

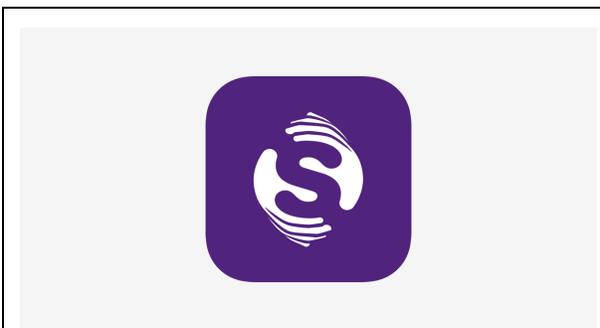
## Bullying Data from STOPIT App and Aeries Suggest Piner’s Incidence Is ‘Stable to Slightly Improving’

By Gian Almorado and Marcos Espinoza

Data on complaints about harassment and/or bullying at **Piner High School** reveals a level of troubling behavior that probably significantly undercounts the problem and also shows the school needs to cultivate a culture that combats bullying and educates students about their rights and duties.

That’s according to Piner Vice Principal **Ryan Partika**, who spoke with reporters from *The Piner Prospector* on Friday, Nov. 7, 2025.

So far this school year, Piner administrators have received 8 submissions of alleged bullying on the **STOPIT** app, versus 15 during the 2024-2025 school year. The school also tracks bullying using the **Aeries** app, which tracked only one incident this year versus 10 last year.



STOPIT App



Piner Vice Principal Ryan Partika

“When you look at the numbers, what it’s telling me is this isn’t everything,” said Mr. Partika in an interview. “It hints at a trajectory being stable to slightly improving. Maybe we need to create a culture where students act on behalf of their classmates.”

What it also may show “is students might not know all their options and their rights” with regard to bullying, he said.

“It is important for adults to remember that bullying can take place 24 hours a day due to social media, phones and other technology,” he said.

“For instance, if someone is texting you or sending you social media posts that are harmful while you're at home or away from school, a lot of students don't know they can talk with us and we can investigate matters,” he said.

“We have many ways in which we can address this, from warnings, to restorative work and, even No Contact Agreements all the way to suspensions. They don't have to take that. They can be supported and protected from after school bullying as well.”

A big part of the problem may be that students don't even know how to set up the STOPIT app, Mr. Partika said.

“When we talk with victims of bullying, we often ask the victims why they didn't use the STOPIT app,” he said. “They tell us they didn't know how to set it up.”

To be sure, setting up the STOPIT app is somewhat complicated, he said. The password for the StopIt App is one word “PHSsafe” which will allow the App to sync submissions into Piner's administration.

Another important thing Mr. Partika wants students to know is that even if they don't want to submit complaints on their own behalf, they can submit a complaint on behalf of others.

“I highly recommend students be a good friend, and submit a complaint on someone else's behalf,” he said. “That's when it can really make a difference.”

“A lot of students when it comes to bullying that affects themselves they don't know what to do,” he said. “But when they see it happening to others it makes them feel a sense of duty to act.”

### **'One in three teens'**

To be sure, bullying is a national problem that affects more than one in three teens, according to data from the National Health Interview Survey from the Center for Disease Control.

Data from the survey suggest that from July 2021 to December 2023, 34% of teenagers were bullied over the last 12 months.

Sexual or gender minority teenagers were more likely to be bullied (47.1%) than teens who are not a sexual or gender minority (30%).

White non-Hispanic teens were more likely to be bullied compared with teens in other races and Hispanic-origin groups.

Teens with developmental disabilities (44.4%) were more likely to be bullied than teens without such disabilities (31.3%). Finally, teens who were bullied were nearly twice as likely to experience symptoms of anxiety (29.8%) or depression (28.5%) in the last two weeks.

According to the CDC, bullying victimization occurs when a person is exposed to aggressive behaviors repeatedly over time by one or more people and is unable to defend him or herself. Moreover bullying victimization during childhood and adolescence has life long consequences and is a public health issue of national concern.

