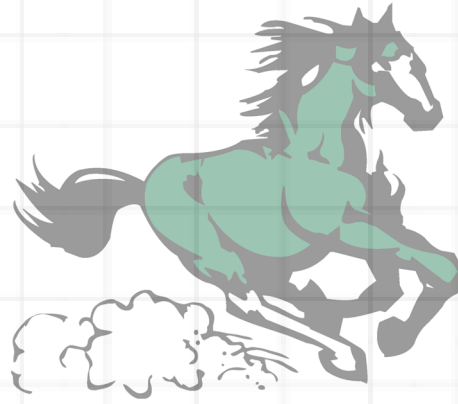


# Milk.

Issue 148

Mustangs,  
Issues, Lifestyle,  
& Knowledge



Ranked by the  
**American Scholastic Press Association &  
Georgia Scholastic Press Association**



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### Photo credits on front cover (left to right clockwise):

- International Day: Berger Paints
- Trump; Pelosi: New York Post; The Philadelphia Inquirer
- J.P. Watson & family: The Collegiate School
- Hong Kong Protest: The Globe And Mail
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment: The Federalist

### Photo credits on Bulletin page:

- Halloween: Zach Hale & Shilpee Kathuria
- Kindness Week: The Counseling Department

Media Design on Front Cover by Matt Cohen

Staff Photo on Back Cover by Shilpee Kathuria



## Upper School &amp; Communication Arts

## MSA Bulletin

Compiled  
By  
Shilpee  
Kathuria



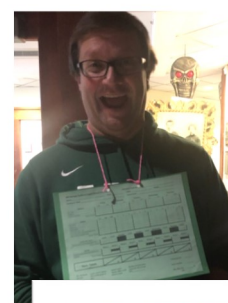
# Halloween Madness! 2019



**Top:** Ethan Maeroff meet...Ethan Maeroff? Mason Ogryzek pays homage to his friend.



Dwight from The Office (Jack Craven), a Kangaroo (Teacher Marlena Alvarado), The Riddler (Teacher Michael Goodwin), a Scarecrow (Zach Hale), a Raven (Teacher Caila Prestidge, and a Crow Man (Patrick Murphy).



**Below:** Communication Arts teachers Ginny Berke-meier, Erin Muehlhausen and Gage Clark represent the tumultuous yet wondrous 1920's (and win the Faculty Costume Contest!)



**To the right:** The Peanuts Gang! Charlie Brown (Jack Holt) and Lucy (Bella Rousseaux)



Clockwise from top: Pumpkin Decorating contest entry inspired by "Nightmare Before Christmas;" Teacher Brad Smallwood is the scariest thing of all; a student that can't hold onto a point sheet; The 90's live! Meet Friends Dr. Ross Gellar (Nick Clifton) and Rachel Green (Katherine Adair); The Cat in the Hat! Thing 1 (Assistant Principal Cynthia Deleveaux, The Cat in the Hat (Principal J.P. Watson) and Thing 2 (Registrar Lisa Imsand).

