

GLOBE



A YEAR IN REVIEW

. VOLUME 93 . ISSUE 7 .

CLAYTON HIGH SCHOOL. CLAYTON, MO. APRIL 2021.

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The Slen Family



Freshman Kirby Miller stands in the hallway, sporting a protective eye wear and a facemask.

ABBY HOELSCHER, PHOTOGRAPHER

19

COVER
a year in review

16 FEATURE

asian hate

BY ANGELA XIAO,
KAITLYN TRAN, CHLOE
LIN, SOPHIA LU, SAM
MCDONOUGH



OPINION 30

the flaws in history textbooks

BY IVY REED

How history textbooks present history from a Eurocentric perspective that excludes underrepresented perspectives.

36 REVIEW

donut superlatives

BY SIDDHI NARAYAN &
RACHEL LIANG



GLOBE

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from the editor



On March 26, 2020, I was sitting in my bed, Spotify blasting from headphones. My dog, Louie, was snoring next to me like he had been doing all day. That day he discovered the window behind my bed looks out into the front yard. He saw the mischievous squirrels running up the trees, families walking their dogs, and the birds who were making a nest in the wreath on the front door. I discovered things, as well. I realized that my neighbor cut down the tree that grew in their front yard. I found a stash of old lights, waiting for me to hang them above my bed. I listened to some of my favorite songs, not played in ages, and I discovered my old Pinterest account.

Now, Louie still rests beside me while the lights above my bed shine. My neighbors planted new hydrangeas in their yard, a new wreath hangs on my door, my music taste consists of maybe seven different artists and my Pinterest boards have thousands upon thousands of images.

Looking back on my discoveries from March of 2020, I wonder how different my life would

be right now if the coronavirus pandemic had not caused a complete 180 in everyone's lives. I had just gotten my wisdom teeth out and my cousin, Catherine, was visiting from Colorado. She flew in to hang with me for a few days but when it came time for her to return, the airports became scarier by the second. Rather than flying home, my mom drove her to Kansas City, where my aunt waited to drive her the rest of the twelve hour drive home. In the span of five days, the airports became a place no one wanted to go.

When I look back at the beginning of quarantine, I think of the relief that fell over me. I did not need to do four to five hours of homework everyday, I did not need to feel pressure to do anything but take a break. Now, five school schedules later, I long for that same feeling we had at the beginning. It feels bittersweet. I can not say how my life would be different without the coronavirus dictating the majority of my decisions.

The coronavirus is not the only life changing event that occurred in the past twelve months.

In June, our streets were covered in protesters fighting for change and proving that Black Lives Matter. In November, President Biden was elected after an anxiety inducing race. In January, the Capitol was stormed, pinning us all to the news.

If there has been one constant this year, it is that we rely on the news media to keep us informed. Whether we are checking the coronavirus cases or the election results, we have used a variety of news sources to guide our way through the ups and downs of the past year.

The Globe has pushed through all the craziness and has found new ways to publish media and attempt to keep the Clayton community informed. From all of us at the Globe, thank you for sticking with us through this past year and we are excited to continue forward. 🌍

ella cuneo
SENIOR MANAGING EDITOR



sam steals

Senior Sam Siwak runs toward first base during the Greyhounds' game versus Dukes on April 5, 2021. The Greyhounds defeated Dukes 17-7.

Photo by
Eli Millner



news & notes

COVID UPDATE

World: 129 million cases and 2.83 million deaths

US: 30.6 million cases and 553,000 deaths

Missouri: 586,000 cases, and 8,981 deaths

ERIC GREITENS

Former Missouri governor Eric Greitens is running for election to Roy Blunt's seat in the Senate in 2022. A fall from grace, along with rumors of impeachment caused Greitens to resign in June of 2018. The former governor has spent thousands on clearing his name after he was accused of sexual blackmail and violence. He has also appeared on many conservative news channels, talk shows, and even started his own internet show in order to change Missourians' opinions of him in hopes of being elected in 2022.



DEREK CHAUVIN TRIAL

Derek Chauvin is currently on trial for the murder of George Floyd. He is faced with three charges: third-degree murder, second degree manslaughter, and second-degree murder. In May of 2020, George Floyd died after Chauvin forced his knee into Floyd's throat, restricting his ability to breathe. Floyd's death sparked the resurgence of the Black Lives Matter movement all over the country. The trial has not yet been concluded. At the beginning of the trial, Judge Cahill predicted the finishing date to be in four weeks, but at the rate the trial is currently progressing, he claims that it could conclude sooner.

MIAMI AND COVID

This Spring Break has reaped chaos in Miami's South Beach. Authorities called for an 8 pm curfew and mandatory closures for all of the city's residents and visitors. This is no surprise. Miami was a hotspot for Spring Break 2021, with flocks of high school and college students arriving at the beach. With the influx of people, authorities in Miami feared for the safety of their citizens, and for the tourists' safety as well. Their worries were justified, with the average daily number of new COVID-19 cases increasing at a higher-than-average rate for almost every day of the Spring Break season.

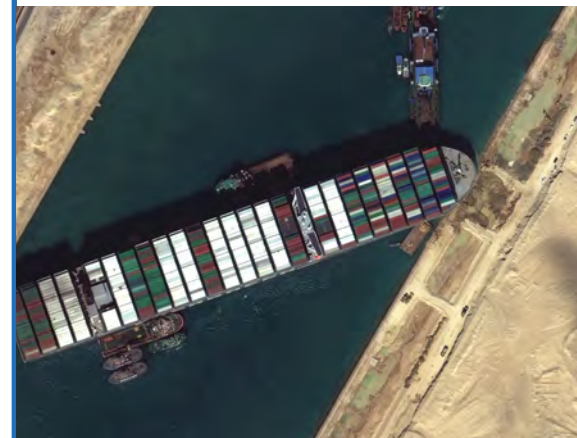
ICDC BOUND



Beginning March 9, 46 members of DECA at Clayton competed in the State Career Development Conference (SCDC), and 20 of these students qualified for the International Competition. The International Career Development Conference (ICDC) is being held virtually this year and will begin on April 12. This is the highest number of students Clayton has ever sent to the International competition.

CANAL CRISIS

A container ship was stuck in the Suez Canal for six days. The blockage of the canal, a major artery of global trade, caused over \$50 billion worth of trade to be suspended during the time the ship was stuck. The ship was finally freed on March 29.



ruthie pierson & alexandra
hagemeister
NEWS SECTION EDITORS

CUOMO'S CONTROVERSY

Andrew Cuomo is being urged by Democrats to resign after numerous scandals have come to light.



New York Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo.

MIKE GROLL, PHOTOGRAPHER

In April 2020, New York governor Andrew Cuomo became well known for his daily COVID-19 briefings, seeming to show more leadership during the pandemic than President Trump himself.

About a year later, Cuomo's career is quickly going down in flames.

Over the past few weeks, Cuomo has been wrapped up in several scandals, including his misreporting of Covid deaths, unfair special treatment of his family, and to top it off, sexual assault allegations. These are reasons why Democrats have urged Governor Cuomo to resign immediately, though he has refused to do so.

Cuomo's downfall began with his administration's reporting of COVID-19 data and deaths.

At the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic in April, the height of panic and confusion in the United States, Cuomo's administration did not accurately report

COVID-19 data.

In addition to changing how they reported nursing home deaths in May amidst confusion and scrambled attempts by doctors to fight COVID-19, investigations have shown that Cuomo's team underreported the amount of patients from hospitals that were recovering from COVID-19 that were sent to nursing homes by as much as 40%.

Cuomo's team feared that reporting correct data would ruin Cuomo's image and hurt him politically.

But the scandals do not stop there.

It has now also been revealed that Cuomo purposely prioritized his own family in coronavirus testing and treatment. Cuomo used his ties to health officials to give members of his family, including his mother Matilda, his brother Chris, as well as his sister, access to multiple tests in the early stages of the pandemic.

When Chris Cuomo tested positive for

COVID-19, the Cuomo brothers also exaggerated Chris Cuomo's condition in order to get him special high-quality treatment.

As if these scandals were not enough, several women have come forward with sexual assault allegations against Cuomo. Cuomo has been accused of sexual misconduct or inappropriate touching by six women, including former staff members of his administration. Cuomo, however, has denied these allegations.

President Biden was asked his thoughts on Cuomo's situation, however he did not directly say he thinks Cuomo should resign, just that the investigation should be completed and we should "see what it brings."

Cuomo's scandals are a reminder to the American people that politicians should be held accountable for their actions, and abuse of power amongst political leaders must stop. 🌐

ruthie pierson
NEWS SECTION EDITOR

women of st. louis

A look at influential women from St. Louis, past and present.



STUDIO HARCOURT/WIKIMEDIA
COMMONS

Josephine Baker

Born on June 3, 1906, Freda Josephine McDonald went on to become a world-renowned entertainer. But fame didn't come easily. As a child, she had to make money for her family by babysitting, waitressing and dancing on the street. At just 15-years-old, she got married and started touring the United States with African American theatre troupes called The Jones Family Band and The Dixie Steppers. Using her husband's last name and her middle name, she created the stage name Josephine Baker. Eventually, the witty charm she brought to her performing led her to New York at the height of the Harlem Renaissance. But it was in Paris where she became a big hit. She shocked and dazzled audiences in the Théâtre

des Champs-Élysées with her energetic singing and dancing. In her most famous dance which she called "Danse Sauvage," she danced in a skirt made entirely of a string of bananas. After the Nazis invaded France during World War II, she began performing for soldiers as well as secretly gathering information she heard at her shows and passing it on to aid the French Resistance. A little after the war, she returned to the US where she was met with racism and discrimination. She fought against segregation in the clubs where she performed and was awarded by the NAACP for her work in the civil rights movement. Today, she remains a legacy for being a trailblazer in both dance and activism.



JOSEPHINE SITTENFELD/
WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Ellie Kemper

Ever since she was little, Kemper had a love of theatre and comedy. She participated in many plays at John Burroughs High School where she graduated in the class of 1998. She went on to study at Princeton University where she was part of an improv comedy troupe called "Quipfire!" and graduated with a BA in English. Early on in her career she starred in commercials, appeared on the Late Night with Conan O'Brien and Important Things with Demetri Martin doing comedy sketches, and starred on the show, The Gastineau Girls. She has also written for The Huffington Post and

the satirical magazine, "The Onion." In 2009, she landed the role that brought her into the limelight as Erin Hannon in the hit sitcom, "The Office" alongside fellow St. Louisans Jenna Fischer and Phyllis Smith. Much of the character was modeled around Kemper's own bubbly personality, and the producers were so impressed with her work, that they kept her on until the show's final episode in 2013. Her next big break was playing the lead role in Tina Fey's sitcom, "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt." Kemper remains beloved by her fans for her "adorkable" nature and comedic wit.



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Martha Gellhorn

Everyone knows of Ernest Hemingway, but not many know that his third wife was a prominent writer as well. Gellhorn was born on November 8, 1908, and was a women's rights activist ever since she could remember, participating in the suffragette rally here in St. Louis, "The Golden Lane" at just the age of seven. After graduating from Bryn Mawr Women's College, she began her career as a journalist. She wrote for The New Republic, Vogue and was a foreign correspondent in France for the United Press Republic. She even befriended Eleanor Roosevelt and helped her write the "My Day" column in the

Women's Home Companion magazine. During World War II, she traveled around the world reporting on the war. A fearless and dedicated journalist, Gellhorn went to great lengths to report on a story. To report on the Normandy landings, she travelled secretly, hiding in a ship bathroom. Later in her career, covered the civil wars in South America as well as the Vietnam War. Throughout her life, she remained an avid pacifist and feminist and published several books including "The Face of War," "Travels With Myself and Another," and "A Stricken Field." Now, Meryl Streep plays her in the new docuseries "Hemingway."



CLAIRE SAFFITZ

Claire Saffitz

Saffitz is a Clayton High School alumna who graduated in the class of 2005. She then studied history and literature at Harvard University, French cuisine and pastry at École Grégoire-Ferrandi, and history at McGill University. In 2013, she started working for the food magazine, Bon Appétit. Best known for her "Gourmet Makes" series on the magazine's YouTube channel, Saffitz has garnered a large fanbase for her videos (each getting around

ten million views). In each video, she tries to remake a gourmet version of a store-bought sweet from Twinkies to Skittles. Recently, Saffitz decided to leave the company due to controversy surrounding the magazine and editor-in-chief. She now has a cookbook titled "Dessert Person: Recipes and Guidance for Baking with Confidence," as well as her own YouTube channel, "Claire Saffitz x Dessert Person" where she continues to spread her love of desserts.



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Mary Meachum

The Mary Meachum Freedom Crossing lies on the eastern border of St. Louis on the Mississippi River in memory of the brave abolitionist and Underground Railroad leader, Mary Meachum. She was born into slavery in 1801 in Kentucky, but in 1815, when she was brought to St. Louis, her husband was able to buy her freedom. The couple then opened a school for both free and enslaved Black children. However, in 1847, Missouri banned education for anyone who was Black. This didn't stop the Meachums though. It is believed that they Meachums

brought their school to a steamship where they would teach their students while floating across the Mississippi River. After her husband's passing, she used her home as a "Safe House" to help enslaved people escape to their freedom through the Underground Railroad. In her memory, this crossing where she helped many find their freedom is named after her as well as a museum at the same location. 🌍

sophie yoshino
PAGE EDITOR

CLAYTON CODING CLUB

Four female students at Clayton wanted to tackle the minuscule representation of women in STEM, so they created a coding club.



Kids do a summer-intensive of coding called Everyday Coding Challenge at The Linthicum Library in Maryland.

The representation of women in STEM is low, so having a group of four women start a coding club in a male-dominated field like computer science is both a statement and an opportunity for growth.

