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John Burroughs High School's Senior Sunrise



John Burroughs Class of 2023 experiences their "Senior Sunrise"
Photographer: Kenneth Leon

In Marching Band, Community Is Key

By Molly Boyke
Editor-In-Chief

The long-awaited Marching Band season has begun, and the JBHS Marching Band is hard at work preparing to take the field! This year, our award-winning band is led by Director of Bands Mr. España, Drum Major Lois Kirk, and Assistant Drum Majors Chelsea Walker and Lennon Barach. Backed by a hard-working Band Booster Club headed by Booster Club President Clyde Carpenter, this season is looking to be one of the band's best in years.

Mr. España is looking forward to his first season with the JBHS Marching Band, and has many exciting performances in store, "We are doing two field show performances as of now, [and] the plans are to compete and do the best we possibly can. I want everyone to come out of it with the experience that they made something good, that we created a piece of art with other people."

For España, the most important thing is to encourage students to create "collaborative art" together after the pandemic caused musicians to play in solitude.

He continued, "Winning is a big part of [my goals for the year], I want to place well and high, but I think that is the outcome of not just hard work but people's attitude and the community they build. [From my time in marching band,] I don't remember where we placed, but I remember the people that were there and the moments I shared with them."

He continued, "My goal is 100% gonna be community, building it up to make people feel like this is a safe place where they can be their goofy awkward selves, because that was who I was, and be welcomed for it."

After many bonding games and activities at band camp, the Marching Band is a tightly knit group, both inside and outside of practice.

During practice and performances, students look out for each other, retrieving music pieces swept away by wind and putting their heads together to figure out marching drills. After every home football game, the band heads to Bob's Big Boy and enjoys a late-night dinner together, reminiscing about the events of the evening.

Although the band still performs many classic stand tunes Seniors know by heart, such as "Runaway Baby," "Seven Nation Army," and "On Wisconsin," returning audiences may notice a difference in their playing methods.

New choreography has been added to many of the songs, pumping up the energy and taking their performance to the next level.

"Hey Baby," a band classic that even has the football players singing along, was altered by Mr. España to include new harmonies and flourishes that make the piece more lively and fun than before.

Drum Major Lois Kirk conducts the band with a presence that commands authority and respect. "I was so excited that I could hold this position, as we were heading into a transitional year for our program," Lois stated. "This position as Drum Major means a lot to me because I want to go into this field during college." She is looking forward to the two competitions scheduled for the band, and hopes to "[get] everyone comfortable with marching so we can have a great upper class for the seasons to come."

Although she feels that her football knowledge is lacking, you wouldn't know it from looking at her during a game: she communicates effectively with the band using hand signals and gestures, keeping track of the game occurring behind her to know when to cut the band off.

"It was a great experience, and I [look forward to] doing more!"

Lois is backed by her Assistant Drum Majors Lennon Barach and Chelsea Walker, who were selected through a rigorous audition process spanning from Band Camp, which occurred two weeks before the school year began, all the way to the band's first performance on August 19th.

Lennon explained, "Being an Assistant Drum Major, although fun, has come with many challenges, [including] making sure everyone is organized and communicating with the Band Director."

Lennon went on, describing, "The rewarding part is seeing everyone's successes and hard work put to use while [maintaining] a high regard for quality. This season I'm looking forward to our many competitions and home football games that we're going to participate in. [As Assistant Drum Major,] the goal that I have set for myself and that I hope to help others to achieve is placing well during our competitions so that they can see their hard work paying off."

Chelsea, who is also the IMA Vice President, commented, "It's been such a great experience. It is so rewarding to watch all the students grow throughout the season and I'm so excited to march at our school's home games and participate in competitions. Lois, Lennon, and I are working hard to support the marching band in any way possible, and we hope to produce a wonderful marching season this year with our talented students!"

This year's Marching Band season is likely to be the best Burroughs has seen in years, so don't miss out!

The next home football game is September 16th, and every member of the band will be giving it their all!

Be sure to attend October 21st's home game against Arcadia and the Homecoming Game on the 28th, as the Band is set to unveil their spectacular field show later in the season.

Go Bears!

Burroughs' Student Mental Health Board

By Alina Ruiz
Cub Reporter

Mental Health has been stigmatized throughout history. Here, under Burbank Unified School District, we are fighting to de-stigmatize mental health with our Student Mental Health Board.

BUSD's Student Mental Health Board is run by Seniors Kyle Daou, the Board's President, and Kaylor Toronto, the Vice President.

Kyle Daou explained, "The Student Mental Health Board members this year are the most dedicated and proactive members we have ever had on the Board, which is why I know this year will be amazing for the Board."

He later described that "our main goal this year is to make a name for ourselves on both the Burbank and Burroughs campuses, along with at the BUSD middle schools."

He later explained, "This is my third year being on the Board, and in the past, we've always had a large social media presence, but a minuscule presence on campus, and this year we are going to change that."

"Students' mental health is of utmost importance, and we want to normalize the conversation of mental health struggles not only for students but also for parents, teachers, and administrators," Kyle later expressed.

Vice President Kaylor Toronto shared, "One of our big goals is to help make student resources and support more accessible through fundraisers, assemblies, and district-wide events."

With COVID-19, Kaylor voices the Board's plans. "We on the Board are super excited to move away from our social media focus and instead get back to connecting with the real student body. This Board has become a safe space to learn, share, and feel like a part of an incredible and ambitious family, and I'm so glad I get to be a part of it."

SMHB released its goal statement as a board: "This board aims to connect BUSD students, parents, teachers, and administrators for mental health awareness."

September is also Suicide Prevention Month, so currently, the Board is concerned with sharing information, such as hotlines, with the students at Burroughs.

Applications to become a supporting member of the Student Mental Health Board are open all month. Become a part of one of the four committees: Events, Fundraising, Research, and Outreach! The Board currently has two head positions under each of the four committees.

Follow their Instagram @StudentMentalHealthBoard to keep up to date on upcoming events, and general information regarding mental health.

Upcoming Dates

September 23rd	ASB Talent Show
September 23rd	ASB Blood Drive
September 24th	College and Career Fair
September 26th-30th	Kindness Week
October 15th	Homecoming Dance
October 22	Burroughs on Broadway

Meet Ms. Meberg, Drama Teacher

By Chloe Barthelemy
Cub Reporter

Ms. Elizabeth Meberg, John Burroughs High School's newly appointed Drama teacher, is working towards creating a diverse and inclusive classroom environment during her first official year teaching at Burroughs. She will direct the plays and musicals this season as well as host the Improv Club's weekly Friday lunch meetings in her classroom.

Starting the semester off, Ms. Meberg's goals include incorporating a mentored hands-on learning experience through student-directed productions that will be performed during the yearly seasons. Establishing a DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion) culture in the Burbank Unified School District is an additional plan of hers, stating that, "The arts should feel accessible to all students, and that is a career-long goal for me."

With about a decade working in the film, TV, and entertainment industry, Ms. Meberg made the decision to change her career to "...solve the problems that matter," she said, "And working in entertainment, the problems that I was solving usually centered around an EP whose flight was booked in Coach instead of Business Class."

Ms. Meberg elaborated, "Teaching seemed like the best way to be involved in things I truly cared about, like giving young people a voice and an opportunity to explore and create in a safe environment."

After attending California State University Northridge's credential program and meeting English Teacher Ms. Jessica Mayes at The School of Rock in Burbank, (a music program that provides instrumental and vocal lessons pertaining to the rock genre) the pair instantly clicked and hoped for Meberg's transition to JBHS.

"I was a long-term English sub at the end of last year and fell in love with the Burroughs vibe and community," Meberg recalled. "Then when the Drama Teacher position opened up, I crossed all my fingers and toes that it would work out. And it did!"

Witnessing growth is the best part of her experience with becoming a teacher; along with her students accomplishing difficult tasks or overcoming previously challenging obstacles.

Outside of teaching, Ms. Meberg has many personal objectives for the year, including: balancing work with life, tending to her mental health, and avoiding burn-out. Taking her mental health seriously and practicing self-care will be a "...life-long process,"



Meberg explained. "But I'm very proud of all the work I've put in to take care of my mental health… It was hard and scary, but so, so, so worth it."

Ms. Meberg finds inspiration in those who put time and effort into their craft to build expert-level skills. "It's such a beautiful experience," she remarked. "I find it awe-inspiring to watch anyone -- whether it's a performer, athlete, artist, scientist, or musician -- work."

Involvement with the arts continues in Meberg's hobbies. She loves to sing and play instruments and enjoys the challenge of attempting both simultaneously. Additionally, she has recently begun learning bass guitar and plays with a band through The School of Rock as both bassist and vocalist. Their most recent show was on Sunday, August 28, 2022.

Sharing her wisdom and passing on advice to her current and future students, Ms. Meberg claimed that "'Follow your passions' can be really intimidating advice." She concludes this philosophy, "So, I prefer to follow my curiosities, because then I know I'll never be bored."

Good luck this year Ms. Meberg, and as they say, "break a leg!"

Digital Media Meets Mrs. Ryanne Meschkat

By Veronica Silva
Cub Reporter

This just in: Mrs. Ryanne Meschkat is the new Digital Media Career Pathway teacher! She will instruct in all aspects of Digital Media Careers, including the Broadcast Journalism class, in which the taped news show Good Morning John Burroughs is produced.

Her passion for broadcast journalism has persisted since she attended JBHS herself, where she was one of the first anchors to be on Good Morning John Burroughs. When Mrs. Meschkat heard about the job opening at Burroughs, she knew that it was meant to be, "Once it came up, I knew I wanted to take it!" she exclaimed.

In high school, Meschkat played softball coached by Mr. Gomez and ran track and field coached by Mr. Peebles. She has always been a tal-



ented runner and has run several marathons and 10k races since she graduated. She often thinks back to her high school prom, held at the Gene Autry museum.

