feel conflicted whether the consequences for "frequent flyers" are reasonable or not.

"Some students may have

► See **POLICY:** page 11

Presidential Fitness Test makes a return

By Sharlene Goduco

President Donald Trump is bringing back the Presidential Fitness Test, a program in which students will once again be tested in activities like running the mile, pushups, pullups, sit-ups, and more. The test was first created in the 1950s during President Dwight Eisenhower's time, but ended in 2013. Now it is being brought back as part of a focus on sports and fitness for students.

The program is returning along with the President's Council on Sports, Fitness, and Nutrition. The goal is to encourage young people to be more active and healthy, while also connecting physical fitness to a stronger nation. Presidents in the past, like John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson, also promoted student fitness, making it an important part of schools during their terms.

Physical education teacher Denny Molzen supports the move, saying, "In my opinion anything that promotes and or encourages students to be more physically active is a positive thing."

For many people, the old test brings back mixed memories. Some enjoyed the challenge and the chance to earn recognition,

while others found it stressful or discouraging if they struggled to meet the requirements.

PE teacher and Department Chair Nicole Manley shared her thoughts on the decision, "I'm personally indifferent. The test is a great standard to have for states that don't already require a physical assessment of students' ability to perform a specific skill."

Right now, many PE teachers aren't sure how much the program will actually help. Some teachers aren't convinced the test will actually make a difference. They think PE shouldn't just be about testing how fast or strong students are. Instead, it should focus on keeping things fun, encouraging teamwork, and helping kids build healthy habits that actually stick.

Even with those concerns, officials say the program is meant to tackle growing health issues among students, like obesity, inactivity, and other lifestyle-related problems. They anticipate that the exam will motivate students to engage in more physical activity and form lifelong habits.

The program will be managed by the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services, which will



PE students will soon be required to participate in the presidential fitness test. SHARLENE GODUCO

advise and assist schools. In order to ensure that the program is equitable, inclusive, and available to all kids, irrespective of their athletic abilities or the resources available to the school, national fitness groups also plan to assist in its development.

"Everyone needs to know about the benefits of physical activity and how to perform

it properly. With the prices of gym memberships and personal trainers now, being able to know how to take care of yourself can save you mentally, physically, and financially," said PE teacher Boz Echivarre.

At this time, no specific day or month has been announced for when students will take the Presidential Fitness Test.

Historically, the test was usually administered once or twice a year, often in the fall and spring semesters. Officials have said more guidance will be provided to schools as the rollout progresses, but for now, students and teachers can expect the program to follow a pattern similar to past fitness initiatives.

SCOTUS ruling reaches into schools

By Sarada Khanal

Parents may now have the opportunity to opt their children out of school curriculum that may interfere with their religion and contradict their beliefs. This ruling came as a result of the new Supreme Court decision in the case of *Mahmoud v. Taylor*.

Initially, this case was brought forth because the Montgomery County Public School District in Maryland implemented new books into their curriculum, which included books that talked about gender and sexual identity. The petitioners in this case were the parents who argued that they should be able to pull their children from the class when these books are read.

Specifically, petitioners

cited a violation of their First Amendment rights, which guarantees freedom of religion. Ultimately, the court ruled in favor of the parents.

Teachers are concerned that the ruling could lead to students leaving their classrooms when homosexuality and other sensitive topics come up.

"It is important we have everyone's stories told to the best of our ability," commented English teacher Anne Parris. Parris brings up the fact that this is not a "new" issue and that there have been times in the past when parents have had concerns with the curriculum.

"I feel like the curriculum should be uniform for all students. I feel like some

people will take advantage of this," commented CVHS senior Memphis Duncan.

On one hand, parents are usually just trying to raise their kids the way they see fit and they believe they should be given that right. Some people argue that they are not completely dismissing ideas but would like to introduce them at their own pace that aligns with the values they wish to instill in their children.

However, while parents have a responsibility to guide their children, this case also brings forth more implications.

"I am not super concerned about its impact on our curriculum right now, but I am a little scared of what

this opens the door to," commented history teacher Kevin Batchelor.

For students here on campus, the effects of this case may not apply, as the decision concerns elementary schools. However, the ruling could extend to high schools in the future.

There is the concern over excessive absences if parents repeatedly pull children out of certain classes. Excessive absences can be detrimental to a child's education and place them behind their peers.

There is also the concern among teachers who have conflicts with their curriculum. Certain English teachers may not be able to assign a book that contains LGBTQ+ themes, as

well as science teachers teaching evolution.

However, science teacher Melissa Kindelspire brushes past these concerns. "I don't speak for all science teachers but I don't know any that are still concerned," commented Kindelspire. She said that evolution is in Next Generation Science Standards, which makes it unlikely that students will be able to opt out.