Some of the Piner students surveyed by *The Piner Prospector* said they've experienced bullying at Piner and other schools.

They were bullied for their race, their weight, their outfits/style, interests and looks.

"Yes, I have been bullied," said a Piner student whose name is being withheld to protect his or her privacy. "It makes you feel excluded, insecure and is the reason why I have anxiety. I do admit that I have made fun of others to make myself feel more in control and as a bad way of coping."

Another student said "bullying has gotten less worse at Piner, but I still feel like people talk about me sometimes or think I'm weird. Now being in high school, it makes some feel scared of what people think about you."

Another student suggested that bullying is an unfortunate fact of life that Piner and all schools must combat.

"Piner tries to stop bullying, but like any school, there might be times when bullying happens," another student said. "It's important for everyone to work together to make sure it doesn't continue."

Another student said "sometimes people take advantage to make fun of special needs kids. I do also think that both homophobia and transphobia have been way too normalized here. People also like to make fun of people who style differently or have different beliefs."

In the meantime, the transition of Piner into a 7-12 school for the 2026-2027 school year, initially may present some initial challenges for administrators concerned about bullying on campus.

The construction of the new building for 7th and 8th graders means they will effectively have their own school within Piner.

**Piner Principal Andrea Correia** has previously said that the rules for Piner students will remain the same next year, though there will be a ton of new rules for 7th and 8th graders.



**Piner Principal Andrea Correia**

When 7th and 8th graders transition to high school they will have to get used to different expectations than in middle school, Ms. Correia said. No longer can they fail classes and still be promoted. If they want to graduate they will have to earn enough credits to do so.

Ms. Correia has said for the first group of 8th graders who become 9th graders, high school rules and expectations may be an abrupt adjustment. For seventh graders the transition will go smoother because they will have two years to adjust.

While high schoolers will have the same bell schedule (8:30 am to 3:27 pm on Monday, Tuesday and Friday and 8:30 am to 3:00 pm on Wednesdays and Thursdays), middle schoolers will have an earlier bell schedule starting at 8 am and letting out at 2 pm.

Ms. Correia also has said Piner will likely restrict middle schoolers to Physical Education class during first period and second period and set aside third, fourth, fifth and sixth for high schoolers.

### **Bathrooms and Bullying**

One of the biggest challenges to bringing 7th and 8th graders onto a high school campus is how to deal with bathrooms and the threat of bullying.

She has said 7th and 8th graders will not be sharing bathrooms with high schoolers.

Ms. Correia also has said she is grateful that Piner wasn't part of the first wave of Santa Rosa high schools converting to 7-12 schools.

One of the positives of Piner being in the second wave of schools is that other schools had to scramble to make room for 7th and 8th graders, she has said. Piner has had time to study how things worked at other schools.

## Piner High's Activities Director, ASB Student Government Teacher **Cimberlee Case** Voted Teacher of the Year

*By Yaretzy Sedano and Jackeline Cruz*

**Piner High School** Social Studies and Student Government Teacher **Cimberlee Case** was voted Teacher of the Year last month by students, recognizing her for her work and inspiration.

Ms. Case currently teaches American Government and Economics, but has taught all the Social Science classes over her career. She is also the activities director at Piner, "which is what has earned me Teacher of the Year, for all the time and effort my students and I have put in to help Piner be a great place to be for all students."

Indeed Ms. Case was recognized for her many contributions to Piner's Associated Student Body or student government, which helps to plan and manage many events at Piner including the recent Senior Night during Friday Nov. 7's junior varsity and varsity boys' football games against **Archie Williams High School** from San Anselmo, California.

"I am very honored to be recognized as Teacher of the Year," said Ms. Case in response to questions from *The Piner Prospector*. "I recognize the hard work that many of our teachers here at Piner are doing so to be recognized among such an amazing group is truly an honor."



