Student Newspaper of John Burroughs High School

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

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Alumni Pop Show Was A Great Way To Open The Year

By Joseph Stull
Creative Director, Photographer, editor

Coming back to school from quarantine, John Burroughs High School Choirs have wasted no time: Saturday, August 22, 2021, Alumni Pop Show made its return with the four main Vocal Music Association choirs, Generation DCD Dancers, and thirty-eight guest singers including alumni, Choir Staff, and others!

Hosted by the hilarious Sydney and Cooper Baldwin, the show took place at the school's amphitheater.

Chloe Barthelemy, a Junior in Powerhouse Choir admits, "It was a challenge due to outdoor acoustics, but in my opinion the energy shifted and performing outside on such a small stage felt more intimate.

"I felt a closer connection to the audience, and it was also nice to be able to watch other people perform with your friends." Barthelemy continued.

Powerhouse Senior Daniela Solorzano responded with relief. "Honestly I'm really excited to perform B.O.B because of the more interactive aspect… I feel performing B.O.B outside is going to add a whole other layer to the show."

Senior Lincoln Melcher says, "I appreciate being able to perform in person again, and while other people might view performing outside as a setback, I believe that it can liven a performance and add elements that do not exist on the stage."

Performing outside for the first time also posed new challenges to Tech Crew.





Thankfully, difficulties and interruptions were kept to a minimum, with the crew swooping in whenever someone needed to help manage mics.

Only a ten minute addition to Intermission was needed due to some errors that were rapidly dealt with.

The acts for this year's Alumni Pop Show were incredibly diverse. The audience was treated to performances such as a German opera, ritualistic rendition of Ave Maria, and an energetic 80's jam one after another!

Some alumni from more recent years that performed include Sage McNeely, Cheyenne Arroyo, Natalie Perez, Eleanor Sullens, Jacob Levine, and former VMA President, Eli Staub.

Alumni from Burroughs's choir staff include Shannon Ary, Dominic Matas, Corey Hildago, and JBHS's very own choir director, Brennan Jennings himself.

The show opened with a performance by the hosts, Sydney and Cooper Baldwin with Emily Barnett, Sound Waves, and Decibelles, singing a medley of the beloved musical, Mamma Mia.

The performed songs in chronological order before intermission were "Mamma Mia Medley," "Barracuda," "Let Me Be Your Star," "Love You Long Time," "Blue," "A Million Dreams," "Going on For Years," "Journey to the Past," "Prisoner," "Ich Lad Gen Mir Gaste Ein," "Ave Maria," "I'm Free," "Stuff Like That There," "Lay Me Down," "Stormy Monday," "The Victim Card."

After the intermission, the chronological order of the songs were "For Us," "Let's Get Loud," "Crazy," "Rich in Love," "Show Yourself," "I Found a Boy," "I Kissed a Girl," "Poor Little Patty," "Love Sneakin' Up on You," "Fall in Line," "As the World Caves in," "Again," and "The Voice Within."

The closer of the show was a powerful performance of "The Voice Within," with Powerhouse, an Alumni choir, and Maya Taylor, the original soloist of the song in Powerhouse's 2014 Pop Show set. All performers did their best and provided a great first show of the 2021-2022 school year.





Upcoming Dates

September 17th	ASB Talent Show
September 24th	ASB Blood Drive
September 17th- October 2	Kindness Week
October 6th	Club President Meeting
October 9th	Funk Night
October 16th	Homecoming Dance
October 22nd-24th	Burroughs On Broadway

One To One Technology In The Covid Era

By Alexis Lopez and Daniela Lopez
Staff Writers

With the pandemic bringing everything to a halt, schools had to resort to using technology much more than before in order to stay connected and keep our world turning.

Textbooks, handouts, and one-on-one conferences turned into PDFs, Google Slides, and after school Zoom meetings. Teachers and staff alike encountered many obstacles, but we tackled these new hurdles together.

Getting everyone adjusted to online school was not an easy task. From distributing and sanitizing computers, connecting those without internet, and getting the correct information out to everyone efficiently was a challenge. Even though getting everyone to learn online was troublesome, it was still the safest option we had that let us continue with our studies.

Setting up Google Classroom, Zoom links, and Google Meets added another layer of frustration, this time specifically for the teachers.

The virus pulled the rug from under us and caught us by surprise, not giving the teachers a lot of time to prepare for online learning.

These difficulties also impacted students, particularly those who had teachers who were not as "tech-savvy" as others. Regular class time was used to figure out how to share one's screen instead of what was actually on the agenda for that day.

Moreover, teachers were forced to accommodate their regular lesson plans to fit and work better completely digitally.

Not all chapters in the textbooks could be covered, and many projects had to be abandoned as they could not translate over a screen.

And with many students offering nothing but a black screen in every class, a normally rowdy and lively class was oddly silent, leaving teachers unclear on how the students were really feeling and whether or not they were actually grasping the material.

This proved to be exceptionally detrimental to students taking AP classes. While AP tests were considerably shortened when schools first entered lockdown, the 2020-2021 school year saw the College Board returning to full-length tests, meaning teachers had to figure out how to teach a full year's worth of classes in fewer days and completely online.

In regards to the students, some did well with independent online learning, but many found themselves struggling. Things like the amount of work that was piled on was challenging, especially since most of the work had to be done by oneself, which proved to be easier said than done.

Some students found themselves teaching themselves topics and methods they didn't understand because class wasn't as interactive and communication seemed to be difficult.

To build on that, getting in touch with teachers and staff for any problem or question was a tedious and lengthy task as well, for both sides.

And yet with all of that, there was still a silver lining.

The pandemic forced Burbank Unified to finally adopt a One to One technology mandate.

Burbank Unified is now rolling out chromebooks to all students who ask for them, and they should be out to every student by the end of the month!

Although the journey was difficult, we learned a lot from it. Teachers are continuing to use Google Classroom to their advantage to help distance learning students.

In the end, we prevailed despite all the setbacks, and will continue to do so for any new and upcoming challenges.

ASB Puts On Senior Sunrise, First Senior Event

By Cate Triphon
Staff Writer



Senior Sunrise as we know it is an aesthetic bonding experience for exhausted peers to enjoy together after surviving the first three years of high school.

Together, Seniors gathered around Memorial Field at dawn to bask in the early morning glow. Many might even be enjoying a delectable Krispy Kreme donut as they watch the sunrise.

This year's post-quarantine senior activity proved to be a bonding experience for all, despite the lack of breakfast supplies.

According to Sierra Dyer, about 200 Seniors gathered as a class at around 5:45 a.m. on Memorial Field. Students were informed that this event would be more enjoyable if you brought your own chair or blanket.

Students were also informed that a small breakfast would be provided, and distributed by ASB staff.

What no one seemed to realize before it was too late, was that there wouldn't be enough donuts.

Thankfully, the Starbucks nearby was ready and willing to receive groups of hungry students.

After a year of no Senior Sunrise, the class of 2022 got to enjoy the tradition of spending time with their peers and enjoying the warmth of the sunrise. We can't wait for more senior events managed by our wonderful ASB!

Go Bears!

California Offers Free Meals For Public Schools

By Judi Browngardt
Staff Writer

California has become the first state to pass a bill that offers a free meal program for all public school students. Governor Gavin Newsom signed the bill into action on July 9th, 2021. An unexpected budget surplus of money made the signing of the program possible.

$54 million from the California state budget will go into the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) funding for school meals this 2021-2022 school year. To continue offering free meals to all public school students, California is planning to invest $650 million in ongoing funds by 2022-33.

Additionally, they will be using another $150 million to further improve nutritional training and kitchens in the schools.

This program offering free meals to students is a big deal. In California, 20% of people experience insecurity with food and face hunger. In the 2019-2022 school year, about 60% of students qualified for free or reduced lunch prices.

Some families may have been hesitant to apply because of a detailed form they must sign when applying.

It asked invasive questions about family income, Social Security number, and the child's immigration status.

With this program, families don't have to go through the long and tedious application process to see if their children qualify for free or reduced-price meals in school.

In previous years, some students would rather go hungry than admit that they were eligible for free lunches.

This program was created to ultimately reduce the stigma around free lunches in school.

"I have seen how stigma can keep students from eating school meals, even when the alternative is going hungry," Trieste Huey, the food service director of Fontana Unified School District, stated.

"School Meals for All will not only eliminate school meal debt, but it will provide much-needed relief to struggling families experiencing daily stress and stigma around feeding their kids."

When children eat at school, they experience higher academic performance and fewer behavioral problems.

Children who eat at school are more likely to consume their daily recommended amount of nutrients. The free lunch program works to prevent malnutrition and hunger in students.

State Senator Nancy Skinner said, "We know that many California children are food insecure, and if you're hungry, you cannot learn well."

"The whole point of school is learning," Skinner continued, "and everything we can do to create an environment that allows children to thrive and learn is what we need to do." Skinner introduced a bill that would have created a universal meal program in March.

California set a positive example for other places to follow. Just like textbooks and school supplies, food is an important part of a child's school experience and should be available to every student in school.

Drama To Put On Production Of Puffs

By Molly Boyke
Editor-In-Chief

The JBHS Drama Department has announced that their Fall play this year will be PUFFS (or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic!), on November 19th, 20th, and 21st!

Auditions were held on August 25th and 26th, and callbacks were held September 1st and 2nd. Written by Matt Cox, the play, a retelling of the world-famous Harry Potter series, focuses on the "Puffs," the most underappreciated house at "a certain school of magic and magic."

Avid fans will recognize beloved characters such as Blondo Malfoy, Mister Voldy, Bippy, and more in the retelling, which enjoyed a successful off-Broadway run from 2016 - 2019.

The play's tagline, "A play for anyone who has never been destined to save the world," encapsulates the plot quite nicely.

The play follows Wayne, an orphan sorted into the Puff's house, as the Puffs navigate through a very tumultuous seven years at a certain school of magic. Along with Wayne are his friends Megan, who believes she should be in the Snakes house, Oliver, a shy mathematician wizard, Cedric, the lead Puff, and many other familiar characters.

Harry Potter fans around campus are already getting excited for a romp in the wizarding world.

Micaela Bowers, a Junior who has been in the Drama program for three years and is a proud Puff herself, stated, "I'm so excited to see this year's fall play, Puffs!

Our Drama Department always puts on fantastic productions, and you can already tell that this Harry Potter spinoff is going to be a magical show."

Luke Duguay, a senior who has been in the Drama program for four years and has been in Play Production for two, commented, "I think this will be one of the department's most energetic productions to date."

Be sure to catch Puffs November 19th and 20th at 7PM, as well as November 21st at 6PM! The Drama Department's hard work and dedication will make this production so magical you can't miss it!

Principal Chambers

By Stephanie Hernandez
Feature Editor



Dr. Matt Chambers, a JBHS alumnus, longtime staff member, and former writer for this newspaper, has taken over the Principal position from Deborah Madrigal, she served as Principal since Fall 2014.