Additionally, Kindelspire explained that teachers are not obligated to inform parents regarding curriculum and that parents would need to contact the house office and get their written request evaluated by administrators at the district office.

Scheduling petition begins to make waves

By Madison Lee

In light of the new school year, juniors Jonah Reichardt and James Siu have initiated a change.org petition to change CVHS' course distribution on Aug. 16. The petition was written in response to the problems many students have experienced with their schedules this year.

"Trying to fix my schedule in the first two weeks of school and not getting anything fixed really just made us more willing

to put something out to give people the classes they want," Reichardt said.

At CVHS, though juniors and seniors do not have a maximum number of APs and Honors classes they can take, many students have wanted more. However, some were unsuccessful in getting more advanced classes.

With this petition, Siu and Reichardt hope for new implemented changes to the school, including the number of classes available compared

to the number of students who wish to take them, as well as changing how counselors can help students with these changes.

With many classes not having a set waitlist, students are forced to go into their counselors' offices at different times in the day and hope they get lucky with an open spot. Despite these challenges, students have shown up to their counselors' offices almost every day in the hopes of a schedule change.

"It's been very very busy, but

the kids, in spite of it all, have shown true grit, determination, and patience, in waiting to see their counselors for whatever their needs are," House One Secretary Mo Brosnan said.

Published on the online petition platform, "change.org," the petition has received good feedback from the CV community, with about 800 signatures signed within a week.

The Olympian asked the administration about the petition, but received no response.

Siu and Reichardt hope that their petition will create change in CVHS; their ultimate goal is to get students the classes they would like to take. If the petition does not go through, Siu and Reichardt remain hopeful.

"We wanted to show the district that there are a lot of people who care and a lot of people who are passionate about this," Siu said. "We wanted to spread awareness to a lot of other people so that hopefully, we can get more people to support our cause."

Olympian Opposes Bathroom Policy

Editorial:

As the school year emerges, a new major issue has emerged amongst the school: the enforcement of the CVHS bathroom policy. The policy enforces that students may not use the bathroom within the first and last ten minutes of class. Not to mention, students can be out one at a time as long as they go with a bathroom pass and leave their personal items behind.

We at *The Olympian* have come to the consensus that the bathroom policies are simply unjust.

The policy aims to crack down on “frequent flyers,” also known as students who wander around during class time. The students can be correlated with disruptive behaviors such as violence from school fights, vandalism of school grounds, or simply being a distraction.



ISAAC HULSE

This bathroom policy targeting them is problematic, as not only does it affect all students, but they are also made to leave personal items behind, including school bags. Many of those on their menstrual cycles won't want to be seen exposed,

holding items such as pads or tampons. Not to mention, it enforces the idea that the bathroom is a privilege and not a necessity.

It's unfair that students have to wait for others, as emergencies are expected to be held back. If students are skipping class, that is their

problem and shouldn't affect other students whatsoever.

The issue remains that during break, kids can not use the bathroom as bathrooms are typically filled to the brim with kids waiting to use the bathroom before class. The

line stretches throughout the entire break time.

Instead, we should be using the bathroom policy as a general guideline rather than a rule that should be absolutely followed. Teachers and administrators should know when to use discretion to know when a student genuinely needs to leave class, while also addressing repeat offenders, as well as know when to make exceptions. This way, it would be more fair as it makes no sense for non-problematic students to be punished for an issue that doesn't surround them.

School is supposed to be a learning space of safety and respect. Students shouldn't have to abandon their personal needs for such arbitrary rules that center to restrict “frequent flyers.” Reforming bathroom policies would promote better equity and help maintain dignity around campus.

Students face AI accusations



By Heldana Deme

Writing is relative, and objectively good pieces are hard to find these days. With the rise of artificial intelligence, it's easy to copy and paste something a computer thought of while claiming it as your own without an ounce of credit where credit is due. Unfortunately, for many people (such as myself) who strive to use formal language and correct punctuation as needed, this means that teachers have lost all faith in students' abilities to write a comprehensible essay or assignment. The first thing they think of when met with a genuinely articulate piece of writing is to ask themselves, “Is this AI?”

To be fair, most of the time, it is AI. Students have become so reliant on chatbots like ChatGPT

and the like to complete their tasks, they have no reason to do anything themselves anymore. Without a thought, they upload their work and let the program do the rest. Most don't try to do anything else.

Because of this, teachers have become desensitized to misappropriated works and automatically assume a well-placed comma or, more notably, a suspicious em dash are products of plagiarism. What this means for people who do write their own papers are false accusations and heated discussions about the decline in students' work ethic, with a rising demand for teachers to reconsider using AI plagiarism checkers that label 100% human writing as 100% anything but.

