



# The Rundown

## Newsletter

Fall 2022 Edition  
Vol. 1

*9th and 10th graders eating together again after two years.*

# Covid Changes

**Maggie Yanvary**

Over the past two years, many things have changed when considering the topic of the Covid-19 virus, especially in school environments. The state guidelines for a student that has covid, according to Ms. Williams, is that "They would have to isolate for five days from their symptoms starting ... and then you have to mask for another five days." She agrees that our school is pretty much back to normal and "the only thing that we're still doing is I still have to report if we have cases." When questioned on how exactly it was being the high-school nurse during these trying times, she admitted that it was awful because she wasn't doing her typical job, only making students upset by contact tracing and sending them home. She is very glad that everything is pretty much as back to normal as possible. She encourages everyone to participate in activities now that they're available again.

However, after interviewing a ninth grader, Elyssia Jerauld, she informed me that she "spent all of 7th grade year with a mask on at home every Wednesday," and that even eighth grade was a big change. She agrees that some changes, she was not prepared for, such as the return of the pep rally. She mostly agrees with Ms. Williams when asked if anything is permanent; however, she says that, "everything feels much more open." Students no longer need to isolate from one another; they are open to interact as they had prior to the pandemic.

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*Mrs. Martini and her 2nd period class.*

## New Teachers

**Sophie Bennett**

This school year the district has welcomed new teachers to the building. Although it is hard to imagine what it is like when tackling this situation, imagine how a freshman feels on the first day of high school. However, as a freshman, you have an idea of what kids will be in your class and probably have heard of most of your teachers before. As a new teacher, you have new students that you have never seen before, along with coworkers who you don't know yet.

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Mr. Powers and the cafeteria staff.



Kids eating free lunch.

# Universal Free Breakfast

Sydney Repchick

This school year started out as the first year in two years that not everyone had free breakfast or lunch. Consequently, "our percentage of people eating breakfast has gone down 20 percent and so has the lunch," stated Mr. Powers.

The district may be short staffed, but the staff works hard, and they are family. "If you hadn't noticed, we are short staffed lately," said Director of Food Services, Ms. Codie Keogh. "We plan on making an announcement very soon about free lunch and breakfast."

On September 29, 2022, the announcement was made. On October 3, 2022, free breakfast and lunch was officially launched.

Since, I have noticed significantly more people eat breakfast and more people eating lunch. Also, parents are most likely really relieved about the fact that the lunches and breakfast are free because they may not have that kind of money.



Mr. Cherney talking to AP students

## Should You Take AP?

Mary Pichette

Starting at the end of 9th grade and ending at the end of 11th grade, many students find themselves asking the same question: should I take an AP class? After hearing from teachers that AP is the right move but then hearing from students that AP can be a huge challenge, students do not know what to think. Sometimes, students end up in an AP class they do not belong in or in a general class that is too easy for them. This article's aim is to help you determine if AP is right for you.

Currently, 16% of 10th grade students take the one AP class offered to this grade.

In 11th grade, three AP courses are offered, and in 12th grade, four AP courses are offered. AP stands for advanced placement, and it is a college level course. If you score good enough on the AP test, it could count for college credit. AP teacher Daniel Cherney explains that the class is "meant to best prepare you for college by helping both academic skills and focusing on content that relates to college." Due to it being a college-level class, it is notably more difficult. "There is much more work that goes into an AP class, studying, preparation... the teachers rely on you more to learn the information yourself." Says Junior Riley Keihl, who took APUSH her 10th grade year and is currently taking AP Language & Composition. AP classes are a challenge, but they can have just as much reward. "At the end of the year in an AP class students have the option to take the advanced placement test, and depending on how they score on that test that could translate into college credits, so financially they could get a benefit from it," says Mr. Cherney. Many students and teachers alike would suggest taking at least one AP class if you plan on going to college, especially if it lines up with your major. The decision to take AP differs from student to student, but most students planning on going to college should consider it.





A photo of Mrs. Spry

### **New Teachers continued...**

Mrs. Martini- a new teacher in our building- has lots of prior teaching experience. She worked at St. Michael's School for Boys from 2003-2006, North Pocono High School from 2006-2016, and Scranton from 2017-2022. St. Michael's school for boys was a reform school for juveniles before it closed.

For college, she planned to attend Drexel University in Philadelphia to become an architectural engineer. She then later attended Marywood University.

On the other hand, Mrs. Spry-another new teacher in our building- worked at Family Enrichment-a preschool located in Johnson City. She worked there for 7 and a half years. When applying to college, she knew she wanted to become a teacher; therefore, she attended Keystone College. Both teachers have very different teaching experiences. For example, both teachers' prior experience will be helpful for the future. So, keep your eyes peeled in the hallway for the new faces we have in our building!

## **School Aides**

### **Rolly Miller**

With the new school year, some of the school's aides retired while others joined us or adopted new roles here. None other than Mrs. Teter retired after working at this school for over 30 years. Additionally, Ms. Joan Burman retired after serving the district as the Learning Center Aide.

Taking on a new role, Mrs. Welch became the Learning Center Aide this year. She previously was a school aide going from class to class helping teachers with the students. "It's been a nice transition. I no longer have to wander around the school to different classes every day. I'm in one place all day. I thought I was gonna miss the students that I helped but they come in here to use the Learning Center, so it's been really nice".

Some of the challenges she has faced while assisting other teachers was "trying not to step on the other teacher's toes while they both were trying to teach. Some of the other challenges were trying to figure out how much the teacher wanted me to assist the student as well as to fade into the background."

Now that she is the Learning Center Aide, she is happy because it is her dream job. The thing she loves about working in the Learning Center is being surrounded by books and being able to recommend different books to different students.



