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THE WARRIOR CHRONICLE

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Asian American Pacific Islander Month recognizes more culture

Ellen Wang Reporter

AAPI Month in May stands for Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month. This month was established in May of 1992 by President George H. W. Bush to celebrate Asian American Pacific Islanders. When the month was created it was meant to celebrate the achievements and to show the significance of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in society and what they have contributed.

6th grader Chaylen Mati said, “During AAPI Month, I feel honored since my family and I are all Pacific Islander. So I’m happy that there is a month just for us to celebrate and honor the work of Pacific Islanders.” Chaylen said that having a whole month for all Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders makes her proud of her culture.

Faith Milana, a 7th grader, stated that having AAPI Month feels nice because it feels like her people are getting the praise that they deserve as Filipino Pacific Islanders, for instance. Faith explained that May is her favorite month of the year just because it is AAPI month.



Photo from Google Images

During their dedicated month, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders embrace their culture and contributions that help shape our society.

Similarly, 7th grader Emilia Finch added that she really loves that America has Asian American Pacific Islanders month and it shows how they have worked.

AAPI Month is a time where appreciation, recognition, and cultural heritage is celebrated.

Citizens around the world feel calmer, with COVID-19 officially over

Soundharya Kumaresan Assistant Editor

The COVID-19 Pandemic has been devastating for billions of people. They have grieved for their loved ones, fearful of contracting the disease, and some anxiously waited the day they may get laid off from their jobs. Even though these issues are still very real, the United Nations’ (UN) World Health Organization (WHO) deemed the COVID -19 Pandemic officially over on May 5, 2023.

The WHO declared COVID-19 a “public health emergency of international concern” on March 11, 2020. March 13 was the last day that we had in-person school for a year and a half.

Many students hadn’t learned virtually up until the pandemic. Ash Andrada, 8th grader, described the day



Photo from Google Images

People are reassured as COVID-19 comes to an end and a new era begins.

virtual learning started as, “...exciting. I wasn’t used to learning [virtually] and it was new.”

The COVID-19 Pandemic hadn’t only affected the adults of the general population. It also had an impact on the younger side. Many students looked forward to the end of the pandemic.

“I’m really happy because not everyone is not getting sick [as much and quickly] and I’m not missing my friends as much. I’m just relieved,” said 6th grader Aarna Gireesh. Others are just happy to get out of their rooms.

“I felt free. I wasn’t cramped up at my house, sitting in my room staring at a screen,” described Jerusha Prabhudass, 7th grader. Jerusha added that she could freely hang out with her friends again and could go to places without having to wear a mask.

The COVID-19 Pandemic had many terrible effects on the general population. It has changed peoples’ lives and the world is finally getting back to normal.

Oakland teachers unite and strike for a better working conditions

Hayden Tesler Reporter

Starting May 4, more than 3,000 teachers decided to strike in Oakland, California. Teachers and supporters, not just from the Bay Area, had come to join the strike. There were even supporters who couldn't march with the strikers but were supporting from the side lines.

6th grade teacher Ms. Chand said, "I feel they have no choice. I understand why they are doing it."

One of the reasons that the strikes were started was for higher pay. Before it began, teachers in Oakland were making less than their peers in neighboring districts. The average apartment rent in Oakland is \$2,813.

This means the cost of living in Oakland is 5% higher than the state average and 46% higher than the national average. Groceries in Oakland are 1.5% higher than other cities including San Francisco.

Thankfully after the eight-day strike, teachers' salaries were raised by 10-15% plus a bonus payment of \$5,000.

"I think they should be able to ask for more because teachers work with us every day and are basically raising future generations'



Photo from Google Images

Oakland educators strike for eight days which resulted in a three-year contract with pay increases.

knowledge," stated 7th grader Grace Spivey.

Oakland teachers decided to go on strike because of social concerns. Some of these concerns are run down school conditions and insufficient funding for these problems. Oakland spends 241.5 million dollars on support services compared to Fremont spending 3,666.9 million dollars on support services.

Finally, the Oakland Unified School District made a deal with schools that they never followed up with. The deal was that teachers would receive a

15.5% salary increase with ever greater percent for those at the bottom of the salary scale..

The strike ended eight days later. Teachers came to an agreement with the district about salaries and are since back to work.

"It sets an example for a standard of what a teacher needs so, Fremont Unified School District might change things for teachers here," added 6th grader Saron Mesgana

Promoting to high school can be a positive transition for teens

Nyla Ahmed Reporter

June 2nd is the last day of the school year. This day also marks the last day 8th graders have of middle school before moving on to the foreign place known as high school. However, 8th graders don't need to be so tense, despite it being a change in the environment and people.

