

# Students question necessity of new fence

District says fence will help improve campus safety; students largely disagree

**By Tiffany Cheung & Joseph Cannon-Wright**  
STAFF WRITERS

Secure. Useless. Robust. These are all words Skyline students used to describe the new fence lining the sidewalk in front of the auditorium.

Many students assumed the fence was a response to the terrifying incident in Skyline's 20s building on Nov. 12, but according to Principal Rebecca Huang, there was a different reason — the decision was actually made by the superintendent several years ago because Skyline was the only school in Oakland that didn't "have eyes on all the students at all times."

"It's not directly related to the incident that happened this year in November at all. It was already in the works," Ms. Huang told *The Oracle* in an interview on Jan. 12.

The fence cost \$64,455, according to district officials. It was paid for entirely by a grant that OUSD received that was

specifically set aside for Skyline improvements, so no budget cuts were made because of the fence.

Despite not knowing the source of the funding or the sum, many Titans said they would rather have had the money used for improvements elsewhere. The majority of students interviewed didn't think the fence would change anything about campus security.

Yuri Aguilar Sales, a sophomore in the AED pathway, feels the fence is a waste of money.

"I actually hate it," Aguilar Sales said. "It's dumb because the front office [area] is open. It does not make any sense."

Joshua Garcia Mendiola, a senior in CHED, agrees that the fence won't solve Skyline's security problems.

"I feel like the new fence is stupid because the problems are inside the school, not outside," he said.

Nevertheless, a handful of students interviewed feel that the fence has given them a sense of security, if only marginally.

"The fence ... makes me feel a bit more secure," said Jack Ramos, a sophomore in the Green

**"I feel like the new fence is stupid because the problems are inside the school, not outside."**

**Joshua Garcia Mendiola**  
CHED senior

Energy pathway.

When asked if she has heard the concerns of students, Ms. Huang said she does hear students and is open to talking with them. The school has already hosted a community circle day in the library, but Ms. Huang said it had low turnout.

"There weren't that many kids that came, but I did talk to several. I did hear a couple people who didn't like it, but it wasn't too bad," she said, also disclosing that there are more plans in the making to secure Skyline from outside dangers, including more fences.

When asked about further improvements being made on campus, John Sasaki, the OUSD Director of Communications,



Photo by Vance Kirby

**SECURITY OR PRISON?** Two workers install doors to a new fence near the Skyline theater on Jan. 14. More fencing will be installed over Spring Break.

said there are two planned improvements for Skyline.

The first is iron fencing and gates at the main entrance, scheduled to be constructed during spring break. The second is implementing safety barrier arm gates at the main entrance with a guard shack for increased

traffic control. The date of construction for those gates has not yet been determined.

"Have you ever driven by Fremont High School, and you've seen those doors?" asked Ms. Huang. "It's going to look like that. That's what we're going to be doing."



Photo by Zemani Moore

**TOP TITAN** Principal Rebecca Huang stands outside the administration building of Skyline High School, where she leads with a focus on student safety and connection. After beginning her career in science and education, Huang now works to create a campus where students feel supported and heard.

## Rebecca Huang: From scientist to school leader

Principal shares views on community, safety, leadership

**By Alexis Kennedy**  
CORRESPONDENT

Growing up in Maryland, Rebecca Huang never thought she would be a principal. As a self-identified ABC (American Born Chinese), her plan was always to go into science.

After moving to California in middle school, Huang majored in science at UC Santa Cruz, known for its environmental studies, and worked in labs for a while before switching to education.

"I loved working in labs, but I

wanted to start teaching science instead," she said.

Eventually, Ms. Huang not only taught biotechnology, but also helped open Life Academy High School in 2001. During this blur of early adulthood, kids came into the mix. While talking about her children, Huang visibly lit up. She said she "loved working with kids," and that being a mom is incredibly important to her.

When first becoming a principal, Principal Huang said her biggest challenge was getting to know the community. Ms. Huang said she missed the connection with individual students

she experienced while teaching. Despite this, her goal remains the same: to keep students happy and safe.

