



Boston Latin School

Argo

Class of 2020



BLACK LIVES MATTER.

Photo Credit: Mr. Pietrangelo & Ms. Lynn Burke

By Nitz-fa Dimanche (II)

BLS Black Leaders Aspiring for Change and Knowledge (B.L.A.C.K.)
& Young Women of Color Member

George Floyd. Breonna Taylor. Eric Garner. Sandra Bland. These are names we all know, but what about the names we don't know? The Black Lives Matter Movement is a fight not just for only those names we know, but for every single black person who is a victim to a system designed to dehumanize and degrade black lives. This is a system we've been fighting since the establishment of this country. As a black woman, this movement is crucial for my future, for my life.

Paterson Brown. Laquan McDonald. Antwon Rose. Jordan Edwards. Four black adolescent boys were shot and killed by the men in blue, the men who swore to protect and serve those same four black boys. Where is the justice? What do we call those who committed unjust killing? A murderer?

"All Lives Matter," one might say, but it doesn't take a third-grade education to catch a pattern. Yes, all lives matter, but the black lives are the ones in danger. We are being killed before we can graduate, before we can get married and before we can even live. **BEFORE WE ARE EVEN BORN, THIS TWISTED SYSTEM HAS ALREADY SIGNED OUR DEATH CERTIFICATES. Enough is enough.**

Boston Latin School, I need you to stand with us, to believe us when we say we are being killed. We are being murdered. Your black classmates, black friends need you to fight and stand up for what is right. Sign the petitions, donate to organizations and go out and protest if you can. The silence stands too loud for comfort. **George Floyd. Breonna Taylor. Eric Garner. Sandra Bland. Paterson Brown. Laquan McDonald. Antwon Rose. Jordan Edwards.** Don't ignore their cries.



By Mateo Daffin (I)

BLS Black Leaders Aspiring for Change and Knowledge (B.L.A.C.K.) Liaison
& Young Men of Color Member

On May 25, the country witnessed another Black man have the life squeezed out of him at the hands of the police. George Floyd. A modern-day lynching, another testimony of the war waged on Black lives in America. A death so egregious, sickening and unjust that it posed the centuries-old question: Do Black lives matter?

The Black Lives Matter movement began as a response to the slaying of Trayvon Martin and the acquittal of his executioner, George Zimmerman. After seeing our brothers and sisters laying lifeless, we needed a rallying call for a new wave of Black liberation to counter the narrative that our lives are disposable.

Since then, Black Lives Matter has become a multi-dimensional statement. It's a **rejection of our oppression**. It's a **demand for racial justice**. It's a **declaration of our liberation**. It's a **validation of our existence** and an **affirmation of our humanity**. It reminds others that we're people with depth, with thoughts, with families, with futures, with dreams.

The call for the humanization of black lives, however, is not just a policing problem. America's war on Black Americans has used innumerable stealthy maneuvers to suppress us, be it inadequate healthcare, Voter Identification laws and lack of access to grocery stores. As the term "systemic racism" continues to be used more and more, it's another reminder for people to **BE AWARE OF RACIALIZED OPPRESSION EVERYWHERE IN OUR LIVES AND NOT JUST WHEN IT'S CABLE NEWS NETWORK'S HEADLINE.**

To my White and non-Black peers, we are not living in a post-racial America. You benefit from the system of White supremacy our country was founded on, and it's your duty to understand your privilege, educate yourself, speak out and become an ally. Don't just say "Black lives matter," actively work towards protecting your fellow Black Americans. **It's no longer an option to be an anti-racist, it's your duty.**



From Black Leaders Aspiring for Change and Knowledge (B.L.A.C.K.)

In light of the murders of **George Floyd. Breonna Taylor. Ahmaud Arbery. Tony McDade** and countless other innocent black men and women, our organization wanted to take the time to reflect on those who have lost their lives to police brutality, systemic racism and hateful violence. The **country is in pain**, the **black community is in pain**, our **school community is in pain**, and **anybody with any sort of humanity or decency is and should be in pain as well**. We as BLS B.L.A.C.K stand in support with the protests and demonstrations that are taking place in Boston and across the country, where that pain is being turned into action. Our organization was founded as a way to provide our school's black students an outlet to express themselves, celebrate our culture and discuss pressing issues facing our community. Today, our black students live in a world where **WE CONTINUE TO WATCH OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS BE DEHUMANIZED**. During this time of serious mourning, frustration, anger and sadness, we want to remind our school's black community that we are always listening to you, echoing your voices and fighting on your behalf. Boston Latin School is not shielded from the injustices happening in our city and our nation.

At this time we also want to thank our allies who have protested, held meetings, posted on social media platforms and checked in on black students in our community. The work you are doing on our behalf does not go unnoticed, and we thank you for using your voices, your clubs and even your classrooms as spaces to speak on the injustices happening to black people. We are asking our school community to keep the goals of the club at the forefront of this movement. Our goals for the upcoming year and beyond are:

- (1) An improved reporting structure for incidents (*the administration is currently working on this*)
- (2) Student and alumni of color involvement in cultural responsiveness efforts proposed by the Headmaster
- (3) A BLS cultural tolerance code that will outline the school's stance on cultural tolerance and disciplinary action for infractions
- (4) Alumni of Color Mentoring Program
- (5) Faculty Cultural Responsiveness/Students Support Training
- (6) Yearly evaluation of the curriculum in all of the core subjects in order to make sure it highlights the diversity of our student body

Reaching these goals takes **continuous collaborative work and advocacy** from our students, staff and alumni community. Our club won't stop demanding a more safe and inclusive BLS environment. We stand in solidarity with the other organizations and individuals that are with us in this fight and our headmaster Ms. Skerritt as she continues to lead us through this work.

In solidarity,

BLS B.L.A.C.K. (Black Leaders Aspiring for Change & Knowledge)



From Talented And Gifted Latinxs (T.A.G.)

BLS Community:

Like the rest of the nation, we are outraged by the injustices that have been occurring in this country for far too long. Although we are a club made up of predominantly Latinx individuals, **we recognize our African roots**. Even though we all cannot completely relate to the struggles African-Americans encounter on a day to day basis, it does not mean we will remain silent. We welcome everyone with open arms and stand proudly by the Black Lives Matter Movement, **as we recognize how important it is now, more than ever, for conversations concerning race in our nation and in our school community to take place.**

T.A.G. Executive Board



From Asian Students in Action (A.S.I.A)

The events of the past few weeks have brought so much heartbreak to communities of color in America. In light of recent protests in cities across the nation, BLS A.S.I.A. urges the Asian-American and Pacific Islander community to stand with the #BlackLivesMatter movement and amplify black voices. The model minority myth we face is a direct result of White America pitting our community against others of color, and we succumb to their direction by not standing with Black America. **If we do not stand with our brothers and sisters of color, we stand with our mutual oppressors.** It is imperative that our community does not stay silent this time around.

BLACK LIVES MATTER.

bit.ly/BLM2020List

On May 25, George Floyd, a 46-year-old black man, died in Minneapolis, Minnesota after police officer Derek Chauvin knelt on his neck despite Floyd already being apprehended. Afterwards, protestors have rallied around the nation demanding for changes in legislation and the police system to address police brutality and systemic racism. Here, we have compiled various resources for readers to educate themselves on the Black Lives Matter movement, stay updated on events, know which places to donate to and petitions to sign, and several other ways to help.

Local Businesses

- Next Step Soul Food Cafe
- Island Style Jamaican Restaurant
- One Family Diner
- Larry J's BBQ
- Zaz Restaurant
- Jamaican Mi Hungry
- Golden Krust
- Prestige Cuisine
- Silver Supper
- Dayib Cafe
- Wally's Cafe Jazz Club
- Lucy Ethiopian Cafe
- Cesaria
- Natif Natal Restaurant
- Singh's Roti Shop
- Wingz & Tingz
- Ahur Restaurant
- Slades Bar + Grill
- Soleil
- Mida

Find more information here: bit.ly/BLM2020business

Donate

- Black Lives Matter
- Black Visions Collective
- Color of Change
- NAACP Legal Defense Fund
- Campaign Zero
- Reclaim the Block
- Fair Fight
- Equal Justice Initiative
- Columbus Freedom Fund
- National Bail Fund Network
- The Bail Project
- National Bail Out
- Official George Floyd Memorial Fund
- Gianna Floyd Funds
- I Run With Maud
- #HisNameIsJustinHowell
- Harvard AsAm x BLM Fundraiser
- Views for a Vision - Ad Revenue Donated to BLM

Find more information here: bit.ly/BLM2020donate

Events & Dates

- General Info Across the US
- A Discussion on Black Lives, Protest, and Democracy by the Harvard Ash Center
- Public Schools at a Crossroads Online Panel
- Mass Poor People's Assembly & Moral March
- FTP March to Defund the Police
- Unite Against Racist Police Terror! Boston Speakout and March
- Black Lives Matter March
- Demand Demilitarization Protest
- Feminine Empowerment Movement Online Vigil for Black Lives

Find more information here: bit.ly/BLM2020events

Education

- LETTERSFORBLACKLIVES
- Importance of Reading Multiple Sides
- Know Your Rights
- Black History Month Literature
- COLOROFCHANGE
- Anti-Racism
- Freedom to Thrive
- 8CANTWAIT
- Black Parents Explain How to Deal with the Police | Cut
- All Lives Matter, But..., a New Poem from Royce Mann | The Preachers
- Tulsa's Black Wall Street Massacre
- Black Men Respond to the Word "Police" | One Word | Cut

Find more information here: bit.ly/BLM2020educate

Social Media

- @blacklivesmatter
- @colorofchange
- @civilrightsorg
- @blackvisionscollective
- @campaignzero
- @unitedwedream
- @ibramxk
- @theslowfactory
- @monachalabi
- @ogorchukwu
- @drjotengii

Find more information here: bit.ly/BLM2020hashtags

Policy Change

- Defund the Police
- 8CANTWAIT
- Email Templates
 - tinyurl.com/emailforfloyd/
 - <https://sayitagain.carrd.co/>
 - <https://defund12.org/>
 - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-dGBvXHzn-IqBOIs55QYynBfZBQX-1sZS6m7ldevUtHnw/edit>
- Voting Information
 - bit.ly/2YcRxxL
 - bit.ly/3h4QDvB
 - bit.ly/3cHG0dn
- Proposed Policies
 - <https://docs.house.gov/bills-thisweek/20200224/BILLS-116hr35-SUSv2.pdf>
- [Apply to be a Poll Worker](#)

Find more information here: bit.ly/BLM2020policies

Petitions

- Justice for George Floyd
- Hands Up Act
- Reform the Police
- Justice For Breonna Taylor
- Stand With Bre
- Justice for Matthew Tucker
- Reopen Kenneka Jenkins Case
- Justice for David McAtee
- Justice For Ahmaud Arbery
- Tell Congress to Protect Black Voters
- Raise the age of consent in Nigeria from 11 to 18.
- Ban the Use of Rubber Bullets for Crowd Control
- National Action Against Police Brutality
- End Qualified Immunity
- Justice for Alajunaye Davis

Find more information here: bit.ly/BLM2020petition

Mental Support

- Black Mental Health Matters
- Floyd Family Support Letters
- African American Mental Health
- Dive in Well
- Sista Afa
- Therapy for Black Girls
- Inclusive Therapists
- Ethel's Club
- The Nap Ministry
- Melanin & Mental Health
- Black Mental Health Alliance
- Healhaus

Find more information here: bit.ly/BLM2020msupport

EDITORS' NOTE

When Isabella and Meredith handed off the *Argo* to us, they established two rules that we must not break under any circumstances: First, do not change the *Argo* email password; Second... OK, we'll keep the second one a secret (Nadine forgot what it was). On our first day of the job, we got locked out of the email and had to not only text Isabella for a login code but also (surprise!) change the email password. It's going to be a great year, friends.

As tradition dictates, we must finally say the goodbyes that we secretly hoped would never happen. First, to Ahlam. Despite the fact that you sent us nine words as a farewell: We think you're the best. We'll always miss you. Next, Morgan! No one knows exactly how many Forum headlines you've come up with over the last year, but we know the *Argo* will forever miss your puns and your unique, lovable laugh. Kathleen, we could always rely on you to be somewhere in Lab 016 whenever we needed anything from A&E — what will we do without you? And let's not forget our two Sports editors, Libby and Crystal: you really have made Sports into a completely new section, well on its way to a whole new world.

Of course, our Production Sections will be missed just as dearly. Irene and Daisy: thank you for all the articles you've scrutinized over again and again to pick out the most minute of errors. Photo — Jess, Anthony and Gwen — thanks for everything and your lovely captions, especially the one that called a Superior Court the BLS Black Box because someone didn't read one of the signs in the picture. Jokes aside, your presences and awesome pictures will be missed in 016! To Brianna, our "Layout Daddy": you are, quite simply, the best. We love you all. :D

To our very first Creative Consultant, John, who deserves his own paragraph, we'll miss you, and we hope you're at least reading this issue to see how your protege is doing.

And finally, to our beloved Bella and Mer, the parents of the *Argo* family, we hope we won't let you down. You warned us how hard a job this will be, but we really weren't prepared at all for the panic and frenzy we went through in this past month. We now know that there's more to come over the next year, but you will always be there to sail across the Charles (No pun? Is that a pun? Intended) and save us, right?

But wait! That's not all — we also have a few people to thank for their hard work:

Thanks to our Creative Consultant, Aileen, for running the advice column with your wisdom! Thanks to News, Forum, A&E and Sports for running so smoothly despite our situation, and thanks to Photo for juggling and editing so many pictures in such a limited timeframe. Thanks to Copy for sifting through all the articles and several long survey forms despite there only being three (three!) editors and their associates. Thanks for being patient with us and for being crazy fast — y'all rock, for real. Thanks to Layout for helping format senior shoutouts and adapting to everything we throw your way.

But overall, one big thank you to our Argonauts as a whole for not usurping us the moment we announced we'd be having a month long production process and handing out that very long and detailed calendar plan. Much appreciated, we love you all very much!

To the students and parents of the Class of 2020: we know you have experienced a year of graduation unlike any other. We hope that by publishing on the original planned date of graduation, we can offer some sort of normalcy in these constantly changing times.

It's been a whirlwind of a few months — from the start of quarantine to the Black Lives Matter protests that are currently happening across the nation, we are sure that the media has been flooded with news, and that now must be a more overwhelming time than ever.

Despite this, we greatly hope that this issue of the *Argo* will both help you learn about recent events while still giving the seniors a chance to celebrate their graduation and to reflect on the past few years that they've been at BLS. Even if we're not yet sure what the future has in store for us all, we hope that this issue brings a little bit of light into your lives for the time being.

Finally, please stay informed during these times. Your voice is more important than ever, and it is critical that we all know what steps we can take to avoid future tragedies caused by systemic racism and institutional corruption. As a community, let's all push for positive change.

Love,
Julianna and Nadine

Argo

Boston Latin School

Ad Petendum Veritatem

The *Argo* strives, in accordance with the highest standards of journalism, to inform and inspire its readers, to provide a forum for constructive debate, and to foster understanding among all members of the Boston Latin School community.

**BOSTON
LATIN
SCHOOL**



THE BOSTON LATIN SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

has proudly supported and funded Boston Latin School's sports, extracurriculars, music, academics, and publications - including the Argo - for over 160 years

Editorial Board

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Nadine Han, II | Editor-in-Chief |
| Julianna Zhao, II | Editor-in-Chief |
| John Lin, II | News Editor |
| Emily Sun, II | News Editor |
| Esther Shen, II | Asst. News Editor |
| Aidan Chen, III | Asst. News Editor |
| Jasmine Wong, II | Forum Editor |
| Alice Wu, II | Forum Editor |
| Alice Han, III | Asst. Forum Editor |
| Jack Trapanick, III | Asst. Forum Editor |
| Anna Wilcox, II | A&E Editor |
| Elizabeth Choi, IV | A&E Editor |
| Irene Deng, IV | Asst. A&E Editor |
| Ellis Seul, IV | Asst. A&E Editor |
| Ashley Ngo, II | Sports Editor |
| Ashley Tran, II | Sports Editor |
| Eric Yu, II | Asst. Sports Editor |
| Alice Zhang, II | Copy Editor |
| Cindy Zhou, II | Copy Editor |
| Joanna Lin, V | Asst. Copy Editor |
| Eric Chan, II | Layout Editor |
| Selina Tang, IV | Layout Editor |
| Theresa Huang, III | Asst. Layout Editor |
| Emma Lu, III | Asst. Layout Editor |
| Regina Chiem, III | Photo Editor |
| Andre Weiss, II | Asst. Photo Editor |
| Karen Dong, IV | Asst. Photo Editor |

Creative Consultant

Aileen Luo (II)

Copy Associates

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Dante Minutillo (I) | Fiona Yuan (V) |
| Emilina Tran (II) | Kevin Zhong (V) |
| Albert Zhang (II) | Ailin Sha (VI) |

Faculty Advisor

Ms. Moon

Special Thanks to

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| Ms. Ellis | Mr. Hourigan |
| Ms. Harari | Ms. Skerritt |

Service From Six Feet Apart

By Joanna Lin (V)

Staff Writer

In a time when it is tempting to play video games or watch TV for hours on end, Boston Latin School students have been working hard to make others' lives easier during the COVID-19 pandemic.

One team of students formed A Helping Elbow, an organization initially limited to delivering groceries for the elderly, but later dedicated to serving anyone in need.

Cole Strachan (II), the founder of A Helping Elbow, recognized the distress being caused by COVID-19 and witnessed many rushing to grocery stores to hoard supplies. With most people ordering groceries online, deliveries have become stunted to the point where produce could take weeks to arrive.

This has left those especially vulnerable to the virus, namely the elderly, to have no choice but to wait for their groceries to come. Strachan hoped to solve this problem with A Helping Elbow initiative.

By filling out a form on their website, A Helping Elbow users provide their grocery list and method of payment for those items. A team member closest to the user will pick up the items in person and drive to the user's address. To make orders more direct and accessible, the team plans to put grocery store links on their website.

Matt Balitsky (II), head of deliveries at A Helping Elbow, explains that one challenge the team faced was building their credibility. "We are all teenagers, [so] it makes sense how some people wouldn't trust us. No newspaper would talk to us," says Balitsky.

To address these issues, the team reached out to community blogs and the Age Strong Commission, an initiative created by Mayor Marty Walsh to spread age positivity. Balitsky recalls their first deliv-



The German Altenheim Brooksby Village is one center students aided.

ery as a success — an elderly woman from Dorchester shared about A Helping Elbow on her Facebook page, allowing more people to become aware of the organization.

Despite the challenges of running an organization as full-time students, the issues never undermined the quality of A Helping Elbow's service. "Although we sometimes have problems, we never fail to get our deliveries on time," Balitsky adds.

Delivering groceries is not the only way that BLS students are making the lives of elderly Bostonians easier. Lily Hanlon (I) recently created a pen-pal system between students and seniors.

When speaking to her grandmother, who lives alone, Hanlon realized that many nursing homes have closed their doors to visitors and students, which can make quarantine difficult for the elderly residents.

"My grandmother has me to talk to, but inside nursing homes, our most [at] risk members of society can often be neglected," says Hanlon.

Through social media, Hanlon has recruited 24 students to write and send letters to senior homes. Headmaster Rachel Skerritt agreed to provide service hours to these volunteers, providing a higher incentive for students to take part in the project.

Before launching this initiative, Hanlon reached out to many activity coordinators of nursing homes in Boston, Western Massachusetts and even Maryland through Empowering the Ages, an organization dedicated to forming positive intergenerational engagement.

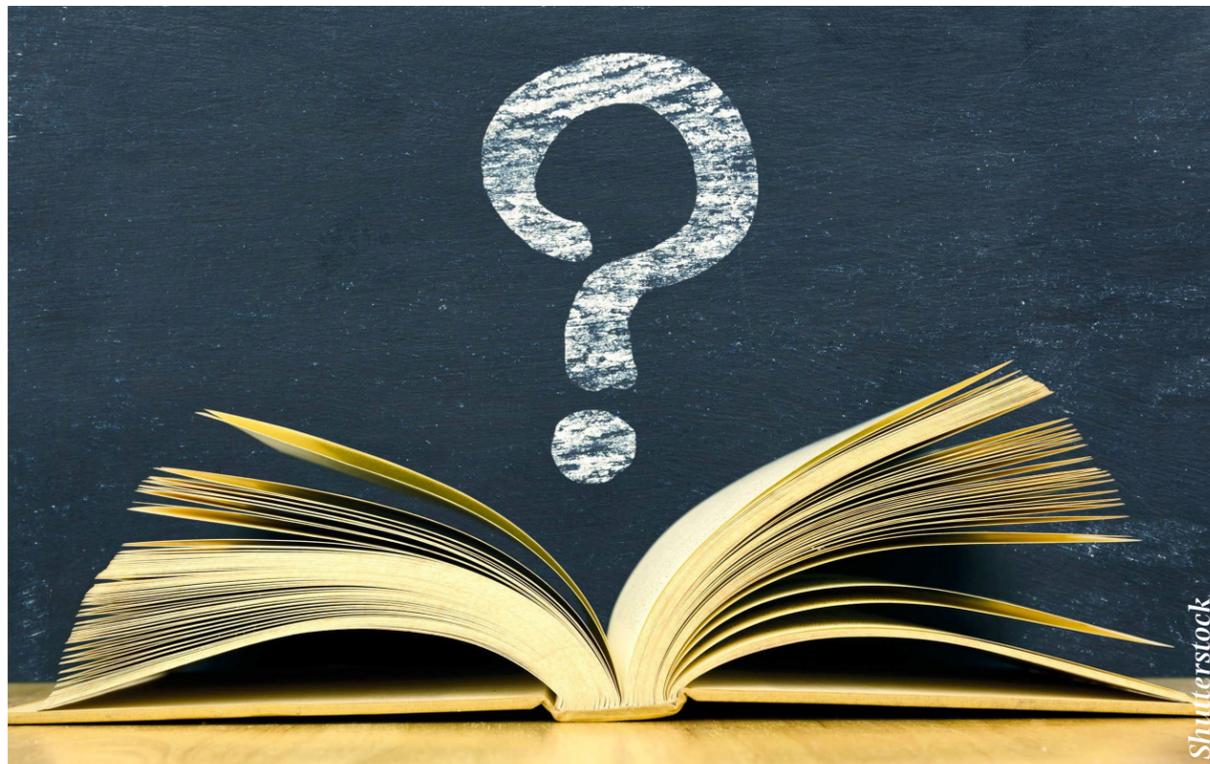
Students, however, are not the only ones sending letters. Hanlon explains that seniors are also writing back.

In a world that is losing touch with personal communication, Hanlon finds that these letters are a personal and beautiful method of interaction. Even after the pandemic, she believes that everyone should continue to write and send letters, whether it is to a senior citizen or even just to family members and friends.

Mr. Thomas Kennelly, faculty community service coordinator at BLS, and other students have found and compiled a list featuring unique ways students can take part in community service during a pandemic, from preparing meals to supporting teens in uncertain situations.

"Students can't visit now, but they could still write cards to the seniors. [...] It's important that people stay involved, even though they can't do the in-person things," concludes Mr. Kennelly.

ISEE Cuts Ties With BPS



The ISEE, which ensured spots in the exam schools, is now outdated.

By Mira Yu (IV)

Staff Writer

This April, the contract between Boston Public Schools (BPS) and the Education Records Bureau (ERB), the testing firm that produces the Independent School Entrance Exam (ISEE), was terminated.

The ERB has raised complaints about the way the BPS admissions process combines the four sections of the test (two math sections, two verbal/reading sections) into one score instead of considering each section separately like many private schools. BPS weighs the combined score equally alongside student grades to generate acceptance lists for the three exam schools.

The split was officially announced this February due to concerns that the district's scoring methods for admission to the three Boston exam schools negatively affected under-represented students. BPS responded that the district had been pursuing a more fair exam but had extended the contract because of transitions at the central office until this past year.

Ms. Monica Gribaudo, an Algebra 1 and Algebra 2 teacher at Boston Latin School, raises doubts about the effectiveness of changing the test: "There will always be inequity — sad, but true. The students who have parents that don't speak English and don't relay information about the exam schools will always be at a disadvantage to schools

that have the entrance exam as their main focus throughout the year. No matter what the test is, those that do well in school should see similar test results."

The district reissued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a new bias-reviewed exam after their first request, which closed on March 19, did not receive any bids. This time, 21 organizations, including the provider of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS), have self-identified as potential bidders to provide a new exam. The new deadline falls on May 15, and BPS plans to award the contract in June 2020.

Mr. John Kerpan, a Latin teacher at BLS, also does not believe that changing the exam addresses the root problem behind the issue: "The people who were getting tutored for the ISEE will get tutored for this exam as well. Exclusive private and parochial schools will still be able to focus their curricula to prepare their students for the exam, and unless BPS finds a way to improve its elementary school effectiveness, nothing new will happen."

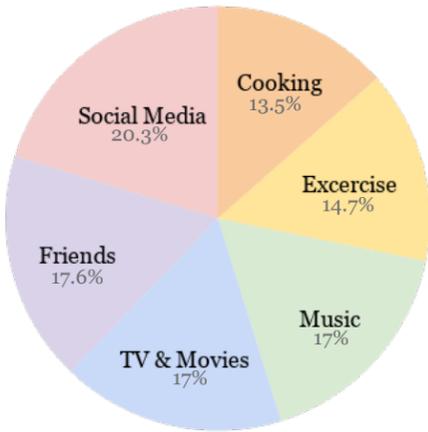
This past year, the district switched from administering the ISEE only on Saturdays to conducting the test during the school week to ease challenges for families unable to get to the testing site on weekends. Although the shift increased the number of test-takers, the demographics of the incoming BLS class remain similar.

The ISEE includes concepts such as grammar and algebra that are not parts of elementary BPS curricula but are taught in private and parochial schools and tutoring programs. Many parents pay for private test tutoring at word-of-mouth programs that can cost up to 4,000 dollars.

Headmaster Rachel Skerritt comments, "There are clear opportunity gaps for Black and Latinx students that are well-documented in our current enrollment trends. The objectivity of standardized tests is important; it should not be a test that students have to seek support outside of their regular coursework to be ready for."

Quarantine or Boring-tine?

What are your classmates doing? Here are the top 6 activities!



1. Social Media

“TikTok”

2. Friends

“talked more with my neighbors; and a few group face-times with friends!”

“Called a couple of friends until 2A.M. - RIP sleeping schedule :(”

3. TV & Movies

“I’m rewatching all my favorite movies from the ‘80s. These past few weeks I’ve watched *Back to the Future*, *Pretty in Pink*, *The Breakfast Club* and *The Terminator*. Next up is *E.T.* and *The Goonies!*”

“I admit with no guilt to bingeing an unhealthy amount of kdramas.”

4. Music

“I’ve been practicing clarinet and still sound bad, so when my teacher says ‘you sound much better!’ each week, I’m not sure how I should take it...”

5. Exercise

“I’ve started doing yoga and meditating— it does surprising wonders for mental health and self esteem. I’ve also made an absurd amount of cakes and watched trashy reality TV, but hey, that’s coping, right?”

6. Cooking

“I’ve been making pasta, eating pasta, on the road to becoming pasta.”

“I made banana bread because honestly who isn’t making it right now?”

“When someone in my family has a birthday, we’ve been baking cake and dropping it off at each family member’s house, then video calling with everyone so we can sing happy birthday together. My mom makes a video of herself every day for her elementary school students, and sometimes I make her cooking/craft videos for her.”

BLS Wolfpack Writes Letters of Hope



Wolfpack Volunteers create letters to be sent to nursing homes.

By Kevin Zhong (V)
Staff Writer

Boston Latin School Wolfpack Volunteers recently launched the Letters Against Isolation initiative, a volunteer opportunity for students to write letters to seniors at nursing homes during COVID-19.

Due to the pandemic causing the cancellation of in-person volunteer events, Wolfpack Volunteers decided to coordinate the club’s first remote volunteer opportunity. Co-Presidents Cindy Tran (II) and Theresa Huang (III) explain the inspiration behind joining Letters Against Isolation.

“Wolfpack Volunteers is rooted in

building community. We still wanted our members to be able to earn volunteer hours while being productive during the quarantine, so what better way to spend their time than write letters to bring comfort to others who are struggling with this isolation, too,” says Tran.

The recent COVID-19 outbreak has caused nursing homes to close their doors in hopes of containing the spread of the virus. This, however, has led residential seniors to miss out on spending time with family and friends.

While searching for ways to address this issue, Wolfpack Volunteers discovered Letters Against Isolation, an initiative run by two local teens seeking to send letters to

self-quarantined seniors. Tran praises the organization as one “with a heartwarming mission that we completely stand behind.” They decided to contact co-founders Shreya and Saffron Patel, and in late April, Letters Against Isolation began their collaboration with Wolfpack Volunteers.

Every week, the club sends an email to its members, providing the address of a nursing home for volunteers to write and mail letters to. For each letter that is sent, thirty volunteer minutes are awarded to the member. Wolfpack Volunteers continuously ensure that participants write letters that convey a thoughtful message and reflect thirty dedicated minutes of work.

Alexander Ajouri (IV) participated in Letters Against Isolation. Ajouri says that he took part because like many other students during quarantine, he could only talk to his family. “I wanted to talk about my thoughts on this whole situation and I wanted to communicate with the seniors out there. I also thought it would be a fun opportunity to share my thoughts to people outside of my home.”

Messages of hope and empathy were common themes throughout the letters. In addition, volunteers wrote about people coming together by staying apart to emphasize that the seniors are not alone in the fight against the virus.

Viviana Wallace (IV) believes that nursing home residents are among the most affected by the quarantine as they lack families and friends to care for them, so she hopes to bring brightness to seniors during this difficult time.

“My main messages were that even in this rough time, people are thinking about them and want them to be happy and well. I wanted to communicate to them that we will get through this and things will get better,” says Wallace.

BLS Promotes Environmental Policies

By Elyssa Cabey (IV)
Contributing Writer

From May 26 to May 29, members of Boston Latin School Youth Climate Action Network (YouthCAN) lobbied state legislators to promote more environmentally friendly policies.

The event, dubbed Virtual Youth Lobby Week, comprised a series of scheduled Zoom meetings. It was initiated by the youth climate organization, Our Climate, along with their partners in the Massachusetts Youth Climate Coalition (MYCC), a coalition of youth-led climate organizations. The goal is to spread awareness of the current climate crisis and to get more young people involved in the preservation of the world’s future.

“It’s basically just a place that we connect with each other and share resources, and help each other out with advertising,” says YouthCAN president Zoe Nagasawa (II), who serves as one of the club’s liaisons to the MYCC.

YouthCAN lobbyists were pushing to promote the 2020 policy requirements of the MYCC to legislators, which include a goal of reducing 70 percent of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and all emissions by 2040. If the policy requirements are met, renewable energy will account for more than 95 percent of all energy sources. Other policy requirements include corporate polluter fees and solidarity with environmental justice groups.

The MYCC has lobbied for similar policies in the past, but this year’s virtual lobby was spread throughout the last week of May instead of taking place on only one day to make up for the lack of social interaction possible because of



BLS YouthCAN gathers on Zoom to prepare for their lobbying.

COVID-19.

Despite being required to lobby online, YouthCAN members and other student lobbyists were dedicated to promoting their concerns to state legislators.

Ms. Catherine Arnold, the faculty advisor for YouthCAN, says, “It is more impressive to see students coordinating and advocating remotely in spite of the limitations [...] it requires different and likely more difficult preparation than face-to-face preparation and will hopefully be an added opportunity to demonstrate the seriousness and commitment of these student lobbyists.”

Isabelle Goodrich (II), a member of YouthCAN who works as a fellow for Our Climate, played an important role in organizing the lobbying event. Her job included creating a six-week plan for the lobby, developing schedules and arranging and hosting online meetings.

She says, “I’ve been leading

meetings online and [...] identifying meeting leads, because meeting leads are a significant role in the process.”

The layout of the week was arranged to fit the BLS online learning schedule, with all meetings scheduled after 2:00 P.M. The week began on Tuesday with virtual instruction sessions and meeting sign-ups, and Wednesday through Friday featured lobby meetings with legislators.

By lobbying for such a worthy cause, students learn valuable lessons about how to positively contribute to society.

Ms. Arnold reflects, “It is really important to encourage students to discover the power they have as citizens early on. To me, that is the best way to inspire a lifelong commitment to the public sphere and to understand that the public good is a responsibility that belongs to all of us.”

BOOCS Over Quarantine

By Aidan Chen (III)

Assistant News Editor

Over quarantine, Luke van Reijendam (I), with the help of librarians Ms. Deeth Ellis and Ms. Susan Harari, created the Boston Organization of Corona Scholars (BOOCS), a virtual book club focused on promoting reading among students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

BOOCS (pronounced “books”) operates through a Google Classroom created and managed by van Reijendam. A variety of unique books and genres, ranging from modern memoirs to historical and realistic fiction novels, are posted on the site for club members to read individually and discuss together via group Zoom meetings.

These discussion meetings typically contain up to 15 people and last for about an hour. There are over 40 members of BOOCS from all across Boston.

“Reading is something that I really enjoyed in elementary school, but English classes at B[oston] L[atin] S[chool] really ruined that love for me. From talking

to others, I know that many other people have had a similar experience where they quit reading for fun after starting at BLS,” says van Reijendam. “After physical school got canceled, I thought that reading again would be a good activity to keep myself occupied at home. I figured others might also want to get into reading again and that’s how the idea for a book club was started.”

Book selection within the club is a communal process. They encourage all members to list books they have previously read or would like to read on a spreadsheet. Then an online form is created for members to rank their most to least preferred books out of the compiled list. The top overall choice based on the members’ responses becomes the next book. New books can also be chosen during group discussions.

BOOCS member Samuel Cheever (I) reflects on his experience after joining the club near the beginning of quarantine in hopes of getting back to reading.

“I think it was a great decision to join this community of so many students

looking to find and discuss [books]. I haven’t always been a fan of English class, but I enjoy reading and discussing a good book when I find it. [...] Every book has been so different, and yet also extremely engaging, creating a variety anyone can appreciate. The discussions are extremely thoughtful and really encourage an understanding of so many people, cultures and histories,” Cheever explains.

BOOCS has read a variety of novels together over the past few months, with their first group selection being *Educated* by Tara Westover, a memoir detailing a young Mormon woman and how she uses education to escape her radical survivalist family.

Fellow BOOCS member Taylor Murray (II) adds, “What I love about BOOCS is that it connects me to other kids and teachers from my school — and even other schools in the Boston area — who I might not otherwise talk to; it has also introduced me to books I’d never heard of but ended up loving.”

The club is free to join for all who are interested, even people from outside



Join Luke’s book club today!

of BLS. The Google Classroom can be accessed via a non-BPS email with the code “tj2orx5.”

BOOCS founder van Reijendam reflects on the growth of his club, saying, “A book club doesn’t work without the involvement of many people. I owe plenty of thanks to the people who were willing to join and make this thing work.”

EPIIC Goes Virtual



Students gather together for an *EPIIC* conference.

By Azalea Thompson (III)

Contributing Writer

On April 3, Boston Latin School Education for Public Inquiry and International Citizenship (EPIIC) took part virtually in its annual conference. This year’s topic was preventing genocide and mass atrocities, with a focus on the Rohingya refugee crisis.

The 2020 conference was held on a Zoom call that lasted three hours, shortened from the typical two-day schedule

that includes a speaker, meetings and meals. During the simulation, delegations of students represent countries and Non-Governmental Organizations involved in the issue. Committees, including students from different schools and delegations, discuss issues such as human rights, governance and repatriation.

EPIIC Co-President Isabelle L’Huiller (I) reflects on the virtual conference, saying, “I felt that it was the best way to resolve the conflict, not only the Rohingya genocide part that [...] we came up with a treat-

ty for [...] But I also think that [the virtual conference] was the best that we could do, given the situation [with the pandemic].”

Participants were tasked with developing plans to repatriate and protect the Rohingya people of Myanmar’s Rakhine State. EPIIC committees made resolutions including repatriation to Myanmar and citizenship for the Rohingya, and recognition of Myanmar’s sovereignty.

EPIIC member Anna Zuniga (III) was in a delegation representing the Arakan National Party of Myanmar, which denies the genocide and rejects the Rohingya.

“At first, I was a little worried if students would want to talk about genocide,” she says, “But we had really good discussions, and I think my group really enjoyed it, because [although] we all were personally against what our government was doing, [...] it was interesting to be the ‘bad guys.’”

EPIIC members prepare for this annual simulation throughout the school year. First, they discuss the general issue and choose delegations to represent. Then, each delegation writes a briefing paper that is read by Tufts and members of other schools. After the briefing paper, they study more about the issue, with a focus on specific countries and recent developments.

Samuel Cheever (I), who has been a member of EPIIC since eighth grade, remarks, “I think it is great for students to be able to learn more about international issues, develop their understanding, take [a] position on that, write about that position, and then argue that position. I think that’s a great skill to have.”

Traditionally, the conference would take place at the Tufts Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in Medford, Massachusetts. It would include a keynote speaker and over 200 students. This year, however, because of the coronavirus, only about 60 students from three schools could take part, and there were no guest speakers or closing remarks.

