



Archery takes over security - Page 2



A Manatee spring break - Page 2



Fraquetball videogame - Page 4

# Purple Press



Volume #20, Issue #6

April 1st, 2020

## SPPS students nearing strike

*Students are fighting for shorter school days, no homework*

**Annika Lofgren**  
Staff Writer

Saint Paul Public School students will go on strike if their needs have not been agreed to by April 4th, with the strike starting on April 14th. This is happening for three main reasons.

First, students are tired of having six and a half hour days, "We want four hour days instead," said 9th grader at Central, Joseph Gary. Hav-

ing six and a half hours wears students out, and they stop paying attention in their later classes. "I 1000% agree with that," said 8th grader Maria Imholte. If days were shortened to four hours, students would be more likely to pay attention because they would only have each class for 40 minutes, compared to the current block schedule of 75 minutes per class. We would keep the A and B days, and

there would still be four classes a day, home room (crew), 25 minute lunch, and 5 minutes for each passing time.

"This is affecting students' mental health, and we need a break. We need time away from school. Not a break that happens a couple times a year, but daily time away from school," 12th grader from Highland, Ben Johnson. There are many factors going into the decision to go on strike, and

admin isn't listening.

Second, students are opposing homework. "It doesn't help you learn, and it takes time away from your childhood," said Global Arts 6th grader, Molly Peterson. Right now, with the added time of homework, students are spending about 9 hours a day on school, sometimes more.

If both of these changes were made, it would be very likely to see huge benefits in

the students mental health. "I'm so happy during the summer, when I don't have school all the time, and I can hangout with my friends and relax, but when school starts again, everything goes downhill," said 10th grader Sara Logan from Johnson. Homework is making many students feel more frustrated and helpless in school. When they don't have a teacher explaining new con-

Strike, 2



Purple Press staff photo

**OWL students Gus Holtan and Nora Leifheit at a student protest.**

## Cracked iPads are gaining popularity at OWL

*"We all feel like we're a part of something cool."*



Purple Press Staff Photo

**11th graders Charlotte Marboe and Greta Kvale show off their street cred with their cracked iPads (left).**

**Mae Heeringa**  
Staff Writer

Students report that cracked iPads are the new distressed jeans.

Last week, Rhonda Mechels, the Technology Integration Specialist at the school, noticed that a lot more students than usual had cracked iPad screens. Last Friday, the office released an announcement offering to replace any and all cracked iPad screens. Surprisingly no one came down. "I really thought that students would want new screens so they can work better, plus, it's free of charge," said Rhonda. We looked in some of the

classes and saw the iPads for ourselves. 19 out of the 24 kids had cracked iPads. "It's the new thing, everybody is cracking their iPads," said 8th grader Endale Witt.

After speaking to several students with cracked iPads, staff have come to learn that cracked iPads are a fashion trend, or in other words, a status symbol. If you have a cracked iPad you were considered one of the cool kids. If you didn't have a cracked iPad you considered lame. "I saw Daschel Sweet without a cracked iPad the other day. What a lame kid," said Otis Kings, a 9th grader who goes



Purple Press staff photo

**A student's iPad that they cracked to be a part of the "In" crowd.**

to the school. After taking a poll the school found out that 346 students had cracked iPads out of the 450 kids who attend the school. "We all cracked our iPads cause it's satisfying and

we all feel like we're a part of something cool, I'm not normally one too fit in so this really helps," said Jonah Pfoser a 8th grader at the school.

## Schools to give PPE to hospitals

**Grace Bellamy**  
Staff Writer

Due to the extreme shortage of personal protective equipment in hospitals across the country, all public schools will be required to donate safety goggles, aprons, gloves, and any other personal equipment they have.

The personal protective equipment (PPE) will be cleaned and sanitized before being provided to local hospitals. In guidelines released by the federal government, the donated supplies are a last resort, much like donated homemade face masks. "Obviously this isn't ideal," said Mark Hewitt, a spokesperson for United Hospital in downtown St. Paul, "but we want to take this shelter-in-place time to gather as many supplies as we can to protect our workers."

