

THE WARRIOR CHRONICLE

Walters Middle School * Fremont, CA * May 6, 2021

Mr. Weems leaves Walters, planning to return to classroom

Evyn Diaz Reporter

Mr. Weems has official stepped down as principal and with this, Mrs. McClintock is filling in as acting principal. As acting principal, Mrs. McClintock has been left with the responsibilities of overseeing the whole school, including students, staff, and the Walters community.

Mrs. McClintock said, “My experience and training under Mr. Weems has helped me adapt to these new responsibilities. Every day brings new challenges, and when I'm confronted by something new, I always seek council and collaborate with my team.”

The acting assistant principal (administrative substitute) is Dr. Carol Halbe. Her educational career started as an



Photos from Mrs. McClintock and Dr. Halbe. Mrs. McClintock, the acting principal, and Dr. Halbe, the administrative substitute, have been taking care of things now that Mr. Weems left his principal position.

English teacher in Southern California, then overseas in Vienna, Austria. She has worked in several Fremont high schools, including Kennedy. She was also a principal in Brazil for several years.

In his letter to Walters, Mr. Weems stated, “I have been thinking about this for a few years now, but now I feel is the time. I want to go back to the classroom and teach again. That was always the reason I entered into this profession, and I want to reconnect to the passion that got me into this position... To all the students who have attended Walters during my tenure, I wish success and happiness. To all the parents who have supported your students and staff, I thank you. To my staff, past and present, you are amazing. I will miss you all.” There will be a new permanent principal on July 1st.

Increase of Asian hate crimes generate fear in Asian communities

Morrow Ivanez Reporter

Recently, the rise in Asian hate crimes has doubled since the start of COVID-19. According to the LA Times “An Asian women was spat on and called racial slurs in her own garage.” This woman was assaulted in the safety and comfort of her own home.

On March 16, a series of mass shootings occurred in three Asian owned spas as an act of xenophobia in Atlanta, Georgia. Eight people were killed, six of whom were Asian women.

According to “Time” people can report any sort of xenophobia, or racism to the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), an organization of attorneys, judges, law professors, and law students, who addressed civil rights issues confronting Asian Pacific Americans. Everyone can also help by providing financial aid by donating to places like the AAPI (Asian Americans Advancing

Justice) and supporting small businesses.

“It's affected my family and me, we're being more cautious and alert more often when we're in public. I, myself, am afraid of being harassed in public or something and I'm worried something might happen to my family,” said 7th grader Caitlin Bautista.

“Some ways people can bring attention is just by spreading awareness and continuing to be respectful to our Asian communities to help fight against all this hate in our society towards myself and others around me,” she added.

Overall, bringing attention to these crimes and spreading the word is one major way everyone can, as a community, help prevent these crimes. Posting and reposting other posts. Telling your friends. Spreading around links and petitions can help a lot too.

The rise in Asian hate crimes doubled since the start of COVID-19 and Trump saying racist remarks about Asians and the virus. Since that, people have been targeting Asians.

“The greatest way to prevent hatred, racism, and discrimination, is to educate the population,” said 7th grade history teacher Mr. Kenny. “People need to read, see and understand other people's perspectives and experiences. Some people don't even know there's a problem or are so busy denying it that they've become part of the problem,” he stated.

“Politicizing things such as COVID-19, targeting groups of people for blame, etc. only throws fuel to the fire. We are extremely divided as a nation.... Many people think they're reading/watching/seeing the news, when some of it is simply commentary meant to wall us off from other people's perspectives,” added Mr. Kenny.

Earth Day: Easy ways to protect the environment while at home

Halley Buenrostro & Thejasree Venkatesh Yearbook Editors

Earth Day, which is celebrated on April 22 every year, is a day to support environmental protection and inform people about the state of our planet. The event has been around since 1970, which means this year's celebration marks the 51st Earth Day.

Everyone can participate in Earth Day, regardless of where they live or how old they are! There are many ways that even middle schoolers can help the environment--every day, not just on Earth Day.

