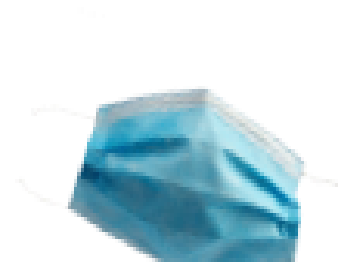




BRUIN



THE

PRESS

Saying Goodbye

Teachers and staff take golden

handshake

In the middle of a pandemic crisis, something terrible

Vlad Barrera, Madison Barrera
News editors

happened. Core faculty members, those who have been with us for years, started deciding, "I'm too old for this," "Somebody else can do it," or they couldn't refuse the golden handshake, which meant they were offered extra money for their retirement...much to our disap

pointment.

Those retiring just can't be replaced. Tracy Mack, Elston Thompson, Patricia Pahner, Dora Woodruff, Cruz Serrano, Marion Terry, Charles Miller, Anna Cano, and Michael Bedard...together they have well over 200 years of service to the community of Bloomington.

These staff members have been working all their life so they would happily retire and be content trying to live their second life. For some of the teachers, there is an ap

peal of retirement, as they are away from all the dead-silence of their online classes, and they could pointedly ignore any events of the outside world.

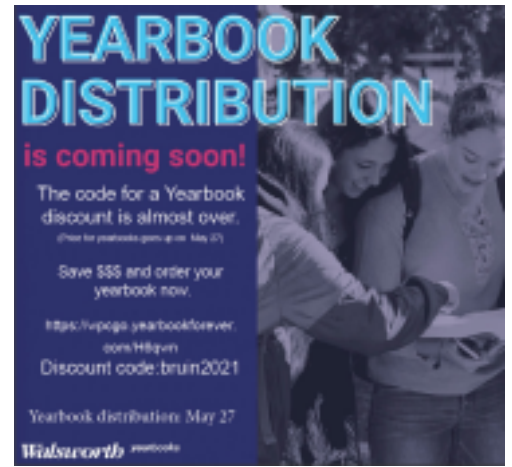
Mrs. Anna Cano and Mr. Charles Miller didn't return our emails, but between those two, they have over 60 years of service for the district. Mrs. Cano did say that, "I will miss everything about BHS, the students, the people, even the birds in the morning."

German. I suppose that would be my greatest achievement, building a strong German program. For my future plans, I would like to maybe volunteer at the

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have been teaching for over

30

years," said Ms. Patricia Pahner, "Frau" as her students affectionately call her. "This is my 27th year at BHS. I have had the same classroom since I started in 1994...room 91. The first few years I taught English, in addition to German, but I quickly expanded the program to five periods including AP



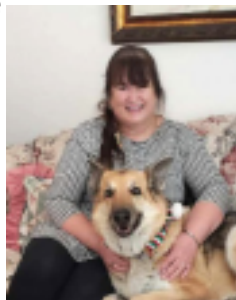
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local animal shelter. I also hope to travel, spend some time visiting relatives and friends in Germany, as soon as we are able. I would also like to visit

the east coast and the many historical sites of our nation's history. I will miss my friends and colleagues and especially my students."



What many of you may not know is that she was department chair for the languages department and started the annual (and very successful) Herbstfest on campus five years ago.

The school has certainly expanded from when these staff members first started: more students, more classrooms, and new buildings. Along with these new buildings, new classes like vet, robotics, and COPS were added while old classes like drafting, metal shop, wood shop, and agriculture were cut. For Frau Pahner, the vet class would have been the best addition, because she is an animal lover. That same classroom is also where she got her dog, Heidi.

"Frau Pahner was a one of a kind teacher. Her classes were never boring especially because each day the class was different. She was very active in teaching us German and she was extremely helpful, even though I know my class drove her crazy most of the time. I wish her all the best in her retirement!" said Louise Carrillo (Class of 2010, four-year German student.)

Good friend and Spanish teacher Mrs. Leticia Herrera said, "Vielen Dank für die wunderschönen Erinnerungen. Ich wünsche dir viele Abenteuer in diesem neuen Kapitel deines Lebens."

Frau will certainly be missed. Since she is the only German language teacher in the district, it is doubtful her German program will continue.



you're not counting, that's 35 years helping students.

Tzaila Valencia had Ms. Mack as a counselor for three years. "Ms. Mack is a great counselor. She was extremely helpful, funny, and understanding. She was one of the most efficient counselors on campus."

"Ms. Mack always believed in me more than I ever did. She never let me give up and she always wanted me to challenge myself. Honestly, best counselor I could ask for!" said Ysabel Ramirez (four years with Ms. Mack as her counselor.)



My plans after retirement involve

traveling and to continue

working in real estate investing," said

Ms. Tracy Mack, our head counselor. "I will miss the students more than anything. I truly loved working with all the teenagers and hearing about their lives. Even so, I will keep in touch with many through Facebook and through the other counselors."

"My greatest achievements have been getting hundreds of kids to graduate and to go to college. I really wanted to see every student accomplish their dreams regardless of the hardships that they had to face. I wanted to be their support guru at the school. I started teaching for BHS in 1986. After that, I became a counselor and did that for 30 more years. I got to know so many families through the years and saw more human emotion than most. It was a tough job, but it was a great ride!" In case

The changes the staff have

seen over the years

at BHS don't just range

from just buildings, but

also population shifts

and staff. Even with the many shifts through the

years in their jobs, like how

they had to teach the kids of the parents they taught, these teachers continued the close-knit feeling between the students and staff. Some, like secretary Mrs. Cruz Serrano, made sure her relatives attended BHS.

