

# THE WARRIOR CHRONICLE

Walters Middle School \*Fremont, CA\* January 25, 2021

## Biden’s inauguration ceremony goes smoothly after attack on Capitol

Jorge Angeles Reporter & Sana Kamlesh Editor

Due to past events in the Capitol, the Inauguration ceremony was highly protected with local police and the National Guard in riot gear on standby. Officials limited public access everywhere near the event location.

Biden took the Oath at the U.S capitol exactly 2 weeks after it [the U.S Capitol] was attacked. The ceremony unfolded with a circle of police cars and security forces.

Because of COVID-19, the crowd was limited instead of having none. Usually, about 200,000 people attend the event. This year, members of Congress were only given tickets for themselves and one guest.

Instead, Biden gazed out over 200,000 American flags planted at the national mall to represent the Americans who could not come.

Because of COVID-19, the ceremony was in a state of flux. Biden, who made coronavirus precautions a staple of his campaign indicated that keeping people healthy is his priority.



Photo from Google Images  
The inauguration ceremony and evening celebration on Wednesday, January 20, 2021 goes smoothly and was broadcasted for all to observe.

## Raphael Warnock makes history as the first Black senator in Georgia

Jade Rodriguez Assistant Editor

According to *washingtonpost.com*, “That a Black Democrat will represent Georgia is proof of changing demographics and intense organizing in that state, said Keneshia Grant, a political science professor at Howard University, speaking on the day of the runoff.”

After Raphael Warnock was elected senator on January 6, 2021, it made him the first Black senator of Georgia. Before him, there have only been 10 African Americans who have formed part of the Senate, which makes him the 11th in the United States.

As reported in *savannahnow.com*, in his speech, Warnock stated, “We were told that we couldn’t win this election. But tonight, we proved that with hope, hard work, and the people by our side, anything is possible. May my story be an inspiration to some young person who is trying to



Photo from Google Images  
Raphael Warnock is the 11<sup>th</sup> Black person in the Senate and 1<sup>st</sup> Black senator to be elected in Georgia.

grasp and grab hold of the American dream... Together we can do the necessary work and win the future for all of our children.”

Mr. Kenny, 7<sup>th</sup> grade History teacher, commented, “I think that this win has a chance [to inspire more African Americans to be part of the Senate] but the way our country works, I don’t think that

one person’s triumph is enough to change a system that is leaned against.”

Warnock is pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church, in which he has been preaching since he was 35 years old, making him the youngest pastor of that church. The Ebenezer Baptist Church is the same church in which Martin Luther King Jr. used to preach at too.

Although Warnock was elected senator, he remarked that he will continue to preach because he wants to keep a connection with his community, and does not want his impact on people to stop at the church, but actually be the start.

Lillian Cerritos, 8th grade, mentioned that she thinks that Warnock’s election could inspire more African Americans in the future to have more confidence in having the job they wish to have.

# Hospitals have a shortage of COVID 19 vaccines

Omar Mojaddidi Assistant Editor

As the United States death rate topped 300,000 on Monday, December 28, 2020, 150 hospitals around the nation were to provide millions of Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine vials.

Hafasa Mojaddidi, an intern pharmacist at Sutter Eden Medical Center, said, "Initially we were all very excited for the authorization of the first COVID-19 vaccine and did not anticipate the challenges we see now with the distribution. Personally, I think the biggest obstacle is the labor problem, what I mean by that is that we have a shortage of employees to support the supply chains and distribution."

According to Pfizer, once a POU (A family of proteins that have well-conserved homeodomains)

receives a thermal shipper with our vaccine, they have three options for storage:

Ultra-low-temperature freezers, which are commercially available and can extend shelf life for up to six months. The Pfizer thermal shippers, in which doses will arrive, that can be used as temporary storage units by refilling with dry ice every five days for up to 30 days of storage. Refrigeration units that are commonly available in hospitals.

The vaccine can be stored for five days at refrigerated 2-8°C conditions. After storage for up to 30 days in the Pfizer thermal shipper, vaccination centers can transfer the vials to 2-8°C storage conditions for an additional five days, for a total of up to 35 days. Once thawed and stored under 2-8°C conditions, the vials

cannot be re-frozen or stored under frozen conditions.

Mr. Del Carpio, 7th grade science teacher commented, "If you don't have the vaccine in the storage you can't be at a place to distribute the vaccine from which limits distribution areas."

Mr. Kuhlmann, 8th grade science teacher said, "They just haven't been able to produce enough of it. Pfizer came out first. Then Moderna got approved recently and I believe theirs doesn't have to be kept sub-zero and doesn't have to go under the same thing Pfizer has to do. Right now, I am hoping they're able to ramp up the production because you have to get the ball rolling with getting the ability to make the vaccines."

