

Homecoming 2021: Back and safer than ever



Written by:

Angeli

Genovese

As the fall season sets in, the air shifts to a crisp cold and a blanket of vibrant leaves now cover the ground. Most students are becoming more adapted to the new year and getting out of their 2 a.m. summer sleep schedules to the 6 a.m. wake up calls. And after a month of slowly easing into this "new normal," it's that time of year once again for face paint, football, and dancing! Get out your school spirit and get excited, because it's Homecoming Week!

As per tradition, the Homecoming Week festivities have begun with Spirit Week and each day has a different theme. Monday featured USA Day, Tuesday was Twin Day, followed by Western Wednesday, Throwback Thursday, and Friday showcases Class Colors. In case you are not aware of your grade's color: seniors wear black, juniors purple, sophomores white, and freshmen gray.

Furthermore, to get students even more enthusiastic and involved, there will be the return of the hall decorating competition. Considering that we all have lost a year, here's a refresher: the competition will be between all of the 2022-25 classes and each grade has a hallway to design and decorate. There is no set theme and all students with school spirit are welcome to join in.

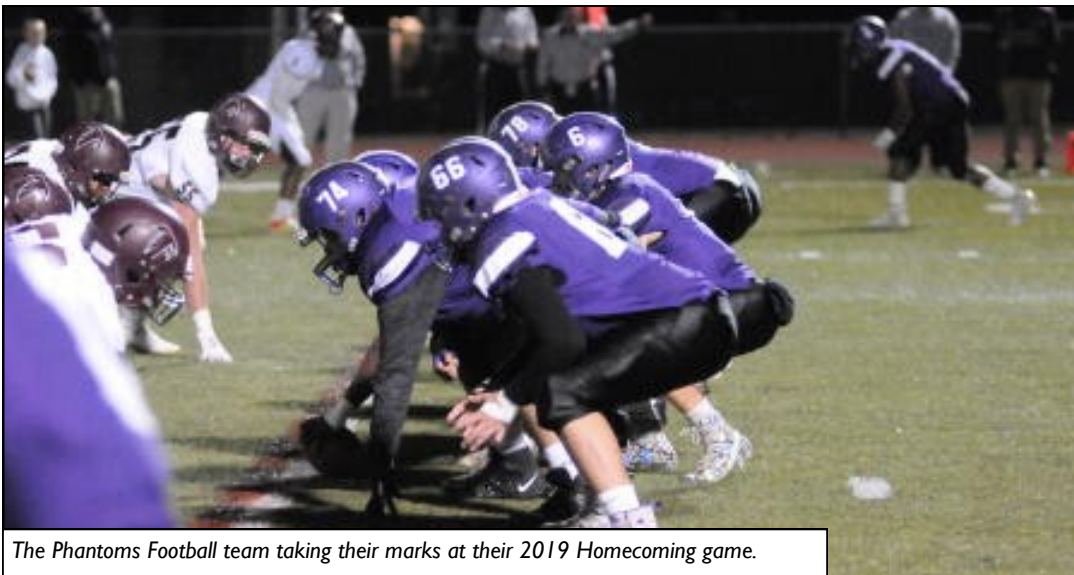
Along with spirit days and hall decorating, additional challenges will take place during lunch periods of Homecoming Week. This includes Wednesday with a no hands eating competition and Thursday will hold a Minute to Win It tournament, and Friday will host the classic hot shot game. In the midst of lunch, one person from each grade enters to compete in a game. For each game, points go to the class of the victor.



As Homecoming Week comes to a close, the Powderpuff game will be taking place the 21st at 7 p.m. The day after, a popular event will take place the Friday before the Homecoming game, the pep rally. During the pep rally

petition, including the lunch challenges, hallway decorating, and pep rally games, will be kept on a board in the cafeteria to track each grade's progress. When all the events are over, all points from each class will be added up

because the cherished Homecoming Dance will commence! The 2021 dance will be a little different than previous years in light of the recent pandemic, and to accommodate the needs of the students. Contrary to popular belief, no



The Phantoms Football team taking their marks at their 2019 Homecoming game.

there will be the Powderpuff cheer, sports team speeches, and various challenges between classes. This year the challenges being held are a tug-of-war between grades and an eating competition. The tug of war will be seniors against freshmen, and juniors against sophomores. Whoever wins that game will go up against one another and the winner will be crowned.

The point system for each com-

petition, including the lunch challenges, hallway decorating, and pep rally games, will be kept on a board in the cafeteria to track each grade's progress. When all the events are over, all points from each class will be added up

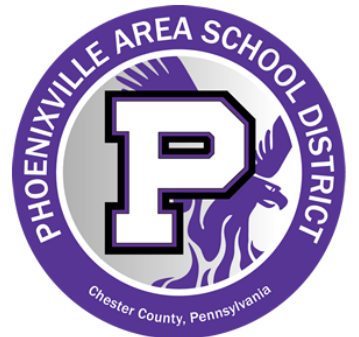
to see which grade earns bragging rights over the rest of the school. In the main events, the football game that night will be against Pottstown at 7:00 p.m. and everyone is encouraged to come cheer on our Phantoms Football team. Stay for after the game to witness the coronation of the Homecoming court, including the Homecoming Royalty.

On Saturday the 23rd from 7-10, get out your dancing shoes

part of the dance is happening outside. This year there will be not just one, but TWO dance floors. The first dance area will be held as per usual in the gym, and the second will be held in the cafeteria. If you don't like the "vibe" in one area, you are more than welcome to change areas.

To keep the dance as safe as possible, people from other schools will not be allowed to attend, and masks are required. Food will not be provided to emphasize the importance of keeping masks on during the duration of the dance. On the bright side, there will be a photo booth where you can take photos with your friends to capture some fun memories. Tickets for the dance are being sold during all lunch periods.

As always, students are heavily encouraged to join in the festivities during the week to relieve some stress of the school year. After losing events like these during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is wonderful to be able to take part in this week's activities once again. Remember to expose your class colors, creative talents, and true school spirit, and have fun during Homecoming Week!



In This Issue

PEOPLE (pages 2-4)

- ♦ Miss Walls
- ♦ Maddy Schramm
- ♦ New staff at PAHS
- ♦ Dr. Scioli, new principal
- ♦ A farewell from Mr. Joy

OPINIONS (page 5)

- ♦ Devious licks
- ♦ Best and worst of Met Gala

PAHS CLUBS (pages 6-7)

- ♦ 42 club descriptions!

A TRIBUTE TO NORMAN INFERRERA (pages 8-9)

- ♦ Forever in our hearts

ENTERTAINMENT (pages 10-11)

- ♦ Clairo
- ♦ Luke Hemmings
- ♦ "Roadrunner"
- ♦ "Madden 22"

SPORTS (pages 12-13)

- ♦ PAHS Girls' tennis
- ♦ PAHS Boys' & Girls' Golf
- ♦ Philadelphia Eagles
- ♦ Dallas Cowboys

FOR FUN

- ♦ Horoscopes—pg. 14
- ♦ School setting quiz—pg. 15
- ♦ Digital Photography—p.16



Students socializing, dancing, and having a great time at the previous Homecoming dance from 2019. Photos: LifeTouch

Welcoming Miss Walls to PAHS



Written by:
Ashlinn
Comiskey

As Dr Scioli takes over the principal position here at Phoenixville Area High School, we are fortunate to have a new assistant principal, Miss Walls. Miss Walls grew up in Downingtown, and graduated from Downingtown Area High School in 1991. She then went on to study elementary education at Bloomsburg, and received her masters at West Chester University.

Miss Walls gained a lot of experience in education before coming to Phoenixville. Her student teaching experience was at Plymouth Whitmarsh kindergarten and Stewart Middle School in grade six. She



Miss Walls, at work in her office. Say hello to her in room C-6.
Photo: Ashlinn Comiskey

Area Early Learning Center. Miss Walls describes her daughter as a “life changer.”

She stated, “I’ve always been professionally driven, and I still have professional goals, but when Nell came into my life she replaced a lot of those goals. I want her to be happy and successful, and I want her to have a great life and experience.”

They both love the beach, so over the summer Miss Walls spent as much time as she could in Ocean City, New Jersey relaxing with her family and friends. She also enjoys traveling, and her favorite places she has traveled to are St. Croix, Spain, Alaska, and Colorado. After the pandemic, she hopes to spend more time abroad. She enjoys listening to ‘old school’ R&B and Hip-Hop, such as LL Cool J.

With all her experience, and penchant for fun, we are very excited to see what Miss Walls brings to PAHS.



Miss Walls poses with her daughter **Nell** before the first Phantoms Football game of the season.
Photo courtesy of Miss Walls

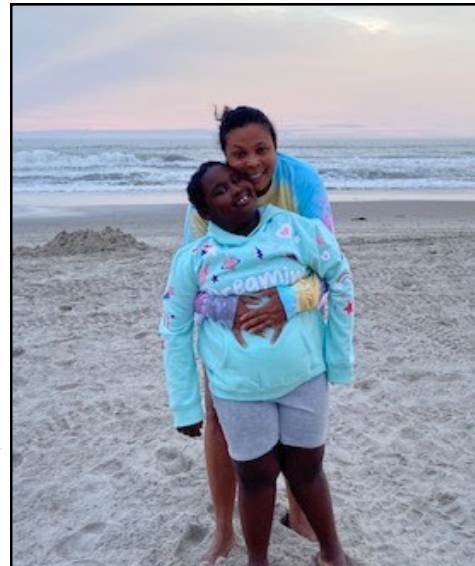
spent a lot of time at Stewart Middle School working as a sixth grade reading teacher, in school suspension supervisor, and an eighth grade English and social studies teacher. She then worked at Norris-town Area High School as a vice principal for five years before returning to Stewart Middle School as the head principal for ten years. In 2019, Miss Walls launched and opened an alternative school for girls with behavioral problems. She describes this as “incredible and rewarding” but due to COVID, the school unfortunately closed.

As assistant principal at

PAHS, Miss Walls is responsible for supporting students, teachers, and the principal in a variety of ways. She is the go-to person for seniors, does some teacher evaluations, and is in charge of Keystone testing and PSAT testing.

She said, “There’s nothing that anyone on this leadership team wouldn’t do for anybody.” For this school year her goal is to become an active member in the community of Phoenixville, which she describes as “pleasant and welcoming,” adding, “I’m just in heaven, this is such a special place.” Miss Walls’ favorite part of her job is developing new relationships with students and families.

Outside of school, she spends most of her free time with her daughter, Nell. Nell is six years old and is in first grade at Phoenixville



Miss Walls and her daughter **Nell** enjoying a day at the beach in Ocean City, New Jersey.

Maddy Schramm: Hard working defender of the goal(s)



Written by:
Caleb Pearl

The opposing team has the ball, slipping past the home team’s defense, passing with incredible speed, and getting ready to score. They shoot, but then, the goalie jumps in front and blocks the shot! She immediately gets up and readies herself to block another one...and another. Senior student athlete Maddy Schramm works hard to be the best, not only at lacrosse and soccer, but in school too.

Maddy is one of the goalies of the Phantoms Girls’ Soccer team, and said, “A lot of people always look at you a little weird when you say [you play] goalie because you’re throwing your body around.” Maddy understands this judgement because she knows that being a goalie is hard work. You have to be in the tip top shape in order to be the best.

But that’s not all, Maddy also excels in lacrosse, and said: “I started being a lacrosse goalie in seventh grade because there wasn’t another one, and I kind of just went into the middle of the game and did it. And that’s when I thought, I want to keep doing this, it’ll be a lot of fun.” And she did keep going, further and further, blocking more and more shots.

She added, “Last year [the PAHS La-

crosse team] was number two in our division and I was All-PAC Honorable Mention for goalie.”

She credits her goalie coach: “Coach Shelby helped me so much; she taught me everything I know.”

And where is Maddy heading now that she is a senior? She’s going to be playing Division 2 lacrosse at Indiana University of Pennsylvania next year, and majoring in communications.

“So I’ve come from not playing at all, just a kid who wants to try and play lacrosse, to going to college for it,” she said, quite happy with her decision.

Maddy thanks her family for their support. She said her mom and dad have “taken me to every tournament I’ve wanted to go to, they’ve taken me to college showcases, they’ve taken me to colleges to visit.” And her sister? Just as hard-working as she is. “My sister, Sydney, class of 2019, [is] actually playing lacrosse at Lock Haven. We’ve really helped each other with that.”

Maddy said her favorite classes are “literature and history [because] I get to look at things from a different angle.” And that’s not just all, she also works with Phantom TV, and weight lifts. Plus, she takes five AP classes, and participates in Wind Ensemble, all crammed together in one day of school. Impressive!

Maddy Schramm is an expert at hard work, and she has a great outlook on life. Now that the timeout is over, let’s get back out there and continue to watch Maddy dominate life. Nothing gets past her.



In lacrosse, soccer, and life: Nothing gets past **Maddy Schramm**.
Photos courtesy of Maddy Schramm



Maddy (right) poses with her sister **Sydney**, a 2019 graduate of PAHS.



Maddy staunchly defends the net against Pottsgrove in the spring of 2021.

PAHS gained five new staff members this year, and we are glad to have them on our team. We wish them the best of luck this school year! Let’s learn a little about them...

Mr. Wilcox

This year Phoenixville Area High School welcomes Mr. Seth Wilcox, the newest addition to the science department. Mr. Wilcox attended Neshaminy High School in Langhorne, PA and graduated from Penn State’s main campus this past spring. He will be teaching a number of classes such as Earth and Space Interactions, Introduction to Astronomy and Oceanography, and Environmental Science. He is impressed with the sense of comradery within the science department. As a recent college graduate, this is Mr. Wilcox’s first “real teaching job” but has experience in student teaching around the school districts local to Penn State. So why decide to work in Phoenixville? Mr. Wilcox was excited to make the move to Phoenixville, mentioning the beautiful town and sense of community. As establishments start to open again, he is enthusiastic about getting out and exploring more of the town. In his free time, Mr. Wilcox is a self-described “diehard nerd” and a fantasy fanatic. He loves reading sci-fi novels, playing trading card games, and has looked into the possibility of writing fantasy novels. Mr. Wilcox has two supportive parents and one brother who is serving with the Airforce in Arkansas. As per a family tradition, over the summer he and his family went on camping trips to multiple state parks. Back from his adventures, we welcome Mr. Wilcox to PAHS!