"My plans after retirement include spending time with my family, traveling, and going camping. I have been blessed with a beautiful family which includes my husband Danny, my son Danny, his fiancée Jeanette, and my oldest grandson Joseph. And my daughter Desi, her husband Josh, and two very handsome



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Saying goodbye

Continued from page 2

little grandsons Landon and Dyan," said Mrs. Serrano. "I have been at BHS so long I'm going to miss everything about it, even the puddles in the rain! I'm especially going to miss all my friends, counselors, teachers, and the students! I have been asked many times why have I been here so long? My answer has always been the same, I loved helping the students and all the fun we had watching them grow and achieve their goals. Years and years of preparing for graduation and scholarship awards ceremonies. I'm going to miss it all!"

"I'll be checking in on my niece, who's a sophomore at BHS. I have been lucky to have had my nephews and nieces graduate from BHS over the years. My oldest nephew, Michael Abril, was on the 1994 CIF Championship football team that has the national scoring record of 880 points and is now a teacher! My oldest niece JoAnn Baeza is now the director of purchasing for the Colton Joint Unified School District. I was here to watch them all grow up!! I've been around for a very long time. Even the fire of 2011 that burned the admin building! BHS is just not a school, it's a family and one you will remember for the rest of your life!"

"I think I could say that my greatest achievement at BHS was being the best counselor's secretary that I could be and the one that continued to help thousands of students, parents, and teachers over the past 32 years. I have worked for the Colton School District for the past 32 years, starting at the district office as a clerk typist in 1989. I have been at Bloomington High for 29 years working first as the records tech and then as a counselors secretary."

Although Mrs. Serrano has worked with all the counselors, she worked specifically with Mrs. Xochitl Setlich and Mr. David Johnson.

"I have worked with Cruz for over 20 years in the counseling office. She has been my secretary for these past few years and I have enjoyed our time working together. I will miss hearing her stories about her daughter playing softball throughout college and professionally. She loved talking about her grandchildren and I know that she will be spending her time with them in her retirement.

We will miss her at BHS and I wish her continued happiness in her life. Go Rams!" said Mrs. Setlich.

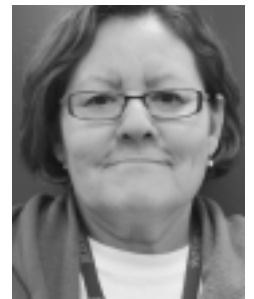
From Mr. Johnson, "Thank you sooo much for all

of the help you have given me the last 10 years! You made my job a heckuva lot easier and I knew I could always rely on you! Enjoy that Harley ride off into the sunset! You have earned it! Now I only have to deal with two Rams fans. May your retirement years be filled with amazing memories with your grandkids, fun-filled camping adventures, and unexpected, pleasant surprises! I'll truly miss you Cruzie and I wish you all the best in your retirement!"

From new principals to new AP's, from counselors

and staff to new buildings (the MPR, the Math and Science building, football and baseball fields) she has seen the changes before her eyes. Mrs. Dora Woodruff has been known as our "locker room lady" for 43 years. Due to personal issues, she couldn't answer our questions. But someone who has worked at our school for so long deserves a few words.

"Mrs. Woodruff has been at BHS for over 30 years. She is very detail-oriented and organized. She always made sure the girl's locker room was spotless and organized. There were many times when I was the athletic director at BHS when opposing teams had to use the girl's locker room. If that team or anyone else made any kind of a mess in there, she would let me know about it. She took a lot of pride in her job and was also always around the PE facilities during class time wanting to help or letting everyone know who was taking out too many loaner clothes and things like that. Mrs. Woodruff also organized a lot of potlucks and BBQ's for the PE and maintenance staff that we all enjoyed and brought us all closer together outside of our normal work routine. She has done a lot of good things for the stu



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NATION

What's in the news

Vlad Barrera, Madison Barrera
News editors

Take that Patriots

Feb. 7 was the day they held the 2021 Super Bowl LV. The event was held in Tampa, Florida. 25,000 people attended the game, along with around 25,000 cardboard cutouts of fans. The game was highly anticipated, to see 2020's MVP Patrick Mahomes go head to head with six time Super bowl champion Tom Brady. The Buccaneers had a strong presence on the field, having the upperhand the whole game. The final score was 9-31 making the Tampa Buccaneers the Champions of the 2021 Super Bowl.

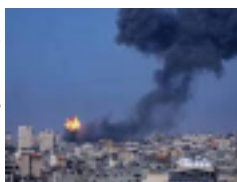
Doggone Dangerous

On Feb. 24 at 9:40pm, Lady Gaga's dog walker was shot during a violent altercation which ended in two of Lady Gaga's French bulldogs being stolen. Five suspects have been arrested in connection with the incident. The suspects' ages range from 18 to 50 years old and all are expected to appear in court. Police have also discovered that four of the five suspects are documented gang members. Ryan Fischer, Lady Gaga's dog walker survived the shooting and has discussed his ongoing recovery in several social media posts.



