



The Tusker Tribune

SOMERS MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER



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Winter 2019

Lots of Change Between 6th and 7th Grade



By Lia Babon
Tusker Tribune Staff

Remember walking into school and turning right and not having to walk upstairs, walk long distances or worry that you're going to get stuck behind people when trying to get through? Well in 7th grade, that's different. We're on the third floor or second floor. The second floor is a pretty long walk, and if you're walking through the 6th grade, it's even worse, the hallways are always filled with small children who are just on their phones or talking, making it difficult to get through. Lots of my friends are late to their lockers causing them to be late to their classrooms.



Going to the third floor is even worse than the second floor, running all the way up the stairs and then going all the way to your locker. It takes a few minutes. Then when on the second or third floor, you must run all the way upstairs or all the way downstairs, also taking up time and causing you to be late again. But in 6th grade most of your classes are near your lockers.

In addition, 6th grade has lunch first, so they get to eat early and not be hungry throughout other classes, but 7th is the last lunch, and by then, you're starving (if you don't eat in the morning).

Sixth graders get fewer tests and less homework, most times, but then 7th grade has much more homework and there's a test every week or so, causing lots of stress and a lot in your brain to think about. 7th graders also have more responsibilities now that they're older, and parents are depending on them, along with teachers.

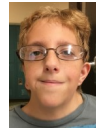
Sixth graders don't have as many responsibilities, and less stress. However, while 6th graders have Spanish this year, and 7th does, too, the 6th graders don't keep their Spanish final exam grade for high school. Seventh graders do, though, so 6th grade learn more and get a better chance of getting a good average.

Halfway through my seventh grade year, those are what I think are the biggest differences between 6th grade and 7th grade.

KEEP
CALM
AND
LOVE

sixth grade

7th Grade 'Neon Social' Critique



By Michael Abrams
Tusker Tribune Staff

Last Friday was the Neon Social and there were balloons galore. Still, there were some downsides.

Downsides

1. The social was canceled 3 times before it happened.
2. Not a lot of people showed up.

Upsides

1. Good Pizza
2. Good music
3. BALLOONS EVERYWHERE!!

I hope there is another social soon. If there is I also hope it isn't canceled 3 times again.



The Tusker Tribune is the online Somers Middle School Student Newspaper. It is published weekly (except during school vacations) on the Somers Middle School Website. It is entirely student-written by 6th, 7th and 8th grade students from:

**Somers Middle School, 250 Route 202,
Somers, NY, USA.**

Any SMS student is eligible to write stories.

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The First Snow Day of 2019—Various Views



**By Jane Guardino
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Monday December 2nd was Somers' first snow day of the year. It was very early in the year for a snow day, seeing as there are only four snow days in the calendar. Kids are arguing if the snow day should have happened.

Kids are saying that the snow day was a waste. They were saying "There was barely any snow", "We should be allowed to pick when there are snow days", "We still have December, January, February".

I personally agree with these statements. I think there should be a certain amount of snow that determines when we have a snow day. Yesterday there was barely any snow and there was more snow the next day and we didn't have a snow day. There should be a certain amount of snow to decide if we have snow day.

The snow day was very early in the year. That means we only have 3 snow days left and three more months of winter.

Two years ago, in Somers there were too many snow days and they took days off Spring break. Kids did not think it was very fair. Neither did I because some of the days did not have a lot of snow and I thought they were a waste of snow days.

Overall, I think there should be a law requiring a certain amount of snow to have a snow day. If that happened, no one can argue against the school for having a snow day because they are following the law.

But in the end snow days are always good to have.



**By Kailyn
Garrity
Tusker
Tribune Staff**

The snow was falling fast. Snow was covering the ground, so there was no green left to see. I was waiting for the call from Matt Carr to cancel school. I had hope that it would come, and finally, it did!

I was just in my room and I heard the phone ring. I sprinted downstairs to see if it was the school calling. I put the phone on speaker and heard the voice that said we would have no school tomorrow. I was so excited to hear there was no school. As

soon I put the phone down, my phone started blowing up with texts from my friends saying we have no school. All of us were excited and ready to relax for another day.

On Monday, I stayed covered in a blanket in my pajamas. A whole day to relax and have fun. It also gives me a chance to decorate for Christmas since it's coming soon.

Sometimes it was nice to watch the snow fall and look how beautiful everything was outside. Even though the day was over, and I would have to go back to school, I'm glad I got one more day off.



**By Jack Senatore
Tusker Tribune Staff**

One day, on 12/1/19, I was at my friends' house and it was snowing, sleet, and freezing rain..

We were watching football and playing Xbox and then Matt Carr from Somers called and came through in the clutch and called a snow day!

I was so happy, I couldn't breathe. I was jumping in the air so high and my friends were so happy to hear that call. We had a small party and then we went home.

The next morning, I got out of bed feeling good and happy. I put on my mic and started to game with my friends on Xbox. We were jamming!

Then my mom came in and asked me if I wanted breakfast and I said sure. Then I went down stairs and had an amazing omelet.

After that, we went out to shop and I went to the mall and I bought clothes and then I went home and after all of that, it was 3 p.m. so I went off to get lunch. I went to the Inn and then we got back and it was 5 o'clock. Later that day, I watched the Monday Night Football Seahawks and Vikings game and after that, I gamed for a little bit and then I went to bed.

Better yet, when I woke up Tuesday, we had a two-hour delay!



