

Hawks Soccer Team Kicks Off Season

BY JEREMIAH ANIM

It's that time of the year again, soccer season has officially kicked off--when two fierce teams determined to win the game face off against each other. One mind, one goal--literally!

This year we premiered our very first varsity soccer team coached by Athletic Director Jeff Melo. This isn't the first time Melo has coached a soccer team.

"I coached North Providence High School and several premier soccer teams around the state" says Melo.

The Highlander Hawks practice changes week by week depending on when they have games.

"We try to practice at least 2-3 days a week" says Melo.

A typical practice starts off with a warm up led by team captains Sophomore Michael Rivas and Freshman Anthony Cruz. Warm up is followed by offensive and defensive drills depending on the team's performance during previous games. After an intense practice the team

finishes off with a scrimmage, playing a game but for fun.

"I like practice. I think it's a useful spending of our time, but we still need to have more practice in a week" says Team Captain Freshman Anthony Cruz.

Melo has goals for how he wants the team to score goals.

"Since it's our first year playing we have very high expectations for the season. Our goal is to show up to every practice and game and give it 100%," said Melo.

The Hawks have had a rough start to the season losing their first two games against Block Island and Barrington Christian Academy but winning against Middlebridge in their 3rd game.

Sophomore Anthony Escobar doesn't feel discouraged about their past games.

"I think we have been doing good so far. The players on the team learned a lot about soccer. But in all it doesn't matter if we win or lose, we just play soccer," said Escobar.

"We have very high expectations for the season. Our goal is to show up to every practice and game and give it 100%." Jeff Melo, coach



The Highlander Hawks at a recent home game. Photo by T. Sandoval

Got Lunch? A Closer Look at our Meals



BY JAYDA DEWILLIS

When was the last time you enjoyed your school lunch? If you can't remember, you're not alone.

Out of 8 advisories who answered our survey, 43% of Highlander students eat lunch consistently.

One middle school student, Ruben Espinosa, grade 8, says he barely eats school lunch.

"No, most of the meat is raw and pink, and the pizza feels like grease," he says.

Pierina Carrasco 8th says "No it is disgusting."

Egypt Cole and Nathalie Rodrigez, both in 8th grade agree.

Most students don't know that our daily lunch servers aren't the ones who actually cook the food.

"The food is actually prepared at Alvarez High School, but we hope to start cooking the food on our own once our equipment starts working again," says Peg Dowd, who works at Sodexo, the company we get our lunch from.

However, our new lunch server, Jose Mijas, walked HCS News through the process on how our food gets from Alvarez to our cafeteria tables.

Once the food comes in from the food truck they set it out for breakfast and lunch. He separates it by sections--milk, fruits, main courses. The food comes to him already cooked and all he has to do is heat it up.

Domingo Lora, who eats only salad on a daily basis, is one of the few students who said he really likes the school lunch.

Some kids like Isaias Bulus 11th, only eat when they're "really hungry," and some are torn between meals. "I kind of (like it). Some things are good, some aren't," says Jolanna Prout, grade 10.

So if so many students seem unhappy with our school lunch, do we have other options?

Sodexo supplies food for 75-80 schools all over Rhode Island. This service is free to us. "We do not pay for Sodexo because it is through Providence Public Schools," says Head of School, Ms. Rosemary Gran

As head of school, Grant usually hears all the complaints students have about the food, but she urges them to look at the bigger picture.

According to a December 2014 Junior Scholastic, 66 million kids worldwide go to school hungry and \$3.8 million worth of produce is thrown away every day in the U.S.

"I feel like there is a good variety, especially with the salad bar and they (Sodexo) are willing to listen to our ideas. I think we could have more vegetarian hot options," says Grant, a vegetarian herself.

By law, schools must meet a nutrition standard of 700 calories per meal or fewer to receive federal funding according to JS. This might explain the choices in meals we have.

"I feel like there are plenty of choices.

The preparation was not great last year but we have new equipment and I am hoping that with the new equipment and new food service worker we will be in a better position this year," says Grant.

The nutritional laws that school must meet are intended to improve kids health and help reduce childhood obesity, but the problem is some of the kids won't eat the healthy food.

Dowd uses NutriKids software to keep track of how many calories and sodium are in the school meals served here.

Despite many complaints last year, the new school year has started much better when it comes to lunch and she's always open to discussing other options with Sodexo, says Grant.

Students Learn Sobering Facts With Distracted Driving Simulators

BY AMANDA BOURDIER

Some young people save up to spend a couple of hundred dollars on a pair of sneakers or the latest tech toy.

Not many imagine having to pay \$200 to \$5,000 on a fine for getting caught drunk driving--the first time. You can also get up to a year in jail and up to 70 hours of community service.

That is if you get lucky. The other consequence is injury and or death--to yourself or someone else.

The Save a Life Tour brought this reality to Highlander on September 29 with an opening 20 minute video that vividly and graphically showed what an accident looks like from the perspective of the driver, passengers and victims.

"Even if it may look terrifying it's what happens in today's world if you put yourself in that situation," says Rich.

The film also highlighted the story of a young man who was texting while driving and was responsible for killing two men in another car. "I think that movie was awful and cruel. I know we're high schoolers and supposed to be mature but it was scary," said Giannah Colon, a 9th grader, who says it will definitely make her think twice about getting into a car with someone who is drunk or distracted.

The entire student body was then able to experience first-hand the devastating effects of driving under the influence of alcohol and the effects of distracted driving due to texting



through state-of-the-art, interactive drunk driving simulators created by Kramer Edu-tainment.

"I did fine until the steering wheel and pedals stopped working. They locked and we crashed

into the streetlight and our windshield broke. The car I hit flipped," said De'Avion Smith, grade 10.

After each simulation, the screen showed the accident as it really happened--with real cars and real people.

"It was horrifying! There was blood on the

car. It makes me not want to drive but if I do it makes me think more of my responsibilities," said Smith

The program, based out of Michigan, was sponsored by the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) and is led by CJ Rich and Justin Boss.