I am not exempt from this mass scrutiny—multiple times, especially during freshman year, I've been asked the same question repeatedly: “Are you sure you wrote this?”

It was hard to feel anything but offended and concerned why any teacher would ask that. None would seem to care that I'd been writing as such for longer than my high school career.

Perhaps, it's been a while since they have encountered truthful writing that doesn't leech off of computer-generated responses. However, the conversation about the increase of dependency on AI is not one many are ready to have.

Obviously, this type of academic dishonesty should never be condoned, but there should be measures in place to prevent false allegations being made and potentially hurting someone's reputation. It can only be imagined what such a charge could do to a senior student applying to college who was accused of using AI in their application essay; the damage would be irrevocable.

For the over-achieving student, a claim like this is their worst nightmare, and so is it for the student who actually did use AI. What doesn't make sense is that they both get punished for the same thing. At the end of the day, we are starting to lose our sense of self and humanity to AI, and every single person who continues to use it makes it an even bigger problem that plagues our education system and our youth.



THE CASTRO VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

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Letters to the Editor

The Olympian encourages letters from our readers. Letters must be signed and no longer than 200 words. E-mail them to mjohanson@cv.k12.ca.us.



Fighting conformity through fashion choices



By Valentina Huynh

“She’s a hoe.”
That’s the type of thing I heard people say, amongst countless others, simply because of how I dressed.
Upon entering high school, I was in the midst of discovering my style and figuring out what clothes made me feel good. Fashion became a form of self discovery, a way to feel confident and aligned with who I was.
I wanted to dress y2k, bold, and glamorous; I wanted to wear a style that I admired. For me, it embodied confidence and femininity.
When I finally started bringing my ideas to life, the

harassment began. People would make assumptions about my character and rumors spread. I would get harassed and made fun of by my peers and catcalled by grown men for having more unique ways of dressing -- such as a whaletail.
In the beginning, I didn’t care, but overtime I became more and more self conscious not only of my fashion, but myself too.
The harassment began chipping away at the little self confidence I had so desperately tried to build. I felt like I owed people an explanation that I was more than my fashion choices. I began dressing in ways that I thought more people would like. I was trying to win the crowd over, to appease everyone, while losing myself.
Fashion no longer felt exciting or as fulfilling. I felt like I could no longer be myself and lost a lot of confidence.
However, as I spoke to people I looked up to and questioned why I felt the need to conform, I stopped affirming the belief that it was my fault for being judged--that I needed to change. Not only that, I had others around



Students at CVHS showcase self expression through fashion.

VALENTINA HUYNH

me who remained true to their fashion despite constant criticism and I admired that. I slowly got the courage to start dressing up for myself again despite backlash.
Through this, I gained a crucial lesson: the people who you want in your life wouldn’t judge you based on your appearance. They’ll value

and see you for who you are without any explanation.
No one should be judged for how they present themselves through fashion choices, nor should they be harassed in any shape or form. It creates an unsafe environment that discourages self expression and enforces conformity.
Overall, people should not

judge others for being different, but rather ask themselves why they feel discomfort when someone chooses to present themselves differently and face their own internal biases.
Instead of changing to appeal to others or trying to conform, we should embrace diversity, a catalyst for progression and empowerment in society.

School policies sabotage students’ wellbeings



By Mairene McNeill

Being a high school student comes with many contradictions, leaving me and many others experiencing burnout. Nutrition, sleep, and mental health are all acclaimed priorities of teachers and staff, but their actions suggest otherwise.
To begin with, nutrition. Not just health teachers preach about the importance of a healthy and

balanced meal to boost the mind. But as students line up for the school lunch everyday, they are greeted with mysterious green patches on their pizza, and cold, chunky, mac and cheese.
The school lunches are unappetizing at best, and some students will skip lunch entirely if there is nothing that looks edible. This leaves them hungry and unattentive for their fifth and sixth period classes.
While sleep is also deemed important by teachers and staff, students like me might have hours of homework waiting for us after our eight hour school day starting early in the morning.
Sleep is incredibly important for developing brains, and to be denied this right by the very ones who argue its importance is both frustrating and aggravating.
When confronted, teachers

point out that we have signed up to take these classes, so we should not complain about their workload.
However, many students sign up for honor classes out of fear of not being eligible for competitive colleges, and will end up failing after long, sleepless nights of studying. Others realize the impossibility sooner, and give up trying to be accomplished.
These students are called in to see overworked councilors who can no longer afford to care about the mental health and future goals of all their students.
Students who acknowledge their own struggle will request to see a counselor or go to the Wellness Center, but are often denied by teachers who are unwilling to teach these students the content they will be missing at another time.

