

Spartan Newsflash

INVER GROVE HEIGHTS MIDDLE SCHOOL / MARCH 2022 / VOLUME 02, EDITION 04

The Effects of Social Media Pages

by Lynnae Baker

Grade 8

As most of us know there have been people making Instagram and TikTok accounts about our school. But did anyone think about how it would affect people?

There is an "eats" page that takes pictures of people while they are eating and posts it on social media. I know many people who don't want to eat in the lunchroom, or eat lunch at school in general, because they don't want people taking pictures of them.

There's also a tea (aka gossip) that is crazy. Somebody is getting information from people and posting it on Instagram. A lot of the stuff that they are posting is

not true, or if it is true, they are not getting the full story and it is making people look bad. It is also none of their business and should be kept to the people that it has to do with. These sites are affecting people because people are losing a lot of friends, and close relationships, from stuff that isn't even true. Some people don't even want to go to school because of the things people are saying on the internet.

I personally think that these sites should stop and let the people deal with the situation alone instead of telling the whole school.

To report bullying or harassment on Instagram please scan this QR code:

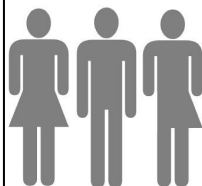


Non-gendered Bathrooms

by Elizah Callahan

Grade 6 - Students for Change Member

I want to talk about non-gendered bathrooms. There are not non-gendered bathrooms in the middle school. If you don't feel comfortable using a bathroom in the middle school because it is gendered, feel free to use the nurse's bathroom if needed.

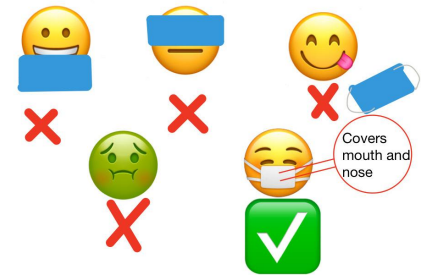


this is an
ALL-GENDER
restroom

for more information, visit www.uscis.gov



INCLUDED IN THIS EDITION: Trip to Florida, Minnesota facts, a Q & A on how IGHMS has changed over the years, crafts, and a thank you to teachers



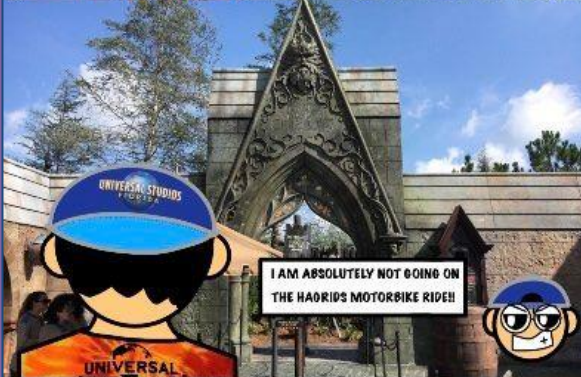
ALSO INCLUDED IN THIS EDITION: how to wear a mask appropriately, comics, a concussion story, house of mystery continued, and more!

Student reporters featured in this edition:

Erika Anacleto
Lynnae Baker
Elizah Callahan
Isla Feldman
Marcos Lara
Emerson Lenkowski
Mariah Martinez
Divya Ohneswere
Johann Padaong
Noah Pierson
Sena Sebu
Isabel Tix
Jaxon Wanek
Leedia Xiong

Staff Advisor: Jess Maloney
maloneyj@isd199.org

The next day at Universal studio's Orlando Florida



30 minutes later in line



Minnesota Facts

By Isabel Tix
Grade 7

In 1961, the loon became the state bird. The common loon represents a fun and free-spirited state.

Milk was adopted as the state drink in 1984. It was adopted for many reasons: it promoted the American Dairy Association, brought general awareness of dairy products, and helped tourism.

In 1965 the Walleye was adopted as the state fish because of its popularity as a game and food fish.

