

Crimson

Paso Robles High School | 801 Niblick Rd. Paso Robles, CA 93446 | Issue 4 Volume 88 04.06.23

Error 404

College Board Has Failed

Students move away from College Board as dual enrollment availability rises and as SAT requirements among colleges continue to fade away

CANCELLING CANCEL CULTURE

Is cancel culture letting people learn from their mistakes?

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Athletes face and overcome obstacles during their seasons

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NEWS BRIEFS

SNOWY SUNSHINE STATE

For the first time since 1988 Paso Robles was covered with snow...

by Sebi Radojevic, Poli Sci Editor

All of SLO County admired the beauty of its first snowfall in over 30 years on Friday, February 24, 2023. Snow covered the town leaving students, parents, teachers, and residents surrounded with a beautiful, new, and fresh landscape. The snowfall occurred at night, roughly around 10:00 and continued throughout the night into the morning.

The night of the event, twenty to thirty students decided the best course of action would be to participate in a massive snowball fight. “We were driving around and heard it was super snowy in Santa Margarita, when we got to the offramp of the highway leading into Santa Margarita there were probably 20 or 30 kids messing around with the snow and throwing it at each other,” Senior **Erin Murphy** said.

Teacher of Honors Precalculus, Algebra 2, and AVID **Ted Wagner** recalls the last major snowstorm in the area back in 1988.

“It’s 1988, I was a junior at Atascadero High School. And I looked out the window along with a bunch of other kids. We were in second period French, and it started snowing. The teacher let us go outside, and there was all this snow coming down. Well, eventually that day they sent us home. It was the day before we were supposed to get out for winter break.”

“And so I had this big essay due for US History the next day and I was wondering what was going to happen.”

“They closed the schools down the next day because there was too much snow people couldn’t get around. And so I didn’t have to actually turn the essay in which was really cool because there was no Google Classroom. It had to be turned in by hand. We got a free day on that Friday, right before winter break to play in the snow and we did that! People were sledding everywhere and snowball fights and building snowmen and everything because there was all kinds of snow all over the place,” Wagner said.



SNOW IN PASO: Bearcat students share their photos of the snow that had not been seen in Paso since before they were born.



PASO ROBLES HISTORY MUSEUM

Paso Robles History Museum located in Downtown Paso is open free to the public open Thursday - Monday By Miguel Muniz, *Cutest on Staff*

Once upon a time in 1908 Pittsburgh millionaire steel tycoon Andrew Carnegie wrote a grant of \$10,000 for the construction of a public library in little Paso Robles all the way across the western frontier.

After a brief closure in 2008 this Library would reopen in the same year as the Paso Robles History Museum and is now open to the public.

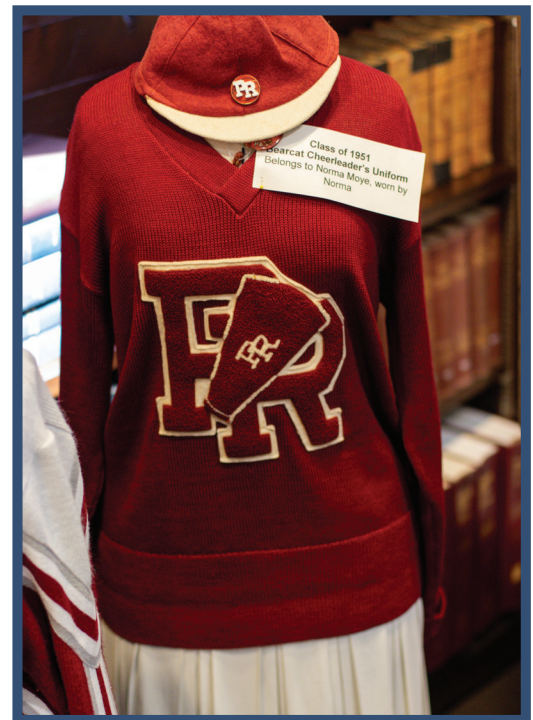
“Bearcat alley gives you a deeper insight into our highschool and shows you its history,” **Adraina Aguilar**, a student volunteer, said.

Bearcat alley is a section in the museum featuring old bearcat memorabilia such as: old cheer uniforms, band outfits, class photos as far back as the 1930’s, and old yearbooks.

The museum also includes sections about our town’s agricultural and business history.

“I’ve been here three years but every time I’m here I learn something new about Paso,” Aguilar said.

The museum is open and accesible to anyone that wants to learn about the history of quant Paso Robles between the hours of 11am-3pm Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday or 1pm-4pm on Sunday



BEARCATS THRIVING AT SKILLSUSA

NEWS |

GOLD

62 Bearcats advance to state competition after winning gold, silver, and bronze medals at regional job skills contests

by Rogelio Molina, Junior Director of Photography

Fighting for a spot to advance from regionals, Bearcats bring success to PRHS' SkillsUSA program.

Out of the 117 Bearcats who registered for the SkillsUSA Regional Conference and competed in 29 different contests, 62 names have been announced to advance to compete at the California State Conference.

The contest was held virtually between January and February 2023 with Bearcats bringing home 23 gold, 13 silver, and eight bronze medals which adds up to 44 overall medals in total.

SkillsUSA is a competition for students to showcase the skills that they have learned in their chosen Career Technical Education (CTE) pathways. PRHS is one of the leading technical education high schools in the Central Coast and offers multiple pathways for students to choose from. Some examples of these include healthcare, computer science, childcare, and carpentry.

"I think it's really important for students to be involved because it helps prepare students for the real world," said Joseph Sanchez, who has been helping his students succeed for two years now.

The main purpose of SkillsUSA is to train and prepare students to be a part of a skilled workforce and to provide them with the opportunity and tools to be successful. According to the SkillsUSA website their mission statement is: "SkillsUSA empowers its members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens. We improve the quality of our nation's future skilled workforce through the development of SkillsUSA Framework skills that include personal, workplace and technical skills grounded in academics. Our vision is to produce the most highly skilled workforce in the world, providing every member the

opportunity for career success."

With over half of the students who advanced to the State Conference and performing "pretty good" at the Regional Conference.

"I had all my students that actually competed for regionals go to state," Sanchez said.

One of the 23 students that placed first was senior Brian Rowins who has competed in SkillsUSA all four or his years in high school.

This was his first time doing a different competition and placing first compared to his previous three years.

"This year I've decided to do plumbing, the previous three years I did Information Technology," Rowins said.

To prepare for state he gets help from a retired plumber who gives him small rigs that he has to set up and measure out the pipes. The work for him is "not too hard" for him and is confident he will do well in the state competition.

Junior Vianca Garcia advanced from the regional competition during her first year in Skills.

"It's kinda scary, because I am the only girl doing it this year," said Garcia.

She placed fourth while competing in a male dominated competition against eight males, two of which were from PRHS.

She is nervous for state however, she is preparing by studying scales online that will help her with the upcoming competition.

Gold medalists from the Regional Competition will compete at the California State Conference from April 13 to 16. Winners of the competition will go on to attend the Nation Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, June 2023.

KALANI GAVIOLA

20 Second Elevator Story

KYLE DART

Aviation Maintenance Technology

JON SCHOLL

Computer Programming

GEORGINA ABREU

OLIVIA WRIGHT

SOFIA CORTES

DEVON KINDER

HARMONY HOUDYSHELL

TIANA FAUSET

CPS - Health Services Cluster

ASHLEE HOLT

Early Childhood Education

LEXI KELLER

Health Occupations Professional Portfolio

WADE WILLIS

Internetworking

JESS CONOVER

Marine Service Technology

KAMERON PAINE

Mobile Electronics Installation

CARSEN BIZZELL

Motorcycle Service Technology

BRIAN ROWINS

Plumbing

NICHOLAS WOODARD

Practical Nursing

LUCY PRITCHARD

Prepared Speech

GWENYTH LEMON

Related Technical Math

SAYAKA NAKASHIMA

Technical Computer Applications

ELLA BISHOP

Telecommunications Cabling

JAYLEEN ARROYO

LOGAN BRAND

Web Design



I THINK IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT FOR STUDENTS TO BE INVOLVED BECAUSE IT HELPS PREPARE STUDENTS FOR THE REAL WORLD

JOSEPH SANCHEZ

BRONZE



SILVER



EL BAILE STRIKES AGAIN

BSU, ACT, and MEChA put together a dance for the hispanic student population once again

by Naomi Velasco, Carmesi Co-Editor

Students playing music, the custodian making shaved ice, and a local taco stand selling his tacos all while students are dancing in the quad.

As of last year, students created El Baile to include more hispanic culture to our school. PRHS has a population of over 50% latinos and the Baile is one event that really brings in latino/ hispanic students together with the school. After selling over 170 tickets for this event the majority of students that went to the Baile were mainly latinos.

Senior ACT co-president, BSU social media manager, and MEChA's events coordinator Israel Perez said, "We noticed many school dances like Homecoming Prom, and many more aren't very inclusive, in language and culture, so we as cultural clubs decided to get together and unite and El baile came out successful."

The Baile was also a great way for to get together and combine forces along with the help of Business club which gave the baile a \$1000 budget.

Since November of 2022, ACT, BSU, and MEChA have been working to put the baile together. They've been trying to find someone to sell

food, play music, make a backdrop for pictures, to help with decorations, and the construction of spirit week as well. The week of 3/13 to 3/17 they made a spirit week for the Baile.

The Baile was the March 18. That day, students woke up and worked as early as 8:00 am setting up everything along with ACT advisor Jeffery Land in the quad.

ACT and BSU secretary Ne'jai Bryant mentioned how they've been preparing for the Baile by, "Making it more inclusive by making everyone feel welcomed and making it more like a fiesta than just a dance."

Students from PRHS also agree and say how they enjoyed the dance. "I think that the Baile for my first year here is good, theres a lot of inclusiveness with other races and cultures and have never seen another school do something like this" Reangelle Rosas said. Junior Alexa Solorio who attended the Baile said, "It's so fun, everyone is having fun and the tacos are so good."

The Baile for ACT, BSU, and MEChA was all a great success by selling over 170 tickets in just two weeks. Also it was a way to embrace the hispanic culture on this campus which brought many students together.



I THINK THAT THE BAILE FOR MY FIRST YEAR HERE IS GOOD, THERES A LOT OF INCLUSIVENESS WITH OTHER RACES AND CULTURES AND HAVE NEVER SEEN ANOTHER SCHOOL DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS

REANGELLE ROSAS, 9

REANGELLE ROSAS



GEOFFREY LAND



53.9%
OF PRHS STUDENTS
ARE HISPANICS

2
MAIN HISPANIC
EVENTS AT PRHS:
HISPANIC HERTIGE
MONTH AND THE
BAILE

PASO ROBLES HIGH SCHOOL
BAILE

MINGA THE FUTURE OF CAMPUS CULTURE

PRHS has begun implementing Minga, an app for students to be in the know about school events, create digital hall passes, and earn points towards rewards for themselves and their class

by Adane Siegrist, *People Co-Editor*

A student asks a teacher, “Can I use the restroom please?” In the past, they would say, “Yes, let me write you a hall pass.” Now they reply with: “Yeah, just do a Minga!”

Minga is an app that students can use to create a hall pass for themselves with digital approval from their teachers. But PRHS has a bigger plan in store with the new application.

“It’s an app that’s pretty much designed for schools and it has a bunch of different uses for the school. So it can be used as a calendar, it can be used for hall passes,” junior **Natalie Boyd**, director of web design and media for Leadership/ASB, said.

Minga can be a valuable tool for students, but it can also reward them for their activity on the app with Pride Points.

Pride points are a digital points system given to students for being good Bearcats. For example, if one is seen picking up trash that is not theirs or answering polls sent out by ASB on Minga, a leadership student can scan a barcode on the student Minga portal and receive pride points. Also, on Minga, there is a Pride Points leaderboard where students are ranked by how many pride points they have accumulated individually as well as by graduation class.

Boyd believes in terms of getting ASB news out to students, Minga can serve as a better alternative than social media because it’s solely school events.

“It gets the news out there but people aren’t always going to see it because it can get clouded with other things on social media, like if they follow sports accounts or the people who get lost in their feed,” Boyd said.

Boyd hopes to see the app “expand more by using it as an event calendar.”

Another angle to implementing Minga on campus is to use the software in the future. Paso Robles administration is planning on using Minga as an off-campus pass, if upper-classmen are allowed an open campus for lunch next school year.

Of 80 students surveyed, 27.8% of them have one teacher using Minga, 20.3% have two using Minga,

26.6% have three teachers using Minga, 11.4% have four teachers using Minga, 3.8% have five teachers using Minga, and 10.1% have six teachers using Minga.

Do students feel that Minga is more convenient than a written-out hall pass? Kyndrea Erraqui said, “Yes, most teachers use Minga. I think Minga is better than a written one (hall pass).”

There are two factors to be considered: monitoring and convenience. Paper passes are more convenient when compared to Minga because according to **Costa**, “They have it (paper hall pass). Boom!” To add, Costa noticed students had stacks of printed paper hall passes with teacher signatures. Costa also said, “students leave the paper passes blank with a signature,” which doesn’t specify the reason the student is out of class.

On the contrary, Minga is less convenient but specifies where a student is going, which teacher approved their pass digitally, and how much time the student is allowed to be out of class. However, students can approve themselves for a hall pass on Minga without consent from a teacher; all they have to do is click a teacher’s name.

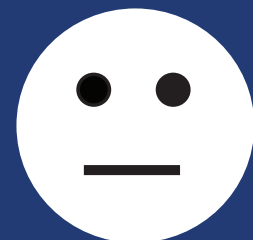
When students were asked to comment their thoughts on Minga on a survey, **Laithen Moore** said, “Minga, while it is another step into the digital age, not all things that can be done should be done. “Revolutionizing” hall passes is one of those cases. The idea is foreign to me. I guess the feature of a digital ID could be useful, but it would be far easier to implement a digital ID into Aeries, which every single student in the school has access to. Minga is just another password to remember and has served no purpose to me except for making it harder to get a drink of water in 6th period.”

Jennifer Bedrosian, the event calendar and challenge manager on Minga wants to use the Pride Points to transcend student culture on campus. Bedrosian said, “My hope is that we can start getting all our athletic events there.” Students will opt to attend school events together while receiving pride points. Then, once students have saved up enough pride points, they can buy bearcat merchandise from the ASB office on campus.

OPINION ON MINGA?