Since 2008, Principal Chambers has been a part of the JBHS staff. He started as a Business and Finance teacher for five years and was later promoted to serving as an Assistant Principal of Athletics in 2013 where he served for two years.

In 2015, Principal Chambers became the Guidance and Special Education Assistant Principal, and a year later in was named the Assistant Principal for Instruction and Curriculum for five years, later becoming the principal in the Fall of 2021.

After graduating from Burroughs, Principal Chambers attended CSUN and graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business and Management, a Masters of Science Degree in Education Administration from National University, a private University in California, and later earned a Doctorate in Education Leadership at the University of Southern California.

As a person who believes in education, strives for an environment for growth and embraces mistakes, he decided to start a career in education. He was always fascinated by the science of learning, with his excellence and interest in leadership and economics also coming into play.

While working at Burroughs, Principal Chambers has been an important part of improving the school as a whole. He was a part of two successful Western Association of School and College's accreditations, otherwise known as WASC.

As an Assistant Principal of Instruction and Curriculum, he was also successful in starting the Academic Excellence program, which provides extra time for studying, homework, and additional tutoring.

Along with helping the school pass WASC inspections and starting the AE program, he also helped to increase the overall A-G completion stats for JBHS graduates.

Dr. Chambers commented, "If I could pass any piece of advice to every student on campus, I would say to go through life with a growth mindset. Your attributes, skills, and abilities can always be improved through embracing challenges, and remaining determined when faced with challenges. You'll be amazed by how high you can achieve when you go through life thinking that your potential is not static."

Outside of school, Principal Chambers plays lead and bass guitar, as well as pickleball, a paddle ball sport that combines aspects of tennis, table tennis, as well as badminton.

In addition to his musical and sport-related hobbies, he is an avid baseball fan, and is a fan of the baseball community in Burbank.

"As a principal, I strive to serve you, the students," Dr. Chambers stated. "I want to make Burroughs a safe and inclusive space for everyone, no matter a student's gender identity, race, ethnicity, religious beliefs, or sexual orientation. I want to take advantage of every chance to make Burroughs a more accepting space, a place where students and staff members can educate themselves about others."

Dr. Chambers is focused on making this school year the best that it can be, and with his hard work and dedication, as well as that of all of our amazing staff, we can make the 2021-2022 school year great.

Congratulations Principal Chambers, and go bears!

Ms. Valeria Nava

By Betsy Lepley
Staff Writer



One of our newest staff members at JBHS is Ms. Nava!

Ms. Nava teaches Algebra 1 and 2, her classroom is in building two, floor two. She decided to become a teacher because of the good environment that Burroughs has, the wonderful teachers, her love for math, and her passion to share math with her students.

Before Ms. Nava permanently worked here, she was a long-term substitute teacher for Algebra 1 at Burroughs about two years ago, so she's already very familiar with the staff here. She joined the staff at JBHS as soon as there was an opening.

Ms. Nava grew up in Monrovia and currently still lives there. She graduated from Monrovia High School in 2012. She went to UC Irvine and graduated with a bachelor's degree in teaching.

After graduating in 2016, she then went to Cal Poly Pomona and graduated.

She started teaching at Duarte Unified and Monrovia Unified as a substitute teacher for a year. In 2020, she was working at South Pasadena Unified as an eighth-grade math teacher, but after 2020, she started working for Burroughs.

While she was in high school, her favorite teacher was Mr. Vazquez. He was her math teacher for three years. He was the main person who helped her see that math applies to the real world.

She says the best part about being a teacher is that she gets to work with kids everyday. She loves working with them.

Her first job was working with kids as a swim instructor. She can teach anybody to swim, from ages six to sixty. She was teaching people how to swim for ten years before she came to work at Burroughs.

When Ms. Nava was in high school, she was very responsible and always got her work completed and turned in on time. She also did water polo and swimming, which helped her do well in school.

Apart from working with kids, Ms. Nava also loves to work with other teachers.

Some advice she would love to give to kids is make sure to put in 100% effort into anything you do. Whether they're going to college or a trade school, give it your all. And also just make the most of your high school experience.

Her goals for this year for her job are to finish this year strong and try to get to know her students better.

Her goals outside of school include trying to finish up her induction program. She would also like to finish her masters degree, which she would find very rewarding to herself.

In her free time, Ms. Nava loves to travel. During the summer, she likes to book at least one trip, either local or to a different country. She's visited places such as Mexico, France, Madrid, and Sydney, Melbourne, and Brisbane, Australia.

She also loves going to the beach with her friends or family.

Whether you have Ms. Nava or not, she is a wonderful teacher and we're so happy to have her here at John Burroughs!

Welcome Ms. Nava!

Ms. Katrina Villareal



By Ariana Hart
Staff Writer

Stagecraft Technology Teacher Katrina Villareal is one of our newest staff here at John Burroughs.

Ms. Villareal was a member of the Tech Program when she enrolled at Burroughs six years ago, now having the inspiration to pass the learning towards other students who were in her shoes before.

"I was a student here six years ago!" Ms. Villareal exclaimed. "Without the Tech program here at Burroughs, I would've never been able to work in film, go on an international tour, and design for my dream job under Disney Imagineering!"

During her time here as a former student, Ms. Villareal knows what it's like participating in the arts while balancing with other activities in the athletic field, as she was captain of the Golf team in her Sophomore year, while also finding a new sparkling interest in doing the Tech Program.

"I realized after that year I found what I really loved doing in tech. Even though I am in the entertainment industry."

"I studied Pre-law and Social Welfare at the University of Hawaii at Manoa."

Ms. Villareal also received awards and nominations such as Lighting Design under the Jerry Herman Awards and Lighting Design Awards for TV, Film, and concerts in her professional career after high school.

She also shared her moments of what she did and experienced events of when she was younger, some that were related to her job and got her to where she is now, almost like an exploration to an aspiring career.

"Well, it's what I know best. A funny secret that I hid from my parents when I was in High School... I lied about my age... with my older sister's ID... to work at concert venues to do lighting design. I was obsessed with learning something new."

We are very lucky to have Ms. Villareal at JBHS, and whether you have her or not we welcome her! Go Bears!

Assistant Principal Lee Carlton

By John Egurrola
Staff Writer

Attention all John Burroughs students: did you know that along with Dr. Chambers taking over as our new principal, Ms. Lee Carlton took over as an assistant principal?

Although Ms. Carlton is our new assistant principal, she is not new to John Burroughs. Ms. Carlton taught English here at Burroughs for fifteen years!

"I was sad to leave the classroom, but I look forward to new experiences in the front office," said Assistant Principal Carlton of her feelings about her new position.

Reading, writing, and running are Ms. Carlton's favorite things to do in her free time. Ms. Carlton also loves to cook and her favorite food is french fries. She is a mother of two children.



Ms. Carlton received her undergraduate degree in English at the University of Richmond, where she was also a division one athlete. Ms. Carlton is also currently pursuing a master's degree in English.

Ms. Carlton moved to Los Angeles from the beautiful, sunny city of San Diego.

She started teaching when a teaching opportunity opened up for her. While she was an English teacher, Ms. Carlton received the 2019 Masonic award.

Her advice to all students is to "always take notes when your teacher is talking no matter what."

Ms. Carlton has shown the compassion and caring attitude that is necessary when dealing with students.

Ms. Carlton's impressive resume shows that she is more than qualified for this job. Ms. Carlton saw an opportunity to join our already amazing administration and decided to jump on it.

She didn't feel apprehensive at all about leaving the classroom, she said, "I felt comfortable considering that we have very talented teachers here at John Burroughs."

Ms. Carlton loved teaching and she considered it a passion of hers.

One of the things that she liked seeing the most is the ability to watch students grow, thrive, and see students live up to their potential.

However, she noted, she will not miss staying up on Sunday nights grading students' assignments.

Ms. Carlton is indeed an optimist, as she focuses on always improving herself, students, and her peers.

We have a long and exciting school year ahead and Ms. Carlton, along with Dr. Chambers and the rest of our amazing school staff, will undoubtedly lead our school to a great year.

Mr. Gerardo Mendez

By James Reid
Sports Editor

With a new school year rolling around, new staff members have joined the JBHS family. One of these new members is Gerardo Mendez, the new head teacher of Cabinet Tech.

As previously mentioned, Mr. Mendez teaches both Cabinet Tech 1 and Cabinet Tech 2. One of his goals for this year is to remodel the classroom, and "give it a complete makeover."

Another goal he has is to have his students participate in SkillsUSA. SkillsUSA is an organization dedicated to developing the next generation of skilled workers in the United States.

They host many programs, events, and competitions for students everywhere to learn workplace skills that could benefit them for the rest of their lives.

While it is not guaranteed that we will be able to participate this year, Mr. Mendez was nonetheless enthusiastic and said "for sure next year."

This is not the first time Mr. Mendez has taught Cabinet Tech, also known as woodshop.

"I was running the woodshop program over at Garfield High school for eight years until the principal decided to close that and bring nursing programs. I saw an opening at JBHS for a carpentry teacher, did some research on the school and took the job."

Although he is now a teacher, he was also once a woodshop student, just like the Cabinet Tech students of Burroughs. High school was where he not only fell in love with woodshop, but also with teaching.

"Growing up I wasn't the A student," said Mr. Mendez. "I was inspired to become a teacher by my high school woodshop teacher Mr. Hernandez. He truly cared about his students and went the extra mile to connect with his students."

Thanks to the great efforts of his high school woodshop teacher, Mr. Mendez felt motivated to pass on all that he had learned, and become a woodshop teacher himself.

When asked about his favorite classes in school, he of course said woodworking was his all-time favorite. "Woodshop was my favorite class in high school," he said. "I would skip other classes to go to my wood shop class and felt in love with everything…" In terms of other classes, he also said that he enjoyed math.

After high school, he went on to receive all of the education and qualifications he would need to make his dream of becoming a woodshop teacher a reality.

"From [Garfield High School], I went to California State University Los Angeles where I received my bachelors and single subject teaching credential, then got a CTE teaching credential from LACOE."

While woodshop and teaching are his main passions, Mr. Mendez has other interests outside of school.

"In my free time I like to camp outdoors when I have time," he said, "I work out because I love to eat, balance is the key." He also said that he loves watching the Dodgers play and spending time with his son.



Mr. Mendez stated "[The best thing about being a teacher is] to be able to pass my knowledge to others and prepare them to be college and career ready."

For his students, he wanted them to know, "When you believe something can be done, your mind will find the ways to do it. Believing in a solution paves the way to the solution."

Mr. Mendez is an excellent teacher who is very passionate about his subject.

We are all so fortunate to have him as a teacher here at JBHS, and can't wait to see how far he takes the woodshop program.

Our woodshop students are so lucky to get to learn firsthand all about woodworking from such a qualified individual.

Mr. Mendez, thank you so much for all of your efforts, and as always, GO BEARS!

Mrs. Lisa Robertson

By Sierra Dyer
Staff Writer

Mrs. Robertson is one of our newest staff members at JBHS, and she is a very friendly, passion driven person. She teaches Health and plans to be involved with the Medical Academy. Her classroom is room 1208.