Possible war breaking out

A cold, normal evening was lit ablaze with the sounds of soaring missiles as Israel continues its airstrikes in response to Palestine's aggressive bombardment of its cities. In the city of Gaza on the morning of March 12, 2021, citizens woke to the sounds of explosions and the smell of smoke. According to Palestinian health-officials, the rocket attacks have killed 35 people including 12 children during the assault. Tensions between Israel and Palestine have never been higher as



the two countries prepare for war.

Kentucky Derby controversy

Hall of Fame trainer Bob Baffert, whose horses have failed five tests in a little more than a year, was suspended after the latest race, but he denied wrongdoing. If Baffert is disqualified, Medina Spirit will be stripped of his Kentucky Derby title won on May 1. He becomes only the third horse in the 147-year history of the race to receive such a penalty after finishing first. The drug found in Medina Spirit's system was betamethasone, a corticosteroid injected into joints to reduce pain and swelling.

Death of a driving legend

On May 2, Bobby Unser, a three-time winner of the Indianapolis 500, and part of the only pair of brothers to win "The Greatest Spectacle in Racing" died at age 87. Unser came from a family of race car drivers, including brothers Al and Jerry. Between the brothers, the family won nine Indy 500s. It has been confirmed by his wife, Lisa, that he passed away at his home in Albuquerque, New Mexico, due to natural causes.



Health care

The action by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) affirms that federal laws forbidding sex discrimination in health care also protect gay and transgender people. President Biden proposed on May 10 to build on the ACA (Obamacare) by increasing premium assistance and creating a Medicare-like public option plan, which would be available to anyone and automatically cover people with low incomes in states that have not expanded Medicaid. He would also lower the age of eligibility for Medicare to 60 years, and support increased federal funding to states for Medicaid during the economic crisis.

Show does not go on

The Ellen DeGeneres Show has won 64 daytime Emmy awards and is currently in its 18th season. The show will end in the year of 2022 after its 19th season, confirmed by DeGeneres on May 21. DeGeneres said, "When you're a creative person, you constantly need to be challenged-and as great as this show is, and



as fun as it is, it's just not a challenge anymore." However, the show was plagued with charges that several producers and staff were creating a toxic work environment. After several of her cast members sued, she fired many of her key executives, but her ratings fell dramatically.

Shocking crime

On Sunday morning, May 12, 13-year old Tristyn Bailey was reported missing by her family. Her body was found later that evening near her home in Jacksonville, Florida. She was found stabbed multiple times with evi

dence of rape. A 14-year old classmate was arrested and charged with murder.

Protests grow

In Colombia, there have been a reported 41 deaths of civilians as of May 14 as people protest a tax that was passed that hurt most of the population of Colombia, especially the lower class. Although the tax has been canceled, the protests have not stopped. They are now asking for a basic income and an end to police violence. The crowds now have Columbia worried about the spread of COVID to an already overwhelmed hospital system.

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dents, staff, and community of BHS and will be missed," said PE teacher Christopher Brickley.

Students also noticed her kindness. "I loved that she took her time to have a conversation with students about things she noticed. One time, she asked me about a necklace I was wearing and how her mom had one too. I just loved how she would always tell us her story's about certain items she had," said Aracely Gomez.

and fish. I am retiring so that I have more time for myself and my family.

I am going to miss all of my fellow teachers and students at BHS. My achievements during my time working here were being able to coach for 18 years in baseball, basketball, and golf. For 30 years I was a PE teacher and I loved every minute of it," said Mr. Elston Thompson.

Students love his easy-going personality.

"He was a cool teacher and I loved how he would interact with his students and that he wasn't serious all the time," said former student Liliana Zepeda.

Fellow PE teachers said, "Thompson has been one of the most supportive colleagues here at BHS. He's always willing to give me advice on how to handle situations with my classes. Very genuine, always asking how the family is and how my classes are. I am going to miss his stories and humor. Enjoy your retirement," said Mrs. Rosa Quiroz (Rookie). And Mr. Luke Brenner added, "Having Coach Thompson to work with was a great experience. I knew no matter what my situation and stress level he would always have words of wisdom and experience laced with humor and support. I'll miss him on the black

Speaking of PE, a long-time

member of the

department has also reached out for the golden handshake.

"My plans after retirement are to travel, play golf,



top but see him on the golf course. Love ya Coach!"

M

s. Marion Terry is best known as the

work experience teacher at BHS. But she has a long career in the district. "I started teaching in 1998, teaching mostly after noon kindergarten and teaching Reading Recovery in the morning. Reading Recovery was a program to work with the lowest first-grade students to help them learn to read.

In 2006, I switched to secondary school teaching computer classes. I was a computer programmer prior to becoming a teacher. Later I taught math classes. For the last six years, I have taught work experience at all the high schools. I love helping students. Teaching Reading Recovery, CAHSEE math, and Work Experience have been the most rewarding.



"In retirement, I plan to do some traveling and hope to volunteer at an elementary school teaching Reading Recovery to first grade students."

Something many of you may not know, Ms. Terry has been the teachers' union web designer for a few years.

"She is so organized.... and thoughtful in giving

her time to get the ACE (teacher's union) website updated and keeping it current. She's also very helpful in tracking the progress of kids so they can keep their work permits... and genuinely concerned that they do well in school and work. She's always pleasant and I have enjoyed working with her," said English teacher Ms. Jennifer Rugh (who is also a union representative).