The coronavirus spreads through the air and the ideal protection for healthcare workers covers all orifices. N95 respirators, which filter 95% of all particulate matter including the coronavirus, are ideal for healthcare workers dealing with COVID-19 patients. However, there are not enough of these respirators in most places -- New York has had to reuse respirators between patients. Schools are not donating respirators, but other PPE that covers the face, like goggles. Goggles, such as the ones in science teacher Megan Hall's room could help to block

PPE, 3

## CDC changes their COVID-19 handwashing recommendations

**Hazel Wright**  
Staff Writer

The Center for Disease Control, or CDC, is now advising US citizens to wash their hands for 24 hours a day. This is in response to the coronavirus, a disease originating in Wuhan, China, late last year. "It is of the utmost importance to follow any new advice from the CDC," says Dr. John Smith of the Temporary Association for Researching Disease and International Sickness, an or-

ganization formed in 1963. It was formed to combat the Marsh Amnesia, and was so effective that it was never disbanded. Neither was its name ever changed. "The CDC only has the best interests of the people in mind, and so this handwashing recommendation should be followed with absolute diligence," he continues. "If it helps save me from coronavirus, of course I'll do it," says Sybil Mayer, 6th grader, washing her hands obses-

sively in the second floor girls' bathroom. "I don't want to get sick."

The statement tells citizens that the best way to follow these guidelines is to hold your hands under hot water as you sleep. "We understand that it may be difficult to travel to work or school while doing this," says Dr. Smith, whose organization works closely with governments around the world in times of crisis. "But this is truly the best way to stay

safe from the virus. School may have to be cancelled. And there will be a small stipend for those who are unable to go to their jobs for the duration of this problem, and need the money severely." Neither Dr. Smith or the CDC has said how large these stipends will be. They're likely to be very small, as the government would need a very large budget to give a large sum of money to every US citizen who needs it.



Purple Press Staff Photo

**The CDC's new handwashing campaign promoting its new recommendation to wash hands 24 hours a day.**



## Purple Press Staff

**Adult to Blame**  
Leo Bickelhaupt

**Layout**  
Grace Bellamy

**Artist**  
Aviniel Green

**Writers**  
Grace Bellamy  
Erin Belmares  
Jalen Bolton-Steiner  
Freya Ebbesen  
Mae Heeringa  
Maria Imholte  
Mirabelle Iwaszek  
Jonas Kammeyer-Mueller  
Avery Koll  
Greta Kvale  
Annika Lofgren  
Charlotte Marboe  
Noah Morris  
Hazel Wright

# Boys' bathrooms will be renovated to save water

## OWL Environmental Advocacy has called for a new water-saving system

**Greta Kvale**  
Staff Writer

Due to backlash from OWL's Environmental Advocacy Team, OWL's boys bathrooms will be completely renovated; removing toilets,

urinals, and sinks as the Committee claims that all of these plumbing fixtures function by wasting water. A new waste removal system will be implemented in place: one drain will be placed into the center of the

floor, allowing for drainage without the need to flush and waste extra water. The removal of sinks will also allow for reduced water consumption. This is called the 'Single-Drain Model' and was developed by the British engineer John Harington.

You may be thinking, where will they wash their hands? How unsanitary is this really? Well, according to a survey conducted by the Minnesota Department of Health, 96% of boys in the SPPS school district do not wash their hands after using the bathroom. So really, there will not be a dramatic change in cleanliness along with the new bathroom implementation.