Mrs. Robertson's birthday is March 4th and she is 46 years old. She has been teaching for many years now.

Mrs Robertson has been married to her husband for twenty-one years and has three sons. One of her sons goes to our school and the other two attend Dolores Huerta Middle School.

She has lived in Burbank for 16 years, prior to living here she lived in Orange County.

What made her want to start teaching is her great grandmother. Her great grandmother was a teacher, and she had promised her she would be a teacher as well.

She is a coach for boys soccer in the AYSO and has been for six years.

Mrs. Robertson had started to volunteer at the Junior Academy and that is where she had found her love for teaching.

When she was in school herself, she was the go getter type. She was an editor for the school newspaper and yearbook. She also had done well in school.

Before being a teacher Mrs. Robertson had a job in communications and worked in that for ten years before coming to teaching.

Mrs. Robertson worked at four schools before she came to our school. Burbank Unified asked Mrs Robertson to come to Burroughs when a spot opened up.

Mrs. Robertson says the best part of teaching is getting to know her students over the year, connecting with them, and seeing the excitement for life grow in them.

Her favorite subject in school herself was language arts, and the yearbook. She loves teaching Health at Burroughs because she feels that it is a great school and she finds the subject interesting.

In her free time she loves to travel to different places, going to Disneyland, and spending time with her family.

Her main piece of advice she would like to share is "anytime any teacher offers you extra credit, do it."

Her goals for this year is to make this year fun and develop the best lessons/plans to teach her students and help out the Medical Academy.

Outside of school she would like to maintain a healthy work and life balance.

One thing she said not many people will know about is her love for writing and her small T-shirt company.



Outside of school she has a small graphic design company that makes T-shirts.

Mrs. Robertson loves the shows Gilmore Girls, Friends, and Ted Lasso.

Her favorite memory is passing her love for Disney to her kids and giving them a magical childhood.

Mrs. Robertson will help JBHS in making this year an amazing school year.

Welcome Mr. Parra and Ms. Powell!

We will feature them in their next issue

Leaving *The Smoke Signal* Behind

By Stephanie Hernandez
Feature Editor

Our school newspaper, *The Signal*, is finally going to get a name change to fit with John Burroughs new mascot, Bears.

As stated before, all of the name options have to either do with different species of bears or different bear characters.

Some names that the newspaper team has come up with are "The Paw Print," "The Cub Reporter," "Ursa Major," "The Baloo Bulletin," "The Grizzly Gazette," and the "The Bear Necessities," among other ideas.

There is also the option to keep the newspaper's name as "The Signal" even though our mascot is different.

Our new school's mascot was chosen in an intensive process starting with twenty-three choices, then whittled down to five, then three, then finally the final two, with Bears coming out victorious.

Similar to the process of changing our school's mascot, we would like all JBHS students and staff to participate and vote for their favorite newspaper name in order to be a part of this historical event.

Though there is not a definite date to when there will be an official new newspaper name to replace, "The Signal," it will most likely be before the end of the first semester.

Principal Chambers also was able to give us advice about choosing a new mascot.

He expressed the importance of "not picking a name until the decision's absolute latest deadline. This will allow you and your team to think about every pro and con with each name to make the best decision for not only the current students and staff but every student and staff member that came before and will come after."

With our school's old mascot, Indians, being officially revoked in 2021, after being our school's mascot since 1948, we are excited to turn a new page in our school's history and start fresh as the Bears.

Principal Chambers also explained how, "This will be the newspaper name for the next several decades, so it is our responsibility to pick a name that will have left a legacy. I urge all of you to think carefully about this decision and I am very excited to see what you come up with."

We at the newspaper are very enthusiastic to see what the new name for the newspaper will be. We hope you participate in this historic event! Go Bears!

Suggestions and Voting Instructions

By Molly Boyke
Editor-In-Chief

Participation is highly encouraged in this huge event in school history.

Voting on the new name will be done via a Google Form, available in the JBHS Class Of Google Classrooms, in QR code form in our GMJB segment, and in QR code form next to this article.

The quiz requires students to put in their last name, first name, and 5-digit student ID number, along with picking their favorite of the Staff candidates for the new title. A copy of the "Opinion" section newspaper will be embedded in the Google Form for reference.

Additionally, there will be an optional spot on the Google Form where students can put in their own suggestions for the new name.

These candidates may be included in future rounds of voting, except in the case of a landslide victory, that is, if one choice gets over 50% on the first round.

The poll will be closed a week after the newspaper's publication, after which the journalism staff will release a statement of the new title in the case of a landslide victory, or another round of voting.

New Newspaper Name Suggestion Pro/Cons: Keeping *The Smoke Signal*

By Jae Meline
Staff Writer

John Burroughs is looking for a new name for the newspaper.

Our previous name for the newspaper was "The Smoke Signal" after a form of communication sterotypically thought to be used by Native Americans. Though with the new adaptation of the new mascot, the old newspaper name has seem to have lost its relevance to the school.

However, "The Smoke Signal" still remains one of the great things that people appreciated with the school's previous branding. Many were quick to come to the defense that it had clever wit in relation to the Indian.

It was a creative title at some point. It still is. It just does not relate to the school's mascot anymore.

We would be very unique to have a newspaper title that doesn't relate to the school. No other school is doing it. We would be special.

By Marty Coha
Staff Writer

The school is in a state of rebranding, and this should not exclude the school paper. *The Smoke Signal* is an uncomfortable title because the name was inspired by the Native Americans to send codes and warnings from far away. Since John Burroughs High School no longer has a Native American as their mascot, it is fitting that the title of the newspaper becomes bear related.

The Smoke Signal was a great title for the old John Burroughs. *The Signal* (as we've been calling it for the past few years) was used to give the student body updates and new information just like an actual 'smoke signal.' However, the terminology is horribly inappropriate.

In modern American culture the majority of the people would not be able to tell what a smoke signal was actually used for nor could the average JBHS student say the cultural significance of the smoke signal within the Native community.

Since the students and faculty neglect to learn and understand the relevance or purpose of the smoke signal, using the messaging system as a catchy title seems to be ignorant. This aids in characterizing the Native community and dehumanizes their traditional practices.

Changing the name of a club or organization at Burroughs isn't new. For example, the cheer team at school used to be called The Indianettes. That name has since been removed and many now cringe at the title.

The Bears are the new mascot for John Burroughs and should be reflected within the paper. Many creative and inspiring titles can be thought up that reflect the paper and the school. (For example, The Grizzly Gazette and Ursa Major.) Keeping the name to go with the mascot makes a lot of sense and boosts school morale.

The school is changing and crafting itself a new image; the newspaper should join in.

The Smoke Signal is not a name the school should take pride in but look to it as a memory. Let *The Smoke Signal* not be forgotten but used as a reference point in John Burroughs History.

Let's enter a new era, one that is anti-Native mascots and pro Bears.

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Feature Editor.....	Stephanie Hernandez
Opinion Editor.....	Marty Coha
Sports Editor.....	James Reid
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Cartoonist.....	Molly Boyke
Advisor.....	Mr. FitzGerald



The Signal
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The Signal is the official newspaper of John Burroughs High School, created by Journalism students. Opinions expressed are those of the bylined writers and do not represent the views of the Burroughs faculty or staff or the Burbank Unified School District.



Ursa Major

By Joe Stull
Creative Director

Journalism at Burroughs has a vision to develop and grow into a more professional, widespread, and dynamic curriculum; The program's name needs to reflect these values: *Ursa Major*. Commonly referred to in America as the "Big Dipper," the bear constellation, Ursa Major, reflects the cosmically expansive ideas and ventures that Journalism wants to create.

This name also promises to reach more students by being the only option to include horoscopes with the newspaper every month. The prospect of a wider audience can help propel Journalism to a place no one has ever dreamed of going before.

One of the biggest reasons that *Ursa Major* should be considered as a candidate for the Journalism name change is that when put to a vote in the classroom between all options, *Ursa Major* won by a landslide of nineteen votes versus the 2nd place's thirteen votes. When thinking of the future of what Journalism wants to represent, the newspaper students should be the leading voice in the matter.

There are several options for what the mascot of the *Ursa Major* newspaper would be. Ideas that have been discussed are an astronaut teddy bear as a recurring newspaper comic character, an elegant bear composed of stars as the logo, or the constellation itself.

The rebranding that comes with *Ursa Major* doesn't stop at that. A change in the newspaper's font in order to reflect the professional tone of *Ursa Major* has also been discussed at length among the Journalism class.

In mythology, the Ursa Major constellation represents home, stalwart and motherly protection, and compassion. Journalism strives to be a comforting and open source of information that students can return to each month.

As a name, *Ursa Major* is fairly unique by being specific to the Burroughs mascot, and not used by any school or organization in close proximity to the campus. This cannot be said for every option for our newspaper. The first step for Journalism at Burroughs to distinguish itself as an organization is to clearly set it apart from other schools.

Ursa Major offers so many opportunities in rebranding, greater audiences, and in turn, better Journalism. The decision is clear: You just have to follow the north star.

By Jon Egurrola
Staff Writer

Hello all JBHS students, it has come to my attention that along with our mascot being changed so will the name of our newspaper.

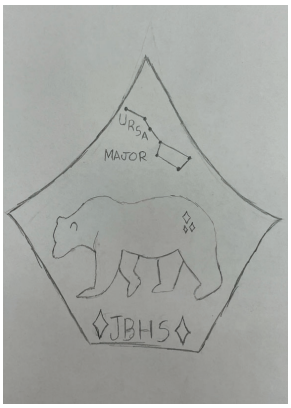
There have been many great suggestions, but *Ursa Major* is just not one of them.

I think that the newspaper should be represented by an actual bear, not by a constellation that is supposed to look like a bear but actually looks like a spoon.

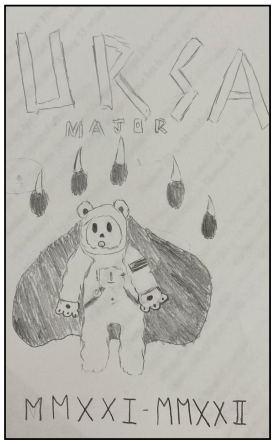
In case you don't know what I'm talking about, don't worry you're not going to be the only one, I promise. Ursa Major is another name for the Big Dipper and sometimes it is often portrayed as looking similar to a bear. I, however, and many others here in the journalism classroom believe that it looks nothing like a bear.

The problem with making the newspaper the it's major is that nobody will understand what it is or means.

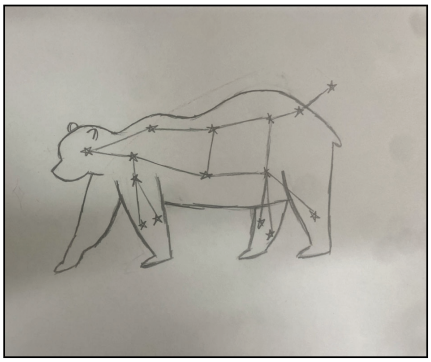
The newspaper should be something that represents the school's mascots; *Ursa Major* is just simply not that. I strongly suggest that you the reader vote for something that has a bear in it such as the *Grizzly Gazette* or *The Kodiak*. Something that represents the bear mascot would be incredibly appropriate for our new name to the newspaper.