**By John Leary
Tusker Tribune Staff**

It was December 1st. There were rumors that it was going to snow on Sunday and Monday.

I was skiing in Vermont over the weekend. If I could get Monday off, it would be great!

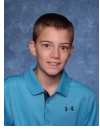
Every ten minutes, I would look out the window and see more and more snow was coming. I was so happy. Then I thought it was secure. I was confident for a snow day.

One hour later, I looked out the window and I didn't see snow—I saw rain coming down and I lost hope. I thought Monday would just be a normal day. One hour later, it started to snow again. I thought in my head, *it's going to be a snow day*. I was watching football and every ten minutes, I would look out the window to see if it was still snowing and it was. I was certain it was going to be a snow day.

I was still watching football when I heard my mom's phone ring. I told her to pick up and she said there's no school.

I was so happy to have the first snow day. A few hours later, I went to bed knowing that I don't have to wake up at 7:00 o'clock. It's the next day of getting a good sleep and not doing anything.

It's Tough Being a Jets Fan Right Now



**By Michael Morrissey
Tusker Tribune Staff**

This week, the New York Jets suffered an embarrassing loss. They lost 22-6 to the now 1-11 Cincinnati Bengals. Some may wonder how the Jets lost to an 0-11 team when they've been on a four-game win streak. My opinion is they thought too low of the Bengals and didn't think they needed to play as hard as they could. Also, since the Bengals did not have a win, they were playing as hard as they could, and they had their starting quarterback, Andy Dalton, back fresh off the bench.



Since the Jets are a relatively young team, it could be common to get in over their heads. It is disgraceful now that the Jets have lost to the Dolphins and the Bengals. As a Jets fan, it is embarrassing how inconsistent they are. They can beat a team with loads of talent like the Cowboys but get whipped by a team without a win such as the Bengals.

The Jets are basically stripped of a playoff appearance so hopefully they do better next season.

Series Review: The Mandalorian



**By Mayank Dave
Tusker Tribune Staff**

WARNING: Spoilers Ahead



If you gave me one word to describe the new Disney Plus TV series, "The Mandalorian", I could say hundreds of words but only one can describe this awe-worthy experience: Breathtaking. To all Star Wars fans, this show is worth the \$7.99 you pay to have Disney's new streaming network. Me being a hardcore Star Wars fan, I have to say that I am impressed with the way that Disney conveyed this story. Let's take a deeper dive into the

world of the Mandalorian.

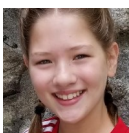
We learn that the show takes place somewhere after the time of the Great Purge, which means that this show is after the Return of the Jedi.

This show is about the remaining Mandalorian tribes and it focuses on a single Mandalorian who remains unnamed, yet everyone calls him "Mando". Now Mando is a bounty hunter, like Boba Fett, and in the first scene, we see Mando capturing a bounty. This first scene shows the generations of skill that are used to fight off other bounty hunters and aliens.

I don't want to reveal more, but I give this show a ten out of ten and I hope you watch it and enjoy it as much as I did.



The History of Math



**By Allison O'Connor
Tusker Tribune Staff**

What is math?

The

word "mathematics" comes from the Ancient Greek word, μάθημα (máthēma), meaning "that which is learnt", and "what one gets to know". It also means "study" and "science".

In English, the noun "mathematics" takes a singular verb. It is often shortened to "maths" or, in North America, "math".

At the beginning of the 6th



century BC, with the Pythagoreans, the Ancient Greeks began a systematic study of mathematics as a subject with Greek mathematics.

Around 300 BC, Euclid introduced the axiomatic method still used in mathematics today, consisting of definition, axiom, theorem, and proof.

The modern creator of math was Leonhard Euler. There were many other people who made math more advanced, for example Pythagoras, but Euler was the first one.



Video Game Review:



**By Sean McGuire
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Stadia is a new game system that can fit in your pocket. It takes signals from satellites and other consoles and streams the game to your TV using a Google Chromecast that has a controller.

Not only that, but Stadia can travel across screens and you can play any game and there are no downloads, so when you buy a game, you don't have to wait for it to download or install or update.



It has more than a hundred games and has been out for about a month. And while most consoles cost \$300 to \$400 dollars, Stadia costs about \$130. It connects to TVs, laptops, desktops, and select tablets and phones and you can use a touch controller or keyboard and mouse.

You can also buy it with accessories like tablets and laptops.

And you can even make it connect to multiple screens at once and it runs at 60-100 FPS.

I think that this is going to help the gaming community and make an impact on portable consoles.

2019's 12-U Champions



**By Sean Kelly
Tusker Tribune Staff**

It was a sunny but windy November day.

For some it was just a regular old Sunday, and for a lot, it was the New York City Marathon, but for the 12U Somers Tusk-ers, along with other teams, it was Championship Day.

Two teams in each grade throughout the Taconic Youth Football League had the opportunity of a lifetime to play at Michie Stadium.

The 12U Somers team went undefeated in the regular season, which led to them clinching the

number one seed and led them into the post-season to play Wappingers Falls.

The 12U team previously beat Wappingers in week two. Once again, Somers put a beat-down on them, blowing them out 12-0.

Somers would go on the play Carmel at West Point. Somers put in a week of hard work, preparing for one of the best running backs in the league.

Carmel is a good team, but they were just too overwhelmed with

Somers' athleticism and hard hitting.

Somers took the win 38-6, clinching the 2019 Championship.

Photo courtesy of the Taconic Youth Football League



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