

H O B A C H I

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The future of RHS: The significance of Proposition 2 and Measure D

By Vanshika Singhi | Staff Writer



Photographed by Gabriel McLeod

Two ballot measures directly impacting Redlands schools were up for vote and passed on November 5th: Measure D and Prop 2. Both propose significant funding aimed at upgrading and securing school facilities across California and specifically within the Redlands Unified School District (RUSD).

According to *Redlands Daily Facts*, “The first was Measure D. Measure D is the RUSD School District Bond Proposal to authorize \$500 million to Redlands schools for infrastructure and safety improvements on all campuses. This Measure will be paid from a property-tax increase of \$45 per year for each \$100,000 of assessed (not market) property taxes.”

Proposition 2 was a state proposition: a bond measure that gives the California State Legislature authorization to allocate a maximum \$100 billion dollars to all CA K-12 school districts for repair, upgrade, and construction of facilities on school campuses. Proposition 2 will be repaid by California tax payers, plus interest, for the next 35 years.

If a California school district approved a measure

for the ballot, and voters passed the measure on November 5th, Proposition 2 will match the dollar amount approved in the measure. This means Redlands Unified will be receiving \$1 billion dollars from the passing of both Proposition 2 and Measure D.

RHS is the oldest school in Redlands. Some of the buildings are over a century old, the newest of which being the portables, which were installed in the 1990s.

According to US History teacher James Verhoeven, “Since Redlands High School is the oldest high school in the state of California on its original site, we have many areas of need.”

“One idea is to tear down and rebuild RHS completely.” Verhoeven says. “I think there are several good reasons to support this idea. However, the language in the bond is very vague to give the district the greatest amount of flexibility to address needs district-wide.”

Concerning Measure D, Principal Wes Cullen says, “In the short term, funds will be provided to the Redlands Unified School District, which will grant them to schools within the district based on

their specific needs. Since RHS is the oldest campus in Redlands RUSD, it’s expected that it will receive funds to address necessary updates and repairs, including roofs, air conditioning, plumbing, buildings, electrical systems, and internet/data infrastructure.”

Before the election, Cullen said, “If Prop 2 passes, Redlands Unified will be given funds to allocate to all 26 schools in the District to repair or improve facilities. The amount of funds that Redlands Unified and RHS would get from this Proposition are unknown at this time.”

Cullen mentioned that Clock Auditorium requires the most work, since it needs repairs and updates to its infrastructure, roof, electrical systems, plumbing, and ADA accessibility for students and families.

He added that the other campus buildings also need similar upgrades, with a priority on making the entire campus ADA accessible to ensure all facilities are reachable by everyone.

Cullen noted that the School Board plans to establish a community group composed

of students, staff, and families to help determine the best way to distribute the funds across campuses according to their needs.

“I hope the facilities will be repaired, upgraded, made ADA-compliant, and that they’ll look and work effectively,” Cullen said.

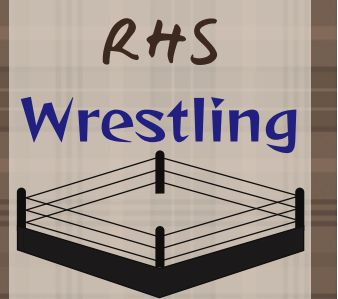
With the approval of Measure D and Proposition 2, Redlands schools can now move forward with critical repairs and improvements. For RHS, this means addressing long-overdue updates to its aging facilities and making the campus safer, more accessible, and better equipped for modern learning. These investments mark a significant step toward creating a better supportive environment for students and staff.



Sneak Peek



pg. 3



pg. 4



pg. 5



pg. 9



pg. 10



Children's Theatre Festival (CTF) unmask the tales of theatre

By Gabriel McLeod | Staff Writer

The Children's Theatre Festival (CTF) has been a tradition for the last 60 years. CTF is an event where around 1,600 students from the following elementary schools: Lugonia, Franklin, Kingsberry, Mission, McKinley, Smiley, Kimberly, and Mariposa, come to Clock Auditorium to watch the plays that are being held. Joy Baden, the theatre director of RHS, has directed 25 shows for CTF.

In the program, a few select students work as directors to assist Baden in the production of the shows. Prospective directors are chosen by pitching scripts—which they

may have written themselves. The chosen scripts are prepared for CTF, beginning with the prospective directors promoting a co-director. Both directors share the same responsibilities as Baden while directing.

There were two shows performed for CTF this year: "The Masked Mystery", directed by Olivia Martinez-Pezzulo and Zachary Hajeed, as well as "The Tales of Mithford", directed by Violet Van Stee and Victor Mendoza. Before the festival, Baden expressed her hopes for a smooth run of the upcoming show. She said, "The kids are going to love both shows, they are very entertaining."