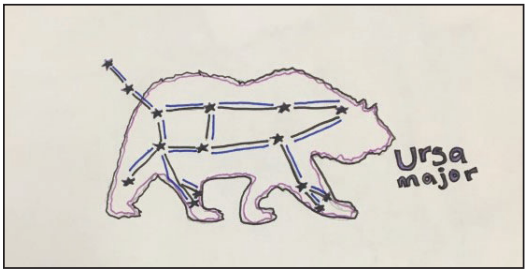


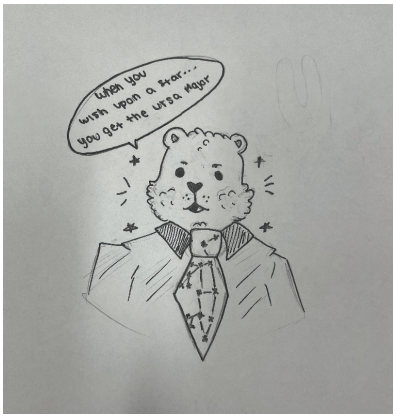














The Kodiak

By Vivian Morse
Staff Writer

The Kodiak Bear is not only the largest bear in the world, but they are beautiful wild creatures. This species of bear has been around for a long time. This is reason enough to have it be more than considered for our school newspaper's new name.

Not only does the name fit in perfectly with our new school mascot, but it also is newspaper title worthy. *The Kodiak* is short, snappy, and fitting. It is not overly wordy or hard to read, it is a simple combination of two words that create a perfect title.

Another good reason to choose this title is because it is not hard to understand. Upon hearing this name, it is not a difficult thought process to connect it to the bear mascot. Though it may be a small leap, it is definitely creative.

The Kodiak bear breed has an interesting history that definitely shows more than enough worth to have our newspaper named after it. They are a unique subspecies of the grizzly bear and have been isolated from other bears for about twelve-thousand years. This is amazing not because they are loners, but because these bears are not dependent on others as much as they are strong enough to survive on their own.

Bears, obviously including Kodiak bears, in general are known to be survivors. They withstand freezing temperatures, find their own food for themselves, and provide for their own families. They hibernate for months at a time, allowing themselves to enter a deep sleep and come out alive. After the year and a half that we have been through, we are all survivors. I think that this legacy of being survivors, like the Kodiak, should be remembered throughout the generations to come. We have survived these unforgettable times and lived to tell the tale.

Kodiak Bears are also healthy and productive which are great, admirable traits. There are even astronauts and workers at NASA studying these bears. They are curious about their hibernation patterns because these bears are able to go for months without food or water and are able to survive. This could benefit these astronauts who are in space for months at a time. If the Kodiak Bear is intriguing to astronauts at NASA, that is even more reason for our student body to decide on this name for the newspaper.

The Kodiak, as previously mentioned, is short, snappy, and fitting. This title is also classy. It feels like a formal name that could be the title of any proper newspaper anywhere. It is not cheesy or childish in any sort of way. This is an important point to have because this newspaper has not been changed for generations, and now that we are changing it, we have to ensure that the legacy we leave with it, will be loved by future generations.

The name may seem simple, but it clearly represents more than just two words. It represents independence, strength, beauty, individuality, survivors, and more. This is the perfect name for this newspaper that so many of us hold closely to our hearts. Choose *The Kodiak* for the legacy of the school newspaper.

By Daniela Lopez
Staff Writer

Kodiak. What came to mind first? The camera, the city in Alaska, the land mass surrounded by water, maybe even the famous rapper, or possibly, the bear. "The Kodiak" just so happens to be a name option for the school newspaper here, which doesn't really make sense, since there are other better names for the paper. Not only are there better options, but the name just isn't good, and doesn't seem fitting for our school paper.

Having a suitable and appropriate name for the paper is extremely important because the name will live on for many years to come. The meaning and name itself will represent a lot of people, so choosing the right name is a big deal. Choosing the right name includes choosing something that references and includes both the mascot and school spirit to show our pride of being at John Burroughs High School. Additionally, it should be a name related to journalism, being the name of a newspaper and all.

Keeping all this in mind, "The Kodiak" only correlates with the school mascot and doesn't have anything to do with the newspaper, like some of the other names do. It focuses on the mascot when we as a school haven't even decided what kind of bear we are! We could be polar bears, black bears, brown bears, or anything!

This can cause problems later on when the school bear is finally decided - what if it doesn't correlate with the newspaper bear?

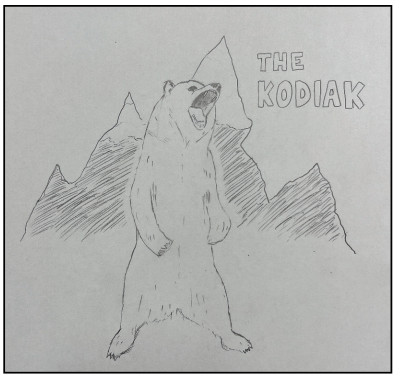
The mismatching bears would make us seem unplanned and unorganized, idiotic even, when the designs of school shirts, websites, and the actual newspaper designs will clash since they won't fit each other if they are completely different. Naming the school paper after an animal that isn't even our mascot will be laughable, which many can agree is a fair complaint about the name.

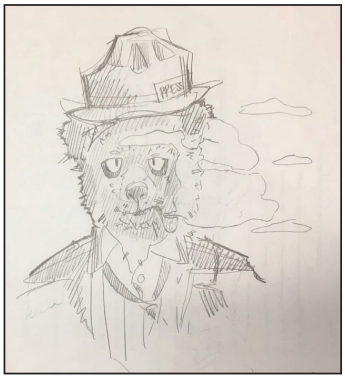
Again, the name makes no reference to the newspaper, instead paying homage to Kodiak bears. But even so, is that what first comes to mind when hearing the name? Or instead, does the famous brand Kodak take the spotlight, known primarily for their cameras? The allusion to cameras could imply that it has something to do with photography or yearbook, not so much the school newspaper, which is obviously an issue. That's why the name for our school paper should revolve around or at least reference journalism itself; it's more organized and well thought out that way.

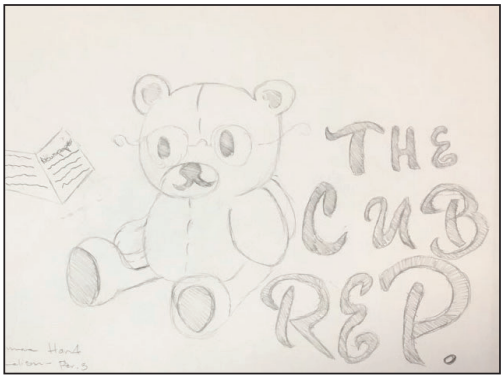
And another thing, the name itself is too short, too simple, too boring, and overall plain. The title is bland and seems to be missing something. We need a more captivating and intriguing name. This simply shows how some of the other names would fit the school newspaper better, even just by the way they sound- they sound far more interesting and could get more people to read the paper.

A different, more captivating name could not only entice new readers, but it could inspire creativity and ideas from students, about school events or activities. More interaction between students can cause people to get more involved with what is happening in school, making it an overall positive experience for everyone.

While the name of the school newspaper doesn't sound like a big thing to most, it will be around for a good amount of time. This is why we need to pick the one that suits our school paper best. So pick something that really captures the school spirit and journalism all in one. Vote wisely!







The Cub Report

By Ariana Hart
Staff Writer

The definition for a "cub reporter" (an official journalistic term) is "A novice or learner, particularly in newspaper reporting." And that is exactly what the students in journalism are.

One thing about *The Cub Report* is that it fits well with the mascot that we have currently transitioned to this year, and it would make a good mark for our newspaper name. *The Cub Report* is a simple yet fun and easy name that would not only suit well with the school, but would also perfectly settle in as the new tradition at Burroughs.

This newspaper will bring many topics that are in relation at the school, or provide current events that are occurring in the city of Burbank. The Cub Report does offer a suitable title for Burroughs, however it is best to let everyone use their voices and vote for which name is the best. Faculty and staff are included in this too!

As said before, *The Cub Report* can settle in new traditions for the newspaper and for the school altogether. Editors and writers can help out small communities or businesses to unravel more events that are happening in Burbank everyday, while some people might be interested in the depths of the town. With the journalists' support, this could help smaller businesses gain attention to new customers and earn profit from recognition.

By Hope Towne
Staff Writer

While *The Cub Report* does have a cuteness to it, it infantilizes our mascot. For a new mascot, we have to be able to have confidence in it. It is a new beginning for our school, after all. Can *The Cub Report* accurately capture this sentiment?

Dissecting the title itself, "Cub Report" gives the impression that our newspaper is that of a preschool or elementary school. Teenagers are not children, nor are they adults. They are teenagers. They will have their own unconscious biases against things marketed towards children. What budding adult would want to pick up a newspaper that associates them with younger kids?

Furthermore, juxtaposing "reporter" with the cub aspect infantilizes the mascot even more. High school students are bound to have a more sophisticated vernacular than the average middle or elementary school student, so our title should reflect that.

Realistically, *The Cub Report* is something that an elementary school student could have come up with. This fact is not a bad thing by any means, since children's creative minds far surpass any adult mind, but there ought to be more of an obvious indication that this is a high school newspaper.

To get a good look at what the typical bear cub looks like as represented in popular media, some of the most well-known bear cubs are in kid's cartoons. Boo-Boo Bear from Yogi Bear, Koda from Brother Bear, and Baby Bear from Sesame Street are all canonical bear cubs that most children and teens could identify on a screen.

The connotation of a bear cub on television is usually one of emotional immaturity, impulsiveness, and aggression. This is proven by some of the definitions of cub in The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language: "A youth, especially one who is inexperienced, awkward, or ill-mannered." Another definition for cub that is given is "A novice or learner, particularly in newspaper reporting."

Another important thing to note about the name "Cub Reporter" is any potential newspaper designs that could go along with this title. If the name itself didn't infantilize our mascot enough, drawings of bear cubs would surely complete the look.

When people think of the word "cub" it is unlikely they will picture a strong, regal beast, or even a beast at all for that matter. Instead, they'll see a cute, fuzzy, small bear that toddles around on all fours and gets up to mischief. While that is a very sweet image, is it really the right image for a high school newspaper?

Furthermore, is it really the right image for *our* high school newspaper?

THE BEAR NECESSITIES

By Betsy Lepley
Staff Writer

John Burroughs High School was once the Indians. But now we're the Bears. Therefore, our school newspaper should be called *The Bear Necessities,* it's the best choice for the new newspaper name.

Assuming most of you have read *The Jungle Book*, it makes perfect sense! When you think of the newspaper, it has the necessities in it, that's what we write about! And, it's a funny bear pun, it makes perfect sense.

