

THE BRUIN PRESS



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WASC Visitation

School is power washed, students on best behavior

Darwin Manansala, Eli Sebastian, Jago Legaspi, Brandon Garcia
Staff Writers

‘was a rainy, stormy day in Bloomington. You walk through the flooded campus in order to seek shelter from the incoming storm. Entering your class, you take notice of an ominous stranger jotting down words and phrases very intently. You’ve just had a sudden, chance encounter with the illusive WASC.

Paola Velasco was one of those students. “They were just more general questions like, ‘How do you like your school? Are there any particular problems with the school?’ and other questions like that. I was fine answering these questions because it wasn’t anything too



Link Crew members cheer on the head of the WASC committee, Mr. Tex Acosta at the Sunday afternoon welcoming on March 3.

personal, just general questions.”

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) visited Bloomington High school March 3-6 to evaluate the lives and behavior of the students and teachers on campus. This evaluation has been highly anticipated by students and staff for the past couple weeks.

Ms. Lisa Padilla, WASC coordinator said, “WASC is an organization and process that helps schools improve. It’s something that happens every six years and we have been accredited roughly 10 times since the opening of the school in 1962.”

Ms. Lisa Padilla has coordinated ten WASC visits for us. She also served on about 15 visiting committees at other schools.

“My job is to help coordinate the WASC process. Which means making sure we write our report, since we have to write a self study document. That we meet at certain areas and organizing the logistics and details of the actual visits. The members that came, I made sure that our documents were sent, written, printed, and bound. I made their hotel reservations, worked on food when they were here. I set up meetings and tried to inform students about what was going on and worked with parents. I don’t

do it all, but I make sure everything gets done.”

As members of the educational system walked from class to class taking notes and observing what the school’s culture is like on a daily basis, they particularly took note of the different methods teachers used to teach students. Teachers and students were expected to bring out the very best in themselves for the campus as a whole.

Ms. Amy Madrigal, member of the WASC team, said, “We tell schools
Continued on page 2

Need to know

The few remaining tickets for Grad Nite 2019 are on sale NOW, in the Business Office. Ticket Prices are \$170. Guests are NOT allowed per Disneyland rules and guidelines. Grad Nite is May 28.

Request Loaner Cap/Gown. Do you need a loaner? If you did not already request it from Balfour, see an AP Secretary in the office to sign up. Purchases can still be made on delivery day, May 22.

Prom Tickets: Prom tickets are on sale NOW! Tickets are \$130 with ASB Discount Card and \$150 without. The last day to buy your ticket(s) is Wed., May 1. Mission San Juan Capistrano May 4.

NEWS

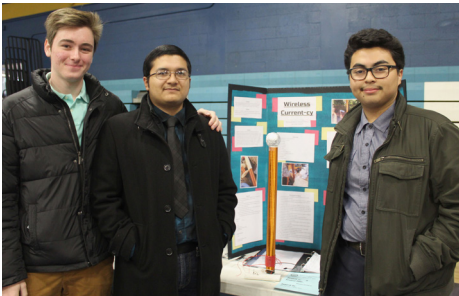
Two teams head to regionals BHS host district science fair including 3 BHS teams

Eli Sebastian, Darwin Manansala, Jago Legaspi, Brandon Garcia
Staff Writers

From molecular atoms to electrical discharges, the District Science Fair, held at Bloomington High School on Feb. 9, convened many exciting projects from almost every school in the district. BHS had three projects representing our science division. They consisted of, Wireless Current-cy, Fire in the Hole, and Clean Water for Everyone.

Science Fairs are an opportunity to show intellectual progression through creativity and authenticity. Out of the three teams, two teams ascend to Regionals.

Jasmine Valenzuela, member of one of the BHS teams moving to regionals, said, "For our project (Water for Ev-



Members of Wireless Current-cy are Benjamin Walton, Adan Gutierrez and Joseph Barrera who advanced to the county competition.

everyone) we were testing a solar decontamination method on water to see if it was effective or not. The hardest part of our project was when we had to identify the results and determine what kind of bacteria we got."