Even simple tasks that take mere seconds can help the Earth. An example of this is switching off the lights, or turning off devices when they're not in use. Doing this can make sure that less energy is used, and that in turn causes less demand for energy and harvesting fossil fuels. So a simple flick of a switch can save trees, coal, natural gas, and more!

Try to also cut down on using a car. Walk, bike, carpool. Go out and get some exercise when you have to run errands or meet friends. Spare the air!

Growing plants or a garden is also helpful! After all, it's good to get some fresh air once in a while. Of course, planting has many environmental benefits as well. Plants release oxygen into the atmosphere and absorb carbon dioxide. They also provide habitat and food for animals and humans. So, growing a plant can really benefit the environment. In addition, planting your own edible garden means that it can be organic too, which is healthier for you and the environment. Buying organic food from stores helps the Earth too.

One of the worst materials for the environment is plastic. Most plastics aren't biodegradable. Because it doesn't rot, it hangs around in the environment for hundreds of years. And with each passing year, 400 million tons of plastic is produced then later binned. It doesn't go away, it goes into the Earth, which contaminates it. Shop intelligently and don't buy plastic water bottles, containers, or things with excessive



Photo from Google Images

Some simple acts can cause a big effect in helping the planet.

packaging. Instead use natural materials and reusable, sustainable objects.

Finally, reusing materials instead of trashing them would be very beneficial. Be creative! For instance, clean out spare jam or jelly jars and use them as drinking glasses. Another idea could also be to use empty bottles or cans and use them to grow plants. Instead of having to get a pot, make your own!

Clothing can be reused as well. Share with friends. Buy secondhand. Every new piece of clothing is energy wasted to make it. Use old T-shirts as towels! The Earth loves you. Love it back. It is the only one you have.

Minnesota citizens demand justice after Daunte Wright's death

Sascha Tung Reporter

On April 11, 2021 in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, Daunte Wright, an unarmed African American, was pulled over by the police at a traffic stop for having air fresheners. During the incident, Daunte Wright was shot by Officer Kim Potter after she mistook her taser for her gun and ended up shooting him instead of tasing him.

A couple hours after Daunte died, protests erupted at Brooklyn Center for Black Lives Matter. In response, the police deployed heavy forces to guard the building and set up a fence around officer Kim Potter's house. At the protests, the police used flashbangs and tear gas to disperse the crowds.

After Daunte Wright's death his family was angry and they didn't see getting a gun with a taser mixed up as an excuse. In an interview with Reuters, Daunte Wright's girlfriend said, "This is so wrong since now his son doesn't have a dad and I feel like they stole my son's dad." Now Daunte's girlfriend must raise



Photo from Google Images

Daunte Wright, an African American, was killed by Officer Kim Potters at a traffic stop.

her child without a father all because of a "mix up."

And it's not just Daunte's family that thinks Daunte's Wright deserves justice. 8th grade student Russel Salasac from Palms Middle School commented, "All of us won't see him smile, talk or make jokes again. She shouldn't be sentenced to death. She should be sentenced for a long time so she can learn her lesson."

South African comedian and television host, Trevor Noah, said on his talk show, "...maybe if the police weren't

so quick to draw any weapon, then maybe people wouldn't die from a "mix up.""

On April 15, Officer Kim Potter made her first appearance in court. The court hearing was less than 5 minutes, and she was charged with 2nd degree murder with a 100k dollar bail and that she must remain a law abiding citizen and refrain from carrying or transporting firearms.

But no matter what punishment is given to Kim Potters it doesn't change the fact that African Americans are being killed by police brutality. If people don't speak out, they might get oppressed and treated unfairly because of their skin color. Being a police officer isn't an excuse to be able to kill. People around the country are making their voices heard on this matter more and more.

MAY Calendar

May 9 – Mother's Day

May 12 – EID al-fitr

May 15 – Armed Forces Day

May 31 – Memorial Day Holiday

MUN founders recruit Walters students to join the club

Sirena Perez Hernandez Reporter

MUN, which stands for Model United Nations, is an educational simulation which helps students develop confidence and leadership skills by giving them experience. MUN gives its students opportunities to practice researching, public speaking, teamwork, negotiation, and writing skills.