EPIIC co-President Elizabeth Resner (II) expresses her regrets on the virtual conference, saying, “I think that if they did it again it probably would be a lot better [...] it was good for what it was. I definitely would prefer the live conference.”

During the school year, EPIIC meets on Wednesdays in Room 025, with a mission to give students a better understanding of current global issues, like the Rohingya refugee crisis. Resner says, “We are always looking for new members, you don’t have to have any background experience, you just have to be ready to have fun and learn.”

Virtual Town Halls Unite Students’ Voices

By Katie Rouse (III)

Staff Writer

At the end of April, Boston Latin School student Lauren Choy (IV) participated in and moderated a virtual town hall hosted by *The Boston Globe* where students shared their thoughts and experiences regarding school closures and online learning with journalists.

Choy found out about the town hall through an email sent out in *The Globe’s* weekly newsletter announcing an online meeting for students taking place that week.

After deciding to listen in, Choy realized that the students were bringing up extremely relevant ideas, motivating her to join the conversation and eventually fill out a follow-up survey on how students can manage themselves during COVID-19. A few days later, she was contacted by the organizer of the town halls and asked to take part in the

next meeting as a student moderator.

She filled that role along with one other student from Belmont High School. They took questions and led discussions among both students and teachers, though the purpose of the meeting was to grant a space for teenagers’ thoughts.

Hosted through Zoom, the event served to provide varying perspectives on how students are coping with recent changes to their education. It supplied a platform on which over 100 middle and high school students participated by submitting questions or sharing ideas and experiences during the meeting.

The town hall was one of a series of virtual meetings that are part of a *Boston Globe* project called “The Great Divide,” which explores the deep inequalities in our public education system.

The town hall contributed to the

goals of this project by presenting new information to the journalists from the students themselves about how they are handling the sudden changes brought about by the pandemic. During the town halls, students discussed their mental health concerns, the need for coping strategies, their lost milestones and college-related concerns.

Jenna Russell, staff journalist of the Great Divide Project, explains, “We hope that for [students], there is a sense of connectedness that is harder to get in the time that we’re in right now.”

Journalists at *The Globe* are searching for ways to ensure that these underrepresented voices are heard. One such way is looking for organizations to partner with that can provide further outreach to all students, along with translation services to open up the meetings to students whose first language is not English.

Headmaster Rachel Skerritt, who

observed the town hall, recognizes the importance of enabling as many students as possible to partake in these meetings.

“Any opportunity for students to be able to represent their experience with their own voice through a very professional and widespread platform is a wonderful opportunity,” comments Headmaster Skerritt.

Choy also appreciates the chance to discuss and connect with peers, seeing it as a way to hear from others and understand how their lives are changing alongside hers.

“Participating in these town halls helps me realize how necessary it is for student voices to be heard, recognized and understood,” she says.

The meetings currently occur weekly and are planned to continue for some time. More information about how to join can be found on *The Boston Globe’s* website.

BPS Provides During the Pandemic



BPS offers breakfasts and lunches to all Boston children.

By **Alanna Quirk-Aboujaoude (III)**
Staff Writer

Beginning March 17, sixteen Boston Public Schools (BPS) locations, including Boston Latin School, transformed into youth meal sites in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

From 8:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M., the staff operating on school sites hand out packaged breakfasts and lunches to families in

need while practicing social distancing and proper sanitation. They offer a variety of food options, such as frozen, fresh or shelf-stable meals. Cereal, sandwiches and macaroni and cheese are among the variety of foods offered, and each meal comes with heating instructions as needed. Different options for how food can be picked up on-site are also available.

"We hit the ground running. We have been serving during holidays and even

during school breaks, because we know hunger does not take a break. Hunger does not take a vacation," explains Laura Benavidez, the Executive Director of Food and Nutrition Services at BPS.

Around 9,000 meals a day are served through these locations and as of May 15, over half a million meals have been distributed through the BPS meal sites. The meal sites are scattered throughout Boston, with about one in each neighborhood and sometimes two for bigger parts of the city, such as Dorchester.

Thorough sanitation and social distancing requirements are also addressed at meal sites. Limited amounts of workers are present so that there is adequate space for food recipients. Despite these precautions, however, there are still challenges. To allow for safe food distribution, families have to quickly enter, pick up their pre-packaged food and exit immediately.

BPS has also partnered with both the Boston Housing Authority and the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) to assist with grocery boxing and delivery for families who cannot access meal sites. Regarding the variety of accommodations, Benavidez adds that "[BPS is] doing everything we can, even

if they are not school means, it is some sort of sustenance we can provide."

In addition, the students who already received door-to-door transportation services, have Individualized Education Plans or cannot go to the school can receive shelf-stable meals which are delivered by bus. This process was also used during school vacations for student families in need of food.

As for how long these sites will run, it depends on when the city reopens. Benavidez says that "[BPS meal sites] will continue on at least until the official school year ends. Then we will automatically jump into our summer program. With summer, we may anticipate to open even more sites."

Besides BPS-hosted meal sites, many other food sites are spread across Boston. These include youth and adult meal sites, food pantries and soup kitchens. Local YMCA and Salvation Army locations have been converted into food delivery spaces.

During the school year, BPS serves over 13 million students across the city. Grace Sullivan (III) concludes, "[BPS] giving out food during this time shows such generosity, thinking about those who are experiencing more than simply missing school, but are missing their source of daily meals."

BPS's New Plan for Virtual Learning

By **Ailin Sha (VI)**
Contributing Writer

On May 4, Boston Public Schools (BPS) implemented Phase II of virtual learning, requiring students to attend live classes via video call and updating the grading policies in light of Boston Latin School's closure for the rest of the year.

Over a span of two days, BLS students go through their Day 1 schedules by attending 30-minute virtual classes with 15-minute breaks in between. New guidelines were also put into place for Term 3 grades. Students will only receive a Term 3 grade if it is higher than the average of their first two terms. If the Term 3 grade is calculated to be lower than that average, the student will not receive a numerical grade, but a grade of "pass" or "incomplete" for the term instead.

The new rules take into consideration the impact that the pandemic has had on students, allowing flexibility for students who cannot attend virtual classes or complete assignments due to special circumstances.

In the previous learning phase, many teachers created a "self-learning" curriculum, in which they assigned lessons via online platforms for students to work on individually. They graded assignments solely based on completion and did not require virtual class attendance, but held optional office hours. This phase of remote learning was necessary as BPS worked to ensure that all students had access to technology and could take part in upcoming online classes.

When asked about the new learning schedule, Associate Headmaster Mr. Jonathan Mulhern says, "We want to find a schedule that works so students can access

all of their teachers of all of their subjects fairly consistently while also giving enough time in between classes for flexibility. Balancing work, life and school is the biggest challenge, and underneath that umbrella, there's a thousand different things that any individual might be facing. We'll try to maximize the best practices and minimize the ones that aren't working as well."

In addition, the BLS Academic Leadership Team has come up with a school-specific grading plan to ensure compensation for students' at-home work. This new plan gives teachers the freedom to add percentage points to students' Term 3 grades based on work completion, assignment quality and performance in virtual class settings.

Despite the obstacles that distance learning presents, many are finding ways to adjust and thrive. Ms. Courtney Garside, a

seventh-grade Earth Science teacher, finds that Phase II of virtual learning provides a much more effective working environment.

"It is so much better to have the face-to-face class. [...] The new schedule gives us all the opportunity to provide that for our students, and the work we see this week is [...] much better than what we've been getting from students trying to work completely on their own," says Ms. Garside.

Many students also agree that live virtual learning is an improvement from the previous system.

"Phase II learning gives [students] more opportunities to check in with teachers to review material and ask any questions, which is especially important for juniors and seniors with AP exams coming up," says Dante Minutillo (I) when asked about the benefits of Phase II.

FEC Keeps Students Invested During Quarantine

By **Juliana Abramson (II)**
Contributing Writer

From March to May 2020, the Boston Latin School Finance and Economics Club (FEC) hosted a virtual stock simulation that allowed students to gain insight into investing during a pandemic.

Founded in September 2019, BLS FEC seeks to engage students in the basics of finance and economics through interactive lessons, competitions and simulations, such as the one held during the past two months. During the simulation, over 40 BLS students built a stock exchange portfolio on the Market Watch website.

Starting with 100,000 dollars, each participant strategically bought, sold or shorted (bet against) publicly traded stocks based on the real-time market. Their profits and losses were based on companies' actual stock market values, which, according to FEC President Ludovico Rollo (II), "gives students the experience of trading stocks in real life." Rollo adds, "Commission fees and interest rates exist in the game to keep it as realistic as possible."

Participants hoped to accumulate the most profit to ultimately win a cash prize of 40 dollars. Students developed the decision-making skills necessary to be a successful investor and gained insight into how COVID-19 has affected the stability of the stock market and the values of companies.

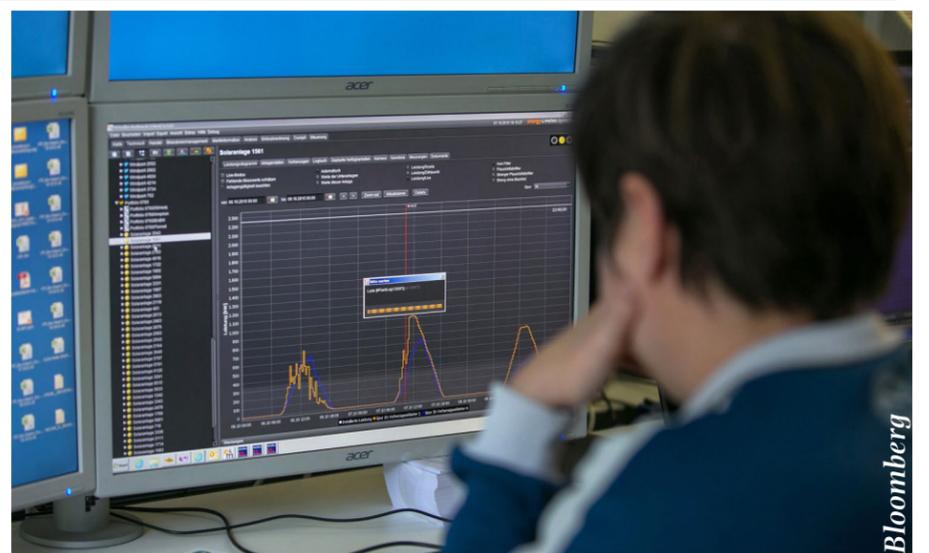
Participant Karen Mai (II) reflects, "It was fun; I started off pretty well in the round. It was a lot of playing with numbers, and it was just luck. It was really random [...] at times, and during such an uncertain time with COVID[-19], anything could happen. [...] I learned [to not] invest in stocks during a pandemic, I also learned [to] make wise choices when you buy stuff."

Mai highlights that she was able to bring her previous experience with stock simulations into this competition while also learning from other competitors about investment strategies. Giving BLS students experience with investing in stocks was one of many reasons FEC decided to hold this simulation.

According to FEC officer Xiangan He (II), "When COVID[-19] started, we wanted to be able to find a way to connect with our club and stay active. We were afraid that we would lose club member engagement and we would become kind of [like] strangers to each other, so this is a way to keep us together [...] in one community. A lot of people have been very enthusiastic and active and they are tracking how the market's been. [...] This [simulation] has been a work long in the making."

The competition ended on May 31, but the club may hold another stock simulation soon if there is popular demand.

During this school year, the FEC has gained a substantial group of active mem-



Like the stocks, students in the Finance Club rise to the occasion.

bers from all grades and levels of background knowledge. They encourage anyone with an interest in finance and economics to join, regardless of experience. FEC meets weekly on Tuesdays, during which members discuss developments and predictions regarding stocks, and officers present a lesson about an important financial topic or major event in economic history.

In fall of 2019, FEC partnered with Mr. Jim Levesque to teach a seven-week financial literacy course open to any BLS students who were interested. The final component of the course was a stock mar-

ket simulation. The top three BLS teams advanced to the regional competition, where one team earned second place.

FEC had planned to host speakers from the finance and economic sectors this spring, but this was canceled due to the school closure. FEC hopes to expand the knowledge they bring to BLS, including on-demand recorded lessons.

Officer He comments, "We want to make sure that all the people who are into entrepreneurship, into business, into stocks, investing, get this opportunity to learn about it."



Rest In Peace
Lienna Peng
2002-2019



By Anna Peng '16

When Lienna first entered BLS as a sixie, I was a junior and had already spent four years of my life there. I was so eager to watch her enter the Wolfpack world and both grow in it and leave her mark on it. Although she followed my footsteps into the *Argo* Layout section and band, the paths she forged there, on the volleyball team, with Mock Trial and in so many other places were uniquely her own. She may not have known it, but, as an endlessly proud older sister, I was quietly cheering her on every step of the way, more excited for her achievements and milestones than I ever was for my own. But I will never have the chance to watch Lienna get accepted to college, wear her cap and gown and walk at graduation, marching ever forward into her life, ponytail, hoodie and all. I have only my memories of her. While words will never perfectly capture what the absence of her presence is like, I will always remember Lienna for her quirky silliness, teaching our little brother to dance to Demi Lovato and dressing up in our mom's old dresses and faux fur coat; her hard-working spirit, spending countless hours practicing her oboe and staying late into the night in the *Argo* computer lab; and her caring, warmth and kindness towards others.

By Ms. Theresa Cojohn

One of the smallest communities at Boston Latin School is a group of students that are a year accelerated in math. They love learning, and I have the honor of teaching that group. A small number of students in that group have me as a teacher for more than one year. I always tell those students they are the luckiest students because they have me as a teacher, twice! But it is really me who is lucky. These students are the brightest mathematical minds at BLS, and I am always in awe of their brilliance.

Lienna was one of those students. I was fortunate to meet Lienna when she was in eighth grade. She was quiet, shy and hardly spoke in my class. She was surrounded by ninth-graders, and it was her first venture out of her cluster. Lienna would always rush into class, making sure she smiled and waved to everyone at her table.

She was soft-spoken but always willing to help a fellow student with a math problem. She always drew small cows on all of her math papers, I never asked why, but they always made me smile. Other students in her group did the same, and eventually, the cow pictures made it onto the whiteboard and became a symbol of Lienna's presence.

Over the course of the year, she broke out of her shell. Other students flocked to her because she had such a calming personality. Just before Christmas, Lienna gave me a bag of homemade cookies. Each cookie was in the shape of a Christmas tree covered in sprinkles, I remember how precise and simple they were. When I asked if she made them, she beamed with pride. I will always remember Lienna's bright smile and compassion toward others and myself.

Two years later, Lienna was back in my class. It was like she never left. Every day she came into class with a big smile on her face and the cows appeared on the whiteboards again. In the middle of the hardest unit in AP Calculus, I marked one of Lienna's questions wrong, because I couldn't figure out what method she used to solve the problem. At the end of class, she asked me about the problem and then explained her method to me. Her method had merit and was something I had never seen before! I learned something new that day.

That is who Lienna was, so bright and yet so humble. She was caring and so approachable. Our time with Lienna was cut short during her junior year and I miss her tremendously. Our community lost a kind, compassionate soul and a brilliant mind. Rest in peace, Lienna.



By Isabella Tran '20

Dear Lienna,

I miss you. It's been a while since somebody has asked me to share my memories about you. Last year, when it all happened, feels like a blur. If I go through my old diary, there's an empty space. I left three pages, didn't write for six months, the same six months in which I probably needed to journal the most.

I think of you often. Time has passed and I no longer burst into tears every time I pass what was once your locker, but for me you're unforgettable. You will forever be a part of my *Argo* journey. From the very beginning and until now, I've brought a part of you with me.

I don't do our Thursday raid of the music wing anymore because I don't want to replace old memories with new ones. They used to be my relief and now the memories are more beautiful than painful. I'm sure you wouldn't approve of how much I cry over you because you're not here to cheer me up and offer advice.

I flipped open my old journal again for this, the embarrassing one with my subpar tenth-grade poetry that somehow you found beauty in. I found the three carnations you sent me two years ago. On the third one, you wrote: "You are a special human being, you deserve three carnations!" Lienna, there's no one more deserving than you. I wrote last year that I wish I had sent you three, I wish I had sent you 10 million.

I relive our last week together often and get angry at how it mostly comprised me complaining about everything that now seems unimportant, and I remember you patiently nodding along and listening. Life doesn't always have big endings, there is no last hurrah. All I remember was saying "see you tomorrow" at the end of lunch. I try to live without too many regrets, but it's hard to stop regretting not staring into your eyes for a bit longer, napping on your arm or just laughing with you one last time.

We're supposed to be graduating now, and I'm almost grateful that there is no formal graduation this June because I'm sure I'd think of you and melt into a mess. At least this way we're both sort of missing it together.

I'm worried about making friends next year. I can't recall the moment we became friends. I know I had an Italian class with you and that I thought you were SO cool to be the youngest editor on the *Argo* board. You were kind and encouraging. Becoming your friend was so easy. I'm afraid that too many people are not enough like you. And so I miss you, Lienna.

I love you,
Isabella

By Irene Ju '20

Dear Lienna,

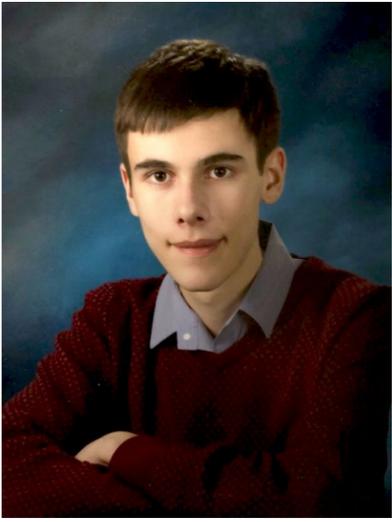
I pretend you're a gazillion miles away on a never-ending journey and that you're the happiest person in this universe. There are so many traces of you around me. All six of your email accounts are still on my laptop. The matcha fudge you made for me is in my fridge being preserved. Your empty seat in rehearsal used to make me cry, and I always had to play with a salty taste in my mouth, but now I look over and imagine you critiquing me by saying, "Irene, ew, wrong rhythm. It's this: ta ta..." I think of you decorating my music with colorful tape and writing cute notes, and I push myself to play as emotionally and beautifully as you did. I'd always get so nervous, and you'd attack my words of fear with a 1,000 more words of encouragement.

This excitement about my future is bubbling in my chest. You've empowered me, and you've made me determined. In each one of the things I'm eager to do, you've left so many memories and support. Although you can't bombard me with a million words of encouragement anymore, I'll feel you rooting for me when I pick myself up. Every time I play a note, I'll always think of the oboe and flute player twinkling in the middle of the orchestra while playing a solo together with smiles in their eyes. I'll always feel the warmth spreading from my head to toes, from teaching Latin to kids and watching them, and also us, grow. I'll always remember our promises of going to college and creating a glorious future together 20 years from now. Without wasting a *single* second, I will fulfill my wishes and yours as well with my life and yours stretched out in front of me.

So let many months pass, even 30 or 40 because even then, I'll still be doing what I love and fulfilling our wishes. You have been such an amazing, kind and beautiful inspiration. So thank you, Lienna, for *every single* moment and *every single* emotion we shared. I'll go meet you much later after I'm satisfied with what I do, and maybe we can be the invincible pair again and play a touching melody together one last time. As always, I love you more than the sky and the seas combined.



Valedictorian Dante Minutillo



Dear Class of 2020,

It feels like just yesterday when I walked into this school for the first time, struggling to understand the confusing maze of staircases and hallways and the weird traditions. I looked at upperclassmen with a mixture of respect and fear. The day seemed so far away when we would finally be in their position. And yet, here we are. We've made it, and now we have to say goodbye.

It's still hard to believe this chapter of our lives is coming to a close. Especially given the circumstances, writing this is surreal for me. It's hard to imagine that I will never again spend a full day in the place that's taken up a third of my life.

It wasn't always easy. I'm sure all of you know the feeling of rushing to make deadlines when all your teachers assign projects in the same week; of staying up to 2 A.M. only to wake up at 6 A.M. the next morning; of telling yourself every day "I'm

too busy today; I'll start that project tomorrow" until suddenly it's due the next day. These things are stressful, for sure, but we've persevered through the difficulties and come out stronger because of it. The skills we've learned here will stick with us for the rest of our lives.

Perhaps you already had a clear passion when you came into this school. Or maybe, like me, you had no idea what you were interested in at first and discovered it here. Either way, the talent this class displays — in theatre, visual art, music, athletics, public speaking, STEM and innumerable other fields — is staggering. This school has given us opportunities to let that talent flourish, even during the struggle of day-to-day academic life.

Having found my passion for the classics, I have been able to travel to Italy and Greece during my time here and to compete on the best Certamen team in the nation. If you're an underclassman reading this,

don't let those opportunities slip by. Use this time to discover what you're interested in — it's OK if you don't know yet — and take advantage of what the school has to offer. And don't let stress over academics or desire for a full résumé impede pursuing what you're passionate about, building friendships and leaving time to relax or just have fun.

Well, as I said, we've made it. Thank you, Class of 2020, for being so kind, so enthusiastic, so supportive and for making this such a memorable experience. There's no group of people I'd rather have spent these years with. I will always remember the friendships we've forged here, the experiences we've shared, the memories we've made. As we all head off into the new and unfamiliar world of college life, keep being your amazing selves. Congratulations on your accomplishments here, and I can't wait to see the monumental things you'll do!

Valete, amici.

Salutatorian Conrad Hock



Dear Class of 2020,

These last two months have been tough. What was supposed to be a period of collective catharsis and commemoration quickly became a time of fear, anxiety and isolation. We lost our prom. We lost our graduation. We lost our time together. The time that once seemed so abundant has quickly become ever-fleeting.

Although we may not have graduation or prom to commend this milestone, the true confirmation of our achievements lies not in the ceremony we have lost, but in the legacy we leave behind and the lives we will lead.

While COVID-19 may have interrupted our farewell, it is my belief that we should take it as a call to action. COVID-19 has revealed deep-rooted economic, social and racial inequalities in

the structure of our society. It has shown the blatant incompetence of our current political leaders. It has provided convincing evidence for humanity's role in climate change. Our world has been exposed for what it is. Now it is our job to make it how it should be. So what better time is there for us to graduate and embark on our journeys as future doctors, lawyers, politicians, artists, musicians and business owners. Whatever your intended destination may be, it is our right and ultimately our obligation to bring about the change that our world so desperately needs.

But while our future beckons, the present remains hazy. To those of us that continue to grapple with this crisis and the isolation that accompanies it, I would like to share a poem entitled "The Way It Is" by William Stafford. It was shared

with me by Mr. Sullivan in my eleventh grade English class and goes as follows:

There's a thread you follow. It goes among
Things that change. But it doesn't change.
People wonder about what you are pursuing.
You have to explain about the thread.
But it is hard for others to see.

While you hold it you can't get lost.
Tragedies happen; people get hurt
or die; and you suffer and get old.
Nothing you do can stop time's unfolding.
You don't ever let go of the thread.

Class of 2020, I urge each of you to hold on to your thread. This time will pass. Life will go on. As long as you do not lose sight of yourself, you too will re-surge.

Your Classmate and Friend,
Conrad Hock

Thing I Learned Most Useful for My Future

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| "Collaboration" | Economics | How to BS | How to get boba with Asian girls | know something when you don't | Math and Economics | to finish homework is worth it |
| "So what" of a thesis... thank you Medvetz | Elements of Style | How to BS | How to get things done in a time crunch | How to survive | Math, it's always math | Sometimes you just gotta cut people off |
| "You don't know what you don't know you don't know" | Elements of style...thanks Ms. Barich! | how to bs | How to handle a high stress environment | How to talk to teachers | Mitochondria is the powerhouse of the cell | Somehow social skills |
| A lot of things go on in an IHop | Energizing Physics | How to BS | How to handle stress | How to tell a white lie | MLA Formatting | Spelling is irrelevant in the grand scheme of life |
| A team-first mentality | Environmental Science | How to bs | How to hide a coffee in my bag | How to trust my instincts | Mr. Rinaldi's tips for grocery shopping | STEM |
| Absurdism | Everything | How to BS | How to hold back tears in public | How to use sparknotes | Neva forget the Lads | Numpy |
| Act confident | Everything I learned in AP American Government | How to bs | How to keep it together with 3 hours of sleep | How to work hard | Organization | Study every night |
| Always be positive | Everything I learned in Mr. Sullivan's class | How to bs | How to learn | How to work hard even when life sucks | Patience, empathy, and relationship building | Take things slow, jumping into your career right away does more harm than good |
| Anything Ms. Elliott taught me | Everything Mr. Sullivan has ever said | How to BS immaculately | How to listen and respectful of others | when life sucks | People come and go and that's ok | That I can do a lot with very little time |
| AP Bio | Existentialism | How to bs my way through any assignment | How to make the best friends even in a setting where I don't know anyone | How to work with people I don't like | Perseverance & compassion | That putting your work off never helps |
| AP Enviro | Facing History | How to BS work | How to memorize last minute | How to write | Philosophy | The effects of cocaine on mice |
| APCS | Fake it 'til you make it | How to build a support network | How to navigate in a privileged society | How to write a 6 page paper in a day | Planning and organizing | The fifth declension |
| APCSP and APCS knowledge | Fake it till you make it | How to cheat | How to not take things seriously bc it's not that deep | How to write a decent essay | Procrastination | The mitochondria is the powerhouse of the cell |
| APUSH | Finessin | How to cram and procrastinate | How to play cricket | How to write a paper | Procrastination is not a hobby, but a lifestyle choice | The mitochondria is the powerhouse of the cell |
| As much as I hate to say it, public speaking | Finessin | How to cram assignments | How to present myself in a professional manner | How to write a paper in one night and still earn a passing grade | Programming | The usage of money |
| Basic social skills | Having good relationships with teachers is very helpful | How to deal with difficult people | How to procrastinate | How to write an 8 page paper in an hour | Public declamation | Time Management |
| Be happy, it irritates people | How nicotine affects your pleasure pathways | How to deal with people I can't stand | How to procrastinate a paper until the hour before it's due | How to write an essay | Public speaking | Time management |
| Be more proactive and productive | How not to commit check fraud | How to do all my homework in homeroom | How to procrastinate and still get it all done | How to write an essay | Public speaking | Time management |
| Be positive | How to write a decent paper in less than 24 hours, but also AP | How to do all my work in a very short amount of time | How to procrastinate and still get stuff done | How to write an essay | Public speaking | Time management |
| Bio 2 and how to think critically | Writing | How to do assignments quickly | How to procrastinate and still get things in at 11:59 | How to write an essay | Public speaking | Time management and public speaking |
| BLS: if you don't BS, you take that L | How to act civilized with 1 hour of sleep | How to do weeks of work in one night | How to procrastinate efficiently | How to write professionally | Public speaking | Time management |
| BS work | How to advocate for myself because no one else will | How to eat lunch really quickly | How to procrastinate till the last minute and still turn out well | I can't say that would be normative | Public speaking | Using Google Docs |
| Calc from Ms. LA | How to appreciate little things because I know how much I'll miss them | How to fake it until you make it | How to pull something out of thin air and complete an assignment last minute | I don't even know what my future will be | Public speaking & making a resume | Where to stand to when there a Pats Superbowl parade |
| Calculus | How to bounce back from failures and cram for tests | How to find friends vs. enemies | How to run from park rangers | If it doesn't make you happy let it go | Public speaking and presentation skills | Work smarter not harder |
| Care for others | How to be accepting and inclusive | How to finesse | How to sound like I know what I'm talking about | Ironically? Latin. Wish I'd paid attention... | Public speaking or how to write an essay in 30 minutes (shout-out Term 2 research paper) | Work smarter, not harder |
| Cheat without getting caught | How to be independent | How to finesse | How to sound like you | Italian | Public speaking skills | Working smarter not harder |
| Comp sci | How to be unique and express myself independently as an individual | How to finesse | | Latin | Reading fast | Working under pressure |
| Declamation | How to argue my point | How to finesse homework | | Latin, obviously | Recognize fake people | Working with others |
| Definitely not Latin | How to BS | How to finesse the system | | Learn how to argue, then learn the facts | Sic sic iuvat ire sub umbras | You can get away with a lot until you stop caring |
| Doing homework in homeroom | How to BS | How to fix my pen | | Learned how to Math | Slacking off and relying on others is good | You can have stress but don't let stress consume you |
| Don't expect much from others, because the higher your expectations are, the more you will be disappointed | How to be accepting and inclusive | How to function on 45 minutes of sleep | | Learning Java in AP Comp Sci A | Sleep is everything | You will act like the people who you spend the most time with. |
| Don't take the little things for granted | How to be independent | How to function with little sleep | | Life lessons from Mr. Barry | Socialism | You'll always be smarter than at least one person so don't feel stupid |
| Don't be late | How to be unique and express myself independently as an individual | | | Life lessons from Mr. Kearns | Some Chinese words | |
| Don't overwork yourself | How to bounce back from failures and cram for tests | | | Maintaining a packed schedule | Some people are just not good people | |
| Don't waste sleep on work | How to BS | | | | Sometimes losing sleep | |

Class President Mateo Daffin



Dear Class of 2020,

It's an odd reality to write a farewell letter and be unable to properly say goodbye to you all. Who would've thought March 16, that strange and eerie Monday, would mark our final day stepping foot on Boston Latin School soil as students. Who would've thought our rally day bandanas would become masks, our laptops would become classrooms and our friends would become safety hazards. Despite this apocalyptic situation, however, all the memories, experiences and trauma we endured prior to this madness will live on forever.

These last six or four years have meant different things for different people. Many of you have joined different clubs, sports or arts programs, while others have explored different volunteer opportunities, internships or part-time jobs. You might've spent your time after school in the library, rehearsing plays or selling your homemade brownies in front of the *Alma Mater* statue. Whatever it was, each one of you should be

proud of the unique legacy you left in the school.

I don't want to gloss over the pain of what felt like eternal suffering. I'll never forget the all-nighters, the three tests in a single day or having to walk to lunch while avoiding a stampede of middle schoolers. There were dark times, days when we questioned ourselves for being here, hated ourselves for not being a certain way or deemed ourselves unworthy for limiting and judging ourselves for failing to meet certain expectations. Despite those difficulties, know that you have surpassed the standards BLS has set for you and have raised the bar for future generations.

Our tenure at BLS has been far more than just a period of academic growth. While we pride ourselves on attending an educational mecca, the most valuable lessons were the ones we ended up teaching ourselves or learning from our peers. As you transition into the next phases of your lives, I hope you will feel a certain sense of self-sufficiency and confidence in your capabilities.

You've all matured into well-rounded young adults, and I know your future will be full of exciting adventures, crazy stories and remarkable achievements in all fields.

Class, thank you for everything. Thank you for your daily insightful conversations. Thank you for the laughs; be it in the homeroom, lunch or the classes we took together. Thank you for motivating me to do better, as a student and a person. Thank you for your advice, your empathy and years of sharing a bond no other high school class could ever fathom.

As you go forth, continue to be kind people, and treat others with dignity and respect. You'll make your way in this world no matter what, and even when you face adversity, you will always bounce back. I couldn't be more proud to say I was a part of the Class of 2020. Stay safe everyone, and don't forget to keep in touch!

With love,
Mateo

Vice President Mehdi Kayi



Dear BLS Family,

If you had told me as a sixie I'd be sitting at home for the entirety of my senior spring, a viral disease would be ravaging the world and Zoom would dominate my life, I would have called you crazy. Yet, somehow, that's the exact position I find myself in. In these trying times, it's easy to lose faith. When so many things are being taken away from us — graduation, seeing our friends and teachers every day, yelling "it's all over!" through the halls — we must take a moment to step back and remember everything we've accomplished.

Think back to the first steps you took entering the BLS building as a starry-eyed sixie. Think back to that first spark of friendship, that first *salve* in Latin class, and that first moment of realization that life isn't as smooth as you previously thought. Reflect on all the invaluable lessons you learned — how to pull an all-nighter without falling asleep, how to study for four exams in one sitting, how to bounce back from failure and somehow pull through at

the end of the term and how to stand up in front of the entire class and convince them you didn't memorize that declamation just last night. These experiences and lessons are concrete. They are an integral part of our identity as Boston Latin seniors and our character as young adults. Nobody can take that away from us.

BLS offers a "contemporary classical education," but when you really boil it down, you are learning the same Pythagorean theorem and reading the same Shakespeare as the rest of the country. A Latin School education is special because it's an education on the human experience. It's a taste of how life will beat you down, how the world just isn't fair and how you won't always have a guiding hand. It's an affirmation of each student's resolve, hard work and grit. I wouldn't give that up for anything.

To new students, be excited for the falls, and know that every stumble is a stumble in the right direction. Do all your homework the night before and spend quality time studying for exams. Surround yourself with good people —

friends who will inspire you and push you to constantly improve yourself. This is the beginning of a new academic career for you, and although you may already look forward to graduating, know that the journey is more satisfying than the destination.

To my fellow seniors, thank you. Thank you for all the shared experiences, challenges, victories, defeats and everything in between. It was a privilege and an honor serving as your class Vice President, and I couldn't be prouder of the bond we formed throughout the years. We really came together as a class this past year, and I will always look back on these times with fondness. I know we are finally done with BLS, but don't allow yourself to become too comfortable. Life is still long, and many more accomplishments await you. Stay hungry, remain ambitious and never settle. After all, we are Latin students. It's in our blood. We've only completed another chapter in the story of our lives. The rest still has yet to be written.

Godspeed,
Mehdi Kayi

Treasurer Taylah Webster



Dear Senior Class,

Although we didn't get to finish the year the way we all wanted to, the time we got to spend together will forever be memorable. I'm glad I could help make the year a little more fun along with the other officers. For me, the last six years have been full of interminable nights and a lot of stress as I've scrambled to finish assignments. Despite this, I also found amazing friends and teachers, different clubs

and activities that helped me navigate through BLS, and a lot of laughter. The seniors I have met have become some of my closest friends that I'll forever be grateful for.

Finishing BLS, regardless of how we finished, is an accomplishment that we should all be proud of. Wherever these next four years are taking you, I hope you make everlasting memories and grow into even better people. As much as BLS has been a struggle, I wouldn't have wanted to graduate

from anywhere else.

Congratulations to every senior who pushed through, whether it was for four years or six. I wish everyone luck in their college years and beyond. I appreciate and love every senior who impacted me during my time at BLS. Thank you for having me as your class treasurer and for trusting me to help lead the class.

Much love and best wishes,
Taylah Webster, Class Treasurer

Secretary Alana Young



Dear BLS Class of 2020,

First and foremost, congratulations to you all for surviving four or six years at *the* Boston Latin School. No one could've imagined we'd be spending our last few months of high school at home, sitting in awkwardly silent Zoom calls, or taking AP exams online. Although the open-notes addition to the AP tests has probably improved our scores (sorry Mr. Spezzano) and the beginning of the closure might have even felt like a much-needed vacation, I'm sure by now we're all feeling robbed of painstakingly planned events and our senior spring. I, for one, have definitely felt the disappointment from the cancelation of the student-faculty talent show and Asian Night.

Rather than continue to mourn

the loss of many events, however, I'd like to use this opportunity to remember all the beautiful memories we've made for the past six years. Instead of brooding over your final spring concert, let's try to look back on all the concerts you performed with Ms. Shipley. Instead of agonizing over your last volleyball season, let's try to look back at the points you did score. Instead of mourning any of those seemingly lost last moments, let's try to appreciate the thousands of moments we did spend with friends. As a class, we have had so many memories together, from sixie field day to senior kick-off. While this is all much easier said than done, I'd like to give the feelings of loss and disappointment we all have the respect and acknowledgment they deserve, while also remembering the countless memories we all have together and the

more left to come.

We've spent six years pulling all-nighters, juggling homework with clubs, perfecting our procrastinating skills and forming lifelong friendships. I for one know my junior self would not be happy if I abandoned all of that at the finish line and only remembered these painful last couple of months. This may be an anti-climatic end to high school, but it is not the end of our time together and it certainly does not define us as a class. It feels awful now, especially as we all get ready to travel for college, but I know we can pull through this together. After all, our strength, intelligence and determination stretches to infinity — and beyond.

See you soon,
Alana Young

Democrats Defer on #MeToo



Jonathan Bachman

Presidential nominee Joe Biden faces claims of sexual assault.

By Selina Tang (IV)

Staff Writer

Amid the recent turmoil of sexual assault allegations which have turned heads away from Trump's handling of the pandemic and toward Biden's character and decency, Democrats have settled on an inadequate solution of denial and defense which must change so that these leaders' actions are consistent with their espoused values.

Tara Reade, a former staff assistant to Joe Biden, claims that the Democratic presidential candidate sexually assaulted her while working in his Senate office in 1993. Biden, however, with the support of many prominent Democrats, has denied the accusations.

Regardless of what the truth may be, Biden and his supporters should not be allowed to continue dismissing the situation.

The Democratic Party prides itself on its support for victims of sexual assault and movements pertaining to sexual assault, such as the #MeToo movement and Dr. Christine Blasey Ford's case against then-Supreme Court Nominee Brett Kavanaugh. Biden declares that "you've got to start off with the presumption that at least the essence of what she's talking about is real."

