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mount baker middle school, auburn, washington

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volume IV, issue 4

# *Does* media *affect teen self-image?*



silver edition: issue 25



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**COVER PHOTO:** Eighth grader Savannah Cranston demonstrates the unrealistic expectations of beauty that teens put on themselves. Many critics blamed children's toys for promoting a negative self-image in teens, learned during early childhood. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY K. RUPPERT

**BACK COVER:** Several students and teachers illustrated how common divorce is at MBMS. Their diversity proves how dissolved marriages shape a person's outlook on life. PHOTOS BY T. WILLIAMS & A. MARACICH

**MT. BAKER MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**620 37TH STREET SE**  
**AUBURN, WASHINGTON 98002**



## EDITORS' NOTE

Spring is in the air at MBMS and student dispositions are unnaturally affable this March. With the thoughts of warm weather quickly approaching, let's take a moment to remember some of the important things that have occurred at MBMS recently.

Considering the passing of the Washington Journalism Educators Association conference (not to mention this being *TCC's* 25 published edition), Saint Patrick's Day, Valentine's Day and the Super Bowl (as we lacked a February edition in which would normally report on such an event), staff at TCC would like to touch on all of these topics.

Seeing as *TCC* was entered in the "Best of Show" category in the WJEA conference, it enlightens all staff members to know that this newspaper has won an "Excellence Award" in this category. Staying true to our spirit, we will continue to report news to you, the students, in as objective and precise a manner as possible.

Twenty-five editions later and *The Canine Chronicle* is still running strong. The staff here would like to inform you of the contents of this newspaper, with the lacking February edition, there's so much to include. This edition brings back the "Teacher Feature" among sports articles galore, not to mention the long held traditions of which we have cherished for so long.

This edition, we chose to highlight media. From the addiction to the computer in our pockets to the affect advertisements may have on kids. Even through the constant screen we tend to stare at, the staff also wanted to hit home with an emphasis on families and divorces; among other reviews, previews, and sports articles.

*The Canine Chronicle* staff wishes you luck with your NCAA March Madness brackets, and hopes that we can continue to report about everything you wish to see from Mount Baker.

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**mission:** The MBMS Journalism 8 class produced this limited-voice newspaper with intent to ethically report events accurately, without bias. As a public forum for students, all decisions made on content are made under the guidance of the adviser, with intent to uphold students' First Amendment rights.

The opinions presented in articles are provided to represent the views and perspectives of students and individuals in our diverse student population, not necessarily the whole of the adviser, faculty, and administrators. Any material that would cause a disruption to the educational process like libel, invasion of privacy, or copyright infringement will not be published. *The Canine Chronicle* is produced using Microsoft Publisher. Photographs not taken by students have been utilized through a Creative Commons and Microsoft license. School portraits are licensed through Dorian Photography.

# Undocumented immigrants receive college opportunity

# dream act

*What does this mean for citizens?*

Aaron Baker, Gobindroop Mann, Byron Kidder

## pro

Passing the DREAM Act was a fantastic decision by Washington State legislatures and will definitely help the state's future be as prosperous as possible.

The very thought of denying other humans the right to an education is un-American. The undocumented immigrant situation is not going away. The fact of the matter is that they are here and deportation is not a viable solution. We can't just give them sticks and tell them to go play in the woods; they deserve a quality education as much as anyone else.

It is abundantly clear that those who oppose this law are attempting to, as the saying goes, have their cake and eat it too.

Contesters of this law have made clear that they wish to not only deny children of an education but also wish to solve the immigration problem by denying the passage of this law. This concept makes no sense whatsoever because keeping children from an education doesn't make them disappear. The phrase "out of sight, out of mind" is almost never applicable in the real world, and it certainly isn't applicable in this situation.

"I think [the DREAM Act] is fantastic," said MBMS Principal Mr. Brown, "If you can be the one who is the [child in your family] who can go to college and can get your [family ahead], I'm all for it."

The legality of the American presence of undocumented immigrants is irrelevant; stating that something is illegal does not solve the problem, and denying children of an education certainly is not solving any problems.

The U.S.A. is already considered by many foreigners to be filled with the privileged and the elitist. By embracing diversity and coping with an issue we can work to eliminate this standard, and the passing of this law is a great start.

"I am very pleased for my students," said McCann, "Now I know that all kids can have access to college."

—Aaron Baker & Gobindroop Mann

## con

Our country was founded on the ideals that, through hard work and dedication, you could make something of yourself. The case against the DREAM Act is not simply race, or documented or undocumented, but having, or not having, the same opportunities as other people.

I grew up in a small, hick town nobody has ever heard of. My mom was single, barely scraping out a living to support me and our four cats. I rarely had clothes that fit, or a good pair of shoes. I always wondered why the kids on the bus laughed at me because of what I was wearing, or the binder that I was carrying to school. The chances of me becoming great at an instrument and going to an all state band, and not getting caught up in gangs and drugs is 1 in 5,000 people.

Unlike kids who have money and have many opportunities, I had to work hard to do well in school, and to stay away from drugs and gangs. It can be the same for many kids of undocumented immigrants, but not through just saying, "Here's some money, go to college."

9,000 to 12,000 undocumented immigrants come to this country every day against the law. Many bring their kids, or they are pregnant. To say that they are born into poverty is true, but they are here illegally.

If the children are brought here illegally by their parents, they are still technically illegal themselves.

Under federal laws, undocumented immigrants cannot get state and federal financial aid. Therefore the DREAM Act that was passed in the state capital is unconstitutional.

I believe we shouldn't give taxpayer money to people who don't contribute taxes themselves.

What will they do with the college degree that they earned?

They can't get a job because it is illegal to hire undocumented workers.

—Byron Kidder

## Dream Act Passes

The DREAM Act (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors) was recently passed by Washington State Legislatures and, in short, allows undocumented immigrants an education.

The passage of the DREAM Act was, in part, inspired from the voices of students.

"The DREAM Act [was low priority] on the Washington State legislation schedule," said ELL and WATCHANDS administrator Mrs. McCann.

"After the LEAP conference took place, the act was passed... our democratic system worked."



Student ambassadors attended a LEAP conference meeting in the hope of making their voices heard. The Dream Act was passed through the state legislature shortly after their visit to the capital in Olympia. PHOTO COURTESY OF V. MCCANN

## Facility Improvements

# Light Up School

Harrison Maurus

Mt. Baker has been allowed to replace some old and inefficient equipment. Not only will the technology at Mt. Baker be updated, but the facility itself will be improved as well.

In an attempt to reduce the costs going towards electricity and water, the school is in the process of replacing and improving all the toilets and lights in our school.

You may not have noticed, but who pays attention to this?

The toilets have been changed to ones that have lower flow settings. This will save money for the school by not using as much water when the toilet is flushed. Not only will the bowl toilets be changed out but the urinals as well.

The average monthly water bill before any improvements was 891 ccf (hundred cubic feet), with the project at its current stage the average bill is 466 ccf.

The estimated monthly water bill after all the water conservation measures are completely done is 232 ccf.

That is a total conservation of water of 659 ccf from the original starting amount before any improvements. One ccf of water costs about \$10. The overall cash saving is estimated to be \$6590 per month.

Lighting Mt. Baker is expensive. Outside the school new LED lights have been installed in the parking lot and around the portables. New lights have been installed inside the school as well. Some of the lights in the parking lot will stay on at all times while others will be motion activated. This will hopefully make it safer outside at night and early in the morning for students and teachers.

The average monthly lighting electricity bill previous to the new lights was 166,649 kWh (kilo watt hours).

After the improvements, it will average 66,649 kWh, a 99,714 kWh decrease. One kWh costs about \$.10 for a total savings of \$9,971 per month.

In total, with just the new toilets and lights the school will save roughly \$16,500 a month.

That's a lot of money that can be used towards other important things, like adding in more incentive days!



*Provides inspiration  
for service clubs*

# We day

Aaron Baker & Gobindroop Mann

At MBMS, we value the ability to help yourself and your society. What better events to recognize these acts than We Day and the March Canned Food Drive, the ultimate boons to community benevolence.

"We Day is an educational event and the movement of our time—a movement of young people leading local and global change. We Day is tied to the yearlong We Act program, which offers curricular resources, campaigns and materials to help turn the day's inspiration into sustained activation," according to the official We Day online database.

Overall, We Day inspires leadership around the school and embraces community service and diversity.

"I think that [We Day] is pretty great," said seventh grader Josh Hales, "It's creative to celebrate how you are different from others."

The majority attendance of We Day from MBMS will be sixth graders and Builders Club members. The students have been almost entirely recruited by sixth grade teacher Ms. Winter, a large advocate for We Day which closely ties into her own organization, the "End Zone Academy", or EZA.

Many students from MBMS attended We Day in Seattle. Celebrity stars attended, including Seahawks like coach Pete Carroll and quarterback Russell Wilson.

So what is Mt. Baker doing to help support our community? Mt. Baker has recently started a canned food drive to benefit the local food bank and those who are less fortunate.

The March canned food drive at MBMS is, as always, collecting food to help those who cannot afford it. The March food drive started at the beginning of March and ended in the middle after reaching about half of the target amount.

"[The food drive wasn't a success] because they desperately tried to get students to [participate] but they only reached half of their goal," said seventh grader Oscar Safsten.

"[The food drive was a success] because many people brought food and it made me proud of the school," retorted Hales.

The administration offered a "cell phone" day as an incentive, but students fell short filling one of the two bins.



In considering the most valuable community service oriented people, Builders Club members set the standard for community benevolence. PHOTO COURTESY OF E. CARNAHAN



# MATH TEAM

## *Hardwork adds up at competition*

Byron Kidder

The Mount Baker Math Club swept the school district math competition on March 14, 2014 through hard work and dedication.

The Math Club has been meeting every Thursday after school since the beginning of the school year, led by eighth grade math teacher Mr. Carter

"There's a lot of pressure, and challenging problems that you have to solve," eighth grader Colby Tong said.

All of that brain stretching contributed to his team, along with Gobindroop Mann, Timothy Bronitskiy, and Johnathan Tran, winning first place in the school district as team.

The sixth grade team, consisting of sixth graders Zach Botz, Morgan Putnum, Kimmy Gavin, and Melaku Alkawold, beat out geometry and trigonometry teams to take sec-



The Mount Baker Mathletes came back victorious with several awards. Good job to the math club. PHOTOS COUTESY OF J. CARTER

ond place overall.

Weekly workouts consisted of tests, tests, and even more tests.

"[They] helped a bit," sixth grader Zachery Botz said.

Botz won first place overall in the district for the sixth grade division. He won a \$160 graphing calculator, a personalized plaque, and possible scholarship money in the future.

Mount Baker placed well in the individual prize category clean. Seventh grader Oscar Safsten won third place overall for seventh grade, and Timothy Bronitskiy took the third place spot in the eighth grade division.

When you see the victors in the halls and at lunch, make sure to congratulate them on representing MBMS.

## Cell Phone Opinion: Are they *REALLY* a distraction?

Zulma Morales

"Phones [should be] allowed, only if they're not a distraction," said seventh grader Fatima Picazo.

