

The Totem Pole

Cultivating the Minds of Students

October 18, 2021

Vol. 23

Edition 1

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Disclaimer: The Totem Pole serves as the official school newspaper of Bartlett High School. It has been granted the responsibility to serve as the medium of news and information for the student body. The viewpoints expressed by the staff are not meant to discriminate against any students, staff, or other administrators of Bartlett High School. If you wish to submit a written work to The Totem Pole, please see Ms. Sanborn in room B224 with any questions.

*Enjoy the first edition of
The Totem Pole since 2019!*

Halloween Issue

Homecoming Spirit Week

Homecoming Dance

Dress Code Debate

COVID-19

Vaccinations

Soccer & Volleyball

Student polls, games, and more!

*With a special dedication to
Mr. Constantine*

DEDICATION

The new journalism students and advisor would like to dedicate this year's first edition of The Totem Pole to the school paper's longtime journalism teacher and advisor,

Mr. Van Constantine.



Mr. Constantine taught in the Webster Public Schools for over 25 years, at both Webster Middle School and Bartlett High School. Mr. Constantine retired last year and left big shoes to fill, as he was dedicated to ensuring that the school paper upheld a polished, professional standard. As the journalism teacher, he advocated for and received equipment and space that will allow the journalism class to expand its curriculum to include broadcast journalism. Students who had Mr. Constantine as a teacher know how committed he was to helping them become inquisitive learners and impactful writers. He guided hundreds of students through the process of writing for the media and his impact on the English department at Bartlett High School is immeasurable. In addition to his time in the classroom, Mr. Constantine served as a senior class advisor, National Honor Society advisor, Black Empowerment Student Union Club advisor, and he helped organize the Honors Banquet. For all these things, and many more, we thank you Mr. Constantine! We wish you nothing but the best, no one deserves it more!

Internet Access

Jinelle Chandler '24

Internet access in the school is a large issue for students, so much of an issue that when students found out the Wifi password, it spread like wildfire. The school changed the Wifi as soon as students started to spread it around, some kids are saying this is due to teachers not wanting kids on phones. Others believe that the school is just being unreasonable by not letting us have the password but why do students need the school Wifi anyways?

Our school is a dead zone and 87% of students do not have service in the school. Survey results from students at lunch reveal that students feel that they should have access to the school Wifi password for things such as looking up schedules, uploading work in classes, and talking to family members in case of an emergency.

Out of all the people who took the survey, 99% of the respondents say that students should be allowed access to the school wifi, however one response thought differently. The one response that was different stated that students just want Wifi to use snapchat, listen to music, or text people outside of school to come and dismiss them. They believe that students shouldn't have the school Wifi and should manage without a phone like people did back in the day. Given the results, should the rules change and allow students to use the Wifi? Or should we manage with no phones in school?



PDA

Sydney Fuller '25

If you don't know, PDA stands for public displays of affection. Now that we're in highschool, relationships become more serious and also more common. However, some students have been bringing their relationship activities into school. If you haven't noticed, you can see couples walking down the halls holding hands and occasionally hugging. You see, this isn't the problem. These are innocent activities that are small and sweet, just showing "we're in a relationship and we value each other as people." The problem only occurs when they take it to the next level. Sometimes you'll see couples making out in the hallways. I have friends in other schools such as Burncoat High School who have received letters from administrators talking about PDA and non-school appropriate activities on school grounds. I believe we should also receive a letter or an email about the inappropriate activities at school. These actions need to be addressed because it makes some students uncomfortable. They are also activities that can be left at home behind closed doors or just off of school grounds.

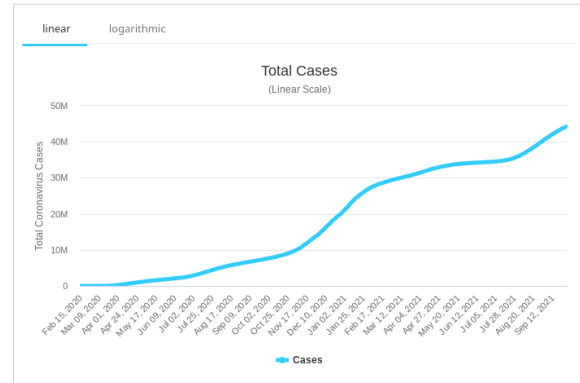
General Covid-19 Cases Compared to Bartlett's