Sarmila Jagadeesan and Bhairavi Senthilkumar, 9th graders at Kennedy High School and former Walters students, have formed an MUN group with Walters students where they teach a variety of topics like how conferences work in MUN by showing them how to prepare and the procedures.

“This first stemmed from our own interest in MUN. We got to know mostly everything about it and wanted to share with Walters and hopefully teach them the skills and make them just passionate!” said Sarmila.

Bhairavi also mentioned that they created the group to introduce to Walters students what it meant to participate in MUN, so that they will be able to gain the skills from it, which will be useful to them in upcoming years.

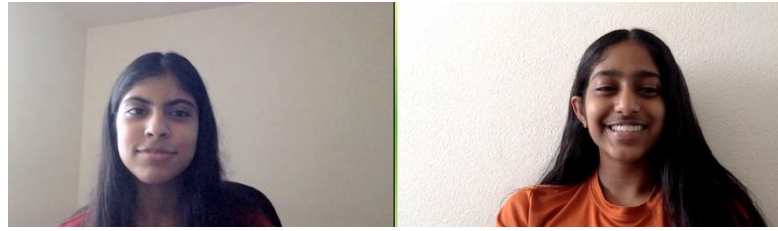


Photo from Bhairavi Senthilkumar

Sarmila and Bhairavi, the founders of the MUN club, are former Walters students and Yearbook editors.

“We’re not going into current events topics yet, as we’re still trying to teach them how the basics of Model UN works,” Bhairavi stated. Once they have gone over the basics of MUN, they are planning to do more debating, so students will be able to do research on topics given to them.

MUN isn’t an official club at Kennedy High School since it’s newly started. So at the moment they are mostly just providing students in the group with information about MUN. Then once they officially make MUN a club at Kennedy High School, the Walters students going there will be able to join the club.

MUN is meant to help students gain confidence and leadership skills. “...Researching and discovering cool facts I never knew about gave me a great

responsibility, and leadership abilities,” explained 6th grader Saanvi Raghavendran. At first she didn’t know much about MUN, so she decided to give the club a try since she had heard things about it and so far she is loving it.

The group’s advisor, Michelle Kerr, who teaches design and engineering to all grades at Kennedy High School, is also there to supervise them.

Their club meetings are held once a week on Thursdays at 3-3:30PM. Students can email Sarmila or Bhairavi at reach.bsen@gmail.com and sarmilajag@gmail.com, to get permission to be given the class code for their class on Google Classroom where they post meetings and work information.

FIRST PERSON: Traditions of celebrating Ramadhan

Omar Mojadidi Assistant Editor

The first day of the holy month of *Ramadhan* fell on Monday, April 12, 2021. Over one billion Muslims from all over the world will fast from dawn to dusk till the next month. Ramadhan is based on the lunar calendar. (A lunar calendar is a calendar based on the monthly cycles of the Moon’s phases.) This is why it falls on a different day each year.

The core aspects of Ramadhan are abstaining from food and drinks. The nature, though, goes beyond that. Ramadhan is a month of mindfulness, spiritual development, faith-strengthening, self-empowerment, and strengthening one’s willpower through self-control and self-discipline.

The night of April 12 was the eve of Ramadhan where I began praying *Taraweeh*. (Additional ritual prayers performed by Muslims at night after the Isha prayer during the holy month of Ramadhan.) When praying *Taraweeh* we try to finish reciting the *Quran* (the central religious text of Islam) through the month

of Ramadhan. When we finish reciting the whole Quran on the 27th of Ramadhan during *Taraweeh*, most of the mosques (the place of worship for Muslims) host a prayer service on that night called *Khatam Al Quran*.

At the dawn of the next morning, I woke up before the first prayer called *Fajr*, for *Suhoor/Sehri* (the meal consumed early in the morning by Muslims before fasting, before dawn) and had something to eat.

I continue my normal activities (School, sports, and other extracurricular activities). In between sunrise to sunset, we pray our second and third prayer *Dhur* and *Asr*.