It's a great reference to the wonderful book and movie *The Jungle Book.* We remember Baloo, and in picking *The Bear Necessities,* it can also be a fun, small reference to it. It was a wonderful book and movie.

Not only does it include a pun, but it also does have a nice ring to it. It does sound nice when saying it out loud. "Hey, pass me *The Bear Necessities*, I want to see what's new." It would sound great in general.

It's a unique name. No other school's newspaper is called *The Bear Necessities.* It's one of a kind and is totally different from other schools whose mascot is also a bear. There are lots of bear schools locally and all over the United States. There are lots of bear related newspapers out there, but not one of them is called *The Bear Necessities.* We already are one of a kind, but this will really help show that we're unique.

It has a playfulness to it. Yes, the newspaper is normally meant to be serious and factual, if the newspaper name is kind of off-putting, or doesn't sound very cheerful or happy, more often than not, people won't read it. If we choose a happier name, that sounds more fun and warm, it'll seem like the newspaper covers fun topics as well as serious topics. It's warm and welcoming.

It's fresh, it's fierce, and apart from it being new, having a nice ring to it, it's pretty catchy. *The Bear Necessities* could potentially be the newspaper name for the next 100 years, and if *The Bear Necessities* does get chosen, it would be a very good choice. People will remember it forever.

There are a lot of other good candidates for our new newspaper name, but *The Bear Necessities* is the perfect name for it.

By Ainsley Ghaman
Staff Writer

The Oxford Dictionary defines the word "name," as "a word or set of words by which a person, animal, place, or thing is known, addressed, or referred to." However, most of us can agree; a name is much more than a few letters strung together to create a word. It's more than something we call ourselves and others by. A name represents our culture, strength and pride. Names connect us with our history, our families, and our own identities. They offer us a chance to show the world that we are unique, and to some of us, our names might even be the most important word in the world.

Given the significance names carry, the name we chose for our school newspaper should be something that represents John Burroughs High School and all of its students and faculty. It should be a name that leaves a lasting legacy, and one that captures the true essence of JBHS. There are many reasons the name *The Bear Necessities* should not be chosen to portray our school, the most important of which being that this is not a name that will be inspiring or meaningful to students and faculty in the long run, and it has no feeling of power or strength to it.

JBHS is more than a school, it's a culture and a family, and the name *The Bear Necessities* doesn't encapsulate the atmosphere that we have here at Burroughs. Although we have yet to choose a new logo, it is safe to assume that whatever we choose, it will be something powerful and strong, but also a representation of our school's great sense of community. The name we choose for our school newspaper should do the same. *The Bear Necessities* implies more of a soft, cartoon-teddy bear feel, and probably isn't going to collaborate well with our new logo, which will most likely depict a more powerful and intimidating bear.

The Bare Necessities is a well known song from the children's movie *The Jungle Book,* and although it does instill a sense of nostalgia in those who may have watched the film as younger children, it seems unprofessional to model the name our high school paper after a song from a children's movie. We want our newspaper to be as authentic and original as possible, so using the title of a popular Disney song and making one small tweak to connect it with JBHS seems counterproductive. If we want to make our paper seem professional and genuine, we should use a name as unique to our school as possible, rather than a slightly altered song title from a kids movie.

Before the school mascot was changed last year, the name of the school newspaper had been *The Smoke Signal* for years. As students and teachers came and went, it was a way for school tradition and history to be passed on from class to class. This year, we have a unique opportunity to choose a new name that will be representing our school's newspaper for years to come, so it's important that it is something that will still be appealing to readers years from now. There are dozens of names that would do a wonderful job of reflecting our school's spirit, but unfortunately *The Bear Necessities* is not one of them.

THE BALOO BULLETIN

By Laurelei Johnson
Staff Writer

Who among us did not watch the classic Disney film T*he Jungle Book* as a child? Who does not remember the strange eyes of Kaa the snake as he hypnotized Mowgli, or the round friendliness of Baloo the bear?

For years the John Burroughs High School yearbook has been named *Akela*, which just so happens to be the name of the wolf who adopts Mowgli and acts as his father.

It just so happens that, since Burroughs has changed its mascot, the JBHS newspaper needs a new name, and what could be better than matching the yearbook?

Baloo is a bear we all know. He is friendly, lovable, and someone one can trust, just like the Burroughs newspaper. The name baloo comes from the Hindi word for bear. Of course this makes the argument for naming the paper after him seem like it's only the "bear necessities" needed to defend it, but that's not all.

Baloo is a sloth bear, a type of bear native to Sri Lanka, India, and Nepal. They eat mostly bugs, and they have special curved claws to help them dig up the termites and other insects that they then feast on.

They have an extremely strong sense of smell, and their eyesight is actually on a similar level to that of humans.

Sloth bears have nostrils that can completely shut in order to protect them when they find a termite mound or beehive to snack on, and their fur doesn't have an undercoat in order to keep them cool in the warm climate.

Of course, those are just a few cool facts about sloth bears, and not particularly valid reasons to name the school newspaper T*he Baloo Bulletin*, right? Well, anyone saying that has never seen a picture of a sloth bear.

They have long black fur, and their features are almost dog-like. If that doesn't solidify the idea that naming the John Burroughs school newspaper after them is a perfect idea, nothing will.

JBHS needs a newspaper name that evokes loyalty, reliability, and trustworthiness, since that is what the JBHS newspaper has been and will continue to be in the future.

The Baloo Bulletin is a name that not only evokes those feelings and reminds people of a beloved character from their childhoods, it also goes perfectly hand-in-hand with the JBHS yearbook.

By Sammy Solomons
Staff Writer

With a new and improved mascot for our school, a new and improved name is needed for the beloved school newspaper.

There have been many suggestions for what the newspaper might be called and the title of *The Baloo Bulletin* has been suggested. The legacy of the John Burroughs newspaper should not lie in the hands of a fictional bear that has no relation to the school whatsoever.

I think it's important that the new name portray a positive outlook of our school and community as a whole.

Baloo is the beloved bear from *The Jungle Book*, but in Hindi baloo also means bear. So essentially the name is "The Bear Bulletin." This title completely lacks originality and has no significance behind the name whatsoever.

The Baloo Bulletin is also extremely childish and immature for the type of articles that are written in the school newspaper. We are a newspaper that writes about school events, sports teams, and important happenings in our Burbank community; basing the name off of a Disney movie is not ideal and could potentially make the paper seem less credible and less important.

Also, the John Burroughs High School color is red and Baloo the bear is blue. Not only does this contrast our own school's colors, it favors Burbank High School as their school colors contain blue. So not only are we being less inclusive of our own school pride, but now we would be celebrating our rival school!

It is so important for the new newspaper that a title that will be able to last for the next fifty to seventy-five years if chosen. Because of this, the title should be classic, formal, and also unique all in one. The title of *The Baloo Bulletin* does not give any of the desired traits and furthermore should be cut from the running of newspaper titles.

HIBERNATION

By Corvette Brown-Henry
Staff Writer

WE NEED YOUR HELP, we need to pick a new name to represent journalism, as our old name doesn't fit with the idea of the Bear mascot.

One new option is *HiberNation*. It stands for "action of passing the winter," which is very fitting to our mascot, The Bear.

HiberNation is a way for animals to conserve energy to survive weather conditions or lack of food. Their body temperature and metabolism slow down as a result of hibernation.

HiberNation would go well with the idea of our mascot.

The benefits of our Journalism program being called *HiberNation* is the correlation and the richness of the word.

The name has a significant meaning and it makes sense with our mascot. Besides, it's the best name out of all the choices, it sounds way cooler to be *HiberNation*.

The name also feels more exotic, original, and authentic than most of the other names.

If you guys are with me on this please vote yes to make HiberNation our new name. Make HiberNation our official name!

By Sierra Dyer
Staff Writer

I don't think the school newspaper should be called *HiberNation* because when you think of a newspaper you think of it being filled with fun, and informational things. The name *HiberNation* seems like it will would be about not so interesting topics with hibernation in the name. It seems like it would put you to sleep.

The name *HiberNation* is too cute of a name for our school newspaper. We are bears, we are supposed to be big and strong animals. I think that if we are renaming ourselves we should be something cool and tough. *HiberNation* would be better used for the more mellow news but not for a whole newspaper.

As a school it is our duty to come with the new name for the next generation or more. As the Journalism Class of 2021 I want to make this as cool and fun as possible for everyone!

With the name *HiberNation* there are not many ways to make the newspaper look fun and have fun sections for everyone to enjoy. Other names we have will give us that opportunity of fun sections. Names like the *Ursa Major* will give us that opportunity.

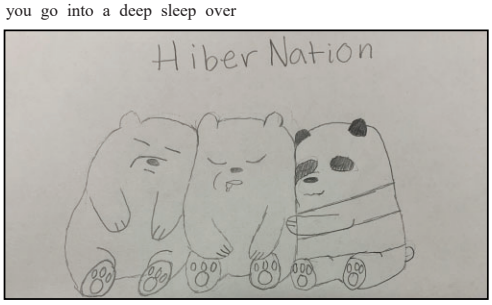
We need a name that will pop and stand out making people want to read it. With newspapers names are one of the most important parts of it. The title will be what catches peoples attention. Catching the attention of the people will be important because if we have information that is needed to be seen by people they will see what they will need to see.

HiberNation is not the best name to catch peoples attention.

Since *HiberNation* is when you go into a deep sleep over winter it will not make the most sense because it will not always be winter.

Also it will look bad on our end. We don't want to be know as the school with the newspaper that puts everyone to sleep.

In conclusion we should not go with *HiberNation* because it puts a bad reputation on our school newspaper and what it stands for.



THE PAW PRINT

By Hattie Weinroth
Staff Writer

After switching mascots, the time has come to alter the name of the newspaper, and *The Paw Print* is here to leave its mark! *The Paw Print* is a cute and clever option for the new title; taking inspiration from the new mascot and the newspaper print. Unlike *The Claw* and other options that aren't nearly as charming, *The Paw Print* has many plus sides to it. It gives the journalists an opportunity to make punny jokes about the new title, and overall, it's super cute.

The alliteration of "Paw Print" causes it to roll off the tongue easily, and it is simple to remember. Choosing something memorable and lovable, like *The Paw Print*, is vital because the name will last for years after current students graduate. This is leaving a mark, or maybe a print, on John Burroughs High School for hopefully the next fifty years.

By embracing the new bear mascot, we are not only demonstrating spirit for the school, but we are allowing the newspaper room space for new ideas and are simultaneously painting the paper with a warm, wholesome aesthetic. This change is a new beginning for the JBHS newspaper, and it is an opportunity for the journalism class to create a great year of papers for the student body.

The Paw Print is a classic title that will be known for generations to come. Current students can look back and be proud that they had such an impact on JBHS, by changing the mascot and the newspaper title. After scanning the QR code in this paper, it will be bring up a Google Form to leave a choice of the new name. None of the other options can even compare to *The Paw Print,* so the choice is clear.