Ms. James

Natalie James is a new teacher at PAHS, and is teaching Choir, Piano, Music Theory, and Guitar classes. She has had experience with other classes in the PASD, having worked at Schuylkill and Barkley Elementary school. Being a teacher here at PAHS is her dream job and so far she has been impressed with the resilience, talent, and intelligence her students have demonstrated. Ms. James graduated from Hempfield High School, and then got her degrees from Millersville University, and Messiah University. Ms. James enjoys cooking, traveling, dancing, and working out. Her multicultural household (being Italian and Guyanese) makes life fun and crazy, like when they are flying kites on Easter, and having a seven course seafood meal on Christmas Eve. Over the summer, Ms. James saw a humpback whale for the first time off the coast of New England. Both of Ms. James’ parents were professional athletes and instilled a hard work ethic in her and her younger brother. Her dad is a corporal of police, and her mom is a behavioral health specialist, so there was no getting away with things in her childhood. PAHS gives a warm welcome to Ms. James, and we look forward to “hearing” great things from her students!



Mrs. Fields

We welcome Mrs. Jessica Fields this school year as a new English teacher in PAHS. Mrs. Fields is teaching American Literature, Techniques of Writing, and Intro to Film. She looks forward to working with the PAHS students and is already impressed with what they have done. Mrs. Fields said she came to PAHS “because it’s awesome!” Mrs. Fields went to Westlake High School in Waldorf, Maryland and studied at the University of Maryland. She has taught in both Maryland and New Jersey beforehand. Mrs. Fields loves to read, golf, watch live sports, and hang out with friends and family. She is also a Disney fanatic! Mrs. Fields lives with her husband and her two boys, 10 and 12. They are a huge hockey family and are always on the rink. Over the summer, Mrs. Fields traveled to the Eastern Shore of Maryland with friends and to Asheville, North Carolina with family. Welcome Mrs. Fields!



Mrs. Pearcey

Mrs. Pearcey is a new math teacher at PAHS. She grew up in Colorado where she attended high school, then earned her Bachelor’s Degree and Master’s Degree from the University of Colorado. Before starting at PAHS, she taught eight years of middle School, two years of graduate school, and four years of high school in Florida before moving to Phoenixville this summer. Mrs. Pearcey and her husband moved here so he could begin his surgical practice, and they recently bought a home in Ludwig’s Corner. This year, she is teaching Algebra and Geometry and has appreciated how patient and welcoming the staff, students, and parents have been! This summer, Mrs. Pearcey and her husband travelled to Niagara Falls, the Rock n’ Roll Hall of Fame, and Washington DC. In her free time outside of school, she is working on installing a home theatre into her new house, and also enjoys doing puzzles, reading, and exploring the outdoors. Welcome Mrs. Pearcey, and have a great school year!



Mr. Purnell

Mr. Purnell is a new Special Education, math, and study skills teacher here at PAHS. He graduated from Boyertown Area High School, and later studied at West Chester University. Mr. Purnell is a first year teacher and loves the friendly environment at our school that he witnessed when he started here last December. He decided to come to PAHS because he loves the area and the opportunities Phoenixville students are given. During his free time, he enjoys running fantasy football leagues, spending time with family, and helping with youth ministries at his church. Over the summer, Mr. Purnell spent most of his time relaxing at the shore. A fun fact about him is that one time he dislocated his finger and put it back in place himself, which then broke it. We wish Mr. Purnell the best in his first full year at PAHS.



Dr. Scioli: Familiar face, new principal



Written by:

Eli Stevenson

When Dr. Parkinson started as principal of PAHS, the class of 2022 was in first grade. Eleven years later, we welcome Dr. Scioli as our new principal at PAHS. After two years as assistant principal, she hopes to continue the great work that Dr. Parkinson started. Dr. Scioli is very excited for another great school year and is up to the challenge to return PAHS to normalcy after a year of virtual learning.

Dr. Scioli said she is “very excited to be

in this new role” and looks forward to working with the assistant principals: Ms. Walls, Mr. McCord, and Ms. Reutter, as well as the office staff. She also hopes to quickly connect with students and her secretary Mrs. Clay. Although there is now more responsibility and people to talk to compared to her previous role, Dr. Scioli is ready to take on the challenge. She said she looks forward to Homecoming and the many events that make PAHS a special place.

Some of her short term goals include getting everyone back into the building in a safe and timely manner as well as setting new rules. Long term goals include continuing the great work that has already been started and most importantly making PAHS “a home for everybody.”

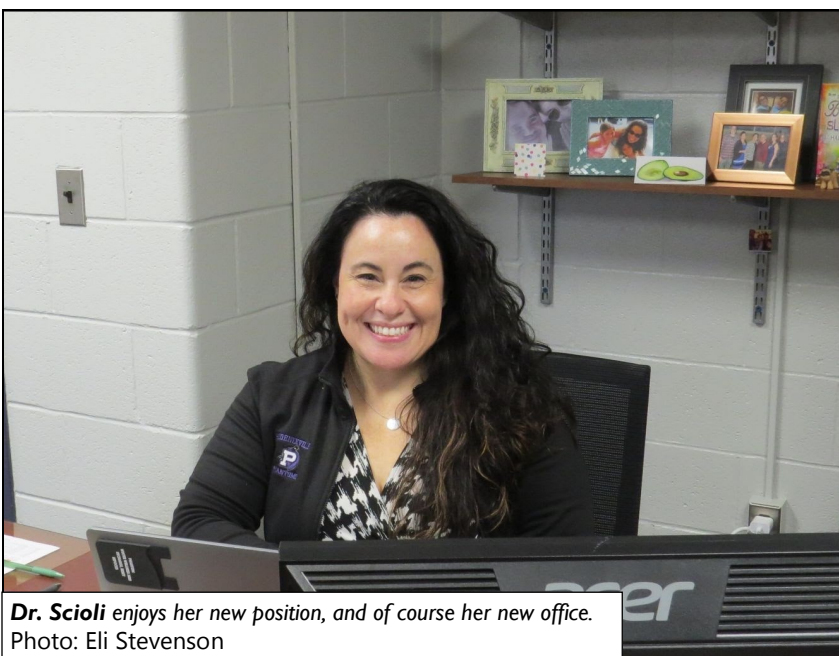
This may be Dr. Scioli’s first year as our new principal, but she has had a lot of

past experience as she taught in Philadelphia for 13 years before coming to PAHS. She first started as a substitute teacher and then a teacher, teaching German and English at six different Philadelphia schools. She became an assistant principal of a Philadelphia High School and then moved up to the role of principal at both elementary and high school levels. Now as PAHS principal, you will probably find Dr. Scioli during Phantoms sports games cheering on the sidelines. Whether during the day, at school events, or during lunch in the cafeteria, Dr. Scioli loves connecting with students.

When Dr. Scioli is not at the school, you will unusually find her having a blast at concerts and street festivals. She also loves kayaking, knitting, and reading. Dr. Scioli has three kids. Her youngest, Sophia, is a senior in high school; her middle child, Elizabeth, is a senior at LSU; and her oldest, Alex, is a middle school music teacher in Philadelphia. Her favorite child is her eight year-old pug, Neville. Dr. Scioli’s family is used to a school-heavy environment with lots of events and they all get along very well. Dr. Scioli is skilled at the challenge of



The adorable pug, **Neville**, and his best friend, **Dr. Scioli**. Photo courtesy of Dr. Scioli

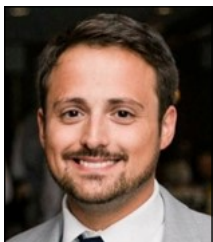


Dr. Scioli enjoys her new position, and of course her new office. Photo: Eli Stevenson

balancing being a principal with family life. She learned it from her father, who was a teacher for forty years.

Now in the role of principal herself, there are numerous challenges to overcome. There are greater responsibilities than the roles of teacher and assistant principal. However, Dr. Scioli is definitely up to the challenge! She hopes to have a great year and make the school even better than Dr. Parkinson had left it.

A Phantmtastic Pharewell from Mr. Joy



Written by:

Mr. Russell Joy

This article was written by former Spanish and German teacher Mr. Russell Joy, who departed his job at PAHS at the end of last school year. The Purple Press staff asked him about his memories at PAHS, his family, why he decided to leave, and what he will miss. Below are the words of the incomparable Mr. Joy. His teaching, his energy, and of course his celebrity impersonations are missed every day.

On August 30, 2021, I didn’t get the first day of school jitters. It was the first time since 1995 that I didn’t have to report to school as a student or teacher. After growing up in Pottsville, way up north in Schuylkill County, I graduated from West

Chester University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish and German. Immediately after graduating I defected to Pottsville’s arch rival, Blue Mountain High School, to work as a Spanish teacher before spending the next eight great years at the illustrious Phoenixville Area High School, where all students prosper.

A lot can happen in eight years. I got married to the woman of my dreams, bought a house, earned my Master of Education degree and principal certification from California University of PA, and had three kids –Luca, Arlo, and Pia– all before the age of 30. “Life moves pretty fast. If you don’t stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it.” Ferris Bueller was right.

At some point in my perfect timeline, I started doing a Philly sports podcast with the creator of local blog Crossing Broad and became a Bleacher Report host who now hosts one of TNT’s Inside the NBA shows. I then started writing part-time for the site and got credentialed to cover the Philadelphia Flyers from the press box,

including the 2019 Stadium Series game between the Flyers and Penguins at Lincoln Financial Field. Along the way I started *Snow The Goalie: A Flyers Podcast* with a longtime beat reporter. This past year, the show hit #5 on Apple Podcasts’ rankings for hockey podcasts in the US and made the Top-40 in four other countries. Things were taking off in a way I never could have imagined.

It was around that time that the blog I was writing for got acquired by a multinational company and I was asked what it would take for me to leave my job and become full-time writer. The answer was a lot. I liked my job. Seriously. I’d been teaching at Phoenixville for nearly eight years. I’d thrown myself head-first into the school community, announced basketball games, coached middle school soccer, worked as a class advisor, convinced other teachers to join a weekly crockpot crew whose existence was akin to the Illuminati, led an Italian exchange program, was voted to speak at the Class of 2017’s Baccalaureate, and had the job I’d dreamt of having since middle school. I was staring down the proverbial fork in the road.

As things were winding down from another COVID-affected school year, I was given a Godfather offer –one I couldn’t refuse– to be a sports betting editor where I’d oversee and write content for eleven sites in nine different markets across the country. And so I walked away from the only thing I’d ever known, teaching, to pursue a new and exciting career path.

I miss blasting music in the J-Wing, eating donuts with colleagues, laughing with the world language department, chatting with

the counselors and custodians, and debating the day’s pressing sports topics with my students. Yet, leaving is the choice I’d make 10 out of 10 times. I get to work from home, spend more time with my family, and do a job that I look forward to every day.

While you won’t be spending time with me in AP Spanish or German 2, you’re more than welcome to tell me why you think the Eagles should’ve kept Carson Wentz on Twitter @JoyOnBroad. My hope for each and every one of you reading this is that you’ll have the chance to find a career you love; I’ve been blessed to get to do it twice.



Mr. Joy misses his friends from the foreign language department at PAHS. Pictured here are **Frau Tavani, Mr. Acosta, Mr. Joy, Mrs. Gasbara, Mrs. Knaster, and Ms. Dreyer**. Photos courtesy of Mr. Joy



Mr. Joy with his family: **Pia, Nancy, Arlo, and Luca**.

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Advisor: Mr. Zittel
Layout editor: Angeli Genovese
Staff:

Luca Cappelli, Ashlinn Comiskey, Tre Davis, Nick Garcia, Olivia Giardina, Liz Kunz, Chase McDonnell, Gabrielle McNamee, Caleb Pearl, Cate Rieg, Connor Roche, Audrey Smith, Eli Stevenson, Caroline Sullivan, Ben Smith, Claudia Tracey

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If you have a comment, question, correction, or letter to the editor, please e-mail the advisor, Mr. Zittel, at zittelj@pasd.com.

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It's time to put an end to the "Devious Lickery"



Written by:
Nadya Dato

Should the majority suffer because of the offenses committed by the minority?

This is a question I, along with many students at Phoenixville, have been forced to consider. The new school year at PAHS began with drastic changes to the bathroom procedures after administrators discovered the F-Wing bathrooms to be vandalized by students, as part of the latest viral TikTok challenge, the "Devious Lick Challenge." If you aren't familiar with this trend, it

encapsulates the act of stealing or vandalizing school property, usually bathrooms, as a means to incite chaos in schools.

While it's understandable that students are feeling stressed and anxious because of the new school year, in a time where the pandemic is still raging, "devious lickery" is not a HEALTHY outlet to release this new wave of stress. There is no excuse for ripping soap dispensers off the walls, stealing parts of toilets, and trashing bathrooms in a building they stay at for seven hours, five days a week.

For Phoenixville, this "lickery" has resulted in the subsequent closing of the most convenient and largest bathroom in the building, the F-Wing bathroom. Furthermore, a new mandate has forced students to sign in and out of class and leave their

phone behind while they go to the bathroom. The procedure during lunch is no different; however, students are forced to leave their phone in a see-through "lock-box" in order to be given a hallway pass for the bathroom.

These changes to the procedures initiated a petition

created by some concerned students at the high school. To quote those who wish to remain anonymous, "People across the student body are only becoming angrier at the administration, and these new crackdowns are only making more people talk about damaging the bathrooms in revenge. The longer this goes on, the worse the situation will likely become."

Many other students voiced similar frustrations with the new procedures; one freshman commented on the current environment at Phoenixville as "more oppressive than middle school." It's clear that a majority of the student population here at Phoenixville aren't fans of these new procedures. So what can we, the students, do?