Both men have been traveling the country on an awareness mission for twelve years. The tour will be traveling the East Coast for the next three months. Rich has a personal connection to the issue.

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Meet some new & returning faces on campus!

Ms. Blanco



BY NAYELI LUNA

Name: Jessica Blanco
Current Title/Role: Assistant Head of School
Where born: Hartford, Connecticut

Q: Favorite Food:
 A: Grilled cheese sandwiches, Bistec a lo pobre (steak and rice dish)

Q: Hobbies:
 A: Dancing, Volleyball, Playing cards

Q: Favorite candy:
 A: Reese's pieces

Q: Most embarrassing moment:
 A: Being sent to the principal's office in fourth grade for telling a fellow classmate to "shut up."

Q: Reason for Transition into new role (from teacher):
 A: I feel like I can have a greater impact on students' achievement in this position and I wanted to share my passion for equity and excellence in school.

Q: Can you share about your family?
 A: Son named William, 6 years old

Q: If you could live anywhere in the world, where would it be:
 A: I'd love to live in Peru. I lived there when I was little and it would be cool to go back and see where my family is from.

Q: Favorite type of music:
 A: It depends on my mood, but I love to listen to hip-hop, R&B, pop, salsa, bachata, but NO COUNTRY, LOL!

Q: Tell me more about your family, like your parents:
 A: My mother is from Peru and my father is from China.

Q: You've taught for many years, do you miss it?
 A: I miss teaching and sometimes I feel like I'm always going to be a teacher at heart. I try to help students if possible but I do miss it.



Location: Highlander Charter
Time: During school hours
9th grade : January 13, 2016
10th grade: Oct.14, 2015

Ms. Castro



BY ELTONYA HIGGINS

Name: Oneika Castro
Current Title/Role: 7th and 8th grade English

Q: Where did you teach before coming to Highlander?
 A: I used to work at Trinity Academy of Performing Arts (TAPA). I would work in all subjects. I went back to school and got a degree in Film & English and then became a writing teacher.

Q: How has the transition to Highlander been?
 A: It's been easy. The only struggle in transitioning is getting to know the students. Luckily, I already have strong bonds with my students. The only struggle is getting used to the school.

Q: What got you interested in teaching English?
 A: I always wanted to teach. Since I was in elementary school. I was always good at reading. I used to have a new book everyday or every other day.

Q: What's your biggest passion outside of school?
 A: My biggest passion would have to be eating. I love cooking, eating, going to restaurants. I also like to write reviews for the restaurants that I go to. One day I should publish them. I'll get around to it.

Q: What's your family like?
 A: I have five siblings. We're close but different. I also have a son. He's kind of like me. He's thoughtful, asks a lot of questions, and he's creative. He's seven.

Q: What's your favorite season? Why?
 A: My favorite season is Fall. I love the fall foliage. I love how the temperature drops. It's just such a beautiful season.

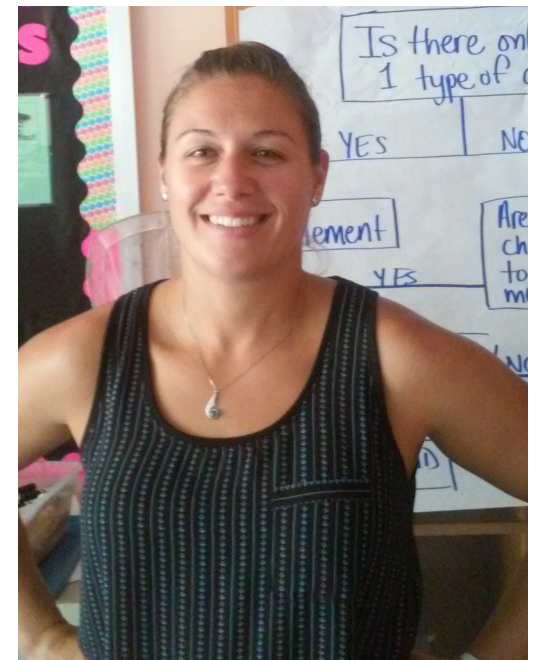
Q: What do you prefer: movies or books?
 A: I like both. If it was between the book and the book adaptation, I would pick the book. I like the book better because you can imagine what the characters look like, not have the appearance decided for you.

Q: What goals do you have for your students?
 A: My goal for my students is for them to become better writers. Writing is strong skill. But it's also a lost skill. Writing is skill that can take you far.

Q: What book or Movie was/is your favorite from your childhood?
 A: My favorite book was Green Eggs and Ham when I was a little girl. When I was older, I loved the book The Westing Game. It's about 16 strangers who were invited to Westing Estate to hear the reading of Westing's will. In his will, it states that one of the heirs is the murderer. It's kind of like Clue. Sixteen strangers gathered to solve a murder. I love the mystery and the puzzles that they put together.

Q: What's the funniest or most embarrassing thing you did as a student?
 A: This was before cellphones. My friend and I used to talk to each other thru walkie-talkies. She was in Spanish class and I was in French class. I don't advise you to do that. You might get caught. The weird thing about my experience was that my friend and I didn't get caught. I don't even know how the teachers didn't catch us. We were just secretly talking through the whole class and they didn't notice. We weren't even doing our work.

Ms. Goulart



BY WILHEMINA AYGEMANG

Name: Angela Goulart
Current Title/Role: 7/8 Science

Q: Where were you born? When did you move here?
 A: I was born in Long Island. I moved here at the age of 4.

Q: As a kid did you dream of being a science teacher? What did you want to be?
 A: No, I dreamed of being a pediatrician, a genetic engineer or a civil engineer.

Q: Did you enjoy school as a kid? What kind of student were you?
 A: I did sometimes. I was always the kid with a "headache" or "stomach aches" to get out of class.

Q: What got you interested in science?
 A: My dad was an engineer so that helped a bit and my science teachers showed me some really cool things.