The present state flag was adopted by the 1957 legislature.

The state seal was adopted in 1858.

The state song, Hail! Minnesota, was adopted in 1945.

State fruit is the honeycrisp apple. It was adopted in 2006 because it was originally bred in Minnesota.

The Monarch was adopted to be the state butterfly in 2000 after a fourth grade class campaigned for it.

In 1902 the Lady Slipper was adopted as the state flower. It was adopted because a century ago it was a favorite adornment in rural church altars during the summer.

The Lake Superior Agate is the state's gemstone. It was adopted in 1969 because it reflects many aspects of Minnesota.

wild rice took home the prize for state grain in 1977.

Our state muffin is blueberry because school children in chose it. It was chosen because wheat is an important crop in the southern Minnesota, and wild blueberries are common in northern Minnesota. It was adopted in 1988.

The state mushroom is morel (morchella esculenta) which was adopted in 1984.

State photograph is "Grace" and it was adopted in 2002. The artist created it to represent rationing faced by Minnesotans on the home front.

This probably isn't surprising, but our state sport is ice hockey. This was adopted in 2009 because Minnesota is the home of the hockey hall of fame.

Our state tree is a Norway (red) Pine and it was adopted in 1953.

We even have a state soil! It is called Lester and it became the state soil in 2012.

Minnesota's state motto is L'étoile du Nord (French) meaning: "The Star of the North." This was adopted in 1861.

Lastly our state bee is the Rusty Patched Bumblebee, adopted in 2019.

Q &A: How IGHMS Has Changed

By Erika Anacleto

Grade 8

Our school (IGHMS) has changed over the years. To get a better understanding of how our school has changed, I interviewed Ms. Van Schooten! Ms. Van Schooten actually went to our middle school, and is now a 7th grade Language Arts teacher!

Q: When did you go to IGHMS?

A: "I went to IGHMS from 1987-1989"

Q: Is the content being taught differently? And how?

A: "I don't remember a lot, but when I went to school, middle school was only 7th and 8th grade, so 6th grade was part of elementary school. Some things that are different are that we had spelling tests, foreign language, shop class, home economics, and industrial arts. Some things that are the same are that we studied grammar, nouns and verbs in language arts, geography, dissecting a frog and worm in science, and we had art class."

Q: Are the assignments in IGHMS more challenging now?

A: "I don't remember school being super hard. It really depends on the person since people find different things challenging."

Q: Is there more homework given out now?

A: "I don't actually remember since middle school was a long time ago for me, but in high school me and my friends would go to the library and work on homework together."

Q: What are some things that you wish didn't change at IGHMS?

A: "I wish the middle school still had home economics, foreign languages, student service, study hall, and during study halls we were able to help teachers organize or clean if we had nothing to do. I just wish the middle school had more classes than just academic stuff."

Q: Is IGHMS more strict now, or is it less strict than before?

A: "I don't think IGHMS is strict. I don't remember teachers being strict back then because I never worried about other people being disruptive, I just minded my own business."

Q: How many students were there in each class back then?

A: "Probably close to what it is right now, so probably 25, or a little bit smaller."

Q: Are there any new rooms/parts of the building that weren't there in the past?

A: "The whole school used to be one floor, so most of the school is different. A lot of the rooms were demolished. Where the fishbowl lab is now, it used to be outdoors, like a courtyard. The lunchroom was actually where the library is now. The art rooms were in the high school area. There were also tennis courts on the other side of the school."

Q: Is it true that there used to be a swimming pool in the building?

A: "Yes there was, that's where I learned how to swim! We had swim units for gym class. The swimming pool was where the music rooms now are. The band room used to be located where the flex learning space is. In one of the gyms there was a walkway between the boys and girls locker rooms, and you could look over the whole gym on the walkway."

Q: Did a lot of people skip classes?

A: "I'm sure there were kids that did, but I'm not sure if a lot did because I never skipped classes and the people I hung out with never did."

