



Pride Month: 'We the People' Means All the People

By Lila Manyapanda
Tusker Tribune Staff

Have you ever heard of Pride Month? Well in case you haven't, Pride Month is in June. Pride Month celebrates the LGBTQIA+ community.

What does it mean?

LGBTQIA+ means Lesbian, gay, bi, trans, queer, intersex, and aromantic. "Lesbian" means a woman attracted to a non-man. "Gay" means a person who is attracted to the same gender. The term gay can be used for whatever gender identity that that person uses. "Bi" is an attraction to more than two genders. There is often a misconception that bi means that you can only be attracted to girls or boys. Sometimes people are mistaken that there are only two genders or that people must have gender (we will get to that later).

But despite what others think, the bi spectrum has and will continue to include other gender identities. "Trans" is what it's called when someone wants to change their gender assigned at birth. "Queer" is a broader term that people in the LGBTQIA+ community can identify with. "Intersex" means a person who was born with feminine and masculine traits. Next up is "AroAce". AroAce is a person who does not feel romantic attraction.

You might be wondering, what does the plus stand for? The plus sign stands for anyone in the LGBTQIA community not listed in the acronym.

Continued on Page 2



A Commentary on the New GoGuardian Web Filter

By William Mifsud
Tusker Tribune Staff



Hey everyone. I'm back. Awful news, I have. (Sorry for talking like Yoda LOL) But this is serious. We have switched to a new filter that goes by the name of... GOGUARDIAN. Yes, I'm not even kidding. Try going on something like Amazon.

Anyway . . . I experienced the GoGuardian. Not sure if any else of you did. GoGuardian is supposed to keep us safe, but it'll block things like Amazon! Like, it's not like we're gonna buy stuff off of it! After all, who would wanna get in trouble? Not me! Or you guys! Sorry, sorry . . . I overreacted. It's now in our school. Not sure if Deledao is gone, but I (maybe you guys, too) have GoGuardian.

Here are some things you MUST do (and know) to keep out of trouble because GoGuardian can see.

- Treat your school device like how a school device should be treated. Go onto school-appropriate websites if you don't wanna get pinged.
- Do normal stuff. Like I said before, GoGuardian IS watching, so stay in line. Please. Do it for safety.

Anyway, this is William Mifsud. We will probably have GoGuardian in our tablets, expect that cuz I experienced it. Anyways, keep safe, have fun, and this is William Mifsud, signing off.

Editor Note: According to Kimelyz Blau, Somers Central School District Director of Technology and Learning Systems, Chief Information Officer and Data Privacy Officer; GoGuardian and Deledao serve a similar purpose as internet filtering tools used by the district to help keep students safe online and support appropriate use of school devices. Some websites may be blocked because they are not needed for instruction during the school day. If a student believes a site is blocked by mistake or is needed for a class assignment, they should let their teacher know so it can be reviewed.



Pride Month

From Page 1

More gender identities

“Female” and “male” are not the only two genders. There are way more genders than two. Here are some more gender identities! A term that is known by a lot of people is “non-binary”. Nonbinary people are people who do not feel comfortable in the stereotypical girl-boy spectrum. Nonbinary usually prefers they/them pronouns. Another Identity not listed in the acronym is “Bigender”. Bigender is when someone experiences two genders at once. Another identity is “demigender”. People who are demigender feel like they only partially identify with a gender. For example, if you are a demigirl, you may use she/ they pronouns. Demiboys may use him/they. “Genderfluid” is when someone’s gender changes from one to another overtime. If you are genderfluid, you could feel like you are nonbinary one day and feel like a boy the next. For now, that’s all. If you are curious about something, don’t hesitate to do some research!

More romantic orientations

As I said earlier, there are more romantic orientations than listed in the acronym. Here are a few examples. “Pan” (NOT KITCHENWARE!) is someone who feels attracted to all genders and is genderblind, meaning that the person’s gender that they are attracted to plays no role in the attraction. Another orientation is “Omni”. When someone is omni, they experience attraction to all genders, but unlike being pan, they can feel a certain preference to one gender. One more orientation I would like to share is “Demiromantic”, which is under the Aromantic umbrella. Someone who is Demiromantic experiences attraction to someone they are already close with, rather than someone that they aren’t close with. There are many more orientations that were not listed in this paragraph. Don’t be afraid to explore!