“A lot of times, especially in coding classes at the high school, there are a lot of men there. I knew that if we started a club with four women as the founders, there would be more female representation,” said Katie De La Paz.

Jac Donaldson adds, “I feel that a lot of women feel intimidated to go into the very male-dominated coding classes. I felt that if we had a club that was more chill and run by women, then maybe they would feel more opt to join.”

“Over the summer I was at a coding camp and I thought it would be cool if we did something for the entire school, where we could learn to code,” said De La Paz.

De La Paz came up with the idea of a coding club over the summer. Soon, fellow sophomores Jac Donaldson, Zoey Hall, and Natalie Foersterling joined as co-leaders and began the club journey. The club meets every other Thursday from 3:45 to 4:30 pm on Zoom. Many of the lessons are demonstrations.

“We already have the code and they code along with us. They seem to like that a lot,” said Hall.

The club uses a platform called repl.it, a website with numerous coding languages.

The club leaders go off previous knowledge and mainly use the site for demonstrations. So far, the club has worked with some of the many coding languages such as Swift, Python, JavaScript, and HTML. The club members travel through languages by what they have heard of. The flexibility of coding is something that many of the club members admire.

“I think it is interesting. There are so many languages and some of them intertwine. Like we just did JavaScript and that has HTML and CSS. It is crazy how some of them build off of one another. It’s crazy how much there is to computer science,” said Donaldson.

“Watching them teach coding is very interesting. How many languages there are, I think that is so interesting and how different the languages are,” agreed Foersterling.

“It is very logical and step by step. It’s all about putting your imagination into something and making a whole website or program,” said De La Paz.

“There are multiple ways to code and with certain languages, you can make a game you can make a website, you can make an alarm clock with a tracker, etc. It is also a universal language, if I did something coding here and I sent it over to Sri Lanka they’d be able to understand it,” said Hall.

The easy thing about coding is that you can start anytime in your life. The club members suggest beginning with Youtube tutorials.

“You could literally wake up one morning

and be like, you know, I kind of want to learn how to code, and just look up tutorials for any language you want. It will be at your disposal and then you can use a website like repl.it to do the actual coding,” said Donaldson.

There are many other ways to start coding such as the popular KodeWithKlossy, a coding program that members participate in. COVID-19 has barely affected coding because you can easily start from your own house. Coding classes, internships, and summer camps are still relevant with the pandemic and you get to further your knowledge even more. Coding is a life skill that many of the club members even notice in their own lives.

“I think one time I was showing a demo and all of a sudden like our code wasn’t working on the screen, and it looked exactly the same as it did before in our coding. But it just wasn’t working for some reason. When you’re in front of that many people, it’s all just about the lesson of not giving up,” said De La Paz.

“I think the biggest thing that I learned in coding is that anything can change at the drop of a hat, so you have to be keen and on your toes, and be able to figure out what’s wrong and not get overwhelmed,” added Hall.

“The environment is very friendly and open, and the club is a great way to practice coding and spend time with people that have similar interests,” said freshman Hannah Moon. 🌟

SUNSHOWER MENTAL WELLNESS

CHS seniors launch a nonprofit focusing on teen mental health.



A post from Sunshower Mental Wellness' instagram, advertising their new website and first blog post.

SUNSHOWERMENTALWELLNESS INSTAGRAM

As a teenager herself, CHS senior Olivia Whittle has grown familiar with a widespread issue that affects many of her adolescent peers-- the issue of mental health.

"A lot of places don't take the time to recognize mental health as an actual issue, which it is. A lot of times it isn't properly addressed," Whittle said.

So when part of the curriculum in her Catalyst class involved launching a business, she decided to open a nonprofit centered around teen mental health. Their goal is to provide relatable and accessible resources for teens on mental health, through their Instagram, website, and YouTube channel.

"We're really trying to reach out to everyone and give that information about mental health, show how common [mental health issues are], and how much of a necessity it is to actually seek help. We're actually teens ourselves who are creating this content... we can really cater towards that audience and give them resources that they can connect to and feel comfortable with," Whittle said.

Additionally, Whittle introduced a unique component to her mental health nonprofit: classes that combine the practices of yoga and journaling.

After attending yoga for the first time with her best friend in early 2020, she realized how enjoyable the practice was.

"Yoga was really good for my mental health, and so was journaling. We went to one class that combined these practices, but it was something that was offered only once. The combination of those two practices was

something we saw was beneficial to mental health," Whittle said.

Currently, these yoga-journaling classes are offered through their YouTube channel, but Whittle hopes to offer them through Zoom, and when the weather permits, outside and in-person. She is working on obtaining her yoga teacher certification, which she hopes to acquire soon.

"I'm over a third through it. It's really helping me, not just in learning how to teach, but also in gaining an awareness for my body and my mind. Hopefully I can share that with others in my teaching of yoga," Whittle said.

Lastly, Whittle realizes that while providing information and teaching yoga can be beneficial towards teen mental health, many issues require professional help. Therefore, her nonprofit seeks to partially cover the cost of therapy for teens on a case-by-case basis.

"We think it's super important because a lot of therapy isn't really accessible due to the cost. Therapy can be expensive, and a lot of times... [it can be a] huge financial burden on families. We're trying to alleviate that, and make sure everyone has a chance to go to therapy," Whittle said.

Sunshower's YouTube channel offers an interview with a therapist which tackles questions, such as the approach this therapist takes in solving the issues their clients face. Whittle believes that this insider perspective into therapy is necessary for breaking down the stigma associated with seeking professional help.

"There's definitely a stigma around seeking therapy. We conducted a market research

survey that got 62 responses, and a lot of the respondents said therapy was embarrassing, stressful, taboo... there's a lot of people that saw therapy as something that might be scary or something they wouldn't initially turn to," Whittle said.

Whittle has been busy establishing their nonprofit in various ways-- applying for 501(c)(3) certification, pitching at local competitions, and creating content for the various platforms Sunshower has. She hopes to begin expanding as they continue to spread the word of their nonprofit.

"We're still in our beginning stages. We definitely want to expand throughout the St. Louis area first and make sure we're getting local resources to people in the community. Especially since a lot of people in Clayton have, more than others, the financial accessibility to the mental health resources, so we want to branch out to other places that might not have those resources."

Due to the nature of the cause, Whittle believes that eventually, this nonprofit could have the potential to have a wide impact and expand nationally.

"Everyone knows at least one person struggling with mental issues. Even if they might not be struggling themselves, this resource is something they can show to others." 🌻

disha chatterjee
OPINION SECTION EDITOR

CONTACT TRACING CLAYTON

Reporter Alex Cohen explains the method behind Clayton's contact tracing procedures, and the challenges of keeping up with hundreds of students' health.



Students take precautions against Covid-19 during study hall in the commons. MARCI PIEPER, Photographer

It's like a swiss cheese model of mitigation for the pandemic. You have all of these layers and the layers have holes, but if you stack them together, not all of the holes overlap," said Infectious Disease Specialist at SSM Health, Dr. Shephali Wulff.

For the last year, we have all been wearing masks and social distancing to stop the spread of Covid-19, but contact tracing and quarantines are the last line of defense against massive outbreaks. There are many ways, called mitigation practices, that we attempt to stop the spread of Covid-19 in school and during sports. They include proper ventilation, masking, social distancing, hand hygiene, disinfection and contact tracing.

At CHS, many of these layers are plain to see walking through the building. Students and staff are all wearing masks, sitting apart and sanitizing their hands and surfaces. However, one layer of protection is harder to spot. Measures such as assigned seating, detailed attendance and health screeners help identify who was where, when the need to contact trace arises.

Contact tracing and quarantines of exposed individuals are crucial to the health and safety of the community. Wulff said, "If

you quarantine people who have had a high risk exposure, you are stopping the chain of infection."

This helps keep our community safe, even when someone gets sick.

According to the District's Covid information page, students who test positive for Covid-19 should notify their school nurse or an administrator. However, district nurses find out about positive Covid cases in a myriad of ways. They receive tips from teachers or receive information from administrators or the athletic director, if the case was sports-related. Once a positive case is identified, the formal process of contact tracing begins. Nurses call the family of the positive case in order to gain more information.

CHS school nurse Lisa McDade said, "I have to ask very open-ended questions of these families about COVID and what's going on and who needs to quarantine."

Nurses need to determine who may have been in close contact with the positive case when they were not in school, whether informally or through extracurricular activities. The former requires a reliance on the memory and honesty of parents and students to determine who may have been in contact with a positive case. Families who have a student

quarantined receive a phone call from the nurses and an email from the school district, detailing the dates of quarantine and answering any questions. Lastly, an email is sent out to the entire building community, informing them that there was a positive case in the building. Integral to the process of contact tracing is identifying who is a close contact. Prior to the Safer At Home order released by St. Louis County in mid-November of last year, most contact tracing was handled by the Department of Health. However, the significant increase in cases has overwhelmed the health department. Wulff said, "A lot of public health departments have stopped contact tracing altogether, because they have not had the bandwidth to do that."

Now, the responsibility of contact tracing falls on individuals and schools. For schools, this is attempted to varying degrees. The rule of thumb for identifying close contacts is: within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

However, the reality can be a lot more complicated, especially in school, where masking is a significant deterrent to virus spread. McDade said, "Every situation is very unique."

Time and symptoms play a role in

determining who has to quarantine. If a person who tested positive was only contagious in school for one day, or had no upper respiratory symptoms, fewer people may have to be quarantined. McDade said, "We don't always have to quarantine, it depends on the student's symptoms." For students who were in school within 48 hours of symptom onset or positive test result, nurses analyze attendance and seating charts to determine who may have been exposed. For athletes, nurses talk to coaches and look at attendance at games and practices. Contact tracing is a complicated and very situational process.

According to District communications, the School District of Clayton only has one suspected case of in school transmission of Covid-19. However, sports can be more risky. Despite this, CHS Athletic Director Steve Hutson said, "I feel like we've done a really good job." There are many mitigation measures that keep athletes safe during practices and games. These include social distancing to the fullest extent possible, masking at all times indoors and when not partaking in vigorous activities outdoors, as well as health screenings, sanitizing and disinfecting. In what is now the third season of sports during the pandemic, athletes and coaches have adapted to the new normal.

Hutson said, "My job as Athletic Director is to keep visiting practices and reminding coaches and athletes, and holding them accountable. But now, I feel like it just became our new normal. I'm not having to remind folks as much. They know what's going to keep them the safest."

The online health screener that was implemented is a huge part of the reminder piece, giving daily awareness to athletes and coaches. This is also a way to help track attendance at practices and games, though use of the form is not consistent across sports. Contact tracing for sports greatly depends on the sport and situation. For outdoor, lower contact sports such as track and cross country, situations can be very fluid. But, for high contact indoor sports such as basketball, typically the entire team is quarantined if a player tests positive.

Aquatic sports are particularly difficult. While CHS so far has had no positive cases on the swim and dive or water polo teams, contact tracing in the pool is tricky. Hutson said, "It would be challenging. Our contact tracer would have to visit the site and see what the situation looked like."

Water polo, swimming and diving are the only sports where it is completely impossible to wear a mask while competing.

While the school district of Clayton can try to be as safe as possible, regional cooperation with mitigation practices will keep everyone safer by driving down the rates of community spread. However, there is a great deal of inconsistency between guidelines in St. Louis County and surrounding counties as well as even within different schools in St. Louis County.

Missouri's guidelines for quarantine after exposure from school are less stringent than

those of the CDC, and many schools outside of St. Louis County follow these guidelines. These include the release from quarantine to attend school if both people were properly masked during the interaction. But the St. Louis County Department of Health models its guidelines after those from the CDC. In fact, both the county and the school district recently changed their guidelines to reflect the CDC's embrace of a 10 day quarantine after exposure.

McDade said, "What the county says is how we handle Covid is how the district handles Covid. I am glad and relieved that the county is following CDC guidelines."

These inconsistencies between counties affect everyone, as viral spread doesn't stop at political borders, and people traverse county lines frequently, including for school and sports.

All school districts in St. Louis County must follow guidelines put out by the Department of Health. However, there is still a lot of variation in how they conduct contact tracing.

Wulff said, "I think in a lot of schools contact tracing is falling on teachers and administrators. Ultimately, what some schools are deciding is to create a pod model. And if someone in that pod gets sick, everybody goes home."

Furthermore, when interacting with schools outside of St. Louis County, the athletic department has to take measures to ensure the safety of athletes and coaches. Hutson said, "Every Thursday, I email out all of the Clayton guidelines to any team we are playing the next week."

The Athletic Department typically doesn't have any issues when dealing with other St. Louis County schools. However, schools in Jefferson County and St. Charles County often balk at having their athletes wear masks or social distance, especially at their home games. Hutson said, "Some of the school districts push back on the thought of masking properly at their own school, when they technically don't have to. We had to cancel some games, basketball in particular, because they refused to follow our Covid guidelines."

However, the struggles didn't end once an agreement was reached, many teams required constant reminders to wear their masks properly at all times. The ability to fall back on stringent safety guidelines from the St. Louis County Department of Health is always helpful to keep our community safe.

Beginning March 31, all CHS students who have elected to learn in person will be in school at the same time. This change will increase the risks of quarantine and covid exposure for students and staff, due to a decreased ability to maintain social distancing. Student desks will now be placed three to six feet apart.

This is in line with recommendations from the World Health Organization and the CDC which say to maintain a physical distance of at least 1 meter (about 3 feet) in school where community transmission is occurring.

Despite the increased risks, McDade supports the return to full in person learning. "I think it's going to be ok. I say this because, as far as we can tell, there has not been any

spread at school," McDade said. However, this places even more responsibility on students and families to follow safety guidelines both inside and outside of school.

Messaging surrounding the coronavirus has been muddled since the start of the pandemic. A year in, there is still a great deal of uncertainty around the everchanging guidelines, particularly, what it means to be quarantined.