DISLIKE
26%

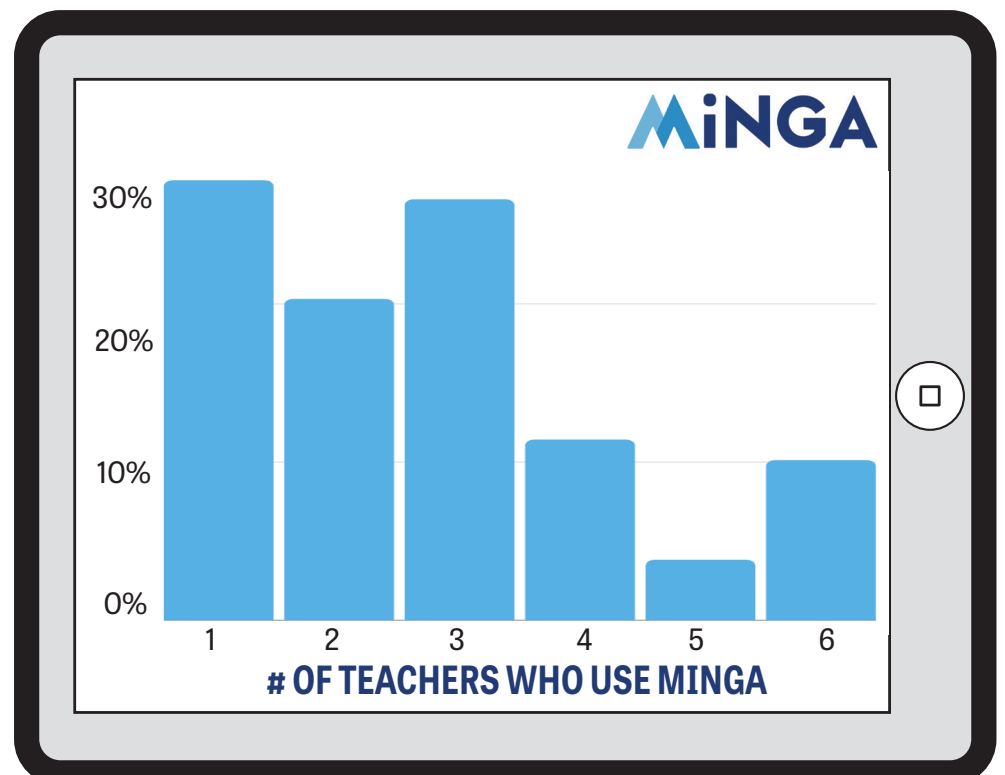


NO OPINION
30%



LIKE
35%

HOW MANY OF YOUR TEACHERS USE MINGA?



Data based on a survey of 82 student responses

AN OPEN MIND TO OPEN CAMPUS

Growing frustrations from students warrant changes to open campus policy, changes are in the works

by Kalista Peterson, Social Media Director

Students of Paso High wait in anticipation each day for the lunch bell, signaling the start of a 35 minute break from the stress of school. Students rush out of classrooms eager to get a good spot in the lunch lines. However, some have other ideas.

Tired of the unsatisfactory food, and wanting to escape from the borders of school, an estimated 50 students sneak off campus everyday without approval. With the temptation of Starbucks, Taco Bell, Panda Express, Chipotle, Jamba Juice, Wendy's and Jack in the Box less than 0.8 miles away, Bearcats can be commonly found at these locations during lunch when they are supposed to be on school grounds.

The controversy of an open campus lunch at PRHS has been a long debated battle over the years. With multiple petitions started by the student body this year and thousands of signatures, a large majority of students are in favor of being able to leave campus at lunch.

While the administration tries to prevent bearcats from leaving unsupervised every day, the effort is mostly unsuccessful: Students find any open door, hop fences, forge off campus passes, and slip out of gates left open.

With growing complaints there is a sense of urgency for change.

Head of Security and Assistant Principal Gerald Braxton shared that he has been talking to other high schools for research about their policies and is looking into a proposal for an open campus at Paso High next school year.

The requirements would weigh the number of tardies, GPA, and being off the no privilege list. He suggested students could use the Minga app as a pass through the 500 building gates.

Braxton explained that he wants students to build a sense of responsibility and ownership for their education. We already know that young adults going off to college will be gaining more freedom. However, liability is a concern both legally and morally. Braxton assumed parents would have to sign a waiver, and there would be certain eligibility requirements but "a piece of paper does not affect us as human beings."

Any kind of accident would be hard to justify, he said, because at the

end of the day, security wants to keep students safe.

A recent student led attempt at earning an open campus lunch for upper-classmen was last September. Was spearheaded by senior Sienna Ramos, she explained, "Most of the other schools in our area have an open campus, and I don't see why we wouldn't with so many food places so close."

A proposal was laid out and discussed at the Student Senate incentivizing good attendance, high GPA, and meeting the eligibility requirements for graduation, similar to the current plan. The movement made great strides but was squashed by failure to communicate with administration. However, it was crucial in creating a discussion and getting students involved in ongoing conversations about the possibility.

The movement gained traction once again in early March as the ACT club decided to start another petition. Social Media Director of the club, Itzia Zinzun is in charge of getting signatures along with senior Jaime Barnett.

"We were mainly inspired to start this up again because the school lunch food is not good, we need a change," she said. Their plan is to collect 500 signatures and then bring their results to the school board to gain more attention on the matter in our community.

As students have shared their frustrations and worked hard to earn recognition for the issue, administration has listened and responded with willingness to come to a compromise. While enforcing the rules and doing their jobs, admin has shown empathy to the cause and wants to see a change as well. Student leaders believe the end goal is in sight.



WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU GUYS TO ENJOY EDUCATION. IT'S NOT A PRISON, IT'S NOT A JAIL. THERE'S SOME THINGS THAT YOU GUYS SHOULD'NT BE ALLOWED TO DO AND THINGS THAT I WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOU ALLOWED TO DO. IT'S AN IMPORTANT PART OF YOUR LIFE WHICH SHOULD BE FUN."

GERALD BRAXTON, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

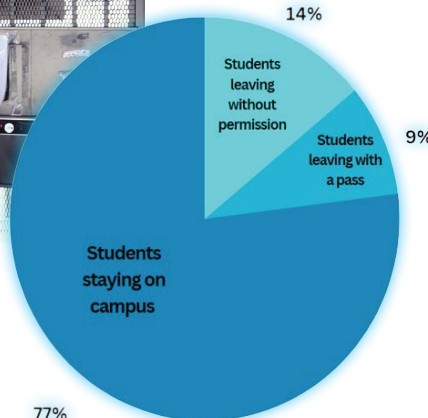


SENIOR CAUGHT LEAVING BEARCAT COUNTRY

PETITION LEADER, ITZIA ZINTZUN DISPLAYING THE PETITION PROGRESS



STUDENT SETTING OFF THE GATE ALARM



OFF CAMPUS LUNCH PASS

Eligibility Requirements in Order to Leave Campus from the hours of 11:48 - 12:28 (Lunch A) or 12:52 - 1:22 (Lunch B).



STUDENT NAME X: B. Ramos

- Student must maintain GPA of 2.0
- Student must remain off no privilege list
- Student has no tardies/absences in period following lunch
- Student is eligible to walk at graduation

PETITION FOR CAPS

Ongoing tension between administration and students rise as more students are demanding for the option to customize graduation caps.

by Sebi Radojevic, Poli Sci Editor

June 9: the day that marks our senior's transition from being a Bearcat to taking their first steps towards their real-life journey. Despite the infinite amount of possibilities each student can experience post-high school, the possibility of representing that at graduation is limited. However unity is represented by the matching caps and gowns that resemble the Bearcats journey through highschool together as a class.

As a way of celebrating the end of their long and eventful four years in school, many students believe they should be able to decorate their graduation caps. Perhaps many is an understatement, as over 1200 students signed a petition started by seniors **Ne'jai Bryant** and **Jordan Armer** in favor of graduation cap customization.

Driven by her brother, **Zelbert Armer**, previous attempts at starting a petition for the same cause, Armer is dedicated to fighting for change:

"My brother tried doing this petition last year, but it was too late into the school year. He didn't really have anyone to back him up. And now I have a lot of friends and peers that I have to back me up and we're hitting it really early on in the school year."

There are a variety of reasons why the petition has received so much support from students on campus. The option to customize graduation caps allows students to express a part of themselves that they think reflects their years at Paso High. For example, displaying the college they have committed to is one of the main purposes for decorative caps. Additionally, another compelling concept for a graduated cap would be to resemble important people and figures that were present for the student throughout high school.

"But it's a way for us to be able to all celebrate together in a way of artistic ways, and

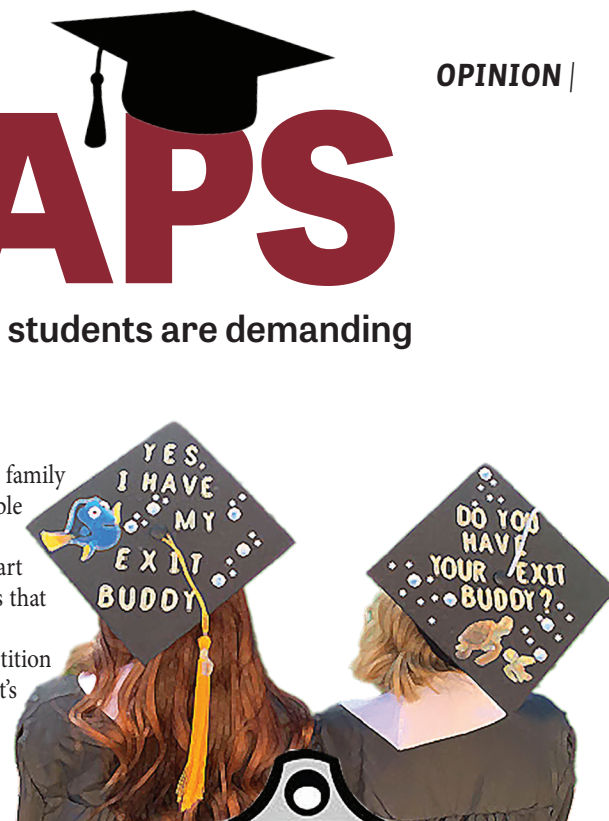
be able to just kind of say thank you to teachers, family members, and those who inspired us to want to be able to graduate," said Bryant.

However, getting the signatures is the easiest part of making change on campus. There are many steps that must be followed in order to cause action.

There are many concerns surrounding the petition regarding the schools perspective. "I think it's important that it is grounded in rational reason and thought. I'm not saying things shouldn't change, lots of things should change, but we don't just change the based on a whim like typically, we need to have a good, productive conversation about it." said Principal Anthony Overton.

Overton believes that having the same caps and gowns during graduation is a symbol of unity and togetherness. Being united one final time, graduation should be a professional ceremony with the purpose of reflecting on highschool. Personal interests often conflict and clash and regulating what can and can't be allowed on the caps can be a tricky decision.

Students may see alternative options when it comes to customization towards their graduation outfit eventually. Overton suggested that a white stole may be a possibility and the option to put on badges and pins to reflect classes and clubs throughout a student's highschool career would make more sense with their policy. The badges would reflect the student's highschool achievement



STEPS TO PASSING A PETITION

- When students feel there is enough signatures behind a petition, starters of the petition will bring it to Principal Anthony Overton.
- Students will have a discussion and explain why they believe the petition will benefit students and the school alike.
- Overton makes a decision, and whether he decides to move forward or not, the decision will be in the hands of the board and the Superintendent.

JORDAN ARMER, 12



NE'JAI BRYANT, 12



IT'S A WAY FOR US TO BE ABLE TO ALL CELEBRATE TOGETHER IN A WAY OF ARTISTIC WAYS, AND BE ABLE TO JUST KIND OF SAY THANK YOU TO TEACHERS, FAMILY MEMBERS, AND THOSE WHO INSPIRED US TO WANT TO BE ABLE TO GRADUATE

NE'JAI BRYANT, 12

WE ARE BORED OF COLLEGE BOARD

Since its founding in 1900, College Board's self declared purpose has been to "expand access to higher education" but in recent years many have seen the organization has experience both a decrease in relevance and display an apparent unfairness that leads much of our Crimson staff to support the message that the College Board's standardized testing system is currently systematically flawed and unfair (Read:InDepth).

According to the University of Pennsylvania's report on tests of student ability, High SAT and ACT scores have a possible correlation to high household income, with richer students being far more likely to have a high test score than lower income students. If the reality of the College Board matched its purpose to expand access, this wouldn't be a problem as it would simply be a test preparing students for college- but as the test is used in college admissions, low income students are put at a disadvantage to be admitted into the same colleges as higher income students, thus functionally shrinking access to higher education.

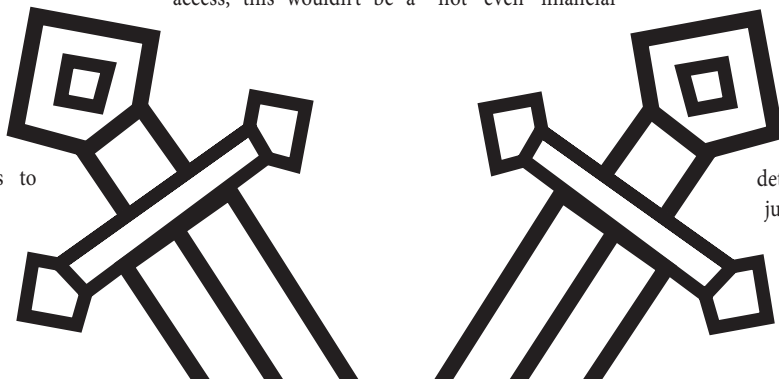
AP tests, too, have problems, with FRQs leaving room for subjectivity, something that, on only a five point scale, can often mean one point can be the difference between college credit or not, passing or failing. There's also an argument to be made about whether or not it's really best for teachers to be structuring classes around a test rather than rather personalized student learning. U.S. News also notes that the existence of

AP classes can put many students at a inherent disadvantage, as some schools do not offer them and others lack funding to properly prepare students for them, something that puts students at a disadvantage compared to students who do have access to those things.

Similarly, though College Board is technically a non-profit organization, these tests seem to cost money at every turn, especially if one wants to get a high score using prep books and tutors. College Board makes billions of dollars each year off the tests, and it's famously unclear how much is put back into the students they claim to be running for, with Forbes' Susan Paterno pointing out that College Board doesn't reveal where their spending really goes, and not even financial

experts could truly answer that questions. She also goes on to point out that this lack of transparency for an organization that functionally works as a gatekeeper to higher education is concerning.

Ultimately, though, the idea of standardized testing, while it can be helpful in determining student comprehension to a certain extent, is just reflective of one's understanding on one day, and can be majorly dependent on how good a student is at test-taking rather than their true knowledge on the subject. With the National Institutes of Health reporting 20-45% of students experience test anxiety. We believe colleges should look past labeling students as numbers and that if the College Board should look to make major changes to account for its issues, something they seem to be addressing with the new changes to the SAT, though only time will tell if this will improve conditions.



