

"SPIDERMAN"

"I loved *'Spiderman: No Way Home.'* I saw it four times in theatres, even opening night. It was the peak of my life and nothing will ever beat that. It was like everything that I've been waiting on since my *childhood* finally coming true. I appreciate the way they set up the end of the movie for the future of the MCU."

Emi Cachila '22

"TICK, TICK... BOOM!"

"This movie, although a bit existential, was such an *enjoyable* watch. Vanessa Hudgens and Andrew Garfield play off of each other extremely well. My favorite song was '30/90.' It was very much giving Bo Burnham's 'Inside' and it made me kind of sad, but still totally a *banger*."

Sarah Johnson '22

"DUNE"

"The casting was really good and it had a lot of *good ties* to the book. I went with my dad to see it because we both like sci-fi. The movie had really good graphics. It wasn't obviously CGI-animated. I mostly just liked it for *the visuals* because I don't remember the plot."

Cameron Parks '21

the big screen

BIGGEST HEADLINES

ASTROWORLD

On Nov. 5, 2021, nine people died of compression asphyxia during rapper Travis Scott's set at Astroworld Festival. As a timer clicked down toward the start of the show, the crowd surged forward, trapping and squeezing fans at the front. The chaos occurred the first night of the Houston music festival, Astroworld, at NRG Stadium with an estimated 50,000 people in attendance. Scott denied knowing of the surge, and he was removed from headlining Coachella following the incident.

BETTY WHITE

At the age of 99, comedian and television star Betty White died from a stroke on Dec. 31, 2021, weeks away from celebrating her 100th birthday. White spent 80 years in the entertainment industry, with her most prominent role being Rose Nyland in "Golden Girls." She won a Guinness World Record in 2014 for "Longest TV Career by an Entertainer (female)." She was also known for her advocacy, inviting a Black tap dancer on "The Betty White Show" in 1954 and facing criticism at the time.

FREE BRITNEY

After spending nearly half of her life under a conservatorship, pop star Britney Spears, 38, was released by a Los Angeles judge Nov. 12, 2021. Spears was placed under the conservatory in 2008 after being put into a psychiatric hold due to a public breakdown. Her father was given control of much of her life, but fans became worried of her well being. They created the "Free Britney" movement to try and release her, utilizing social media sites to bring awareness to the singer's situation.

TX ABORTION

The Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 8 on Sept. 1, 2021, which effectively prohibited abortions across the state after six weeks of pregnancy. While the right to an abortion is upheld by the Supreme Court, states can set restrictions on how far into a pregnancy someone can receive an abortion. The law applies to anyone who performs an abortion or anyone who "willingly aids" an abortion. Instead of relying on the executive branch to enforce the law, as most states do, the law uses citizens to report and sue people who help provide an abortion.

COVID dashboard

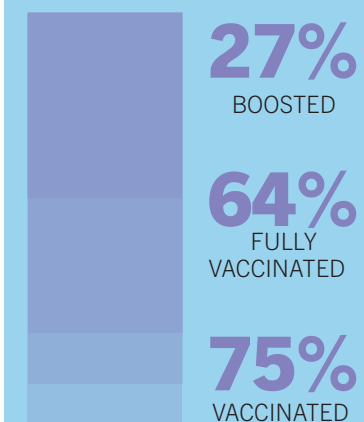
AS OF JAN. 10

312
CPHS CASES

1,433,977
U.S. CASES

6.37 M
TOTAL TX CASES

VACCINES



VARIANTS

SUMMER 2021
delta

WINTER 2022
omicron

statistics courtesy of the New York Times and the LISD COVID-19 Dashboard

RAM 'EM DOWN



LOS ANGELES RAMS	CINCINNATI BENGALS
23	20

"I didn't really care who won the Super Bowl, but I was leaning toward the Rams. I bet with a couple of my friends for the Rams and I got worried during the third quarter, but I ended up winning."

Nick Gaus '21

"I thought the outcome could've been different and the referees made it the longest game ever, but I really just watched it for the halftime show. I wanted the Bengals to win because of Joe Burrow."