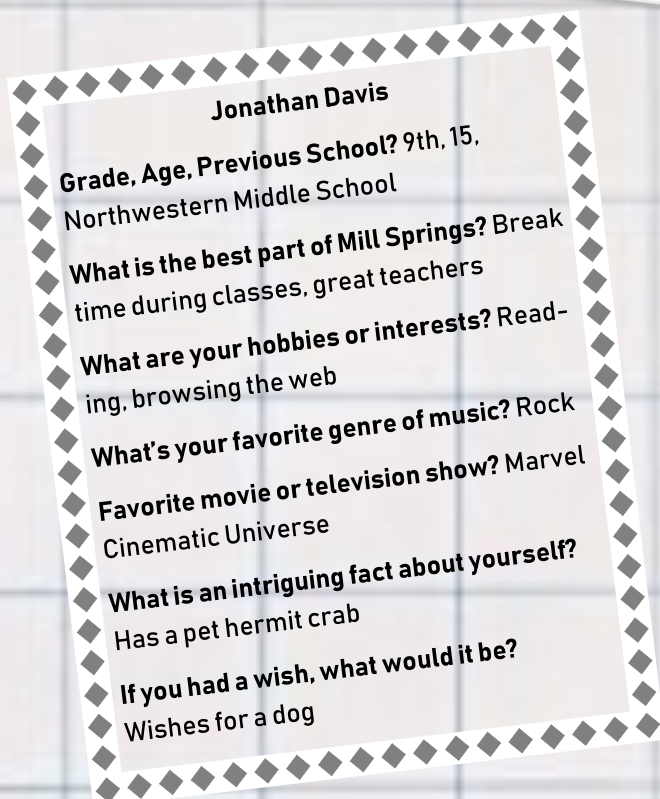


## Kindness Week: Oct 21-25

The Counseling Department hosted the first annual and very thoughtful Kindness Week to great success!

Lovely counselors below (from the left) Angela Davis, Counseling Director Brandi Smallwood, and LaToyia Armstead "drown" in the overall amount of kindness links completed by all Levels for Kindness Week.

# Say Hello to Our New Students!



**Jonathan Davis surrounded by sister Sophie (left) and father John.**

**Compiled by  
Matt Cohen**

Photo provided by Jonathan Davis.



**Matthew Clifton (pictured right)**

**Grade, Age, Previous School?** 9<sup>th</sup>, 14,  
Haynes Bridge Middle School

**What is the best part of Mill Springs?** The  
block schedule

**What are your hobbies or interests?** Soccer  
for MSA

**What's your favorite genre of music?** Alter-  
native

**Favorite movie or television show?** Parks  
and Recreation

**What is an intriguing fact about yourself?**  
Volunteers at cat shelter

**If you had a wish, what would it be?** To go to  
Six Flags

Photo provided by Matthew Clifton



**Joel Williams (pictured below right)**

**Grade, Age, Previous School?** 9<sup>th</sup>, 14,  
Woodward

**What is the best part of Mill Springs?**  
Friends

**What are your hobbies or interests?** Video  
games, building computers, basketball

**What's your favorite genre of music?** Rap

**Favorite movie or television  
show?** Marvel Cinematic Uni-  
verse

**What is an intriguing fact about  
yourself?** Lived in South Africa

**If you had a wish, what would it  
be?** \$10,000

Photo provided by RenWeb



**Sutton Smith (pictured below)**

**Grade, Age, Previous School?** 10<sup>th</sup>, 16,  
Sequoia High

**What is the best part of Mill Springs?** The  
balance of schoolwork and having a social  
life

**What are your hobbies or interests?** Trying  
cross country for the first time, writing

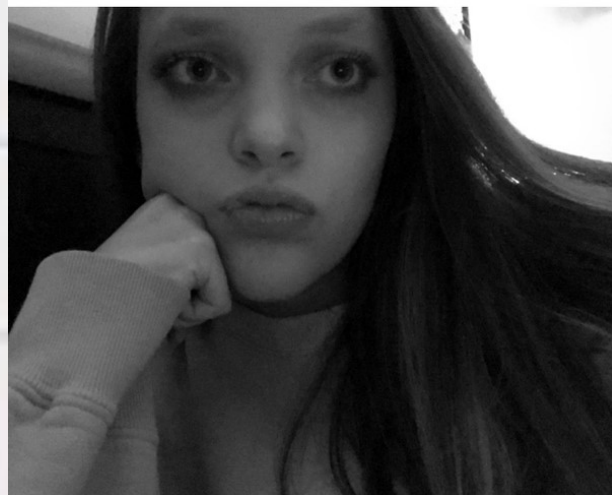
**What's your favorite genre of music?** Rap  
and Alternative