"She's the nicest. Ms. Terry was very sweet and caring for the students given to her. She would do anything in her power to help them succeed. She took her job seriously while still being understanding of other people's situations. She really helped with my first job as well as other people and she will be so missed. She's the most caring and selfless person ever," said Miranda Cano.

L

ast but certainly not least,

Mr. Michael Bedard announced that AP US History will have to go on without him, his big container of pretzels, and his sense of humor.

"After retiring, I have always had plans to continue doing some research and hopefully writing a couple

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~~FEATURES~~

~~Seniors final say~~

Poll of the month *Seniors, what*

advice would you give to the underclassmen

"Don't lose sight of the big picture."
Veronica Rios

"Enjoy it right now. If things go back to normal, go out with your friends to eat, go to football games and other school events. Don't wait until next year because things happen, just like COVID." Windell Viste

"To cherish the moments you have in these four years because they go past so fast." Carlos Cancino

"Never lose hope no matter how hard it gets. Have fun but always remember that it's your responsibility to choose the future you want." Jose Villasenor

"Don't be nervous. Don't be shy. Focus on what makes you happy. Believe in yourself. Learn to study. Settle for nothing less than your very best." Jesse Diamond

"Well ... this was nothing like High School Musical, that's for sure. High school isn't easy and it will change you throughout the years. you might lose the friends you have now, you might meet your high school soulmate but either way, everything in high school turns out to be temporary from what I've seen my past four years. I wasted my years and barely did anything until junior year. So I'm telling you now, don't waste your time worrying about others, enjoy high school, be confident, don't change for anyone, don't miss out on school events and most importantly make sure grades are your top priority. It's gonna be a bumpy road so please be prepared for stressful nights and so much procrastination. Stay focused on school and don't slack off, but most importantly have fun. I wish you all the best and may the next four years of high school be amazing for you guys. :)"

Lailanee Murillo

"I would let them know to not be afraid and to ask for help when you really need it." Celeste Espinoza

"A piece of advice I'd like to give underclassmen would be to not let anyone or anything get in your way of being successful. I've seen many people that have the potential of big things, but they never reach their potential because

they get distracted or even influenced. So, in simpler words, just do you and let nothing get in your way." Alyssa Valdez

"I think my advice would be to enjoy yourself. Obviously, you still need to pass your classes and be successful.

However, it's equally important to have fun while doing it. Which unfortunately is a lot easier said than done." Alberto Casillas Tirado

"The advice I would give underclassmen is to focus on your classes and to not take your high-school years for granted." James Jauregui-Montano

"The advice I would give underclassmen is to drop out." Rodrigo Sanchez

"Um....focus on school because I definitely didn't, haha." Anthony Perez

"Enjoy high school. Time really does fly by fast so try to get involved on campus. It's something I wish I did sooner." Camila Diaz

"Stay positive and know that everything happens for a reason. Also don't take anything too seriously if it doesn't involve school work. Positive people attract other positive people. Lastly remember that grades don't define how smart you are, remember that after every score." Earianna Johnson

"Live your life. Don't let what other people think stop you because the time you have in high school flies by way too quickly. A lot of your actions in high school will be amazing, some not so much. But the important part is you live it to the fullest, have fun, do good work, and pass your classes. Make a good impact on other peoples' lives, smile, and make some memories you'll never forget." Margarita Ortiz

"Be involved in as many things you can and do everything you're interested in. Just enjoy high school and stay out of as much drama as you can. The next 4 years will fly by and you're going to regret not doing some of the things you were scared to do." Gwentyth Williford

"Don't over stress on AP classes, take the ones (classes) that seem interesting to you!" Nevaeh Gutierrez

"I know it's one of the hardest things for kids to realize, but honestly, be your most genuine true self. I really say just enjoy the four years you spend here. Make as many memories as you can. Personally I never really did any

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Saying goodbye

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of specific books. I will do some traveling and perhaps spend more time in my favorite places, and catching up with old friends. Might even clean out the garage."

Mr. Bedard was the first and only teacher to teach AP US History on campus.

"I will miss teaching United States history to students. I will miss all the AP students that have come through over the years. I will miss the people I have worked with over the years, who were really some very special people."

As a history teacher, he is certainly knowledgeable about BHS' history.

"I have seen many changes at BHS over the years. Physically the campus grew immensely. I've known and still know people who were at BHS in its beginning and so have experienced the school's evolution through its whole history. Quite a story there."

"I've worked at Bloomington since 1986. I became chairperson of the social science department in 1990



and have had the honor of representing so many good folks in our department for 31 years. I started the AP US History

program in 1991 at BHS. I had 14 students in the first year. Hundreds of students have achieved college credit through that program in the last 30 years. We now usually have over a hundred students enroll in that course, and I've enjoyed teaching every one of those people and I always strove to give them a true, solid education of US History, and having a heck of a lot of fun doing it. As I always told the students, 'this is why I come to work each day, you.'"

What many of you may not know is that Mr. Bedard also brought the Poll Workers program to the school, allowing hundreds of students to learn a bit about how the government is run first hand, and make some money

in the process. He was also School Site Council president for 21 of the 30 years he was part of this group. He was also the social science department chair for 31 years, the longest running chair in BHS history.