Q: What was your first job as a teacher? Before Highlander?
 A: I was a middle school teacher at Calcutt Middle School in Central Falls.

Q: Do you like teaching here so far? Why? Is there anything that's challenging?
 A: I do a lot. I love the long periods because we can get through with our experiments. It's challenging to plan for the long periods especially when we are not doing an experiment.

Q: Some kids have heard you're the principal's daughter. Is this true? If so, how does it feel to be working here with your mom? Does it make your job easier or more difficult?
 A: You will need to check with the principal. If she was my mother, I'd be happy to see her everyday. It wouldn't really affect my job.

Q: What are your goals for your students?
 A: How to think and act like a scientist and hopefully some will be inspired to go into science fields.

Q: Have you achieved any of your goals?
 A: Yes, several like graduating college, getting a master's degree to become a better teacher and running half-marathons.

Q: Do you like to read? What's your favorite book?
 A: I do, my favorite book is the Game of Thrones series. I'm "patiently" waiting for the sixth book right now.

Q: What's your fave show/movie? if any actress could play you in a movie about your life who would it be?
 A: "The Office" it's hysterical. I would like Emma Stone to play me, she does not look anything like me but she is awesome.

Q: I hear you teach yoga. How long have you been teaching it? Do you enjoy it? Why?
 A: I've only taught it for a year. I do enjoy it because at the end of every class there is a pose called savasana where everybody just lays still and seeing the relaxation of other people makes me so happy.

Mr. McMullen



BY GIANNAH COLON

Name: Nathaniel McMullen
Current Title/Role: 9/10 ELA Teacher

Q: Where were you born?
 A: Norwich, New York

Q: What's your favorite color?
 A: My favorite color is blue

Q: What are your hobbies?
 A: Play softball at Warwick City Park

Q: What made you become an American Literature teacher?
 A: When I found out my love for reading late in life and I thought if I can help kids learn to like english sooner. I'd be making a difference.

Q: What do you think is the hardest part of your job?
 A: There is no hard part of my job

Q: Is this your first year being a teacher?
 A: Yes, this is my first year of being a teacher

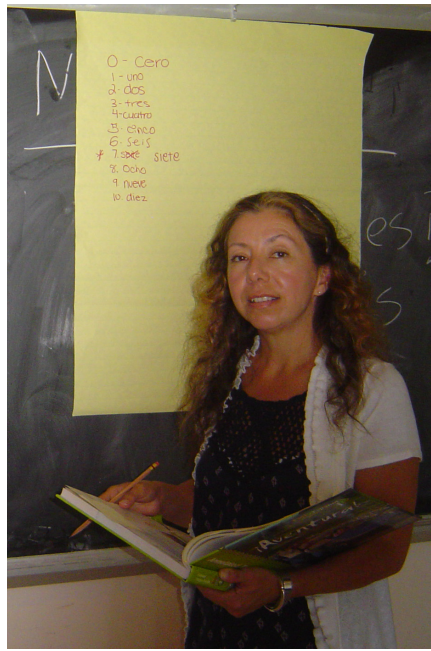
Q: What pursues you to become what you are now?
 A: The thing that pursues me is my grandfather because he always supported me and encouraged me

Q: What high school & college did you attend?
 A: Pilgrim High School in Warwick RI

Q: What did you do before joining Highlander?
 A: I worked in an alternative learning program

Q: How did you hear about highlander and why did you want to work here?
 A: I heard about highlander through my friend julissa who works at the elementary school because I like the location, students and the community.

Ms. Rivera



BY DE'AVION SMITH

“Rojo” ... “Blanco” ... “Como Estas?”
 These are a few of the words you might hear as you walk into Ms. Leticia Rivera’s Spanish Class. Rivera’s Spanish class is about much more than learning words, however. She’s also teaching students about the history of the language and the countries whose native language it is.

Her classes have a pretty good split down the middle of students who already know Spanish and those who are eager to learn the world’s second most spoken language--Mandarin is first and English is in the number 3 spot.

We recently sat down with Rivera, one of the many new faces at Highlander this year.

Q: How do you like teaching at Highlander? What school are you coming from?
 A: I enjoy teaching Spanish at Highlander and working with a diverse student population. Before working at Highlander I worked at a private elementary school in East Greenwich, RI.

Q: How long have you been teaching Spanish?
 A: 6 years

Q: Did you ever want to be anything other than a spanish teacher?
 A: When I was a teenager I thought my dream job would be “travel writer” because I wanted to travel the world.

Q: What advice would you like to give students who have never taken Spanish?
 A: I would advise students to learn a second language and to take Spanish language lessons. Spanish is a very important language. It is currently one of the most popular and widely spoken languages in the world. In addition, Spanish is a beautiful language with rich history and culture.

Q: What about students who are coming to you already knowing/speaking Spanish?
 A: Students that already know how to speak Spanish have the opportunity to further learn more about their native language and can enrich themselves as they learn more about the language.

Q: What are your goals for your class before the end of the year?
 A: One of my goals is for students to learn to speak Spanish and develop a love and appreciation for the language, it’s rich history and culture.”

Q: Do you mind telling us about your family?
 A: My family is a traditional Mexican American family.

Q: What do you enjoy doing on your free time?
 A: On my free time, I enjoy the beach. I like to run and jog and I also enjoy photography, music, art exhibits and cultural events.

Mr. Wolf



BY JAILYN PUJOLS

Name: John Wolf
Current Title: Science Teacher (7/8, 11)
College Attended: U.S Naval Academy located in Annapolis, Maryland.

We’d like to (re) introduce you to Mr. Wolf, if you don’t already know him. We’re happy to have him back at HCS after a brief hiatus at the Greene School located in West Greenwich, RI. Mr. Wolf worked at Highlander for 10 years prior to last year’s time away.

Q: What keeps you motivated?
 A: What keeps me motivated is just knowing that the children of my class are going to lead the future.