The OWL Environmental Advocacy Team has done thorough research on the best way to conserve water and their solution may be a bit abstract, but is by far the greenest option. They have received funding from the US Environmental Protection Agency as well as endorsement from

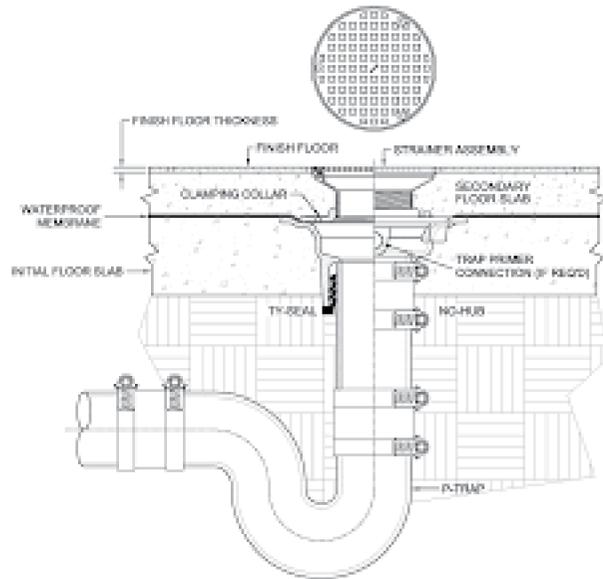
Greta Thunberg to implement the Single-Drain Model in bathrooms across the world. The renovation is to take place during OWL's Spring break. Other SPPS schools will possibly follow in OWL's footsteps in effort to seem 'environmentally conscious'.

The OWL student body has spoken on the matter, with opinions all over the place. Sophomore Desmond Haug expressed his anticipation about the Single-Drain Model with enthusiasm. "I am really excited for the new bathrooms. Without the barrier of stalls between us, or the lame row of urinals, my bros and I can have more of a chill bathroom experience together and just like, hang out like normal... except we're peeing." On the other hand, Junior Haakon Neske states, "I don't know, man... I don't like the idea of accidentally making eye contact while me and some dude are peeing in there. Also, I wash my hands! Keep the sinks!"

There has also been some

backlash on the fact that only boy's bathrooms will be updated. "That is such bullhonkey," says 11th grader Libby Nelson, "We live in a society that provides men with the best alternatives and leaves women with the worst!" A group called 'Women for the Single-Drain Model' has formed at OWL, (chaired by Nelson), and has received much support from OWL's ladies. For now, though, only the boy's bathrooms will be renovated during the 2019-2020 school year.

Thanks to OWL's Environmentally conscious student body, boys should be ready to return from break and be greeted with a shiny new bathroom (and are encouraged to bring personal hand sanitizer to school). OWL's Environmental Advocacy Team would love to hear some of your ideas as well- they hold meetings during Crew time on Wednesdays each week in Megan's room.



A blueprint showing a potential drainage option for the new bathrooms, developed by John Harington.

# New security team to patrol OWL hallways

## The archery team will take over as security in the off-season

**Jonas Kammeyer-Mueller**  
Staff Writer

In order to increase the number of service hours obtained and decrease absences in classes, Principal Dave Gundale and Archery Coach Tom Totushek have announced that during the archery off-season

learn about the very real consequences of being late," said Dave when asked for comment. The new hallway guardians are especially enthused about this, with Gus Holman saying that he "Can't wait to rain fury on the tardy people," with Captain Henry Bow-

per week." Tom elaborated on this, saying that he'd "be giving the archers who mark the most students at the end of the week a two-liter soda and a king size candy of their choice." When asked how the archers would respond if there was an active threat in the building, Tom responded saying that "In the event of a threat in the building, the archers would enter a 'combat readiness mode,' where they would use their regular game arrows to either stall or remove the threat before it got out of hand.

Dave was only a little less eager than Tom about this new change. "While we want our students to have fun at school, the fun ends when we start breaking the HOWLS, and we need to reign it in when that happens," Dave said when he announced the policy. When asked about how the archers would work with the school security, Dave said that "Our fantastic security team won't be replaced by our archers coming in." Dave responded to concerns that the archery team was going to become a substitute for a police force by saying in a hushed voice "Please help me, they threatened to blockade the gym if I didn't let them, I don't know what to do." We at the Purple Press have no issue with this development, and are not being threatened or forced into supporting such a position. In addition, we would implore you to please support your local archery team by giving them \$5 a week, all throughout the school year.