Do you agree with this? Most teenagers do, but our principal does not. In fact, the phone rules are really strict here at Mt. Baker. You can't use your phone in the hallways or at lunch.

"[We shouldn't use cell phones at lunch] because then we would have a temptation to go and reach for our phones," said Picazo.

It's a pretty smart answer. I'm sure that if I get a text while I'm in class I'll be very tempted to reach into my pocket and grab my cell phone to read the text I got and I'm pretty sure most of us will.

Out of the three people I interviewed only one said it students not have their cell phones on in class the rest said that having your cell phones on in class shouldn't be a problem.

Just think about the temptation you get when you receive a text message to reach into your pocket. Or maybe you're just bored in class one day and you want to pull your phone out to play a game or go in a social media. Now think of all the consequences, like not paying attention in class, getting lower grades, or perhaps even failing the grade.

"I think we should be able to use our cell phones in lunch, and while passing classes," said seventh grader Makena Metje.

To students it is completely harmless to use our phones in school or to have our phones on in class but yet our principle doesn't allow phones there's no exception to them. Does he not allow them because they are a distraction or is there a stronger reason behind this?

According to a study done by Gaby Badie, the use of cell phones by teenagers could lead to restless and disruptive sleep patterns. How does this affect our lives? Well, if we don't get the sleep that's needed, then we may feel sleepy in class and not pay attention.

Students develop bad writing habits, while they are texting most people don't use correct grammar. Most people basically use a totally different language while they are texting!

Many say that students are in school to learn and if they let students use their phones they will get hooked on to this poor texting grammar.

There is no doubt the argument is strong, but there really isn't any right or wrong answer to it. Technology increases more every day and we have to keep up with it.

Students have to keep in mind that their education comes first and they have to respect cell phone rules, as well as giving respect to our principle, Mr. Brown, and the cell phone rules he gave us!



Cell phone rules have a tendency to be broken. PHOTO BY Z. MORALES

Eighth graders register for

# HIGH SCHOOL

Evelin Laris

As eighth graders approach high school, registration becomes their number one concern. The future freshmen get a taste of what it means to be independent and do it by selecting their own classes for the year.

The future freshmen attended “Future Freshmen Night” on Feb. 12 to meet course teachers and to get to know what high school has in store for them.

“Future freshmen night was a great experience since I got a taste of what High school is going to be like,” eighth grader Colby Tong said.

A few weeks later, high school counselors came to Mt. Baker to pass out high school registration forms to eighth grade students in their history class.

Students could choose six classes including four core classes and two electives to fit in their schedule. Many students were excited to see all of the available class choices because here at Baker, students can’t choose their classes.

“[I think there is a big contrast in classes] because if you compare Riverside’s list of classes to ours, there is a huge difference,” eighth grader Amy Nguyen said.

While sixth and seventh graders focus on school grades, eighth graders are starting to think about

how their schedule is going to fit in the graduation credit requirements. In total they should have gathered 22.5 credits to meet the 2018 high school graduation credit requirements.

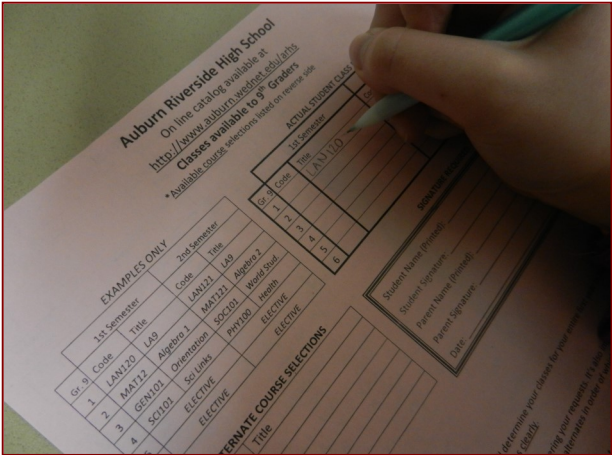
Although, there is a possibility of receiving more depending on the amount of years you took that course for. For example, high school math students should already have three credits on file their senior year for graduation but if the student desires, they could take math all four years which would give them four total credits for math.

Taking that turning point to high school could be frustrating and especially if you’re a procrastinator. That’s why it’s always good to make sure the assignments you’re given are completed as soon as possible because the faster it’s out of your way the more time you have to be sit back and relax.

Certainly, eighth grade students must become prepared for high school and it’s always a great way to become alert of what will happen the next few years when they take that turning point.

Eighth grader Ashleigh Wilson said she’s looking forward to in high school.

“I am looking forward to more competitive classes that will challenge me. [and I am] also excited for taking a foreign language.”



High school registration forms have eighth graders uncertain of what to select for their freshmen year. As eighth graders, did you have a hard time filling out registration forms? PHOTO BY J. DANG.

## Blah blah BLAH!

## What are you looking forward to next year?

Brenden McGraw



“Getting to pick my own classes.”

**CHRISTOPHER MANRY**  
eighth grade



“I am looking forward to being the shortest eighth grader.”

**BRENDEN CHADWANAPIBOOL**  
seventh grade



“I am looking forward to doing more sports.”

**MERILLEI LATA**  
sixth grade



“I always like the new students and I really enjoy coaching football. Also, it will be nice to help the sixth graders get used to middle school.”

**MR. VATNE**  
eighth grade counselor



# Teacher Feature

*What do your teachers have to say about important issues...other stuff?*

Jalen Forward & Isaiah Thisse

**Does Mr. Knighton work for the C.I.A? Was Ms. Davis a rapper before she was a teacher? Is Mrs. Hammond a trained Russian Wrestler? Are there any more obscure questions that you want to know about teachers? All of this and more in this month's Teacher Feature!**

**If you were not a teacher, what job would you have?**

DK: Ever since I was a little boy, I've always dreamed of being a cowboy. But some days, I think I'd make a good private investigator.

MD: My dream jobs would be an artist, or a physician's assistant, or an heiress who travels the world being a philanthropist.

LH: I would really enjoy being a wedding planner full time.

**What is your favorite hobby outside of school?**

DK: I like to read. Right now I'm juggling several books at one time.

MD: Video gaming or painting.

LH: Right now my favorite hobby is fixing up our house and making it into a home.

**What is your favorite music artist/song?**

DK: I like just about everything from techno/house (Deadmau5) to classical.

MD: My favorite types of tunes are upbeat and I can kind of sort of sing to them.

LH: I have the newest Justin Timberlake CD playing on repeat in my car and I love the song TKO.

**What is your favorite clothes brand?**

DK: L.L. Bean or Land's End.

MD: Cheap!

LH: I really like Loft and Nike.

**What is your favorite sports team?**

DK: Football: Chicago Bears /All Around: NAVY, of course.

MD: Any team from Texas.

LH: I'm a huge Seahawks fan thanks to my fiancé. We even have a room in our house painted with Seahawks stripes.

**What is your opinion about student media addiction?**

DK: You mean we actually have students that are addicted to media? That's news to me!

MD: If you're on your phone, you're not fighting. Also, I think--wait, someone's texting me.....

LH: I think that I am just as guilty as being addicted to the media as students are.

**How do you feel about the new sport at MBMS?**

DK: I just figured it out - soccer. I think it's great. It gets more of our students involved in sport activities. I'd like us to offer a lacrosse team in the future.

MD: I think they're awesome because I'm a soccer fan. I'm hoping archery or hatchet-throwing will be next, like at the Renaissance Fairs.

LH: I love that we have added soccer at Baker! It is a sport that I played in middle school and that I enjoy being able to coach!

**Do you give bad kids different treatment than the good kids?**

DK: Duh! Oops. Wrong answer. I try to ascertain the situation regardless of who is the student is.

MD: Mostly I just get frustrated when I am really trying to teach and students have other priorities, which makes me grumpy.

LH: I think that I expect the same things from all of my students so I don't know that I really treat anyone differently on a regular basis. Luckily I don't feel like that happens often, but kids have told me that it's very scary when it does.

**If you were to get a zebra what would you name it?**

DK: Female: Zelda Male: Melvin

MD: Bob. I've always wanted a pet named Bob and on a zebra that would be hilarious. That or Michael, after MJ, who sang the song "Black or White". Can you imagine..."Hi, this is my pet zebra, Michael."

LH: I would totally name my zebra Polonius Severus Keaton (my future last name).



PHOTO BY J. FORWARD AND I. THISSEL



Staff vs. Students basketball game from 2013 end of the year incentive day takes place in the main gym. Will this repeat this year? COURTESY OF YEARBOOK PHOTOS.

# Incentives Not available

Evelin Laris & Zulma Morales

As the end of the year approaches, Incentive days come to mind. Throughout the year, no incentive days have come about.

The reason that no incentive days have been in place is because of the schedule.

"The scheduling of students is difficult because we are getting bigger and bigger," Principal Brown said.

Mount Baker is currently the biggest middle school in the Auburn school district with almost 1000 students. There is no wonder as to why Principal Brown said it's difficult to fit that large audience in one gymnasium.

Regarding what incentive days we might be having, Principal Brown said, "I would enjoy seeing the staff student basketball game again."

With this said, incentive days might be just around the corner, only if students agreed.

"I would like to give students incentives that they would like," Mr. Brown also stated in the interview.

What would the students like?

The only way to find out is by asking!

"I would like to repeat the staff v. student basketball game because it was really fun to watch your favorite teacher play," seventh grader Zareah Barren said.

Many students agreed said about the same thing, the staff v. student basketball game.

Will Mr. Brown take this in consideration, or will we not have any incentive days at all?

The only thing we have left to do is wait until there's a final decision on the topic.

Hopefully, this year, students will have more incentive days to enjoy, or they'll stay at the point that we are. Until then they will wait and wait...

# Spring Here, Dress Code, Violations Coming?

Kenny Miller

Here at MBMS, dress code rules do not seem like a big deal. However, there's a lot of "under the radar" violations in the code. As spring approaches, many students get more daring with their clothing choices.

According to the MBMS student handbook, some of the ways to break the dress code is clothing that promotes inappropriate ideas such as drugs, alcohol, tobacco, weapons or violence, displays inappropriate writing/pictures, worn in a manner identified as gang related, exposed undergarments, shoes with heels, and shorts or skirts shorter than the mid-thigh.

Industrial arts teacher Mr. Jacobs said his interpretation what it means to him when a student breaks the dress code. He said just the fact of students not following the rules is the deal breaker with him.

Jacobs touched on non-compliance by students being another way of getting themselves in trouble, being stubborn can really get you in deep with teachers.

"When people wear something inappropriate," seventh grader Jesse Guerrero responded.

During an on the spot interview with eighth grader Kenzi Kuemper voiced her opinion, "If you [have a] super short skirt on, like you can't do that."

When Mr. Jacobs noticed breakage of the dress code by students, he said he just gives them a reminder the first time.

Jacobs continued, "If it's habitual, then I send the student down to the office, which is an example of non-compliance."

When asked if there was a specific time of year when you see the code being broke, students and staff all responded with the same answer: during the spring or whenever there's good weather, which is hard to come across since we live in Washington.

The two students were asked what teachers they believed enforced the dress code the most. Guerrero quickly responded with, "Definitely Mrs. Millang."

His friend nodded in agreement.