Crimson News Magazine STUDENT JOURNALISM AT PASO ROBLES HS

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—Crimson Staff

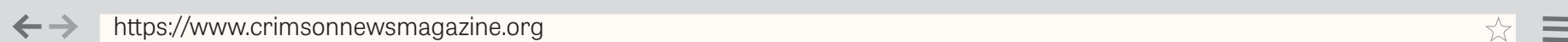




CANCELLING CANCEL CULTURE

Is Cancel Culture actually effective at letting a person learn from their mistakes?

by Margot Klo, Op/Ed Editor



A phone springs to life and yet another celebrity is canceled; celebrities make a living in the spotlight, but it isn't always for the right reasons. Cancel culture is the practice of expressing disapproval and exerting social pressure towards an individual or company. It more generally creates an environment that promotes people to voice their opinion on a person/celebrity's wrongdoing.

Teens have been sucked into this culture through social media, primarily TikTok. The point of cancel culture is to hold those in power accountable for their actions and possibly in the end create change and allow for learning. Some commenters cancel someone so that they are able to change and learn from the mistakes they made previously.

Social media is the driving force of cancel culture and without it cancel culture wouldn't exist. Social media creates an army of people fighting against one specific person or brand. Tik Tok, Instagram, Snapchat, and Twitter all perpetuate a culture of cancellation because they are all platforms that create a way for people to unite against someone or something they disagree with on a massive scale.

This can even happen to normal people or students other than celebrities. However, canceling a person only goes so far and can ultimately lead to bullying as an unattended after effect. Cancel culture provides a way for celebrities to be told what they did was wrong from fans and other people that hope to circumvent that behavior. Cancel culture goes too far when someone is completely ousted from the media and society from an action that is unagreeable to most people, but that doesn't mean that person is unredeemable.

In regards to cancel culture, a 2020 article at the University of Central Florida asserts that "Humans are flawed beings, and it's in our nature to make mistakes." They are right in their assertion that humans are not perfect, which leads to them making mistakes that are most often redeemable.

For example, Ticketmaster was canceled due to denying Taylor Swift fans tickets to her upcoming

The Eras Tour. Companies can also face cancellation as seen with Ticketmaster when it is for something seemingly minor as tickets. Another form of cancellation is when people like Washington, Lincoln, and Jefferson due to their ties to slavery are canceled when the school board decides to rename schools with the names: Washington, Lincoln, and Jefferson in San Francisco.

"The nice and innocent ones shouldn't be," canceled said an anonymous sophomore. This suggests that cancel culture goes too far and can lead to innocent people getting into the crossfires of commenters. PRHS English teacher, Marisa Scoggins, said "Cancel culture affects students because they pay attention to who is currently being hashtag canceled. Also, some students get pleasure out of canceling others, and it can be like a dogpiling situation where everyone kind of jumps on to it."

However, cancel culture creates a space for people's voices to be heard on topics they feel strongly about. An article, on Freedom Forum, claims "Cancel culture is just speech holding others accountable."

The anonymous sophomore further claims "It's a double edged sword, it can be used for positive if you cancel the right person, but can be bad if you cancel the wrong person." This depicts the uncertainty that comes with cancel culture and whether it is truly positive or negative.

Overall, cancel culture tends to be negative and doesn't do exactly what an audience intends it to do.

The audience wants to hold a celebrity accountable for what they did wrong, but cancel culture does not seem like the platform that should be used. Cancel culture can even find its way in student's lives through personal conflicts becoming publicized; this can lead to academic struggles and low self-esteem. Furthermore, in an article written by Newport Academy teenage cancel culture "can lead to teen anxiety, depression, and suicidal thoughts and behaviors."

Human beings are flawed and make mistakes, but cancel culture tends to demonize people for their mistakes rather than helping people change for the better.



#canceled has **749.0M** views

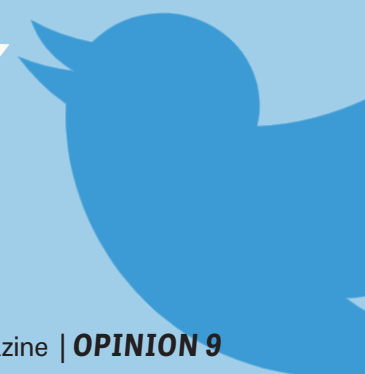


#canceled has **80.8K** posts



James Charles has **56M** views on his video "No More Lies"

TWITTER IS
DEEMED THE
"ULTIMATE
CANCELLATION
MACHINE" BY THE
ALANTIC





FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES: A SAFE PLACE FOR ALL

Spotlighting PRHS' most popular club, where it's defining descriptors are not requirements

by Kalani Gaviola, *Editor-In-Chief*

Different speakers every lunch, a team of passionate students behind the scenes, and a defining descriptor that doesn't serve as a requirement for interested students: you don't have to be a Christian or an athlete to join the Fellowship of Christian Athlete, one of PRHS' most popular clubs.

FCA started out as an email pitch in March 1954 by founder **Don McClanen**, who suggested "if athletes can endorse shaving cream, razor blades and cigarettes, surely they can endorse the Lord, too." The organization was officially chartered on November 1954, and gained solid footing in 1955 after a series of donations at a FCA banquet. In September 2013, they became a worldwide ministry. FCA at the high school has been around for years, but after coming back from COVID has found it's footing in a way few other clubs have replicated.

The vision statement for FCA, stated on their official website, is to "see the world transformed by Jesus Christ through the influence of coaches and athletes," accomplished by the following scripture-focused values: integrity (Proverbs 11:3), serving (John 13:1-17), teamwork (Philippians 2:1-4) and excellence (Colossians 3:23-24).

As with any club on PRHS' campus, however, any student can join and go to the weekly Thursday meetings -located in Mr. Drake's room during lunch A and Mr. Cantrell's room during lunch B- but faith in Christianity is the uniting theme through meetings.

"FCA is a club for anyone and everyone. You are welcome no matter what." **EJ McNeal**, sophomore and student leader in FCA, said. "We just want to share God's Word."

FCA student leaders often have their roles established as freshmen and stay with the program throughout all four years, meaning there are leaders in all grade levels.

Other schools have president and vice president positions, but at PRHS, the leadership is joint and based on task distribution- McNeal is the Lunch B leader, meaning she keeps the meaning running in Lunch B by starting meeting and introducing speakers. Other leaders include **Dakota Rickerd (11)**, **Nathan Moore (12)**, **Tegan Henretty (12)**, **Tiana Basulto (9)**, **Maddie Holland (9)**, **Talulah Frontera (9)**, **Neveah Duran**, and **Audrey Warren (12)** with Moore, Rickerd and Henretty pointed out as the "main leaders."

Their role as leaders includes leading meetings and games, finding adults to bring onto campus to speak at meetings, or sharing their own stories. Adult speakers often include bearcat alumni or community members involved in local faith-based organizations.

Currently, FCA leaders estimate around 40-60 attendees over both lunches. And though FCA leaders acknowledge the weekly pizza provided to attending students is a contributing factor, many believe it's true allure boils down to much more than that.

Adult FCA leader and family pastor at Christian Life Center **Jermey Perales** attends the weekly meetings, giving the students support and guidance when needed. "This is a place where students feel welcomed and hopefully cared for, and I think it's just good for the Christian student to have a place to come and feel like 'this is my place' and learn about (their) faith."

"When you come here, there's nothing negative. You're built up. You're encouraged, you're welcomed. I think it's a work of God to be honest."

Despite the focus on faith, even non-religious students find a place at FCA. **Mateo DeAlba**, junior and weekly FCA attendee starting this year, was raised Catholic but no longer practices. "It's been really good," DeAlba said. "The people are very nice and welcoming."

When asked about the religious aspect, DeAlba said, "I was already interested in theology, and FCA really encourages that interest. Studying and analyzing religion is just really interesting."

The club also works as a way for friends to catch up- a meeting place of sorts to relax and enjoy the food and company.

They often collaborate with other central coast clubs, and have started an afterschool Girl's Bible Study program.

"There's always room to grow," Perales said. "We want to really practice what Jesus preaches: going out and loving people."



I AM HOPING FOR FOR GREAT THINGS. AND GOD WILLING, IT WILL CONTINUE TO GROW.

EJ MCNEAL, 10

THE FOUR:

A sure way to spot an FCA attendee is by provided bracelet with four symbols that display "the gospel in four simple truths."



GOD LOVES YOU
SIN SEPERATES YOU
JESUS RESCUES YOU
WILL YOU TRUST JESUS?



ACTIVITY PROGRESSES ACTIVISM

Students have sprouted in activism during their high school career and ACT club provides a space for these students to be changemakers

by Serenity Wulfang, EIC



ISRAEL PEREZ

Student activism has flourished in recent years. Students are eager to make a change because it is their school, their home for the next four years. Creating a healthy and safe environment provides flourishing for future generations. What started out as the Progressive club seven years ago, evolved into the ACT (Activist Coalition for Tomorrow) club which provides a space for young activists to work together and create change. The club's enrollment has risen to 91.

Student activism or campus activism is work by students to cause political, environmental, economic, or social change. In addition to education, students often

play central roles in democratization and winning civil rights.

ACT Club, focuses on spreading awareness and breaking stigmas around topics many students don't feel comfortable with and the school doesn't address. They spread awareness about culture and languages and informs how the school can improve. Members said they hope to break stigmas including mental health, sex education, and providing a safe space.

Israel Perez is a young activist and is the co-president of the ACT club. He has been a part of activism for the past several years and has had a huge impact on campus culture.

Perez believes this year's school culture has improved tremendously. What seemed to have been a toxic environment in the past has grown into a safer space for students to open up and be themselves.

"School culture regarding student interactions has improved. And as for students, I see a lot more openness and willingness to work, which is exciting to see. I hope that next year, maybe next week or maybe next month, whatever time it may be, I just hope students become more open and willing to learn. Educate themselves not on just things they know but on other perspectives" Perez said.

Perez was a part of the Climate Strike in 2017, and even though he wasn't an active speaker he showed up with his one-of-a-kind sign to be involved in the cause. Two years ago, he began speaking and hosting his own events, especially since Perez has been a strong advocate for the Latinx community and more recently, advocating for the lgbtqia+ community.

He has helped Latinx community members register to vote, helped create ELTA (help translate for English learners), helped organize the Coming Out Against Hate forum in October of 2021, instigated chalk and talks for Latinx Heritage Month and Native American Heritage month, and has hosted events for ECHO homeless shelter.

Geoffrey Land, has been the advisor of the ACT club since day one and has played a huge role in student activism. He sees student activism as part of the learning process and part of the educational process.

"Teaching government for the last 25 years, I've seen there's often a feeling of powerlessness and disconnection from society, school, government, and local decisions that students a lot of times feel because they're not included in a lot of decisions that affect them. Therefore, student activism is engaging with an issue for issues in an effort to improve things for the better" Land said.

Something that has stuck out to Land this year is that the students in ACT have recognized the power of collaboration and solidarity and have worked very closely with MeCHA and BSU. This union of clubs has been a powerful statement on campus and there has been a gradual increase in representation amongst students of color.

"My hope is that students can be engaged in their communities and make their communities a better place and a caring about their neighbors and caring about their country and recognize the government serves us. And not that we serve the government," Land said.

Ways students can be involved can start small. Students can join the ACT club, JOII club, and Beach Beautification Club which are led by young student activists reaching out for a better environment and better campus culture.



GEOFFREY LAND



I HOPE THAT NEXT YEAR, MAYBE NEXT WEEK OR MAYBE NEXT MONTH, WHATEVER TIME IT MAY BE, I JUST HOPE STUDENTS BECOME MORE OPEN AND WILLING TO SHARE

ISRAEL PEREZ, 12

KEEPING CAMPUS CLEAN

Trash numbers are significant as only a dozen adults manage gigantic trash output from campus

by **Elise Mathers**, News Editor and **Jakob Baier**, Sports Photographer

Over 2000 students that make up Paso Robles High School each producing waste on campus with their lunches, snacks, and schoolwork. While some students choose to throw their trash away, others leave theirs for someone else to take care of, knowing that it'll be gone the next day. What they might not know, though, is that there is one person who manages this clean-up of trash throughout all of PRHS, and that is lead custodian: Carlos Guzman.

Guzman has been doing his work as a custodian in elementary, middle, high schools and colleges for the past 15 years, and moved to Paso Robles from Los Angeles ten years ago. When he isn't busy at work, Guzman enjoys outdoor adventures such as hiking and camping, and stays busy with his two kids who are both active in their sports and extracurriculars.

Currently, he spends the majority of his working hours per week at where he takes on many different roles daily.

"I look into the teachers' needs and provide them with what they need, pick up trash, repair some minor issues and work with maintenance and grounds staff to keep everything clean and running," Guzman said.

Guzman oversees all the custodians within the district, too. Guzman's management paired with the hard work of our beloved custodians is no easy feat when met with the challenge of disrespect from students.

"I would say that trash on the floor when there is literally a trash can every five

ft. is the most frustrating thing," Guzman said. "Restrooms would be the second part with all the graffiti and disrespect for the dispensers – soap, paper towel and toilet paper–, and clogging them purposely."



IF THERE IS SOMETHING TO CLEAN LIKE GRAFFITI IN THE RESTROOMS, BROKEN GLASS, BLOOD, CLOGGED RESTROOMS, ADD/REMOVE FURNITURE FROM CLASSROOMS AND FIX ANY POTENTIAL HAZARDS ETC...

CARLOS GUZMAN

Another thing students may not realize about our schools is that they and the teachers are not the last to leave at the end of the day.

During the evening hours, our custodians continue to work hard until what time? to make sure that our campuses are ready-to-learn and a clean environment the next day. Guzman gives much credit to them and what they do, but also has a hope that students will share his acknowledgement and start to pick up after themselves. How many on staff?

"The night custodian crew are the ones that make all the mess disappear. They clean, disinfect and make everything ready for the

next day," Guzman said. "The nightly crew deserves all the credit for all that they do for the safety of the students. It is always a hope that the kids could help in the classrooms by keeping their desks clean and throwing the trash in the bins."