Finding resources

Are you questioning whether you might be part of the LGBTQIA+ community, or are you a member of the community willing to learn a little more? If yes, I recommend doing a little research about it! There are thousands more genders and orientations not listed in this article. Each one of them is different and unique! If you do research, some good sources are from other queer people you know, websites, or a safe space! For anyone who thinks they might not be cisgender (meaning they identify with the gender assigned at birth) or heterosexual (being attracted to the opposite gender), there are many labels that you could use that aren’t listed, and if you choose, you don’t even have to use a label!

You are loved! <3

Sometimes, being a part of the LGBTQIA+ community can be hard. Many face homophobia, bullying, unsupportive families, and other kinds of hate. To anyone, questioning, LGBTQIA+, or even just an ally, remember that you always have someone who cares about you! You are a beautiful person who deserves to be treated with respect. Not everyone will fully understand your gender or romantic orientation, but that doesn’t make you any less valid. If you don’t know what you identify as either, it’s okay! And remember, stay safe and HAPPY PRIDE!!!



Advice for Future Sixth Graders

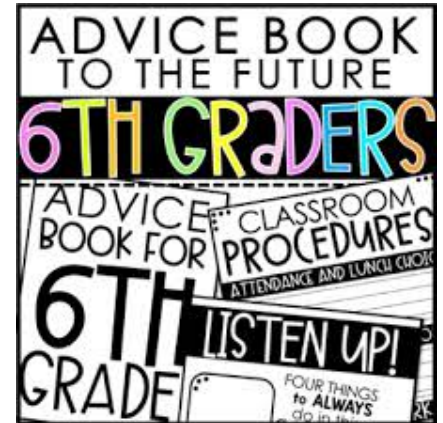
By Jaline Alonzo Javier
Tusker Tribune Staff

Next year, I will be moving to seventh grade and that means that there will be new 6th graders.

Starting 6th grade can be scary and exciting at the same time. A piece of advice that I would give to a new 6th grader is that they should just stay organized. And they should keep track of homework, projects, and important dates like tests so you can study earlier.

Another piece of advice I'd give to a 6th grader is to ask questions when you need help and don't understand something. Also, teachers are there to help you at any time.

Making new friends is also important of the 6th like for me this year. I made a lot of friends this year and now they help me a lot to not be nervous about making new friends. Joining clubs in school can help you meet peers who share your interests. Starting 6th grade is also the time that you should start becoming more responsible and independent. Lastly, remember to not be afraid of trying new things and you should just be yourself.



Kindness is Definitely Contagious

By Jasline Alonzo Javier
Tusker Tribune Staff

There is kindness everywhere in the world, but it can make a big difference in people's lives. Small acts of kindness can make people's day feel better. Being kind can help people build strong relationships and create positive friendships at schools to and in the community.

When people start to be kind to people, they show respect and understanding and make the person they are talking to comfortable. One example is when a student helps another student who is struggling with work, both can feel about the experience. The person who is receiving kindness feels supported, and the person that helped the person can feel different and how they act.

As you know, kindness can spread from one person to another. When a person experiences kindness, they are often inspired to be kind to others too. And that's create a chain reaction that will improve many different people in their lives. Kindness matters because it helps a lot, so they feel valued, and make relationships stronger.

Social Media Can Be Positive or Negative

By Jasline Alonzo Javier
Tusker Tribune Staff

Social media can affect students in different ways. Social media can have positive and negative effects on their lives. Many social students have social media apps so they can stay connected with their family and friends, share photos, and learn things they are interested in. Social media can help students to work together on their school projects and helpful information to help them with their homework.

However, social media also causes problems. Some of the students spend hours scrolling on their phone, which is also called doomscrolling, and they post videos instead of doing their homework. And it also makes it harder for the students to complete their homework and get enough sleep. Social media can be distracting when you are studying or doing homework. And in other cases, students may compare themselves to other people online and feel unhappy or left out.

Even though there are some challenges, social media can help students when using it responsibly. And it is also important to think before posting something online. Finally, social media can affect students in a good way or in a bad way.



