



# 2016

## **Awards & Judges' Comments**



**McCormick Foundation  
High School Media Awards**

**Scholastic Press  
Association of Chicago**

**March 10, 2016**



# SCHOLASTIC PRESS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO

@Roosevelt University

March 10, 2016

I'm delighted to introduce the winners of the 2016 McCormick Foundation High School Media Awards contest, the culmination of the 24th annual Scholastic Press Association of Chicago conference.

Our contest judges are faculty members and friends of the Department of Communication here at Roosevelt who donate their time to judge our contest and write their comments. Their names are at right.

We thank them for their hard work and their time. And as always, we thank McCormick Foundation for its continued support for student journalism.

We hope you enjoy our booklet and the 2016 SPAC conference/McCormick Foundation High School Media Awards.



Linda Jones  
Director, Scholastic Press Association of Chicago

## *Contest judges*

*Hilary Collins*

*Anne-Marie Cusac*

*Tim DesRochers*

*Jim Dudlicek*

*Shonda Dudlicek*

*Michael Ensdorf*

*Wayne Hearn*

*Charlie Madigan*

*John McClelland*

*Charles Meyerson*

*Billy Montgomery*

*David Weissman*

*Jiwon Yoon*

ROBERT R.  
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***Please note:***

*Entries in the “best overall newspaper” category appear on pages 5 through 15. Names of award-winners and judges’ comments on these entries follow.*

*Not all judges provided comments about entries that did not win awards.*



December 2015

Lane Tech College Prep High School

Volume 48/ Issue 2/ Page 1

# THE WARRIOR

**IN THE HEART  
OF  
THE WARRIOR**

New Lane security cameras have mixed reviews



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Teacher(s) of the Month: Mr. Carrero



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Chicago Shuts Lane on ice



Page 8

CPS selective enrollment machine creates anxious, perfectionist students



Page 15

## Impending budget cut crisis reaches boiling point at CPS

Effects at Lane could include the loss of 45 staff members, including teachers, counselors, administrators, security, and other support staff



Jesse Sharkey, center, speaking about issues centering on charter schools and CPS's budget.

By Colin Doyle and Laver Nair

More than 4,200 notecards filled with personal messages from students all over Chicago were sent to state representatives this week in a effort to stop CPS from making any cuts to school funding, according to Sabah I. Amin, DNR 765, who led the notecard effort at Lane.

"We as students of Lane Tech are by no means Livable in these budget cuts," Amin said in an email. "Many students don't take this seriously... When 25 percent of our teachers are laid off and a lot of our courses are cut off, it will be too late."

Hussak is a member of the Chicago Student Union, which organizes the notecard campaign. Other schools such as Wabash Young, Lincoln Park, Lincoln, Westinghouse, Roundtree, Northside, Jones and Dwyer also participated.

CPS has threatened to lay off 5,000 teachers at the beginning of second semester in order to address a \$480 million deficit, according to ABC News.

In response to these potential cuts, students have organized all kinds of "stop-the-cut" protests have called upon parents to call legislators to urge them to preserve the AP Test Program, and teachers have held a "less is more" last week to authorize a strike.

**Potential effects at Lane**

In a Nov. 5 letter to students and parents, Principal Kathleen Anderson said that Lane could lose 25 percent of its budget and as many as 45 teachers and staff.

Anderson also warned of the possible elimination of the for reduction program for AP tests. If the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) bill is passed, the AP Test Program will be moved into a "block grant" with many other competing programs, thereby making a potential availability of such funding for our students uncertain.

This is a major problem, since Lane students took 3,000 AP exams last year and more than half of those exams, 2,700, qualified for a fee reduction.

If funds are taken away, this could mean low-income students would be discouraged to take these classes because they can't afford it, even if it's a class they're interested in.

Lane students are not content with how that would play out. Esmeralda Orozco, Div. 688, said having to pay for AP exams would affect students' decisions on taking those classes.

"It would affect me because I receive free or reduced lunch, so basically I don't have to pay the fees for the AP exams," she said. "So if that funding went out, then I would have to pay a lot of money to take the classes and pay for the exams."

**CPS changes course on special ed cuts**

Earlier this year, CPS had planned to cut special education funding. According to the Chicago Tribune, Hazel Elementary School on the North Side, a school for special needs students, was projected to lose \$1.8 million in funding.

According to DNRInfo, Lane was expected to lose about \$1 million, which would have affected the 400 special education students and 16-member staff. CPS had been planning to cut over 500 special education teachers citywide.

But on Nov. 25, CPS changed course and said that they would restore and add even more positions in regards to special education. This was because CPS had pulled in a "funding formula."

**Student and teacher action**

On Oct. 28, CTAU members and a handful of students began gathering outside the CPS headquarters. CTAU Vice President Jesse Sharkey addressed CPS on various issues, from the creation of new charter schools to the issues in Springfield with the state budget.

Just a few days later, on Nov. 6, about 400 CPS students met at the Thompson Center in the Loop to protest the proposed cuts and to denounce Gov. Rauner's futile attempts to reach an agreement on Illinois' state budget.

The budget in Illinois, on lack thereof, is currently still up in the air. According to 91.9 WLS Springfield, Gov. Rauner said that the threat of layoffs during the school year is the "pressure point" in order to reach an agreement. The situation, Rauner said, resulted when democratic

lawmakers did not support any of Rauner's business-oriented reforms. An agreement for the 2015 budget still isn't in place because Rauner and democratic lawmakers have been unable to reach an agreement, one which was supposed to be finalized on last July.

**Will teachers strike?**

The Chicago Teachers Union is arguing that the Chicago Board of Education has rejected all of their current proposals. According to the CTAU website, Mayor Emanuel doesn't want to investigate revenue proposals in which bonds and LaSalle street took \$1.2 million from the city to make the stadium contribute to police revenues.

Meanwhile, CPS is sitting for changes to unequal funding from the state of Illinois and for teachers to contribute more to their pensions.

Today, Lane and a half year after the 2012 CTAU strike, teachers are planning to take action because of potential cuts to education, according to the Chicago Sun Times. With last week's state authorization vote granting 85 percent of teacher's approval, the CTAU seems ready to follow through with a strike.

While a set date for a potential strike is unknown, the earliest CPS teachers can hit the picket lines is May 21st, according to ABC 7.

CTAU and CPS now begin a mediation phase, which lasts about three and a half months, according to WTTW's Chicago Tonight. After the mediation phase, the CTAU will enter a fact-finding period which could last for 100 days. That's where it can go.

There have been concerns among Lane students that a strike could interfere with student activities like AP testing and prom. Nicole Glover, Div. 885, expressed concern that a strike could affect Lane's 2016 Fall Trip.

Kelley Gannon, Div. 685, believes that a strike would benefit teachers and students in an effort to take a stand for a better education.

"I think they should strike if necessary to save their job security and preserve programs in CPS that are necessary. Also, we can't let CPS take away our teachers and the money we need for a good education," Gannon said.

*Jason Treibitz, Emma Tremblay, and Vincent Williams contributed reporting.*

## Chicago artist Jeff Zimmerman to capture Lane's diversity in new mural



Lane students pose for Zimmerman's mural, which reflects the school's diversity.

By Stephanie Alvarez

For many years, Lane has been a collector of historic murals that are in its cafeteria and hallways. In January, however, a new contemporary

mural representing Lane's diversity and involvement with the art will be added.

"The idea behind [the mural] is that a lot of fine arts and different things happening around the school are represented on the wall," Mr. Ara said. "And it's in the cafeteria where a lot of these things take place. The drama, concerts, art. All of that would be represented on the wall."

In order to achieve this goal, Lane is working with Chicago muralist Jeff Zimmerman on the design and painting of the mural. Zimmerman is an artist known for his murals all over the different parts of the city. His career as a muralist began around the year 1995.

"I was teaching art class in Palm, over at the Casa Juan Diego," Zimmerman said. "We were giving goofy eyes to pop-art style and the director said 'We have these art-class room, and they need a summer project. Why don't you paint a mural with them?' So they bought a little book about murals, and there was a group, so we decided to do it."

After that, painting murals became a summer tradition for Zimmerman.

"After I spent these summers painting, they asked if I wanted to paint a mural of the Virgin of Guadalupe, so I said 'why not?'" said Zimmerman. "I took a painting class at Columbia College

and investigated how to get scaffolding and paint and all the necessary stuff. It was fun, so I quit my job as a graphic designer and became a full-time artist."

Zimmerman came into contact with Lane through some parents involved with the school. They are collectors of Zimmerman's studio work, which is how they came up with the idea of commissioning him to bring him to Lane.

"It was their idea to bring something new, up-to-date, high quality and contemporary to the school," Zimmerman said. "Let's give some more visual excitement to what's happening around the school besides the brickwork and tuck-pointing."

Zimmerman's inspiration for the mural came from Lane's previous principal, Dr. Dignam. According to Zimmerman, Dr. Dignam's vision was to do something fun around Lane's depiction.

"In addition to that, he also wanted to capture the artists of what it meant to be a high school for four years, as well as show off Lane students and celebrate the diversity," Zimmerman said. "I also want to reflect how impressive and proud the students are as well as recognize their positive and inspirational things."

Painting for the mural has not yet started and he plans on being finished around the first week of January.







# THE SENTINEL

MARIST HIGH SCHOOL



VOLUME 52, ISSUE 2

1200 WEST 115TH STREET, CHICAGO, IL 60655

NOVEMBER 20, 2015

## New program improves college prep for RedHawks

by Solomon Davis  
senior reporter

Imagine being a dedicated student all four years, having a 3.0 GPA, and a perfect score on your ACT but still not being able to get into Harvard.

Senior Jason Phelan knows this reality and is optimistic he can overcome it.

"It's just so difficult to get to that I can't make any guarantees," Phelan said. "I think the fact that I'm dedicated to several programs at school, like the math team and the basketball team will help me a lot," Phelan said.

English teacher Anne Brusky heads the newly formed Explore Program, which aims to give students that competitive edge.

"Guidance counselors and administration were realizing that we have really bright kids but they're not necessarily getting into their top schools," Brusky said. "And the schools came back to people like Kim Myers in guidance and said that our students have to differentiate themselves. Everyone has high GPAs and high ACT scores. What are our kids doing that make them stand out?"

Last year after surveying parents, students, and alumni, she found that Marist prepares students academically and in the Catholic faith, but there was something missing.

"There was a hunger for real world opportunities, things like internships, mentorships, and research opportunities," Brusky said. "How can we leverage our alumni to give students a better idea of what they want to do to save them time and money down the road?"

The Explore Program started off as a pilot with Brusky's AP honors English class last year.

"When I asked them what they would want to do with what they had done so far, about 15 said they wanted to turn this program into something that doesn't benefit just AP English but benefits the whole school," Brusky said.

Fifteen student leaders helped to develop the Explore Program, taking what benefited them and shaping it for other students.

"A lot of it is these seniors' visions of what they would want to see happen at Marist High School," Brusky said. "It's really cool because it's very student-driven."

Student leader Adrian Clark finds joy in helping the juniors in the program.

"I've gotten to help juniors confirm that they want to do a certain occupation or be in a certain field," Clark said. "It's great just getting that good feeling of helping others find the path that they want to take."

Senior Kevin Corrigan serves as one of the student leaders, and was also part of the pilot in his AP English class.

"I had such a phenomenal opportunity to grow and learn enough through Ms. Brusky's service and mentorship program," Corrigan said. "I mentored with retired State Senator O'Malley and talking and emailing with him only affirmed my love of public policy and politics. I gained a different perspective through talking with him and I learned so much about leadership and applying faith, courage, and morality into any leadership role I take on."

Corrigan wishes to see the program grow in terms of legitimate participation.



photo by Annie Brusky

Explore Program members relax at Ohio State Beach on October 9 before attending a seminar on graduate school learning, service activities and research at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine.

"I think students are crazy not to join," Corrigan said. "This opportunity is unprecedented and I encourage all motivated students to expand themselves professionally and culturally."

However, he adds that the Explore Program is for serious students only.

"Those students who have no real motivation to grow from this experience should not bother. They will only waste their time and the time of the wonderful people who work with the students in it."

Known as the student who scored a perfect score on the ACT, Phelan takes time out to focus on what's important to him, seeking to strike a balance between work and play.

"Always work hard in school and do your best on the ACT and such," Phelan said. "But also find the time to do the things you enjoy because ultimately if you're a good student, you'll end up where you need to be and you'll be happy."

## Semester exam schedule changes

by Caroline Roeper  
senior reporter

Many students are already preparing for midterm exams in December and have heard about changes to the exam schedule.

In previous years, exams were given according to subject and proctored by a faculty member other than the students' teacher for that subject. Exams were also given in locations different than where the class regularly met.

This year, exams will be given over four days beginning on Monday, December 14. Students will take two exams each day. The Friday of that week will be a regular school day, the last one before Christmas break begins.

This new schedule allows teachers to be present in the classroom while their students take the exams.

In making these changes, members of the administration feel that students will test better because they will feel more comfortable in their own classrooms with their own teachers. It also ensures that questions can be answered in a timely manner because the teacher will be there.

A rumor among students is that teachers are no longer allowed to give multiple choice questions on the semester final. Principal Barry Tucker addressed the rumor and indicated that teachers have been encouraged to move away from questions that simply ask students to recall facts.

"Our focus is to have students take information and apply it through various assessments," Tucker said. "We aren't trying to make the exam any easier or harder."

Because technology has changed traditional learning, especially now that most students have an iPad, Tucker pointed out that students have resources and answers at the tips of their fingers.