Once they can finally go see a counselor, students are forced to be waitlisted before they have the opportunity to salvage their future.
Yet several times a year, we hold closed Trojan Times where students are lectured about mental health by the same teachers who ignore their cries for help.
Furthermore, competitive colleges look for students involved in clubs or sports. This takes time away from our studies, something unforgivable in the eyes of many teachers.
When students complain about the stress of juggling school and passion projects, educators laugh and tell us they are just preparing us for the real world.
As if the first 18 years of our lives are a free trial.

Students live with the double standard of being expected to act like adults and being treated like kids. If they still see us as kids, can we at least be allowed the time to have hobbies and figure out who we are as people?
Teachers should keep the lives of students in mind when assigning homework or after school studies. Please recognize that we have five to six other classes and extracurriculars eating away at our time as well as our mental health, and try to keep homework to a maximum of 30 minutes. If every teacher gives only 30 minutes, that is still at least 3 hours of homework a night.
Being a student forces many opposing values, but health can once again be made the priority with the support of teachers and staff.

PHOTOpinions

How do you feel about the bathroom policy?



“I don’t care about the bathroom policies.”

Aaron Snider
Freshman



“I don’t like the bathroom policy and I feel like we should be able to go to the bathroom whenever.”

Kyle Mei
Sophomore



“I feel like it’s unjust as the bathroom isn’t something you can take away from someone; I feel like it should be a right to go whenever.”

Shota Yanagisawa
Junior



“If I want to use the bathroom and I need to take a dump, I’m not going to wait for them to come back.”

Jimi Thompson
Senior



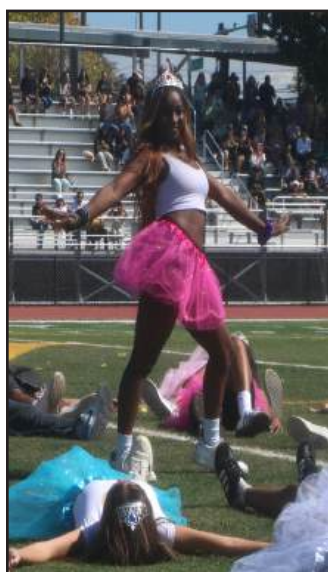
“Kids tend to not go to class and hang out in the bathrooms. If we can follow the rules and not bring our phones in there, I’m in support of it.”

Noelle Wilson
Campus supervisor

JUNIORS SAIL THE SEAS TO THIRD PLACE



Sophomores transcend to second



Students' book embraces failure

By Brenda Huynh

"Bonnie's Quest for Courage" by student authors Sammy Huang and Chloe Miao, follows the story of a girl named Bonnie who learns to face challenges with bravery. Beyond what may look like a surface-level plot, the book carries a powerful message of resilience, mental health awareness, and self-acceptance. The children's book, which spans 39 pages and is written for readers aged six to ten, is available on Amazon in paperback for \$9.99 and for free with Kindle Unlimited. Despite its short length, its message is far-reaching. At a spelling bee, Bonnie is faced with the challenge of spelling the word "courage." Despite failing to do so, throughout the book, Bonnie explores what courage means to her and her friends when she's suddenly transformed into a duck in a translucent reality. Huang explained that the inspiration stemmed from personal experience as well



Authors Chloe Miao and Sammy Huang show off their book.

BRENDA HUYNH

as witnessing the significant impact an influential book can have on adolescent minds. "I was inspired to write the book because of a personal experience where a close friend of mine

suffered the negative effects of a children's book that perpetuated negative images of body image," said Huang. "It made me realize how impactful books are to growing children, and I wanted

to change that." "The story was inspired by our own experiences with anxiety and self-doubt, motivating us to write a story to empower kids to not only accept failures, but to embrace

them. We hope our book helps children face their challenges with confidence," said Miao. It took both Huang and Miao a year to author the book, while they'd managed 15+ hour time differences over the summer. The two would meet at any bit of free time to discuss the book and went through many rounds of script and plot changes throughout the feedback cycle. The two thanked those who had supported them along the way, including teachers Tina Johansson, Anne Parris, and their friend Kenta Kwong Hin Sang, who gave advice that changed the trajectory of the book. At its core, the book looks to promote healthier coping mechanisms to approach changes and failure in life. Given that society as of now sets a lot of kids in competitive mindsets, it's harmful to their self-confidence. "Bonnie's Quest for Courage" also looks to push mental health awareness not only to older adults and kids, but also for a strong foundation to grow into.

CVHS hosts Club Day to kick off the year

Clubs connects people with common interests

By Natalie Le

Chinese lions danced around the club stands in the quad, radiating bright spirits. The lions caught a glimpse of the new Dance, Kpop, and Helping Hands clubs.