"I am so happy that last year's class, now seniors, had the highest number of AP US History exam passers in our program's history. A big regret of mine is not being able to see their faces at school after the test and congratulate them. They did a very special thing. There have been many students over the years I will not forget. And some wonderful characters! I know they have all become very good adults," said Mr. Bedard.

Students and teachers alike can't say enough good things about Mr. Bedard.

"Mr. Bedard was hands down one of my favorite teachers. He's genuinely passionate about what he teaches and made me love a subject I used to hate before.

He's also super funny and made a difficult class enjoyable to be in. I wish nothing but the best for him and his future," said Darleen Baca-Urias, who had AP US History last year.

"Mr. Bedard is one of the funniest teachers that I've ever had the pleasure of having for my AP US History class. He perfectly balances the events described in the textbook with witty humor regarding the given subject, especially his jokes about Henry Clay. I am very grateful to have him as a teacher," added Gabriel Gonzalez.

And don't forget, people like Mr. Bedard have taught your older siblings and even your parents. "Hearing Mr. Bedard retire is honestly really sad because his AP US History class was really fun and educating. He was a funny teacher who prepared us for the AP test despite us being online last year," said Windell Viste, the last of the Viste family that Mr. Bedard has taught. From alumni Brandon Moguel (Class of 2014: "Come on, man! I'm sure you have another 35 years still left in the tank! Either way, you have a lot to be proud of. Thanks to you, the names of the first 20 presidents are permanently etched into many minds and can be rattled off on command. This unique skill has made me a blast at parties and I am eternally grateful. David McCullough said, 'The best teachers are those who have a gift and the energy and enthusiasm to convey their love for science or history or Shakespeare or whatever it is...they can electrify the morning when

FEATURES

Poll of the **three** *Seniors* **month** Continued from page 6 *are limited to three tickets for graduation*

thing because I wasn't as social. Don't fall into the wrong

Power of

crowd and remember to have a little fun, just don't

do anything that you'll regret later on." Michael Sanchez

Rosaisela Cuellar, Adrianna Fuentes, Ismael Gonzalez
Staff writer



"Enjoy your time in high school, it'll be over before you know it."

Collin Reeves

"Always do what's best for you." Lucy Garza

"Honestly, I'd say live life, get the full high school experience, and go to games and events like homecoming."

Destiny Rivas

"I think you should live it to the fullest and forget about feeling nervous or awkward. Step out of your shell and enjoy moments that come only once." Ivan Zaldivar

"Try out and join as many sports/clubs as possible. Even if you think you're not really interested, you should still try out because you may never know if you'll like it or not.

The worst they can say is no, and if you don't like it you can try something else, but you miss 100% of the opportunities you don't take." Xochitl Martinez

"Your freshman year is the most important; don't take it for granted...and be mature."

Bryanna Cruz

"Kid, you've got 2-3 years to think about whatever it is you want to do and then some. You've got awhile to explore

and seek out what exactly you want to spend the rest of your life doing. I say, just as everyone else says, 'Do what makes you happy.' I know everyone says it, but it's the truth. The seniors before me said these exact words and I didn't think much of it. But when you take into consideration that the seniors before them said those words, and the men and women before them, and the seniors of their generation too. It begins to seem almost ethereal and haunting. Crazy thought, eh? You'll say the same thing too when you're Senior, and you'll continue the chain. It's like an endless choir of men and women long gone singing the same part of a song on repeat."

Darwin Manansala

"It's okay to not know what you want to do when you graduate, don't let school hold you back on all the activities. Go to the football games, join clubs, join a sport, make the most out of your high school experience. Your GPA doesn't reflect the kind of person you are; you're more than that. And never wait last minute to finish things!"

Mariana Robledo

"Try to have fun and enjoy it while it lasts because it goes
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I understand because of COVID, but I feel it's unfair for students who have bigger families. The school should have made it for at least five people of a family to come," said Samantha Esquivel.

Senior year is coming to an end. That means prom, grad nite, senior activities, and most importantly... graduation. This year is a little different. This year, seniors didn't get the high school senior experience but that doesn't mean it's over.

On April 16, the school board approved to have an
Continued to page 10



in-person graduation at the San Manuel Stadium. Of course, there are rules and limitations to the ceremony. Each student is given only three tickets for the graduation ceremony. Students were pretty upset when they heard the news.

"Honestly I'm grateful and upset at the same time that we are only able to take three people to graduation. I'm personally thankful that

we are able to take at least some of our loved ones to see the ceremony. However, I feel that they should allow us to have a few more tickets because some families are bigger than others and it's hard to choose which one to leave out. Every single one of my family members have supported me through high school to get to this moment to see me receive my diploma, and if I don't have my whole family there I'd feel like I didn't graduate at all. Hearing my loved ones in the background as I receive my diploma would make all of what we went through worth it all. On the other hand, if everyone wasn't there, I'd be sad the whole ceremony. This is only an event that I will be remembering forever as my senior year. I understand that the rules are in place of COVID, however, I feel that

~~FEATURES~~

~~Saying goodbye~~

Continued from page 7

you come into the classroom. We've all had them, and they can change your life.' You were that teacher for me

and so many others. You made history the thrilling and fascinating subject that it deserves to be. Today I teach American History for 8th graders in Los Angeles, and the lessons you gave are a lasting inspiration to the work I do every day. Enjoy your well-deserved retirement, Mr. Bedard. I cannot thank you enough.”