Photograph from SmugMug.com

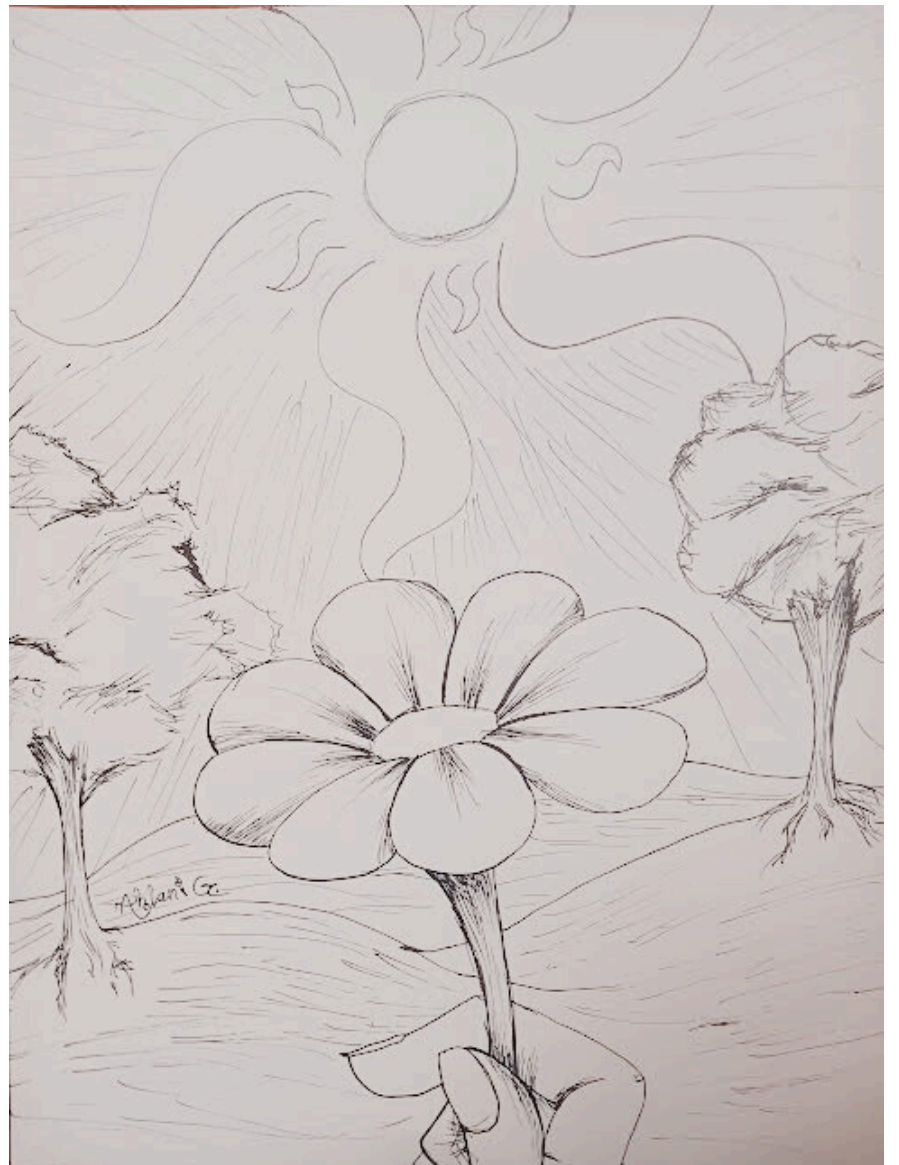
A lot of time and effort is required for the production of one theatre show. Baden says, "Depending on the length of the show, a minimum of 100 hours of rehearsals [are required]." Many departments need separate training, such as hair, makeup, or props. Baden's interest in theatre production stems from her

teenage years. "I started performing in local theatre when I was 15 years old, and I loved it so much." For her current job as the theatre director, Baden says "It's really fun to work with people the same age I was when I found theatre arts".

Baden hopes that CTF will have a positive influence on

many students. She says, "CTF has been a beautiful and popular tradition for a long time. It's an amazing opportunity for students to write plays and get experience directing. I hope we continue to have a lot of elementary students come to RHS to enjoy what is often their first experience with live theatre."

Inktober Art Feature



During the month of October, artists will often take on the challenge of completing an illustration every day. This undertaking, known globally as Inktober, was created in hopes of allowing artists to improve their skills through the experience that comes with dedicated practice. Although the nature of the challenge leaves it unfinished by many participants, Inktober can enable many favorite artpieces, even for students at Redlands High School!

Top Left: Felicia Na, 11

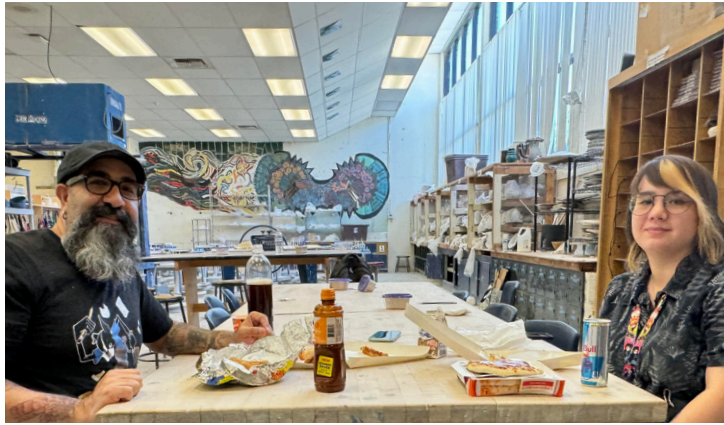
Bottom Left: Valerie Na, 11

Right: Ahlani Garcia, 10



Teachers got a taste of school cuisine—here’s what they think

By Yanna Lin | Staff Writer



Photographed by Annelie Tang

Hobachi Newspaper asked several Redlands High School teachers to try school food and give a rating from 1 to 10. Among the volunteers were Mr. Regalado, Ms. Stier, Mr. Adams, Mr. Devoe, Mr. Norman, and Mr. Smith.

A series of sampling visits were arranged during which teachers tried the food and were interviewed in pairs. With three to four student lunch portions collected by the Hobachi staff, each teacher duo had a grand spread of the school’s staple items to try.

Art teacher Mr. Regalado and ceramics teacher Ms. Stier were the first to sample the cafeteria cuisine. Mr. Regalado had the chicken sandwich, barbecue chicken pizza, baby carrots, and apple-berry juice, while Ms. Stier tried the cheese pizza, garlic bread, and chocolate milk.

“It looks better than the pizza I got when I was in elementary school,” Mr. Regalado said when he first saw the pizza. “At least it’s in a triangle shape.”

In the end, Ms. Stier rated the cheese pizza a 7 out of 10, despite the cheese tasting like “it’s been sitting for a bit” and the bread being “a little doughy.” In her opinion, the garlic bread was the worst; it was a 2, because “the texture is kind of weird.” Her favorite was the chocolate milk; she said “That brings back so many memories!” and rated it an 8 out of 10.

