

THE GENERATOR

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HENRY FORD II HIGH SCHOOL
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photo by Alexis Alfonsi

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A PROJECT IN PARTNERSHIP

DECA members organize hygiene drive

by Elizia Lala

With labeled boxes in many classrooms, students donated hygiene products to DECA's donation drive.

Partnering with Friends of Foster Kids, DECA is leading a Project Management Community Giving drive for children in foster care. The drive ran from Oct. 20 to Oct. 29. Many teachers placed boxes in their classrooms labeled with the products students may donate, such as toothbrushes, shampoo, toothpaste, lotion, feminine products, hair ties, body wash, deodorant, bar soap, conditioner, floss, and mouth wash.

"It helps kids get essentials that they don't have access to," senior Riley Touchton said. "I want to make a difference, and it allows me to have a project to do for DECA."

DECA's Project Management inspires many students to help and engage with their community every year. Additionally, as these projects are a part of DECA's Competitive Events, the drive will be presented in front of a judge. The

three students running the Project Management are Touchton, and juniors Roula Victor, and Gina Tavolacci.

"All the donations go straight to a non-profit organization called Friends of Foster Kids," Victor said. "It helps us make money and then everything goes straight to them."

Friends of Foster Kids is an organization which has responded to emergency needs with shoes, clothing, pajamas, coats, and hygiene items for years. DECA's community giving goal is to raise as much money as possible. Eventually, all the donations are calculated and put into the project.

"It fits our school because it's bringing awareness about how they deserve the essentials," Tavolacci said. "They deserve the stuff that any other kid would have. One of the strict policies is bringing everything new, so we want to be making sure that they're getting new stuff."

As students drop hygiene products in the labeled boxes, kids in foster care gain more donations by the day.



photo by Elizia Lala



photo by Clara Taylor

NEXT STOP: COLLEGE!
Students discover opportunities, scholarships, and more with college night

by Daniil Leybin

Seniors celebrate future at college night with excitement and opportunity taking the center stage.

The annual college night arrived around the corner during the week of Oct. 13-17. Seniors visited representatives from colleges and universities at the Sargent Instructional Resource Center.

"I think that the senior college night is beneficial," senior Frida Klosi said. "I wish I could have attended because I knew I would have gotten something out of it."

Many seniors could use this opportunity to talk to college representatives, as this is a chance to learn information about their schools, programs, campus life, and tips about their application. Seniors also have the chance to ask questions directly to the reps themselves, counselors, or current college students or

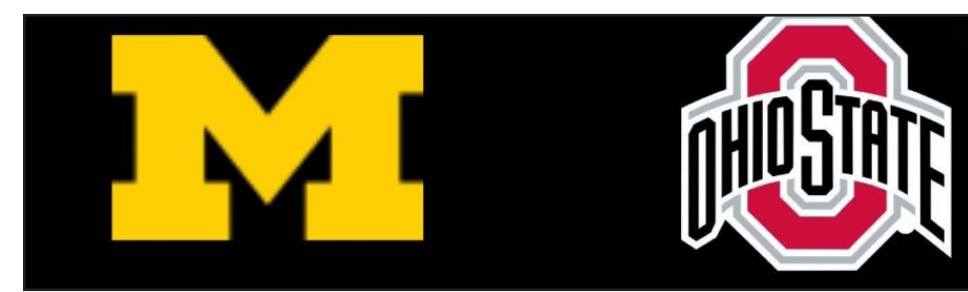
alumni in attendance.

"I did not attend, but I know that it would have helped me in general," senior Isabella Hillwig said. "Taking the opportunity to know more about college is very useful."

To add, seniors could also use this opportunity to learn about scholarship opportunities. If a student did a sport during high school, they could talk to a representative on how to apply for a scholarship to earn financial aid.

"It was extremely insightful to me in my opinion, getting to know some of the opportunities I would receive from these colleges," senior Annmarie Ekpo said. "I'm really glad that I attended in general."

