

# THE WARRIOR CHRONICLE

Walters Middle School \* Fremont, CA \* June 6, 2022

## Ms. Graham, staff, and students reflect on her first year as Walters' principal

Kushi Aravinda Yearbook Staff

As the school year ends, it completes Ms. Graham's first year at Walters. Ms. Graham taught at Forest Park Elementary before coming to Walters. "Being at a new school, everything is different," Ms. Graham explained. When coming to Walters, she didn't know what to expect.

Working at an elementary school is different from working at a middle school. She soon learned that scheduling is a big change when transitioning from elementary to middle school. Ms. Graham felt that it was a bit challenging to fill the place of the old principal since a lot of people loved him.

This year was especially hard because of the new COVID protocols. Even though there were challenges this year, there were many positive things as well. Ms. Graham expressed that she enjoyed getting to know the students and staff.

"My first impression was that she had a lot of positive energy and that hasn't changed," Mrs. McClintock shared. One thing she likes about Ms. Graham is that she is flexible and easy to get along with. Mrs. McClintock said that Ms. Graham is learning a lot about Walters and the student population and is getting to know the staff.

Ms. Graham felt that the Walters community was welcoming. Ms. Graham felt that she helped students this year by adding more ASB activities and socials.

Anirudh Gupta, 7th grader, said that Ms. Graham is a nice and decent principal for Walters. Changing the schedule a bit, adding a study hall, and reducing passing period time are a few things that Ms. Graham plans to change next year.



Photo by Khanh Do  
Ms. Graham keeps order in the lunch line.

## Leaked Roe v. Wade verdict may legalize abortion in many states

Rocky Yang Yearbook Staff

On May 2, 2022, news outlet Politico (politico.com) received a leaked draft written on February 10, 2022, regarding the Supreme Court's possible decision to overturn Roe v. Wade while ruling a related case, the case of Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization (appealed June 2020). In the case of Roe vs Wade (1973), the court ruled that the Constitution of the United States protects a pregnant woman's liberty to choose to have an abortion without excessive government restriction.

Dobbs V. Jackson Women's Health Organization was on Mississippi's abortion laws, causing abortion laws and Roe v. Wade to be brought up again. "Roe was egregiously wrong from the start. Its reasoning was exceptionally weak, and the decision has had damaging consequences," said Justice Samuel Alito in an initial draft majority opinion.

If Roe v. Wade is overturned, it will leave the states to decide the legality of



Photo from Google Images  
Protesters defies leaked verdict across the U.S.

abortion. According to medicalnewstoday.com, "If Roe were to be undone, 26 states will likely ban or severely restrict abortions." Of these 26 states, 13 of them already have "trigger laws" that will ban abortion if and when Roe v. Wade is overturned. Furthermore, the site also reported that 16 states made abortion a fundamental right in states law and regulation and abortion will remain available to anyone who lives or travels to such a state.

"Having men control what women go through, not knowing how hard pregnancy is, is just wrong. Also, I think that it should be up to the person to decide, not the government, as it is their child, not the government's," said 8th grader Amy

Geng. She feels uncomfortable that people who aren't women are choosing the fate of many.

Art teacher Ms. Johansson added, "It should be available to everyone because it is a medical procedure. Abortion, if done wrong, can lead to many deaths, so the government shouldn't be involved in it."

7th grader Raiden Dale Refuerzo argued, "If you can't afford or support a child, don't take the risk and have sexual intercourse. Abortion should only be reserved if the pregnancy is life threatening, or if the pregnancy was forced through rape and etc."

This leak provides insight to the people of where the country might be moving in the future. This leak, if it goes through, would undoubtedly affect millions of women. Planned Parenthood reported, "By this summer, 26 states could move to ban abortion — affecting 36 million women." There are enormous backlashes against this verdict. According to NPR, "Thousands of reproductive rights supporters are gathering ... at rallies across the country following the leak this month ..." NPR stated.

# Norman Mineta leaves a lasting legacy as an honorable politician

*Sarah Vivero* Yearbook Staff

Norman Yoshio Mineta (1931-2022) was an American politician. He was the first Asian mayor of San Jose, where an airport was named after him, Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport. Mineta passed away on May 3, 2022 at 90 years old due to heart failure in Maryland. Not only was Mineta the first Asian mayor of San Jose, he had other roles as a politician.