Mr. Regalado gave two different ratings for the barbecue chicken pizza. “For like, a meal, I’d say 5,” he said, “but for a school lunch, I’d say like a 7 or 8.” He enjoyed the chicken sandwich most of all, rating it an 8.5 out of 10.

Overall, for Mr. Regalado and Ms. Stier, the food was decent. “I mean, for cafeteria food, it’s pretty nice,” said

Mr. Regalado.

Next up, math teacher Mr. Adams and physics teacher Mr. Devoe were treated to a variety of school lunch items. The two tried teriyaki beef and rice, mixed peppers, chocolate milk, apple-berry juice, jicama with Tajin, cheese pull-aparts, and a hamburger.

Mr. Adams unwrapped the hamburger and said, “It looks like knock-off Carl’s Junior.” Mr. Devoe rated it a 6 out of 10, but Mr. Adams said it was a 9. The chocolate milk for both of them was an 8. As for the beef and rice, the rice itself was a 3, although the meat was “not bad.” Apparently, they did not like the jicama, since they rated it a 4.5 out of 10.

“The Tajin bag didn’t work,” said Mr. Devoe, struggling to rip open the bag. I’ll be taking off points for that.”

Mr. Adams laughed. “Skill issue.” Once they tried the jicama, he added, “It’s a little too healthy for me. Give me my chocolate milk.”

The cheese pull-aparts were a 5 (“With the marinara sauce,



Photographed by Roa Lee

[it’s] a 6.5,” said Mr. Devoe.) For Mr. Adams, the apple-berry juice was the best; “That’s a 10!” he said.

Although Mr. Devoe said that “the rice was a little rough,” the food wasn’t terrible for Adams and Devoe overall. The final taste-testing duo, math teachers Mr. Smith and Mr. Norman, tried the

Monday lunch items: a bean and cheese burrito, a cheese pizza, buffalo fava bean crisps, a beef rib burger, nachos, and apple-berry juice.

“This is as good as Angels’ Stadium food,” said Mr. Norman, munching on the nachos. “And cheaper,” added Mr. Smith.

Then they unwrapped the buffalo fava beans. “See, this is nice because it’s nut free, and I have a nut allergy,” said Mr. Smith. “Gluten free, so my wife could eat these.”

“Hopefully not flavor-free,” Mr. Norman said. “Oh, these are fava beans, dude. These are some of my fava-rite.”

(At this point, everyone collectively groaned but laughed in spite of themselves.)

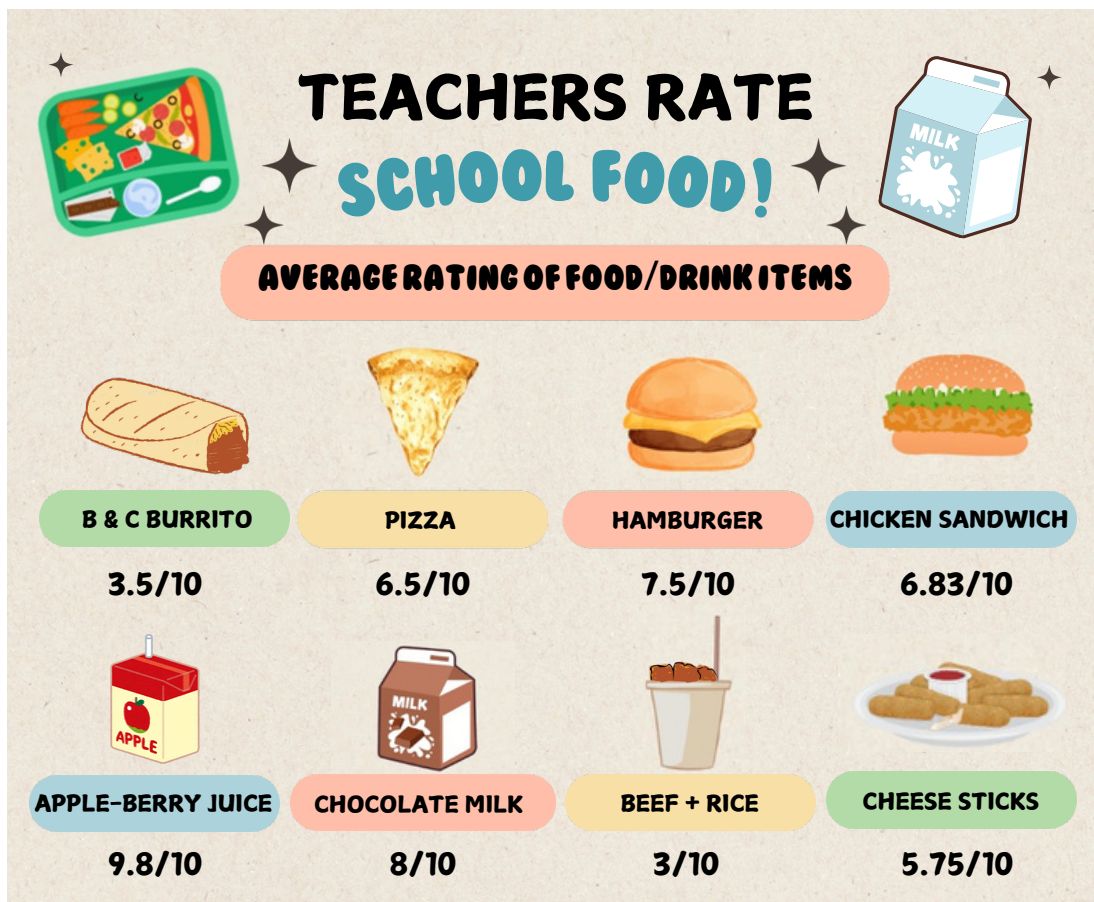
In the end, Smith and Norman ranked the bean and cheese burrito as a 3.5 out of 10, the pizza as a 5, the rib sandwich as a 6, the nachos as a 7.5, and finally the apple-berry juice as a 10.