"I want students to be more creative and express themselves," Tucker said. "The main question should be 'Why?' or 'How?' rather than 'What?' or 'Who?'. Learning by solely memorizing information is just no longer efficient."

The exams will involve more free answer questions that ask students to apply the material. Some assessments may involve projects rather than a test. This approach will prevent students from engaging in last-minute, often late-night cramming sessions.

"The goal is to give students more opportunity to find information on their

### 1st Semester Exam Schedule

Mon 12/14	Tues 12/15	Wed 12/16	Thurs 12/17	Fri 12/18
MOD D MOD A	MOD E MOD B	MOD F MOD C	MOD G MOD H	reg. day
1st exam		8:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m		
2nd exam		10:45 a.m.-12:15 a.m.		
Friday-regular school day-all MODS				

own using the skills their teacher taught them over the course of the semester," Tucker said.

Friday, December 18 is a day for students and teachers to meet during a regular school day to give each other feedback on the exam.

As word of this began to spread, some students and even parents have decided that this is a "blow off" day or an opportunity to begin Christmas vacation a day earlier.

Not coming to school for feedback that Friday is an idea that Tucker rejects.

"Research shows that feedback while the test experience is fresh in your mind enhances learning best," Tucker said. "Networking and problem-solving with others are skills needed for the rest of your life, so [Friday] gives students a chance to explain to their teachers what may have been unclear on the test."



**Mind shift to understand new grading**

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**100-year anniversary plans for MP**

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**Lady Mustangs meet mayor**

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OCTOBER 2016



# EMPEHI News

Morgan Park High School

Volume 93, Issue 1

## Earlier school start time appears to be a success

### MP opts for 7:30 a.m. start for safety

By Kiara Mason and Kamari Moore

Chicago Public Schools (CPS) officials moved forward on a plan to have schools—mainly high schools—change their bell schedules to a 9 a.m. time slot, arguing that they would save millions of dollars on transportation fees and the number of bus routes would be reduced, but MP parents, teachers, and administrators persuaded the board to allow a 7:30 a.m. start time.

"Facing a critical budget deficit, Chicago Public Schools (CPS) announced that 82 high schools and elementary schools will change their bell schedules for the 2015-16 School Year (SY

15-16), part of a District-wide streamlining of transportation services that is expected to save CPS \$13.5 million next year," according to a June 30, 2015 CPS press release.

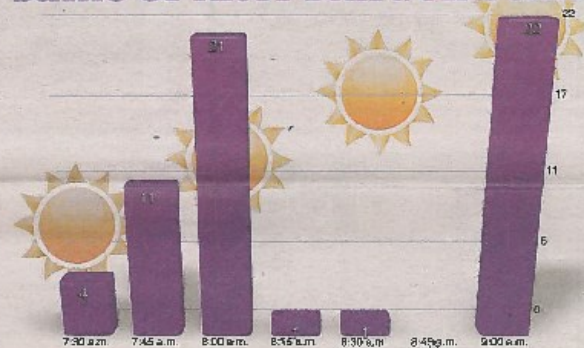
MP was initially selected to have a 9 a.m. start time, mainly due to the 7th and 8th grade students' use of school buses, but thanks to pressure from parents, teachers, community members, alumni, and the principal, Dr. Carolyn Epps, the earlier 7:30 a.m. first period start was finalized.

Local School Council (LSC) President Curran Parker spearheaded the task of convincing district officials that an early start time would benefit students more than the later time.

"Our main concern was the safety of students with a later start, and thereby later dismissal time, students would be walking home or taking public transportation. Please turn to page 5 for

**EARLY START TO SCHOOL DAY**

### Most high schools get same or later start/end time



Of the 82 schools that were selected by Chicago Public Schools to have a new start and end time, 60 were high schools (73 percent). And of those, only eight opted for an earlier time: Back of the Yards (7:30 a.m.), Goode Academy (7:30 a.m.), Kelly (7:30 a.m.), MORGAN PARK (7:30 a.m.), Bronzeville (7:45 a.m.), Carver (7:45 a.m.), North Grand High (7:45 a.m.), and Orr (7:45 a.m.). Most (30) were able to keep the same time that they had in 2014-2015, while 22 high schools (36 percent) hit their snooze button to the latest time of 9 a.m.

## Drop in enrollment delivers painful cuts

Chicago Public Schools (CPS) officials announced last week that a new round of school-level budget cuts would be leveled at schools—including Morgan Park—where student enrollment dropped from initial curricular expectations, leading schools to layoff teachers and increase class size.

Budget adjustments were made, according to CPS, because enrollment in the district fell by more than 6,000 students this year, compared to last. This has resulted in 267 out of more than 500 city schools having their operating budget reduced just under five

weeks into the school year, adding an unneeded disruption to the educational environment for many.

The principal, Dr. Carolyn Epps, delivered the painful news in an email to teachers last week, informing them of the changes that began on Monday.

"This financial crisis will now have a devastating effect on Morgan Park," Dr. Epps wrote in the message. "Consequently, some very painful decisions will have to be made."

The principal provided specific details for the budget crunch, including that although the school was projected to have 1,505 students, enrollment now stands at 1,430, or 75 fewer

students than expected. This 10-day CPS adjustment led to the immediate loss of \$381,352 from the school budget, adding that an additional \$20,154 will be deducted from discretionary funds on the 26th day.

The administration was working to find ways to deflect the cuts hitting the classroom as much as possible, according to the principal, but as late as Saturday, it wasn't clear if teacher layoffs could be avoided.

Other changes that were

initiated, though, include that department chairpersons would have a full load of five classes, and that no teachers would have an overtime sixth class. These changes alone led to various teacher and student program changes, pushing some academic classes to have upwards of 40 students.

Also, students will not receive school identification cards until class programs have been

prioritized, and that likely would happen for another two weeks.

In closing her message, the principal lamented, "This will be a challenging year for all of us."

MP, though, won't have it as bad as some other schools. Please turn to page 2 for

**BUDGET CRUNCH**





# Paw Print



October 2015

Volume 15, Issue 1

## Payton tops national

### rankings

By JULIA HUEBNER  
Staff Writer

While Payton students don't need the latest round of high school rankings to validate their exemplary academic performance, few are complaining about this year's rankings. The exact position of Payton differs among various reports, but it is clear that Payton is earning an "A+."

1034 North Wells takes great pride in the fact that, with a student poverty rate of 12.1%, it is competitive with its affluent counterparts.

The methodologies of these rankings rely primarily on "hard data": the college enrollment rate, graduation rate, ACT/SAT composite, and AP test pass rate, among other metrics.

Reducing four years of human experience to a few numbers has been criticized by many for being incomplete and even misleading.

While onlookers judge Payton by the numbers available, the students are more interested in what can't be measured.

Joseph Griffith '16 didn't even mention academics when asked what makes Payton exceptional. He cited the school's "underestimated sports programs, teachers willing to go that extra mile [and] diversity in viewpoints."

Ultimately, "it's not just about the academics; you become a better person," said Griffith.

### Notable rankings include:

#10 in Top High Schools:  
Newsweek

#7 in Top High Schools  
Beating the Odds:  
Newsweek

#5 in the Top Fifty Smartest High Schools in the US:  
Business Insider

#1 in Best Magnet Schools in America:  
Niche

## Homecoming lights up Lane Stadium

By LUIS PALACIOS  
Staff Writer

This year's Homecoming football game on September 19 against Marshall High School was an amazing event for everyone, even if the weather was trying to ruin the day.

Lightning threatened to cancel the game, and did during the beginning segments of the third quarter, but that didn't stop friends and families from coming to Lane Stadium.

From the beginning of the game the Grizzlies were fired up, and ready to play. They started off fast with big plays from Myles Davis '17 and Mike Kalanik '16.

The defense wasn't showing any sympathy towards Marshall,

not letting them score throughout the first half.

The Grizzlies scored two touchdowns in each quarter of the first half, with multiple Grizzlies finding the endzone, including Zach Wang '17, Myles Davis '17, and Mike Kalanik '16.

"It was great to see so many of the guys getting involved throughout the game and us dominating in every aspect of the game," said Zach Wang '17 after the game.

Even some students in the stands were impressed, and had a blast during the game.

"The team looked really smooth and amazing on the field tonight, and the students and families were



The Grizzly defense is looking to stop the Marshall offense in the fourth down.

Photo by Mario Wiggins

getting really involved in the game showing our support for the team," said Brandon Taylor '16.

The Grizzlies are now 7-1, and are working their way to their fifth straight playoff appearance.

## 5000 CPS teacher layoffs possible

By RICHARD MPTER  
Staff Writer

The CPS budgetary crisis for the current 2016 fiscal year has put serious pressure on the classrooms, administrations, and teaching faculties of CPS schools district-wide, including Payton.

Threatening fiscal challenges of declining state funding and increasing pension obligations have cost the CPS district \$700 million this year alone, according to Forrest Claypool, the CEO of CPS, in the Chicago Sun-Times.

While Springfield pays pension costs for every other district in the state, CPS is forced to pay the massive pension debts with funds otherwise used for school resources.

Other districts will receive \$2,226 per student in pension support from Springfield while CPS will only receive \$31 per student, said Claypool.

As a "solution," Claypool states in the Chicago Sun-Times, CPS has decided on a far from ideal budget with nearly \$200 million in district-wide cuts, \$225 million in debt restructuring, and relief from TIF surplus funds and property tax raises.

It has been reported that about 1,400 positions have been eliminated, though Claypool has said that cuts to administration and the

Central Office will not solve the debt alone. This has all been said to be temporary, as it will save classroom sizes for the time being but will ultimately threaten the future of CPS schooling.

This crisis has put immense pressure on Payton's principal, Mr. Devine, who has said his prime focus is on the enrichment of his students in the classroom.

According to Devine, Payton has not only had the leanest administration (three members) of any CPS high school, but for the last five years has also been the only CPS high school to put 100% of its funds into faculty and staff positions.

Despite efforts to push back on the CPS Central Office this past year for more funds, Devine stated that Payton received a budget that required 4.8 faculty members to be cut. In an effort to minimize the number of classes cut, Devine had to make the hard decision to cut assistant principal Ms. Washington, who was a valued member of the administration.

A recent development in the budget crisis has Forrest Claypool threatening Springfield that if it does not pay CPS the \$480 million in supplemental funds it needs to sustain the budget, the district will



CPS has a \$480 million operating budget gap this year, which may result in 5,000 teacher layoffs midyear.

Photo used with permission from flickr.com

be forced to make 5,000 faculty cuts by this Thanksgiving.

Since Payton's administration has already been thinned to one assistant principal, Mr. Devine has stated that these cuts "would have to come from teachers," but that "other rules Central Office and the CTE are going to put into place will dictate our decision making."

Devine reflected that, "There are more questions than answers at the moment," and that "we are in a era in CPS budgeting where anything's on the table."

Concerning which classes would be cut, Devine said, "We

hypothetically have to consider that it would be elective courses... we cannot cut graduation required courses."

He went on to state that the administration hasn't "dug deeply into specifically which elective courses" would be cut, but that they would "probably need to be junior and senior level Honors and AP elective courses."

Devine expressed that Payton "has to be concerned about the extracurriculars" being cut as well.

When asked if Payton would be

continued on p. 7



The annual blood drive was held on Tuesday, October 13 in the atrium.

Photo by Eli Selz

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# The Pritzker Press

Pritzker College Prep

OCTOBER 2015

Volume II, Issue 1

## Pritzker students celebrate Homecoming at dance

By Esmeralda Rodriguez '16

Pritzker students attended the Homecoming dance on Sept. 26 from 7 to 11 p.m. in the cafeteria to celebrate the Homecoming game. This year's Homecoming theme was Masquerade.

Any student got to attend along with any guests, as long as they had a guest form. The Homecoming dance staff and students got to have a good time. The ticket costs \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door.

Music started to play not too long after 7 p.m. The cafeteria filled with students who wanted to have a good time with the intention of celebrating the win of the football team. Senior Andrea Johnson said, "It's our last year at Pritzker. We have to enjoy our last Homecoming Dance at Pritzker and make the best



Students enjoy themselves at the Homecoming Dance. At center, sophomore Anwar Delafosa and senior Will Sosa show off for the camera.

of it."

The DJ played all types of music, and students started dancing and having a good time with friends and sig-

nificant others.

Students got to nominate the Homecoming court days before the dance. Around 10 p.m., students became

anxious waiting to find out about the winners from the Homecoming court. 2015 King and Queen winners were seniors Fernando Medrano and Graciela Valencia.

Everyone clapped and cheered and lit the slow dance with their phones as the court danced to "Dreaming of You."

Everyone was either dancing or having a good time. Students spent quality time with their friends and significant others.

Homecoming is a way to release stress and have fun in company of friends and teachers. Senior Karina Leon stated that she has gone to Homecoming her four years and also added, "I enjoy every Homecoming. I spend a good amount of time with my friends."

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### Pritzker takes home XC Championship

Story on page 2



### Noble wins Broad Prize

Story on page 3

### Students enjoy first ever whole-school Pep Rally

Story on page 5



### New this year: Opinion articles

See page 6 for an opinion article on the issue of police interactions

## Pritzker becomes IB school

By Katia Gomez '17 and Yomaira Herrera '17

Starting this school year, Pritzker College Prep is officially an IB school.

According to Emily Prettyman, former Honors Physics teacher and IB Coordinator, "Mr. Sierra had the idea of Pritzker becoming IB." The application process started in 2011, and it took four years for it to become official. The application process involved many steps, such as an IB official visiting Pritzker to see if the school culture was right for the IB program.