As of now, the bathroom procedure during class and lunch has not changed. Dr. Scioli said during the school assembly held on October 1st, "I'm humbly asking you all to help us help you. None of us want the restrictions and we don't want to create extreme measures students have to follow, but we can't ease up on these restrictions until we're sure the bathrooms won't get trashed anymore."

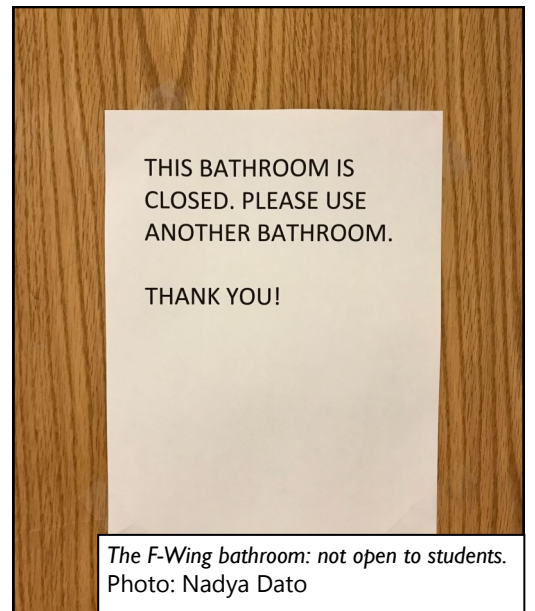
While this "lickery" could be seen as laughable by some at first, the resulting bathroom

procedures are not what anyone wants. The administrators have to not only enforce COVID restrictions such as mask-wearing around the school, but also the issue of vandalism, and monitor who goes in and out of each of the bathrooms. Personally, I believe the administration will eventually ease up on these restrictions, but only if we simply respect the school bathrooms. The more time passes with no incidents, the better and less restrictive the administration's procedures will become.

As an officer in Student Government said during the assembly, "I can't even believe we're having an assembly for this. Let's just stop this devious lickery and have an awesome year."



This soap dispenser is (hopefully) here to stay.



The F-Wing bathroom: not open to students.
Photo: Nadya Dato

Best and worst of the 2021 Met Gala



Written by:
Cate Rieg

The Met Gala, also known as the Met Ball, has returned in 2021 after its unfortunate no-show last year due to COVID-19. Established in 1948 by Eleanor Lambert, the Met Ball is the Metropolitan Art Museum's signature yearly charity ball, which includes the appearance of a select group of the finest A-list celebrities, including actors, artists, models, dancers, athletes, performers, and influencers.

The Met Ball has been annually celebrated for seventy-three years, and raises funds for the Metropolitan Art Museum in New York City. With the museum's reputation of attracting the most popular celebrities, the event annually brings millions of dollars to the museum. For reference, in 2019, the Met Gala raked in a whopping fifteen million dollars in raised funds for the art museum.

The theme for the Met Gala 2021 was "In America: A Lexicon of Fashion." To me, this theme means a celebration of American fashion over the years, and I believe the celebrities had the opportunity to pull one of many cards. They could focus on politics, different eras, old iconic celebrities, or even an interpretation of what America has done for individuals. Many celebrities absolutely killed this theme! Others... well... not so much. I found the display of gowns, tuxes, and outfits this year had mixed appeal, but for a first year back from a global pandemic, I'd say not bad Met Gala! But enough with the numbers and history, let's get to this year's biggest serves and colossal FAILS.

Of course, we have to begin with the

drama, so let's start off with the Met Gala's worst outfit. Sadly, but surely, the award for the worst outfit goes to Miss Camila Cabello and her plus one Shawn Mendes, both dressed in Michael Kors attire. Now don't get me wrong, I have nothing against the brand or either of the celebs, but it was very... prom. Camila wore a sparkly, bright purple, two-piece dress with a U-neckline and a wrap around skirt and complementary bright purple makeup. Shawn, shirtless, wore a leather blazer, chunky necklace, suspenders- not one, but TWO belts, and dress pants. Now, they both looked amazing and beautiful but for the Met; a little underwhelming. It had no correlation to the theme of Fashion in America- well unless she was inspired by American high school prom. Cute couple, but disappointing.

Now let's stop focusing on the bad; let's take a look at the honorable mentions for best outfit of the 2021 Met. Billie Eilish gave us a beautiful show in a full, light peach colored, Cinderella-esque, Oscar de la Renta-designed gown. The tulle was bountiful and eye-catching, her hair was styled to perfection, and she gave everyone an astoundingly strong sense of déjà vu to a certain woman from the 1940's and 50's. That's right, everyone and their mother was comparing Billie to Marilyn Monroe, and it was absolutely spot-on. However, that's not our only honorable mention.

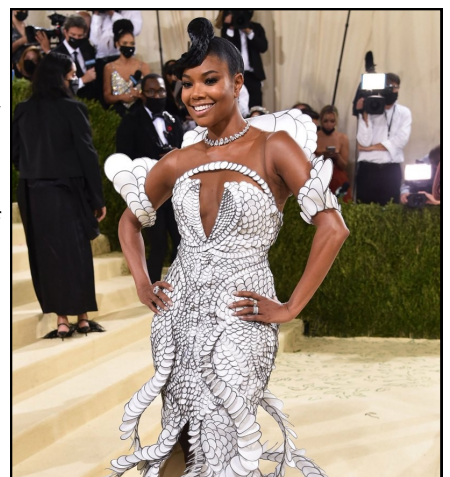
If you're at all interested in the Gala, I'm sure you've seen- or at least heard of the Somali-American model and actress, Iman. Her breathtaking golden headdress and matching three-tier dress. Iman, styled in collaboration with Dolce & Gabbana x Harris Reed, was inspired by 1920's showgirl glamour, a little bit of Federico Fellini's costumes, and finally, a pinch of '90s Jean-Paul Gaultier-esque style. In the finished look, Iman's feathered headdress, golden bustier, and three-tier feathered

skirt stole hearts and the attention of all.

And our last honorable mention of 2021's Met Gala review: the Euphoria actor and star Barbie Ferreira. She had my favorite outfit based on looks alone; however, more goes into being the best than being pretty when it comes to the Met. It has to have meaning, depth, beauty, and of course, correlate with the theme. Barbie, dressed in a custom made dress in collaboration with Jonathan Simkhai, was head to toe dressed in pearls, and oozing with Old Hollywood burlesque glam. With flat, thin eyebrows, beautiful blonde curls, and a full pearl corset and skirt, Barbie stole hearts while simultaneously giving every senior citizen in the room major flashbacks to the ages of the 1940's. She looked absolutely breathtaking, but the inspiration fell a little flat. It was basic, which isn't bad, but not first-place worthy. Still, Barbie stunned us all!

And finally, what we've all been wondering... what was the best outfit of this year's Met? The 2021 Met Ball crown goes to the one, the only... Gabrielle Union. Now this name may not strike a chord with you, so allow me to provide you some context. Gabrielle Union is an American actor, best known for her part as Isis in "Bring It On," along with her appearances on "10 Things I Hate About You" and "She's All That." As for her stunning Met Gala attire, Gabrielle's dress, made in collaboration with Iris van Herpen, was a tribute to the American icon Cicely Tyson, who sadly passed away this January at the age of ninety-six. This star was well-known for her recurring role as Ophelia Harkness in "How to Get Away With Murder," along with her many award show wins and appearances.

Gabrielle, inspired by Cicely's 1974 Emmy Awards look, took this theme to heart and ran with it. Union had the designer Samantha Black help her to pay tribute to the fallen Hollywood star, cre-



*The Met's beauty, **Gabrielle Union**, absolutely killing it in both a gorgeous and sustainable dress made by Iris Van Herpen and Jimmy Choo shoes. To see more Met Gala 2021 outfits, search Met Gala 2021 Vogue in a Google search!*
Photo: www.capitalfm.co.ke

ating a gorgeous, elaborate design on her figure. The dress is made up of thousands of hand-cut spheres that are layered in a translucent white tone, and "laser-cut" with a fine silver outline. Not only did this require hundreds of hours of work from multiple designers at a time, but all of the celebrities styled by Iris Van Herpen's dresses were made completely sustainable by utilizing 3D printers and nanorobotics. During one of many Met Gala reviews, Gabrielle stated that the pieces were "hand stitched seamlessly in a multilevel optical illusion from which waves seem to float down weightlessly." That, Gabrielle, we can definitely see.

With a gorgeous dress, beautiful hair, effortless makeup, and a look of beauty, perfection, and true meaning, Gabrielle Union wins the title of best dressed with a smile, giving us an exciting return to our favorite annual event, the Met Gala.

Club offerings may change a lot when we finally return to school, but some clubs are already meeting virtually! Many seniors have said that their most important piece of advice for incoming freshmen is to get involved in sports, activities and clubs. Phoenixville Area High School offers a wide range of clubs to choose from, so it's time for you to get involved!

Academic Team

Academic Team engages in structured competitions that test historical, scientific, mathematical, literary, and other knowledge. We practice weekly to prepare for these competitions. Our practices are in the mornings before school on Wednesdays. If you are interested, please see Mr. Sprenkle in F3 for more information.

Activism Club

The Phoenixville Activism Club is a group of students devoted to increasing political participation in our school and educating ourselves about current events. Throughout the year, we work on activism projects within the school and community, hold debates about current events and political issues, and meet with local political leaders. We encourage students of all political ideologies and levels of experience to join at any point in the year. The club meets during Flex on Day 4 in the library. Contact Ms. Bicker or Nadya Dato for more information, or follow us on Instagram at @phoenixvilleactivism.



Junior **Nadya Dato** and fellow students advertising Activism Club to possible future members.

American Red Cross Club

American Red Cross is a non-profit humanitarian organization that provides emergency assistance, disaster relief, and disaster preparedness education. The mission statement of The American Red Cross is to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors.

That being said, the American Red Cross club is a combination of a service and academic club. We strive to learn how to act in the face of a disaster and share our experience with others to prepare them as well. This club is a great opportunity to learn how to react in emergency situations, gain biomedical experience, and earn service hours! Mackemey Munion is the President and Ms. Santry is the advisor. Please join us on Day 1 in room J-14.

Anime Club

Anime Club is a group committed to appreciating and learning about Japanese culture, especially the Japanese art style also known as Anime or Manga when in book form. Some of the club activities include watching anime television shows and films, lessons on Japanese culture, and just getting a better understanding of Japan. When we return to in-person schooling, Anime Club meetings will be held on day 4's in room H-13. We will begin to meet after school on Thursday in mid to late October. For more information, please contact Liam Wartenburg or Mr. Madyun at madyuna@pasd.com.

Art Club

Art Club is an open art studio environment where we create personal and community-based projects. We plan to participate in local design contests, and work with a variety of media like paint, collage, ceramics, and more. We make art to express ourselves, explore our world, help us learn and connect with our community with the gift of art. Art Club meets in the morning from 7-8 a.m. before school in room G-5 with Mrs. Shoemaker. Meetings will be held once per month on cycle day 6. This club is a great space to relax and make awesome art with creative friends! If you would like to become a member or learn some more about what we do, email Mrs. Shoemaker at shoemakerl@pasd.com

Astronomy Club

The Astronomy Club is for students interested in observational astronomy. The club arranges 2-3 Star Night events in both the fall and the spring. During the Star Night events, we utilize our two telescopes to view the night sky on the upper turf. Students will learn how to use telescopes with and without tracking devices to observe features of the night sky. The club will be meeting one Friday per month with the time and location to be determined and communicated through Remind. If you would like to be included, email bankesp@pasd.com (Mr. Bankes) or see club president Alex Kunz.

Best Buddies

Best Buddies is a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating friendships between students with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their peers. As a club we hold fundraisers, volunteer in our community, attend school events, and have a ton of fun. The friendships that are established through this club not only last for the school year but are lifelong friendships that positively impact both buddies' lives. Best Buddies will be meeting Day 1's in room H-7. The advisor is Miss Nolan and Josh White is the president. Email Ms. Nolan at nolana@pasd.com for more information.

Book Club

The Book Club is for avid readers in all grades. Students meet on cycle day 6 during Flex in I-5 to discuss a variety of novels and genres. We focus on literature that is typically not read in the academic classroom and have lively discussions. All members have input into our reading selections regardless of seniority. If you love to read, analyze, and talk about books, this is the club for you. Visit Mrs. Howard in I-5 for more information.

Cappies

The Cappies, "Critics and Awards Program," is a program through which high school theater and journalism students are trained as critics, attend shows at other schools, write reviews, and publish those reviews in regional newspapers like The Philadelphia Inquirer online. At the end of the year, the student critics vote for awards that are presented at a formal Cappies Gala. Mrs. Tavani is the adviser. The club meets in I-12 on day 4.

Chess Club

Chess players of all skill levels are welcome to play in a friendly, noncompetitive environment. Whether you're a budding grandmaster or if you just want to learn the rules, join us during Flex every day 3 and 5 in room H-5. To learn more, talk to Connor Vitz or email Mr. LaLuna at lalunag@pasd.com.

Class Council

Class Council is comprised of elected class council members and homeroom representatives for each grade (9-12). These students, along with any other students who are interested in participating, are responsible for encouraging and promoting class participation in fundraising events. The council's goal is to raise money and organize upperclassmen activities such as Homecoming events, the Senior Yearbook Banquet, and the senior prom. To get involved, see or email Mr. Madyun or Mrs. Moore (freshmen), Mr. Rutchauskas or Mr. Smiley (sophomores); Mr. Winters or Mrs. Cordingley (juniors); Mrs. Frost or Mr. Hughes (seniors).

Cradles to Crayons Club

Join the fight for under-privileged children by becoming a member of the Cradles to Crayons Club. The club operates in partnership with the charity organization Cradles to Crayons, which has been serving Philadelphia and the surrounding community for almost 20 years. We will meet on cycle day 1 during Flex in I-5 to plan how we will collect money and clothes for children in need. If you love to support your community, then this is the club for you!

Debate Club

Debate club is focused on improving formal debate skills by researching current events to engage in structured debates. We follow formats like the 'Lincoln-Douglas' structure to have focused argumentative discussions. We meet on Day 6's in I-13. See Mr. Sprenkle or Luca Butera for information if interested.