Q: Have you met all your goals?
 A: No, I want to be the best teacher I can be and I also want HCS to be the best place to learn about nature.

Q: What were you like as a child?
 A: I was actually very shy, but I also was the class clown and I just wanted to make my parents proud.

Q: Did you enjoy school as a child?
 A: Usually, being with friends and learning.

Q: Favorite subject in school?
 A: Math.

Q: Did you picture yourself like this 20 years ago?
 A: No, I actually didn’t know what I wanted to do yet.

Q: What advice do you have for students here at HCS?
 A: “Look into eyes and trees more than screens”

Q: How are you liking the new Highlander building?
 A: I am in love with it, because of the woods and all of the space there is available to use.

Q: Do you teach anything else besides science at Highlander?
 A: I teach chess and I will be teaching English in the spring.

Q: Why did you decide to go to the Greene School?
 A: I moved to the Greene School because it had more space available of nature.

Q: What brought you back to HCS?
 A: I really missed the staff and the students and I found out that Highlander had a new campus and was open to nature and had a lot of space available to use.

Q: Where do you see yourself in 5 years?
 A: I see myself still teaching kids about nature because I don’t know much else.

Q: If your co-workers could describe you in 3 words, what would they say?
 A: Goofy, intense and nature loving.



Friday, Oct. 30th

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- Amanda BourdierGr.11
- Jayda DeWillisGr.11
- Felipe Comas.....Gr. 11
- Jailyn PujolsGr. 10
- Jarissa Torres.....Gr.10
- De'Avion Smith.....Gr. 10
- Skyliya Briggs.....Gr.9
- Giannah Colon.....Gr.9
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- Wilhemina Agyemang.....Gr.10

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- Soljane Martinez.....

HCS News is always looking for the latest in school happenings, student accomplishments and things of interest to YOU! Drop us a note or stop in Monday-Friday 2-3 p.m. if you have something you think we should write



Kanye? For President?

BY JARISSA TORRES

On August 30th, 2015 at the Video Music Awards (VMAs), Kanye West announced he is running for president in 2020.

According to CNN News, West said, "I don't know what I finna lose after this. It don't matter though; It's not about me. It's about ideas. New ideas. People with ideas. People who believe in truth and yes as you probably could've guessed by this moment, I have decided in 2020 to run for president."

Many of the audience was wondering if he smoked before going on stage. Then west responds "Yes I rolled up a little something. I knocked the edge off".

Shirley Borbon, grade 8 said, "It's weird because he's a rapper and people who usually run for president aren't artists."

Kanye's wife, Kim Kardashian thinks Kanye is what the country needs. Kim is with him 110%, according to hollywoodlife.com. She thought West's "acceptance speech was epic".

Closer to home at HCS, Mr.Siner, middle school social studies teacher disagrees. "Kanye West is delusional and has no shot in winning."

According to Hollywoodlife.com, Kanye discussed his plans with Kim and the rest of the Kardashian family knows his "political aspirations".

Michael Rivas, grade 11, said," It's very corny. He doesn't know anything about the government and politics."

Kim couldn't have been happier. Especially because this is going big on Twitter, but even more shocking

the Democratic Party tweeted monday morning that the "group approved of a possible west run".

Patrick Hughes, grade 8, also agrees. "I think it's a good thing he's running for president and I like how he sees the world and it's for a good cause." Not everyone is so doubtful.

Gabriel Sandoval, grade 9th said, "I think he will be president and he will make more money and fans. He will have a better future."

If you thought he was kidding, just recently at the iHeartRadio Festival on September 20th, 2015 he performed many of his memorable songs.

Kanye performed "his brand spankin' new hit "Fade," announced his new album and at the end of his performance slipped in "a little bit of a surprise for the audience," with this lyric: "You'll be the man you always knew you could be — 2020."

He seems to be getting more serious. In a recent interview with Vanity Fair, he said, "I want everyone to win. When I run for president, I'd prefer not to run against someone. I would be like, 'I want to work with you.' As soon as I heard [Ben] Carson speak, I tried for three weeks to get on the phone with him. I was like this is the most brilliant guy. And I think all the people running right now have something that each of the other's needs. But the idea of this separation and this gladiator battle takes away from the main focus that the world needs help and the world needs all the people in a position of power or influence to come together."

"I don't know what I finna lose after this. It don't matter though; It's not about me. It's about ideas."

-Kanye West



Would you vote for Kanye?

YES

NO

SOBERING FACTS (CONTINUED FROM PG.1)

Three of his friends got into a car with a drunk driver and were involved in an accident. All three died. The driver was in a coma for months and later suffered so much depression and guilt that he took his own life.

"Our goal is to make an impact on today's youth so we can stop bad habits from developing at an earlier age," said Boss.

Over 100,000 accidents happen per year. According to distraction.gov, the official US government website for distracted driving, 10% of drivers of all ages under the age of 20 involved in fatal crashes were reported as distracted at the time of the crash. This age group has the largest proportion of drivers who were distracted.

The most rewarding part of their job, both men say is "getting to tackle a modern day social problem that's affecting thousands of people."

The presentation focus on teaching young people about necessary and unnecessary distractions while driving. Necessary distractions can be looking at a crosswalk, paying attention to pedestrians, traffic signs and lights. Unnecessary distractions while driving can be eating, texting, even drinking water--any basic thing can throw you off guard, says Rich.

A quarter of teens respond to a text message once or more every time they drive and 20% of teens and 10% of parents admit that they have extended, multi-message text conversations while driving, according to distracted.gov.

If you've ever been in the car with someone who's drunk driving, they probably have the mindset that they're good at it but that's because they haven't gotten caught.

According to Save a Life, the average person who drives under the influence will "get away with it" 80 times before getting caught. This leads people to falsely believe they are "good" drunk drivers and can handle it.