Olivia Johnson '23

Cases of Covid-19 have been very crazy over these few years. There have been more and more cases of Covid-19 than there has been before. There have also been reports of a new type of Covid-19. One that is more dangerous than the one that we have gotten so accustomed and familiar with, called the delta variant virus. Which means we all need to be more and more careful with touching things and washing our hands or sanitizing often. Washing our hands is more recommended, though. There have been a total of 44,316,692 cases of Covid-19 in the United States alone. 716,869 people died from Covid-19 and 33,721,729 recovered from having the virus. Because of Corona, there have been a lot of norms that have been broken or tweaked. Shaking a co-workers hand has become something that we cannot really do at school. If so, you might see one of them or maybe the two of them go somewhere to wash their hands or to sanitize. All of this is to prevent getting any sicknesses, especially Corona, or to spread it around the school as well. Here at Bartlett, things seem to be doing alright with Covid. "Bartlett has been pretty good regarding how many students have had COVID since school started." Our school nurse, Ms. Pepin says. Things have not

gotten worse ever since students have begun to go back to attending school in person. The cases have seemed to decrease here as well.

Total Coronavirus Cases in the United States



Halloween

Isabella Rivera '24

Halloween was first invented in the U.S. in the 1950s-1960s by the Celts. When trick or treating first started "kids could expect to get nuts, coins, or toys from certain houses". As time went on they started handing out candy because it began to make it the more popular giveaway. During halloween 65% of children take part in trick-or-treating.

Year	\$ spent on costumes (in billions)
2017	150.01
2018	147.88
2019	145.09
2020	151.95

Vaccination Under Investigation

Jaden Z. Lopez '22

MASKS ARE NO LONGER MANDATORY, HERE AT BARTLETT! WITH ENOUGH VACCINATIONS THAT IS.

We have just been given awareness of the mask policy. known to be just rumors has been confirmed in Bartlett High school With just 80% vaccination count and masks will no longer be mandatory. But since the federal state decided to push back the mask policy by another month currently due in November. We are not positively sure how this will affect the wait on our mask enforcement removal. For estimated guesses we can guess that it will be up for grabs again once it reaches the allotted time. But I believe that we will reach that date in no time considering the fact that we are half way through October alreadyso in reality it is just a few more days to come.

POINT OF VIEWS ARE BEING THROWN EVERYWHERE WATCH OUT. BARTLETT'S HIGH SCHOOLS STUDENTS THROW THEIR OPINION.

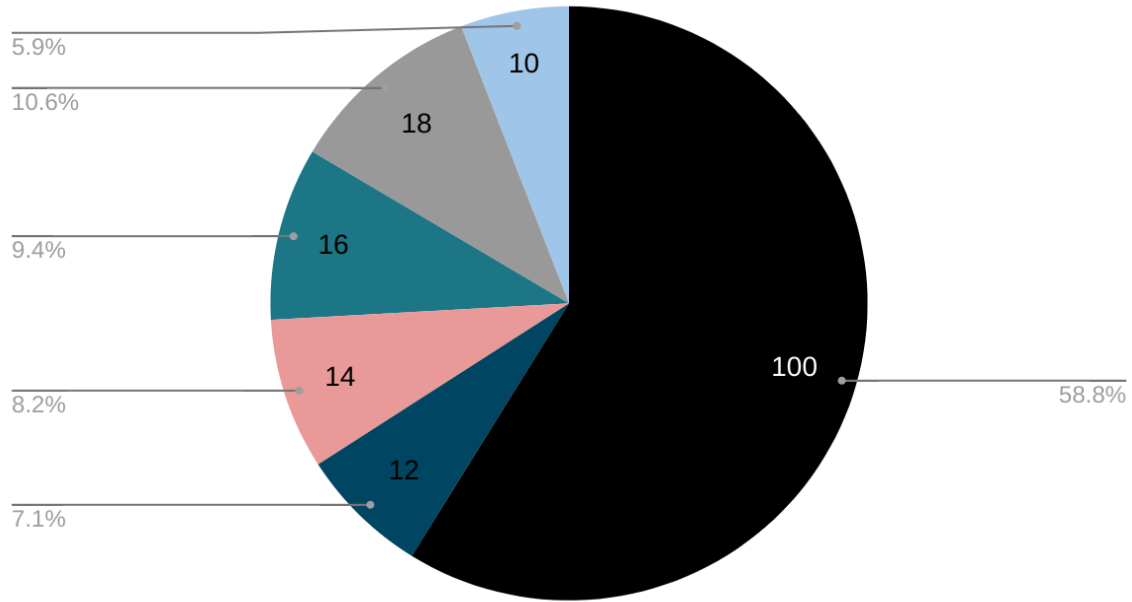
There has been several controversial interactions when dealing with Corona-virus and the vaccine. Speaking to several students who support the vaccine and those who oppose, here's what we came up with. Turns out the reason some of our students do not get vaccinated because of the fact that they do not feel like they can trust it. If not for this reason, then it would be because they do not simply care enough to do so. For our fellow vaccinated believe that it would be the best and fastest way in order to get rid of Corona-virus forever. They also believe that we need this so thy states do not limit our activities like they are already. Especially with the masks effort. We can see that it really differentiates but it will always depend on that particular person. For starters some that I interviewed said the reason they got vaccinated is because their parents are forcing them to. While the other may say that they can't get vaccinated because their family doesn't support it meaning that it is not entirely based on the student.