Destinations with Direction

DWD is a program designed to increase awareness and motivate high potential, economically disadvantaged students to pursue opportunities in higher education, or improve work & life skills. The 30 students selected for DWD annually receive additional supports including extended school days, counseling, college mentors, tutors, weekly workshops and college tours. Additionally, school personnel establish relationships with the appropriate college level officials to help match student needs with resources and services available to assist them on this journey. By giving the students these additional supports, they will become empowered to pursue a college education. This effort will make our students believe in the importance of a college education and give them the confidence to know they have a realistic chance at becoming college graduates. DWD is advised by Mr. Madyun and Mrs. Lewis. Students can see Mrs. Lewis in room H-9 for more information, or via email at lewisa@pasd.com.

Dungeons and Dragons/Magic: The Gathering Club

Do you enjoy role-playing? Challenge yourself and your friends and join the D&D/Magic: The Gathering Club! Meetings will be held every Thursday @ 3-4PM in the Maker Space section of the Library. If you are interested in joining, please contact Miss Quinn at quinnme@pasd.com or DM (Dungeon Master) Emery Cole (Grade 12).

eSports Club

eSports Club is for Phoenixville Area High School students who have a shared interest in competitive gaming and computer building. The rise of eSports has been absolutely booming in the past few years, with tournaments taking place all over the world. And now, schools and colleges are finally opening up to the idea, and eSports in schools is becoming more popular. The regular meeting times for the Phoenixville eSports Club will be during 8th period Flex, but special meetings may also be held after school on designated days. For more information feel free to reach out to Mr. Elie Belizaire at belizairee@pasd.com.

Environmental Club

The Environmental Club is a service-oriented club that has been in motion for the past nine years. We are committed to empowering Phoenixville students to make our school and community more sustainable. Potential club projects for this year include helping out at a community garden, starting composting at the high school, and a plastic-free Phoenixville campaign, among other things. With your help, we can make a huge difference in our school and community! The club will be meeting every day 5 during Flex in room J-4.

Contact Ms. Schubmehl (schubmehl@pasd.com) for more information.

FBLA

Future Business Leaders of America is an academic club that prepares students for careers in and outside of business. It teaches networking, interview skills, and puts an emphasis on community service. FBLA is the largest student organization in the country and the largest club at PAHS with over 100 members. Meetings are held every Thursday during flex in the Auditorium. If you have any questions please email any officer or adviser: Liz Kunz, Bella Cruz, Emily Roche, Emelia Faulkner, Ashni Kumar, Mrs. Wilbert (wilbertk@pasd.com), or Miss Goodwin (goodwink@pasd.com).

Fishing Club

Fishing club was created to share a love for fishing. Whether you're new to the sport, or have been fishing for years, the fishing club is open to all skill levels. Our goal is to enjoy fishing with others, while being environmentally conscious. Group fishing trips to local areas, and cleaning up local fisheries are an important part of our club. Our fishing tournament team competes against high schools across the region, state, and hopefully country. We strongly encourage you to give this hobby a try. See Owen Kelly for more information.

French Club (Le Cercle Francophone)

The "Cercle Francophone" (French Club) meets once a month and is open to all students. Some of our discussions include promotion of the French Program, trips to French-speaking countries, and fundraising. The purpose of French Club is to explore and learn about the Francophone cultures through cooking lessons, outings to restaurants, trips to museums (Philadelphia Art Museum, Rodin Museum, Barnes Foundation), French films (Colonial Theatre, Ursinus College French Film Festival), and more. French Club is run by the students in the Société Honoraire de Français (French honor society). The SHF co-presidents are Isabella Rodriguez and Olivia Fisher. The faculty advisor is Madame Gasbara and the club meets in I8. Email gasbarav@pasd.com for more information.



Students promote Gazebo club and Chess club with advisor **Mr. LaLuna**.

Gazebo Literary Magazine

Gazebo is a writing circle dedicated to cultivating and sharing the artistic talents of students at the high school. Writers of all abilities are welcome to meet in a supportive setting to compose and receive feedback on poems and short stories. Our work culminates in the publication of a literary magazine showcasing the creative writing and visual art of the school. The club meets every Wednesday after school in room H-5. If you're interested in joining, you can speak to Ellie Holt, Noelle Collet, or Mr. LaLuna, who can be reached lalunag@pasd.com.

Gender and Sexuality Alliance

The PAHS Gender and Sexuality Alliance is a club devoted to providing a welcoming space for community building and social interaction with a focus on freedom of gender and sexual orientation. Each year the club undertakes projects designed to educate the student body and improve the culture of PAHS. Anyone interested in promoting the acceptance of all PAHS students can join the GSA. Email Mr. Grinstead for more information at grinstead@pasd.com



Liam Martnishn representing for German Club at the Activity Fair.

German Club

Deutschklub exists to further the knowledge and education for students who wish to pursue German outside the classroom and beyond the scope of school instruction; to meet other German speakers with whom a student may not have class; as forum for students who are not currently enrolled in a German class to keep up and develop their German skills; as a forum to which to invite native speakers; to plan exchanges, visits, trips; for German cultural experiences, such as food, movies and conversation; to support the German program at the high school. It is open to all current and past German students at PAHS. The club meets in Frau Tavani's room I-12 on day 2.

Girl Up

Girl Up is a national club, through United Nations, promoting leadership and equal opportunities for women. Throughout the year we will do events to raise awareness for gender equality and fundraisers to raise money or materials for the national Girl Up chapter and our local community. From goods for the local womens' shelter to raising money to help the national Girl Up organization with international aid, the Girl Up club aims to help women in our community and beyond! Learn more about the exciting mission and events of Girl Up at girlup.org. We will meet during Day 4s during flex in E-3. Please see Mrs. Giangiulio (giangiuliod@pasd.com) or Jordan Khan for more information.

Government Club

The purpose of Government Club is to discuss pertinent current event issues of the day in an analytical and comprehensive manner. All political ideologies are welcome to join and add to our mature debate forum. We also plan to participate in some service activities. Natalie White is the president. For more information about meetings, contact Mrs. Kabatt at kabattm@pasd.com.

HOPE Club

HOPE stands for Humans of Phoenixville Empowered. The mission/objective of HOPE is to allow for equal discourse amongst students who care deeply about promoting diversity at PAHS; to engage the community in discussions regarding cultural diversity, identity, access, representation, and school climate; and to identify, plan, and implement projects that address cultural climate improvement at PAHS. HOPE is open to all students who are passionate about issues concerning diversity, equity, and acceptance. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Lewis at lewisa@pasd.com or Mrs. Lees at leesE@pasd.com.

Junior Classical League/Latin Club

Also known as the Latin Club, this organization focuses on the ancient Latin language and Greco-Roman culture to anyone interested in the Classics. One doesn't have to be a Latin student to join the group. The club holds many Roman-style activities, including the celebration of the winter holiday of Saturnalia, the screening of classically-inspired films, an Ides of March Party, a Roman banquet, and Rome's birthday in April. The club also strives each year to involve students in the Philadelphia Classical Society's Latin Week Competition. Meetings are held during Flex period on Day 3. The two "consuls" are Abby Walton and Emery Cole. So *carpe diem* and join the Latin Club! Email Ms. Quinn for more information at quinnme@pasd.com.

Key Club

Key Club is an international student-led organization that provides its members with opportunities to provide service, build character, and develop leadership. Being the oldest club at the high school, the goals of the club are to build leadership, character, care, and inclusiveness. Members participate in a wide range of events such as leaf raking for the elderly, food collections, collections for Mom's House, Kiwanis events such as Kidsfest, the Halloween Party, the Holiday Parade, and the Phoenixville Jaycees 5K. The Key Club has also been assisting at the annual "Taste of Phoenixville" event. The club meets on announced Day 2 during Flex period in room D-15. Chelsea Frampton is the president, and the club advisor is Mr. Hughes.

Mini-THON

The students at Phoenixville Area High School spend 12 hours on their feet through the night to benefit Four Diamonds at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital, Hershey, PA. The PHX "Mini-THON" is based on the Penn State Dance Marathon---the largest student-run philanthropy in the nation where dancers spend 46 hours awake and on their feet to raise money for pediatric cancer patients. The mission of Four Diamonds is to conquer childhood cancer by assisting children treated at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital and their families, through superior care, comprehensive support, and innovative research. Phoenixville students organize, run, and fundraise for this event throughout the year. This year's Mini-THON date is March 4-5. PHX Mini-THON is looking for committee members to serve and welcomes all to join us to dance the night F.T.K.--For The Kids. For more information, email Ms. Kurtz, the advisor, at kurtzm@pasd.com, or contact Audrey Smith, Emily Lutschaunig, Alex Seaman, Olivia Fisher, or Lucy Faunce, the overall chairs of the event.

Model U.N.

Model United Nations is a club dedicated to expanding students' minds beyond the community. Students meet once a week to discuss, debate and resolve world issues ranging from Europe's increase in Muslim immigrants as a result of the Arab Spring, to ways to eliminate racism from the English Premier League soccer organization. The club is modeled after the real-world United Nations and gives students the opportunity to see the world through the eyes of a delegate. Throughout the year, we will travel across the country to compete, debate and grow with some of the most talented minds from across the world. Mr. Winters and Ms. Waltz are the advisors and this year's officer is Leo Sereni. The club meets once every two weeks in Room E-4. Email wintersj@pasd.com or waltzs@pasd.com for specific meeting days and times.

National Honor Society

The National Honor Society serves to honor those students who demonstrate scholarship, leadership, service, and character in both the school and community. Students in good standing with at least a 3.5 GPA are invited to submit their credentials for membership. The advisor is Mr. Winters and the president of NHS is Olivia Fisher.

Phantom TV Club

Open to students in Grades 9-12. This club creates video content for Phantom TV, the school district TV channel which broadcasts to the Phoenixville community and beyond. Video production of PASD events such as sports, concerts and other special ceremonies is the focus. Students are also involved with recording the morning announcements.

As students gain more experience they are welcome to create their own video projects. Academic credit is available. No experience required. Just stop by the TV Studio, located in the F Wing, and introduce yourself.

Phoenixville Platform for Service

Platform for Service is a community service club dedicated to volunteering and improving the community of Phoenixville. With events such as visiting the Veterans' Center to spend time and play games with the veterans, Movie Night to raise money for families in need, and providing kids with the opportunity to build gingerbread houses and meet Santa in December, Platform for Service is a great way to get involved, have fun, earn service credits, and raise money to support families in need during the holiday season. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact club president Mackey Munion or club advisor Mr. McLaughlin at mclaughlind@pasd.com. The club meets during Flex period in room F-5 on days 2 and 5.

Reading Olympics

The Reading Olympics Club is often described fondly by our members as "competitive book club." The purpose of the club is to unite students who enjoy reading for pleasure and discussing books with peers. We select books from a variety of genres to read based on a list released each year, culminating in a countywide competition with other schools in the spring. The club meets during flex on Day 2 in the library and a few times per month after school (dates TBD). Contact Ms. Bicker or Ananya Jajodia for more information.

Science Club

The goal of the Science Club is to bring together people that have a passion for science, inquiry and different ways of thinking! More of a social experience, the club meets to discuss science, make friends, watch movies/shows related to scientific phenomenon, and engage in activities that increase their "nerd cred." The club provides hands-on experiences to enhance scientific thinking and skills on a regular basis as well as the opportunity to compete against other like-minded individuals for scholarship, recognition and academic opportunities. Mr. Winters is the advisor and the club president is Yash Agnihotri. All are welcome and encouraged to take part, so email wintersj@pasd.com for meeting days and times.

Ski and Snowboard Club

The PAHS Ski and Snowboard Club is dedicated to enjoying the great outdoors while skiing or snowboarding. We are planning four local day trips and possibly one overnight trip. Community service is also a part of the club. Fundraising will be utilized to pay for club T-shirts and to reduce the cost of our trips. The president of the club is Nevaya Carr and club advisors are Mrs. Tavani and Lt Col Baldi. Meeting dates will be advertised through morning announcements and the RE-MIND app. Meetings will take place in I-4.

Spanish Club

The goal of this club is to further the understanding of the language and customs of the Hispanic world. The club does a variety of events including fundraisers for cultural-based field trips and organizing Hispanic cultural celebrations. The club will play games and host entertaining activities for its members. The club meets Monday after school. Mr. Acosta is the advisor; email him for more information at acostan@pasd.com.

Student Government

The purpose of PAHS Student Government is to foster communication among students, administration, staff, and the community. Student Government will also be used to stimulate the student body, recognize outstanding achievement, promote, organize and execute activities that encourage student pride and school spirit. Student government's goal is to increase student involvement throughout the school as well as the community. The president of the club is Allison Miller and the club advisor is Miss Nolan. Student Government will be meeting Day 2's in room F-4. Email Ms. Nolan at nolana@pasd.com for more information.

Technology Student Association

The Technology Student Association (TSA) fosters Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education through personal growth, leadership and opportunities in Technology, Innovation, Design and Engineering (TIDE). Middle and high school members apply and integrate science, technology, engineering and mathematics concepts for the challenges of a dynamic world through co-curricular activities, problem solving, competitive events and related programs resulting in academic development and endless possibilities in our global society. The club president is Leah Kerry and the advisor is Mr. Leinhauser. Email him at leinhausert@pasd.com for more information about meeting dates.

Theatre Guild Players

The Theatre Guild exists for the promotion of all facets of the performing arts of PAHS, including, but not limited to the Fall Play and Spring Musical. It explores all areas of Theatre, including direction, scriptwriting, producing, lighting, advertising, critiquing, singing, dancing, and of course, acting. It provides a forum where individuals can learn more about participating in any area of theater that interests them. The student organization, Theatre Guild Players, plans to meet in the auditorium after school on Fridays and also sponsors additional activities such as an all-student "3rd Production," a 24-hour play, and an evening of one-act plays. Leaders are Claire Meachen (president), Zach Rosenfeld and Rachel Wasserman, with Frau Tavani as advisor. The club meets every Friday after school in the auditorium and is open to all.