The current sophomores will be the first ones to take IB courses, which they will start in the fall of 2016. IB courses are designed for juniors and seniors, but the school wants students to take more advanced courses ahead of time to prepare them for IB.

Prettyman said, "We want to make sure students are ready to go through college." Prettyman also explained that she thinks that Pritzker being an IB school will give students a clearer view of classes they would take in college.

IB is a program that offers courses at college level, similar to AP. In total, there are six courses that students will take.



Photo credit: The International Baccalaureate

Students will be placed in different levels of courses that challenge them based on their skills.

Teachers see this as an opportunity for students to experience more challenging material, such as college level readings.

Student will feel more prepared for college after they have been involved in college level material. It might be hard work but it will be helpful when they get to college. Students will see that it's not a big transition because they were already exposed to college material.

The hope is that AP and IB students will also have a smooth transition to college because they already prepared for the real thing, which are real college courses.

What is IB? See page 4

## In loving memory of Antwone Price, Jr.

By Chloe Toro '18

On Sept. 2, Gary Comer College Prep Middle School lost a young and wonderful soul named Antwone Price who was only 11 years old. Price's life was cut short when he was shot in his stomach by a gun he accidentally discharged while giving it to his 19-year-old uncle.

Price was a very loved and caring kid. Brianna Dark, a family friend, told WGN News, "he was just really focused. A very mature 11 year old." Price had a dream of being a mortician, according to Jackson Floyd, a family friend and mentor. Price would bring flowers to the home and would help out for almost nine hours at a time Calahan Funeral Home on South Halsted.

Although we may have never known who he was or how he lived out his life every day, he will forever be in our hearts as a boy who had a lifelong dream to be a mortician and help others celebrate loved ones lost as we are now celebrating him.



# THE SAINT IGNATIUS SPIRIT

Volume 135, Edition 1 • October 2015

Saint Ignatius College Prep • 1076 W. Roosevelt Rd • Chicago, IL • 60608 • AMDG

## AROUND IGNATIUS

### October 19

FAM Guest Speaker  
(Theater) @ 1:10 PM

Girls Field Hockey  
Varsity vs. Naperville  
North @ 6:00 PM

### October 20

Girls Swimming @  
UIC vs. U-High @  
5:00 PM

Boys Soccer IHSA  
Regional Game @  
Fornelli Field @ 6:00  
PM

### October 21

Boys Regional Soc-  
cer Game @ Fornelli  
Field vs. Downers  
Grove North @ 6:00  
PM

### October 22

Assembly Schedule-  
Students dismissed  
@ 1:25 p.m.

Girls Volleyball vs  
Payton JV @ 4:30  
PM and V @ 5:30

### October 23

#### NO CLASSES

Football @ Lane  
Stadium vs DePaul  
Prep @ 4:15 PM

Boys Regional Soc-  
cer game @ Fornelli  
Field @ 4:30 PM

### October 29

#### MC Halloween Party

IT'S A PUMPKIN LIKE  
YOU! EXTRACURRICULAR  
ACTIVITIES PLANNED IN  
THIS COLUMN. PLEASE  
CONTACT MARIAN FOR  
MORE AT  
mari@stignatiusprep.org

2015-2016  
St. Ignatius College Prep  
Media Awards  
October 2015



Photos By: Mr. Corrigan, Cecily Jawor '17, Tess Russell '16, and Robbie Skowronski '17

Saint Ignatius students traveled to Philly to greet Pope Francis.

## ¡Bienvenido Papa Francisco!

### Ignatian Presence at Papal Pilgrimage in Pennsylvania

• Katherine Beavis '17, Writer

"It's a pilgrimage, not a vacation!"  
"We are the Jesuits, the mighty, mighty Jesuits."

These two themes were constant during the five day papal pilgrimage in Philadelphia. The pilgrims were comprised of students and faculty from 43 Jesuit high schools around the nation.

After arriving at the Philadelphia International Airport, Mr. Corrigan, Ms. Lorenzani, Semmus Brennan '16, Tess Russell '16, Katherine Beavis '17, Cecily Jawor '17, Creta Rauch '17, and Robbie Skowronski

'17, navigated public transportation to St. Joseph's Prep in northern Philadelphia.

The group switched their Ignatius lanyards to "In Philly for Francis" (2014) lanyards. Next, they enjoyed Philly cheesesteaks, and eventually set up sleeping bags on classroom floors.

Thursday evening closed with Mass and a keynote address by Michael Gomez, the founding principal of Cristo Rey Philadelphia High School, the newest member of the Cristo Rey Network.

On Friday, the pilgrims listened to more speakers and participated in themed breakout sessions run by lay and religious persons. Friday closed with the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Saturday began with Mass in the Gesù, a beautiful church adjacent to St. Joseph's Prep.

All students walked the several miles to Independence Hall for Pope Francis' speech on immigration, then to the Ben Franklin Parkway to hear entertainers including Anetha Franklin, Mark Wahlberg, The Roots and

Jim Gaffigan close out the World Meeting on Families and to listen to more Papal remarks.

On Sunday, Walsh Jesuit High School walked with Ignatius to the Benjamin Franklin Parkway to watch out a prime viewing spot near the Centre for the Mass six hours later.

As the Pope's motorcade drove by, students yelled "Culogio Jesuitas" (Jesuit high schools) and Pope Francis turned, nodded, and waved.

It was a thrill to celebrate Mass with the Pope and share the experience

with an abundance of those who are passionate about their faith.

Once back at St. Joseph's Prep, Fr. James Martin S.J., a Jesuit author, editor, and commentator, made a surprise visit. Pilgrims closed out the evening on the school's roof, observing the full harvest moon and lunar eclipse.

He ended his homily with, "I ask you to pray for me. Don't forget." These "off-script" words resonated with the pilgrims and were the most meaningful memory of the trip.

**3 News**  
Seniors write about their summer service immersions

**6 Arts & Leisure**  
Quick guide to the arts scene at Saint Ignatius



**7 Sports**  
Saint Ignatius Cross Country Runners represent the Wolfpack



# STEINMETZ STAR

Volume 81, Number 3, January-February 2016  
www.steinmetzstar.com

## Parent, staff and student majority dislikes the change Later bell schedule helps teens get more sleep, but limits activities

By McKenzie Laceyfield

Lacarra Adams, Juan Ceballos, Alejandro Hernandez and Maya Robinson obtained interviews; all 1st period Journalism students contributed to the story.

A majority of students, parents and staff members who took the Steinmetz Star Bell Schedule survey in November indicated that they prefer last year's bell schedule to this year's one, which is an hour later. Of parents, 58 percent said they prefer an earlier start time.

Nearly 1,400 surveys were returned on the Star, with 320 people including signed comments.

The surveys were distributed to freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors in their English classes and to staff members in their mailboxes. The Star surveyed parents at report card pick-up on Nov. 19, 2015.

The schedule for next year has not yet been determined.

### Schedule pros and cons

Students who prefer this year's schedule commented that the 9 a.m. start allows more sleep and more time to eat breakfast, get ready and commute to school.

"I love the extra sleeping time," junior Tahlia Ocasio said. "I don't have to wake up early and I don't feel rushed," sophomore Alana Camacho said.

Students who prefer an earlier schedule commented about the loss of time in the afternoons because of the 4:11 dismissal. Many said they were concerned with safety because it is dark when they are walking home or taking public transportation.

"Now I don't really have time to do anything at home," sophomore Michele Villanueva said. "Staying after school isn't even okay. It's so dark and dangerous."

Parents also commented about safety.

"It's too dark for the kids to walk through Reis Park," parent

### Bell Schedule Survey - students

Yes (Student) did not like the new bell schedule and would like to go back to the old one. Please write your comments below.

1. What would you like to see changed about the new bell schedule?

2. How would you like to see the school day changed?

3. How would you like to see the school day changed?

4. How would you like to see the school day changed?

5. How would you like to see the school day changed?

6. How would you like to see the school day changed?

7. How would you like to see the school day changed?

8. How would you like to see the school day changed?

9. How would you like to see the school day changed?

10. How would you like to see the school day changed?

### Survey Results

	8 - 3:11	9 - 4:11
Freshmen	143	66
Sophomores	190	183
Juniors	133	56
Seniors	181	150
Staff	76	16
Parents	142	64
	865	535
	62%	38%



Steinmetz staff members Karina Childs and Laura Amencio greet parents, who are holding the Star survey, at report card pick-up on Nov. 19, 2015. Students, sitting at a table closest to the door, distributed the Bell Schedule Survey to the parents. More than 200 parents took the survey, which was like the student survey at too left, but didn't ask for grade level.

### The Star 'Later Bell Schedule' report, continued on Pages 10-13, includes:

- The option for working seniors to leave school at 3:11 (p. 12)
- Reasons for the change in schedule
- Comparisons with other CPS high schools
- Research on teens and sleep deprivation
- Interviews with Principal Stephen Ngo, CPS Newark 3 Chief of Schools Ronald Townsend and SC members
- Information about past bell schedules at Steinmetz
- Dozens of student, staff and parent comments on the positive and negative effects of the new new schedule

Continued on Page 10

## Regional science fair winners advance to city



Teen students represented Steinmetz at the North High Schools Regional Networks Science Fair on Friday, Jan. 29. They competed with 90 other students from 14 different North Side schools. (From left to right in above) Aleksandra Caceres received a silver medal. Victor Hernandez, Weronika

Zyluska, Liam Pette, Tyson Harvey, Adrian Espino, Vincent Romanides, Jorge Garcia, Abdulkabir Yabys and Lara Bana earned gold medals. All students who earned gold medals have been invited to compete in the City Science Fair, which will be held at the Museum of Science and Industry on March 17.

## Principal Ngo responds to Star 'censorship accusation'

Greenings, this is Principal Ngo. I'd like to explain my thoughts and actions pertaining to accusations that I censored the school newspaper. Having read the first draft on the story on the late start, I felt that it was rather one-sided. The story needed more balance. I talked the story from running in the December issue after explaining to the Journalism students that I was postponing the story so that they could add more balance to the story. I made two specific recommendations. First, I recommended that the students interview our Local School Council regarding the late start. Secondly, I recommended that the school nurse be



Principal Stephen Ngo answers questions from Star reporters on Jan. 4.

interviewed regarding the health benefits surrounding more sleep and research that shows most teenagers in the United States are sleep deprived.

Continued on Page 4

### In this Issue

News: 1-2, 4-7, 9-13



On the campaign for Lp. 4

Opinion: 2-3



Letter to the editor and column about dress' clothing choices, p. 3

Valentine's: 8-9, 14



Shout-outs, pages 8-9

Arts & Entertainment: 14



Preview of RuPaul's Drag Race, p. 14

Sports: 15-16



Bowling, p. 15





# TAFT TODAY

**Issue 4**

January 22, 2016

Volume 26



**New to Taft: floor criticism**  
Page 8



**Beauty in the struggle**  
Page 1

*In this issue...*



**Chicago or Chian?**  
Page 9



**Define your face**  
Page 18



**From the crib to the field**  
Page 16

## Taft's next top models prance across the catwalk



**By Katie Grealy**  
Seniors

struggling to pick the perfect prom outfit were given the opportunity to attend the Prom Fashion Show to witness their fellow students and teachers take the catwalk with elegant dresses and handsome suits. This event took place in the auditorium during seventh period on Jan. 8.

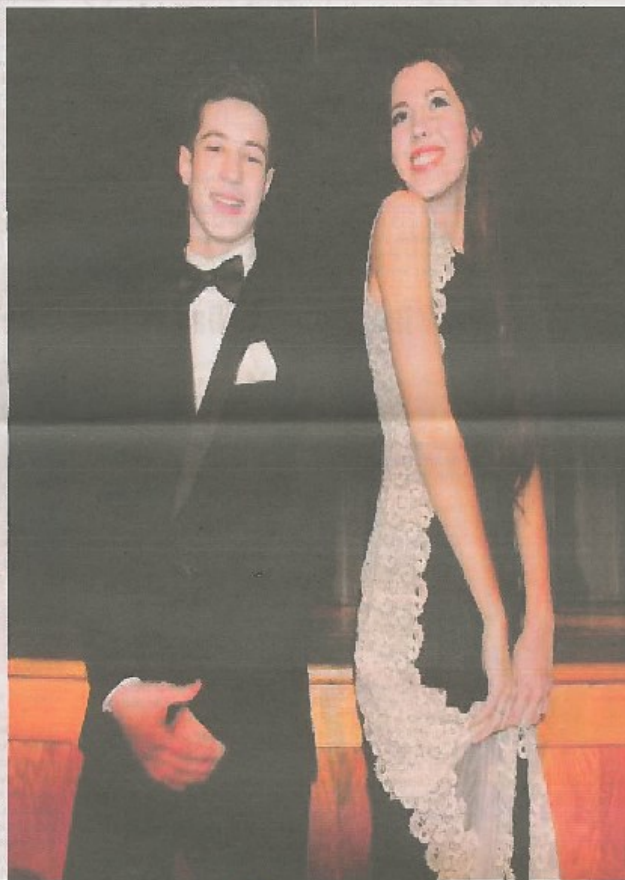
"This was my first time planning a fashion show. I remember my grammar school hosting a fashion show every year that was very popular and fun. I wanted the Fashion Show to be fun for the students and get them excited for the second half of their senior year and all the fun events they have to look forward to as well," said Counselor Jacquelyn Epoke.

Taft is not the first school to host such an event. Schools such as Schaumburg High School, Palmdale High School, and Oswego High School have all held their own Senior Prom Fashion Show in the previous years.