**Piner Teacher of the Year Cimberlee Case**

Ms. Case traces her vocation and inspiration as a teacher to the example of her father **Douglas Case Jr.**, who was a 5th grade Math and Science teacher at **Baechtel Grove Middle School** from 1976-2008.

"My father was a teacher and I saw the impact he made in many lives," Ms. Case said. "I saw people from our small town who really loved having him as their teacher then having their children in his class. That inspired me to want to make a difference in people's lives."

When Ms. Case went to school, she recognized that learning about other people, other cultures, and other times was inspiring.

"I finally saw that there are so many wonderful people out there in this world," she said. "It dawned on me that 'my way' wasn't the 'only way.'"

Ms. Case said she followed her father's example and decided to become a teacher in order to reach out to teenagers and help them see this too.

“By learning about others through history we can see how we are all different and that there is a lot to learn by studying history.”

To be sure, teaching is a bit of a family affair for Ms. Case. In addition to her father and herself, she said her sister **Kelley Case Brackett** is also an Agriculture teacher and FFA coordinator at Willits High School, even though her father encouraged them to pursue other professions.

Asked about a favorite teacher who inspired her, Ms. Case named **Michel Frey**, who was her middle school band teacher at Baechtel Grove Middle School.



**Ms. Case’s Dad Douglas Case Jr. and his best friend on a Harley.**



**Ms. Case dressed as Pitbull at a Piner rally.**

Ms. Frey “honestly loved teaching us how to play instruments and sing,” Ms. Case said. “You could tell how much she loved teaching us and because of that her room was always packed. I have missed being in that class every year since middle school.”

Ms. Case has been teaching for seventeen years and for the last five at Piner.

“I taught my first seven years in Vallejo Unified: Vallejo High School for three years, Solano Middle for one, then Jesse Bethel High School for three more years before I finally got hired here in Santa Rosa City Schools,” she said.

Ms. Case said she started her career here in Santa Rosa at **Ridgway High School**.

“So many of our alternative education students are misunderstood,” Ms. Case said. “They are so smart and want to learn and they just need teachers who are a little more patient and who care about them.”

Ms. Case said she moved on from Ridgway after Covid, when the policies were changing at that site.

“There was an opening here at Piner, and I was very lucky to be hired,” she said. “I now get

to work at a comprehensive school where the students need a patient and caring teacher and that is what I try to be.”

Ms. Case said she wants “the subject I teach to be relatable for my students.”

She added that “Piner staff is also a great staff to work with and I am honored to be here amongst the best teachers.”

Asked about her favorite class to teach, Ms. Case said “whatever I am currently teaching, because in all honesty, I really just like my students and spending time teaching them the current courses they are in.”

“If I had to pick, I would pick all of them and loop with my students, because I miss many of them the next year when they have moved on to the next grade or have graduated.”

Given her commitment to her students and teaching, it's no surprise that Ms. Case identified the current budgetary problems within Santa Rosa City Schools as the biggest challenge she has faced.

“The biggest challenge we all face is the district changes that are coming that are not serving our students in the way they deserve to be served.”

Ms. Case said she stays in contact on social media with many of her past students.

“I am exceptionally proud of the ones that have become teachers,” she said. “One has written children's books, some have served in the military, while others have pursued their dreams and now have growing families. My hope is that all my students follow their dreams and find a career they love as much as I love being a teacher.

Ms. Case received her teaching certificate at **Sonoma State University** and earned a Master's in Urban Education from **Touro University**.

She also has taken all the courses at Sonoma State to become an administrator, “although I prefer working in the classroom with students over managing adults.”

## **Piner Junior Kamila Olvera Set a Rare Cross Country Foothill Park Course Record in Race Against Ukiah**

***By Gael Paramo and Anahi Moreno***

**Piner High School Junior Kamila Olvera** set a rare Piner course record in a 3.1 mile race against **Ukiah High School** on Oct. 8 with a time of 21 minutes and 29 seconds, three seconds faster than the old record.