With information and helpful tips, Senior College Night celebrates what's next for students, putting excitement and opportunity at the heart of the evening.



by Creative Commons

WOLVERINES VS BUCKEYES

One of the biggest rivalries in college football face off

by Grace Kavanagh

Michigan and Ohio State are set to face off in November in one of college football's biggest rivalries.

College football teams University of Michigan and Ohio State University play each other on Nov. 29. For many students and families, it's more than just a football game: it's a long standing tradition that brings people together to celebrate, cheer, and show their school spirit.

"I'm so excited to watch the biggest game, in my opinion, and the only one that appeals my attention for the whole time," freshman Anthony Pace said. "I am going to a party with my friends and family to watch it all together."

U of M and OSU play each other every November. The only year they didn't play together since 1897 was 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. That break made fans even more excited for the games that came after, since the rivalry means so much to both teams and their

supporters.

"This game is really important to me because my team has been beating Ohio State for many years," senior Brooke Zupan said. "Me and my family get together to eat good food and watch the game as a whole family."

Even with Michigan winning countless games, Ohio State fans haven't lost their hope and continue to cheer for their team and believe this could be a good year for them to take back the win.

"I feel it's still going to be an amazing game no matter what happens or who wins," freshman Myasia Gilbert said. "Both teams give their all, and the energy from the fans make it a better experience every year."

Michigan and Ohio State will go head to head Nov. 29 in one of college football's most famous rivalries. As Michigan looks to push their winning streak to five games in a row, fans from both sides are ready for another showdown filled with pride, energy, and tradition.

CHASING THE GREEN

Varsity golfers chase the green

by Sophia Mulka

Two girls golf athletes swing their way into their All-MAC awards.

In Saint Clair Shores on Sept. 30, seniors Alexis Alfonsi and Emma Ostrowski were the only two athletes from the school to win the All-MAC award.

"It felt rewarding since we worked all season to win matches," senior Alexis Alfonsi said. "It was nice to get an award for hard work paying off throughout the season."

With winning these awards came hard work. Points were given to athletes throughout their season, and at the end, points were added up.

"Throughout the whole season, if you

get first place in a match [lowest score], then you get 12 points," Ostrowski said.

"After all the matches, the number of points gets added up, and the top ten people with the most points get the award."

The school had two athletes to receive this award. Even though some athletes did not receive the award, they still had season's accomplishments such as doing well in matches.

"I would say that I feel pretty good about the season," senior Gabriella Ott said.

"I do feel like I have improved from last year."

As the season came to an end, golfers received awards and prepared for next steps.



photo by Alexis Campion

EYES ON THE PRIZE

After last year's drive to state quarter finals, the girls basketball team is back and ready to take on the 2025-2026 season

by Maggie Castillo

Out of breath and tired, they want to stop but they remember the joy of lifting the trophy up.

The girls basketball team prepares for the upcoming season after winning the regional championship last year.

"I learned what it meant to be a team and work together towards our goals," junior Emma McNally said. "In the beginning of our season, our goal was to win our league, districts, regionals, and then states. So, we learned that if we want this, it all depends on our goals and how we work together as a team. This season, I will be a leader and continue the bond that the team had last year."

This year, the girl's season starts on Dec. 9, where they will face off with Anchor Bay. This season, they will have to rebuild because they only have six returning players. They also welcome six new players this season.

"We'll face challenges because we

will have a majority new team with only six returning players," junior Lia Raciti said. "It may take a little time for people to adjust and to build team chemistry. To overcome this, we will try to build chemistry early on with team dinners and open gyms. The returning players will be good leaders and model for the newer girls to help them."

The girls basketball team not only won a regional Championship last winter, but made it to the state quarterfinals, playing West Bloomfield. This was a historical moment for the school since they hadn't won a regional championship in 40 years. Therefore, the girls plan to make history again this year.

"My team motivates me during the season because we work hard together to win together," junior Sarah Leeseberg said. "My ultimate goal is to win districts."