Kuemper, after pondering the question, came to the answer of Mrs. Marcotte.

Dress code may or may not seem like an issue to you, but give it a thought as the temperatures rise towards the first day of summer.



Seen in the MBMS student handbook, this figure demonstrates what obeying the code looks like. COURTESY OF MBMS HANDBOOK





# Fights Disrupt

## PRINCIPAL TAKES ACTION

Daelyn Haws

School fights are always a problem; whether it is at our school or a different school. Either way, fights affect teens and the school, and even the students who aren't involved.

According to everydaylife.globalpost.com, "An insidious effect of school fights, emotional damage, can manifest in the immediate aftermath of a fight in the form of post-traumatic stress disorder, or it can take years for the true emotional damage of a school fight to reveal itself."

Some people don't realize that if they fight someone else, they can seriously hurt someone with a lasting effect on them.

In an interview with Principal Brown, when asked

how he feels school fights affect teens, he shared, "School fights impact our entire school because they make people feel unsafe. They impact teens because at this age, fights can cause the police to get involved, which can impact teens negatively now and in their future. It's not worth it."

In mid-January, three fights occurred at MBMS.

Mr. Brown talked to all of the eighth graders during their fourth periods and explained that if students kept getting into fights, the authorities will have to be involved.

In one instance the police were called.

So far, this is only issued to the eighth grade since it's the only grade that has had fights this year.

Mr. Brown said that depending on the severity of fights in other grades, he might give the same explanation.

Our school's SRO (Student Resource Officer), Officer McCluskey, sometimes has to deal with fights within the school district.

"Students don't want to tell anyone about [fights] because they don't want to be a 'snitch'. Well, a snitch is someone who tells on someone for minor things. Telling an adult when you know something is about to happen that would be unsafe is called 'reporting', not 'snitching'," McCluskey said.

McCluskey also explained that students are less likely to fight if there are adults around, especially in the hallways.

This may help; if our school has more teachers monitoring students in the hallway, then we might have a deduction in fights.

If you or someone you know has been in a fight or are planning a fight, step up and tell a trusted adult.

Our school will be a happier place without fights.

# Honor Roll, Top 10 GPA Cancelled

Brenden McGraw

The honor roll assembly scheduled for March 27 has been cancelled due to our school switching to the standards based grading system.

Standards based grading has made it so that a student's GPA can still be determined, but staff can't get any information about student's grade point average from the computer system. They would have to go one by one through every student's folder to calculate this by hand. With close to 1000 students, this would take several weeks to accomplish.

Therefore students who have gotten honor roll in previous years will no longer be recognized for their hard work in this manner.

When asked what she thought about the honor roll assembly being cancelled, Makenna Price responded, "It is very bad because people who try hard to get good grades won't be recognized".

In previous years at Mt. Baker the GPA requirement to get into honor roll was a 3.2 GPA, Honor Society 3.5 GPA, 4.0 Club 4.0 GPA.

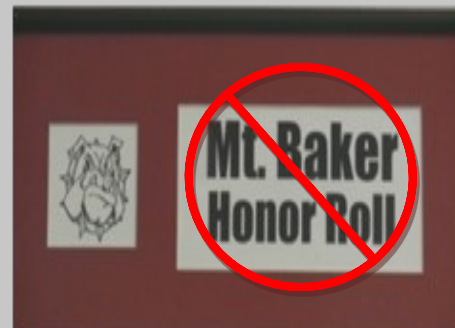
Now that Mt. Baker has switched from letter grading to standards based grading the following requirements have been put into place.

Honor Roll Requirements: Student is receiving all 3's in overall academic and work habit categories.

Honor Society: Student is receiving 3's and at least one 4 in overall academic and work habit categories.

These new requirements are able to be recorded which would in turn allow for honor roll to be determined, but not within time required to see what students do and do not get honor roll.

Sadly this brings our once loved honor roll assembly to an end.



Mt. Baker middle school honor assembly has been cancelled.  
PHOTO BY H.ADDISON

**Mt. Baker Middle School – Infraction/Discipline Referral Form**

☐ Informational only    ☐ Infraction Referral    ☐ Discipline Referral

Students Name: Tyone Lee    Grade: 8th    Referring Teacher: Mr. Billy Bob

Date of Incident: 3/13/13    Time: 11:00pm    Location: Room 02

**Reason for infraction: (please check box and elaborate)**

☐ Late for class    ☐ Profanity    ☐ Unprepared for class  
☐ Disruption of the learning environment    ☐ Dress Code    ☐ Cell Phones/Electronics  
☐ Chewing gum/candy/food    ☐ Disrespect toward peers    ☐ Truancy/Attendance/Tardies

Comments/Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reason for Disciplinary Referral: (please check box and elaborate)**

☐ Theft    ☒ Fighting/Physical Aggression    ☐ Harassment/Threats/Intimidation  
☐ Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco    ☐ Public Display of Affection    ☐ Class/Lunch/Hall Disruption  
☐ Cheating/Forgery/Lying    ☐ Disrespect/Defiance/Non Compliance    ☐ Weapon  
☐ Computer Offense    ☐ Vandalism/Destruction of Property    ☐ Profanity towards teacher

Comments: Tyone was fighting in the commons with Jerome Jr. over their girlfriends.

**Teacher interventions prior to this incident: (please check box and elaborate)**

☐ Conference with student    ☐ Processing    ☐ Parent contact (phone-email-conference)  
☐ Referred to counselor    ☐ Lunch detention    ☐ After school detention / Thursday night school

Comments/Discipline Recommendations: We prefer the removal of the student

**\*Action by Administrator (Discipline notes in Skyward)**

☐ Conference with student    ☐ After school detention    ☐ Thursday school    ☐ In-school suspension  
☐ Conference with parents    ☐ Short term suspension    ☐ Long term suspension    ☒ Emergency expulsion

Administrative Signature: \_\_\_\_\_    Assigned Date: 3/13/13  
Signature Date: 3/14/13

These are the types of disciplinary forms that are filled out when someone is in trouble. Forms may be filled out when a fight occurs, but eighth graders will leave in handcuffs.  
COURTESY OF J. FORWARD

# Who is your CELEBRITY LOOK-ALIKE?

Katie Ruppert



Jay Buhner, former Mariner baseball player, is Mr. King's doppelganger COURTESY OF SEATTLETIMES.COM AND M.KING

Many people are often told they look like their siblings, but how many are ever told they look like a celebrity? More than you think.

The German word doppelgänger means "double walker". This doppelganger phenomenon began in 1851, the thought of having a doppelganger scared many people back in the 17th and 18th century.

A doppelganger was perceived as an evil ghost of bad luck. In some older traditions, a doppelganger meant illness or death was upon them. Doppelgangers were the "omen" of death in some cultures.

In American culture today, the doppelganger has evolved. The word doppelganger today is used to identify someone by a physical or behavioral trait that someone else has.

Mt. Baker staff and students expressed their thoughts on who their doppelgangers were, if any.

"Oh my gosh! The eighth graders say that I look like Melissa McCarthy. But I don't think I look like her. I guess it's only because I sound somewhat like her," Ms. Leverenz said

"I don't think I look like anyone famous," seventh grader Payton Coleman said,

But Payton's friends disagreed. Her friends said that she resembles Emily Osment from Disney's Hannah Montana.

Many people deny ever looking like a celebrity. Truth is that people see you every day; you can only see yourself in a reflection in a mirror, or a picture.

Seventh grader Christopher Pennrod said, "I don't know [if I look like a celebrity]."

It is hard to see yourself ever looking like a celebrity unless you are side by side with the celebrity picture.

Seventh grader Joshua Hales disagreed.

"I think [Chris Pennrod] looks like a mix of Ryan Gossling and Channing Tatum," Hales said.

"Some people think that I look like Kristen Stewart from *Twilight*," eighth grader Ally McKay states.

Some people deny looking like a famous person because they either don't like that person they are being compared to or they are secretly excited to be recognized as someone famous.

Many people don't know they have a doppelganger until someone said something about it. Today, having a doppelganger doesn't mean the same thing, like it did in Germany.

Are you curious who your doppelganger is? Try your phone

One of the most popular doppelganger phone apps is called My Celeb. This application allows you to take a photo of a certain person, and the app configures your facial features to a famous celebrity.

Some other applications that configure your image into a similar doppelganger are Celebrity Twin2me, Doubleface Celebrity Look Alike, Similar Meter Free, and Celebtwin.

These apps use your eyes, mouth, nose, eyebrows, and skin tone to calculate similarities between you and the celebrities. They use what is called a similarity meter to prove your percentage of how much you look like that celebrity.

Most of the time the matching is inaccurate, but it is quite amusing to see who you come up as.

*Blah blah*  
**BLAH!**

## Who do people think your celebrity look-alike is?

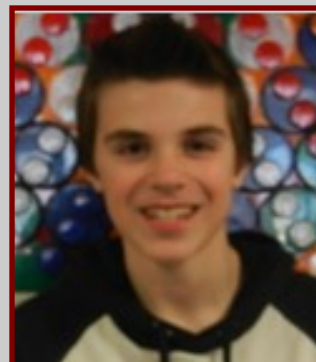
Isaiah Thissel



"[I think I look like] Taissa Farmiga."

**EMILY MORROW**

*eighth grade*



"People say that I look like Justin Bieber."

**TYLER BRAUN**

*seventh grade*





# Don't Pinch, I'm Wearing Green

## St. Patrick's Day Traditions

Colby Pretz

St. Patrick's Day is the most celebrated international holiday of Irish culture, festive food, and traditions.

Most people who want to have an authentic Irish meal on this holiday will have corned beef and cabbage. However, it isn't authentic; the Irish actually ate Irish bacon and boiled potatoes to celebrate.

The color green is associated with St. Patrick's Day because it is one of the colors on the Irish tri-colored flag. Ireland also has a lush green landscape, and shamrocks.

"In Ireland, they don't celebrate [St. Patrick's Day] as much as we do," said Language Arts/Math teacher, Ms. Darrah, who has a strong Irish heritage.

In the U.S. many cities celebrate St. Patrick's Day with lively parades, late night celebrations, and some even color their rivers green.

Many people have different views of St. Patrick's Day. Having Irish blood could make a difference on how you see it.

"You have to wear green or you get pinched," said sixth grader Fatima Paru.

"You wear green," stated seventh grader Bailey Montgomery.

"There's supposed to be leprechauns, lucky charms (not the cereal) under the chairs, and wear green," contributed eighth grade student, Tashana Williams.

If you aren't wearing green, everyone has a free right to pinch you. That is

the belief of many people in the U.S., but most don't know where this idea came from.

Where did this tradition originate?

"I don't know maybe Ireland," stated Montgomery.

"I have no idea, someone probably made it up and it just continued on," responded Williams.

In truth, the pinching if you don't wear green came about because in Ireland, it is a show of solidarity for the working force. If you didn't wear green, it was seen as being disrespectful and you would get pinched to be reminded.

Most everyone will find that little bit of Irish in them every year on March 17.