The old record of 21 minutes and 32 seconds was set in 2016 by **Cynthia Rosales**, the niece of Piner Cross Country Coaches **Luis** and **Melanie Rosales**.

Ms. Olvera gave credit to her coaches, who are affectionately known to the cross country team as “Mr. and Mrs. Coach,” saying they were a huge part of her determination and hope in order to beat her milestone.

The Coaches Rosales pushed Ms. Olvera to her full potential and to stay disciplined, motivated, and overall fill her mind with positivity and support and most important of all courage.

“Together they have shaped me into the runner I am today not only in the sport but also outside of it as well,” she said.



**Junior Kamila Olvera on a run.**

Ms. Olvera’s determination and skills and encouragement have been a huge part of her mentality for a very long period of time.

She said she has been running since middle school.

Running in middle school competitions didn't really feel like a big accomplishment to her compared to how she strongly feels about it right now.

“In middle school I had only one practice per-week and just ran, like a mile,” she said. “So to sum it up I consider that I really started competing in my freshman year.”

“Course records are not broken often,” said Coach Rosales. “Kamila worked very hard to achieve this goal. If you achieve the title of Foothill Park Piner Course Record holder, you may have that title for a very long time.”

“When I realized I broke the record, it didn't feel real,” Ms. Olvera said.

She said what helped her set the record is all the summer runs, the long practices, and tough workouts.

“For me, holding the record is more than just that,” she said. “It's a reminder of the dedication, teamwork, and beliefs in myself to achieve this.”

In addition, Ms. Olvera is on the Piner Track Team and the Girls Soccer team.

She said she’s been playing soccer for a little over 12 years which also helped her achieve the growth and mindset she brings to running.

Ms. Olvera runs every morning or afternoon whenever she feels motivated and feels the urge to relieve any stress she has in her mind.

She typically runs about 30 to 35 miles a week.

Ms. Olvera said she prefers running in the morning due to the fact that it feels more calm. For practice it's mostly in the afternoon.

The longest distance she has ever run is a little over 9 miles at a summer running practice, when she had to run 70 minutes and took advantage of it.

“My favorite part about running is the freedom it gives me,” she said. “It's usually a time when I can clear my mind, focus on myself, and enjoy every step of the way. I also enjoy the scenery and the sense of accomplishment I get after after finishing a run or race.”

Ms. Olvera added that staying motivated about running is difficult “when the weather isn't as sunny.”

She said she's learned that pushing through those days “can actually help you become a better runner and also tends to feel more rewarding.”

Ms. Olvera said she still hopes to set new records for cross country and maybe even one in track.

## **Piner Girls Cross Country Team Wins Redwood League Championship Led by Junior Kamila Olvera**

**By Marcos Espinoza and Gian Almorado**

The **Piner High School Girls Cross Country** team raced to victory, winning the **Redwood League Championship**, with hard work and teamwork led by record setting standout **Kamila Olvera**, and teammate **Jocelyn Uraje**.

The championship team members are **Ivanna Cisneros, Taylor Cruz, Jocelyn Uraje, Kamila Olvera, Belicia Olvera, Ximena Mateos** and **Paige Hansen**. Their success didn't come by chance—they spent the summer training together, building endurance and supporting each other every step of the way.

During the season Ms. Olvera, a junior, set a Piner course record in a 3.1 mile race during a meet against **Ukiah High School**. Ms. Olvera's time of 21 minutes and 29 seconds was three seconds faster than the old record set in 2016 by **Cynthia Rosales**, the niece of Piner Cross Country Coaches **Luis** and **Melanie Rosales**.

The Girls Cross Country team is no stranger to winning championships. Indeed, the girls and boys cross country teams both won the league championships last year. This year the boy's team settled for second place.



**The Girls Cross Country Team with their League Pennant.**

“Since Piner opened in 1966, the Cross Country team has won more League pennants than any other sport at Piner,” said Coach Rosales.