OWL archers at a tournament earlier this year. The team plans to train in the off-season by patrolling school hallways.

the archers will be patrolling OWL to find students who are late for/ditching classes. The archers would be armed with their bows, and modified arrows that have a small water balloon at the end, to mark everyone who gets caught outside of classes without passes.

"It's a really great opportunity for students to

ring said that he'd "Really like the constant practice they'll be getting." This enthusiasm is lost least of all on Archery Coach Tom.

When asked for comment on how he felt on the matter, Tom responded that he had "Already made it a requirement that all future captains have marked at least one student



A woman does yoga with a manatee at the Sea World in Florida, where the Ultimate team will go this spring.

# Manatee to retreat with... manatees?

**Jalen Bolton-Steiner**  
Staff Writer

In an effort to reclaim inner peace, the OWL ultimate frisbee team has decided to go on yoga retreat. The trip, sponsored by Jamba Juice, is said to happen before the 2020 season begins next month. The team is flying out to Florida to practice yoga with real manatees. "A couple years ago, we tried to hit the gym. Turns out when you bench 800lbs everyday your body gets sore before games," said senior and team captain Tom Hobday.

Jamba Juice, along with sponsoring the trip, is also supplying the food: spinach smoothies. "I read on a blog that spinach boosts brain levels," commented coach Joe Ling. The team will spend the days leading up to the season doing new yoga positions and

learning to find themselves. They are planning on doing many activities such as gaining a layer of blubber and swimming on the ocean floor, sifting through mud.

Senior Jedi Casas, another captain of the team said, "Last year, Edina came out swinging after they went on a team trip to Disney world. We hope to capture what made that team good." The players are also helping Sea World test a new project: manatee therapy. Every player will spend anywhere from 1-10 hours in an inflatable pool with a manatee. "I am really looking forward to chilling with the animal that inspires the team, inspires me," said junior Leo Dungan-Seaver. The therapy is said to help relieve any stress one is feeling.

### Strike, 1

tent to them, over 50% of students either learn it wrong, and have a harder time learning it the right way, or give up and fall behind in class. According to Cloud Studies, if homework was eliminated, there would be 86% higher participation in classes.

The final demand is for students to be able to download Minecraft and SimCity on their school iPads. "They are both somewhat educational, and build on creativity rather than violence, like other games," says 11th grader from Central, Katie Anderson. Most upperclassmen are striking because of this reason. "It's our last year, at least let us have some fun," said Johnson senior Logan Smith. Teachers think this is a ridiculous demand, but the students are dead serious, and aren't backing down.

"We are extremely disappointed that our students continue down a path toward a strike. Our teachers, families, co-workers and community expect all of us to work together and avoid a strike, and that's what I am committed to doing. But now, they've decided to strike together, one after the other. The students are probably just doing it to get time off of school. There are consequences," said the SPPS Superintendent, Joe Gothard.

If the students and admin don't reach an agreement by April 4th, they will go on strike, starting April 14th, for however long is needed.

# Senior Spotlight

John Franklin



How many years have you been at OWL? OWL?

What are your plans for next year? I'm hoping to go on that cruise that was cancelled. Real shame, you know?

What's been your favorite class in high school? Now, high school was a long time ago... I think my mathematics class was my favorite.

What extracurriculars are you involved in? I go to bingo with my wife Jan and I play bridge once a week, though we stopped that for now.

Favorite field work trip and why? Field work? I worked for the CCC [Civilian Conservation Corps] during the Depression, and those were a good group of young men. One time... [story omitted]

Favorite book, movie or TV show? I like those Agatha Christie mysteries.