According to The New York Times, "Norman Y. Mineta was interned during World War II, he went to Congress and later served in the cabinets of Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush." He was United States Secretary of Transportation for President Bush and was the only Democratic Cabinet secretary in the Bush administration. Mineta was the first Asian mayor of San Jose, the first Japanese American from the mainland to be elected to Congress, and the first Asian American to serve in a presidential cabinet.

Daniel Vaidhyan, 7th grader said, "It's sad that he passed, and it is monumental since he was the first Asian mayor of San Jose."

The Mercury News reported that Sam Liccardo, the mayor of San Jose, said, "San Jose has lost a great champion, and I have lost a deeply admired mentor."



Photo from Google Images

Norman Y. Mineta breaks stereotypes as an Asian American in politics and carves paths for those after him.

Liccardo also stated that he learned enormously from Mineta's calm leadership style, his deadpan humor, and his sincere love for public service. According to Eno - Center for Transportation, "In 2010, Norman became the inaugural recipient of Eno's Lifetime Achievement Award. The award honors individuals who have demonstrated outstanding leadership throughout their career in transportation."

Mineta worked in San Jose, California and Edgewater, Maryland. Mineta served as the mayor of San Jose

from 1971 until 1975. He was a member of the United States House of Representatives, representing California from 1975 until 1995.

Jose Ornelas - Avila, our campus supervisor said, "Norman Mineta was important because he broke barriers for people of his heritage. It's big because it teaches people equal descent, and most international airports are named after historical figures, but the San Jose airport is named after him, which is pretty big."

Jacob Myles Castro, 7th grader, said, "He inspired people like him to be better, and it also shows Asian representation."

## ASIAN AMERICANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATES THE LEGACY ASIANS CONTRIBUTE TO THE U.S.

*Alejandra Delacruz* Reporter

In May, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month (AAPI) is important in honor of the Asian American and Pacific Islanders. Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month is celebrated for their achievements and contributions. AAPI heritage month includes the heritages of China, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, the Philippines and many more.

In 1992 Congress passed a law that designated the whole month of May as (AAPI) heritage month. The month of May commemorates the first immigration of

Japanese/Chinese to the US. (AAPI) heritage is also important because the Asian American and Pacific Islanders have played a role in American history.

AAPI Heritage month has been around for about 32 years now. AAPI celebrates the unique journey of all AAPI immigrants and citizens in the United States. The first Chinese immigrants arrived in the U.S in 1850. On May 10, 1869, the transcontinental railroad roughly had 20,000 Chinese immigrants work on the railroad and completed it. But in 1882 Congress enacted the Chinese Exclusion Act which banned Chinese Immigration for 20 years.

The recent rise in hate crimes against Asian Americans is just another reason why we all need to show extra support to the community at this time and continue to do so every day.

During AAPI Heritage Month people can recognize Asian culture more,

like how food traditions have become infused across cultures in the USA. Eliza Syed, 8th grader, said "My favorite Asian food are chow mein and samosa."

Pearleen Rajasoni, 8th grader, said, "My favorite food is paneer pakora and chicken tikka masala".

Mr. Bae, 7th and 8th science and robotics teacher, commented, "We celebrate heritage throughout the year about what makes people unique, and we celebrate their differences." Heritage months are periods within the year that are designated to celebrate and acknowledge a variety of ethnic and marginalized groups. Heritage months are not only to celebrate but to also educate others on various groups. That's why heritage months are important.



# Saving water helps prevent continual drought in California

Ryan Vang Yearbook Staff

Photo from  
Google  
Images

We need to  
save water  
by  
practicing  
sustainable  
everyday  
behavior.



In California, unfortunately droughts are a recurring feature of our climate. Droughts can cause long-term public health problems, such as shortage of drinking water and bad quality drinking water in addition to a dying natural environment around us.

Droughts also affect water sources and the soil. There will be reduced streamflow, water levels in lakes and reservoirs fall, and reduced soil quality. Saving water helps minimize health risks and water pollution. By using water saving

techniques, you can save money and help make an impact to keep our environment healthy.

Jose Ornelas-Avila, a campus supervisor, said, "Droughts affect fellow animals who need to find water and food that they can't find as easily anymore." Reducing our water usages can reduce wastewater treatment costs and the amount of energy used to treat, pump, and heat water.

Ten ways to save water and not waste water at home is to take quick showers (5 minutes or less), only

run your washing/drying machine when you have a full load, don't leave your tap running when brushing your teeth or washing your hands/dishes/etc., and close taps properly.