“There’s not been anything that I’ve been like, ‘That’s gross. I would not eat that,’” said Mr. Norman.

Surprisingly, we found that most of the teachers didn’t mind the school food that much. For some of them, the apple-berry juice even scored a perfect 10 out of 10. The top three worst-rated foods were the garlic bread at a 2 out of 10, the rice at a 3, and the bean and cheese burrito at a 3.5. Despite this, all of the teachers interviewed seemed to reach a general consensus that for school food, it wasn’t bad.



Photographed by Annelie Tang



Created by Yanna Lin | Staff Writer



Inside the mat: RHS Wrestling Team shares their passion, challenges, and goals in wrestling

By Samuel Zaragoza | Staff Writer

As the wrestling season heats up, Redlands High School's (RHS) wrestling team is gearing up for a competitive year, with their sights set on victory at the Sub Duals. As they share their passions and aspirations, there is a noticeable camaraderie and spirit among the team, showcasing what makes wrestling a unique combination of individuality and teamwork.

Personal motivations were the driving force behind the wrestling careers of several team members. Junior Adrian Rodriquez says, "It looked cool and I wanted to get buff."

Senior Ryan Compos credits his younger brother for inspiring him to attempt the sport. Athletes frequently share this topic of inspiration, which creates a positive atmosphere where teammates encourage one another to succeed. What truly sets this team apart is the strong bond among its members. Senior Isaac Lopez highlights this aspect, stating, "I like the teamwork—even though it is an individual sport, we have a very tightly knit team. It really helps with encouragement even when you lose." This commitment to support each other regardless of individual



Photograph from @redlandswrestling

outcomes is a testament to the team's collective spirit and resilience.

The athletes have shown a persistent work ethic as they aim to win the forthcoming Sub Duals. Sophomore Zaedan Holmes says, "I'm working hard, pushing myself to my max, the best of my abilities, doing the best I possibly can". The amount of time they spend practicing is a clear indication of their commitment; Sophomore Andrew Villapando shares, "I practice five days a week, from 4 to 6." In the winter, the practices can go up to four hours.

Even though wrestling has a lot of physical demands, the mental hurdles are the toughest. Junior Micah Freimuth says, "It's really hard losing and knowing it's just you who lost". Junior Zach Glaser shares this difficulty and stresses the importance of mental toughness when competing: "You've got to figure out how to get out of that, especially in a match, if a guy is five points ahead of you." Success in the

sport depends on this mental toughness, which frequently turns out to be equally as significant as physical strength.

Despite the challenges of balancing school and wrestling, the athletes remain undeterred. Villapando confidently shares, "It is not that hard. I have As and Bs most of my work done, turning it in on time." This dedication to both academics and athletics illustrates the discipline instilled in wrestlers, preparing them for challenges on and off the mat.

The team is concentrating on developing lasting abilities that go beyond wrestling as they get closer to the Sub Duals, rather than just the medals and recognition. This local high school wrestling team is a sight to behold this season because of their dedication to collaboration, mental toughness, and the pursuit of excellence. They are prepared to leave their mark on the wrestling community because they have lofty goals and a strong will.

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Created by Isabella Hernandez | Staff Writer

Thanksgiving diversities at Redlands High School

By Abdullah Ejaz | Staff Writer

Thanksgiving traditions can differ widely per person and family. Even at Redlands High School (RHS), culture and specific family dynamics can influence what people do to show thanks during the holiday.

Thanksgiving became a national holiday in 1863, when President Abraham Lincoln gave a proclamation making the last Thursday of November a holiday for all Americans. While many Americans have a traditional meal of turkey, stuffing,

mashed potatoes, and pumpkin pie akin to Norman Rockwell's painting *Freedom from Want*, others will celebrate in a more unorthodox way. Although they all share the goal of giving thanks, every family accomplishes it in a truly unique way.

For senior Anthony Hall, Thanksgiving is all about camping with his family. He says, "We go to Big Bear and go cabining in the woods every Thanksgiving. We eat ribs. There's a campfire and

we go eat up there, [in front of a] big fire." Hall explains that his entire family gets together for the holiday. He says they all "love my Aunt Tiffany's green bean casserole!"

Sophomore Ian Modrow says, "We go to Argentina every Thanksgiving at the Catacombs." In Argentina his family has the tradition of eating steak and other homemade dishes for the holiday. "My mother cooks the most amazing scrumptious jelly," Modrow says. "It's the family tradition favorite."

Senior Raphael Sacdal and his family enjoy having the cultural meal *Pancit*, a savory fried noodle dish cooked with pork. Sacdal also goes on a family vacation to Florida to visit his mother's side of the family. Everybody has a favorite dish at Thanksgiving. For Sacdal, he says, "I love my mother's eggrolls. She cooks the best egg rolls and they are so delicious".

Another RHS senior, Matthew Jimenez, enjoys a special dish during this celebration. He eats butter chicken with naan. This is just



Norman Rockwell's *Freedom from Want*

one side of his celebration. He also goes to Hawaii every year.

"I love my mother's Hawaiian bread," he states. "It's a family favorite."

Thanksgiving isn't just about turkey and gravy; it's

about bringing family and friends closer, a shared meal, and most importantly, gratitude. Each tradition is treasured by the family and looked forward to throughout the year, despite not being the stereotypical way to celebrate.



Photo from *Chicken Fried Kitchen*

Homecoming 2024: A night to remember

By Sophia Rainbolt | Staff Writer

Every Homecoming dance has its expected staples: music, dancing, fun with friends, memories made. And while Homecoming 2024 did not fail to deliver, this year's festivities came with a few complications. Try fires caused by arson canceling the first dance, and the Secret Service interrupting the second...

With Homecoming being rescheduled due to the Line Fire, which shut down our school during spirit week, Homecoming week, and the Block Party—we'd like to think this was the first of these inconveniences for many students.