Unfortunately, the internet exaggerates many different things about high school, which leads to some future high schoolers being anxious about moving there. The internet exaggerates fights, bullying, and the school system not caring about its students. However, many high schoolers just see it as just the four year mark before getting a high school

diploma and perhaps moving on to college education.

8th grader, Katie Hong explained, "In some aspects I'm worried about going to high school since I struggle in subjects like science and math."

Many students worry about their grades, especially since each year it's closer and closer to applying to college. These feelings are understandable and students should keep a close eye on their grades during the important years of high school, but they should not be too stressed about it.

8th grader Jahcell Harris added, "High school is going to be a cool adventure. I'll be able to meet new people."

Keeping a clear mind can actually help look at the positive possibilities of what high school will be like.

8th grader Gio Magna commented, "I think high school is going to be fun. I'll join varsity and grow taller."

The mindset of the expectations of high school should be kept very positive. Each 8th grader should keep this mindset and stop worrying about the new atmosphere. Instead, high school should be an enjoyable experience made with new people or friends and focus, of course, the new and different experiences that could be made.

Thank you to the teachers retiring this year for your hard work at Walters!

Mrs. Chand

Eduardo Godoy Reporter

2023 is the last year that 6th grade teacher Mrs. Chand will be teaching. She is retiring at the end of this school year. Mrs. Chand currently teaches English, history, and digital citizenship.

Mrs. Chand started her career working as a social worker, but when she had her daughter she believed that being a teacher would make more sense. Mrs. Chand said that she learned a lot about teaching during her time at Walters and that it was a good experience teaching the first class of 6th graders. Mrs. Chand said, "I've been teaching for 20 years. There have been lots of both good and bad experiences."

Mrs. Chand stated that she is going to spend the summer resting, and in the fall she's going to travel. She said that it's a strange feeling retiring because she has been teaching for a very long time.

Daniel Ramirez, a 7th grader who had Mrs. Chand last year, said that her class was quite easy if you paid attention. Daniel mentioned that if he could have Mrs. Chand again next year, he would like that. He added, "It's sad that a pretty good teacher is retiring from Walters."

Nathan Alvarenga, a 7th grader who also had Mrs. Chand last year, commented that her class was moderately difficult. He thinks that she is a very good teacher. Nathan also said that he wouldn't mind having Mrs. Chand again.

Students think she's good at what she does. She will be missed here, but students are happy that she gets to enjoy her retirement.

Mr. Buchter

Naveah Mark Yearbook Reporter

Walters must say goodbye to a beloved teacher, Mr. Buchter, as he embarks on a well-deserved retirement. He has taught core support students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade for more than 18 years.

"I used to teach in Richmond. Then I transferred to Walters, as I thought the students would be angels," said Mr. Buchter.

Mr. Buchter taught core support for 18 years at public schools and 20 years at private schools. His students are very fond of him and appreciate his teaching. Walters appreciates his hard work and dedication.

Some students of Mr. Buchter are unhappy that he plans to leave. 6th grader Jasmin Ureno said, "He was a good teacher, and I feel sad that he won't be able to teach other kids like me."

Mr. Buchter explained, "I am retiring mainly because of my many years of teaching experience. It is just that time of age that I retire."

Mr. Buchter mentioned that after his retirement he will continue to pursue ministry. He also plans to travel throughout the United States and have a happy and healthy life. His students and colleagues greatly respect Mr. Buchter and his many years of hard work teaching.



Photo by Soundharya Kumaresan

Mrs. Sharma

Catherine Cheng Yearbook Reporter

Mrs. Sharma is a former 7th grade Honors Science teacher. She has been teaching for over 19 years and is known all across the school. She will be very missed at Walters when she retires this school year.

Throughout her whole career, Mrs. Sharma has always loved being a teacher and loves science.

"For new teachers, I want to say that teachers are building a new generation so they should always be working hard to their best ability. I will miss the loving staff and highly motivated students who always made my days so inspiring," Mrs. Sharma explained.

"I feel very sad and I hope she recovers fully [from her recent medical treatment] and enjoys her retirement," commented 7th grader Ruby Wilson.

Colleagues of Mrs. Sharma are sad that she is leaving and so are her students. 7th grade math teacher Ms. Chandna said, "I am very upset and sad that she will not be at our school anymore. She was the first one to say hello to me when I came to work here, and I will never forget that. I am happy for her because she will enjoy her retirement and have no worries."

Mrs. Sharma will get to retire happily and enjoy her life without school stresses.