Q: How long was the passing time?

A: "Probably 5 minutes."

Q: Did you enjoy going to IGHMS?

A: "Yes, I really enjoyed going to school here, and I hope others do too!"

DIY Dream Catcher

By Divya Ohneswere

Grade 6

Take a white paper plate and cut out the inside part.

Then paint the plate.

Next take string and glue it on the inside. Take 3 pieces of long string and glue it to the bottom of the plate.

Take beads, feathers and decorate your dream catcher, have fun!!!!



Thank You, Teachers

By Sena Sebu

Grade 8

Teachers, we appreciate the hard work you do to support us! How can we ever thank you?

You gave us the strength we needed to take the next steps towards our dreams.

The smile you gave us got us through bad days and good days.

Thank you for encouraging us to be our best, and for being there to guide us when we needed help. Having you in our lives opened our eyes to our own inner strength. It has motivated us to become more and do more. You have been incredible teachers of lessons both inside and outside of the classroom. We could never thank you enough.

Thank you so much for being there and guiding us even through the most difficult situations. You truly are the most spectacular teachers of all time. I am forever grateful and will always remember you!

Thank you to all my 8th grade teachers:

Ms. Momany - We're all so lucky to have a teacher like you who makes learning so much fun. Thanks for all of the extraordinary things you do!

Ms. Nephew - Thank you for being the absolute best teacher I could ever ask for. Your guidance and advice helped to make me a stronger student!

Mr. Olson - Thank you for being the kind of teacher who inspires us to be our very best. Your class was our favorite this semester!

Ms. Decker - A good teacher is patient, kind, and thoughtful. You have been all of these and more to me. Thank you.

Ms. Jensen/Mr. Ruppert - Thank you for believing in me when no one else did. I am a much better person because of you.

Ms. Lentsch - Thank you for always taking the time to go over the lessons in detail, and for making learning so much fun. I'm thrilled I had you as my teacher!

Comic Bits

By Jaxon Wanek

Grade 6

Two ducks walked into a bar...



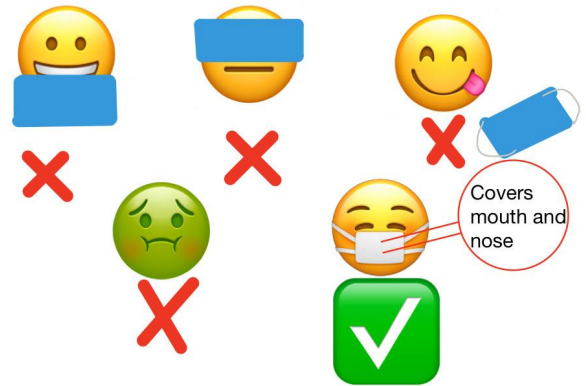
Said "OW!"