For families with children in K-12 schools, much of their risk of exposure as well as their information comes from their local public schools. This means that districts have a responsibility to provide clear, accurate and timely information about mitigation practices, including quarantines and contact tracing. In the School District of Clayton, whenever there is a positive case, all families in the building receive an email notification informing them of the development and reminding them to follow safety guidelines and self-monitor for symptoms. Also, families who have been identified as close contacts receive a separate email as well as a phone call from the nursing staff to inform them about the details of their quarantine.

There is still a great deal of confusion around what it means to be quarantined as educational materials tend to be muddled.

Wulff said, "Transparency is key. There should be really clear guidance for what's expected if there's been an extended exposure."

People have to understand that quarantine means you cannot leave your home and property or have any visitors for the full 10 days, even if you have no symptoms. This helps prevent mass outbreaks as it stops the chain of transmission.

Schools also need to provide families with the resources they need once their child is identified as a close contact. Wulff said, "A lot of parents make that calculation. Yeah my kid was exposed but they're not symptomatic so they're just going to go to school and we'll hope for the best." Compliance with contact tracing and quarantines will improve once parents are given the support they need to continue working while caring for their quarantined child. This support could include paid time off, or the ability to work from home while caring for their child. Many families also need support finding testing, especially if their child remains asymptomatic.

Clear communication will also encourage families to be honest and transparent during the contact tracing process. There is no enforcement mechanism for quarantines or assisting with contact tracing.

McDade said, "We're just hoping that people are forthright with information or that they remember correctly who they've been in contact with." 🗣️


alex cohen
REPORTER

ASIAN



HATE

by angela
xiao, kaitlyn
tran, chloe
lin, sophia
lu, & sam
mcdonough



icha Ratanapakdee, an 84-year-old Thai man, came to San Francisco to care for his family. A small man, standing at only 5 feet 6 inches tall, he cherished his hour-long morning walks.

On January 28, he conducted his regular morning routine. Then, he set out on his walk. However, this walk was to be cut short.

As Ratanapakdee strolled, a man ran across the street and slammed him to the ground. The violent blow caused Ratanapakdee to lose consciousness and sustain brain hemorrhages. The blow proved fatal. Ratanapakdee passed away two days later.

In February, a Chinese man walking home was stabbed from behind while walking home. In March, a shooting spree at numerous Atlanta spas killed six Asian women. Two weeks later, a Asian American woman was driving her six-year-old son when a white man began pelting their car with rocks.

These attacks illustrate the recent rise in anti-Asian violence.

In New York, from 2019 to 2020, there was an 833% increase in Asian hate crimes.

Between March and December of 2020, there have been over 2,800 cases of discrimination towards the Asian community.

Although most of the perpetrators harbor a clear anti-Asian sentiment, many of the crimes haven't been charged as hate crimes.

Prosecutors often state that they lack enough evidence to prove a racial motive. The New York Times found that only 110 incidents since March 2020 had evidence of clear race-based hate.

Asian Americans link the increased violence to a growing anti-Asian sentiment. This sentiment has been supported by leading public figures, such as Donald Trump, who has used terms like the "Chinese virus" and "Kung Flu".

This offensive rhetoric coupled with the xenophobia surrounding COVID-19's origin has catalyzed Asian hate.

Karthick Ramakrishnan, founder of AAPI data, told NBC that he believes the former President's remarks about the Coronavirus has had a large effect on the recent Asian hate crimes.

Derogatory terms were astonishingly normalized by conservative outlets and GOP officials, affecting the way many people perceive Asians.

Throughout the pandemic, a large number of Asian-American businesses have also suffered. San Francisco's Chinatown was greatly affected at the beginning of the pandemic, with fear of COVID-19 causing a



drastic decrease in business.

These instances illustrate the clear biases that impact Asian Americans' daily lives. The data reporting on anti-Asian crimes doesn't include more minor instances of harassment or violence.

In response to this uptick, President Biden announced a new plan to combat violence and discrimination targeted at Asians. "They're forced to live in fear for their lives just walking down streets in America," Biden explained, calling the ordeal "un-American".

Although Biden's actions are symbolic of American support for the Asian community, these actions will likely not negate the decades-long anti-Asian culture steeped in American society.

Recent attacks, while startling, are by no means new.

Discrimination has been present in society since prior to the 1900's. When Chinese workers immigrated to the West Coast with plans to work in gold mines and railroads, they encountered extreme pushback.

Riots and violence pushed them out of cities and into smaller towns. Immigrants in larger cities formed communities that were nicknamed "Chinatowns". These areas provided refuge from the hate and discrimination experienced elsewhere.

In the 1882, the Chinese Exclusion Act was passed, banning the immigration of all Chinese laborers.

Generationally, this discrimination continued, with all Asian-origin groups being targeted.

These tensions reached a pinnacle during World War II, when Franklin D. Roosevelt used an executive order to establish Japanese Internment Camps.

Any person of Japanese descent could be detained and placed into camps without evidence or warrants. Their assets were frozen, their homes were searched, and their items were seized.

By the end of the campaign, more than 120,000 people were displaced, despite the majority of people having proof of citizenship.

Now, nearly 80 years after the internment, reparations are still being made. In 2018, the Supreme Court finally overruled *Korematsu v. United States*, the case that stated that Japanese internment was legal.

Chief Justice John Roberts wrote, the decision "was gravely wrong the day it was decided, has been overruled in the court of history, and — to be clear — has no place in law under the Constitution."

In February 2020, a California resolution proposed a formal apology to Japanese-Americans for the internment.

However, many survivors of the internment state that recent discrimination and Trump-era immigration policies illustrate the phenomenon of history seemingly repeating itself.

In order to confront recent Asian American hate, America's long-standing disdain for Asian Americans, the true origin of these sentiments, must first be addressed.



Followed by a slew of racial slurs, insults like “you brought COVID-19” and “go back to Asia” have been used rampantly since early 2020 to harass and abuse Asians. COVID-19’s association with China has manifested into global hate against all Asian individuals who “appear Chinese,” primarily East and Southeast Asians.

Using minority groups as a scapegoat when tragic events occur is a recurring theme in U.S. history, and the blame for COVID-19 lends itself to the “dirty immigrant” stereotype that is so deeply integrated into our nation’s societal systems.

In April 2020, a Center for Public Integrity/ Ipsos poll found that 3 in 10 Americans blame China or Chinese people for the pandemic. Since then, a second poll in March 2021 found that a quarter of Americans have witnessed Asian people blamed for the pandemic.

This tactic of blaming was used in the early stages of the pandemic by the Trump administration and news outlets, amongst other groups, setting the stage for damaging anti-Asian sentiment to fester and deeming anti-Asian rhetoric acceptable.

Former president Donald Trump notoriously dubbed COVID-19 the “Chinese virus” and “Kung Flu,” and the impact of his words is evident — Trump wrote a tweet on March 16th calling COVID-19 the “Chinese virus” and the mean number of daily Twitter users who used the hashtag #chinesevirus subsequently increased by 8351%.

Moreover, xenophobia and sinophobia has so deeply pervaded American society that, when the pandemic hit, some Americans naturally found a target in Asian American civilians. Through a variety of factors — structural and recent — anti-Asian sentiment is currently at a high in the U.S.

These damaging sentiments ultimately culminated in the rise of the anti-Asian hate incidents that are seen present day. Thousands of Asians have been beaten, stabbed, or killed in hate crimes across the U.S. In particular, the elderly, women, and low-wage, economically

vulnerable employees have been disproportionately targeted.

Although the rise in anti-Asian violence has driven the community into fear and mourning since March 2020, widespread national attention was only received in February of 2021.

March 16th marked the Atlanta shootings and a catalyst for the “Stop Asian Hate” movement, where a total of 8 victims, 6 being Asian women, were killed in mass shootings across three Atlanta spas and massage parlors.

Gunman Robert Long had a “sex addiction” and was a previous client at two of the three stores, describing his motive to the police as wanting to “eliminate the temptation” these stores had. His sexualization of

Asian-owned parlors and spas cannot be ignored.

At a time when Asian lives are being threatened, Asian voices need to be heard and meaningful, lasting change needs to be made.

For Asian members of the Clayton community, hearing about people of their race being brutally attacked at subway stations, grocery stores, and walking home has reoriented the perceptions that Asian Americans have had on the world around them.

“I don’t really know if my feelings can be described in a very concise manner. On the one hand, I felt terrible. One man’s ‘bad day’ led innocent people to die. It’s hard not to feel infuriated. It felt like a personal attack on me, and the rest of the AAPI community. I felt ostracized. Like people didn’t want me to exist. That’s not a good feeling,” said JiaLi Deck, CHS freshman. “On the other hand, I kind of felt the same. I feel like with all the events that have happened nothing seems to matter. I mean, our capitol was attacked by our own people, we talked about it for a day, then everything returned to normal. Like nothing happened. We’re literally living in a global pandemic from some kind of science fiction movie [...] So many once-in-a-lifetime things have happened before I’ve turned 18, it’s hard to put things into perspective and realize how important things are.”

The rise in anti-Asian violence resonated with Dr. Robyn Wiens, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services, because of how close it hits to home.

“It makes me feel a lot of feelings. It just makes my heart and stomach hurt [...] [The video of a hate incident in Manhattan] really upset me for a couple of days. That’s somebody’s Lola (grandmother), that’s somebody’s grandmother and somebody’s family’s matriarch. That’s somebody who has made great sacrifices for their children to live an incredible American dream. To see that happen wasn’t just an attack on some random woman on the street [...] It makes me think that if something like that were to happen to me, would somebody come help me? [That’s] really messed up. If that’s how a woman like

her is treated on the street, what does that mean for the rest of us?” said Wiens.

Even for the Asians who have been fortunate enough not to experience a hate incident, Asians have been constantly forced into awareness of how others will perceive them in everyday actions. From holding in sneezes at stores to calling grandparents to remind them to stay inside, living life when safety isn’t guaranteed, and the chances of being left beat up and bloodied on the street are multiplied, is terrifying.

“I definitely feel like I’ve been a lot more careful at school. Even though I know that Clayton is a relatively safe area, I just still feel the need to duck my head a little bit. I’ve had to go a little bit out of the way lately to not be noticed, and I feel like that’s taken a bit of a toll on me,” said Angela Chen, CHS freshman.

“If I’m in a different place where there aren’t a lot of people, and I walk into a gas station [for example], you just feel like a siren has gone off and a spotlight,” said Wiens.

And while anti-Asian hate is at one of its most violent moments, constant racism is the reality of what Asians have had to face prior to the pandemic. Anti-Asian racism has often been normalized, and even trivialized, so this sudden burst of public attention naturally feels temporary to the Asian community.

“I think that talking about the issue is one of the best ways to bring more attention to this issue. I must add that I felt like this entire ‘movement’ was a trend. A lot of people were talking about it for one or two days, and now no one talks about it. I find that very interesting,” said Enoch Lai, CHS sophomore. “I have experienced anti-Asian racism at CHS before the pandemic hit. This just proves that there was anti-Asian sentiment even before the pandemic. This issue won’t go away when the pandemic ends.”

Decades of the ‘model minority’ stereotype boxed Asian Americans into a monolith and ignored issues such as how the Asian American community is the most economically divided group in the U.S., how Filipino Americans made up 30% of COVID-19 deaths in U.S. nurses, and other structural inequities.

In order for change to be made, the public needs to try to understand the history of anti-Asian racism and the Asian in America experience. 🌍

IF THAT’S HOW A
WOMAN LIKE HER
IS TREATED ON THE
STREET, WHAT DOES
THAT MEAN FOR THE
REST OF US?



A
YEAR
IN
REVIEW

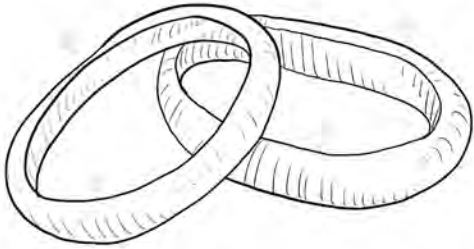
DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

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Liked Songs
1,473 songs

MARCH



TANYA BROOKS

“The pandemic became real for me on March 13, 2020, the night of the 25th Anniversary party my daughter put together for my husband and I. Due to increasing numbers of COVID cases, guests began to cancel, and the venue’s management warned of a possible closure by the St. Louis Health Department. Despite the anxiety and stress our daughter experienced worrying that her year’s worth of planning had gone to waste, we were able to celebrate after all with plenty of family and friends!”

AYDEN SIMCKES

“The pandemic became real for me right when we got the email from the school saying that spring break would be ‘extended’ last spring. I did not really understand the severity of the situation but this email was a wake up call. This put into perspective that not only was our daily life going to change but that there was and still are so many unknowns about COVID.”

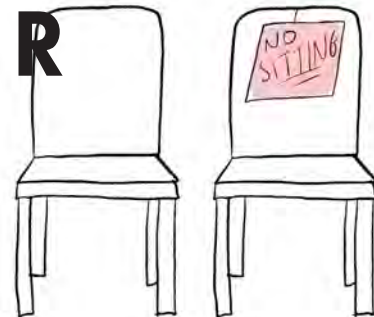


JEREMY COHN

“The first time I realized how much of an impact COVID would make was when I received a notification about the first case in Missouri. Before that, the virus seemed to be a distant problem someone else had to deal with, but at that moment, I began to immediately acknowledge the effects of the pandemic’s presence. Despite only having one case in the state, I felt a panic of being surrounded by germs and tried to track down who I’d been with that day.”

DANIEL GLOSSENGER

“At our MSHSAA districts debate tournament on March 7th, we instructed the kids to sit apart at the awards ceremony, which happened to be the same day as the first confirmed Covid-19 case in Missouri. I think we coaches knew then that we wouldn’t have anymore in-person tournaments and everything would soon change. It was a feeling that we were on the Titanic but nobody else seemed to know the ship was going to sink.”