Students got to know one another during lunch on Aug. 20 to explore the different communities CVHS has to offer at this year's first Club Day.

Twice a year, CVHS hosts Club Day and people take this opportunity to expand their interests for other students to take part in as well.

Friends come together to form a club, creating a stand for others to stop by and sign up.

Even though CVHS has a large number of clubs that's been around for quite some time, new

clubs are added every year. This year, many more clubs joined this experience for the first time.

Clubs have their own origin story, activities, focuses, and differences.

One club that's new to CVHS is the Trojan Dance Club, created by Chloe Kim and Teagan Larson.

"We really wanted to bring an easy way to learn how to dance to the school if you're interested in dancing but you don't know where to start," said Kim.

Kim and Larson are competitive dancers outside of school, and they wanted to invite the fun of dance for other students to enjoy as well.

The two officers hope for people to view their club as an enjoyable activity instead of one that would put pressure on those who join.

Check out the Trojan Dance Club every Wednesday at lunch. They usually plan to host in the 600 mat room, but the meetings are currently in Room 101 at the moment.

Another club joining the CVHS experience is the Kpop-Club.

"We share the love for Kpop, we share similar music tastes, and it's just a chance to make new friends," said Amina Messaoudi, one of the officers.

The president and officers want their new club to be an outlet for people to connect with fellow Kpop listeners, since the Kpop community is widely known outside of school.

Check this club out at Room

106 on Fridays at lunch.

For some volunteer opportunities, the new club Helping Hands specializes in helping out the community.

"Our group really likes to help out and donate to people, so we decided that we wanted to start a club set around the idea of giving back to the community," said Lauren Kong, president of Helping Hands.

This club plans to host events and collaborate with Alameda County Food Bank to package food and show their appreciation.

Helping Hands hosts their meetings every lunch on Tuesdays in Room 209.

Although the Lion Dance Club debuted last year, they're still fairly new to CVHS.

"Our club usually does performances at school or outside events with our lions. You also get to learn how to play instruments, and remain active and physical," said Jeremy Siu, one of the club's officers.

Lion dancing is a cultural sport from the Ch'in Dynasty that originated from China.

Go to Room 918 every Thursday at lunch to learn and participate in the art of this dance.

Clubs create a huge impact on students' lives in their own unique way.

"Clubs are great because it allows you to connect with people who have similar goals as you," said Hope Hudson, president of the Activism Club.



The Broadcast Club participates in Club Day.

NATALIE LE

MIND BODY BREATH SPIRIT

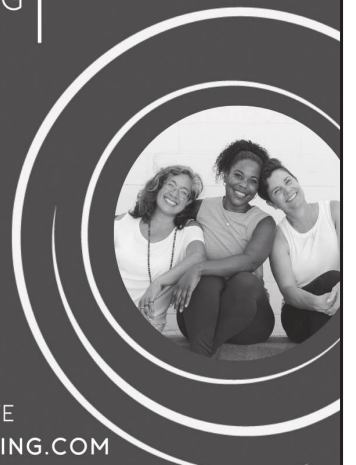
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Trojans suffer tough Homecoming loss

By Samuel Jarvis

CVHS football suffered a defeat in the Homecoming game against Redwood, 34-21, on Sept. 19.

The Trojans had initially started off great. In fact, Redwood started with the ball and made a short drive before fumbling when linebacker Jacob Loy took it for what seemed like a touchdown. But after a pause, the refs determined he stepped out of bounds and placed the ball near the Redwood 10-yard line.

Just as soon as it felt like the Trojans had the advantage, it was lost after a first snap fumble was recovered by Redwood. Luckily, Redwood would punt this drive, and the Trojans would retake possession.

Spirits were high after Rilen Ramirez's nearly 50-yard rush to put the Trojans back into the red zone. Spirits were even higher after Ezra Segundo ran it in from the one for a touchdown to put the Trojans up 7-0.

After another short drive by Redwood, their quarterback, Tommy Vasquez, threw an interception to Christian Cole-



Trojans charge the field with enthusiasm.

SAM JARVIS

man who ran it back more than half the field for a pick-six return touchdown to bring the score to 14-0.

"The offense trapped him in a screen play. I saw the quarterback looking my way, the ball bounced, I made the play," said Coleman on how he was able to

make the play.

The momentum ran a bit thinner after Redwood had 14 unanswered before halftime to make the score tied at 14-14. However spirits remained high for the Trojans.

The third and early fourth quarters, however, were more

of the same from Redwood with two touchdowns and two field goals for 20 unanswered bringing the score to 34-14, Giants.