Adan Gutierrez, member of the

other BHS science fair team (Wireless Current-cy) moving to regionals said, "As the name entails, our project is supposed to transmit wireless electricity, but the biggest thing here is that it's supposed to make electricity super cheap. Getting the materials, and completing the circuit was surprisingly harder than we thought. It took a lot of time to get it to work. It cost around \$100-\$150, especially for the wire. There was a time where we were just watching Indiana Jones, eating pizza and just hanging around as we procrastinate far more than we should of."

Mr. Abe Ward is the advisor for the Wireless Current-cy team. "The students, Joseph Barrera, Adan Gutierrez, and Ben Walton, made a Tesla coil and a G-line. With it they were trying to show two different ways to move electricity without wire. The team worked very independently and mostly asked logistic questions of me. The judges had a difficult time asking questions about project because it was very technical," said Mr. Ward.

The motivations of participating in the science fair differ from group to group. From science fanatics to your casual science scholar, all are free to partake in the science fair.

Joseph Barrera, one of the advancing members of team Current-cy, said, "The science fairs teach the public about different sciences that they may have not known about. They also spread awareness of different technologies that exist. People should enjoy science because it helps our society with technological advancements."

Benjamin Walton another member of the advancing team Current-cy, said, "More people should give the science fair a try, they've got nothing to lose."

Talyssa Reading, member of Team Water alongside Jasmine Valenzuela, said, "We honestly didn't expect to make it far, the project was mainly for extra credit. But our project involved going to creek water and seeing if we can decontaminate the water since some countries are not privileged to drink clean healthy water like us."

Team Water's advisor was Ms. Natt.

In the end, two BHS teams are headed to test their projects at regionals. Regionals were held on April 2 at the San Bernardino County Superintendent's office.

Members of Clean Water are Talyssa Reading and Jasmine Valenzuela who will also advance to the county science fair.



WASC visitation

Continued from page 1

whether or not they are performing to standard. We are here for three days and, so far, it's been great learning a new campus. It's very different from my own experiences, so it's fun to see what students and teachers are doing while we give feedback."

While the WASC team visited

many classes throughout the campus, many students and staff have had their own opinions about the visit. From the high school running at peak performance to the campus at the mercy of fate. One thing is certain, an honest response will be given.

Ms. Aguirre, a history teacher,

said, "The WASC visit is a good opportunity for schools to evaluate their programs and teaching. WASC makes us accountable and makes sure that schools are being genuine and growing for their student population. Our school can improve in many ways, but most improvements have to do with the staff."

NEWS

Foreign language week cancelled But **salsa contest** is stronger than ever

Ana Hernandez, Jalen Hicks
Staff writers

The annual multicultural week was canceled due to lack of students involvement. Ms. Leticia Herrera, one of the organizers, was disappointed.

"I am very upset that we had to cancel this event because it is a tradition that has been going on for 14 years." Last year there were 11 acts including performances from Poly Club, French Can-Can girls, the German Chicken dance, and various folklorico dancers and singers.

According to last year's participant, Adrian Pe-



rez, said "Ms. Herrera always kept us informed about the event. We promoted it with posters and on social media."

However, the 12th an-

nual salsa contest was a very successful event for the foreign language week.

"Many of the staff members came up to me saying that this is their favorite event of the year because they get to try very different salsas and most of them are delicious," said sponsor Mr. David Rojas.

Mr. Rojas, AP Spanish students, and his Latino Culture Club took over the salsa tasting contest after Mrs. Yolanda Ortiz retired two years ago. The contest, held on Feb. 22 had eight teams participating.

The salsa that won was Pico de Pajaro that was made by Lizbeth Felix and Cynthia Ramirez (12th grade) it took them about 30 minutes to make it. "I discovered this salsa thanks to my aunt," said Lizbeth. "The hard part about making it was mixing the garlic with the chilies. It was a very tough contest, many of the staff that came to judge said it was very hard to pick the best salsa because they were all delicious."