Allison Miranda, 7th grade, explained, "I turn off the tap when I'm washing my hands when the water isn't necessary to use, so I don't waste water."

The other ways to save water is to fix leaks, water your lawn just 1-2 times a week, only water your plants if needed, reuse water, use a low flow shower head, and don't pour excess drinking water in the sink.

Rihanna Randhawa, 7th grade student stated, "I use excess water to water my mom's plants instead of wasting the water."

Saving water is important because it keeps water pure and clean while protecting the environment. It also helps minimize harmful effects of droughts, water pollution, and health risks.

John Lang, campus supervisor, saves water daily. He says that limiting shower usage and using the faucet only when necessary, would help save water.

## Annual wildfires destroy many lives

Kirndeeep Kaur Reporter



Photo from Google Images

Wildfires are really dangerous and destroy millions of lives every year. California wildfires are now a commonplace because of drought and increased tree death from beetles and other parasites due to climate change.

Wildfires are large destructive fires that spread quickly over woodland and bush, affecting humans and animals alike. Wildfires are usually started due to human activities like lightning, campfires, cigarettes, gender reveals, electric lines, and many other things. Wildfires also tend to start due to climate change, droughts and often happen during the summer months.

Wildfires are put out by the people and the government. To put them out, pumps, special wildland engines, helicopters and airplanes are used to remove the heat. Most of the time, wildfires are hard to put out due to temperature rise and humidity drops, fires tend to expand and burn more.

Many people lose personal belongings like their homes and cars. When people lose their homes, shelters are provided to sustain them. The Red Cross has a big part in situations like these. They provide emergency assistance, disaster relief and disaster preparedness. The Red Cross protects the people and their health in dangerous situations like wildfires. A lot of people suffer from these fires frequently caused by humans, but there are also many people who help

# J.K. Rowling angers netizens with her transphobic comments

Sammuel Shuman Reporter

J.K. Rowling is the author of a very famous book series, Harry Potter. News.gallp.com states that three out of four people have heard of this book and the movies that were made based on it. According to thetimes.co.uk, Rowling's net worth is approximately £238,000,000, which makes her the best-selling author in Britain. Aubrey Aarnon, a 6th grader said, "I like her books."

However, despite attaining fame and fortune, J.K. Rowling has upset a lot of people with her perceived transphobic comments.

In March, Scottish legislation created a bill that would make it easier for transgender citizens to legally change their gender. J.K. Rowling tweeted, "Multiple women's groups have presented well-sourced evidence to @NicolaSturgeon's government about the likely negative consequences of this legislation for women and girls, especially the most vulnerable. All has been ignored," she then went on to add, "If the legislation is passed and those consequences ensue as a result, the @SNPgovt can't pretend it wasn't warned."

J.K. Rowling believes something bad will happen if this law is put into effect. Many are curious as to why she would be so upset about it when all the bill does is make it easier for somebody to change their gender legally.

www.gov.scot says that the bill is just, "...removing the requirement for a medical diagnosis and evidence" and it includes, "...reduction of the minimum age from 18 to 16," which seems like an ethical legislative alteration.

Ezequiel Estavillo, an 8th grader, said that he thinks that the new bill is good. From J.K. Rowling's previous Twitter posts, J.K. Rowling's opinions on Trans people are quite negative. This isn't a new thing for the famous author because in 2020, she mocked an article for not specifically saying women, instead using the phrase "People who menstruate."

J.K. Rowling commented on this by saying, "I'm sure there used to be a word for those people. Someone help me out. Wumben? Wimpund? Woomud?" Insulting the article's author for her use of "people who menstruate" instead of using the word women.

Aurora O'Neil, an 8th grader, said "Rowling's ideology on trans people is, in my opinion, clouded due to her sexual assault that occurred in a restroom by a Trans person."

J.K. Rowling wrote in the 4th Harry Potter book, "It matters not what someone is born, but what they grow to be," which she apparently doesn't think applies to Trans people.



Photo from Mr. Cheng  
Mr. Cheng with his wife and 5 month old daughter

## STAFF FEATURE: SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

Thet Nay Khant Reporter

Mr. Cheng is the school psychologist at Walters. This is his first year. He moved from Houston, Texas to Fremont. He was a psychologist at other middle schools and elementary schools before he came to Walters. Mr. Cheng said the challenge he faces at Walters is that he needs to understand the students better because he just moved from Houston.