The dance had to be rescheduled from September 14 to October 12. With this change came conflict: the new homecoming date was rescheduled on not only a marching band competition, but also a speech and debate competition. The Redlands Terrier Marching Band (RTMB) and Speech and



Photographed by Makio photographer

Debate Team are well-known activities in Redlands High School (RHS). Both had scheduled these competitions far in advance with important events such as Homecoming in mind.

Because of this, many students were faced with a difficult situation: rushing from their competitions, losing time to get ready, and arriving late to the dance.

Many members of marching band expressed dismay about

this date change. Junior Jillian Cruz in Redlands Terrier Marching Band was asked if she thought the school was neglectful when choosing the new date for the dance. She responded with, "Absolutely. The change in date without regard to the program at all was, in my opinion, incredibly neglectful." She says that along with her experience being affected, the performance from RTMB was as well.

After asking multiple students questions about what they thought about the venue and food, all had roughly the same answers. Saying good things about the venue, that it was a nice but far distance to travel; however, thoughts on the food were different. Students thought there was a lack of variety and voiced that they would have liked to have "real" food and not just desserts of donuts, and soft serve.

Then there was a one hour interruption due to the Secret Service.

President-elect Donald Trump had his Coachella presidential rally scheduled at the start of our dance. Trump's plane, Trump Force One, flew into Palm Springs Airport, in the early afternoon. When Trump's helicopter brought him back to the airport, the Secret Service required our dance venue to shut the hangar doors until the convoy was back in the air. How many high schoolers could ever say that the Secret Service interrupted their dance?

Of course there were some downfalls to Homecoming 2024, however, by taking the opinions and thoughts of the students and being more mindful with timing, Redlands High School can have wonderful Homecomings in years to come.



Terriers in Costume



CELESTE SAENZ, 11 "PIKA PIKA!" ZOIE SAENZ, 11



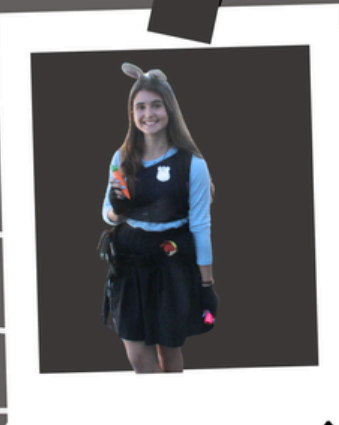
"I WANT LASAGNA" DUNCAN ODLAND, 9



"I HATE LIMA BEANS" ANIYA WHITE, 11



"BLESSETH THY CHILD" ATHENA BALDWIN, 11



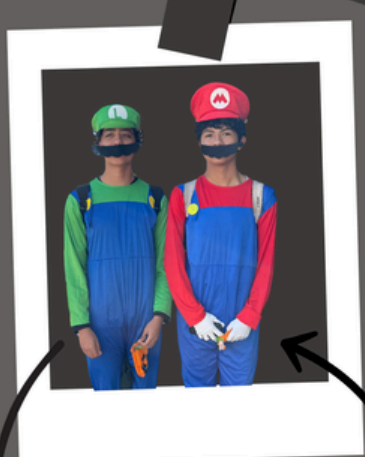
SOPHIA GOOCH, 12 FINNEGAN STEMPLER, 11



GRAEDEN ESPELITA, 10



BENJAMIN JORDAN, 11 ASHLEY GAID, 11



BRANDON HERNANDEZ, 11 MARK ELIAS, 11



KAYLIANNE MARTINEZ, 11



DANIELLE GHOSTINE, 12



SHIRLEY GUTIERREZ, 11

Stuff-ering the silence: tips for surviving awkward holiday family dinners!

By Makayla Maronelarena | Staff Writer



The holidays—many of us celebrate them because of religious reasons, tradition, or just for fun, and family dinners are expected to come with the season. I think we can all agree that those family dinners can make even the most stoned-face of us nervous—dreading the look of the Thanksgiving table and the smell of the turkey, dressing, and loathsome cranberry sauce.

Have you ever wished you had someone to help you with those awkward situations? Well don't you fear my dear peers, I have scoured the campus—the large, empty, spider web-filled buildings—and looked in the oldest books around to find some advice. In other words, I've just looked online for tips on how you can survive this year's set of awkward family dinners! Here are three of the best tips I found in my extensive research.

When I was younger, I would be disappointed when people didn't keep their word or show up when they promised to, but my mom taught me to have realistic expectations!

That is tip number one on my list: keep your expectations reasonable.

Whether you expect everything to be bad or not, you never know for sure until it happens. Maybe at one point you've had to go somewhere or try something you didn't want to, but it turned out better than you expected - even a little fun. You can find out many things by simply trying new things, like striking up a conversation with a cousin you were too anxious to talk to before and realizing you have many things in common. Sure, it can be terrifying and awkward, but a leap of faith is all you need to start talking to a relative you didn't really know before. And who knows, maybe you'll gain someone who can be there for you or at least understand you at the dinner table.

Sometimes as a child, you may have gotten scolded but weren't allowed to speak up for yourself because of your age. At times as you grow up, you learn in those situations, and the principles can be applied to other ones, like the



Photo by Element5 Digital on Unsplash

awkward family dinner.

This brings me to tip number two: sometimes keeping quiet can be the best decision. It's like Skipper the penguin from Madagascar says: "Just smile and wave, boys. Smile and wave."

Even the most "outspoken" of us do understand at times that it's better to smile and wave. And according to troychariot, "Being polite can go a long way in helping you escape chaotic situations." Having allies and those you feel comfortable with is important for school, home, and even the reunion dinner

table, believe it or not. This leads to tip number three on my list: make some allies. Even if you don't have someone specifically at home, you can find allies in your friends, and one thing that most friends are good at is being there and giving advice when you need it (even if the advice is absolutely cryptid or just plain stupid, but hey, it's the thought that counts). Have you ever heard that highschool musical song that goes, "We're all in this together"? That will be you and whoever you decide to ally with during these hard

and tense times, whether it be a cousin or a cool older uncle named Brad. In the end, family dinners can come with many "obstacles", but going in with an open mind can help with overcoming any challenge and prepare us for anything.