Flash forward two years, and now these same people are reiterating their confidence in the accused offender and praising his response. While no one is directly denying Tara Reade's accu-

sations, they are casting doubt on her accusations as they change their narrative from "believe all women" to "all women deserve to be heard."

Their passive actions and disinterest in holding the accused accountable significantly reduce their integrity and highlight their hypocrisy.

Biden has pressured voters by declaring in an interview that those who believe Tara Reade should not vote for him to hold true to their beliefs, morally obliging voters to choose between him or her.

If the Democrats persist in the same behavior that they have "shamed other politicians for," Kayla Butler (I) says, a "shift in what is socially accepted [is created]."

They are setting a precedent that allows them to ditch their fights for the powerless in hopes of political gain, but "people are tired of old white men getting away with sexual assault, or failing to represent the people [...] They want policies [and actions] that they see as human." This is reaffirmed in recent polls conducted by Politico and Morning Consult in which 32 percent responded that they were less likely to vote for Biden due to the allegations.

These actions are, unfortunately, the result of the uncomfortable politics of Biden's situation.

Every move a politician makes has the potential to cause damage to their public image and approval ratings, which is why Mr. Brian Smith argues there is a "degree to which every politician [...] sacrifices what their ethical and moral stance should be to protect their politics."

Indeed, it is the politics that make the circumstances so difficult. As Ms. Catherine Arnold frames it, Biden and the Democratic Party "are caught between a rock and a hard place and don't really have the latitude to express their genuine response to this specific situation."

She agrees, however, with certain Democrats "like Senator Ayanna Pressley [who] argue that there is more than an all-or-nothing way to proceed." We should order a formal investigation, for example, instead of handing it off to the press to speculate.

There are many methods to give Biden more credibility than just his "character and integrity."

He can publicize his Senate papers, which possibly contain a complaint filed by Reade, especially since he claims to be such an open book. In addition, Reade has agreed to undergo a polygraph test if Biden takes one. To regain the people's trust and vote, Democrats must either properly disprove Reade's story or be held accountable and prove he has changed in the past thirty years.

Looking beyond these accusations, most would likely agree that Biden's track record on women considerably exceeds that of Trump. Whether Biden's and the Democrats' stances on women's issues are genuine or not, they are very focused on advocating for them. Then, the following questions remain: to what extent are politicians allowed to sacrifice their values for the sake of political gains? And, really — should we even be asking ourselves this question?

Journey to the West: Asian Representation on Netflix

By Cinly Mo (IV)

Contributing Writer

Historically, there has been a lack of diversity in the film and television industry; in response to this, many have been calling attention to the lack of variation that can be seen in the stories and faces in Western media.

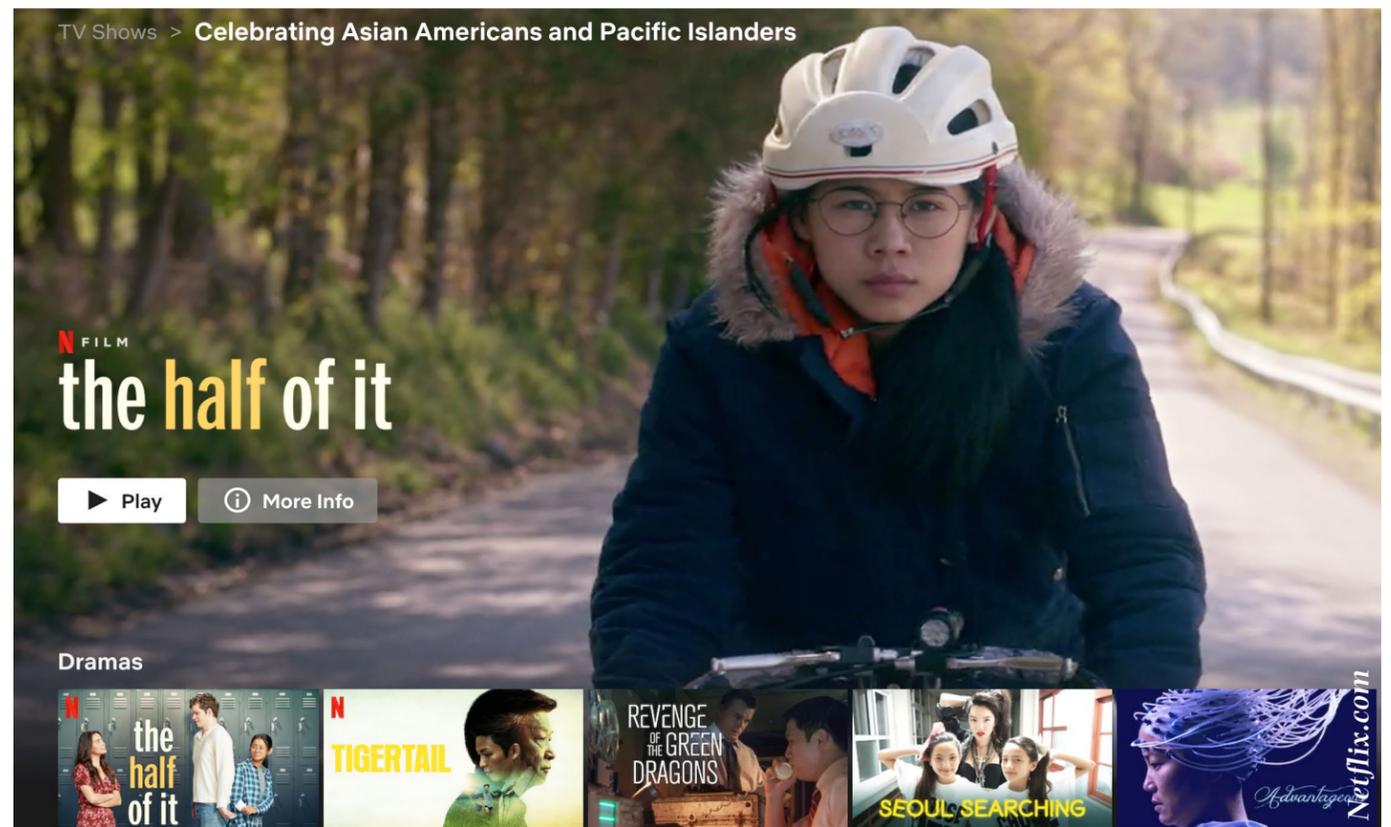
Recently, however, there has been an increase in Asian actors and shows created by Asians on Netflix, some of which include *To All the Boys I've Loved Before*, *Never Have I Ever*, *Crash Landing on You* and *Kim's Convenience*. Although Netflix's strides towards increasing Asian representation in the film industry are valuable for the representation that they provide, there is still more to be done to create authentic and accurate stories about the Asian and Asian American experience.

When Netflix produces films and television shows with Asian actors playing major characters, they draw attention to Asian media in the West. By adding more diversity in their movies and TV shows, it has the potential to expose their subscribers to different cultures and hardships unique to Asians and Asian Americans.

Naomi Hassard (IV) explains, "It was good to see different groups of people being shown as something other than a side character or something that isn't important to the plot. I liked seeing the variety of ways Netflix chose to represent these groups of people, and it brought light to the realities that they face on a daily basis."

Netflix's diverse cast not only affects its viewers, but also benefits the actors. These roles have created opportunities for Asian stars to make a name for themselves and can help give them access to other roles in the film industry.

For example, Lana Condor has



Asian & Pacific Islander American Heritage Month gains new and stronger representation through Netflix.

grown to be loved by both the media and her audience after her appearance in the hit film *To All the Boys I've Loved Before*. As Asian actors make more appearances in the West, young people are also better able to identify with a more diverse group of role models, giving young Asian Americans figures in media with which they are more likely to connect.

Although Netflix is making progressive changes in their casting and narrative choices, there is still room for improvement. When displaying the lifestyle of Asians in Western movies, it can be difficult to balance entertainment and accuracy. While Netflix has created works

that accurately depict Asian culture, it is also guilty of "white-washing" their characters at times.

Some, however, do not see this as a necessary evil, as authenticity often has to be sacrificed for the sake of the narrative; as Danny Nguyen (II) explains, "Although they may exaggerate or bend the truth sometimes about Asian culture, that is just the nature of having a film since it needs to be enjoyable. Netflix is one of the most popular streaming services, and so they play a key part in Asian representation."

This does not have to be the case, as it is possible to create an entertaining story while remaining true to the Asian experi-

ence. It is Netflix's responsibility to create interesting characters while still accurately depicting their cultural backgrounds and struggles. Not only should Netflix enlist more diversity in its actors, but also make space for Asian writers and producers to help tell their stories.

Netflix has shown commitment towards creating diversity in their casts, but there is still more to be done. As the largest media streaming platform today, it is a key player in helping to normalize non-white faces in Western media. It is imperative that this recent uptick in Asian characters is not just a trend, but rather shows the future of film and television.

Should the Government Subsidize Struggling Cultural Venues?

Yes, The Government Should Subsidize Them

By Aileen Luo (II)

Contributing Writer

Throughout the turmoil of the COVID-19 crisis in the United States, it is imperative that funding be set aside to support cultural venues like historic restaurants and museums that are struggling to stay afloat.

From smaller family-owned businesses to larger citywide institutions, these establishments are a vital and vibrant part of every city's community, including Boston. A society void of cultural institutions is not a society of humans; as Peter Marks and Geoff Edgars wrote in the *Washington Post* recently, "One can almost feel [New York City] reeling from the blow of great institutions gone dark. [...] To have that endangered is to put a target on the very identity of the city itself." By refusing to prioritize these institutions, the unique character of each of our diverse American cities and towns are thrown away.

Closer to home, cultural institutions in Boston find themselves struggling as well. For the past several years, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, an art establishment across the street from Boston Latin School, has taken in BLS students as interns under the Deitch Leadership Institute Fellowship program. Due to its lack of funding and closure during the COVID-19 crisis, the museum will not be taking a Deitch intern this year. Similarly, many cultural institutions around the city proudly offer work and internship opportunities to underserved students and young adults in the community — without adequate funding, all of these opportunities will be lost to the young people who may need them most.

When the government decides not to prioritize funding for cultural venues, they send a message of disregard for the diverse cultural heritage of our city and country.

From restaurants to bodegas to hair and nail salons, minority-owned small businesses are often the ones struggling the most to survive during the COVID-19 crisis. As Gary Zaretsky writes in a letter to a *New York Times* editor, "Big businesses will still be here after COVID-19. But be prepared to see 'For Rent' signs in your neighborhood stores. [...] Unfortunately, [many] will find that the small businesses which they worked for no longer exist." Zaretsky speaks to the economic repercussions of letting small cultural businesses fail. The unemployment rate during the COVID-19 crisis is astronomical and almost unprecedented, and small businesses employ and provide the livelihood for millions of Americans, many of them low-income minorities.

These small businesses and cultural institutions have special meaning to BLS students as well. Regarding small businesses in the Chinatown area, Mandy Sun (II) says, "[They] make up a huge part of my childhood [...] May's Cake House has always been a local bakery that my family has gone to for as I could remember. On my birthday every year I would get a mango mousse cake from them." Sun believes these establishments need federal backing. "They can't make a living without it. Lots of these stores have to close down, and it honestly makes me sad. At this point, I am wondering which part of my culture and childhood is gone forever."

It is well known that the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the vast social inequities in all of our major cities. Failure to back the small businesses which provide work for so many Americans in need would equate to willful desertion of these most vulnerable institutions.



No, The Government Should Not Subsidize Them

By Levi Mattison (II)

Contributing Writer

Although many regularly question whether or not taxpayers should prop up cultural businesses, there are other sectors such as hospitals and unemployment benefits where funding should be prioritized.

One sector experiencing the most serious underfunding is the very division protecting Americans during this pandemic: hospitals. As *The New England Journal of Medicine* reports, "The number of ventilators we will need to care for U.S. patients with COVID-19 [...] [is] as many as a million." Yet, "the number of ventilators in the United States range from 60,000 to 160,000."

While one can debate the specific number of ventilators in America or the amount that

is needed, what is indisputable is the drastic underfunding of the medical institutions we rely on, even beyond ventilators. For instance, medical professionals and essential workers are going without vital personal protection equipment, making those already at high risk more likely to contract COVID-19.

Besides the wide-ranging needs in the medical community, many families who were already in uncertain socio-economic conditions are in even more dire circumstances than before the outbreak. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, over one million Bay Staters have sought to claim unemployment benefits. More broadly, 20 percent of American workers have filed for first-time unemployment benefits since March.

While some people such as Dominic Kennedy-Slesar (I) argue that government subsidies "could definitely help businesses that are not receiving any income or are receiving very limited income," the scale is too vast.

The other needs are too great to give out the subsidies requested by some. Even if one believes that cultural venues require help, what qualifies as limited income for a business is arbitrary and the scale of businesses who would request this aid is too great to be based on those kinds of judgments. Beyond the impracticality of these grants, it is not the role of the government to pick and choose which establishments need saving.

As Miggy Antonio (II) mentions, "[Businesses] rely on people gathering in these venues and buying tickets for their many cultural activities and exhibits."

Taxpayer money should be going to support places that aid in the fighting of COVID-19, not establishments whose very goal brings people physically close to each other in ways deemed medically unsafe and intrinsically harmful to our fight against the virus. It is time to adapt to the world we are living in, one heavily affected by COVID-19 and its ramifications. It is time to avoid gathering in large numbers, not just now, but to prevent future devastation.

While there are businesses that will go under from loss of revenue brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and sectors of the economy that will be drastically changed, change is not always a bad thing. Museums, restaurants and other companies without the crutch of the taxpayers' dollar will adjust to attract customers as the world emerges from the pandemic.

As Albert Einstein puts it, America must adapt to overcome the challenge that lies before it; for "the measure of intelligence is the ability to change."

TikTok: Stop the Clock on the Hate

By Jessie Wang (V)

Contributing Writer

In August 2018, the company ByteDance acquired the app Musical.ly, transforming it into TikTok. Initially, the baggage of Musical.ly's poor reputation and its young demographic meant that TikTok would not be regarded as a legitimate social media platform. TikTok, nevertheless, is just as valid a platform as more traditional social media websites are, such as Twitter or Instagram, and ought to be seen as such.

TikTok separates itself from other social media apps through its accessibility in video creation.

As librarian Ms. Susan Harari explains, "The platform works hard to make it enticing and fun to create and share your own videos."

Its video editor gives its users a

vast selection of features and few constraints, setting it apart from apps like Vine, whose six-second-time limit and lack of internal editing features often limited the content that could be posted.

Due to TikTok's versatility, its posted content differs, ranging from lip-syncing to dancing to comedy. Through the For You page, an algorithm-based collection of videos specialized for every user (similar to Instagram's Explore page), users are constantly being exposed to videos and creators that might interest them. For most TikTok users, they spend most of their time on the app scrolling through their For You pages. Because of this, TikTok's creator base is dominated by "ordinary" people rather than brand name companies and celebrities, making it much more accessible to the average user.

Ms. Kristen George, Visual and Performing Arts teacher, says that TikTok gives "a voice to those who may have otherwise had no platform on which to be heard."

Unlike many other social media platforms, most of the content that you watch on TikTok does not necessarily consist of people that you already follow. As a result, people like activists and artists can use the For You page to reach audiences that they may not have been able to reach before.

On more established platforms like Instagram and Facebook, users often post very selectively due to outside pressure or preconceived notions of what is appropriate. On TikTok, however, there is more freedom to share whatever one sees fit. It creates a welcoming environment where people can post about anything they

want without being held to any pre-existing expectations.

For many people of older generations, platforms like TikTok are often targets of derision, and are seen as narcissistic and superficial.

"Some people dislike social media," explains eighth grade English teacher Mr. Jeffrey Gibbons. "[They] dislike anything new, dislike the idea of always posting their camera [or] phone on themself [...] this look-at-me zeitgeist."

TikTok, however, is much more than just camera-pointing; it is a unique platform that provides a creative outlet for millions of users across the world, allowing people to express themselves, show off their skills, and bring attention to important social issues. It is time for TikTok to be seen as what it truly is, rather than what people may think it is.

The Myth of the “Chinese Virus”



With the COVID-19 pandemic spreading, tensions increase.

By Hannah Oh (IV)

Contributing Writer

COVID-19 first appeared in Wuhan, China in early December of 2019. Since then, it has spread worldwide, with millions of confirmed cases and hundreds of thousands of deaths. As the U.S. government struggles to cope with the virus, it deliberately uses racially-charged rhetoric to shift the blame towards China instead of taking accountability for its shortcomings; this only serves to fuel tensions and further divide the nation.

The U.S. government has chosen words in order to avoid taking accountability for its own mistakes regarding the pandemic. Even after receiving criticism for President Donald Trump’s usage of the term “Chinese virus” rather than the accepted “coronavirus” or “COVID-19,” President Trump continues to use the former term despite its racial connotations. His continued usage of this phrase stigmatizes and scapegoats those of Asian descent. “It’s a very subjective and xenophobic term that people made in order to have someone or a group of people to

blame,” explains Jun Ye (III).

The government’s continued usage of the term “Chinese virus” has influenced the thoughts and actions of citizens, causing civil unrest and spurring existing racist ideas and hate. The term labels Asians as dangerous and deserving of poor treatment for spreading the virus, even though the actions of the Chinese government cannot be attributed to an entire race of people.

We can see the ramifications of this racist rhetoric by the increased rate of hate crimes against Asian Americans. The New York Police Department’s report for April showed that hate crimes against Asian Americans were on the rise, attributing 14 to the current COVID-19 pandemic; one of these crimes involved a stranger shouting, “you’re infected China boy, you need to get off the train,” to an Asian man on the subway.

The Chinese government made mistakes in handling the outbreak: China did not warn the public of the likely epidemic for six days, and this may have contributed to the collapse of Wuhan’s medical system. When the first cases of COVID-19 from the Hua’nan market emerged, authorities prevented doctors from alerting their peers to the disease, and the first people who claimed the disease could be contagious were admonished for “rumor-mongering.” The virus’s origins in China and any missteps they may have made, however, do not make the U.S.

any less responsible for mishandling the outbreak.

In the first months of the outbreak, President Trump ignored his own staff by dismissing the disease as nothing to worry about. The U.S. government also failed to provide medical supplies and deployed flawed testing kits. It also did not begin testing at an early date like South Korea and Singapore.

Ms. Katie Dunn, who teaches Chemistry 1 and AP Environmental Science, says that “widespread testing and taking the advice around social distancing seriously are necessary steps in improving the situation.”

The Trump administration disregarded pandemic response plans dating back to more than a decade ago from the George W. Bush presidency and did not fully staff its public health bureaucracy. Although President Trump denies all responsibility, it is clear that the failure to adequately respond to the pandemic lies with the Trump administration. COVID-19 is a global problem, and it is cowardly and racist to put the blame solely on China. As Karen Mai (II) puts it, “it’s not the time to point fingers at each other. We’re all dealing with [COVID-19] as a world.”

In these uncertain times, it is crucial for governments to be proactive in their response to the outbreak and for individuals to stay informed and responsible to help stop the spread of the virus.

Lessons from Online Learning

By Alice Zhang (II)

Staff Writer

With a global pandemic hitting hard in Boston, health experts are advising everyone to stay home as much as possible. Occupations that can have switched to remote work, but this transition is not as simple for students. As a result of the COVID-19 outbreak, Boston Latin School has switched to virtual classrooms, allowing teachers to connect with their students despite being physically separated. Although there are a few drawbacks to virtual learning, the self-paced aspect of at-home learning is something we ought to retain when in-person teaching resumes.

Recently, BLS has introduced a virtual school day that comprises of thirty-minute classes, adding up to roughly three-hour school days with open blocks and specials until 3:30 P.M.

“30 minutes is definitely short, but I understand the constraints and reasoning. Many teachers are caring for their own families, for example, which makes any classes a challenge. While we all might wish we had a few more minutes with classes, we appreciate the morning-only schedule,” says Mr. Jesse Southwick, a Physics 1 and AP Mechanics teacher.

With the school day being less than three hours, it is up to the students themselves to schedule the rest of their learning. This is where self-paced learning comes into play.

Self-paced learning “allows students to design their own learning experience, not only at their own pace but according to their own interests and learning preferences,” says iste.org. It “differs from the traditional teacher-led, whole-class lessons in that it allows students to use materials and resources to customize the



AP French students are currently experiencing a new environment through Zoom.

way they learn in class.”

Typically, BLS students rush from class to class trying to find enough time to complete homework, study for tests, and socialize with friends while also maintaining a healthy lifestyle. With our hectic daily schedules, it is easy to fall behind. Without the time-consuming rigid schedules, we normally follow, however, students have been able to recognize the importance of self-paced learning. It allows students to have more control over their learning and how they will best benefit from a lesson.

By learning at their own pace, students can figure out how they learn best, which is not only efficient but also more beneficial for students. Because every student is unique and

has distinct learning styles, teaching everyone the same content, in the same way, makes little sense. By allowing students to learn at their own pace, students are more likely to be engaged and focused. If you learn faster than the rest of the class, you can just continue moving ahead with the material, and if you learn slower, you can take the time to study the material. This is a win-win situation. Since everyone is in charge of their own learning, everyone gets a tailored learning style.

When asked about self-paced learning, Natalia Tam (II) says, “I really like it. Having the whole week’s schedule allows me to get ahead or save some day’s work for later and go at my own pace [...] I like being able

to get ahead on work in preparation for days when I know I’ll be busier, or just so I can be comfortable with my own pace.”

With the end of the school year in June comes the end of virtual classes, and hopefully we will return to BLS in the fall. This, however, does not need to mean the end of self-paced learning. Teachers should implement it into their classrooms, allowing both students and teachers to reap the benefits of more individualized feedback, attentive students and relevant questions. After seeing the positive results of self-paced learning, it would be foolish of us to leave it in the past once we return to school; rather, we should embrace it as a way to enhance the way we learn and teach.

Caveats of Globalization

By Catherine Wang (IV)

Staff Writer

Globalization is a defining phenomenon in this moment of history that has brought development and cooperation. Especially in this time of COVID-19, globalization has also led to new threats including the fuel of inequality, loss of jobs, exploitation of cheap labor and supply chain disruptions in times of crisis.

While globalization is not new, it has in recent decades shown steadier and more rapid progress, increasing in scale and affecting countries all over the world. Considering the downsides of globalization, which the pandemic has thrust into the spotlight, wealthy societies like America must do more to approach this process with caution and regulation.

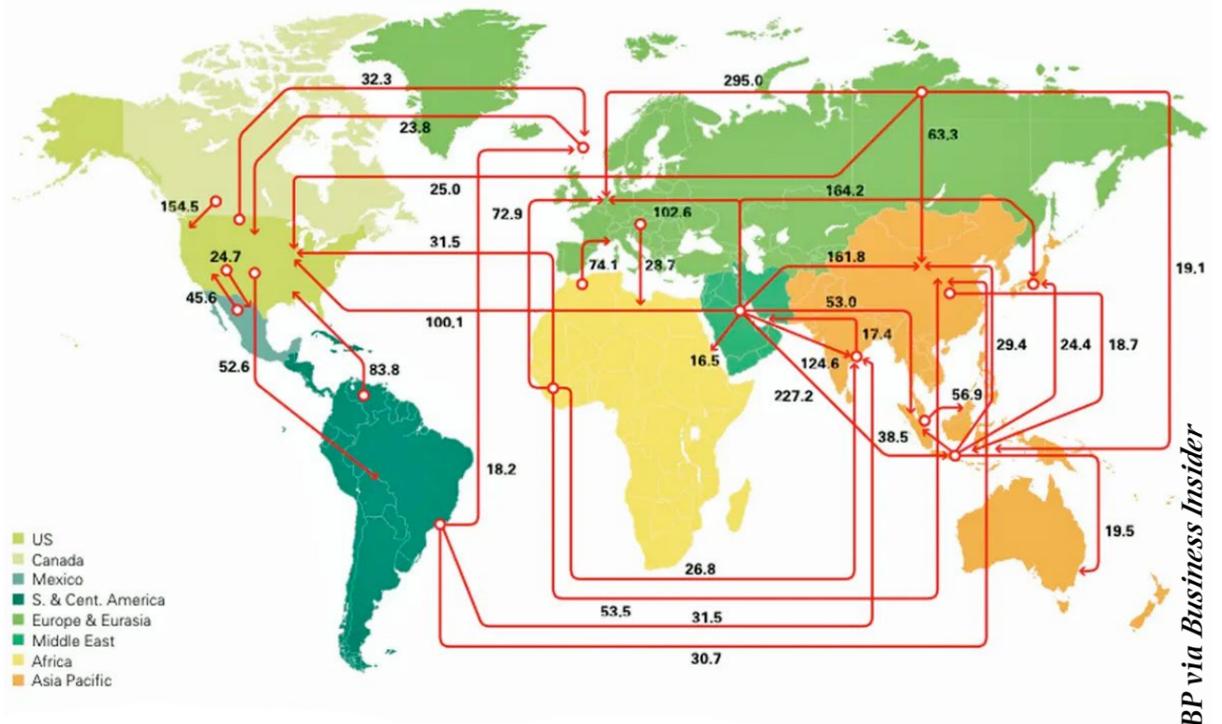
People and the environment often suffer significant consequences from globalization and its intense exchange of goods. Especially today, with the spread of the COVID-19, the U.S. is at a great disadvantage. Because we receive specific goods from multinational companies, we now cannot get items we require due to the pandemic, such as face masks from China. Many multinational corporations concentrate production of one industry in a particular area; in this unique time, this has led to a serious upset in the supply chain.

Globalization appears to be helpful for the privileged few, but the benefits are unevenly distributed.

Alice Liu, (III) vice president of the Boston Latin School Business Club argues, "Globalization is generally good for many developing countries who have access to our markets and can export cheap goods, multinational corporations and people like managers, owners and investors. But at the same time, it's not too great for people in the working class and it also accelerates deindustrialization."

Through globalization, the wages of certain segments of the workforce increase. In highly developed nations, this occurs in high-tech manufacturing and services sectors. These industries are dominated by highly skilled workers already drawn from the wealthiest segments of a population. Simultaneously, the poorer and lower-educated parts of society face heightened competition from cheap labor in less developed countries. Therefore, globalization is inflating the wages of the wealthiest sections of a developed society, while increasing inequality and leaving the poorer segments worse off.

Major trade movements 2013
Trade flows worldwide (million tonnes)



Globalization may currently be doing more harm than good.

In countries like the U.S., a general increase among the middle class has become less and less common, making the rich richer and the poor poorer. The McKinsey Global Institute finds that almost 70 percent of households have experienced flat or falling incomes in the last decade. This means that even in advanced economies like the U.S., Japan and Western Europe, a general increase in wealth among the middle class is becoming less and less common.

Globalization can lead to a loss of jobs and a decrease in productivity in the workforce. If a company moves production to an economically disadvantaged country, people in industrialized companies lose their jobs. While it may give locals more job opportunities, these workers are paid very little compared to those in industrialized countries. They remain poor and often lack sufficient insurance or benefits.

With businesses all over the world looking for a workforce to manufacture their products for their

business, many turn to cheap labor to supply them. This could even mean using child laborers who are forced to work in harsh conditions and receive far less than minimum wage. They ignore safety standards to produce cheap goods.

World History teacher Mr. Eric Cordeiro elaborates, "Currently, globalization has created inequality because nations use different standards in living. It allows for products to be made cheaper in areas, but that means workers are paid less."

Ultimately, globalization is by now well-integrated into the fabric of our world, and much good has come of it. We cannot and should not stop globalization, yet there are many policies and strategies that we must use to make it fairer. We can enforce trade laws, force competition to play by the same rules and hold corporations engaging in inhumane practices accountable. Only this way can we ensure that our world is defined by the good globalization can do, not the bad.

Lower Remote College Tuition



Should tuitions still be this high during remote learning?

By Graciela Berman Reinhardt (II)

Contributing Writer

Despite many colleges refunding parts of room and board fees, college tuition remains largely the same. This ignores the many services tuition normally provides, such as vital work-study and lab opportunities. Colleges are robbing students of both education and money by maintaining high tuition rates amid quarantine.

Even for students who can afford

the high costs of tuition, they are receiving only a portion of what they expected.

Danielle Augustin (I) explains that students "should be refunded at least half of tuition because within tuition comes the use of laboratories and research facilities."

These additional resources are an integral part of students' learning experience and are for much of what they are paying. Augustin's suggestion might even be a generous estimate

since *Business Insider* finds that only about 30 percent of tuition goes toward paying professors. This means that the remaining part goes toward college life and resources that students now cannot experience.

Many students also struggle with the sedentary school environment to begin with, and those students suffer even more under the new layout, Zoom call classes with faraway peers.

Stella Dzialas (I) says that "A lot of people don't really thrive in an online setting." She continues, "It's paralyzing, [...] if you're taking STEM courses, it's really difficult, especially if you have executive function disorder or ADHD."

The new learning environment is particularly difficult for students who had signed up for hands-on courses. This dramatic change is a total departure from their normal curriculum. In fact, for hundreds of thousands of students, this shift is not even workable.

More urgently, perhaps, is the case of the millions of students reliant on work-study programs to make their deposits.

Ms. Elyce Sweeney, a guidance counselor at BLS, says, "Knowing that there are students for whom work-study wages are critically important, I hope that colleges will find ways to support students most in need."

Indeed, it is critical to address this vulnerable portion of the student body, since so many are struggling more

than ever in the precarious COVID-19 environment.

For colleges who can afford it, lowering tuition would account for the significant loss in education students are experiencing.

Ms. Sweeney comments, "Colleges should make every effort to adapt to meet the needs of students and families."

But for too many colleges, this is simply not an option since they rely on their tuition income to stay afloat. In this case, colleges could potentially postpone semesters and extend them into the summer.

As Dzialas suggests: "For the fall, I don't think they should reopen, they should just push it back."

For colleges who would like to stay open, the students should not have to bear the brunt of the cost.

Ms. Alyssa Frank, Director of the Schawbel College Resource Center, says, "I think the government needs to step in and help right now especially, but I also would like to see a deeper investment from the government in higher education in general, both to the institutions themselves and to students."

Rather than forcing students to empty their wallets for an education they are not receiving, the government should dedicate a larger budget to supporting both students and institutions of higher education during this pandemic.

Best Memory

| | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|---|--|
| 03/10/20 | Cheesecake at Tatte with Isabella | Getting boba every Friday with friends | Italy trip 2020 | Morning breakfasts with my art table | Senior Math Seminar | tournaments (and the bag of salt) |
| 03/10/20 | Isabella | Getting boba with friends | Italy Trip 2020 | Moving on to METG semi-finals with BLS Theatre | Senior Pep Rally | Talking about IGOR a day after release in Spanish class |
| Accidentally getting stuck in a different state on the DC trip | Chegg Calc | Getting into college | Italy trip 2020 | Mr. Beyer 10th grade English | Senior rally | Tennis |
| All after school activities | Coronacion | Getting into my dream college | Italy trip during February break | Mr. Gavin beating us all in Mario Cart | Senior year | Tet Festival |
| All of AP Enviro | Crew | Getting into my dream college :) | Junior Prom | Mr. Simoneaus class | Senior year parties every weekend from september to december | Tet Festival 2020 |
| Angie and Yaliah "bullying" me on the way to French class | Crew regattas even when the weather was bad | Getting into my dream school in the middle of cheer tryouts | Junior year | Mr. Smith's Latin class | Sixie winter music night | That BLSVGC meeting where we just watched a tournament and had a party with the officers |
| Any time my class went on a field trip. Seriously, BLS, let your students go on more field trips. | Crying 3x after getting into my first choice college | Getting my first college acceptance | Kenya 2019 | Mr. Zou chasing Jason Tran le around the school | Sixie year rally | That time I went out the window..... |
| Any time with boys hockey across 4 years | Crying in Chinese class while simultaneously yelling at a certain Chinese teacher | Getting Starbucks/boba after school | Kenya trip | Ms. Foley's myth class | Sixie year winter concert | The AP World Study Group |
| AP Econ | D1 North Champs | Gio's crew | Kenya with my guy Mr. Barry and the gang | Ms. Yang Chinese Class | Skipping studies to go to the library during Sixie year | The Council |
| AP World with Mr. Gavin | Day 6, R6 student leadership in the music wing | Girls hockey states tournament | Kiddy pool gang at crew races | Myth Tradition with Ms. Foley | Sneaking into the nice girls' bathroom before every gym class in 9th grade | The game bus back from beating Matignon soophomore year |
| APUSH with Mr. Zou | Declamation in 9th grade with Ms. Grey | Girls lax | Lambda luau | Myth Trip 2019! | Snowball fight in Mr. Kerpan's Latin 4 class | The Italy trip |
| Arizona iced tea fights outside the main entrance | DeLand | Girls lax banner up x2 | Lambda Luau | Not playing great volleyball in gym with my best friends | Soccer Practice | The Italy trip |
| Art table junior year | Doing dumb stuff with friends | Girls' Lax: DCL Small Champs x2 | Lamda Luau | NYC 2020 | Softball senior night 2019 | The Laramie Project |
| Asia Night | DR Trip | Going through playoffs with the Volleyball team | Late night carpools | NYC Mingus trip!! | Sophomore year | The last day of school in 10th grade |
| Asian Night | Dr. Forman's 'sexy categories' | Going to Florida for Nattys with my girls! | Learning what happiness feels like in Kenya | Outdoor showers on the Kenya trip | Spanish with Ms. Williams | The senior cookout at the beginning of the school year. |
| Asian Night | Dr. Forman's class freshman year | Going to the Cave | Leaving | Pep Rallies | Spending time with friends and Cru | The sound of 2:15p.m. bell. |
| Asian Night 2019 | Dressing in a suit and eating pasta sixie year | Gov Senate Simulation | Leaving BLS | Pierogi in Eastern Europe | Spirit Day 2020 | The Xc team winning Halloween costumes dressed as trains |
| Asian Night 2019 | Dunks with Lisa and my train buddies | Graduating | Leaving R6 to go get Sami's (RIP) | Playing cards in class with my friends at the end of the school year (somehow I won?) | Spraining my ankle hitting the shoot at halloween 2k19 | Throwing sticks at each other in Kenya |
| Asian Night and Tet Festival :D | Eastern Europe 2019 | Greek class Junior year. | Leaving school early with my friends | Playing cricket with Mrs. Pinchem | Stargazing on the rooftop of the Reichstag in Berlin | Too many |
| Asian Night! | Eastern Europe 2019! | The WHOLE thing | Literally the second half of junior year... | Playing Der Eisendrache with the boys after school | Starting the Voulez-Vous circle at prom | Trips with Zou |
| Asian Night!! | Eating McDonalds on the basement floor with Audra before a track meet | Guild 2020 | Loudspeaker announcement before baseball game | Playing Der Eisendrache with the boys after school | Staying at school until 10 P.M. doing tech for theater | Unity talent show |
| Basically every AP Enviro class | Edinburgh 2019 | Hanging out with friends afterschool in the library | Lunch bunch | Playing Der Eisendrache with the boys after school | Staying for all of the improv shows and hanging out with my crazy friends | Ward DC |
| Basketball senior night | Edinburgh 2019 | Happy V Day | Lunch in the Black Box | Playing Der Eisendrache with the boys after school | Stepping in the unity talent show, where the entire team and routine was a mess | Watching El Internado with Miss Williams |
| Beating CC in soccer | Every time I've laughed with my friends | Hefty Hefty Hefty | Lunch Table Junior Year | Playing Der Eisendrache with the boys after school | Stopping the flood of 2019 above the main office | When a certain substitute teacher tried to give me a week of detention but he couldn't because he was my sub |
| #rollpack | Exploring the cave | Hefty Hefty Hefty | making friends and hanging out with them. | Playing Der Eisendrache with the boys after school | Stress free summers | Winning my first lacrosse game. |
| Beating English 3 years in a row | Field Trips | Hefty hefty hefty | Making it to state semifinals in hockey this year and 3 DCL banners | Playing Der Eisendrache with the boys after school | Student faculty talent show | Winning player of the year |
| Beating Newton North and winning D1 sectionals | First week of pandemic break | Hockey | Making lifelong friends | Preseason soccer trip | Student Leadership in the music wing | Winning the 4x8 All-State Championship |
| Being late for coffee | Football | Hockey Trips | Making the 1V | Prom and DotPot in the same weekend | Super Smash Bros. | Winning the DCL two seasons in a row |
| Birthing my earring in 8th grade girls bathroom | Freshman year putting bird seed on the window sills every day in Ms. Scott's math class. | Hockey | Making waffles in compsci class | Room 222 | | Yale with BLS Mock Trial |
| BLS Asian Night 2019 | Friday afternoon with Deitch Fellows | Holiday Sing-off 2019 | Making waffles in compsci class | Scream-singing before shows in theatre | | |
| Boys Freshman Cricket | Friday afternoons | Hunting toads with the squad | Managing the girls hockey team | Seeing the gregplant emote | | |
| Boys vs Girls Lacrosse game | Gabe Severin's HN party | I butt-dialed someone in class | Math class Mr. Walker | Semifinals for girls hockey | | |
| Buying and surprising Ms. Foley with a giant Olaf plushie for her bday with friends | Gabe's Holy Name Party | Italy 2020 | Meeting my best friend | Senior Cookout | | |
| Car rides to lacrosse practice | Getting an 80 on the Latin Prose final after straight 50s on all the other tests. | Italy 2020 | Meeting my best friends | Senior Hallweekends | | |
| | | Italy 2020 | Meeting my best friends by talking about throwing oranges in 9th grade | Senior kickoff | | |
| | | Italy Trip | Meeting my friends | Senior kickoff | | |
| | | Italy trip | Meeting with the boys in the Ms. Williams Bathroom | Senior kickoff and BLA football game | | |
| | | Italy Trip | Italy Trip 2020 | Senior kickoff and the insane football comeback that night | | |
| | | Italy Trip 2020 | MEFA trip with Ms. Webb :) | | | |

In Ten Years, You'll Find Me...