This tribute from co-worker Mr. Mason Branham said it all:

“Mr. Bedard wasn’t just my department chair and coworker, he was one of my teachers. Way back in 1989, I had Mr. Bedard as a teacher. He was teaching POD back then. I liked the way he taught the class. In fact, whenever my technology would fail me as a teacher, I would tell my students, ‘I am going to teach like Mr. Bedard today.’

He was my blueprint for teaching without technology (because in my day, we didn’t have the technology to help a teacher). One thing I remember well about being a student in Mr. Bedard’s class was being in there with a student who wasn’t all that bright. He wasn’t a gifted student and in fact, he struggled to get the concepts. I remember Mr. Bedard slowly walking him through some topics to make sure he understood. At the time, I was thinking that he should just ignore the kid. But he didn’t, and by the time he was done, the kid understood. I was impressed with Mr. Bedard’s patience and perseverance.

Now, as a teacher, when I am walking one of my students through a concept or idea, I automatically go back in my mind and emulate Mr. Bedard. One more thing... In Mr. Bedard’s class, he passed out voter registration forms, we filled them out, and he mailed them in. For the rest of my life, every time I vote, I will think of Mr. Bedard.”

Long-time teacher and former alumni, Ms. Lisa Padilla said, “At the end of this school year, BHS will say goodbye to one of its longest-serving teachers, Mr. Michael Bedard. After thirty-six years of teaching history at BHS, Mr. Bedard has worked with thousands of students and his US History class was a “rite of passage” for many. His tests were known great challenges that seemed insurmountable at first, but as students learned to study to adapt and absorbed the content, they learned to achieve at higher levels and were proud of what they are able to do because Mr. Bedard held his standards high. At first, Mr. Bedard may have seemed intimidating, but many

the

chosen

one

Be as cute and

popular as Grogu (Baby Yoda) and

Join Yearbook/Newspaper for the
2021-2022 School Year

- Impressed that Yearbook was the only class that PHYSICALLY created a book that you can own forever despite COVID?
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- Want to learn to take better photos?
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students came to love his sense of humor, his individuality and his care for them. He was a father figure to many, giving advice as he would to his own children.

Students saw that Mr. Bedard led by example, holding him

self to high standards and modeling a love for history.

The first and only AP US History teacher at BHS, Mr.

Bedard developed the APUSH program at BHS and worked tirelessly to prepare and motivate his students to excel on the rigorous Advanced Placement exams.

Mr. Bedard’s classroom is a historical archive itself, with the walls covered with student work, newspaper clippings, presidents and first ladies, and memorabilia from peo

Continued to page 12

You are

~~FEATURES~~

Poll of the month

~~Limited tickets~~

Continued from page 8

things have gotten better than before and in that case we should be able to bring more people," said Elizabet Valdez. Students with big families were expecting to have enough tickets to invite their families. "I feel bummed out for sure. I have a really big family, and they all would really love to see me graduate in person. It's hard telling them that they can't be there, but they do understand that it's due to COVID-19 restrictions. It sucks, but what can we do? We have to stick with the procedures if we want things to get better," said Aiyana Castañon. Having your family come to your graduation ceremony is a big deal for every student. "Honestly, I do feel sad about only getting three tickets for graduation. I have been waiting for this day for the past four years and I always thought I could have my close immediate family by me. I wish I could have my cousins who have always supported and helped me through everything. My aunt and uncle who have been a huge motivational factor. It also sucks for the families that have 2-3 siblings or more. Every

one should be a part of this special day for the class of 2021 because we made it! Even through all the chaos. But I am still very grateful to be having an in-person graduation!" said Eleyca Martinez.

Students are also understanding the rules that they have to follow. "It sucks because not all my family member's are going to be able to go. But it's fine since at least we are going to have a graduation," said Maria Luevano.

Purchasing a cap and gown has become an issue. Since COVID still exists, seniors weren't expecting a real graduation. The number of seniors who bought a cap and gown is lower than most years. The deadline to buy was extended various times.

Elissa Villegas

"If your parents ever try to prevent you from spending your own hard earned money on something you're really passionate about, for example in my case car parts, tell them it's either drugs or this." Edwin Sanchez

"Fellow underclassmen don't mess up in the beginning because then it can affect you in the future, I learned that the hard way."

Xavier Ramirez

"Try to join as many clubs even if you're afraid. Try to go to every event that you can."

In our unofficial poll of 55 Blooming seniors, 53 bought their cap and gown two did not. According to ASB advisor, Ms. Misty Wright, 111 out of 559 seniors did not purchase or rent a gown.

Eileen Torres

"That does not include those seniors who will not graduate."

"Stay motivated, don't let one year take you down and don't let it ruin your growth."

Currently there are about 60 seniors who did not meet graduation requirements.

Continued from page 8

by too quick. Try to go to every activity and game you can because you'll regret it if you don't."

Jacqueline Alvarez

"My advice would be first make a good impression on your teachers because at the end of the day, you're going to need them. Secondly, don't be scared to get involved in school activities. Lastly, just be you and enjoy your high school experience because it will only happen once." Adrianna Fuentes

Mohamad Awad

"Have fun and enjoy the experience, but don't lose track of your goals along the way."