## That One Little Kid Billy



How tall are you? Like three hands

What's your favorite class so far and why? I can't go inside the school, but the grass by the four square court is yummy!

Who's your favorite senior? John

Where do you think you're going to go for college? No college, I will live my goat life.

What's your favorite book, movie, TV show or video game? I can't read, but I've heard good things about *Farmer's Almanac*.

What is the weirdest thing about OWL? They don't allow goats!

# Teachers to replace students in school productions



Purple Press Staff Photo  
**Rebekah gets frustrated with her distractable student actors.**

**Avery Koll**  
Staff Writer  
Fed up with students and their lack of respect, Theater

teacher Rebekah Rentzel has decided that she will be casting teachers instead of students in next year's plays. "Kids don't seem to be caring about the consequences of not listening and being on their phone," says Rebekah. From the large cast of *The Addams Family* to the considerably smaller cast of *Phantom Tollbooth*, we could infer that the Addams family cast may have caused problems for Rebekah and Alex by, talking over them and not listening, not doing the work they were supposed to and everyone getting sick when told not to get sick, so they decided to cast less for *Phantom Tollbooth*. "If we consider davenport expeditionary war, the teachers are decent actors, they'll also listen and

get things done on time," says Rebekah.

Teachers and students seem to be having mixed opinions on the matter. ELA teacher Leo Bickelhaupt weighs in, "I'm excited to get the chance to get back into acting, I've dabbled in a few Shakespearean roles. 'To be or not to be, that is the Romeo...?' What was I talking about?" But 11th grader Carter Peterson Antin has a different opinion, "I'm furious! I want the chance to act and get big roles in the school shows. The teachers will be here longer than the students, the students have up to seven years here while the teachers could have more, let me, as a student, act!"

# Second floor commons to be for teachers only

**Maria Imholte**  
Staff Writer  
In an effort to reduce distractions and off task students during school hours and class time, OWL officials have decided that the commons on the second floor are now a teacher only space, with no students allowed.

Recently, teachers have reported that there have been many students who are either

off task in the commons or they have been out in the hallways when they need to be in class. "It's gotten honestly quite out of hand," says Leo Bickelhaupt, an English teacher. "I've seen countless students in the hallway, with no pass to be there, just messing around and being off task. We're in school for a reason and students need to focus on schoolwork while they're in this building."

The hope for the teacher only commons is that there won't be anywhere for students to go in the halls, and if they do the teachers would easily be able to monitor the hallways and call kids out who aren't in class- alongside the security guard. "This should prevent goofing off in the hallways and hopefully involve," says Leo.



Dallas Morning News  
**A healthcare worker adjusts goggles over a mask. Science goggles from schools will be given to local hospitals.**

# High school girlfriends to unionize

## Girlfriends are fighting for more effort to be put into relationships by boyfriends

Freya Ebbeson  
Staff Writer

Inspired by the brave actions of the SPPS teacher's union, high school girlfriends have announced their plan to unionize. "We are sick and tired of being second priority to sports, Battle Royale, and 'the boys,'" said one union member. "We are putting the work in, and we just want to see that same amount of work from our boyfriends." Members met for the first time last week, and created a formal list of demands for their boyfriends, which appears as follows:

- All hoodies, t-shirts to be shared equally between both parties
- Increase talking about feelings
- Raise rates of showering,

sheet changing  
-Time playing video games to be lowered by 50%

-Mandatory texting back within two hours

Negotiations have begun, and will continue to be held in the hallways during passing time. If the demands are not met in the next two weeks, the girlfriends are planning to go on strike. When asked what he thought about the possibility of a strike, a boyfriend stood around looking confused until his friend walked by, at which point he smacked him on the butt.

Obviously, high school girlfriends in relationships with girls have chosen to abstain from the strike. "The bar is so low," one girlfriend pointed out. "It's 2020, why are you guys still dating men?"