Danielle Lopez '23

TOKYO OLYMPICS

AMERICAN

39 gold
suni lee
women's all-around gymnastics

katie ledecky
women's 1500m, 800m freestyle

11 silver

33 bronze

BEIJING OLYMPICS

AMERICAN

gold 8
nathan chen
men's singles figure skating

chloe kim
women's half pipe snowboarding

silver 10

bronze 7

MENTAL HEALTH

At the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, gymnast Simone Biles, the world's most decorated gymnast, dropped out of the finals of every competition, except for balance beam. She cited the "twisties," a condition where gymnasts cannot tell where they are in the air and attributed it to stress. Tennis star Naomi Osaka also garnered headlines due to dropping out of the French open because of depression.

IN MY HUMBLE OPINION

transgender athletes

"A lot of states, especially southern states, have been passing bills to try to ban both transgender youth and transgender adults from participating in the sports that align with their gender identity. The whole goal of these bills is to get in the way of the success of transgender athletes. When it comes to more leisurely activities, while they're not as substantial as things like healthcare, I think they're still really important to have equity for those in the LGBT community."

Sydney Fuller '22

ableism

"I think ableism in schools also affects less seen abilities, like things that can be masked because they still are disabled and its visibility doesn't make them any less than that identity. Things like learning disabilities or physical disabilities that aren't noticeable, but as long as people with those don't voice their concerns, people don't think they have a concern. The ableism is mostly dismissal because of the visibility of their case, like really just believing when someone says they need help. I think it should be advocated that disabilities are common and making sure everyone is listened to."

Ishani Pandey '21

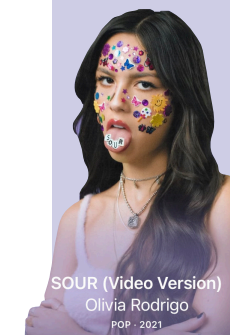
reproductive rights

"I'm pro choice because I want women to have the option to terminate their pregnancy if they do not feel like they are able to take care of a child or carry out the pregnancy, especially if she is impregnated non consensually. I think that this would be a better alternative to forcing women to either perform at home abortions which are very dangerous or carry out the pregnancy and deliver a baby against their will, which is a very painful process that can be very traumatizing, especially if the woman is young and trying to get through school."

Grace Ornelas '22

OLIVIA RODRIGO "SOOR"

17-year-old nominated for seven Grammys



Following the release of her hit song "drivers license" in January 2021, Olivia Rodrigo released "SOOR" in May 2021. The album broke global records, becoming the biggest opening week for an album by a female artist on Spotify. Billboard and Rolling Stone names "SOOR" the best album of 2021, and Rodrigo was nominated in all "Big Four" Grammy categories: Album of the Year, Record of the Year, Song of the Year and Best New Artist.

▶ Play ⌂ Shuffle

If Olivia Rodrigo has a superpower, it's that, at 18, she already understands that adolescence spares no MORE

"ENCANTO"

let's talk about Bruno



Disney released the movie "Encanto" in theatres in Nov. 2021 and on Disney+ on Christmas. With music by Lin-Manuel Miranda, the creator of "Hamilton," the soundtrack became viral on social media apps like TikTok. The hit song "We Don't Talk About Bruno" hit No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart in Jan. 2022, the first Disney single to do so since "A Whole New World" in '90s. The movie was praised for its soundtrack and representation.

▶ Play ⌂ Shuffle

Following the success of 2016's Moana, Lin-Manuel Miranda reunites with Disney as chief songwriter! MORE

TAYLOR SWIFT "RED"

pop superstar rerecords old albums

After Taylor Swift released her sister albums "Folklore" and "Evermore," she announced plans to rerecord her old studio albums under the name "Taylor's Version." The rerecordings spawned from a disagreement after her old producing company, Big Machine Records, sold to a company owned by manager Scooter Braun. Swift rereleased the two albums and plans for six more to keep them under her name and control. "Red (Taylor's Version)" topped charts internationally and "All Too Well (10 Minute Version)" became the longest number-one song of all time.

Red (Taylor's Version) (+ A Message From Taylor)
Taylor Swift
POP · 2021

▶ Play ⌂ Shuffle

After rerecording her 2008 album Fearless as part of a sweeping effort to regain control of her master! MORE

screenshots provided by tristan hernandez

new & noteworthy

events of the '21-'22 school year

reality check

"Something surprising about this year is that I realized how much better I learned in school with people around." -Charity Cox '23