"We heard that other schools were doing it and saw a great opportunity to not only get people in the prom spirit, but also find a way of giving girls who can't afford a fancy prom dress a fancy prom dress through creating a dress drive," said Vashly Arcet, Div. 817.

Students that have completed their Federal Student Aid ID cards for Free Application For Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) were able to get tickets for this event for free. Tickets were sold for \$3 if FAFSA was not completed.

"This was my first time doing anything like this. I didn't really



have any expectations going into the show. I was just hoping I wouldn't fall in front of my students. The show was a lot of fun overall," said Physics Teacher Erin Millen.

David's Bridal, Men's Warehouse, and Black Tie Formal donated dresses and suits to Taft, and with their help, the show was met with all positive reactions.

"Part of the purpose was to also give students an idea of what they want to do during and after college. It's just a fun way to get students pumped and kick off the rest of the year with all the things we have planned," said Aishling Martinez, Div. 637.

The Fashion Show also gave students reminders and motivation with the end of the school drawing near means meeting FAFSA deadlines and completing their Senior Passports. In addition, this event helped pave the way for other planned activities such as prom and the dress drive.

Student and Teacher models:  
Hannah Long (Div. 637), Almir Alkoushi (Div. 615), Monica Morawski (Div. 637), Jack Burwinkel (Div. 637), Samantha Muslowski (Div. 834), Sean Ramirez (Div. 822), Ariene Gutierrez (Div. 617), Nathaniel Posadas (Div. 815), Ashley Gies (Div. 827), Jacob Gies (Div. 827), Dakota Peterson (Div. 688), Sarah Bilby (Div. 827), Akevia Morris (Div. 615), Ardan Klerja (Div. 624), Valerie Santillan (Div. 827), Amel Grodzanic (Div. 827), Hannah Gonzalez (Div. 827), Joseph Black (Div. 833), Hasanahana Alhasan (Div. 622), Kyle Moorehouse (Div. 637), Rachael Nicholas, Jeffrey Lucco, Mariasha Dragoi, Macie Myzka, Irene Kondoa, Les Plawis, Linda Bhaviani, Anil Menon, Shweta Lewis, Mark Grishaber, Kathleen Molloy, Ryan Okowacz, Idaliz Rivera, Justin Yesensky, Erin Millen, Jessica Lane, Sergio Santillan, and Patrick Gallagher.

*Photos by Eliane Collins*



*News*

*~Taft Today Editors~*

*Sports*



Ramon Deeb



Marcella Piccolini



Hannah Gonzalez



Gabriela Krosznal



Samantha Muslowski

Advertiser Patrick T. Lewis



# the beacon

volume 44 - issue 4 - wyyoung.org  
February 16, 2016

Whitney M. Young Magnet High School  
211 S. Laflin

wybeaconnews.org



## CPS vendor restrictions force schools to increase spending

Claire Brennan  
Staff Reporter

Corruption within the Chicago Public Schools system has been a much debated topic of late, but not everyone knows one particular Board of Education rule may be causing it.

The rule has to do with vendors, meaning any company from which a school wants to purchase goods or services. Every dollar of every CPS school must be spent on vendors that are approved by CPS.

This rule is in place to provide schools with the best possible quality of anything they buy while ensuring there is no careless spending or misuse of money.

Some, however, feel very strongly that the regulation does more harm than good. It has proven to be quite problematic for public schools all throughout Chicago who are scrambling for ways to make up for a severe lack of funding and impending budget cuts. Time and again, CPS insists that schools work through certain overpriced vendors.

Some categories only have one vendor, which not only limits schools' product selection, but also allows for a large increase in prices due to a lack of competition between companies. If a new vendor is specifically sponsored by a school and goes through the procurement process, it has the potential of gaining approved status, but this process is not easy.

"There are situations in which our hands

are tied and we have to use certain vendors for certain things," reported Principal Joyce Kenner.

"It appears that those vendors cost us much more than they would if we could do it our own way...I absolutely feel like they are stumbling blocks that don't need to be there," she adds.

Kenner goes on to say how CPS restrictions have disrupted many of WY's efforts to improve school conditions, whether that be receiving new bathrooms or an updated athletic field.

But while WY and other selective enrollment schools suffer from the vendor rule, the neighborhood schools have taken a much harder blow.

According to DNAinfo, students at Wells High School (just north of WY) were in tears when their plans of building a new athletic field fell through. The Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation - an organization that sets up fields in afflicted areas throughout America - partnered up with Wells to build them a field if enough money could be raised.

The foundation assisted the school in gathering \$845,000 through fundraising and various donations and agreed to contribute \$350,000 themselves. However, after two years of planning, CPS told Wells that they could not build the field using the foundation's vendors. Construction came to a halt, causing some of the donations to be pulled.

CPS' facilities team met with the foun-



Claire Bentley / Staff Photographer The new lunchrooms in Blue and Red house are an example of the single-bid vendor policy within CPS funding.

dation in December to discuss possible solutions and agreed to pony up \$300,000.

"We would never rule out the possibility of improving a school, especially if private money is available," stated CPS spokesman Bill McCaffrey. Still, CPS estimated the cost of a new field to be \$4.9 million while the Ripken Foundation, having constructed 40 athletic fields across the country, estimated it to be \$2.7 million.

The Beacon staff emailed Chicago's Board of Education inquiring about the rule. The Board responded by asking which school the newspaper belongs to, but did

not answer any questions.

Despite all the recent uproar, CPS doesn't plan to change their vendor restrictions any time soon.

That doesn't mean people are going to stay quiet, though.

Held Bailey, Friends of Whitney Young (FOWY) secretary and mother of two WY students, summed up her feelings about the rule in an op-ed she submitted to the Chicago Tribune.

"The true reality of our purchasing power is made evident by the grossly inflated bids staring back at us...Stop forcing schools and fundraising efforts to spend irresponsibly just because you do. It is time to change the way you do business on a very fundamental level."

## WY keeps ACT as standard college test

Luke Zarzecki  
News Editor

Ryan Wangman  
Staff Reporter

For the past few months, Illinois legislation has been debating about whether they will switch over from the ACT to the SAT for their mandated form of testing. After initially switching over to the SAT, Illinois is back with the ACT.

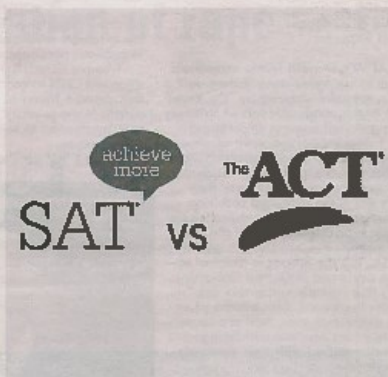
Priority legislation was introduced to switch over to the SAT since most schools across the country were accepting it. Additionally, the SAT beat out the ACT to earn a 3 year, \$14.3 million

dollar State of Illinois contract, \$1.37 million dollars less than ACT's proposal. State procurement officials say the Illinois budget crisis could result in several outcomes, from siding with the Illinois State Board of Education's decision to award the contract to the College Board, or starting the whole competitive process over again.

But now, we are back on for the ACT. The Beacon's interpretation is that since CPS doesn't have a budget, the ACT found some money to outbid SAT. But whatever the test may be, current students don't seem to be phased.

"It doesn't really matter," Keduse Worke, 17 said, "The SATs are becoming more like the ACTs, and anyone who has trouble paying for either will now have options."

Unlike most other states and school districts, the ACT has remained overwhelmingly popular in Illinois. The most recent results for the graduating class of 2015 show that 157,047 test-takers from public and private high schools took the exam - the largest number of ACT test-takers of any state.



Claire Bentley / Editor-in-Chief

Don't forget, we're online @ wybeaconnews.org!

Page 2

The Beacon sums up the political scene

Page 3

Should finals be before our after break?