Speaking of safety, Ms. Huang said that administrators have taken a wide approach to creating a safer campus following recent violence, which included a non-fatal student shooting on Nov. 12 in a bathroom in the 20s building.

One recent change is increased supervision in front of all bathrooms from the culture keepers.

Ms. Huang admits it isn't perfect, but it's helping. She said

See **HUANG** Page 2

## Skyline impresses families

More than 350 people have visited Skyline this winter during recruitment events

**By Oliver Forrest**  
STAFF WRITER

Multiple shadow days and prospective family nights have given the Class of 2030 a chance to see Skyline beyond the headlines.

"I didn't know much about this school before, but I was impressed by the presentation," said Chris Opela, an eighth-grade parent.

Opela attended Prospective Families Night on Jan. 15, when staff showcased Skyline's programs and resources.

The presentation went over the variety of academic courses that are offered, including Advanced Placement, dual enrollment, and honors classes.

After the presentation, eighth-grade families visited stands showcasing Skyline's pathways. Arts, Entertainment & Design (AED) leadership demonstrated cameras and other equipment, Green Energy representatives presented their wheel engineering project, and Community Health & Education (CHED) showcased robot babies used to teach caretaking skills.

The feedback after the event was positive, as many eighth-grade students and their family members gained a better view of the school, including Opela.

When asked what part of Skyline impressed him the most, Opela said "student engagement and the amount of staff there is for each pathway."

**"I like (Skyline) better compared to Tech, where they don't have enough space."**

**Enzo Acalin**  
Park Day School  
8th grade

The response from prospective eighth graders was positive as well.

Enzo Acalin, a student at Park Day School, said the open campus is what drove Skyline ahead of other schools for him.

"I like it better compared to Tech, where they don't have enough open space," Acalin said.

A similar night was held on Nov. 5. About 350 family members participated in the two evening events, according to Sean Phan-Kohles, whose Leadership students have been helping to run the recruitment events.

Besides two Prospective Families Nights, Leadership has been using other methods to recruit eighth graders. This includes shadow days, when freshman students take eighth graders, their "shadows," to three of their morning classes.

In total, Skyline held five shadow days on Tuesdays in January to February. The main goal of shadow days was to give prospective students the experience of Skyline classes while interacting with the community.

Melina Moser, a student at

See **SHADOW** Page 2

# HUANG: Budget cuts linger

from page 1

that she and the staff have not been educated on gun violence enough and that they need family involvement at community events and circles, as administrators are aiming to meet what Skyline's community wants.

In addition, the front of the school has now been blocked off with new fencing. Huang said the fence was planned before the shooting, but it will help control who enters and leaves campus.

In the coming school year, there are talks of a program that will give special attention to under-engaged students, hopefully preventing incidents like the one that occurred in November. Skyline has been granted the money for this initiative, despite upcoming budget cuts that will directly affect the community.

Huang said the district essentially had frozen the budgets for schools early this year. That freeze was lifted on Jan. 12, and the district has been analyzing where it can save money; certain areas could be severely affected by the \$100 million cut. The district will take 10 percent of Skyline's "unlabeled" money.

The school uses this money to fix golf carts, buy supplies,

and fund overtime events. Case managers attending prospective family nights are paid from this pot, and as it decreases, it becomes increasingly difficult for the school to function. The district oversees all other funds at least a year in advance, making this money crucial; Skyline

decides how it is used to benefit the community. When there isn't enough, it becomes harder to engage students and families, which is essential to building a strong sense of family, Huang said.

When asked what she is most proud of from her time at Skyline, Ms. Huang acknowledged that while there have

been several violent incidents on campus in the past few years, she feels the school is going in the right direction. She is proud of "teachers collaborating to provide a consistent curriculum for Skyline's students," as well as connections students make with each other.

Ms. Huang wants students to know that being a successful student isn't just about grades; it's about accountability, professionalism, and slowly but surely taking the reins for yourself.

She encourages students to feel free to talk with her whenever they see her around campus.

"I love talking about school and ideas — and your plans for the future," she said.