Varsity Club

The Varsity Club promotes school spirit and encourages good play and sportsmanship. Any boy or girl who has earned a varsity letter in athletics is eligible for membership. We meet once a week throughout the year to plan various activities. Activities include American Red Cross blood drives, field days and Dr. Seuss days at the elementary schools, and other activities to raise school spirit. The club also provides seniors with awards and scholarships as symbols of sportsmanship, spirit, initiative, and self-sacrifice that must be embodied in those who earn a varsity letter. The club meets Friday during Flex period in the auditorium. The advisors are Mr. Acosta and Mrs. Foresta.

Yearbook

The yearbook staff is looking for writers, designers, photographers, and editors to create and design the yearbook. Any student (grades 9-12) interested in designing this year's yearbook should contact Mrs. Weinstein for details at weinsteina@pasd.com. Yearbook is meeting every during Flex period in room I-6.



Theatre Guild advisor Mr. Tavani speaking to students during the Activities Fair.

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TRIBUTE TO NORMAN INFERRERA

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Norman Inferrera, a valued member of the Phoenixville High School class of 2023, passed away on August 20th, 2021 after a tragic life guarding accident while carrying out his duties along the Cape May coast. Norman, also known as Champ, was born October 24th, 2004. He was set to enter junior year with his fellow classmates where he would have continued to grow and thrive. Norman was exceedingly bright and was already fielding college offers. With massive dreams like becoming an astronaut or serving his country in the Air Force, Norman was an extremely engaged student with hopes of majoring in mechanical engineering. Over the summer, he had been serving the residents of Cape May where he had achieved his goal of being a lifeguard. Norman thoroughly enjoyed weightlifting, and during the pandemic, he began to dedicate himself to becoming stronger, and it truly paid off. One of his favorite things to do was to go on drives with his friends where they would talk and listen to music. In a few words, he could be described as passionate, outgoing, and smart. Norman not only was excellent at his job, but he also saved lives and protected those at the beach all summer. His drive to better himself and those around him made him a fantastic friend and classmate, and he will be dearly missed by all. Below are some of the memories his friends, teachers, and classmates shared about him. By: Gabrielle McNamee

I taught Norman in 3rd, 5th and 6th grades. Norman was one of the most genuine students I ever taught. He would ask what all students were thinking. For instance, when giving directions for what students were permitted to do when they completed their PSSA’s, Norman raised his hand to ask “Are we allowed to sleep?” Norman wasn’t just my student, but also my teacher. He taught me about current memes so that I could keep up with what the class was referring to. He taught me about video games. Most importantly, he taught me how to be a better teacher; how to motivate students to read and how to add more joy into the classroom. In fifth grade, his classmates wrote some compliments for him. I had the file saved on my computer. I imagine that many of these statements applied to 16 year old Norman as well:

- You are very funny and never down. You have a great personality.
- You are unique in your own way.
- I like that you are smart and funny.
- Good at gaming
- Outgoing and creative
- You have a fire inside of you that is awesome
- You are kind and unique
- I haven’t known you long, but we are good friends. I am glad we were in the same class this year.
- You are a really good person to talk to. You talk about the most interesting stuff.
- You are willing to help me when I need it
- You have amazing talents that I admire.
- You are unique and you keep Mrs. Hrynko on her toes
- You made 5th grade fun and interesting
- The funniest person I have ever met
- You encourage your friends to do their best
- You are helpful to those who need help. You are very generous.
- You have “perfect form”
- Kind to everyone in the class

-Mrs. Hrynko

I have fond memories of Norman from 8th grade history class. One minute I would be correcting something he did or said and the next I would laughing at something he did to get back on my good side. We had some great discussions, mostly about baseball, and by the end of the year I knew that Norman had a bright future ahead of him. It made me smile to see the effect that he had on the Cape May community and the beach patrols up and down the Jersey coast. Job well done Norman and R.I.P.!!

-Mr. Sturgeon

I had Norman as a freshman in AP World History. Norman was an incredibly inquisitive person and routinely asked questions driving at a deeper understanding of a topic in history. Instead of focusing on things that just might be on a test, he wanted to know why things happened, their root causes, what impact they had, and how people reacted. His innate curiosity is greatly missed.

-Mr. Sprengle

I didn’t know him much, but now I wish I had back in middle school. He was a good man.

-Jimmy Muy Lopez



Norman in his fifth grade math class.

When he was a freshman, he was wearing a boot because he had been skateboarding and was trying some incredible move that went awry. I bring this up because back then, I had a habit of wearing van sneakers that, unbeknownst to me, were skateboarding sneakers. I had multiple pairs. Norman saw them and finally asked me if I skateboarded. AND he was sincere!! God Bless him for thinking I was perhaps that cool. That’s my thought...God Bless Norman.

-Mrs. Cordingley

As Norman’s school counselor, I had the pleasure of meeting him during the 8th to 9th grade transition. I was warned by his sister, Melanie, that her brother was coming up from the middle school. From the start, Norman was a go-getter. As an 8th grader he immediately emailed me on his own. Most requests came from a student’s parent. His goal was to challenge himself. Norman had big goals, big plans for his future. As I worked with him over the past 2 years, Norman continued to challenge himself academically. He took math classes over the summer to advance to higher levels. He always wanted to take AP courses, even if it meant submitting waivers to do so. He knew he could do anything he set his mind to. I just looked and, in the last correspondence I had with him, he asked to be added to the 0 period Fitness and Weight. His commitment to total well-being is one I will never forget.

-Ms. Kilpatrick

I had the honor to have Norman as my AP Chemistry student in 2020-2021. Among the sea of black screens last year, often when I was wondering if students were even paying attention, Norman posed thoughtful questions, shared anecdotes, and stories with me and/or the class. I always looked forward to class with Norman because he easily let his vulnerability show, always with a dash of humor. Even when the truth may have been difficult to hear at times, Norman knew how to broach sensitive topics with the kindest of words. He was fair, honest, and above all, kind. He fervently advocated for others well before he would advocate for himself. He was dedicated to whatever he chose to make important, and his loyalty towards that cause was unconditional. I know I will remember him as more than an academic champion in the classroom. I will remember him as a Class A "Champ" for his strength of character and integrity. May his shining spirit dwell within all of us.

-Ms. Davies

I had the pleasure of having Norman in 9th grade Techniques of Writing class. Norman truly filled the room with his kindness and positive energy. He was undoubtedly bound to be a force of greatness in the world. I am certain that everyone he touched in life is better for it.

-Mrs. McLaughin



Norman’s smile says it all.

Dear Norman,

As you look down over all of us, I hope you see how many people truly loved you and considered you a true friend. Your kind heart, contagious smile, endless energy, and amazing sense of humor will be greatly missed by everyone who knew you. I will forever cherish those recap periods and soccer bus rides where we could just talk about life and laugh at whatever memes or videos you, Jason, Max, and several others were pulling up on your phones. The last few weeks I’ve looked at these pictures from your soccer games and can’t help but think about those memories shared with your teammates. I instantly hear that contagious laugh of yours ringing in my ears and can’t help but smile. I’m sure you will continue to watch over your friends and family sending all of us subtle reminders of what is important in life and remember to “Keep things real.” For all you who were close friends with Norman I think he’d want you to remember this quote from Helen Keller. “True friends are never apart, maybe in distance but never in heart.” Norman would want all of you to have an amazing 2021 school year. He’d want you to laugh, have fun, and find a way to change the world for the best!

-Mr. Guidotti

Norman was in my 4th grade class at Schuylkill. I remember him as a smiling, out-going, inquisitive young man. He was one of those students who could balance the social aspect of school with the academic side; Norman loved to socialize and be part of what was going on in the classroom and never lacked having friends and classmates around him. But he also loved learning new things and was constantly asking questions so he could learn more. I remember him being particularly interested in Science, always being attentive during our lessons and observations. From what I understand these traits continued into high school and Norman was always surrounded by friends while striving to learn as much as he could. He was a good kid and I’m deeply saddened by his passing.

-Jes Finan

I had Norman first period in Spanish class. He was even one of my dance leaders. His name made the program for coming up with some dance moves and naming a spin “fruit rollup.” Norman had a great sense of humor and was never afraid to share his ideas. He will be missed. My thoughts and prayers go out to the family, his friends and the entire HS community.

-Señorita Thornton

Norman, while I only met you a few times, it didn’t take long for you to make a strong impression on me. As a middle schooler, it was immediately clear that you were precocious and honest. You cared about making school meaningful to you and to your peers, and I highly valued your feedback. Thank you for being you, and for the impact you had in our district.

-Dr. Kilmetz

I wasn’t super close with Norman but I was in multiple of his classes. He was always very positive and he radiated happiness. He was always smiling. I know he will be extremely missed and his memory will live on forever.

-Hadley Mardis

Norman was such a smart young man and brought joy to the classroom everytime he was present. I enjoyed talking to Norman about our Jeeps and our passion for off-roading. Just before he passed, he asked me to take him on a trail I go to all the time. I wish he was here for one last ride.

-CJ Hopkins

Norman was such a kind soul and shed light on everyone. For me personally, Norman brought me into Phoenixville with a warm welcome and showed me around. I'll never forget Norman for this. I had just come from being bullied at my old school, so he gave me so much confidence from the jump. I know Norman had this effect on everyone though. It's so sad to see him go as early as he did. Norma had so much potential, and he was the smartest kid I knew.

-Shia Jones

I remember in middle school we had a soccer game and Norman was put up top. He scored what I think was his first school goal, and his face was unforgettable. He had the most infectious smile and laugh which is something that will never leave me.

-CJ Jahn

I knew Norman as well as some of my friends. I remember first meeting him. He was silly like the other boys in elementary school. He was actually nice whenever he wanted to be, and he became my friend. I was a little sad when we got to middle and high school, because we hardly ever saw each other, but whenever we did, he would say hi and ask how we were doing. I felt even sadder about his death because we didn't say goodbye at the end of the school year. I pray to God that he is at peace and will always be with us at the school.

-Nancy Todeo

I didn't know Norman very well, but I feel for his friends and family. I think we can all relate to feeling a shock that one of us will never graduate, have a career, or end up who he would turn out to be. I think we should take this as a reminder that life is short, sometimes too short, and we should do our best to be the best with the time we have.

-Joy Kabukuru

One of my favorite memories of Norman was in freshman year. During Christmas time, he had the thoughtful idea of getting our homeroom together and gifting a Christmas present to our homeroom teacher, Mr. Zittel. This is one of my favorite memories because it shows how much of a thoughtful person he was.

-Ryan Jasudowich

He had an awesome smile. He was my best friend since Schuylkill Elementary School.

-Izzy Hyson

Norman always made the classes he was in with me 100% more enjoyable.

-Will Imburgia

Norman and I used to hang out everyday after middle school. We used to play with Ugly Dolls and make up crazy stories and situations about them. I was never able to predict what he was going to say, but I could assure you it would be hilarious. Norman was very driven to accomplish whatever he put his mind to, and everyday I strive to do the same.

-Brendon Schwartz

One of my fondest memories of Norman takes place at the DMV of all places. We both went to take our drivers license test on the same day. I had just passed the test and was ready to drive away when I noticed Norman had pulled up next to me. I waved, to which he responded by throwing up a peace sign and smiling. I don't think I've ever seen him so excited. I texted him afterwards to find out his results. Luckily, we both passed.

-Caroline Sullivan

I never knew Norman very well, but he seemed so nice. He was in my classes and I would always see him laughing and smiling. Whenever he talked, many people would smile. He was in my homeroom and helped make the class fun instead of quiet. He was a great person, and may he rest in peace.

-Mikayla Horning

I am Norman's sister, and his soul lives through me in such a beautiful way. Norman saved a four year old boy's life as a lifeguard, and I have used that as my motivation to push through and be a role model, example, and survivor of grief that can still be happy and compassionate towards others that fall apart due to grief. I have my moments where it's all too much. He was my brother and we'll never have our childhood again, but at the same time in the present, I see, hear, and feel him all the time through the ocean clouds and sky, smiley faces, and anything brotherly or sisterly that admits to me that his soul is still alive in my heart, and it is a beautiful thing. I love you forever Champ, the stormin Noraman oarman.

-Melanie Inferrera

Every time I was with Norman, he taught me something new whether it was how to fix a bike chain or how to bench press with proper form. He was an incredible friend and had the brightest possible future. He wanted to go to Stanford University and become an astronaut or serve his country and enroll in the Air Force Academy. Norman loved everyone he met and always wanted the best for them, even if he disagreed with them. Knowing and meeting Norman was really a blessing, including for myself, who knew him so well, and our memories are a blessing as well. Phoenixville misses him dearly, and his spirit will live on until the end of time. We love you Champ.

-Leo Gordon

Norman Vincent Inferrera III was a character. Bodybuilder, lifeguard, a best friend, and most importantly a brother. He had his whole life planned out. After finding out about the Air Force Academy, he didn't want to go to Stanford anymore. He planned to join AFJROTC for one year so it would better his chances for the Academy. There he would get his flying hours to then become an Astronaut. He also was an independent man, and he didn't need anyone except him and his thoughts. Norman was a very social person, and friends were a good addition to his life. During the pandemic, he put on almost 20-30 pounds of pure muscle and became obsessed with the gym life. He did it all by himself. The workouts, the nutrition, and the self-discipline, all by himself. Norm was the most determined and hardest worker I've ever seen. Whatever he set his mind on, he would do it and become the best at it, whether it was lifting, lifeguarding, academics, or biking. In his short life, he achieved all his goals. He became a lifeguard, he was a straight-A student, and he biked to Philly four times with me. He also was a helper, whether it was educating in the gym, giving his food away, or giving rides even though his gas tank only held 16 gallons. His community outreach was farther than ever, from Miami to Phoenixville. The community has never been the same since his loss and probably never will be, but he's in a better place and is with everyone at all times of the day, whether we know it or not. We love you Champ.

-Jason O'Neil



Leo Gordon and Norman Inferrera.