**Favorite movie or television show?** The Of-  
fice, The Shining

**What is an intriguing fact about yourself?**  
Born one month early

**If you had a wish, what would it be?** Getting  
good grades

Photo provided by RenWeb



# Principal Spotlight

**J.P. Watson** is our new principal for The Upper School. He grew up in South Burlington Vermont. He attended Middlebury College for undergrad and both the University of Vermont and the University of South Carolina for graduate studies. Before Mill Springs, J.P. Watson has worked at the following schools: The Vermont Commons School, Hammond School, Athens Academy, The Heritage School, The Westminster School, Collegiate School

J.P.'s favorite part of Mill Springs is working with students to create additional opportunities to pursue their interest. His "perfect view" of Mill Springs is one that shows students working with their teachers and coaches to achieve their dreams. This means working closely to find out what motivates each of our students to strive for their best in everything they do. J.P. became an educator to share his love of learning with young people and open doors of opportunity to students by helping them find their passions and interests.

J.P.'s educational philosophy comes down to doing what is necessary to put each student in a position to achieve their best. This means challenging students to go beyond their own perceived limi-

tations and stretch themselves to achieve at levels they didn't think were possible. It is founded in a relationship, as being willing to stretch as a student, is only possible if the student is surrounded by caring adult relationships.

On the weekend, J.P. enjoys exercising on a regular basis—during the week and on the weekend. He also enjoys spending time with his wife and two daughters (ages 16 and 11). He also loves to play golf.

His family is new to the Atlanta area, and they enjoy spending time exploring all it has to offer. They also enjoy spending time outdoors. His families favorite place to visit is Fripp Island. J.P. and wife, Caroline met in Telluride, Colorado.

J.P. also enjoys watching athletics both in person and on TV. J.P. enjoys playing soccer, tennis, and golf whenever he has the opportunity.

His oldest daughter has started rowing crew at her school, so that is rapidly becoming his new interest as well. J.P. and his wife enjoy trying new restaurants and they have fun visiting all of the foodie spots around the area.

We all heartily welcome J.P. to Mill Springs!



By Mat  
Campbell



**J.P. Watson**

Photo courtesy of The Doctor's Network



Caroline, J.P., Rebecca and Sara Elizabeth at a family gathering.

Photo Courtesy of Twitter

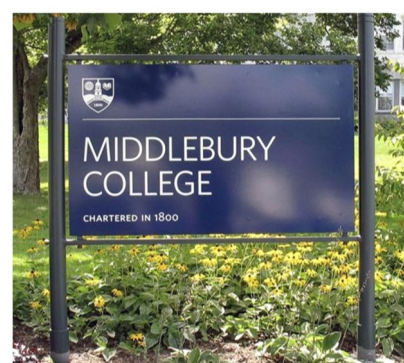


Photo courtesy of middlebury.org



# International Day



By Caroline Skinner



Grace Gersack and Hayley Adams showing us their Henna tattoos.



"International Day was pretty cool learning the countries, the food, outfits, and learning history," states Lilliana Coco, pictured above (courtesy of RenWeb).



World of Georgia travels.

Media Design by  
Caroline Skinner

"MSA prides itself in the fact that it has teachers and children from many different cultures and languages in its community," Upper teacher Maria Gonzalez shares. On International Day all the students traveled around Upper to different continents. There was Europe, Asia-A, Asia-B, Central America, Caribbean, North America, Africa, and South America. We had 25 minutes in each continent. International Day is to appreciate other Countries and Continents. We had food, games, activities, and dances. All different grades came down to International Day. Everyone got involved with setting it up and doing posters. Some homerooms did the posters for that continent or country and other teachers had there classes do it for their country or continent. They give a pizza party to the best room. MSA wants the students to feel proud of their heritage.

We got to see what different cultures are like. The countries ranged from United States to Japan. Maria Gonzalez is the teacher who plans International Day. They had flags hanging up around Upper. It was very crowded on International Day because of how many students there were. Students made food and brought it in to the school. There was two homerooms in each group. On the posters there was pictures and facts about the Countries. Subjects on the posters were sports, food, history, government, tourist attractions, and money.