Tides started shifting back when the Trojans drove through the field and Segundo went back and caught his second touchdown, this time for

10 yards, bringing the score to 34-21 Giants.

The Trojans attempted an onside kick which unfortunately failed. They managed a stop however in the haste to get a subsequent touchdown, an interception was thrown and the game was over.

"You know we at the end of the day I thought the game plan was solid. We turned the ball over twice which has been a hard spot in the season. If we can limit our turnovers we can change our season," said coach John Trotman Jr.

And while obviously turning the ball over isn't great for the team, it was the largest issue in the game.

The Trojans have a great team culture, crediting their teammates more than themselves. "My teammates did good executing for me to make those plays," said Segundo about his two-touchdown performance.

Because the team knows what they need to fix and genuinely believe in their fellow players, the team can make it as far as it can carry itself at the end of the day.

Cam Carraway races toward his dream

By Samuel Jarvis

Most, but not all people, give up dreams they had when they were kids and many don't ever truly try to achieve their dreams. Cam Carraway is the exception to those two rules. He's had one dream since he was six years

old: to be a NASCAR driver, and he's made considerable progress toward that goal.

When asked why he started to love racing, Carraway said, "I was inspired to start racing because it was something I loved to do and watch, and my parents thought god made me do it because it's what I love."

Carraway is still just 14 years old and a sophomore at CVHS. But, he's put together a nice youth career with 16 top fives and three wins in his previous two racing seasons.

Carraway does races all across the West Coast primarily. This includes cars and trucks that can go upwards of



Cam Carraway aims to race in NASCAR.

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100 miles per hour in his age range. The races are typically around 60 to 100 laps.

"Being in the NASCAR Cup series, my dream is to become a NASCAR Cup Series driver," said Carraway when asked what level of play he's most excited about in the future.

His favorite thing when it comes to racing is always the next one; greatness doesn't wait.

"A lot of sports you have to stand a lot, but in racing you're always constant and sitting and you do a lot off track," said Carraway regarding what he thought differentiated racing from other

sports and competition.

The fact that racing is mostly mental leaves everyone on a level playing field and only lets the person who puts in the most effort and practice to win.

"A piece of advice I always give is go for your dreams because everyone has dreams because that's what makes you the happiest," said Carraway on why he thought following your dreams was important. His words should serve as a way to live and put what you care about most at the center of your life to get the most out of life while you still have it.

Superman soars into a new era



By Sam Truscott-Abraham

A red cape flutters in the wind, and a figure soars across the skies. With his super strength, heat vision, and faithful dog Krypto by his side, Superman has returned to the big screen in an action-packed new adventure.

From his first appearance in comic books to his decades-long presence in movies and TV shows, Superman has always been a symbol of hope.

Now, in 2025, the hero faces his toughest challenges yet: proving that he is the hero he claims to be. "Superman" debuted in the heat of summer blockbuster season, and it felt

perfectly placed. At a time when superhero fatigue is a reality, Superman showcases that when done right, these stories can still be fun and fresh. The story follows Clark Kent, played by David Corenswet, working as a reporter at the Daily Planet while secretly protecting Metropolis as Superman.

When an international conflict erupts and his decision to intervene sparks global backlash, the world begins to question whether he is a savior or a threat. At the same time, Lex Luthor, fueled by jealousy, rises with a scheme to turn public opinion against him. Luthor reveals a message from Superman's parents, stating that their son was sent to Earth to rule over humanity.

With his reputation destroyed and the government turning against him, Superman must



SAM TRUSCOTT-ABRAHAM

fight not just for the world's safety but for the world's trust. Along the way, his relationship with Lois Lane becomes more important than ever.

The movie is packed with

thrilling battles, like Superman's showdown with Ultraman, but it also delivers the heartwarming and fun nature that superhero movies have been lacking for a while now.

Superman is full of heart, humor, and non-stop action. I would recommend it to both longtime fans of the hero and newcomers who are interested in getting into the comic world.

Justin Bieber strikes back with "Swag"



By Winnie Shen

Love can either lead to a broken heart, or it will be the reason why people look forward to waking up every day. Seeing the person you'll be spending the rest of your life with first thing in the morning is something that shouldn't be taken for granted.

In Justin Bieber's song "Daisies," which is featured on his seventh studio album "Swag," he pours his feelings out about his love life and the struggles he has gone through

in his relationship with his significant other.

I really enjoyed listening to "Swag" because the world has not heard Bieber's voice in many years. This was a very anticipated release that quickly climbed up the charts, debuting at No. 2 on Billboard's Top 100. I can always expect a good song from Bieber, as I grew to like his older songs, and this album exceeded my expectations.