Norman and I weren't very close in high school, but we were close in elementary and middle school. I remember in middle school, Norman and a couple of my other neighbors would come over and hang out. We would swim, play video games, do flips on the trampoline, and mess around in Target. Now that he passed, I can't help but to look back on these memories. Norman was such a smart, funny kid who had an incredibly bright future, and I will miss him very much. Fly high, Norman!

-Kevin Gilleland

To know him was to love him. It was so often that Norman was the source of light in the room. Whether that was because he was engaging with the people around him, cracking jokes, or sharing his infinite supply of fun facts with anyone who would listen. When Norman was in front of you, he was focused on you. He listened and reciprocated. The light in his eyes was evidently distracting. A memory that I think exemplifies Norm well is from a few months back. During Zoom class, Norman turned on his camera to ask our teacher if he could do a show and tell. I won't remember what he felt so inclined to show everyone in the middle of class that day, but I will remember the smile on his face and how that made me feel. That's what defined Norman. His smile. Ever present and infectiously contagious. Champ was the man, and Champ is my hero.

-Caroline Copeland

I remember back in Kindergarten and elementary school, Norman and I were very close friends. We used to play with our ugly dolls together and watch movies. Norman was the one that showed me what a bench press was, and how to do one. I couldn't bench over 50 and Norman just laughed. He was such a great kid and an even better friend. We all miss you Norman.

-Nate Sbei

I never really personally knew Norman as well as others did. It was really devastating when I heard the news because I am used to looking at him since elementary school. I have been in the same class and grade with him since I've been here. It's strange to see an empty seat that has always been filled. It's been really fun and bright these last few years thanks to Norman. He's always been funny, and always will be.

-Addison Hudson-Inzarry

I didn't know Norman as well as some people, but what I do know is that he was hardworking and smart. I saw him in the school gym everyday after school freshman year. Norman was always very focused in the gym and knew what he wanted to do.

-Dylan Martin



Norman Inferrera, Leo Gordon, and Kolton Finger at Homecoming in 2019.



Friends forever: Norman Inferrera, Leo Gordon, and Jason O'Neil.

Clairo breaks boundaries with “Sling”



Written by:
Olivia
Giardina



Cover photo of the album “Sling” featuring **Clairo** and her newest companion, Joanie.
Source: Genius

“Bedroom pop” is a genre of music rising in popularity among teenagers that dives deep into mental health struggles and youthful romance, and one rising star that stands out among these artists is Clairo.

American singer Claire Cottrill, also known as her stage name Clairo, is a 23 year old music artist from Georgia who rose in fame in 2017 with her first hit “Pretty Girl.” Containing songs that vary from upbeat indie to solely instrumentals, Clairo’s discography can be described as soft rock or indie pop, with ranging talent on instruments such as guitar, keyboard, and piano. Her newest album, “Sling,” was released on July 16, 2021, and was loved by fans immediately. Embracing aspects of 1970s folk, “Sling” showed Clairo’s

growth in not only her music style, but her maturity as a person as well. Prior to “Sling,” her only studio album at the time, “Immunity,” contains more of a pop tone, differing from this long-awaited release in multiple ways. Clairo’s evolved lyrics and expansion of her instrumental talent reveal changes in her life.

Written on top of a mountain in Upstate New York, the album’s creation can be credited to its producer, Jack Antonoff. In an interview with Apple Music, Clairo expresses the strong, and somewhat uncomfortable, emotions that went into the creation of “Sling.” The album represents the current

period in her life, which she describes as before motherhood, and the time before she sees herself settling down in life. The thought process behind the lyrics and soul to these songs portray Clairo’s reflection on herself and the music industry, specifically being thrown into it at such a young age.

The album kicks off with the first song, “Bambi,” representing her innocence when first releasing music as a teenager. The song starts with the line, “I’m stepping inside a universe designed against my own beliefs,” referencing her entering the unknown of the music industry, asking herself where to go from here.

“Sling” puts Clairo’s deep thoughts into beautiful poetry surrounding the scary idea of domesticity and being so far from her family and friends. Isolation is a huge part of the music industry that is shadowed by fame, and she portrays this feeling well in these songs.

Clairo credits the pandemic for allowing her to take a step back from the pressure she felt to be with her family and to produce music. Her inspiration for the majority of the album comes from her beloved dog Joanie, named after Joni Mitchell, even naming a song after her in the album. The song being almost entirely piano, Clairo’s ability to beautifully convey a message on an instrument she has only just recently started to incorporate in her music is true talent if I’ve ever seen it. You can even hear a chime towards the end of the song, which Clairo has shared was done by Joanie with a wag of her tail.

Clairo’s connection and love for others in her life is not only heard through her

soft voice and pleasant music, but shown in how she writes of being absent in the lives of the people she loves. In the album’s second track, and my personal favorite, “Amoeba,” Clairo touches on the loneliness she felt during her career. In a Rolling Stone interview, she admits she was wrapped up in the wrong things in the immensely pressuring music industry, seen in the lines, “Could you say you even tried? / You haven’t called your family twice.”

While most fans are proud and comforted by Claire’s disclosure of extremely personal feelings, others are slightly disappointed by “Sling.” Underwhelming is a word some friends and I shared when first listening to this album, when comparing it to “Immunity.” However, this is an album that grows on you, and pulls you in to love it the more you listen to it. The meaning behind the lyrics of these songs is intriguing, and the comforting and soft sounds of the instrumentals that occupy a good chunk of the songs allow for the listener to really enjoy the creativity expressed.

If you ever have an extra 45 minutes for a chance to listen to Clairo’s “Sling” during homework, ambience for a hangout, or to fulfill a desire to cry, I highly recommend you check it out.

Grade: A
Genre: Pop/Acoustic Folk
Available on: Spotify, Apple Music, YouTube Music



Clairo performs the hit “Blouse” on the Tonight Show.
Source: iNews

The “Starting Line” for Luke Hemmings’ solo career



Written by:
Caroline
Sullivan

Things are looking up for 5 Seconds of Summer (5SOS) fans as front man Luke Hemmings drops his first solo album. Speaking as someone who has been a fan of the band for 5+ years, this album dives deep into a side of Hemmings that has never been seen before. “When Facing the Things We Turn Away From” features 12 unique tracks and is 44 minutes in length.

While this is Hemming’s first solo album, he certainly is no stranger to the music industry. The singer grew up in Australia and was only 15 years old when he formed 5SOS with fellow Aussies Michael Clifford, Ashton Irwin, and Calum Hood. 5SOS as a band has released six EPs, four albums, and two live albums since they began making music in 2011. They have performed three headlining tours in addition to opening for One Direction’s “Take Me Home,” “Where We Are,” and “On the Road Again” tours. Now 25 years old, the Australian singer is bursting with new experiences and ideas to share with fans.

Like most of us, Hemmings has spent the last year and a half stuck at home. Fortunately for fans, Hemmings was able to channel his creativity and create a musical masterpiece. Not only was Hemmings writing and preparing the drop of his first solo album, but he also spent his time working with 5SOS on their fifth studio album, which is still in the process of being produced.

According to Hemmings, “lyrically and sonically, this album has allowed me to decipher the last 10 years of my life and help me make sense of the person I am today and how I got here.” This album holds a magnifying glass to Hemmings’ life and demonstrates a theme of self identity and the struggles of finding yourself. These ideas can be seen through tracks such as “Starting Line” in which he sings, “I wake up every morning with the years ticking by/I’m missing all these memories, maybe they were never mine/I feel the walls are closing/I’m running out of time/I think I missed the gun at the starting line.”

“When Facing the Things We

Turn Away From” is an album with a wide variety of songs that appeal to many different audiences. Not only do they explore ideas that most people can relate to, but they also vary musically. Songs such as “Baby Blue” and “Saigon” feature a beat that is fun and danceable. On the contrary, songs such as “Mum” put an emotional spin onto the album. This song is written as a letter to Hemmings’ mom in which he apologizes for the lack of time he is able to spend with his family and how it is affecting him. I recommend having a box of tissues nearby when listening to this track.

My personal favorite song from the album is “Diamonds.” This song lets fans see a vulnerable side of Hemmings that hasn’t been fully explored through previous projects. In this song, Hemmings elaborates on the feeling of hopelessness

and realizing that life is only going to get harder and harder. He sings, “I’m on the way out, losing the dream/I feel it crash down, down on me/Caught in the madness, it’s holding on me/Is this the way it will always be?”

Whether you’re a fan of Luke Hemming/5SOS or not, I would definitely recommend giving this album a listen. The message of self identity that remains prominent throughout this album is relevant to all age groups. I find it particularly important to keep these ideas in mind while attempting to navigate high school because at this age, it’s easy to lose track of your identity. Listening to this album will remind you that you’re not alone when feeling this way, and motivate you to not lose hope. Don’t “turn away” from this album; it may just guide you out of a time of darkness.

Grade: A+
Title: “When Facing The Things We Turn Away From”
Release Date: August 13th, 2021
Genre: Alternative



Luke Hemmings strumming his guitar to serenade the cameraman with new songs such as “Bloodline.”
Photo: bostonsportsdesk.com



Luke Hemmings preparing to take flight in his “Starting Line” music video.
Photo: Thehoneypop.com

“Roadrunner”: The incredible life of Anthony Bourdain



Written by:
Liz Kunz

As the opening credits come to an end and the 70s punk rock music begins to fade into the background, Anthony Bourdain’s disembodied voice foreshadows the tragic end to the documentary that covers his life: “You’re probably going to find out about this anyway, so here’s a little preemptive truth-telling: there’s no happy ending.”

Anthony Bourdain, a famous chef, author, and travel documentarian tragically committed suicide in 2018 at age 61. He was best known for his TV shows, “Anthony Bourdain: No Reservations” and “Anthony Bourdain: Parts Unknown.” Fans appreciated Bourdain most for his curiosity, unflinching honesty, and the deeply humane way he guided his audience through unfamiliar cultures and cuisines. There was a transparency and relatability to Bourdain that made him a superstar, and the perfect person to take viewers to corners of the world they had never seen before.

“Roadrunner: A Film About Anthony Bourdain” does not focus on Bourdain’s death, but on how he lived - in a way that felt like he was getting more out of life than most of us. The film’s director, Morgan Neville, uses interviews, archival footage, and a few unlikely tricks to build a devastating argument for Bourdain as the hero and villain of his own story. Bourdain’s story is told through his own voice, and the voices of those who knew him best - friends, partners, chefs, members of his team, his second wife, and his brother. They’re all there to tell their stories, to explain him (and admit that they never

could), to laud him, to say they loved him, and then dissolve into fury at his passing. Bourdain was an honest storyteller, and Roadrunner takes an equally honest approach to Bourdain’s life. It honors its subject by presenting him as flawed when he was flawed, exhausted when he was exhausted, cruel when he was cruel, and like any of us, he was those things sometimes. It’s just that he lived his life out on television.

The documentary begins where Bourdain’s life as a public figure begins, in 1999, when, as a forty-three-year-old undecorated cook and aspiring writer, his big break “Kitchen Confidential,” his memoir about the inner workings of high-end restaurants, has just become a New York Times Bestseller. “Kitchen Confidential” became a springboard to a television career, which, in turn, led to more book deals, more television shows, and more opportunities to travel and explore.

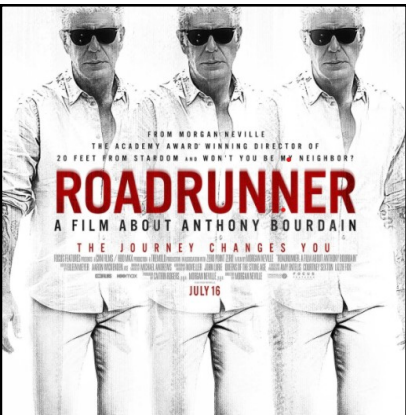
Although Bourdain experienced a life of travelling the world that most can only dream of, the film shows that Bourdain wrestled with depression and loneliness. Bourdain should have had a happy ending, but he didn’t. The search for happiness consumed Bourdain, driving the restless momentum that pushed him to travel 250 days of the year. One especially impactful moment is when the artist David Choe, a friend of Bourdain, is reading aloud an email that Bourdain had sent him, the voice gradually fading into Bourdain’s: “Dude, this is a crazy thing to ask, but I’m curious and my life is sort of sh*t right now. You are successful, and I am successful, and I am wondering: Are you happy?”

Although “Roadrunner” gives an unflinchingly honest, often devastating account of Bourdain’s life, some of the director’s techniques used in the film call into question documentary ethics. In order to achieve some of the narration in Bourdain’s voice, Neville used artificial intelligence to create a deepfake of his voice without disclosing that information to the audience. This raises a huge ethical question because Neville is quite literally putting words in the late Bourdain’s mouth, and the audience is unable to easily decipher what quotes come directly from Bourdain and which were created by the deepfake recording. While I loved the film and thought that Neville took great care to flesh out the complexity of Bourdain’s persona, the use of deepfake re-

cordings unfairly skews the audience’s perception of Bourdain’s story by falsely attributing quotes to him.



Despite this, I highly recommend that everyone watch “Roadrunner.” There is more to the documentary than I could ever explain here, and it raises questions about happiness and mental illness that deserve more attention. “Roadrunner” is now out of theaters and is available for rent on websites such as YouTube Movies and Amazon, and it will eventually be available on CNN and HBO Max at an unspecified later date.



“Roadrunner” focuses not on how Bourdain died but on how he lived, fleshing out his exalted public persona versus the reality of his flaws and internal struggles.

Grade: A-
Genre: Documentary, Drama, Arts, Entertainment, and Culture
Rating: R
Director: Morgan Neville



Anthony Bourdain’s shows brought him to rarely traveled in places such as Libya and Haiti where he demonstrated our shared humanity across cultures through explorations in local cuisine.
Photos: IMDb

“Madden 22”: The best Madden to date?



Written by:
Connor Roche

The score is 28-24 and you need a touchdown to win. You’re at the 20 yard line with 15 seconds left in the game and you’re all out of timeouts. Scrolling through your offensive playbook, you call a play that you haven’t used all game in hopes that it might work. Your players hurry to the line of scrimmage and you notice something right before you snap the ball - one on one press coverage with your best receiver. You hike the ball with five seconds left and realize that this is going to be the last play of the game.