The most spicy went to the team of Kayleena Palacios and Christian Perez. Best display/setup went to the team of Sheyla Castaneda and Krystalle Lagunas.

"I participated in the salsa eating contest. My salsa was called La Rallada, which translates to 'shredded'; I called it this because I shredded the tomatoes to make it. A lot of teachers showed up and they were amazed by the salsas. If this event is held next year, I would absolutely participate again," said Adriana Banuelos along with her cousin Emmanuel Banuelos.

First semester awards

Vlad Barrera, Madison Barrera, and Sydney Barrera
Staff writers

The weather was cold once again, with wind that could pierce through jackets and puddles that laid on some paths that people walked on. The award assembly was to start at 6:00PM on Feb. 21, and before it started there were some students that put the freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior signs up on the walls so students knew where to sit.

"I felt great being called up, my parents were proud of me. My award was ACES," said Samantha Tovar. ACES are given to those with 4.0 (or straight A's).

Most students sat on the bleachers where the signs of their grade were, some sat with their parents, and most names that were called up for an award were not present. There was clapping for the students that went up at first, but over time the clapping ceased. However, this made it easier to hear who won an award.

"When I was called up I was surprised, I didn't expect to be in the ACES category. Shaking the principal's hand was okay, it's not like I was shaking the president's hand. But leaving the assembly felt pretty good, my parents congratulated me," said Joshua Gilbert.

After all Honor Roll was called, Principal's Honor Roll was then announced. At some point, some parents started to leave. Most parents and students stayed, but after their kid was called up they followed other parents who left earlier; taking their kid with them.

"I actually received the ACES award. Getting straight A's is super difficult. However, it all pays off in the end of it," said Erika Gonzalez.

There were 190 ACES given, 235 students that made Principal's Honor Roll (3.8-3.5 GPA), and 359 students who made Honor Roll (3.5-3.0 GPA).

NATION

What's in the news

R. Kelly's Second Act

R. Kelly's six part documentary called "Surviving R. Kelly" aired Jan. 3 and went on until Jan. 5. This documentary caused allegations of sexual misconduct to resurface. A grand jury in Illinois indicted Kelly with 10 counts of aggravated criminal sexual abuse involving 4 alleged victims. The indictment accused Kelly of sexual acts with three children older than 13 but no younger than 17. He pleaded not guilty but was jailed on Feb. 22. He was released on Feb. 25 after posting \$100,000 bail. Also in June of 2002 R. Kelly was charged with 21 counts of child pornography later found not guilty due to lack of evidence.



Jonas Brothers Reunion

After six years apart the Jonas Brothers announced on March 8 it would be good for not only their fans but for them as a family to get the band back together. But why did they break up in the first place? It was said during James Corden's Carpool Karaoke that Nick Jonas was the one that broke up the band in the first place. But he was also the person to bring them back together. They released a new single called "Sucker" and are working on more music and hopefully an upcoming tour.

What's with the Documentaries

Just like R. Kelly, a new Michael Jackson documentary released on March 11 creates a story in which two men, Wade Robson and James Safechuck claim to have been molested by the "King of Pop" when they were kids. Although Jackson was accused years ago and found innocent. Robson and Safechuck both testified at that time that Jackson did not touch them.



LA Teachers' Strike

On Jan. 14, Los Angeles school teachers, 33,000 strong, went on a seven day strike. As part of the settlement deal, teachers will get a six percent raise and slightly fewer students in each classroom, according to Alex Caputo-Pearl, president of United Teachers Los Angeles. The strike shut down the nation's second-largest school district for more than a week.