With practice, communication, and dedication, the girls begin the season with hopes to lift up a trophy once again.



file photo by Leyla Grebovic

HENRY FORD II NEWS BITES

Bubbles on Wheels | Seniors Angelina Yalda, Bella Vettraino, and Ellanie Myers have begun a fundraising campaign, making sure all students have access to basic resources. They encourage students to donate money and detergent donations.

Ping Pong Tournament | On Nov. 6, there will be a ping pong tournament taking place during all lunches. It's \$5 per player. All proceeds go to future events.

Blood Drive | On Friday, Nov. 14, from

7:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., students can donate their blood to help save lives. The American Red Cross is working with the school for this drive.

Career Fair | On Nov. 7, there will be a career fair during all lunches in the media center and ECC.

Boys Basketball Tryouts | Boys Basketball tryouts are Nov. 12-15 from 2:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

"The Generator" is the monthly publication produced by the Journalism and Newspaper classes. It has always stood as a designated public forum of student opinion. Our goal is to inform students, parents and teachers on important news happening at school and in the community.

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WINDING DOWN

THE ROUTINE RESET

ONE STEP AHEAD

■ by Olivia Brylkowski
To prepare for the change of daylight savings, students learn about real obstacles and adjustments when healthy tips are given by the health teacher for their journey to switching their everyday life.

1. Gradually Shift Your Sleep Schedule

“Start adjusting your bedtime and wake-up time a few days before the time change,” Health teacher Amy Junga said. “Go to bed, and wake up 10–15 minutes later each day to help your body adjust naturally.”

“I don’t think changing when you go to sleep 10-15 minutes later each day does anything because there are days you accidentally sleep in, which will affect your schedule,” senior Viktoria Krasnici said. “It can be hard to wake up everyday, especially when you don’t get enough sleep in the night before, so it’s not realistic to wake up at the same exact time every day. I do understand that pushing yourself to do something can become a habit, but sleep is something uncontrollable.”

2. Stick to a Routine

“Try to go to bed and wake up at the same time every day—even on weekends,” Health teacher Amy Junga said. “Consistency helps your body’s internal clock stay on track, reducing fatigue and improving focus during the school day.”

“I think trying to go to bed and sleep at the

same time can make it easier because your body is already used to waking up and going to sleep,” senior Savannah Peterson said. “It makes the transition easier when the time goes.”

3. Limit Screen Time Before Bed

“Blue light from phones and computers can interfere with your sleep,” Health teacher Amy Junga said. “Aim to turn off screens at least 30 minutes before bedtime to help your brain relax and prepare for rest.”

“I don’t think staying off your phone really does anything,” junior Colten Parker said. “It has no effect. I don’t think phones have any relation to trying to sleep better. If you are having trouble, you should take some melatonin.”

4. Stay Active and Hydrated

“Exercise and staying hydrated can boost your energy levels and improve sleep quality,” Health teacher Amy Junga said.

“I think drinking water really can help you be ready for the time change,” freshman Jahziah Meyst said. “It’ll allow yourself to fall asleep at a healthier time.”



photo by Elizia Lala

CHILLY DAYS

Winter’s chill changes students’ lives and routines

■ by Grace Waske
Student’s schedules, outfits, and moods change as the days get colder and shorter.

In Michigan, the weather gets colder and the days get shorter as the year comes to an end, and students have to adjust to these changes.

“In the winter, the activities that I am a part of change,” sophomore Naliyah Reeves said. “I am more free to hang out with my family and friends, since the schedule for my AAU track team calms down.”

As schedules change during the winter seasons, like what sports they participate in and different school events that occur, so do students’ outfits. There is a drastic drop in temperature within a few months, so students have to adapt.

“My outfits get to be thicker and warmer,” soph-

omore Sophia Poulsen said. “My favorite things to wear are vests, long sleeves, and leggings.”

Outfits are an important part of students’ lives, and the winter months change the style that they pick. The colder months also change student’s moods, and many students have what is called seasonal depression.