# Blah blah BLAH!

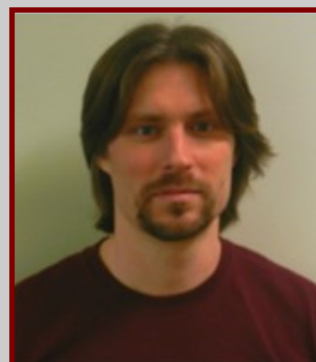
## Who do people think your celebrity look-alike is?



"[People tell me I look like] Michelle Obama."

**SIARAH BROWN**

*sixth grade*



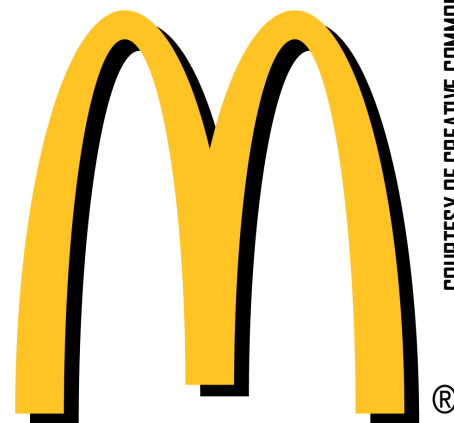
"Patrick Swayze, from the movie *Roadhouse*."

**MR. JOHNSON**

*science teacher*



# Fast Food:



COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS

## What Are You *REALLY* Eating?

Brandon Lockhart

Compared to the obesity rates from the '90's, the average size of students is ever growing due to the addiction to unhealthy foods.

Many people differ from disliking and liking fast food. The affect the food and its ingredients have on children and obesity is astonishing.

### Unhealthy Ingredients

MSG stands for Monosodium Glutamate, a key ingredient in most fast food.

MSG is bad for your health because it's an 'exotoxin' meaning it stimulates some of your brain cells so much they can die.

The compound essentially gives the food a super rich, savory taste which makes the food taste flavorful, but at the cost of your long-term health.

No one knows for sure just how many people may be "sensitive" to MSG, but studies from the 1970s suggested that 25 percent to 30 percent of the U.S. population was intolerant of MSG at levels then found in food.

Since the use of MSG has expanded dramatically since that time, it's been estimated that up to 40 percent of the population may be impacted.

Every mouthful of McDonald's meal contains a handful of chemicals that raise 'bad' cholesterol levels, increase diabetes risk, lower immunity, and damage DNA.

"In fact, fast food contains so many harmful ingredients that I wouldn't even feed it to a pet because it would be cruel." Endalldisease.com stated.

### What has changed?

Fast food chains are popular due to their easy access and cheap prices. Many have different opinions. Saying on one side that it can't be that horrible for one's health, but on the other hand many know of the unhealthy ingredients.

One drastic change includes no more super sizing, the best healthy way to eat fast food is to rarely eat it.

A few MBMS students stated their opinions on fats food

Many students don't think about what is in their food. Even through the constant reminders of unhealthy choices, it is constantly ignored.

"No, I don't. Because [I think fast food is] really good," eighth grader Jarren Diolata said.

"It's not healthy, [most likely] because it tastes good." Ivan Cano agreed.

Due to its taste and low price, the obesity rates are not surprising.

Presently in the US, we see 1 in 10 people obese. Extra calories in a junk food lead to epidemic obesity.

Most fast food chains have recently stopped advertising unhealthy food to young children. Instead, chains want their customer's to turn to nutritious foods

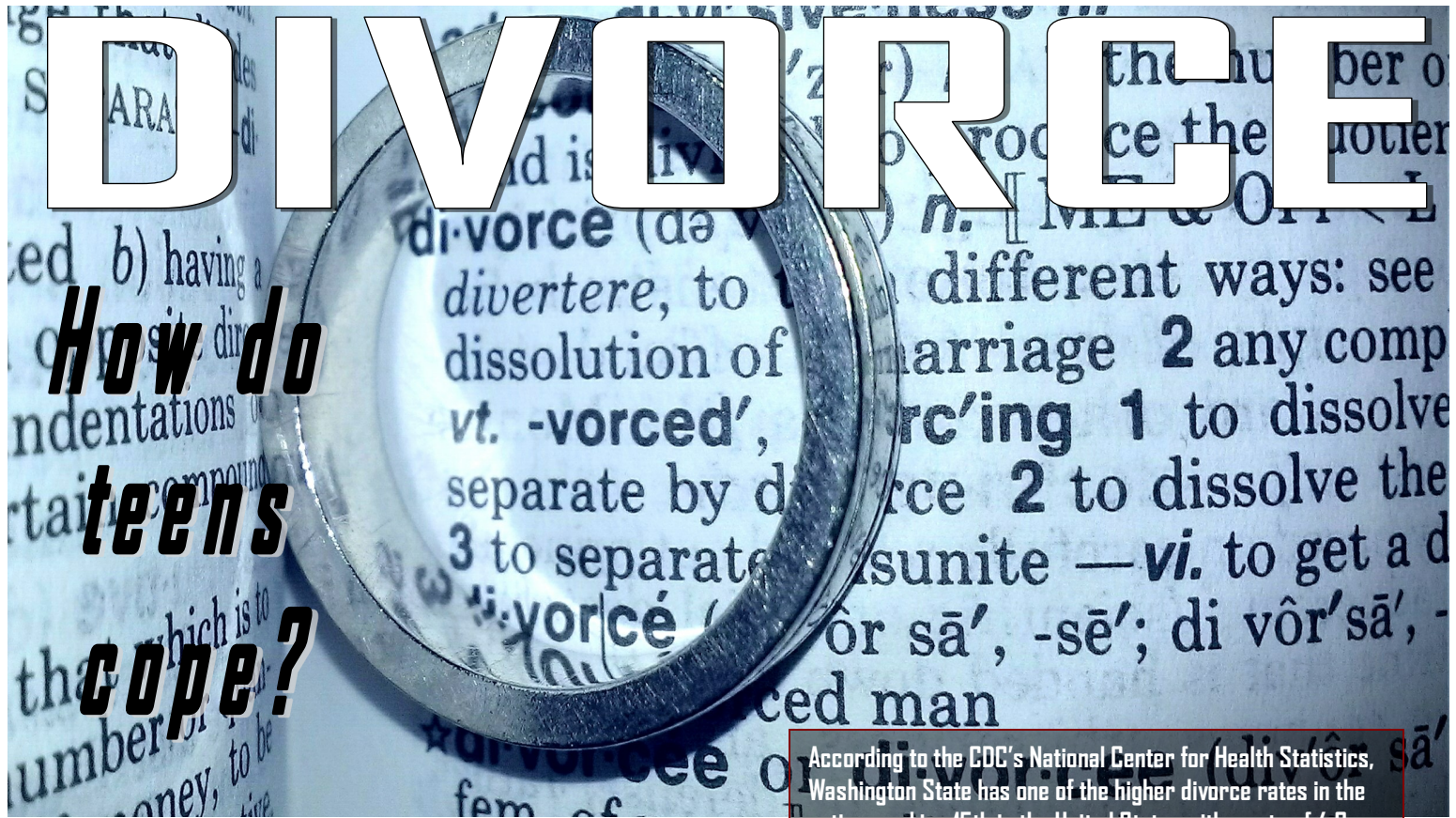
Fast food is a common diet in people's lives because it been in their lives since they were young, and they've been eating it for a while.

"I eat it because it taste good and it's been a part of my life for a long time," said eighth grader Jadrick Lata.



Nearby McDonalds allows easy access to fast food. PHOTO BY B. LOCKHART





Anna Maracich & Tashana Williams

You've heard the statistics. Divorce is common in the US. How does divorce shape who you are?

The impact of divorce may not be what you think it is. Stress can be a factor, maybe a huge impact, but sometimes it's for the better. Divorce can be a great shock, but new step-siblings and new relationships can shape you into who you are today.

Divorce is sometimes portrayed as a synthetic situation although it may also be a relief in certain families.

"I'm glad my parents got divorced because they would fight every night and I couldn't sleep," said seventh grader Ian Kuepker.

When parents get remarried, their children may receive a drastic change with the new members of their family and perhaps a different house. The various friendships of new step siblings can be another substantial impact of remarriage.

"[Living with new people] has changed my life for the better because there are more people in my life to care for me," eighth grader Carter Seehafer said.

When you have family problems sometimes you feel like you can't talk about it with anyone.

"I talk to my friends about it because it's awkward to talk to one parent about the other parent's problems," sixth grader Kathleen Moore said.

Some kids are also left with the situation of a single parent. Whether it's for the better or the worse, it leaves a long lasting effect on the child's future.

"My dad's attitude has been calmer, but I never get to see my mom," said eighth grader Charles Cowan.

According to the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics, Washington State has one of the higher divorce rates in the nation, ranking 15th in the United States with a rate of 4.0 divorces per 1,000 people in 2007. The national rate of divorce as of 2008 was 3.5 out of 1,000 with 44 states reporting. COURTESY OF P. WARRING

With the busy schedules of growing teens, socializing, sports, and academics, switching houses may definitely be a substantial factor of divorce.

"It's not that hard [to live with both parents at two different houses], it's fairly easy," said Kuepker.

"[I visit] my dad's house every other weekend," said Seehafer.

Divorce may also be for the better, creating daily and school life more calm and orderly.

"[Having a single parent] doesn't affect [my academics]. It's pretty average for me," said Cowan.

Moore agreed, "I'm glad my parents got divorced, it's better."

When your friend's parents get divorced you might feel bad for them, or think their family is strange, but the connotation of divorced families may be much different than the reality.

"[I feel bad for people with divorced parents] because they don't get to see parents equally," sixth grader Katelyn Valnes said.

Seehafer disagreed, "I go to my dad's house every other weekend."

Separated parents can open up more opportunities that you have always wanted to do. Usually when both parents are together, one of them takes on most of the nurturing and/or logistical planning.

After a divorce, the children can have each parent completely focusing on them with the time they have together. They can also see each parent fully taking care of home business, according to Huffington Post.

Although divorce is still a big part of life, and overcoming it may take time, there are many people who will support and help you through it.

# Teen Self-Image

## How does Barbie distort the way teens view themselves?

Alyssa Ferry

With her tiny waist and perfect smile, Barbie has been showing off her talents since 1959, but with her impossible proportions, many parents are concerned about what is staring their kids back in the mirror.

It's no secret that girls all around the world idolize the perfection found in everything Barbie can do. With her many hobbies and clothes options, it's not difficult to be jealous.

Seventh grader Reilly Middlebrooks said that even though the doll never affected how she looks at herself, "The kids that grew up with [Barbie dolls] are becoming adults and worrying about new things and feeling bad about themselves."

Mattel, the company that created the Barbie doll, fails to believe the blonde woman of different occupations is having a harsh affect on the way that children will grow up looking at themselves in the mirror.

According to FastCo Design in an interview with Barbie's VP of Design, Kim Culmone said, "She was designed for girls to easily dress and undress. Primarily it's for function for the little girl, for real-life fabrics to be able to be turned and sewn, and have the outfit still fall properly on her body."

Although Barbie was originally based on the creators' daughter, the lack of diversity within her social group is troubling.

As her olive skin tone and blonde hair stares back at you, the question arises as to why an ethnic doll hasn't been clearing the store shelves.