Super Bloom

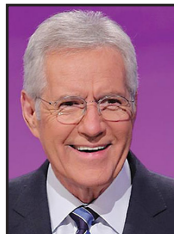
It started with the desert in March. Since the wave of wildflower blooms has been crescendoing across Southern California's Anza-Borrego desert in a burst of color vivid that it can be seen from mountain tops thousands of feet above. Two years after steady rains followed by warm temperatures caused the seeds dormant for decades under the desert floor to burst open and produce the "super bloom." Having two super blooms in two years is highly unusual. In the Lake Elsinore area, the super blooms led to super crowds. Thousands came out to enjoy the show of nature, up to 150,000; leading to traffic congestion and overwhelming local residents. The city ended up closing the area and forcing visitors to pay for a bus ride to take their flower selfies.



No Question Here

On March 6, 2019, long time host of the game show Jeopardy! released a tragic announcement to the world. The host, Alex Trebek, announced that he was diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer on the show's official Youtube account. Trebek is a beloved TV personality who has hosted Jeopardy! for thirty-five years. He is known for his wittiness and sense of humor on the show. Although the stage 4 cancer has an incredibly high mortality rate, Trebek stated that he does not plan on giving up. He said "I'm going to fight this. And I'm going to keep working and with the love and support of my family and friends".

That support has been pouring out to Trebek. Wheel of Fortune host, Pat Sajak, expressed his care for Alex Trebek. "Our hearts go out to him and his family. But there is no one I know who is stronger and more determined, and I would never bet against him. We, and the entire country, are pulling for you, Alex". Singer songwriter, Olivia Newton-John, gave advice to Trebek and told him to stay focused and keep his sense of humor. That's what helped her when she was also diagnosed with cancer.



Pay for Play

On Mar. 12 actresses Lori Loughlin and Felicity Huffman are among the dozens of parents who are facing federal charges. Federal prosecutors say there are at least 50 people who took part in this college admissions scheme. This scheme was orchestrated by William Rick Singer, CEO of a college admissions company called "The Key". Singer sold two kinds of fraud, one was to cheat on the SAT or ACT and the other way was to use his connections with Division 1 coaches and use bribes to get them fake athletic credentials. Parents paid anywhere between \$15,000 and \$75,000 to help their children get a better score on the standardized tests, Singer also bribed test administrators. Actress Lori Loughlin surrendered to federal authorities on Mar. 13.



Death Penalty Removed

Democratic Governor Gavin Newsom, announced on March 13 a moratorium on the death penalty, which means that none of the 737 death row inmates of California will be executed. The moratorium will not abolish the death penalty entirely but no death row inmate will be executed. Governor Newsom believes that the death penalty is inhumane and unfair, as the poor and people of color don't have access to expensive legal counseling to save them from capital punishment. The last person to be executed in California was 13 years ago.

This decision goes against the voters of California who in 2016 voted not only to keep the death penalty but speed up the process.



False report

On Jan. 29, actor Jussie Smollett claimed he was attacked early in the morning in a Chicago neighborhood. This incident was originally investigated as a hate crime but Chicago Police later determined that Smollett had orchestrated the attack as a publicity stunt and to get more money from his show *Empire*. On Mar. 8, Smollett was indicted on 16 felony counts of related to the incident. Smollett's character on *Empire* was subsequently removed from the final two episodes of the show's fifth season.

SPORTS

For the record

Jaidyn Jacobs sets goal record for school

Destiny Cruz, Margarita Esparza
Staff Writer

Fierce, strong, and passionate are the only ways to describe the girls. Driven, goal-oriented, and focused is the only way they know how to play.

"Soccer can mean different things to many players. I just love that I'm able to play it with some of my best friends. It's a sport that can be an escape from anything such as reality," said Sandra Tarazon.

Although they have been Sunkist League Champions three years in a row, many believe they haven't gotten the recognition they deserve.

"I feel like the girls soccer team hasn't gotten enough acknowledgment for what we've done. We've been doing really well this season; the team has been doing really great and from my point of view I feel like we should get more recognition," said Dayana Ochoa.

The lack of recognition did not stop them from getting what they wanted...Sunkist League champs for the third year in a row. In a game against the Sum-

mit Skyhawks on Jan. 10 (one of our toughest rivals), the girls put up an intense fight and were able to score two goals after our rivals scored first.