Aruba is a Perfect Summer Getaway

By Emily Gardella
Tusker Tribune Staff

Aruba is a great vacation spot for many reasons. One reason is the weather. Aruba stays warm and sunny almost every day of the year, because it is located outside of the hurricane belt. So, people can enjoy being outside. It does not rain much there, which makes it perfect for beach trips and outdoor activities.

Another reason Aruba is amazing is because of its beautiful beaches. The sand is soft and white, and the ocean water is bright blue and clear. People can swim, snorkel, or just relax in the sun. Some beaches even have calm water, which makes them great for families.

Aruba also has fun things to do besides going to the beach. Visitors can explore nature, see interesting animals, and try water sports like paddleboarding or windsurfing. The island also has delicious food and friendly people, which makes tourists feel welcome.

Overall, Aruba is a wonderful vacation spot because of its sunny weather, beautiful beaches, fun activities, and welcoming atmosphere. It is a place many people would enjoy visiting.



In Anticipation of . . . Summer!

By Allison Posadas
Tusker Tribune Staff

I will be writing this story since I am really excited for the summer! And I hope you guys are too and I hope this story will give you fun ideas to do over the summer.

One summer morning, you wake up so excited for a full day of lots of adventures! The sun was shining, and there were so many fun things to do. First you grabbed a camera and went for a walk in the park with all your friends. Talking, riding our scooters, skateboards, and getting ice-cream on the way back home.

As the day passed you start painting lots of flowers that you have noticed outside on your walk; they looked so pretty.

The next day you end up going to the beach, with your family! You notice a lot of sea animals in the sea, and you're even lucky enough to see a sea turtle! The sea was beautiful, the sand was smooth, and relaxing.

At the end of the day you notice that summer will be a blast, and each day will be a unforgettable memory, with new adventures, filled with fun, creativity, and unforgettable memories.



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There Are Many Ways to Deal With Bullying

By Jasline Alonzo Javier
Tusker Tribune Staff

Many schools around the world are having a serious problem and the problem is bullying. Bullying can happen in many different ways like leaving someone out on purpose, spreading rumors, and even calling them names and sometimes even hurting them.

Bullying today also can happen online like texting or in games which is called cyberbullying. Many students that are being bullied feel sad, embarrassed, and scared or even lonely. Bullying sometimes can make students not come to school because they can feel unsafe or what others might say about them.

Bullies bully others for many reasons. One reason is that the bully wants attention from others, and maybe the bullies are dealing with problems in their lives. Others may think that bullying makes them look cool or powerful but bullying never solves problems and bullying can hurt people deeply.

Even small comments or jokes can affect someone's feelings and confidence. Students who witness bullying should not ignore it, they should tell a trusted adult about it, and it can make a big difference by telling a trusted adult. All schools should try to stop bullying by teaching the students kindness, respect, and inclusion. And if the teachers do this, the students can feel safer and more supported.

Lastly, a simple kind of kindness, like inviting someone with you, giving them a compliment that can brighten that person's day.



It's Important Not to Let Regrets Dominate Your Life

By Elizabeth Alonzo Javier
Tusker Tribune Staff

Many people look back at choices they made earlier, moments that happened in life and wonder, *what could have happened if I chose a different choice?* So, let's dive into the psychology of regret.

Psychologists believe regret develops when people compare reality to the outcome people imagined could have happened. I always regret everything I do, like maybe not talking to a person I really wanted to talk to or saying something I shouldn't have. We have all felt regret at some point in our lives. For example, we have all wished we said something different. At night, most of us probably replay embarrassing moments that happened at school, or the missed opportunities that we could have had. Students often regret procrastinating once deadlines and stress begin to build. Or regretting not enjoying the little moments that could mean a lot later.

Though embarrassing moments can only last a few seconds, they can replay in our head for years.

I WISH
LIFE HAD
A REWIND
BUTTON.

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To visit the Tusker Tribune Website, click here: [Tusker Tribune School Newspaper](#)



How the Worst Day Became the Best Year--A Story in Three Parts

PART 1 and PART 2

By Claire DiLonardo
Tusker Tribune Staff

The first day of school

"Everyone, flip over your schedule on the back; it should say to go to your home room class for Lion Learning today after lunch."