**Ms. Huang also wants students to know that being a successful student isn't just about grades; it's about accountability, professionalism, and slowly but surely taking the reins for yourself.**



Photo by Emily Olbekson

**SELLING SKYLINE** Junior Rafael De Robertis-Harris talks to families about the Green Energy pathway on Jan. 15 during one of two Prospective Families Nights. The school also has been hosting eighth-graders for shadow days, allowing them to follow a student to morning classes in order to give eighth graders and their families a better sense of programs offered by the school.

## SHADOW: Visitors like Titan community

from page 1

Montera Middle School, enjoyed their shadow day experience.

"The community here is really nice, and the campus is impressive," they said.

Zoe Ramos, an eighth-grade student from Melrose Leadership Academy, also had positive

thoughts thanks to participating in shadow day.

"I like a lot of the built-in community time during classes," she said, citing restorative justice circles and the "integration between students" as the most impressive things she saw during her day at Skyline.



Photo by Jonathan Lopez

**OAL IN PLAY** Kayden Spikes, the only freshman on the boys varsity soccer team, receives the ball during the Titans Jan. 28 game at Castlemont High School. The Titans fell short to the Knights, but came back to beat Oakland High on Jan. 30.

## Skyline edges out Fremont; goal is to make it to state

By Liam Geissler  
STAFF WRITER

"We had some chances, they had some chances, but overall, we ended up on top," said team captain and goalkeeper Rhett Martin, after Skyline boys soccer's victory against Fremont on Jan. 14, which ended with a score of 1-0.

The lone goal came from a Fremont goalkeeping error, followed by a well-positioned shot from Skyline's striker, senior Isaac Okajima.

In the season prior, Fremont beat Skyline twice in consecutive games, with the aggregate score tallying 9-2 for Fremont.

So far this season, Skyline finds itself at 6-4, with notable wins coming against Piedmont High School, 3-2, on Dec. 3, and a 3-1 triumph over Oakland Tech on Jan. 7. Since the Fremont game, Skyline has tallied one victory against Aspire Richmond but also two losses against Leadership and Castlemont.

Bouncing back from last week's loss against Castlemont, Skyline found its emergence with a phenomenal comeback against Oakland High, going down 1-0 early in the first half, but scoring five goals in the second half for a 5-1 comeback.

Notable moments included senior Tristan Kim's Martini-esque hat trick and Rhet Martin's penalty save. Part of Kim's hat trick included an incredible outside-of-the-box volley. He

described this goal by remarking about the "good connection" he found with the ball, and describing the great feeling of seeing the ball hit the back of the net.

Despite being low-scoring, Skyline's game against Fremont was far from boring. Although the Tigers played some silky attacking soccer, Skyline dominated the game physically, highlighted by many moments of heroic defending across the back line to keep a clean sheet.

The standout player was Martin, a junior who made numerous of saves, bailing Skyline out of conceding multiple goals.

Other key moments included two goal-line clearances near the 15th minute. A charging forward from Fremont entered the box but was denied by a combination of goalkeeping brilliance and defensive solidity.

When asked how the win sets the tempo for upcoming fixtures, Martin said it was a "big statement over a good team."

For Kim remarked, "We just gotta keep the momentum," following his second-half hat trick against Oakland High School.

Martin hopes the win is a foreshadowing of an excellent season. "It paves the way for the rest of the season," he continued.

"The hope is to win it all, win OAL, go to state," he said. Beyond that, Martin said he hopes "to have a good season, enjoy it, and, you know, beat the other teams," he added jokingly.

## Black History Month Quiz, Skyline Style

By Huy Kiana Nguyen  
STAFF WRITER

February is Black History Month, and *The Oracle* would like to test your knowledge of famous African Americans who graduated from Skyline High School over its 67 years.

1. He wore #20 while he was a Skyline Titan and then went on to play for the Seattle Supersonics as a point guard in the NBA.

- Greg Foster
- Derrick Gardner
- Gary Payton

2. This singer and actress sang with the Oakland Youth Chorus, was a finalist in *American Idol* and went on Broadway to play the role of "Nettie" in the musical "The Color of Purple."