# Facial hair banned for SPPS teachers

Charlotte Marboe  
Staff Writer

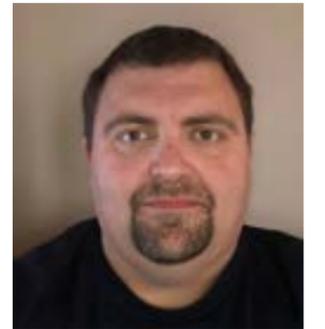
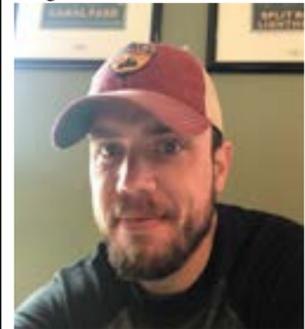
In an effort to maintain tidiness around SPPS schools, the school board has decided teachers must remain clean shaven for the duration of the school year. Teachers and administrators are now required to shave their facial hair every other day, but the controversy following this executive decision has been causing problems in the workspace.

Social studies teachers Dan Sullivan and Luke Turvold recently spoke on the topic, concerned about their facial hair rights. Luke, who has had his beard and mustache for as long as his students can re-

member, is considering quitting in solidarity to protect his hair. Dan, though upset about the new rule, is far more willing to trim his beard feeling far less attached to it as it is a more recent development for him.

"Taking care of my twin boys has become a full time job, shaving fell off the list of priorities," says Dan Sullivan "I have no problem losing the beard, my issue is whether it will fit in my busy baby filled schedule at home," He says.

English teacher Leo Bickelhaupt says "I have two kids and still shave three times a week, why can't they?"



Purple Press staff photo  
**Both Luke (left) and Tom (right) will be required to return to school clean-shaven.**

PPE, 1

the virus from entering the eye area as readily as uncovered eyes. Other PPE from schools includes aprons and gloves, both of which provide an extra layer of protection between the virus and the worker.

"I'm willing to do anything to help stop the pandemic and flatten the curve," said OWL principal Dave Gundale. "We want our students to stay safe and return to normal as soon as we can, and if this will help that effort, I'm all for it." While most people in the OWL com-

munity have been supportive of the donation, some students are concerned. 7th grader Jessica Smith asked "Will we get the stuff back? And will it be all coronavirus-y?" While the government has not released a plan to replace supplies, the operations and communications director of the infectious disease unit at the Minnesota Department of Health has said that "schools will not be at risk of COVID contamination."



# Reviews 'n' stuff



## Couples therapy for middle schoolers

*The same problems in adult relationships frequent preteen ones, too*

**Mirabelle Iwaszek**  
Staff Writer

For decades, adult couples have been going to therapy to come to terms with their problems and settle their disagreements. But it wasn't until recently that middle schoolers got the chance to see what all the hype was about. Beginning last month, OWL counselor Katerina Youngberg began offering relationship counseling for middle school couples experiencing a rough patch in their budding romances.

Katerina was kind enough to Google Meet with me for an interview on some of the main reasons middle school couples seek her help. "It's surprising how similar [their] problems are to real life, "grown-up" problems." Katerina said "I mean we're talking about communication, commitment, trust and even financial issues."

I then went and asked some of the actual kids why they and their SOs turned to counseling. Responses from the kids seemed pretty much in line with what Katerina was saying. They shared some of their most intimate stories with me. For the sake of this article, I've taken the liberty of changing the names in order to protect their privacy... and, let's be real, their dignity.

Some relationship troubles are caused because of financial disagreements. 8th grader Scoobert Doo shared that, "It got too serious too fast, I knew it had gone too far when she proposed a joint lunch money account." When this happens, Katerina suggests taking a step back and looking at the long term. While this can be good for talking about each other's spending, they might be moving too fast.