For her inspiration to begin a career in Broadcast Journalism, she thanks Mr. Carman, her Digital Media teacher and GMJB coordinator. What stood out to her about him was that Carman saw each of his students as individual people rather than thinking about the class as a collective. He taught lessons not only about film but about life, lessons she takes with her to this day. Years later, Mr. Carman and his wife, Mrs. Carman, attended her wedding.

Her efforts in high school were rewarded when she graduated from Burroughs in 2003 and received a full scholarship to the University of New Mexico, where she earned a degree in Broadcast Journalism and Political Science. After, she earned her teaching credential at Cal State University, Northridge, and she is currently in the middle of earning her Master's Degree for Journalism Education at Kent State. Prior to teaching, she had worked seven years in sports production as an Associate Producer, where she covered famous sports teams like the Lakers and the Dodgers.

Over the span of her career in journalism, Meschkat has been an ESPN Magazine Academic All-American and has worked with PBS News Hour in Washington DC as a connected educator. She declares that Burroughs will, in fact, be a PBS network station.

Meschkat then worked for Canyon High School in Canyon Country, CA as their Broadcast Journalism teacher, where she was named the Teacher of the Year. Meschkat is glad to be back in her community to inspire future storytellers and guide her students through their careers. She expresses that she wants to revitalize the Broadcast Journalism program and make students and staff excited to watch GMJB, getting all programs on campus involved with its production. Meschkat also hopes to make the show qualified enough to be part of award winning programs like SkillsUSA.

Teaching runs in Meschkat's family. Students may have been taught by her mother, Kathy Hodgins, a Math and English teacher at Dolores Huerta Middle School. A secret talent of Meschkat is singing all fifty states in order, and has memorized how to sing all fifty US states in alphabetical order. She enjoys going on bike rides during her free time and sipping on iced lattes from The Palm Coffee Bar.

Meschkat is full of determination and perseverance, and Burroughs is more than happy to have her back! We can't wait to see what she will accomplish!

New NAF Counselor, Olivia Martinez!

By Hattie Weinroth
Creative Director

Meet Ms. Olivia Martinez, the newest addition to the John Burroughs High School faculty. Ms. Martinez has come aboard as a new, full-time counselor for the National Academy Foundation students.

As a college graduate with a Bachelor's in Sociology and Visual Arts plus a Master's degree in School Counseling and Education, Martinez had her fair share of job opportunities.

Ms. Martinez wanted to come to Burroughs because, "I've always wanted to be a high school counselor at a bigger school. I used to work at a smaller one, and Burroughs was a bigger school with a small community. It definitely felt like a perfect fit. Everyone seems super friendly and to know each other but you still get the feeling that it is a bigger high school, so I thought this was awesome and I am excited to be a part of this team." The JBHS pride is going strong!

High school counseling is not for the faint of heart, so a passion for helping students is basically required. Luckily, this new counselor has the drive. She said, "I liked helping students figure out what their future goals were so I wanted to do that in a bigger school."

The 2022-2023 school year has kicked off to a wild start with spontaneous lunchtime dance battles and excessive heat warnings, so how is Ms. Martinez planning out her year? She said "My counseling goals are to grow as a counselor, and help more students. I also want to get to know my students better and grow relationships with them because I am new."

Ms. Martinez also shared a few plans for outside the counseling office. She mentioned, "I think I want to move to Burbank this year because I am commuting right now." Other than yearly plans, Martinez commented on her personal self-care activities. She said that kick-boxing and photography are her personal favorites.

Counselors are a great tool when it comes to properly navigating high school. They are knowledgeable, supportive, and very wise. Some wisdom that Ms. Martinez wanted to share is a favorite quote of hers. She said "The quote I always say is 'If the plan doesn't work, don't change the goal, change the plan.' There are multiple ways to get to your goals, there are multiple paths to choose. So if it doesn't work one way, you can find another." Those are some great words to follow, especially for Freshmen and Seniors who are entering new phases of their lives.

This school year is going to be a successful one with Ms. Martinez on campus.

She spoke about this current generation, and what she thinks of them. "I definitely think it is cool that this generation is very outspoken and independent. Honestly growing up, I was not outspoken at all. This generation is very open to talking about important things."

The students at Burroughs are so lucky to have a great new addition to the counseling staff, especially when it is someone as supportive as Ms. Martinez. She deserves to be welcomed to the John Burroughs community with open arms!

Go Bears!

Hello To Mr. Salvador Pozos

By John Anderegg
Cub Reporter

This school year, many new staff members are joining us at JBHS, and among these new staff members is Mr. Salvador Pozos! Mr. Pozos has joined the Burroughs staff as a new daytime custodian. Mr. Pozos took an interest in Burroughs after discovering that it had a fantastic community and friendly students. He loves seeing how peacefully students get along with each other and how dedicated they are to both their schoolwork and extracurricular activities.

"My favorite part about being here at Burroughs is seeing the dedication, seeing how dedicated the students and staff here are," Mr. Pozos said.

His main goal for this year is to do his best for the students, helping to keep the quality and cleanliness of the beautiful environment that drew him here to the Burroughs campus in the first place. "I want to help keep everything all nice for everybody here. This campus is nice and I want to keep it that way," he stated.

Mr. Pozos is not from Burbank, but he is from California. He grew up in Montebello, California, and later graduated from Montebello High School before moving here to Burbank.

He enjoys spending his free time with his family. "Some of my favorite activities include spending time with my grandson. We play so many different games. I try to play with him whenever I have the time," he says. Alongside his grandson, his family includes his wife and three daughters, all of whom he is close to and enjoys spending his spare time with.

Mr. Pozos has much advice to share with both new and returning students this year. "You should be the best person you can be," Mr. Pozos advises. "You've only got one life to live. Do all the right things. Do what you are supposed to. Stay away from any trouble, and keep doing the very best that you can."

We are very lucky to have Mr. Pozos joining us this year. Thank you for your efforts and welcome to Burroughs! Be sure to say hi if you see him around campus, working hard to keep Burroughs beautiful!

Welcome New Assistant Principal Alex Potapenko

By Linoyuh Goldenberg
Cub Reporter



We are happy to welcome our new Student Services Assistant Principal, Mr. Alex Potapenko! Mr. Potapenko was born on October 10th and is currently thirty-five years old. He lives in the valley while his brother, mother, and father still live in his home state of Ohio.

He was first inspired to teach by his mother who was an educator for forty-four years. He took inspiration from his mother as a kid and pretended to be a teacher. While pretending to be a teacher, he felt that he had a passion for providing educational opportunities to those around him, so he decided to pursue a career in the education field.

Many years later, he went to and graduated from a university in Springfield, Ohio and then got his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Biology and Education from Wittenberg University. He then earned his Master's Degree for School Leadership from Capella University.

After that, Mr Potapenko became the Director of a middle school, but he always wanted to go back to the high school setting where he began teaching, which eventually led him here to Burroughs.

One of his passions was always creating positive and successful relationships with students. He believes that someone in the role of student services needs to be able to create these relationships in order to promote a positive school culture.

Having both learned and taught in high school, his favorite subject to learn about is Biology and his favorite subject to teach is Math. His favorite teacher he's ever had was Mrs. Crow, his 10th Grade Honors Geometry teacher.

Now as a former teacher himself, he believes that the hardest part of the job is that you have to be okay with delayed gratification. This means that as a teacher, one doesn't always get to see the end result of their work, and that their students might not even recognize the impacts of their teachers for many years. As a teacher, one has to be okay with knowing they've made a change even if they can't see it.

Mr. Potapenko thinks that the best thing about being a teacher is that you have the opportunity to influence the lives of all of his students. There's not that many other professions that give such a great opportunity to impact so many lives.

Outside of school, he always wears pink on Wednesdays, and he has 15,000 followers on TikTok. A trend Mr. Potapenko doesn't understand is super long acrylic nails because he doesn't understand how people with long nails do their hair and type on their phones. On a personal note, he would also like to finish writing his book.

His goals for the year at school are to promote a safe, inclusive learning environment where all students can be successful.

Go Bears!

Campus Supervisor Mr. Fernando Fernandez

By James Reid
Copy Editor

With another new year rolling around, there will be both familiar and new faces around Burroughs. One of Burroughs' returning staff members is Mr. Fernando Fernandez, a campus supervisor here. Although having been here only a little over a year, he is already an integral part of our school community, and one of the most recognizable staff members on campus.

Originally from New York City, Mr. Fernandez first moved to the Los Angeles area last August, and began working at JBHS shortly after. "My wife actually works with the district, so she told me about [Burroughs]," he said. "It's kind of hard, because it's not like I knew about Burroughs before I came over here, and she was already working at Burbank High, so she told me the position and what position I would be good for."

As a campus supervisor, Mr. Fernandez understands the importance of his position, and the influence he has on the JBHS community. "I make sure to secure safety for [students], and then safety for the staff as well," he said. "But I go further than that to treat [students] as if you are my own kids as well." As you can see, Mr. Fernandez recognizes the impact his actions can have on students, and how his care for them can go a long way.

Growing up, Mr. Fernandez didn't have mentors in his community to support him. "I was born and raised in The Bronx, and it's kind of rough out there," he said. "I didn't really have that figure to put me on a positive path, I kind of had to learn that myself as I grew up. So not that many positive things to pull from. But it just shows that it doesn't matter where exactly you were born and raised, it's the mentality of a person to try to break out of the chains." However, having had this life experience has helped him to develop the incredible mindset and dedication he uses today to serve as a positive influence on the lives of others all throughout the JBHS community.

Outside of JBHS, Mr. Fernandez immerses himself in an eclectic array of hobbies. "Tuesdays and Thursdays, when I finish working here, I work up in La Cañada at a Tae Kwon Do studio there, so I'm into training," he said. "I'm also an artist, so I do a lot of drawings, preferably manga-style art. But then I also do pixel art, and I'm actually developing a game for the original Nintendo system." These interests are shared by many students and others here at JBHS, further allowing Mr. Fernandez to connect with them.