THESE CUSTODIANS KEEP PRHS CLEAN

Adriana Garcia	Sergio Ramirez	Cecilia Cardenas
Diana Orozco	Luis Espinoza	Javier Cuatepotzo
Hector Gonzalez	Adelaida Guerrereo	Beatriz Morales
Bernardo Mendez	Maria Arzate	Carlos Guzman

DAY CREW 1.5 CUSTODIANS

350

Big bags of trash each day

9 "NIGHT CREW" CUSTODIANS AT PRHS, UNDER CARLOS GUZMAN'S SUPERVISION:

- Disinfecting
- Cleaning the restrooms
- Replacing trash bags
- Security
- Vacuuming
- Assist assembling or removal of set ups/events
- Mopping
- Dusting

NIGHT CREW 9 CUSTODIANS

43 400 120 3

Rest rooms total	Big bags of trash each night	Room visits each night	3 Yd Bins emptied every other day by truck
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9 truck trips to the landfill

each week the garbage truck makes to the dump just for the PRHS

THE FOUNDATION OF THEATER

Theatre lead makeup artist, Alyssa Buller, shares her progression with makeup and it's relevent role in character development

by Cassidy Heer, People Co-Editor



Buller building a look for the Every Fifteen Minutes program



Young Buller practicing her creative talents

BULLER'S CREATIONS

Witness actress Divyanna Emmons' makeup transformation for the "Addams Family"



EMMONS IN COSTUME FOR HER ROLE IN ADAMS FAMILY

EMMONS IN FULL MAKEUP FOR HER ROLE

EMMONS ON STAGE IN FULL CHARACTER

Lights on, draw the curtain, and... action! The play has begun. Characters with stimulating costumes swarm the stage. The room is filled with creativity and amusement and to truly immerse the audience, students are working hard behind the scenes, espically in the makeup department. One such student is senior, Alyssa Buller, makeup lead and part of the cotume crew for the Paso High Theatre Company. Determined to bring the acts to life, her job involves lots of planning, training, and analyzing of characters to fit their personality to their on-stage makeup look.

Makeup holds an important role when developing a character. According to Buller,makeup can change the way the audience perceives a character- by creating more striking looks, one can amplify the way a bold character appears, whilesofter looks can mark more unassuming or reserved characters. This makeup technique allows the audience to grasp the personality of the character, and supports the actors efforts in portraying the character.

"We use makeup to show personality. Bolder characters can have darker eye makeup and brighter lip colors while quieter characters can have more muted tones," said Buller.

Makeup is a way to finish a character's looks when creating a costume. The makeup influence perceptions and character actions that the audience would more typically resonate with, while also helping the actor feel and look unique to the character they are portraying.

One of Buller's favorite looks was for last year's "Addams Family," doing the makeup for all the Addams' ancestors. Buller described the time and effort his makeup look took her balancing a dead complexion and bold appearance. Buller looks forward to leading the makeup for the coming up show,"Anything Goes".

"I try to think about the energy of a character, or what they need to be doing. Day look is always going to be different than a night look just like how a shy character should look different than an outgoing one," said Buller.

Buller was interested in makeup from an early age. By third grade Buller began creating super elaborate Halloween costumes and makeup while also helping her friends and family with their festive looks.

She also spent time outside of holidays playing around with makeup, observing the innovative way these materials were used in her favorite TV show, Face Off, where contestants compete with special effects makeup. This show led Buller to later use her skills with makeup in theater class, helping with the beautiful performances of many plays like "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime", "The Addams Family", "Queens", and "Anything Goes".

Her makeup skills have landed her interesting oppourtunities, working at Lemoore High School 2019-2022 for their Every Fifteen Minutes program. This two day activity worked to help prevent teenage drunk driving. This program worked to create a realistic DUI scene using cosmetics, forcing students to confront the truth that,on average, every fifteen minutes there is a teenage DUI, which can result in tragic death. Since 1995 the program has been setting scenes to showcase the tragedy of DUIs. Buller spent her time with student actors, directors and first responders to make the scenes look as realistic as possible.

"It made me feel good working shows with a purpose behind it. I love working shows but I also like knowing that I helped prevent that (drunk driving),"said Buller.

Buller teaches and helps many students with makeup in theater, one of them being sophomore Elizebeth Higgins. Higgins is in manyof the school's recent plays such as "The Addams Family" and "Queens". When asked about her feelings towards makeup, Higgins mentioned how rewarding it is to finally transform into a character physically after working so hard to portray them emotionally.

"For me, I feel that once we start to rehearse with makeup the show becomes real. We finally get to transform fully into our characters," said Higgins "Along with costumes, adding makeup feels like a huge accomplishment. Seeing everything together is like seeing a plant you've been watering finally grow."

"Makeup has just become such an amazing outlet for creativity that is hard to get anywhere else. Being on costume crew and becoming makeup lead has taught me so many skills and has given me so many close friendships that I wouldn't have otherwise," said Buller.

Junior Peyton Bedrosian is on her way to making PRHS history with her incredible pole-vaulting career

by Gabby Silva, Features Editor



Waiting in anticipation for her jump, junior **Peyton Bedrosian** recites her corrections and instills confidence and trust in herself knowing she can break her personal record and tie the PRHS school record. As the pole bends, launching her into the air up and over the high bar, Bedrosian goes through the motions she knows so well and clears the bar, tying the record of 12'4"

Since starting track and field only freshman year, Bedrosian began pole-vaulting and has racked up some indistinguishable athletic accomplishments in her career.

"I did competitive gymnastics for seven years. Then during COVID, I tried pole vaulting because a lot of ex-gymnasts become pole vaulters and it was an easier transition for me," Bedrosian said.

Similar to many athletes, Bedrosian spends five days a week practicing during the season, and about three days a week during the offseason conditioning and weightlifting to stay in shape. Along with her athletic commitment, Bedrosian is involved at PRHS through ASB as junior class treasurer, director of events in Advanced Leadership, Advanced Dance, as well as being an AP and honors student.

During her freshman season, Bedrosian placed second in the mountain league jumping 11'6", and qualified for CIF and CIF masters. Continuing to improve, she took first in the Mountain League her sophomore year jumping 12', made it to CIF masters once again placing second, and moved on to state.

"She is one of the most dedicated and determined

athletes I know which are both incredible traits to have to be a successful athlete. You can clearly see her drive and love for the sport at every practice and meet and she is so much fun to work with. She takes corrections very well and even more importantly she makes those corrections," said pole-vault coach **Codie Wilshusen**, who holds the pole vault record of 12'4".

For the 2023 season, Wilshusen hopes to see her officially break her record, qualify to compete in the Arcadia Invitational, one of the most prestigious high school track meets in the country, and qualify to compete in the California State Meet.

Through it all, Bedrosian is the most thankful for her parents and their unwavering support.

"They are good at helping me stay motivated and stay focused even in the offseason. They get into it without being too into it and they've been able to take me to meets in Texas and Nevada so that I can compete against people from all around the country and get more experienced and meet other coaches," Bedrosian said.

Looking into the future, Bedrosian hopes to continue her pole-vaulting career at the D1 level. While she doesn't currently have any college in mind, she has been reached out to by Cal Poly Slo, Cal State Fullerton, Pomona College, and a couple other smaller schools.

"I want to continue vaulting because it has become something I'm really passionate about. I like how you are constantly setting new goals for yourself and hope to continue reaching for these goals even after high school. I've also made so many fun memories with my teammates throughout the past couple of years and getting to be a part of a team and have that kind of support is something I would love to have." Bedrosian said.

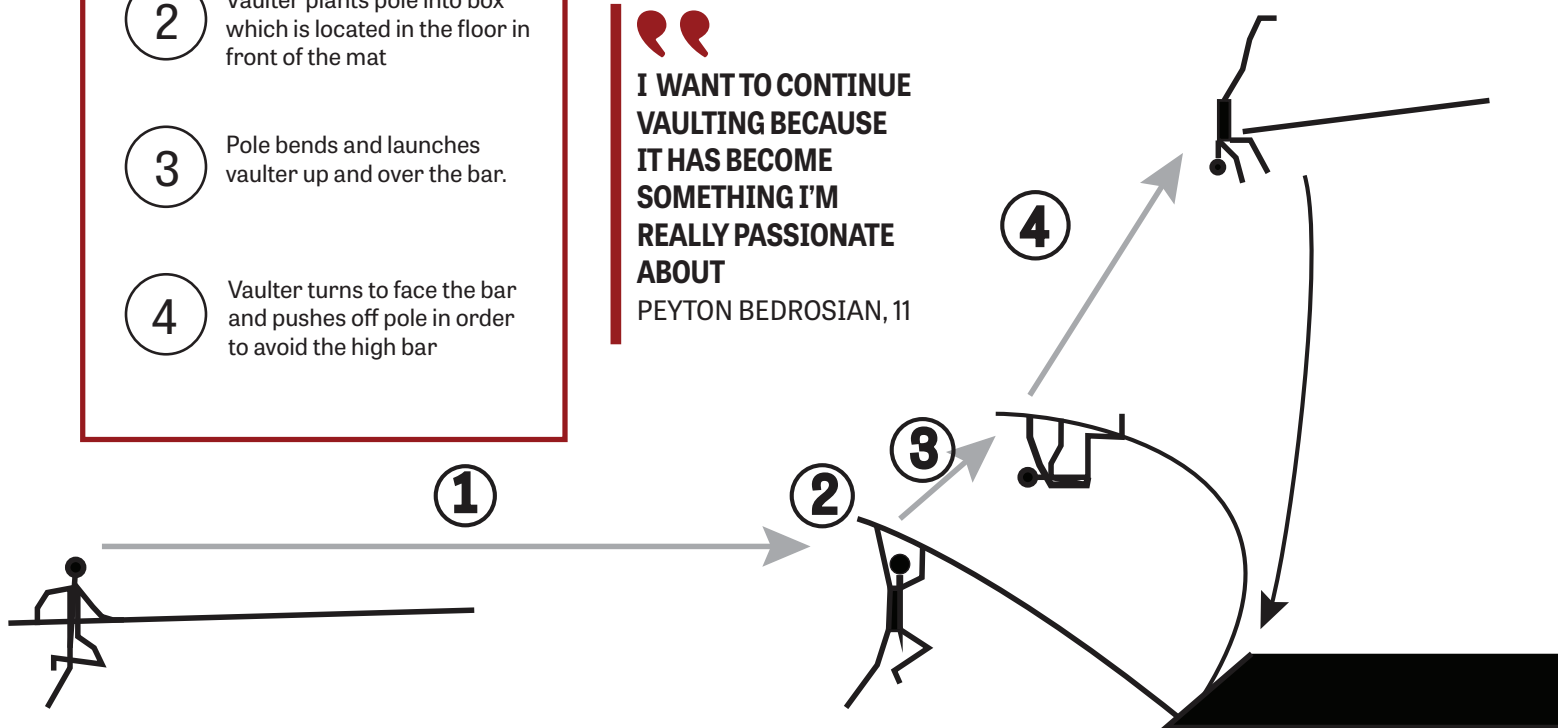
LEARN THE VAULT

- 1 Vaulter sprints towards box, taking about 10-14 steps at full speed.
- 2 Vaulter plants pole into box which is located in the floor in front of the mat
- 3 Pole bends and launches vaulter up and over the bar.
- 4 Vaulter turns to face the bar and pushes off pole in order to avoid the high bar



I WANT TO CONTINUE VAULTING BECAUSE IT HAS BECOME SOMETHING I'M REALLY PASSIONATE ABOUT

PEYTON BEDROSIAN, 11



↑
VAULTING HER WAY TO THE TOP

ACENTOS POR TODOS LADOS

Spanish accents flavor each region unifying students

ESPAÑOL

El ávido lingüista junior Gandhi Olivo dice que un acento se usa a menudo con la sociolingüística, una rama de la lingüística que se enfoca en cómo las personas reaccionan a los idiomas, mientras que los dialectos se usan como una forma más neutral de referirse a ellos.

“Un acento es más una cosa informal... coloquial y en términos de lingüística. El término ‘accento’ en realidad no se usa para describir un conjunto de patrones de habla [ya que] tiene la connotación de estar ‘equivocado’ o ‘apagado’”, dijo Olivo.



Sin embargo, los gatos osos parecen estar libres de prejuicios con respecto a los acentos. Alrededor del 50 por ciento de Bearcats estuvo de acuerdo en que los acentos son clave para la cultura de un hablante. Aproximadamente el 70 por ciento de los estudiantes también dijeron que están de acuerdo en que los acentos no importan en comparación con la forma en que actúa una persona.

AN ACCENT IS MORE OF AN INFORMAL... COLLOQUIAL THING AND IN TERMS OF LINGUISTICS. THE TERM ‘ACCENT’ ISN’T REALLY USED TO DESCRIBE SOME SET OF SPEAKING PATTERNS [SINCE] IT HAS THE CONNOTATION OF BEING ‘WRONG’ OR ‘OFF’
GHANDI OLIVO, 11

Algunos estudiantes anónimos llegaron a esta conclusión al afirmar en una encuesta que “los acentos son importantes en diferentes culturas porque puedes averiguar de qué parte son y cambiar el uso de las palabras, ya que diferentes palabras significan cosas diferentes en ciertos lugares”. y “que me gusta mucho y lo quiero aprender;”

Cuando se les preguntó acerca de cualquier discriminación en la forma en que hablaban, el 19,6 por ciento de los estudiantes dijeron que habían experimentado algún tipo de discriminación.

ENGLISH

A dashing man with a foreign accent charming the leading lady with sidekicks swooning over his accent...but what is an accent? The infamous “Spanish accent” spoken by many characters in media from Speedy Gonzales to Puss in Boots is the dialect spoken by Spanish people of the Castile region. There are some 10 major dialects of Spanish spoken today and even more sub dialects across Spain, Mexico, and all spanish-speaking countries.



An accent is defined by Britannica as “a way of pronouncing words that occurs among the people in a particular region or country.” Simply put, there are many ways people pronounce words in the same language.

HE ESTADO EN SITUACIONES EN LAS QUE HABLABA ESPAÑOL Y RECIBÍA MIRADAS EXTRAÑAS DE OTRAS PERSONAS COMO SI NO PERTENECIERA
JOVANA FLORES, 11

Avid linguist junior Gandhi Olivo says that an accent is often used with sociolinguistics, a branch of linguistics that focuses on how people react to languages, while dialects are used as more of a neutral way to refer to them.

“An accent is more of an informal... colloquial thing and in terms of linguistics. The term ‘accent’ isn’t really used to describe some set of speaking patterns [since] it has the connotation of being ‘wrong’ or ‘off’” Olivo said.

Bearcats seem to be free of prejudice regarding accents, though. About 50 percent of Bearcats agreed that accents are key to a speaker’s culture. Roughly 70 percent of students also said that they agree that accents don’t matter compared to how a person acts.

Some anonymous students came to this conclusion stating in a survey that “Accents are important in different cultures because you can sort of figure out what part they are from and change your use of words since different words mean different things in certain places.” and “que me gusta mucho y lo quiero aprender;”

When asked about any discrimination towards the way they talked, 19.6 percent of students say that they have experienced some sort of discrimination.

“I feel that I don’t get many reactions,” senior Rosemarie Ortiz said. “There are some times when I’ll get some laughs or some judgment...like the conversation will shift to more of an easier, dumbed-down version if that makes sense...[people] try to pick the words that are the least

by Isael Rendon, Arts and Entertainment editor

“Siento que no tengo muchas reacciones”, dijo la estudiante de último año Rosemarie Ortiz. “Hay momentos en los que me río o me juzgo... como si la conversación cambiara a una versión más fácil y simplificada si eso tiene sentido... [las personas] tratan de elegir las palabras que son menos complicadas y... Sé que solo están tratando de ayudar, pero [puede sentirse incómodo]”.