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|--|
| ...You won't | Broke | ated college, making some dough | Kickin it in the city | Missing my cue in Harry Potter and the Cursed Child on Broadway | Relaxing on a yacht with my best friends | Teaching history |
| 28 years old, and hopefully outside of my house by then | Broke | Hopefully wealthy | Legit no clue lol | More open and honest | Retired, traveling the world | Ten years older |
| A psychiatrist | CEO of Rapmon G Hospital | Hopefully with a career | Less attractive | More successful than the rest of you | Reviving stats4stem | Ten years older |
| A shell of the man I used to be | Completing my residency | Hopefully with my PhD | Living a happy life | Much happier than I was at BLS | Rich | Thinking about my bid for president |
| A struggling classics professor in either the UK or like, Wisconsin | Conquering the world | Hopefully writing books | Living in a cardboard box | Never lookin back | Rich and famous | Thriving |
| A veterinarian and having the time of my life | Continuing my residency (to be a pediatrician) | Hubby to crazy cat lady | Living in a foreign country | Nostalgic, this will all be a memory one day | Rich and whippin' a Rover | Thriving in LA |
| Alive | Covered in tattoos | I refuse to imagine myself older than 18, sorry... | Living in a giant house in the woods making candles | Not in Boston | Rich on a beach | Traveling around the world |
| Anywhere but BLS | Cruising at 38,000 feet | I will never be found | Living in a log cabin in Colorado | Not in Massachusetts! | Richhhhhh and pretty(ier) | Traveling the world |
| Anywhere but my house... please I'm sick of it here | Crying in the club | If you know you know | Living in my parents basement | On a rocketship to mars | Right back in Boston being dumb with Ajani lol | Traveling the world |
| As a cat mom hanging up live, love, laugh posters | Curing cancer | In a lab coat | Living in NYC/LA with a successful career in Entertainment | On Billboard's Hot 100 | Running a nature show | Traveling the world |
| As a CEO | Dining research for my PhD | In a police station | Living in Switzerland | On the streets of Boston | Running a professional sports team | Traveling the world |
| As a forensic psychologist | Directing some cool new show, probably | In Antarctica | Living in West Egg helping my rich best friend get with my distant cousin | On a yacht | Senior designer at a big company | Traveling the world as a job |
| As a park ranger | Discovering unicorns | In Asia | Living lavish (one way or another) | On my private island... jk I wish | Sharing a slice with the pizza rat in NYC | Traveling the world doing business |
| As a rich businessman | Doing my thing | In Berlin, being a starving artist | Living lavish as a dermatologist | On the back lawn counting down with random seniors trying to get some closure from high school | Showing up to Sunday league in a state | Traveling the world in search for the best beach |
| As a sheep herder in new Zealand | Doing something related to com sci hopefully and in Japan ideally | In California with a big house and a great engineering job | Living my best life | On the streets and spare me some change | Six feet under | Travelling |
| As a struggling artist probably | Drinking a cold one with the boys | In D.C living the dream and working in a hospital | Living my best life | On the streets next to Irene | Smashing Jinghong | Travelling the world; if not, wage-slaving |
| As a Taylor Swift look alike | Driving a Porsche | In grad school hopefully | Living my best life | On vacation | Somewhere | Twitter famous |
| As a triathlete | Driving around in a pickup truck listening to country music | In Italy or Madrid living my best life | Living my best life | On vacation in Aruba | Somewhere, hopefully | Watching sports |
| As an international spy | Face down in a ditch on the side of the interstate | In my McLaren | Living my best life | Online | Stable? | Watching TV in my apartment with my cat after a long day of work |
| As your boss | Far away from BLS | In my own cafe | Living my best life | Opening a bar in the Virgin Islands | Starting my residency | With a pregnant wife |
| At Amelia's Taqueria... but this time very wealthy | Flying for either Jetblue Airways or Delta Airlines | In my pediatric residency at Cleveland Clinic and HAPPY | Living my best life | Owning a business | Still attending BLS | With eight dogs |
| At Clemente...yktv :) | Getting my PhD in Italy | In New York City | Living my best life | Owning my own business | Still explaining the difference between socialism and communism | With my dream car, rich |
| At the arbs | Glamping in a yurt | In New York, reenacting the plot of Rent | Living with two dogs and a law degree, prob chiefin Loaded | Passing out Bibles in front of the school | Still hung up on the fact that we were seniors amidst a pandemic | Working |
| At the bank with a ski mask on. | Happier | In NYC living my best life forgetting almost all of you | Making a lot of money | Paying rent that's way too high | Still in Coachie's office | Working as a nurse practitioner and helping others |
| Back here teaching | Happy | In some music venue | Making it big on Wall Street | Planning to manage Willa's presidential bid | Still in the Fishing Club ;) | Working as a pediatrician |
| Backpacking the world, serving underserved communities and living life to the fullest | Happy (hopefully) | In surgical residency | Managing my own coffee shop | Probably in a bunch of debt | Still playing Animal Crossing | Working at McDonalds |
| Baking bread | Happy and rich | In the courtroom serving as a high profile lawyer | Married rich hanging out on a yacht looking tan and slim thick | Probably in Boston | Still trying to figure things out | Working at one of the top tech companies |
| Bartending in Chicago | Happy healthy and hot | In the FBI | Married to a frat boy named Kyle or Chad tbh | Probably still in school | Still without my license | Working for NASA |
| Becoming one with the swamp | Haunting the music wing | In the Longwood medical area, but not omw to BLS: I'll be making bank | Married to Post Malone | Probably teaching Latin | Struggling | Working for the Innocence Project |
| Being a crazy rich Asian | Having my midlife crisis | In the UK married to some rich guy | Married with kids | Probably still in school | Takin it sleazy | Working in a hospital as a doctor |
| Being a doctor | Head of a company hopefully | In the White House working for the EPA | Married, living in Europe and speaking 3 languages | Probably still in school | Taking down the systematic power structures that hurt minorities and the poor...or sleeping | Writing for the New Yorker & still having a folder on my phone dedicated to chihuahua pictures |
| Being a vet I hope | Hopefully happy | Investigating crime scenes | | Probably teaching Latin | Teaching at BLS | You won't |
| Being happy | Hopefully happy and surrounded by books (: | | | Regretting half of my life choices | Teaching high school English | You won't |
| Boolin | Hopefully more comfortable in my own skin | | | | | You won't find me |
| | Hopefully still alive, gradu- | | | | | |

I'd Like To Thank....For...

9th grade gym class...
giving me the best group of friends in the world (GECO)
A couple of my peers...
showing me everything I shouldn't do with my life
A friend... giving me
excedrin every time I had a migraine in the middle of class
Absolutely nobody
Alan...convincing me to join Bboy Club
All my friends...being amazing people and helping me through BLS
All my teachers who didn't call me out for sleeping in class
All my teachers...letting me eat in class
All of my teachers...always having my back
All of my teachers...making it hard, even though I hated it, y'all make us the best
All the great teachers... getting kids through
All the teachers...providing us a contemporary classical education
Anyone who's helped me during my time
ASIA Officers...Asian Night 2019
Audra Garvey...making every day so fun
Azhani and Sam...Sausage Eyeballs
B.L.A.C.K...making me laugh more than anything else.
Bella...listening to my problems
Caera...being da homie
Charlie's food truck... for triggering my breakfast sandwich addiction
Cooper...carrying me in valorant
Dante and the ungendered boys...everything
Donna Gee...being an amazing friend, more amazing than anyone can ask for
Edward Kearns...making Econ fun
Emma Kelly...being my best friend
Enyi...laughing at all my jokes
Ethan Chau...always giving me the best hugs
Everyone who has supported me on this journey through HS
Everyone...kindness
Everyone...making me know I am an awesome person
Frendz for making the past 6 years the best
Frendz...being the best friends ever
Friends...being super fun :)
Friends...giving me a reason to live
G...being the best faculty member at BLS
G...being the GOAT

Gio...being Gio. Thinking of you always
Girls tennis...being my second family
God...all this being over finally
Hemenway Variety...providing exquisite customer service to students
HILL...always being there <3
Isabella...pushing me into *Argo*
Jamaica Plain...giving me my best friends
Jill Sellon...helping me survive here
Joe Gels...letting me have my mental breakdowns in peace
Joe, Will, Owen, Danny and Abdul...getting our lunch table 'closed' every few weeks
Juliet Fitzgerald...being the funniest kid around
KACA...being the most lit ELA 11 table ever
Kaitlyn, Danica, and Callie...daily coding banter
Kaleigh...walking home with me all the time
Kayla...forgiving me
Kevin the janitor...making the third floor a little more memorable
Kit Li...being way too good to me, you deserve the world my guy
Lilah Conroy...being the best person in the class of 2022, I'll miss you <3
Lina and Kit...letting me drag you through AP Latin and Latin V w/ me
Maddie...always calming me down and keeping me sane
Mateo Daffin...always giving us everything he could even when he was the most stressed out person alive
Meredith, Zoe, and Helena...our morning walks
Mom...working so hard
Morgan...making junior and senior year the absolute best years of high school
Mr Finnigan...meeting with me every W-block to teach me latin 3 while I was in his Latin Prose class
Mr G...for always supporting me and making me laugh
Mr Hamilton...for being a real one
Mr Harris...being the greatest art teacher
Mr Kearns...being funny
Mr P...waiting for me to crutch down the hall
Mr Simoneau...being an absolute homie
Mr Beyer...being so chill and awesome
Mr Brownell...being such an awesome and fun teacher
Mr Brownell...Jackbox

games
Mr. C...getting me safely across the street, and getting me onto the train
Mr. Cordeiro...being the best homeroom teacher
Mr. Finnigan and Mr. Southwick...being great teachers
Mr. G...believing in me
Mr. Gavin...always letting me use his room
Mr. Gavin...being awesome and caring about students as people
Mr. Gavin...being such a sweetheart
Mr. Gavin...being the best homeroom teacher ever!
Mr. Gavin...keeping my head up
Mr. Gavin...telling me to be excellent
Mr. Gay...actually teaching relevant stuff
Mr. Gay...being the only chill & cool teacher in the school
Mr. Gay...being the realest teacher
Mr. Gay...giving me \$5
Mr. Gay...inspiring the Bathroom Dancers
Mr. Gay...keepin it real
Mr. Gay...letting me always come to his room
Mr. Gay...letting me crash all of his classes when I didn't want to go to mine
Mr. Gay...letting me visit everyday
Mr. Gay...my first ever A in a science class
Mr. Giacobazzi...being an absolute dawg
Mr. Gibbons...straightening the annoying eighth grader me out
Mr. Golden...driving me to school everyday, you're the goat
Mr. Hamilton...teaching me to like math
Mr. Harris...being a sweetheart
Mr. Harris...being the goat
Mr. Harris...defending me when Shumin bullies me <3
Mr. Harris...everything
Mr. Harris...letting me go to his room even though he's not my teacher
Mr. Howard...being the best teacher ever
Mr. Howard...bringing us food all the time
Mr. Howard...goating me A's in Latin
Mr. Kearns and Mr. Gavin...not waking me up
Mr. Kearns...being a great guy
Mr. Kearns...playing music in class every day
Mr. Levesque...being the chilliest administrator and mentor
Mr. Levesque...helping me to get to where I am today
Mr. McQuade...returning my confidence in mathe-

tics
Mr. Mulhern...holding everything down during time of change
Mr. Oakes...being the first teacher to care about me
Mr. Oakes...motivating me through English 9
Mr. Rinaldi...all the life advice he gave during class, I applied some of it and it changed my life for the better
Mr. Rinaldi...for giving me real guidance and giving me a path in life
Mr. Rinaldi...helping me conquer APUSH
Mr. Rinaldi...his beard
Mr. Rinaldi...making me a more complete human being
Mr. Rinaldi...the Rick and morty conspiracies and the intellectual talks about life
Mr. Simoneau...teaching me so much about statistics
Mr. Sullivan...having the best-structured English class
Mr. Sullivan...the best philosophy, english lessons, and face
Mr. Veiga...teaching us more about nothing than calculus
Mr. Walker...being the most amazing person in the world
Mr. Walker...making math fun
Mr. Zou and Mr. Rinaldi...being real ones
Mr. Zou...being an absolute king and supporting us no matter what
Mr. Zou...carrying me on that Spanish Final
Mr. Zou...funnest history class ever
Mr. Zou...positivity
Mrs. Craven and Mr. G...always being there
Mrs. Delorme, Ms. Sarkis, Mr. Gavin, Mr. Rinaldi, Ms. Pinchem and my girls...making BLS bearable, believing in me and never letting me give up
Mrs. Kirkpatrick and Ms. Webb...being the best teachers at BLS
Mrs. McKenna...listening to me
Mrs. Myette for taking me to Italy
Ms Ellsworth...making Bio interesting
Ms. Arnold...always being there for me
Ms. Arnold...making me laugh
Ms. Barich for teaching me to write semi-competentlu
Ms. Barich...teaching me so much
Ms. Clougherty...always having my back
Ms. Clougherty...being my absolute rock and having long conversations with me in the hallways or re-

sponding to my "hi"s with just as much cheerfulness.
Ms. Clougherty...everything she has done for me over the past 6 years
Ms. E...constantly listening to my problems
Ms. Elliott...making government even more interesting
Ms. Fernandez...seeing me when I was struggling
Ms. Foley...being a literal goddess
Ms. Foley...being one of the best teachers ever and for teaching a class that I genuinely looked forward to everyday
Ms. Foley...being such an amazing and chill teacher
Ms. Foley...being the queen she is
Ms. Freeman, Ms. Foley, Ms. Sylvester, Mr. Oakes, Ms. L.A. and Ms. Moon... getting me through BLS and helping me thrive
Ms. Freeman...the duck
Ms. Freeman...changing my life
Ms. Gribaudo...being the only teacher that could actually teach me math
Ms. L.A...being the best math teacher I've ever had
Ms. L.A...making me love Calculus
Ms. McKenna, Ashley Smith, and John Nguyen... being there for me when I got rejected from my ED school on music night twenty minutes before my call time
Ms. McKenna...being my second mother for six years
Ms. McKenna...loving us too much
Ms. McKenna...pushing me to finish my 11th grade paper
Ms. Moguel...teaching me to 'always wear underwear'
Ms. Moran...giving me the best student leadership job
Ms. Pierce and Ms. Kwan... always being there for me <3
Ms. Pinchem...being an unapologetic black woman and role model
Ms. Pinchem...helping me realize what I want to do in the future
Ms. Sarkis and RD...always listening to me and being there when I needed them
Ms. Sarkis, Ms. Elliott, Mr. Harris...being the incredible
Ms. Sarkis...being one of the only teachers to truly believe in me.
Ms. Sarkis...being supportive and loving for all 6 years
Ms. Sarkis...joining our Zoom lunch and being Lebanese
Ms. Sarkis...teaching me to love math

Ms. Scott...encouraging me to follow my passion in the arts
Ms. Segal...supporting and helping me all these years
Ms. Skerritt...being the dopest headmaster to ever do it
Ms. Skerritt...being supportive :)
Ms. Skerritt...putting the effort to show that she truly cares about the students
Ms. Sweeney...being an amazing guidance counselor and always having my back.
Ms. Verano...always having my back
Ms. Walshak...being such an inspiring and supportive teacher
Ms. Webb...being an awesome teacher :)
Ms. Webb...excusing all my tardies
Ms. Webb...excusing my tardies when I would come in late for no reason :)
Ms. Webb...forgetting some of my tardies :)
Ms. Williams...being the best teacher ever, I'm going to miss you
Ms. Yang...the hot water
Ms. Zocca...reading my college essay a million times
Ms. Clougherty...being the best guidance counselor ever
Ms. Myette...Italy 2020, and teaching Italian
My art table...celebrating #tweeetuesday with me
My buddies...being the only good part of BLS for the most part
My dad...always having my back <3
My family...for teaching me how to work with background noise and not putting pressure on me
My friends and family... loving me and believing in me through good times and bad
My friends...always being by my side
My friends...becoming my family these last few years
My friends...being there
My friends...being there for me
My friends...dealing with me
My friends...helping me :)
My friends...listening to my constant boy problems
My friends...not making high school so miserable
My friends...putting up with my weirdness
My friends...the support that they provided me
My Mom and Dad...helping me make forward-thinking choices with perspective and insight for a successful future
My plugs...keeping me happy

My senior teachers...being my favorite people in the building
My teachers...everything
My teachers...putting up with me constantly doing no work
My wonderful friends... keeping me sane
Myself...everything
Myself...not dropping out.
Myself...not giving up
No one...nothing
Nolan Ward...being the goat and a great friend to me this year
Nurse Healy...being herself
Physics...making me cry
RD and Ms. Pinchem... being my rocks during my time at BLS
Sami's...providing us with the best coffee until it lasted School...some of my best friend that I hang out with today
Shumin+Vicky <3... always being there for me
Simoneau...not marking me late
Step squad...showing me a family.
Stephen...the hot chocolate
The 2019 baseball team... being eye candy
The Academy...this Honor
The boys hockey team throughout the years.... being nice to look at
The boys...helping me graduate in one piece
The class of 2020... making school something we all miss
The Council... being homies
The custodian Martha... being a kind soul
The custodians ... being the actual kindest people ever with the best bops on the 2nd floor
The distance boys...always eating fries with me at mass art
The Eggs...being by my side for all six years
The Football team...some of my best memories at BLS
The girls crew team... making the past 4 years so much fun
The homies...getting me through it
The nurses...always being there for me
The nurses...being the most helpful faculty members
The nurses...dealing with my crying
The nurses...keeping me alive and functioning for 6 years
The sophomores and juniors in my physics class... for doing everything
These quizzes...stressing me out
Track...giving me my best friends

Spotlight on...

Isabella Tran



By Lina Zhang (I)
Contributing Writer

During quarantine, I only talk to three people daily: my mom, my dad and Isabella. Having spent most of our days together prior to lockdown, it's hard to "social distance" our friendship, but we've been trying to make it work via late-night Discord calls and movie streams on Netflix Party.

I met Isabella during sixie year, when we were assigned to the same homeroom. I don't really remember much from then, besides the time when Isabella brought a whole carton of chocolate ice cream to school and devoured it during lunch. It melted everywhere, and we were those annoying sixies sitting in the senior section, but it didn't matter to Isabella at all. That was probably the first time I realized, "Wow, this girl is different."

We became friends over that year and have stayed close ever since. I've watched and been there with her since she was a lost girl interested in pursuing a career in STEM to now, where she's still kind of a lost girl, but also an in-

credible writer who I know I'll be hearing about in the future.

Reflecting on our friendship, I've found that we've had some of our closest moments when we're crying together. And boy, do we cry a lot. "Embarrassment" is not a word in our dictionary. I like to blame this on the fact that she's a Cancer, but I really think we're just two emotional peas in a pod. We've probably cried in every room at BLS, including, but not limited to: bathrooms, the *Argo* room and the band room. I guess it's weird that we connect by being sad together, but that's just the person that Isabella is. She'll never admit it, but she's a ball of positive energy, perfectly aligning with my pessimistic outlook on life. Her positive energy is just one of the many reasons I love her so much, and why her presence around BLS is always a welcome one.

One thing I admire most about Isabella is her humility. She is the last person to ever boast about her achievements, no matter how

amazing they are, so I've made sure to gas her up any opportunity I get. From getting accepted into Harvard, to being Editor-in-Chief of the *Argo*, to being the best track and field athlete I've ever seen — Isabella's done it all, but you'll never hear her bragging about it. She gets mad every time I gas her up, but it must be done, and I hope that when we separate and go off to college, she'll find someone who'll commend her for everything that she accomplishes even better than I can.

Isabella, I hope that you'll enjoy being at Harvard and just have fun. Although you're stressed about what you'll do in your future and your career choice and whatever. I know that you'll find the path that's meant for you and be successful with whatever you plan to do. Next year, we may be 2.4 miles away from each other instead of 2.4 feet, but I'll still come and get *shabu* with you at least every few months. You will do amazing things, and I hope that no matter what happens, you'll always be my "sic sic" boy.

One Piece of Advice I Have For....Is...

2020...cherish every moment
 2020...don't get worse
 21...enjoy it more than we could
 7th and 8th graders...take school seriously from the start of freshman year
 8th graders...chill
 8th graders...don't take Advanced Algebra 2
 8th graders...please use deodorant
 8th Graders...try next year so you don't regret your freshman grades
 A certain guidance counselor...stop taking kids' phones at lunch
 Aidan Tran...be nicer to your sister
 All BLS students...don't take your time here for granted, it goes by ridiculously fast
 All the students is shoot your shot...no one will remember unless it's real bad.
 All the students...don't take your time at BLS for granted because it may be shorter than you think
 Anyone at BLS...don't save all of your apps for winter break
 Anyone in APES...please don't give a presentation on the Taj Mahal and accidentally show a picture of a random building in Europe, people WILL notice and they WILL say something
 Anyone not trying in school right now...TRY!
 You will regret it come senior year
 Anyone that is stressing...just take some time to relax and not worry too much about work, you will survive, just enjoy life right now
 Anyone...believe in your abilities and go live your best life
 Anyone...BLS is special, take advantage of your resources
 Anyone...don't take it for granted
 Ash Albert...never stop being the amazing human being you are
 BLS Girls Crew...make sure Conor knows I miss him, appreciate him as a person and coach, and bring home the medals, I'll be watching
 BLS students...don't procrastinate
 BLS students...learn time management
 BLS students...take risks and do what you love with your free time
 BLS students...tardy censure notices aren't real
 BLS theater...never stop making it weird
 Brendan Cadogan...please stop being the best twin
 Bsie...actually try in Latin class with studying and

doing the homework
 Bsies...don't compare yourself to other freshmen
 BSIES...DON'T TAKE LATIN PROSE
 Chloe...don't be stupid
 Christina Zhu...remember me when you get tiktok famous
 Class of 2021... STAY OUT OF TROUBLE. Can't tell you how many times I've had to go to an assembly cuz y'all don't know how to not get caught
 Class of 2021...chill
 Class of 2021...go to as many senior/BLS functions as you can because you never know when it could be gone and you'll miss it so much
 Class of 2021...STOP, but also have fun next year
 Class of 2023...get your act together
 Co '21...don't take your senior year for granted
 Cooper...stop making girls cry
 Cooper...stop simping
 Corona...go away
 Don't try in 8th grade
 Don't get caught lacking
 Don't be discouraged, work hard
 Eighth graders...buckle down for freshman year because your GPA actually matters starting then, so try hard
 Eighth graders...ditch your toxic friends pls
 Elliot Bruntrager...do your work
 Emma...don't take physics
 Evan...learn those baritone scales
 Everybody...be able to laugh at everything including yourself
 Everybody...stop worrying about your grades so much and stop comparing yourselves to others
 Everyone...actually try
 Everyone...apply to the colleges that will make you happy, not just the big names
 Everyone...appreciate every moment
 Everyone...chill out
 Everyone...do NOT be jealous of any "cool" kid or group
 Everyone...do what's best for you in the moment
 Everyone...don't abandon hobbies or things that your passionate about just because other people/friends don't like it
 Everyone...don't draw little turds on your test then try to erase them, the teacher will find them.
 Everyone...don't run to get school lunch because it's not worth it
 Everyone...don't take AP Calc BC
 Everyone...don't take life too seriously
 Everyone...don't take your "school friends" for

granted
 Everyone...don't wait until the last minute to do homework
 Everyone...Donald Trump is your president
 Everyone...enjoy the little moments at BLS because you never know when they're gonna be gone
 Everyone...enjoy your time at BLS
 Everyone...find good friends, they can change everything
 Everyone...hard work pays off
 Everyone...have fun
 Everyone...if you try to invest your mind in actually learning and being somewhat interested in the material, it makes it a lot easier to do well
 Everyone...it's gonna be okay
 Everyone...live life, enjoy
 Everyone...practice kindness, you really never know what someone else is going through
 Everyone...praelect in the library! (it even has AC!)
 Everyone...take a class because you like the subject not because it's "easy" or has little work
 Everyone...take classes you enjoy rather than classes you think will look good on college apps, you'll regret it trust me
 Everyone...take time to chill and have fun, it'll all work out in the end
 Everyone...walk faster in the hallways, please
 Everyone...watch B99
 Everyone...you do you
 Everyone...you shouldn't disrespect your president
 Freshman...actually do your work and try because it will pay off, don't give up!!
 Freshman...B's aren't that good
 Freshman...do NOT take harder/AP classes just because everyone else is
 Freshman...you can do better than you think you can
 Freshman...your grades matter
 Freshman...your grades matter NOW
 Freshmen...don't crave for attention
 Freshmen...start everything early
 Future and current BLS students...at least you didn't end your senior year with a pandemic
 Future BLS kids...grades aren't everything, Do what's best for YOU, not what's best for your report card or for the school
 Get good freshman year grades.
 Girl's Basketball Team...try and have fun without me
 Girls...don't waste your time on him, he ain't even

that cute
 Gregory Ortiz...stop flirting with the freshmen
 Gwen...find GOOD friends
 Haochen Zhang...do your homework and join clubs
 Have fun while you can, don't wait on it
 Isabella Massarelli...make those movies!
 Jacqueline...don't let spaghetti noodles upset you in college
 Joe Jackson...never change
 Josh Emokpac...keep networking, those connections will take you far
 Juliette...don't let the ball in the net
 Junior...vote when you can, it's actually important
 Juniors...get it together
 Juniors...do not take senior year for granted
 Juniors...don't stress it really doesn't matter that much
 Juniors...don't stress over senior year, you'll be fine
 Juniors...don't stress too much for college apps
 Juniors...don't miss me too much
 Juniors...enjoy it while it lasts
 Juniors...enjoy the second half of senior year :(Juniors...please don't take senior year for granted
 Juniors...please make the most out of your senior year
 Juniors...sometimes the higher ranked school isn't the right one for you. Go with your gut!
 Juniors...start breaking ties with all your fake friends.
 Juniors...start financial aid early
 Juniors...start working on your essays and applications the summer before senior year
 Juniors...stop slacking you can do that next year
 Juniors...take advantage of your senior year
 Juniors...take AP Gov
 Juniors...take the college process super seriously
 Juniors...you think you know senioritis, but you don't, but when it does hit, DON'T GIVE INTO IT ONCE YOU DO THERE'S NO COMING BACK
 Keep grinding
 Ladies...NEVER excuse or ignore a red flag
 Lem Yu...to curb the anime addiction
 Lucy Heffernan...actually try in 9th grade because it matters and keep being amazing!
 Mackenzie Flynn...you are awesome-don't let anyone tell you otherwise
 Mae...do your homework
 Mock Trial...keep vibing I love y'all
 Mr. Spezzano...improve on the dad jokes
 My brother...don't drive

Mom and Dad crazy while I'm gone PLEASE
 My fellow black students...do not let anyone tell you that you are not worthy or that you do not deserve to be here. You worked for it and if you need help THERE IS HELP you just have to speak up!
 My fellow seniors...if someone seems sad, check in on them; ask how their day was and really listen
 My future self...stop worrying so much and be more adventurous
 My hispanics...prove them all wrong
 Myself...be happy.
 Myself...stop underestimating yourself!
 Myself...your friends ain't really your friends
 Nuala...stay in school
 OJ Sullivan...skip as much school as possible
 Olivia Sullivan...clean your room
 Olivia...do what makes you happy and don't care what other people think
 Owen Ob...wake up space donkey
 Owen...stop getting caught
 People not social distancing...stop complaining about being in quarantine bc y'all are the problem
 Quinlan & Reagan O'Brien...remember me when you're famous
 Raini...papa loves you
 Rising freshmen...don't take Advanced Algebra 2
 Rising seniors...don't take your senior year for granted, because before you know it it could be gone
 Rising seniors...push hard until the 3rd term
 Rising seniors...take time early on to focus on yourself and figure out what you want to accomplish this year, and try to get everything done while you can. You never know what might happen...
 Shane Sullivan...keep your head up
 Shane Sullivan...WAKE UP
 Sixie me...it takes time to find your true friends
 Sixie...always check over your work
 Sixies and everyone...just try
 Sixies!...just fail your classes plz
 Sixies...actually pay attention in Latin
 Sixies...be yourself and don't take AP Bio
 Sixies...bring your own lunch
 Sixies...challenge a senior to a fight to try and make a statement
 Sixies...ditch the rolling backpack
 Sixies...don't be so stressed
 Sixies...don't do community service hours and hope for a pandemic senior year
 Sixies...don't take what

sixie teachers say too seriously
 Sixies...don't worry about judgement from others, everyone is as insecure as you are behind their walls
 Sixies...don't join JCL
 Sixies...don't leave things for the last moment
 Sixies...eighth grade is the best year so enjoy it
 Sixies...find a good plug
 Sixies...it's not that deep
 Sixies...join any clubs that you find interesting
 Sixies...join clubs now because it definitely matters
 Sixies...leave while you can
 Sixies...pay attention during Latin because unfortunately you have to take it for the next 4 years
 Sixies...please use your time wisely, time flies
 Sixies...start saving up for college now
 Sixies...stop running
 Sixies...try everything, and don't be afraid to be too ambitious
 Sixies...try new things and meet new people
 Sixies...try not to take yourselves so seriously and try to have fun
 Sixies...wear goddamn deodorant
 Sixies...work hard now so senior year isn't as stressful
 Sixies...you have time to get to your classes, there's no need to rush to your class and drag people down the stairs
 Sophomores in my chem class...have fun your junior year and don't stress
 Sophomores...don't take AP Latin it's not worth it I promise
 Sophomores...get US2/APUSH out of the way junior year
 Sophomores...humanities
 Sophomores...pick your classes very carefully
 Sophomores...take classes you'll enjoy not classes for college
 Stay true to yourself
 Students at BLS...don't stress over school so much, enjoy your time in high school because you never know what may happen
 Students...don't pretend to be someone you're not
 Students...make friends with teachers
 Taylor...visit us
 Tiffany Yu...don't put so much pressure on yourself
 Treasha...drink milk
 Underclassman...don't stress too much
 Underclassmen...all carts are fake (especially TKOs and Glos)
 Underclassmen...appreciate every second with their friends before everyone leaves
 Underclassmen...become friends with people who's first letter of their last name is close to yours

(you'll be in hr with these people for 2 yrs)
 Underclassmen...chill
 Underclassmen...do what you love or take the time to explore what you love instead of wasting time
 Underclassmen...don't drop out, keep pushing
 Underclassmen...don't get so caught up in your grades, it's important to do a good job in school but make sure you're putting yourself first and taking care of yourself/your mental health
 Underclassmen...don't overdo your eyebrows
 Underclassmen...don't stress yourself out too much, it will all be okay
 Underclassmen...don't take Creative Writing
 Underclassmen...don't wish away your time in high school
 Underclassmen...don't take facing
 Underclassmen...find an adult in the building you trust who cares about you
 Underclassmen...go to every party you can
 Underclassmen...good luck
 Underclassmen...have fun, it will all be gone one day
 Underclassmen...if you're already late to class/school, might as well make it count
 Underclassmen...it'll all work itself in the end
 Underclassmen...join sports teams they will become your family
 Underclassmen...men your age are trash always go older
 Underclassmen...put yourself out there and actually do things that interest you, don't hold yourself back because you're scared of rejection
 Underclassmen...you're not as cool as you think you are
 Upcoming seniors...please prepare for you SAT
 Yellow submarine improv troupe...improv is a place for everyone to have fun and be comfortable, whatever you guys face, you can work through together!
 You...wash your hands
 Younger students...join clubs you can make some of your best friends that way
 Younger students...to blur the lines of cliques cause you could find best friends that way
 Younger students...try your best
 Youngins... be friends with Mr. Lane and Ms. Webb, that will save you from tardy detention
 Younglings...don't believe in yourself. Get help if possible. Throw away that pride and make life easier

Spotlight on... Lina Zhang



By Isabella Tran (I)
Editor-In-Chief

On August 30 (a Virgo, duh), Lina Zhang, the single most amazing specimen to grace this Earth, was born. The world was unprepared for all of the photopea editing *skillz* and phone-snatching selfies that were to come. Despite the obstacle of social distancing, I've been seeing Lina's beautiful face more than ever during quarantine as she slumps on her bed and scrolls through TikTok. Either sleeping on a group Discord call while the rest of us try screaming to see if Sleeping Beauty will awaken from her deep slumber or trying a new AHA BHA peel from the Ordinary and handing out skincare advice to her unfortunately acne-prone pals (me).

Thank you, Lina, for being hands down, the best person to have graced

BLS's grimy halls infested with rats and eighth-graders.

After six years of friendship, I feel like we've changed very little from our sixie year selves. You still tower over everyone, and I wear heels to match up. You never fail to make me laugh hard enough that I get abs despite doing no core exercises, and you are always down for hotpot/boba/sushi/soup dumplings at a moment's notice. No one else in this place is as brutally honest and equally hilarious as you are. And truly, no one else can compete with your unique ability to be awake when I'm crying at the crack of dawn with no one else to text (except for maybe Francis, but that boy doesn't sleep to begin with).

Thank you for struggling through Latin with me, from the OG king Bradford Smith

to our current Magister Howard, despite us both still not knowing how gerundives work. Thank you for letting me meme your pictures we took at Petco while waiting in the infinitely long Spring Shabu Shabu queue. Thank you for sticking to the clarinet so we can have our study periods align and spend said studies gossiping in the library instead of doing anything productive. I honestly shouldn't be gassing you up this much, but after six long years of tolerating my subpar humor and writing me birthday letters that I know you grumble about, you deserve it.

Catch this icon next year at Tufts (where you will find me, napping and crashing her dorm) and continuing her attempt at wooing the hottest married man of *Stardew*, Demetrius.

Senior Shoutouts

Ahern, Ray:

Congrats Ray! Dream big, stay positive, work hard and enjoy the journey! So proud of you! Love Mom, Dad, Callie, Thomas and Cullen

Alexander, Samantha:

Congratulations Samantha you made it! May God be with you as you continue on your educational journey. Love Dad, Mom and Atarah

Baldassari, Ava:

Congratulations Ava! You dreamed, you believed, you worked hard and achieved. We are so proud of you! Good luck at Harvard! Love, Mom, Dad and Olivia

Batista-Poblete, Leonardo:

We are very proud to congratulate our son Leo Batista Poblete, who in his senior year, rose up, met his goal and now is headed to UMass Amherst!

Blackett, Aaliyah:

I am so very proud of the woman that you became during these past four years, and I can not wait to see how you grow in the next chapter of your life.

Bodden, Ligeia:

Congrats on your graduation!

Borden, Anthony:

CONGRATS! You made it! Can't wait to see what comes next. We are so proud of you, love, Mom, Dad and William!

Bosch, Cooper Calhoun:

"Tu es in sua societate heroum"

Bova, Joseph:

Joseph, congratulations. We are so proud of you. Keep reaching for those stars. Nothing is out of your reach. We love you. Mom and dad

Browall, Lily:

Dear Lily, You DID it!! Congratulations on your graduation from BLS! Next is BU in the fall! We could not be prouder of you. Love Mom, Dad and Emma

Buxton, Jennifer:

Congratulations Jennifer Buxton! Love Dad, Mom, Andrew and Katie

Cadogan, Brendan:

Congratulations Brendan Cadogan! You have done a great job at BLS and your future is unlimited. Love, Mom, Dad, Kaleigh and Chris

Cadogan, Kaleigh:

CONGRATS Kaleigh Cadogan! You are talented, hard working, thoughtful and kind. We are so proud of you. Way to go! Love, Mom, Dad, Chris and Brendan

Catino, Lucia Lourdes:

Give them your best...It never was between you and them... (MT) We are so proud of you and all you have accomplished. *Ti vogliamo bene Lucia!*

Chalmers, Scott Matthew:

Scott, we are proud of who you are! A country song in action, you're always a 'HUMBLE and KIND' ginger and great guy admired by many and loved by all!

Chau, Ethan:

We've always known that you will overcome your hurdles and reach this moment. Believe that you can, and you will! Proud of you dear, Congratulations!