## FUSD "Grab and Go" system continues feeding students

Diego Gurrola Reporter

On January 4th of this year, FUSD updated its food distribution, called "Grab and Go." The new schedule provides food Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays. It aims to make food more accessible to students of all ages. The program aims to make breakfast and lunch free of charge for kids 2-18, whether or not they are Fremont Unified registered students.

Cafeteria Manager Teresa Goulart said that it's a safe way to give food to students, it keeps more people from coming and potentially spreading COVID by limiting pick up days. Breakfast and lunch are served every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, in the student drop-off area. The service time is from 7:30—8 am or 11- 1 pm.

Upon arrival, the participant stays in the vehicle. From a six feet.apart distance, a staff member greets and asks for meal pick up count and meal preference (vegetarian or non) and offers milk/veggies/fruit choice option. Meals are placed on an outdoor cart, six feet.apart for participant to "Grab and Go."

All menu items served or offered are shelf stable and fridge or of frozen temperature. Participant receives double meals Monday and Wednesday and triple meals on Friday. Holiday periods are provided for, as well.

"I always want students to have what they need. I feel providing the food service is important...and I feel the system is going well," said Principal Weems.

The new system continues to prove to be useful, especially with the pandemic, where it is dangerous to go outside and interact with other people.



Photos from Teresa Goulart



Cafeteria staff Cheryl Terbeek, Yolanda Velasco, Martina Vallejo and Teresa Goulart make and distribute breakfasts and lunches three days a week for students in need.

# EDITORIALS: Reporters express themselves to the new year

Dear 2021,

I am grateful for another year to live on this Earth, but please take it easy on us. After a tough year, I would like to see the world in a better state, meaning that we start accepting the problems that we have, such as global warming, COVID-19, and inequalities that vary between race, gender, sexuality, and more. Having accepted those problems, I hope people start to change their attitude, because this Earth is going to die, and the tension is rising revolving around inequality. This year, I wish that COVID is not downplayed, and that everyone is healthy and safe.

With that in mind, there are also a lot of other problems such as poverty, hunger, corruption, and a lot more that I can't simply list. Although we cannot solve every horrible situation in our hands, I think we can start to take steps into making this world a better place. This is only a wish, 2021, and not a demand, hoping that you will give us a time to relax and reflect on last year.

**Miranda Hernandez,**  
8<sup>th</sup> grade Reporter

Dear 2021,

I hope this year will be the year I grow better mentally and physically. 2020 has brought me many pains and some really terrible memories that will never heal or be forgotten, but 2020 has also taught me lessons and brought me some parts of me and in my life that I truly keep close to me. 2021, you have so far been a pain mentally but I really hope you get better and help me, my friends and family. I hope this year is a year full of blessings and memories to cherish. I hope you heal what 2020 has done to me and the world. I know you will bring hard times, but I hope I'll be able to bounce back quickly and not stay stuck in the same hole I was stuck in in 2020. I pray that I can move on and grow. I pray that I get stronger, and I pray that I can continue staying here and carrying on. I pray I don't leave with people wondering why or with myself not knowing why or having closure. I don't want to feel like how I did after summer of 2020. At that point I've gained love but also lost more than what I've gained.

**Isabella Cisneros,** 8<sup>th</sup> grade Reporter

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Dear 2021,

What could I possibly say that hasn't been said already by people all over the world? 2020 has left the planet in ruins. Around 100 million people are dead, the terrain of the world has been drastically altered, and the nations of the world are at each other's throats. It's going to be nearly impossible for you to somehow be worse than 2020, but we said that 2020 was going to be a great year in late 2019, so anything's possible at this point.

2020 might have been horrible, but that doesn't mean that nothing about it was good at all. Quarantine separated us, but that just means that we'll appreciate human contact even more when we actually return to it! We've also made some big developments in both medical science as well as technology, humanity's substitutes for physical human contact. We can use these advancements well into 2021 and beyond.

Also, how much worse could 2021 possibly be? Sure, the coronavirus may be mutating a new strand, but we already have a vaccine for the original strand. I don't see why it can't also cover the new strand with a few modifications! And while it is true that the New START Treaty between the United States and the Russian Federation is likely going to expire in February 2021, Joe Biden is now the president of the United States. I believe that he will know exactly what to say in order to extend the treaty.

Segueing onto the topic of the presidential election, Joe Biden's electoral victory has been confirmed. Donald Trump had desperately been trying anything and everything that he can think of in a last-ditch effort to tip the scales in his favor. However, his efforts were unsuccessful. And while the people following Trump urged him not to give up, the people who supported Biden just told him to pack his bags and throw in the towel. While Trump only seems to care about himself, Joe Biden seems like a much more honest man, a president who truly wants to protect, help, and take care of not just the United States of America, but all the nations of the world.