## Continents and Teachers

### Asia:

Vaidehi Rallapalli and Shilpee Kathuria (India), Caila Prestidge and Jennie Donaldson (Japan), Marlena Alvarado (South Korea), Chas MacNeill and Jojo MacNeill (China)

### Africa:

Hayley Adams and Cynthia Deleveaux

### Europe and Australia:

Michael Goodwin (Greece), Judy Norris, Michael Smith, Brad Smallwood

### Central America and the Caribbean:

Elke Silva (Diversity of the Caribbean)

### South America:

Jaime Gutierrez and Maria Gonzalez

Photos courtesy of Shilpee Kathuria

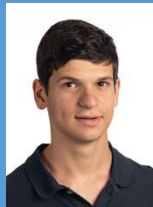


Liam Couch, Nick Clifton, and Zack Peppers enjoy the Europe exhibit.



Austin Chaney doing some Rangoli Stencils at the India exhibit.

# Gun Violence is Over Portrayed by the Media



By Daniel Garguilo

For the past few years gun violence and gun control have been common discussion in the United States. People on one side argue increased restrictions on guns or bans, while the other side argues the Second Amendment.

Second Amendment reads in full: "A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a Free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." This amendment was put in place not for hunting, not for self-defense, but for defense against government tyranny. There are plenty of examples in history in which citizens handed over their arms, and the government in turn oppressed the people.

The gun control advocates and the media will tell you gun homicides by high

capacity assault rifles are at an all-time high, however, this is false. According to the FBI gun homicides killed 14,542 people in 2015, which is down from 18,252 in 1993, a majority of gun deaths the media portrays, as mass shooting deaths are actually misrepresented suicides with 23,854 people dying by gun suicide. As far as the argument that banning high capacity assault rifles would lower mass shooting rates is also false. In fact, according to the FBI the handguns were used in the majority of mass shootings with 141 mass shootings since 1989 using handguns yet only about 45 mass shootings using assault rifles.

Gun control also has shown to be overall not very effective. For example in Chicago gun shops, gun carrying and high capacity magazines have all been banned, yet Chicago is the leading US city for gun violence with 2,089 shooting deaths in 2018.

More gun control would be a waste of time and money due to the fact relatively few people die by guns compared to other causes. According to the CDC 9.7 million people die a year on average due to heart disease, 3.3 million to smoking, 72,000 from drug overdose, 1.25 million die from car accidents, yet only about 18,000 die by gun homicide a year. So if the media really cared about lives lost, why wouldn't they advocate a ban on cigarettes and fast-food or increased car safety regulation?

While it is true the US has the highest rate of gun homicides in the developed world many mental health experts believe that lack of help for the mentally ill is to blame. Canada having similar gun laws to the United States, yet has much better mental health programs. Canada has 3,249 gun homicides a year, which is much lower than the United States 18,000. Instead of funding more gun control we should fund research and treatment of mental illness, by helping those disturbed enough to commit mass murder would be a way to lower gun violence without infringing on the second amendment.

In conclusion, gun violence is an issue that the media is over portraying and creating misconceptions about and it is the right of the American people to own guns despite any national crisis.



**Criminals don't care about gun laws.**



**Assault weapons kill very few people statistically**

Photo by [lifestrategies.net](http://lifestrategies.net)



# More Gun Control, Less Gun Deaths

As once stated in *District of Columbia et al. v. Heller*, by a well-respected Supreme Court Justice **Antonin Scalia**, “Like most rights, the right secured by Second Amendment is not unlimited... nothing in our opinion should be taken to cast doubt on longstanding prohibitions on the possession of firearms by felons and the mentally ill, or laws forbidding the carrying of



**Gun control can really help**

such as schools and government buildings, or laws imposing conditions and qualifications on the commercial sale of arms.”