Mr. Fernandez also expresses these interests in a number of unique ways, including through his lanyard. His lanyard usually has an anime character or theme on it, and he switches it out every couple of weeks, so students and staff can keep their eyes peeled for new designs and characters!

As previously mentioned, Mr. Fernandez's highest priority is ensuring that the students he works with have the tools they need in life to succeed, both in high school and beyond. "Kids are always the first responsibility for me, so as long as you guys are okay, feel safe, and are happy, to the best of my abilities, that's basically what I look forward to." With such a heavy emphasis placed on overall wellbeing, not just strictly academic success, it shows how lucky we really are to have Mr. Fernandez as staff on campus.

In conclusion, Mr. Fernandez is an amazing campus supervisor, and we are all so fortunate that he is a member of our JBHS community. His dedication to helping students is truly inspiring, and there is so much we can learn from his great outlook on life and his growth mindset for success. He perfectly embodies the core values that we have as Bears, and he really shows what it means to lead by example. On behalf of everyone, thank you Mr. Fernandez for all that you do!

Meet Tech Wizard Shane Clark

By Jaylyn Barjolo
Cub Reporter

Please welcome one of our new staff members, Mr. Shane Clark! He is currently working in the Tech Support position. He was born in Burbank in 1977, and was raised here. He is only forty-four years young!

In his position he helps students, teachers, and staff members all throughout campus, when it comes to fixing their chromebooks and other technical devices. He also distributes chromebooks and hotspots as well.

One thing you might not know about Mr. Clark is that this is his first time ever working at a school, which is a really big deal. So let's welcome him with open arms!

However, he has worked in the education field before. He has a college degree in liberal arts, and has previously worked for about five years in the district, before he took on the challenge of coming to Burroughs. Because of his great work, he received many recommendations from his coworkers in the tech community.

There are many perks and downsides when it comes to working in technology. "For the best thing I think it's being able to help people with their problems," Shane stated. "And for the worst thing is that there's a lot of technical issues."

Outside of school, he likes to watch his son play baseball and to hang out with his wife. He has been married for twenty one years, and his wife is an Alumna here at John Burroughs High school, having graduated in 1989.

He also has two sons, one a Senior at Auburn University, and the other a Freshman at Loyola Marymount University who plays baseball.

When he was in high school, he focused more on his social life than academics, which created some issues for him. However, once he reached college, he was able to turn his life around for the better.

His best piece of advice for students is to "Take advantage of listening and learning. What you can do in high school is the easiest part of your life."

Mr. Clark has many goals, both inside and outside of work. Inside work, he wants to gain a better understanding of his job, and take it as an opportunity to keep learning. He also wants to grow in his position and keep working his way up the ranks in technology. Outside of work, he would like to continue to pay for his kids' college education.

He will be a great member of our community, and here's hoping that he enjoys his time here at JBHS!

If you are ever in need of his support, you can contact him at shaneclark@burbankusd.org or at support@burbankusd.org.

New Science Teacher Mr. Thomas Abich

By Judi Browngardt
Cub Reporter



This school year, John Burroughs has the pleasure of having Mr. Thomas Abich teach here as the Biology, Earth and Space science teacher, and strength and conditioning coach for the football team. JBHS welcomes all the new teachers and staff and works to make the school an environment where everyone feels included.

Mr. Abich decided to become a teacher and member of the Burroughs community because he has always had the natural ability to explain things in understandable ways. Another reason he chose to teach here is that the field of strength and conditioning, along with Science, is a great balance of careers in his opinion. He ended up working at Burroughs after eight years of teaching in Pasadena.

The idea of a fresh challenge was the main influence on his decision to teach here at Burroughs. Prior to starting here, he knew Mr. Hubbell, and he suggested that he apply to the openings at Burroughs. Mr. Abich decided to choose one of the positions here because he has credentials in several different subjects and science is the one that provided the most fulfilling challenges.

He formally went to and graduated from Arizona State, where he obtained a Bachelors of Science in Kinesiology, and he got his Masters of Science in Kinesiology from Southeastern Oklahoma State, and he's working on getting his Doctorate. Some achievements he has gotten recognition for would be the 2021 and 2022 top 3 strongest schools in America according to USAW.

The new teacher here at JBHS' favorite subject is the Human Body, specifically exercise physiology. One of his favorite teachers is Dr. Brach Poston who is the head of neurophysiology at UNLV and was a professor he had in undergrad. He answered every question Mr. Abich had and they are best friends to this day.

To Mr. Abich, the best thing about teaching is connecting with students and seeing their faces when they really understand a subject. His least favorite thing about teaching is grading.

If he could pass on any wisdom/advice to his students, he would say to go to class, skipping class can be addictive.

In his free time, he trains Olympic weightlifters and is addicted to watching sports. Besides having hair that can be used as currency in some countries, he gets a lot of questions about weightlifting. Mr. Abich has been married for several years and they have a 5-month-old baby boy.

When he was a student in high school he was a pretty quiet and under-the-radar type of guy. "I didn't get wild until college." Mr. Abich expressed. Something his students may not know about him is that he worked at Abercrombie and Fitch in college.

The Science teacher's goal for this school year in John Burroughs is to create and implement a curriculum that exceeds the needs of the students he teaches. Outside his job, his long-term goal is to finish his doctorate and be a University professor.

Everyone at Burroughs should make sure Mr. Abich feels welcome and appreciated here at school.

5, 6, 7, 8 - Joseph Galera

By Lucy Burish
Cub Reporter

We are excited to welcome Joseph Galera back to Burroughs as our Coach for Dance Team/All Male for our 2022-2023 season! Galera is a Burroughs alumnus, and graduated in 2020. Born and raised here in Burbank, California, his birthday is December 6th, 2001, he is twenty years old. During his time at Burroughs, Galera was a highly dedicated member of All Male. He led his team members to success with devotion and hard work.

In 2020, All Male won several titles at their competitions, and developed a reputation in the dance community for their strong efforts. Galera received the Most Valuable Dancer and Most Dedicated awards during his time on All Male, and is said to be admired by his fellow teammates. After graduating, Galera remained connected to the Dance Program, returning as an Assistant Coach and mentor to the Small Hip Hop competition team.

In the 2021-2022 season, Galera led Small Hip Hop through several competitions, earning scores in the mid nineties with a routine choreographed and cleaned by himself. This is highly impressive within the dance community, as that was his first year coaching- he did amazingly!

Galera stated that he was motivated to come back and work with Burroughs' Dance Program because he wanted to "preserve the years of culture and opportunities provided by the dance department." He also expressed that the best part of being a coach is "witnessing the growth and progression from the students, and watching them thrive."

Galera feeds off of his students' passion for dance, and creates a fun yet determined environment for the team. It is commonly agreed among members of the Dance Team that the dance room is a safe place; a space in which one can express themselves without fear or judgment. This philosophy is applied in regard to both dancing and other activities: team bonding, socialization during breaks, etc. This friendly and comforting environment would not be possible without a caring coach to make it so.

A piece of wisdom that Galera hopes to pass down to his students is to prioritize their mental health. He believes that finding a balance between school, extracurricular activities, and personal time is essential, and has been known for his kindness and accommodations regarding the mental health of his students. Galera strives to create a personal connection with each of his students, and understands that people need to prioritize different things according to the individual. He is therefore agreeable and understanding when it comes to mental health matters.

Another of Galera's top priorities is team bonding. Throughout his season as an assistant coach in 2021, he would lead several exercises and give speeches about the progress of the team. He is always sure to emphasize how proud he is of his students, and how much he enjoys working with them. At the end of each meeting or practice, Galera calls a group circle to discuss and review what the team has accomplished, and what they plan to get done in their upcoming practices. This allows team members to collectively reflect and establish their goals, which is a highly effective way to manage time without stress and disorganization. Galera is efficient in maintaining a productive schedule while keeping an exciting and easy-going atmosphere.

In regard to his personal life, Galera is currently attending Pasadena City College and is working on his Associates Degree. He plans to soon transfer to California State University of Northridge to obtain his Bachelor's Degree. During his free time, he enjoys spending time both alone and with his friends. Socially, he likes experiencing new things with his friends, and he prefers to watch TV shows and movies when alone.

While most of his relatives live in the Philippines, Galera expressed that he is immensely grateful for the immediate family he has here in the United States. Galera also has a girlfriend of four years named Maliya Coquia. Coincidentally, Galera and Coquia met as students in high school through the Burroughs Dance Program!

While Galera's future as a coach at Burroughs remains unwritten, we are incredibly excited to have him, and are extremely grateful that he stepped up to lead the team. Welcome back, Mr. Galera!

Meet Hasina Mohammad, The New Counselor

By Sam Krol
Cub Reporter

Ms. Mohammad is a new counselor who will be covering for Ms. Steinberg for the entirety of this semester. She will be primarily working with students whose last names start with F and end with López, and will "support students academically, socio-emotionally, and provide a college and career platform."

Ms. Mohammad chose this profession because she wished to be a mentor with the younger generation and teens. She believes it is very important for students to know that there are caring adults to always turn to.

Ms. Mohammad did her undergraduate at University of California Santa Barbara and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology. Her Psychology degree has undoubtedly helped her become the best guidance counselor she can be. From there she then went to Cal State Dominguez Hills for her Master's in Counseling as well as her credential for Counseling. Since then she has been working in different high schools as a counselor.

Ms. Mohammad loves dancing, nature and camping. She also lives happily in the San Fernando Valley with her husband. Her favorite subject in school was Psychology. It was an elective she took for one semester where an amazing teacher sowed the seeds of her love for psychology, which further inspired her to become a counselor and work with teens.

Ms. Mohammad's favorite part of being a counselor is spending time with students and helping them in any way she can. On the flip side, "the worst thing about being a counselor is sometimes you don't get to spend enough time with them because of other stuff like paperwork." She says stuff like paperwork takes away from the entire reason for being a counselor: spending time with students and further preparing them for their futures.