According to a National Highway and Traffic Safety Administration survey, in 2013, a total of 1,149 children 14 and younger were killed in car crashes. Of those, 200 (17%) were due to alcohol impairment. Out of those 200,

in more than half (61%), the children were passengers in cars with drivers who had blood-alcohol levels of .08 or higher. Another 29 children, (15%) were pedestrians or on bicycles.

"When you're drunk driving you restrain yourself from necessary distractions and you get delayed reactions from overcompensating," says Rich.

Students got to experience this over compensation and delayed reactions on the simulators.

The texting while driving simulation had a phone connected to it and the driver had to be driving at least 35 mph. Every 15-20 seconds the driver would receive a message and each message would ask a question that the driver had to respond to.

Boss noticed that a lot of kids didn't think it was so hard. "Even though it wasn't real we still want kids to learn the consequences and see things for themselves. We want kids to be talking about it because if kids are talking about it then we know we did our job," he says.

The drunk driving simulation had a lot of delayed reactions. Many students swerved off the road, into trees, ditches and worse--into other cars and pedestrians, sometimes killing them.

"If you know someone who drunk drives, or is driving under the influence or you're someone who drunk drives or have even just seen it happening, always remember that they (driver) aren't a bad person, they just made a bad choice," says Boss.

The Save a Life Tour's message is straightforward. Don't drink and drive or text and drive.

You're putting other people's lives in jeopardy just to respond to a text that can wait or for being intoxicated because you didn't know your limit. Think before you make a bad choice that will put the innocent people on the road in danger.

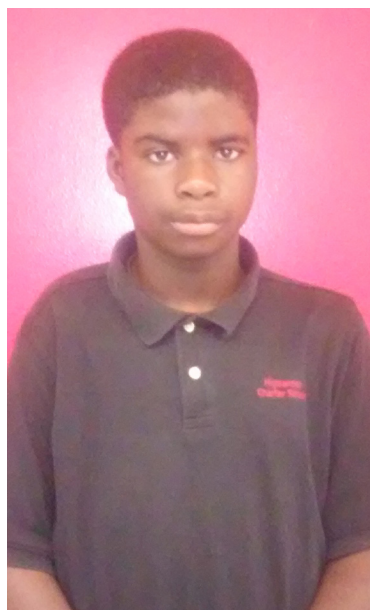
"The choices you choose to make can just be bad choices and you have to take responsibility in what you do," is the message Boss wants to leave with students.

Lady



HIGHLANDER HAWKS

Cheering Squad Coming Soon!



“He Said”

7th Grader Hezekiah Emmanuel says, “I feel like the busses are crowded and hot. They also show up to the bus stops really late”.

10th Grader Kyller Diaz “I feel like it’s been pretty bad so far. There are people who are 3 sitting (to a seat) and sometimes 4. It’s just bad overall”.

We mostly heard While students are feeling a certain type of way, our male adult point of view, sees it differently.

“Riding on a crowded bus stinks--literally and figuratively. Doing it in hot weather magnifies the issue. Doing it with bus drivers who are new to the job, to the routes or to working with young people adds to the issue. Riding with students who are either tired or disrespectful of others or both does too,” says Mr. Wolf.

Although most of the people dislike the busses this year, 9th Grader Jordan Rosario actually enjoys his bus. “I like my bus, It picks me up at the right time. Shoutout to bus 5!” he says.

Since we mostly heard from students opinions about the busses I thought it would be fun to get an adults perspective on the situation. Mr. Wolf has a mixed feeling about this bus situation.

“I think it’s complicated. In an ideal world, students would walk a block or so to their “great place to learn”. Because of the way our world has developed, that’s not a reality for most students. The great resource that the Warren campus provides (especially in terms of natural environment) requires a long ride from our homes, “ says Mr. Wolf.



“She Said”



their personal opinions on this “bumpy” topic.

The bus is pretty comfortable for me at this point. My bus driver is very nice and respectful but he does not talk much,” said 10th grader Alicia Dadeah.

When 10th grade girls Katherine Frias and Odalys Feliz were asked the same question they had a very different opinion.

“The bus situation is horrible--the bus comes very late and the 7th graders are very obnoxious,” said both girls.

Adidas DeWillis, freshman, says “It’s very annoying that they keep sending out new bus passes with new bus times.”

I spoke to 7th grader Antoinette Phetsaynhakoth who says her bus stop is “way too far away” from her house and she feels like she should have just stayed with the bus stop she was given last year.

Overall, it seems like the girls aren’t too happy with the busing.

Arianna Diaz, 8th grade, sums it up as “absolutely horrendous.”

The students aren’t the only ones feeling frustrated.

“Right now I’m frustrated that Bus 5 is always late (in the morning) because it’s giving students a disadvantage with having to rush to eat and get to advisory,” said Ms. Jessie Blanco, assistant head of school.

“The crowding is also a concern but it’s definitely being looked into,” she assured.

“HOW DO STUDENTS FEEL ABOUT THE BUS SITUATION?”

BY FANTA DIAKITE

Recently, Highlander has changed our bus company from Statewide Transportation which was supported by RIDE (Rhode Island Department of Education) and invested in our own company, Ocean State Transit which is it’s own private company. There has been plenty of problems over the past month with the new bussing. For this edition of He Said, She Said we interviewed the fellas to ask them

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“HOW DO STUDENTS FEEL ABOUT THE BUS SITUATION?”

BY JEREMIAH ANIM

Recently, Highlander has changed our bus company from Statewide Transportation which was supported by RIDE (Rhode Island Department of Education) and invested in our own company, Ocean State Transit which is it’s own private company. There has been plenty of problems over the past month with the new bussing. For this edition of He Said, She Said we interviewed the fellas to ask them their personal opinions on this “bumpy” topic.

11th Grader Wesley Monteiro feels strongly. “I don’t like the bus! The first week I got home at 6:30 PM, but now I get home at 5:10. I prefer the bus system from last year because I used to get home at 4:19 PM and it gave me more time to do my homework. The seats are packed mostly 2-3 people to a seat.”