“The winter always makes me feel less motivated and more tired,” sophomore Isabella Williams said. “Something about the weather causes my mood to change.”

As the weather gets colder and the days get shorter, student’s schedules, outfits, and moods change.

YAWN...SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK!

The upcoming daylight savings will rewind the clock by 1 hour



■ by Dara Razoky

photo by Creative Commons

Daylight savings is creeping up, and people are going to soak in that extra hour of sleep before waking up.

Students of the school await and have thoughts

towards the event on Nov. 2 that will affect their entire schedule due to the rewind of 1 hour in the day. Daylight savings will allow them to have an extra hour to do different activities.

“I think it’s pointless because eventually you add an hour and lose an hour,” junior Breken Lipinski said. “It confuses people’s sleep schedules, and people with night shifts have to work even longer.”

Daylight Savings can affect people negatively by messing with their sleep schedules or making night shift workers work longer. For example, hospital workers or convenience store employees.

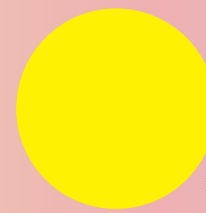
“I think it’s nice because I get more time to work on my homework, and I get an extra hour of sleep before school,” senior Ketan Oza said. “Although, there are some cons that come with it. It throws me off because I get up extremely early for school which would make me tired all day.”

The benefits of daylight savings are that others have more time to finish tasks that could have led to a loss of sleep for individuals. Daylight savings can also be a benefit to those who are sleep deprived. However, having daylight savings disrupts peoples’ routinely schedules that they are used to which causes them to have to adapt.

“I love it because it would mean I get an extra hour of sleep, so I’ll feel way better in the morning,” sophomore Robert Hotaj said. “The reason I don’t like it too because I play sports, so there wouldn’t be as much sunlight in the day.”

Daylight savings is arriving sooner than expected, and people are excited for the extra hour to either sleep or finish tasks, as it can be helpful in many ways.

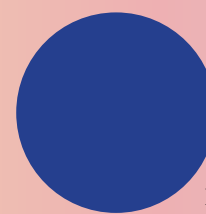
■ by Sarah Borland
Ready, set, go. Every student that is in school has a certain routine every morning and after school to feel set for the day.



Freshman Anthony Pace:

“In the morning, I usually wake up around 5:35, brush my teeth, wash my face, and get dressed for school. I eat a quick breakfast and check my phone for messages before heading out to my friend’s car.”

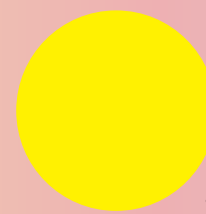
“After school, I usually go straight home or get food. I like to relax by playing video games or hanging out with friends before dinner, then get ready for bed so I can do it all again the next day.”



Freshman Emily Borland:

“For my morning routine, I wake up at 5:40 a.m., then I head to the bathroom and put my clothes on while brushing my teeth for the day. After that, I go and do my makeup and put on perfume, then my sister drives me to school with her.”

“After I get home from school, it’s around dinner time since I had volleyball practice. I eat, then spend time with my family before getting ready for bed.”



Freshman Myasia Gilbert:

“I usually wake up around 6 in the morning, shower quickly, and get dressed for school. I eat breakfast while scrolling through my phone and then grab my backpack before heading out.”

“After school, I usually go to band practice or hang out with friends for a bit. When I get home, I do my homework, eat dinner, and then relax by listening to music or watching videos before going to bed.”

JINGLE, MINGLE, AND MOVE ALONG: THE CHRISTMAS WONDERTHON IS ON

The theatre department prepares for December play



photo by Sofia Argentiero

by Grace Barry

The crowd roars as the cast takes a final bow. The school's December play spreads Christmas spirit.

Dec. 3, 4, 5, and 6, the theatre program will perform "The Holiday Channel Christmas Movie Wonderthon" play.