“All you need is the plan, the road map, and the courage to press on to your destination.”— Earl Nightingale

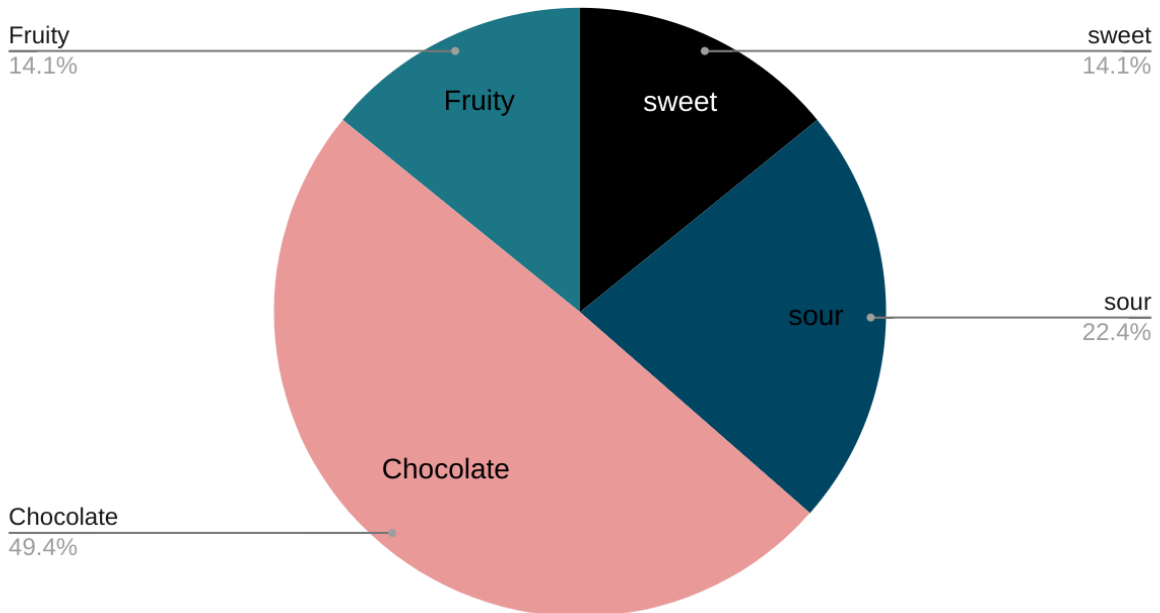
Student Polls

Justina Gilfoy '23