8th Grader Jeshua Benzant has hopes that busses will get better this year.

“In the beginning of the year it took forever to come and the busses were very crowded. But hopefully the busses will get better thanks to afterschool.”

Students who stay for afterschool have a separate bus pick them up from campus at 4:30 that takes them to our Providence campus.



Junior Amanda Bourdier answers your everyday teen questions and concerns. Photo by A. Torres

Ask Amanda

Dear Amanda,

How do I tell a guy I like him?

Well, there are a lot of ways to tell a guy you like him. One way is texting it to him but in my opinion isn’t exactly the best way, but for those who are shy it might work. Another way can be leaving a cute note in his locker that’ll make it obvious it was you. The best way is to just tell him in person. It takes a lot of guts but it’s better to just be straight forward and tell him in person because you get to see his reaction. Also, I think it just means more to the person when you tell him straight forward.

Dear Amanda,

How do I tell someone nicely to stay out of my business?

People love to know other people’s business. If someone continues to be all up in your business, giving their uncalled-for opinions, and suggestions when you didn’t ask for them, I think you should be straight-forward with them and tell them to stay out of your business because if it doesn’t concern them or affect them in any way. Your business shouldn’t be relevant to them. What you do or say shouldn’t matter to other people. Don’t stress it because there’s always going to be people who have nothing better to do so they wanna be involved in your life. Take it as a compliment, at least your life’s more interesting.

Dear Amanda,

How do I balance school work and extracurricular activities/sports outside of school?

Well, you just have to balance everything. School work should always be your number 1 priority. Make sure that’s the first thing you get done. If you have a lot of time until something’s due then just make sure you’ll do it before it’s the due date. Don’t procrastinate because you were too tired from practice, or maybe a school activity, because teachers take that as an excuse. If you aren’t capable of finishing your work than you shouldn’t involve yourself in other activities because the fault would be on you.

Dear Amanda,

What do you do when people are making up rumors about you?

If people are making up rumors about you, don’t pay mind to it they’re called rumors for a reason. As long as you know the truth and you know it’s not true then you shouldn’t be worried, just continue doing you. If you’re more of a straight forward person and you know who made up the rumors, another option can be confronting them about it. You have to remember that confronting them about it and making a big deal makes it seem like you’re stressing it too much as if your spot was blown. Don’t stress it, it’s a rumor, it shouldn’t bother you if you know it’s not true.

Dear Amanda,

How do you deal with depression?

If you feel as though you’re depressed, sleeping all the time and not doing anything is a common thing when you’re depressed but it isn’t going to help. It’s just going to make you worse. You need to do things that’ll distract you, things that make you happy. Depression is a horrible thing to deal with, especially at this age. You feel as though your world is falling apart, you feel the need to isolate yourself. When you’re in this stage, the best thing to do is surround yourself with positive people and talk to someone because leaving everything in isn’t good. Make sure you let everything out.

Dear Amanda,

Im currently new to the school, how do I make new friends?

Try and socialize. Start by asking other students in your class questions to start conversations. Ask to hang out outside of school to get to know each other better. Once you guys do start to socialize you can start texting each other, talking on the phone, etc. Basically be open to speaking to people even if you’re shy--try and get out of your comfort zone.

Dear Amanda,

How do you deal with immature people?

To deal with immature people, you just gotta avoid them. It’s always annoying to be around people who don’t take you serious, or are always joking around and being childish. Another thing you can do is tell them straight up how you feel. Say how they’re being immature and it bothers you and makes you not wanna be around them so they can see that how they’re acting affects other people wanting to be around them.

Dear Amanda,

How do you make things un-awkward with someone after you’ve dated them?

Hmmm, it doesn’t always work right away. It always takes time, but it takes work by each of you in order for that awkwardness to fade away. You just gotta leave the past in the past and act as if nothing ever happened. That would be a good start, and maybe building some type of friendship with that other person so it doesn’t feel like you guys are avoiding each other because of the awkwardness.

Election 2016

STORY COURTESY OF HUFFINGTONPOST.COM

In November 2016, a new president will be elected to serve a four-year term, so now is an ideal time to start learning about the presidential election process.

Even though you may not be quite old enough to vote, you can still benefit from learning about elections and how you can take part in the political process.

Below are some things you should know about the upcoming presidential election and visuals of all the declared candidates:

1. WHAT A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE NEEDS TO WIN

The U.S. Electoral College, made up of 538 electors, determines who will be the next president. The number of electors varies by state, and is equivalent to the combined number of representatives and senators that state has in Congress.

To win the presidency, a candidate must get 270 electoral votes. Usually, a candidate who wins the popular vote in a state will get that state's electoral votes.

2. WHO CAN CAUSE CHANGE? (HINT: NOT JUST THE PRESIDENT)

While the president of the United States has the most powerful job in the world, he or she isn't responsible for making every big decision. There are three branches of government that work together. The president works for the executive branch. The U.S. Congress, which is made up of elected officials who serve in the House of Representatives and the Senate, is the legislative branch. And the judicial branch is made up of the Supreme Court and other federal courts.

These three branches of government don't just work together on a national level. Each state has elected officials that work together the same way, and even cities across the U.S. have lots of lawmakers working together to keep things running.

3. WHAT IS A SWING STATE?

While some states traditionally vote for candidates in a specific party, others are a little less predictable. These are called swing states, because they can swing an election in favor of a certain candidate if that person gains enough support from voters there. Colorado, Iowa (whose statehouse you see above) and Virginia are examples of swing states to watch ahead of the 2016 election.

4. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A PRIMARY AND A CAUCUS

There are actually two different ways that Americans in each state choose the candidate that they want to represent their party in the general election: a primary and a caucus.

In a caucus, residents gather with their neighbors at their local precinct at a specific time and choose a candidate. Because the caucus is communal, one candidate's supporters can try to persuade an undecided neighbor to back their candidate. A candidate's level of support at a caucus determines how many delegates they get at their party's nominating conventions.