Photo from Mrs. Sharma



Photo by Soundharya Kumaresan

Later school start times often lead to many positive effects

Simir Aulakh Assistant Editor

As most schools start before 8:30 am, California has made it mandatory that high schools should start no earlier than 8:30 am and middle schools should start no earlier than 8 am, reports usnews.com. That can lead to many benefits in students' mental health and well-being.

The CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention) said that teens need to get about 8 to 10 hours of sleep on a weekday to wake up fresh and be ready for school. Schools starting later allows students to sleep in longer so that they get their full 8 to 10 hours of sleep needed. Our school librarian, Ms. Subha, agreed that more sleep results in better behavior.

As sleep is known to be very important to live, some students don't go to bed before 11 pm because they are staying up doing homework. Many students think this won't affect their school lives because they are finishing their homework, but this is where they are wrong. You need sleep for your brain to work and to remember all the things you have learned that day from your teachers.

7th grader Keira Hoang stated, "I can barely do school work without falling asleep in class and starting late can help me focus more on school work."

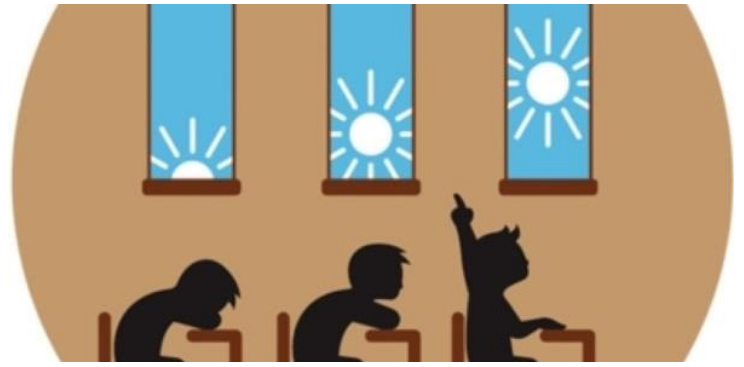


Photo from Google Images

School starting later can help students be more energetic and have a more positive attitude towards school.

Usnews.com also reported that school starting later in the day can improve students' grades and performance because the extra sleep can cause them to be more alert during the school day. Starting school late can also improve their attendance and reduce tardiness in students.

8th grade counselor Ms Gai commented that starting school late can reduce students' stress.

Starting school late can have many benefits for students to get their full eight to ten hours of sleep needed and to make sure they understand everything that is going on at school.

Students await summer as the school year finally comes to an end

Tony Miclaus Reporter

As the last days of school close in and the sun starts to shine, it becomes evident that it is that time of the year again—summer! During summer, people all around the world do fun activities from going on vacation, going to the pool, and spending time with family and friends while they are out of school.

Summer is often a time of travel. People go on vacation during the summer because of the warm weather and long breaks.

6th grader Janvi Parmar said, "During the summer I will be going to India to go see my cousins and friends who I miss." Once summer is done, everyone will advance to a new grade which Janvi feels a little nervous about.

While some students go to summer looking for a fun and relaxing time, other students see it as a time of jobs and work.

7th grader Rishab Pahwa believes that during the summer people should be working hard. He commented, "Once the summer starts, I



Photo from Google Images

Summer is quickly approaching. Some students are excited for the break while others will miss teachers and peers.

will go around my neighborhood and get paid by people to mow their lawns. With the money I earn, I will buy baseball equipment that I can use during the summer and school year." Unlike most others, Rishab is not looking forward to going to 8th because of all the work that is involved.

"This summer I'm going to miss my friends because they are so fun and nice, and I can't wait until I'm here next year," stated Yuvraj Kunter, a 7th grader.

Summer allows many students to relax and destress from schoolwork along with having many emotions as school comes to a close.

PTSA hosts afterschool events for the enjoyment of students

Bethsabe Hernandez Reporter

The PTSA (Parent Teacher Student Association) is a nonprofit organization that helps plan events and advocates for the students at school. They have held many socials, Warrior Zones, and fundraisers. These events tend to take up a lot of time planning and hard work.

Planning socials and fundraisers is difficult because the PTSA is a nonprofit, which means that the organization is only composed of volunteers and all the money generated goes back to the school for events.

The PTSA creates the designs for the advertisements, manages their funds, and plans. Selling products and raising money allows social events to happen at school. Being able to find a product to sell, and making sure there is enough of the product and volunteers to help is one of the struggles that comes with executing their ideas.

