



# the OVERALL experience

Pep Exec members attempt to rebuild school spirit

Pep Club members had a problem. They needed to rebuild school culture. They needed to re-teach school traditions. And most of all, they needed to fire up school spirit.

First step to light that fire – the new mascot. It arrived a week before the fall assembly in September. “We decided not to hold tryouts until after the fall sports season so we would have a mascot for basketball,” Pep Club Sponsor Katherine Miner said.

Second step to light that fire – T-shirts had been a tradition dating back to the 1970s, but in recent years they hadn’t happened.

For the 2021-2022 school year, senior Giselle Garza designed a new Pep Club T-shirt for the first time. “The inspiration for the shirts came from like ’70s or ’80s NBA caricatures. I thought they were cool,” Pep Club President Connor Bell said. “It gives the people a bobblehead kind of look.”

Third step – After a year of Pep Club not being allowed to

attend games due to COVID, they made a comeback. “I think that we’ve done a really really good return back to being able to go to games,” Bell said. “I hope that it sets North up to keep progressing and getting more students involved and more students to go out to the games and support each other into the future.”

The first pep assembly held indoors after two years was the winter sports and Northman assembly. There was a limit on how many students could attend and because of COVID restrictions, 440 out of 1,490 students attended.

“Having only the senior class experience a full year of high school while the rest of them haven’t was just the hardest thing,” Pep Club Secretary Krystal Montoya said.

The winter sports and Northman assembly was the first assembly indoors for the freshman and sophomore. “During the assembly, we had to point words to the school song, they were hanging from the catwalk in the gym,” Miner said. “And teach that we hold up our finger during that song.”

| story by *angie fernandez-alvarez*

## in the MOMENT

Students describe their favorite Pep Club memory

**Watching the first football game** of the season, Pep Exec cheer during the Nut Cup. It was the first football game in over a year, due to spectators not being allowed the previous year. “Despite our loss, it was very exciting to be at the game and cheer on our football team,” James Barton, pep club treasurer said. | photo by nevaeh dull

“The whole thing with giving out Kona Ice was super fun and quite interesting. It also tied in with the theme of the Hula Bowl which elevated that whole experience for me.”  
**Ezra Peach, 10**

“I got the chance to participate in the events for the Homecoming Parade, so that was my favorite. It is a lot more fun when you are down low in front of everyone doing the activities planned.”  
**Mia Olson, 11**

“The constant yelling and the tensions between us and the other teams student section. I enjoy the smack talk.”  
**Ethan Jones, 11**

## the BEST BOWL

Students pick their favorite football game themes

**35%**  
HULA BOWL

**7%**  
NORTH OUT

**25%**  
NUT CUP

**15%**  
PINK OUT

**9%**  
NEON NIGHT

**9%**  
SAFARI THEME

\*taken from a survey of 80 students

**Standing near** the end of the parade route, Connor Bell and Zach Setzkorn watch as the Homecoming parade floats go past. Pep club was the first float to finish. “Whether it was being in a float or watching along the sides, it was amazing to see all my hard work show out,” Setzkorn said. | photo by payton cook

**Looking for her monkey**, senior and member of Pep Club Exec, Krystal Montoya stands alongside seniors Connor Bell and Zach Setzkorn at the football game on Sept. 10. To hype up the crowd, Montoya had sent her stuffed money crowd surfing before it was eventually thrown down to the cheerleaders. “We had a safari themed game, a lot of people actually showed up and got loud,” Montoya said. “We were really hyped in this game.” | photo by teryn debey



**During the homecoming assembly**, senior Connor Bell and Cameron Lee, dance to the drumline’s performance. Pep Exec was in charge of planning the assembly. “It was all a part of an extremely fun first quarter, where I was still learning to fill the part of a Pep Club member,” Cameron Lee said. | photo by teryn debey

**Leading chants**, Cameron Lee holds his Pep Club megaphone at the Homecoming football game. “This game was extremely entertaining,” Lee said. “Even though we lost the game, it was the most engaged and excited crowd we had all year, as we all badly wanted our school to win our Homecoming game.” | photo by teryn debey