- LaToya London
- Goapele Mohlabane
- Zendaya

3. This former Miami Dolphin played for Skyline at the Oakland Coliseum his senior year and led his team to an OAL championship.

- Will Blackwell
- Marvel Smith
- Davone Bess

4. This singer, actress and author formed her own record label and went on to release her debut album "The Wild Card." She also made appearances in "Pose" and "American Soul."

- Brely Evans
- Ledisi
- Tom Hanks

**ANSWERS**  
1. c 2. a 3. c 4. b

# Trump action in Venezuela splits Titans

Many are happy Maduro gone; some worry about U.S. motive

By Jackson Masuret  
STAFF WRITER

Some saw it as liberating Venezuelan people from a corrupt leader, while others saw it as an act to impose American imperialism on Venezuela.

These views are among many students shared in a January survey given by *The Oracle* to describe their thoughts about President Donald Trump's actions towards Venezuela.

The survey reached 82 people across all grades with most of the responses coming from two ELD classes.

The results: 42.7 percent of survey takers said they don't support Trump's actions, 9.8 percent agreed with Trump's actions towards Venezuela and the last 47.6 percent weren't sure about the situation.

For those who want the basics about what happened early last month: On Jan. 3, U.S. forces under President Trump carried out a military operation, capturing Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro. The U.S. government cited corruption, drug trafficking and undemocratic practices by Maduro.

In a press conference the same day, President Trump declared, "We're going to run the country until such time as we can do a safe, proper, and judicious transition," stating U.S. oil companies will "go in" to "fix the badly broken infrastructure, the oil infrastructure, and start making money for the country."

A number of students said they were glad to see a man many view as a dictator out of office.

Green Energy senior Franklin Mendoza wrote: "I don't support Trump for many reasons, but I do support the action he made for Venezuela because they have been in corruption for decades."

AED sophomore Yuri Aguilar said she believes that the Venezuelan people must be happy for the changes. "It's going to affect the society of Venezuela because they have a new president, and I think they feel better, because they did not like what Nicolas Maduro was doing," she wrote.

The survey takers were also asked what they thought of Trump running the Venezuelan government and oil industry.

AED sophomore Zahira Tomas Ramirez said she doesn't support this, "If Trump rules another country, then he will have more military people out there and probably ICE capturing more families," she wrote.

Meanwhile, AED senior Esey Gebregiorgis wrote that he was concerned about "superpower countries like China and France looking at the U.S. the same way we looked at Russia when they invaded Ukraine."

Maduro has been replaced by his vice president and awaits trial in New York with his wife.

# What are Titans leaving behind in 2025?

By Emily Olbekson & Fanny Lucas-Orellana  
STAFF WRITERS

It's official. The phrase 6-7 is now dead. Or it should be.

The Oracle interviewed Titans about what they're leaving behind in 2025. Some answers may be obvious; others might surprise you.



**"It would be 67, sooo stupid."**

Rodney Kirkpatrick, Youth Together

**"Any reference to the meme 6-7. No more slurs against robots like 'clanker.'"**

Lloyd Fuller, 12th, AED



**"People driving smart cars. They're all tiny and have bean heads."**

Luis Montoya, 12th, Green Energy

**"Misogyny"**

Cathy Thatch, Youth Together

**"Gum under the table"**

Mayra Pablo, 9th, Gaia

**"We can leave Charlie Kirk in 2025, not himself but the memes gotta go."**

Suron Bradshaw, 9th, Gaia

**"Gun violence."**

Patrick Wong, 12th, AED

**"I want to leave procrastination. For 2026, I want to be more organized."**

Jessica Araiza, newcomer teacher

**"Dejar los problemas."**

Sebastian Pineda, 9th, Gaia

**"Dejaré mis malas notas."**

Hailie Menjivar, 9th, Gaia

**"Social anxiety."**

Casey Pineda, 12th, AED

**"Bullying. People should be nice to each other."**

Joanna Perez, 11th, AED

**"I'm leaving laziness in 2025."**

Xochil Dominguez, 12th, AED

**"Having your butt out and sagging."**

Mizuki Williams, 11th, Green Energy



## Broken-hearted, lonely – readers seek guidance

By Jonas Jones & Esey Gebregiorgis  
STAFF WRITERS

Dear Oracle:

My boyfriend has been cheating on me, and he doesn't know that I know. What should I do?