Continuó diciendo que ha soportado esta incomodidad bilingüe muchas veces, como en un supermercado.

“No podía decir algo correctamente, así que terminé teniendo que decirlo en inglés porque no sabía el término correcto si eso tiene sentido, y no podía pronunciarlo correctamente y algunas mujeres estaban hablando de cómo [podría no hablo español]. Escucho muchos de esos chistes de mi propia familia allá [en México]...”

Junior Jovana Flores coincide en que las personas a veces expulsan juicios por los acentos de otras personas

“He estado en situaciones en las que hablaba español y recibía miradas extrañas de otras personas como si no perteneciera allí...” Flores continuó diciendo que ella ha experimentado discriminación por acento, “...no entiendo suficiente español para [algunas personas] y se burlan de mí por eso”.

Ortiz y Flores han contado que la gente hará suposiciones sobre las personas con acento, pero eso no puede detener el hecho de que los acentos no son lo que hace a una persona, según el 70 por ciento de los Bearcats.



HAY MOMENTOS EN LOS QUE ME RÍO O ME JUZGAN... COMO SI LA CONVERSACIÓN CAMBIARA A UNA VERSIÓN MÁS FÁCIL “Y SIMPLIFICADA SI ESO TIENE SENTIDO... [LAS PERSONAS] TRATAN DE ELEGIR LAS PALABRAS QUE SON MENOS COMPLICADAS Y... SÉ QUE SOLO ESTÁN TRATANDO DE AYUDAR, PERO [PUEDE SENTIRSE INCÓMODO]”
ROSMARIE ORTIZ, 12

complicated and...I know that they’re just trying to help, but it [can feel awkward].”

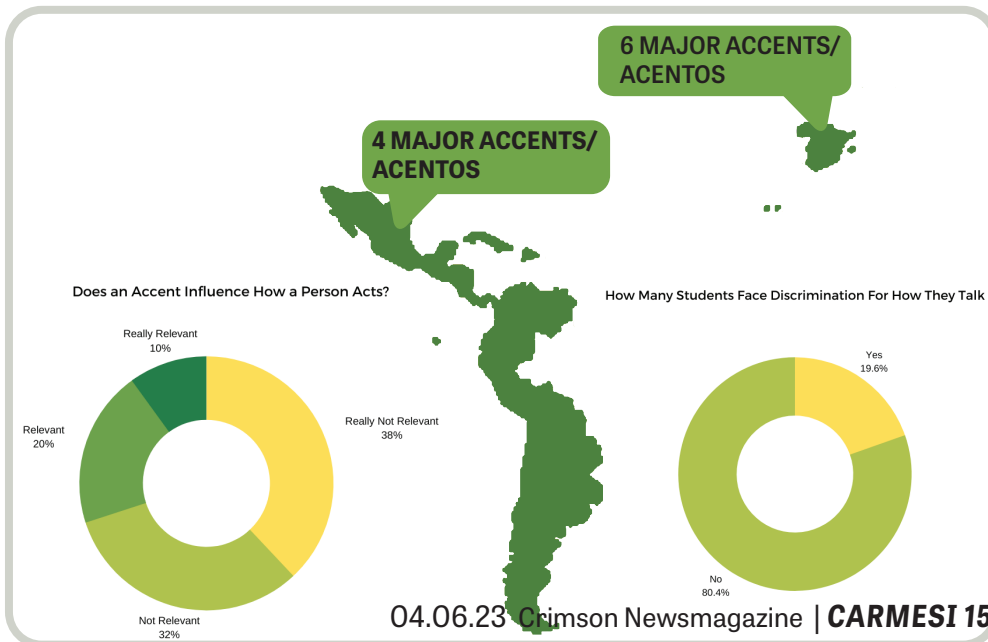
She went on to say that she’s endured this bilingual awkwardness many times, like in a supermarket.

“I couldn’t say something correctly so I ended up having to say it in English because I didn’t know the correct term if that makes sense, and I couldn’t pronounce it correctly and some ladies were talking about how [i couldn’t speak Spanish]. I hear a lot of those jokes from my own family over there [in Mexico]...”

Junior Jovana Flores agrees that people sometimes expel judgment on other people’s accents

“I have been in situations where I would speak Spanish and I would get weird looks from other people as if I didn’t belong there...” Flores went on to say that she has experienced accent discrimination, “...I don’t understand enough Spanish for [some people] and they kind of make fun of me for it.”

Ortiz and Flores have recounted that people will make assumptions about people with accents, but it can’t stop the fact that accents are not what makes a person - on account of 70 percent of Bearcats.



BLIND DATE THE TALKING STAGE

Sophomores get to know each other more face to face

by Naomi Velasco, Carmesi co-editor, Michelle Rosas, Web Director

You've probably come across the phrase "the talking stage" at least once in your life. You might have had one or know someone who has. When going through the "talking stage" you have to get to know each other, see what you guys both like, what you dislike and overall show your personality to someone else.

As of late, the way people meet each other is normally done via the internet. Through dating apps or social media, people rather connect through a screen.

However, we thought it would be better if our blind daters got to know each other better face to face. Our blind daters did.

Divy Emmons and Matthias Willis, both sophomores, get closer to each other with laughs, similar interest, and a couple of disagreements. But even then, the two enjoyed going from strangers to... acquaintances. Willis and Emmons discovered that they have different hobbies. Emmons plays volleyball on her free time as well as for the school. She enjoys the arts and plays the piano on her free time and is also in Drama. While Willis plays football (he played in junior varsity this last season) and skateboarding. Emmons listens to Taylor Swift for the most part however, Willis says he will listen to anything but Taylor Swift. They both share love for the Beatles. Emmons' favorite Beatles song is "Blackbird" and Willis' favorite is "Lucy in The Sky With Diamonds".

When asked what their ideal first date would be, Emmons said that her ideal date would be a picnic at the beach while looking at the sunset and then getting ice cream. Willis would want to go to the movies or just get ice cream and go to the park. They both look for honesty and kindness in a partner and would consider going on a date together.



THEIR DREAM FIRST DATES

GO TO THE MOVIES -

GO TO THE PARK -

GET ICE CREAM -



-GO TO THE BEACH

-HAVE A PICNIC

-GET ICE CREAM



YEAH

YEAH



WOULD YOU CONSIDER GOING ON A DATE TOGETHER?

SCAN HERE TO WATCH BLIND DATE



College Board Not Passing

Dual enrollment is becoming a stronger option for students as SAT and AP Exams decline in popularity — and success

by Kayla Degnan, InDepth Director

Intro to College Board

College Board: “College Board is a mission-driven not-for-profit organization... (it) helps more than seven million students prepare for a transition to college through programs and services in college readiness and college success—including the SAT, the Advanced Placement Program, and BigFuture.

AP (Advanced Placement) tests: “standardized exams designed to measure how well you’ve mastered the content and skills of a specific AP course. Most AP courses have an end-of-year exam, but a few courses have different ways to assess what you’ve learned.”

SAT: “a multiple-choice, pencil-and-paper test created and administered by the College Board... tests subjects you cover in school: reading, math, and writing and language.”

Definitions taken from College Board and Princeton Review Websites

AP test takers have started to decline due to the offer of dual enrollment courses at PRHS and through Cuesta College. The deal offers students college credit that can be transferred without having to pay the AP fee or struggle through notoriously hard exams allowing students to have a better ability to use those credits. AP fees currently cost \$96. Yet DE offers a guarantee that they can transfer the credits to a desired college.

History is one of the more common classes that is taken online specifically during sophomore year, allowing for an open place in the six spot schedule. Students opt to take it through Cuesta where they can earn the credits from the advanced class as an alternative to the high school’s AP classes.

Passing challenging exams in order to earn college credit is another factor that students consider when planning their schedules.

Collage and career counselor **Jessica Shatwell** sees both programs as beneficial. “There are some colleges that will not allow any college coursework completed in high school to count for credit, and there are some schools that may choose not to accept the AP exams. Receiving college credit or a 3 or higher on the AP exam can both be beneficial.”

About five of the classes offered to take through Cuesta or Hancock are applicable as credit for AP classes. The classes include: AP US History, AP Language, AP Literature, AP Statistics. The passing score for the test is 3 or higher, the score max at six and one at the lowest. PRHS also offers dual enrollment for 30 CTE (Career Technical Education) and FSC (Field Studies Collaborative) courses.

Some colleges do not take the dual enrollment that is offered leaving some student athletes with the only option to take the classes through the high school as to not risk their NCAA status.

“Taking any classes during the summer, or doing classes through cuesta, I cannot take those unless I don’t want to run in college...It’s a weird rule and I don’t understand why.” **Sydney Moore**, a senior cross country athlete who has taken six APs, said.

The SAT and ACT are the other type of standardized testing that students are offered in order to appeal to colleges that still take the scores.

“The SAT is more popular for our students to take. It is also more accessible because we offer it on campus. This year we are offering it during the school day for the first time,” Shatwell said.

This year’s SAT will be held April 25, 2023 on campus for the first time making it accessible to more Bearcats since it is on a school day as well, with the PSAT (the prep SAT that is available to sophomores) being offered too.

The high school does not offer the ACT because it is through a different program other than the college board. The ACT has a science section as a part of the testing, which some students are more experienced in.

Overall the high school’s numbers in high passing rates for both the AP exams and the SAT have decreased the past two years from previous years.

“Pre-pandemic our numbers were higher. However, in the last two years they have remained consistent.” Shatwell said.



WE HAVE THE SAME AP CLASSES OFFERED, OR INCREASING, IN ADDITION TO THE GROWING NUMBER OF DUAL ENROLLED CLASSES.

JESSICA SHATWELL

PRHS COUNSELOR



Megan Pagnini, 12 Past Bio Student

Last year:
Passed AP Bio Exam with a 3.

Her prep?
“Ewing did a good job reviewing and going through all the material. She taught it well and explained it well.”



Gaylene Ewing, AP Biology Teacher

Last year:
Approximately 80 of her students took the AP Bio test last year 2022. The over 50% pass rate for PRHS is in line with the national average. Ewing used past AP test questions on her tests, checked for understandings, and assigned FROs.



SAT: Measuring Merit or Income?

As more colleges and universities go test optional or blind, increased scrutiny from the public make many question the fairness of the test

by Kalani Gaviola, Editor-in-Chief

Scores can affect:

College Admissions

Scholarship Opportunities

...And more.

As college acceptances and rejections roll out, students are a flurry of questions — and for many, these pleas of why and if. Why didn't I get in here? Why did I get accepted there? If I had done something differently, would I have gotten in? And though these ponderings are usually fruitless and nothing is known for sure,

Standardized test scores are under scrutiny increasingly in the college admissions process, and fewer colleges are requiring applicants to test (?).

The SAT and ACT are standardized tests meant to measure academic prowess and determine college readiness, with the SAT first being administered in 1926 and the ACT in 1959. The SAT gained popularity quickly, and just under a decade after its first administration, it was required when applying to Harvard University.

Flash forward to today: just under a century after the SAT's first administration, Harvard University was test-optional for the third year in a row for the 2022- 2023 admission cycle.

When the COVID-19 pandemic closed down public spaces and thus prevented SAT and ACT tests from being proctored fairly, many colleges went test optional or test blind. It was a policy that, even with the recession of COVID restrictions, has remained, something in part due to the shifting negative public attitude towards required standardized testing. The sentiment's popularity seems valid, with mounting evidence that the SAT and ACT aren't fulfilling their purposes as clearly as observers might hope.

PRHS has average SAT score as of 2020 of 1118, higher than the state average 1049, and national average 1060.

And though this statistics marks us as slightly above the average, other information shows that Paso is actually put at a disadvantage when applying to these schools, and at that one that doesn't account for actual potential.

According to a study by Mark Kantrowitz published in Forbes, higher SAT and ACT scores are proven to correlate to higher income levels, meaning that a student who comes from a lower income background is less likely to score highly and reap the benefits.

Public vs. private schooling is a significant factor as well. College and Career Counselor Jessica Shatwell estimated PRHS had about one person in the last ten years qualify for the National Merit Scholarship, a scholarship awarded based on high PSAT performance, compared to an estimated 40 students at the typical Bay Area private school.

"Their schools are studying towards that and they're hiring outside people to support and really focus on (the tests), much more than areas with lower social economic status students... It's just not going to be equitable to lower income students (and schools) who can't even afford tutors."

Shatwell also pointed out how lower income students are less likely to have time to study for the tests between possible family responsibilities or jobs needed to support themselves and their families.

And with top colleges such as Harvard being known not to accept anything under a 1450 according to Prep Scholar, it seems as the the gap in fairness isn't completely accounted for .

In addition to favoring wealthier households and schools, these tests have shown debatable accuracy in determining college readiness. In 2016-17, Princeton and UCLA admissions were test-required and the retention rate was over 90%. In 2021-22 with the test-optional or blind student population, that rate has stayed about the same, remaining at about 96% at UCLA and down a small percentage at Princeton, 98% to 96%

Shatwell acknowledged that the SAT has a use. She explained that National Merit Scholarship allows low income students to get help in funding college, and pointed out how the SAT is making significant changes in the test that could making it more fair, including a digital format, shorter test time and an embedded graphing calculator.

But as the aforementioned problems remain, Shatwell seemed to support the shift away from the current SAT/ACT.

"I think it really forces them to consider all areas of a student and not just what they got on a test," Shatwell said. "SAT (and ACT) score alone doesn't represent the whole person for a lot of reasons."

Our School Average

1118

State Average
1049

National Average
1060

Student and Staff Voice



Jennifer Martinez,
AP Psychology Teacher

I'm not a fan of college board. I don't think that a one shot test that is standardized is a fair representation of a child's knowledge of a content subject. I think that not everyone is a good test taker and being test optional is a good compromise.



Van Thompson,
AP Student (11)

I think that College Board is a scam (and) a money hungry business that pretends to be a non-profit, but it's the only real way to show Ivy League schools your value other than your essays and resume.



Grading the AP:

The FRQ is a significant portion of final AP scores, but possible flaws in the system raise concerns

[Go to My AP](#)[See If You Should Join A Class](#)

by Miguel Muniz, *Editor-In-Chief*

Our Story

It's happened to everyone: you write an essay you're sure is better than the person sitting next to you but somehow your score is lower. You may be left wondering how accurate the scoring really was. If you've failed an AP test you've probably had the same thought of How accurate is this unseen grading?

AP tests have become a staple of the honors highschool student experience with over four million tests being administered annually, but the FRQ section of the test has caused confusion in some students. With some qualifications for points being as vague as "demonstrates sophistication of thought," worries arise on the subjectivity of these measurements.

AP Cohort Data reports 1,178,256 public high school students from the class of 2021 took 3,980,474 AP Exams, with over a third of all public high school students from the class of 2021 having reported taking at least one AP exam throughout highschool. Yet only 22.5% of these students reported having passed at least one AP exam.