The Second Amendment is not an unlimited right to own guns. More gun control laws would reduce gun deaths. On March 10, 2016, there was a *Lancet* study, if a federal universe background checks was put into effect, it could reduce firearm deaths by 56.9%. High-capacity magazines should be banned because they too often turn murder into mass murder. In 1982 to 2012, High-capacity magazines were used in at least 50% of 62 mass shootings. When that happened, the death rate rose 63% and the injury rate rose 156%.

Unfortunately, guns are rarely used in self-defense. For 4 years, only 0.79% of victims protected themselves with firearms. There were 230 “justifiable homicides” in which a citizen used a firearm to kill a felon, kind of like a vigilante. A majority of adults, including gun owners, support common sense gun control such as background checks, bans on assault weapons, and bans on high-capacity magazines. An automatic child proof safety locks can save a children from an accidental gun death. Civilians, including hunters, should not own military-grade firearms or firearm accessories.

From Independent.com

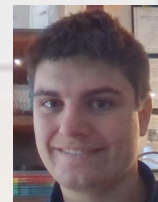


**Gun control is being held down by the Gun culture.**

TheDailyBeast.com



**‘The Onion’ is one of the strongest voices of gun control.**

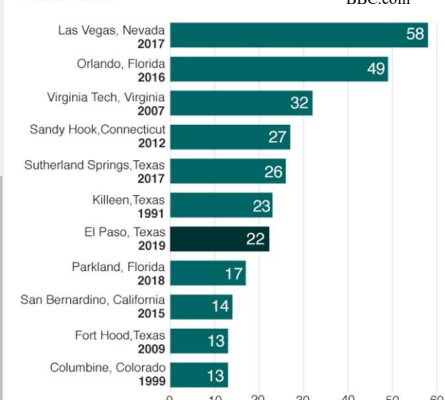


**By Zach Hale**



**In 2020, Democrats demand gun control.**

**Worst mass shootings in the US since 1991**  
Victims killed BBC.com



**Scale of mass shootings since 1991**



**The Mayor of Philadelphia, calls for gun control**

# The Emoji Movie: A Mediocre Film Buried In Public Rejection



By Matthew Cohen



The promotional poster for *The Emoji Movie*

Photo courtesy of Netflix.com; Graphic design courtesy of Matt Cohen

The unwelcomed will be greeted by pushback, and *The Emoji Movie* is no exception. Two years ago, Sony Pictures Entertainment announced a movie centered around those tiny, colorful pictures on your smartphone-absolutely brilliant. *The Emoji Movie*, as it had been named, was released worldwide in 2017 and actually did well in the box office. However, the story does not end here, as this rabbit hole goes as deep as this internet-rejected movie allows it.

The first thing when the average person thinks of *The Emoji Movie* is the media's outlook on the movie. The complaints and remarks online are generally against *The Emoji Movie*, while asking

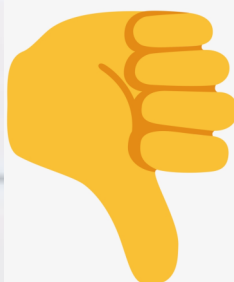
your neighbor could vary the responses. They typically are ranging from a thumbs up to an absolute "no". If they answer a thumbs up, they obviously need to elevate their standards. Mass objection to the movie started when Sony Pictures decided it was a great idea to upload *The Emoji Movie*'s trailer to YouTube, on May 16, 2017. Not a single soul legitimately wanted to say that *The Emoji Movie* was not a mistake. Protests to the idea of the movie happened much earlier; however it is difficult to pinpoint where the rumors end, where the official announcements begin, and where the tears started flowing. Despite the cries of rejection, production continued and the movie was released with positive earnings.