"My favorite thing about this play is that it's related to the time in which we are doing it," senior Dod Gjerka said. "It's a Christmas play, and we are doing it in December. It fits the season perfectly. It gets us excited for the Christmas season."

Students will have the opportunity to watch the play in school on Dec. 3. The three other days will be after school, where family and friends can also attend.

"I go over my lines a lot," senior Dana Cybulski said. "I review my

blocking. I work with my scene partner and we go over our lines together. We also watch Hallmark movies in class, so we can understand what to do in certain situations. I like how it is a Christmas play. It gets everyone in the Christmas spirit. I have been acting for four years, so I am pretty excited for the play."

The Christmas Wonderthon is about six Hallmark movies, where characters are in an Inn and meet together to couple up. This show is essentially a satire of Hallmark movies.

"Just reading my lines all the time," junior Riley Swinney said. "We do a lot of blocking and running through the show. Working together with all of my friends. We have a lot of fun at rehearsal. I am really excited, but I am nervous because I have to kiss someone."

With a final bow, the curtain closes and the play comes to a conclusion.

DOES THE EARLY BIRD REALLY GET THE WORM? Students preach that the shorter days and early mornings are bad for them due to daylight saving time

Staff Editorial

A thick blanket of dark places itself upon students as daylight saving time begins Nov. 2.

With shorter days and longer nights, daylight saving time affects students' energy and motivation. Concerning this aspect, schools do not adjust to the change in time; with school from 7:15 a.m.- 2:09 p.m. However, this negatively affects students' energy levels, productivity, and grades. The problem of students being tired is a serious barrier to their academic performance, therefore schools should start later.

Starting school at a later time will raise students' energy levels, resulting in increased productivity and grades. According to the "American Psychological Association," between 2009 and 2021, the amount of high schoolers who did not get enough sleep increased from 69% to 77%. Sleep deprivation is a serious problem especially because it's crucial for adolescents' development. Although students can choose to go to bed earlier, it's not that simple. Some students may stay up studying and doing homework because of getting home late

due to sports or work. Also, after a long day of school, instead of going straight to bed, students have the natural desire to talk to friends, spend time with family, play games, and etc. That being said, a later start time would not only give students more

with elementary students later start time. However, according to "Sleep Medicine Consultants," little kids' circadian rhythm naturally aligns with early school start times, with them needing 9-12 hours of sleep. Adolescents on the other hand experience a shift in circadian rhythm, causing them to feel more awake later in the night and sleep in later in the morning, needing 8-10 hours of sleep. Therefore, it makes no sense how the school system makes high schoolers wake up earlier, as this messes with both their and elementary schoolers' circadian rhythm. Elementary schoolers get less homework and time-consuming activities such as work, therefore they don't have to stay up late and can easily get 9-12 hours of sleep with an early school start time. Meanwhile, high schoolers have many activities to balance, making it harder for them to get about 8-10 hours of sleep. That being said, it is biologically proven that high schoolers do not benefit from an early school start time.

Due to clocks ticking back, a thick blanket of dark places itself upon students, affecting academic performance.

Would a later school start time be better for students?

13 Yes, a later school start time would be better for students.

7 No, a later school start time wouldn't be better for students

sleep, it would also let them have a bright morning. When school starts at 7:15, all students see is dark, naturally making one more tired. Waking up and getting ready in daylight would help with productivity and natural energy.

It's also biologically proven that early school start times are bad for high schoolers' health. Many argue that elementary students need more sleep, therefore high schoolers can't swap their earlier start times

FANS READY FOR THE ANTAGONIST TOUR

Opium crew is on tour

by Evan Schroeder

Lights dim, the bass drops, the crowd erupts. Playboi Carti is back in Motown.

Playboi Carti is touring with the Opium group Ken Carson, Destroy Lonely, Homixide Gang, and Apollo Red Friday, Oct. 31, 2025, at Little Caesars Arena.