In her free time Ms. Mohammad enjoys taking walks, hiking, spending time with family, tuning into Netflix with some savory snacks, and picnicking at local parks. Ms. Mohammad has a big family of one brother and three sisters, she is also the middle child of the bunch. She assists all of her family with college applications and is also known as a counselor to the teens of her large immediate family.

While Ms. Mohammad is subbing for Mrs. Steinberg for the semester, her goal is to learn as much as she can and assist the transition with college bound students while we wait for Mrs. Steinberg to return. Her goals for the future are to move into a larger home and live a happy life with her family.

Ms. Mohammad's office is always open to all students who need help and she will do her best to assist all of the students who come to her office. Her office is located inside the main office along with all the other counselors who may offer you the same services. Even if you don't think you need or want to meet with a counselor, Ms. Mohammad encourages you to stop by and say hello and maybe talk about future plans.

She is more than eager to get to know the students at John Burroughs High School and wants to get to know the student body. As a guidance counselor she has many resources at her disposal that she would be delighted to share with you, and do not fret - she works with all grade levels.

She will be playing the very important role of helping with college applications for those seniors who are exploring what's next for them.

Makan Afzali, New Boys Varsity Soccer Coach

By Grace Barton
Cub Reporter

The new school year has just begun and what better way than to start off the year with a brand new Coach! The Boys Soccer Varsity Coach, Makan Afzali is very excited and has high expectations for the upcoming soccer season this winter.

Coach Makan's passion for soccer started when he was just a little kid. Now with his new job here at John Burroughs High School he plans on making a big impact on his athletes. Coach Makan along with being the head of the Boys Soccer Program here at JBHS; he is also the head Varsity coach and helps with the JV team as well. He also coaches a club team and plays on teams himself.

Makan was a former player for NPSL and UPSL as right back or right midfielder. He started off as the assistant soccer coach at Crescenta Valley High School where he graduated high school. He then goes on to say, "From there I found out about this job opportunity and now I'm very excited to start something new."

Coaching and the sport has always been his passion and he loves helping people. He adds, "I have the personality to push people to accomplish good things in their life." Coach Makan describes himself as a hard worker and believes that if he sets the example of what a hard worker should look like then that will influence his players to work hard on the field.

As mentioned, work ethic is valued in his athletes and Coach Makan is a great example. He has attended CSUN and Glendale Community College and now is working on his Master's Degree at Concordia University. He has received recognition individually and as a team for soccer including being given the title of Athletic Ethnic Character of the year at Glendale community College. He also received many awards at Crescenta Valley High School for his position as assistant coach for their soccer team.

Makan Afzali has dedicated lots of his life to coaching and all of it to soccer. He says, "The best thing about being a coach is you get to impact so many people in a positive way." With all of the quality things about being a coach, there are definitely hard parts of the job. Coach Makan says, "the hardest part about being a coach for me is all the managing. It is a lot of work but it is worth it."

In previous years the JBHS Soccer Team has done well, but Coach Makan has plans for the new season. This year he is "setting high standards." Right now both teams are excelling and they are working to make it to the playoffs. He also mentioned, "I don't want to be a team where only Varsity is good, we want to be good as a program and want to make sure we get a good run in the playoffs."

Along with his goals for the future of the team, he also his goals for his personal life. Outside of work, Coach Makan will work to finish his degree and continue up the ladder of coaching. Outside of work he also enjoys going to movies, watching games and trying new food places.

He made it very clear that soccer was a huge part of his life. His favorite memory took place when he was very young, first realizing his love for the sport. He says, "When I was a kid in 2006, I was in love with the national team. I drew the captain of the team with the world cup trophy and sent it to an ice cream manufacturing company. They then sent me a gift for it because they thought it was so good. It was kind of a reward for me and I think that's when the soccer stuff started more because I was actually acknowledged for something related to soccer. That's where it all started and that's why I remember so much of the memory."

As Coach Makan had mentioned, being a coach has ups and downs and we can't wait to see how the John Burroughs soccer teams do this season. A piece of advice he gives to all of his players is "hope is the last thing that dies, so you have to keep working for the things you want. Never give up and just go for it."

Looking forward to seeing how Coach Makan executes those plans and makes it the best year yet!





Welcome Ms. Kayla Dighero

By Meleyna Merino
Cub Reporter

This year, we are pleased to welcome Ms. Kayla Dighero as a member of the teaching staff at John Burroughs High School!

Ms. Dighero is twenty-four years old and was born on October 20th. She is teaching Chemistry, Honors Chemistry, and Biology. She has always had a love for all things science and was pleased to enter the official teaching staff this year.

She loves to stay physically active. She has a long list of activities that she partakes in including hiking, running, boxing, playing softball, dancing, lifting weights, and yoga. Ms. Dighero actually attended Burroughs and played softball here. She has played softball for most of her life and still enjoys playing to this day.

She fell in love with teaching last year when she was a long-term substitute. Since the job was so enjoyable for her, she wanted to come back again this year. She had taken numerous science classes and in college where she majored in Biology and took Chemistry classes along with her major.

Ms. Dighero grew up in Burbank and attended BUSD schools starting with elementary school. She went to Bret Harte and Providencia for elementary school, Luther for middle school, and Burroughs for high school.

After graduating from Burroughs in 2015, she went to The University of California Santa Cruz. She had a major in Biology and a minor in STEM Education. She graduated from UC Santa Cruz in 2019. Now, she has been accepted into the California State University Northridge credential program. She is attending CSUN part-time to earn her teaching credential.

While also playing softball here at JBHS, she was also a part of the track and field team the last two years of her time in high school, as well as taking Dance. She originally took Dance 1 to fulfill her fine art credit for graduation, but she ended up loving it so much she decided to take Dance 2 as well. She stated, "Being a part of dance, track and softball in high school was so much fun."

Ms. Dighero says that her family's endless support is what has kept her motivated. Being a first generation college student wasn't easy but her family sacrificed everything and she wouldn't be here without them.

She has also stated that the best thing about being a teacher is the relationships you build with not only the students but with the staff as well. She is grateful for the amazing support system here at Burroughs.

In her free time, she loves to stay physically active with her numerous activities. She also loves to spend quality time with her friends, family, and her boyfriend. She currently resides in Sun Valley.

She has also stated that she is the eldest of her siblings. She has three younger brothers, Mickey, a Senior here at JBHS, Branden, a fifth grader at Bret Harte, and River, a kindergartner at Bret Harte. Her parents are high school sweethearts and they both attended Burbank High School.

Ms. Dighero wants all her students to succeed. She recommends that students "Don't sweat the small stuff, and stay true to yourself." She recognizes that it is okay to be not okay and that everyone is fighting their personal battles in life but mentions to not reprimand yourself, and that being harsh on yourself is not a good habit to have. She understands that all students do make mistakes but as long as they believe in themselves, they will push through.

We're so excited to welcome Ms. Dighero back to JBHS! Her science classes are sure to spark a reaction!

Mr. David España Is A Natural

By Molly Boyke
Editor-in-Chief

The John Burroughs High School Instrumental Music Association has a new band director, and according to students, Mr. David España is A Natural! Full of enthusiasm and drive, Mr. España has a lot in store for the program: "I'm looking forward to creating something new out of something that's been there. And it doesn't have to be a total change: [I intend to create] evolution not revolution, as they say, something old evolving into something new."

As for his goals for the year, España stated, "Recruitment is the top goal, [as well as] making sure students feel welcome and [giving them] a place where they feel safe to be creative, a place that they can depend on each other. Not being around other people and playing music with other people was something that made [people] a lot less trusting in each other. With people now being in the same room, forced to look other people in the eye and not [through] a computer screen, I'm hoping to build a community. Where it goes from there, the music that comes after that, will be a byproduct of that community."

Many of España's first moves as Director of Bands reflect these goals, as he consistently makes a point to respect students' time, effectively communicate with the Band Council, and get the word out about band-related events. He has already collaborated with GMJB, the Color Guard, and members of the JBHS community to promote recruitment into IMA.

Another focus of his is establishing new traditions for the band. When energy begins to dip in class, España leads the band in a peater song, which comes from his experience teaching elementary school students and being a counselor at Camp Ronald McDonald For Good Times, a program for children with cancer and their families. For España, peater songs are his favorite songs to teach: "They're always loud and obnoxious and silly in their expression of life, and [they remind us] to remember that it's okay to laugh, and laugh at yourself, and not take yourself too seriously."

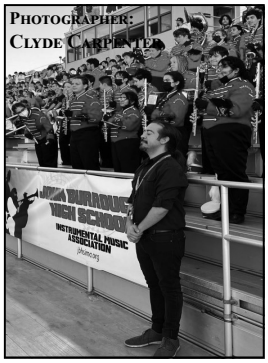
Before coming to Burroughs, España established and taught band programs at the elementary, middle school, and K-12 levels. After working successfully in those programs, he decided to focus on a different aspect of music: "I reached a point in my career where I wanted a higher level of performance. I reached a level of performance in middle school that I was [very] satisfied with, and I wanted to take my own musicianship to the next level and work with musicians on a higher skill level."

He continued, "When you get past the technical aspect of music you get to the emotional and communicative part of it, and I wanted to focus more on the part that I enjoy most… [That's something] that you can't always get to in a middle school or an elementary school, they're not at that point in their life yet, but at a high school everyone's going through different experiences and I wanted to have that conversation more clearly with those students."

Growing up on the border between North Hollywood and Panorama City, España attended Bishop Alemany High School, where he was a member of the Concert Band, Jazz Band, Musical Band, and the Marching Band. When asked how he was in high school, España exclaimed, "I was a nerd! Huge nerd! I was a band geek and I progressively got better at my instrument."

Students may be surprised to know that España speaks Spanish fluently as his first language, got to play onstage with his favorite composer Jon Brion, and that he has jumped out of a plane. "Before I turned 30, I made a list of 30 things that I had never tried before. It included things like skydiving, and jumping off a bridge, and staying up for 48 hours, and a bunch of random things that I had come up with myself and that other people had given me, and I completed most of them. I've jumped off of a bridge and I've jumped out of a plane."