For referrals to him, he said the parent of the student notifies the teacher that their child needs help and also the teacher tells the psychologist which students need help. While Mr. Cheng is here for everyone, Jahcell Harris, a 7th grader, said, "I would not be comfortable talking to a psychologist because of fear and embarrassment."

A lot of students didn't know there was psychologist. One 6<sup>th</sup> grader, Jeffrey Hung, stated that a psychologist is needed because middle school is the place where students start to have mental health issues.

Most student didn't know there was psychologist at Walters. Many were surprised at the idea of having a school psychologist, and now they know they have someone to go to if they need help.

Photo from  
Google Images

J.K. Rowling is  
the author of  
Harry Potter with  
an estimated net  
worth of \$1  
billion.





# Warriors move to semifinals to play Dallas Mavericks, exciting fans

Chris Velasquez Reporter

The Golden State Warriors moved on to the semifinals. The Warriors made it to the semifinals after beating the Memphis Grizzlies, and this allowed them to advance to the semifinals to play against the Dallas Mavericks. The Warriors have had a good past with the Mavericks, beating them almost every time.

Owen Pierce, an 8th grader, is a huge fan of basketball. His favorite team is the Boston Celtics who just happened to be in the semifinals. He said, "I am hoping for the Mavericks to go to the finals against the Celtics because that would be a good matchup."

But he knows for sure that the Warriors are going to win. His favorite player is Jayson Tatum, who plays for the Boston Celtics.

Eva Caldera, a 7th grader, said that she loves almost every single sport including basketball. She stated that her favorite team is the Lakers and her favorite player is Dwight Howard, a center that used to play for the Lakers. Unfortunately for her, the Lakers didn't make the cut and now she wants the Miami Heat to go to the finals as well as the Mavericks.



Photo from Google Images

The Warriors moved on to the semifinals to face the Mavericks.

Jahcell Harris, a 7th grader who is obsessed with basketball and has been playing it since he was a kid, said his favorite team is the Warriors. He knows for sure that the Warriors are going to win the championship no matter what because he says that the Mavericks are terrible and so are the Celtics. The game was played on May 26th.

*Disclaimer: This Article was written before the semifinals. However, at the time of publication, the Warriors have now been in the finals against the Boston Celtics.*

**WE SOLD OUT OF YEARBOOKS! OVER 400 WERE SOLD!  
THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING STUDENT JOURNALISM.**



Photos by Khanh Do

Lines of eager students wait for their yearbooks on Distribution Day on May 26 at lunch. Ms. Goodfellow, Ms. Pearsall, Mr. Kenny, Mrs. Chandna, Ms. Gentry, and Ms. Yuen and the yearbook staff helped with distribution.

# First Person: 8th graders cherish memories as middle school years end

Camden Phillips Reporter

When the year comes to an end, 8th graders' time at Walters is over. 8th graders will soon be leaving and transitioning into high school. The 8<sup>th</sup> graders at Walters had a very unique experience. We were the first group of 6<sup>th</sup> graders to be at Walters, and were on Zoom for most of the time we were at Walters. The high school will provide many new opportunities for graduating 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

My experience at Walters was interesting, being on Zoom for a year and a half was a weird experience. 8th grade was my favorite year because I spent a lot of time with my friends, met new people, and made friends. Although I enjoyed my time at Walters, I am excited to go to JFK High School

because of the open campus, and I want to pursue my interests.

Many other 8th graders are excited and anxious about leaving Walters and heading to a new school.

Evan Shoulders is excited about high school because he wants to play for the John F. Kennedy basketball team. Evan relatively enjoyed his time here but thought the classes were hard. His favorite year at Walters was his 8<sup>th</sup> grade year (2022) because he made the most memories with his friends and had his favorite teacher, Ms. Hayward.

Another 8<sup>th</sup> grader, Mohammad Wardak, is excited about high school because there will be new and more opportunities for clubs and to make new memories. "I want to join new clubs and meet new people,"

Mohammad said. His favorite year was 8th grade (2022) because it was the first full year we were in person at Walters. He also made new friends this year and had the most fun. Although he is excited to leave, he will miss Walters.

Daniel John Pineda is excited about high school because he likes the idea of an open campus. "I want to go off-campus during lunch," Daniel said. His favorite year at Walters was his 6<sup>th</sup> grade year because he met a lot of friends and had a lot of fun during that year.