I flipped over my sheet, and I was something else. It said to go to room 324 with Ms. James for extra help with reading. I raised my hand, thinking something was wrong. I felt weird in my stomach; I felt my schedule had been messed up. *Could they have messed up my schedule again?* I thought to myself as I waited for the teacher to see my hand in the air. It felt like years had passed while I was holding my arm up, and my forearm was aching from keeping it up for so long. But then Mr. Brown came up to me and asked what I needed help with. I said that my schedule did not say I had a homeroom for Lion Learning, but it did say I had Mrs. James for Lion Learning. He said it was normal, and that every other day I would go to her for Lion Learning.

Finally, lunch had rolled around, and I was trying to find my friend's locker to walk with her to lunch. We grabbed our lunch boxes and walked to the cafeteria. As we walked down the crowded stairs, we felt squashed like sardines in a can as the crowd of people trying to get to the cafeteria brushed past us. When we walked into the cafeteria, it burst with chatter and talk. All of us sat at a table together in the big mess of kids conversing and recounting the events of their day so far.

"Seventh grade is coming in; sixth grade, go outside!"

Once we got to recess, we saw the box ball court and joined the game. The boys were playing in the white box painted on the blacktop. "Get the girls out!" they shouted. Jill dominated. She did not care about what the boys said or did. Then the whistle blew, and everyone rushed inside to get to their lockers, so they wouldn't be late.

Once everyone had gotten up the crowded stairs and to their lockers, it was time to go to Lion Learning. Everyone went to look at their schedules and laptops to see where they had to go for Lion Learning. I knew where I had to go, but not how to get there. *Where am I supposed to go?* I had thought to myself as my palms sweat. I tried to think about the time before school had started, when my dad and I were looking for my classes and learning my schedule, so I knew where I was going. Then I remembered my dad and I talking about the room numbers and how the first number is on the floor. It was just an idea, but I thought it was worth trying.

I went up to the third floor, and when I got there, I saw a teacher standing outside her classroom door. It looked like a small classroom. I do not think it could hold many kids; it looked like a spot that was never meant to be a classroom. "Do you know where room 317 is?" I had asked, hoping she knew, *She did. Yes!* I thought to myself. I was so glad she did.

Now that I knew where to go, I could walk over to her class. When I walked in, all I saw were boys in my class. I was hoping there would be at least one other girl, but I was the only girl. It was okay, though, because I really liked the teacher and my grandma is friends with her, and they went to school together.

Part 2 continued on Page 7



Metric or Imperial? Which is Better?

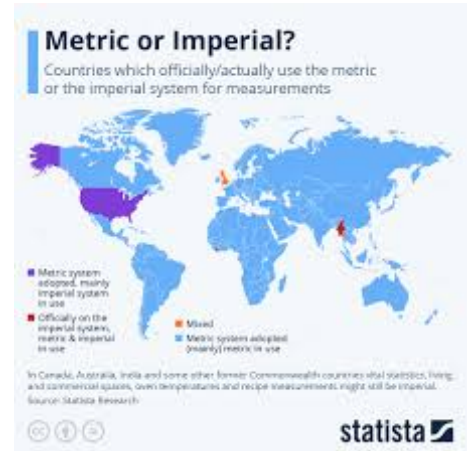
By Eli Mundis
Tusker Tribune Staff

In the US, the Imperial System is used to measure distance, weight, and water. It consists of many irregular numerical comparisons, like inches, feet and yards, with 12 inches in a foot, and 3 feet in a yard. However, this is not the regular system in the rest of the world. In the majority of the world, people use the Metric system, a balanced base 10 system that makes measurements much easier.

In the Metric system, there are 100 centimeters in one meter, and 1000 meters to a kilometer, making conversions much quicker instead of having to do math every time you want to make a conversion.

Although the Imperial system is older and accessible in everyday life, it pales in comparison to the metric systems simplicity, use in math, science, and physics, and it just overall being better in temperature, weight, and distance.

What system do you think is better? Metric or Imperial?



Worst Day (Part 2)

From Page 6

Fast-forward 2 months

“What do you guys have for Lion Learning today?” my friend Luna said to the group. I answered with my usual answer that I have reading class. I felt like I was not doing any better than I was at the start of the year. I really wanted to like reading and do better at spelling and writing. The reading class was okay, but it was boring. All we would do is read, write, and spell things.