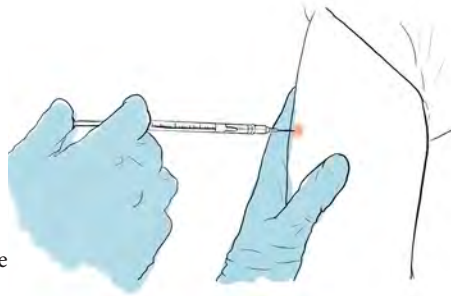


COVID STATUS

MAR/APR

SARAH CENTENO

“I think the first time I realized COVID was serious was when the numbers kept going up and all the teachers were saying that we weren’t going to go back to school. At that point I still thought everything would be normal by the end of the summer but it was probably in June that I realized we weren’t going to be getting a vaccine developed for a while and that this new lifestyle was going to be more permanent than I initially thought.” - Sarah Centeno



MORGAN NORFUL

“I realized the pandemic was going to be serious when my 8th grade graduation was canceled because of it. I also realized when during basketball workouts they made us wear a mask while playing.”

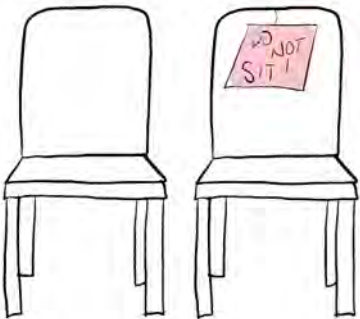


SCHOOL

“These are strange times and it is very weird to go through the day as though in some sort of dystopian novel. This situation is unprecedented, but I could not be more confident in our team of faculty, staff and administrators as we begin this challenge together. Everyone is feeling a level of anxiety and it is important that we are cognizant of this in our work. By taking care of each other, as we have done in many other challenging times, we will get through this. I think we have a good plan and I know we will be able to continue to provide learning experiences for our students.”
Dr. Dan Gutchewsky in an email to the Clayton School District on March 24th, 2020. This email outlined the expectations for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year in which starting March 25, 2020, teachers were to assign learning activities by 8:30 am each day through Google Classroom.

ADELAIDE GRIFFEY

“In some ways, the pandemic still does not seem real. It is scary to think that we are making the history books. But, when I first realized the extent of it was when I had time in the day to actually do nothing. It seems underwhelming and unnatural to have so many hours in a day. It has been daunting, but I have been able to explore and appreciate my family, my interests, and life in general. In many ways the pandemic has changed my life and become a reality that I never thought I would live.”



MARCH 11

The World Health Organization declares COVID-19 a global pandemic.

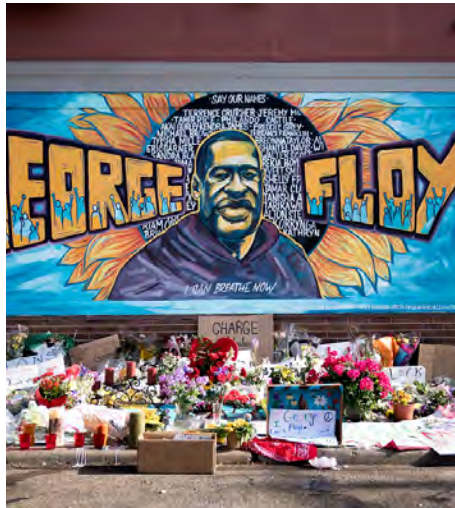
Trump signs into law the CARES act, providing \$2 Trillion in aid to hospitals, small businesses, and state and local governments.

MARCH 27

MAY / JUNE

GEORGE FLOYD

May 26th, hundreds gathered in Minneapolis to protest police violence. In support of the Black Lives Matter movement, massive crowds united at the intersection where George Floyd died. This sparked protests across the nation, including in St. Louis. In Clayton, community members held several peaceful demonstrations in support of the movement. In other cities, these protests turned violent. Lootings, clashes with police, fires and other incidents were a result of various protests. On May 30th, a 21-year-old protester in Detroit was shot and



killed by an unknown subject. As a response to the chaos, the National Guard was deployed in several states and curfews were issued in dozens of cities. However, the National Guard and local police were not able to quiet the Black Lives Matter movement that would explode throughout the following months. In the wake of George Floyd's death, hundreds of protests erupted across the country. In June and July, there were protests in 46 states in the US, as well as across the world in countries like England Denmark. On June 6 around half a million people across the US protested in around 550 places. The effects of the BLM movement were not only seen in protest, but also on Social Media. On Tuesday, June 2nd over 14.6 million Instagram users posted a picture of a black square accompanied with #blackouttuesday to spread awareness and protest against police brutality and racism.



TULSA RALLY

On June 20th, former President Donald Trump held a rally in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Due to the pandemic, this event would be his first public appearance since March 2020, and the 19,000 capacity stadium was expected to be filled. Less than half of the stadium was filled and only an estimated 6,200 people attended the rally, yet the Trump campaign announced that over 800,000 tickets were reserved. A TikTok that reached 1.7 million views encouraged users to reserve seats without having any intention of going, causing the inflation of reservations.

COVID UPDATE

As summer continued the daily number of COVID cases in the US skyrocketed. A new US daily record of cases was set when 39,972 new cases were recorded on June 26th. Due to travel bans and rising case numbers, many people stayed at home during the summer instead of going on vacation or visiting family. Many important events had to be postponed or pushed back, including celebrations. However, people were still able to celebrate important milestones like birthdays. "My mom didn't want a lot of people in our house because she didn't want to get COVID, and most restaurants were closed. My mum's a chef, so we decided to make our own food and have a socially distanced picnic at Shaw Park. It was a safe option but I was still able to celebrate my birthday with some of my friends!" said India Stuckenschnieder, who turned 15 in June.



The giant hornets that killed 42 people in Shanghai in 2013 were spotted in Washington state in May 2020. The highly venomous and invasive species posed a severe threat to the already crumbling bee population of the state. These 2-inch long hornets were soon to be spotted in almost every state, causing panic as a human can die if stung multiple times.

MURDER HORNETS

JUL/AUG

BLACK LIVES MATTER



The late summer proved to be no less tumultuous than the beginning, with cries of justice for Black people echoing across the globe, Black Lives Matter protests continued, with hundreds occurring every week across cities in the United States and beyond. By the Fourth of July, the 127,000 person death toll continued to rise as millions of Americans jetted off to their favorite summer destinations, many heedless of mask mandates and social distancing guidelines. As many of 80 percent of fireworks displays were canceled, and health officials across the country urged Americans to celebrate indoors.

The wave of racial and political unrest mixed with the uncertainty of the pandemic has led to diminishing pride among American adults, with approximately 63% saying they were “very proud” to be American- down from 81% in 2016. The holiday was sobering for many, sparking questions over what it means to be a true American.

In Portland, Oregon, Black Lives Matter

protests took center stage over the weekend of July 24-26 as violent clashes broke out between police and demonstrators. There, one could see clouds of tear gas rising above densely packed crowds while rubber bullets inflicted costly injuries. The mixed portrayal of these events by major media outlets, including CNN and Fox News, fueled anger from both pro and anti-Black Lives Matter protesters, and debate raged over the definition of “acceptable” forms of protest. Many argued that the small number of protests that turned violent were not representative of the cause, arguing that the lives of hundreds of thousands of African Americans lost over the centuries since the nation’s founding were-and are- more important than shattered windows.

In addition, a historic number of Confederate statues and monuments were brought down during July and August, including the Lee Square Confederate monument in Pensacola, Florida, the Memorial of Arizona Confederate Troops in Phoenix, and the Putnam County Confederate Monument in Palatka, Florida.

CLIMATE DISASTER



In August 2020, states across the U.S. experienced horrific weather conditions. On August 27, Hurricane Laura hit the Gulf Coast as fires continued to destroy millions of acres in California. At the same time, farmers in the Midwest were assessing damage caused to crops following a derecho on August 10, a sudden powerful windstorm. With more than 100 fires burning more than 10 million acres in 2020 alone, increasing numbers of Americans joined the fight against climate change, making it a hot button issue during the November 2020 presidential election. This comes two years after climate activist Greta Thunberg began the “Fridays for Future” movement in August 2018. Across the planet, the summer of 2020 was the second hottest on record. On July 10, as many as 300 Fridays for Future activists gathered in the biggest physical protest since the outbreak of COVID-19 in Hamburg, Germany, and on August 21, Thunberg completed her 105th week of climate strike.

THE 30

US hits about 30 million COVID tests given.

AUGUST 8/31

The US passes a total of 5 million COVID-19 cases on the 8th. This number will become 6 million before the end of August.

The two leading COVID vaccines, Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna, enter the final phase of testing: 30,000 person trials.

JULY 27

SEP/OCT

HALLOWEEN

Halloween brought on new challenges. Communities had to think of ways to make the best of the situation while keeping children and families safe. Neighborhoods decided to give hours for trick-or-treating and require masks when going house to house. In order to maintain six feet, “candy chutes” became a popular way of dispensing candy. Using a cardboard tube or PVC pipe, candy givers would make a chute to drop candy into baskets from their patio. Some people took this as a chance to get creative and decorate their shoot with lights or paint. Neighborhoods even had “scavenger hunts” where kids would go

house to house picking up goodies in a safer way. Many teenagers opted to eat pizza with their friends outdoors while watching scary movies instead of going to an indoor and overpopulated party. Hubie Halloween was released on Netflix in order to celebrate this holiday. It quickly became a cult favorite among Adam Sandler fans and the perfect uplifting comedy to offset spook-reducing effects of the pandemic. Costume-wearers took this opportunity to reflect on the pandemic. Popular costumes included: characters from “The Tiger King”, Wonder Woman, and Folklore Taylor Swift.

BREONNA TAYLOR

On Sept. 24, a court decision abdicated all officers, aside from one, in the wrongful death of Breonna Taylor. This decision sparked a sudden rise in Black Lives Matter protests. Protesters believe the decision didn't appropriately hold the police involved accountable. On Sept. 25, a Louisville Police Major was let go because an email to a coworker insulting the protesters was revealed. Protesters continued to protest because they did not believe justice was achieved.



A family member of Breonna Taylor, right, is hugged by another woman after speaking to protesters in Beverly Hills.

WALLY SKALIJ/LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS

PRESIDENT TRUMP GETS COVID

Three days after criticizing Biden for his mask wearing protocol, Donald Trump tested positive for the coronavirus. He was moved to Walter Reed Hospital where he tried therapeutics. For most of his time in the hospital his condition was unclear. Physicians were unable to answer questions about his condition and whether he used supplementary oxygen. In order to boost spirits, Trump drove by supporters in an SUV. “Every single person in the vehicle during that completely unnecessary Presidential ‘drive-by’ just now has to be quarantined for 14 days. They might get sick. They may die. For political theater. Commanded by Trump to put their lives at risk for theater. This is insanity,” Dr. James Phillips tweeted. “Don't be afraid of COVID” became Trump's message.

OCT 8

The results of a super-spreader event held in the Rose G Amy Coney Barret's confirmation reach a confirmed 34 c

NOVEMBER

2020 ELECTION

EMMA BAUM

When November 3 arrived, already high Covid-induced tensions skyrocketed even higher. For the first time, a national election was being held in the midst of a global pandemic. It had come time to decide the fate of the country yet again. For many, the pandemic had left people feeling powerless, and the election offered an outlet for contribution to something meaningful.

For CHS Junior Emma Baum, this opportunity to contribute was just what she needed.

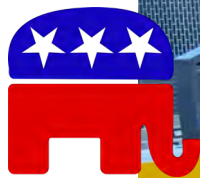
“2020 made me feel really helpless. I felt like I just had to stand by while the world was turned upside down,” said Baum.

Baum decided to do what she could to help with the election process, partially just to take her mind off of the process. “I’m not old enough to vote, but I really wanted to contribute to the election, so I decided to volunteer at polling sites.”

“I kind of just went to the local election website to see if I could volunteer, and there was a page about it.” She ended up working as a safety coordinator, helping to keep the polling stations clean in between voters.

“I think it was a new job that they had to create because of COVID. My job was to sanitize every voting booth each time it was used, so I spent a lot of time Cloroxing tables, chairs, pens, etc.” explained Baum.

For good reason, sanitation was a large



Various campaign signs dot the lawn in front of the Saint Louis Mid-County Library branch. The library was used as a polling station during the election.

PHOTO BY ELLA CUNEO

issue with the 2020 election. Many voters were deterred from physical voting sites for fear of contracting Covid-19, and polling sites nationwide took extra precaution to ensure that surfaces were wiped.

At most sites voters were asked to practice social distancing in and outside of the buildings, but in many places face coverings were not required. Voters were asked to not create disturbances over whether or not others were wearing masks, though altercations regarding masking caused some delays at many sites.

The work was almost non-stop as voters moved through, with a few breaks to give the workers a chance to breathe. The constant flow of people helped to keep Baum’s mind off of

the election. “The poll workers are expected to stay the entire time the polls are open, so I was there for about 13 hours, which was really exhausting, but it was nice to have something to distract me on such a high-anxiety day, and to feel like I was contributing something to the community.”

In the end, Baum explained how volunteering helped to brighten her view of what many deemed a stressful or difficult time.

“It didn’t really feel tense. You could tell that it was a really important day, and there was a certain weight associated with that, but I thought most people seemed excited to be participating in the election, and that brought a more hopeful energy.”

NOV 23

Due to the holiday season, air travel reaches its highest point since the beginning of the pandemic. Two weeks later, daily new infections reach 200,000.

garden to celebrate
ases.

Pfizer-BioNTech reports their vaccine has shown to be more than 90% effective at protecting recipients from Covid.