The experience at Walters for 8th graders has been memorable and interesting. We will miss Walters but look forward to the future in high school.



**Thank you to the  
yearbook staff and Ms.  
Yuen for creating a  
lifetime of memories  
for Walters!**

**Kushi Aravinda, Konchence  
Delaney, Natalie Krause,  
Rocky Yang, Ryan Vang,  
Sarah Vivero**

## ***Top 5 things you learn from being on the yearbook staff by Natalie Krause (co-editor)***

1. **Interview guidelines-** You learn how to ask the right questions, collect information, and how to maintain a professional persona during an interview.
2. **How to take photos-** As you create the yearbook, you learn how to take quality candid photos to capture a moment. Candid, or unplanned (action) photos, work best.
3. **The correct way to write captions-** After you take pictures to use on your spread, you have to write captions for them.
4. **How to use different sources to gather information-** If you take a picture during lunch but forget to ask for the person's name (who's in the photo), you have to "track them down." You can ask your friends, email teachers, look at portraits on the yearbook website, etc. In addition, in order to collect information about school events, you have to talk to the office staff and teachers.
5. **Using your creativity to design your spread-** If you join the yearbook staff, you create, organize, and design your own pages. Using the theme of the yearbook, you have freedom to create your pages.

## ***Top 5 fun things to enjoy on the yearbook staff by Konchence Delaney (co-editor)***

1. **Getting to learn how to use eDesign-** eDesign is the website we use to design the yearbook. You can go through templates, colors, pictures, and much more. You design your pages to match the theme of the yearbook (which you have a part in picking), where you have to add pictures, captions, titles, and body copies.
2. **Yearbook Distribution Day-** On this special day, you get to hand out your work after a whole year of working on the yearbook. You'll see how students appreciate the yearbook that you created!
3. **Making new friends-** You will step out of your comfort zone and talk to new people. Working on the yearbook means you have to include everyone in the school, including the staff and students. Interacting and interviewing new people around the school will get you positively known around the school.
4. **Taking pictures of school events-** You get a heads up about school events and you take pictures. There are various school events throughout the year, before and after school or during lunch. You borrow a camera and take your press pass.
5. **Getting more creative flexibility than other classes-** On the yearbook staff, you have more creative freedom, compared to other classes. You do not have things like textbooks or as many tests/quizzes. Instead, your time in class is used for planning and creative writing. Designing the way your pictures copy sit on your pages takes a lot of time, effort, creativity, and constant editing.



# Leadership secures new officers as the school year ends

Adriana Alonzo Reporter

Every year Ms. Alves has a meeting with students who would want to be in Leadership as officers for the next school year. Leadership is when you plan out the spirit weeks, dances, lunchtime activities, and set up the decorations around the school. You also have to be creative and volunteer ideas, plan events, and sort them out.

Interested students have a meeting with Ms. Alves and they get a packet to fill up with different information. They also have to do a speech. Then students have to vote on who would be in Leadership for the whole school year as officers.

Raiden Refuerzo is a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student who ran for ASB president. Raiden stated that Leadership is important because some students need someone to look up to.

Raiden also mentioned that he hopes that Leadership can be fun spending time with other people. He said, "I will enjoy Leadership for the most of it, but there might be some complications."



Photo by Yearbook Staff

Leadership organizes many student activities and homeroom things. For example, they help pick up the weekly recycling in classrooms to deposit in the large recycling bin.

**Congrats to new President Raiden Refuerzo,  
Vice President George Isaac Hermina, &  
Treasurer Anirudh Gupta!**

# WEB recruits new 7th graders as leaders to take over for next year

Kevin Amaya Garcia Reporter



Photo by Sana Kamlesh

6<sup>th</sup> graders play BINGO and get to meet new people at the Ice Cream Social hosted by WEB.

WEB is a group of students in this school that help 6<sup>th</sup> graders feel more comfortable in school and make friends. "WEB helps find friends and makes middle school a bit easier," responded Maizy Moisselle, an 8<sup>th</sup> grade WEB leader.

Although since the 8<sup>th</sup> graders are moving on to high next year, WEB will need new members to join for the 2022-23 school year. WEB is looking for 7<sup>th</sup> graders may want to partake in welcoming activities for 6<sup>th</sup> graders.