Something else to keep "I knew it had gone too far when she proposed a joint lunch money account."

in mind is that not all people show affection the same way. 6th grader Phoebe Buffay said, "He didn't even post any pictures of us on our three day anniversary!" "At first I was all like LOL, but now I'm all like SMH." A recently single 6th grader Eleven said "He couldn't talk about his feelings, When I'm all like [kissy face emoji] he's all like [cactus emoji]." When I asked Eleven's ex, 6th grader Mike Wheeler, why he thought the relationship had ended he said, "We both had busy schedules, we never saw each other. We didn't have English first hour together anymore, how are we

expected to awkwardly avoid making eye contact." In this situation, Katerina emphasizes communication, and sharing expectations about what you're comfortable with and finding common ground.

7th graders Kermit the Frog and Miss Piggy are realizing that there's more to middle school relationships than hugging in the halls for extended periods of time and sitting together at lunch. "It's not just silly things either like he's into chick-

en patties and I'm a dunker girl, we have serious political differences too. I'm into Minecraft but he's still stuck on Fortnite and we just can't see eye to eye about our personal beliefs," said a defeated Piggy. For a situation as serious as this, Katarina advises people to summarize what they hear and validate what the other person is saying before trying to change each other's mind.

One issue that can really pose difficulties to a relationship is when the flame of the first couple days isn't quite as bright as it used to be. 8th grader Michael Scott said "We used to play Frisbee,

walk around the halls holding hands, but now all she wants to do is make couples Tik Toks and perfect her "Renegade", whispered Michael, wiping away a single tear, "She's not the girl she used to be."

A lot of times in these middle school relationships the young lovers depend on their friends for support and advice. When I asked 7th grader Lisa Simpson why she's seeking Katarina's help her best friend quickly butted in, sharing that "sometimes she catches him wearing his ex-girlfriends scrunchie, can you believe that?!" When I told Katarina about this later she said that while she was a bit concerned about the "scrunchie situation", advice from friends should be taken seriously because oftentimes, they have more perspective and good instincts.

The advice Katarina has given has already saved countless relationships, but some relationships just aren't meant to last. 7th grader Betty Cooper and her boyfriend are most definitely struggling with commitment issues, "I just don't get why he's so afraid of the "LL" word, I get that he likes me but why can't just can't come out and say that he Like Likes me?" These issues are more common than you may think, If you and your middle school boo are struggling with any of the aforementioned issues, Katarina is more than happy to schedule a session with you today.



The Changing of the Guards at Buckingham Palace, the Queen's residence. If passed, the legislation would see a "changing of the guard" of the United States.

## Legislation introduced to rejoin Britain

*Proposed by congressman David Loeb sack (D-IA), it would have Queen Elizabeth II replace Donald Trump*

**Noah Morris**  
Staff Writer

American legislators in the DIABAWJWAM caucus voted to introduce a piece of revolutionary legislation during the last session on Wednesday. The bill, which was proposed by democratic Iowa congressman David Loeb sack, is entitled the "anti-federal resolution to reduce anxiety among the American people," and among a shocking list of 90 policy proposals, it includes the initiative to replace the office of president with the british monarchy.

Indeed, the "Democracy Is A Bother And We Just Want A Monarch" caucus, a large group supported by the DIABAWJWAM Political Action Committee, claims that this is the overarching goal of the organization. The bipartisan group of legislators, which numbers 75 members of congress and 21 senators, has grown significantly since its founding in 2012.

Billy Long, a republican representative from Iowa and a member of the organization since 2016 says that "we of DIABAWJWAM believe that american democracy is too much of a headache to all parties." long elaborated while illustrating his points on the Samsung Notes app of his phone. "Y'see, this little chartreuse fella here is the president. And then these," here long paused and drew some 13 small circles of various colours, "are the voters. And only three of them are char-

treuse. I mean you can't expect the mauve ones and the beige ones and the lilac ones to all be getting along well." Long then deleted the note and opened a new one, seemingly unaware of the "erase all" feature.