Cheever, Samuel:

Congrats to Sam Cheever! Band, Theater, EPHC, YouthCAN and QuizBowl! So proud of you and all you've accomplished! BLS '20 UPenn '24 Love Mom, Dad and Sadye

Chen, Charlotte:

Congratulations, Charlotte! With hard work and laughter, you did this. We are so very proud of you. - Mumma, Daddy and Sunday

Chojnowski, Sara:

Congrats Sweet Sara! We are so proud of you and everything you have accomplished both personally and academically. Cheers to the journey ahead!! KTF

Cleary, Breann:

Way to go Breann! So proud of you. Can't wait to see what the future holds. You will soar. We love you! vballcaptainMVP.SMASH. greenhillssugarcookie

Clougher, Kelly:

Congratulations, Kelly! We are so proud of you! Love Mom, Dad, Patrick and Brendan

Codiga, Leo:

Rowing, Dues Band alto sax, JP soccer, NEC/Berklee ensembles, JA logos, futsal keeping, physics in Russia, Big Band and tenor solos. So proud! Love, M&D

Cooke, Kaitlin Bridget:

Beyond proud of your resilience and strength facing loss of beloved lacrosse season, last semester and traditional rites of passage as a senior. - Mom

Cradock, Caimin:

You are the man, Caimin. We're so proud of you and all you've accomplished. We can't wait to see what you do next. Love, Mom, Dad and Finn

Datish, Anthony:

Congratulations Anthony Datish! We're so proud of you and excited to see what the future holds! Love, Mom, Dad and Peter

Day, Julian C. :

Congratulations Julian and class of 2020! Thanks to BLS for six great years, and the BLS soccer community for many good times on the sidelines! The Day Family

DeRosa, Julia:

We are so proud of you Julia and the class of 2020. You are a bright light. Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Sumus Primi!

Doherty, Jolie:

Congratulations, we are so proud of you and best of luck at George Washington University!

Dougherty, Bridget C. :

Congratulations and very, well done, Bridgie! You have made us very proud, every day. Your growth and success this year were magnificent. We love you!

Duncan, Cait Lizaveta:

Cait, We are proud beyond belief of your studies, your heart and your passion. Congratulations on your graduation! Love, Mom, Dad and Ellie

Dwyer, Carolyn:

So proud of your accomplishments; prouder of the amazing woman you are becoming. Stay kind, funny, strong, and stay You — you will do great!

Dwyer, Robin D'Arcy:

Congratulations, Robin! We are so proud of you!!! Love, Mom and Nick xoxo #sumusprimi

Dzialis, Stella:

Stella, your light shines bright. May you never lose your curiosity, your passion and your grit. Can't wait to see where life takes you. We love you!

Ehrman, Olivia:

Olivia Kate will create science and art just to start with her big brain and her loving heart in grand style and a kind smile. We love you, Olivia Kate

Encarnacao, Sofia Rose:

Mom, Dad and your brothers are very proud of you. You have worked so hard these past six years and we know you will rock UMASS Amherst. Love you!

Erazo, Giancarlo:

Dear son, I'm very proud of the person you've become. I'm sure this is one of the many accomplishments you'll have in life. Congrats!

Flagg, Matthew:

Congratulations Matt! We're so proud of all that you've accomplished and the man that you've become! Now go make some memories! Love, Mom, Dad and David

Fleming, Eliza Kathrine Ermina:

Lizzie, As you set out on your greatest adventure, we know that whatever road you take, you will make us very proud. Love Mom, Dad, Sean and Ari

Flynn, Madelyn:

Congrats Maddie Flynn! "You're off to GREAT PLACES! Today is your DAY! Your Mountain is waiting So get on your WAY! So PROUD of U love M&D CatieKenzJohn

Ford, Erin:

It's not the day you had hoped for, but we couldn't be prouder or love you more. Congratulations! Mom & Dad

Frost, Morgan:

Morgan, I am so proud of your hard work, your leadership and your love of engaging with ideas. You will take the world by storm. I love you, mom.

Gallagher, Ashley:

We are so amazed at how smart, caring and wonderful you are. Always remember that you are stronger than you seem and loved more than you'll ever know

Gannon, Melissa:

Congratulations. Follow your heart. Continue to be fun, loving and a good friend. Stand tall and stay sweet. We are proud. Love Mom, Dad and Johnny

Garvey, Audra:

Audra - YOU ROCK!! Congrats on surviving BLS. What doesn't kill you makes you stronger. Love from your adoring parents and biggest fans. xoxo

Gjanci, Matthew:

Congratulations, Matthew Gjanci! *Urimet më të ngrohta! Suksese në UMASS Amherst dhe suksese në jetë! Të duam shumë, Mami, Babi dhe Stephanie.*

Godfrey, Alta:

Go Alta Girl! Congratulations, we are so proud of you! Live to ski. Ski to die. Ski as fast as you can! Love, Mom and Dad.

Gonzalez, Gavriella Elena:

Gavi, we know that there are great things in your future as you constantly fill us with pride and amaze us. We love you! Love, Mom, Ima, Isa and Mateo

Senior Shoutouts

Goonan, Colleen:

Congratulations, Colleen! We are so proud of you! Love, Mom, Dad, Tommy, Ryan and Jack

Griffith, Elizabeth Katherine:

Congrats Elizabeth! Mom, Dad, Joey, Nana and Papa are SO proud of you. We can't wait to see all of the great things you'll do at Holy Cross. LOVE YOU!

Grimes, Gabriel Solano McMahan:

So proud of all your hard work over these 12 years! Much love and respect as you go on to this next exciting step in your life!

Habib, Natalie:

Hey, look at you now! Congratulations, we are so so proud! Mom and Dad

Hall-Brown, Raina:

Congratulations, Raina Hall-Brown! You persevered, and you conquered! With love and pride, Mom and Dad

Hansen, Mackenzie:

Mackenzie, we are proud beyond words of all you've accomplished. We can't wait to see what you will do next! Love Mom, Dad, Nick, Aidan and Tyler.

Harris, Jordan E.:

Dear Jordan, We're so proud of the phenomenal woman you've become. You're a bright light and an inspiration. We love you to the moon and back!

Hickey, Shannon:

Shannon, your whole family is so, so PROUD of you and behind you 100 percent always!! We love you!! Love, Mom and Tim!! All the best and enjoy UVM!!

Hock, Conrad:

Congratulations Conrad! When you started as a tiny sixie, it seemed like a daunting challenge. But you did it all by yourself. Mom, Dad and Vincent.

Horner, Lillian Elizabeth:

Congratulations! We love you so much. It's been a long six years — good luck on the next step. Love, Mom Dad Ella and Clyde

Hughes, Maxwell James:

Congratulations, Maxwell! We're so proud of you. Keep bravely stepping out of your comfort zone — we will always cheer you on! Love, M, D and E

Humphrey, Lucy:

We're so proud of you and the difference you make in the world already, just by being you. Awesome sauce! Love you now and forever. Mommy, Mama and George

Hutchinson, Samuel Robert:

We are so proud of all your hard work and accomplishments! As Thoreau said, "Go confidently in the direction of your dreams!" XOXO, Mom, Dad and Henry

Impellizeri, Christopher:

Dear Chris Impellizeri, you're off to great places! Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting so get on your way! Dr. Seus. Love, Mom, Dad and Peter

Jackson, Annie Teresa:

Annie J - We are so proud of you and know you will continue to do great things at Dartmouth. Dream big! We believe in you and love you NMW! XO M&D,J,CC,P&L

Jackson, Beatrice:

"Still it was worth it as I turned the pages solemnly / and then / With a winning smile, / the poor girl With naivety succeeds" B and S - We love you!

James, Maya:

Maya - More words and love and thanks than we can fithere or anywhere! So proud of Maya, and so thankful to BLS and everyone around us.

Jerome, Emily:

Em, your senior year didn't end the way it should have, but you took it in stride. You are kind, caring and fun. We could not be more proud! We love you!

Jestin, Christy Jose:

Christy we are so proud of you. You are a great son, and a great brother. Your hard work and perseverance are remarkable. Wish you a great future.

Joyal, Andrew:

Andrew, We are so proud of you and all your hard work. You have grown to be a wonderful young man. BC is very lucky to have you! Love You! Mom and Dad

Joyal, Colin:

Colin, Your hard work and determination has made us very proud! We can't wait to see what the future holds, you are so talented! Love You! Mom and Dad

Joyal, Meaghan:

Meaghan, you are such a caring person and you will make a wonderful nurse! We are so proud of you and all you have accomplished! Love You! Mom and Dad

Joyal, Molly:

Molly, We are very proud of you and all you have accomplished! UMass is lucky to have you and we know you will do great things! Love You! Mom and Dad

Ju, Irene:

Congrats Irene! So proud of your accomplishments and touched by the memories you've made at BLS. Wish you the best in your new adventure! Love, Mom and Dad

Kaplan, Yianna:

Congratulations, Yianna! We are so amazed at how smart, caring and wonderful you are everyday — we can not wait to see the places you go! We love you!

Kelly, Mae:

To our amazing Maezie!! You blow us away with your heart, humor, wisdom and smile. Congratulations! Go rock those green mountains!! ~ Mom and Lily

Kelly, Emma:

We are so proud of you Emma. Remember this is your journey, let nothing hold you back. Dream big and go for it! Love, mom, dad, Olivia and Austin

Kirchman, Tara:

Tara, so proud of you! Congratulations! Be happy, safe and successful at NYU. Our love and prayers go with you. Love William, Mom and Dad

Kirleis, Karsten Otto:

Congratulations on your graduation, Otto! Love, Mom and Dad

Knotts, Sarah:

Sarah Knotts, We are so proud! Throughout your six years at BLS you have persistently performed with exceptional poise. Onward and Upward. Love, Mom and Dad

Kobeissi, Dina:

Congratulations Dina! We're so proud of what you've accomplished and wish you the best in your next adventure at Harvard! Love, Mom, Dad and Amir

Kraus, Adina:

We are so proud of you, Adina! Congratulations on your success at BLS. You worked really hard to earn this diploma. Good luck at UVM Honors College!

L'Huillier, Isabelle Marguerite:

A note: "medecin sans frontieres", Isabelle: BRAVO! *Nous sommes fiers de toi et t'aimons tres fort. De tout coeur avec toi.* Maman, Papa and Nicolas

Lakus, Claire:

Congratulations Claire! We are so proud of you and your accomplishments. Great things are ahead for you. Good luck at Penn State Love Dad Mom and Matt

Larkin-Dunphy, Sophie:

I am so proud of you, Sophie! Cheers to a new adventure!

Larkin-Dunphy, Eva:

You go Eva! I'm so proud of my force of nature!

Lee, Benjamin James:

Congratulations Ben! We are so very proud of you and all you have accomplished! Onward and upward to new adventures! Love Mom, Dad and Oliver Sumus Primi

Lefevre, Angeannie:

Congratulations Angie! We are very proud of your accomplishment. We love you. Mom and Dad.

Li, Daniel:

Daniel, congratulations for your accomplishments! We are proud of you! We love you! Mom, Dad and Young' 04

Liu, Crystal:

The path to success has many roads, bumps and exits. You have navigated through noise and confusion. YOU MADE IT! So proud of you. Congratulations!

Long, Juan Sebastián:

Per the bard, "We know what we are, but know not what we may be." Our hearts are filled with the promise ahead enabled by what's behind you.

Ma, Charles:

Congrats, you did it! We're so proud of your hard work and achievements at BLS! Never stop chasing your dreams. Keep smiling, from Mom and Dad :)

Macedo, Arthur Tolentino:

Congratulations Arthur! We are so proud of you. Good luck at Harvard. Work hard but above of all be happy. We love you! Mom Dad Bianca and Nicholas

Magaziner, Noah:

Celebrating you, Noah! Positive leader and veg chef. Great memories of baseball & the learning journey. Pride and gratitude now, parties later! Love M,D and M

Mahoney, Cora:

Cora/Tootz: Beast mode in soccer, declamation, academics, friendships and fashion. Wolfpack strong! M, D and I '22

Maldonado-Werk, Lukas:

Lieber Lukas, Herzlichen Glückwunsch zum Abitur! Wir sind so stolz auf dich und werden deine Big Band-Konzerte vermissen. Mama, Papa and Sophia

Manasse-Latham, Walt:

Sweet, smart, funny, canny. Triple threat and rock solid friend; perfect big brother; First born cursed child LEGO master; Marvelously Scarred Elf; BPS survivor

Mangham, Aleena Renay:

My dear sweet Aleena. Your hard work and accomplishments are outstanding, as are YOU! CONGRATULATIONS on six amazing years at BLS. I love you, Mom

Senior Shoutouts

Marchi, William:

Congratulations William and the Class of 2020! We are so proud of you. Good luck at CCU! Love, Mom, Dad, Thomas and Emma

McGough, Allison:

Allison, we are so proud of you! You will be an amazing nurse! Good luck at Fairfield! There will always be an angel watching you! Love Mom and Molly

McKenna, Andrew:

Andrew, you did it! We are so proud of you! BLS Theatre and Music won't be the same without you! Love you! Go be amazing! Love Mom, Nolan and Kelly

McNeil, Anne Marie:

Congratulations Annie McNeil! Your family is so proud of you and love you very much! Love Mom, Dad, Matt, Alex and Abuela

Minacapilli, Gia:

Congratulations Gia! Behind you all your memories. Before you all your dreams. Around you all who love you. Within you is all you need! Love Mom and Dad

Minutillo, Dante:

Congratulations Dante! and HUGE shoutout to all BLS faculty and programs that made for such an all-around superb education!! Sandy Larson and Nick Minutillo

Moore, John:

JD we couldn't be more proud! You accomplished all the goals you set for yourself and then some! The world is yours for the taking. Love you so much!

Morales, Max Antonio:

Max Morales, congratulations to you and your classmates. We are so proud of you and all of your hard work. Love Mom, Dad, Araceli and Nicolás

Morency, Harlei:

With grit and hard work, you have overcome many challenges and reached an important milestone. Congrats and get ready for life's new curveballs.

Mosley, Christiana:

Christiana, we are so proud of you and can't wait to see what the next chapter of your life brings. Congratulations! Love, Mom, Dad and Dominique

Nelson, Isabelle Acacia:

My Dearest Boop, I am so proud of you and excited for the next part of your adventure in life at Mount Holyoke! We all love you so much. XOXO, Mom

Nguyen, Phuong:

I'm so proud of you Phuong. Love, Mom

Noonan, Ema:

As always, Ema: YOU GOT THIS! We love you and are proud of you every day, and please come home from time to time to cook for us! xo Mom, Dad and Mae

O'Gilvie, Lee James Gregson:

At two you said you were going to BLS like your sisters. You have succeeded in this goal. We look forward to your next achievement. Proud Moms and sisters

Orlando, Dominic:

We are so proud of you...congrats! Love Mom, Dad, Jillian and Calvin

Pecevich, Mary "Tari":

Tari - You did it! Congratulations! Your hard work, determination and perseverance paid off. From here, the sky's the limit! We are so very proud of you.

Pereyra, Crystal E. :

Crystal, we are oh so proud of you sweetheart. You have persevered in the most challenging circumstances and have come out stronger than ever!

Peterlin, Victoria:

Congrats Victoria! Sixie to Senior, your drive in BLS academics, athletics, Wolfettes, Deitch, Seevak and Topol has been inspirational—just like you! Love U

Petrella, Jayna Marie:

Congratulations, Jayna! *Ti vogliamo tantissimo bene!* We are proud of all that you have accomplished, and we know you will do great things.

Phan, Ryan:

Congrats on graduating, Ryan!! We've watched you work so hard the last few years, and we're SO proud of you! The best is yet to come :)

Pollard, Julia:

Congratulations Julia! You did it! Daddy and I are so very proud of you! We love you very much! Mom and Dad

Rans, Rachel:

Congrats Rachel! Good luck at Wisco.

Rivera, Julia:

¡Felicidades Julia! We are so proud of your hard work and accomplishments and can't wait to see what you do next. - Mom, Dad and Max

Rodriguez, Madison Jane:

Nothing can dim the light which shines from within. We are so proud of you! Shine bright and PERSIST AND PREVAIL!

Rooney, Ashley:

We've watched with tremendous pride as you've grown, and we're watching with great anticipation to see where the future takes you. *Carpe posterum!*

Rosenkranz, Leah:

CONGRATS! So proud of the person you've become; excited to see ur continuing journey to success! work hard, play hard and enjoy life! LOVE YOU LEAH!

Salcedo-Villacis, Camila:

Congratulations mijal! We are all very proud that you made it this far and we can't wait to see where these next four years will take you. We love you!

Sargent, Noah:

Congrats Noah! We're so proud of you and all your accomplishments at BLS — your future awaits, and it's going to be great! Love you tons ~ Sargentos

Schnitzer, Jess:

Jess, we are so proud of you and all that you have achieved and will continue to achieve. Love, Mom, Dad and Annie

Seero, Abigail Darlin:

Abby, I am so proud of my smart, thoughtful, athletic and caring daughter! You'll go far! I'll miss our car rides! None of us will forget Spring 2020!

Sellon, Jilian K. :

Jillie Bean, Your determination is beyond words (power point ha) You are loved by so many and we cannot wait to see what the future holds! LYBS xoxoxo

Severin, Gabriel:

We're so proud of who you've become and so excited to watch your next chapter unfold! Love, Mom and Dad

Shahrouzi, Gabriel:

Congratulations and well done. Keep working diligent and smile with full commitment, the journey ahead is an exciting one.

Shay-Tannas, Zoë:

Zoë, we adore you! Love, Mom, Dad, Emma, Savta, Addie and Therblig.

Sicotte, Caroline:

You have grown from a shy girl to a powerful beautiful young woman. We are all so proud of you. Go forward, enjoy and know you are loved!

Sonderegger, Max:

We love you, and we're proud of you, Max! Congratulations on graduating in the Class of COVID-19!

Stevenson-Swalding, Morgan:

Morgan (as promised, a graduation haiku) Writer, activist. Compassionate warrior. Go take on the world! We could not be prouder or love you more! M and D

Stowe, Connor:

Congrats Connor! We are so proud! Good luck at UMass Amherst!

Strainchamps, Caera:

Within these walls you declaimed the blue tub and those who mock. With Epul and Gavi, you brought down the bridge. We salute you! - Mom, Dad and Max

Stratman, Emma:

Congrats Emma! You've made us smile and laugh since the day you were born. We are proud of you! We love you and can't wait to see what's next! M, D, H and G

Strauss, Helena Catherine:

Dear Helena, you are an amazing young woman and daughter. We're so proud of you for winning the Posse to Bucknell. We love you! Mom, Dad and Simon

Sullivan, Isabelle:

We don't need a photo to remind us of how proud we are of you, how much we love you or how much you have accomplished! Mom, Dad, Julia, Olivia and K.

Sullivan, James Cassidy:

Jimmy CONGRATULATIONS for staggering through. You are our pride and joy.

Susich, Matthew:

Congratulations Matt! We are very proud of you and all you have accomplished. You are on the path to do amazing things. Love, Mom Dad and Katherine

Szulc, Calvin:

Congrats Calvin! So proud of you - Mom and Dad

Temple, Sophia:

Congratulations Sophia Temple!!!! We love you and are so extremely proud of you. Excited for the next 4 at BU. XOXO - the Family

Toy, Jason:

Congratulations Jason Toy on all that you have achieved. We are so proud of you! Love, Dad, Mom and Ashley

Tran, Christopher:

Congratulations Christopher!! We are so proud of you and all of your accomplishments throughout your six years at BLS! We love you!

Tran, Isabella:

CONGRATULATIONS my lovely daughter! We'll miss your shining smile and endless appetite, but we know you'll do amazing things at Harvard! :) Love, Mommy, Daddy, Aidan and Ethan

FAREWELLS

Senior Shoutouts

Trieber, Samuel:

Congratulations Samuel Trieber! We are extremely proud of you! We are excited for your future at Roger Williams! Love, Mom and Dad

Truong, Danica:

Ca, we are immensely proud of you. Remember: "Intelligence plus character — that is the goal of true education." (MLK) This, we know you will achieve.

van Reijendam, Luke:

You are an amazing human being, and you are off to continue making this world a better place. We are so proud! Love Mom, Dad and Elisabeth.

Vasquez, Tatyana:

We are so proud! You're an inspiration! You entered as a sixie, and today you have completed BLS!

Vilallonga, Nicolas Federico:

To a caring, hardworking young man, congratulations! We couldn't be prouder of you. Your heart will guide you to a bright future! - Papa, Mama and Lucia

Walsh, Sean:

Dear Sean, We are so proud of you. Looking forward to watch you shine at NU. Love you, Mom, Dad, Caitlin and Meghan

Walsh, John:

Congratulations, John, on graduating from BLS in the Class of 2020!! Love Mom, Dad, Sydney, Chloe, George and Myla.

Wang, Alexa Powell:

CONGRATULATIONS Boogie, we are so proud that you dance down your own path with humor, grit and grace. You are a PaceSetter for sure! Love, Mom and Dad

Wang, Hanyi:

*With intel of *Sumus Primi*, flying ball, echoing chums' laughter, comes Hanyi from Sixie to Senior: let dreams fly beyond BLS higher! Yes, Sola Gratia!*

Wang, Daisy:

You made it! Congrats to the new milestone! We are so proud of you! Couldn't wait to see your new chapter! Love you! ~Dad, Mom and David

Weeks, Julia:

You bring us so much joy and make us proud everyday. We are so excited to see what your future holds and wish you the best. -Your loving Family

Williams, Aidan:

Congrats! Aidan, hard work got you to BLS and though it wasn't easy you made it! The tassel was worth the hassle! We are so proud - All of us

Woodbury, Ian Gregory:

So proud of you and your achievements: good grades, devoted wrestler, symphonic percussionist, sense of humor and best band t-shirts! Luv mom and dad

Wu, Libby:

Congrats Libby! I am so grateful for all that you've learned at BLS. Thank you for bringing so much love and happiness into my life. Love, Mom <3

Xu, Li "Sherry" :

LOVELY GANG^2, CONGRATS! WE'RE SO PROUD THAT YOU SURVIVED THOSE SLEPT-AT-2AM-WOKE-UP-AT-6A.M. DAYS<3LOVE, MOM, DAD, BRO-IN-LAW AND BEAUTIFUL SISTER.

Yan, Edward:

Eddie, you are awesome! You work very hard for your dreams, and we know they will become true. Big congrats from Mom, Dad and Alfred

Yee-Wadsworth, Sofia:

We are very proud of all of your hard work and accomplishments at BLS, and we love the strong, beautiful person that you have become. Congratulations!

Yeomans, Kathleen:

Congratulations, Kate! We couldn't be prouder of all you have accomplished and your caring, generous spirit! Love, Mom, Dad, Ryan, Bean and Baxter XO

Young, Joseph:

You are our favorite son and brother. Congrats!! We are proud of you!! Love Mom, Dad and your sisters

Zhu, Christina:

Congratulations Christina! We are so proud of you! We know you will go very far in life, and we will always be here for you! Love, Dad, Mom and Evan

Ziyad, Imani:

Congrats Imani! You made it through the tardies, late nights and dreaded dec's. You can get thru anything! Keep aiming high. We love you! <3 the fam and Kelly

Zielonka, Meredith:

Congratulations on all of your accomplishments! We are proud of all you have done and look forward to what lies ahead.

Editor-in-Chief Isabella Tran

Being Editor-in-Chief of the *Argo* is a pretty swell gig. Many people have asked me, "Isabella, what is it that you do?" And to that I say, it is about 10 percent managing editors who are usually on top of their sections, 20 percent putting out tiny figurative fires, 70 percent having your terrible jokes laughed at by underclassmen who are keen on advancing and 15 percent being able to get away with using incorrect math or very long run-on sentences with no one correcting you because you (or rather, I in this case), are the supreme ruler of the *Argo*. That is, when I'm sitting in the spinny chair in lab 016. And when I am not sitting in the spinny chair because I am too busy having an emotional breakdown over integrals, I can rely on my trusty co-EiC Meredith to guide the helm of the good *navis Argo*.

My dear Meredith, AKA Mer, AKA Mere-bear, AKA my favorite Insomnia cookie monster, who has been with me since our youthful, fresh-faced ninth grade selves started writing for News. But regardless of nomenclature, Meredith Zielonka remains the greatest person BLS's extracurricular scene has ever known. Our time at *Argo* and at Latin School as a whole has been a co-supreme rulership. We co-wrote our first article together (that one got cut, so don't worry kiddos, if you ever think you're not good enough to do something, just try again and maybe Google how to write a good news article first), then grinded as assistants, putting more hours into the *Argo* than schoolwork. Then, we headed the News section, and this year,

there's no one else with whom I would have rather raced spinny chairs down the basement hallways and watched *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel* at 8 P.M. on Final Fridays. I hope you're ready to continue dealing with me for the next few years because somehow I got lucky enough to take you with me to college, and I didn't even have to sneak you in my suitcase!

To anyone reading this, do not be fooled, ye of little familiarity with the paper. The *Argo* isn't really about us, the EiCs. There's a whole crew of editors behind the 16-page beauty that we bring to you on Tuesday mornings. Too often, we start with the writing sections, but I feel like working my way backward and giving my production babies all the love and attention that they deserve. First, BRIANNA! The epitome of talent, I don't know how you switch between being a layout boss and snorting at dumb TikToks that we play on the projector so effortlessly, but you do. And ERIC! Oh, my dear third-favorite stressed-out junior, I know that Selina and Theresa will continue to miraculously make things fit next year under your guidance. Next is Photo, home to Jess, Anthony, Gwen and their young *padawan* Regina. Thank you Jess, Anthony and Gwen for always snapping pics and messing with them in Lightroom. And thank you Regina for curing my Final Friday blues with conversations about the masterpiece that is *High School Musical: The Musical: The Series*. Finally, Copy crewed by just about the sweetest people ever — Daisy, Irene, Alice, Cindy and all their associates. I could not thank you enough for fixing tenses and rewriting sentences with the efficiency of a machine and offering me bites of your food runs. I apologize if my run-on sentences and wacky capitaliza-

tion has caused any pain for y'all (or for Eric who has to make this fit).

The *Argo* would be incomplete without its writing sections, and Sports, don't ever let anyone tell you that you're the least important writing section. They're probably just jealous because y'all are amazing. Libby, Crystal and Ashley, you've done a great job turning the section around. There's A&E where Anna, Elizabeth and Kathleen are perpetually churning out interesting new idea after idea. Any mentioning of the *Argo* and A&E would be incomplete without our favorite creative consultant and advice columnist, John. John, without you, John's Corner would not exist for it would simply be 's Corner (which is much less catchy). I admit to sending in a good quarter of those desperate cries for help, and you have always done a phenomenal job in quelling my anxieties with your sage wisdom. Forum: led by the sturdiest triad the *Argo* has ever known. Morgan, Julianna and Jasmine never seem to finish spending time carefully going through edits, yet you manage to set a new standard for journalism with each issue. Last and best (I pretended to be impartial all year, but this is my chance to stop that now), there's News, my homeland. Thank you for always being efficient, innovative and dedicated. John, I know that the News section will be safe in your hands and reach even greater heights. Thank you to Ahlam and Emily for your hard work, it's been a pleasure to watch you grow as writers and this year as editors.

Thanks to you all, we have one hell of a newspaper. And it is not solely through any effort of mine, but through the work of dedicated writers and associates who keep coming back and the

best school advisor to grace the vast halls of Latin School in its 385 years of existence, Ms. Moon.

It's been a pleasure to be y'all's *Argo* Mom. I will be back with boba, hugs and stories for all of you next year. Here's the brief shoutout I promised to the debate kids (mostly to Chuck and Lemuel) for making frequent visits to lab 016 and making my job harder than it already is. Production Week wouldn't be the same without trying to keep Lem from eating the Forum dummy. Shoutout to my baby brother who is supposedly a Layout associate, but whom I know primarily warms the chair in the far right corner of the room. Bring more of your friends to the *Argo* next year, Aidan! And thank you to the non-*Argo* kids who make me laugh and take my mind off of the hectic production week: Danica, Lina and Maggie.

To Julianna and Nadine: The role of EiC is no longer my swell gig, but yours, so please, enjoy it. Make the most of it and remember to write funny EiC notes that people will actually read (and don't use pictures to fill up space as often as we did). And to my dear Argonauts new and old reading, here is my reminder to be friends, not just colleagues with your fellow Argonauts and to roll with the punches when articles are meh or the wifi crashes, and to cherish your time in the best club at BLS.

Alas, our year was cut short, so dear Argonauts, do expect Mer and I to be returning to swipe many Final Friday pizza slices and reclaiming our royal titles (AND our spinny chair)!

With the utmost respect,
Valete,
Isabella

Editor-in-Chief Meredith Zielonka

As many people can probably attest, I'm rarely speechless. But when it came to writing this farewell, that's exactly what I felt. The *Argo* has taken up so much of the last four years of my life, the thought of leaving it behind hurts.

The *Argo* has been my friend, parent and child. It's taught me skills, introduced me to new people and provided an escape from the stress of BLS when I've needed it. The *Argo* has molded me and influenced

dreams for my life.

Over the last four years, we've had so many adventures, from camping out in the computer lab until 10 P.M., praying we'll be finished on time, to carrying flowers around at 6 A.M., to moving around carpets and sorting old papers in the *Argo* room. I'll miss everyone in the *Argo* so much. You guys have become my home away from home.

To the lifeblood of *Argo*, the editors who hold it together: I've worked with some of you for years, and some of you just the past few issues, but you make production week worth it. Eric, layout guru, I have no memory of the *Argo* without you in it. You grant joy to everyone you work with. John

and Emily, News children, you've carried on the legacy, and I'm proud. There are so many people who have helped me this past year, and the years before those, that I'm afraid I don't have the characters to thank.

To Ms. Moon, our adoptive mother: thank you for answering our texts when we're hungry and giving us advice when we're overwhelmed. The EiCs are the head of the board, but you're the brain behind it all. Without you, the *Argo* would fall apart.

To my crazy co-Editor-in-Chief, the strong, smart, beautiful woman whom I am lucky enough to call my best friend: I would not have survived this past year in leadership without you, whether it was sending emails when I could

not, or watching the younglings when socializing becomes a little too much. We've been partners in crime for all of high school, and I'm thrilled about our future. Even though we lost our last two production issues to the pandemic, we'll always have windy pictures and our final spinny-chair race down the hallway <3.

Finally, to the incoming EiCs, Nadine and Julianna: I've watched you both grow so much over the years, first as editors and then as leaders. I'm proud of the individuals you've become, and I know that you'll be a powerful team to lead our child through the pandemic. I can't wait to see where you take it.

Forum Editor Morgan Stevenson- Swadling

As I write this, knowing that I'll never again get to work on another issue again, I can't help but reflect upon all the things I'm going to miss.

I'm going to miss the scramble when the cookies finally arrive from Insomnia, a full 45 minutes late. I'm going to miss the desperate emailing and trying to throw together another article, but not as much as

I'm going to miss having the luxury to cut one or two. I'm going to miss discussing articles and eating way too much random candy in Ms. Moon's room. I'd even sort out 2,000 carnation slips again.

More than anything, though, I'm going to miss my fellow Forum editors. If I had no idea what I was getting into the first time I walked into Ms. Moon's classroom for a basic workshop, I would be entirely unprepared to be an editor this past year, but Jasmine and Julianna made it beyond worth it. Julie and Jasmine, you have weathered my rants and made me die laughing, all the while having excellent article ideas. Julie, you're such a strong leader and thinker. Jasmine, you're so creative and kind. You two

are going to absolutely dominate next year. I could not ask for better people to work with, and I am beyond proud of both of you. We are objectively the best section, sorry (not sorry).

I'm so grateful to my fellow seniors as well. Meredith, you know you're my friend for life. Bella, I love you so dearly for all the times you sat with me after our meetings for three hours and discussed literally everything and anything that came to mind. Brianna, thank you for the time you made me laugh mid-lesson during AP Bio. Jess, please take me on a date when we can go outside once more. Daisy, thank you for the times you called me over and showed me some bizarre grammatical error or misspelling to

giggle at. And all the rest of the senior editors — Irene, Ahlam, Anthony, Gwen, Crystal, John and Kathleen — you've all been amazing and made this the best experience possible. Every single one of you worked incredibly hard, and I am honored to have worked alongside you.

Finally, to my new Forum editors — I'm so proud of you! Although it will be a wild ride, I know you're all capable of it, and Jasmine is the best person ever to take care of you all. And don't you dare try writing less political articles because I will march over from New York and suggest twenty ideas for the next issue.

I cannot wait to visit next year. Thank you all for an amazing year!

A&E Editor Kathleen Wei

Being a part of the *Argo* for the past few years has been a fascinating experience. I wasn't a great writer when I joined the club a few years back, but learning from everyone here has taught me numerous things.

It wasn't easy balancing the *Argo* on top of other activities, but everyone made it

possible. One of the most prominent factors of the club that I will always remember is the teamwork and cooperation that made the past few years of production run smoothly. Even this year, with so much going on and not being able to go back to school, everyone is persevering in releasing the last few issues of the year, and the dedication to this club is truly amazing.

For the future A&E editors: not everyone will gravitate towards writing for this section, but the few that do are outstanding writers with lots of potential. This section is typically smaller, but that doesn't hinder the

extraordinary writing that can be produced. Almost every issue includes an article about an art or museum exhibit, which may seem repetitive and boring, but just remember that each one is different and they are all fascinating and unique. Production might not be easy some weeks, and in other weeks it will be a breeze; however, through it all, keep persisting because A&E is one of the best sections out there!

These past six years at BLS have been remotely challenging, but being a part of this club has definitely eased the last few. While you are still at BLS, you

truly need to take it slow and cherish the moments together — you never know what's to come! Senior year might be cut short, but shout-out to the Class of 2020 for being optimistic through these rough months.

Despite this ending, it's been an incredible journey with everyone, and I'm super proud of my fellow seniors, as well as my underclassmen. I know everyone's destined to do magnificent things. I'm happy to have been a part of this community during my time at BLS and I hope everything goes smoothly in the years to come.

Sports Editor Libby Wu

How do I leave my last word on this stack of Boston Latin School papers? It's funny how we've been looking forward to this day for six years and yet we're... sad... to let it all go. Don't get me wrong — I feel 99 percent relief and really wish I could scream into the void to celebrate the end of our journey in this pain cave. I guess I'm gonna be an alum soon, so here are my two cents for the kiddos reading:

Cherish those friends who seriously make you question whether or not you're re-

lated to them and those who make you tear up just thinking about how much they truly have your back. They are gold. Binge eat, gossip, mess around and spend time with them as much as you can. They are the ones who will make high school unforgettable, not your grades nor the pain.

Relax. Don't get into your head so much, because oftentimes, it's never that deep. Pursue what you're passionate about and let the community here help you vent out the bad — whether it be through a club, a team, a lunch table gang, an equally stressed classmate with whom you're not even that close or your best friend.

Grades aren't everything, but sleep

is. Never worth it to exchange a *thicc* eight hours for an extra hour of studying!

Trust yourself. It's cliché for a reason; there's truth to it. Your gut is correct most of the time! I've struggled with this a lot, and it's hard not to overthink, but you've got this. You'll be happier for it and sometimes letting things or relationships go is a blessing. So is trying something new.

As a burnt-out tenth grader feeling like two more years at BLS were two too many, I joined the *Argo* with little to no idea of what I wanted to do in the future. Words actually can't describe how grateful I am to have been a part of the *Argo*. Collaborating with some of the most motivated people in this school was

so humbling. Learning and writing about every sport here was surprisingly fulfilling. Thank you to my fellow editors, Ashley and Crystal, for making the work more bearable and the group chat spicier. To Ashley, Ashley and Eric — I can't wait to see Sports will rise up through the ranks even more with you leading it. I trust you'll make us look good! Finally, this one's to Isabella and Meredith: you guys are the most hardworking dynamic duo that I've ever seen. Thank you for the endless understanding and light-heartedness and never underestimate the value you brought to this ~prestigious~ publication.

P.S. IT'S ALL OVER!! YOU'RE STILL HERE! :)

Sports Editor Crystal Liu

Hey guys! I think I can speak for all the seniors when I say none of us expected our senior years to end this way. It feels way too soon to be writing my goodbye right now. When I first joined the *Argo*, I had no idea what to expect. Being a part of the *Argo* has been such a learning experience, so thank you to everyone that has been a part of my

Argo journey. It's been an absolute privilege to work alongside some of the most driven, hardworking and dedicated people.

Thank you, Libby and Ashley, for being the best co-editors. I have learned so incredibly much from both of you and I could not have asked for a better team. To all the writers, thank you for coming to meetings with such enthusiasm and ambition. Thank you, Isabella and Meredith, for being patient with me and being incredible editors-in-chief. A special thank you to Ms. Moon for being

by our sides through it all. Thank you for teaching and guiding us whenever any of us needed it and being such a great support system.

I have no doubt that the *Argo* will continue to thrive next year and for years to come. To all the rising seniors and the new board, enjoy every moment. Go to the sporting events, go to all the cultural shows, join more clubs, join a sport — do something that sets your heart on fire and never think you can't. Do not take high school for grant-

ed because it goes by faster than you think. Enjoy every moment and know that there is always good following the bad. You got this! Thank you, *Argo*, for all the memories. Ashley, Ashley and Eric, I am sure that you guys will make an amazing team next year. I have the utmost faith that you will continue to make this section thrive. Good luck with senior year and hold down the best section! Sending my love from Philly.