Students may also have heard España's playing before, on some of their favorite shows: "At the same time I was doing my jazz studies, I was asked by a friend to do sideline gigging. That's when you, as a musician, show up on a TV set or a movie set to perform. When there's music going on, you have to hire a real musician, you can't just hire someone to pretend to play saxophone or pretend to play piano. I was doing that for a little bit, and I did that for a couple years and I was on a bunch of random Disney shows."



Photographer: Clyde Carpenter

When he isn't teaching the band a new chant or explaining the importance of choosing the right tuner, Mr. España spends time with his dog, Dexter Benedict Von Rufferford, who is named for the boy genius in the series Dexter's Laboratory, St. Benedict Elementary school, where he worked, and Von Rufferford will remain confidential.

Throughout his teaching career, España wants students to remember "you're never alone, and even when you feel like it, there's probably someone else who can give you the best advice that you wouldn't expect." His favorite aspect of music is that it connects people, which is what inspired him to teach and fueled his love for folk music, "the music of the people."

One thing's for certain: Mr. España goes to the beat of his own drum, and we can't wait to see where he'll take the JBHS IMA! Keep an eye out for the Marching Band at the next home football game on September 16th, and be sure to attend the Fall Concert on October 6th to hear what the concert bands have to offer!

Say Hi To Ms. Becky Sierra

By Michelle Chavez
Cub Reporter

Ms. Becky Sierra joined us this year as a new staff member here at John Burroughs High School. She is the secretary of instruction in the office. For students who wish to visit her office, they can go to the main office, take a right turn as soon as they enter, and go all the way down the hallway to the left. She can help students get their lunch passes or resolve any problems they may have related to student services. She can also help students contact Mr. Potapenko, the disciplinary administrator, if they would like to speak with him.

Ms. Sierra chose this job because she's always enjoyed school-related work like helping and working with students, parents, and teachers. For this reason, she applied as soon as she saw that her current position was available. She felt she was the perfect fit for the position. She's been working in a school office environment for many years, and she felt as if this job picked her.

Ms. Sierra has a Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education and Adolescent Development from California State University. Her favorite subject has always been English, and she has also enjoyed reading all of her life.

Some advice she'd give to high school students, and that she wished she knew when she was younger is to, "value your education, and see as much of the world as you can." These words deliver a beautiful message and excellent advice. She truly wants students to explore the world as much as they can, but never forget about their priorities and responsibilities.

Some fun facts about Ms. Sierra are that she tries to keep up with the Gen-Z trends by watching TikTok, and that her astrological sign is Capricorn. She loves 80's music, Mexican food, reading, watching movies, visiting art museums, and spending time with her family.

Her personal goals this year are to do great work here at Burroughs and to make some valuable new memories, as well as take a goat yoga class, which is yoga practiced in the presence of, and in tandem with, goats. She'd also like to one day go back to her studies and earn a Master's Degree, and she dreams of taking a month-long vacation in a tropical country someday.

When Ms. Sierra was in high school, she loved music and going to concerts. One thing she'd feel would surprise students to find out about her is that she's always wanted to be in a band.

People would describe Ms. Sierra as a friendly, helpful, patient, and very resourceful person.

She's already helped so many students by resolving problems they had regarding their lunch passes and many other things. The JBHS community is very excited to have her as a new staff member, and it's always comforting to know that there's a friendly face willing to help. She's always eager to do her best in giving students a hand. Welcome to Burroughs!



Go Bears!



Hey There Mr. Hacobian

By Kenneth Leon
Cub Reporter

Meet Mr. Hacobian, JBHS' newest and brightest Earth Space Science teacher! Mr. Hacobian, an alumnus of JBHS, is twenty-nine-years-old and has one previous year of teaching experience at Millikan Middle School. He is one of many JBHS alumni returning to join the teaching staff, and we're so excited to have him!

Mr. Hacobian explained what brought him to teach at JBHS: "After working at Millikan for one year, I decided I didn't like teaching at a middle school and asked around for where I should work."

The advice he received brought him back to his hometown: "All of my teacher friends told me wonderful things about John Burroughs. Interestingly enough, I am actually an [alumnus] from Burroughs so I knew the campus well; it was perfect."

He stated he was inspired to teach because, "I loved science so much I decided I might as well get paid to talk about it." He also mentioned teachers and professors that inspired him to teach, including Mr. Silverstein, who used to teach at Dolores Huerta Middle School, his professor at CSUN, Dr. Norman Herr, and our very own Mrs. Tobin!

As a self-described "space geek," Mr. Hacobian has turned his passion into his profession. In his free time, he has volunteered at the California Science Center with the Endeavor Space Shuttle, which JBHS students will remember as the Class of 2022's prom venue.



Mr. Hacobian went to Woodbury University, Pasadena Community College, and Glendale Community College, earning a bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. At the moment, he is earning his Master's Degree in Science Teaching! Mr. Hacobian has been awarded the National Voluntary service award by Former President Barack Obama, along with the Academic Excellence Award from Woodbury University.

Mr. Hacobian has lived in Burbank his entire life, attending Dolores Huerta Middle school and then graduating from John Burroughs High School. In his free time he likes to travel, play hockey, and practice amatuer astronomy! Another hobby of Mr. Hacobian is playing video games, his favorite being the Splatoon series.

Mr. Hacobian teaches science with a passion, engaging students with original and fun lesson plans: "We did a graphing lesson where the kids graphed my dog; they loved my dog!" He also has a knack for knowing when students are in need of a good joke. "When class slows down, I do something called 'brain breaks,' where I tell jokes to my class. The amount of jokes depends on the classroom's behavior." He noted that his students usually "hassle [him] for more."

A good word of advice Mr Hacobian gives is to, "Treat others the way you want to be treated," giving his students respect every day. His goal for his first year teaching at JBHS is simply to "survive."

The Paw Print is very excited to welcome Mr Hacobian back to JBHS!

We just know that his first year teaching here will be out of this world, as long as he aims for the stars!

Salutations, Mr. Spargur

By Samantha Gonzales
Cub Reporter

Mr. Spargur is the coolest thirty-year-old Sagittarius English teacher and rockstar on campus! He teaches ninth grade Honors and Regular English. He has coached the water polo team with Mr. Cohen at the Rose Bowl, and after a hard day's work at school, he takes classes at Cal State Northridge to get his masters' degree!

His goals this year are to graduate and to finish and discuss Animal Farm with his class, to prepare for the District Writing Prompt, and to work full-time as a teacher here at Burroughs.

Another goal Mr. Spargur has is to start playing music again, he said he used to play in a couple bands, but unfortunately had to turn away from his passion due to the pandemic.

Mr. Spargur's last goal he talked about was his health journey and his successes so far, "I've actually lost quite a bit of weight this year. So I'm like, personally [hoping to] go to the gym more and eat healthy. Yeah, I'm pretty proud to have lost about thirty pounds this year, it feels good."

Mr. Spargur's transition to Burroughs was a smooth one. He explained that he observed Ms. Mayes, who teaches tenth grade English here at Burroughs, for his credential program at Cal State Northridge. He described the whole thing as "comfortable," and he also said the second he found out about the open substitute teacher positions in our district, Mr. Knoop reached out to Mr. Spargur to confirm his application and he got to work right away.

He also said that he heard good things about working at Burroughs, how the classrooms are manageable and he said he loves the focus on sports and extracurriculars here, he said teaching here reminds him of his highschool days. "I'm trying to emulate some of the English teachers that I had, the best parts of them."

His favorite songs to listen to are 'Miss the Boat' by Modest Mouse and 'Dire Maker' by Led Zeppelin, though his tastes are very diverse. He expressed, "That's a really tough question, it feels like it's not fair to all the other music I love but I can listen to those two songs anytime." In terms of performance, he commented, "A song that I like to perform, that I have performed before in the past, is `Hang Me Out to Dry' by Cold War kids."



His favorite memory here at Burroughs, despite his short time being here, is iconic: "Truly, and as cheesy as it is, last semester when I taught Romeo and Juliet, I was very proud of the project, like, the ideas that I put forth and then how they were executed [by the students]. That was really cool, we did some really cool small group presentations so they were able to present to one another instead of the whole class, and we had these stations that we could go around, that was a cool experience for me and most of the students."

Wishing Mr. Spargur a wonderful year in the English department! Go Bears!

Warm Welcome to Jenny Harris

By Stephanie Hernandez
News Editor

Ms. Jenny Harris is the new Senior Attendance Technician here at John Burroughs.

She first started volunteering at Dolores Huerta Middle School, where she worked up to becoming a campus supervisor, later applying and working as Huerta's Senior Attendance Technician. She started volunteering at Huerta when her two sons, Jack and Charlie, became students there.

She later moved to John Burroughs, where her eldest son graduated, and her younger son, Charlie, is currently attending.

Her work on the Parent Teacher Association has rewarded her with an Honorary Service Award.

She grew up in Northern California, later attending Northwestern University as a film production major. Before her work in schools, she worked on film and television sets in editing and visual effects.

You may have seen her work in films such as *The Nightmare Before Christmas, Nine Months, Monkey-Bone, Flubber, Jack,* and *Looney Tunes Back in Action.*

"My husband also works in the film industry, and while I was working on *The Nightmare Before Christmas* we met for the first time."

In her free time, she likes to hike, hang out with friends, and read in her book club. As a student in high school, she described herself as a "theater nerd." She also had an affinity for filmmaking and math in general, especially Calculus.

The advice she would give Burroughs students would be to, "Let little things go, be happy and positive, and overall just be pleasant to those around you."

She later shared some experiences of when she was working on films and television. "On set for *Looney Tunes* my nickname was 'Jenny Whiteball' because I was the one who ran around the set with a white ball that helped to light a scene which helped with the CGI. Later, my husband was working on a film, and he ran into Brendan Fraser, and my husband asked 'Hey do you know Jenny Harris," and Brendan laughed and said 'Oh, Jenny Whiteball!'"