A few months later

“Hey, Lilly, are you free today? Can you come to the writing club with me? There will be candy,” Ava said.

I said okay, because I had nothing happening today, and candy is a deal breaker. So, I went to the main office to ask if I could call my mom about going to the club. I was happy because she said I could go to the club with Ava, and it was fun. I never really liked to write long things like a story or an essay, but it was fun today.

Two days later

“Vroom.”

I woke up to my brother making noises in the playroom, which is an inconvenient place because it is right under my room, so I hear everything that is happening down there. I really like to sleep in on the weekends, but that never happens because he wakes up at 5:30 in the morning. If I woke up that early, someone would think I was crazy for waking up that early. Then I heard someone walking to my room. “Knock, knock.”

“Come in, I am already awake,” I yell so he can hear me.

“Hey, do you want to come to the library with me? Leo needs me to return his old book,” my dad tells me while I am half-awake.

“Sure, I will come,” I said, hoping Leo would shut up for once.

“Okay, get dressed, and we will go.”

What should I wear? I thought to myself. I took out a pair of flared leggings and a teal Adidas sweatshirt, brushed my hair that looked like a possum nest, and brushed my teeth, the toothpaste tasting minty and clean in my mouth. Now that I was dressed and ready for the day, I went downstairs to make my breakfast--an egg with strawberries, and toast. It was good.

“Come on, we have to get going,” I heard my dad yell from outside, waiting in the car. I put on my shoes and headed out to the car. The ride was nice, and I listened to the radio. Soon, we were there, we walked in, and I went to the puzzle table, but then I saw a book my friends were saying I should read, so I looked at it but right next to it I saw a purple covered book called Before I Do. I picked it up and read the back of the book to see what it was about. It seemed interesting and I liked it. I found my dad and we checked out the book.

That night I found an audio book of it and started to read the first chapter. I really liked it. I started to read more, and I am reading a lot of books me and my mom would read together.

PART 3 will appear in next week's Tusker Tribune

The Science of Procrastination

By Elizabeth Alonzo Javier
Tusker Tribune Staff

We all have wondered why procrastination is so hard to beat. Well, at least for me it is. Most people have procrastinated at some point in their lives. Whether it is studying late, delaying homework or waiting until the last minute to do assignments, procrastination has become a common habit.

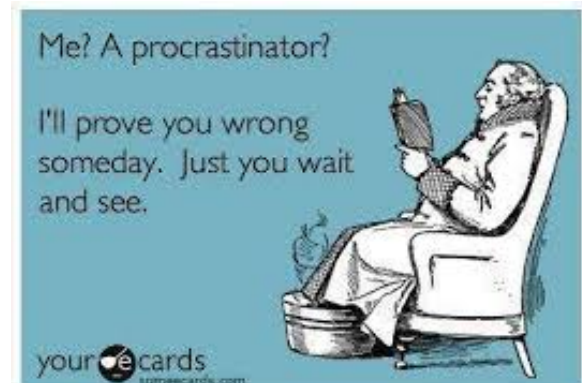
However, it's not simply because you're lazy. Scientists and psychologists believe it is connected to stress, fear of failure, motivation, and the way the brain responds to pressure. Let's dive into the science behind procrastination.

Procrastination seems to be one of the greatest enemies of students, according to Joseph Ferarri, a professor of psychology at DePaul University, who found that it is a widespread problem and that it affects around 20% of adults and 50% of university students. It can be described as "unnecessary postponing decisions or actions".

Psychologists have found that there are several reasons why people procrastinate, and it's probably not what you think. Scientists have found that some of the main reasons for procrastination are because of low self-esteem and anxiety. The key that ties all this together is mood regulation and emotion.

Source:

- Quintero, Laura, and Tim Wilette. "The Psychology Behind Procrastination". Umsu.unimelb.edu.au, 30 Nov. 2022, umsu.unimelb.edu.au/news/article/779/The-Psychology-Behind-Procrastination



Good or Bad, Social Media Defines Our Society

By Elizabeth Alonzo Javier
Tusker Tribune Staff

Behind every notification and doom scrolling, social media is slowly shaping the lives of students. For many students, social media is both a source of connection and stress. Social media has become part of many students' daily routines.