Your players start their routes, but you ignore all of them. You stare at your best receiver as he’s running to the endzone. You tap his icon to throw a lob pass and hold the aggressive catch button in hopes for a miracle. Holding your breath, you watch as your receiver jumps over the cornerback and snatches the ball out of thin air. He stands up with the ball in his hands and starts to celebrate. You throw your hands up in the air, still wondering how the play worked so perfectly. Games with finishes like this one are a regular occurrence on Electronic Arts recently released “Madden 22.”

The most realistic simulation football game of all time is off to a good start so far in 2021. The expert and fan ratings and reviews of “Madden 22” are blowing the ratings of the previous two games out of the water. GameSpot’s Richard Wakeling referred to the 2022 edition of

the Madden franchise , “a recent high point for the series.”

While this praise is great, the same can’t be said by all of the fans and consumers of the game. Although many players believe “Madden 22” is better than 19, 20, and 21, they are still voicing their disgruntled opinions about some of the recent bugs and glitches in the game. Since the game’s release on August 20, there has been one problem that has outshined the rest of them - control of defense is terrible. Coming off of the release of last year’s game where man coverage was overpowered and too easy to run, Electronic Arts wanted to make a game that brought the fun back into passing the ball on offense. They definitely accomplished this, but fans are thinking they might’ve made offense a little too easy. Every game is a shootout where the winner is pretty much decided on who gets the ball last. It is very rare to not allow points in a drive to your opponent because linebackers don’t react to the ball, and defensive backs seem sluggish and slow.

One fan in a Bleacher Report article was quoted saying, “It’s smoother and marginally more refined, but in so many ways, it’s the same old Madden.” Another fan added, “If you’re hoping for a massive leap forward for the series on the new generation of consoles, you’re about to be disappointed.” Although these reviews aren’t exactly praising the game, they are much better than reviews from the previous three years. The game looks and feels a lot better, player movement is much more realistic, and animations are crisp.

One of the largest improvements

in this year’s game is how much content there is for the consumers. If you want to create a team with players from every era, you could play the “Ultimate Team” mode and collect their cards when they come out. If you want to be the coach of your favorite team and try to lead them to the Superbowl, you could try the “Franchise” mode. You could play the “Face of the Franchise” mode and create your own player that you control and play a career with. There are even other fun and less competitive modes such as “The Yard” and “Superstar KO” that can give you some great rewards.



Whether you like playing competitively against other online opponents or having some fun playing against the computer, there are plenty of options. There really is a little bit for every type of player in Madden 22.

In conclusion, although there are a few problems, every mode is a very enjoyable playing experience. I believe that if you are a fan of any type of sport or sports video games, you should look into purchasing “Madden 22.”

Grade: B
Creator: Electronic Arts
Platforms: PS4, PS5, Xbox One, Xbox Series X, Xbox Series S, PC
Game Modes: Ultimate Team, Franchise, Face of the Franchise, Play Now, The Yard, Superstar KO



Giants’ running back **Saquon Barkley** leaps over the head of a defensive back to get to the first down marker.
Source: wallpapercave.com

Girls’ Tennis: Back in the swing of things



Written by:
Audrey Smith

After the past year of uncertainties surrounding sports and extracurricular activities, the Girls’ Tennis team was ecstatic to start a brand new season in September that was not affected by the pandemic, so the girls were able to swing right back into action.

In her eighth year as girls’ tennis coach, and third year as head coach, Summer Lindeman led the team through a successful season and finished with an overall record of 6-5. Alongside assistant coaches Abriana Nolan and Riley Baver, Coach Lindeman said their goal was to have a winning season. With only two returning varsity players, but a handful of talented new players and freshmen, they were able to achieve this, and more.



The seniors from this year’s Girls’ Tennis team pose for a picture on their Senior Night. Photos: Lifetouch

“Our team is always supportive, motivating and encouraging. I love that they have fun at every match. More often than not, the team wants to stay to keep playing even after matches and practices are over,” said Coach Lindeman.

The Phantoms were led this year by senior varsity captains Maeve Bishop and Olivia Fisher (seniors), as well as junior varsity captains Elizabeth Snavelly and Alexis Moyer (seniors). These girls organized fundraisers, spirit

days, and team events, including the Play for the Cure Round Robin tournament and a car wash, in which the team raised over \$2,000 for the Phoenixville Hospital’s Cancer Center.

On the courts, first singles player Rachel Wasco (junior), second singles player Elizabeth Snavelly (senior), and third singles player Elise Pham (freshman) led their varsity team to victory throughout the season.

Snavelly recalled her favorite match from the season: “The match that stood out the most to me was the [match] against Pope John Paul. It was my longest match; we went into three sets and I won the final one. I even got the award for best player that day.”

The varsity doubles line up included Alexis Moyer (senior) and Madeline Kerry (freshman) at first doubles, Maeve Bishop (senior) and Megan Schulz (junior) at second doubles, Gwen Natale (freshman)

and Sophia Pratte (sophomore) at third doubles, and Leah Firster (senior) and Allison Slifer (junior) rounding out fourth doubles.

Snavelly and Pham fought their way to the second round of the PAC Singles Tournament. In addition, doubles partners Moyer and Kerry, as well as Bishop and Schulz, played in the PAC Doubles Tournament on October 15th and both teams reached the second round.

Moyer discussed her favorite memories from the season: “I enjoyed becoming close friends with the other girls on the team, especially the freshmen, and seeing everyone improve. I am going to miss the friendly faces on the team and the bus rides to our away matches.”

Through the team’s many victories this season, the Girls’ Tennis team is in great shape for next year, as Coach Lindeman said, “The majority of our varsity will be returning next year, and we have many talented up and coming players too. We expect our future to get better each year!”



Senior doubles player **Alexis Moyer** cracks a forehand return of serve.



Second singles player **Elizabeth Snavelly** prepares to crush a backhand.

Phoenixville Golf: Kate’s going to States



Written by:
Eli Stevenson

This month we take a look at the Phoenixville Golf teams as their seasons have recently ended. Members of both teams put up some great scores and gained a lot of valuable experience, one of whom has qualified for States!

The Phantoms Boys’ Golf team varsity lineup consisted of Ryan Jasudowich (junior), Will Linko (freshman), Jake Gei-

ger (junior), Joel Smith (junior), Tom Lockner (sophomore), Dale Mackay (sophomore), and Mitch Morris (senior). The boys finished the PAC with a record of 2-7, and even though no one qualified for Districts, Head Coach Steve Winnick said they still “really enjoyed the game of golf.”

Coach Winnick expects returning members such as Linko and Jasudowich to have a positive impact on next season: “Ryan Jasudowich will be returning for his senior season and I expect him to compete for league champion. Will Linko should be someone that has a positive impact on the team moving forward.”

Coach Winnick says goodbye to senior Mitch Morris as a great role model on

the team and someone he said he could “rely on to be like another assistant coach since he spent all four years with the team.”

Morris reflected on his best rounds with the team and said, “My best round was in junior year. I shot a 36, which was my first time shooting in the 30s.”

For Phantoms Girls’ Golf, the season was quite successful. With a PAC record of 8-2, the team was led by a number of amazing players including Kate Roberts (sophomore), Mackenzi Thompson (junior), Chloe Zach (junior), Taryn Blitzzer (junior), Smera Vazirani (freshman),

Ella Drewes (freshman), Caroline Sullivan (junior), and Chelsea Frampton (senior). The team spent the season practicing at Turtle Creek Golf Course. At Districts, Roberts made it to sixth place and qualified for States.

Head Coach Sandy Waltz said, “Kate is just amazing. She is gritty and digs deep when I need her the most. Golf is about your focus and having a bad shot or two is part of the game. She is the epitome of being focused and she loves to rise to the challenge.”

Kate said, “I’m feeling really excited about going to States. I have a good feeling and I know my game is in a really good spot.”

While heading to States is exciting, Coach Waltz is sad when her seniors must say goodbye, saying, “My only senior was Chelsea Frampton. She was the number two player on the team, and she always came in with a score that would help us win matches.”

On the positive side, Coach Waltz said she looks forward to, “Kayley Roberts, Kate’s little sister, who will be joining the team next year. I’m not sure if I can handle two Roberts on the same team!”

Nevertheless, Coach Waltz already has plans

for the future: “I’m hoping my team works on their game during the off season so we can be competitive against teams like Spring-Ford next year.”

Let’s hope the golf teams continue their great success in the future. The seniors will be missed.



Senior **Mitchell Morris** putting for birdie on the third hole at Pickering Valley Golf Course. Photo courtesy of Mitchell Morris



At Districts on October 4-5 **Kate Roberts** shot just one over par, qualifying her for the State tournament. Photo: LifeTouch

The Philadelphia Eagles: A rebuild in the making



Written by:

Luca Cappelli

The Philadelphia Eagles are six weeks into their 2021 campaign and own a record of 2-4 and are in third place of the NFC East division. It hasn't been an ideal start for a Super Bowl team, but this isn't a Super Bowl team. The Eagles are a very young team with an inexperienced coaching staff, and it's hard to say, but I don't see this season getting any better. The Eagles have a tough three game stretch coming up with the Raiders, Lions and Chargers. I expect them to go 1-2 in this stretch with the potential of 0-3 as the Lions are not an automatic win.

In week one, no one expected the Eagles to go into Atlanta and absolutely demolish the Falcons 32-6. The Eagles



Running back **Miles Sanders** signals for a first down after a run vs the Buccaneers. Photo: philadelphiaeagles.com

looked poised to have a great year. Quarterback Jalen Hurts looked spectacular, finishing the game throwing for 264 yards and three touchdowns. Hurts was also second on the team in rushing with 62 yards on seven attempts. Both the defense and the offense were firing on all cylinders, but that wasn't the case in

weeks two through four.

In week two the Eagles lost a very winnable game 17-11 against the 49ers at the Linc. Despite the close score, the game wasn't as close as it seemed as Jalen Hurts ran in a garbage time touchdown with just under three minutes left.

Fast forward to week three, the Eagles were under the primetime lights against their biggest rival, the Cowboys, in Dallas. The Eagles played awful and got blown out 41-21 in a game with the division lead on the line. The only touchdown that came with reasonable meaning was the first quarter fumble six forced by Fletcher Cox.

In week four, Andy Reid and the Kansas City Chiefs returned to Philly and handed the Eagles a 42-30 loss. The Eagles gave up 40 plus points in back to back games, but the silver lining was the fact that rookie wide receiver Devonta Smith constantly found himself wide open. Smitty totaled 7 receptions for 122 yards in the loss vs the Chiefs, flashing his potential to be a top wide receiver in this league.

In week five the Eagles traveled to Car-

olina to face the 3-1 Panthers. The Panthers came into this game looking for a win, coming off a 36-28 loss to the Cowboys. The first half was all Carolina as they went into the half up 15-3. The Eagles had nothing going on offense, but the defense was holding its own. The Eagles hit another gear in the second half, outscoring the Panthers 15-3 on the way to a 21-18 victory to improve to 2-3. What won this game for the Eagles was the defense. The Eagles had Sam Darnold seeing ghosts, once again forcing three interceptions in the second half. Two came from Darius Slay and the other was a game sealer by the newest Eagles corner, Steven Nelson. As for Jalen Hurts, I think this was his best game all year. He showed guts, and poise to never give up in a close, winnable game and ended up rushing in the game winning touchdown with 2:38 left in the game.

In week six, the Eagles welcomed Tom Brady and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers into the Linc under the primetime lights of Thursday Night Football. This game was all Brady and the Bucs early, as Brady slinged two touchdowns on their first two drives of the game. The Eagles went into halftime down by 14 but that didn't stop them from quitting. The Eagles made it a game late as Jalen Hurts ran in another touchdown and converted the two point attempt to make it a 28-22 game and it would stay that way as the Eagles dropped to 2-4.

As for the rest of the season, I see the Eagles picking up four more wins against the Jets, Lions, the Giants at home, and The Football Team at home, making their final record 6-11. It will be a disappointing season nonetheless, but it's something to build off of moving forward in their rebuild.



Jalen Hurts breaks out the Cam Newton "Superman" celebration in front of a sea of Eagles fans as he runs in the game winning touchdown against the Panthers. Photo: USA Today

The Cowboys: A star-studded season



Written by:

Gabrielle

McNamee

The Dallas Cowboys have begun the 2021-2022 NFL season strong. With a good start of 5-1, and first place in the NFC East, the Cowboys' season is looking victorious already. Some people may argue they could even become contenders for a Super Bowl win, and these people would be correct.

With the new season came a new-ish coach! In January of 2020, Mike McCarthy was given the job of head coach of the Dallas Cowboys. McCarthy won Super Bowl XLV with the Green Bay Packers, and was named NFL Coach of the Year in 2007. He's been a head coach since 2006 with a 13 year long career as head coach of the Packers. Now, as head coach of the Cowboys, McCarthy hopes to take the



Cowboys' defensive end **Randy Gregory** cheering with the crowd at a home game against the Panthers. Photos: Dallascowboys on Instagram.

Cowboys to the Super Bowl, and said, "It's the No. 1 focus for me and it always has been... It's such a big part of winning, yesteryear and today."

After beating their long time rivals in week three, the Philadelphia Eagles, the Dallas offensive line is heating up. The

Cowboys' quarterback, Dak Prescott, is playing at an elevated MVP level and carrying his team to success. With a completion rate at a whopping 73.1%, a total of 16 passing touchdowns which makes him third in the league, and with almost 1,400 passing yards, Prescott clearly is a top quarterback. In his last three games, he has thrown a total of only one interception and completed 71% of his passes. Dak's all-star abilities are clearly giving the Cowboys a shot at becoming a Super Bowl team.