A wonderful photo of Mrs. Welch, who is the new Learning Center Aide. This picture was taken by Rolly Miller.

**School aides Continued on page 4**



Two students working together.

### **Covid Changes Continued...**

The majority of schooling has gone back to normal; however there are still many attributes that act as aftereffects. After discussing and getting multiple opinions, I can officially say that these include the lingering fear of disease, the increased socialization of people, and the overwhelming anxiety wave resulting from isolation. We're all happy to be back and enjoying the regularity of school.



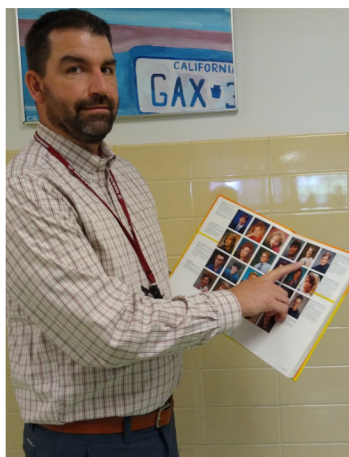
# Teachers Then and Now

**Caleb Mauro**

The Montrose Jr/Sr High School has changed a lot over the years, and some teachers have seen that change since they attended here as students. You may be surprised at how different the school was.

"There used to be a field hockey team," said Mr. Weller. "There was no science wing, and the cafeteria wasn't quite as big."

Mr. Weller didn't just go to Montrose as a student though. He has family ties in Montrose as well. When Mr. Weller went to Montrose, his dad worked here while he was a student.



*Mr. Weller pointing to himself in the year book.*

Mrs. Teri Evans was quite the athlete back in the day. She won district championships and played in states as a member of the girls basketball team.

"I was fortunate to have talented athletes as my teammates and dedicated coaches to help us become our best. We won District XII championships and earned trips to the state tournament," Mrs. Evans said. "Cell phones/social media have really changed the climate of the school in both positive and negative ways. Phones have made communication more convenient, but prevent teammates from communicating face-to-face on long bus rides," Mrs. Evans said.

Another sports star in school was Ms. Potter. "I played field hockey and softball. I won MVP for field hockey, and sportsmanship awards," said Ms. Potter.

After all, many teachers work at the school that they used to attend. Attending the school where they now work could be beneficial for many reasons. One of the main reasons is that the teachers know what the students would like to experience. It could also help with feedback to changes for the school. Things such as the science wing and after school activities are just some of the changes they experienced as a student, and the baseball field is a new change for them as a student.

## School Aides continued...

The best parts of being an aide for Mrs. Welch was being able to work with the teachers, while getting to know them and their class content. She also liked being able to help the the students with their work and also get to know them a little bit better as well.

Some of the things that the aides go through are trying to do what the teacher asks of them to do and nothing more or less. The aides also have to understand what the teacher is trying to teach the students, which can be hard on the aide and the teacher when the student does not know the content. One of the things that can be difficult is when the aide is in the same classroom year after year.

The students in the classroom can and will change by the end of the year, but the teacher's jokes and the class content will stay the same. Another of the task that is harder on aides is trying to teach students with different learning styles and trying to switch from student to student.



*Picture of the newly redone baseball field*

## Updates to the School

**Derick Muller**

"It was a very busy place here this summer," said Mr. Powers, principal of Montrose High School.

Over the summer, the school had some renovations done to the gym floor, stage floor, and the roof.

"As for the roof improvements, that's just something that needs to happen every X number of years, to keep a flat roof in tip-top shape," Mr. Powers shared. "We really focused on the roof for the oldest part of the building, so the original quad, the auditorium, the cafeteria, the kitchen and the music area..."

**Schools's Updates Continued on page 5**



## School's Updates continued here...

"Roofs like that have gravel on the top, and that's to keep the UV light off of the underlayment material... but they took all of that gravel off, and redid that entire section of roof," Mr. Powers explained.

That covers the roof, but what about the stage, why did that need to be redone? Mr. Powers explained that as well. "Last spring we started noticing some cracking in the original part of the floor...so we had to do some investigating, and what we found is the support joist under the floor... had dry-rotted almost to nothing." From there they stripped the original floor down to the concrete and used plywood to bring it up to level with the original floor.

The gym floor is also a project that has been a long time coming. Mr. Powers even said, "We have been told for years and years and years that this floor couldn't be sanded anymore, but we found out that it could be sanded down." Therefore, they sanded it down to bare wood and started from scratch on a blank floor. "It was an opportunity to update the logo... to focus more on our school colors and use the natural beauty of some of the wood there, so we're pretty pleased with the outcome," Mr. Powers said

They have plans to fix up other things in the school, such as the greenhouse, so keep an eye out for other changes.



*Picture of the finished gym floor*



*The stage floor under constuction  
Taken by Cassidy Beeman*

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## Chromebooks Restarting: Why and Students Reaction

Changes were made to the Chromebook policy that caused them to restart every 24 hours. This change upset students. Breanna Marcy, an eleventh grader, even said, "I don't get it, what's the point!" I asked Mr. Owens from the tech office this very question.

Mr. Owens shared why this reboot is important. "Its important to do because some Google updates won't apply unless the machine is rebooted and many of our devices were running an old version of Chrome that was causing problems with certain applications."

Mr. Owens also shared tips on taking care of your Chromebook. He wants students to be aware that tips on taking care of your Chromebook can be found on the School website. Find them by going to the Student Menu, and click on the "Navigating Instructional Technology" page.

Recently another change was made, making it so Chromebooks now restart over several days, which is more convenient for teachers and students, as well as keeping the Chromebooks up to date. Students like the change more as well with Kyle Hsiao saying "I am happy about that."



The Rundown Staff <3

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