Apps like Snapchat and TikTok allow teens to connect around the world, entertain themselves, and share experiences. However, social media can be a negative thing, too. It can affect students' mental health, attention spans, sleep schedules, and self-esteem. It can become the reason why people compare themselves and think about suicide.

Many people tend to compare themselves to "better looking" people on the Internet. As technology continues to grow, many begin to question if social media helps students or hurts them. Here are some facts:

- Teens spend hours a day on social media apps. Some say "Oh just 5 more minutes", then 5 minutes become 10 then 10 turns 30 minutes, it's a never-ending cycle.
- Cyberbullying has become more common due to social media.
- Some students use social media to escape stress.

In general, children shouldn't be exposed to social media at such an early age.



Titanic Story Still Fascinates Us Today

By Allison Posadas
Tusker Tribune Staff

The Titanic is a famous ship that is part of one of the most well-known events in history.

The RMS Titanic was a massive ship that set sail on its first journey in April, 1912. At the time, it was considered one of the safest and most luxurious ships ever built. The Titanic carried over 2000 passengers and crew members traveling from England to New York City. Many people believe the ship was basically unsinkable because of its advanced luxurious design and safety features.

However, on the night of April 14, the Titanic struck an iceberg in the North Atlantic Ocean. As lots of people know, as water flooded the ship, passengers and crew members worked quickly to evacuate using life jackets and lifeboats. However, there weren't enough life boats for all of the passengers. The ship unfortunately sank on April 15, 1912, with only about 700 people surviving.

The sinking of the Titanic remains one of the important tragedies in history. I hope you enjoyed reading this. And if you never knew about the sinking of the Titanic, this story was just right for you!



Are 'Mew' a Kitten Fan or a 'Dogged' Puppy Fan?

By Allison Posadas
Tusker Tribune Staff

One of the biggest debates among pet lovers is whether puppies or kittens make better pets. Both are so cute and adorable, playful, and lovable, but many people have strong opinions about which one is better.

Puppy fans argue that dogs are loyal companions who enjoy spending time with their owners. They are always playing with them, cuddling with them and just being lovable. Puppies often love going on walks with their owners, playing fetch and learning tricks. Lots of puppies can be very energetic and enjoy being part of family activities.

On the other hand, kitten lovers say cats are easier to take care of, but kittens are usually more independent and can entertain themselves for longer periods. Many people also enjoy how calm and quiet cats can be.

But in the end, there is no single correct answer. A better pet depends on a person's lifestyle and preferences. If someone enjoys outdoor adventures and active play, a puppy might be the perfect choice for them. Independent companion or pet? A cat could be a better fit. But both make wonderful pets and can bring happiness to their owners.



An Ode to Ducklings

By Allison Posadas
Tusker Tribune Staff

Tiny yellow ducklings,
Soft and small,
With yellow fluff bouncing around as they pass,
Tiny beaks peak at crumbs they find,
Curious hearts,
With eager minds,

They paddle in puddles,
Wiggling toes,
Splashing water,
Wherever they go,

As they follow their mother on the tracks,
Quacks echo over the shimmering pond,
A gentle warning,
A friendly bond,

When the clouds drift over,
And raindrops fall,
The ducklings huddle close together,
Cuddling all,
Ducklings snuggle in a row,

small adventures fill each bright, short day
Learning,
Exploring,
In their own little way,
Through many splashes,
And Squeaks,
Life is a dream with these little ducklings.
They march in lines,
Along the shore,
Searching for lots of treasures,
And so much more,
Each new discovery,
Brings delight.

Thank you for reading this poem about ducklings! These ducklings are amazing
cuddly creatures, who are really adorable!
Fun facts about ducklings.

Did you know...

Ducklings were born ready to swim? Yes! Ducklings can almost already swim
immediately after hatching!

Tiny but noisy. Yes! These adorable little ducks could be tiny, but they are really
noisy! But those peeping sounds the ducklings make are to communicate with each
other!

Expectations Can Lead to Unwanted Pressure

By Elizabeth Alonzo Javier
Tusker Tribune Staff

Many teenagers feel like they are expected to have everything out. Many teens also experience pressure from expectations every day, whether it comes from parents, friends, teachers, or even themselves.