Page 4-5

A teacher match-making guide

Page 6

The success of Ally's Allies

Page 7

Check out album reviews

Page 8

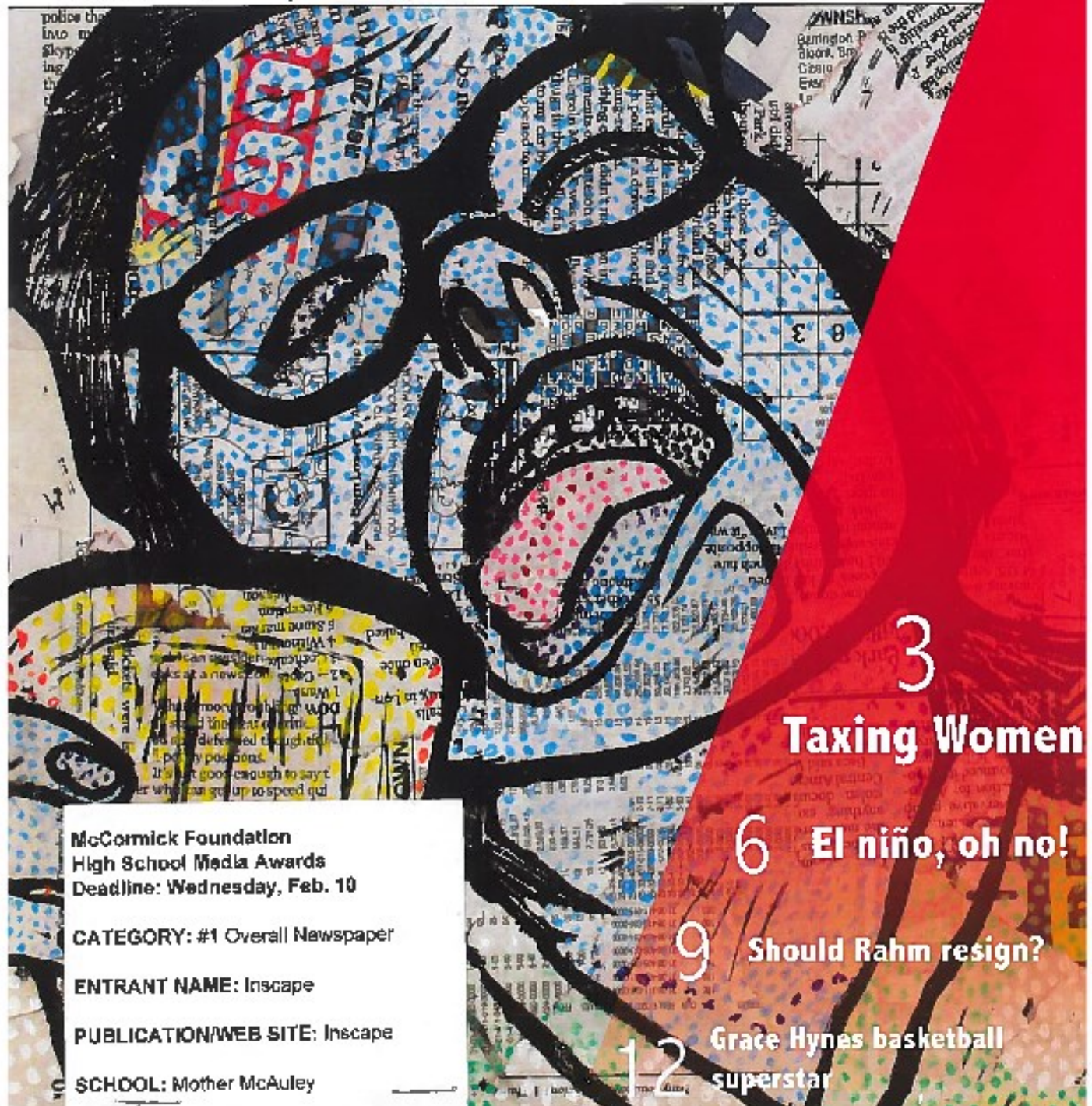
Senior thoughts on 2nd semester



# INSCAPE

student edition

vol. 59 issue3 january•february



McCormick Foundation  
High School Media Awards  
Deadline: Wednesday, Feb. 10

CATEGORY: #1 Overall Newspaper

ENTRANT NAME: Inscape

PUBLICATION/WEB SITE: Inscape

SCHOOL: Mother McAuley

3 Taxing Women

6 El niño, oh no!

9 Should Rahm resign?

12 Grace Hynes basketball superstar

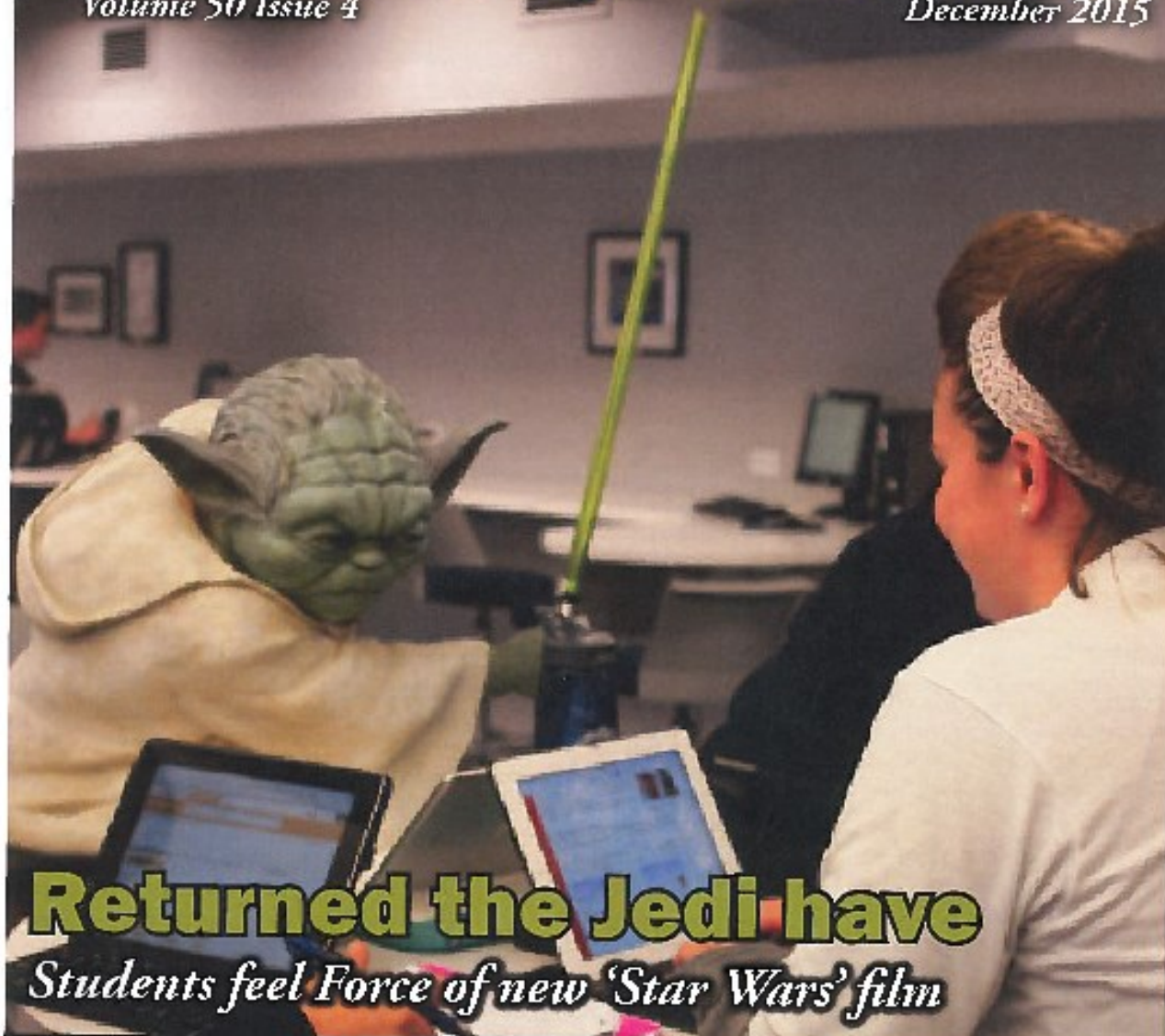


# VIATOR VOICE

Volume 50 Issue 4

December 2015

Saint Viator High School  
1213 E. Oakton St.  
Arlington Heights, IL



## Returned the Jedi have

*Students feel Force of new 'Star Wars' film*

**Been There, Done That:**  
Public schools try  
December finals,  
Viator stays put

PAGE 3

**Terrorist Attacks:**  
Aftershocks  
of Paris leave  
West reeling

PAGE 10

**Snow-Covered Turkeys:**  
Christmas preparations  
may be coming  
too early

PAGE 13

**Overall Newspaper:  
Full-Sized****SUPERIOR****Steinmetz - Steinmetz Star**

Excellent initiative on the bell schedule story – using a Star survey to show that Steinmetz students, parents and staff prefer last year's earlier start time as the lead story, then including LOTS of additional stuff inside.. Would have preferred a STORY on Principal Ngo and the censorship issue on p. 1 instead of something he wrote. Snappy layout and design – pretty good photo quality and usage. Remember to make one photo or piece of artwork the dominant one on a page – a series of small ones doesn't have the same effect and can be detrimental to the page's overall look.

**Jones - Blueprint**

Blueprint's content is the reason for this rating – great selection of stories and angles to stories – the p.1 article about “pushing the limits with ‘Cabaret,’” for example, is an angle many student papers would miss; good angle on the election with the story about seniors preparing to vote for the first time. Layout still needs work: The basics of modular design, dominant photos, decent-sized headlines, etc., are here, but the pages gray out because many stories are long. Consider quote-out boxes, more graphics to break things up.

**Morgan Park - Empehi News**

Strong “look” throughout – good use of photos and graphics, some variety (but not too much) in type faces and size (but watch out for pages with no photo or other graphic element). Excellent localization of CPS board decision on start time, good explanation of the new grading process resulting from IB status. Very newsy, shows lots of initiative and reporting.

**Lane - The Warrior**

Lots of real news here: new security cameras, new demerit policy, etc. Features also come from interesting ideas, offer solid reporting (seemed to be a HUGE number of stories about art in the issue we reviewed.) Good-to-excellent use of photos (excellent in sports), solid layout. To improve: Vary your headlines more, use a larger type size for body copy, make sure each page has dominant photo or art.

**EXCELLENT****Marist - The Sentinel**

Solid layout/design, but could use more variety: Note the similar size of most photos, such as p. 2 and 3 of the issue we reviewed... the only difference is the actual location of the photo. Aim for a single dominant piece of artwork, either standing alone or in conjunction with the most important story. Good variety of news about alums, but this issue contains few stories about individual current students. Liked the story about Brother Rich – what a character! Would have liked more student/staff comment, to accompany his comments. Try more variation in headline sizes. Good-looking paper making the best of b/w photos and a little bit of color.

**Taft - Taft Today**

Shoot for more news for p. 1. The Prom Fashion Show story is good to cover,



and it's nice to give it the full photo treatment – just inside on feature pages. For example, there's a lot of news in the column on civics classes on p. 9 – why not allow that to stand on p. 1 as a news story? This is not a critique of your story ideas overall– there are many good ones here, ranging from the civics story to Nasir Khalifeh's singing to the Danny Did Foundation. On layout/design: Aim for a single dominant photo or piece of artwork on a page, to pull your reader's eye into the page; multiple small photos/graphics make pages difficult to navigate. Avoid using all centered headlines – try to write them to fill the line, or close to it.

## **OTHER COMMENTS**

### **Pritzker - The Pritzker Press**

First impression of p. 1 of the issue we reviewed is the problem of justified type in the Homecoming story – the type is larger than appears elsewhere and spacing is jarring. Be careful with alternate type sizes.

### **Walter Payton - Paw Print**

Good story ideas generally, but try to stick with journalistic writing and refrain from your opinions (see "Payton tops national rankings") and focus on reporting ("Payton teachers' strike looms," in which there's just one source).

### **Whitney Young - The Beacon**

Two excellent story ideas on p. 1, focusing on CPS vendor processes and the ACT issue. Good opinion piece on David Bowie and rape culture. Content and design are inconsistent, however ... the "Learn to Love" feature is odd and might be found embarrassing by some of the subjects (hope they were in on this!); the "Queer lady movies that don't suck" story shows initiative. Consider a new type face for stories – sans serif like Helvetica (appears to be Helvetica, anyway) make for difficult reading; headlines should fill the line, in most cases; it's generally a bad idea to put color on headlines. Standardize the headings on pages (Features, News) so that they create consistency throughout.

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## **EXCELLENT**

### **Mother McAuley - Inscape**

The variety of content is what distinguishes this publication. We get a pro/con of dueling opinion pieces on the Oregon standoff in the federal wildlife refuge, for example. There's an editorial coming out against taxes on tampons, a tax that considers them "luxury items." A feature tells the story of a student who participated in a STEM program at the Naval Academy. A suggestion: Look for more news topics, less opinion. On the design side: Consider a change in type face for text, as this is small and makes pages grayer than necessary. Good photo reproduction, although a few too many cutouts in odd shapes to suit me. Some cute graphics ("No date? No problem"). Design overall is pretty unified. Is the cover art something designed for the publication? If so, say that ... otherwise, it seems an odd choice for the front of a news publication.

**Overall Newspaper:  
Newsletter-Sized**

**Overall Newspaper:  
Newsletter-Sized**

**EXCELLENT**

**Saint Viator - Viator Voice**

Content: Good work on issue-oriented stories like the final exam schedule: nice mix of comment. Nice idea on the “shadows” story, although one crucial piece of reporting is missing: We need to hear from someone who is actually a shadow – not just someone who was before coming to St. Viator. Good variety

Concerns: The idea of a “World” section is interesting, especially for a high school paper, but these stories still need to be treated as journalism instead of as essays with a few student comments added. Where do the facts in the veterans/PTSD story come from? The author didn’t actually report them, right? Then – at the very least – they need to be credited to other sources. Same with the “Terrorist attacks” story on page 10. What are the sources here, other than Forward Keys, the travel info firm? Nothing else is cited. Information isn’t just grabbed elsewhere and inserted into journalism stories.

Design: Good color photo on the front page. The paper has clean lines and a consistent use of headline sizes and type faces, along with standing headlines (like “LOCAL”). Photos are too small – the lead photo or artwork for a page should be about 20 percent of the available space. Group photos are particularly small. There’s also over-reliance on drawings instead of photos ... and since there were so many photos together in the collage on the back, I know that additional photos were available.

Also: Advertising! That’s great. We see far too little advertising in school papers these days.

**Overall Layout:  
Full-Sized**

**SUPERIOR**

**Steinmetz - Steinmetz Star**

Strengths: Flag, masthead, folios and headlines are clear and easy to read. Liberal use of hairlines. Ample white space achieved. Body copy is generally aligned and easy to read. Photos are generally clear and in proportion. Pages generally feature several stories for readers to choose from. Suggestions: Consider more original student artwork. Some pages a bit text-heavy (pp. 10-13). Some photos not lined up properly (p. 5, Fernandez, Mr. Moore). Watch for “widows”, i.e., single lines at the top or bottom of a column (p. 4, Emony Tate story, column 2) and “orphans,” i.e., bad breaks at the end of a paragraph (p. 5, Urban Alliance story, paragraph 3).

**EXCELLENT**

**Marist - The Sentinel**

Strengths: Flag, headlines, body copy, photo captions, bylines and folios are generally clear and easy to read. Ample white space achieved. Liberal use of hairlines and modular page design. Photos are clear and in proportion. Body copy generally free of widows and orphans. Suggestions: Consider using original student artwork. Consider running masthead inside p. 2. Consider drop caps and pull quotes for longer stories. Consider a “refer” row of stories at the bottom of p.1 to preview what’s inside. Consider new typeface for headlines (Times Roman is a bit dull), shaded boxes and varying the four-column grid.

**Morgan Park - Empehi News**

Strengths: Flag, masthead, headlines, bylines, folios and body copy are gener-

ally clear and easy to read. Ample white space achieved. Modular page design generally easy on the eye. Suggestions: Inside refers atop flag on p. 1 are hard to read, partly due to photos and to outlined type. Either a) choose photos that include “white space” for text, or b) run text below refers, with page numbers set flush right. Set drop caps flush left and at least three lines high. Two-tone color choices for shaded boxes, copy and drop caps not easy to read (p. 1, pp. 8-9). Consider smaller point size for jumps, and using original student artwork. Consider 0.5-inch hairlines for folios and text frames for a more streamlined look. Several text “widows,” i.e., single lines of text at the top or bottom of a column (p.12 Thanksgiving story, columns 3 and 4, p. 6, snack vendors, columns 3 and 4).

### **Lane - The Warrior**

Strengths: Body copy is clear and easy to read. Good use of subheads in CPS story. Liberal use of photos and original artwork. Ample white space is generally achieved. Nice multi-sized photo design on p. 6 art story. Suggestions: Run “In the Heart of Warrior” row at bottom of p.1, below the fold. Remove text frames, run artwork full frame size and use 0.5-inch vertical hairlines to separate them. Shorten headlines and run larger, e.g., “New security cameras,” “Lane on Ice,” “Perfectionism.” Set numeral in larger point size at lower right corner. Not enough white space for several photo credits. Watch for “widows,” i.e., single lines at the top or bottom of a column (p.6, art story, bottom of column two and p.7, column three) and “orphans,” i.e., short words or bad breaks at the end of a line (p.6, art story, column three: “... for as long as she can remem-ber”). Aim for a new grid layout for some stories, i.e., 3+2 column grid vs. five columns, and drop caps for feature stories. Consider a design for bylines.

### **OTHER COMMENTS**

#### **Taft - Taft Today**

Strengths: Liberal use of original artwork. Inside news page offers several stories. Headlines and body copy are generally clear and easy to read. Suggestions: Paper should include a masthead, i.e., section that details staff positions, frequency of publication, etc. Photos not in proportion in several places (pp. 4, 8, 9). Do not center headlines. Avoid “tombstone” headlines, i.e., headlines that stand next to each other (top of P. 18). Lots of “widows,” i.e., single lines of text at the top or bottom of a column (p. 3, ACT story, column 2, p. 6, Dzebic and doubt stories, column 1) and “orphans,” i.e., short words or bad breaks at the end of a paragraph (p. 1, column 2, p. 13, soulmate story, column 1). Aim for more prominent bylines. Consider a drop cap for feature stories. Text too close to edges of colored boxes (pp. 2, 5, 12). More white space needed for photo captions. Aim for a more modular design, fewer split columns with photos. Consider using hairlines for a more streamlined look.

#### **Saint Ignatius - Saint Ignatius Spirit**

Strengths: Good use of color photos on pp. 4-5. Body copy is generally aligned and easy to read. Inside refers on bottom of P. 1 are nice design elements. Folios are well-designed and easy to follow. Suggestions: More hair-

**Overall Layout:  
Full-Sized**

lines, set to 0.5-inches, to create a more streamlined look. More white space needed between headlines, subheads, bylines and body copy. Choose a non-italic font for subheads (Italics are just plain harder to read). Consider drop caps for feature stories, and pull quotes for longer stories. Avoid “tombstone” headlines, i.e., same-sized type that runs side by side (p.1). Watch for “widows,” i.e., single lines at the top or bottom of a column (p. 1, Ignatius students, column 2, p. 6, art scene, column 3) and “orphans,” i.e., bad breaks at the end of a paragraph (I page, Gutierrez tweet). Text too close to frames (I page) and inconsistent paragraphing (most stories are full justified; some run ragged right). Consider a shorter, redesigned masthead that runs two or three columns wide. Consider varying the six-column grid and more liberal use of original student artwork.