NOV 9

DECEMBER

VACCINATION BEGINS

On December 14th, Sandra Lindsay became the first American to receive the Covid-19 vaccine produced by Pfizer and BioNTech outside of a clinical trial. To a country devastated by the pandemic, with over 300,000 Covid deaths, that injection served as a sign that we could finally beat it. "I believe this is the weapon that will end the war," said Andrew Cuomo, Governor of New York.

This first jab came after the Food and Drug Administration issued the first emergency use authorization on December 11th for the use of the Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine for people over the age of 16. Shortly after, on the 18th of December, the FDA approved the Moderna Covid-19 vaccine for people over the age of 18.

Immediately, the Trump administration began the distribution of vaccines to all 50 states. Hospitals and medical centers rushed to set up vaccination sites. Prioritization began with front-line healthcare workers, due to their close proximity to Covid-19 patients and their crucial role in defending against the pandemic.

Due to the adverse effects of the vaccine, including sore arms and side effects such as nausea, fatigue and headache, vaccines distributed to healthcare workers were staggered to allow for those who received the vaccine to take off of work until their side effects had cleared.

Alongside healthcare professionals, nursing homes became a target for immediate vaccination. Throughout the pandemic, nursing

homes had been hotspots for viral Covid-19 spread, and older individuals showed to be at higher risk for more severe symptoms.

However, those who sought to disprove the existence or magnitude of the Covid-19 pandemic began to target the validity and efficacy of the vaccine. Many citizens were just suspicious of the rapidity with which the vaccine was created. The typical vaccine has taken 10-15 years to be approved in the past, and the unprecedented speed and urgency present in the creation of the Covid-19 vaccines led to the belief that it was not properly tested, or that corners were cut in its creation.

The speed of the vaccine's creation was not due to cutting corners, but rather the adoption of new mRNA technology by Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna. This technology, known about for years but applied large-scale only during the pandemic, is what allowed for vaccinations to begin in under a year after the pandemic began.

Thus, vaccine promotion campaigns began alongside distribution, with scientists, doctors, and politicians motivating the American public to receive the vaccine if they were eligible. Lindsay emphasized her support for the vaccination, encouraging others. "I want people who look like me and are associated with me to know it's safe," said Lindsay. "Use me as an example. I would not steer the public wrong."

As the vaccines began, people began to look to the future to ensure that the rate of vaccination could continue an increase. Donald Trump purchased 100 million more doses of vaccine from Pfizer/BioNTech in late December, as the country geared up to continue the vaccination campaign and attempt to overcome the pandemic.



A Homeboy worker receives his first dose of the Pfizer-Biontech Covid-19 vaccine.

ROBERT GAUTHIER/LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS

DEC 30

The UK approves emergency authorization for the AstraZeneca and Oxford Covid-19 vaccines.

A more contagious variant of the Coronavirus is discovered. Dubbed the "UK variant" due to its place of origin, the US worries it may already permeated its borders.

DEC 26

JANUARY

CAPITOL ATTACK

Just two months after the 2020 presidential election, the nation watched as democracy was put to the test. On January 6, supporters of President Donald Trump present in Washington D.C. transformed the peaceful Save America March into one of the most impactful attacks on a government institution in history.

On the 6th, supporters gathered to hear Trump speak on the results of the election. Later that day, congress is to confirm Joe Biden's electoral victory in the 2020 election. After speaking for an hour, reinforcing claims of election fraud and criticizing Mike Pence

and the Republican Party for not backing up his allegations, he told his supporters that he would march to the Capitol alongside them, though he immediately leaves for the White House.

What followed was chaos, as his supporters stormed the Capitol building. Multiple pipe bombs are found, at both the RNC and DNC headquarters. Supporters pushed the Capitol police back to the Capitol itself, and amassed on its steps, chanting to Congress.

Capitol police, overwhelmed and stretched thin, struggled to keep the rioters back. Eventually, Congress recessed and the members began to evacuate, as rioters began to break in through windows and aggressively confront the resisting police. Some rioters search for the evacuating members of congress.

Despite calls for peaceful protest from various figures in the Republican Party, dozens are ultimately injured in the attack and five are killed, including Capitol Police officer Brian Sicknick.

All the while, the country watched. Dozens of national news networks broadcasted the attack, live, along with images and video footage taken by individuals and posted on social media.

Rioters inside the building posted recordings and images of themselves inside the Capitol, some in the seats of legislators and in the main chambers, going through documents. For Clayton High School students, the day was about halfway over when the attack began to pick up. Instead of discussing homework assignments, class, or after school plans, group chats and Snapchat stories were buzzing with news articles and livestreams. The entire student body was still online, allowing students to open up CNN broadcasts in the background of class and to communicate with classmates about the riot.

"I was in government, ironically," said CHS Junior, Don Ung. "I was shocked because I knew Trump supporters were going to be there and protest, but I thought that the Capitol would be better guarded than that."

The shock felt by Ung was shared throughout the nation. For CHS Junior Henry Shaw, the afternoon was spent glued to social media and news outlets, trying to piece together everything that was happening as it unfolded.

"I didn't even know that there was a rally planned in DC that morning, so when everything started picking up mid day it really caught me by surprise," said Shaw. "I had finished school, so I was following updates on twitter and news articles, while watching CNN at the same time."

As control of the Capitol was regained and people began to get a grip on what happened, sights began to move towards the future. Some CHS teachers held conversations to discuss the events of the 6th the next day, offering students a chance to discuss and comprehend what had transpired in D.C. For Shaw, the realities of the attack set in and thoughts of confusion turned to frustration and worry for the future.

"I was honestly horrified to see how easily they were able to breach the building. I'm surprised more people didn't die. I'm thankful that it ended relatively peacefully, but it makes me wary about the future with how divided and angry our country has become."



JAN 29

The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is shown through clinical trial to be effective at preventing illness from Covid, hospitalization and death.

Biden is inaugurated as the 46th president of the United States. He holds a vigil at the Lincoln Memorial for the victims of the pandemic, and signs an executive order mandating masks on federal property his first day in office.

JAN 20

FEB / MAR 2021

POP CULTURE

The 2021 Grammys were unlike any. As per usual, Covid-19 did not fail to cause complications for the ceremony. However, The Academy was able to pull off quite the show with live performances by the likes of Taylor Swift, Dua Lipa, Harry Styles. Many of these performers were able to win the night. Everything I Wanted by 19 year-old Billie Eilish won Record Of The Year. Taylor Swift stole Album Of The Year with Folklore, adding yet another gold trophy to her arsenal. Megan Thee Stallion claimed her throne; winning Best New Artist. Finally, Watermelon Sugar by Harry Styles won best pop solo performance. Another outstanding performance in 2021 was The Weekend's Super Bowl Halftime Show. He reached 91.6 million viewers, expecting it to be the most watched television program of 2021 according to the New York Times.



CECE COHEN

"I helped pass out forms to people who were getting vaccinated and then they said volunteers also needed to get vaccinated, so I got vaccinated. After I was given the shot they gave me a vaccine card, then I had to wait 15 minutes to see if I had an allergic reaction to the shot. 3 weeks after the first shot they email you to schedule the second one. Even though I'm not high risk the shot has helped me see my family more."

TEXAS FREEZES

Texas was thrown into a panic as winter storms and freezing temperatures hit the South. Millions of people went without power and water as temperatures dropped to 13 degrees as Texas braced for one of its coldest winters in decades. Burst pipes and the lack of electricity led to the water across Texas becoming dangerous to use and thousands of people were forced to boil dirty water that would be used for cooking, showering, and washing their hands.

"My grandparents lost power for 17-18 hours and didn't have water for a couple of hours because their pressure pump lines froze," said Mason Duecker. "Four family members had to stay with them for 1-3 weeks because they had lost all of their power and water."

Many hospitals were even left without any safe running water. Getting food was also an issue during the storm. Many people lost perishable foods and grocery store shelves were cleaned out. Although Texas was hit the hardest by the cold, many other states were affected by the storm. Over 70% of the lower 48 states were hit with temperatures below 20 degrees and were covered in snow. Texas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma felt the brunt of the storm while states like Missouri, Tennessee, and Kentucky were impacted a lot less with only a week of heavy snow and ice.

SAMANTHA HELMERING

"Originally I thought that I wouldn't be able to get the vaccine until at least the end of summer when the vaccines first started rolling out, but my aunt learned that there was a wasteland program at Walmarts in rural locations. I was very lucky and was able to get the vaccine within days of being put on the wasteland program. By getting the vaccine I feel more comfortable doing things such as going to rowing practices or even hanging out with my friends. I encourage everyone to get the vaccine if able!"

MARCH 31

As of March 31, 2021, over 30 million cases of Coronavirus have been confirmed through testing. 551,683 have died due to the virus.

As of the 31st, 97,593,290 people have received at least one dose of a Covid-19 vaccine, totaling 29.7% of the population. 16.6% of the US has been fully vaccinated.



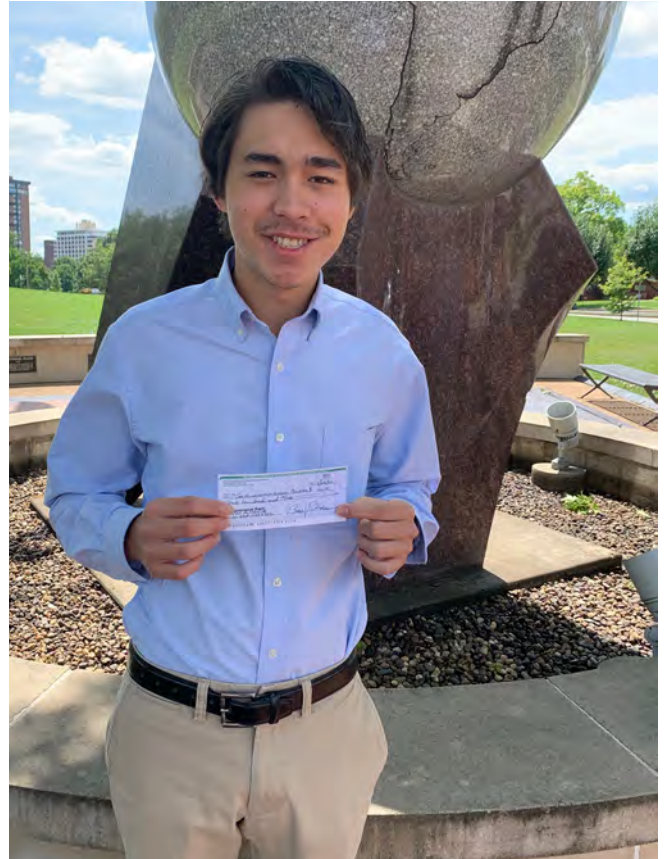
Seniors!

For a chance to win a \$500 scholarship, enter your contact information at <http://bit.ly/2021GreyhoundScholarship> before May 15, 2021! The winner will be announced at Graduation!

Did you know that the Clayton Alumni Association is part of the Clayton Education Foundation? We help you keep up with classmates, network with other alumni and receive invitations to class reunions and other special events. We even offer a scholarship just for graduating seniors!

But none of it can happen if we don't know how to contact you!

The Clayton Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization; all gifts are tax deductible.



Ian McCormick, 2020 Scholarship Winner



FLAWED HISTORICAL NARRATIVES IN THE CLASSROOM

Ivy Reed examines how history textbooks and curriculum tell an incomplete narrative of the past.

In the mid-1800s, on the eve of the European domination of Africa, African people were divided into hundreds of ethnic and linguistic groups.”

That’s according to “Modern World History: Volume 2,” one of the sophomore history textbooks which goes on to explain how Europeans struggled to navigate African rivers until the development of steam-powered riverboats, and how most Africans continued to adhere to “traditional beliefs” after the arrival of European colonizers.

This is the dominant narrative told through history education: first, the colonizers arrived. There were already people living there, but the story continues. In the rest of the chapter “The Roots of Imperialism,” the only African people referenced by name are described in their relation to resistance of European colonialism. We learn about Scottish missionary David Livingstone, explorer Henry Stanley, King Leopold II of Belgium, businessman Cecil Rhodes, future British prime minister Winston Churchill - but there are only two African people mentioned in the chapter.

“The establishing of colonies signaled a change in the way of life of the Africans,” the chapter explains in its last paragraph. Not only does the book never teach students about the pre-colonization way of life for Africans, but it also inaccurately lumps all Africans into a homogenous group. History is told through an overwhelmingly white perspective, classifying non-European people and places as secondary.

But the problem of textbooks enforcing oppressive systems isn’t confined to the unit on imperialism.

“America Through Lens: Volume 2” focuses

on U.S. history in the twentieth century. Chapter 27 covers the Vietnam War, but the section on the legacy of the war focuses almost exclusively on the impact of the Vietnam War in America. It describes the experiences of veterans with PTSD and Agent Orange, but never mentions the devastation caused to Vietnamese civilians from the use of chemicals such as napalm and Agent Orange. American history does not exist in a vacuum. Textbooks should be teaching students not only about the actions of Americans, but also about the often-harmful impacts of those actions that have been felt in other parts of the world throughout history. American glory should be decentralized in war narratives to give students a broader understanding of conflict.

In the last chapter of “America Through the Lens: Volume 2,” the textbook includes a handful of short sections about the movements of marginalized groups during the 20th century: “Latino Lives in the United States,” “Minority Workers Fight for Equality,” “Native Americans Mobilize” and “Asian American Civil Rights.”

Instead of integrating the experiences of people of color into the rest of the textbook, they are neatly packaged into two-page spreads at the end of the chapter. The information about social movements of the 1970s is also far from comprehensive; the gay rights movement is barely covered.

History textbooks have long been the focus of political debates.