Photo courtesy of Huffingtonpost.co.uk



**Rotten Tomatoes, a popular movie critic website, giving the *Emoji Movie* a zero percent rating**

Photo courtesy of Nicepng.com



Plots and executions of movies dictate how a movie critically performs, regardless of the outside perception. So, the plot of *The Emoji Movie* follows an emoji, named Gene, who is programmed with multiple uncontrollable emotions, rather than his default "meh" emotion. This is problematic as he is chosen to pick only the "meh" emotion. Like a buffoon, Gene cannot stick to the required emotion and ends up sending the wrong emoji. Now, Gene has to find a way to reprogram his emotions by searching through the smartphone's apps. The execution is through numerous references to real apps, such as *Candy Crush*, and numerous perspectives from different characters. The references stay true to how people use the apps, and the character's perspectives tie the story together in an organized fashion.

The only problem is the identities of the characters involved. People expect an emoji to be just an image, not to be anything more. It is kind of like rubber duckies; sure it is a thing everyone seems to know and maybe use, but to have a movie based on it would be absurd. *The Emoji Movie* was unwelcomed due to how it was notorious because of the media's negative response, not how it was performed.



# Get to Know Musical Therapy



By Caroline Skinner

Known as the "Father of Music Therapy" **E. Thayer Gaston** was the first known Music Therapist, and he found that Music Therapy can be used for mental illness and he recognized the first degree for the training of Music Therapist in the United States.

Music Therapy can be used in hospitals to reduce pain, and kids, adults, and more could use Music Therapy to help reduce stress and anxiety or to deal with trauma or grief.

Music Therapist workers work at psychiatric hospitals, schools, and private practice. There are about 5,000 board-certified Music Therapists in the United States.

Some people use music just to focus or to help themselves. There is not only one type of music for Music Therapy, although guitars are the most popular Music Therapy instrument.

Musical therapists share some wise advice about music therapy.

**Allison Woyiwada** said "without struggle there is no problem."

**Berthold Auerbach** said that "Music washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life." **Marty Rubin** said "There is music you never hear unless you play it yourself." **Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra** said "He who sings scares away his woes."

When people get upset, music can help calm them down. People should consider doing Music Therapy if they need help with stress and anxiety, or trauma or grief.

Photo courtesy of 123rf.com



Photo courtesy of stanncenter.org



Adult playing music

Photo courtesy of academictree.org



E. Thayer Gaston

Photo courtesy of holidayplazahearingaidcenter.com aidcenter.com



# Recent Protests in Hong Kong Intensify



By Mat  
Campbell

Hong Kongers fear that their autonomy from China is coming to an end. In 1997 For the past few months, there have been pro-democracy protests all across Hong Kong. Hong Kong became part of China after one hundred-fifty-six years of British rule. During British rule, the British brought Hong Kong western democracy and the rule of law. These ideals have led to a strong sense of democracy and many freedoms including freedom of religion and the press. Now that China has taken over Hong Kong, the freedoms are being removed.

The protests started when Hong Kong resident **Chan Tong-Kai** murdered his pregnant girlfriend when he was in Taiwan. Tong-kai went back to Hong Kong after disposing of the body. Taiwan sent Hong Kong a warrant for Tong-Kai, but Hong Kong would not give him over because Taiwan and Hong Kong do not have good relations. This is because Taiwan is not technically a country on the world stage. China offered to extradite Tong-Kai in Chinse Court and Hong Kong attempted a

vote in the Parliament to extradite criminals of violent crimes. When the vote was about to happen, many Hong Kongers stormed the government building and stopped the vote.

Many people also became angry with their pro China leader, **Carrie Lam**. Many people believe that Carrie Lam is acting as a puppet from China. Lam has been vocal about her disapproval of the protests and has threatened to request the Chinese military multiple times. She claims as does China, that the protests are happening because of western interference. China has gone so far as to create many Twitter accounts to tweet out this information. China has also produced videos of police forces and para-military forces practicing in the neighboring city of Shenzen. These videos are can be perceived as a show of threat of if the Government does not like what the protesters are doing, they will send these forces in.

Now there protests almost every day and there is no end in sight. Hong Kongers have just wanted to keep their autonomy from China. At the end of the day, the people of Hong Kong will seemingly persist in the fight for their freedoms.