**Walter Payton - Paw Print**

Strengths: Headlines and body copy are generally easy to read. Shaded text boxes add variety to the page. Suggestions: Use 0.5-inch hairlines and picture frames for a more streamlined look. Run “see inside” as a row along the bottom of p.1, with each story given a simple headline, picture and page number inside a 1-columnwide frame, with vertical hairlines to separate each. Avoid “tombstone” headlines, i.e., headlines that stand next to each other on the same page (pp. 3 and 4). Consider a vertical hairline for column 1 on p.1 and for the masthead on p. 2. Set photo credits below photos and flush right. Photo captions should run below them. Consider running Sudoku puzzle half size and adding a crossword. Adjust inset spacing to achieve more white space inside shaded text frames (pp. 3, 4, 5 and 7). Watch for “widows,” i.e., a line of text at the top or bottom of a column (p. 3, Would You Rather, column 2, and AP Human Geography, column 2) or “orphans,” i.e., a short word or bad break at the end of a paragraph (p. 7, 1984, column 2, paragraph 2). Consider using original student artwork. Some bad breaks in captions (p. 1, annual blood drive), headlines (p. 3, AP capstone) and text (p. 7, 1984, paragraph 1). Consider a redesigned flag with a more distinct font and a cleaner break between the headlines on p. 1.

**Jones - The Blueprint**

Strengths: Flag has distinct look. Colored, shaded text boxes add variety. Good use of student artwork on pp. 1 and 4. Headlines, subheads and body copy are generally clear and easy to read. Suggestions: More vertical white space needed between headlines, subheads, bylines and body copy (p.1). Adjust inset spacing to achieve more white space inside colored text boxes (pp. 1 and 5). Avoid “tombstone” headlines, i.e., headlines that run next to each other across the page (p. 6 bottom). More white space for p. 1 callout. Lots of “widows.” i.e., single lines of text at the top and bottom of a column (p. 1, column 2, p. 4, column 3, p. 5, My View, column 5, p. 8, Baseball Team, column 2). Bad tracking and leading on p. 6: bottom text lines of stories should line up. Consider vertical hairlines, pull quotes and drop caps for some stories. Consider a colored text box for the masthead. Consider a permanent row of “refers” on p.1 at the bottom of each issue, i.e., 1-column-wide boxes with short headlines, photos and page numbers, to give readers a taste of what’s inside.





## Overall Website



## SUPERIOR

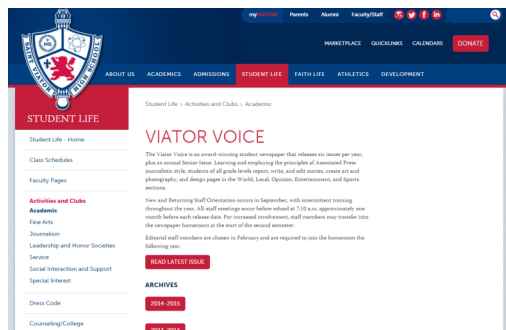
Walter Payton - (<http://paytonpawprint.com/>)

Sufficient content in this website to learn about the school. The information is up-to-date and complete. Links for navigation are clearly labeled and consistently placed, taking the reader where s/he expects to go. The website is well-organized. Content is simple, to the point and is presented in a clear manner that is easy to follow.



Whitney Young - (<http://wybeaconnews.org/>)

Articles have unique ideas and themes and include useful information for students, although some interesting sections have not been updated for a while, such as Humans of WY, Trivia, and Fab Five. Text spacing and alignment make reading easy. Appropriate use of images, enhancing the content and creating interest. Your introduction to the Beacon and its staff members – clear, concise, and well written.



Saint Viator - (<http://viatorvoice.saintviator.com/>)

Articles are clearly written. The underlying logic is clearly articulated and easy to follow. Images have strong relation to articles, with proper size, resolution, colors and cropping. The site is well-organized and easy to navigate. Overall, writers have made an exceptional attempt to make the content of this web site interesting to students for whom it is intended.



Lane - (<http://lanewarrior.com/>)

Website is of high quality. There is sufficient content in this website to learn about the school, students, and their thoughts and experiences. The site is well-organized and easy to navigate. Visitors can clearly understand where they are and where to go next. Information is updated frequently and includes the date of the update to emphasize freshness of content.



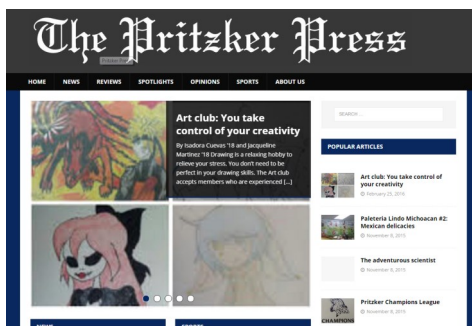


### Phoenix Military - (<http://phoenixmilitarynews.com/>)

Articles are written clearly and concisely, pointing readers to high quality, up to date pertinent resources. They are highly informative. Readers can get around your website with ease. Creativity and original images enhance the content of the web pages in an innovative way.

### Overall Website

## EXCELLENT



### Pritzker - (<http://pritzkerpress.com/>)

Information is not current in some pages, but it has an attractive and usable layout. The slideshow of different articles on the front page makes the site look professional and visually striking. The website is well organized and easy to locate all important elements. Links for navigation are clearly labeled and consistently placed. Many well-written articles with unique themes and useful information for school community members.

## OTHER COMMENTS

### Steinmetz - (<http://steinmetzstar.com/>)

Your print edition of the newspaper is well-written, student-centered, and visually attractive. However, several sections on the website have not been updated for a while. Your website would engage students more if stories are more relatable and student-centered, like your print edition. Still, the site has a well-stated clear purpose and theme that is carried out throughout the site. Keep doing the good work that will continue to be a great resource for students.

### Taft - (<http://tafths.org/newspaper>)

Each article does not include a date when it was uploaded or last revised. Navigating the site is confusing. But articles are well organized according to the theme.

## SUPERIOR

### Phoenix Military Academy - <http://phoenixmilitarynews.com/>

The site is well-organized and easy to navigate. The fonts are consistent, easy to read and point size varies appropriately for headings and text. All of the photographs enhance the content and create interest. Graphics are related to the theme/purpose of the site, are of good quality and enhance reader interest.

### Overall Web Design

## Overall Web Design

## EXCELLENT

Walter Payton - (<http://paytonpawprint.com/>)

It was great that links are created with images and icons to enhance the text links. Adjusting text spacing and alignment would improve readers' overall viewing experiences. Photos are appropriate, but often not loaded with the article.

Steinmetz - (<http://steinmetzstar.com/>)

The website is well organized, consistent and nicely formatted. Images are related to the theme, thoughtfully cropped, and of high quality, enhancing reader interest and understanding. Use of font styles is used consistently and improves readability.

Lane Tech - (<http://lanewarrior.com/>)

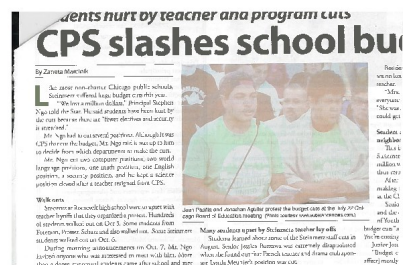
In a few places, the font size of the text and headline is not proportionate. Images are related to the theme and purpose of the article, are of good quality and enhance reader interest and understanding. Good use of flash/animation on the front page!

## OTHER COMMENTS

Taft - (<http://tafths.org/newspaper>)

There are no variations in layout and no graphic elements, unless you click the PDF attachments. There are several format inconsistencies – for instance, lists of issues are sometimes descending (From issue 5 to 1) and other times ascending (from issue 1 to 5). However, it is understandable that formatting the entire website consistently would be difficult, as this website is a part of the school website and students probably do not have much control and flexibility.

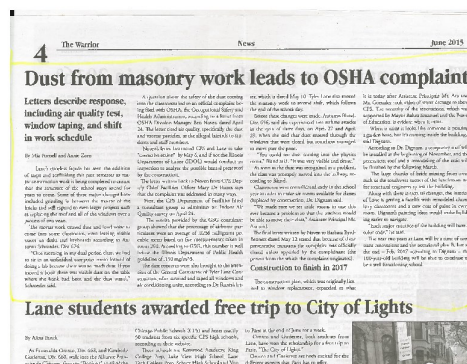
## News Story



## SUPERIOR

## Steinmetz - Zaneta Marcink

Excellent localizing of a broader issue's impact on your school. Good quotes from local officials. Demonstrates effects of funding crisis on your school and helps students relate to it. Puts students in context of broader story. Nicely done!



## Lane - Mia Purnell and Annie Zorn

Great lede! (Though I would have broken it into two graphs.) Well done, solid news story about a local school issue having greater impact on student population than would be anticipated. Good student and administration quotes. Tells the full story of what's happening, what led up to it, next steps and expected resolution. Does everything a good news story should.



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## OTHER COMMENTS

Other entries did not receive awards because they were editorial/opinion pieces rather than feature stories. In some cases, stories also were told in second person rather than third person.

## SUPERIOR

**Lane Tech - Annette Ress, Ruben Aranda, Katie Gross, Alina Panek, Emmanuel Crespo, Ina Li**  
Solid technical skills and great over package.

## EXCELLENT

**Whitney Young - Kenyetta Johnson**  
Well done.

## General Feature Story

## Broadcast Feature Story

## Personality Profile

## Getting to Know Your School Board: Jesse Ruiz, From VP to CEO to President

BY MATTHEW WIGAN ON DECEMBER 16, 2015 • 1 COMMENT

Jesse Ruiz's list of accomplishments qualify him for his next endeavor in Chicago's political scene. As December marks the last month of Ruiz's tenure serving as Vice President of the Chicago Public School Board, starting next month, he'll begin to serve as President of the Chicago Park District. Payton students have benefited from his tenure on the school board as he has helped make key decisions that affect selective enrollment as well as all of the Chicago Public Schools.

Chicago is one of the country's most diverse cities in the United States. Not only do Chicagoans get to experience world cultures in seventy-seven neighborhoods, but also in the Chicago Public School system. Payton itself is diverse and values a global education and draws from all of the city's neighborhoods. Each neighborhood school reflects the community's unique niche such as its residents' ethnic, social, economic and religious backgrounds. When exposed to such a wide spectrum of perspectives and identities, people begin to define their characters and become who they are. Being raised in such a neighborhood, outgoing Chicago Public School (CPS) Vice President, Jesse Ruiz, attributes his success to the environment in which he grew up.

Ruiz grew up in Chicago's Roseland community, and like many Payton kids who grew up on the outskirts of Chicago, Ruiz attributes much of his success and passion for public education to his childhood. His parents were devoted Catholics who emigrated to America during the Bracero farmer movement during the 1940s, eventually settling down in Chicago in April of 1948. Because his parents are religious, Jesse and his two sisters attended Catholic schools. Ruiz attended Marist High School in the Mt. Greenwood neighborhood. He remembers the daily commute, after school, frantically although he would take three CTA buses, as his parents had no other form of transportation. His story is similar to many Chicago Public School youth living in the far corners of Chicago. Like education, Chicago's transit system is vital to meeting the needs and desires of working class families. It is the means to access quality education, jobs, food, and city centers. Even now, as an adult, Jesse Ruiz believes the CTA is "effective," and he appreciates it, for he understands how important it is for the vitality of Chicago. This appreciation and

## SUPERIOR

**Walter Payton - Matthew Mata**

This is a newsworthy and exclusive interview with depth. The reporter asked hard questions and got answers. It's a joy to read the work of this young watchdog.



## EXCELLENT

**Marist Sentinel – Faith Laughran**

This newsworthy profile says a great deal about its subject.

## OTHER COMMENTS

**Mount Carmel - Jack Lockard**

Congratulations on obtaining an interview with Sheriff Dart. That is a coup. The profile is inherently newsworthy and interesting. Although this story works as a profile, it could have more depth, though access may have been part of the issue here.

**Personality Profile****Mother McCauley - Nellie Murphy**

This profile was a strong contender. It is newsworthy and contains some nice quotes. However, a few more strong anecdotes could have added interest and depth.

**Saint Ignatius - Jack Dunn**

This profile has a surprising and fascinating subject. The depth is good. The lead, however, could be more engaging. There are also a few awkward spots.

**Phoenix Military - Jimmy Bellido**

This is a worthy subject for a profile, but it is a bit thin. Aim to bring the subject to life in print. A few good anecdotes that convey character say a great deal.

**Taft - Jamie Leos**

This profile is strong on newsworthiness, depth, quotes and interest. It could use a better lead.

**Jones - Nia Curtis**

I loved the lively interactions between father and daughter in this profile, beginning with the lead. The piece uses detail very well. However, there are a few awkward spots.

**Lane Tech - Mia Purnell**

Good storytelling in a brief space.

**Pritzker - Erica Jaramillo, Antonio Lopez**

This profile could use more depth and a better lead. Aim for an anecdote at the beginning that seems to convey the whole person. Details and stories and strong quotes throughout will help bring the person to life on the page.