Most people find these awkward family dinners to be stressful and anxiety-inducing, but with a few tips and a little creativity, they are completely manageable. Regardless, I hope this advice will bring some comfort and help during this difficult time. Have a paw-fect holiday, Terriers!



Created by Makayla Maronelarena | Staff Writer

Why high schoolers should be involved in local politics

By Myra Moff Hudec | Guest Writer

Our generation is the future of this world. Soon enough, it will be our job to lead the way, make decisions, and vote. The sooner we start learning about the things around us, the sooner we can find our passions and be knowledgeable. People become more informed and invested in their adult lives if they're taught about politics and voting in high school. A survey on this topic was conducted by Tufts University in August 2020. It revealed that people who were encouraged to vote in high school were 12% more likely to have leadership positions in their community, join marches or protests, and advocate for policy changes. Our adult lives are just beginning, and we must be ready. At this time in our lives, it is important to be informed about the world around us, to get involved in what we are passionate about, and to value everyone in our community.

studies, it seems that the answer is simply a lack of exposure. We are so used to being bombarded with information about the national elections that we overlook the governing bodies that affect our own little corner of the country. We need to know and understand something in order to have strong feelings about it. It is so important that we talk about these topics with our peers and families, and get involved where we can.

How do we ensure we are informed properly and are able to contribute when possible? There are many ways to become more active in our community. One easy way is to go to City Council meetings on Tuesday nights. Anybody can attend, watch, learn how the Council works, and see what they're doing that will affect the community. They even offer an option to watch the meeting virtually though Zoom (although, interestingly,

volunteer with several candidates' campaigns, and it was an experience that opened my eyes in countless ways. This involved canvassing (going door to door), planning

diligent in our efforts to be active. It is essential that we build community and support one another. We must find people who value and respect us for who we are and who

engagement. We can and must all do our part to make our town, and our school, places people want to be and can thrive.

Get informed! Talk to your



Photo from Advancement Project

events, and fundraising. Though this year's election is over, we should keep looking out for ways to help and stand for what we believe in. Actions as simple as speaking up when someone says something sexist or racist at school, or having conversations with our friends about important issues can make all the difference. Additionally, in only two years, there will be another City Council election. Districts 2 and 4 will be voted on in 2026, which will be a perfect time to get involved!

As you consider learning more about local politics, here are a few things to know about the outcome of the most recent elections. Marc Shaw and Eddie Tejeta were elected to the City Council. This leaves only one woman on the council, a depressing reality. Phillip Doolittle was elected as the City Treasurer. Melissa Ayala-Quintero, Jeannette Wilson, and Candy Olsen were elected for the School Board. Wilson and Olsen ran as part of a collective called "Awaken Redlands," and their presence will change the board significantly. Some of the issues they ran on included the removal of pride flags from classrooms, banning books, and requiring teachers to report children they suspect are LGBT+ to their parents.

Local politics are always important, but this cycle should make us even more

will speak up and stay active in our community. It is a right to feel welcome. Every single student deserves to feel respected and safe at school. So, this is our call to action, to not let the end of the election season be the end of our

friends! It's easy and absolutely worth it. Let's work together to learn more about local politics and get involved. Your adult self will thank you one day.



Photo by Element5 Digital on Unsplash

High schoolers are particularly affected by local policies in ways we don't even know. The Redlands City Council, for example, makes decisions that are consequential to the town we live in. The trustees of the Redlands Unified School District Board make decisions that change our everyday educational experiences. Why, then, wouldn't we as a whole be more active in local politics? According to several

this accessible option was recently threatened to be eliminated. This is just one example of why we have to continue to fight for transparency, equal opportunity, and access to knowledge). You can also attend School Board meetings and speak there on issues you care about.

Another way to get involved is by helping with campaigns. This summer I had the amazing opportunity to

THIS OR THAT autumn edition

 PUMPKIN PATCH  CRISPY FALL MORNINGS  APPLE CIDER  CANDLES  CANDY CORN  SCARY MOVIES  FUZZY SOCKS  APPLE PIE	 APPLE ORCHARD  CHILL FALL NIGHTS  PUMPKIN SPICE LATTE  FIREPLACE  CARAMEL APPLES  COZY FALL FILMS  KNIT SCARVES  PUMPKIN PIE
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Created by Annelie Tang

The struggle with school lunch: why students deserve better

By Ryan Watson | Staff Writer

What does one think of when it comes to school lunch? For most students, the image isn't exactly appetizing. From pizza that is limp and soggy, lackluster burritos, and a mystery meat sandwich, the quality of school food has been one of students and parents' longest concerns. Perhaps more of us should be asking, why does school food so often fall short, and more importantly, why do we have to settle for it?

Let's start with the nutritional aspect. The whole point of school lunches should be to provide healthy meals that give us the energy boost needed to get through the school day. But more often than not, we get meals loaded with empty calories, preservatives, and high levels of sodium. A meal that is supposed to fuel us throughout the day ends up



Photographed by Dayna Anderson

leaving us groggy and brain-fogged. Healthy alternatives are few and far between; even when provided, they hardly meet the freshness criteria they ought to. Students are given dry "chicken" sandwiches, bland bread rolls, and under-

cooked pizza. This too may be one more reason for poor eating habits and furthermore, decreased academic performance. After all, how are we supposed to learn when our belly growls or when we suffer from a sugar crash?

Then there is the taste factor. School food isn't just bad for us, it's often bad to us. Bland, overcooked, and unappetizing meals are dished up day in and day out. It's easy to see why lots of kids skip lunch or try to get snacks

instead. A meal is supposed to be something enjoyable, not something to dread. After all, most of us spend at least six hours in school, so we should at least look forward to having a single meal that day. When will our food get better? It's time for things to change. We deserve healthy and delicious food, which will allow us to feel energized and ready for the day. Now is the time for schools to invest more in meal programs through better sourcing, better recipes, or creative partnerships with local farms. After all, we are not just students; we are growing young adults who need to be nourished properly so we can succeed not just inside, but also outside the classrooms. The bottom line is simple: we deserve better school food.