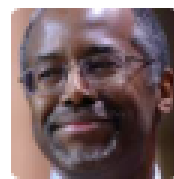
In a primary, voters go into a voting booth and cast a secret ballot for their preferred candidate, which then determines how many delegates a candidate will receive at their party's nominating convention. Unlike in a caucus, voters can cast their ballots throughout the day or over the course of several weeks if the state allows early voting.

THE REPUBLICANS

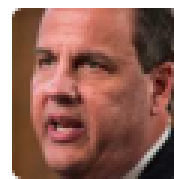
RUNNING



BUSH



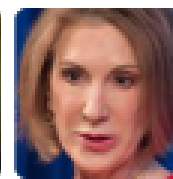
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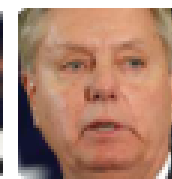
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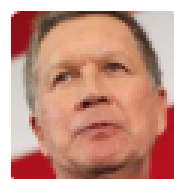
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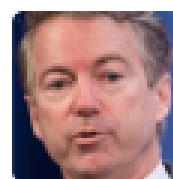
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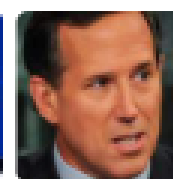
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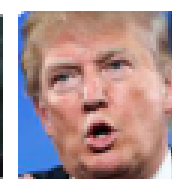
PAUL



RUBIO



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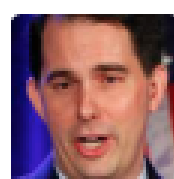


TRUMP

DROPPED OUT



PERRY



WALKER

NOT RUNNING



ROMNEY

5. YES, YOUR VOTE MATTERS

Some people argue that individual votes don't matter, especially in certain states. But that's not the case. Sure, the presidential race has never been decided by a single vote, but there are lots of other elections that have come close. A lot of down-ballot races -- like elections for congressional, state or local lawmakers -- can come down to just a few votes, and those officials have a big effect on what kind of legislation gets passed in your country, state or city. If everybody thinks their one vote won't make a difference, it adds up to a lot of voices not being heard.

6. VOTING BOOTHS HAVE RULES. NO SELFIES!

If you're tempted to snap a selfie of you and your ballot inside the voting booth on Election Day, beware: Many states have laws that ban these types of photos, out of a fear that intimidation or vote-buying would be easier with photographic evidence.

The punishment for a voting booth selfie can range from simply making you delete the photo or leave the polling place to a fine or even jail time. However, a federal court just struck down New Hampshire's law banning voting booth selfies, saying it unconstitutionally limited free speech, so more states may follow.

Better safe than sorry, though!

7. YOU DON'T ALWAYS HAVE TO BE 18 TO VOTE IN A PRIMARY ELECTION

In some states, you can vote in the presidential election even if you're not 18. Some states will allow 17-year-olds to vote in the primary as long as they are turning 18 before the general election. For a summary of voting age requirements, go here, or check with your state's secretary of state.

8. YOU HAVE SEVERAL OPPORTUNITIES TO VOTE

Some states allow you to vote before Election Day by going to an early voting location. In other states, if you are unavailable to vote on Election Day, you must request an absentee ballot that you can mail in advance. In a few states -- Colorado, Oregon and Washington -- all ballots are cast by mail.

If you're a college student who doesn't live with your parents anymore, you will want to consider where "home" is for you. You might choose to vote from your parents' address, if that is still your principal home, using an absentee ballot if you will not be in the area on Election Day. Or you could register to vote where you go to school.

If you decide to wait until Election Day, many states require your employer to give you either paid or unpaid time off to cast your ballot. If you wish to do that, be sure to check your state's laws and see if you are required to give your employer advanced notice of your plans or to bring back proof that you voted.



Race For The White House

THE DEMOCRATS

RUNNING



CHAFEE

CLINTON

LESSIG

O'MALLEY

SANDERS

WEBB

EXPLORING



BIDEN

NOT RUNNING



WARREN

2016 CANDIDATES' KIDS HIT THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

STORY COURTESY OF CBS NEWS

The political tradition of bringing the family out on the presidential campaign trail has a long history, and now with the rise of better, faster broadband and an array of social media, there are even more ways for the candidates' kids to lend a hand.

Matt and Alex Walker, Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker's sons, have been pitching in since the beginning, even emceeding his presidential announcement event.

Twenty-one-year-old Matt and twenty-year-old Alex, at Marquette and the University of Wisconsin-Madison respectively, have enrolled in their fall classes, but they'll take field trips to their father's campaign whenever they can.

One area where Walker welcomes their help is social media. Although he's one of the younger White House aspirants, it's probably a relief to be able to hand off his Snapchat account to Matt from time to time. Matt oversees the account when he travels with his father, shooting off updates to followers before or after his father's campaign stops.

Both sons also plan to contribute to Walker's campaign from campus, since they're active on Twitter and other social media platforms. Their integration to this point into their father's campaign has been pretty smooth, but there are dangers, warned Julian Zelizer, a political historian at Princeton.

"The more out front a child is, the more the press is willing to go after them and report everything. You want to be careful just to

guard their privacy. I think that's another reason candidates are really careful in using this relationship," Zelizer told CBS News.

The Walker kids' involvement in their father's presidential campaign is extensive but far from unusual. Voters, Zelizer also pointed out, "want to imagine a traditional family in the White House, and the children become part of that."

The Walker sons don't always see eye-to-eye with their father on the issues. After the Supreme Court ruled in favor of same-sex marriage in June, Walker posted on Facebook that it was a "grave mistake." His sons disagreed, and told CNN in an interview that they had told Walker they supported same-sex marriage, but, Matt admitted, they "aren't necessarily changing his stances on any issues."

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie's kids, Andrew, Sarah, Patrick and Bridget, have also been active in their dad's campaign. Like Matt and Alex Walker, they're keen on social media, and they, too, are fond of snapchat. The four took over Christie's snapchat account entirely for a few days in August, while the governor campaigned at the Iowa State Fair. Christie's wife Mary Pat, meanwhile, posted to his Instagram account.