Ms. Harris also recalled, "I was on set, and at the time I was pregnant, and Brendan Fraser would invite different people everyday to his trailer for food, and one day I was invited, and they were having sushi, and he said 'Jenny, why aren't you eating anything,' and I said 'well I'm pregnant so I'm not able to eat much," and he was so excited and he was pretty much shouting, 'we have cooked fish, I'll get you cooked fish!' Honestly, he was more excited about my pregnancy than my husband was," she laughed.

Ms. Harris said that she was on Family Feud twice, once when she was in the seventh grade and once when she was in high school, where she won one game, and lost the other.

We at Burroughs are so happy to have Ms. Harris here as our new Senior Attendance Technician. Whether you have had the chance to speak with her or not, Ms. Harris is a kind, and welcoming person, with so many interesting stories to tell.

Welcome Ms. Harris! Thank you so much for your great work and efforts. Go Bears!

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Football Goes Undefeated After Three Games

By Katie Baum
Sports Editor

The John Burroughs Varsity Football team is off to a hot start after winning their first three games of the season. The Bears opened the season with a 17-7 win over Fillmore on August 26th, highlighted by a 58-yard touchdown pass from Quarterback Chris Kulikov to Receiver Ethan Hubbell. It was one of two touchdowns for the duo.



The Bears followed that game up with another win at home against the St. Genevieve Valiants on September 2nd, by a score of 27-19. Running Back Marcus Manahan kicked off the scoring with a 2-yard TD run. Kulikov and Hubbell connected on their 2nd 50+ yard touchdown pass in two games with a 55-yard hookup to tie the game.

When asked about the tying touchdown, Kulikov said, "It felt great. Obviously, I was hyped up. I went up and did a chest bump with my coach. There's no feeling like it; there's no feeling in the world that I can compare to this feeling." Ethan Hubbell describes a similar feeling, saying, "it felt great; it was a little nerve-wracking because I saw one guy, saw he was gonna hit me, juked him out… and then I came through with another touchdown. I mean, it's pretty hype though, so yeah, I loved it."

Kulikov and Hubbell followed that up with a 48-yard TD to give the Bears a 19-13 lead. Cornerback Ryan Hernandez iced the game with an interception return for a touchdown to give the Bears a 27-13 lead.

Hubbell finished the game with 4 catches for 148 yards and 2 touchdowns. Marcus Manahan added 49 yards rushing on 9 carries and a touchdown. Chris Kulikov finished the game with 232 yards passing and two touchdowns. And on defense, Middle Linebacker Noah Crues contributed 16 tackles, including 12 solo and a forced fumble.

The Bears won their third game in a row, which was described as a "slugfest" by Left Guard Stone Slothour on September 9th, by squeaking out a win over Westchester in the rain by a score of 16-15. Slothour said that "despite [the weather's] unfamiliarity, we were able to move past that and focus on the game. Our skill and grit was put to the test when all of us players had to perform at our best while slipping and sliding. We didn't let a little rain damper our spirits or affect our determination to win."

Chris Kulikov had a strong day with 200 yards passing, and 2 touchdown passes. Senior Dilan Webster had a big day catching the ball with 4 catches and 110 total yards, including a 58-yard TD reception. The defense came up big with three clutch interceptions, two by Ethan Hubbell and one by Marcus Manahan, to keep the Bears ahead.

The team is off to a great start which, according to Center/Defensive Tackle Robert Huynh, left the team feeling "confident because we started 3-0, but we are trying to stay humble and focused on each week."

That confidence is shared by kicker Brodie Kemp, who said, "honestly, I never feel any pressure. I've kicked for so long to where I don't feel any nerves or emotions when I'm on the field."

Most importantly, the team is a close-knit group focused on the collective goal to continue winning. As James Nguyen mentioned, "In the locker room, we kinda just hype each other up." Go Bears!



Girls' Tennis

By Zoe Belknap
Cub Reporter

The John Burroughs High School Girls' Tennis team is working hard with their coaches, Roy Berdhart and Gajan Fernando, to make the CIF playoffs and have a successful season.

The Girls' Tennis season began in early September and will last until late October, with the Varsity team's last game on Thursday, October 26, 2022. The Varsity team played their first game on Wednesday, August 31, here at Burroughs against Providence High School. The Junior Varsity team's first game was in Arcadia on Tuesday, September 6.

Coach Roy Bernhardt returns for another season to coach the Girls' Varsity Tennis Team. Bernhardt has always loved the sport of tennis and played it throughout his college career. He attended and played tennis at Santa Ana, UCLA, and Valley College and graduated from CSUN. After his collegiate eligibility ran out, he decided he wanted to become a coach and has been coaching tennis ever since.

Coach Gajan Fernando will coach the Girls' JV Tennis Team again this year. As a teenager, Coach Fernando was very passionate about tennis and was on the Boys' Tennis team at JBHS. He then played tennis and studied at UC Riverside, and decided to coach tennis after graduating.

Both coaches are very excited about this upcoming season. Coach Bernhardt said the team is "looking stronger than ever." He is hoping that this year the Girls' Varsity Tennis team will make it to the CIF playoffs. Coach Fernando's biggest hope is to beat Burbank High School. But, no matter what happens, both coaches hope every girl plays their best, improves from last year, and has fun.

This season, there is a lot of great talent on Varsity and JV. As Senior Elane Shane points out, "it's going to be a good year, there's a lot of energetic Freshmen, and all of the older players have improved their game over the summer."

When it comes to Varsity, their star players include Abigail Stell, Hannah Lewis, Elane Shane, Lindsey Mazarei, Ava Marye, and Claudia Ng, with Lewis, Ng, and Mazarei named as Varsity Team Captains.

To prepare for this upcoming season, everyone on the team has worked tirelessly so they can play their best. Over the summer, some players on the team participated in camps around the state to prepare for the season. A few players have spent their summers playing various tournaments like the USTA. Others have been practicing with their friends on the team when they get the chance.

Like the coaches, all of the star players interviewed said they hope the team will succeed and go to CIF. Many players also mentioned that they hope the team can improve on how they did last year.

Additionally, many players said they hope to bond with their teammates. Specifically, the upperclassmen on Varsity look forward to passing on their wisdom to the Freshman on the team.

As Sophomore Abigail Stell said, "I just hope we as a team can get closer and improve our game together." The general consensus among players is that they want to have a fun and successful season, which we hope they will!

The players and coaches are aware they may face some challenges this season. But, the team is confident that they will be able to overcome those obstacles and have an amazing season.

GO BEARS!

Boys' Water Polo

By Chase Bukowski
Opinion Editor

It's that time of year again, the weather is scorching hot, and the time to support our school's sports teams is here. As the game season revs up, the Boys' Water Polo team is hard at work, preparing to give this sport their all.

As the sun beats down on all of us, coaches Jacob Cook and Martin Jennison push their players to their limits, ensuring that everyone is playing to the best of their capabilities and working hard. A quick observation of the players' practice sessions reveals the extraordinary amount of respect each player has for the sport.

When asked about his goal for the season, Coach Jacob Cook said, "Our goal is to build up the team and do as well as we can. We are looking to go to the League championship–if we attain that goal or not, I'm not sure, but just having a successful team where everyone plays together is what's most important."

It appears that the entire team shares the same group-oriented and humble sentiment; Senior Team Captain and two-meter man, Harry Zekowski, explained that he would really like to expand upon his own strengths and have a good time. "Because it is my Senior year, I just want to have a really good time. I'm not necessarily focused on a CIF quarter-final run; I just want to make sure I set a good example here for these younger guys."

Senior player Ryan Rolando, who joined the Varsity team as a Freshman, feels similarly, "I've been working really hard to finish off my Water Polo career on a good note. Preparing for my final season has been really hard, but it has been worth it."

The level of hard work these players have been dedicating to their sport is extremely admirable. When asked how he is preparing for the season, Zekowski said, "I'm putting in a lot of hard work, bloody practices–definitely some good times in there as well. Basically just grinding it out for at least two-and-a-half hours a day."

Rodrigo Ramirez also detailed his preparation routine, "I've been preparing by meditating for thirty minutes and practicing two-and-a-half hours daily."

As much fun as it is to sit around a pool and watch these players beat each other up while we sit back and enjoy cheeseburgers and sodas on the risers, it is important to remember that this game has been a crucial part of each of the players' lives. Harry Zekowski explains, "I've been playing for about ten years–competitively for around four or five years." When asked how he feels about playing his last season, Harry said, "It is a little emotional because you're saying goodbye to what has been a good bit of your life for these last four high school years. It is definitely a little bit intimidating, but I'm not too worried about biting this off."

"When the team is down and out, it really helps to hear supporters in the audience cheering us on and boosting our morale. Especially during tough games, the sounds of excitement can really shift the game in our favor," one player told us. "There's a really strong connection between us and the audience, and it really feels like everyone spectating us is right down in the pool assisting every action."

Every bit of support these players get means the world to them, so please come visit and watch them play.

Go Bears!

Read More Online!

Want to read our opinions on all issues JBHS? Use the QR code to the right, or go to https://www.burbankusd.org/domain/823. Coming soon!

Girls Volleyball

By Brooke Bailey
Feature Editor

Edwin Real returns for another season as the head coach for the Girls' Varsity Volleyball team. Coach Real says his main goal this year is to, ¨Win league at their level!"

The team is led by two Senior Captains; the first is Caitlyn Lugo, a Setter on the team who has played one year on the Freshman team, two years on the Junior Varsity team, and now this year on the Varsity team. Lugo stated her goals for the year, "As team Captain, I see myself leading the team into victory, pushing them to their fullest potential, and to inspire them. I'm ready to win matches and make the most out of our last year together!"

The other team captain is starting Outside Hitter, Janessa Wareebor. She played on the Junior Varsity team her Freshman year and has been on Varsity ever since. When asked Janessa how she personally feels about being Captain this year, she said, "Personally, I think that I'm doing alright as a Captain, and I hope to continue to do better. I like having that balance of being close friends with the team but also being the one they can rely on in those crucial moments. I'm looking forward to finishing my Senior year strong and playing with my sister."