"Don't procrastinate. School can be hard, but it's not always going to be like that."

Marlene Garibaldo

"Don't procrastinate, it's so easy to fall behind and you will regret it later on. Also participate."

Maria Luevano

"Make friends who you can trust and have fun with them!" Kirstin Clark

"Make the most of all four years because they do fly fast even if they seem far away."

Estephanie Pacheco

"My advice for underclassmen is to just be yourself." Eileen Munoz

"Maintaining relationships is great but make sure to maintain healthy habits for yourself." Samijay Fleming

Continued to page 12

OPINIONS

Madison Barrera

The paws have it Review of Netflix shows

The very first trailer which

Editor

(62,000 fans). We also see... well,

The Bruin Press

2020-2021

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Madison Barrera

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introduced *Selena The Series* dropped Nov. 12, 2019. The trailer introduced actress Christiansiblings Suzette and AB Quin tanilla, Serratos (of *Twilight* and *Walking Dead*) as Selena Quintanilla. It made many fans excited to see what this series would bring to the table, give us insight that the movie missed.

The *Selena* series has two seasons, both parts consisting of nine episodes for about 16 hours of running time.

Student opinion

of the series focused more on the beginning of Selena's life, from

childhood to the beginning of her singing career. It also went into depth with her relationship between Chris Perez and Selena, and AB writing many of their hits like *Como la Flor* and *Bidi Bidi Bom Bom*. We are also introduced to Yolanda Saldivar, a woman who

In the second season, we see Selena's career taking off, AB's struggles to write and produce, Selena's elopement and marriage problems, her Grammy win (and forgetting to thank her husband), and selling out the Astrodome

we know how this story ends. I would give this show 4.5 paws. This series did go through Selena's life from childhood through her death. It also goes into detail on her hit songs, especially all the time and frustration that AB went through to write songs with Ricky Vela (keyboard

ist) or to go meet with famous producers to convince them to give music to him for Selena. It fills in the gaps that the movie missed. If you're a Selena fan, learning the background of her famous songs is informative. The first part of the series was watched by 25 million households within the first 28 days after its release in December. As for the second part, those numbers haven't been released, but Selena's music has been spiking ever since. Her music catalog went up 70% since the release of part two, and her music ended up entering Billboard's Latin Pop Album Chart where it climbed to the top 10.

There were some flaws. Christian Serratos didn't fit the lip syncing very well and she didn't have Selena's natural curves (you can tell they had to pad up Serratos' rump.)

Since the story is told from both Suzette's and AB's

perspec-

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Leticia Desrochers

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FEATURES

~~Goodbye~~

Continued from

page 9 ple and places significant to his tory and Mr.
Bedard and his stu dents. Overlooking the lectern is
an album cover with 'Connie,' and enigma that many
students

remember and struggle to figure out.

For many years, Mr. Be dard also organized
graduation practice and read graduates' names at
the graduation ceremo ny. He lent dignity to our
grad uation ceremonies and guided students and
staff to ceremonies that were dignified, celebrat ing
students' achievements. For many graduates, the
sonorous sound of Mr. Bedard reading their name
is their final passage on the way to adulthood and
life after high school.

Many students may not know all of the ways in
which Mr. Bedard was a leader at BHS -- he served
as department chair for the Social Science depart-
ment for many years, helping to develop curriculum
and assess ments, guiding and supporting new
teachers, and supporting his department's staff. He
was a leader in our WASC accreditation committees
and served on BHS' School Site Council for over
twenty years, most often as the chair person.

While we all wish Mr. Be dard the best in his
retirement, it is with sadness that we see him leave;

he has truly been one of the "legends" of BHS. His
shoes will undoubtedly be impossible to fill."

~~Poll of the~~

month

Continued from page 10

"School is really how hard you make it, if you procrastinate all year
long you'll never make it to see next year."

Angel Gonzalez

"Playing a sport will keep you on track with school and class work
every time." Elijah Cooper

"Do a sport and join a lot of clubs, and do your very best to create
the best person you can be in high school. Stay away from drugs
and alcohol, and don't fail any classes if you can. Try to get out of
your comfort zone and challenge yourself too."

Eli Sebastian

"It's incredibly important to stay on top of your homework, and a part of that is avoiding the classes that give you more than you can handle." James Krejci

"Enjoy all the events you go to and don't let your friends hold you back from doing sports or activities. Be nice to your teachers and you will have a much better experience when you have a good relationship with people at school. Don't be afraid to ask questions and email people when you need help. Don't put too much pressure on yourself with classes, do what you think you can handle." Rosaisela Cuellar

"Try your best not to procrastinate so that you'll be able to live your high school years without having to worry. Also, don't get into drama, it's high school, it's not worth it. You guys are going to go on separate paths eventually. If you don't like someone, there's no need to waste your time speaking badly about their name, just focus on yourself." Janie Igoe.

"Don't waste your time, and try new things and experiment, you'll never know what you might like."

Jago Legaspi

"My advice would be to truly take advantage of high school experience because these four years fly by so fast and before you know it, it'll be your time to graduate."

Mizly Munoz

"High school goes by fast so enjoy it and make the best of it while you're still there."

Leslie Avalos

"In life, there's going to be times where you fail. It's okay to not be able to succeed but it matters how you react and learn from it."