Senior Milo Easley's student activism serves as an example to all

By Jax Hardy | Staff Writer

Amid the rise of LGBTQ hate in Redlands, one Redlands High School student has stood out from his peers. Milo Easley, a current senior at Redlands High School, is a local activist and advocate for the queer community who is unafraid to stand up for himself and others.

Last year Milo bravely stood in front of the school board to voice his grievances as a trans person in Redlands and as one of the many victims of discrimination. He called out the conservative, hateful groups and individuals who refer to queer people as "mentally ill" and dehumanized them. As a result Milo became a target of these groups. He names groups such as the Proud Boys, a nationally recognized fascist and extremist group who went as far as finding his address. Milo states "I've also been followed to my car by transphobic individuals a part of the Proud Boys." Although no harm was done to Milo, it serves as an indicator of how far right-wing extremists are willing to go.

Currently, Milo continues his

activism as a part of Safe Redlands Schools and Redlands Free Market, a mutual aid organization in Redlands. He is involved in local elections and is present at numerous school board and city council meetings. This is particularly notable during elections and the threat of anti-LGBTQ candidates. Recently elected school board member Candy Olson, backed by Awaken Redlands, an openly anti-LGBTQ organization, is just one example of hateful individuals being placed into positions of power.

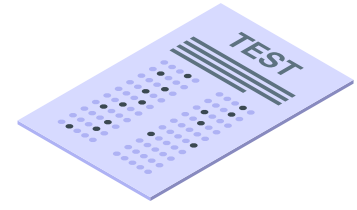
Milo recognizes his privilege as a queer youth who lives in an accepting and progressive household. To Milo, his "biggest inspiration is my community and my friends." With his support system from his family and community he is able to fight for what is important to him. He fights for others to have the same level of safety as him at school and in their lives if they are unable to find it at home. Milo serves as an example for us all for what we should all be doing to ensure collective safety for all.



Milo Easley, 12 | Photographed by Makio photographer

The new digital SAT Exam needs to drop adaptive testing

By Annelie Tang | Co-Editor in Chief



Today's high school students are no strangers to the digital age of education. From Google Classroom assignments to Aeries gradebooks to Zoom lectures, academic life has completely evolved from what it was a generation ago—and it only continues to change with the times. Last spring, the College Board™ commenced a gradual shift to a digital format for the SAT® Suite of Assessments, which was completed this March. What once consisted of number 2 pencils and bubble-in sheets has transitioned into an online, “multistage adaptive design”. Redlands High School students took this new version on October 9th.

The digital exam is a distinct difference from what test takers are used to. But in an era where the Internet has seeped into almost every aspect of life, the switch was inevitable; perhaps necessary. However, the College Board took the wrong direction with the implementation of adaptive testing.

The College Board's explanation of multistage adaptive design is that each test section (Reading and Writing, and Math) is divided into two equal-length, separately timed parts called modules. The first modules

contain a mix of easy, moderate, and difficult questions. If an individual performs well on the first module, they will be placed into a harder second module with a floor as to how low they can score on that section. Conversely, a lesser performance means an easier second module and a score cap. While the College Board has not published specific details about their scaling, it is estimated that the highest possible score one can receive if placed in the easier second module is in the mid-600s. This means that if a student gets the easier second module in both sections, their overall score will likely not exceed 1300.

The College Board's website says this isn't a disadvantage: “You can be confident that you're going to end up with an accurate score. Your score will reflect your achievement and skills based on your answers to questions in both modules”. This assumes that the person's performance is consistent from first to second module—and if test takers were robots, that would probably be true. But high school students are volatile. Each one of them brings a host of random variables to the testing room that could interfere with the accuracy of their first module

scores. Test anxiety, for example, is extremely common, even (and maybe especially) among top students. On a day like SAT School Day, it's bound to occur. The condition often culminates in physical and psychological symptoms that get in the way of concentration: nausea, stomach pain, increased heart rate, mind blanking, debilitating stress, racing thoughts. These symptoms tend to subside, but adaptive testing does not wait for that to happen. By the time a student's nerves settle, the first module may have ended, and their score may have been capped due not to subject knowledge but ill-timed anxiety.

There are myriad other scenarios where a perfectly capable student could mess up on the first modules. A particularly sullen, groggy morning might get in the way of one's initial performance, only for them to perk up on the second module. (Each module is a little over half an hour, which is all it takes for a teenage mood swing.) A student might make a few careless mistakes despite understanding the material conceptually, barring them from advancing to a harder module that they know how to

do. A student unfamiliar with the new digital format may take some time to adjust. Any one of these non-skilled based elements could affect how the first module goes, and the adaptive testing design is unforgiving to human

split up but rather presented in one stream of questions—as it was in the pen and paper format—test takers would have the chance to go back and fix errors made in the beginning, presenting a much more accurate reflection of



Photo by Nick Morrison on Unsplash

irregularities. What adaptive testing fails to take into account is the inconsistent nature of people, especially teenagers in high-pressure environments. There is too much that boils down to chance for a score cap to be set before a section has even finished. If sections were not

their knowledge. Going digital was a step forward for the SAT exam, but it has been overshadowed by the setbacks of adaptive testing. If the College Board wants to make their test fairer and less stressful for all, it should leave multistage adaptive design in the past.