**Saint Viator - Brooke Puccini**

This profile could use more depth and a better lead. Aim for an anecdote at the beginning that seems to convey the whole person. Details and stories and strong quotes throughout will help bring the person to life on the page.

**Morgan Park - Jacob Bonds**

This profile could use more depth and a better lead. Aim for an anecdote at the beginning that seems to convey the whole person. Details and stories and strong quotes throughout will help bring the person to life on the page.

**Editorial Column or Opinion****SUPERIOR****Saint Ignatius - Matthew Brown**

Addressing the theme "What is tolerance?" the author supported expression and openness from all directions. Very healthy.





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## OTHER COMMENTS

First, I was impressed by the quality of the entries, and I spent years reading content from all kinds of professionals who could not do quite as well. The voices are reasoned, the arguments logical, the topics timely. You can't ask for much more than that. An important caveat. An editorial is written by ONE person, not by a trio. And that ONE person can't get help from afar, no matter which friend it's coming from. All of them should keep on writing, keep on developing informed opinions and keep on working toward a day when they can do this for a living.

## SUPERIOR

**Whitney Young - Khary Armster, Miles Baggett and Brandon Sanchez**


Good use of anchors and game coverage

## EXCELLENT

**Walter Payton - Jakarin Adell, Brandon Taylor and Luis Palacios**

Really enjoyed the play-by-play.

**Broadcast Sports Story**



**Hockey strives to improve under new coach**  
by Kara Keating  
senior reporter

With a 6-14 record to date, the RedHawk varsity hockey players remain optimistic that they have what it takes to turn their season around.

Last Saturday, the team came away with a loss to St. Ignace 1-7, followed by a 3-7 loss to St. Viator on Sunday.

Under new head coach Brian Black's style of coaching, senior captain and forward Donny McGrath believes it's only a matter of time before the record improves.

"We haven't had the record we wanted thus far, but we're learning more from each game than we did last year," McGrath said. "If you look in terms of wins and losses, I would say overall performance is the same, but our skills are improving over last year."

Senior forward Brandon Schneider believes Black has given the team the resources they need to perform, and now it is just up to the players to put the pieces together.

"Coach Black keeps us in line and isn't a coach who will be your buddy," Schneider said. "He will get us to where we need to go but it's up to us to win."

Starting practice in September, Black has noticed an how players learn from their mistakes and improve on their weaknesses. "I think they are improving," said Black.

"They had to learn my system and buy into an entire new culture. In my style of coaching, I ask my defense not only to play defense, but to be good puck handlers and make plays in the offensive zones as well."

Senior defenseman Jake Barclay agrees with other teammates that fan support is also helpful.

"There's a reason people play hockey until they physically can't anymore, because it's a great sport," Barclay said. "The atmosphere of an intense hockey game between rivals is unmatched by any other sport, but it all depends on our fans. I encourage everyone to come out, enjoy a good hockey game and support the team."

The Red Hawks face off against Fenwick tonight at Ridgeland Commons in Oak Lawn at 8:30.

photo by Miranda Insley

Junior forward Zachary Meeker takes a shot on the Notre Dame goalie on Sept. 27. The RedHawks came away with a 5-2 win. The team plays Fenwick tonight at 8:30 at Ridgeland Commons.

## EXCELLENT

**Marist - Kara Keating**

Good work looking ahead to the next game for this RedHawk hockey team. You've got good sources – the coach as well as players – and quotes make it clear that this is a team still thinking it can win some. Well organized, readable.

**Sports News Story**

## Lady Mustangs enjoy top rank

By Koi Lacey  
and Tariq Harding

The varsity girls basketball team has been having a fantastic season so far, earning a record of 19-2 and ranked No.1 in the IHSA Class 3A.

The Lady Mustangs last showed their dominance during the night dedicated to the seniors by destroying Northside College Prep High School girls basketball team, 104-37. Senior forward Mia Bradley posted a team-high 24 points and double-digit rebounds.

The girls are thrilled about being No.1 in the state and feel that they have worked hard to earn that title.

"I feel like it has been a long time coming, and I am glad we are finally being recognized for our hard work," Bradley said. "We feel like everybody has it out for us, and everybody wants to see us fail,

but we are just going to keep doing us and keep winning."

This year's team has been clicking on all cylinders. Besides the fact of having three new players being added to the roster, their unity has contributed a lot towards their success.

"The chemistry of the team is different and a lot of people have been playing together," junior forward Destiny Harden said. "We also have three new players who came this year, and they have been helping us win."

For the past three years, the girls team has lost to arch-rival Whitney Young High School in the Public League title game. The girls are confident that this year will be different, trying to prove that their top ranking is legit.

"Well, I really can't tell you if we are going to lose to Whitney Young or not, but my answer is 'no,'" senior point guard Cachet Johnson said. "I think we are going to work harder. This year we have a good bench, but

in previous years we did not."

As the season has gone on, the Lady Mustangs have increasingly blown teams out, including an 88-21 pounding over Kennedy High School, and of course the Northside Prep game. They have also had tough games like the Simeon game where the Mustangs took the win, 70-66.

"This year we are all playing together," Bradley said. "We all have a common goal of winning city and the state championship, so we are working towards it together."

Like every and any other team, the ladies, of course, have their weaknesses and strengths.

"Our weakness would have to be us not playing with structure sometimes," senior guard Gabrielle Cooper said. "We are a good passing team and everyone on our team can score, so we will have one real dominant player, and if they have an off game, we will all be able to step up."

## Morgan Park— Koi Lacey and Tariq Harding

Good work interviewing the players for their reactions to the Lady Mustangs' winning season (including that astonishing 104-37 win over Northside!). This story also has a nice look ahead as the players contemplate their No. 1 ranking in their class but also analyze the qualities that have landed them there.



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## Sports Feature Story

### OTHER COMMENTS

While team profiles and profiles of individuals continue to make up the bulk of entries in this category, it is interesting to note that this year's competition included several stories that explore issues relating to high school athletics: gender bias, sports injuries and religious faith. This is encouraging because it may suggest a growing awareness among prep journalists that sports can be a lens through which to look at broader social topics.

## Sports Photo

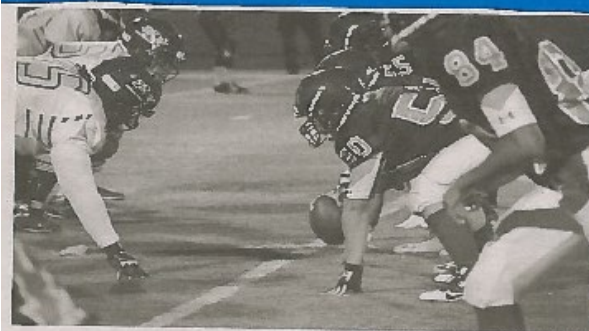


Sophomore Levontes Wilson runs by his opponent during the last leg of the three-mile dash at last month's IHSA Regional competition at the Tinley Park forest preserve. He finished 5th overall. Both the boys and girls cross teams competed at the regional event. (Photo by Brandon Taylor)

### SUPERIOR

#### Morgan Park - Brandon Taylor

Fantastic photo! Extremely effective use of panning to capture the action of the race, as well as the determination of the athletes. Well-done!



Pritzker and DFW face off at the start of a play.

Photo credit: Josh Flores and Daniel Ojeda

### Pritzker - Josh Flores

#### and Daniel Ojeda

Great image depicting the tense moment of the snap. Very effective use of framing. The space between the linebackers is energized and dramatic. Nicely done!



### EXCELLENT

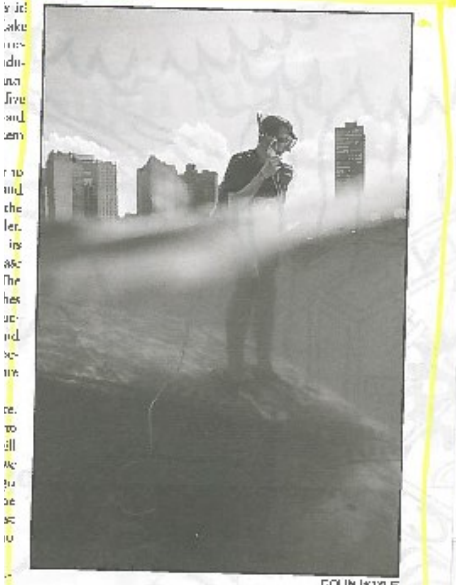
#### Taft - Vashty Arcet

As close to a "quintessential" butterfly stroke photo as you can get! The only thing that would have improved the image is a slightly less cropped view showing the hands. (The image also appears slightly "stretched," possibly due to page layout issues.)

### SUPERIOR

**Non-Sports Photo****Lane - Colin Boyle**

Fantastic photo! Really like the above and below water view, and the composition, in general. Stopped me in my tracks! Well-done!

**Mother McAuley - Anna Barry**

A very dramatic depiction of the subject, as well as an eye-catching photo. Great close-up! A nice tight composition, with excellent, even lighting. Good work!

**EXCELLENT****Steinmetz - Steven Nunez**

The image effectively captures the demonstration's energy and participation. Excellent composition and a good use of flash combined with ambient light. Not easy, since it appears that the event took place at night! Nicely done!

**Phoenix - Juan Lara**



## Non-Sports Photo



Effective use of panning to capture the motion and therefore, the energy of the subject. Panning is difficult to get right. This image works!



photo by Marie Weber

sophomore Joe Barry moves his bishop during a practice match against senior Mike Kucmich, who took second place at state last year. The RedHawk chess team will compete in the IHSA state finals next weekend in Peoria.

## Marist - Marie Weber

A good, clear, well-exposed photo with semi-effective composition. Shifting the frame a touch to the right would have improved the image greatly—following rule of thirds compositional technique accurately—and would have cropped out the slightly distracting figure on the left of the frame.

3/8/2016

Way Building Construction Almost Complete - PAW PHOTO



## Walter Payton - Jonah Shifrin

A daring composition that almost works. Frame within a frame compositional technique is effective, but a slightly more in-focus background would have greatly improved the image.

Original Editorial  
Cartoon

## SUPERIOR

## Taft - Julia Zeler

"Are you addicted to your cell phone?" The cute young person strolling along obliviously in a cloud of icons, about to step over the brink of a cliff, would win even without an impressive layout.



## DRAWING A CONCLUSION



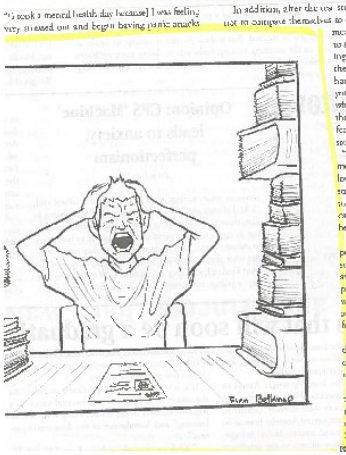
**EXCELLENT**

## Morgan Park - Tubuka Evans

This had the most pointed commentary about school life. The person gagging with asthma catches the eye; "The nurse is [out]" tells part of the story: To be ill at school, you need "to know when -- or if -- the nurse is in." The 51 words of other text and the heavy graying of "out" dilute the visual appeal, slightly.

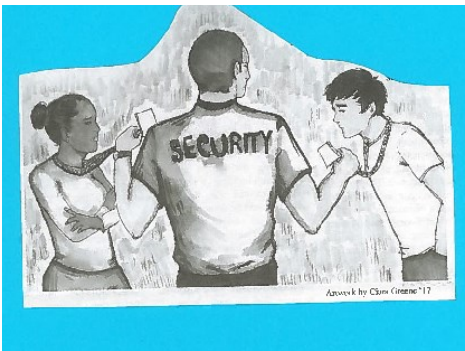
## Lane - Finn Belknap

The distressed student between huge stacks of books is an oldie-but-goodie visual theme. This version is well drawn, with a clear facial expression of anxiety about CPS selective enrollment.



**Jones - Ciara Greene**

A rare case in which no words are necessary: "Security" on a man's shirt just helps. The finely detailed drawing invites the viewer to speculate about why two students are having their lanyards yanked.



## OTHER COMMENTS

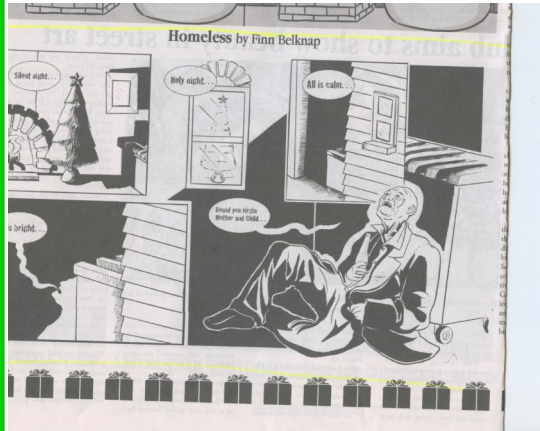
This category had fewer entries this year, and they were almost all well done. All had a clear point, even if it was not immediately obvious. For once, there was no "eye candy" just for decoration. Some were with articles and all but one of these supported the text. The non-winners had points, but were weak in draftsmanship, in relating to the rationale of the work, or in context. For example, it was unclear about whether a barred door was at school or at a mass retailer and thus less school-related. One strong story in pictures and text was reproduced too small to read. Editors, small text on pulpy paper gets fuzzy fast. Nearly all had enough text to support the image.