How to Wear a Mask

By Noah Pierson

Grade 7



Don't be an egg head and wear a mask the right way 🤔

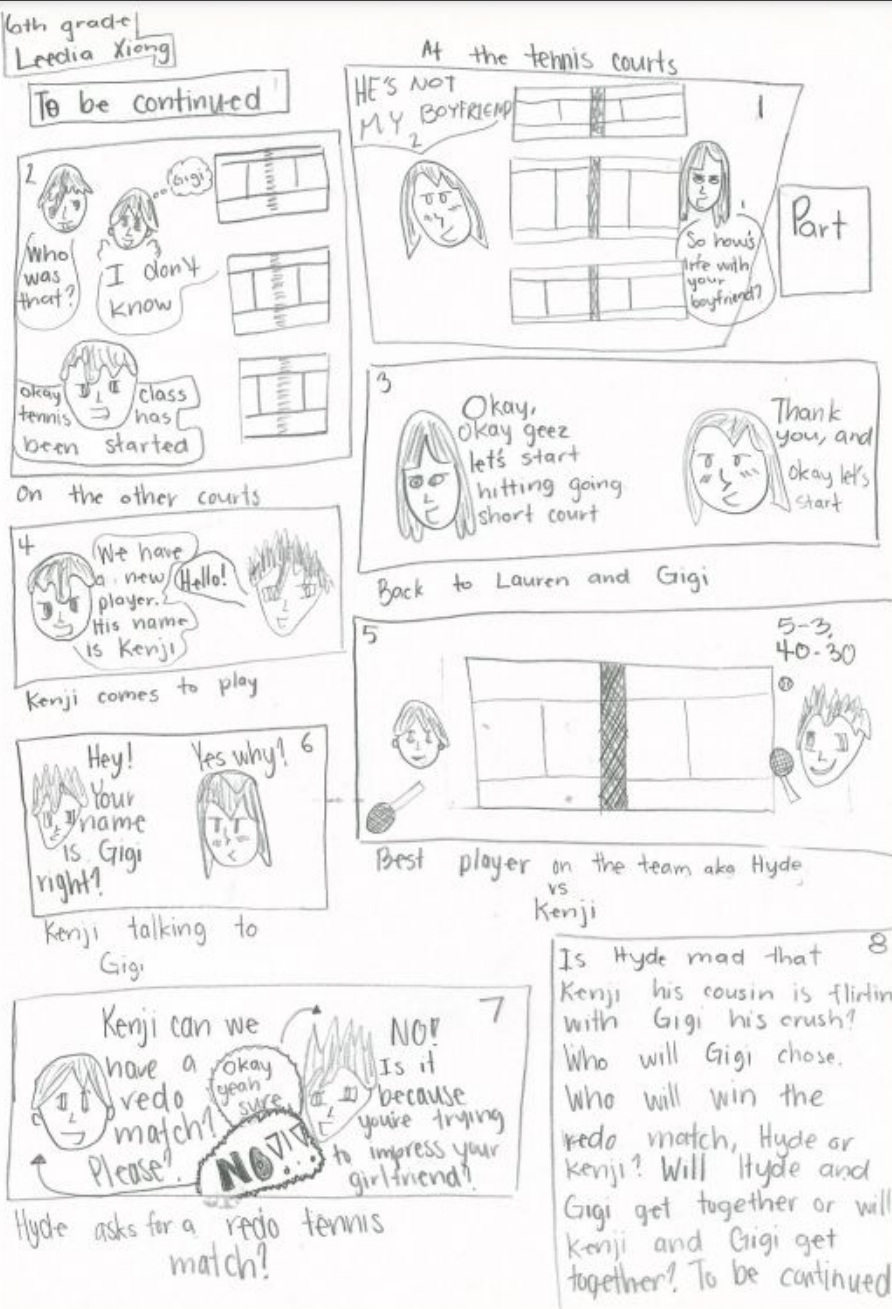
UPDATE:
On March 1st, ISD 199 made masks optional for students and staff.

Source:
www.ncdc.gov

Fun fact: did you know that three-layer knitted cotton mask blocked an average of 26.5 percent of particles in the chamber, while a washed, two-layer woven nylon mask with a filter insert and metal nose bridge blocked 79 percent of particles on average.

Comic Bits

By Leedia Xiong
Grade 6



My First Concussion

By Isla Feldman
Grade 6

I have had 2 concussions and they both are related to hockey. This is the story of the first one.

It was my first game against a new team. I was very scared because these girls were way bigger than me. I am pretty tall for my age but these girls were taller than me. There are these things called roller guards that you put on your hockey skates and they kinda turn into roller skates. I was wearing them without a helmet on, and they are very dangerous. I did not know that, so I skated toward the arena. There was no elevator, which I didn't think was a big problem, but it definitely was. I started going down the stairs sideways so I didn't fall, but on the last step I stepped forward. I fell backward and hit the back of my head on the concrete stairs. I really wanted to still play, but my coach did not let me.