In addition to a first-class quarterback, the Cowboys' offensive line is every defensive coordinator's worst nightmare. Superstar running back Ezekiel Elliott is working with up-and-coming Tony Pollard to create an unstoppable offense. Elliott's 521 rushing yards and five touchdowns total, with 143 of those yards and one rushing touchdown against the Eagles, make him a force to be reckoned with. In addition to Elliot, Pollard's 366 rushing yards, one touchdown, and 18 rushing first downs truly make the ideal combination of running backs. With Pollard creating runs out wide and Elliott being a powerhouse in the middle of the field, there is no way for defenses to neutralize the threat this dynamic duo possesses.

After five weeks of the football season, the defensive lineup continuously looks better. Trevon Diggs was named NFC's Defensive Player of the Week in week four, and has a shocking six picks in only five games. At a total of seven individual interceptions,

Diggs currently has more interceptions than a total of 27 entire league teams. With his help, the Cowboys lead the league with 11 interceptions. In the week three game against the Philadelphia Eagles, he intercepted a pass by Jalen Hurts and ran it back for 59 yard touchdown. If he keeps it up, Trevon Diggs will undoubtedly become the NFL's Defensive Player of the Year. The Cowboys' multi-talented cornerback continues to help the team's odds of becoming Super Bowl winners.

In addition to all the previously mentioned stars, some additional players to keep an eye on are wide receiver CeeDee Lamb, linebacker Micah Parsons, and defensive end Randy Gregory. Lamb's 497 yards with four touchdowns, Parsons' 2.5 sacks, and Gregory's 4.0 sacks continue to make the Cowboys a driving force in the league. With an iconic offensive and defensive line as well as an amazing quarterback like Dak Prescott, America's Team has nowhere to go but up.

Following a brutal win over the New York Giants, Dallas is looking to have an extremely successful year. Week six's power rating currently rates the Cowboys at number four in the league, behind only the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, the Arizona Cardinals, and the Buffalo Bills. In regards to the NFC East, the Cowboys will undoubtedly come out on top. I predict the Buccaneers, Rams, and Packers to win their NFC Divisions, as well as the Cardinals, Bears, and Panthers becoming Wild Card teams. In the playoffs, I can only assume Dallas will beat the Bears, then go on to have a victory over the Rams. After this, the Cowboys would have a shot to beat the Buccaneers in the NFC Championship game and avenge their loss in the first game of the season. So you heard it here first: you'll see the Dallas Cowboys in Super Bowl LVI.



Running back **Ezekiel Elliott** flexes during a week three win against the Philadelphia Eagles.



Horoscopes

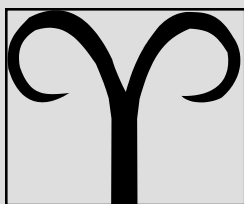


Written by: Tre Davis and Chase McDonnell

ARIES: (March 21 - April 19)

With Neptune aligning in your star chart, it seems like your favorite sports team is going to win a lot this month, leaving your house to be smelling like pizzas and junk food from the parties you'll have. Help Mom clean up a bit, will you? On another note, be sure to hide your Halloween candy. There might be some swipers in the house, especially that younger sibling.

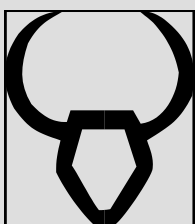
This Month: Eat your cereal with a fork.



TAURUS: (April 20 - May 20)

Aww man, as Saturn moves further away from your star chart your luck will turn bad. You will forget your homework at least 10 times this month, trip on your way to school, and spill coffee on yourself. Good luck with that. Be careful walking around the house as well. You might get spooked once or twice by things that are not there!

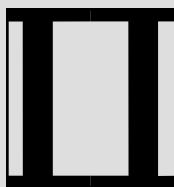
This Month: Don't charge your phone before you go to bed.



GEMINI: (May 21 - June 20)

Why, look at that, Mars has aligned in your star chart! This is your lucky month! That quiz you thought you failed? You aced it! Not only that... you accidentally got extra credit in your least favorite class! Way to rock! This month you should enter a raffle or buy a lottery ticket. Your chances to win are very high this month. And be on the lookout for spiders... don't be scared! They are signs of good things to come.

This Month: Check under your bed for goblins. They might tickle your toes at night.



CANCER: (June 21 - July 22)

Yikes! Jupiter has left your star chart, so you will experience a lot of technical errors this month. Expect your Wi-Fi to be out a lot. That means more family time, but also more family fighting time. Expect to clash with your siblings a lot this month. Make sure you get a backup costume; mummies don't wrap themselves.

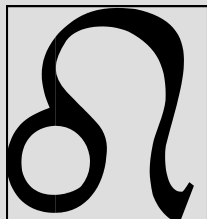
This Month: Wear garlic, the vamps might be out.



LEO: (July 23 - August 22)

Good news, Leos, Venus has entered your star chart! This month your parents will cook the best food they've ever cooked in their lives. Dinner will be the best it's been in years. On top of that, a food care package will be sent to your home. Hope you enjoy, because it will go fast. Don't let your siblings get a nibble, or you will turn your head and that package will be gone, just like that bowl of candy left out on Halloween.

This Month: Wear googly eyes on your butt.



VIRGO: (August 23 - September 22)

Things are looking up for the Virgos. Since Mercury has joined your star chart, good fortune is going to come, causing good luck all month. Go out, find a new hobby to do, and remember that fortune is on your side. Expect to do great in your costume competition and if you aren't in it, you better enter soon. That astronaut costume will be out of this world!

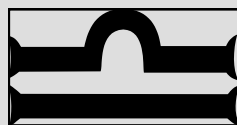
This Month: Do not share your Halloween candy with Mr. Donovan; he has a very big sweet tooth.



LIBRA: (September 23 - October 22)

This month is looking good for you. As the seasons change and Mars comes into alignment with your star chart, the school year is looking favorable. You will have the scariest costume for Halloween and win multiple costume contests. Winning the contests will score you bags and bags of candy and help you find your true love for about a month. However, cavities will come soon after and a shortage of toothpaste wreaks havoc on your relationship.

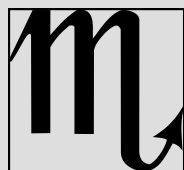
This Month: Dry clean your costume while wearing it.



SCORPIO: (October 23 - November 21)

Scorpio, things are looking very bad this month. As Uranus aligns with your star chart, the sun is partially blocked and prevents you from getting a tan and enjoying nice vacations. You can't see well because there will be hardly any sunlight, therefore stubbed toes and trips to a face full of the ground are common for Scorpions. However, reading assignments in school have been postponed due to the lack of reading light. Only movies and conversations in school from now until Christmas, so that's good.

This Month: Swallow lots of fire-flies so your eyes glow in the dark.

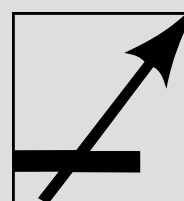


SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 - December 21)

Jupiter is moving into your star chart, which will grant you good luck this month. You show up to the Homecoming football game and watch the team win 40-0.

You get to storm the field after the win and sing the alma mater with the team. Be careful around the line-men, as Sagittarius will make the offensive line angry this month which could lead to some excessive blocking after the game. All in all, this month will be a great ending with a fun night at the Homecoming dance with your date.

This Month: Brush your teeth with mustard in order to have the best smile at HOCO.



CAPRICORN: (December 22 - January 19)

This month you will experience good luck with the help of Saturn aligning in your star chart. Good grades and perfect attendance at school will convince relatives and friends to shower you with extra candy and snacks. Unfortunately, your great grandparents will get you books and mints for the third year in a row. Strangely, those books and mints propel you to win the reading competitions in school. You will be known as the best speed reader ever at PAHS!

This Month: To be cool, wear socks on your hands..



AQUARIUS: (January 20 - February 18)

As Mercury enters your star chart, you will receive good luck for the month. You will carve the best pumpkin and make everyone jealous. You start to sell carved pumpkins and no one can get enough of your work.

Soon, you will have enough money to buy supplies in order to egg the neighborhood bully's house. Unfortunately, he will find out and TP your house first on mischief night. Your parents will make you clean up the TP instead of trick or treating.

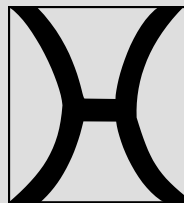
This Month: Eat raw eggs, don't throw them.



PISCES: (February 19 - March 20)

As Venus moves into your star chart, you will be granted bad luck. The 12 pounds of candy you will collect on Halloween will be stolen while you aren't looking. You will go home with nothing but some hard gum in your pocket. On the bright side, people start to share their treats with you. Unfortunately, you will get a terrible stomach ache and can't eat candy for months. Some day you will end up finding your empty bag of candy in your parents' room with wrappers everywhere.

This Month: Make candy monsters out of shaving cream.



for entertainment only

What school setting is best for you?

As the new school year begins, have you found yourself confused on what type of school setting is best for you? Do you dread the early mornings and long bus rides that come along with in person school? Do you enjoy being back in the building to enjoy a fresh Jerry sandwich? Maybe you enjoy laying in bed and taking a nap during class? Or do you feel most comfortable with a mix between these options? Take this quiz to find out what's best for you: in person school, fully virtual, or something in between!

1. Choose a word your best friend would use to describe you:
- Determined
 - Easy-going
 - Reserved
 - Independent

2. What is your ideal vacation experience?
- A road trip across the United States
 - A relaxed week at the beach
 - A secluded cabin in the mountains
 - Solo hiking journey in a national park

3. What do you do first after a long day of school?
- Begin my homework
 - Watch YouTube
 - Take a nap
 - Get out of the house and do something

4. During online school, what was your work ethic like?
- I finished school work early so my evenings were free
 - I completed all my work, but didn't put much effort in
 - I turned in most assignments late
 - I forgot to join Zoom meetings but still stayed on top of my work

5. What is your go to outfit choice for school?
- Nice shirt and jeans
 - Sweatshirt and jeans
 - Whatever clothes I find first
 - Something comfy—no need to look good

6. What role do you typically take on in group projects?
- Take on a leadership role and keep in regular touch with the other students
 - Do whatever your peers agree with and complete your part right away
 - Leave a majority of the work to other students
 - Contribute your part, but don't stay very connected to the group



7. Do you participate in clubs or after school activities at school?
- Yes! I am super involved and love collaborating with my peers
 - I am in a couple of clubs/sports and enjoy it
 - I am not too involved unless its something I am very passionate about
 - I do my own activities outside of school

8. Finally, what does your school attendance look like?
- I only miss school when I am sick
 - I skip a few days here and there, but for the most part I am on top of things
 - I don't have the best attendance record
 - I always do my work so why does it matter if I show up?



Scoring: Add up the number of times you chose each letter, then check your results below.

Mostly A's: You prefer in-person schooling. Since school shut down in early 2020, you have been eager to return to normal. You enjoy being present in the classrooms, collaborating with others in school projects, participating in school-related activities, and bonding with your teachers, which are all opportunities you missed out on while online.

Mostly B's: You prefer hybrid learning- or every other day in person. You are an indecisive person who wants a little bit of everything. Since you can't settle on one or the other, you prefer to do some learning online and the rest in a classroom. This creates a perfect balance between school and other activities for you, and an easy way to ease into the school year.

Mostly C's: You prefer virtual learning. You work best from the comfort of your own home...or bed. Instead of waking up early and dragging yourself to school to be in a classroom and participate in activities, you prefer to join a few Zooms and do your work on your own time.

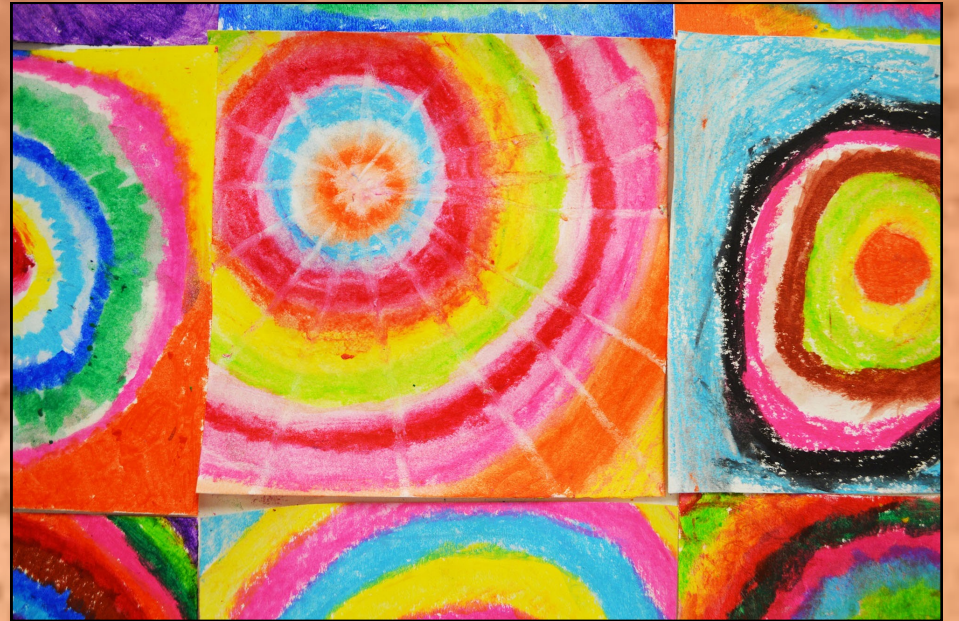
Mostly D's: You prefer completely asynchronous learning. You are independent and self-motivated, but would rather do your work and other activities alone instead of with your peers. Therefore, you stay away from Zoom meetings or in-person schooling and choose work on your own time.

Written by: Audrey Smith

ART

Students in Mrs. Lees' Ceramics, Ceramics II, Art III, and AP Studio Art classes created artist-inspired drawings focusing on concentric circles. Students were able to appreciate that even though we all create artwork from the same lesson, our artwork will always be unique and special. Collaborating on the mural proved that as artists we can create one large, beautiful piece of artwork and we celebrate each other's individuality. Come see this work hanging in the G-wing!

- Elizabeth Lees, PAHS Art Teacher



"To create a work of art is to create the world"
- Wassily Kandinsky

"Art Education: critical thinking, creativity, reflection, imagination, risk taking, self-direction, resiliency, collaboration, communication, problem solving, comprehension... it's the whole brain."