To win the league championship, the girls competed in league meets, as well as the North Bay League Finals, where the local teams come together and the winner takes home a League pennant.

The boys and girls teams compete in two Leagues. Redwood and Oak. Piner is currently in the Redwood League.

After the North Bay League Finals, the teams will move into North Coast Section Finals. This is where members of the team have a chance to qualify for the State Meet.

“Our girls invested a lot of time running during the summer which played a big part in our success this year,” Coach Rosales said. “These girls were committed and knew what it would take to have a winning season. The biggest thing we will remember this season is how each girl continued to get better throughout the season.”

The “team, girls and boys, participates in many activities throughout the summer and our season,” Coach Rosales said.

The “team is very encouraging to each other, which keeps them bonded.”

This year’s Piner Girls team features three seniors, two juniors, four sophomores and 7 freshmen.

The team practices Monday through Saturday or 12 hours per week.

Coach Rosales and her husband Luis, affectionately known to the team as “Mr. and Mrs. Coach”, have been coaching Cross Country at Piner since 2007.

She said Piner Cross Country is unique in that it has JV Boy, JV Girls, Varsity Boys and Varsity Girls.

“We coach the entire team, both boys and girls. Luis is the Head Cross Country Coach and I am the Assistant Cross Country Coach.”

## Piner Grad Oscar Villalobos Is Honored with Community Service Award for Work as a Victims Advocate for DA

*By Sophia Rodriguez and Eva Rodriguez*

**Piner High School** graduate **Oscar Villalobos** last month won a community service award that recognizes leaders who are making positive impacts on their communities.

In a written question and answer with *The Piner Prospector*, Mr. Villalobos said he was honored to receive the **Los Cien Fiesta de Independencia Community Leadership Award**.

Mr. Villalobos, who graduated from Piner in 2018 and works as a Victim Advocate in the Sonoma County District Attorney's Victim Services Division for about three years, said he was nominated for the award by his girlfriend, Sarahi.

He credits her as "a pillar of my support and a witness to my growth and dedication to service through my work with local youth, victims of crime, and cultural advocacy."

Mr. Villalobos said winning the award "was a humbling experience. It reminded me that even small acts of service can ripple out and inspire others."



**Oscar Villalobos, Piner High School Class of 2018.**

His job and role as a Victim Advocate is to support victims of crime as they navigate the criminal justice system. That includes crisis intervention, helping them understand their rights, providing court accompaniment, connecting them to local resources like counseling or financial assistance, and making sure their voices are heard throughout the criminal case.

"It is work that requires a deep pool of empathy, compassion, patience and resilience," he said.

His path into this line of work "is rooted in personal experience and community connection," he said.

"Growing up, I saw how violence and trauma impacted families including my own."

Mr. Villalobos said he "first learned about the Victim Services Division after my family was victimized due to a violent assault in 2013."

He said he grew up in a rough neighborhood that was riddled with gang violence and other social issues like rampant domestic violence and substance abuse across the community.

“Having had experiences like these, I wanted to become someone who could stand beside others during their most difficult moments and help them find healing, justice and hope,” he said.

Before joining the District Attorney’s Victim Services Division, Mr. Villalobos said he “worked in community outreach, health education, and gang prevention. All of this experience gave me a strong foundation in supporting people through challenges and helping them access resources.”

Mr. Villalobos said his favorite part of the job is helping individuals through their healing journey and watching them grow, regaining their sense of self and becoming empowered.

“I love seeing how resilient people can be after trauma,” he said. “I feel fulfilled when a survivor begins to reclaim their voice or finds peace. It is a privilege to be part of that journey.

His least favorite part of the job “is seeing how slow or retraumatizing the justice system can sometimes be for victims. This motivates me to keep pushing for more compassionate and trauma-informed systems.”

Before joining the DA’s Office, he received offers to be a police officer with the Santa Rosa Police Department, a probation officer with Sonoma County Probation Department and a correctional counselor at the Sonoma County Juvenile Hall.