With the 8th-grade celebration party coming up, the PTSA funded the social through selling popsicles during



Photo by Ms. Roberti

The PTSA sells popsicles at lunch on May 19 to help fund the 8th Grade Celebration.

lunchtime on the Fridays of May 12th and 19th.

7th grader Mikayla Harrison stated that they were surprised by the popsicle sale at first, as they weren't aware of the fundraiser, but enjoyed it nonetheless.

However, the PTSA isn't just about getting funds, but it's also about bringing people together through these various events and fundraisers.

8th grader Bunny Bullher, a PTSA member, commented, "School staff, PTSA, parents, and students all come

together for one cause. Everyone shares their ideas, opinions, and agrees on what will work. It makes us spend time with one another and also meet new people! With a little effort from everyone, we can raise enough funds for whatever the goal is."

The PTSA has created fun and exciting events all year long. 7th grader Avneet Kaur said that they appreciate the PTSA creating fun activities to participate in over the school year.

The PTSA helps make this school more fun, and creates a happier place for all.

Last Warrior Zone closes the school year with a good time

Sabdjot Harry Reporter

On May 19, Walters had its second and last Warrior Zone of the school year, hosted by PTSA (Parent Teacher Student Association). The Warrior Zone was open to all students of any grade. The tickets sold for \$10 each.

Ms. Roberti, the PTSA president, said that the sole purpose of the Warrior Zone is for students to hangout and a good safe environment for students to spend their evenings.

She said, "When I was in middle school, I went to Vallco Mall in Cupertino every Friday and Saturday night to ice skate and to hang out at the Tilt arcade... I wish our students had the same options these days."

Ms. Roberti explained that getting the word out about events is the hardest thing about hosting these types of events. Another difficulty that she mentioned was getting support from the parents to help organize events.

These events are a constant work in progress, and student input is always

valued by the PTSA, as in the end, they are hosted for the students.

Simran Kalsi, 8th grader, stated, "Events like these are fun, but I think they should add board games...."

Warrior Zone typically begins at 6 P.M. and ends at 8 P.M., which can benefit both the parent and student.

Yogesh Channaveeraswamy Nerlige, 8th grader, said, "These events are great for people whose parents are free around evening, because many kids cannot go right after school due to having parents having to work." He also added

that these events can help those kids who have nothing to do after school have some fun and socialize.

Ms. Roberti described that for next year, she wants to have more events both after school and Friday evenings. She also added, "I would also like to collaborate with ASB more for ideas and execution and really any students who want to help make social events fun!"



Photo by Ms. Roberti

The PTSA hosts and funds all the social events using support from numerous parents.

Top 10 Things Learned as Yearbook Editors

By: Alyssa Nguyen & Shanvi Gupta

- **How to collaborate as a team**
- **How to keep everything in the yearbook consistent**
- **How to use eDesign**
- **How to use design tricks to make our spreads less busy and more meaningful**
- **Text and color hierarchy**
- **How to make sure all of the yearbookers are on task and work together peacefully**
- **How to take criticism positively**
- **How to choose fonts and design elements according to a spread**
- **How to improvise when things don't go as planned**
- **How to add diversity in the yearbook**

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Tesler, Ellen Wang

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Gupta, Naveah Mark, Alyssa Nguyen

Photographers: Soundharya
Kumaresan, Ms. Roberti

Top 10 Things Learned as a Newspaper Editor

By: Anika Phair

1. I have learned how to find small and large grammar mistakes in articles and fix them before they get published.
2. Editing has also taught me a lot about leadership because it's my responsibility to make sure the reporters are on the right path to turn in an article by the deadline.
3. It's helped me learn a lot about spatial awareness to fit all of the elements into a page that looks pleasing.
4. I've learned a lot about teamwork to create a quality newspaper.
5. Editing taught me valuable lessons about taking power when necessary. I was in 7th grade when I became assistant editor and I had to show power over 8th graders because I was their leader and if they did not finish their article, I couldn't finish my pages.
6. Being an editor has helped me be less shy. I have had to interview people, talk to teachers before taking photos, and talk to reporters.
7. I've learned many things about inclusion. We have to always make sure that we have a variety of people represented.
8. Editing taught me great lessons about being okay when I make mistakes because there are so many aspects that go into the page.
9. I've learned that being an editor is putting trust in reporters.
Each reporter handles their time differently.
10. Last but certainly not least, being editor has taught me SO MUCH about MEETING DEADLINES. Publications has SO many deadlines and I have had to learn how to manage my time to meet all of them.

Events Calendar:

June 1st:

8th Grade Celebration at
Lake Elizabeth

June 2nd: Last day of
school (minimum day)

June 18th : Father's Day

June 19th: Juneteenth