Expectations can affect a student's mental health and confidence. Teens are often expected to do great in school, even with other things going on. I have a lot of pressure being the oldest. I have the expectation of setting examples for my younger siblings who all look up to me.

I have a lot of stuff outside of school, and the pressure to get good grades always takes over me. The expectations I put for me are having grades above 90's and usually I achieve that. But it gets hard, and I always get angry and upset with myself if grades aren't looking like 95's. Even if I get 90's, I push myself to get better.

Teens are expected to do lots of activities, but while some expectations can encourage success, too much pressure can lead to stress, anxiety, and failure.



Rejection Can Cause Physical Pain

By Elizabeth Alonzo Javier
Tusker Tribune Staff

Most people fear rejection whether it's getting rejected by a friend group, opposite gender, social situations or opinions.

Some just YOLO it and don't care. While at the same time, people romanticize the past, remembering the past like if it was yesterday, remembering old memories as happier and as simple as they truly were.

These emotions are connected because both rejection and nostalgia are influenced by human emotions and the desire for comfort in life. I know I fear rejection. I know that there are lots of people who are also afraid of rejection, because we fear being bullied or made fun of.

As humans, we all seek acceptance, and rejection can activate the same areas of the brain that are connected to physical pain. Rejection can increase anxiety and decrease confidence. As teens, we are especially sensitive to rejection because our brains are still developing. Nostalgia is a psychological feeling connected to memories and emotions.

Although rejection is part of life, they reveal how deeply emotions can shape our lives.



Fear of Being Called On Can Sometimes be Overrated

By Elizabeth Alonzo Javier
Tusker Tribune Staff

For many students, one of the scariest moments in class begins with a simple question from a teacher. In class, many students, including me, always get nervous when they get called on during class. For me, I do my homework but I'm very forgetful and always forget what the homework was based on, so, when I get called on to answer a question based off homework I blank out.

About 90% of the time, I get it right, but also, 90% of the time, I get called on. If the teacher asks a question, I usually pretend to be doing something, like squinting to make it look like I'm thinking about the answer. Most of the time, it doesn't work.

Sometimes I think we get targeted, but we have always thought that once, at some point in our lives. The reason we get so nervous is because we are afraid of getting it wrong, afraid of being judged because we didn't know the answer.

At the end we get over it and move on with our lives.



Online Friends vs Real-Life Friends

By Jasline Alonzo Javier
Tusker Tribune Staff

Online Friendships and real-life friendship are different in many ways. Online friends are people who usually talk to each other in games, social, texting, or calling. And it feels easier to talk with someone online because you are behind a screen, so you are not nervous about making friends. You can also meet people from different countries.

But online friendships can be hard because, like if you sent a message that is a joke, the other person might take it offensively and you can hurt their feelings, so you basically don't know how the person is feeling through the message that you sent. And online friendships people can even pretend to be someone they are not.

Real-life friendships are way different than online friendships because you can spend time with your friends in person. You and your friend can talk during lunch, walk in the hallways, and make different memories outside or inside of school. Being in a real-life friendship, your friend can understand your feelings just by listening to their voice and seeing their expressions. And your friends are also there to give you hugs, help you when you need them, and they can give you high fives.

Even though online friendships are fun and important, many people believe that real-life friendships feel stronger than online friendships because your friends can connect with you in a more personal way. Both kinds of friendships matter to you and can make you feel happier and more connected. But most importantly, no matter where your friendship starts, it will always grow each day that passes by.



Related Story: What Makes a Good Friend?

By Jasline Alonzo Javier
Tusker Tribune Staff

What makes a good friend?

Well, a good friend is trustworthy, supportive, and kind. Friends are important because your friend helps you feel included and happy. Your good friend is there for you during good times and difficult and good times.

Good friends listen to you when you talk, and they help you when you have a problem. One who makes a good friend is being honest with them. A good friend tells the truth and doesn't lie much. When you guys make a promise, they are likely to keep that secret and respect your feelings.

A good friend treats you with respect and makes you feel welcome. And they never leave you, or make anyone else feel left out. Your friend will always support you at all times. They cheer for you when you succeed. And when you make a mistake, they help you learn from it instead of judging you and instead they help you feel better. These are some things that make your best friend a good friend.

