

The Tusker Tribune

The Student Newspaper of Somers Middle School



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Fall 2019

The Tragic Tablet Travesty of 2019



By Sam Sanz
Tusker Tribune Staff
 Thursday, the 14th. The school took away most of the 8th grade tablets, but why?

Welcome to Nerd Alert. We are talking about the tablet problem.

The Interview

I interviewed Mrs. Spirelli about this problem and here is the story.

There was a problem with the overheating battery reported on an article, but still there was no reports of overheating and there still wasn't for the whole time.



On the 1st of November, 2019 the tablet company BAC USA filed for bankruptcy. The company was chosen initially because it was a local producer based in Buffalo, so any tablet problems could be more easily fixed and returned to school faster.

They were proactive of the issue and since the company went bankrupt, they recalled the tablets. This was the first-time devices were recalled at any Somers school.

Mrs. Spirelli says, "It was not worth the risk, It would be expensive, but now they were safe".

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7th Grade Social Tomorrow Night!!!!

The 7th grade social is on tomorrow from 7-9 p.m.! There will be food and a DJ. We hope to see a lot of people there!

School Uniform Pro and Con



By Emma Barton
Tusker Tribune Staff

School uniforms have been a debate going on for a pretty long amount of time, and now we are going to see what side you are on.

First well start off with why uniforms may be beneficial for schools all around Westchester county.

One is uniforms may decrease bullying. The reason I say this is because some kids who may be less fortunate than others may not have the nicest clothing or may not have a different outfit every single day, and some kids get made fun of for this. Now I'm not saying this will entirely stop bullying but, it may decrease it, and it may decrease or eliminate the contradictory attitudes between the "rich and poor kids".

Another advantage to uniforms is that it may help increase children's focus. I mean, how

many times have you said, or even heard, "oh look what so and so's wearing", because I know I've heard it before. When kids have no clothes or appearances to comment, or react on, more of their energy goes into there work, and learning.



One final reason has to do with gangs. In areas where kids may be involved in gangs, uniforms may help students from wearing clothing that announces any kind of gang connection.

Now, as much as these pros are very logical, we must look at the other side of the story. One of the disadvantages of uniforms is that parents may not be able to afford them.

Children whose families are less fortunate may have trouble dealing with the somewhat high prices of school uniforms, and if the uniforms become a requirement, the families could be put in debt or become pressured into buying it, which is not a good school environment that may result in loss of students.

So tell me, what do you think?

Work cited: <https://smartasset.com/mortgage/the-pros-and-cons-of-school-uniforms>

17 Hours in a Car to Surprise a Great Uncle



By Peter Brennan
Tusker Tribune Staff

My family recently took a trip to Florida, but we didn't fly. We drove down to Florida.

Where we went was Sebastian, Florida. It took a little over 17 HOURS!!

We left New York at 3PM Sunday October 13 and got down to Sebastian at 8:30 AM Monday October 14. We went because it was my great uncle Billy's 70th birthday. We surprised him as he didn't know we were driving down to see him.

The car ride down was not as bad as I thought it would be. Thank God I didn't have claustrophobia because that was the longest, I have ever been in a car before. My great uncles Billy and Bob have lived down in Florida for three years. I liked to go down to visit them because they have a pool, fluffy blankets and they are only an hour from Orlando. As you might know, Orlan-



do is the home of Hershey Park... just kidding! It's the home of Disney World, Universal Studios and Lego Land and I love those places.

We took Billy to Disney for his 70th and he had a blast. He loved the Star Wars rides which were ne. Personally, I liked the Millennium Falcon simulator. I was the gunner on the ship.

We also threw him a surprise birthday party on Saturday the 19th, which is his real birthday. It was a Hawaiian luau party. The meatballs cousin Colleen made were really good. It took a long time to prepare the party and keep it a secret from Billy, but it all worked out in the end.

We drove back home after the party, which was a Sunday,

and got back to Somers at 7:45AM Monday morning. Just in time for my Dad to get me to school. Which sucked.



Tablet

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The goal was to collect the new tablets on Monday, but it was an early delivery on Friday. With these new tablets, they were encouraging online OneNote to be used.

They also, say that with any device you should never overcharge them, like the hoverboard issue a couple of years ago when overcharged hoverboards caught fire. Mr. Pappas a retired fire chief, says he's seen fires from over-charged laptops.



Conclusion

The problem was fixed with great haste and accuracy. I have one of the new dell tablets and I overall love them as a tech guru. My only problems are things I'm not used to yet, like the F1, F2, F3, etc. Keys have special properties (Like on any computer), but contrary to the old tablets you need to press **Fn** to use them. It's just minor nitpicking here and there. Overall, I haven't heard of any issues with these tablets.