— Crystal Liu

Copy Editor Daisy Wang

I joined the *Argo* in freshman year and started copy-editing after wanting to improve my grammar skills. Now, four years in, I am so thankful that I did so, even if it meant proofreading countless articles or painstakingly scanning each sentence for mistakes. I can confidently say that I am able to recognize dangling modifiers with my eyes closed. As soon as I stepped into the

bustling 016 computer lab, I knew that I had found my people. With each production week and boba run, the *Argo* became part of my school routine.

I am thankful for my Copy Section and appreciate the hours they have spent alongside me, furiously typing. To Irene, Alice and Cindy, thanks for joining me on this crazy ride. I thoroughly appreciate each of you and all the hard work you put into our section. We couldn't have made it this far without your dedication. To Joanna, welcome! We are excited for you to join the Copy

family! It can be overwhelming at times, but my time in the *Argo* has been an amazing experience, and I hope yours will be the same.

I will surely miss the chaos of Production Week Fridays. There's something about sitting in a room at 10 P.M. at school surrounded by people all working hard toward a shared goal. I will also miss the alarming speed at which we inhale food (all outside the lab, of course). Trips to the Galleria, Chicken and Rice Guys, KFT and more made the time fly by and gave us the energy to complete our tasks.

Lastly, I will miss the music taste of my peers. Shoutout to Haoyoung for the speaker. Shoutout to Gwen for constantly lowering the bar (in her farewell letter, not her personality). I wish I could say I'm surprised, but I would be lying. Shoutout to my juniors, John and Andre. Thanks for always chatting with me in the 016 lab. Shoutout to Nadine for pushing me to meet the character count for this — I love you and I thank you for your reminders. To my fellow Argonauts, good luck, have fun, and enjoy your time here!

FAREWELLS

Copy Editor Irene Ju

Five years ago, I was terrified by the thought that joining the *Argo* meant writing articles all day, glued to a chair for hours. But now, I am sadly saying goodbye to the *Argo* family that I am so proud and lucky to have been a part of. Thank you to Lienna who dragged me to visit the people standing on a table in the cafeteria, yelling at everyone to join the *Argo*. At that time, I didn't know that what I was getting myself into would be so much more.

Photo Editor Jess Schnitzer

It's hard to believe that I'm writing this right now. It seems like it was only yesterday that I happened to stop in the computer lab one day after school and found the *Argo* family, furiously working on that week's issue. That was three years ago and, wow, they don't joke when they say that time goes by fast when you're having fun. I will never forget the memories I have made in computer lab 016. Late nights filled with pizza and takeout food, crowding in the corner with everyone in swiv-

Photo Editor Anthony Huang

What a crazy few months these have been! I wish I could write this under better circumstances, but I'm sure we can look back on this one day and wonder how the heck we actually made it through all this.

But anyway, I've had a very good run working for the Photo section. I still remember joining the *Argo* for the first time thinking I would write sports articles,

Photo Editor Gwen Liu

Elliott Erwitt once said, "The whole point of taking pictures is so that you don't have to explain things with words." But out of love for the Photo Section, I'll attempt a farewell letter.

When I first joined the *Argo*, I was a small sixie in the Layout Section. I stopped going to production weeks when my friends stopped going. It wasn't until many years later when Vivi Dang asked me to join the Photo Section one year,

Layout Editor Brianna Li

To be honest, I have no idea where I'm going with this farewell, and how to even start saying goodbye to the club that has led to many close friendships and memories. Since I'm clueless about what to write, I'll just list some of my favorite moments with the *Argo*:

1. *Dance Dance Revolution*: While Isabella, Meredith and I were waiting for our rides back home, we would play *Dance Dance Revolution* by connecting a Wii to the projector. Although we were not the best dancers, we did more exercise than we did for the entire month.

Scrambling to get my favorite *Insomnia* cookie, which disappeared in two seconds, staring at the stack of pizzas waiting on a desk and eating chicken, which tasted like the best chicken in the world when we were at school late. Of course, the *Argo* is more than just the food. It's also staying until 10 P.M. in the lab while watching funny YouTube videos with friends, sorting carnations until your clothes get soaked with water and organizing the newspapers until you're smudged with ink. I will miss all of that. But most importantly, I will miss the precious and amazing people I met.

el chairs, playing Hangman on the whiteboard — these are the memories of high school that I will take throughout my entire life.

The *Argo* allowed me to branch out and meet new people, especially all the upperclassmen whom I was too intimidated to talk to. It also taught me new skills like InDesign, Lightroom and Photoshop. Being an *Argo* Photo Editor encouraged me to continue my interest in photography and made me feel like my work was being used for good. It is those nights during the year I look forward to when we blast the music and get down to work.

Even though I started out in the

but who knew I would land myself in the Photo section. No regrets though, because I met a ton of great people and a special someone in the Photo section, and I also got to know a lot of amazing people in the *Argo*. I learned a lot of great skills like being able to control the settings of a camera and little tricks with editing pictures, which is a nice skill to have and is basically why the Photo section is the best section in the *Argo* (totally not a plug for people to join the Photo section).

Even though Production Week can be lots of work, I always enjoyed working with ev-

that I realized I had secretly always wanted to join Photo. I didn't realize that I used to look on with envy, from the Layout side of room 016, at the cool kids coming in to get their photo assignments and running off to capture the perfect picture in their minds. Now I can say with certainty that the Photo Section is the superior section.

After seasons of battling blurry images and refining my color correction skills alongside my other editors and associates, I understand what it means to "trust the process and enjoy the journey." You gotta trust the editing process

2. *Horrorscopes*: These were definitely the scariest thing during my time with the *Argo*. While the horoscopes were fun to read, they were a horror to lay out and try to fit on a single page.

3. *Mr. Blobfish*: Since Layout is the last section to work on the newspaper, we often have to wait for missing photos or articles. One year, we spontaneously replaced all missing photos with images of a cartoon blobfish. Now, *Mr. Blobfish* is the mascot of *Argo* Layout.

4. *Insomnia Cookies*, *Bon Chon* and *Popeyes*: Aside from the friendships and the memories made, food was definitely the best part of *Argo*. I always looked forward to the *Insomnia Cookies* on Thursday and

I have learned so much through countless interactions and grinding through article after article. I not only met wonderful classmates but also upperclassmen and underclassmen whom I will miss dearly, especially now since we are all in quarantine. Good or bad, stressful or fun, I am thankful for all my experiences, and I am glad to have met every single person in that tiny lab in the basement for the past five years. I find it amazing how the *Argo*, no matter how messy we can be, works, laughs and gets together to finish all the work by Final Friday. I think we truly are amazing and the

Layout section, I found my home in the Photo section. No, we aren't exaggerating when we say that we're a family. Through this entire year, I know that the Photo section has always had my back. The left side of the computer lab will always be Photo's domain where we can get down to work, yelling things like, "Has anyone done 'Ask the Students' yet? What's the credit for this photo? Can we get a new caption for this photo?" The *Argo* Photo section is, and will always be the best section. Not only because we're both hardworking and easygoing, but I mean, who wants to read a newspaper without photos?

To Regina, Andre and Karen:

everyone and looked forward to the Fridays where things would usually be more chill. There's just something comforting about editing pictures with music blasting from the speakers and chatter floating around the room. Staying late and munching on some pizza with friends is probably one of the best feelings ever after a hard week's work. I think we tried to bring in a Wii once to play in the computer lab. I don't think that worked, but there's always the next time... BLS is even scarier at night with no one around and janitor radio music playing through the halls.

with all its obstacles, like whenever one attempts another concept for the versus photos, because the struggles push one to rely on others, and the rest of Photo was always there to support me and help me learn.

To Jess, thanks for being the mom of the section and for keeping us on track. To Anthony, thanks for lending me your camera and overlooking my novice skills (I'm better at editing!). To Daisy, thank you for all the Starbucks runs and editing my English papers (those copy edit skills are kinda nice). To Haoyang, you are a godsend.

the takeout on Final Fridays — 11 out of 10 recommended.

5. *Graduation Issues*: The dreaded graduation issue is the ultimate test for Layout editors. While these sixty-page issues take forever to layout, it also gives us a break from the strict template that we use for normal issues. Senior shoutouts are both a blessing and a curse to layout — we receive creative freedom at the cost of having over a hundred to design.

To my new and returning layout editors: I miss you all so much! I know you are all going to do exceptional things and add more brilliant ideas to the *Argo*. Eric, try not to shout too much during pro-

best club in the school.

I have so much more to say and many more memories I wish to talk about, but now, I want to thank the *Argo* community for an eventful five years. Thank you to Daisy, John, all the Argonauts, the EiCs and Ms. Moon for all the efforts you put in to keep the *Argo* running. Of course, thank you and good luck to Alice, Cindy and Joanna next year! The Copy Section is all in your hands, so keep grinding and keep being awesome!!

Farewell to my dear *Argo* community until I visit you next year :) <3

I'm so excited to see you guys continue to lead the photo family. Know that you are part of generations of photo editors that will always have your back. Anthony, Gwen and I are all so proud of you and so are the editors before us, Elena, Matt, Jason and Andrew. If I have learned anything this year, it's that you should cherish the moments you have since you never know when things might be cut short. Regardless of the countless photos you may have to edit, I hope you continue to love every single one of those Final Fridays and the *Argo* weeks. Welcome to the family and keep up the amazing work!

It's time for me, Jess and Gwen to pass on the reins to Regina, Andre and Karen. We know that the Photo Section will be in good hands, but learn from us and make sure you guys stay organized and don't leave things until the last minute!

To anyone who has ever helped the Photo section, thank you. It is really you guys who make the Photo section what it is. Keep on doing the great work you always do and take some awesome pictures, because everyone knows that people only read the *Argo* to look at our pictures. And as always, PHOTO GANG 4 LYFE!

Thanks for being my rock and my go-to for technical difficulties. To Danica, thank you so much for bringing my versus photos ideas to life. To Eric, thanks for riding the Green Line home with me sometimes, I guess. To Regina, we'll have to trust you to uphold the Photo legacy. To any underclassmen reading this attempt by a photo editor to write, JOIN THE PHOTO SECTION. ~ You'll learn the magic of telling without words.

I'll miss this and the Friday nights during production week in room 016.

duction week — we all know that you're very excited. Selina, keep on coming up with new designs! I can't wait to see what you come up with. Theresa, I love your work ethic, and I know that you'll keep us all focused. Emma, you have great leadership, and please try to keep Eric from screaming too much (I know, it will be very challenging). To all the layout associates, don't forget about *Mr. Blobfish*! Well...I'm already six days past the submission deadline (Sorry, Nadine!) and have five minutes until my second (or third?) extended deadline, so I'll end my farewell here.

Love,
Brianna

College List

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Addoniso, Audrey | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Humphrey, Luceille | Wellesley C | Phan, Jennifer | Wentworth Institute of Technology |
| Admasu, Bitania | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Hutchinson, Samuel | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Phan, Ryan | Boston U |
| Agosto, Nahommy | Suffolk U | Huynh, Victoria | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Phan, Sarah | Suffolk U |
| Alexander, Samantha | U of Massachusetts Boston | Ibrahim, Khalid | Framingham State U | Philemon, Anthony | Bridgewater State U |
| Augustin, Danielle | Boston U | Ikeasoguh, Echezona | St. John's U | Pollard, Julia | Mount Holyoke C |
| Baldassari, Ava | Harvard C | Impellizeri, Christopher | DePaul U | Powers, Jacqueline | Tufts U |
| Batista Poblete, Leonardo | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Ivanov, Bogdan | Pennsylvania State U | Pulchansingh, Savar | U of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Bhuvaramurthy, Sridharan | Boston U | Jackson, Annie | Dartmouth C | Qian, David | Harvard C |
| Blackett, Aaliyah | Lesley U | Jackson, Beatrice | The New School | Rahman, Maymuna | Wellesley C |
| Bodden, Ligeia | Northeastern U | James, Maya | U of Massachusetts Boston | Rait, Emma | U of Michigan, Ann Arbor |
| Bohan, Conor | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Jaramillo, Mariana | Boston U | Rait, Max | Michigan State U |
| Bordon, Anthony | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Jerome, Emily | Northeastern U | Ralston, Isabel | U of Maine |
| Boutalis, Eugenia | U of Massachusetts, Lowell | Jestin, Christy | Harvard C | Rans, Rachel | U of Wisconsin, Madison |
| Browall, Lily | Boston U | Jiang, Tianna | Northeastern U | Reed, Clara | Columbia C Chicago |
| Bruntrager, John | U of Massachusetts, Lowell | Jones Downing, Joanna | Boston C | Regassa, Alisa | Harvard C |
| Butler, Kayla | Cornell U | Joyal, Andrew | Boston C | Riley, Daria | U of Toronto |
| Buttner, Khai | Goucher C | Joyal, Colin | Worcester State U | Rivera, Julia | U of Chicago |
| Buxton, Jennifer | Regis C | Joyal, Meaghan | Worcester State U | Robbins, Lindsey | American U |
| Cadogan, Brendan | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Joyal, Molly | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Rodriguez, Jasmine | Boston U |
| Cadogan, Kaleigh | Saint Joseph's U | Ju, Irene | Harvard C | Rodriguez, Madison | Bridgewater State U |
| Cai, Serena | Harvard C | Kaplan, Yianna | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Rojo, Kai | U of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Cao, Victor | Suffolk U | Kayi, Mehdi | Boston C | Rooney, Ashley | U of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Catino, Lucia | Sacred Heart U | Keating, Sean | Columbia U | Rosa, Richard | Northeastern U |
| Chalmers, Scott | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Keenan, Cole | U of Rhode Island | Rosenkranz, Leah | U of Vermont |
| Chaparro, Alejandro | U of Massachusetts Boston | Kelly, Emma | Saint Michael's C | Rybak, Viktoriya | U of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Chau, Ethan | Worcester Polytechnic Institute | Kelly, Mae | U of Vermont | Salcedovillasis, Camila | U of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Cheever, Samuel | U of Pennsylvania | Kennedy Slesar, Dominic | Boston U | Sargent, Noah | U of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Chen, Amanda | Boston U | Kirchman, Tara | New York U | Schnitzer, Jess | U of Washington |
| Chen, Charlotte | Tufts U | Kirleis, Karsten | U of Massachusetts Boston | Scollins, Alice | Boston U |
| Chen, Meihua | U of Massachusetts, Lowell | Klysner, Jordan | Salve Regina U | Seifu, Feven | Harvard C |
| Chen, Queenie | Tufts U | Knotts, Sarah | Boston U | Sellon, Jillian | U of Massachusetts Boston |
| Cheung, Alex | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Kobeissi, Dina | Harvard C | Severin, Gabriel | U of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Cheung, Janet | Northeastern U | Kohut, Adam | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Severo, Dominic | Boston C |
| Chojnowski, Sara | U of Michigan, Ann Arbor | Kornilowicz, Stefan | U of Massachusetts Dartmouth | Shannon, Grace | Stonehill C |
| Clougher, Kelly | Boston U | Kraus, Adina | U of Vermont | Shay-Tannas, Zoë | The Ohio State U |
| Cooke, Kaitlin | U of Rhode Island | Kuang, Alan | Boston U | Shkreli, Arba | Harvard C |
| Daffin, Mateo | Boston U | Kuang, Daheng | U of Massachusetts, Lowell | Silva, Margaret | Temple U |
| Dang, Brian | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Kwan, Wing | Northeastern U | Sirage, Anwar | Northeastern U |
| Dang, Cindy | Northeastern U | Kwong, Kenneth | Western New England U | Smith, Ashley | U of Massachusetts Boston |
| Dang, Danny | Wentworth Institute of Technology | L'Huillier, Isabelle | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Solano, Christopher | U of Massachusetts Boston |
| Datta-Bellamy, Chayya | Spelman C | Lam, Elton | U of Massachusetts Boston | Son, Huynh | U of Massachusetts Boston |
| Davila, Giana | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Lam, Julie | Boston U | Sonderegger, Maximillian | U of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Dehner, Tobias | Northeastern U | Lang, Austin | Brown U | Stefanov, Linda | U of Massachusetts Boston |
| Derosa, Julia | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Larkin Dunphy, Sophie | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Stevenson Swadling, Morgan | Vassar C |
| Devita, Alphonse | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Larrabee, Jane | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Stowe, Connor | U of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Diskin Gaudette, Nadia | McGill U | Le, Ai | Suffolk U | Strainchamps, Caera | John Jay C of Criminal Justice |
| Doherty, Jolie | George Washington U | Le, Christopher | Undeclared | Stratman, Emma | Skidmore C |
| Donovan, Rebecca | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Le, Thao | Northeastern U | Strauss, Helena | Bucknell U |
| Dougherty, Bridget | Boston U | Lee, Benjamin | Trinity C | Sullivan, Isabelle | Boston C |
| Duncan, Cait | Smith C | Lee, Jordan | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Sunuwar, Caroline | U of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Durcan, Lee | Northeastern U | Lee, Julie | Boston U | Susich, Matthew | Bryant U |
| Dwyer, Carolyn | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Lefevre, Angeannie | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Syper, Kinga | U of Massachusetts Boston |
| Dwyer, Robin | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Lesnick, Andre | Boston U | Szulc, Calvin | U of Vermont |
| Dzilas, Stella | Boston U | Li, Brianna | Boston U | Ta, Andrew | Bentley U |
| Ehrman, Olivia | Carnegie Mellon U | Li, Daniel | Northeastern U | Ta, Eric | U of Massachusetts, Lowell |
| Elamin, Sitnour | Boston U | Li, Kit | Boston U | Tahlil, Abdulqudus | Boston C |
| Elsbree, Abigail | U of Virginia | Li, Maggie | Tufts U | Temple, Sophia | Boston U |
| Elwell, Jackson | Wheaton C, Massachusetts | Lindeman, Sarah | Williams C | Toomey, Jillian | U of Massachusetts, Lowell |
| Encarnacao, Sofia | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Liu, Angelina | Boston U | Toy, Jason | U of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Eng, Anthony | U of Massachusetts, Lowell | Liu, Crystal | Temple U | Tran, An Chau | Tufts U |
| Erazo, Giancarlo | U of Massachusetts Boston | Liu, David | Northeastern U | Tran, Christopher | U of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Exilien, Tyler | Northeastern U | Liu, Gwen | Boston U | Tran, Hung | Wentworth Institute of Technology |
| Fitzgerald, Juliet | Harvard C | Liu, Zhaoyang | Dartmouth C | Tran, Isabella | Harvard C |
| Flagg, Matthew | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Lo, Stephanie | Suffolk U | Tran, Jennifer | Boston C |
| Fleming, Eliza | Occidental C | Londono, Daniela | C of the Holy Cross | Tran, Kimberly | U of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Flemming, Dorothy | Quincy C | Long, Juan | New York U | Tran, Tammy | Tufts U |
| Flynn, Madelyn | C of the Holy Cross | Ma, Charles | Harvard C | Trantrinh, Zachary | North Bennet Street School |
| Ford, Erin | Saint Anselm C | Macedo, Arthur | Harvard C | Trieber, Samuel | Roger Williams U |
| Forerotarquino, Fernanda | Gallaudet U | Macmillan, Devin | Wentworth Institute of Technology | Truong, Danica | Princeton U |
| Foscato, Evan | U of Michigan, Ann Arbor | Madgin, Jack | U of Massachusetts, Lowell | Tsakgalidis, Katerina | Suffolk U |
| Franco, Santiago | U of Massachusetts Boston | Mahoney, Cora | The U of Edinburgh | Uong, Tracy | U of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Frost, Morgan | Northwestern U | Maldonadowerk, Lukas | Boston U | Van Reijendam, Luke | Purdue U |
| Gallagher, Ashley | Salve Regina U | Manasselatham, Walt | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Vasquez, Tatyana | Northeastern U |
| Gallagher, William | U of Massachusetts Boston | Mangham, Aleena | Howard U | Vilallonga, Nicolas | Boston U |
| Gangemi, Sebastian | Boston U | Marini, Shirli | U of Massachusetts Boston | Vo, Andy | U of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Gannon, Melissa | Merrimack C | McCarty, Morgan | Northeastern U | Vo, Michael | U of Massachusetts Boston |
| Gao, Jason | Northeastern U | McKenna, Andrew | Pace U, New York | Vu, Francis | Boston U |
| Garcia Mathurin, Shakira | Emerson C | McLaughlin, Aedan | U of Utah | Walsh, Sean | Northeastern U |
| Gebreselassie, Ellen | Northeastern U | McManus, Fiona | U of Vermont | Wan, Christina | Princeton U |
| Gee, Donna | MC Pharmacy and Health Services | McNeil, Anne | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Wang, Alexa | Pace U, New York |
| Gjanci, Matthew | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Mendoza, Matthew | Louisiana State U | Wang, Daisy | Massachusetts Institute of Tech. |
| Godfrey, Alta | U of Vermont | Mihali, Vivian | Boston U | Wang, Hanyi | New York U |
| Gonzalez, Gavriella | Pace U, New York | Milbury, Chloe | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Wang, Nancy | Boston U |
| Goonan, Colleen | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Miller, Adam | U of Massachusetts Boston | Ward, Nolan | U of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Gould, Rosemary | Boston U | Minacapilli, Gia | Boston U | Weeks, Julia | Salem State U |
| Grady, Gabriela | Bryn Mawr C | Minutillo, Dante | Harvard C | Wei, Kathleen | Boston U |
| Griffith, Elizabeth | C of the Holy Cross | Molho, Sofia | The U of N. Carolina at Chapel Hill | Weng, Kenny | Boston C |
| Guan, Shumin | Boston U | Morales, Max | U of Massachusetts Dartmouth | Williams, Aidan | U of Massachusetts Boston |
| Gurel, Sofya | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Morency, Harlei | Northeastern U | Williams, Tyler | Wentworth Institute of Technology |
| Gutierrez, Carlos | Boston U | Mosley, Christiana | Boston C | Wong, Thomas | Wentworth Institute of Technology |
| Habib, Natalie | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Nelson, Isabelle | Mount Holyoke C | Woodbury, Ian | U of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Hallbrown, Raina | Mount Holyoke C | Nesoff, Willa | Boston U | Wright, Brianna | Bunker Hill CC |
| Hanlon, Lily | Boston U | Nguyen, Celina | Boston U | Wu, Libby | Harvard C |
| Hansen, Mackenzie | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Nguyen, Christy | Dartmouth C | Xu, Li | Tufts U |
| Harris, Jordan | U of Massachusetts Boston | Nguyen, Kaitlyn | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Yaffe, Samkyu | Brandeis U |
| He, Ellen | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Nguyen, Kenny | U of Massachusetts Boston | Yan, Edward | Brown U |
| Herbert, Kingston | Harvard C | Nguyen, Kevin | Boston U | Yang, Jason | U of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Herbert, Prescott | Vanderbilt U | Nguyen, Lilian | Boston U | Yee Wadsworth, Sofia | Brown U |
| Hickey, Shannon | U of Vermont | Nguyen, Minh | Brandeis U | Yeomans, Kathleen | Clemson U |
| Hines, Ananda | Roger Williams U | Nguyen, Phuong | Tufts U | Young, Alana | Harvard C |
| Hock, Conrad | Harvard C | Nguyen, Tin | U of Massachusetts Boston | Young, Joseph | U of Massachusetts, Lowell |
| Horner, Lillian | DePaul U | Noonan, Ema | Northeastern U | Zhang, Lina | Tufts U |
| Hosford, Ella | U of Massachusetts, Lowell | Nzerem, Kasiem | Harvard C | Zhao, Jeffrey | U of Massachusetts, Amherst |
| Hu, Anna | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | O'Gilvie, Lee James | U of Hartford | Zhu, Christina | Boston U |
| Huang, Derek | Wentworth Institute of Technology | Ogungbemi, Wuraola | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Zielonka, Meredith | Harvard C |
| Huang, Jie Fu | U of Massachusetts, Lowell | Oliveira, Julia | U of Massachusetts, Amherst | Ziyad, Imani | Temple U |
| Huang, Jing Hong | Boston U | Peguero, Armany | Northeastern U | Zorn, Julian | Syracuse U |
| Huang, Longhao | Northeastern U | Pereyra, Crystal | Massachusetts Bay CC | Zou, Jerry | Wentworth Institute of Technology |
| Hughes, Maxwell | U of Massachusetts Boston | Peterlin, Victoria | Dartmouth C | | |

*This is the most updated list as of June 4, but some seniors are missing.

K-Pop Tops the US Charts



Tens of thousands of fans gather for the BTS concert in Citi Field.

By **Kelsey Chen (III)**

Staff Writer

When did K-pop take over the music industry, and how did it happen so suddenly? Korean pop music, commonly known as K-pop, was founded in 1989 by a South Korean popular entertainment company. The Western music industry had its first major exposure to K-pop in 2012 when PSY's "Gangnam Style" topped the charts and became the first YouTube video to reach one billion views.

Since then, many K-pop groups have gained popularity in the U.S., including Bangtan Boys (BTS), EXO, Blackpink and TWICE. With groups ranging from four to 21 members, they do just about everything: sing, dance to complex choreography, model and act.

The multi-billion-dollar K-pop industry differs from the established music industry in America, as seen in the ways K-pop artists interact with fans, perform at concerts, exude self-confi-

dence and spread awareness for global issues. Of the many K-pop groups, none have become more famous in the Western music industry than BTS, whose name in English means Bulletproof Boy Scouts.

BTS, a group of seven young men from South Korea, has transformed the Western music industry within three years, as is reflected in their rich, successful history. Since their debut in 2013, BTS has won hundreds of awards, with their 2019 single "Boy With Luv" winning 111 awards in 2019. They became the first K-pop group to present and perform at the GRAMMYS. BTS also became the third group in 50 years to have three number-one albums on the Billboard 200 charts in less than 12 months, an accomplishment last achieved by The Beatles.

More and more American artists — Nicki Minaj, Lil Nas X and others — are collaborating with BTS, but is it for popularity or genuine interest?

Whatever the reason is, including more Asian artists in the American music industry has raised awareness of many global issues.

One awareness campaign launched by BTS is the Love Myself campaign, in which the group col-

laborates with the United Nations Children's Fund, using music to campaign against violence inflicted upon children and teenagers. As of 2019, their campaign has raised over two million dollars. Furthermore, BTS members also donate their own money to other charities or organizations of their choosing.

By having such popular groups raise awareness of these important issues, Lydia Chan (II) hopes that it "can lead to many other artists to speak up

about global issues."

Along with raising awareness for global issues, the rise of BTS in the Western music industry has also brought attention to issues within America. BTS fan Sylvia Posever (II) feels that "[The rise of K-pop in the U.S.] has definitely helped me realize the racism against and/or the underrepresentation of Asians in the United States."

This problem was rarely acknowledged before the popularity of K-pop in the U.S. When "Gangnam Style" gained popularity in 2012, it was a foreign song in a foreign language. Following the rise of BTS, more Asian American artists, such as NIKI and Joji, are getting the credit they deserve. People are learning that you do not have to understand the language to love the music.

The popularity of K-pop in recent years has also sprouted interest for other genres of Korean-style music. Leah Prodigalidad (II) describes how "K-pop encouraged me to branch out to other genres because K-pop itself is so diverse on its own. I fell in love with K-Hip Hop, K-R&B and K-Indie, which have taken up my playlists for the past few years." While these subgenres of Korean music have not gained the same popularity

as K-pop, they have still played a part in transforming the Western music industry.

Whether you despise K-pop or are an avid listener, it is impossible to deny that the genre has set major changes in motion for the Western music industry. With impacts

already ranging from raising awareness on global issues to creating more opportunities for Asian and Asian American artists, only time will tell what other changes K-pop will bring to the U.S.

"People are learning that you do not have to understand the language to love the music."

Are Movie Theaters Moving Out?

By **Julia Epshtein (II)**

Staff Writer

There is something that can't replace the traditional movie experience — the big screen, the sticky popcorn all over the floor and that six-year-old who won't stop kicking the back of your seat. But recent events have taken all of this away from us, and it might be forever. Prior to COVID-19, movie theaters were already struggling with the rise of streaming services such as Netflix and Disney+, but coronavirus has dealt the heaviest blow yet.

According to *Forbes*, during the weekend of March 13, when lockdowns began, the domestic box office was 54.7 million dollars, a 46 percent decline from the previous weekend, and a 60 percent decline from 2019. It was also the lowest-grossing weekend since 9/11. *The Hollywood Reporter* predicted that the global box office could lose at least five billion dollars, and an article by *Variety* states that American Multi-Cinema, one of the largest movie theater chains, is on the brink of filing for bankruptcy.

As movie theaters have closed their doors, film release dates have been delayed by months or even indefinitely. It forces fans to wait as some of the most anticipated movies of the year, including *Black Widow*, *Wonder Woman 1984*, *Mulan*, *A Quiet Place Part II*, and *No Time To Die*, are put on hold.

"I'm kinda bummed out because I was really looking forward to watching *Mulan*," says Michelle Garzon (II), "but I'm happy that I got to watch *Onward* on Disney+."

While movie theaters are significantly hurt by COVID-19 ramifications, streaming services are thriving.



With cinemas closed, many rely on streaming services such as Disney+ to end their boredom.

Kai Silva (II) says that "even though I'm mad annoyed that the movies were moved, there's nothing I can do about it. Right now I'm staying entertained by watching or re-watching other things, such as *Avatar* which just came out on Netflix."

Garzon and Silva are not the only ones who are seeking their entertainment through online streaming. Streaming services have been dominating the market since the pandemic began. According to *The Verge*, Netflix received 15.8 million new subscribers since mid-March and now has a total of 182 million subscribers. The growth of interest has been reflected in the steady rise of stock prices for Disney+ and Hulu. Some movies, such as *Artemis Fowl*, are skipping the theaters altogether and will instead premiere on streaming platforms.

While modern streaming services are becoming increasingly popular, so is an older way of watching movies: drive-in theaters.

According to the *Los Angeles Times*, "several of the [United States'] 305 drive-in theaters are experiencing a surge in interest as traditional movie theaters, theme parks and other entertainment options are forced to close."

In fact, ticket sales in many places for drive-in theaters were "at least double" of what they used to be. Drive-in theaters have become a safer way for many people to come together and enjoy the cinematic experience. So if you want to go out and watch a movie with your family while still maintaining distance with others, be sure to check out the nearest drive-in theater.

Boston Arts Battle COVID-19

By **Bella Berg (II)**

Staff Writer

The COVID-19 pandemic has kept much of the population quarantined at home, and during this period of hardship and uncertainty, people have turned to entertainment to cope with the “new normal.” Some, however, are occupied with thoughts that are about more than just the next episode of a TV show.

A large number of artists have been suffering greatly during this pandemic. With canceled performances and closed arts centers, it is becoming increasingly difficult for them to make a living. Many artists are unsure of where their next paycheck is coming from — if it ever comes. It’s being considered “Hollywood’s Great Depression” because of the sheer number of newly unemployed actors and tech crew members and canceled filming.

Museums are also working twice as hard during the quarantine. They are not only trying to keep business alive with online events, but they are also trying to document this event for future reference. Many are unsure of when these tough days will be over, and it isn’t clear how long it will be until we can safely step foot in an art studio or movie theatre again.

On April 15, Wheelock Family Theatre (WFT) announced its closure through at least August 15. Wheelock Family Theatre is the “Greater Boston area’s premier theatre company,” hosting professional and student theatre productions year-round. Wheelock Family Theatre is also a partner with Boston Public Schools to provide training through education programs and student matinee productions.

The closure of Boston University (BU) through late August and the discussion of its closure until as late as January 2021 has not only left potential and current students alarmed, it severely affects actors and artists who use BU spaces for work. Due to its closure, Wheelock had to cancel not only professional, adult performances but also students’ spring, summer and possibly fall productions.

When discussing COVID-19’s impact on the performing arts community, Jeri Hammond, Director of Education and Community Engagement at Wheelock Family Theatre at BU, says, “The pandemic has hit the arts community hard. Theatres are suffering financially, artists and teaching artists, most of whom work on a freelance basis, have lost the opportunity to work. We are also suffering as an artistic community because we can’t do the work we feel meant to do. We feel distanced from our artistic community and are grieving that.”

Since a large majority of classes are being canceled, art teachers are losing their primary source of income. Theatres are unsure if they should even plan for an upcoming



Due to social distancing, the Institute of Contemporary Art is now showcasing several exhibits on their website.

season in case sites are closed through winter because of the virus’s unpredictability. During quarantine, WFT has experimented with offering online classes and holding virtual rehearsals, but both students and teachers agree that these options are not nearly as effective as in-person events.

While Wheelock did not switch to online performances for their mainstage shows, other theatre companies have found a way to host performances digitally. Heschel Steinhauser Roelofs, a Boston-based actor and Boston Latin Academy student, recently partook in an online performance of *Romeo and Juliet*.

The rendition, “took a lot of the physical acting out of hit, but when performed, the theater experience was still there and people enjoyed it as a live performance,” says Roelofs.

Roelofs remains hopeful for the future of performing arts, even stating that many major film industries have continued auditions and read-throughs over video calls. With film sets being a major breeding ground for the coronavirus, the film industry has to come up with a safe way to shoot movies and TV shows with hundreds of people on a single set.

The Museum of Fine Arts (MFA) in Boston closed on March 13, furloughing many workers. The MFA, however, is working hard

to satisfy their virtual visitors.

Abigail Hykin, an art conservator and curator at the MFA states, “There are exhibition openings online: Monet in Boston has different postings every day in May. There are classes and visits to artists’ studios and lots of different programming. It has been fun seeing people recreate their favorite artworks at home.”

Since the pandemic, museums have taken on a unique role. In response to this changing world, Hykin asks a loaded question: “Is a museum about direct encounters with art? Or are online exhibitions an acceptable substitute?”

The Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA) has also retained the museum experience over the web. The ICA’s website and social media channels “feature a robust selection of digital content and other resources that we have produced [...] Visitors to our site can explore videos and audio recordings including exhibition previews, artist interviews, studio visits, and talks between artists and curators.”

The ICA has a vast amount of online resources, but since the COVID-19 pandemic, they have expanded their collection and added much more free content for at-home enjoyment.

Fortunately, the City of Boston could step in and help some artists out with their finances. The Boston Artist Relief Fund “will award grants of 500 dollars to individual artists who live in Boston whose creative practices and incomes are being adversely impacted by coronavirus [...] with events of all types being canceled, people who make income partially or fully through gigs and freelance work are losing critical opportunities to support their well-being in our city.”

Many cities, such as Cambridge, have subsequently followed in Boston’s path and released their own Artist Relief Funds. Amid Mayor Marty Walsh’s announcement that Boston will not reopen on May 18, however, the state could continue to see high unemployment rates among the arts community and therefore less art to enjoy in the future.

In the post-pandemic world, another concern will involve young artists. It will be difficult for newly graduated professionals in the arts to find decent-paying work after such an economically difficult time. Following the COVID-19 outbreak, more young actors and artists might take on jobs unrelated to their passion in the arts to make a living — giving them less time to joyfully pursue their desired career.

Art Class Gets Creative

By **Maggie Olson (III)**

Staff Writer

Despite the difficult circumstances of remote learning, AP Studio Art and Graphic Arts classes are still continuing online from the homes of Boston Latin School students. Much like academic classes, art classes have faced a new set of challenges with online standards, especially regarding materials and resources.

Since Graphic Arts is a class that relies on technology, this poses some difficulties during remote learning. Graphic Arts teacher Ms. Elizabeth Walshak acknowledges, “Some students don’t have internet at home, or are relying on Chromebooks.” She says this is an issue which “impacts

their ability to create art.” Students, however, can continue to use some of the same software accessible to them from school.

“Adobe offered us all free access to all of its softwares, so we can continue using Photoshop and Illustrator,” says Sherry Xu (I), a Graphic Arts student.

Compared to Graphic Arts, AP Studio Art faces a different series of challenges. In this art class, students

have recently finished portfolios for their AP exam. A portfolio for AP Studio Art typically comprises 15 works based on a theme which the student develops through their pieces. Due to the circumstances of remote learning, however, portfolios are now required to have just 10 pieces. Before leaving

school, students were at the beginning of their 12th piece.

According to AP Studio Art teacher Mr. Stephen Harris, many students “ended up finishing their twelfth concentration piece at home.” The main reason for this was so that students could decide the end result of their piece. Therefore, the series of works did not come to an abrupt close during school closure. One of the most important aspects of art classes is the ability to inspire each other and exchange ideas.

Mr. Harris says, “Having the luxury of being at school and being able to do these things and be a community unfortunately has been lost.”

Although virtual art classes provide nowhere near the same experiences as those taught in person, some aspects of AP Studio Art and Graphic Arts have remained the same. For her Graphic Arts class, Xu says, “Not much

has changed for online classes; it is still just us working on our assignments and asking questions if we have any.”

Although students and teachers lack materials and in-person connections, the benefits of continuing art classes are worth it. The circumstances are not ideal, but remote learning has not stopped the creation of art in any way. According to Ms. Walshak, now and more than ever, the arts “can be [a] catharsis, an escape” from these difficult times.