AP tests are graded by trained paid volunteers, often college faculty or high school AP teachers during a week-long "grading camps," wherein they assign scores for free response sections of the tests. Those scores are combined with the Multiple Choice portion of the test, scored electronically, and the "Chief Reader," appointed by the College Board, will meet with the members of the Educational Testing Service to decide what raw scores correspond for each final number grade. The cutoff is based mostly on previous years' scores and how other students did. The percentage of the score based on free-response questions varies, but is estimated to be on average a third to a half of a student's grade.

Each AP test is scored from 1 to 5, low to high. A 3 is considered passing, and many universities will count 4s, 5s, and occasionally 3s for college credit, though the system varies greatly depending on what college you attend. The Princeton Review notes that many high ranking colleges consider 5s eligible for college credit and count a 4 for nothing, functionally meaning the scores often define what classes one will take in college and, in the case of students who take multiple AP exams, whether or not they can graduate early.

AP English teacher and former AP test grader Aaron Cantrell displayed faith in the AP test system

claiming, "They will be correct within a single point score of the actual grade... they know what they're doing."

To test the efficacy of the AP test scores we reached out to several AP test graders and had them grade two similar essays. The content of the two essays was identical; yet one was written in clean handwriting with no crossing out or mistakes in the writing process, while the other was written more messily but still legible handwriting including several cross outs and text alterations via arrows or carets pointing new words into the text.

All tests were scored within the one point score of the "actual grade". One point can be the difference between passing and failing, saving thousands of dollars by getting college credit or not, a domino effect caused all by a single inconsistency.

Possible problems in the experiment exist, with small sample size may have hidden a larger possible gap in grading errors, and a lack of "handwriting expert" meant that if the handwriting was beyond interpretation, the score might be lower than they would give in the grading camps.

Ultimately however, the point for many still seems to be that the system in which the tests operate is flawed.

In an article in the UnDark online publication, a former AP grader pointed out the aforementioned domino effect in how a single point of difference, and usually one based in some subjectivity, could mean the difference of getting into certain colleges, receiving college credit. She noted inconsistencies in grading in terms of the ever-changing rubric, and how, in terms of science tests, correct answers can be found outside what the rubric outlines and still be points off- unless, that is, the leaders add new criteria to the rubric as a response to grader concern, thus resulting in higher scores as the week goes on- something they reported anecdotally as she aren't allowed to disclose exact numbers and scenarios.

She maintained that the test is very important and the least College Board could do is "give a fair shake" to everyone, suggesting additional care in grading and allowance for revisiting of grades.

Our Investigation

We gave AP graders the same FRQ AP Lang essay taken from the college board website, listed with a score of 4, and had them grade it. Here are the results.

Grader 1

Essay Received a Score of:

4

Grader 2

Essay Received a Score of:

4

Grader 3

Essay Received a Score of:

3



Practice Makes Perfect : How Teaching Focuses Affect Scores

Comparing the data between how many FRQ and MCQ practices are done in class, the more that is practiced, the better the outcome of the scores turns out by Conner Rocha, *Director of Photography*

The most dreaded time of the year, the first two weeks of May: AP testing. You've been practicing all year for it, though, right? MCQ after MCQ, FRQ after FRQ; over and over for month after month. Is it truly worth the time and effort to put in all that writing and testing just for one test at the end of the year?

In order to ensure that students have their best chance at success on the AP tests, all AP teachers assign practice MCQs (Multiple choice questions) and FRQs (Free response questions) throughout the school year leading up to the tests. This is because all of the AP tests have both multiple choice and free response sections, and the length of each is dependent on which test is being taken. By giving students practice versions and showing them aspects of the test, they can get a feel for the test they might be taking in the Spring. The majority of AP teachers are giving their students the practice, but at different frequencies.

Particularly, **Seth Draine**, AP US History teacher acknowledges the many difficulties of teaching an AP class and the different things to consider.

"How did we change? How did COVID affect us? How did Distance Learning affect our curriculum? What things were able to recover from that but things were we able to not?" Draine asked. "It was a hard conversation."

Different teachers have different styles of teaching, though, and some classes may have more frequent FRQ and MCQ testing throughout the year than others. In a survey conducted to AP teachers at PRHS, the majority of classes practice these tests about once a month on average, while some

others practice once a week or once a semester. These include questions from previous years AP tests, practice questions found on the AP website, and also some questions made by teachers themselves.

Now that we've explored how frequently teachers use MCQs and FRQs in their classrooms, let's take a look at how well their students performed on the AP exam last year.

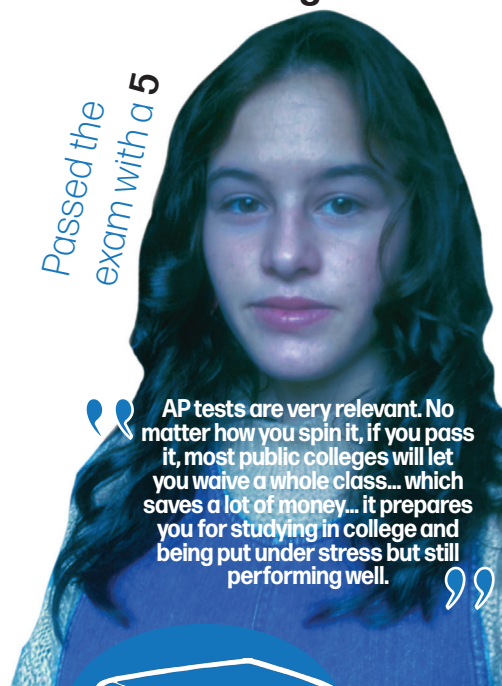
Let's consider PRHS Class A. When we take a look at the percentage of students who received a 1-5 on the AP test, we notice that only 30% of the 79 students scored a 3 or above. Almost half (49%) of the students scored a 2, and a further 20% scored a 1.

Now let's compare this data to a second class, PRHS Class B. Out of a total 42 students who had taken the exam, 88% of those students scored a 3 or higher, with 43% of those being a 4 or a 5. There were no students who scored a 1 in this class, either, with the other 12% of students scoring a 2. With almost half the students as Class A, Class B managed to still have 13 more students score a 3 or above.

Class A performed its FRQs and MCQs only once a month during the school year, while Class B had performed its FRQs and MCQs once a week on average.

Class time spent practicing these tests might not be a waste, but it's also important to consider the limited time teachers have before the test arrives. So the next time that you walk into your class and the teacher announces there is an FRQ, instead of dreading it, realize that in the end, practice makes perfect.

Tegan Henretty, 12, Former AP Lang Student



Passed the exam with a 5

AP tests are very relevant. No matter how you spin it, if you pass it, most public colleges will let you waive a whole class... which saves a lot of money... it prepares you for studying in college and being put under stress but still performing well.



Class A

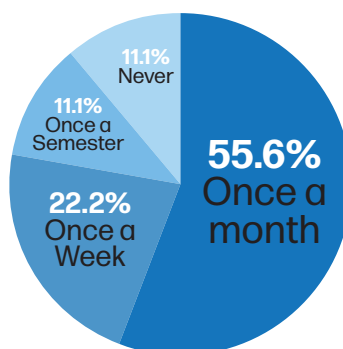
30% Pass Rate

49% Scored a 2

Exam Day May 10, 8:00 AM
79 Students Registered for Exam
given by *Paso Robles High School*

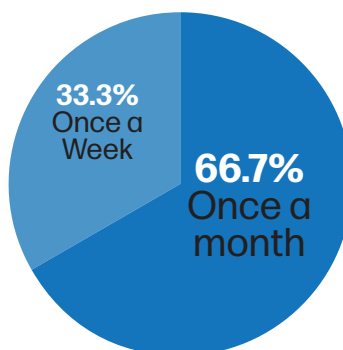
How Much Do Teachers Practice?

Out of Nine AP Teachers Surveyed at PRHS



FRQs

MCQs



Class B


88% Pass Rate

43% Scored a 4/5

Exam Day May 4, 8:00 AM
42 Students Registered for Exam
given by *Paso Robles High School*

THE STRONGEST GYM IN PASO

Ranking Paso Robles gyms by cost, atmosphere, and equipment on a scale of 1 to 10 by Savannah Rickard, Photographer




KENNEDY CLUB FITNESS
 \$69 per month/ \$59 per month (year long commitment)
Cost: ●●●●●●●●●●
Atmosphere: ●●●●●●●●●●
Equipment: ●●●●●●●●●●
Overall: ●●●●●●●●●●

7/10



PASO ROBLES SPORTS CLUB
 Swim & Health: \$118 per month/Platinum single: \$194 per month
Cost: ●●●●●●●●●●
Atmosphere: ●●●●●●●●●●
Equipment: ●●●●●●●●●●
Overall: ●●●●●●●●●●

5/10

PLANET FITNESS
 Black Card: \$25 per month/ Classic: \$10 per month
Cost: ●●●●●●●●●●
Atmosphere: ●●●●●●●●●●
Equipment: ●●●●●●●●●●
Overall: ●●●●●●●●●●

6/10

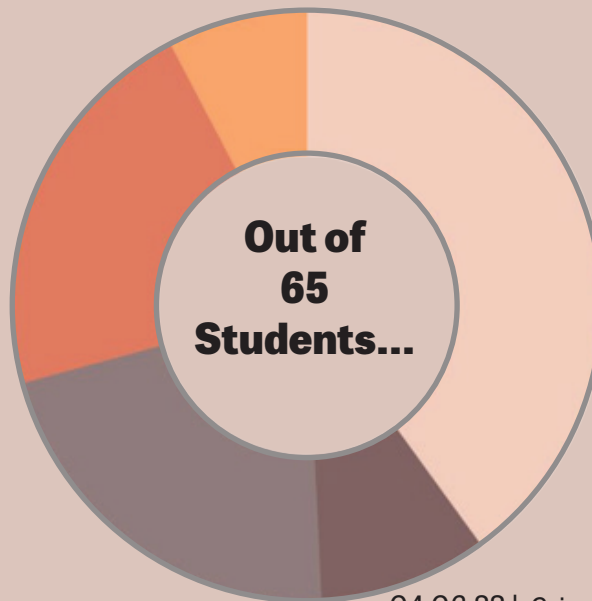


STUDENT PERSPECTIVES



Kyle Tresky, 12

I GO TO THE SPORTS CLUB BECAUSE IT'S A PRIVATE GYM AND I WORK THERE. IT COSTS ALOT BUT I LIKE IT BECAUSE THERE IS A SMALL AMOUNT OF PEOPLE THAT GO THERE SO EVERYBODY KNOWS EVERYBODY
 KYLE TRESKY, 12



- Kennedy Club Fitness: 26 Students (40%)
- Paso Sports Club: 5 Students (7.7%)
- Planet Fitness: 14 students (21.5%)
- At Home: 14 students (21.5%)
- I don't workout: 14 students (9.3%)

THE INFLUENCE WE IMITATE

Many teens find themselves longing for a false reality within the makeup realm of social media

by Maddie Hurstak, Pop Culture Editor

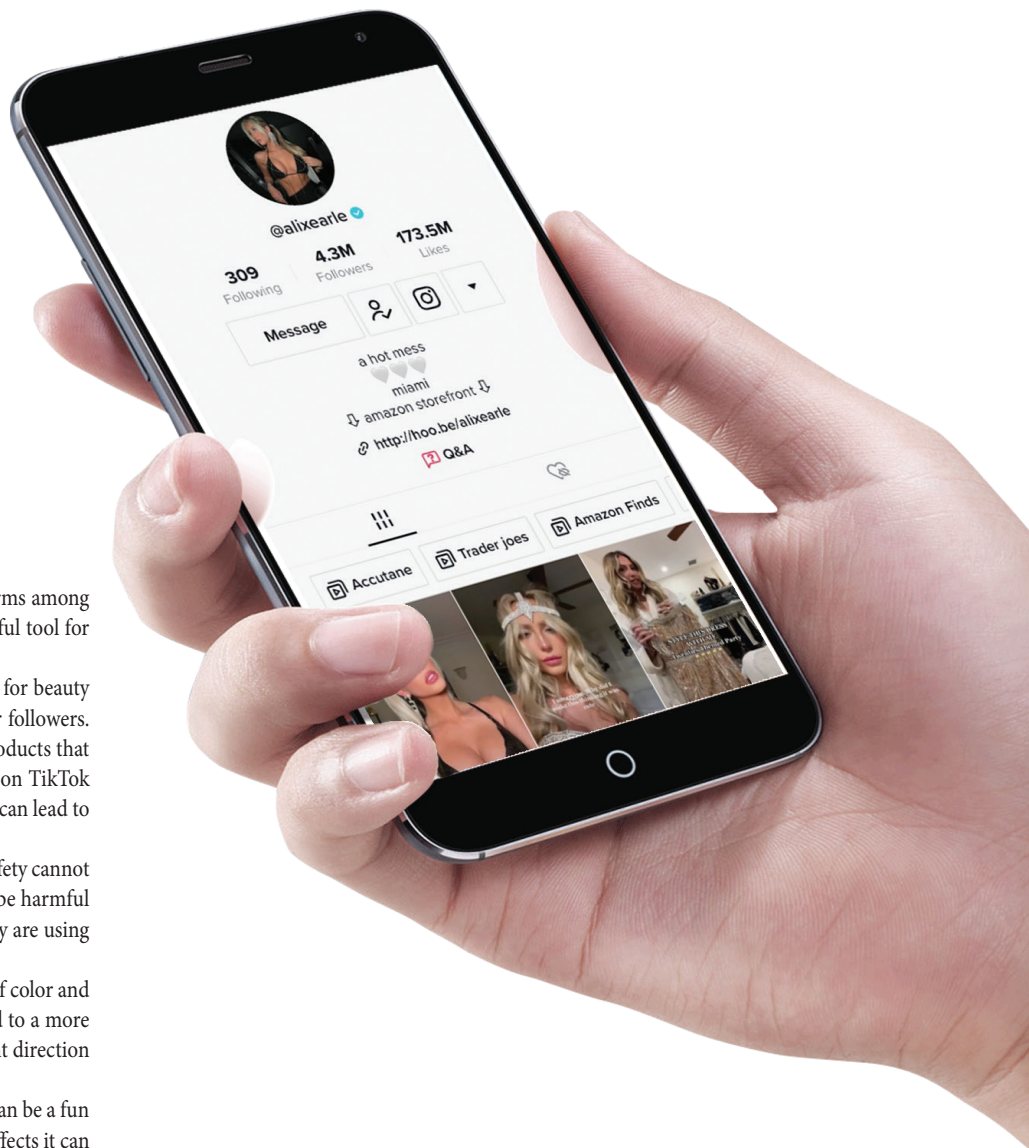
Since 2016, TikTok has taken the world by storm, becoming one of the most popular social media platforms among teenagers. With its short-form videos, catchy music, and engaging content, TikTok has become a powerful tool for influencers to promote makeup products to the younger generation.