Signed, Betrayed

Dear Betrayed:

Situations like these are always difficult to deal with and can cause issues for everyone involved. I recommend that you surround yourself with people you can trust to support you, especially those who aren't overly involved with your boyfriend.

I also suggest you confront him about the cheating ASAP though; make sure you're ready for a difficult conversation with your boyfriend. Having it in private would be for the best. Additionally, while speaking with him, be sure that you get all the details on the situation so you make a decision you won't regret.

After having this conversation, it's up to you to decide how you wish to proceed, whether that is ending the relationship or taking measures to mend it.

However, in your case, we believe that a breakup may be necessary, as cheating is a serious betrayal of trust, which is the foundation of any healthy relationship.

Dear Oracle:

I've been feeling quite lonely recently. Do you know how I can get to know a girl? I hope you can help me embark onto this adventure.

Best Regards, Lover Boy

Dear Lover Boy:

We, *The Oracle*, would love to assist you on this journey of romance. Exploring the dating world can be a daunting task, as dating has changed significantly over the years.

The best way to approach any potential relationship is to start with friendship. Establishing a strong foundation is crucial to solidifying a romantic relationship. Sharing common interests, like sports or movies, can help you bond — shared interests spark conversation and allow you to get to know each other better.

With the month of love and passion upon us, many locations in the Bay offer romantic date options, such as Golden Gate Park with its botanical gardens, Grand Lake Theatre for a simple movie date, or Lake Merritt, perfect for a picnic date along the water.

Lover Boy — and anyone struggling to find a partner — consider taking *The Oracle's* new match-making survey using the pink QR code. By answering carefully curated questions, you will get paired with another survey participant who checks off most of the same boxes.



## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I would like to give some feedback on the article, "What Titans Need to Feel Safe." I feel like our concerns as students are not taken seriously — for example, the fence.

Many of us feel like the fence is not for our safety but for the school to show that they're doing something, when, in reality, we feel like we're trapped. We feel unsafe because if there were any incidents that were to happen, we would not always be able to run to safety.

Beizaida Pedraza Barajas, 10th, AED

Dear Editor:

I am writing to you about *The Oracle's* December issue. The editorial "What Titans Need to Feel Safe" is very important to the community and other schools because we should not normalize unsafe school conditions.

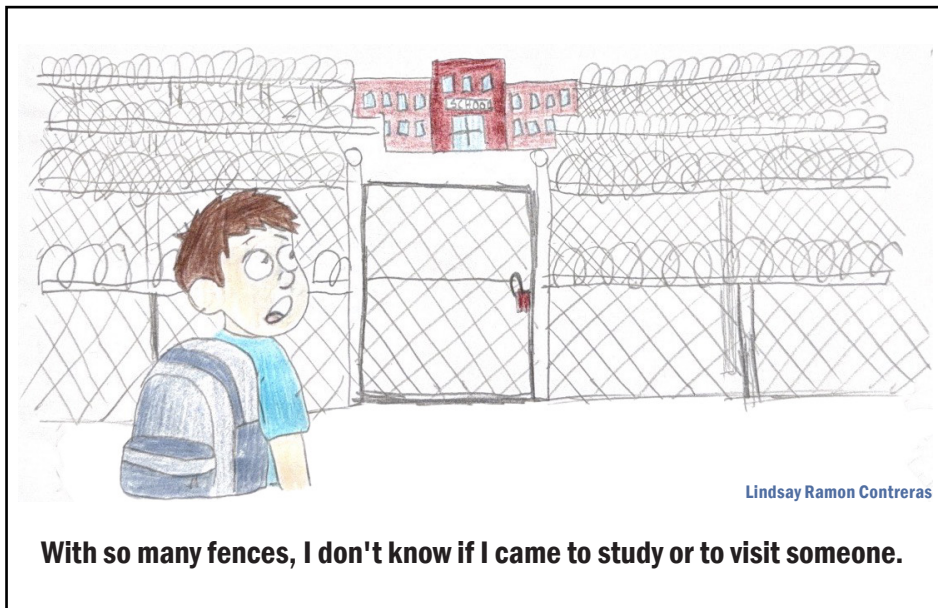
This is very important for everyone to be aware of so that everyone is able to put their input and help make a change.