"This concert isn't really different than any other ones before because I haven't been

to one before, but from things that I've seen, it is crazy and everyone rushes the pit and goes crazy," senior John Johnson said. "I would describe it to someone who has never been to a concert as not a first concert type of concert because Ken and Carti fans are crazy, so I suggest getting pit seats unless your that guy like me."

PlayBoi Carti's Antagonist tour is his first major tour since 2021. The show, featuring artists like Ken Carson and Destroy Lonely,

is set to bring the high energy that Carti is known for. Many students are excited to experience the chaos live.

"I am looking forward to going to the concert, going in the mosh pit, and seeing all of them play live," senior Dante Zefi said. "I will be wearing the merch I got from the Ken Carson concert. I hope to have a fun time not only at the concert, but in the time that we are in Detroit before."

Playboi Carti is known for turning concerts into chaotic, high energy experiences that fans describe as unforgettable. His performances are known for flashing lights,

fans shouting every lyric, and loud bass.

"Describing Carti as aura king and he makes you get hyped and excited," senior Wyatt Rathka said.

With the final chord, fans cheer as their favorite artist exits the stage.

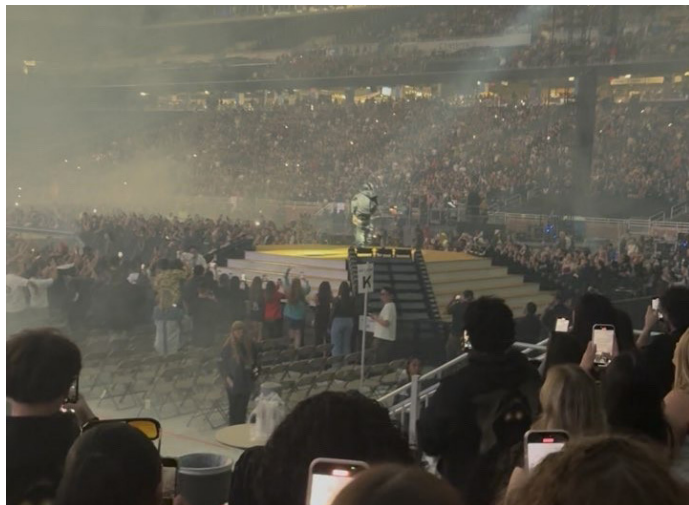


photo by Evan Schroeder

THE CITY'S WILDE

AGAIN "Zootopia 2" releases in theaters across the world just in time for Thanksgiving

by Olivia Brylkowski

As the lights dim and the city of Zootopia reawakens, so does the kid inside of students with feelings of thrill and awe once again.

Nov. 26, Judy Hopps and Nick Wilde appear on the big screen again in "Zootopia 2" to continue the story as partners in the ZPD. "I'm pretty excited to see the second movie when it comes to theaters because me and my friend have plans to go see it," junior Anthony Orlando said. "I really liked that the first movie was kind of a murder mystery and had you guessing who the villain was. I kind of hope to see something similar with the second movie."

Almost like a continuation of the first movie, "Zootopia 2" picks up with Judy Hopps and Nick Wilde working side by side as official police partners and work on cases fans imagined they would when the end credits rolled around at the end of the original movie. However, a new mystery surfaces, almost as big as the disappearance of 14 predator animals, where the bunny and fox are forced to go undercover and solve the problem of the venomous reptile whose species appeared after not being seen for 100 years.

"I want to go see the second movie because I think it'll be entertaining no matter if it's meant for kids," junior Velandia Murad said. "I want to just see what happens in the second movie. Watching it also could feel nostalgic since I watched it when I was a lot younger."

Many of the children who watched the original movie when it first came out in 2016 are all grown up but still hold that same excitement for the sequel, even if the movie isn't targeted for their current age group. Watching the new "Zootopia" not only brings back memories from almost a decade ago but brings a rush of nostalgic feelings and anticipation to feel like a kid again in the theater, with buckets of popcorn and cozy blankets.

