

# your vote, your voice

Some seniors were eligible to vote for the first time.

Up until Nov. 5, American citizens who were 18 years old or older had the opportunity to vote in the 2024 presidential election. This election marked a big moment for high school seniors who had just come of age and were able to vote for the first time, a milestone that many described as both exciting and empowering. For these new voters, it wasn't just about fulfilling a civic duty, it was about being able to make an impact in the nation's future.

"Being able to vote for the first time made me feel very powerful because in a tight election as close as the 2024 one I knew my vote would count. I'm also glad that I was able to discuss both candidates in my politics class which helped me be educated to be my choice," senior Enrique Senior said.

Voting for the first time required a lot of research and preparation. Students turned to their parents, news sources, and social media to find information. Although these outlets could have bias, students did their best to filter opinion out and just gather the facts.

"Since I was new to this process, I'd ask my parents for advice. We'd end up

debating different issues, which really got me to think. I'd also research more on different news outlets, especially social media since it was super accessible, but I always double-checked what I found with reputable sources," senior Marena Goodman said.

Although some may think that voting is not important, especially when they're young, others felt their vote could make a difference and affect their future.

"The ability to have a say in the type of future that governs us is a unique privilege. Even if our individual influence is minuscule, voting allows us to participate in shaping our future. This civic duty is one of the greatest privileges we should take advantage of," International Diplomacy & Legal Studies Program Director Gabriel Medina said.

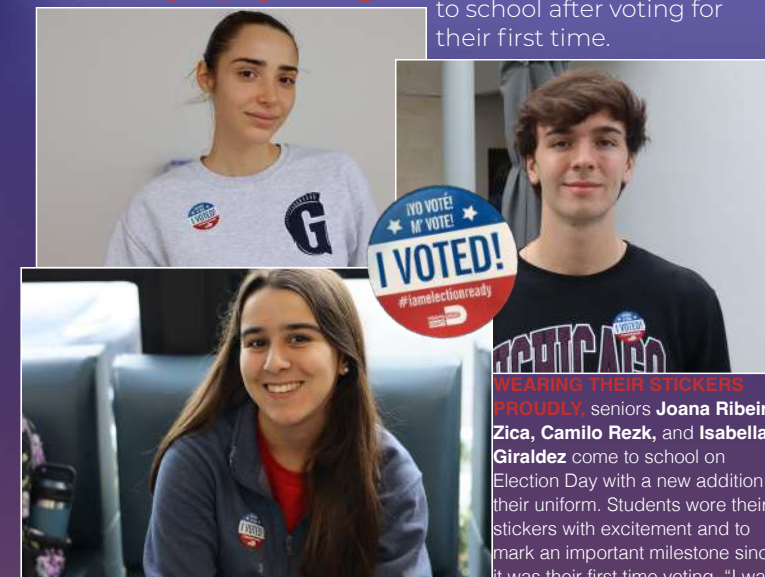
Voting for the first time was a transformative experience for many high school seniors, marking a significant step in their civic journey. For these new voters, the privilege of having a voice in shaping the nation's future was both empowering and motivating. Through research, discussion, and a commitment to understanding the issues, they took their role seriously, knowing that even a single vote could make a difference.

STORY BY JULIA FOGEL



## 1<sup>st</sup> time voters

Seniors wore their stickers to school after voting for their first time.



**WEARING THEIR STICKERS PROUDLY**, seniors Joana Ribeiro Zica, Camilo Rezk, and Isabella Giraldez come to school on Election Day with a new addition to their uniform. Students wore their stickers with excitement and to mark an important milestone since it was their first time voting. "I was

excited to have finally voted in the election and I wore my sticker with pride knowing I contributed to a very important election," Rezk said. Photos by Julia Fogel

## election RESULTS

Electoral College results reflected a Republican victory.



On the morning of Nov. 6, Republican candidate Donald Trump was announced as the winner of the 2024 Presidential Election by the Associated Press. Trump collected 312 electoral votes compared to Democratic candidate Kamala Harris' 226. This marked Trump's return to the presidency, making him the first U.S. president since Grover Cleveland to serve two non-consecutive terms.