"I think that originally [blonde hair, blue eyes, and Caucasian] was the perfect standard for dolls. I'm not saying I agree with it, but there's definitely a cultural bias," eighth grade teacher Mrs. Davis noted.

Nickolay Lamm is the originator of a more realistic Barbie. He took the proportions of the average U.S. female and created a scaled down doll. Although some online reviewers believe this is just another "unrealistic expectation" Students and staff at Mount Baker disagree.

"I think that's what [Mattel] should do with all of [the Barbie's]," sixth grader Hope Gilbreath said.

Even though eighth grade teacher Mrs. Davis was pleased with this idea, she said, "At the end of the day, it's all about what sells best."

Others however, were not so pleased with this proportionate doll.

"I don't know it's definitely different," seventh grader Reilly Middlebrooks said.

Lamm's proportionate doll's name is Lammily, based upon the creators last name. She has a 31 inch waist, while Barbie's is a mere 16 when converted to human measurements. With a 32-inch bust, 31-inch waist and 32-inch hips Lammily is considered 'average', while Barbie stands tall with a 32-inch bust, 16-inch waist, and 29-inch hips.

"[The proportionate doll] is really ugly and fat," seventh grader Lexi Allen said.

Playing on the fact of unrealistic expectations, it seems as though teenagers are the most targeted to be advertised to when it comes to clothes and brand names.

Sizes vary from shop to shop, and other teen shops make a small fit a seven-year-old.

Ads are continuously editing models to put in their shop windows. Taking away from the waist and recently, even messing up to show their editing.

As a teenager, this is what one is accustomed to growing up around. Based upon observations through social media, many teenagers are feeling the 'pressure to be perfect'.

With the impact on girls from Barbie, researchers may have to start their concern with boys and Barbie's partner-in crime, Ken.

Girls have grown up to look in the mirror and want to see perfection looking back. Sadly that isn't how it works. PHOTO BY K. RUPPERT.



# MEDIA ADDICTION

## *Do you depend on media too much?*

Jasmine Dang

Are you constantly refreshing your media feeds? Dreaming in 140 characters? Obsessing over how many likes you get on your social media post? Using hash tags before you speak? Then you might just have an addiction to media.

The evolution of technology has become more advanced through the years, allowing us access to media 24/7 from anywhere. Meaning, media has more power than ever before. Media is our future.

It is an outlet for people to obsess over themselves or to create a new and improved images equaling up to a fictional person. This can become an unhealthy addiction.

Teens have become very dependent on media and crave it when they don't have access. Many can even attest to the fact that media has taken over their lives. People never seem to realize how much they're missing because of media.

Our society would not even know how to react without it.

"I would freak out with no Snapchat or Instagram. I would go crazy!" sixth grader Sydnee Chinn said.

Media is popular among teens because it prevents "FOMO." (the fear of missing out). Social Media Platforms allow adolescents to stay in the loop and to know what's going on in the lives of others easier than ever before.

"I go on media because I get bored easily, and me-

dia is there. It lets me share how I feel or what I'm doing. I can also chat with my family or my friends on some medias," seventh grader Olivia Goodrich said.

A study from Harvard University showed that during self-disclosure on media, participants activated

the Nucleus Accumbens, this region of the brain is important in the developments of addictions and it lights or fires up when taking an addictive substance like cocaine (or other drugs).

So why is media and "likes" so important to our generation?

"Well it's like a fad you see someone using or reading something and you do it too it's like a chain reaction. Kids strive to be 'cool' or 'popular' when really they're just labels and being famous over the internet is just the total goal for people who label themselves 'outcasts,'" eighth grader Angelica Trujillo said.

For most teens social media is just another part of their daily routine. It gives the youth the ability to communicate with anyone in a touch of a button. It can boost some juvenile's confidence and break others. But overall media is mass communication and contains an incredible amount of power. Teens should learn to use it and not abuse it.

Although media has both positives and negatives effects, it is used very often. Therefore balance is important to maintain when using media platforms.

Just remember that time away from a screen, can be just as entertaining as time behind a screen.

Almost all teenagers in America today have used social media. Nine out of ten (90 percent of) 13- to 17-year-olds have used some form of social media. Three out of four (75 percent of) teenagers currently have a profile on a social networking site. PHOTO BY K. RUPPERT



# Technology Levy Passes in Auburn

Ryan Hess

On Wednesday, Feb. 26, the Auburn Technology Levy passed. In a vote of 11487 people, 56.75 percent of them voted for the levy and 43.25 percent voted against.

The 40-member committee of community members, parents, teachers, and staff met during the fall to create recommendations on high-yield strategies for learning, access for students, staff, infrastructure, and funding.

The committee determined this levy is necessary to bring 21st century learning tools into the classroom.

This aligns with the district's strategic plan, "Technology will be integral to administration and teaching and learning to prepare all students for career, college, and life beyond high school."

The levy provides \$22 million towards Auburn Schools. The money gained from this will be used for new technology to better increase learning for students in the Auburn school district. Each student will have a personal device, instead of several different textbooks.

However, Mt. Baker will not receive the first collection of funds until April, 2015

"Three or four years ago, nobody had a smart phone or an i-Pad, and now everybody has a Smartphone or a tablet device, and those that don't, want to. So in this world of ever-evolving technology, we need our kids to be prepared to use that stuff effectively in the future," said Mike Newman in an interview with the *Auburn Reporter*.

Other advancements would be 24/7 access to curriculum and coursework for students, parents, and teachers, wireless access in all buildings, technology enhancements for safety and security, other electronic devices for students for increased engagement and learning, and electronic tools for teachers to improve teaching in the classroom.

The addition of technology in an everyday student life would take a large amount of weight away from textbooks and binders. A typical laptop weighs roughly five pounds and has access to all the information that you would require at school. Instead of rummaging through a cluttered backpack for the paper you need, all of your papers and assignments would be stored in your personal computer.

# Teaching with NEW TECHNOLOGY

Harrison Maurus

The ways that students have been taught has changed through the years. Recently, an Auburn School District Technology Levy passed allowing Mt. Baker to receive new technology that will hopefully improve student learning. Previous teaching innovations included overhead projectors, teachers no longer had to write everything on a whiteboard. The new technology soon to be introduced will make teaching even more advanced.

"Twenty years ago I couldn't live without my over head projector and my hands were always blue or red. Now I could not survive without my computer, Avervision and projector," seventh grade math teacher Mrs. Millang said .

Another technology advancement that made an impact on teaching is the internet. The internet was first launched publicly in 1991; this allowed students to access research papers and articles more efficiently and have a greater variety of sources for their papers.

For a 2014 student, the internet is a very useful resource, one that students 20 years ago had just obtained. Students can now use the internet to better research their subject, receive help on homework problems, and study for tests.

"I use the internet to access my school books when I leave them at school," eighth grader Christopher Nelson said.

By the end of the new Technology Levy, each student should have some kind of personal computer. Textbooks would then be able to be accessed on a computer instead of having to carry around a paper textbook like students had to 20 years ago. As many students know, the textbooks are outdated. By having them on a computer the books could be updated more frequently and at a lesser cost to the school because new books would not have to be bought and shipped, just downloaded.

Also, it would get rid of the struggle of carrying books

that are literally falling apart.

"There are some amazing programs that go beyond the textbooks and are linked to the common core", eighth grade social studies teacher Mrs. Carnahan said .

Although some people think that the quality of work produced by students since the '90s has greatly improved with the new technology being added to the schools, a few teachers don't think that it has or will change much.

"It is different, but I wouldn't necessarily say better. I received some amazing work then and I receive some amazing work now. Technology has allowed kids to include information that wasn't available to us twenty years ago, but kids had to work harder to get what they needed to be successful," said Mrs. Millang.

Overall, consider yourself lucky that teaching technology has advanced. You can easily search the web for help on the problem you just don't get or for more information for your report.

And if you leave your books at school, don't worry they are online.



Schools will acquire a certain amount of the levy money over a period of six years. Many upgrades in computers will be seen in classes like Mr. Kemp's computer classes. PHOTO BY R. HESS



The U.S. Army in 1945 was the first to use overhead projectors in quantity for training after WW II. PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR.COM VIA CREATIVE COMMONS LICENSE



# REVIEW

## *20 Year Anniversary*

### Inspires New Generation to Shoot for Moon

# APOLLO 13

Byron Kidder

*Apollo 13* grossed \$25,353,209 in its opening weekend, and over its run grossing \$173,837,933. It first appeared on June 30, 1995 PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES VIA CREATIVECOMMONS.ORG

There is a moment early on in *Apollo 13* when astronaut Jim Lovell is taking press on a tour of the Kennedy Space Center, he brags that they have a computer "that fits in one room and can send out millions of instructions." And I'm thinking, shoot; I'm typing this review on a better computer than the one that got us to the moon.

Even though director Ron Howard's *Apollo 13* was made 20 years ago, it still ranks at 13 according to the American Film Institute's list of the 100 most inspiring movies of all time, right below *Saving Private Ryan*, another Tom Hanks film. The Apollo 13 disaster will always stick in our minds, and this movie makes the disaster more realistic to our imagination.

*Apollo 13* never directly states its theme, except perhaps in one sentence of narration at the end, but the whole film is suffused with it: The space program was an extraordinary accomplishment, something to be proud of, and those who went into space were not just "heroes," but also brave and resourceful.

Ron Howard's film based on the failed moon mission, Apollo 13, was made with such meticulous to detail, all the way down to the floating tape player blaring country music, making the movie riveting.

Howard doesn't make the mistake of adding unneeded subplots to make the story more suspenseful; he knows he has a great story, and he tells it in a docudrama that feels like it was filmed on location in out-

er space, even though it obviously wasn't.

Tom Hanks was nominated for a MTV Movie Award for best lead male performance as astronaut Jim Lovell. Ed Harris was nominated for an Academy Award for best supporting actor as Gene Kranz, the Lead Flight Director of Mission Control that guided Apollo 13 back to Earth.

One of my favorite quotes from the movie comes from Gene Kranz, "Failure is not an option."

To me, this quote shows how hard NASA worked during the Apollo era, all the way down to the person who swept the floors at night.

Seventh grader Brayden Brown last saw *Apollo 13* three years ago, "It was [a] really good movie, I really liked it, and I wanted to see it again."

Watching this movie made me realize, wow, we were flying to the moon in tin cans compared to what we have today. And, why aren't we still doing it today.

With modern materials, alloys, fuels, it would be much safer- have we just lost the will?

*Apollo 13* receives four and a half out of five stars for great acting, CGI effects, and the historical accuracy of the mission.



# REVIEW

COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS

## *connects with teen, adult audiences*

Destany Abellera

*The Lego Movie* is about a seemingly suburban Lego man, Emmet that unintentionally got recruited as an incredible Master Builder and tags along on a mission with other epic Lego Master builder to help stop an evil tyrant from destroying the world.

Directed by Chris Miller and Phil Lord, *The Lego Movie* is an 100-minute long family friendly film that presents genres of romance, humor, and action. It includes, but is not limited to, the treasured voices of Morgan Freeman, Chris Pratt, Will Arnet, Elizabeth Banks, Alison Brie, Liam Neeson, and Charlie Day. It is also featured cameo appearances by Will Ferrell, as The Man Upstairs, and Jaden Sand as his son, Finn.