“I was extremely privileged to have had all this opportunity around me which was a result of my prior experience and education,” he said.

Previously he worked as a Community Outreach Representative with Partnership HealthPlan of California, where he helped connect underserved families to healthcare services.

“I also worked for the City of Santa Rosa in their Neighborhood Services program, building relationships with local youth and families.”

Other experiences include street outreach and case management for Operation SafeHouse while in college at University of California, Riverside.

“Operation SafeHouse is a program where I would canvas streets in search of runaway youth that were escaping violent homes. After locating them, I would assist with finding them housing and connecting them to resources that met their basic needs.

Mr. Villalobos said each of these roles strengthened his sense of community and taught him how to listen and lead with courage and heart.

He also has served on the board of directors for Latino Service Providers, a Santa Rosa based non-profit that promotes upward mobility and mental health access amongst Latino youth and families.

Mr. Villalobos said he graduated from Piner in 2018, and after that attended Santa Rosa Junior College before transferring to UC, Riverside where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Sociology.

His studies focused on understanding social issues, inequality, and human behavior.

He graduated from UC, Riverside in 2022.

"I was the first in my immediate and extended family to attend college and earn a degree," he said. "I didn't want to stop there so I am now in my first year of graduate school at the University of San Francisco where I am obtaining my masters degree in Counseling and Psychology.

He expects to graduate in 2028 and plans to become a licensed marriage and family therapist for Spanish speakers.

During his time at Piner, Mr. Villalobos was involved in the Early College Magnet program, Latino Club, and AP and Honors courses.

He took AP European History, AP Language and Literature, and AP Spanish.

"The coursework and amazing instructors that I had at Piner provided me with a strong foundation and gave me the opportunity to explore who I wanted to become."

Mr. Villalobos said he would like to thank and credit several teachers and staff members at Piner "who saw my potential in me before I saw it in myself."

He cited counselors, including Ms. Ramirez and Ms. Cancilla, and teachers including Ms. Benson, Mr. Carpenter, and Mr. Castro, Mr. and Mrs Erickson, ECM coordinator Ms. Coster and Ms. Correia.

"I do keep in touch with a few Piner friends but for the most part, many of us have moved away, have gotten busy raising families, building careers and growing in life. I mostly keep up with Piner friends through social media.

Asked what advice he'd offer for graduating Piner seniors he said "don't rush the process."

"Your journey will most likely have twists and turns but each experience is preparing you for something greater," he said. "Stay grounded in your values, and surround yourself with people who uplift and inspire you. Don't place yourself in a box."

Mr. Villalobos stressed that while it's not always easy coming from a small town like Santa Rosa, "there's a whole world out there and possibilities are endless."

He said it's important for Piner graduates to "lead with courage, not fear. Always bet on yourself. Be audacious and be defiant. Defy any odds that are stacked against you. Defy any generational curses you come from and defy outcomes that may already be assumed of you."

Mr. Villalobos is an example of what can happen when a low-income first generation Latino from a marginalized neighborhood that was labeled "at-risk" defies the odds and advances in life by unlocking upward social mobility through education.

"Now, I am in a position to help others that are where I once was," he said. "If you have the opportunity to pursue higher education after high school, don't let anything stop you."

Mr. Villalobos currently isn't married and doesn't have any children of his own.

"Right now I'm focused on personal growth, my graduate studies and community work," he said. "Family and relationships are at the core of who I am so I hope to achieve marriage and a family down the line. First, I want to build a life suitable for sustaining it."

## **Piner's Second Annual Haunted House Wowed Ghost Lovers During its Seventh and Final Performance**

***By Evelyn Sanchez, Alexandra Hicks, Xavier Coello and Inoke Seviua***

**Piner High School's** ghost lovers came out in force on October 30 for the last day of the "Lost Souls" themed Haunted House in the Performing Arts Center.

The long lines and strong attendance on the last day made up for slower than expected attendance during the show's first six days, according to **Michael Doucette**, the Piner art, drama and ceramics teacher who oversaw the show put on by his Drama Class.