The influence of TikTok on teenagers' beauty routines has been significant. The platform has become a hub for beauty gurus and makeup enthusiasts, who share their latest makeup looks, product reviews, and tutorials with their followers. As a result, many teenagers have been swayed by the trends and fads promoted on the platform, purchasing products that promise to deliver the same flawless looks they see on their favorite influencers. Many of the looks promoted on TikTok require significant time, effort, and products, which can be difficult for teenagers to replicate on their own. This can lead to feelings of low self-esteem, which can have a lasting impact on their mental health.

Moreover, the makeup products promoted on TikTok are often unregulated, meaning that their quality and safety cannot be guaranteed. Many teenagers have fallen victim to misleading advertisements, purchasing products that may be harmful to their skin or health. It is crucial for young people to research and educate themselves about the products they are using before adding them to their routines.

Despite these concerns, TikTok has also given a platform to underrepresented communities, such as people of color and the LGBTQ+ community, to showcase their talents and promote inclusivity in the beauty industry. This has led to a more diverse and representative range of beauty products being promoted on the platform, which is a step in the right direction for the industry.

TikTok has had a significant impact on the way teenagers approach makeup and beauty. While the platform can be a fun and creative outlet for self-expression, it is important for young people to be mindful of the potential negative effects it can have on their self-esteem and mental health.



TIKTOK'S FAVORITES : INCREASE FOLLOWER COUNT BY TIKTOK PRODUCT INFLUENCE

RARE BEAUTY
LIP + CHEEK TINT
UP BY 2.7 MILLION



BENEFIT
TINTED EYEBROW GEL
UP BY 1 MILLION



DRUNK ELEPHANT
BRONZING + TANNING DROPS
UP BY 1.6 MILLION



DIOR
LIP OIL
UP BY 2.1 MILLION



CHARLOTTE TILBURY
HIGHLIGHTER/CONTOUR WAND
UP BY 3 MILLION



ELF
GLOW LIQUID FILTER
UP BY 1.3 MILLION



FILTERS

AND FACES

THE ROLE OF BODY IMAGE

Body dysmorphic disorder has spread with social media, altering perceptions about appearance and weight. Reducing screen time may help.

by Kayla Degnan, InDepth Director

A familiar chirp sounds through the air signaling a new notification on social media around the world. It is used everyday, from TikTok to SnapChat, Facebook to Pinterest and everything in between. Four in 10 teenagers have experienced body dysmorphia, and issues with body image, due to what they have seen on those apps according to the Mental Health Foundation, from 2020. Filters, editing apps, and ways to try and become the body standard have taken over.

Body dysmorphic disorder (BDD) is one issue that has come about, with 1 in 50 people in the US experiencing this disorder, according to PsychCentral. BDD is a particular obsession with one's own appearance, from the use of filters and other body-altering pieces of technology. It starts to play tricks on the brain and the perception of what is acceptable in society.

Images from social media impact the youthful brains due to the known dopamine rush that occurs through likes, comments, and sharing. The release of the chemicals from the dopamine that eventually links with filters, editing, and social media in general, can lead further down the road to anxiety, depression, detachment from reality, compulsive thoughts/behavior, and can even lead to dissociative disorders.

Psychology teacher **Jennifer Martinez** sees the impact on student expectations.

"Our brains' perception of oneself may or may not change when we look in the mirror since sometimes what we see may match how we feel about oneself and sometimes what we see may not match how we feel about oneself."



better or a worse image than we expect," Martinez said.

The standard that many compare themselves to is one that changes due to how people truly feel about their own image. However, athletic activities such as wrestling, cheerleading, and dance have specific looks or weight requirements for certain positions on the teams, also impacting teen perceptions.

Eating disorders (ED) and BDD, are common among the teams mentioned above with 33.1% of cheerleaders being at higher risk for ED and seen in male dancers with about 27% being unhappy about their weight. The rates of the disorders above are higher in females, but males in the activities are also at risk for them.

"Being a part of programs where your weight plays a key factor, it does tear down your confidence after a while. Constantly being around people who are semi-fixated with image and how to look specifically can be exhausting, but I was thankful to be around supportive people that acknowledged/owned their bodies," an anonymous student said.

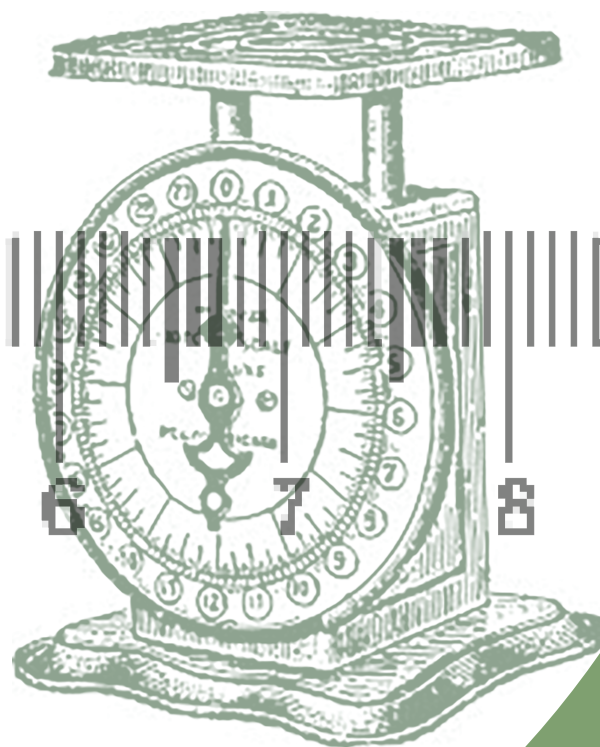
Reducing screen time can be one way to help with your own body image. Martinez stated that when students come to talk to her she has helped them stay off of their social media for a few days to see if that helps with their feelings.

Social media, body image, and mental health all play a role together and to keep the latter two from worsening it may be as simple as taking less social media hours.

"I try to make students realize their worth beyond what they look like... I try to help them embrace what physical features we have. I also try to guide them to focus on all of the other qualities that they may have that makes them a good person," Martinez said.

IF AT ONE'S CORE THEY ARE NOT HAPPY WITH THEIR IMAGE, THEY COVER IT WITH MAKE-UP OR FILTERS AND SHOW THE WORLD WHAT WE WANT THEM TO SEE, NOT WHAT REALITY IS

JENNIFER MARTINEZ





The 2024 presidential election is approaching- but what kind of president do bearcats want?

by Kalani Gaviola, EIC

SPOTLIGHT: PRHS' IDEAL PRESIDENT

The 2024 election is steadily approaching, with various candidates joining the race- some named familiar with former President Donald Trump and current President Joe Biden, along with other names less familiar to the average American, like democrat Marianne Williamson and Republican Vivek Ramaswamy. And with Joe Biden's approval rating at an average at 45% according to Gallup polling, there seems to be room for improvement. What makes a candidate appealing, however doesn't always boil down simply policy. Age, personality and more are all significant factors for many Americans, including bearcats, with the below information displaying the preferences for PRHS' future president.

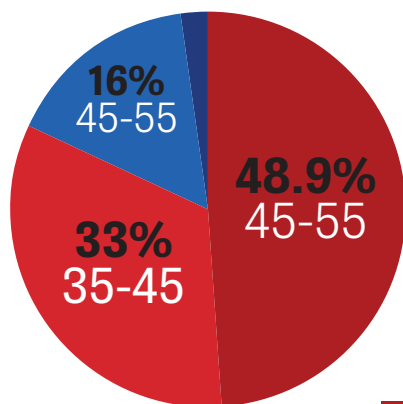
The poll was out of 96 students. The majority, at 49%, wanted a president with an age of 45-55, younger than our last two presidents, Trump and Biden, both over 70. The next highest percentage was 33% for the even younger age of 35-45.

In terms of gender, most bearcats asserted it didn't matter, though when they did express a preference 10.4% wanted a woman and only 5.2 wanted a man.

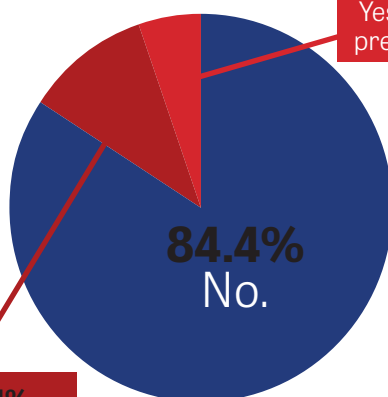
In terms of scandals, 49% said that they don't matter and it wouldn't affect their vote, while 47.9% said that they matter but it probably wouldn't affect their vote.

In terms of prior experience, the majority wanted someone who knew politics previous, and then buisness, ending with military.

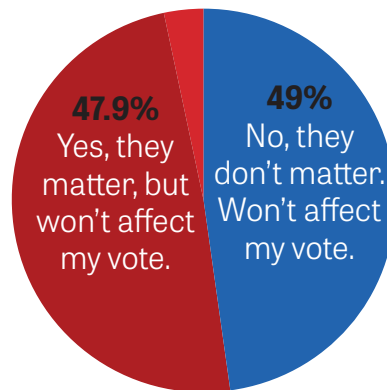
IDEAL AGE?



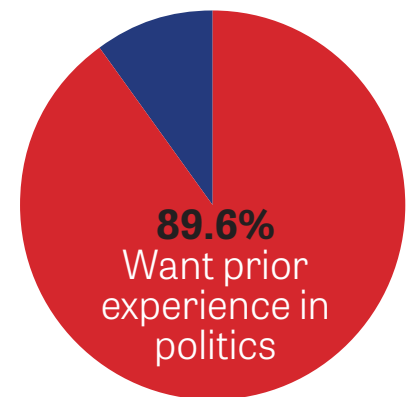
DOES GENDER MATTER?



OPINIONS ON SCANDALS?



PRIOR EXPERIENCE?



86.5% PRIORITIZE WILLINGNESS TO COMPROMISE OVER STICKING HIS/HER IDEALS NO MATTER WHAT

RE
USE

RECYCLE THE TRUTH

by Nolan Severson, Review Editor

Shock and fear, emotions felt by a person finding out the hard truth. What gets recycled at PRHS, the answer may scare you. NOTHING.

I always thought that recycling was just something that everybody did. So when I found out that my high school didn't recycle, I couldn't help but burst out laughing. I mean, how could a school not recycle? It just seemed so ridiculous to me. I started joking around with my friends, saying things like "what kind of backwards school is this?" and "I guess we'll just have to throw all our plastic in the trash like cavemen." But as I thought more about it, I realized that it wasn't really all that funny. In fact, it was pretty sad that our school wasn't doing its part to help the environment. So, I decided to take action and try to start a recycling program at our school.

60%

**Students Unaware
that PRHS doesn't
recycle**

**Watch this
video to know
the problem**



WILL TAYLOR SWIFT'S BUBBLE BURST?

Swift has been an icon in pop culture and art worldwide; Eras tour sales show that you belong with her

by Isael Rendon, Arts and Entertainment editor

An icon, popstar, and well-known celebrity, she is Taylor Swift. With the launch of her 2023 Eras Tour, it leaves Bearcats wondering who Swift has become and what is her staying power.

She is not shaking it off.

Now some critics see her as an idol for the way she “sings about men the way men sing about women,” wrote Alex Pauly in “Why Do Y’all Hate Taylor Swift So Much?” in Highsnobiety.

Others see her as a snake for “[going] out with men, [writing] songs about them and then [selling] them,” according to Orla O’Callaghan, in “Why I Hate Taylor Swift,” in College Times.

What is ultimately true is that she has not gone away, even to Bearcat listeners, gently carving her mark in it since June 19, 2006 when Big Machine Records debuted her first song “Tim Mcgraw.” She has been making music since that debut with her most recent installment 2022 album “Midnights.”

A popular artist with popular songs? How is this person so well-known? The answer: Swifties.

Senior Evelyn Scott is an avid Taylor Swift listener, explaining “[She] writes songs about personal experiences and I think it’s something that everyone can kind of relate to and I like that she writes music that’s not only about boys...” Scott said. “Haters call her a snake because of her dating

history, the Kanye drama, and people just wanting to side with Kim for no logical reason.”

Swift has been in the news a lot since Kanye West called her out at the 2009 VMA Awards - “Y’mma let you finish, but Beyoncé had one of the best videos of all time,” — so it wouldn’t be a surprise to see her ticket sales being record-breaking.

“Too many people want to go see her ...and Ticketmaster didn’t really handle distributing them that well which is why a lot of people got screwed out of their tickets,” sophomore Gracie Domenghini said, recounting the scamming that was being done concerning Taylor Swift tickets.

This raises a question: how will Taylor Swift react? Domenghini says that Swift has been distraught by the way ticket distributors are handling her fans’ money.

“[Swift] said something along the lines of not being impressed or satisfied with the way the Ticketmaster handled the ticket selling.”

Many ticket-selling companies have counted that Swift has sold more than 2.4 million tickets which could amount to \$554 million - \$591 million, making her tour the sixth highest grossing tour among all artists and the highest-grossing tour for a female artist.

Have you bought your Eras Tour tickets?



SWIFT-BY-THE-ALBUM: Taylor Swift has released many albums over the years. Have a look at some popular ones such as Evermore and Debut.

LIGHTING UP THE SALES: Taylor Swift's Eras Tour has recently sold over 2.4M tickets across several ticket distributors.

HATERS CALL HER A SNAKE BECAUSE OF HER DATING HISTORY, THE KANYE DRAMA, AND PEOPLE JUST WANTING TO SIDE WITH KIM FOR NO LOGICAL REASON.

EVELYN SCOTT (12)



TOO MANY PEOPLE WANT TO GO SEE HER ... AND TICKETMASTER DIDN'T REALLY HANDLE DISTRIBUTING THEM THAT WELL—WHICH IS WHY A LOT OF PEOPLE GOT SCREWED OUT OF THEIR TICKETS.

GRACIE DOMENGHINI (10)



STUNT

IT'S A FLIPPIN' SPORT



With the strength, talent, and athleticism demonstrated by a team, it is clear how different it is from cheerleading

by Sienna Ramos, Blind Date Director

Most people assume Stunt is just another version of cheer. In reality, it is much more technical and is asking 35 girls on the PRHS squad to enter an intense, head-to-head game between two teams, which compete in 15 routines.

Junior Savannah Alviso thinks stunt takes cheer to a new level.

"I think stunt brings cheer into a more serious aspect, and it's not like just waving pom poms in the air and looking pretty. We work hard everyday to make sure our routines look good, and we're competing against different teams."

Stunt is one of the most winning PRHS teams this Spring, recording 3 wins and one loss.

There are four quarters full of varying routines that the teams must learn. Quarter 1 is called Partner Stunts; Quarter 2 is Pyramids and Tosses; Quarter 3 is Jumps and Tumbling; and Quarter 4 is Team Routine — which combines the previous three quarters' routines.