The representative continued despite our protests, stating that "so when somebody gets voted into office, all they're going to be doing is disappointing 15 to 70, maybe 56 percent of the populations [sic] at all times. But a monarch," here Long grew visibly excited, drawing a crude yellow crown on his phone and raising his voice "can do something for everybody. They don't have to worry about no elections, or constitutional limits on power, or angry lobbyists. They are given the right to rule by God, and after all." Here Long stowed his phone and made uncomfortable eye contact with your reporter for around nine seconds. I was scared to break the silence. "And that means they always make good decisions." Following this comment, Long dived into the Abraham Lincoln reflecting pool, shocking onlookers and ending his interview.

Elizabeth II, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and of her other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth And Defender of the Faith, the monarch who DIABAWJWAM had chosen to take over the nation, could not be reached for comment.

## Fraquetball video game in the works

**Erin Belmares**  
Staff Writer

Open World Learning's teachers, Damon Liberatore and Tom Totushek, have decided to make a video game based on one of our most loved school sports, Fraquet Ball. An intense, high-end video game that would be made by the staff, specifically for the students of OWL and installed in each student's iPads.

"It was a group decision you know. We thought that since the kids are on their phones so much, we could make the sport more appealing by making it digital. I asked Damon to see if we can make it possible and he was able to make a very realistic version of it," said Tom.

And it seems like the idea is a big hit within the school.

"It's super cool, I never realized how cool Fraquet Ball was until the school announced the app," said 9th grader, Rachel Nicoletta.

This new high tech game

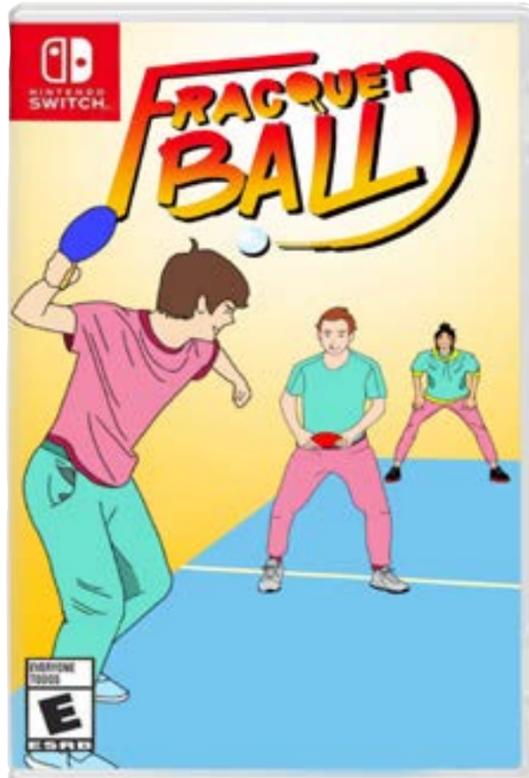
has gotten the attention of not just high schoolers but middle schoolers as well.

When 7th graders, Chloe Myers and Marcus Wilson, caught wind of the new app, both were very excited about its release.

"I can't wait till it comes out! I wanted to play it during lunch but I don't have anyone to play with. But now I can just play it by myself!" said Chloe.

"It's probably the best sports app ever created, it sounds super awesome," said Marcus.

The staff of Open World



Learning claim that they have been working on the app for the past 5 months and believe this game will help students become more interactive with sports. The project has been

led so far by the math teachers but all staff have been working diligently on the app in any spare time they have.

When asked what the game will look like, the staff presented some design ideas that are in the works so far, but will be finalized soon. They claim that virtual gameplay is almost exactly like real life gameplay and that it will attract student's attention. So when the staff noticed that many students were liking the idea of a Fraquet Ball app, they decided to make the app accessible on all devices so that not just OWL students could enjoy it but all other kids could as well.

The release date for the app is unknown as it's still a work in progress, but with the amount of hype it's getting, it's sure to be a success.

# *Solitude & Reflection comic*