The plot is based upon a prophecy which entails "the greatest, most talented, most interesting, most important person" to find the "piece of resistance" and save the Lego worlds from being glued together from a Krazy glue tube, which is referred to as the "Kragle".

Emmet found himself as the fulfiller of the prophecy and helplessly did what he could to stop Lord Business, but he didn't work alone, he had the help of other Master Builders, including Wyldstyle, Batman, Benny, Vituvius, and Unikitty. The team worked together to save the Lego Worlds. All in all it has a happy ending that makes you want watch it again and again.

Towards the end, a twist was revealed in which the world Emmet and his friends live in is actually apart of

real life and his worlds are just Lego models made by The Man Upstairs, Will Ferrell.

In the end the overall theme uncovered that it is okay to be different and be your own person.

The actual film was mixed with CG Animation and the use of real Lego sets, but as you watch it, it seems as if the whole movie was made by hours of stop-motion. The final put together of the motion picture looked flawless and seemed as each Lego could step out of the screen.

In my own opinion, this movie was 3.5 to 4 stars out of five. I would recommend you see this movie if you're into awesome mini explosions, catchy phrases, randomness, or just want to have a nice laugh. The overall big screen presentation was unsurpassed and the story line all fit together without a bump. It's a film made that makes you feel happy, and want to laugh along.

From the success of this movie, Warner Brothers already announced that they are planning to create a sequel that is to be released on May 26, 2017.

A grand total of 3,863,484 real LEGO pieces were used and reused for the making of the movie. Those pieces made a domestic total of \$379,048,000 opening weekend. COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS LISENCE



# PETER PAN SYNDROME

## Teens' Love of Disney Movie Won't Let Them Grow Up

Emily Miles

Throughout the years of our life, Disney has been there for us. From our enjoyment to when we are feeling blue, Disney's movies, brands, and TV shows have stuck with us since our younger ages to our teenage years and even into our adulthood.

"Disney has made me have more imagination," sixth grader, Amber Carman said.

The same affect has been made with many others who have grown up with the Disney background. Many of the grumpy teenagers of the world have been able to find joy through the loving aspect of the Disney movies.

Even now teenagers and adults are finding that the newest movie from Disney, *Frozen*, has become something to talk about bringing them back to childhood memories.

Not only does Disney bring back childhood memories, it also can make you feel better on a sick day or when you are feeling down.

On a sick day would you prefer a Disney movie over an action-packed movie?

"I would prefer a Disney movie because it would help me feel better because when I'm sick I hate everything, but an action movie wouldn't make me feel better."



seventh grader Brenden Chohanapibool said.

Many think that teenagers cannot relate to the Disney princesses or Nemo's struggle to find his dad, but we can all find something to suit us.

Anna and Elsa from *Frozen* had to go through a long period of separation because of a fight. Cinderella was treated as a slave when her stepmother took over. Some of these scenarios might sound familiar.

"Disney has portrayed emotions that everyone can relate to," eighth grader Denver Rogers said.

Although some people are filled with love and happiness after watching a Disney movie others, such as history teacher Mrs. Thorington, believe they can be very frustrating.

"Pocahontas makes me want to rip my hair out because of its historical inaccuracy," said Thorington.

As you can see, Disney has its different affects on everyone, but has somehow found a way to touch us. No matter what age you are you can enjoy (or not enjoy) Disney's many different combinations of princesses, princes, and even fish.

## MARCH HOROSCOPES

Colby Pretz

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb.18)**-You will go to Atlantic City and find yourself inside an underwater mermaid society, sporting a fashionable fin.

**Pisces (Feb.19-March 20)**-You are no longer rich. A humongous leprechaun will rise up and snatch your Gold Fish crackers and put them in his pot of gold.

**Aries (March 21-April 19)**- You will be humming the song "Tip Toe through the Tulips" in a field of flowers, while tip-toeing through the tulips.

**Taurus (April 20- May 20)**-You fall through a major earthquake fault and find your riches in gold and diamonds... too bad, too late.

**Gemini (May 21-June 20)**-You go through a looking glass and come face to face with a rabbit that looks just like you.

**Cancer (June 21 - July 22)**-When talking to yourself, you find you're more interesting than the people around you.

**Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22)**-Your courage comes through to face a squirrel that has been terrorizing you at the bus stop.

**Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)**-You wake up from a dream to find yourself in a hospital gown on stage at a movie theater.

**Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)**-Walking will become a challenge this month since your balance is off due to losing your big toe.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)**-Crawling on all fours in the desert, you get the urge to sting the person who comes to rescue you.

**Sagittarius (Nov 22- Dec. 21)**-You look down and see that you now have four legs, a tail, and you start to snort, whinny, neigh, and gallop away.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)**-Your parents have retired the lawn mower since you have started to eat the grass for a snack.



# Music Man:

## School Play Obligates High Expectations from Student Population

Aaron Baker

A school play is a staple of high culture at MBMS. The long lasting tradition of experiencing the arts will once again be realized on April 2 and 3 in the MBMS production of *The Music Man, Jr.*

All students will be attending the production on either April 2 or 3, depending on your second period class. The length of the production has yet to be announced, but you will be returning to school that day. The play will be performed at the ART at Auburn-Riverside.

Cast members assured that this production will be a success.

"Look forward to the large group numbers," said eighth grader and cast member Hailey Bragg. "The setting is really cool and I think that we accomplished something big with the chemistry between Harold and Marian. It's going to be amazing."

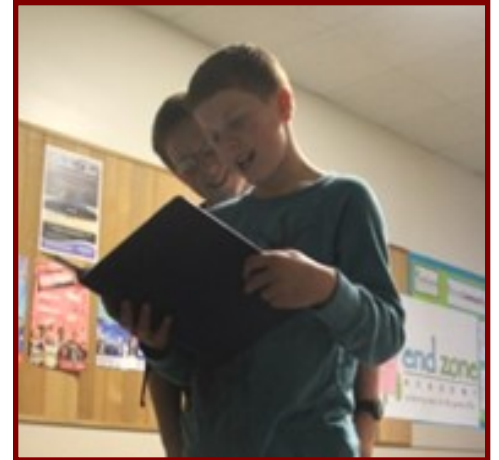
To offer an idea of what is to be expected, the story of *The Music Man, Jr.* "follows fast-talking traveling sales-

man Harold Hill as he cons the people of River City, Iowa into buying instruments and uniforms for a boys' band he vows to organize. His plans to skip town with the cash are foiled when he falls for Marian, whose belief in Harold's powers just might help him succeed in the end in spite of himself," according to MTI Broadway Junior Collection, the licenser of the play

The play has high expectations to meet after last year's outstanding production of *Annie, Jr.* Despite the anticipation, cast members agreed that this production "will be one to look forward to".

"Everyone should look forward to this play," eighth grade cast member Emily Morrow said.

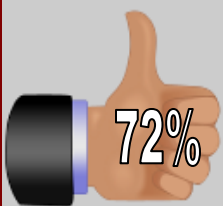
"You should look forward to all of the choreography that we've been working at like crazy... it's going to be super fun."



Part of the process of practicing a play includes hours of after school rehearsals. PHOTO COURTESY OF MBMS YEAR-BOOK

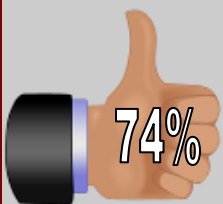
## The Canine Chronicle Staff Debates Trends in Pop Culture

Jasmine Dang & Tashana Williams



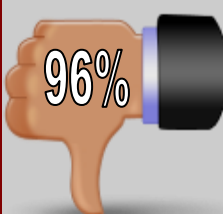
### 'Divergent'

This dystopian novel turned action-adventure film is making its debut to the big screen. It's the first movie in the Divergent trilogy and debuted in theaters March 21. Do you plan on watching *Divergent*?



### Plastic Water Bottles Bans

San Francisco is one of the first major U.S. cities to enforce the ban of water bottles. It already bans grocery stores from using plastics bags for consumers' purchases and is leading the way toward a more environmental friendly nation. Do you think more cities should ban the use of plastic water bottles?

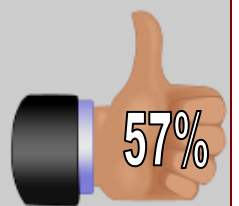


### Crimea's Conflict

Maps will soon be changing. Russian President Vladimir Putin recently signed a treaty that makes Crimea part of Russia. His actions followed voting on Crimea when Crimean residents overwhelmingly chose to split off from Ukraine and join Russia. Crimea was transferred from Russia to Ukraine while under Soviet rule in 1954 and has since changed hands several times. Do you think Crimea made the right move from Ukraine to Russia?

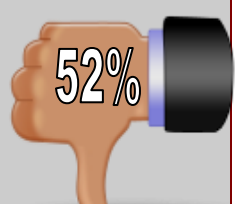
### Fourth Quarter Sports

It's time for spring competitors in fourth quarter sports to shine. With the fourth quarter sport season approaching athletes in volleyball, track and field, and baseball are gearing up to compete. Are you participating in any of these sports?



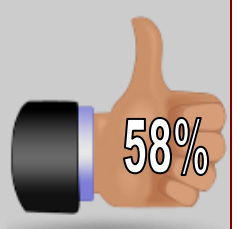
### 'The Walking Dead'

The television series *The Walking Dead*, first premiered 2010 and is based on a comic. This post-apocalyptic horror-drama airs Sunday nights on AMC with an astoundingly large viewership. With this popular TV series season coming close to an end in only a few short episodes, many will be left wanting more. Do you watch *The Walking Dead*?



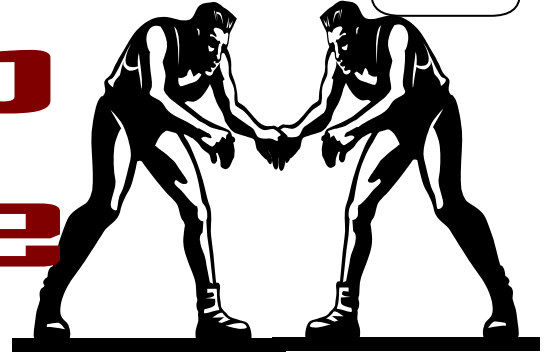
### Instagram

Instagram is a social media website where you can share pictures or videos and apply virtual filters to them. With over 150 million active users and 16 billion photos uploaded. Instagram appears to be a popular media source with constant posting of pictures, and is steadily becoming the fastest growing social media site globally. Do you have an Instagram?



# Wrestling

## Picks Top of League



### Hope Addison

The MBMS 2014 wrestling season started Jan. 15. Since then, wrestlers have been working and training hard, dominating their opponents.

At the start of the season, the training was said to be easy, using basic techniques. But now that the end of the season is near, the training has intensified with lots of running, burpees, push-ups, etc. and advanced techniques are being learned.

"My favorite part of wrestling is the matches because you get to compete against the other schools," seventh grader Peyton Scheschy said.

"Take downs [are my favorite part of wrestling because] they give me power," eighth grader Jonathon Richards said.

Each day the boys improved, were focused, and committed to working hard for a conference title.