Be sure to take the time to vote for *The Paw Print* as the new John Burroughs High school newspaper name!

By Georgie Hallbach
News Editor

As we decide what to make our new mascot, our school paper is also tasked with renaming the paper after decades of being *The Smoke Signal*. Popular among some is *The Paw Print*, a cute, kitschy name for some but overall it is not the right fit for Burroughs.

The name *The Paw Print* is being used at other schools relatively close to Burroughs; we don't want a school a few miles away to have the same name as our paper, it would take the originality out of it, as well as make us just part of the milieu.

West Ranch High School in Stevenson's Ranch has a paper called The Paw Print to match their Wildcat themed mascot as well. Stevenson's Ranch is just twenty-four miles from Burbank, so having a newspaper with the same name, so close, would not be a good look.

Even closer to home is the Polytechnic School in Pasadena which also calls their student paper *The Paw Print*.

And of course their is also the paper of College of the Canyons.

With these schools just minutes away from John Burroughs, making our school paper *The Paw Print* would first put us in competition with Poly and West Ranch and second not be a classy way to go. Imagine a newspaper company choosing the same name as two other ones in the same city!

Secondly, is the conflict between choosing a name that is cute, like *The Paw Print*, but having it not match the aesthetic of the new mascot.

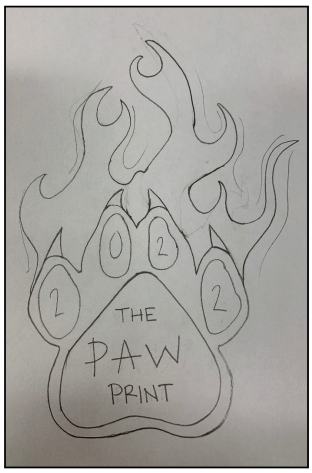
The Paw Print gives off very timid vibes, more like a teddy bear rather than a Grizzly. But what if Burroughs ends up going with a super aggressive mascot look? Having the mascot be a snarling Grizzly bear, while the paper is a cute little paw print would be a total mismatch.

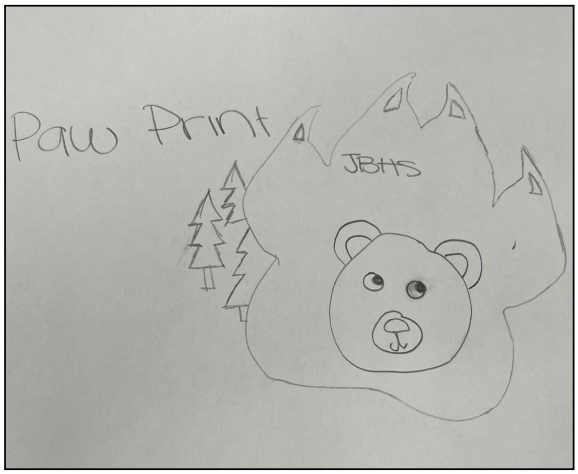
And who knows when the mascot decision and design will be finalized? A discussion with Mr. Chambers suggests not for a few more months. So choosing a name this quickly invites a lot of room for error.

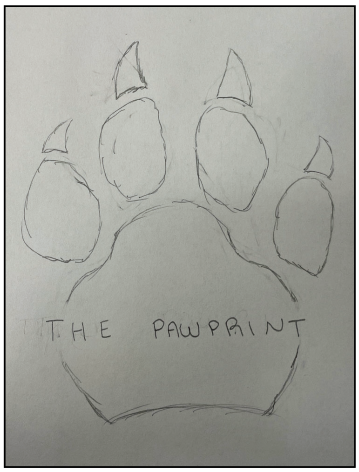
The Journalism class has a heavy burden choosing the next name. What if the future classes don't like it or the mascot aesthetic doesn't match the newspaper name?

Overall the Paw Print does not exude the fierce, tenacious qualities that our mascot probably will (I mean, who is going to design a mascot that is not macho? No one) and would be a mistake.

Also we have to remember that no one wants the John Burroughs student paper to be perceived like it is copying Polytechnic or West Ranch's papers by choosing *The Paw Print.* Let's play it safe and choose a name for the paper with a little less competition with other schools and more cohesion with our new mascot.







BEAR PRINTS

By Judi Browngardt
Staff Writer

This year we have the honor of changing our newspaper's name to one that will uphold the legacy of Burroughs newspapers for decades to come; why choose one that is unrecognizable, unmemorable, and not timeless. *Bear Prints* is a fabulous name and has a deep meaning. It is flexible, makes sense, and will stick for many years. The fate of the Burroughs newspaper is in our hands.

What makes *Bear Prints* such a creative name is that it's a pun. Our school's mascot is a bear; what type of bear isn't clear as of right now, so the bear in bear prints makes sense. Our mascot may not be a grizzly or kodiak bear, so we won't have any confusion with the name *Bear Prints*. Newspapers are printed, hence the "Prints" in *Bear Prints*. Together, they also mean literal bear prints like bear tracks or a paw print. The logo for the *Bear Prints* can be a paw print, a bear journalist, a cute bear, or even a scary bear. There are no limits to what design there can be, making it very flexible.

The name *Bear Prints* is bound to last for many more years and stay relevant. It is very versatile and there is room to grow and develop the concept and change the paper throughout the years. It is a timeless name that everyone will remember for decades to come.

Some may argue about the fact that it's "boring" when it simply isn't. A bear mascot is a simple and classic idea and it deserves a simple newspaper name. With the name *Bear Prints,* we can represent our new mascot without creating unnecessary confusion.

There are endless possibilities with comic or cartoon designs. A cartoon can be based on a bear in any type of situation. There are no limits to cartoons and they can be a fun addition to the newspaper. There can be many bear puns and jokes throughout the paper, as well as creative titles and designs.

Bear Prints is the obvious choice when it comes to choosing a name for the paper. It's new, simple yet has a complex meaning, and it is flexible enough to last forever. *Bear Prints* is recognizable and upholds the professional journalism that the Burroughs newspaper exhibits. With the name *Bear Prints*, our school has the opportunity to create a new, long-lasting legacy for Burroughs' newspaper.

By Diana Mankikyan
Staff Writer

Let's say you finish reading an amazing article and think to yourself, "wow I bet they have a really cool name for themselves!" then look to see the name, *Bear Prints*. Now I understand it's not completely horrible, but it's just bland. In comparison to such things like *The Paw Print, Ursa Major*, and *HiberNation*, there isn't that extra hint of cleverness. I feel like you can add the word "print" with the name of an animal in reference to a newspaper and it would work every time, so it just doesn't feel special. Determining the name of the school's newspaper is very important as it is going to be the name for the next ongoing years.

That leads me to think, if we are going to end up making this major decision, why settle on something as simple as this name. I just believe that if we're going to have this responsibility on our hands we should pick something that's going to add a creative aspect to the John Burroughs community. This is our new chance at creating a name that doesn't have racist undertones and refers to an animal, and I know the best we could do is not just adding the name of our school animal with "print." As I've already mentioned before it's not that it's a bad name, because in actuality it's not, it's the mere fact that it's missing the creative aspect to it.

By picking a "bland" name, in comparison to the others, we are essentially setting ourselves up for a bland reputation. As a school I think there are several creative minds in here, so why limit ourselves to be basic when we can go out to be something that has double meanings, or is just very innovative in general.

Another very important aspect as to why *Bear Prints* wouldn't be as good of an idea is when referring to the graphics that the artists can attempt to do for the newspaper. There is only a limited amount of cartoons and graphics artists can do when following the name *Bear Prints.* I believe it's important to pick a more clever name in order to have more clever drawings to entertain anyone who's reading the newspaper. I mean with the name like *Bear Prints* there's only so much you can do, whereas when choosing a name that has several understandings to it like the *Ursa Major* we can create several artistic images indicating a comparison to space and bears. Once again allowing more room for overall creativity.

In general I do believe that even though this isn't the worst name we could choose, if we want to keep the impression of creativity and uniqueness within our classroom it would be very smart to choose a more interesting name.

THE GRIZZLY GAZETTE

By Molly Boyke
Editor-In-Chief

The Grizzly Gazette is undoubtedly the best option for the newspaper's new name because of its alliteration, class, and creative potential. Furthermore, *The Grizzly Gazette* will give the newspaper an opportunity that it's never had before: the opportunity to have a recurring comic strip with a cuddly main protagonist. As the new title, it will stand the test of time as a tried-and-true label that is neither overly "cutesy" nor too severe for a school newspaper.

The nicely alliterative aspect of *The Grizzly Gazette* is obvious. In last year's poll for the new mascot, a large factor in the final survey became catchiness, as the Bear was put up against the Phoenix. Many in the poll stressed that "The Burroughs Phoenixes" simply did not roll off the tongue, and thus chose the Bears as a memorably easy-to-say option. The importance of brevity and alliteration when rebranding cannot be stressed enough. When choosing a new title, we should match our mascot, and go with something classic, easy to recognize, and easy to remember.

The Grizzly Gazette would be a universally recognizable name among the student body. Recognizability is a huge factor that should be considered when choosing a new name, and it certainly holds its own in this category. The word "Grizzly" is almost synonymous with bear, and "Gazette" is immediately reminiscent of a newspaper. It is quick, to the point, simple, and understandable.

With our previous mascot, creating a recurring comic strip featuring the mascot was simply not an option. With the Bear, however, we have the opportunity to begin this time-honored school newspaper tradition.

The Grizzly Gazette provides the perfect frame for a cartoon centered around a bear protagonist working at a newspaper. It provides creative wiggle room while still lending itself to a structure and a main plot. We can't pass up the chance to start fresh, beginning with our cartoon. This will add a level of character to the newspaper and allow the cartoonists to enjoy a new format.

The Grizzly Gazette is a simple, classy choice that will stand the test of time for years to come. It will allow our newspaper to remain recognizable and down-to-earth while still maintaining professionalism and providing avenues for creative opportunities.

By Alexis Lopez
Staff Writer

While there is no doubt that the name *Grizzly Gazette* certainly has some things going for it, it's important to also acknowledge the disadvantages the name holds. Things such as what the name really means, how it applies to our school and newspaper, as well as originality, all come into play when looking at why we should not go with this name, in addition to other factors.

Let's start with a definition- Gazette (noun): a journal or newspaper. But how many students actually know this definition? While it may seem like the perfect name at first glance, chances are the majority of John Burroughs High School will not find it as "witty" as others might. Need proof? When asked, a majority of students responded with "No… what's that?" to the question "do you know what 'gazette' means?"

In fact, when asked about the name in general, many first thought of a gazelle when hearing the name, even with the "Grizzly" in the beginning! While this may seem silly, it's crucial that we avoid any confusion when it comes to our name, as Burroughs itself is already going through major changes with the new mascot. Having a name that reminds students of a gazelle instead of a bear will not only be confusing, but weaken the interest in the newspaper altogether.

However, let's say this mistake isn't made, and a Grizzly bear is what first comes to mind when hearing *Grizzly Gazette*.