"It can guide 6<sup>th</sup> graders and make events to help them familiarize," said 8<sup>th</sup> grade WEB leader Aashi Trivedi. The members from WEB also like to help 6<sup>th</sup> graders and give them advice.

# Taylor Swift releases new song out of the blue, confusing her fans

Lily Vu Reporter

On May 6, Taylor Swift released 'This Love (Taylor's Version).' The song is going to be featured in the show 'The Summer I Turned Pretty,' a Prime Video series based on the book trilogy by Jenny Han, which Taylor announced once the show's trailer was released. 'This Love' was originally released on her album '1989' back when it was originally released in 2014.

In 2019, Taylor's first six studio albums were sold to Scooter Braun. Taylor did not want her music to be owned by Scooter, so she decided to re-record it. She currently has re-released her albums 'Fearless,' 'Red,' and a couple songs from '1989,' which leads to her most recent re-release: 'This Love (Taylor's Version).'

With this spontaneous release, some fans were sent into a spiral. 7th grader Allison Miranda described that it was very exciting, especially because she released new content.

Another Taylor Swift fan, a 7th grader named Taylor Guadamuz, explained, "I definitely didn't see this release coming. When I saw the announcement I absolutely freaked out.

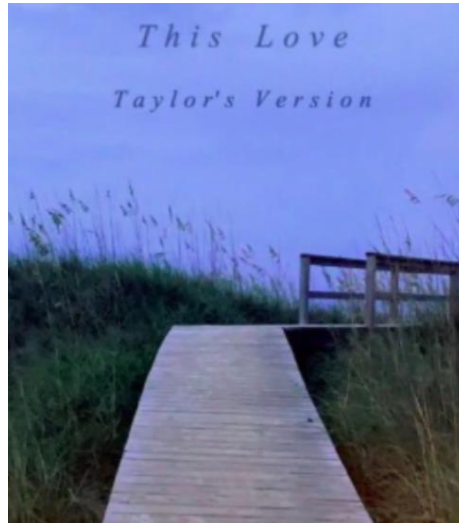


Photo from Google Images

Taylor's surprise release of 'This Love (Taylor's Version)' shocked many of her fans.

It was definitely a very exciting release."

Most fans did not expect the release. There is currently a lot of speculation in the air about a possible new re-recording of either Taylor's album 'Speak Now' or her album '1989' due to some easter eggs Taylor has been leaving around. A lot of fans think this due to one of the most recent possible easter eggs where she released some new merchandise named 'The Old

Taylor Shop,' which included merch based on 'Speak Now' and '1989.'

Fans have recently been debating which re-recording is next because it has been six months since Taylor has released a re-recorded album. 7th grade science teacher, Mr. Del Carpio, mentioned, "'1989' is the next, possibly even a double feature."

'This Love (Taylor's Version)' will soon be featured on the upcoming Prime Video TV series called 'The Summer I Turned Pretty.' The recent re-release was announced when Jenny Han released the trailer for her upcoming show on May 5th. The song came out the day after.

Jenny Han had been hinting that a Taylor Swift song would be in the show. While most people thought it would be the song 'Cruel Summer' due to the plot and how much it would fit with the show, it came as a surprise when it wasn't. The show will be released June 17th on Prime Video.

Taylor's surprise release last month along with the new merchandise surprised and confused many fans. Fans are still trying to figure out which re-recording is next since easter eggs lead to both an upcoming re-release of 'Speak Now' or a re-release of '1989.'

# Talent show gives students a chance to show off their unique talent

Sania Gallegos Reporter

This year's talent show was on Wednesday, May 25 and was set up by Ms. Alves and Ms. Gentry. Many students were looking forward to this year's talent show. Ms. Alves explained, "I'm so excited for this year's talent show. Although, it is difficult to set up because we have to make sure the microphones work, make sure the curtains are closed and opened at the right time, make sure the music is cut for the acts, and make sure the music is appropriate."

The talent show was held in the multi-purpose room on the 25th at 7 P.M. Jordan Garcia, a 7th grader, said that he was excited for the talent show this year because he wanted to see what cool things people can do. He also mentioned, "I would look super cool while performing."



Photo by Tammy Phair Talent show participants line up for the finale number that they have worked on during their practices.

Sadly, because of increased numbers of Covid cases at Walters, the 6th period talent show assemblies that were supposed to take place on May 26th had to be canceled. Luckily, the school was still able to hold one showing of the talent show on the 25th.