Gabriela Ramos

"Have fun, but also focus on your school work. Join activities, make sure you pass your classes, and go to summer school if you don't pass." Joseph Amezcua

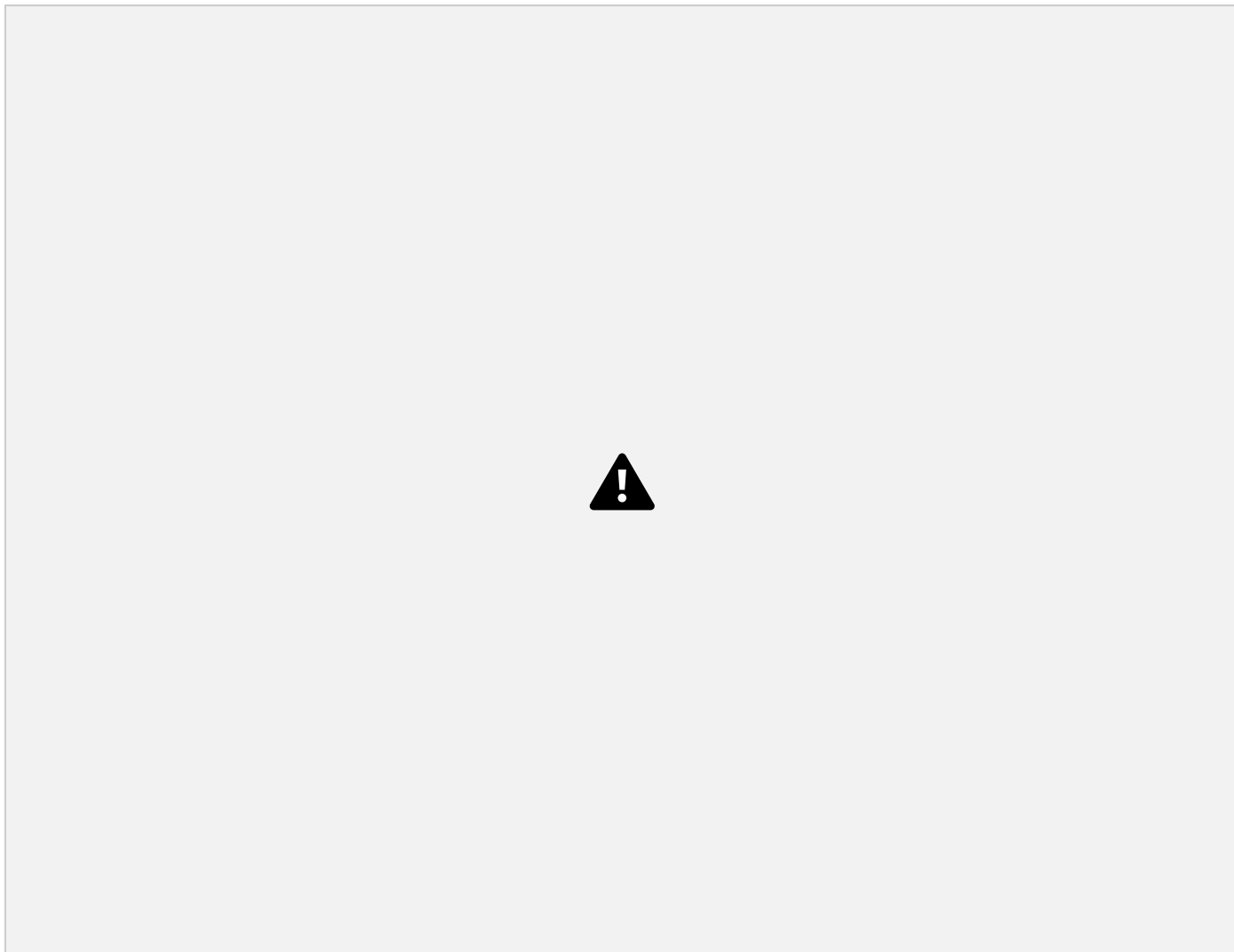
"Cherish high school because it goes by so fast. I didn't believe it when people told me this, but now we're a week from graduation. Thinking back, it really does go by quick."

Elizabeth Rodriguez

FEATURES

Review of Netflix shows Continued from page 11

tive, you learn more about them than anything new about Selena herself. I think I would recommend it more to people who have an idea who Selena Quintanilla is. I liked how it was based off of her siblings as well, but then again the series is supposed to pay tribute to Selena. Still, for those Selena fans obviously still out there, 16 hours out of your schedule is well worth the time. And even though we know how her story ends, make sure you have plenty of tissue for the final episode.



~~Poll of the~~ month Continued from

page 12

"What advice I would give to an incoming freshman? It would be to get into clubs and make new friends, do things you love. If you don't try it once then you will never know if you liked it. Remember grades don't define you, you define yourself. I Enjoyed high school because I did!!"

Dominick Ramirez

"Be yourself, don't care what others think about you, enjoy life to the fullest; be bold."

Brandon Garcia

"Do your work on time, it'll be a pain to turn in all at once." Diego Zavala

"The advice I would give to underclassmen is try not to fail a class, take summer school and get ahead; trust me you won't regret it. Also find a teacher who is willing to help you out with anything like Mrs. Mojica, Ms. Desrochers, Mr. Ochoa. Best teachers out there."

Aracely Gomez