Are we even sure our mascot is a Grizzly bear, specifically? When questioned, school principal Matt Chambers reveals even he doesn't know what species the bear is yet! If the principal himself doesn't know what type of bear our mascot is, it only makes sense to keep our name broad and applicable to many types of bears. It doesn't seem like the best idea to go with a name that zones in on one type of bear, when our mascot could be a black bear, a sun bear, maybe even a panda bear (although the last one is, to be fair, highly unlikely- but there's still a chance)!

Additionally, the name *Grizzly Gazette* isn't even original! Multiple other school newspapers share the same name, including Godinez Fundamental High School, only forty-six miles away, and Los Osos High School, forty-eight miles away! Funnily enough, *The Grizzly Gazette* is also the name of a kids book, designed to help K-8 students learn math.

It's difficult to come up with an entirely new and unique name, yes, but there's still reason to have some doubts about taking on the name ourselves. Not only is creativity highly respected, but sharing a newspaper name with other schools may make things such as advertisements and promotion somewhat complicated.

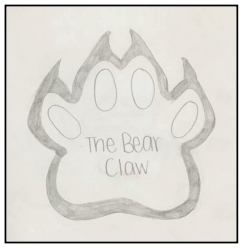
This may seem fussy, but honestly, alliteration? It could be seen as a bit corny, labeling the newspaper with a "cute catchy name" instead of something more professional and relevant. This is a high school newspaper, after all, we want to be seen as at least a *bit* respectable. Sure, it could help students remember the name, but another part of the name might challenge that.

When looking at the complete name of *Grizzly Gazette*, it's also important to acknowledge how long the name actually is. Shorter names are snappy, memorable, easy to keep in mind. Longer names take more time to stick, meaning even with alliteration, students may end up having a harder time recalling what the newspaper is called, leading to less interaction and less readers.

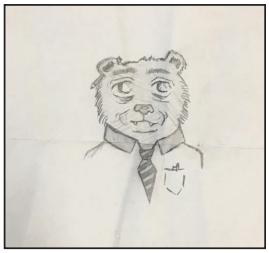
Although some points may seem nitpicky, it's clear there are multiple reasons why the name *Grizzly Gazette* should NOT be the name of the school newspaper.

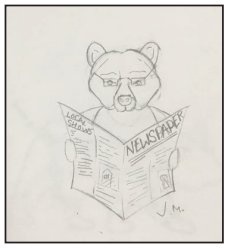
Sure, it's not the worst, but it's wiser to take a look at the other options, taking into account the variety of names that are up for debate and their respective pro's and con's as well!











THE CLAW

By Montana Benz
Staff Writer

With the new change in our school mascot comes many new possibilities, like a new title for the school newspaper; the old title *The Smoke Signal* doesn't seem to be as tight of a fit as it used to be.

A name for the school newspaper has to help represent what we want to be seen as, the John Burroughs Bears. And after discussing all of the new name choices "Bear Claw" comes up as a great example. Although it has a simplistic and basic name, it fits the professional aesthetic, as well as being very easy for many people to remember and understand.

Having *The Claw* as our new title will help represent the school's paper as a symbol with lots of underlying meaning and symbolism.

In addition to the symbolism behind *The Claw,* the name also comes with a simplistic but professional aesthetic. *The Claw* is a short and quick name, being easy for many people to remember. Important aspects behind a name don't only rely on the originality but also the aesthetic of it. *The Claw* is a simplistic but an easy name to remember, helping the newspaper have a more professional outlook.

The name will also help represent the school and school newspaper because it gives a tough facade to the school and the newspaper. Hopefully making it more intriguing to look into, and possibly read. The goal of the name is to be easy enough to remember but also is intriguing enough to have more and more students look into and want to read, and *The Claw* brings both of those ideas to the plate.

In closing, *The Claw* would be an excellent fit for the school's newspaper name. By bringing significance behind the name; although simplistic, still very intriguing, and encouraging more students to read and look into the school newspaper.

By Genesis Martinez
Staff Writer

As we all might know Burroughs High School has changed its mascot from Indians to a bear, which means not only are we changing the mascot but we are also changing the name of the school newspaper.

There have been many good and bad ideas when it comes to names but one of the worst names by far has to be *The Claw*. There are different names that relate a lot better to the bear theme than *The Claw* because there are many different animals that have claws other than bears. Some examples of animals with claws include cats, eagles, sloths, and badgers. The word "claw" is such a broad statement that we should work a lot harder to find a word that not only describes our mascot but also our school.

Another reason we should pick a different name is because there is already a school newspaper with the name "The Claw," and funny enough their mascot is not even a bear! Their mascot is a Cougar which further proves my point that it can be applied to many things, not just a bear. The high school's name is San Lorenzo Valley High School in Felton, California, if it was in a different state than us then I would understand a little bit more but it's not. I would not want to even risk people saying that we copied their name, this is also another issue to think about.

According to a current JBHS student Alexa Medina, "it just sounds cringe and weird." I and other current students I asked said the same or agreed with this statement. I personally don't think that it flows well with a newspaper, it has absolutely nothing to do with literature or journalism or news and doesn't only link to a bear.

When people hear the name "The Claw" they aren't going to assume it is a school newspaper or anything of the sort. They are most likely to think it is a horror movie about a large scary bird.

Ultimately I think that the entire student body should have a say in this process considering the fact that we are going to have this name for around fifty years give or take. I don't want the future generations of JBHS students to ask themselves why the class of 2021 picked such a strange and unrelated name for the school newspaper.

All the reasons stated above like the name having a strong relation to the actual school mascot, having the same name as another school newspaper, and just being straight out "cringe and weird" are why I strongly disagree with naming our school newspaper *The Claw.*

Hopefully you can take this information into consideration when making your pick for the name of the JBHS school newspaper.

Football



By Kaitlyn Baum
Staff Writer

The John Burroughs Varsity Football team is optimistic for a strong season led by a talented group of Seniors, Head Coach Jesse Craven, returning coaches Jose Calzadilla (O-Line/D-Line Coach), Bernardo Castro (Defensive Coordinator), Keith Recchia (Linebacker and special teams), and a new face on offense with Offensive Coordinator Patrick Cartmill.

Coach Craven, who attended St. John's University and has coached at multiple colleges and high schools across Southern California, says that this year he thinks that, "we have a really talented group of Senior players, so my hopes are high for the upcoming season." His overall goal, being, "for all of the players and team to continuously improve week to week."

Since June, both the Varsity and Frosh teams have been practicing for the upcoming season, all of whom, according to Coach Craven, are committed to showing up and improving every day.

The Varsity Captains this year are José Oliveros (left tackle/defensive end), Jonathan English (receiver), Marcus Manahan (running back), Gerry Garcia (linebacker), and Nate Chinna (running back).

José Oliveros, who plays left tackle and defensive end, has devoted himself to football and has been trying to get as strong as possible while setting his own goals to beat. His goals are to receive some scholarship offers, make some big game-winning plays, and enjoy his last year of the sport he has come to love so much. Oliveros says: "I'm pretty excited for this season; of course, we had our ups and downs, but I believe that we can whoop some serious butt if we have each other's backs. We've got some serious potential on our team, and I'm excited to see how it unwinds."

Starting Linebacker Gerry Garcia says, "The team is looking very good, and we have good athletes starting on both defense and offense. The whole team is confident on the personnel we have starting on the field." As one of the captains, he says that he's "getting ready for this upcoming season by making sure the whole team and I have a winning mindset and making sure to practice hard every day." His personal goals for the season are "to lead the league in tackles and TFL's (tackle for losses)." And, of course, he also wants to beat Burbank High!

Wide receiver Jonathan English aims to put Burroughs football on the map again and talked about how some of his fellow teammates also have big goals for the season. According to English, teammate and running back Nate Chinna hopes to have an undefeated season, while fellow running back Marcus Manahan aspires to lead the League in rushing. In addition, several of his teammates hope to get the attention of Division I colleges and earn scholarships to continue playing at the collegiate level.

The season was supposed to kick off on Friday, August 27th, against Santa Monica but was canceled.

After a tough loss of 32-0 on September 3rd against St. Genevieve at LA Valley College, the John Burroughs Varsity Football Team reigned victorious over Westchester High School on September 10th at Memorial Field, with a score of 21-6, in their first home game of the season.

What may have changed between the loss and win? Head Coach Craven says "I think experience, you go into the first game and try to figure out who you are as a team, and we learned a lot from the first game and we were able to improve on that in the second game."

When asked about the keys that led to securing the win, Coach Craven said that the "defense played really well" and "our offense was able to run the ball really well."

Finally, Coach Craven talked about the star players who were the whole defense,the offensive line, and Nate Chinna who scored two out of the three touchdowns in the game.

Here is this season's varsity football schedule:
8/27 - @ Santa Monica HS - CANCELED
9/3 - @ St. Genevieve - LA Valley College
9/10 - Westchester HS
9/17 - @ Hueneme
9/24 - Harvard-Westlake
10/1 - @ Arcadia
10/8 - Crescenta Valley
10/15 - Pasadena
10/22 - @ Muir
10/29 - Burbank

GO BEARS!

Boys' Water Polo

By Ainsley Ghaman
Staff Writer

As many of us know, the Coronavirus pandemic made it virtually impossible for many sports, including John Burroughs High School Boys' Water Polo, to take place during the last school year. This year, the vaccine allowed school to be back in person, and so are the sports. Like so many of our other school athletes, the Boys' Water Polo players are so glad to be back in the water and playing for JBHS.

Coaches Jake Cook and Martin Jennison, who are the JBHS Water Polo coaches, have been leading practices, and getting the team ready for their upcoming season. "They are amazing coaches, who love what they do," said one player. "Coach Martin played for 16 years, so obviously he has a lot of great experience to share, and Coach Jake is a great swimmer who also loves water polo," added another. Both coaches are aiming to make it all the way to the CIF Finals, and bring home a win for JBHS.

The team has been training hard, and are ready to face whatever challenges might lie ahead during the season. "So far, we have played Crespi, which is a strong team overall, with a fast offense and defense," said Ian Duffield. "We've also played La Cañada, St. Francis, and Poly High School, who are all great opponents," he continued, "We're looking forward to our upcoming games, one of which will be played on Tuesday, September Seventh at Burroughs!"

The team has had a strong start to the season, even with a few losses. "So far, most of the highlights of our games have come from our team captains, who have made some really cool plays," said one of the Varsity players.

The entire team is really stepping up, and is fighting hard in every game. "Ryan Lee scored eight goals during one of our games, which was really fun to watch," said Harrison Siegel. If the team continues to work hard and improve, it should be a fun and entertaining season. "Right now the top scorers are Harry, and our amazing Captain Xavier, we still need to work on some things, but we'll get there," said Ian Duffield.

Good luck to Boys Water Polo for the rest of your season!

GO BEARS!



Girls' Golf

By Lincoln Melcher
Staff Writer

"Golf is a game of luck," PGA Tour legend Gary Player famously said, "The more I practice, the luckier I get."