The lyrics were meaningful to his personal life, and the instrumentals were very catchy, especially the drums used in "Daisies." I was also thrilled to hear his songs were finally played on the radio again. Some of his other popular songs were "Yukon," "Go Baby," and "All I



Can Take."

This album mainly focused on pop and contemporary R&B, two genres that are very mainstream today. He even included an audio snippet on the album called "Standing On Business," a catchphrase that went viral and quickly became

a meme among netizens. He expresses his emotions about how he was frustrated with the paparazzi because they were invading his privacy and were trying to find out more about his personal life.

It has been four long years since Bieber released a new

album for his fans, but he has finally decided to step back into the spotlight. Being famous at a young age has impacted him forever, as he has been faced with scrutiny and judgment his whole life. During his time in hiatus, he has gone through a medical condition, started a family, and focused on mental health.

This album shows his resilience and that he will never give up his passion for music. A couple of months after the release of "Swag," Bieber revealed on social media that a sequel album called "Swag II" would be released at midnight. They are both available on streaming platforms like Spotify, Amazon Music, and Apple Music.

"The Last of Us" redefines death



By Kai Atkinson

"The Last of Us Part II Remastered" is an absolute must-play. "Naughty Dog" somehow managed to make an already great game even better.

Right from the start, the new "No Return" roguelike mode is seriously addicting and brings a fresh challenge to the game. It's so much fun and just eats up hours. The remastered version really lets the story shine. The visuals are way sharper, and

everything feels so real. The game's story is super heavy, but the new commentary from the directors and actors are awesome and give so much new insight. It's crazy to see what went into creating such a brutal and beautiful world.

On PS5 the graphics are really good and improved, making the grim post-apocalyptic world look cool. The main story from the beginning was intense, even after doing it a bunch of times. Ellie's revenge journey is dark, but the game handles it so well. It's not just a zombie game; it's about loss, forgiveness, and how violence just keeps going.

The game is beautiful and almost feels too real. I really

enjoyed playing it and all the actions and movements are really expertly made. With all the small little details and functions, I find this game very fun to play and it really does feel real.

The "Lost Levels" are also very cool. It's really interesting to see what was cut from the final game and get a peak behind the scenes. The new content adds value. The guitar free-play mode is a nice touch for a little break.

Overall, "The Last of Us Part II Remastered" is a beautiful and well-made game. I love how you can mess around everywhere and how well it's made.