“The arts ‘can be [a] catharsis, an escape’ from these difficult times.”



John's Corner

By Aileen Luo (II)
Creative Consultant



Author's Note

Morning, the Argo friends! Or, y'know, whatever time it is when you're reading this. I guess I'll just let the cat out of the bag now: I'm not John. Don't worry, he didn't die — the madman is actually *graduating*.

So my name's Aileen, I'll be a senior next year, and you'll be seeing me making half-hearted peace signs and doling out mediocre advice from now on. If you've ever read anything in John's Corner this past year you thought wasn't funny, it's probably because I helped him write it. Now, let's have a moment of silence for the quality of this advice column that we've lost with John's departure.

Hi John, A bunch of BLS Matchups Instagram accounts have been going around, and I'm at a loss as to whether I should participate or not? I think I could at least make some friends (even though it's supposed to be romantic), but I'm afraid that the people who usually sign up for these kinds of things aren't really my crowd, and I also suck at texting people back...oops. What do you think I should do? Thanks :(- Friendly Neighborhood Ghost

Bruh, first off, my name isn't John. I'll forgive you this time, but you sure are on thin ice, Friendly Neighborhood Ghost. Anyway! I would put my full faith behind BLS Matchups accounts on Instagram; the industry has grown with quarantine demand, and I'm seeing a lot of innovation. I remember in my sixie year when those accounts would just take two people they thought looked cute together without their consent and post pictures of them together. Now, the ones I've been seeing have full-on Google forms asking for deeply personal information, like my favorite color and my childhood trauma!

The bottom line about these accounts is that what is mostly just a little bit of fun during a time where most teenagers are bored out of their minds is innocent most of the time, but, like all things on the Internet, it has the potential to go wrong. I trust you to be smart and not end up with a stalker at your house, but seeing as it doesn't sound like you want anything romantic, it will be extremely important to set your boundaries early on if you do decide to participate.

As for these people not really being your "crowd", one of the most important things I've learned from BLS other than Cicero's speech against Cataline is that a lot of the people you don't consider being part of your social circle have a lot more in common with you than you'd think, so keep an open mind! And don't be afraid of not texting back: if the conversation doesn't flow, it's not necessarily your fault, and it's also not necessarily the best use of your time to spend effort to keep it afloat. Good luck, have fun, and stay safe!

I keep accidentally leading on a bunch of guys then dropping them because I get busy with school. How do I find the right balance between being a workaholic and relationships? - Anonymous

School is your biggest priority as a student, and you're building good habits that'll be valuable to you! Your hard work and dedication to the CollegeBoard will pay off in a couple years, don't worry, in the form of countless lost hours of sleep and shattered friendships and relationships, all in exchange for the unparalleled pride you will feel having contributed to the pocket-lining of Trevor Packer at Advanced Placement and Instruction at CollegeBoard.

But seriously, if you find yourself talking to guys and then ghosting them, then it's very possible that right now isn't a great time for you to get into a relationship, and that's completely okay. For some reason, society pushes us to be in a relationship as the status quo. But you don't need another person! If now is a time in your life where you need to focus on yourself, then you absolutely should do just that. It's almost impossible not to feel the societal pressure to get a boyfriend, but if that isn't what's important to you then your actions should reflect what you actually want for yourself.

That being said, workaholic culture definitely isn't healthy. Especially now, a lot of us feel like we have to be working all the time. It might take a long time to internalize, but remember that your self worth isn't based on your productivity. Do what you need to do to get the grade you want and then give yourself a break. But instead of trying to find the balance between work and relationships, it sounds like you need to first find the balance between work and taking care of yourself. In the end, you will probably look back on high school and remember the people you met, the experiences you had, and how you grew as a person, not *agricola, agricolae (m.): farmer*. So take some time out of studying and check in with your friends, do some yoga, or just sit and think. Constantly searching for relationships can be exhausting and toxic. If you meet another person, they should be an addition to your life, not an attempt to fix what's wrong in it. I really suggest you take some time to relax by yourself first before you get back out there. And when you do, remember to be communicative and let that person know that you'll be busy with school and that it's your priority. If he's any good, he'll understand and support you.

I'm losing patience with almost all of the people in my life, both in and out of my house. Do you have any ideas on how I can communicate well without having to bring up any difficult conversations? - Anonymous

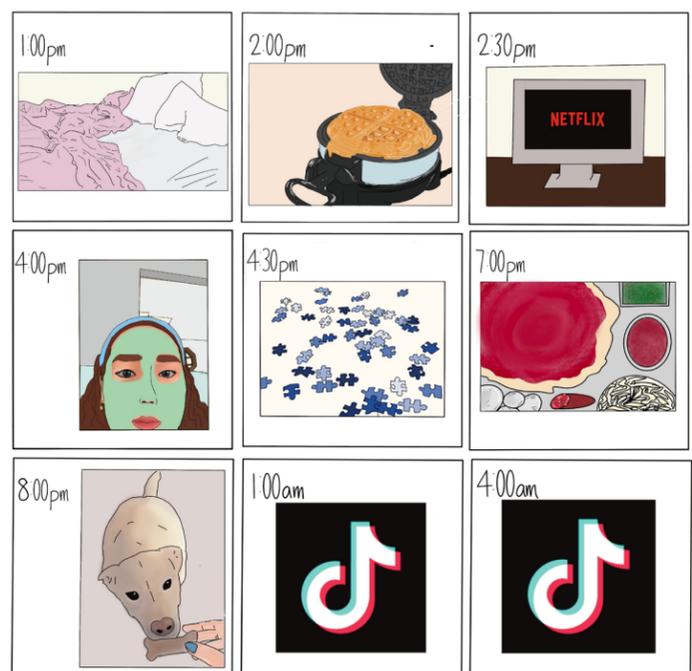
So, y'know how Theodore Roosevelt once said "speak softly and carry a big stick" while talking about American foreign policy or whatever? I don't know, I completely brain dumped all my knowledge after the APUSH exam, but that seems like the best way to deal with people you're having trouble understanding right now. I just don't really know where you can get a big stick if you can't go outside and buying a stick on Amazon would be a complete violation of my anticapitalist moral compass.

But really, it sounds like you're having a lot of feelings right now. And I think we all need to step back and forgive ourselves a little for having those feelings. Why do we have to be so mentally strong when there's a global pandemic happening? I know it sucks, but the only way to communicate well is to let down your guard and express how you're feeling to the people you're having conflicts with. With any luck, the people in your life will appreciate the emotional vulnerability you've shown them and show you the same trust and respect. We often overestimate how much other people know about how we feel; The best way to communicate is to honestly let other people know how you feel. Remember the cheesy things teachers tell you during Socratic seminars (I'm sorry if that phrase gave anyone reading this war flashbacks, but I just had an online one this week): use "I" statements. That way, you aren't accusing other people of poor character but showing them how you feel and how they can help you both have a better relationship with the world turned upside down.

Communication is one of the hardest things most adults have to do. You're a good person for wanting to improve on it. Best of luck :)

THE PERFECT QUARANTINE DAY

Artist: Kelsey Chen (III)



The Show Must Go On: The Arts at BLS

By Rachel Roncka (III)

Staff Writer

Nothing has shaken the Boston Latin School community — or the world — like the COVID-19 pandemic. When rumors of school closures became reality, the BLS arts community suffered many disappointments. Besides the disruption of the normal art class curriculum, most of the productions planned for this spring were canceled or moved online. Despite these unprecedented circumstances, students are still exploring the arts and sharing their work with others. New challenges call for creative solutions, of which the BLS art, theatre and music departments are in no short supply.

With the new online school schedule, students have continued to hone their musical abilities in live classes over Zoom. Normally, their grades would depend on performances at school events, for which they would spend many class periods rehearsing, but with the cancellation of events like the Spring Music Night, teachers have had to improvise. Now, the projects they assign should recreate the experience of performing in a group while remaining at home.

Director of String Orchestras, Ms. Susan Shipley, elaborates, “I’ve tried to give assignments which mimic harmony-making experiences. All of the students have now done duet projects, playing the harmonies themselves. Technology, of course, has made this possible.”

Technology has also enabled a long-distance collaboration between students from band and choir groups. Their project, composed of individual audio recordings edited together, will be presented at the Class of 2020 graduation. Gospel Choir also shared a special virtual project with the BLS community, an idea which surfaced during one of their weekly Zoom meetings.

Alto Section Leader Kimberly Tran (III) explains

the idea: “It was after Music Night had been canceled that we considered making a virtual project. We plan on recording ourselves singing and then piecing the videos together through an a cappella app.”

Students rehearse songs by singing along, while muted, to instrumentals played by their director, Ms. Kristen George. Projects like these serve as a reminder to make the best out of the current circumstances. “We really wanted to do something in place of Music Night, and also hope is a big theme in gospel music, so we just thought it would be the right thing to do,” Tran adds.

Hope, however, was not enough to save the BLS Theatre Company’s musical *Imaginary*. When the school’s reopening was still a possibility, the department had planned to host online auditions over Zoom, although the platform would be unable to support a performance of the lengthy musical.

Despite these setbacks, some theatrical productions still managed to happen. Theatre Company Director Mr. Joseph Gels shares, “We have chosen a more humble 45-minute musical project about a particularly horrible doctor to do with just the seniors to give them their last show.” There will be opportunities for students of other grade levels to participate in the virtual theatre experience.

Additionally, the Yellow Submarine Improv Troupe performed to viewers over Zoom on May 31, and on May 26 BLS Theatre provided “some Zoom-based showings of our production of *My Love Lies Frozen In the Ice* for those who missed it at the school based on a recording we have,” says Mr. Gels.

With their performance in *My Love Lies Frozen In the Ice*, BLS Theater advanced to the semi-finals of the Massachusetts High School Drama Festival and multiple students won individual awards. With the online showings, even more members of the BLS community were able to enjoy and appreciate what Mr. Gels calls “the best show we have done in my career.”

The movement of so many school events to online platforms inspired the students of BLS Asian Students In Action (A.S.I.A) to produce a virtual version of Asian Night, a highly anticipated event in the school community. The YouTube announcement begins with club officers thanking the performers who contributed to the project, especially those graduating this year.

A.S.I.A. Co-President Jess Schnitzer (I) explains the process behind the video, saying, “We contacted all performers and asked if they would submit videos of their rehearsals or practices to be a part of the video. Once we got all of those videos, I started editing them together to create the video.” A.S.I.A. is released content in celebration of

Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

Thanks to technology and the innovations of students and faculty, many BLS traditions have been preserved despite school closures. Their hard work and talent provide a source of comfort and entertainment during these hard times. Even as we are all social distancing, we can always rely on the arts to bring us closer together as a community.

“New challenges call for creative solutions.”

Tiger King Reigns on Netflix



Based on a true story, this eccentric zookeeper will never stop until he gets what he wants.

By Catherine Cox (VI)

Contributing Writer

Between the cancellation of sports and extracurriculars, shorter school schedules and stay-at-home orders because of the COVID-19 pandemic, Boston Latin School students are finding that they have a lot more free time to watch some of the latest shows on Netflix. Like many others across the country, BLS students are being drawn to Netflix’s true-crime documentary: *Tiger King: Murder, Mayhem and Madness*, an eight-part docuseries that Netflix summarizes

as, “A zoo owner spirals out of control amid a cast of eccentric characters in this true murder-for-hire story from the underworld of big cat breeding.”

The show focuses on convicted felon Joe Exotic, owner of the Greater Wynnewood Exotic Animal Park in Oklahoma. The story follows him as he entertains visitors by providing up-close animal experiences such as playing with tiger cubs, feeding lions, or interacting with wolves.

While the zoo coverage is bizarre enough, that’s only the beginning. Not everyone is thrilled with the idea

of playing with baby tigers, especially Joe’s nemesis Carole Baskin. Founder of Big Cat Rescue in Florida, Baskin believes her goal in life is to rescue “big cats” from people like Joe, and she does everything in her power to destroy his successful business. Add a murder-for-hire plot, a missing spouse and a cast of odd and creepy characters, and one can see that the series is unlike anything else on television.

Watching *Tiger King* has become a favorite activity for many students at BLS. Libby Wu (I) is a big fan of the show. “I’ve watched all of the Tiger

King episodes,” Wu says. “I binged the show a couple of weeks ago, and it kept me up many nights until like 3 A.M. I think that *Tiger King*’s popularity is in part due to its sheer absurdity. I personally couldn’t believe that the show is based on pure truth.” Wu continues, “The chaos of *Tiger King* is what entertains me so much since Joe Exotic seems like such an imaginary character. It’s also really ironic how Carole Baskin is posing as the goddess of morality and fighting Joe, whom she claims to be a horrible criminal, when she herself isn’t providing the best living conditions for her animals and is employing many volunteers in what appears to be a sneaky way of using free labor.”

This story about an out of control rivalry not only caught the attention of students, but staff members as well. Ms. Kristen George, a music teacher at BLS, formed a negative view of *Tiger King* after watching one-and-a-half episodes. George states, “I had heard a lot of buzz about it, so I gave it a chance, but as you can see, I quit in the middle of an episode [...] I am a person who likes to watch things that are educational and or thought-provoking, and this was neither.”

Ms. Tracy O’Donnell, a Pre-Algebra and Algebra 2 teacher, has similar views. O’Donnell says, “People are curious and incredulous because it is hard to believe these are actually real people who really say and do these things and live the way they do [...] I was really disturbed by the manipulative, narcissistic and sometimes psychotic behavior that some of the main people featured on the show displayed and the negative impact it had on others around them.”

Whether one is truly entertained or disgusted with *Tiger King*, it is a show that can serve as a distraction and source of respite from the alarming events happening around us and the world.

Spotlight on...
Alana Young



By Jess Schnitzer (I)
& Jordan Harris (I)

Photo Editor and Contributing Writer

You don't get voted for Most Well-Rounded for nothing, and in Alana Young's case, it was not only for being a black belt in Taekwondo, Mock Trial team captain and Class Secretary but also a violinist and an actress in her spare time. Trust us, we also don't know how she fits that into her schedule—it was already hard enough fitting it into one sentence. She's been an important part of our time here at Boston Latin School: as a friend, a roommate, a fellow actress and a director.

Alana has been a great friend and supporter to not only us but also the larger community. If you've seen her in the hallways all dressed up in a blazer, that's her on her way to another Mock Trial tournament where she will blow away the competition with her powerful rhetoric and strong voice. You might also bump into her in the music wing as she makes her way towards the Black Box where she both directs and acts. Last year Alana graced the stage as Sharmaine in *Da Kink*

In My Hair. Declamation is hard enough, but Alana went up multiple times in front of hundreds of people to recite an almost five-minute-long monologue. If you were lucky enough to see it, we don't need to describe to you how powerful it was. By the end of that monologue, she had multiple people in the audience and the cast crying.

I met Alana in sixie year when she wore her colorful leggings with her Gryffindor scarf (which she still wears today). In those six years, we have grown, laughed and cried together, and I'm lucky to have been able to do all of those with her. During Halloween, we've walked the halls together as Cruella DeVil and Ursula, escaped convicts, Queen of Hearts and Wendy and just recently the best Ghostbust-ing team around. Alana has the rare talent of being able to work hard and get results while knowing how to unwind and have fun with her friends.

I've been friends with Alana for almost

14 years (that's crazy!!), and she has never once strayed from being true to herself. We started dancing with each other when we were four; we met in kindergarten, and now we're graduating together. Thankfully, our similar interests and very goofy personalities have kept us together. Throughout the years we've goofed off in play rehearsals or in various dance classes and gone on many, many shopping outings and food stops, of course. I'm so glad we'll be close by next year because her advice helps keep me afloat.

So, Harvard, you better get ready for Alana Young. When we say that you have seen nothing like her before, we mean it. And Alana, we can't wait to see you on the Supreme Court or whatever else you're gonna do to change the world. Alana is so supportive, caring, loving and beautiful inside and out. Thank you for sticking with us through all these years—we know that you're going to do great things!!

Spotlight on...
Jess Schnitzer



By Alana Young (I)

Contributing Writer

Jess Schnitzer, it is no exaggeration to say that you practically ran Boston Latin School. From being the president of Wolfpack Volunteers, devoted Girl Scout, Photo Editor for the *Argo*, president of A.S.I.A., actress for BLS theater, violist of the Concert String Orchestra and president of the entire Massachusetts chapter of JCL, your guidance and leadership has spread throughout 78 Avenue Louis Pasteur and much further beyond. Your innovation and creativity never fail to amaze those around you, and the trust your club members have in you is evident. Looking at this impressive lineup of extracurriculars, I'm amazed I got to see you at all! But throughout our six years together at BLS (you're lucky, I decided against using a sixie photo of you for this highlight); you have come to be one of my greatest friends.

I'm sure the staff at Kung Fu Tea, Tea-Do, Crave and Love Art Sushi can attest to the hours (and money) we have spent in their establishments with Shumin, Vicky, Chau An and Janet. Those evenings crowding your

kitchen table with the Eggs™, whether it was waiting to trick-or-treat on Halloween or exchanging holiday gifts, would not have been the same without your sense of humor and quirky camp games (and your house). You've also claimed six years worth of my camera roll with about a hundred of hilarious pictures of you, by far the most out of anyone else (Shumin is a close second). Don't worry, though, you're still the most photogenic person I have ever met, and I only briefly considered using one of those pictures for this highlight.

Throughout the years, whenever I was nervous, scared or outright breaking down, you have been by my side providing the advice or emotional support I needed to keep going. Strangely enough, during our years of friendship, we have spent so much time together; we became practically the same person. There were so many times we had the same thought at the exact time it really started to get scary. But spending weeks together in Eastern Europe, Washington D.C,

New York and elsewhere would probably do that to anyone. You were my confidant, therapist and headrest during all these trips, so it's no wonder we blended together afterward. Psychic links aside, we are still always on the same page. Whenever the opportunity for a bold decision arises, like during the Neo-Futurists show, I know I can always rely on your courage and count on you to take a risk with me.

From Beginning Orchestra to Concert, supporting role in the one-act plays to the star of *Tiger Style*, extreme baby face to none (it's incredible how different you look every year) and many other ways, I have watched you grow into the amazing person you are today, figuratively and literally. I'm so sad you're traveling so far for college, but I know we'll keep in touch. I give it a year before you're running the University of Washington, too.

I love you,
Alana

Spotlight on...
Jordan Harris



By Alana Young (I)

Contributing Writer

Jordan Erlean Harris, my brother from another mother, my sister from another mister, you have been my ride or die for 16 hilarious years. Starting from tiny tots dancing with Origination, you have been cracking me up and brightening my day for basically our entire lives.

Pirouettes, tendus, pas de bourrees (I don't think we've ever seen that word written out), none of the joy that Ms. Dibinga's 3 o'clock dance class brought would have been the same without you. I mean, who else would randomly tap dance with me in the hallway? If you still don't believe the impact your presence had on my time at Origination, my mom still refers to you as my "dance buddy." I could definitely feel the decrease in laughter after you left.

That being said, I am so thankful we spent these last six years together, recreating the tomfoolery of dance class elsewhere. There has quite literally never been a dull moment. Some of my favorite memories

come from our "shopping" trips (let's be real, we rarely ever bought anything). Whether at Downtown Crossing or Braintree Mall, you and I, along with Kayla, Ananda and Shakira, always had a great time howling in dressing rooms and probably annoying the poor mall workers. Regardless, you somehow made walking aimlessly for hours the most fun I've ever had. As soon as the world re-opens, be prepared for another trip.

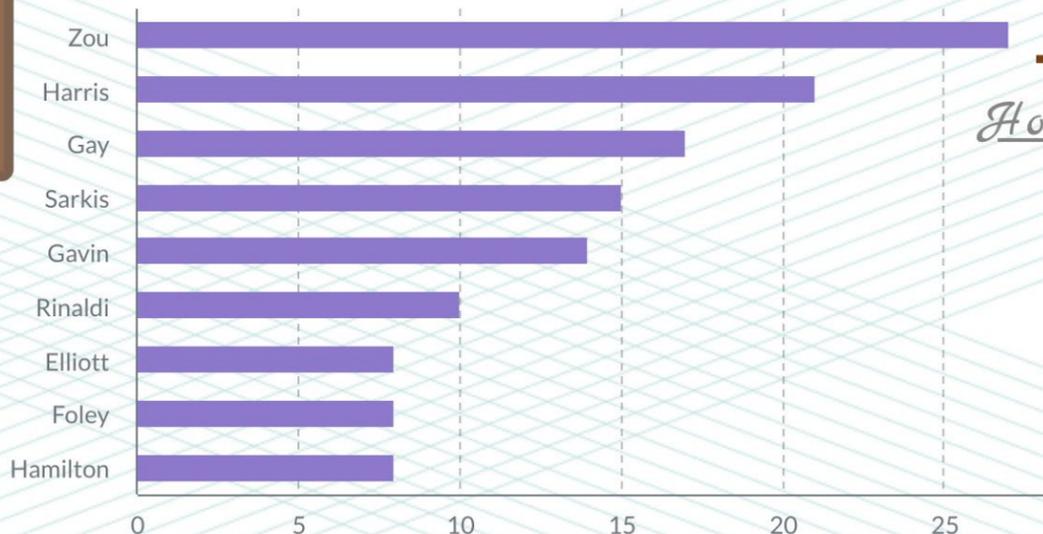
We have created so many hilarious memories together, like binge-watching hours of *H2O* on your air mattress. There are very few people on this earth who could make a single episode of horrible acting and Australian accents entertaining, let alone an entire season. Speaking of acting, your positivity also radiated into BLS theater. Although your portrayal of Lady Capulet in eighth grade was nothing less than magnificent, I think we can both agree that your return to the Black Box in *Da Kink in My Hair* was more fun and impactful. Only you could've started the nec-

essary clownery to create the masterpiece that is the theater version of Cotton Eye Joe (although the due credit for our creation has yet to be given). You also provided emotional support for the entire cast. When the gloom of our monologues weighed us down, you were always there to lift us back up.

I won't lie to you, Jordan, you're a hot mess, but that just brings out one of your greatest talents: your ability to pick yourself back up even after the biggest setbacks amazes me every single time. Your positivity shines to degrees that I could only hope to reach. Yet you and your incredible optimism have always been by side through every obstacle BLS threw at us, and I couldn't have made this crazy journey without you. I know you will do great things these next four years and don't think for even a second I won't be a part of it. You can't get rid of me that easily! I love you and never stop shining!

Alana

Class of 2020 Favorite Teachers



Honorable Mentions

- Howard
- Levine-Adler
- Sullivan
- Williams
- Bartoloma
- Pietrangelo
- Beyer

*Taken from Senior Survey results

I Had a Secret Crush On...

| | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| A.E | Callie Dwyer | Enyi lol but we all know that | world) | Mateo Daffin | Mrs. Kirkpatrick | People who didn't deserve it |
| Aaron Moy | Calvin Mei | Ethan | Jess Schnitzer | Matt Mendoza | Ms. Brabant | Phuong |
| Abdul Tahlil | Cameron Kewley | Ethan Liu | Jess Schnitzer | Matt mendoza | Ms. Clougherty | Qalid |
| Aileen Luo | Charlie Griffin | Ethan Liu | Jill Sellon | Matt Susich | Ms. Gallivan | Ray Ahern |
| Ajani | Charlie Griffin | Ethan Liu | Jillian Sellon | Matthew Mendoza | Ms. Leung | Rebecca Donovan |
| Alana Young | Charlie Griffin | Eva Larkin Dunphy | Jimmy Sullivan | Max Sonderegger | Ms. Sarkis | Rene Gauthier III |
| Alejandro Chaparro | Chau an | Evan Foscatto | Joana Avrami | Me this whole time | Ms. Scott | Sabrina Nieves |
| Alejandro Chaparro | Chris Impellizeri | Everybody with j names | Joe Young | Mehdi Kayi | Ms. Varano | Sam Hutch |
| All of the Wolftones before anyone from 2020 joined | Chris Le | Everyone and no one | John Flynn | Mehdi Kayi | Ms. Webb | Sam Hutch |
| Angelina Liu | Christy Jestin | Frankie Linso | John Flynn and Big Daddy J | Mehdi Kayi | My crushes are WELL aware of who they are | Sam Hutch |
| Angelina Liu | Christy Nguyen | Fritz | J | Mehdi Kayi | Myself | Sam Hutch |
| Annie Jackson | Claire Lakus | Fritz (Mr. Spezzano's snake) | Jolie Doherty | Miles Boulogne | Myself (love at first sight) | Sam Trieber |
| Anthony Datish | Class of 2019 | Fritz Spezzano | Julian Day | Molly O'Halleron | Nice try ;) | Santiago Franco |
| Anthony Huang | Cole Keenan | Fritz the snake <3 | Julian Day | Mr. Akeson | No one | Sean Keating |
| Anthony Patrick Mazzola | Conrad | Gabe Grimes | Julian Zorn | Mr. Andersen | No one | Serenity Mendez |
| Antonio Romano | Conrad Hock | Gia | Kai Rojo | Mr. Anderson | No one | Shakira Garcia-Mathurin |
| Any boy that was nice to me | Cooper Bosch | Greta Silva | Kate Yeomans | Mr. Devaney the sub | No one | Shmurdo |
| Any junior or senior boy over 5'5 | Cooper Bosch | Gwen | KHAI | Mr. Finnigan | No one | Shumin Guan |
| Arthur Macedo | Cooper Bosch | Gwen | Kimberly | Mr. Gavin and Mr. Barry | No one (fortunately) | Shumin Guan |
| Ashley Rooney | Crystal Liu | gwen | King Kamissa | are my kings | No one lol | Shumin Guan |
| Audra Garvey | Daniel Gavin | Gwen Liu | Kingston Herbert | Mr. Gay | No one, my crushes were never secret | Someone in the class of '18 |
| Audra Garvey | Daniel Li | Hornetsting555 | Kwang Wu | Mr. Gay | No one. I'm Asexual, bruh. | Sri |
| Ava Baldassari | Dante Minutillo | I don't think it was a secret | Kyson Cheong | Mr. Gay | Noah Magaziner | Sri |
| Bella | David Qian | Irene Ju ;) | Leo Batista | Mr. Gay | Noah Magizener | Sri in sixie year LOL |
| Ben Lee | Deandre Harris | Isa | Leo Batista | Mr. Grammer | Noah Magizener | Steph Lo |
| BLA | Dina | Isabel Ralston | Leo Codiga | Mr. Hamilton | Noah Sargent | Tammy Tran |
| Boys Varsity Hockey Team | Dina Kobassei | Isabella Tran | Lilian Nguyen | Mr. Harris | Noah Sargent | Tari Peceovich |
| Brian Dang | Dom KS | Isabella Tran | Lilly Horner | Mr. Long | Nobody real ;) | The Moy twins |
| Brian Dang | Dominic Kennedy-Slesar | It would be a shame not to keep that a secret | Literally none | Mr. Rinaldi | Nolan Ward | Too many people to list |
| Brian Dang | Dominic KS | Iván Noiret León | Lucy Humphrey | Mr. Rinaldi | None, I am too good | Tyler Tse |
| Brian Dang | Dominic Rinaldi | Jack Madgin | Lucy Humphrey | Mr. Rinaldi | Nora Bergman | UMass Amherst...wish it was mutual |
| Brian Dang uwu | Echezona | Jackie Powers | Lukas Werk | Mr. Simoneau | Norah Brady with a fake mustache in Cabaret | Vicky Kwan |
| Caiman Craddock | Eliza Fleming | Janet | Lukas Werk | Mr. Simoneau | Nuala Kinsella | Vicky Kwan |
| Caimin | Ellen Gebreselassie | Jason Yang and Omar Medrano, homies need love | Luke Van Reijendam | Mr. Snyder | Olivia Ehrman | Way too many people |
| Caimin Cradock | Ellen Gebreselassie uwu | JD Moore (he deserves the | Maddie Flynn | Mr. Spezzano | Omar Medrano | We're a secret couple |
| | Emily Jerome | | Mae Kelly | Mr. Sullivan but it wasn't secret | Owen Sullivan | Will Marchi |
| | Emma Kelly | | Mama goose | | | |
| | Enyi | | | | | |

Worst Memory

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| "Senior Spring Szn" | forest hills | got dumped | declamation and staring at my parents in the audience for a full minute | in the bathroom after a certain teacher yelled at me for being on the third floor at 7:25 | My terrible handwriting making me redo an assignment thrice for Ms. Gray | Taking Calc BC when I didn't even know what a derivative was |
| 10th grade (Especially Physics) | AP Biology | Crying in the eighth grade girls' bathroom...more than once. | Freshman football | Having a certain Humanities teacher (falsely) accuse me of plagiarism in sixie year from some Tumblr anime account | Nearly getting detention for going to my locker | Tearing my ACL |
| 11th grade | AP Chem assessments | Crying in the sixie bathroom before school too many times | Freshman Year | Having a certain Humanities teacher (falsely) accuse me of plagiarism in sixie year from some Tumblr anime account | Nearly getting detention for going to my locker | Telling my entire Bio class I was going to jump out the window |
| 7:45 | AP Gov. Senate field trip (for personal reasons) | Crying with a certain guidance counselor R5 | Freshman year | Having a panic attack in 9th grade Italian | None | The death of a classmate |
| 7th grade | AP Latin | Cutting my heel open | Geometry | Having multiple breakdowns in the nurse's office | Not getting credit for a project I did most of the work on | The entirety of sophomore year |
| 8th grade | AP Latin | Declamation | Getting a 13% on my Latin test | Having multiple breakdowns in the nurse's office | Not getting my 6th year of varsity lax | The first 4 years of Latin |
| 8th grade Latin | Ap Latin | Declamation | Getting a second degree burn in Mr. McQuade's classroom because my desk was put too close to the heating pipe | Junior year | Not requalifying for HOCR by a tenth of a second | The flashlight project |
| 9th grade history cheating scandal | AP Physics junior year | Declamation | Getting an F on my retake after receiving an F to retake the test | How I behaved as a sixie Junior year | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | The last 6 years |
| A certain 8th grade teacher's Latin class | Bathroom panic attacks | Declamation | Getting bad grades in Latin | Junior Year, never have I ever felt more burnt out in my life | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | The last week of school junior year when I couldn't skip AP Bio class |
| A certain Biology teacher's class | Being asked "quid est nomen tibi" on my first day of Latin 3 | Declamation | Getting banned from the library in 8th grade | Knowing Asian Night 2020 would be cancelled | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | skip AP Bio class |
| A certain English teacher accusing me of cheating and crying in the bathroom | Being called a plagerizer when someone stole my work | Declamation | Getting called out by Ms. Webb during an assembly | Last seconds of BLS hockey career winding down | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | The multiple mental breakdowns I had |
| A certain English teacher making me cry in sixie year | Being stuck in a room by myself with Mr. Kerpan during a lockdown | Declamation | Getting caught cheating on a test | Latin | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | The nurses didn't believe that I threw up in school so I threw up in their bathroom and told them to go look |
| A certain facing history teacher yelling at me for wanting to drop her class | Calculus | Declamation | Getting caught cheating. | Latin | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | The sound of 6:00 A.M. alarm |
| A certain guidance counselor making me cry | Car rides to lacrosse games | Declamation | Getting caught for self plagiarism | Latin | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | Theater hell weeks |
| A certain Latin 3 teacher's class | Censured for skipping R7 study | Declamation | Getting caught running to lunch sixie year | Latin 3 | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | Throwing keys into Abby Ulrich's forehead in Mr. Gay's room |
| A certain Latin 3 teacher's tests | Chem | Declamation | Getting caught skipping | Latin 3 | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | Throwing up in the sigma hallway after a PB&J sandwich for lunch |
| A certain Latin teacher's Latin 4 class | Chem | Declamation | Getting kicked out of my 8th grade Latin class for shrugging my shoulders | Latin 3 final | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | Throwing up McDonalds after running the 300m dash |
| A certain Math teacher junior year | Chemistry 1 | Declamation | Getting my bagged searched whilst having contraband | Latin 4 | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | Tripping and falling in front of everyone in gym class |
| A certain Math teacher losing my test corrections and failing me | Chemistry homework | Declamation | Getting my entire agenda book annotated by a certain substitute teacher | Latin Class | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | Tripping up the stairs |
| A certain retired English teacher for yelling at me and kicking me out of class for taking a final early | Chinese Class | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | Latin class | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | Under the Bunk Bed |
| A stressful group presentation in front of an angry teacher | Clogging the girl's toilet in the cafeteria completely by accident, and just so much more | Declamation | Getting rejected from a promposal | Latin Prose | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | Walking into the nurses' office and just breaking down in tears |
| Advanced Algebra 2 | Cluster A's reading teacher | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | Latin Prose | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | Watching a girl fall down the stairs and hit her head so hard that she went unconscious sixie year |
| Advanced Algebra 2 | College Apps | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | Latin Prose | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | Wearing a homemade tunica in front of my 8th grade Latin class |
| Advanced Algebra 2 | Collegeboard taking my money & canceling my score | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | Latin Prose | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | Wearing sweatpants sixie year |
| Advanced Geometry | Competition | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | Latin Prose | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | When a certain English teacher made me throw away my full iced coffee |
| Advanced Geometry class | Concussion senior year | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | Listening to a certain teacher belt Bohemian Rhapsody | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | When a fellow student told me that black people were stupid and he didn't know how I got in lol boy was he wrong |
| Advanced Math | Constant tears winter of junior year | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | Losing a bunch of middle school friends | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | When Harvard bought out Sami's |
| All of AP latin | Corona gg | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | Losing interest in things I used to love | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | Working on Capstone |
| All of Sixie year | Coronavirus | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | Lunches with a certain guidance counselor | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | Yelling "Kuchi (Kopi), no!" right in front of Ms. Moon |
| All of sixie year | Covid taking away senior activities and traditions | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | March 13, 2020 | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | Zoom |
| All of sophomore year | Covid-19 | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | March 16th, 2020 | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| All of tenth grade year | Crying about my first declamation | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | Math | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| All of the fitness gram pacer tests | Crying after my sixie declamation | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | Me being an ignorant kid around freshman year | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| All the times I forgot I had an assessment | Crying in a NYC subway station while waiting an hour for the right train | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | Meeting Gregplant | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| Almost getting expelled in junior year | Crying due to how hard Advanced Geometry class was | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | Memorizing declamation the morning of | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| Any declamation ever | Crying during my math test and everyone knew I was crying | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | Missing the train and having a lunch spilled on me and then having to give a presentation all in the same day | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| Any time I got a piece of writing back in a certain English class | Crying in Latin class | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | Most of sophomore year. | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| Any time the 38 went to | Crying in the art wing with my friends because I | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | My cursed week junior year | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | My phone playing the kids bop version of Timber in Mr. Sanford's class | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting my period in the middle of my Bio final | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting rejected from Wolf-tones 3 years in a row | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting wrongfully accused of cheating | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Getting yelled at by a certain History teacher right before having Declamation | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | |
| | | Declamation | Giving an announcement on the cafe microphone but whispering "hey" into it so that only the sixies heard then saying "hey" louder and all the cafe look at me and me not to know what to say | | Panic attacks in Eastern Europe | </ |

SENIORS

Something I Wish I'd Done If I Knew We Weren't Returning

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| "It's all over" chant | to all my friends and teachers | school | day of high school | caring teachers I've had (Herr Gavin, Mrs. Barich, etc.) | Say thank you to Rinaldi for the life advice | Taken my coffee out of my locker lol oops |
| A fun senior prank | Gave everyone a hug | Held Arab Night 2020 earlier | ever and appreciated it more | Said goodbye | Seek closure with peers | Taken my cookies out of the <i>Argo</i> Room |
| a kiss in the secret staircase | Gave out senior pictures | Hit on my crush | Knock out every weekend | Said goodbye to all my favorite teachers | Send arbs | Taken one last trip to the bathroom <3 |
| actually talk to people instead of ignoring them | get all the seniors together to celebrate like we were going to | Hold a final Video | Knock out every weekend | Said goodbye to all my favorite teachers from previous years | Senior lunch chant :(| Taken pics |
| Admit my undying love for Mr. Rinaldi | Get Boba with Kevin more | Game Club meeting/ tournament | Laugh together with my friends at our lockers one more time | Said goodbye to all my friends | Senior skip day/senior prank | Taken the 5 milk cartons out of my locker |
| Alma Mater statue | get my Ap Econ Micro notebook | Hug all of my friends and take pics with them | Leave Ms.Teal another food creation | Said goodbye to all my friends and teachers | Sign the booth ceiling tile | Taken the food out of my locker |
| appreciate BLS more | Get your stuff (and more toads) | Hug everyone | Licked all the forks in the cafe and put them back one more time | Said goodbye to everyone | Signed the ceiling tile | Taken the iced coffee out of my locker |
| Appreciated every little moment more.. | Give a certain friend one more kiss | Hug everyone and take a end of school vlog | Linked in the BR one last time for a final chief with the boys | Said goodbye to EVERYONE | Silly sprayed Giacobozzi | Taken the time to say goodbye |
| would've gave my friends the biggest hug...and cleaned my locker | Give everyone a hug | Hug Mr. Gavin one more time | Made more time to hang out with my friends | Said goodbye to Mr. Giacobozzi | Skip class | Taken the train and gotten Dunkin' with my friends one last time |
| Ask out my crush | Give my favorite teachers my senior pictures | Hug Mr. Harris | Make breakfast in homeroom | Said goodbye to my favorite teachers | Skip class and get food | gotten Dunkin' with my friends one last time |
| Attend more school events | Given everyone a hug | Hug Mr.Pits | Miss more school | Said goodbye to my friends and teachers | Skipped more school days | Taking home personal stuff from my locker |
| Attend one Asian Night | Given everyone a hug | Hug my friends :(| Not be stressed for like one day | Said goodbye to people who I may not see again for the foreseeable future | Skipped R1 to get breakfast with friends | Talk to my friends one more time |
| Bring everything home | Giving everyone I know a big hug | Hug my friends and teachers | Not taken my time there for granted, you'll miss a lot more than you think | Said goodbye to teachers | Snuck into the gym to play basketball | Talked to my favorite teachers |
| bring my binders and textbooks home | Go on the roof | Hugged all my friends :(| Not miss Wednesday/ Thursday before school closed | Said goodbye to acquaintances I might never see again | SO MANY THINGS but mostly taken my lock home :(| Talked with my teachers more |
| Brought my AP notes home and said goodbye | Go on the roof | Hugged everyone a whole lot more | Not skipped R7 of what ended up being my last day... | Said goodbye to the teachers I liked | Spend more time at school events | Tell off a certain History teacher |
| brought my statistics notebook home (rip AP stats exam) | Go out to eat | Hugged my bros a lil tighter | Not taken my violin | Said more goodbyes/ hugged more people before the quarantine | Spend more time with Bella | Thank my teachers and friends in person, and spent more quality time with all of them |
| came on time to homeroom | Go to junior prom last year | Hugged my friends | One last "Tasty Treat Tuesday" for my pals | Said thank you and goodbye to everyone | Spent more time hanging out with my friends | Thanked the teachers that impacted me |
| Caught up with all the teachers I've liked from the past years. | Go to more school events | Hugged my friends a little bit tighter | Order pizza to homeroom during W block | Said thank you in person to all my past and present teachers | Spent more time with my friends | The 'it's all over' chant |
| Celebrate | Go to Starbucks and miss R1 more often | Hugged my friends tighter and tell them I appreciate them | Partied harder term 1 & 2 | Said thank you to all my teachers in-person | Steady more books from ELA department | The it's all over chant |
| Chanted It's All Over | Go to the cave | Hugged my friends, on roof | Party every weekend | Said goodbye to everyone | Stressed way less about what people thought of me | The it's all over chant |
| cherish every last minute and all my lasts | Go to the roof | Hugged my friends/ go on roof | Pick up my Econ notebook | Said bye to all my friends | Stuck gum in my locker | Threw a party |
| cherished the time with my friends more | Go to the talent show, more sports events, etc. | Hugged my homies a lil tighter, throw some cucumbers at the walls | Planted a plant | Said bye to all my friends and teachers | Swim in the BLS pool | Told everyone how much I love them |
| Chilled out | Gone into the art wing staircase | Hugged the homies a lil tighter | Post embarrassing pictures on all my friends' lockers. | Said goodbye to all my friends and teachers | Switched seats in band with Noah in the trumpet section | Told everyone how much they mean to me, no matter how close we are |
| Clean out my locker sooner LOL | Gone on swimming on the 6th floor | Hugged the homies a little tighter | Prank Mr. Harris | Said goodbye to my favorite teachers | Take a dip in the 5th floor pool | Told more people how important they are and how they've made me a better person |
| Cleaned out my locker | Gone to ASIA night | Hugged the homies a little tighter | Pranked Mr. Spezzano | Said goodbye to my friends | Take everything out of my locker | Told the person I like that I like them |
| Cleaned out my locker | Gone to get breakfast and coffee with friends more often | Hugged the homies harder | Pull a prank on a teacher | Said goodbye to my teachers | Take more pictures | Try Harder |
| Cleaned out my locker! Poor copy of Catch-22 :(| Gone to more ASIA nights | Hung out with friends more | Retrieved my tennis racket from my locker | Said goodbye to people I knew I would never see again | Take my AP supplies :(| Visit "the cave" |
| cleaned the food out of my locker | Gone to more sports games | I did know | Returned all my library books | Said goodbye/thanks to all my teachers and friends | Take on last trip with the lads | Visit past teachers |
| Clear out my locker | Gone to school March 13th | I wish I could have | Said a real thank you and goodbye to my teachers | Said thank you to all of my teachers | Taken a video calling my teachers by their first names | Visited my old teachers |
| Clear out my locker | Gone to school on march 16th to say goodbye | It's all over | Said good bye to Ms. Fernandez and all the | | Taken home all my notes for my AP tests | Wear a Japanese girl uniform |
| Confess my crush to a certain teacher | Gone to the roof | Join more clubs/be more involved with the school | | | rip | Wear cute outfits everyday |
| confessed my love | Gone up to the cave | Joke with Mr. Cordeiro one last time | | | Taken more pictures with friends and hung out with a boy I really like | Wear cuter clothes |
| Declaim another Metal Gear Solid speech. | Got some stuff out my locker | Kiss my homies one last time | | | Taken more pictures/ videos and eat outside for lunch | Went in the bathroom by the upper gym |
| end beef with people | Gotten Mr. Sarkis's Facebook. | Kiss the homies | | | | Went to more school events |
| Enjoyed being around my friends more | Gotten my lock | Kissed all my homies goodbye | | | | |
| Find a BLS toad | Gotten my lock | Kissed my homies goodbye | | | | |
| gave a formal goodbye | Hanged out more with friends after | Knew it was my last | | | | |

Spotlight on...