"The lines on the seventh night were out the door and much larger than on the previous six nights combined," said Mr. Doucette.

"When I took over theater classes and the plays for the first time in 2012, I noticed how spooky all of the hallways are at night or without the lights on and how the theater with its adjacent rooms and spaces," said Mr. Doucette.



**Mr. Doucette and one of his monsters.**

While Mr. Doucette had the idea for the haunted house years ago, “it wasn't until 2024 that I had a group of students that wanted to do the work to make it happen and I'm proud to say, they are still making it happen!”

In addition to teaching art, theater and ceramics, Mr. Doucette is also Piner Performing Arts club advisor, PAC coordinator, and the light and sound coordinator.

“I never worked on a haunted house as a high school student or in college, but my mom, her sisters and my cousins loved going to haunted houses when I was a child and they were scary,” said Mr. Doucette.

“Even though they were scary, I recall enjoying the thrill of touching fear, but being safe with family and being reassured that it was not real.”

As a student, Mr. Doucette said he “was involved in almost a dozen full length plays and many more class experiences in high school and in college I earned a minor in theater arts at Sonoma State University.

He said he was even asked to be the teachers assistant for casting director, **Mary Coleman** who also was his teacher at Sonoma State.

Ms. Coleman's credits include : “Finding Nemo” (2003), “The Incredibles” (2004), “Cars (2006) and many other animated film productions.

As usual, Mr. Doucette said his Drama Class had only “an abbreviated period of time to get the haunted house completed.”

Mr. Doucette explained that the PAC is a very popular facility on the Piner campus.



**Behind the scenes at the Lost Souls Haunted House.**

“We also have an advisor who wears many hats for PHS and has a lot of meetings that cut into after school time,” he said. “We need more adult helpers in general.”

This year, Mr. Doucette's Drama class also had to overcome some serious electrical problems in the theatrical lighting system.



**Scary students**

### **Scary Lighting**

“We have been contending with a very serious electrical problem in our theatrical lighting system for over a decade, which has limited our production options,” he said.

Indeed, he said the haunted house was a dramatic event his Drama Class could complete that also enabled them to work around the lighting issues by using lamps and outlets that bypass our theatrical light board and system.

Next year's planned lighting system upgrades should allow next year's dramatic performances to be even better.

“After our lighting system upgrade happens in the early months of 2026, we look forward to getting back to shows that can highlight our students' acting skills.”

Among the highlights of this year's Lost Souls Haunted House were a “a set up representing a wedding between a family from the land of the living with a family from the land of the dead,” he said.

That “was the most detailed scene set up this year,” he said.

Mr. Doucette said preparations for the Lost Souls Haunted House began even before school started.

“My classes only work on the haunted house as we get closer to the opening night,” he said. “Overall, we spend approximately a month or two on the haunted house.”

According to Mr. Doucette, the student leaders behind this year's haunted house were, **Mallix Way**, the Drama Club president, **Catherine Vaughn-Foster**, the Vice President, **Farris Hernandez**, the treasurer, **Sedona Breedlove**, the Secretary, and **Ximena Diaz**, the Social Media chair.

Mr. Doucette said the final tally of receipts from this year's Lost Souls Haunted House is still being tabulated. He said last year's receipts totaled \$2,400 in 2024.

He said the money will be helpful to pay for future productions such as last Spring's one-act show.

He said the money raised is typically used to build up reserves in preparation for future productions with more costly scripts and copyright expenses.

He said the money also helps cover expenses for janitorial services on weekends when the show runs.

**TO SUBMIT A TIP ABOUT AN EVENT THAT THE PINER PROSPECTOR SHOULD COVER, PLEASE EMAIL JOURNALISM TEACHER DAN LONKEVICH AT [DLONKEVICH@SRCS.K12.CA.US](mailto:DLONKEVICH@SRCS.K12.CA.US)**

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