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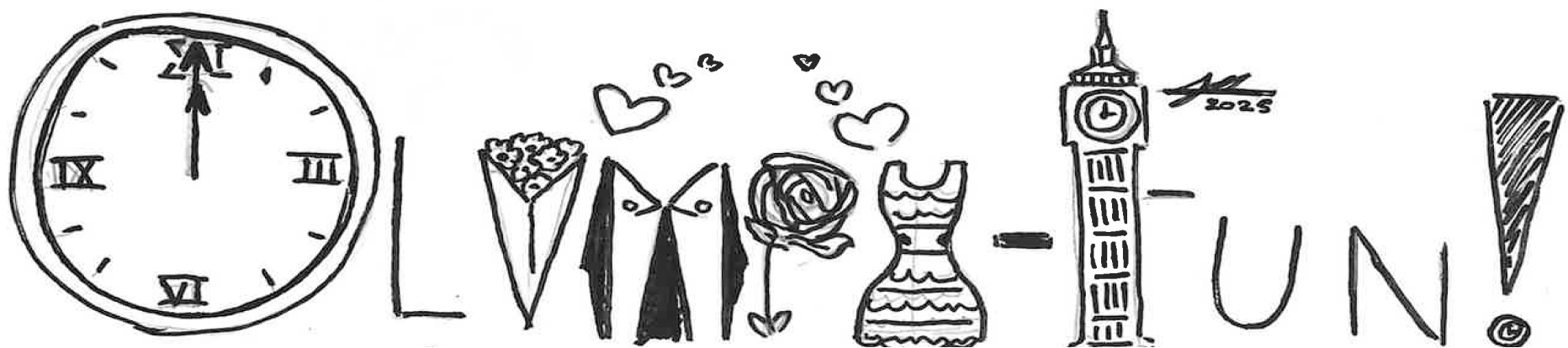
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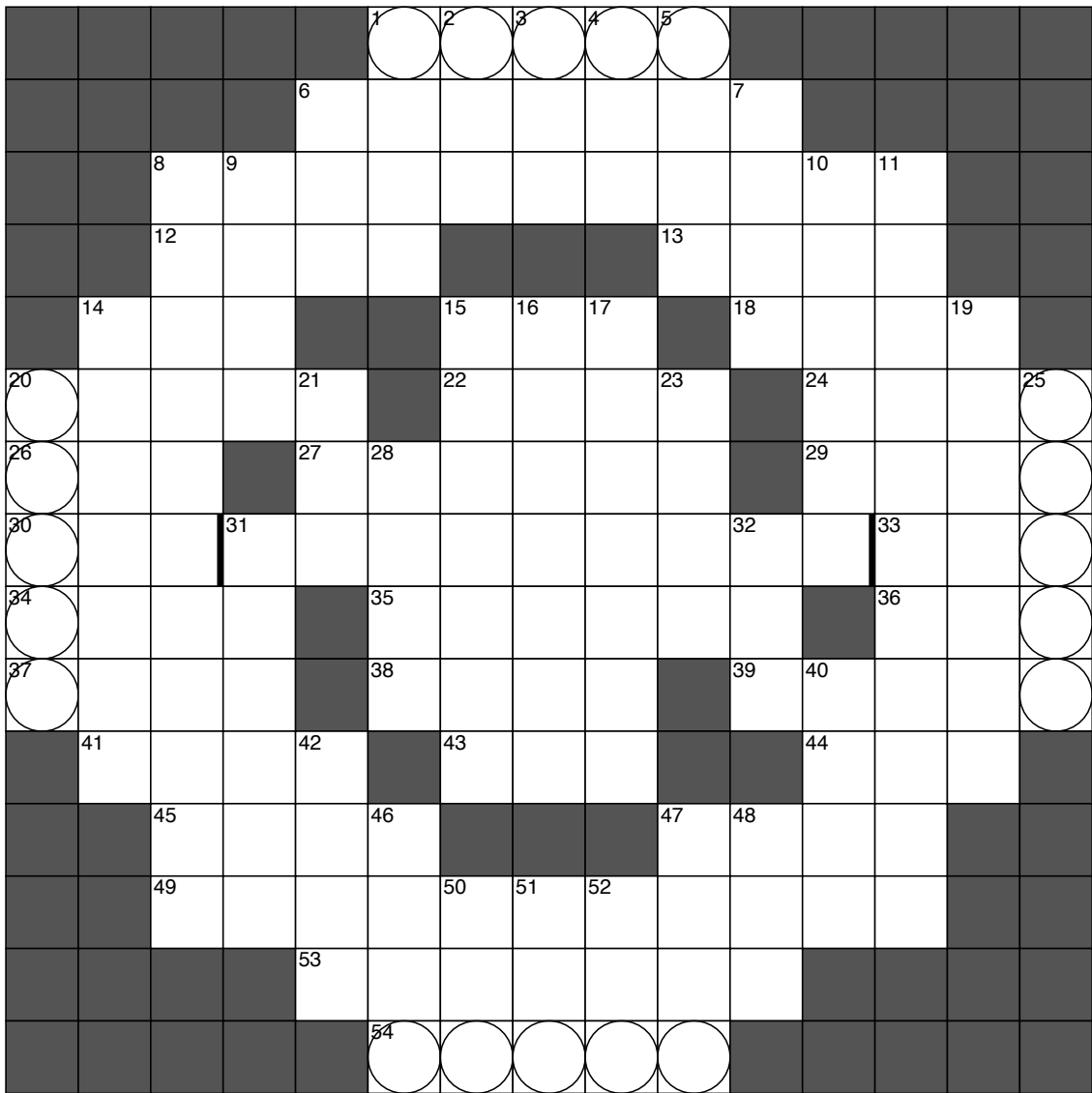
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24 Jog
26 It always asks “Who?”
27 One who is in distress?
29 Listen
30 Wife of ne
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33 Sony VFX co.
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36 “Chandelier” singer
37 Beginning to drive?
38 Where Jesus turned
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43 Word before loose, go
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would play on them
31 Difficulty
32 Everest or K2, abbr.
40 “There are too many
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42 Prefix with gram or
deck
46 +
47 They come in 1A’s
48 According to all known
laws of aviation, we
don’t know how this
animal flies
50 Sault ____ Marie
51 Shape of a rainbow
52 Slangy denial

► **POLICY:** *from page 1*

medical issues or classes too far to reasonably go during break, so being in trouble for that kind of thing would be unfair and annoying,” said senior Michael Lawver.

Samit Rath also had similar feelings for the rule, stating, “Not really, unless it’s for good reason. If they’re caught doing something other than going to the bathroom, then it makes sense, but some people genuinely have to use the restroom consistently during a class period.”

He also comments upon the fact that this statement proves even more true for classes that occur two periods after break or lunch, claiming that there’s often “not enough time during the passing period.”

Overall, opinions regarding the bathroom policy will continue to develop and change as the year continues. If the administration’s goals with this policy prove true, both students and staff can hope to see a cleaner, safer, and more pleasant campus environment in the future.

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