"I think making a second movie is a good idea because the first one was so popular and people enjoyed it a lot," junior Jenna Strickland said. "With this movie, I hope to see them on some side quests to kind of fill in what we haven't seen."

As the end credits roll out again and lights brighten, the feeling of being a child still lingers, being proof that some magic never fades.

POLICY FAILURES

Administrators struggle to uphold policies leading to confusion among parents and students

by Daniil Leybin

As trust and freedom take the center stage, our school ditch the student IDs and attendance rules.

At the school, many of the policies that were strictly enforced last year such as IDs and Attendance

Recovery have seen a decline in oversight this year, leaving students, parents, and staff questioning if these policies will come back or not and if students even need to wear their IDs for this year or worry about their attendance.

Last year and the year before, administrators used to be strict with the ID policy. Students were required to wear IDs or they would get an unexcused absence or a write up. Some teachers did not care about the policy, but a couple did. This year, teachers and administrators didn't care. They took students' feedback and finally heard that not all high school kids follow the rules. To

be fair, the administrators' reasoning made sense. If someone were to collapse and they did not have their ID on, it would be difficult to identify the student. However, they could be identified if another person steps in, but it does matter for administrators because

they hoped wearing IDs would be beneficial in order to know who people are.

What about the attendance policy though? Last year, attendance was very important in order to graduate and pass the quarter. Nonetheless, this year it changed. You just have to pass the exam to get through the quarter and your absences don't matter. To add, you were able to make up your credits at credit recovery, but this year, we probably won't have that.

Overall, administrators need to take into note that if they want to enforce a policy, they should make sure to actually have students listen.



photo by Creative Commons



photo by Creative Commons

BEYOND THE SPOTLIGHT

Celebrities may or may not make good role models for children

by Grace Kavanagh

Many people look up to celebrities, but their actions don't always match their fame.

Celebrities are seen everywhere like on TV, social media, shows, and in movies. Many children look up to them, and set good examples, therefore it makes parents happy that these celebrities are good for their children to be watching.

According to Embark Behavioral Health, celebrities can influence your child's values, identity, attitudes, and behaviors.

In reality, celebrities are normal human beings just like everyone else. When it comes to their behaviors and choices they make, many people make mistakes and learn from them. Therefore, a society can't expect these people to be perfect in any way.

According to Your Tango, "The Oscar winning actress Jennifer Lawrence doesn't

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR CHRISTMAS WONDERTHON

by senior Lauryn Wolf

"I am very excited to have helped create "The Holiday Channel Christmas Movie Wonderthon" show and to perform with such a fun cast was so enjoyable!"

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

by senior AnnMarie Ekpo

"Daylight Savings was something I did not really enjoy. Seeing it dark in the evening is not for the weak, it feels like going to sleep."

COLLEGE NIGHT

by senior Isabella Hillwig

"I am scared that my GPA won't get me into college. But, I know because I've taken AP classes, I should be able to handle the stresses of a college class."

have personal assistants, lives in an apartment, drives a Chevy Volt, and is always looking for deals. She has boundaries for money, even though she has a lot of it."

Few celebrities care about fame and money. They care most about their family and more important things like normal humans do in this society. These kinds of celebrities prove that fame doesn't change who they are as a person, so that would make them good role models.

According to Philanthropy and Fame, some celebrities foster a sense of community and shared responsibility among children, encouraging them to contribute to causes that matter to them.

Many people look up to celebrities, but their actions don't always match their fame. A lot of the time, they use their platform to promote good causes and behavior.

WINTER ARC



photo by Elizia Lala

Students make changes in their day-to-day life to prepare for winter weather

■ by Leah Pulice

As the chill of winter approaches, many people switch their routines to stay healthy, cozy, and energized throughout the cold months.

Students prepare for the upcoming colder months ahead by bringing out their winter clothes such as comfortable boots and warm jackets. They also play their favorite winter tunes to get into the spirit of winter.