"We put in so much work to get where we are at. We never get breaks, we're training constantly, and this shows hard work really pays off," said Ashley Hernandez.

Jaidyn Jacobs's hard work also paid off by helping her make history; she became the school's first junior to break the team's record of 25 goals in one season. (She scored 26).

"I feel good about all the work I put in, for the girls for having my back, and for the coach teaching me. We are a really strong team, and we feel great having won league again. Our team is different because we have a really good chemistry; we don't just go to practice we actually hang out outside of soccer and we do a lot of team bonding."

"I was really happy that we made it to the playoffs and that we had another shot at winning CIF, especially because last year we lost in the first round so it was our chance to redeem ourselves. This year for playoffs we played two games, the first round was La Quinta HS (1-0) and the second was John F. Kennedy HS (0-2), we lost the 2nd round," said one of the senior team captains Jackeline Covarrubias.

Reasons to celebrate: *The varsity girls claimed another first in Sunkist League. Jocelyn Munoz hugs forward Jaidyn Jacobs after Jaidyn scored a goal against Summit. "I have 26 goals so far. I feel like we really pushed through as a team; we worked really hard because we really wanted the game. My best moment was when I found out that we beat the school record of goals," said Jaidyn. Jocelyn added, "My best moment was being league champions again. My favorite play was when I saved a goal against Murrieta." Photo by Leo Zubiarte.*



Not happy But they're not Unhappy either

"I'm proud of the team. When the year started, it wasn't looking good for us but we got better. We overcame that," said Jesus Moreno. Despite having lost valuable players for a variety of reasons, the team adapted to the changes rather quickly but the positions weren't as strong as before.

"Preseason was fun because we had all of our star players and a full team, but when season started we lost a lot of players. We had to adapt to players changing positions. All these changes didn't make us better because if we moved a player who was strong in a certain position, that position wasn't as strong anymore," said Juan Garza-Garza.

The boys' soccer team had previously won two Sunkist League championships in a row. Unfortunately, the boys did not make it three years in a row; they did qualify for playoffs, but lost in the first round to Norte Vista, 2-1.

"I'm kind of sad that we can't do it again this year. I wish I could have won league my senior year," said Jose Martinez.

Even though the boys are not going to be competing this year, they're proud of their efforts although they feel like they still have some things to work on.

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FEATURES

Empty Shoes

Suicide prevention assembly

Darwin Manansala, Jago Lagaspi, Brandon Garcia, Eli Sebastian
Staff writer

From teens to adults, millions of people living in the world suffer overwhelming amounts of sadness, stress, and pressure. The difficulties of life can be so great that people contemplate suicide. Suicide is something that plagues the minds of many individuals and it continues to pose an increasing threat to modern civilization.

"I think it's really crazy and sad that in today's society, many people are suffering through depression and some people find suicide as the only option. I think we need more people that have actually gone through depression to help other people out instead of someone who just assumes what's happening. We need a person who has actually experienced depression one on one," said Cristian Hernandez.

According to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, in the United States, over 1.3 million people have attempted suicide and over 45,000 of those people succeeded in the year of 2017. There is, on average, 129 suicides per day and 51% of all suicides used firearms.



"I think a cause of suicide is people not being taken seriously when they show signs of depression or stress. I think that more people kill themselves because they don't

get the proper help they need. I really hate the idea of people thinking they don't want to live anymore," said Christopher Mota.

On Jan. 25, the school held a Suicide Prevention Assembly to address the ongoing issue of suicide and ways to cope with suicidal thoughts. Students from all grade levels had

the opportunity to become educated on the topic.

"The assembly was great. It was educational and I think it could really help people speak up to a guardian, parent, or teacher about suicide or depression. My thoughts on suicide is that you can always talk to someone. There are people who do care and are willing to take every step of way to help you even when the process is tough. Though, it does take time," said Emma Dominguez.