These problems happen a lot in our communities, especially in Oakland. Our parents need to be sure that their kids are safe at school because we are here to learn and not for violence. This article gave great evidence, reasoning, and claims as well as solutions that can also help other schools that have the same things going on.

Nayo Mayfield, 10th, AED

Dear Editor:

I'm writing to you about how ICE is treating Hispanic people and colored people in general. They have been abused and divided from their families, and they have had their lives taken away. That wasn't supposed to happen.



With so many fences, I don't know if I came to study or to visit someone.

Lindsay Ramon Contreras

News articles reported that a woman got shot in her face by ICE agents for no reason. The news also reported that little children were killed in a burning car because of ICE and that a little girl ended her life because she was scared that her family was going to get taken away by immigration officials.

The point that I am writing you about is that you don't show that this is what happens to humans every day. They need their freedom.

So I end this letter to say that if we know something is wrong, we shouldn't keep our mouths closed because that makes us as bad as them.

Sema'j Birchett, 10th, AED

Dear Editor:

I am writing to you about "Skyline to Rename Field After Coach Beam" in your December issue.

This is a beautiful way to remember Coach J.B.'s legacy at Skyline and in Oakland because Coach Beam was truly

a special man who helped make people great, on the field and off of it too.

He was a great role model for so many young men and women, including me. It is so unfortunate that he passed so soon, a real tragedy to Oakland and the Bay Area in general.

I appreciate (Joseph Cannon-Wright and Tiffany Cheung) for expressing what a great man Coach J.B. really was.

Jack Camara, 10th, AED

Dear Editor:

I am writing to you about Coach Beam in your December issue.

This story was heartbreaking after hearing all the things Coach Beam did for Oakland and in general for anyone. For example, he checked on Ms. James after hearing what happened at Skyline, showing how supportive he was. Coach Beam not only helped people he knew, he also helped students pay their tuition.

I would also like the newspaper to do more coverage on Skyline's budget. It's important to know future changes to our campus. For example, staff, classes, field trips and more things that could possibly be affected by this budget cut.

Chris Cano, 10th, AED

Dear Editor:

I am writing to you about "Skyline's Got Talent" in your December issue. I would like the paper to cover this topic more because other students can get more inspired by such artistic stories.

The article was very detailed in explaining the talent show and the performers. People would love more stories like this after recent violence in Skyline.

Morgan Rogers, 10th, AED

## The Oracle

The Oracle is a vehicle of student freedom of expression and a public forum for the Skyline High School community. It is produced during the academic year by the journalism class.

We welcome feedback about our content and would also like to hear ideas for future coverage. Signed letters on topics of concern to our community are welcomed. Staff reserve the right to edit letters for language and space. Letters or guest opinion columns may be given to any newspaper staff member, dropped off to room 52 or sent to [lisa.shafer@ousd.org](mailto:lisa.shafer@ousd.org).

Signed articles or opinion pieces reflect the viewpoints of the author only. Unsigned editorials represent the consensus opinion of the newspaper.

### EDITORS IN CHIEF

Jonas Jones, Leah Schatz,

### STAFF

Joseph Cannon-Wright, Tiffany Cheung, Oliver Forrest, Nathan Fuentes, Esey Gebregiorgis, Liam Geissler, Vance Kirby, Fanny Lucas-Orellana, Jackson Masuret, Zemani Moore, Huy Kiana Nguyen, Emily Olbekson, Jesse Rocha-Valadez, Clarissa Villacarte



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**LEAH SCHATZ**

Leah Schatz, a senior in the Arts Entertainment & Design (AED) pathway, is an editor in chief for *The Oracle*.