The Burroughs Girls Golf Team is taking this maxim to heart as they head into the 2021-2022 season. They're betting on a heavy summer practice schedule combined with new drills from alumna - turned - coach Ashley Phelps to turn their luck around.

"I definitely think that having played for the school in the past has given me some good insight into what to expect as a coach as well as how I plan the drills we work on in practice," said Phelps, who played collegiate golf at CSUN.

The Bears will face stiff competition from Burbank and Arcadia High schools, according to Phelps. "Both of these programs have been really strong in recent years. Hopefully the work the girls have put in will allow us to put some pressure on these teams."

During the Bears' last season — played in the Spring, concurrent with Boys Golf — cross-town-rival Burbank High School captured the Pacific League title for the first time in that school's history. To secure the W, they bested perennial winner Arcadia by two strokes at the Apaches' home course, Altadena Golf Course, and beat the Bears by thirty.

Junior Alexis Gopez, who first picked up a club as a high school Freshman, says her personal goal is "to lower my score by four strokes," this season. She is co-captain of the Bears squad with Senior Adelina Hernandez.

Hernandez says she wants to "get to the (Pacific League) finals" this year. Last Spring, Senior Annika Lingad, who finished 8th in league individual rankings, was an alternate for the CIF competition.

In 2019, Freshman Kiara Hernandez became the first Burroughs golfer to capture a Pacific League Individual title since 2009, when LPGA golfer Emily Tubert accomplished the feat. But Hernandez later transferred to Burbank High School and is currently first seed on the Bulldog's Varsity squad.

Beginning with a match at Balboa Golf Course this Wednesday, the Bears will tee it up against golfers from Burbank High School, Arcadia, Crescenta Valley, Pasadena and Glendale at six 9-hole league matches — with "a few head-to head matches sprinkled in," according to Phelps.

In addition to Gopez, Hernandez and Lingad, Sophia Olin, Sofia Remelius, Sophia Carter, and Victoria Guess will suit up for the 2021-22 Varsity team.

"We have a great line-up and I know all of us have been practicing hard all summer," said Hernandez. "Our first league match is Wednesday and I'm stoked to see how it turns out."

GO BEARS!

Cross Country

By James Reid
Sports Editor

With a new year comes a new season for many of the great sports of John Burroughs High School. One of these sports is Cross Country. With one invitational already under their belt, the Cross Country team is ready for a strong season this year.

As always, they will be led by the amazing Mr. Peebles. As the only coach, Mr. Peebles ensures the program provides for its students and produces the best athletes possible. He truly cares about his students, and said, "After missing the 2020 season, we are grateful to be getting a chance to get out there and compete again."

On Saturday, September 11th, the Cross Country team participated in their first event of the year. This event was the Rosemead Invitational, held at Rosemead High School in Rosemead. There, many of our JBHS students demonstrated their prowess as Cross Country athletes. Each athlete had to compete in a three-mile run.

For our Senior Girls, Zoe Askerneese (number 8) had the fastest time of 20:27. She was followed closely by Savannah Hernandez (number 9) who ran a 20:29. Other notable times include Sophia Navarro (number 35) with a 21:49, Katie Levy (number 59) with a 23:22, and Kendall St. Clair (number 108) with a 26:03.

For our Senior Boys, Leon Rubarts (number 2) had the fastest time of 16:19. Jalen Leighton (number 3) came right behind with a time of 16:21. The other notable times for our Senior Boys are Chase Eldridge (number 25) with a 17:17, and Andrew Jitendran (48) with a 17:57.

For Junior Girls, the best times were Vivi Cannon (number 6) coming in with a 20:39, and Natalie Shaby (number 46) with a 23:38. As the only Juniors that competed at this meet, they worked really hard, and represented themselves well.

Like the Juniors, the Sophomores had very little representation at this meet. The only Sophomore to compete was Max Brosnan (number 56) who finished with a time of 20:18. As the only Sophomore there, he had a big role to play, which he did excellently.

As for the Freshmen, they came with three people for each competition. On the girls' side, Isabella Galustians (number 18) had the fastest time with 23:36. She was followed by Kayla Cabral (number 112) with a 31:44 and Makayla Victoria (number 117), who ran 32:42.

For the Freshman boys, Andrew Cox (number 96) had the quickest time of 22:34. The two other boys, Andrew Jeronimo (number 127) along with Christopher Miguel (number 139) both scored very well. Jeronimo had a time of 23:45, and Miguel finished with a time of 24:02.

In conclusion, the Cross Country team is doing really well, and it'll be great to see how far they go. With Coach Peebles and his amazing team of athletes assembled, this season is going to be a memorable one. After the heartbreak of not being able to compete last year, the JBHS Cross Country team is back and ready for more!

If you would like to see the Bears compete this season, their schedule is as follows:
September 23 - Pacific League Preview Meet, October 9 - SCV Invitational, October 14 - Pacific League Meet #1, and November 4 - Pacific League Finals.

GO BEARS!

Girls Tennis

By Hope Towne
Staff Writer

This year, the girls' tennis team is coming back in full swing! Varsity coach Roy Bernhardt and JV coach Gajan Fernando have been tirelessly working to make sure that Burroughs will have a full girls' tennis season.

The girls' season will span from September through October, with games on Tuesdays and Thursdays. In an interesting new schedule, from September 7th to 28th, the girls will play out their regular season; however, this year there will also be tiered play for both JV and Varsity teams from October 5th through October 27th.

On Tuesday, September 7th at 3:30, both JV and Varsity teams will kick off the season by playing Hoover High School, JV at home and Varsity away.

Then the girls played their second matches against Glendale at Glendale.

In a spectacular showing of skill and practice, our Burroughs Girls' Varsity Tennis team beat Hoover at home and Glendale away.

One of the reasons given for these two great wins, according to the athletes, is their great coaches, "Mr. Fernando says, 'just stay consistent, you guys got this'" before every match.

GO BEARS!

Girls' Volleyball

By Brooke Bailey
Staff Writer



The John Burroughs Bears Varsity Volleyball team clawed down the Campbell Hall Vikings in the fifth and final set, 3-2, on Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at 3:30PM at home. During the first set of the game, we started off down a few points but that didn't stop our girls from fighting back with everything they had. Many first serves were on fire, which put us back in the lead. Our two amazing captains, Meghan Lynch (setter) and Charlotte Hobson (libero), made many completions on the court. Great passes from Hobson made it easy for Lynch to give our hitters amazing sets to spike the ball over the net and score. With the Bears absolutely dominating, and Campbells' many mistakes adding up, we ended up winning the first set 25-23!

On to the next set. The Burroughs Bears lost this set 25-21. Though we might have lost this set, many beautiful blocks were made by our amazing Juniors, Janessa Warebore and Caitlyn Mendoza. Our girls didn't want to go down without a fight, especially not Senior Heidi Collins with absolutely amazing spikes. After fighting back for another ten minutes, we were still down 22-18. Charlotte Hobson had 3 beautiful serves back-to-back scoring multiple points, along with Meghan Lynch having incredible saves of miscommunicated plays, making the score 24-20, with the Bears down by four. Another fantastic Junior, Kara Aldana-Pere with an impossible spike that makes it 24-21. However, with one last spike from the Vikings, Campbell takes the win 25-21, which left us with the standing 1-1.

In the third set, the Campbell Vikings won again. But that did not stop us Bears from getting back in the lead in the fourth set. Warebore had the first serve in this set, scoring our first point. Amazing plays by Burroughs kept us in the lead 5-2. Meghan Lynch had several groundbreaking serves and Campbell nervously called a timeout with the score being 8-3. Back from the timeout, it didn't take much time for Meghan Lynch to get back in it and score 4 more points for the Bears, now making the score 12-4. To keep up with their lead, Heidi Collins came in with three that couldn't be beat. Campbell was getting very nervous at this point and making many mistakes, leaving the score at 22-12. Burroughs called a time out to figure out that final play for their last points. Collins came back with a beautiful spike ending the fourth set 25-16.

The fifth and final set! We only had to get to fifteen points this set, so we had Janessa Warebore again as our first server. She served and scored the Bears their first point. We started off strong with a four-point lead at 6-2. We kept that lead throughout the entire set, with Meghan Lynch having great serves, Kara Aldana-Pere making insane plays in the middle, and Charlotte not letting any balls hit the ground. Campbell was very shaky and you could see it. That is what cost them the game. The Burroughs Bears took the win at 15-6.

Coach Real, who has led the girls' volleyball team to countless victories such as this, described his motivation to become a coach: "I really enjoyed sports growing up. I wanted to do something with sports and help make a difference in kids' lives. Give them some direction. I thought this would be a good avenue because I had some coaches and mentors that kind of guided me this way as well and I appreciated that."

Getting ready for this coming season was a very busy process, according to Real: "So we ran a summer program and had many practices and played in some tournaments. In August we played in a big tournament the week before school started on the sixteenth."

"Over the last two weekends, we have been in a few more tournaments for pre-season." Real continued. "And then we are playing these pre-season games against really good teams so that when we get to the league it makes it a little bit easier."

This season especially, Coach Real's motivations and goals have played a key role in the success for this season: "[My goal is] to make sure that everyone has a good experience in the program. I think it is pretty important that everyone fits in, in the group as one big family. Unfortunately because of COVID, we couldn't have everyone in the classroom at once."

The team for this year is playing a little more sporadically than usual, but is nevertheless doing their best. "Man, we are up and down, we really are. We play well sometimes and then sometimes we kind of are just like 'where did that come from?'" Real commented. "So this week we've tried to make the practice more competitive and really be mindful of making each repetition their best."

Charlotte Hobson, our amazing libero, described her goals for this year as the team captain: "I think I'm just trying to be a positive player and person. Just be a good role model for the younger players."

Hobson has been playing on the Varsity team at Burroughs for four years, and began playing volleyball in second grade. She joined club volleyball in fifth grade to pursue it further.

Her goals for herself for the season are "[to] continue to improve my skills. And to be more consistent."

"I am excited for this season, I think we still have a lot of work to do," commented Hobson on her predictions for the season. "But I am looking forward to starting playing our league matches, hopefully win league. Get to CIF and get past the quarterfinals because that is like a thing that Coach Real has a little curse about. GO BEARS!"

Our second captain, Meghan Lynch, gave her input on what she hopes to accomplish this season: "To win the CIF and league. And to win as a team and play as a team."

Being in volleyball last year was a tad trying, according to Lynch: "Last year with COVID we played on the grass either at the football field or a random park in Burbank. It was really frustrating with the weather and playing outside was really different for us, but we were able to overcome that. We actually won our grass league and I was really proud of my team."

"This year I hope to win the league again and I hope to have a consistent season with no one going out with COVID." Lynch stated about her aspirations for this year. "And to play together and as a team, that is the main thing I want this year."

This is an exciting year to come, and we are looking forward to seeing our Bears play. Their current record for the pre-season is four and three. They are doing pretty well.

Make sure to come out and see your Bears play in the many upcoming games this season! They recently played against Crescenta Valley on September 7th, and against Muir High School on September 9th. GO BEARS!