That’s because, as Willamette University history professor Seth Cotlar pointed out, “National histories are always bound up with national identities, and what a nation

understands itself to be is often very closely related to the stories it tells itself about who it’s been.” Competing viewpoints about how to present the past are often represented by different visions of the ideals that America should be built on today.

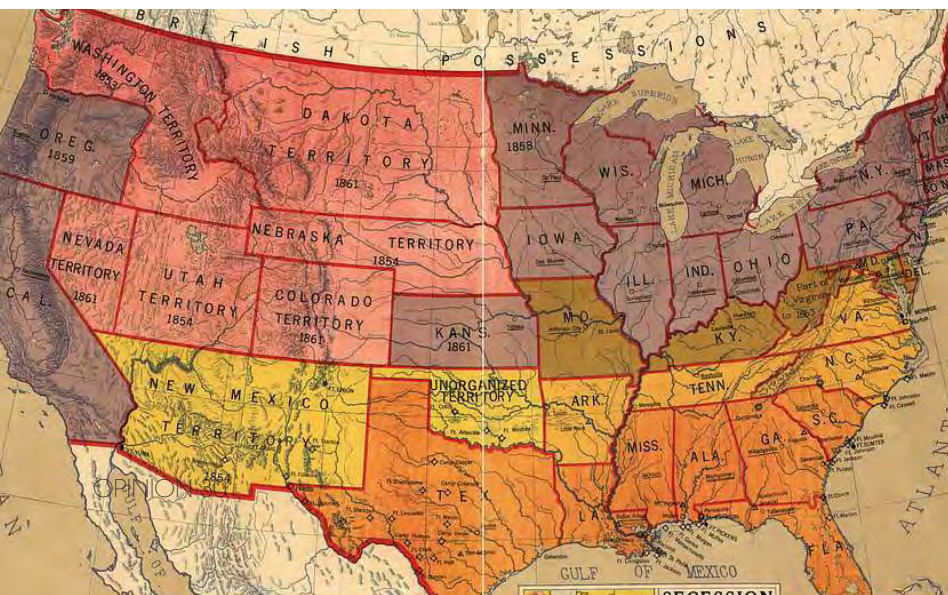
Disagreements over history education extend beyond the information presented. Many educators and historians also disagree about how that information should be presented. A common approach to teaching history is to present it like a story. The narrativization of history can be a powerful teaching tool, but the predominant narratives told in history classrooms can oversimplify historical events and issues, creating a cast of characters and easily memorized places and dates that gloss over the complexities of history.

“The past is not a story,” said Dr. Flannery Burke, a history professor at Saint Louis University. “People don’t live their lives like they are characters in a story.”

Though the goal of history education is to produce an informed citizenry through telling a unified story, the story that is commonly told tends to be incomplete and allows students to stay in their comfort zones when it comes to understanding the past.

“One main problem with teaching history as a means of creating a shared national identity is that when the events of the past don’t tell a tidy story of unity despite difference, we tend to minimize them or leave them out,” said Lindsay Marshall, a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign who is writing a book about U.S. history textbook narratives.

“For instance, most US history curriculum tends to teach students that although slavery



was shameful and wrong, we ‘fixed’ it with the Civil War, and the rest of the history of racial violence and discrimination in the timeline gets disconnected from the legacy of slavery that continues to fuel it.”

But it’s not just the timeline that’s flawed and incomplete; it’s also the stories that are told about people in history curriculums. The impact of collective action and movements is neglected while historical figures are often glorified and emphasized.

When we think about the Civil War, we think about Abraham Lincoln. When we think about the Civil Rights Movement, Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King come to mind. Often the characters chosen to populate this story-like version of history are inaccurate representations of the movements they represent. Rosa Parks was not the first to refuse to give up her seat on a segregated bus. Abraham Lincoln was not the champion of emancipation that history remembers him as.

History is more multifaceted than what is traditionally presented.

CHS history teacher Shauna Aningo believes that stories are valuable in history education, but they must be balanced with other ways of presenting history.

“You need both,” she explained. “I think you need the facts, but you also need to know how people experienced it.”

Telling the story of the past is important, but that story needs to be told through the eyes of characters beyond Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King. It needs to be told without always reaching a clear solution or endpoint, because the story of America is far from finished. It needs to be told as a narrative that students are a part of, not one separate from themselves.

But that’s not the story that is widely told in schools today. Part of the reason why the oversimplified and antiquated version dominates is because of the lack of resources invested in history education.

A report by Educating for American Democracy found that STEM education

receives \$50 per student per year in funding, while only 5 cents per student is invested annually in history education.

When we push history to the bottom of the list of educational priorities, when we continue to tell it through the lens of white settler-colonialism, when we simplify it to a selective and widely-accepted narrative—systems of oppression are perpetuated and ignorance

“

WHAT A NATION
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is cultivated. It was the failure of history education, Burke argued, that led to the Capitol insurrection on Jan. 6.

“The people who participated in the insurrection did not see the country as incomplete, as a work in progress,” she explained.

History may be the teaching of the past, but it also has a profound effect on the present.

Students have a responsibility to scrutinize and question the narratives presented to them. Teachers should see it as their responsibility to teach beyond AP curriculums and textbook chapters.

As CHS history teacher Amy Doyle explained, “There are multiple topics where we really sit and think about how do we want to cover this, how do we want to cover it in a way that’s respectful to all sides, to all perspectives? And in a way that allows for students to then make up their own mind. I think our job as teachers is to teach our students how to think critically, but not what to think.”

It’s easy to teach history like a story with a clear beginning, middle and end, but history is not a math problem. Stepping outside the linear nature of traditional curriculum structure is a necessary step in dismantling and rebuilding the current system of history education.

Aningo pointed out that the history department has been taking steps to examine how CHS students are being taught history.

For example, last year the department made the decision to stop using the term “decolonization” and instead focus on independence movements.

“Decolonization has this idea that Europeans were giving something, giving back this land or giving independence versus the reality that people fought, people had to work really hard to make their voices heard,” she said.

Marshall, also a former AP U.S. History teacher, explained that as an educator she had to shift her perspective from presenting history as a fixed set of facts to a “story in motion.”

“My teaching goals changed to help students see history as a process rather than a product,” she said.

When an understanding of the power and potential danger of how we teach this process is reflected in educational funding and curriculum standards, students will be equipped with the tools to shape the evolving and unfinished story of history. 🌍

ivy reed

OPINION SECTION EDITOR



CREATIVE COMMONS IMAGES

OPINION 31

NEW SCHEDULE

CHS has switched to a new schedule for fourth quarter. How will it impact students' mental health?



CHS history teacher Daniel Glossenger teaches his AP Econ class outside.

MARCI PIEPER, PHOTOGRAPHER

After spring break the high school will be moving into a new schedule. The previous schedule split students into a morning group and an afternoon group. Clayton has only had one transmission directly connected to in-school contact. The effectiveness of school safety measures has influenced the switch to a new schedule, in which all students learning in person will come to school simultaneously. While the CDC still recommends that desks sit six feet apart when possible, desks will now be three feet apart to accommodate the increased class sizes.

Distance between desks may worry some, but what students are most concerned about are the new class lengths and the amount of time they will have to go without eating. Starting fourth quarter, students will have to participate in classes from 8:10 to 12:45, with sixty-five minute long periods.

When asked about the change in class length, sophomore Isra Kayani had some worries.

"We have never had classes that long, and after being so used to the forty-five minute one I feel like it'll be difficult for us to sit through them attentively, especially when this change was sprung on us last minute," Kayani said.

Kayani is not the only student with these worries. Alongside the longer class times, lunch will now be almost two hours later than it has been this year. Students have doubts about this aspect of the new schedule because going too long without eating may affect their learning and ability to focus in already extended classes. Many Clayton students are participating in spring sports and living an extremely active lifestyle. According to Jill Castle, a pediatric nutritionist, teens eat meals every four to five hours with snacks between. The new schedule will be almost five hours with zero snacks.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, students are prohibited from eating in the classroom or school building, which brings complications to the table.

According to the South Dakota State University website, "It's about healthy, portion-conscious snacks eaten every three to four hours and staying hydrated help keep blood sugar levels balanced, metabolism active and your mind alert while studying."

Snacks are proven to improve student performance. No food for hours at a time will affect how students perform, and those with clubs after school will have their stomachs

rumbling until almost 2:00 pm.

Sophomore Lily Kleinhenz also has doubts about being confident in her learning because of the new class sizes.

"I don't know how comfortable I'll be closer to people in the classroom than I already am," Kleinhenz said.

School is about learning, but if students are worrying about getting sick or harming a family member, it will be impossible for them to reach the potential that they should.

Students who were part of the afternoon session will be hit especially hard by earlier wake-up times. Sleep is a highly discussed topic regarding student health, and a sudden switch in sleep schedule will not be beneficial to students. Most students already get too little sleep, and now, without time to sleep in or take an afternoon nap, they will attend their classes even more tired than before.

Clayton believes in developing leaders, having high performing students and creating a legacy. If fatigue and hunger keep students from processing their classes, how can they focus on becoming future leaders? 🤔

TESTING INEQUITIES

Students struggle to survive the systematic strife of standardized testing.



Student bubbles in a multiple choice answer sheet.

MCT CAMPUS, PHOTOGRAPHER

In the School District of Clayton, you have one year of relaxation before you need to start worrying about standardized tests. That year is kindergarten.

And every year after, students are required to spend hours of their precious learning time stuck in a classroom, furiously bubbling in scantron sheets.

We have the COGNAT, NWEA, MAP, PSAT, SAT, ACT, and AP: an entire alphabet of acronyms. Each of these tests are then taken to the state, where the number of circles filled in correctly are then attached directly to the success of a student and the value of their teacher.

Teachers, students and families all go through a great deal of work and preparation. However, the other side of these tests is not met with that same meticulous care. A robot can calculate the percentage of correct answers in only a few short seconds. Meanwhile, the overall time devoted to these can be anywhere from a few hours to a few years.

The value of these tests for students is significantly different depending on the test. MAP testing and NWEA testing are mainly used to determine the success of a school and its students. This differs from the SAT or ACT, which can determine who gets into college.

For decades, high school students have depended upon their success on these two tests, which cost money themselves and are even more expensive for those who want preparation materials. Because of COVID-19, many colleges and universities decided to adopt a test-optional policy. Many students are appreciating the benefits of keeping schools test-optional. This might lead to a decrease in standardized testing of the ACT and SAT in the future.

We have only ever been on one side of the test: the side where you bring your favorite

number 2 pencils and make sure your calculator is fully charged the night before. So we thought we would ask someone who has been through it both ways.

Micah Johnson, a Spanish teacher at CHS, has both taken and proctored standardized tests. Thinking back to when he was in high school he explained, "As a white middle-class guy, growing up in suburban Minnesota, those tests were made for me."

His positive experience does not overshadow the biases and flaws with standardized tests. When discussing the issues with standardized tests, going back to their start is crucial.

The SAT has a much darker history than we may realize. In 1926, the SAT was administered to high school students. However, its earliest version was written by Carl Brigham. SAT stands for Scholastic Aptitude Test. It was originally designed to determine the academic proficiency of military soldiers, but later became popular in educational settings. Brigham published the results from his experiments in the book, *A Study of American Intelligence*. Upholding the ideas of white supremacy, he tried to prove his theory that Black and Brown people are intellectually inferior. He skewed questions to the benefit of Caucasian test-takers, meanwhile omitting questions that were commonly answered correctly by people of color.

While we may have come a long way from where the test started, its problematic foundations remain.

Typically, wealthy white students perform the best on these standardized tests. This occurs because, beyond the test itself, study materials and tutors are incredibly expensive and unavailable to most lower-income families.

Johnson said, "Standardized testing is proved to not be a good indicator of an individual's

achievement, or even potential, but rather systemic patterns."

Another important factor to consider is family values. In Clayton, it is common to live in a home with high expectations of the student, and where college is a coveted experience. However, other less wealthy demographics prioritize getting a job out of necessity to meet basic needs.

In some families, going to college is even viewed as selfish because of the amount of debt it can cause.

A majority of universities are realizing these flaws and are beginning to take standardized tests out of their application processes. Instead, they are relying more on a student's GPA and their well-roundedness.

For the class of 2022, a variety of California schools, such as UCLA, UC Berkeley, and UC Davis, will be going test blind. This means that these schools will not consider test scores at all during the admissions process. More commonly, schools are adopting test-optional policies that allow students to choose whether or not they want to submit their test scores. This can be dependent on where they fall in a sea of other applicants, or if they had the opportunity to take the test at all.

For years the quality of a student's education has been solely based upon their opportunities, which are often limited by race, wealth, and class. Standardized testing exacerbates this inequality, and omitting it from the college application process is a step in the right direction. 🌍

daphne kraushaar
& maya goldwasser
PAGE EDITOR, REPORTER

BIG HEART TEA CO.

Big Heart Tea Co., an STL based, female-owned company ventures into new business deals and wins over local tea-drinkers.



Big Heart Tea Co.'s pictured flavors: Royal Treatment, Blushing, Fake Coffee, Cup of Sunshine, and Cup of Love.
SASHA KELLER, PHOTOGRAPHER

In 2012, Lisa Gorvo, a firm believer in the healing powers of tea, set out to create a company focused around the most sustainable and flavorsome tea products. And another plus, it's a completely female-owned business based in St. Louis. Building their brand over the last few years, Big Heart Tea Co. has reached stores like Nordstrom and Amazon as well as being served in St. Louis restaurants like Rooster, Winslows, Pastaria and many more.

The company is run by Lisa Gorvo, the founder, and Kunthearith Nhek-Morrissey, VP of operations. Nhek-Morrissey also happens to be a mom of two students who attend the Clayton school district, a seventh-grader at Wydown Middle School, Davy Nhek-Morrissey, and a freshman at Clayton High School, Liem Nhek-Morrissey. The two describe their mission is "to make people feel good, with the power of healing herbs."