I'd like to thank Mrs. Spirelli and Mrs. Astrologo for the knowledge on the topic and Mr. Pappas for his fireman

The Tusker Tribune
of Somers Middle School

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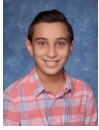
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Any SMS student is eligible to write stories. If interested, please e-mail Advisor Dean Pappas at

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2020 GRAMMY Awards Nominees: Who Might



By Noah Volkman
Tusker Tribune Staff

As it is every year, the Grammy Awards for 2020 will be one of music's biggest nights of the year. Who is one step closer to owning a Grammy Award and being etched into music history? Find out below:

Record of the Year Nominees:

"Hey Ma" – Bon Iver
"bad guy" – Billie Eilish
"7 rings" – Ariana Grande
"Hard Place" – H.E.R.
"Talk" – Khalid
"Old Town Road" – Lil Nas X & Billy Ray Cyrus
"Truth Hurts" – Lizzo
"Sunflower" – Post Malone & Swae Lee

Album of the Year Nominees:

II – Bon Iver
*Norman F***ing Rockwell!* – Lana Del Rey
WHEN WE ALL FALL ASLEEP, WHERE DO WE GO? – Billie Eilish
thank u, next – Ariana Grande
I Used to Know Her – H.E.R.
7 – Lil Nas X
Cuz I Love You (Deluxe) – Lizzo
Father of the Bride – Vampire Weekend

Best New Artist Nominees:

Black Pumas
Billie Eilish
Lil Nas X
Lizzo
Maggie Rogers
Rosalia
Tank and the Bangas
Yola

Best Pop Solo Performance Nominees:

"SPIRIT" – Beyonce
"bad guy" – Billie Eilish
"7 rings" – Ariana Grande
"Truth Hurts" – Lizzo
"You Need to Calm Down" – Taylor Swift
Award: Best Dance Recording
Nominees:
"Linked" – Bonobo
"Got to Keep On" – The Chemical Brothers
"Piece of Your Heart" – Meduza & GOODBOYS
"Underwater" – RUFUS DU SOL
"Midnight Hour" – Skrillex, Boys Noize & Ty Dolla \$ign



Best Rock Song Nominees:

"Fear Inoculum" – Tool
"Give Yourself a Try" – The 1975

"Harmony Hall" – Vampire Weekend
"History Repeats" – Brittany Howard
"This Land" – Gary Clark Jr.
Best Alternative Music Album Nominees:

U.F.O.F. – Big Thief
Assume Form – James Blake
II – Bon Iver
Father of the Bride – Vampire Weekend
Anima – Thom Yorke

Best R&B Song Nominees:

"Could've Been" – H.E.R. & Bryson Tiller
"Look at Me Now" – Emily King
"No Guidance" – Chris Brown & Drake

Best Rap Song Nominees:

"Bad Idea" – YBN Cordae & Chance the Rapper
"Chance Roses" – Rick Ross & Drake
"a lot" – 21 Savage & J. Cole
"Racks in the Middle" – Nipsey Hussle, Roddy Ricch & Hit-Boy
"Suge" – DaBaby

Best Country Song Nominees:

"Bring My Flowers Now" – Tanya Tucker
"Girl Goin' Nowhere" – Ashley McBride
"It All Comes Out in the Wash" – Miranda Lambert
"Some of It" – Eric Church
"Speechless" – Dan + Shay

Best Compilation Soundtrack for Visual Media Nominees:

The Lion King: The Songs – Various Artists
Quentin Tarantino's Once Upon a Time in Hollywood – Various Artists

Rocketman – Taron Egerton
Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse – Various Artists

A Star Is Born – Lady Gaga & Bradley Cooper

Producer of the Year Nominees:

Jack Antonoff
"Arizona Baby" – Kevin Abstract
"Lover" – Taylor Swift
"Norman F***ing Rockwell" – Lana Del Rey
"Red Hearse" – Red Hearse
Dan Auerbach
"The Angels in Heaven Done Signed My Name" – Leo Bud Welch
"Let's Rock" – The Black Keys
"Mockingbird" – The Gibson Brothers
"Myth of a Man" – Night Beats
"Southern Gentlemen" – Dee White
"Walk Through Fire" – Yola
John Hill
"Heat of the Summer" – Young the Giant
"Hundred" – Khalid
"No Drug Like Me" – Carly Rae Jepsen
"Outta My Head" – Khalid & John Mayer
"Social Cues" – Cage the Elephant
"Superposition" – Young the Giant
"Too Much" – Carly Rae Jepsen
"Vertigo" – Khalid
"Zero (From 'Ralph Breaks the Internet') – Imagine Dragons
Finneas
"When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go" – Billie Eilish
Ricky Reed
"Almost Free" – FIDLAR
"Burning" – Maggie Rogers
"Confidence" – X Ambassadors & K.Flay
"Juice" – Lizzo
"Kingdom of One" – Maren Morris
"Power is Power" – SZA, The Weeknd & Travis Scott
"Tempo" – Lizzo & Missy Elliott
"Truth Hurts" – Lizzo
"The Wrong Man" – Ross Golan

NOTE: Names in bold are candidates who Noah believes will win.