Conference (Friday March 21, 2014) was when all four schools (Mt. Baker, Cascade, Olympic, N. Tapps, and Rainier) all have a meet. All wrestlers were guaranteed three matches (unless their weight class isn't full). There are five mats set up, so there's always five competitions going on.

"Our goal is to not only have champion wrestlers, but be district champions as a team," eighth grader Isaiah Thissel said.

"As a team we have a very good chance to win conference. However, what the coaches are most excited about is to see how many Baker wrestlers we can put in the finals, and how many JV wrestlers can knock off the varsity point scorers from the other four schools," Coach King said.

Seventh grader Brenden Chaowanapibool said, "[It's my goal] to be a conference champion and to get the Ironman Award."

The Ironman Award is given to wrestlers who attend and participate in every practice and every meet. They also could not have any after school detentions.

Cascade Middle School was our wrestlers' biggest com-

petition this year. They had a very tough program and "our duals were always a bloody affair" said Coach King.

This year, there were several seventh grade wrestlers who have filled in at the varsity position and have done very well. Also, this is the most eighth graders we have ever had on one team.

"[The eighth graders] have been great. They teach, they learn, they listen, and they compete with all their heart. It has been a real joy to coach these young men this season," Coach King said.

Jonathon Richards said, "[My goal for the remainder of the season is] to win the rest of my matches and stay on varsity."

Every week, the boys wrestle for spots on varsity. When it's time for the meet, if a wrestler didn't make weight or is ineligible, the person underneath him takes the spot.

There were a lot of new wrestlers this year, along with returning ones.

"Our most improved wrestler from last year, hands down year is Zach Villanueva. But that's the results you expect when you dedicate the off season to improve and be the best as an eighth grade varsity wrestler," Coach King.

This year, the team was League Champions. This means that they beat the other four schools in their meets.



Varsity wrestlers watch an intense match against Rainier, in which multiple wrestlers won by pin. Our wrestlers went on to be undefeated. COURTESY MBMS YEARBOOK

# GIRLS SOCCER



## Establishes New Traditions

Conner Pitlick

This season was Mt. Baker's first year for girl's soccer. History was made for the school yet again when Hope Addison scored the first goal ever for the varsity girl's soccer team against Cascade Middle school.

The Bulldogs went on to take a commanding 3-0 win for the first win in Mt. Baker girl's soccer history.

"We all were very excited," said Jazmin McLaughlin after their first win.

It was definitely a night to remember but the games did not stop there; the girls' next game would be one of the hardest of the season.

The weather conditions for the MBMS soccer game against Rainier were brutal with below-

freezing temperatures, making for a tough time for the Bulldogs suffering a 4-0 loss.

The girls would not let this loss keep them down, they bounced back and got focused on their next game.

Mt. Baker's team is mixed up of girls who play select and girls that have never played before, but coach Paul Lewis would not let it affect their season and neither would the girls.

Even if the girls did not have that good of ball skills got better.

The captains Natalie Means, Micaela Boettcher, and Rylie Tew helped them improve.

The captains are not the only ones that would help out the team all of the girls were willing to do anything to help the team improve.

The team improved as the season went on but the girl that Jazmin McLaughlin thought improved the most was "Michelle Brickner because she worked hard, got better and scored a goal."

The girls' season had up's and down's losses and wins. Rainier was definitely their hardest opponent. Baker couldn't find a way to beat them.

They played their last game of the season on March 19 against Rainier.

As the season came to an end, some of the girls were sad it is over, but some were happy to start their select season.

Many girls playing their first season of soccer talked about trying out for select teams.

The season inspired the new girls to keep playing soccer not just for the school but year round for other teams.

## Seventh Grade Soccer

Hope Addison

The first ever Mt. Baker seventh grade girls' soccer season started Jan. 15. The seventh graders have been working hard during practices with the varsity team.

"It feels so awesome to be on the first soccer team Mt. Baker has had, especially with Ms. Hammond as a coach," Wendy Tilander said.

The team was quite timid at the start of the season, but they work hard and now they're really aggressive.

Coach Hammond stated, "I've really enjoyed the family this team has created. They made coaching fun--even in the pouring rain."

The girls will occasionally scrimmage (a practice game where the score doesn't count) against the varsity team, giving them an opportunity to learn advanced techniques from the older girls, challenging them. The seventh graders have also been able to contribute some of their knowledge to the eighth graders.

"Everyone has improved so much; it's hard to pick [one player]," Coach Hammond said.

The girls' end of the season record was 2-3-0 (two wins, three losses, and no ties). There were only soccer teams from Olympic and Rainier, so instead of playing each school twice, the Mt. Baker girls played Rainier three times and Olympic twice. Our seventh graders won both their games against Olympic, and lost the tough games against Rainier.

"Going to the games were a ton of fun to watch," stated Principal Brown.

The most embarrassing moment for the team was the practice when Wendy Tilander's shoe was sucked off her

foot by the mud on the field and she ended up stepping in the mud.

"It was so gross. My sock was all wet, cold, and muddy," said Tilander.

Principal Brown stated "I love [having our own team], and it could not have happened soon enough."



The JV team playing a tough last game against Rainier. They fought a hard battle, but Rainier came out on top. PHOTO COURTESY H. ADDISON



# Girls Hoops

## Wins Another Title in Auburn League

Jaimie Vital

The MBMS Varsity Girls Basketball started the season on Jan. 21. So far, they only encountered one loss throughout this season against Cascade; the girls have done a great job so far and are always looking for opportunities to improve. Both first and second teams are outstanding and filled with talent.

The Rainier win wasn't just won by a few points. The girls dominated 32-24 winning by a full eight points. Everyone on the team contributed to the win; they have terrific team work and capability.

The girls worked hard during practices playing like a live game.

"I would give the girls an eight out of ten [on how hard they work during practices] they all try their best, but sometimes they don't give it their all," team manager Siarah Brown said. "[The girls worked hard enough] they won [almost] all of the games. They all tried hard."

"All the girls are really good, [in the] first teamer Anna Maracich is a really good dribbler, and she does

really good moves. Also, Leah Kerbs is a very good shooter," team manager Camden Heilborn said. "[One of the most hardworking players] on the team is Esperanza Mendoza. During practices, she always goes for the ball and sprints around the court."

Some games were difficult but they always pulled through and came with the win.

The game against North Tapps also showed how hard the girls worked, winning with a score of 44-24, a whopping 20 point victory against Tapps. The game was a team effort, everyone on the team contributed to the win.

"Calley Heilborn is a really good shooter. Calley is a point guard which means that she is really good at dribbling," team manager Siarah Brown stated. "Iasa Atimalala always tries to shoot and tries to get pass the players on the other team."

As you can see the players work hard to achieve success.

"[The most improved player on the team] is Mya Johnson her confidence has grown and she has become one of our strongest players on the second team," said Coach Brown.

The team completed the season with many strengths and very few weaknesses.

"[The MVP for this season] is Calley Heilborn because, she has all of the skills, superstar leadership, shooting, dribbling, passing, and she is also very competitive," Coach Brown said.

"More than said, this is a dream come true for the girls and for me as their coach."

### Seventh Grade Basketball

Daelyn Haws

It's the final ten seconds of the game. Symone Bolden jumps for the rebound and dribbles down the court with three Cascade girls on her heels. She lobs the ball to Trinity Jenkins and she lays it into the hoop. Victory for Mt. Baker!

The seventh grade Basketball team has had quite a season with four wins and four losses. Considering the skills of this team and other schools, they are working pretty hard to do their best. This team has switched off with the varsity team for practices, so sometimes they were coming in from 5:45-7:00 every morning or from 2:00-3:45 every afternoon, but on late-start Mondays both teams came in after school.

In an interview with coach Mrs. Burkhalter, she stated that "[I love] our defense, [that we are] aggressive, relentless, [have] non-stop pressing, and we like to steal the ball."

Burkhalter also said that Rainier has been the hardest team to beat this season.

Emily Marano, one of the point guards on the starting group, said, "[There is more pressure as a starter] because you always have to go in first and she relies on you to make the most points."

When asked how many points she averages per game, Marano said, "Maybe about 6-8."

In an interview with Kashe Stansberry, the other point guard, who switches off with Marano during games, she said, "[Being with this team is] really fun because all the girls are nice and we're friends."

When asked what she feels the team needs to work on the most, Burkhalter answered, "Outside shooting is what we need to work on."

Overall, this team had a great season.



The Varsity Girls Basketball uses their aggressive offensive and defensive game plan against Rainier the Mount Baker Bulldogs won 32-24, while a seventh grade player prepares to shoot.  
COURTESY OF MBMS YEARBOOK

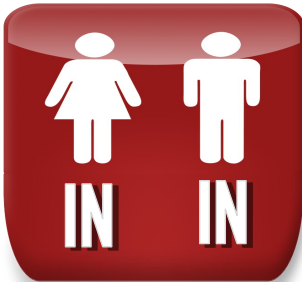
# In-N-Out

## Trends to Talk About at MBMS

Hailey Bragg

*Three classes provided their opinions on popular trends sweeping through Mt. Baker. Students were given an option of two choices for each trend. The Chronicle staff provided the commentary, dividing results by gender.*

### Pink Yoga Pants



**IN A NUTSHELL:** For an increasing number of girls at our school, yoga pants have become a large part of their wardrobe. "They're comfortable," eighth grader, Emily Miles, stated her opinion, "and they look nicer than sweatpants." We all knew that teenage girls (and boys, for that matter) love yoga pants, but finding out the brand that they prefer is new information.

**THE ANALYSIS:** So what's all the hype about Pink? Are they truly the better pants, or is it their large brand name across the back of the waistband that attracts buyers? Lululemon is higher quality, but their logo is far less visible. When a girl wears Pink, it's blatantly obvious. All their friends see, and then in order to fit in they also purchase Pink. What's really trending? The logos.

### Lululemon Yoga Pants



### Frozen



**IN A NUTSHELL:** Nearly all the girls at our school chose *Frozen* over *The Lego Movie*, for obvious reasons. *Frozen* is a story with a main female protagonist, Anna, and is geared towards girls. *The Lego Movie* features a leading male character, Emmet, which is why most seventh and sixth grade boys chose this film. Even though *Frozen* is intended for girls, over half of the eighth grade boys preferred it over *The Lego Movie*.

**THE ANALYSIS:** So why are the oldest and supposedly toughest boys at our school preferring the musical movie that is geared towards young females? It could be that they are trying to impress the girls by showing an interest in a movie they'd like, or, more likely, they are all little girls inside who love a good girl power movie, and can't help but sing along to "Let It Go" every time they watch it.

### Lego Movie



### Starbucks



**IN A NUTSHELL:** Stereotypically, teenage girls are addicted to Starbucks. As you can see from the survey results, our school contributes to this stereotype. However, not everyone at our school is crazy about coffee. Most eighth grade boys chose McDonalds, not Starbucks.

**THE ANALYSIS:** Why do so many teens love Starbucks? Despite how low on energy and desperate for caffeine we are, the drinks at Starbucks are to die for, and they make for a great Instagram post #Starbucks. While I see that teens might like McDonalds for its low prices, salty food, and better hang out environment, I find Starbucks much tastier and for this reason I almost never go to McDonalds.