I went to the emergency room. We waited about 15 minutes, and then they called my name. We went into a really small room. The doctors did a lot of mind tests like copying a drawing and solving a math problem. They told me I had a minor concussion. The doctors said I should not read, look at bright lights or electronics, and not to work my brain. They practically wanted me to sit in a dark room and do nothing.



Why I Like Making Videos

By Mariah Martinez
Grade 6

<https://youtu.be/pc2As93Qfwo>

House of Mystery Continued

By Marcos Lara

Grade 6

Killer's point of view:

Ugh, those kids got away! Dang it. Next time I'll get those kids. Next time though I'm going to wait for them. I bet they're coming. I'll just wait...

tomorrow morning later

Ugh what a bad night's sleep. Whatever, wait a minute for them to come. Let me get my suit, hehe. This is going to be good now. I'll just wait for them.

Mark's point of view:

Hey, look, I found a note. Oooh, let's read it.

"Dear Lea,

I'm sorry that I left you. I hope you forget me. It's been rough ever since I left you, but I cannot return. I'm sorry. I hope you get this note. From, B..."

Mike and I looked around the room to see if the other half of the note was there, but we heard a noise so we quickly got out. Mike forgot something so we went back for it. It was gone.

"HOW? Mike said.

I said, "Shh, the killer may be here."

We hurried out of there running like a wild buffalo herd. We heard a weird noise saying "come," so we decided to go and confront the killer. He was standing right behind the door. We ran into the room, not noticing him behind the door. The killer closed the door and ran towards us. We fought back. It was not a so-called battle because the SWAT team surrounded the area, and arrested us. They did not know who was the killer so they arrested all of us! We were brought to the talking room...

Weather & Schools: A History

By Emerson Lenkowski

Grade 7

First, we should start with the definition of snow days. The definition of a snow day from Oxford Languages states that it is a day on which a school or other institution is closed due to heavy snowfall or other extreme winter weather.

The first school snow day happened on Saturday, February 11, 1899. University of Texas students awoke finding Austin cloaked with 6 inches of snow and more continuously falling. It's funny that the first snow day school cancellation happened in Austin, Texas. There isn't a single database that records snow days in the United States. The district averaged 1 day canceled per year in the '80s. In the 90's it averaged slightly higher, 1.5 days. The average bumped up to two days per year in the 2000s. In the 2010s, the average dipped down to 1.3 days per year in the United States. The most snow recorded to fall in 24 hours for Minnesota was January 7, 1994. That day it snowed a total of 36.0 inches. The most snow recorded in a single snowstorm was 46.5 inches on

January 6-8 of 1994.

The most seasonal snowfall was in the years 1949-1950. The most snowfall recorded for a month was in March of 1965 when it snowed 66.5 inches.

Now we move on to heatwaves. By definition from Oxford Languages, it states that a heatwave is a prolonged

period of abnormally hot weather. Minneapolis Public Schools consider distance learning in a building without air conditioning if the heat index reaches 105 degrees Fahrenheit for more than three hours per day for at least two consecutive days. The hottest day in Minnesota was when it reached 115 degrees Fahrenheit, on July 29, 1917. On February 2, 1970, there was a 72-degree change in 24 hours.

According to Oxford Languages, a cold wave is a spell of cold weather over a wide area. Minnesota schools will close if the 6am forecast show -40 degrees Fahrenheit windchill, or -25 degrees Fahrenheit air temp. The coldest day in Minnesota was February 2, 1996, when St. Louis County, three miles from Tower, recorded -60 degrees Fahrenheit.

In conclusion, Minnesota weather is weird and can really surprise those who don't live in Minnesota. But if you look at past records it has always been weird. We also live in a generally cold climate and sometimes a hot climate. So when we talk about school cancellation we see very little unless for

extreme conditions.

This is why most of the time when students want to have a half-day or an early release, and teachers say it's probably not going to happen they are mostly right. But we

still have some weird

weather days and happen to have half days or early release.