“Preparing for winter, I bring out my hoodies, sweats, and I change my playlists to

be more cozier songs,” senior Dana Tomashoshe said. “Mostly indie songs.”

During the winter, a lot of students keep their winter clothes off to the side during spring and summer, waiting for the right temperature for them to be worn. Some even go out and buy new pieces at stores like Urban Outfitters, Garage, and Brandy Melville to bring something new and fashionable to their winter outfit rotation.

“I bought a bunch of new winter clothes,” senior Payton Oxie said. “I also get all my puffer jackets out and ready.”

As well as dressing differently, adjusting to things students can do and how they do certain things in their routine are also considered.

“I don’t go on many side quests during the winter

cause over the summer, I ride my electric bike with my friends, and I can’t do that in the winter,” freshman Josalyn Essmyer said. “I do my makeup differently also; I put more of a powder base instead of a more wet base because my skin will get dry in the winter if I get it covered with the powder.”

Anticipating the first snowfall and the chill of winter, all the preparation pays off, turning cold days into cozy moments and making winter feel a little more inviting.



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FALL INTO FUN

■ by Sarah Borland

As the trees start to change colors and the leaves fall to the ground, it is time to celebrate the fall season.

Students do cozy bonfires, pumpkin carving, and colorful outdoor activities in their past times for the fall.

“In the fall, I like to do a lot of activities with friends and family,” senior Julia Santo said. “I like the weather especially. I think it is perfect for activities. So far, I have carved pumpkins with my family to put on our porch for fall.”

Many students share love for the cozy and fun activities that come with the season, finding joy in spending time with the people they have fun with and making the most of the chilly weather.

“My favorite fall activities are definitely going to pumpkin patches with my friends and going to football games,” freshman

Emily Borland said. “I love the cozy vibe, wearing hoodies, drinking hot chocolate, and watching the leaves change colors. Fall just feels chill but exciting at the same time, and it’s honestly my favorite season.”

The main parts of fall stand out with fun traditions that many do, such as relaxed bonfires, pumpkin picking, and more.

“I love fall because it’s the perfect mix of cozy and fun,” freshman Alyssa VanDriessche said. “My friends and I always go to bonfires, drink apple cider, and take way too many pictures in the leaves. The weather’s perfect for hoodies and late-night hangouts, and everything just feels more relaxed after summer.”

As leaves cover the ground, people switch to fall activities bundled up with pumpkin spice everything.

MAKING MEMORIES

Students and staff prepare for the holiday season

■ by Adalyn Berden

With holidays around the corner, people begin decorating, shopping, and making travel plans.

The students and staff at the school all prepare differently for their holidays so that they will be able to enjoy them.

“I go see Christmas lights in December in one car with my family, and we get hot chocolate after,” junior Ava Bridges said. “After, I go to my grandparents’ house, and we do gifts on Christmas Eve. Afterwards, we go back to our house and celebrate with music.”

Most families have traditions they follow for their holidays. These traditions, like traveling or seeing family, add meaning to these holidays. By repeating these same traditions every year, families create memories they will never forget, making the

holidays feel more special.

“If I go somewhere, I get all of the stuff I need first,” sophomore Sarleen Istifo said. “Then, I pack everything in advance, besides the stuff I use daily. After I have all of my stuff, I get the stuff that I use daily and pack them in the morning before I go.”

Packing for a trip may take planning and organization so nothing important gets left behind. Preparing for the holidays is similar; it may take time, effort, and organization to ensure they run smoothly. There may be multiple things to do to prepare for the holidays, whether it’s decorating, shopping, or cooking to make the holidays more memorable.

“I prepare for the holidays by going shopping during the beginning of December for all my family and friends,” sophomore Mya Goins said. “I help

decorate the tree and lights outside, and I spend as much time with my family as possible during Christmas and Thanksgiving break. For both Christmas and Thanksgiving, I prepare by helping my family cook and bake.”

As the hustle and bustle of the holiday season grow near students take inventory of holiday to-do lists before it is too late.



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