### McDonald



### Instagram



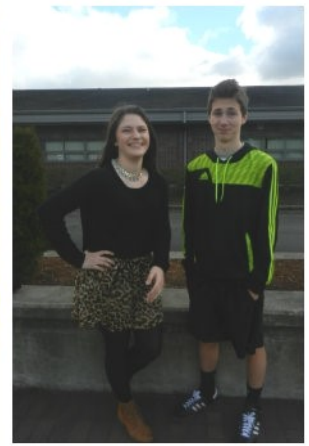
**IN A NUTSHELL:** Social media is a huge part of a teenagers life, but how do you personally stay connected? There's Twitter and Tumblr, but most teens say they use MySpace to stay connected these days. Actually, that last sentence was a lie. Most teens use Facebook or Instagram. Out of the students surveyed, Instagram was most popular.

**THE ANALYSIS:** This is a newer social media, so naturally more teenagers are drawn to use it. Also, less adults use Instagram, so many teens use this as a way to escape their parents.

### Facebook







Spring started on March 20<sup>th</sup>, and students from Mt. Baker started preparing for the season by wearing warmer weather clothes. PHOTO BY K. JHAJJ AND M. FERNANDEZ

# SPRING FASHION

## *How to dress for sun ... or rain*

**Kamalvir Jhaji & Miranda Fernandez**

Sunny days, flowers blooming, relationships forming, more people happy, and heaps of socializing teens hanging out at intramurals. Spring is finally here, and short skirts, shorts, dresses, sandals, and tanks are appearing.

As we get into spring, clothing styles change from wearing big puffy jackets, jeans, and sweat-ers to warmer weather clothing. But when April and May comes, all those styles go away, and stu-dents start dressing freely.

Boys and girls both have different clothing styles, but both tend to change the way they dress as the weather gets warmer.

The most common types of clothing that we see students at Mt. Baker wear, and teenagers outside of school wear, during the spring time often in-clude pastel colors, button up collared blouses, metallic clothing, cropped jackets, wide lengthened and baggy pants, bright colors, and skater skirts.

But as spring fashion starts to come in a school, students also have to make sure that they follow

all the dress codes and not violate it.

When the sixth grade counselor Ms. Utu was asked how many students she has seen in the pre-vious year's breaking the dress code daily, she said, "Many. Girls should remember about short skirts and spaghetti straps."

Every year it seems like the girls have to be more careful about breaking the dress code at school in spring, because their outfits tend to show more skin and be more inappropriate in school, rather than the guys.

When sixth grader Chloe Knox was asked who she thinks cares more about spring fashion, girls or guys, she said, "Girls, because they wear cute shorts, and boys just wear plain shorts."

It has said to be that most guys seem to not care about what they wear and how they look, they don't care about what season it is, they just wear the same types of clothing all year long.

But when eighth grader Francisco Navarro was asked what he thinks guys do to prepare for fash-

ion in spring, he said, "Well guys do the same things as girls. They change or buy clothes for spring, and get tans."

There are many stores to buy clothes for each season, and students buy their clothes from many different places in Washington. The most common stores to buy spring clothing for girls are, Forev-er21, Hollister, Rue21, and Papaya. While for guys it's common to see clothing from stores such as, Aeropostale, Sports Authority, JcPenney, and Nike.

When seventh grader Melody Altamirano was asked where she goes to buy most of her spring clothes, she said, "Alley Kat, Papaya, Rue 21, Forev-er 21, and Love Culture."

As spring approaches quickly, make sure to check the weather report to see how the day is going to be.

The weather in the northwest changes drastical-ly, sometimes being pouring rain in the morning, to blazing sun in the afternoon. You don't want to get your fashionable clothes messed up!

**March**

# Locker Lottery

**Maddie Feeney, Kamalvir Jhaggi, Katie Ruppert**



Locker Lottery was created as a way to feature students' opinions at MBMS. They are selected completely at random, like the lottery. Two students were interviewed from each grade, one boy and one girl for Locker Lottery. The sixth graders were Andre Nirschl and Maya Martin. The seventh graders were Spencer Tyson and Kassidy Siegel. The eighth graders were Adam Russaw and Allyson McKay.

**What social media cite are you most addicted to?**

AN: Facebook.  
MM: I'm most addicted to Webkinz.  
ST: [I am most addicted to] kik.  
KS: Instagram.  
AR: Instagram.  
AM: Instagram.

**What celebrity or student is your doppelganger?**

MM: Probably Taylor Swift.  
ST: Paul Walker.  
AR: Bruno Mars.  
AM: Kristen Stewart.

**Do you think that you ever violate the dress code?**

AN: No because I just wear sweats and sweatshirts.  
ST: No, I don't wear booty shorts.  
KS: Probably, because it's strict.  
AR: Yeah.  
AM: No, I don't wear clothes like that.

**Do you believe we should have cell phones in class?**

AN: Yes, because some people can use it for a calculator.  
MM: I think we should use them, only for reasons such as homework.  
ST: Yeah, so we can use calculators.  
KS: Yeah, because they are fun.  
AR: Yeah if someone forgot their calculator, they could use it and if people finish their work early.  
AM: Yes, because then we wouldn't need to buy calculators.

**Do you still watch cartoons? Why?**

AN: No, because it's too [childish].  
ST: Yeah, I watch Tom and Jerry.  
KS: No, I don't have cable.  
AR: Yeah, because they're funny.  
AM: No, I don't have time for that.

**How do you feel about the honor roll and top 10 GPA's gone?**

AN: [I] didn't know about it.

ST: I don't pay attention to that.  
KS: I don't know what you're talking about.  
AR: I think it's cool.

**Are you upset that our Incentive Days were cancelled?**

AN: I didn't know about it.  
ST: No.  
KS: Not really, they weren't that cool.

**What is your favorite fast-food restaurant? Why?**

AN: Red Robin because it has great food.  
ST: Subway because the bread's good.  
KS: McDonalds, because they are cheap.  
AR: Wendy's.  
AM: McDonalds.

**Do you feel that media has an effect on teenagers?**

AN: No.  
ST: Yeah, it causes car crashes.

KS: Yes, because it is everywhere.  
AR: No.  
AM: Yes, that's where most fights start.

**What grinds your gears?**

AN: My brothers and sisters hitting me a lot.  
ST: When people chew with their mouth open.  
KS: Only having four minutes in the hall.  
AR: When people wear a lot of eye makeup.  
AM: When people don't have proper grammar.

**Do you celebrate St. Patrick's Day?**

AN: Yeah, if someone's not wearing green, I just pinch them.  
ST: My family and I always have corned beef.  
KS: I pinch people.  
AR: No, I don't celebrate it.  
AM: Yes, my mom always buys me a Shamrock Shake.

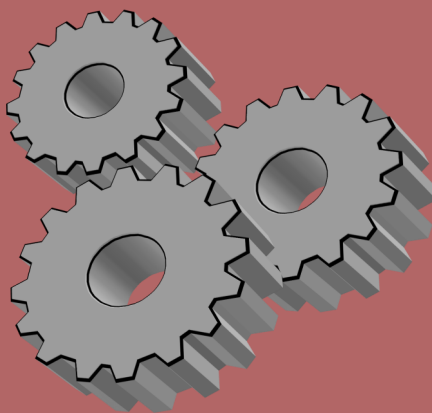




What

# GRINDS My GEARS

Alyssa Ferry, Anna Maracich, Maddie Feeney, Ryan Hess



All graphics in feature courtesy of MS Clipart

*Disagree? The segment 'What Grinds My Gears' is presented as opinion and does not express the views of all MBMS students or The Canine Chronicle. If you would like to express your opinion, write us a letter, and you may be published in our next edition.*

I thoroughly loathe when people touch, grab, or set my personal effects in disarray. Organization is one of my most substantial and under estimated characteristics.

I'm sitting at the lunch table, when all of a sudden my binder is missing. I look back over only to witness the sharpie settling into my new and ruined binder cover.

When people write "\_\_\_ was here" I have determined that you have a serious mental condition. I obviously know you were here because you are sitting right next to me last time I checked I have a pair of working eyes. Now I have to buy a new binder, spend hundreds of dollars on anger management, and ask your parents how they raised you so my kids won't end up like you.

Attention classmates: my binder isn't a piece of art, if you write on my binder you will most likely be the missing person in the next episode of Criminal Minds. Treat my binder how you want your face to be treated.

Also, week after week I notice fewer pencils in my pencil pouch. For your convenience I warn you that I have a camera in my pencil pouch and I will record your finger print, hunt you down, report you to the police, and retrieve it.



—Anna Maracich

You know what grinds my gears? When people invite themselves to my house without even asking me. I mean, you've got to be kidding me.



If I didn't ask you to come over, don't invite yourself over. Its okay if someone said, "Hey, can I come over?"

But if you say, "I'm going to spend the night to-night", I'm like, "Fine, have fun sitting outside all night cause I'm not gonna let you in."

I had a friend who would randomly text me and say, "Ask your mom if I can stay the night." ARE YOU SERIOUS RIGHT NOW!?!?!

The fact that they said that just makes me so mad. You can't just assume I want to hang out with you because if you do that most likely I won't even ask and if I do, I'll tell her to say no.

Even if you're my best friend, it's really annoying. I only let two people do that and it's not just because I like them way better than you, but because they're like my brothers and my parents love them, so if you're not like a sibling, you can't do that.

Everyone thinks it's the most irritating thing ever, especially if you make a habit of it. Just don't do it and I will probably like you better.

—Maddie Feeney

This is a letter to anyone who wants to have a conversation with me in the future.

If I'm talking to you, I want your view point to be as consistent as possible. I don't want you to change your opinion between A and B every 20 minutes!

I'll always want to understand what you're trying to say, and learn how to respond accordingly.

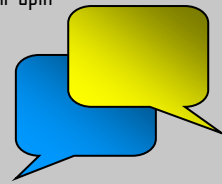
If I say something that makes your opinion switch, I can handle that.

But when it gets to the point that I feel like I have to tip-toe with every word I say, I'm going to get VERY frustrated. I don't enjoy talking to people that are "wishy-washy".

Take your opinion, and tell me. I don't care if it will hurt my feelings; I don't want to speak with someone I can't talk to without making you upset or angry.

People just need to stop being sensitive, and start sticking to their opinions.

It's going to make life a LOT easier for all of us!



—Alyssa Ferry

Do you want to know what grinds my gears? Squirrels.

These beasts of nature will stop at nothing until every human on earth is under their ultimate control.

When they look at you with those big, pleading eyes, you tell yourself to look away, but you are drawn to the small, fluffy animal.

The squirrel will sit next to its tree, watching, waiting for the moment when your will breaks, and you drop to the ground to feed it a peanut.

They use their cuteness to control your very being. They will stalk you for hours, knowing that you have the food that they desire.

A horde of these demon rodents can pick an entire campsite clean of food in a matter of minutes. No one is safe from this threat.

These "helpless" beings will become our overlords if we don't fight back.

We must band together to defeat this menace before they can pick us off one by one. We are the only thing standing in their way of world domination. That, my friends, is what grinds my gears.



—Ryan Hess