As Gorvo states in their website's mission video, "I wanted people to have an easier way to incorporate turmeric into their everyday life."

Turmeric has anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties, so Big Heart Tea wanted to create a flavor (Cup of Sunshine, so cute right) focused on the health and wellness origins of tea-drinking.

Since that first flavor, they have expanded their inventory to include black tea, chai, fake coffee, chamomile, hibiscus and many others.

“

OUR TEA BAGS ARE
100% COMPOSTABLE,
100% PLANT-BASED,
100% NON-TOXIC.

Their partnership with Nordstrom has included four limited edition Christmas flavors, sold exclusively online and at Nordstrom stores.

One major component of their brand is its sustainability. Every tea bag is plastic-free and "100% compostable, 100% plant-based, 100% non-toxic," according to their website.

Every one of their ingredients is sourced and chosen from a viewpoint concerned with health. Their tea comes in the form of tea bags

or you could choose to purchase loose leaf tea and use an infuser. Each box has 10 teabags and comes at a relatively inexpensive price for the quality and quantity of the product.

When I tried Big Heart Tea for the first time, I was just delving into the world of tea. As a hater of coffee, I was excited to find a tea flavor I really loved. I started to feel a part of the community of people who routinely hold a mug in their hands before starting their day.

As soon as I tasted their Cup of Sunshine, I was hooked. Not only are their teabags adorable, but I could taste the simplicity and authenticity of the bag's components. Since my first taste, I have tried their Royal Treatment, Edith Grey, Cup of Love, and Blushing.

My personal favorite is Edith Grey, based on the conventional name 'Earl Grey' with a feminist twist. This flavor has a delicate sweet aftertaste and a delicious smell from the infused rose petals.

I highly recommend venturing to a store or restaurant to purchase this tea, or even ordering it online. Not only do the Big Heart Tea Co. women provide a fresh perspective on a company vision, but they also guarantee well-sourced ingredients so you know you are supporting a thoughtful establishment. And please, try the Edith Grey. 🌿



Big Heart Tea Co.'s plant-based tea bags and loose leaf tea options.
SASHA KELLER, PHOTOGRAPHER

THE WILDS

The Globe reviews new Amazon Prime show: The Wilds.

Creator Sarah Streicher digs deep into the lives of modern day teenage girls in the new Amazon Prime series, *The Wilds*. Similar to early 2000's show *Lost*, *The Wilds* highlights the lives of several girls who get stuck on a deserted island together after a plane crash. The series is only ten episodes, so we were surprised at how many plot twists arose as the story unfolded. While the premise of the show somewhat resembles a modern day *Lord of the Flies*, Streicher touches on several modern day issues, such as sexual abuse, homophobia, eating disorders, and more. Since arriving on Amazon Prime on December 11 of 2020, the show has generally received excellent reviews, and after watching the series ourselves, we can confirm that we were constantly on the edge of our seats.

The Wilds follows a group of teenage girls from different backgrounds as they try to survive after crashing land on a deserted island. The girls were told they were traveling to a team building feminist retreat in Hawaii, but it is later revealed that they were part of a social experiment led by a scientist and her team. Each episode centers on a different girl, flashing back and forth between their current state on



PHOTOS FROM AMAZON PRIME

the island and their previous experiences that led them to get on the plane.

The combination of riveting drama an adventure that inhabits the show, as well as the relatability of the characters, made for a great series overall. Through the ten episodes, the character development which occurred was inspiring and displayed the complexities of each girl's life previous to the plane crash. The portrayal of the girls' struggles and previous lives made it difficult to not feel an emotional attachment to each of the characters, which is what made the show so endearing.

Between the amazing performances of the actresses and the twists and turns that keep viewers on the edge of their seats, *The Wilds* is a great and well planned show, filmed in the beautiful scenery of New Zealand. We enjoyed every aspect of the show and were excited to find out that *The Wilds* has renewed the series for a second season. We would definitely recommend this show to anyone looking for a suspenseful, binge worthy series to keep them interested throughout. 🍷

moriah lotsoff & kate freedman
REVIEW SECTION EDITORS

DONUT SUPERLATIVES

The Globe finds the best donuts for different occasions, located right here in STL.



CHEAPEST DONUTS: DUNKIN DONUTS



America runs on Dunkin': a phrase that has always resonated with donut lovers all across the nation. Dunkin' Donuts is a chain restaurant that originated in Quincy, Massachusetts. Known for its combination of delicious donuts and array of coffees, Dunkin' Donuts is a beloved quick fix for early-risers with a sweet tooth.

Although it hails from the northeast of America, Dunkin Donuts has made its way across the country-- including having several locations in St. Louis, Missouri.

Wanting to try the nationally-acclaimed donuts, we made our way to the closest store-- located on South Hanley Road in Richmond Heights. The location includes both a drive-through option and a walk-in option. We decided to go through the drive-through, a

quick process that took 5 minutes at most.

We decided to order two of the most popular donuts: the Glazed Donut and the Boston Kreme. The price of both came out to a mere \$2.34, including tax-- a price much lower than neighboring donut shops.

While we had only ordered and paid for two donuts, when we opened up our bag to try the aromatic pastries, we were pleasantly surprised to discover that we had been (perhaps accidentally) been given two of each donut. While this probably would not have happened usually, it was a welcome addition that we could not complain about.

Now faced with two donuts each, we decided to dig in, first trying the Glazed Donut. The donut was a yeast donut, light and fluffy, covered with a sticky-sugary glaze. Looking like a picturesque, classic, American donut, we were eager to take a bite.

And the bite was delectable. The donut was pillowy and fried to perfection. The glaze, while on the sweeter side, gave a slight crunch that juxtaposed the airyness of the pastry. Together, they fused into a delectable dessert, filling our mouths with a sugary, textured deliciousness. The lightness and divine sweetness of the donut made it impossible to eat slowly--we wolfed them down easily and moved onto the Boston Kreme.

The Boston Kreme donuts looked absolutely mouthwatering with their golden lightly fried dough filled with mouth-watering custard and topped with shiny chocolate frosting. After marveling at the enticing smell and look of the donut, we had a taste.

Instantly, we were hit with a harmony of flavors and textures. The custard to dough ratio was perfect and we reveled in the balance between thick, creamy filling and fluffy dough. The thick layer of chocolate frosting provided another element of enjoyment and tied the entire orchestra of flavors together with a crescendo of smooth, chocolately goodness. The chocolate taste lingered in our mouths and we sat back, feeling very satisfied after gobbling up these tasty and affordable donuts from Dunkin'.

While Dunkin' Donuts may not be a local store or have the most intricate donuts, it makes up for it with taste and price. At a little over \$1 per donut, these are an accessible treat for most people. Overall, we loved our experience with both the customer service and donuts themselves at Dunkin' Donuts. If you are looking for a quick, sweet, delectable treat, we recommend you head over to Dunkin' Donuts!

FANCIEST DONUTS: VINCENT VAN DONUTS



Vincent Van Donut, located in the heart of Tower Groves, is known by locals as the best donuts in St Louis. Beloved by all, this location is known and for their artisan donuts, made from scratch every day.

Created by St Louis chef Vincent Brian Marsden, Vincent Van Donut began as a food truck in 2013. Soon, however, popularity and demand for these delicious donuts surged, and the first shop was opened in 2015. The rest is history.

Vincent Van Donut opens at 6am daily and is opened until they sell out to preserve the quality and freshness of their donuts. Given their popularity, we had to act fast and got up bright and early to travel to the donut shop.

Once we made our way there and stepped in, we were awed by the interior. Bright and homey, we felt right at place inside. The donuts were displayed in a glass case at the front, the donuts large and inviting. Behind the donuts, an employee was working some dough, preparing to hand-make the next batch of donuts. With options ranging from Vanilla Glazed to Chocolate Coffee to Dulche de Leche, we were eager to try the donuts.

We selected a maple-bacon donut and a strawberry cheesecake donut, the cost totaling up to \$8.34. Opening the containers we were given, we were first struck by the size and shape of the donuts. Each donut, instead of following the traditional circular shape, were square in size. They were also both huge, each the size of two regular donuts. We could not stop ourselves from digging in and decided to begin with the maple bacon donut.

The maple bacon donut was topped with a sweet, maple glaze and tiny pieces of bacon. Extremely interested in this unique flavor combination, we took a bite.

The first thing that struck us was the fluffiness of the donut. The dough was extremely light and felt like eating a fluffy pillow. Next, the contrast between the sweetness of the glaze and the meaty flavor of the bacon hit us. While confusing at first, the more bites we took, the less we could stop-- the incomparable taste

drawing us back in every time.

The perfect balance between sweet and savory, this donut was breakfast in a bite, and we couldn't stop ourselves from wolfing it down. Extremely satisfied by something we had never experienced before, we turned our attention to the strawberry cheesecake donut.

The strawberry cheesecake donut was a sight to behold. It was topped with a white frosting layer with chocolate stripes, and a pile of syrupy strawberries sat in the middle. When we cut the donut in half to split between the two of us, we were delighted to find a smooth, thick cream cheese filling in the center. We had to dig in.

We were immediately hit by a symphony of textures and flavors. The immense fluffiness and lightness of the pastry, coupled with the creaminess of the filling and the lusciousness of the strawberries all came together in perfect harmony. Additionally, the cream cheese filling was not too sweet and provided a good balance for the sugary fruit, creating a ying and yang of flavors. We couldn't believe the scrumptiousness of this donut, and savored the luxury dessert.

All in all, Vincent Van Donut left us astonished and impressed. While on the more expensive side, the size, quality, and taste of the donuts made it more than worth it. If you are looking to treat someone special in your life (or yourself) to a lavish, intricate treat, we strongly recommend you head to Vincent Van Donut.

ECCENTRIC-EST DONUTS: BOOZY DONUTS

Last but certainly not least, we decided to buy from a third donut joint called Boogyz Donuts. Boogyz, which owner Jamil "Boogy" Jabbar opened just over a year ago on Olive Boulevard, brings a pop of vibrancy and joy to St. Louisans with its assortments of cake donuts with zany, colorful toppings and flavors.

Boogyz Donuts opens on Fridays through Sundays. On Fridays and Saturdays, they open from 5AM to 2PM and on Sundays, they go from 6AM to 1PM.

This donut shop has also made itself widely accessible to all with its famous Vegan Fridays where vegan versions of many of its donuts are served.

To buy the donuts, we ordered delivery from Boogyz's DoorDash menu on Google, which has both delivery and curbside pickup options.

We took a long time deciding what to buy due to the variety of exciting options available such as Kit Kat donuts and whopping 1 pound apple fritter donuts, but ultimately decided on a sprinkled chocolate cake donut(\$1.69) and a fruity pebble cake donut(\$1.99).

To our pleasant surprise, the donuts arrived at the door in under an hour in a small, white box. Feeling giddy like children on a Christmas morning, we opened the box which revealed two perfectly round and enticing donuts. The delicious, rainbow colors enveloping both donuts attracted us like moths, and we were

eager to dig in.

We first decided to try the fruity pebble cake donut. The vanilla donut was topped with a thick layer of white icing covered with fruity pebbles, which made the donut cleverly resemble an scrumptious bowl of cereal and milk. Without any hesitation, we took a bite of the donut.

Immediately, we marveled at how well each element of the donut complemented one another. Perfectly moist and sweet, the dough served as the optimal vessel for the icing. We also appreciated the crunchy, sweet aftertaste left by the fruity pebbles. The marriage between the lightness of the fruity pebbles and the cakiness of the dough bound together with the smooth icing made this donut an elevated, joyful take on a classic bowl of cereal and milk.

Once we devoured the fruity pebbles donut, we swiftly moved on to the sprinkled chocolate cake donut which included a chocolate cake donut topped with dark chocolate icing and Easter themed sprinkles. After admiring how elegant yet playful the donut looked, we simply could not resist the urge to taste it.

We were hit with the rich, creaminess of the chocolate icing which gave way to the airiness of the chocolate cake dough. The donut tasted like a thick, chocolate cake with the addition of festive sprinkles-- the sophisticated fluffiness and light sweetness of the donut amazed us.



After wolfing down this donut, we could not decide which one of the two donuts was more delicious-- both offered us incomparable arrays of fun-filled flavors and textures.

Boogyz combined the affordability of Dunkin Donuts and the locality of Vincent Van Donuts into one, amazing experience. The bright, alluring presentation and show stopping taste of the donuts served at Boogyz whisked us back to our childhoods. We highly recommend ordering a few Boogyz donuts for a truly memorable experience. 🍩

siddhi narayan & rachel liang
CHIEF DIGITAL EDITOR, PAGE EDITOR

REVIEW 37

DYNAMIC DUO

Sarah Centeno and Charlie McDonough share a special friendship on and off the lacrosse field.

“I love playing with Charlie. She is my best friend,” Sarah Centeno said referring to teammate Charlie McDonough.

Both of Centeno and McDonough are seniors on the CHS Girls' Varsity Lacrosse team, each having been on varsity all four years of high school. However, the co-captains were not originally placed on varsity their freshman seasons. After quickly impressing their coach with their talents, they each earned a spot on the team midway through the season.

While they each ended up as leaders on the team, they both had two very different paths there.

Centeno has played for Clayton all her life.

“My older sister played lacrosse, and she was really good. She played on a number of different club teams that also traveled so I just kind of grew up going to her games. My dad was also super into it. So once I was old enough, my father wanted me to start playing,” Centeno said.

McDonough started playing in Maine before moving to Clayton halfway through eighth

grade.

“I moved to Yarmouth, Maine when I was in fourth grade, and I didn't even know lacrosse existed, but everyone plays lacrosse there. So I joined because my friends' parents told me to, but I never played club. I wanted to but I travel a lot in the summer, so I couldn't,” McDonough said.