The Burroughs Varsity Volleyball team is off to a 2-4 start overall. They have yet to play a League game. They recently staged a strong comeback win against Santa Clarita Christian. After losing the first set, 23-25, the team came back and won the second set, 25-19, and the third set, 25-22. Santa Clarita Christain took the fourth set by 2, with a score of 23 - 25. The Bears fought back and broke out with the win 15 -11 in the last set!

Seniors Elizabeth Johnson led the team with 12 kills, followed closely by Senior/Captain Janessa Wareebor and Junior Tawnie Orht, who had 11 kills each. Junior Sadie Lomet contributed with 9.

Along with the Senior Captains, the team is led by Juniors Tawnie and Sadie. The defensive players on the team are Vanessa Lopez, Jessica Real, Elizabeth Johnson, Aixess Acevedo, and Kara Aldana-Pere.

Coach Real talked about all the preparation that went into getting ready for the season. "Summer practices start bright and early at 5:30 daily. Then we have eleven games, and we also play in tournaments to stay sharp. Then in the Fall, we have two practices a day." The girls are working hard to have a successful year, most of them entering their final year playing for JBHS.

Real commented on how he sees the season unfolding so far, "So far getting better… Still have a little ways to go in order to win the League."

Coach Real said his main goal this year is to work together and play together, be mentally there for each other and finally win the Pacific League! This looks to be another great year for the Burroughs Girls Volleyball team can't wait to see what they have in store for us!

LET'S GO BEARS!!



Photographer: Julian Melendez

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Girls Golf

By Meleyna Merino
Cub Reporter

Although this season is off to a rocky start, our golfers remain optimistic and have high hopes for the rest of the season. These girls are eager to play and have their minds in competition mode.

The Varsity Golf team consists of Justine Hamac, Kayla Kassin, Maleia Gould, Alexis Gopez and Sophia Wang. Leading the team is team Captain Annika Lingad, golf player of five years. The coach of the Girls' Golf team is Ashley Phelps. They have lost a lot of players since most of the participants were Seniors last year, but are bouncing back better than ever!

The heat wave has conflicted with the girls' game schedule. Several of the matches got canceled due to the heat. Kayla Kassin, Sophomore, says, "The games being canceled have left me worried because I really love Golf and am eager to get back out there, but we as a team have had some bonding moments that have really brought us closer together. " The competition is fierce this year, so having a close-knit team will really help these girls in the long run.

They did have one League match before the cancellations of other matches. At their friendly matches against West Ranch High School they played very passionately but ended up scoring just a little higher than other players (which, in golf, is a loss). It was a real nailbiter. West Ranch High is tough competition so the girls always strive to play their hardest against them.

Even during these tough weather conditions, our Girls' Golf team is working hard and practicing with persistence. We wish them luck for the rest of the season and hope they have many successes.

Cross Country

By Soren Khitikian
Cub Reporter

Coach John Peebles returns for the 2022 John Burroughs High School Cross Country season. When asked about his thoughts on this year's team, Coach Peebles described them as "a young team which presents a big learning curve. This team has lots of room for improvement." Since "last year there were not many opportunities for races," Peebles said that he hopes "our team is able to learn through our races."

Coach Peebles utilizes the inspirational quote, "I can, I will, I am," to motivate his team. According to Coach Peebles, "'I can' represents believing in yourself, 'I will' represents telling yourself to do what needs to be done, and 'I am' is actually doing the activity."

Coach Peebles' connection to Burbank is strong as he graduated from William Mckinley Elementary, what is now Dolores Huerta Middle School, and ultimately from John Burroughs High School, where he played basketball and ran for both the Track and Cross Country teams. Before coming back to Burroughs, Coach Peebles graduated from UC San Diego.

This summer, the Cross Country team had an extensive training schedule. Every weekday the team started practice at 8:00 AM with many drills, including a pre-run, run, strides, and hurdle drills. On Saturdays, the team practiced at Griffith park at 7:00 AM. This practice tended to be more challenging as it was usually centered around a more strenuous run.

As Peebles said, this year's team is young. It is mostly filled with Sophomore runners. Despite the young age, the team will put their best effort into every race.

The first of the many races scheduled was The Great Cow Run, located at Artesia High School on Saturday, September 3, 2022 at 8:00 AM. Peebles planned on everyone running as long as they had proven themselves that they could handle it.

The following Saturday, the team competed in The Lancer Invitational. Again, Coach Peebles planned on everyone running.

Last year, Vivienne (Vivi) Cannon ran a 2.85-mile race in 18:39.1 minutes. This time got her first place spot in the Women's division for this distance.

Vivi also ran a 20:12.4 minute in the 2.93-mile distance, again receiving first place. Then, locking down her third first-place finish, Vivi ran a 3-mile race with a time of 20:07.7.

Danny Camacho is one of the top male runners returning to the team this year. Last October, he ran a 2.85-mile race in 18:23.7 minutes. This got Danny fifth place in the men's division for this distance. Danny also placed tenth in the 3-mile race with a time of 19:56.5 minutes.

Issabella Galustians is another top runner on the team. She won fourth place in the 2.85-mile distance with a time of 21:21.4 minutes. Issabella also won third place in the 2.93-mile distance with a time of 22:13.0 minutes.

This 2022 Cross Country season looks to be an exciting one. As the runners hit the track, we will see their hard work and dedication pay off in the weeks to come. GO BEARS!

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How the New Schedule is Affecting Students

By Leila Munoz
Cub Reporter

The bell schedule here at John Burroughs has undergone some changes this year, making zero period begin at 7:30 AM, and first period begin at 8:30 AM. This schedule delay of thirty minutes has gotten much praise and criticism from students and staff around campus.

However, this is not a decision made by Burroughs or the Burbank District. The state of California introduced this law to take effect during the 2022-2023 school year, prohibiting high school classes from beginning earlier than 8:30 AM.

This new start time was the result of much debate and research. Data has proven that children and teenagers naturally tend to fall asleep and wake up a lot later than school was previously scheduled to begin.

Though 7:30 and 8:30 aren't exactly significant changes, this adjustment was for students to be better prepared to learn throughout the school day. Nevertheless, adapting to this new schedule has been more difficult for some students than others.

Jamyle Rodriguez, a senior here at JBHS, is a representation of the student body that feels negatively about the new schedule. She straightforwardly states, "I don't like it." Jamyle further elaborated on how the later-than-usual dismissal causes her to get home later and also pushes back the time she starts homework and goes to sleep. She goes on to suggest that the only way to ensure students get the proper amount and quality of sleep is to shorten the school day.

On the opposing side, we have students like Lindsey Mazarei, a fellow senior at JBHS, who is benefiting from an 8:30 AM start. Lindsey claims she loves the new schedule due to the extra half-hour of sleep she is now able to get.

Unlike Jamyle, Lindsey points out that because of her extracurriculars and sports practices, "it's not a big difference," when it comes to the late dismissal.

It's not only the students that have opinions on the new instruction hours. Teachers and staff have had to adapt to the change as well. The coach of the Girl's Junior Varsity Tennis team, Coach Fernando, has had to balance out teaching throughout the school day and coaching the team for their upcoming 2022 season.

Overall, Coach Fernando appreciates the extra thirty minutes of sleep and prep time in the mornings. He also points out that this allows more drop-off time for parents with both high school and middle school students, as the middle schools still begin at 8:00 AM.

A trend amongst the students seems to be that they are getting more sleep and are better because of it. Senior Nicole Mai says she "appreciates the extra morning time," but overall, she expressed that she is neutral on the subject and isn't really affected by the 3:30 PM dismissal. Nicole found that she goes to sleep at the same time she did last semester when school previously started at 8:00 AM, resulting in more sleep.

Many individuals have expressed concern about extracurriculars and sports practices going into the late evenings. Students in the VMA program already have long hours of rehearsals. Tech returner, Eli Vice, a sophomore, believes that the new schedule is "ineffective," and later rehearsals "cancel out the extra sleep."

Another notable complaint comes from students like Madison Torres, a senior who is bothered by the fact that people's afternoon nap time is interrupted. Madison feels that thirty minutes is not enough of a difference in the morning; however, it is enough time in the afternoon to disrupt her schedule. She says, "I like starting and ending my day early." Madison claims to be more tired and wishes to return to an earlier start time.

Based on my brief interviews and quotes from students and staff, the later start is benefiting people as it was intended to, while the late dismissal has had a negative impact. The bell schedule will require some time for returning students to adjust to, and hopefully, incoming students to John Burroughs are feeling accustomed.

Late Night Drive Home Rocks Los Angeles

By Maria Stefani
Cub Photographer

Late Night Drive Home, a four-person indie rock band from El Paso, Texas, celebrates the release of their debut album "How Are We Feeling?" by playing their first major show in Los Angeles. On Thursday, August 25, 2022, Late Night Drive home played an incredible show at El Cid, which is an underground concert venue and Spanish restaurant on Sunset Boulevard.

This new indie album written by Andre Portillo and Juan Vargas, "How Are We Feeling?" captures the intensity, passion, and awkward sentiments of young love in eleven songs. Bandmates Andre Portillo (lead singer), Juan Vargas (guitarist), Freddy Baca (bassist), and Brian Dolan (drummer) wowed their audience by bringing these emotions to life on stage on their tour following its release.

The main message meant to be taken from this album is about love. They mean to expand their audience's perception of love by exposing their own experiences with this powerful emotion. These awkward silences, spontaneity, and a lack of understanding of this feeling are highlighted in two fan favorites on the album, "Painted Lady" and "Awkward Conversations."

This album bears a very similar sentiment to fellow Spanish indie rock band, "Los Retros." Their album titled "Looking Back" manifests similar feelings of uncertainty and the cumbersome navigation of love.