The topic really boils down to, "What can you do when someone or yourself are having suicidal thoughts?" The best idea would be to consult friends or certified adults for assistance on the matter. BHS has counselors on the line prepped and ready to assist students in any way they can. A suicide hotline may also provide a person with some form of comfort in their time of need.

Ms. Jimenez, a counselor said, "You are not alone. We have a wonderful support system that you are always welcome to come and talk to. Our counseling department, admin team, teachers, and our psychologist are all here to support students if they are in a tough situation. We hope they know that they can come over here and feel safe. We wanna help them through a tough time and we do have a suicide prevention center phone number."

Suicide Prevention Hotline:

1-800-273-8255

1-877-737-4747

1-866-488-2386

Boy soccer

"I'm proud of adapting to the players we've lost, but I think we still need to work on communicating with each other," said Abelardo Pena.

In the end, our team used it's differences to take on every game. They played with lots of energy and adrenaline flowing through their veins. "I feel like we're different because of the same reason that we've lost a lot. We had to go to league without one of our top scorers because he got injured. We had a bunch of guys with injuries but we still played without them. Some players even quit on us, but I'm proud either way," Jose Martinez.

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FEATURES

Prom is in the air Prom venue is outside, literally

Michelle Alcala, Destiny Cruz-Guzman, Margarita Esparza
Staff writers

Sparkly dresses, high heels, bow ties and corsages... it must be prom season. Walking down the stage while modeling under the colorful lights, who wouldn't be excited for prom?

"The reason we chose this site was because it was a nice location. Once we saw it in person, we knew it was the perfect place for prom. It really fits the theme and when they showed us how it looked at night, we knew we made the right choice," said Junior Class President Frank Urbina.

This year's theme is Rastro De Estrellas: A Journey to Spain. It is located in a one of a kind mission in San Juan Capistrano. For the first time, the prom venue is outside; students will either be dancing under the stars, or freezing under the tables. Some students are open to the change while others have questioned the location.

"I think everyone has their own opinions. We're not going to be able to please everyone. Prom is what you make of it," said Junior Class Vice President Josephine Zamora.



After the big reveal, students were awarded with a fashion show put on by the leadership students. Students who participated dressed up in their best dresses and suits and walked down the stage. They even allowed a freshman to participate and show off his runway skills for the first time.

"Mrs. (Misty)

Wright had originally intended for us not to choose our suits/ tuxedos, but when the company, Friar Tux came to take our measurements they eventually let us pick out what we wanted to wear so I chose mine because I liked the velvet material," said Jesse Mata.

Prom is a special event that most seniors look forward to. They can't wait to picture themselves in a beautiful dress or an elegant suit, and the prom fashion show only ignited their excitement.

"Walking into the prom fashion show, seeing pictures of the location, looking at the set up, and listening to the music made me picture myself at prom. I'm excited because it's a

once in a lifetime experience," said Valeria Real.

Tickets are \$120 with an ASB card, and \$150 without. Price includes admission and a dinner buffet with the following main choices: Chicken, beef and a vegetarian dish. Desserts will be served in the last 30 minutes of prom. Assorted beverages will be served as well.

Professional pictures will range from \$7-\$82. There will also be a live band and a DJ.

Link Crew Lends a Hand

By Carolina Saldana, Jessica Morales-Holguin

The time has finally arrived. The time where seniors are in an absolute state of bliss, or panic. As of April 4, prom will officially be one month away, which means gowns and tuxedos are in the process of being purchased, limos are being reserved, and dates are being discussed.

But it's the date (or the lack of one) that sends students into full panic at the thought of having to ask someone to prom. They wonder if they should do a grand gesture, or do something simple, but meaningful.

"I think I'll most likely be going with someone, but I'd really like it if I were asked with a poster that's Monster's Inc., or Spongebob themed," said Andrea Rusich.

Luckily, Link Crew has taken the responsibility of helping students by selling promposal posters. That's right, getting a date to prom just got easier. With posters that range from \$5-10, Link Crew will make a promposal poster just for you.