Digital SAT

4
Modules

98
Questions

2 hrs 14 min
Duration

1600*
Max Score

Reading & Writing

64 minutes & 54 questions

71 seconds per question

Module 1
32 minutes
27 questions
27 passages

1 Normal

Accuracy > -70%

Yes

No

Module 2 adaptive
32 minutes
27 questions

2 Hard
800 max score

2 Easy
~550 max score

- Reading Comprehension & Writing Skills
- 54 Short Passages (25-150 words), 1 Question Each
- Multiple Choice

Math

70 minutes & 44 questions

95 seconds per question

Module 1
35 minutes
22 questions

1 Normal

Accuracy > -60%

Yes

No

Module 2 adaptive
35 minutes
22 questions

2 Hard
800 max score

2 Easy
~550 max score

- Math Skills through Algebra II
- Calculator Allowed
- 2/3 Multiple Choice & 1/3 Free Response

Photo from piqosity.com

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Thank you for reading the 101st edition of Hobachi Newspaper!

If you have any feedback or suggestions, please feel free to email the editors below!

Hobachi has been publishing since 1923. We are a student-run, not-for-profit organization. The editors at Hobachi would like to extend our warmest gratitude to all readers for your support. Special thanks to our dearest friend and adviser, Ms. Larson, who always goes above and beyond. Happy Thanksgiving, Terriers!

We want your writing and art!

Interested in being published in the next issue? Hobachi encourages students to submit their work for a chance to be featured in the next issue. We are open to all forms of guest writing, photography, art, graphic design, and even newspaper games.

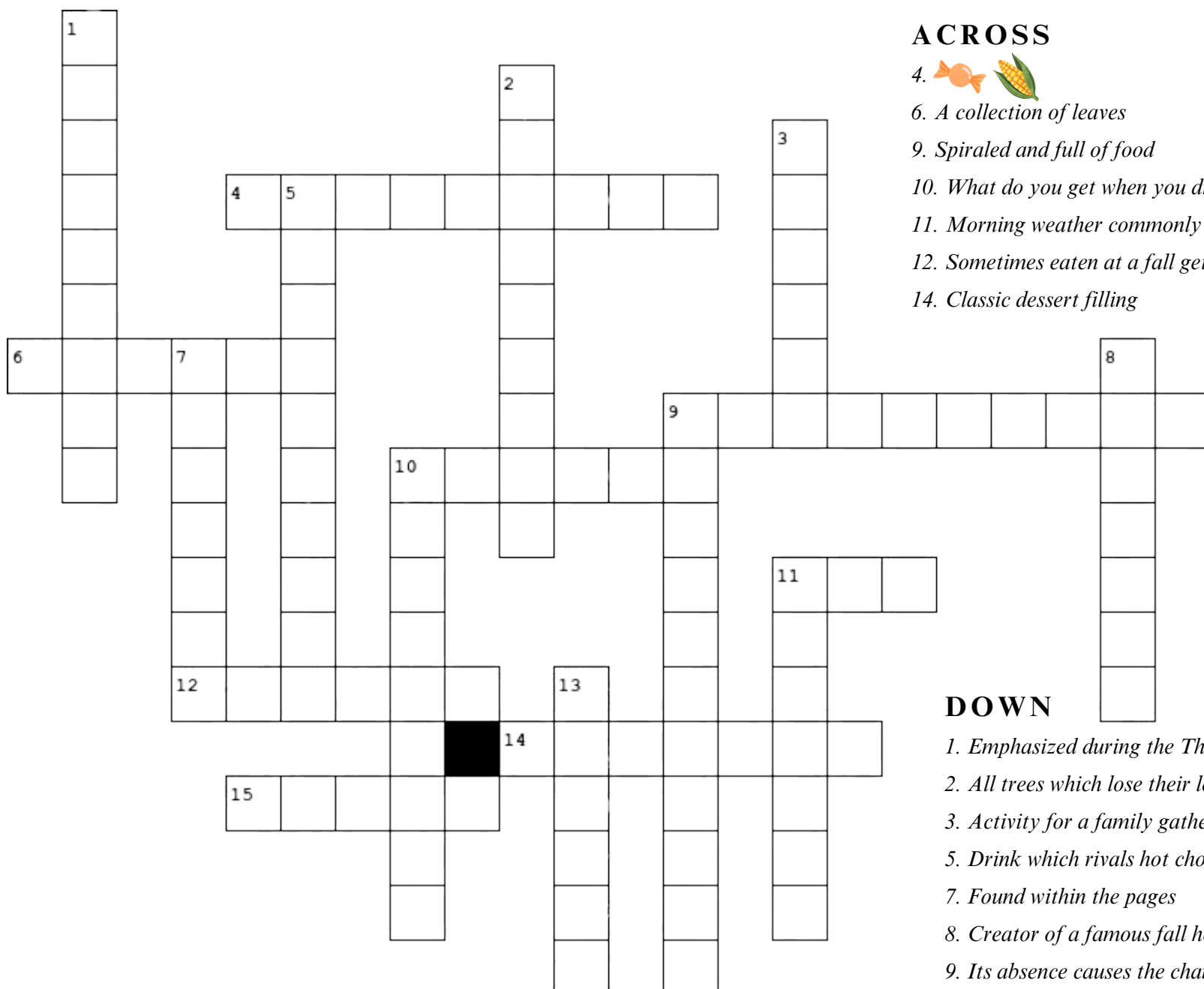
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Room 425 on North Campus



ACROSS

4. 🍬 🌽
 6. A collection of leaves
 9. Spiraled and full of food
 10. What do you get when you drop a pumpkin?
 11. Morning weather commonly described as 'crisp'
 12. Sometimes eaten at a fall get-together
 14. Classic dessert filling

DOWN

1. Emphasized during the Thanksgiving season
 2. All trees which lose their leaves
 3. Activity for a family gathering
 5. Drink which rivals hot chocolate until winter
 7. Found within the pages
 8. Creator of a famous fall holiday
 9. Its absence causes the change in leaf color
 10. "Frightened bird"
 11. Ground's natural covering in fall
 13. An apt description of this issue's theme

Send your completed crossword to one of the editors (listed above) to be entered in a raffle for a chance to win a free sticker!