Late Night Drive Home also seems to pull influence from the kings of the indie genre. "Wallows" and "Mac DeMarco" are some of the biggest names in the indie rock music industry and tend to influence their counterparts.

The song that stood out the most during their outstanding live performance was "Painted Lady." Their performance added a completely new level of sincerity and life to their lyrics. "Your very pretense is the color of pink. Until the end, I'll carry this shade on my sleeves."

This band brings so much energy and originality to the table with their live performances. Their rebranded version of pogo dancing Portillo and Baca perform is derived from the 80s new wave and punk movement but is given a modern twist by the band's frontman and bassist.

The amount of pure energy from the band that eggs on the crowd adds such an intimate and community feeling to their show. They speak to their audiences like close friends, which is very traditional for small indie and punk bands. This furthers the sense of community that comes with live performances.

Art is clearly a huge influence on their performance, shown in their show poster advertising this event. Their show poster evokes excitement with two skeletons that pop out and encourage you to rage until you drop dead. Their punk influences show strongly within this poster.

Anyone looking to get involved in SoCal or Al Paso's punk and indie scene should give this band a listen and consider attending their shows. Their current prices for tickets sit at eighteen dollars and are being sold on the DICE app. They are playing all over the US so buy your tickets now!

Hostage Phones

By Montana Benz
Cub Reporter

A new rule has been put into place at the start of this school year. Now, according to the JBHS Student Services, teachers are allowed to confiscate students' phones and discipline them for openly using them in class. Many teachers and staff have adopted this new guideline to ensure optimal organization and flow of their classrooms.

These rules can range from putting aside phones in the beginning of class to collecting phones when students exit the classroom. Additionally, it has been shown that many students are not a fan of this new enforcement.

To add upon the first issue of taking phones, it is important to start off with the possible personal boundaries being broken when confiscating students' personal devices.

Many students view their phones as private property, and this can become uncomfortable for them if there are private matters being displayed on their devices.

A fellow student, Celene Makarem, claims, "When handing in my phone, I could possibly have private unread messages shown on my lock screen, and sometimes, I might not want other people to see them." This can become a common issue for many students.

Building onto the last claim, the confiscation of students' phones can lead to an untrusting environment between the students and their teachers. This rule indicates that the teachers do not believe, or trust, their students to exit the classroom and do the intended task while acting responsibly.

Countering the previous claims, many students and teachers on campus do not believe that this new Hostage Phones act has any negative impact at all.

The claiming of students' phones can help ensure that the breaks being taken throughout the class period become less frequent and possibly shorten the time the students are away from their studies.

As well as this, many students here on campus claim that this new rule does not affect them in any way.

Dakota Benz, a sophomore here at JBHS, states, "Teachers taking away phones doesn't really affect me at all; when leaving class, I do not even need to use my phone anyways."

The collecting of phones is shown to have more beneficial results than not for the teachers and staff as well. Teachers can ensure an easier time with the constant breaks and disruptions from students when obtaining their main source of entertainment. Along with this, teachers can be more reassured that the bathroom breaks and exiting of class will be far less abused and exploited.

It is clear that although the majority of students do not find it pleasing that teachers can now confiscate phones when they exit the classroom, this will be more beneficial to the flow of the learning environment.

Throughout the year, these students with the opposing opinion to the taking of phones can grow to eventually appreciate these new guidelines amongst the teachers here on campus.



September Horoscopes

Aries (Mar. 21 - Apr. 19) - This month will be full of blessings. Your career will be on the right track. Your health will be excellent, and you will have great relationships with your loved ones.

Taurus (Apr. 20 - May 20) - Always listen to your instincts. You will have to stay away from people whose intentions are to harm you. Surround yourself with positive energy. You will face some challenges with your family members. You and your partner will also face challenges that will affect your love life.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun. 20) - Ensure you're on the right path with your loved ones. You may have to indulge in a business or career for extra money.

Cancer (Jun. 21 - Jul. 22) - Your health will be delicate. You will travel a lot with your loved ones. Do not get stressed over work-related issues.

Leo (Jul. 23 - Aug. 22) - Always be there for your partner when they need you. Your professional life will be on the right track. You need to work on restoring your health with a good diet and exercise.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sep. 22) - Family life will pose some challenges. Money matters can be challenging for the better part of the month. This is a month to think about your past actions.

Libra (Sep. 23 - Oct. 22) - Always accept support from your loved ones. Work towards making your health better. A career will offer you hope for a better tomorrow.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) - Loyalty and passion will make up for your love life this month. Health prospects are excellent. Family members will bless you for keeping the family together. Love yourself before entering a relationship.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) - Be strong and work hard to achieve the success you desire. Be a good example to others who look up to you. You might get a job opportunity. Never lose hope in life, be proud of yourself.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) - You will have understanding for your partner. Careers will advance because of hard work and determination. You will do well in your studies because of your need to succeed.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) - Business prospects are profitable this month. You will enjoy good health. You will have work-related problems, but your situation will change as the month progresses.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20) - Your love life will thrive this month. Extended family members may get on your nerves this month, but you will have love and understanding towards others you love. Single Pisces will find love towards the end of the month.

By Anita Hernandez

Locked Restrooms

By Genesis Martinez
Cub Reporter

John Burroughs has started locking certain bathrooms around campus this year. This decision has upset many students because it means that they have to walk further than usual to find an open restroom, and the ones that are open tend to be packed full of students all wishing to do the same.

I personally think that this has been a good decision on our school's behalf. I believe that the students that don't agree with this change don't know the real reason behind why they did it, and once they do, it might just change their minds.

I will admit that I was pretty upset when I first saw that certain restrooms around the school were closed. If I went to the restroom during class I would see that the bathroom closest to me was closed. This made me take longer which meant it took more time away from class and potentially made me miss something important. So I understand if any students are upset by this sudden change. But trust me, there is an a valid reason behind this switch.

The main reason why certain restrooms are closed off is that a lot of them are able to lock from the inside. As you can imagine, that can become a major issue, which was the case last year. Because of this, they decided that the best decision was to lock the restrooms for good. This is just for the safety and well-being of the students.

I mean, can you imagine if a student locked the restroom from the inside and they needed medical attention? What if students locked themselves in the restroom to fight? No one would be able to help them, and it could turn into a very serious problem.

I don't necessarily enjoy having to go to a restroom farther from my class, but after finding out why the school made this decision, I also believe it is for the best. I would rather have to walk a little farther to the restroom than have any issues occur at our school. It also makes the job of school staff a lot easier by eliminating a potential problem. Last year's staff was constantly walking around going to all the restrooms to make sure no one was doing anything they weren't supposed to. Eliminating certain bathrooms has made it easier for them to make sure everyone is following the school rules.

The restrooms may be packed at times during the passing period, but I don't think they are that bad compared to last year. Last year, none of the bathrooms were locked and we still had an issue with the restrooms being packed. I haven't seen much of an increase in restroom congestion, so I don't think it is much of an issue.

I also noticed that, during lunch, the second floor of the first building is not open to students, so even if students could use the restroom upstairs, they wouldn't be able to, due to the fact that you can't access the second floor. This means that students will only be forced to use a different restroom than they normally would for part of the day, rather than the whole day, if they hung out on the first building's second floor last year.

I'm sure the restrooms aren't going to be locked forever. At some point, they will have to either open them back up or fix the doors, so I don't think that this is a permanent issue we have to worry about. I think it will soon pass and we will be able to go back to being able to use any restroom around the school. But even if they don't open back up, I think that we will adapt to this change and we won't even notice it anymore.

In conclusion, there are many good reasons why John Burroughs High School locked certain restrooms. Many students may not agree with the decision, but if you really look at it from the school's perspective, you might be able to understand why they did this. The school is not trying to punish students–they are just trying to make sure we are in the safest environment possible. If you have more questions about this topic, try talking to someone in the office to get more clarity.



Han's Korean BBQ: Modern Yet Classic

By Andrea Perez
Cub Reporter

Han's Korean BBQ is a relatively new restaurant that has opened in Downtown Burbank. They are open Saturdays through Thursdays from 12:00PM to 10:00PM. They're also open on Fridays and Saturdays from 12:00PM to 10:30PM.

Although no reservation was made, we got seated right away. The hosts and wait staff were very friendly and communicative.

The ambiance inside the restaurant was very calm and clean. Customers seemed to be having a great time at their tables and pleased with the service.

When seated, the server brings a dish of three sauces, three banchan (side dishes), and a delicious salad with a vinaigrette dressing. Han's Korean BBQ has a variety of food on their menu to choose from. On the other hand, the prices are a little high.

A great thing about this restaurant is that they also have seafood and sushi available, which is not normal for your typical Korean barbecue restaurant.

Our table ordered three different meats including marinated steak and pork, fried rice, and noodles. No more than 5 minutes after placing our order, our server arrived with our dishes and drinks. The servers seemed very organized and helpful with their customers.

When served, the food is presented very neatly. The first bites into the meal were very savory and flavorful. All of the dishes were very well made. The flavors were perfectly balanced and everything was fresh. The quality of meat and sides were also definitely worth the cost.

The servers came over a few times to make sure everything was perfect and to help you have the best experience. The restaurant was very modern and open. They didn't have much decor on the walls, but they did have televisions to provide some source of entertainment. It was dimly lit in the restaurant but it suited the ambiance.

There was a variety of table sizes available. The seats were very comfortable and new along with everything else. Utensils, plates, and cooking equipment were all very well washed.

After trying an assortment of dishes, the spicy pork belly was the highlight of our meal. There were many different types of sauces and side dishes to pair the meal with, so feel free to experiment with them all.

The equipment given to cook the meats could be improved. Most Korean restaurants would give their customers scissors to cut up the different meats, but scissors were not provided. Also, paintings would be a great touch to the plain modern environment and make the inside stand out more.

After this visit, I would definitely recommend going to try it out. Be mindful that it is a little more expensive than the average all you can eat Korean BBQ, so be prepared to spend a good amount of money. All in all, it is worth it for the quality and experience of the restaurant.