After practicing complicated and rigorous routines to make them as perfect as possible, the teams compete. The team that performs the skills best, wins the round and the point, determined by the scoring officials. Winning the round gives that team the chance to pick the next routine. Each quarter contains six routines, Level 1

being the easiest, and Level 6 being the hardest. The first quarter, Partner Stunts, can have up to three stunt groups competing. Easier routines have more stunt groups whereas the more difficult routines use two or even just one stunt group. Each routine is full of different stunts where two bases and a backspot, lift, spin, throw, and catch a flyer.

Quarter 2, Pyramids and Tosses, consists of three stunt groups for every routine. The stunt groups work together to create a pyramid effect.

"I feel that the intensity of strengths that are necessary for Partner's stunts demonstrates that stunt is a sport. To be able to throw anywhere from 80 to 100 plus pounds over your head and do complex skills takes an immense amount of not only strength, but also endurance."

In the third quarter, Jumps and Tumbling, each routine consists of seven girls. Jumps and tumbling exhibits the skills of athletes

who are very flexible and have excelled in activities such as pikes and back handsprings, demonstrating synchronous and strong jumping motions displaying flexibility in the air. The most skilled athletes rip back flips for the judges and the win.

Within the first three quarters, there are four separate rounds that the teams must compete. In each round played, a point is earned by the team who does their routines with the fewest number of deductions by the judges.

The last quarter, quarter four combines routines from each previous quarter. The routines are the same routines that were performed in the first three quarters, but they are put together to create one routine with no breaks. Due to the fact that the routines are so much longer, there are only three separate rounds in Quarter 4.

"Stunt is always a team sport. Without one person, the whole dynamic is thrown off, but this especially applies in quarter four. When everyone is tired and those on the mat are trying to remember their technique and counts, hearing your teammates count, cheer, and encourage from the sideline is the key to achieving a seamless routine execution," senior Miranda Martinez said.



Photos by Jade Wagner, PRHS Yearbook



MEET THE COACHES

Bearcats welcome new baseball and softball coaches Lauren Lozano and Chal Fanning

by Braydon Hoier, Sports Director

Taking over the programs and leading players to new opportunities, Paso's baseball and softball programs welcome new head coaches Chal Fanning and Lauren Lozano.

BASEBALL

In the past five years there have been three different head coaches in charge of Bearcat baseball. In 2018 Coach Derek Stroud retired after being the head coach of the baseball team for two decades. His replacement was coach Jonathen Thornhill who coached the boys from 2019 to 2022, but was fired at the end of the 2022 season. This year, coach Chal Fanning, Paso baseball alumni, was hired to take charge of the Bearcats and veer the

program in the right direction.

Fanning has been around baseball for a long time. He played all through highschool and continued his career for three years at the junior college level. In his last two years as a pitcher in college baseball, he played at Cal Poly Slo. After playing the game, Fanning decided to coach. His first coaching job ever was being the jv coach for Paso in 1993. From there he would scatter across most levels of baseball, coaching at the junior college and division one level. Now back coaching at his alma mater, Fanning feels it is the right fit. "I wanted to get the job at Paso because of my heart. I am an alumni and will have a chance to coach at all my alma maters. Also I was hired to get the culture back to what Bearcat needs to be. I love being back at home and hope to get the respect of the Bearcat baseball program back," Fanning said. With a new coach who cares deeply about the program, Bearcat baseball may have the potential to become something great with Fanning in charge.



AS FAR AS BASEBALL I HOPE THAT WE CAN PROVIDE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR EACH PLAYER TO REACH THEIR GOALS OF MOVING ON AND PLAYING AT THE LEVEL THAT SEEMS FIT FOR THEM.

COACH FANNING

SOFTBALL

Bearcat softball has been dominant as of recent years. Last year, in the spring of 2022 the Bearcats placed first and won the Mountain League under new head coach Jeananne Ruck, and advanced to CIF where they dominated. After the season Jeananne Ruck left the head coach position to be filled by current coach Lauren Lozano. Coach Lozano is a sophomore English teacher for Paso, and is learning her way through the new campus.

not just here to create athletes, I am here to help mold young women into becoming the best versions of themselves. Continuing to preach these two things will not only make them great athletes, but great women," Lozano said. With coach Lozano guiding the Lady Bearcats this year, they look to hold their title of Mountain League champions.

Playing since she was a little girl, coach Lozano has made a name for herself as a player before taking on her coaching adventures. Growing up she played three years of varsity softball, then went on to play at the division one level for four years at the college of Charleston. After graduating college and seeing the end of her career, Lozano decided to pursue her dream job of being an English teacher and softball coach. New to both positions, Lozano is excited to build the Bearcat softball program.

"My vision for this program is for these girls to live by being Great and being Grateful. I am



WHY WOULD YOU WANT TO GO THROUGH LIVING YOUR ONE LIFE NOT GIVING IT YOUR ALL.

COACH LOZANO



Coach Chal Fanning on the left high fiving one of his players when he was coaching at Cal Poly.

- 12 years coaching at D1 level
- Played 3 years at Junior College
- Played 2 years at Cal Poly



Coach Lauren Lozano hitting a ball to right field when playing at the College of Charleston

- 1 year coaching at Nipomo
- 4 years playing softball at College of Charleston
- 3 years playing varsity softball

SPRING SPORTS

PRHS athletes compete across the board pool, gym, track, court

by Jakob Baier, Sports Editor

SWIM AND DIVE 2W-2L

The boys swim team is starting their 2023 season with many returning swimmers including sophomore Garrett Hagmark (200 freestyle, 200 IM) and senior Ben Himelson (100 and 50 free). Their hope for this season is to break some of the school records including the 4x100 and 4x50 freestyle relays and the individual events the 50 and 100 freestyle. "So far we have had two meets against AG and Santa Ynez. We lost to AG, and we're able to beat Santa Ynez. I think overall the team has a lot of potential and hopefully we can finish 3rd or higher in league," captain Himelson said.

Senior Levi Harrington returns for Boys Diving

and is one of two boys on the team looking to improve and earn points for the team.

"We have a team of seven people, boys and girls, which is almost unheard of for us. Our only hope is that our entire team is able to make it to league at the end of the season," Harrington said.

The girls swim team has a lot of new blood and are looking forward to many wins this season with the new head girls coach Evan Holtz, in his first year coaching varsity after coaching the JV girls last year. He has brought the team together and made them appreciate and support each other.

"The relationship all of us girls have with each



other has definitely grown since water pool season and in a lot of ways. It doesn't matter if you lose, or you don't do good, the support, I feel, just makes everyone feel good about themselves," senior Shara Rodriguez.

BASEBALL 1W-4L

With a new coach this year, the baseball team has a lot to improve on, with the ending of their season last year they hope to finish strong. Sixteen seniors graduated last year and there are many spots to be filled on the team. This year's Baseball team is going to be starting from scratch, with the players and coaches. The boys are going to have to figure out what works and what doesn't, having no reference point to build off of and make a solid team right off the bat. It will take them several games to figure out their groove.

"The start to the season isn't really what any of us wanted. These past three games we've been starting to put it all together. We are starting to come together as a team and I really think we can turn things around this year and have a winning record in league. I'm hoping for the best this season." Senior Zane Cannaday said.



Catcher: Boys Baseball Catcher is catching a strike against A-town Photo by Sebi Radojevic.



Hitter: Boys Baseball hitter Kailer Utter is batting against A-town Photo by Sebi Radojevic.



Blocking: Boys Volleyball Blocker Miguel Muniz is blocking against Central Fresno Photo by Hepburn.



Serving: Boys Volleyball server Colin Dogerty is serving against Central Fresno Photo by Hepburn.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL 6W-2L

They are currently sitting 2-0 in league, led with strong leadership from Captains Omar and Miguel Muniz. Boys Volleyball consists of many underclassmen stepping up. They are coming off of last season placing 5th in Ocean league. The volleyball team hopes to place higher this year.

"Due to the leagues being moved around we have a very high chance of winning league this year. One of our toughest competitors will be Templeton. I am super excited for this season and next season as I think our team will improve and develop in a really good way and we will finally be recognized again as a real sport," sophomore Ezra Smeltzer said.

The program has faced many controversies in the past, and hopes to change the way the program is perceived and build it back to the standard it was at.

TRACK 2 Arcadia Qualifiers

The Track & Field season has gotten off to a good start with several CIF qualifying marks and some high rankings in the Central Coast Athletic Association. The following athletes are all with the top five of the Central Coast in their events. The sprinter standout is Rylie Helberg, junior, with a PR (personal record) of 12.95 seconds in the 100m and 26.7 seconds in the 200m. Middle distance standouts are Kalani Gaviola, junior, with a PR of 2:29:04 in the 800m, and Tristan Poggi, senior. Long distance standouts are Tyler Daillak, sophomore, with 4:38 in the 1600m, and Sydney Moore, senior, with a time of 11:49.70 in the 3200m. Male field standouts are Jack Tobin, junior, and Justin Wilshuen, freshman, in the Pole Vault, with PRs at 12'6 and 12'4 respectively. Female field standouts are Peyton Bedrosian, junior, with a jump of 12'4 in Pole Vault and a jump of 16'1.5 in Long Jump, Akasha Asberry, senior, and Mia Martin, junior, both with a jump of 4'11, and Neveah Dyer, junior, throwing 37'11.5 in the Shotput.



Girls Track Relay: The girls are running a relay and they are doing a relay exchange the Atascadero track meet. *Photo by Joseph Taranto.*



Boys track: Tristan Poggi running during the Atascadero meet. *Photo by Joseph*

STUNT

3W-1L



Girls Stunt Game : The girls are going up against the Greyhounds here in the Gil Asia gym. *Photo by Kalista Peterson.*

The Stunt team is planning to go out with a bang with their senior class taking them to a predicted CIF win for the 6th year in a row. The girls this year are going to be trying to do something different this year and bring something new to the table to make them stand out even more. "We're ready to win the CIF this year. I think our biggest challenge is going to be trying to rebuild our team. Now that we have older seniors we need to teach all the younger people but we're excited to continue in the future and hopefully we get it another year." Said senior Maddie Hurstak.

BOYS TENNIS

6W-10L

The Tennis team is coached by Daniel Diaz. He has been coaching the boys team for several years and they have done well in years past placing third in league last year and they hope to do better this year. Senior Mason Keep says, "I think this year is similar to last year. For this season I'm looking forward to playing in the tournament in Bakersfield again"



Boys Tennis: The boys tennis team is playing a match against Riggeti. *Photo by Joseph Taranto.*



Girls Stunt Game : Girls are posing for a photo after the win against Atascadero. *Photo by Kalista Peterson.*

BEACH VOLLEYBALL 1L-2W

For the second season of the program for the girls beach volleyball. Last year the girls did not have access to a real sand court to practice on, and part of this year. They have potential to win league this year and make a name for the program even with it being so new. "The season is going okay so far. We have one win against Morro Bay and one loss against Nipomo. It has been hard practicing on one gravel court and then traveling and playing teams who constantly have access to multiple sand courts. However, we just got a sand court put in at Sherwood Park, which is exciting because last year we practiced solely on grass. We are still a new program, being only two years old, but I really think Paso has a good chance at winning league this year." Senior Ashlyn Dogherty



Girls Volleyball Match: The girls are serving the ball and hoping to score enough points to win the set and to win the game. Photo by Jakob Baier.

BOYS GOLF 2nd in League

Mark Boatman Ranked #1 in League

The golf team is looking forward to many big things this year and also hope to have one of the better seasons this year. With some new people on the team such as Senior Leo Kemp, they hope to bring something new to the table to become more competitive. The season has been going really well, we have a lot of new kids on the team and we're only getting better. We're doing great in League we are always finishing in the top groups.



Boys Golf Match: They are playing in a tournament and are looking to finish in the top 3 schools in the tournament. Photo by Logan Lewis.

SOFTBALL 0W-1L

The Girls have a good outlook for the season this year. Even with many challenges in the start of the season with the weather and game scheduling they still hope to have a good season. Having a smaller team they hope to accomplish more and put a lot of focus into this season and be a poseable threat to the competition in the mountain league. Senior Brooklyn Prestini said, "So far we've got a pretty successful start. We've been struggling with the weather just like everyone else in the county but we have been trying to squeeze in as many games as we can. I'm looking forward to league starting up this week and seeing how we end up in that. We've got a pretty solid group so hoping that we end up pretty high & get a good winning streak going"



Girls Softball Game: Pitcher is getting ready to pitch the ball and get a strike to add to the count and get a potential out. Photo by Noemi Basurto.

WRESTLING RETRACTION STATEMENT



In the February issue of our magazine we made incorrect claims in two of our stories titled "Wrestling With Health" and "Winter Sports Overview."

We apologize that we failed to include a voice from Coach Ybarra in this reporting, who does not promote or support the unhealthy wrestling techniques described throughout the article. Ybarra has clarified with us that his program follows all CIF wrestling rules and guidelines, specifically with weight cutting, and teaches his athletes healthy training methods.

We also apologize that a statistic from Children's Hospital Colorado was written as if it was a PRHS statistic. We incorrectly printed "An estimated 25% to 67% of PRHS wrestlers use techniques such as over exercise, calorie restriction, fasting and different types of dehydration methods to lose the amount of weight that they are required to drop, according to athletes we interviewed."

In our Winter Sports Overview, the information presented about Men's Wrestling was from last year. This year Ybarra, and two of his wrestlers went to state: Christian Davidson (12) and Dominic Marquez (11).

We pledge to be more cautious about our fact finding in the future and regret misleading information about PRHS wrestling and Coach Ybarra.



TECHNICALLY SPEAKING: POLE VAULTING



PUSH
Once pole unbends, it shoots Tobin up and he pushes off the top to make it over

SWING
Tobin uses core and upper body strength to invert and get his feet up

PLANT
Pole slides into the box when Tobin starts to push on the pole and jumps up



The Pole Vaulting Guide

JACK TOBIN

by Serenity Wulfang, EIC

Taking a deep breath, Junior Jack Tobin, sprints down the runway in long strides, achieves maximum speed, and takes his correct position to initiate takeoff. Halfway through his jump, he becomes inverted and pulls himself off the pole, curves his body over the pole securing another successful jump.

Tobin has been pole vaulting since freshman year and has been involved in Track and Field for five years. As a freshman, looking at the upperclassman pole vaulting inspired Tobin to try it out for himself. He worked very hard during the past couple of years and now he spends two hours a day during Track Season working to improve his pole vaulting skills.

“My favorite part about track and field is the practice because I can hang out with friends and mess around, and at meets, it’s the same. I really enjoy the social aspect of it” Tobin said.

Tobin would love to play at the college level, but he believes the colleges he is interested in are too competitive for his level. After high school, he is interested in pursuing mechanical engineering at Cal Poly.

Pole Vaulting PR:

12'8