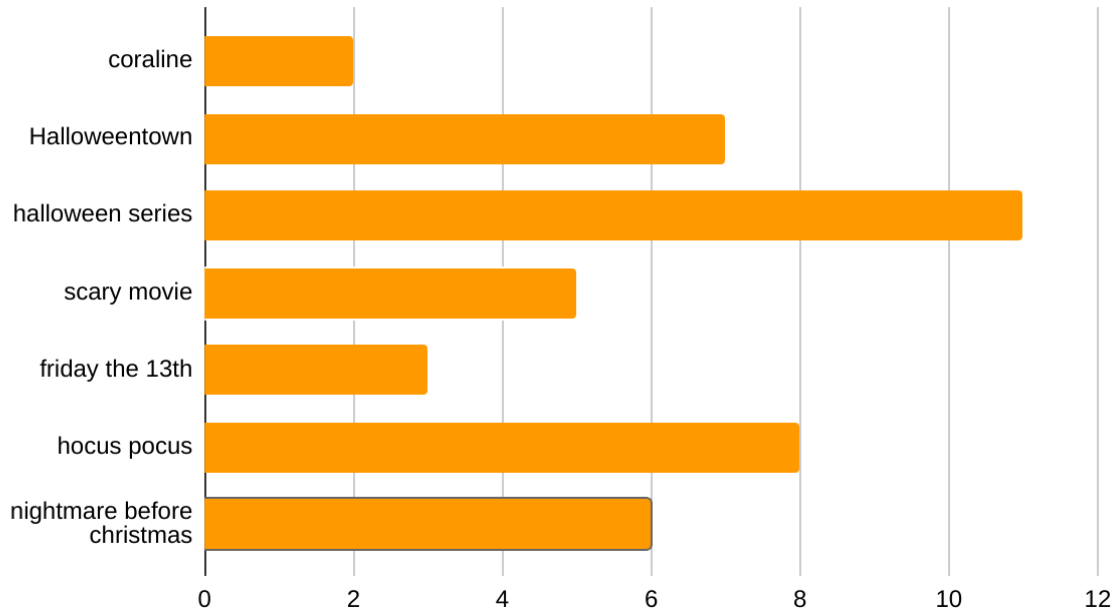
How old is too old to trick or treat?



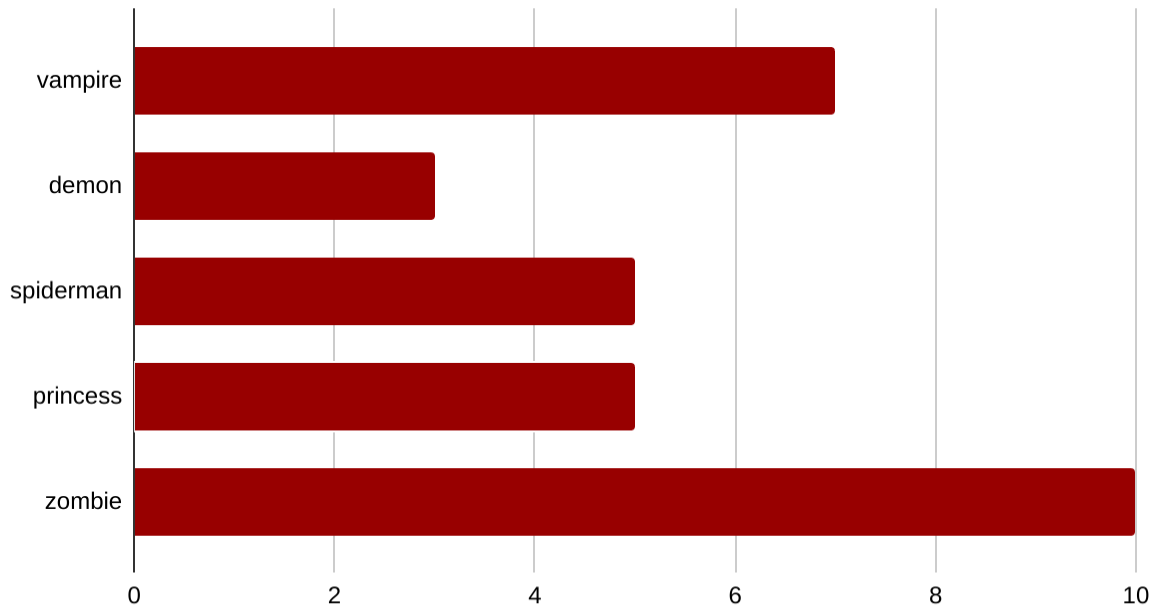
what kind of candy would you rather get?