Link Leader Michelle Harrigan said, "We wanted to make asking that special someone to prom a little easier because we know it can be stressful. We do any type of poster that students like, any replica that has been seen before, something that they have in mind, or build upon an idea that they have."

Fellow Link Leader Evin Parsons believes that these posters could really help out with asking that burning question.

"We hope that students take an interest in this, or that they at least spread the word. Link Crew did something similar at the beginning of the year, we did a lot of posters for the homecoming dance and they worked."

So for those students who don't feel secure enough to do a promposal, head to room 273 and take a look at their work.

Pretty as a picture: ASB president Lauren Rodriguez and Junior Class president Frank Urbina show off formal wear for the prom fashion show on March 12. The dress belonged to Lauren; the tux donated by Friar Tux.

OPINIONS

What's with the bathrooms?

Evelyn Harbor, Lesley Tapia
Staff writers

Why does it seem like there is never any soap in the restrooms? Restrooms without soap is a contagion just waiting to happen. Ever hear of Typhoid Mary?

By law it is required that the restrooms are always supplied with soap, toilet paper, and in some cases, menstrual pads. However, this is a recurring problem at school. Not only is it unsanitary, but it is frustrating. How can the school expect kids to keep the campus clean if they are not even willing to keep kids' hands clean? Students are constantly catching colds, and a lack of soap helps spread those colds. Being sick causes more and more kids to miss school.

This is not the fault of the custodian. There is only one day time custodian for the entire school. ONE for a campus of 2200 students plus staff. Besides, no soap is just the tip of the iceberg; there are so many problems with the restrooms that we should not have to deal with. When the WASC committee visited with students, the first complaint was about the bathrooms.

"When two WASC members stopped by my Link Crew class and asked if we had any concerns, the first thing we brought up was the horrible state of the bathrooms," said Aaliyah Cisneros.

How bad has the bathroom situation become? We have locked stalls or entire restrooms shutdown for "maintenance" for days or weeks at a time. Teachers and administration cannot expect kids to use the restroom and get to class on time if bathrooms are limited.

How bad has the bathroom situation become? According to Mr. Sam Gallo, raw sewage was spilling out for several days near his classroom (103) without any action from school administration. It took phone calls from parents and the mention of "OSHA" to get things rolling.

However, according to assistant principal Chris Kotlewski, "The school board was contacted immediately, and took action within five minutes after it was reported and closed the area off as a result." Anyone who walked by room 103

on a daily basis knows that the sewage spilled out for several days at least and restrooms on the north side of campus were shut down.

How bad has the bathroom situation become? School administration emails all teachers with bathroom updates at least once a week. The district sent out phone calls to parents telling them about the raw sewage.

The cafeteria has 11 stalls for girls, but they are only open for lunch and the stadium bathrooms are only open after school...sometimes.

The education code mandates that there needs to be 1 toilet for every 30 girls on campus. We counted 31 working toilets on an average day, including the 11 in the cafeteria. We average 1100 girls on campus. Using math from Mr. Naeve's class, that's about one toilet for every 35(ish) girls, over the state mandate. If you close off the 11 in the cafeteria (leaving 21 available), that brings the average up to one toilet for every 52 girls. That's on a good day, when most restrooms are open. There were days when we counted only 19 toilets working.

William's Settlement states that students have a right to file a complaint when faculty conditions that threaten health or safety such as restroom conditions are inadequate. Once a complaint is filed, the principal has thirty working days to make all reasonable efforts to investigate the problem and remedy the complaint.

There is only one way to fix the bathroom situation and that is to make noise. File a Williams complaint (posters are in every classroom and in your agenda) whenever there are unsanitary conditions. Have your parents call the school, the district administration, and the school board to have more restrooms built; open up all the bathrooms we have on campus. If more restrooms are open during the day, the bathroom supplies are spread out and will last longer. This will help our only custodian during the day but ensure there is soap in our bathrooms.

The Bruin Press

2018-2019

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