Ashley Smith



By Irene Ju (I)

Copy Editor

I bet you are lying on your couch right now watching TV with your mom. I miss

you so much because we are stuck in quarantine, and I won't be allowed to see you anytime soon unless I stalk you and stare at you through your window creepily. Ashbash (I know you think this is a weird nickname), you will forever be the one and only who calls me "ljuuu," the one who will always makes me laugh wheezing for air until my stomach cramps (while I block the traffic on the sidewalk), the one who will do countless *mukbangs* with me, the one who will scream "and I oop" while making dolphin noises, the one who is a horror movie maniac and will watch three movies in a row with me, and, most importantly, the one who will watch me die laughing at a fat pigeon cruising in a dirty puddle.

Ashley, we have made countless memories together that it seems like they were meant to be made over ten years! I just can't capture them all in this 500-word chunk of writing. It feels like I have known you since we were babies, and I can't express how much

you have brightened my days, from when I would walk into work holding up a peace sign at you, till now.

Ever since then, you've gifted me with the funniest and weirdest memories, and you have been the most genuine-beautiful-talented-kindest-compassionate-best-singer-I've-ever-heard best friend that I could ever ask for.

Thank you for being the almost-exploding-ball of positivity because I can be emitting negativity sometimes, but PEMDAS so it cancels out. I cannot thank you enough for all of the deafening karaoke sessions, the entirely soaked tissues from watching sad movies and our photoshoot in the food court. Cheers to Peppa and Salta and the time I came to school with a pig on my head because the pig ears wouldn't arrive on time.

I can't wait until we can go to the Thai restaurant again and unbutton our jeans so we can fit the food in our tummy (and where you always make me finish the food). I can't

wait for our next feast at 3 A.M. with our K-beauty face masks on. I can't wait to get boba and lie to each other that we will diet. I can't wait until you come over and have some of my best homemade *tteokbokki*. Look forward to me breaking into your dorm every night and sleeping under your bed, because we are going to party every night. Just kidding, but we are going to have an amazing future, and I'm sure we'll be able to travel to Korea and open up a cute cafe in *Hongdae* like we hoped.

Anyway! I am so lucky to be your friend and I am so so excited for more dumb, weird and funny things to do with you. So thank you! I can't wait to watch our next horror movie while we eat some five-dollar bundle pizza and give in to drinking soda (because I always fail at my diet). I'll also upload our YouTube video soon oops. *Saranghae~* (holds up heart finger)

And of course, Xfinity and beyond to our friendship :)

I Admit To...

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|--|--|---|
| A good deal of cheating | Cheating in Calc | 13th | AND year of graduation in the Cave | checking my work (still got As) | room" | other peoples gym lockers |
| A specifically color coded beaded bracelet | Cheating in Chinese class | Dropping a glass bottle in the middle of the sophomore hallway and running away | Hating almost everyone in my grade | Never reading a single English book | Sending someone a fake carnation | Strongly considering dropping out junior year |
| Absolutely nothing | Cheating in Chinese class | instead of picking it up | Hating everyone by senior year | Never studying for any tests including finals and AP exams | Shedding tears every night thinking about school tomorrow and how screwed my life will be if I screw up that one test or quiz then cry myself to sleep | Studying when I said I didn't |
| Abusing the bathroom pass | Cheating my way through BLS | Eating in class | having a crush on a teacher | Not actually hating BLS | will be if I screw up that one test or quiz then cry myself to sleep | Taking 4 lunches every day, instead of 1 |
| Academic honesty | Cheating on a Chinese vocab quiz | Eating in every single class and the library | Having a nicotine addiction | Not going back to class after MCAS | Simping | Taking a picture of the bucket of sheep brains in Bio 2 |
| Actually being good at math even though I said I was bad at it | Cheating on a test once and regretting it | Eating Nature Valley granola bars in the hallways between classes | Having a sixie backpack | Not going to any high-school parties :(| Skippping | Taking Mr. Chavero's laser pointer after he left it on my desk, finders keepers |
| After hours activities | Cheating on every Latin Prose test | Eating the plantains at lunch | Having my first kiss in the secret stairs | Not having a nicotine addiction | Skippping a class for a whole term | Taking naps at mass art, cafe bene, and love art afterschool because I was so tired |
| All the boys in the grad class of 2018 | Cheating on every single Chinese Exam | Enjoying my time at BLS | Having my friend write my term 3 literary analysis paper for me | Not using a BLS lock on my locker | Skippping almost every morning of 8th grade | Taking pictures of tests when I had them R1 |
| Almost accidentally concussing someone with a tripod at the boys basketball game | Cheating on every single one of my Chinese exams | Enjoying my time at BLS | Holding hands with Anthony | Nothing | Skippping assemblies | Telling every underclassmen I encounter to not take physics |
| Almost failing English 11 bc I didn't do the research paper | Cheating on every test | Everything, just ask | Learning nothing | Nothing | Skippping class | The moon cult |
| Asking for extra points on a graded test | Cheating on EVERYTHING | Exposing my midriff often | Leaving class | Nothing | Skippping class in the bathroom | The moon cult |
| Avoiding a certain AP Latin teacher | Cheating on Mr. Sanford's vocab quizzes | Faking hallway passes | Leaving gym in 8th grade to get fries at MassArt | Nothing | Skippping class in the nurses office when I wasn't prepared for class | The secret staircase... |
| Avoiding annoying/self-centered people | Cheating on my tests | Faking injuries/illnesses to get out of class | Leaving school during lunch to get Sami's | Nothing | Skippping my study to buy boba | Thinking young Mr. Simoneau was more attractive than all 2020 boys combined |
| Being a bench warmer | Cheating, but everyone should | Falling asleep in a certain Science teacher's class | Leaving the building many times to get coffee | Nothing | Skippping study to go to Tea Do | Throwing up in a bathroom |
| Being annoying | Cheating... | Falling down the stairs and yelling "I FELL" sixie year | Letting school PB&Js go bad in my backpack | Nothing | Sleeping at the nurses' to escape class | Throwing up in a recycle bin R1 from an Aboogie concert the night before |
| Being cute | Coming in late so I can go get breakfast | Feigning heterosexuality 7-9 grade and doing it poorly | Liking Latin | Nothing | Sleeping during a final and still finishing. | Trying to break into the cave |
| Being in a classroom WITHOUT a teacher, coach, or adult after 4 pm | Copying a bit of hw, but it was necessary | Finding financial donations teachers made to political campaigns | Liking Ms. Burns's class | Nothing | Sleeping in almost all my classes at least once from junior to senior year | Turning the same piece of homework into Ms. Sarkis five times |
| Being in love with a junior | Crying before and after a test | Flirting with dudes I didn't actually like bc I was bored | Liking some of the zoom classes | Nothing | Sleeping in class regularly at least 10 times in a week | Using all of my absences (never was actually sick hehe) |
| Being in love with Mr. Gay | Crying everyday | Forging passes all the time | Listening to "Babe" by Sugarland ft. Taylor Swift while having explosive diarrhea in the locker room before every game | Nothing | Sleeping in every class everyday | Using google translate |
| Being late on purpose | Crying for three periods because of declamation | Getting a 3% on Mr. Sullivan's English exam...scaled | Locking Nick Pappas's lock on his locker backwards and then seeing him struggle the next morning in 9th grade | Nothing | Sleeping through all my online classes | Using spark notes all the time |
| Being proud that I received a "classical education" | Crying in class MANY times | Getting a second lunch once in a while | Loving all of you #soft | Nothing | Sleeping through classes in the nurse's office | Vaping in the bathroom 0_o |
| Bsing | Crying in every single one of the girls' bathrooms | Getting mass art R1 | Lowkey liking Ms. Davis's math class | Nothing | Sleeping through every movie in history class | Walking in the halls without a hall pass |
| Bsing most of my assignments | Crying in front of a teacher to get a better grade | Getting uber eats during studies | Lying to a teacher so that they'll round my grade up | Nothing | Sneaking into the auditorium to chill between classes | Walking out with my math test I didnt fill out and convincing my teacher they lost it |
| BSing pretty much everything the second half of Senior year | Crying while eating lunch alone in the bathroom | Giving someone a haircut in the bathroom | Lying to my parents about grades | Nothing | Snitches get stitches and end up in shallow ditches | Watching Mr. Raffle-waffles on the library instead of doing school work |
| Cheating | Cutting my hair in the school bathrrom | Going into the cave | Making a fake report card for my parents to sign | Nothing | Splitting my pants at first base in the middle of a softball game | Watching My Little Pony during band |
| Cheating | Cutting the lunch line almost everyday since freshman year | Going on the roof a couple times | Managing to not do any of the fitness testing for gym one year | Nothing | Starting to teach myself Ancient Greek in the back of Latin 3 | Working as a group during NLE exams |
| Cheating | Cuttingggggg | Going to MassArt for breakfast instead of R1 | Memorizing my friends' lunch codes | Nothing | Staying up for 48 hours just to do Mr. Njoku's flashlight project | Writing every essay the night it was due |
| Cheating | Despising Latin | Going to the bathroom to skip class | Never cheating on a test | Nothing | Stealing a test tube brush from the Biology lab in ninth grade | |
| Cheating | Destroying several relationships... | Going to the bathroom to skip class | Never going to orchestra | Nothing | Stealing books | |
| Cheating | Disliking 98.72% of the grade | Going to the cave | Never once pooping in a BLS bathroom | Nothing | Stealing chem tests | |
| Cheating | Disliking every single one of my math teachers except one | Going to the Nurse's office to avoid a test I wasn't prepared for | Never proofreading/ | Nothing | Stealing things from | |
| Cheating and I'm not talking about test :) | Doing all of my classes' work in band | Going to the secret staircase more than once | | Nothing | | |
| Cheating and skipping school | Doing two online assignments after March | Googling my teachers | | Nothing | | |
| Cheating constantly | | Graffitiing my name | | Nothing | | |
| Cheating in Afro :(| | | | Nothing | | |

Spotlight on... Irene Ju



By Ashley Smith (I)
Contributing Writer

Irene Ju is one of the most amazing people I have ever met during my time at BLS. She is funny, caring and compassionate. After not hanging out for most of our BLS careers, this past summer, we rekindled our friendship, and even though it

had been a while since we had last talked, it felt like nothing had changed. Like two peas in a pod, we clicked straight away, and we have been inseparable since.

If there is one thing that can be said for sure, there is never a boring time hanging out with Irene. Together, we have watched countless horror movies and spent way too much money on food. We worked together during the summer, and while we made the film for the program like we were supposed to, I think we ate food more than anything. Even though I gained so much weight that summer, I can guarantee that it has been my favorite.

Irene also happens to have the BEST taste in films. There are so many movies she has shown me that have been incredible. Thanks Irene! If either of us ever goes missing, I can guarantee that you will find us together at either of each other's house, laying on the couch and eating a bunch of food. Forever RIP the Pizza Hut near my house. Where did

the pizza we ordered go by the way? Seriously though, if we go missing, and we leave our phones behind, please don't look through them. They are filled with a bunch of ugly pictures of each other, and I don't want people seeing my ugly 2 A.M. crying face from watching sad movies.

Anyway, through this friendship, I have learned so many things from Irene. Her endless determination to achieve her goals has given me more motivation to chase my own dreams. She is the epitome of "work smarter, not harder." I remember being at her house right before the Harvard decisions came out, and I was literally rushing out the door so I could go home and allow her to open it by herself. I remember she was freaking out about it (which is normal), but I wasn't nervous, because I was sure that she would be accepted.

If one thing hasn't changed since sixie year, it would be her unyielding dedication and passion towards her fu-

ture. She does a bunch of extracurricular activities that my lazy self could NEVER commit to, and she works extremely hard to reach her goal. Basically, she is the perfect example of an Ivy League student, so it was only natural that she would be accepted.

I am so proud of her and all that she has accomplished. No matter what she does, I know she will succeed.

Although having endured her own fair share of hardships, she never ceases to be positive and bring joy to the people around her, including myself. Like a ray of sunshine, she always finds a way to cheer me up when I'm down (even if she doesn't know it), and she is always ready to lend an ear if I need it.

Honestly, it was difficult to write this spotlight, because I think there are no words to describe how great of a friend Irene has been to me. In the end, all that needs to be said is that Irene is a once-in-a-lifetime best friend that everybody needs.

BLS Athletes Staying In Shape

By **Shane Sullivan (III)**
& **Tim McGrath (III)**
Contributing Writers

With the cancellation of the rest of the school year along with the spring sports season, many student athletes are stuck at home away from their friends, families and teammates. How are these athletes staying in shape during quarantine? We asked some of our athletes these questions.

William Hu (III), a standout rower for the Boston Latin School crew team, was devastated by the news of the season being called off. Hu, however, understood the risk that would be taken if they remained together. "I knew that cancelling had to be done, since it would cause a health hazard," Hu explains.

Regardless, he has been staying active by running, biking and erging with the school's ergometers that he brought home. Through his determination and the generosity of BLS, Hu will continue to train as he anticipates the return of the season.

Reagan O'Brien (III) has been keeping her lacrosse skills sharp during this period. She had an understandably similar reaction to her canceled season. Despite this, O'Brien has tried to stay on track and says, "I try to workout with my sister every day. It ranges from running, to high-intensity interval training workouts, to going down to the fields."

She also works for her town lacrosse program, giving her access to the nets at the high school to continue her training and stick to a routine.

Nick Pappas (I), both a stellar



Many are following workouts in an effort to stay active at home.

hockey player and captain of the varsity baseball team, was greatly saddened when the news broke about the cancellation of spring sports. Along with many of the senior athletes, having a highly-anticipated season taken away in the blink of an eye is difficult to accept.

"Not having a final send-off or not being able to have even one day of baseball will forever leave a void in my career at BLS," says Pappas. "However, I am staying positive and working out one to two times a day."

Fortunately for Pappas, his baseball career is not over. He does squats, pushups, lunges, bench press and calisthenics daily to stay in shape not only in hopes of playing a summer baseball season, but to prepare for his baseball season next year at The Winchendon

School, a preparatory school in northern Massachusetts.

Pappas will be accompanied by another BLS varsity athlete at The Winchendon School, Joe Bova (I). Both Bova and Pappas look to impress multiple colleges with their performances on the field and in the rink next year at Winchendon. Their goal is to continue their respective sports careers further by committing and playing at the collegiate level.

During these unprecedented times, BLS athletes look to find some normalcy in their everyday lives. Graduating seniors are continuing their athletic grind despite the ending of their BLS careers, and current student athletes are training with high hopes of a stronger comeback next school year.

Spotlight on... Colleen Goonan (I)



By **Colm Vraibel (II)**
Contributing Writer

When looking at a Boston Latin School athlete, performance and sportsmanship are both equally important and highly regarded. Colleen Goonan (I) exemplifies what it's like to be an athlete at the school.

The two-sport captain makes plays on the ice as a hockey forward and throws out base-stealers as a softball catcher. This winter season, Goonan made immense contributions to the girls' varsity hockey team's success, posting five goals and eight assists.

Besides scoring goals on the ice, Goonan's sportsmanship and character ultimately won her the Hobey Baker High School Character Award. Created by the Hobey Baker Award Foundation, this award recognizes "high school hockey players who exemplify the Hobey Baker ideal that 'Character Builds Excellence.'"

When asked about her reaction to winning the award, she replies, "I was so excited, it put the biggest smile on my face." It was well deserved and Goonan was a huge part of the team's success this season as a captain and a true team player.

Goonan reminisces about her studies and playing days at BLS. "BLS has meant a lot to me," she says. "It brought me a second family through my teams and another place to call home for the past six years, and I wouldn't trade it for anything."

Goonan's leadership has had a major impact on her teammates, especially softball star Kate McGrath (II), who says, "Having the opportunity to play softball with Colleen Goonan has been one of my greatest experiences yet. Her clutch bat, leadership and warm heart have led the team to such success in the past years. As my rock on the field and in the classroom, I will miss Colleen dearly but am so excited to see all she accomplishes at UMass Amherst." The BLS community is looking forward to Goonan's future success, knowing that her personality and character will always be a part of the BLS Athletics legacy.



Professional Sports During the Pandemic



Despite a long delay, it is important to focus on the positives.

By **Lilah Gutlerner (III)**
Staff Writer

Across the country, sports fans used to eagerly hit refresh on Entertainment and Sports Programming Network to stay updated on the most recent scores and standings of their favorite sports teams. They stayed current on the daily wins, losses and outstanding drama on the wide world of sports.

But when you look at the recent coverage about the National Basketball Association (NBA), you might think we traveled almost three decades back in time. *The Last Dance*, a 10-episode documentary series about the Chicago Bulls, has dominated headlines as if we were living right now in the height of Michael Jordan's 1998 playoff run for

his sixth ring. That's how much people miss professional sports.

It's no different here at Boston Latin School, which is no surprise, considering we represent neighborhoods and communities from one of the world's most sports-crazed cities. Everyone is asking the same questions about how the COVID-19 pandemic will affect the teams they love. When will they start playing again? What will it look like when they do? And when we resume play, will anything ever go back to the way it was?

"I miss the excitement and the environment of a game," says Anh Huynh (III), a National Football League (NFL) fan and BLS girls' lacrosse player. "Because my dad and I watch football together, I take this as a time to bond with him over the game. I look forward

to a game every weekend."

Similarly, Roy Thompson (II) "misses the anticipation of games coming on; it's time to relax but also for [him] it's an energy boost." Watching sports is a central part of many BLS students' everyday lives. They are excited for the games to return in any capacity.

Both the NFL and NBA have revealed that they are attempting to make a plan to resume their seasons. Watching live games, however, will not be part of the equation. Not only will this decrease the revenue made by these major organizations, where almost 40 percent of the profit comes from selling tickets, but it will also change the way players and fans experience every game.

Although there have been no finalized plans, fans can be optimistic about some of the ideas being put forward. The NBA, for example, is currently brainstorming ways to hold a postseason tournament if the players stay quarantined and get frequent testing.

Fans can still be optimistic about some of the ideas being put forward despite the lack of finalized plans. Jeremy Cohen (III), an NBA fan and player for BLS boys' basketball, says that "this break from basketball has allowed me to watch other shows, be more active and connect with my family."

Cohen's positive outlook, however, does not mean that fans like him are not eagerly awaiting the return of sports. "A good sports game can change a day for the better," says Thompson. And there is no doubt we could all use an uplifting activity to get us through our days.

Seniors Say Farewell

TENNIS



When I joined the tennis team sixie year, I had no idea how big of an impact the experience would have had on me. Whenever I thought about the spring sports season, it always motivated me through the year. I have met and played with so many amazing people and am so grateful for the five seasons I've had. Despite how sad I am that the seniors won't experience the "surprise" silly string attack or have another season with Paulanne's delicious snacks, I know the team will thrive next year and beyond!

- Leah Rosenkranz

I would always look forward to the Spring tennis season with my team. Prior to our matches, the bus ride jam sessions would always diminish our tennis nerves. Even though I am not able to finish six years on the team with some of the most amazing girls, I will always cherish the memories from the past five. Thank you for everything; I won't forget all the amazing memories made with you all!

- Victoria Peterlin

TRACK

Dear BLS xctf,

When I was a sophomore, someone asked me, "What's going to happen to the track team once the class of 2018 graduates?" Little did they know, that was only the beginning. What followed was one of the best teams in BLS history, and it is truly an honor to have been a part of it.

To be honest, I still can't believe it's over. Looking back at these past seasons, I will miss the little moments that were so easy to take for granted — the post-workout high fives, the locker room laughter, and the finish line hugs. But most of all, I will miss you. You are some of the most incredible people I've ever met, and the bond you have with each other is so special. I know you have what it takes to accomplish something extraordinary, and I will cheer for you along every step of the way.

Dream crazy,
Annie



SOFTBALL

Dear Clemente Crushers/Coachie's Gals/ Daisy Dingers (rip),

Thank you for the most incredible years of our lives. During our time with this program, we have not only grown immensely as players on the field, but

we have gained lifelong friends, teammates and sisters. Through the screaming of "Mr. Brightside" down Mass Ave., the batting cages during W, the endless hours in Coachie's office, and the countless nail-biting wins, we have undoubtedly found a group of girls to call family. We wish our time as members of this team didn't have to end so soon, but we are so grateful for the everlasting memories. You are all amazing human beings and players, and we know you will continue to make us proud.

We love you, and always remember: DFWTP&OBGSD

Love,
Colleen, Emily, Madison, Tari, Melissa, Rebecca and Bridget



BASEBALL

Since the beginning of our time inside the walls of 78 Louis Pasteur, we went to Room 222, the BLS Learning Center, during every single one of our study halls. We soaked up loads of knowledge from everybody who came through that room over the years. Brash upperclassmen, BLS alums, younger students who were just realizing what a grind high school is and Coach G all played a part in lifting us to be the men we are today. If not for such a dedicated and dependable support system, BLS would have been a much scarier place. The little room in the sixie hallway and everybody who was a part of it brightened our experiences immensely for six years. So although we are incredibly disappointed that we didn't get the chance to finish high school the way we were supposed to, we will always have the indelible memories the Learning Center and the baseball program left us, and we are confident that next year's team will carry on our legacy honorably.

-BLS Baseball Class of 2020

CREW



To BLS Crew:

Pain is temporary. Ultimately, so too are our records. That's because we know you'll shatter them next year. Although we're proud parents leaving you guys to carry on our legacy, we would do anything to have one more race with you all. Hell, we'd settle for one more practice — even if it's just erging.

Next year, come back strong. Take the summer to train and gain even more speed than you've proven to be capable of. Prove that BLS Crew is a team to be feared. When racing resumes in the fall, don't be afraid to show the work you've done.

We've done exceptional things with all of you. We've made wonderful memories and hung up a few banners. Keep on adding to that. Build your legacy and strengthen ours.

We'll be cheering for you on the course next year, and we are so excited to see you succeed! Thanks for the commitment and the amazing memories.

Cheers,
Your Spicy Senior Captains—
Boys' Varsity: Dominic Kennedy Slesar and Morgan McCarty
Girls' Varsity: Libby Wu, Maddie Flynn and Lucia Catino

SAILING

To BLS Sailing,

Thank you to all of you who have been alongside me on this team throughout my four years of high school. I have become a better racer, teammate and person as a member of the sailing team. I grew a lot as a student-athlete, and I could not have led this team to where it is right now if it weren't for all my teammates' determination, strive for success and encouragement. Although I missed out on my senior season, we couldn't have had a better year last year, going undefeated in the league and winning the Mass Bay League for our division. From when I joined the program in ninth grade, we have definitely progressed in the right direction, and I am confident that we are leaving the team in good hands. Best of luck to the future of BLS Sailing. #rollpackrolltack

-Noah Sargent, '20



BOYS' VOLLEYBALL



When we first started playing volleyball, either in the eighth or ninth grade, none of us thought we'd be spending our senior season sitting at home, reminiscing on the practices and games we took for granted. Thankfully, last season we could make it very far in the tournament, clinch a DCL win, and ultimately rank second in the state. The boys volleyball team has transformed throughout the years, and we know that we are leaving our legacy in good hands. To future volleyball players, take practices

seriously. Try to touch the ball as much as possible. Get reps whenever you can, go to open gyms and play beach volleyball in the summers. Keep jumping until you can touch the rim and keep hitting until you can hit the 10-foot line. Don't miss more than two serves a game and always aim. Put up another banner!



LACROSSE

Dear BLS Boys' Lacrosse,

It has been an honor to defend the Moak with you boys over the last six years. The lacrosse team has been the most important and formative experience in each of our highschool careers. The experience of growing from JV benchwarmers to Varsity benchwarmers (namely Linden) has allowed us to not only become a closer group of friends but also more mature individuals. The people, however, are what set this program apart. To our coaches, Mike Devlin and Wil Holbrook, thank you for all that you have sacrificed for us over the years. You showed us leadership and gave us guidance, but also knew when to be tough (sweet sixteens!). To our teammates, thank you for pushing us to be better every day and always having our backs. It disappoints us that we can't share the field with you guys once more, but we pass the program down with great pride and look forward to seeing what you accomplish next year.

With appreciation and love,
Otto, Prescott, Kingston and Linden

The Updated NCAA Endorsement Plan

By **John Walsh (I)**

Staff Writer

On April 29, the process of allowing National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) student athletes to benefit financially from their status took another step forward. The NCAA Board of Governors officially requested all three divisions to devise rule changes that would allow athletes to receive monetary compensation through third-party endorsements, including social media posts and event appearances.

While athletes can identify their respective teams, they are not permitted to use trademarked school or conference logos. This new development stems from the NCAA's original vote on October 29 of last year, when the NCAA Board of Governors unanimously agreed to allow athletes to profit from their names and likenesses. All final rule changes are expected to be instituted no later than January 21, 2021.

The history of the student athlete is long and complicated. The NCAA has legally and successfully used the compound word to imply that as athletes, individuals must engage in sports for the benefit of the association. Yet as students, they are obligated to no more than the cost of their tuition.

Public attitudes have changed in recent years, with more and more people finding it hard to justify an organization

that pulls over one billion dollars in revenue being so strict in making sure that its own moneymakers, the athletes themselves, do not see a dime of outside compensation.

On top of this, top-tier athletes receive under-the-table compensation from recruiters, and others, as part of the lucrative race to gain the most talented recruiting classes — a financial boon for many institutions. Federal Bureau of Investigation examinations reveal that student athletes can receive up to hundreds of thousands of dollars, and the NCAA's complacency screams of hypocrisy to many.

According to a 2017 nationwide poll by *The Washington Post* and the University of Massachusetts Lowell, while 52 percent of U.S. adults believe that full scholarships alone are enough of a benefit to student athletes, 66 percent are in favor of athletes profiting from their names and likenesses.

On September 30, 2019, the California legislature passed the Fair Pay to Play Act, overruling the NCAA's rules at the time by allowing student athletes to profit from endorsements without losing their eligibility. Many other states followed with similar legislation. Faced with this growing wave of opposition, the NCAA finally buckled, establishing a new framework for athletes to legally profit from endorsements.

What does Boston Latin School think about all this? With the financial status of the athletes in mind, Athletics Director Jack



Bella Alarie is hailed as one of the best in women's basketball.

Owens voices his support for the NCAA's new policy, stating, "the NCAA makes millions of dollars off the names and likenesses of the student-athletes. If this helps curb the pre-existing financial problems in the NCAA, then it will be a success."

Coach Jeffrey Gibbons mentions the practicality of the NCAA's previous policy and identifying the double standard for using student-athletes' images, "Currently, if a popular athlete wants to do a GoFundMe for an important cause they get in trouble; it also seems extremely problematic for the NCAA to allow video games to use student-athlete likenesses, but the student-athlete does not benefit. I do think this

system needs to be recalibrated to maintain academic integrity, but allow these kids to begin to grow their personal brand."

As for whether he sees the new NCAA rules having an impact on BLS athletes, Coach Owens reiterates the importance of education above all else for BLS students, "BLS student-athletes should not be affected by this. We are students first and athletes second. BLS students make their postsecondary decisions based on a variety of factors. If the ability to participate in college athletics is one of those reasons, that is fantastic. But the ability to monetize their name or likeness should not be a factor in determining the best fit."

Positive Plans for Next Year's Fall Sports Season

By **Lucy Abdow (II)**
& **Rose Cusack (II)**

Contributing Writers

Many Boston Latin School athletes are continuing to train and prepare for their upcoming fall season after the cancellation of their 2020 spring season amid this global pandemic.

Although they are forced to train by themselves due to social distancing rules enforced by the state, athletes are still communicating with coaches in hopes of a regular season this fall.

Ulysses Brenzel (II), a captain of the varsity boys' football team, says that his team has been communicating regularly with each other via text messages and receiving workouts through an app called PLT4M. Brenzel describes the software

company, saying, "It's an app that provides weekly workouts. Since quarantine started they switched from gym workouts to at-home lifts that don't require weights. It's not challenging at all and if you have weights at home, you can continue to do the normal lifts."

BLS athletic director, Jack Owens, has also been staying in touch with coaches as well as the other Dual County League athletic directors. Coach Owens explains, "We are continuing to operate as if fall sports will continue because the goal is to provide a competitive fall season that is first and foremost safe for all student-athletes, coaches and supporters."

While athletes are carrying on with their training, the fall season is still up in the air. Coach Owens says that decisions regarding any cancellations of fall sports will be "made by the MIAA [Mas-

sachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association] based on the directives of the governor and the Department of Public Health. When the green light for interscholastic sports is given, the MIAA will determine how individual sports will be conducted."

It is challenging for student-athletes to stay motivated during this time when there is so much uncertainty. Having to train without the help of fellow teammates and coaches has taken its toll on some athletes.

In turn, many athletes have remained in contact with their teammates as a means of keeping each other motivated and positive considering the current situation. Rising seniors have also been encouraged by the fact that this coming fall season will be their last chance to compete as an athlete at BLS.

Soccer player Elizabeth Goodfield (II) believes that if athletes are able to return this fall season, they will approach their sport "with a different mindset and a new sense of gratitude, [...] an even stronger bond across all sports teams."

Samantha Everett (II) is training as she would if there was a track season using workouts provided by her coach. Matt Balitsky (II), a member of the BLS boys' soccer team, has been lifting and working on drills in his backyard. Goodfield has been running and doing drills as part of her training. These are only a few examples of the many student-athletes who are looking forward to the upcoming fall season.

Coach Owens encourages all BLS athletes to "stay positive and motivated" during this time so that "we will come out of this better than before."

Changes To The Recruitment Process



The virus has hurt recruitment due to a lack of resources.

By **Rachel Kim (II)**
& **Juliette Lowery (II)**

Staff Writer and Contributing Writer

COVID-19 has affected all Boston Latin School students in various ways, especially student-athletes hoping to be recruited by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) to continue their sports career in college.

As of now, the high school spring sports season has been put on hold. Major college showcases, where athletes can perform in front of many college coaches, have been canceled. College clinics, in which students are invited to play and train under their coaching, have also been called off.

These are crucial elements to building one's athletic profile, and COVID-19 has thrown a wrench into the recruitment process. Potential student-athletes can no longer

visit schools at the moment, and many students have not been able to take standardized tests, one aspect necessary for college coaches to know about their recruits to determine whether they might fit in academically at their school.

Both athletes and coaches however, have been taking steps to carry on with the process. Coach Jack Owens, athletic director at BLS, describes the course of action necessary for student-athletes to take. "Those steps include signing up for a Certification Account and/or profile page, monitor[ing] academic progress, reach[ing] out to college coaches within the appropriate timelines and communicat[ing] with BLS and offseason coaches to send game film to coaches" he says.

Student-athletes can also use the many online resources to research schools of interest, make contact with coaches and go on virtual tours of these schools, since they cannot visit in person. Many schools have been setting up extra video calls with their recruits. In addition, college coaches have become much more reliant on watching game film and highlight videos in order to assess the skills of their potential recruits.

Although students should take advan-

tage of their online resources, it is also crucial for them to remain focused on their academics. Brittany Bresley, the Associate Director of Compliance in the Boston College Athletic Department, emphasizes, "Remember, you are a student before you are an athlete. The best way to market yourself to a coach is with strong grades."

The best thing for student-athletes to do is to create prominent academic profiles during this time as the leniency of the NCAA remains unclear for the Class of 2021.

These times are hard, but student-athletes should keep their heads up, because they still have the potential to be recruited for college sports. Coach Owens says he is "available via email, video call and hopefully in person soon to answer any questions for student-athletes interested in collegiate athletics."

It is best to take action now rather than wait and miss a chance at recruitment. For all the student-athletes: do your research, communicate with coaches and do your best in school for a better chance of being recruited. Although the spring season is canceled, there will be more to come next year and hopefully beyond your time in high school.