what was your favorite halloween movie?



what was your favorite costume growing up



Bartlett High School's Fight to Stop the Sexist Dress Code

Alianna Phelps, '25

Question	male	female	non-binary
Do you feel personally affected by the dress code?	No: 47 Yes: 21	No: 10 Yes: 67	No: 1 Yes: 4
Do you agree with the dress code?	No: 42 Yes: 26	No: 71 Yes: 6	No: 5 Yes: 0
Is your shopping affected by the dress code?	No: 43 Yes: 25	No: 10 Yes: 67	No: 1 Yes: 4

These are students from Bartlett High School speaking their opinion. And it looks like something has to change about our dress code. Many may say it is outdated and sexist. And there's others with the total opposite opinion who think it is fair and needed for mostly young women to receive "appropriate" attention. But what is "appropriate" attention? Is appropriate attention objectifying towards women? Because when males are walking down the hallway with their pants down to their knees, they don't get dress-coded, but when young women walk down the hallway with a simple crop top that barely shows her stomach, she is asked to walk down to the office to change her shirt. Does that really seem fair?

Teachers even have their own difference in opinions on the dress code too, some say it is unfair and outdated, and many others say it needs to be enforced and that it helps keep things "respectful".

Here's some of the teachers responses:

Agree with dress code	Disagree with the dress code
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "To make students and staff feel comfortable and show respect for others and themselves." - "When you dress respectfully, you will receive respectful attention." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "Control the outfit that women wear. That is how it began." - "Abolish the dress code. Clothing doesn't need to be micromanaged."

Homecoming Spirit Week!

Lilly Cannon '25

A week full of wacky colors and styles, drawing people's attention and showing school spirit. For the year of 2021-2022, homecoming spirit week will take place the week of October 25-October 29; the week before the homecoming dance.

Student council has picked the spirit week days for this year's homecoming spirit week. To get everyone in a festive mood and prepare for the end of this month. Here are this year's homecoming spirit week ideas:

* Monday, October 25th will be Green and white day: Show your Bartlett pride and participate, also there will be a pumpkin decorating and carving contest held in the cafeteria. Also this year's homecoming pep rally will be held outside at 12:30 pm

* Tuesday, October 26th will be Tacky Tourist Day. There will also be Kahoots in both lunch periods.

* Wednesday, October 27th will be Sports Day and there will be bingo at lunch.

* Thursday, October 28th will be BATTLE OF THE COLORS! So support your grade and dress in your color!

Freshmen (yellow)

Sophomores (white)

Juniors (blue)

Seniors (black)

Staff (purple)

* Friday, October 29th is Dress Your Best Day! So dress in your best clothes because it's also PICTURE DAY! That night there will be a Football game at 6pm, at Webster's Memorial Field and we are playing against Quabaug. Come to the game and show your support for our football team!

* Saturday, October 30th will be the homecoming dance, which will be held in the gym from 6-9 pm. So dance the night away and have fun because this is a once in a lifetime high school experience!

We hope you'll participate in this year's spirit week and show your Bartlett pride!

Homecoming Dance

Isabella Rivera '24

On October 30th there will be a mystery masquerade homecoming ball with fairy lights that look like you're looking into a starry night and masks that make you overthink who you are. Long dresses and tuxedos that make you want to never stop making memories. The seniors will be hosting the homecoming dance in the gymnasium at 6pm-9pm.

We wanted you all to join us all for the first time in two years. We are coming together for the first time as 1. The tickets are \$20. There will be food, drinks and dancing so bring your dancing shoes.



Boys Soccer; First Win and the Season's Conclusion

Diego Taborda '22

It had been a rough start to the season for the Boys Soccer Team going winless in their first 6 games. But they finally struck gold away at Leicester. Going down 1 in the first half the boys never gave up; scoring twice in the last 15 minutes to grab their first win. Both goals were provided by Thomas McGonagle from the corner. The first scored with a diving header by Artur Sochacki and a deflected header from Adam Phillips to win. Team Captain, Thomas McGonagle believed the win would be a turning point for the team this season. When asked about the win Thomas said "It gives us momentum for the coming games and boosts the team's confidence." Thomas and Artur both mutually agreed that the team's strongest point was their midfield. "We control the ball well and can play it outside confidently." They also felt their offense needed the most work saying they struggle to find the back of the net and wasted opportunities are a regular occurrence.