In the Bush family, presidential campaigns course through the family bloodlines. George W. Bush's involvement in his father's campaign revealed an early aptitude for the stuff of presidential

politics. "He was a hardball political operative and he was really willing to encourage the 1988 campaign to use the most cutthroat tactics" Zelizer said, adding that Bush, "was actually very effective politically in helping his father". George P. Bush, who is 39 years old, and his younger brother Jeb, Jr. (31), are proving to be key surrogates for their father's campaign. The two have been tasked with helping the campaign reach out to Hispanic voters and young people, in addition to raising money.

George P. has already embarked on his own political career - he was elected Texas Land Commissioner last year. This doesn't seem to have slowed his efforts on his father's behalf, though: he has already made campaign stops in Iowa, New Hampshire and South Carolina so far. He even filed his father's paperwork several weeks ago to appear on the South Carolina Republican primary ballot and later met with young voters.

The two sons also head the campaign's young donor program called Mission Next, raising money in \$50 and \$1,000 increments for Bush. Jeb Jr., who does not hold elected office like his brother, has been an active fundraiser for the campaign.

Undoubtedly one of the best-known candidate's kids on the trail this cycle will be Chelsea Clinton. She is no stranger to the rigors of campaigning or the scrutiny of being part of the first family. She was a child going through her awkward years in full public view while her father was president, and by the time Hillary Clinton last ran for president, then-28-year-old Chelsea had emerged as a powerful campaign force. She crisscrossed the country, focusing on college campuses, carrying her mother's policy points far and wide.

Clinton campaign officials said earlier this year that the Chelsea, who is 35, along with former President Clinton, would again play a part in Clinton's campaign. But in an effort to keep the focus on Clinton herself and connect with voters, Chelsea has not yet appeared as a surrogate on the campaign trail.

Chelsea did appear alongside her mother in June on Roosevelt Island in New York City, where Clinton held her first formal rally a month after announcing her bid. A smiling Chelsea and her husband, Marc Mezvinsky, joined Clinton on stage following her speech, giving her hugs and waving to the crowd.

Zelizer said that Chelsea could be "a huge asset" to her mother, "not in terms of her appearances, but because she is very smart and savvy, and she can help Hillary Clinton bring out some of her more personal side."

The former, and possible future, first daughter was the subject of two deep profiles published online recently in the Washington Post and Vanity Fair, which in part focused on her new, more prominent role at the Clinton Foundation. As often was the case during the 2008 election, Chelsea declined to be interviewed for either.

Though no timeline has been set, a Clinton aide recently said that Chelsea might take on her more formal role with the campaign late in the fall. She may not be on the trail yet, but she's already inspired one campaign song on behalf of her mom's campaign, called "Chelsea's mom."

It's a Zoo In Here

BY FELIPE COMAS

Elephants and donkeys are roaming the halls of Highlander.

Not in their animal forms, but as representative symbols of the Republican and Democratic parties. This is the theme of Campaigns and Politics, a new elective this year.

The class is taught by Molly Tracy, ELO Coordinator and After School Director. It's held on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday afternoons and teaches about following a presidential election and the ins and outs of one.

The class will learn about the history of presidential elections. Tracy says that she wanted to teach this class because she could help young people learn about politics for future use like following an election.

"I think that this class is helpful and helps give me a better understanding of politics," says junior Alexander A. Torres. He also said his favorite thing to do in this class is to learn about politics.

Legioney Pina, sophomore, agrees. "Yes it is helpful." Her favorite thing to do in class is watch political debates.

Tracy first joined Highlander as an After-School Co-

ordinator and has added ELO Director to her title, but this is her first time teaching a class.

When asked how well she thinks she is teaching the class, she says, "Seven out of ten." She finds meeting students at the same level of knowledge difficult. "It is challenging but rewarding because it is what I am passionate about" said Tracy.

"Politics seem boring and difficult but is not as difficult as it seems" said Tracy. She advises students who are interested in politics to begin following politics and reading about it as early as possible.



Torres is following Donald Trump and says that he learned that Trump is against common core, wants to build a wall, and believes in legal migration. Torres said that he would personally vote for Bernie Sanders although he likes the Republican party.

Pina is following Rand Paul and learned that he is against abortion. Pina said that she would vote for Hillary Clinton.

After Tracy was asked who would become president she said that it is too early and that even though Trump is ahead in the polls that Jeb Bush will win the primaries because more people believe in what Bush believes and that that minority is more outspoken and that Hillary Clinton will win the Democratic primaries. Tracy said that she would personally vote for Bernie Sanders.

LEFT: Students listen as Tracy teaches her Campaigns & Politics elective.

Photo by T. Sandoval



Mouthing off



"If you could be any Halloween candy what would you be and why?"

"I would be a candy corn cause I like to laugh at my own "corny" jokes. LOL"

- Mr. McMullen, 9th/10th ELA



"Nestle Crunch, it was my childhood candy."

- Mr. Melo, PE teacher



"A hershey bar with almonds because everyone loves chocolate and everyone loves me."

- Janae Smith, 9th

"I would be dark chocolate caramel because it's strong but flexible and a little sweet."

- Mrs. Goulart, 7th/8th Science



"I would be a sour patch because I'm sweet and sour"

- Julian Andrade, 9th



"A sour patch, because it looks like a person."

- Andy Franco, 9th



"We're Milky Ways because we're out of this world."

- Mrs. Zolkos, Resource Teacher and Mr. Duffy, Student Teacher

Spooky Bash



Friday, Oct. 30th
Providence Campus
Time TBD
Grades 7-11



***Attire: costume OR black/white**
\$3 Fright Fest tix only
\$3 Dance only
\$5 Both events

Food & Raffle tix for purchase

Co-sponsored by HCS News & Lady Hawks Cheering Squad