She joined the class by accident, but ended up enjoying the paper's supportive community. "I thought the newspaper would be something really cool to do senior year," Leah said, lamenting that she hadn't gotten involved with it earlier.

Leah enjoys working on stories on anything to do with the arts, which she believes are often underappreciated in the media.

Besides her commitment to journalism, her energy goes toward theater tech club and band, where she displays her saxophone skills.

She also enjoys reading and playing with her two cats, Jake and Raina. — Tiffany Cheung

**JONAS JONES**

Jonas Jones, a member of Prometheus House, was recently named an editor in chief of *The Oracle*.

"My goal is to find more ways for readers to interact with our paper," he said.

Jones, who has always been interested in literature and English, said he didn't expect to enjoy journalism at first. "I thought the class would be more learning and less newspaperly," he said, adding that he was surprised by how hands-on the experience has been.

Jones enjoys reading a wide range of books, from romance to horror. His goal this year is to read 80 books. — Fanny Lucas

**FANNY LUCAS**

Fanny Lucas is an AED senior who manages the online version of the school newspaper.

Fanny, who plans to study computer science in college, said she joined journalism by mistake. "I joined with my friend Emily, thinking it was for yearbook, but when I found out it wasn't, I considered switching out," she said.

After seeing Ms. Shafer's approach, Fanny decided to stay, noting it operates more like a real newsroom than a typical class. She wrote an advice column in Issue 3, answering readers' questions. — Jonas Jones

**EMILY OLBEKSON**

Emily Olbekson is an AED senior and the social media director for *The Oracle*.

She originally planned to join yearbook, but after encouragement from teacher Sean Phan-Kohles, she decided to pursue journalism. Feature and campus life reporting are now her favorite story types.

Outside the newsroom, Olbekson is vice president of Skyline's skateboarding club. Known for her outgoing personality, she enjoys discussing movies and books, including *Everything Everywhere All at Once*.

She hopes to write more feature stories and stay involved in Skyline events. — Viviane Toure

**TIFFANY CHEUNG**

Tiffany Cheung, a senior in the Green Energy pathway, is a staff writer for *The Oracle*.

Tiffany, who is captain of Skyline's dance team, enjoys sleeping, listening to music and spending quality time with her friends. She dreams of being in the world of architecture. Tiffany wanted to be in ceramics but got placed into journalism instead. Despite that, she's become a pivotal member of *The Oracle*. She's written many stories for the sports department, including a feature on flag football, a news story about how Skyline plans to honor Coach John Beam, and a fall sports recap.

— Joseph Cannon-Wright

**JOSEPH CANNON-WRIGHT**

Joseph Cannon-Wright is a senior in the Green Energy pathway and a writer and sports editor for *The Oracle*.

Joseph has written multiple stories highlighting Skyline's athletic department. His passion for sports, his dream of becoming a sports journalist, and the return of the newspaper led him to join journalism.

Outside writing, Joseph helps organize campus events such as pep rallies, Club Rush, and Titanpalooza. "I enjoy making fun events for Skyline and seeing the community gathered together," he said. Around campus, Joseph can often be found listening to music and talking to culture keepers. — Tiffany Cheung

# Meet The Oracle

**NATHAN FUENTES**

Nathan Fuentes is a senior in the Community Health & Education (CHED) pathway and a staff writer for *The Oracle*.

Nathan was introduced to journalism through a schedule change but realized he was pretty good at it. In fact, he recently secured an internship with The Oaklandside news organization.

He enjoys reading and writing about serious off-campus issues, especially stories involving politics. After graduation, Nathan plans to get a job, possibly as a welder, and hopes to attend UC Berkeley to earn a degree in engineering, something he has dreamed about since childhood.

— Jackson Masuret

**ESEY GEBREGIORGIS**

Esey Gebregiorgis is an AED senior and a copy editor for *The Oracle*. He also covers news for his pathway.