While McDonough never played club lacrosse, she attributes playing alongside club players to her success at CHS.

“Like 90% of your team being on these amazing Northeastern club teams prepares you for some of the hardest teams here,” McDonough said. “Playing with them definitely helped me get on varsity at such a young age.”

McDonough, however, did not know anyone on the CHS lacrosse team due to moving to Clayton at such an old age.

“It was terrifying. I didn't know any of the upperclassmen. A lot of people know kids in the grade above them just because they went to middle school with them. I really didn't know any of the upperclassmen on the varsity team,”

McDonough said.

Despite being moved up to a team full of upperclassmen in the middle of the season, they each had each other to get them through an overwhelming time.

“Charlie was probably one of the most fun people I played with freshman year just because some of the upperclassmen were a little bit intimidating back then,” Centeno said. “She really helped smooth the transition to varsity.”

Likewise, McDonough agrees with Centeno, citing Centeno for helping her feel comfortable on the team.

“Being moved up was scary, but having Sarah there made that transition a lot easier. It made us closer to be honest, which was great because I was new to the community,” McDonough said.

Before the two were best friends, they barely knew each other freshman year.

“I didn't really know Sarah until lacrosse season. Being together on that team really threw us together. We met at lacrosse because the coach put us on varsity by ourselves. It was



Sarah Centeno receives a pass from Charlie McDonough during the Girls' Lacrosse game against Eureka High School.

CECE COHEN, PHOTOGRAPHER

“

The season was fun.
Games were fun. We
were winning. The team
was actually unified.
The change in coaches
really helped promote
this change. Sophomore
year was definitely my
favorite season.”

a little isolating being the only freshman on the team, but I'm glad I had someone there with me,” McDonough said.

While the team was very segregated their ninth grade year, the team as a whole became a lot closer their sophomore year. McDonough and Centeno both credit this newfound atmosphere to their new coach, Lexie Lindblad.

“The season was fun. Games were fun. We were winning. The team was actually unified. The change in coaches really helped promote this change,” McDonough said. “Sophomore year was definitely my favorite season.”

Centeno and McDonough hope to bring that same feeling to the team this year.

“They bring great insight to practice and games and are constantly trying to find new ways to help improve on the field. They have such positive attitudes and strong work ethic that it makes coaching easy and enjoyable,” Lindblad said. “They know when it is time to have fun and when it is time to be serious.”

Even the other players have started taking notice.

“Sarah and Charlie take initiative by helping our teammates understand what they're supposed to be doing. They also bring a lot of energy to the team while making sure everyone is having fun and working their hardest,” Junior Emmy Sandquist said.

Centeno and McDonough are hoping to lead the team to a successful and fun season, with their main goal being to not have to quarantine.

“It's all about mindset. Energy. Support. Love. Friendship. I love my team,” McDonough said. 🍀



Charlie McDonough races down the field to receive the ball from a teammate during the Girls' Lacrosse game against Eureka High School.

CECE COHEN, PHOTOGRAPHER

cece cohen & kaia mills-lee

SPORTS SECTION EDITORS

PRO: BLOCK SCHEDULING

With rumors circling, the Globe examines the potential benefits and drawbacks of following a block schedule next year.

Many Americans and other global populations might expect the COVID-19 pandemic to finally wrap up sometime over the summer, and possibly before next school year. Ever since vaccines were first distributed, many health care workers, elderly people, and a number of teachers have received at least their first dose of the vaccine, but not students.

On March 7, 2021, Dr. Anthony Fauci, the leading infectious diseases expert of the nation, projects that high school students could be vaccinated by the fall. “Maybe not the very first day, but certainly in the early part of the fall for that fall educational term,” Fauci said about high school students’ eligibility for the vaccine on “Face the Nation.”

In preparation for the next school year at Clayton High School, Dr. Gutchewsky, the principal of CHS, proposed that students and teachers will follow a block schedule in response to COVID-19.

During a block schedule, instead of having all classes everyday for 45 minutes each, students would have four of their classes for 90 minutes each. Therefore, one particular class period will be in session every other day, unlike a normal year where students had classes every single day.

There are several benefits to blocking.

“A block schedule can be really good in a way that you have another day to do your homework,” said CHS sophomore Avanel Mallon.

Because a student at Clayton High School would have one of their classes every A or B day, they would be given an extra day to complete their homework, despite how much of it they might be assigned to complete. On some days, students will have longer lunch periods of more than two hours which will give them time to complete their homework at school.

Another benefit of blocking at CHS is that students would be able to learn new material more efficiently. “You may get more in depth learning in class,” said Mallon, “it’s possible that you can learn the material a lot better because it wouldn’t feel as rushed,” she added.

Most students don’t actively pay attention to what they’re learning because teachers are making their explanations too fast for students to understand. During a block schedule, the timing allows teachers to let students take in the material more easily.

“You have a sustained amount of time to be able to dig into a topic,” said CHS history teacher Josh Meyers.

The times of having every class every day were always remembered, until the entire world went into a lock down in March 2020 because of the pandemic, which had spread across the



A campus supervisor checks attendance with a student. This school year the commons was utilized for study hall periods. Following a year of constantly changing schedules, a block schedule will be a welcome change to the 2021-2022 school year.

Marci Pieper, Photographer

world. Many learners probably want to have all their classes in one day like it was before.

However, during a block schedule, students would attend one of their classes every A or B day. On an A day, a student would have their first four classes, and their last four on a B day.

“You’re definitely not having every class every day,” Mallon said, “not having every class every day would cause [students] to not pay attention the whole time,” she added, emphasizing that students don’t engage with a 90 minute class as well as a 45 minute one.

Stretch breaks are needed if classes are 90 minutes long instead of 45 minutes long to help students stay focused all throughout the class.

After fifteen minutes of learning, students need a brain break. Otherwise, things start to overflow,” said Meyers, who also believed that new material should be divided in a process called “chunking,” to help students to fully process their brain.

“It’s like if you keep pouring a pitcher of water into a cup and don’t stop to take a drink every once in a while, the water is simply going to overflow,” he added.

In addition, there are other ways that they can be thoroughly active within a long class. It would definitely be helpful to have a water bottle when students start to zone out; drinking water always keeps you hydrated and focused. One’s body doesn’t widely function when little water is consumed.

If students don’t have the full ability to sit in classes for 90 minutes in length, there are many things that teachers can do to keep them focused.

“Teachers could have a two-minute break to get up and stretch or have a warm-up question in the middle to split up the class time,” said Mallon, “so that students wouldn’t be learning new material the whole time.” It’s essentially important for students to comprehend the material well because it would determine their performance on assessments and quizzes.

These benefits will help students get used to this new schedule.

“Children in general are highly adaptive,” said Meyers. “Back when we did the virtual schedule, [students] got used to doing everything on chromebooks. So, transition won’t feel as dramatic and severe because kids are highly adaptable,” he added.

Not only is it important for students to be actively learning, but it’s also important to participate fully in every class because students are improving their mental health, and once again, they are likely to perform better on tests.

So, if CHS does follow a block schedule, students should do what’s possible to maintain their new way of learning. 🌱

charlie miller
REPORTER

CON: BLOCK SCHEDULING

After COVID-19 has ruined two normal school years, CHS owes it to its students to go back to a normal schedule this fall.

Let's look back at this crazy year we have experienced in school. In March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic forced us to change our learning model for 4th quarter that year. It was the most lonely quarter anyone could ever experience because we didn't have the proper resources applicable to connect daily with our teachers.

Google Meet could have been that resource in the beginning, mainly because some of us used it every once in a while for simple meetings.

Otherwise, we did our work individually and the grading policies were irregular. Even though learning got better this school year with increasing interactions between students and teachers, we still were experiencing irregular learning via Zoom for the first two to three months.

Because this year has been constantly changing quarter by quarter, a seven-hour day is guaranteed for next year, and we should go back to our traditional schedule.

There's a sense of unevenness with block scheduling. You may think that all teachers will be able to come to their students every day, but if you look in the orchestra department, it doesn't work.

Carolyn Day who teaches at Wydown, and Daniel Henderson who teaches at Clayton are both expected to be educating their students in grades 6 through 12.

Normally whenever one of them is not teaching, the other one assists all orchestra classes at each school, taking turns.

This means that Henderson would assist the Wydown kids in their classes, with Day doing the same thing but with the two at Clayton.

Again, Wydown and Clayton are currently planning on doing the same type of thing with this block schedule.

Day has her orchestra classes from periods two to five, which the fifth one would not be in the same day.

For Mr. Henderson, he teaches his orchestras 6th Hour (Concert) and 7th Hour (Symphonic).

In this scenario, there would be no gap for Day to be able to drive from Wydown and come to Clayton in the time she would normally have to arrive in time for Henderson's Concert Orchestra, and Henderson would not be able to assist the second sixth grade orchestra class, which is Day's fifth period.

Snow days are also another sign of unevenness during block scheduling, even if there's only one of them.

The amount of education time would not be the same, depending on the A and B groupings

of each half out of eight classes. This schedule changes will mess up a teacher's plans for their students for the day if not all of their classes are in the same block.

When we have a snow day, it skips the type of day it is. Balances in the amount of days of every class must remain the same, unless it's taken at certain times and is only a certain length long, such as Clayton's Health and P.E. classes.

Time can be disorganized in minutes as well when it comes to block scheduling.

In general, students may want less homework, but they are certainly not going to want to

sit still for 90 minutes straight, for one class period.

Students may even lose their energy they get at school. Most people lost confidence during their first year of high school, because they don't all understand that grades matter.

Overall, block scheduling would only cause more chaos for students in an already chaotic year. 🌪️

kirby miller
REPORTER



Moving to a block schedule will make it difficult for music teachers to teach at both CHS and Wydown.

Marci Pieper, Photographer

STAFF ED: DANGERS OF COMPARING VACCINES

In order to reach herd immunity, Americans need to resist the desire to wait for certain brands of vaccine.



NATALIA KOLESNIKOVA/AFP, PHOTOGRAPHER

As more and more Americans become eligible to receive a Covid vaccine, there has been increasing discussion over the different vaccine options.

Some people are excited by the ease of receiving a single dose of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine while others are nervous about lower efficacy rates. However, these perceived differences should not prevent you from registering for whichever vaccine becomes available to you first.

Right now in the US there are three different vaccines that have received emergency use authorization from the FDA: Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson and Johnson. Both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines use mRNA technology to create an immune response.

According to an article from Yale Medicine, the mRNA “delivers a tiny piece of genetic code from the SARS CoV-2 virus to host cells in the body, essentially giving those cells instructions, or blueprints, for making copies of spike proteins (the spikes you see sticking out of the coronavirus in pictures online and on TV). The spikes do the work of penetrating and infecting host cells. These proteins stimulate an immune response, producing antibodies and developing memory cells that will recognize and respond if the body is infected with the actual virus.”

The Pfizer vaccine has a 95% efficacy rate in preventing coronavirus infection and 100%

effective at preventing severe infection. The vaccine has also been found to be effective against the B.1.1.7 strain. However it may be less effective against the B.1.351 strain. An important aspect of the Pfizer vaccine is the storage temperature. The vaccines must be stored in -94 degrees Fahrenheit. The vaccine is currently authorized for anyone 16 or older and is being tested on patients ages 12-15.

The Moderna vaccine is similar to Pfizer with a 94.1% efficacy rate for preventing symptomatic infection. The Moderna efficacy rate for those ages 65+ is 86.4%. One difference between Pfizer and Moderna is the storage temperature. Moderna vaccines can be stored in standard temperatures and can be stored for up to 30 days. This makes it easier for the Moderna vaccine to be distributed at most pharmacies.

The Johnson and Johnson vaccine is the most recent vaccine to be authorized in the US. Unlike Pfizer and Moderna, the Johnson and Johnson vaccine only requires one dose. The Johnson and Johnson vaccine uses carrier vaccine technology. Carrier vaccines use a harmless adenovirus to carry genetic code. This code trains the cells inside your body to create antibodies. The Johnson and Johnson vaccine has a 72% efficacy rate and a 86% efficacy rate against severe disease. However, the Johnson and Johnson vaccine was tested

later than Pfizer and Moderna which means it was tested while the spread of Covid was greater and there were more variants present. The difference in efficacy rates between Johnson and Johnson and the other vaccines may be in part due to the differences in testing time. Additionally, The Johnson and Johnson vaccine can be stored in refrigerator temperatures. This combined with the single dose means that the Johnson and Johnson vaccine will be much easier to transport and distribute. This could greatly reduce the time it takes to reach herd immunity.

All three vaccines have similar side effects like arm soreness, muscle fatigue and headaches. To read more about the different vaccines go to the FDA's website.

Although there are differences between the different vaccines, it is imperative that everyone gets vaccinated as soon as possible. All three vaccines prevent severe illness and mild illness significantly which will be critical to decreasing hospitalizations and creating herd immunity. When more people get vaccinated faster it prevents more death than everyone waiting to get a more effective vaccine. So, whenever you become eligible to receive a vaccine (April 9 for Missouri) please go get vaccinated. 🇺🇸

sofia erlin

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

If you are the kind of person who wants to make a difference, this opportunity is for you!

Promote health and well-being

Increase awareness around issues related to teen substance use and mental health

Give back to your community

All In Clayton Coalition is looking for **student representatives** for next year! You have a voice; we'd love to hear it!

ALL In
CLAYTON COALITION
 HELPING YOUTH MAKE HEALTHY CHOICES

"I always feel like I can be myself and say my thoughts and no one can judge me. The coalition is really a great place to share thoughts and ideas and make the world a better place".

— A current student representative

For more info, email All In Coordinator, Mrs. Sherony, at kimberlysherony@claytonschools.net

ANSWERS

(To puzzle on GLOOB iv)

EXTRATERRESTRIAL

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"The red planet"

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