Since their first win the boys turned their season around and went on to finish with a respectable record of 4 wins and 11 Losses. They unfortunately didn't make the cut for districts, but have the Central Mass Tournament coming up soon. Good Luck!!

Top Scorer: Thomas McGonagle (12)

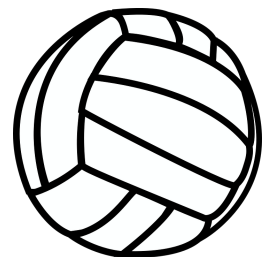
Top Assists: Colin Minarik (5)

How Covid-19 has Affected BHS Volleyball

Santaiza Lavalley '22

Covid-19 has affected not just sports but students' education. Sports aren't the same as they were a year and half ago. We didn't have to wear masks and stay a certain distance from other people. This year not much has changed since the last volleyball season. Masks are still required and social distancing is now three feet and not six.

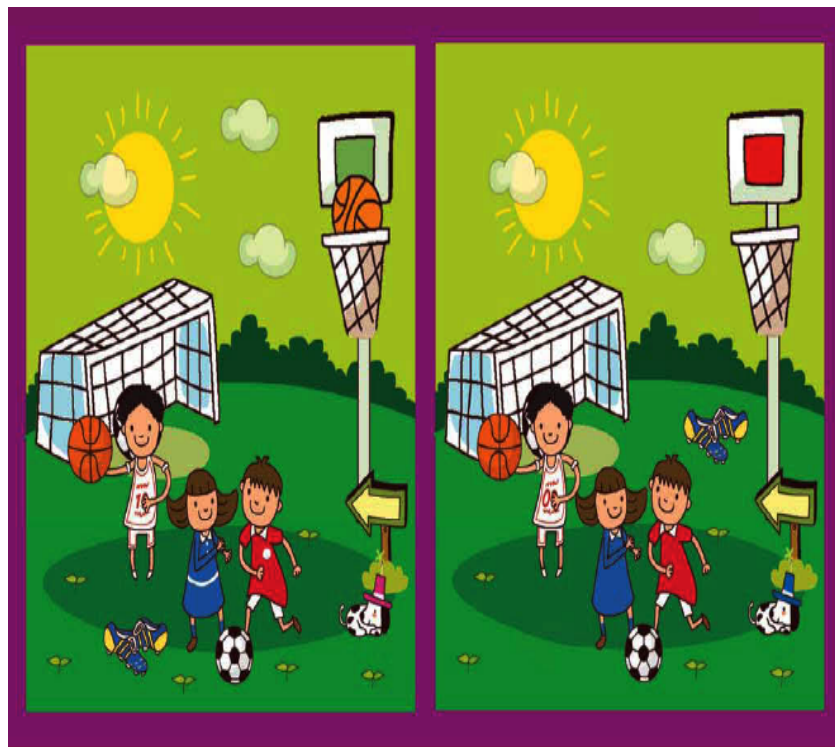
Covid-19 has changed the amount of schools we can play. We have to stick with the same couple of schools. This is because covid is still at the stage where it's very dangerous to travel school to school. Covid has also brought down the amount of students that are willing to play sports. Most parents won't allow their children to play sports because they are serious about covid. So this has stopped many schools from having a full sports team. Many students stopped playing sports because masks are required.





SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

7 differences



WORD SEARCH

V R M K D U Z A Q L Q P E A
K D R Q H J G M E N H E A F
I X H E D F Q A P T G P H X
N S Q C A X T O G J Z R D H
H R P M S D N E I R F A X W
W E I T L Q G Z L P C L D N
L L B J F F O G L Q T L T L
Y U B Q W Q N N A T X Y N W
L G F Z R I P E B I U N K Z
C S F K F H L W T N X R E H
W C R F N K W E O W B W K Q
Q S U R W A C N O Q F D N E
C T V Z F B H V F J C E S G
S M B M W R D T G E C Q J B
L O N G W E E K E N D L E U



FAMILY
FOOTBALL
FRIENDS
LONG WEEKEND
PEP RALLY
STUFFING
THANKFUL
TURKEY