Walters hasn't had a talent show at school in a few years. There was a video talent show last year since during virtual school. This year there were practices after school held in either room 1 or the multi-purpose room.

Students were excited to share their talents. For example, 7th grader Anika Phair had been practicing for over

a month. She stated, "I'm not too nervous about the act itself but the finale because of the new dance."

Tanush Yedal, an 8th grader participant, said, "I'm proud of myself, and I'm going to be doing a comedian act."

Many students were excited to see the talent show, but the 6th period assemblies sadly had to be canceled for Covid related reasons. Students participating in the talent show still got their chance to shine during the talent show that was held on the 25th. The talent show is a great place for students to showcase their talents in front of their peers.



# PTSA throws 8<sup>th</sup> grade celebration

Diara Rain Refuerzo Reporter

Next year, this year's 8th graders will become high school freshmen. The PTSA hosted an 8th grade event on June 3 at Palms Pavilion at Lake Elizabeth to celebrate this achievement. The event is one of the many ways that 8th graders concluded their last year of middle school.

The Walters PTSA has worked through many difficulties and challenges, but they were able to overcome them to make the event possible. Julie Spivey, the secretary of the Walters PTSA, commented, "Like so many events of the last two years, the celebration suffered from Covid related setbacks...By listening to each other's [PTSA members'] visions and ideas and trusting that we were all working in the best interest of our 8th graders, we overcame obstacles and let our creativity, talents, and hard work shine."

8th grader Addison Lewis said, "I am going to the 8th grade event because I look forward to the activities and being with my friends."

8th grader Wellington Martizano stated, "I think the event is a great way to end the school year because it is better than having nothing at all or a common school assembly."



Photo from Google Images

8<sup>th</sup> graders celebrate their completion of middle school by having a celebration at Palms Pavilion at Lake Elizabeth on June 3, the last Friday of the school year.

On the other hand, 8th graders like Elise Roman disagree. She explained, "I think it's a good way to conclude the school year, however, I would have preferred a real graduation."

In conclusion, the 8th Grade Event is for 8th graders to have a special night to celebrate their accomplishments and their completion of middle school by spending an evening having fun with their friends.

# Long process of SBAC testing stresses out many students for three weeks

Daksh Bains Reporter

In early May, students took the SBAC tests. SBAC, which stands for Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium, is a set of tests for students to determine how well they can comprehend and apply the skills and information that they need to know by state standards.

This test won't affect your grades but it can affect your future schooling and schedules, which can raise students' stress levels.

The SBAC testing took place over three weeks. The testing includes two English tests and two math tests. There is also a science test for 8th graders. This can make some students stressed because of the amount of information they have to remember.

Angel Isaiah Villalobos, an 8th grader, commented, "I felt very stressed with the amount of work I had to do. Some of the questions on each test were easy while some I really didn't understand."

Some students think of the test as a good way to see how much they have learned over the school year. Maggie Yu, an 8th grader, said, "I tried extremely hard on this test and studied weeks prior to taking the test because I wanted to see how much I learned and memorized everything over the school year."

She added, "I also found the test a bit easy. I expected the test to

be a lot more challenging than it actually was."

Dane G. Harris, an 8th grader, added, "The test was not too easy but not too hard. It was sort of in the middle, but I was happy that we were able to get out at an earlier time."

The test affected students in different ways. SBAC testing can stress students out because of how much information they have to remember for the testing.



Photo from Google Images

Students have to take the two or three SBAC tests every year during the May testing frame.

## Early June Calendar

June 6 - Last day of  
School  
June 19-Father's Day  
June 19-Juneteenth  
June 21- International  
Yoga Day  
June 23-International  
Olympic Day  
June 26-International Day  
Against Drug Abuse &  
Illicit Trafficking

### MASTHEAD

**Advisor:** Ms. Yuen

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Kamlesh

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Velasquez, Sarah Vivero, Lily  
Vu, Rocky Yang

### **Photographers:**

Khanh Do, Sana Kamlesh,  
Tammy Phair

### ***CORRECTION:***



Photo from Lifetouch

***6<sup>th</sup> grader Christian Arcangel (#11, bottom right) should have been on the Boys Basketball B Team list in the yearbook.***

***Congrats on your first year playing for Walters!***

# HAPPY

# PRIDE

# MONTH!