Protesters gather in Hong Kong carrying signs espousing democracy.

Sky News



Estimates say as many as 2 million have attended the Hong Kong protests in some form, from every age and walk of life.

South China Morning Post



Protestors beaten down by Hong Kong police officer.

South China Morning Post



# Democrats Push Forward for Impeachment of President Trump



By Daniel Garguilo

Senate Democrats are attempting to impeach **President Donald Trump**. They claim the reason for this is Trump had controversial phone calls with foreign leaders in which he made deals, in particular with Ukraine and trying to dig up some deals potential **Democratic Presidential Candidate Joe Biden's** son had with them.

The Democratic Party has had plans for a while to impeach the president; however, **Senate Majority Leader Nancy Pelosi** had been against impeachment until the call controversy surfaced. According to a whistleblower, Donald Trump offered to sell more weapons to Ukraine in exchange in the Biden family's own shady business with the Ukrainian government, where in which it is believed Biden had some controversial investments in Ukrainian energy

After the calls were exposed, the Democrats have decided to go down the path of

impeachment, which Pelosi said herself in the past "would not be popular."

However many experts believe impeachment will not go through due to Trump's "red wall" in the House, as Republicans would not be in favor of impeaching President Trump.

The impeachment process is also a long and tedious process that most likely will not remove the President from office. In fact, the impeachment process defined by the constitution is to put a charge on an official and is only the beginning of their removal from office. Simply put it **Former President Bill Clinton** was impeached, but he was never removed from office.

Votes and testimonies for the impeachment of President Trump are said to be done in the following weeks. President Trump has responded to Pelosi impeachment plan confidently, saying telling Democrats to "bring it on."

Photo courtesy of NBC News

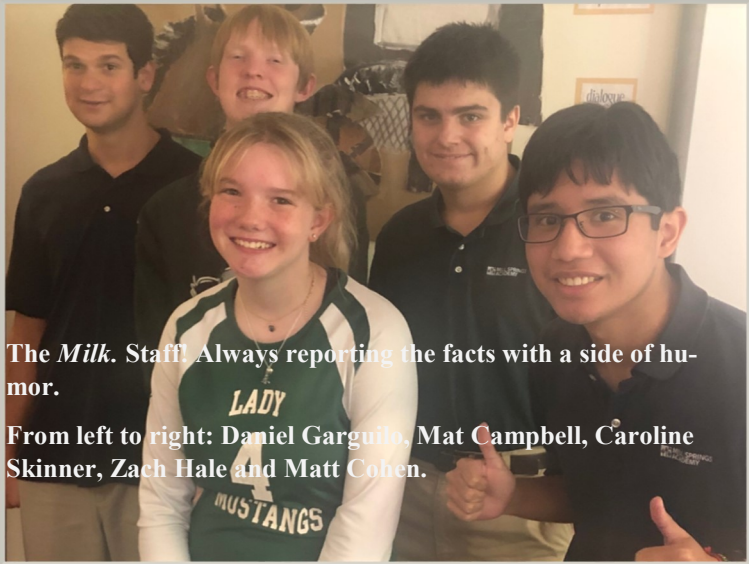


The cast of personalities: President Trump, House Speaker Pelosi, Presidential candidate Joe Biden, and Trump's personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani during impeachment inquiry.

Photo courtesy of YouTube



Are congressional politicians supporting Impeachment?



The *Milk*. Staff! Always reporting the facts with a side of humor.

From left to right: Daniel Garguilo, Mat Campbell, Caroline Skinner, Zach Hale and Matt Cohen.

# Milk.

Mustangs,  
Issues, Lifestyle,  
& Knowledge



This issue of *Milk*. is dedicated to Courtney Smith, Preupper Teacher. A consummate teaching professional, mom to all of her students as well as to her own kids, and a wonderful colleague and friend. We will miss you Courtney, but your students will take what you have taught them into the world. So though you are gone, your influence will never be forgotten.

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