While selecting classes as a substitute for Spanish 3, Esey noticed journalism was a new course and decided to try it. He wanted more opportunities to write, explaining that traditional English classes tend to focus more on analyzing literature than creating it.

Esey enjoys Pokémon, learning new things, and spending time with friends.

"I like the little things since I don't get time for them often," he said. — Zemani Moore

**CLARISSA VILLACARTE**

Clarissa Villacarte, an AED senior, is a staff writer and copy editor for *The Oracle*.

She joined journalism because of her long-standing interest in writing and she was excited to try something new. Clarissa enjoys being on *The Oracle* staff for its balance of covering serious issues while also highlighting fun events around Skyline.

She wrote a front page profile of Ms. Kaimana in Issue 1. In her final semester, she hopes to write more feature stories and focus on coverage of the AED pathway. — Clarissa Villacarte

**LIAM GEISSLER**

Liam Geissler is an AED senior and a staff writer for *The Oracle*.

He joined journalism after transferring out of physics, believing it would be a better fit for his college applications. In class, Liam enjoys distributing newspapers around campus because it allows him to walk, talk, and contribute to the paper.

He prefers writing campus news stories to help inform fellow students about what's happening at school. His main goal this year is earning an A in AP Calculus. Outside of school, he enjoys playing soccer, listening to music, and watching highlights from his favorite team, Arsenal. — Oliver Forrest

**ZEMANI MOORE**

Zemani Moore, an AED senior, is photo editor and a budget planner for *The Oracle*.

He joined the paper due to a schedule mishap along with challenges from the pathway merge.

Zemani has enjoyed the experience, writing stories including a profile on Skyline's football coach and an overview of homecoming week.

He took the majority of photos on this page, asking staffers to pick a favorite place on campus.

Zemani is known as someone who always lends an ear.

— Esey Gebregiorgis

**HUY KIANA NGUYEN**

Huy Kiana Nguyen, an AED junior, is the assistant online editor of *The Oracle*. In the newsroom, he is known as HK.

HK is dedicated to making sure all students are represented in the newspaper, regardless of identity or appearance.

"Minorities not being represented in ads, shows and stories is one of the biggest issues today, and I want to help change that," he said.

HK has written several major headline stories, including coverage of the phone policy and the pathway merge. He also contributes by taking photos and assisting other writers. — Huy Kiana Nguyen

**JESSE ROCHA-VALADEZ**

Jesse Rocha-Valadez is an AED junior and the distribution manager for *The Oracle*. His favorite story to write was "Students Share Hanukkah Recipe," because he loves to cook. In fact, he made latkes from the recipe for the story photo. Jesse moved from Texas in 2025 and would like to move back someday.

— Jesse Rocha-Valadez

**VANCE KIRBY**

Vance Kirby, an AED junior, joined *The Oracle* partway through first semester. Vance is a film buff with a strong interest in body horror and practical effects. They have written about film and current events and hope to cover more political stories. Vance enjoys writing poetry, listening to music, and doing crafts with unconventional materials like dental floss. "It holds up better than regular thread," Vance said. — Leah Schatz

**OLIVER FORREST**

Freshman Oliver Forrest entered journalism by chance. He enjoyed the class so much that he decided to stay.

As a member of class cabinet, Oliver feels connected to Skyline. His favorite *Oracle* stories include a dive into Coach D's fan page and articles on Prop 50 and school safety. He also enjoys interviewing classmates.

Oliver likes playing tennis, reading, and listening to music. He hopes to earn all A's this semester. He holds dual citizenship in the U.S. and U.K. — Liam Geissler

**JACKSON MASURET**

Freshman Jackson Masuret joined *The Oracle* after taking journalism at Montera, where he wrote stories and had a podcast. He likes stories that get straight to the point, but also longer, detailed pieces. Jackson finds the hardest part of journalism is meeting deadlines.

He enjoys Dungeons & Dragons and WWE. He hopes to earn good grades, go to college, and live a good life. — Nathan Fuentes