By the time I know it, it is *iftar*, the evening meal with which Muslims end their daily Ramadhan fast at sunset. We break our fast as a family with appetizers (usually with dates and a cup of milk). Then we pray our *Maghrib* prayer (4th prayer of the day, usually at sunset), and then we get ready for our main course meal.



Photo from Omar Mojadidi

Ramadhan falls on a different day every year due to that it is based on the lunar calendar.

Then we pray *Isha*, the 5th of our mandatory prayers, followed by *Taraweeh*. Then the cycle repeats. Finally, after the month of Ramadhan comes to an end, Muslims celebrate *Eid Al Fitr*, a three-day holiday with friends and relatives.

This month brings us all together and cleanses our souls. I cherish this month as it brings me closer to what life is for people who can’t eat nor drink, and I learn to appreciate what I have. *Ramadhan Mubarak!*

Jolie Huang once again secures her art on agenda cover

Sara Lele. UCLA Editor



Photo from Mr. Bae
Jolie Huang, 8th grader is overjoyed after winning the agenda artwork contest for the 2021-2022 school year. Her second time in a row-- Congratulations!

Because of the craziness due to COVID-19 this year, all students who submitted their artwork for the agenda context submitted it as a .pdf file. The voters even submitted their votes online through Google Forms, and the voting officially ended on April 20th. Jolie Huang, 8th grader, won again! But it was close between first and second place.

According to Mr. Bae, Jolie Huang got 49.4% votes, Khanh Do got 44.2% votes, Caitlin Bautista got 29% votes, Rhea Singh got 22.9% votes, and Marianna Knapp got 17.4% votes.

Jolie Huang, 8th grader, said, "My friend Alicia saw the School Loop email of the agenda contest and was wondering if I was joining this year. I thought it would be fun to participate again and to redraw a better artwork than the last. Honestly, I feel great about winning the agenda contest the second time! It made my day better after working on school assignments all day."

"I entered the contest because I thought it would be interesting if his artwork could be featured in the agenda next year. I honestly feel grateful and happy that I got second place. I couldn't have gotten there without my friends, who helped me a lot with the process," commented Khanh Do, 7th grader.

Caitlin Bautista, 7th grader, said, "I competed because I have a love for art, I just wanted to try the competition out and wanted to test out my art skills. I also love competitions. Nothing really inspired me, I just felt like I wanted to do it and I did it. My favorite part of submitting my art is being able to see other people's art and gaining votes from friends and other fellow students - which I'm very grateful for - and knowing that people like my art."

Movie theaters slowly reopen as COVID cases drop around the country

Isaac Luong Reporter

On March 17, 2020, all movie theater companies announced they were closing because of COVID-19. Now since COVID is slowly dying down, movie theaters are reopening. Some movie theaters already reopened such as Los Gatos Theatre, AMC, and Grand Lake Theater.

When movie theaters reopened, all the companies decided to make it so only people with masks could be allowed inside the theaters.

According to nytimes.com, "They created the rule so that each movie only gets played two times. This change was made so that each theater could be as clean as possible. Another

rule they changed was how many people could enter. Now since COVID-19 is a thing theaters said only 50 people would be allowed to be in each theater.

Michea Zhao, a 7th grade student, said, "I like the idea that movie theaters are coming back with great rules."

However, some movie companies came up with the idea of doing outdoor/drive-in movie theaters again.

This idea was first introduced in the 1920s and then died down in the 1950s. Recently more drive-in theaters are popping up again.

Outdoor theaters don't show new movies instead they show old classics such as Jurassic Park and The Wizard of Oz. Lots of people like this idea of showing old classics and spending time with your family.

All of the rules you need to follow is just keep all cars separated by 6 feet. You can even get out of your car if you keep your mask on.

In addition, some local Cinemark theaters are even renting some screens out for private viewing parties. You can rent out the theater (screening room) for a private watch party with a group of 20. www.cinemark.com for information

Johnson & Johnson pauses vaccine after some develop rare blood clots

Ruben Alonso Reporter

Have you ever felt intense pain in your arm, leg, or belly? Well, this is what a few people have felt because of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine with blood clots forming in patients. The Johnson and Johnson vaccine has stopped being given out to the public.