**EXCELLENT**

**Lane - Finn Belknap**

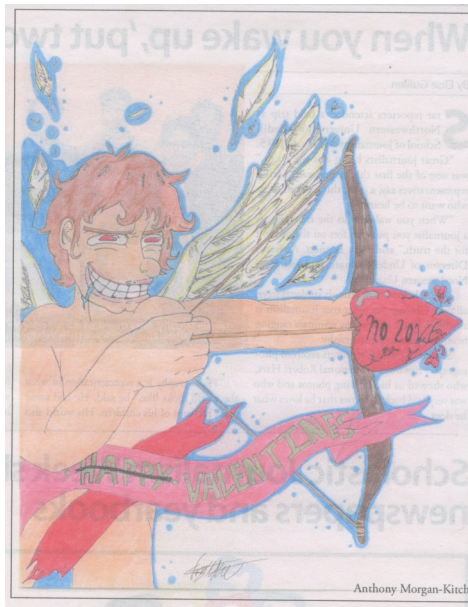
**Original Drawing or Comic**

In "Homeless," the artist gives us five simple panels on a Christmas theme, starting with a Christmas tree inside a house and the words of "Silent Night", then stepping outside to see the tree from a window, then stepping farther away ... until we see the person singing, a homeless man, seated near the house, singing "Round yon virgin, mother and child ..." Striking drawing and a poignant thought.

**Steinmetz - Anthony Morgan-Kitch**

I love the demonic-looking cupid, shooting an arrow with "no love" on the tip.

He's wearing a banner reading Happy Valentine's Day – that's right, the "happy" is crossed out. Not the usual Valentine's Day sentiment, but an effective drawing – excellent detail on the "cupid," and effective small details make his anti-cupid-ness clear.

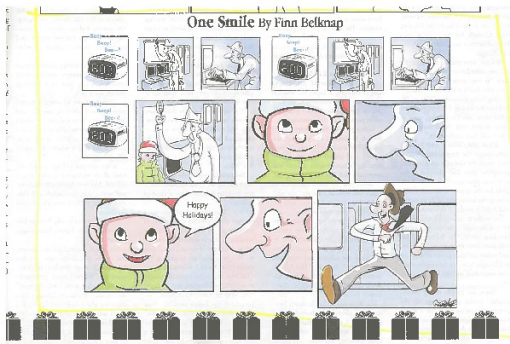
**EXCELLENT****Mother McAuley - Maeve Lorimer**

Good use of scale and color to highlight important dates and numbers. Burger-breakout explains the burger without any words... very effective! Try experimenting with typographic variations draw viewers in further. Different fonts and styles can convey a message all their own. For example, what if you spelled words or numbers out with french fries?

**Computer Graphics****Lane - Finn Belknap**

Good use of color to express emotion and vitality. Illustration is clean and technically excellent. Try experimenting with small variations in your repetitive frames. Even though dull repetition in the old man's life is a central





part of the story, is there a way to introduce slight differences in the frames that would reveal more about this character and his life?

### OTHER COMMENTS

**Morgan Park - Briana Amerson**

Creative way to illustrate a boring issue. Is there a way to take the theme of “cuts” or “cutting” and use it to illustrate some of the important numbers in the story?

**Saint Ignatius - Sarah Paulsen**

Creative way to dress up a calendar and make it more interesting. Pay attention to borders and image sizes — make sure they’re uniform. Look for the “ruler” and “smart-snapping” features in Photoshop if you have access to it!

**Taft - Angelica Roman**

Good use of color and simplicity. Is there a way to illustrate why there’s such a drastic difference in opinion between underclassmen and upperclassmen?

**Walter Payton - Allison Cho**

Fun concept. Experiment with ways to draw the viewer in with graphics instead of text in the flowchart!

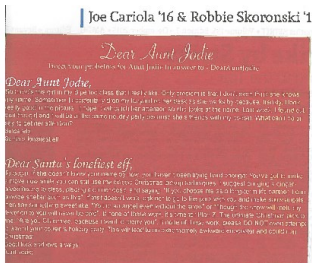
**Jones - Orla Levens**

Typographically neat and, overall, effectively simple. Instead of focusing on the numbers alone, try experimenting with ways to show the ratios for each of the years, like you did with the scale differences in the center silhouettes.

## SUPERIOR

**Saint Ignatius - Joe Cariola and Robbie Skoronski**

Hilarious send-up of advice column format. Advice is humorously heightened while still having a tinge of helpful reality.



**Taft - Amelia Watkins**

There is some good advice here packaged in between pop culture jokes. The balance between humor and guidance is well-done. I liked the use of the statistic at the end to bring home the point that whether or not it’s a mistake, it’s something a lot of people do.

## EXCELLENT

**Walter Payton - Julia Heubner, Matthew Mata**

Comments: This smart and satirical piece comparing high-income suburban families to unwellcome immigrants. The inclusion of “the wall” was very timely.



**Humorous Article**

## Humorous Article

# POLL: MAJORITY OF PAYTON FAMILIES HAVE COMMITTED RESIDENCY FRAUD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 5, 200

**CONTACT:**

PNV's Distance Learning List

312-343-4343

gategritpictures@gmail.com

POLL: MAJORITY OF PAYTON FAMILIES HAVE COMMITTED RESIDENCY FRAUD

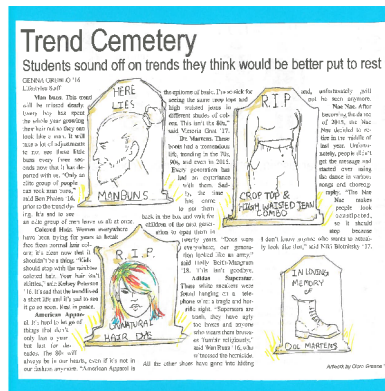
*Major uptick in number of suburban families claiming residence in Chicago's disfranchised neighborhood*

In an underground poll of Payton students conducted by the *Pow Print*, 17% report residing outside the City limits while 34% report that their parents purchased vacant lots in low income neighborhoods. Both evasive tactics are designed to more easily gain admission to Payton and other selective enrollment schools. This report surfaces while Payton is under intense scrutiny from local media regarding the scandal.

In a recent interview, an anonymous student told the Free Press that she had no knowledge of her parents' decision to list their residence in Englewood until her sophomore year. She actually resides in Glenview, an Illinois town with a median house value of \$971,000, and had only previously visited Chicago to shop at Water Tower Place.

## Jones - Genna Greblo

The use of students' voices to humorously condemn passing fads is wonderful. The illustrations of trends on tombstones are a great addition.



## Morgan Park - Kiara Mason and Kamari Moore

Good use of funny imagery and heightened stakes. The reveal at the end that the rush to class is not academically related is a nice touch.



### OTHER COMMENTS

## Marist - Caroline Roeper

This is a charming and light-hearted look at an unofficial school tradition with a lot of inside jokes. I would have enjoyed seeing the piece concentrate on one conspiracy theory instead of so many, but then I've never had a Marist cookie!



**Saint Viator - Nathan Smith, Kevin Nolan**

'Opposing Voices' is a great concept. While both pieces have humorous moments, overall they read more as opinion pieces. Ratchet up the jokes by making both sides more ridiculous.

**Lane - Bella Cardenas**

This straight-faced piece compares students to animals in a zoo exhibit. There are funny moments, including the photo that accompanies the piece, but it leaves me wondering if there is a specific occasion for this article or not. While the title suggests the lab windows are new, some of the language in the piece seems to contradict that.

# SUPERIOR

## Steinmetz - Alejandro Hernandez

This review will cause readers to flock to *Mad Max: Fury Road*, and then rent the rest of the series. The writer explains both the film and the series beautifully to a readership that may or may not be familiar with them. The author has an



## Entertainment Review

### STAR ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

#### Pro-feminist, non-stop action movie is a must-see

By Augustin Hernandez

There are good things happening in the world right now. There are good things happening in the world right now. There are good things happening in the world right now.

Mad Max is a post-apocalyptic action movie from the early 80s that has been remade. It is a must-see for anyone who loves action movies. It is a must-see for anyone who loves action movies.

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unusually mature sensibility that makes his writing a pleasure from beginning to end.

### EXCELLENT Lane - Anum Shafqat

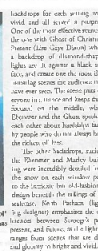
This very strong review of the Goodman Theater production of A Christmas Carol reveals the writer's skill at evoking the emotional content contained in brief moments of performance. The writer is a talented reviewer at a young age.

### Crooked houses: A review of Goodman's annual 'A Christmas Carol'



By A. M. M. M.

There are good things happening in the world right now. There are good things happening in the world right now. There are good things happening in the world right now.



### OTHER COMMENTS

#### Mount Carmel - Conor Langs

This is a solid review but could use more description and critique.

#### Mother McAuley - Mady Bolster

While this is an interesting story, it is not exactly a review. The sourcing is unclear in some spots.

#### Taft - Marcello Piccinini

This is a good piece that combines

review critique with reported comments. However, the lead could do more to invite readers.

#### Pritzker - Starr Lewis

This review contains some very enjoyable writing. However, the piece overuses capital letters and is awkward in places.

#### Phoenix Military - Giovanni Logan

This is a good evaluation of an interesting game. However, the review requires insider knowledge of the Fallout series that some readers will not have. More description would help, as Fallout 4 is an image-heavy game.

#### Saint Viator - Patrick Kerrigan

The review is nicely written, but it fails to make the music accessible to those who don't know it already.

#### Whitney Young - Emma Purcell

This review would gain if it had more of a critique.

#### Morgan Park - Destiny White and Sinclair Lewis

This is a fun piece, but it is based more on reporting than on reviewing. The

## Entertainment Review

article contains some misspellings.

### Walter Payton - Catherine Conley

It's a brave thing to offer an honest review of a play at one's own school. This review makes the attempt but fails to give a critique.

### Marist - Kara Keating

This review would gain if it had more of a critique.

## SUPERIOR

### Walter Payton - Matthew Mata

Professional coverage of a categorically important topic. Good use of statistics and informative quotes. A couple minor grammatical errors did not detract from the high level of reporting attained in this article.

## Community Story

### Funding Formula

While some Chicago Public Schools are struggling to meet the needs of their students, others are thriving. A look at the funding formula that determines how much money each school receives.

Money often determines how much a school can do for its students. In Chicago, the funding formula is a complex system that determines how much money each school receives.

Chicago's funding formula is a complex system that determines how much money each school receives. It is based on a variety of factors, including the number of students and the needs of those students.

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### Taft - Hibah Hassan

A really powerful look at the link between athletes and eating disorders. Great interviews with two high school track athletes with similar stories of developing anorexia. A thoughtful look at a complicated topic.

## EXCELLENT

### Marist - Caroline Roeper

An in-depth look at a member of the Marist community and his passion for biking and education. Great quotes from Glennon himself, and a great job highlighting his accomplishments.



### Journey of 1,000 miles begins with first pedal

By Caroline Roeper  
Senior reporter  
Glennon, a member of the Marist community, has a passion for biking and education. This article explores his journey and the challenges he has faced.

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### Lane - Bella Cardenas

A great, well-sourced story about an important issue. The facts are presented with great clarity and examined thoroughly. The use of multiple interviews to gain perspective was well done.

### Jones - Nia Curtis

A personal look at racial prejudice in education and how that and recent racial unrest have impacted college applications. The use of quotes from a college student and an admissions representative show two ways of looking at the issue.

### Mother McAuley - Annabelle Hladik

## With racial unrest, senior faces college application dilemma

[illegible]

**NO JUSTICE, NO PEACE**  
Natalie Bonner "I joined hundreds protesting police brutality in support of the victim of  
Larquan McDonald's  
murder on 22nd

## Teacher-student violence on the rise

[illegible]

## Student-Teacher Violence: Statistics

- 127, 120 (4%) public school teachers were physically attacked at school during the 2007-2008 school year
- 222, 450 (7%) teachers were threatened by students within a year
- 80% of teachers victimized at least once during or prior to the 2012 school year
- 31% of the above men suffered, 94% victimized by students

Overall, an excellent article on the abuse teachers can face at the hands of students. The use of outside sources was well done, and the statistics graphic was fantastic. An interview with a teacher who has faced some form of violence would have been a great addition.

## OTHER COMMENTS

## Phoenix Military - Anthony Labrado

Petty crime story with emphasis on the neighborhood problems and how the school has attempted to handle it. Comments from a local police officer strengthen the story, while grammar mistakes weaken it.

## Morgan Park - Katrick Duo and Thalame Byrd

This glimpse into student service is somewhat light on particulars. Though a great topic, a clear-

er look into how to qualify for scholarships through service hours would have been an excellent addition, or a look into how student service impacts the students or the people they serve. Another note: the ending is quite abrupt.

## Steinmetz - McKenzie Lacefield

This article tackles a timely topic head-on, but its brevity weakens it. Allowing the Muslim students more of a voice could have been an option to make a more powerful argument.

## Pritzker - Cristian Castillo

The coverage of the ACTs coming six weeks earlier is missing student voices, though it has some good quotes from leaders. Some research into why it had been moved up would have added a lot of depth to the story.

## Mount Carmel - Roberto Del Real Jr.

A personal look at a school excursion. While what you shared is interesting, it could be improved by adding how this information impacted the high school journalism community. A couple quotes from Duff about how this concept applies to young journalists would have been great.



**Broadcast PSAs****EXCELLENT**

**Walter Payton - Luis Palacios, Prince Roy Stephenson and Michelle Suarez**

Great approach to the subject using a little bit of entertainment without watering down the seriousness of irresponsible texting.

**EXCELLENT**

**Lane Tech - Julia Ralenkotter, Hector Ballner, Chase Thilleman, Nick Georges, Diana Madrigal and Aiden Lallas**

Effective message.