The Johnson & Johnson vaccine was first made in the Netherlands and was mainly dispersed in the U.S. It has been used by over 7 million people in the U.S after being stopped from being produced. The vaccine was stopped from being produced by the CDC and the Food and Drug Administration because of blood clots that formed in blood took the vaccine.

Every person has different reactions to different things and Raul Flores, a Bay Area highway construction worker, said he didn't get any side effects from the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.



Photo from Google Images

In mid-April, Johnson & Johnson stopped their distribution of their vaccine as a small percentage of people faced rare blood clots. It is now available again in some states as the benefits outweigh the negatives.

Some people have to take it just for the safety of their family. Martin Saldivar, a Costco employee also took the Johnson & Johnson vaccine to help prevent the virus from spreading to his family. His family has gotten COVID-19 before and he doesn't want them to be at risk of danger again.

He said, "I took the vaccine because I work at Costco and people are coming in and out. Anyone can have the virus so it's better to be safe than sorry. My wife was sick when she got COVID-19, so I don't want to put her through that again."

Although the Johnson & Johnson vaccine isn't being recommended anymore, there still are reliable vaccines that can be taken. Just by taking the vaccine, you can help prevent yourself and others from getting sick.

Disclaimer: This article was written before April 23. As of April 23, Johnson and Johnson's vaccine is being administered again. More than half of the states in the US have resumed use of the vaccine. However, Europe has paused the distribution of the vaccine.

Fremont decides to stay on Zoom for the rest of the school year

Guneet Gill Reporter

Since the pandemic, a lot of things have changed. Stores closing, having to wear masks everywhere, and staying home more. One important thing the pandemic changed is the way people do school. Instead of going to school, people are using Zoom. There are many opinions about Zoom. Some people love Zoom while some people would rather go back to school.

Shetalika Saini, a 7th grade student, prefers online learning. "I like online better because it's shorter and there's not as much homework. I think some advantages of online school are being able to take breaks more often, not having to wake up and get ready each morning. Some disadvantages are not being able to see friends, wifi

problems, and not being able to get all the help we need."

Shira Shore, a 7th grade student, also prefers online school. "I like online school because it's easier to access my homework and it's a lot easier for me. I also like online school because instead of walking to school, I can just join a Zoom meeting. I've also noticed that I've gotten closer with my friends during the pandemic."

Some advantages of online school are easier access to school, less homework, more breaks, and you don't have to walk/ drive to school. But some disadvantages are wifi issues, some students experience less motivation, and not seeing your friends.

Mrs. Baird, a 6th grade teacher, prefers regular school better than online. "I like regular school because I feel like I can better assist my students. It's hard to communicate with them and help them. It's difficult for me to make sure the kids are learning properly, that they're doing their homework."

Many people love online school and many also love regular school. But right now Zoom is our best option to keep students and teachers safe from COVID-19. Let's hope by next year, COVID will be better so everyone can go back to school on campus.

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Walters Talent Show

If you would like to showcase your
talent, join the
Walters Talent Show!!!

Send your video to Ms. Alves by
Monday, May 17th

Check your School Loop email
for more details!

MESA Competition Regionals Results

Shout out to the Walters students who
have competed in Regionals.

**1st Place: Think Tank - Nikita Dube, Aavineet
Pahwa, Dimple Thind**

**1st Place: MESA Machine Innovative Design
- Ayler Ehling and Jaeden Konglathu**

3rd Place: Stick Together - Henry Cheng

*Shoutout to Aathavan Senthilkumar, Mark Haddad,
Sricharan Guddanti (NEDC 1st Place), Sarmila
Jagadeesan & Bhairavi Senthilkumar (MESA Machine
1st place), Zack Hamilton, Harman Singh, Chaoji (Jay)
Ma (Civil Structures, 1st place), Erin Banchieri &
Prachiti Sabnis (Civil Structures, 2nd place), Hendrix
Leung, Keanu Lim, Gautam Rampur (MESA Machine,
2nd place)! They are all former Walters students
currently at Kennedy!*

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