So in summary, 2020 has been a pretty bad year overall, but there were some good aspects of it. I think we, as a community, want and need 2021 to take these good parts of 2020 and capitalize on them while steering clear of the bad areas that 2020 went through. 2020 has been a dark time, so please, please, 2021. For all our sakes, be at least somewhat superior to your predecessor 2020. Remember this. All of our lives are at stake.

**Urian Paek,** 7<sup>th</sup> grade Reporter

# New COVID-19 mutation strikes the world

*Sara Lele* Editor

Everyone knows how devastating the effects of the deadly COVID-19 pandemic is. Now, even though we have a working vaccine, a new crisis has arisen.

According to *statnews.com*, “The mutation is identified in a variant first seen in South Africa and separately seen in another variant in Brazil.” This shows that, though the coronavirus was originally found in China, this mutation was found in Africa and Brazil.

This mutation, called E484K by scientists, seems to be only a branch of the original coronavirus, but it is actually really deadly.

*Cnn.com* states, “E484K is called an ‘escape mutant,’ because it’s been shown it might be able to escape some of the antibodies produced by the vaccine.”

According to *cnn.com*, scientists fear that, since this mutation happened in only a matter of months, other mutations could follow.

“I think that it’s even more worrisome to have yet another virus on the loose. It’s definitely a cause for concern and now that Tier 4 is here, I don’t know what the future holds. Since the vaccine is supposed to cover the second one, I’m more hopeful that things can change after everyone has gotten it,” stated Zoey Roper, 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

# Pro-Trump protestors storm the Capitol Building



Photo from Google Images

On January 6, 2021, a mob of Trump supporters stormed the U.S. Capitol. They tried to overturn his defeat in the 2020 election, which led to the lockdown of the Capitol, as well as five deaths. Hundreds of thousands of Trump supporters gathered in front of the Capitol to protest that the election had been rigged.

# Martin Luther King Jr. continues to inspire



Photo from Google Images

Martin Luther King Jr. was one of the most influential civil rights leaders in history. He spoke out against injustices and helped stop segregation. He was, and still is, a hero to all – not just blacks. And he received the Nobel Peace Prize at 35. He organized peaceful protests, his idol being Mahatma Gandhi. He orated speeches and inspired people from all over America and the world.

# Some teachers prefer teaching through Zoom from their classrooms

Sana Kamlesh Editor

During the pandemic, teachers, and students stay at home and do school through Zoom. But some teachers go to school and teach from there.

Ms. Hart, 6th grade English and History teacher, stated, “I like to stay in my classroom because all my materials are there. They help me stay more focused and I can show my kids the classroom.”

Spring of 2020 was hard, especially teachers. The virus and online school were very new to everyone. At that time, it was the epicenter of COVID and it was not a possibility to go to school. As people are more used to it now and there’s a better understanding of it, teachers have the on-campus option to work.

According to [www.edweek.org](http://www.edweek.org), “Teachers struggled this spring [of 2020] adjusting to providing instruction from their homes, without their usual teaching tools and classroom objects. Plus, roughly 10 percent of U.S. teachers



Photo from Ms. Hart

As an alternative to teaching students virtually from her home, Ms. Hart comes to school and teaches through Zoom there so that she has all of her materials at hand.

don’t have reliable internet access or digital devices at home, which forced some to teach from the parking lots of their school buildings or to shell out money for expensive computing devices. And teaching from home blurs the boundaries between work

and personal life, which was exhausting and frustrating for many educators last spring.”

Ms. Staley, 7th grade English teacher said, “When I go to my classroom, I feel more like I’m at work. It’s more peaceful to concentrate in a quiet room than staying in my house with several disturbances.”

But teaching in class could also increase the risks of being infected. As they are exposed to a public place, there is a high risk to catch the virus if precautions are not taken seriously.

Mr. Nicholson, 7th and 8th grade Math teacher explained, “I had to talk to Mrs. McClintock before coming into the classroom. I had to sign a form that is sent to the district so that they know I’m on campus. I have to wear a mask and still practice social distancing rules.”

Although there are risks in teaching from class on campus, the teachers are doing a great job adapting to continue educating their student.

## Students find ways to stay healthy and fit during the pandemic lockdown

Isabella Cisneros Reporter

Since the pandemic hit, everyone has been on lockdown, having to stay home, and keep distance from people. Because of this, all or at least the majority of gyms have been shut down and sports have been seemingly unavailable.

Gyms and sports were just two of the things that kept people in shape and healthy, but now that there isn’t full access to them, people have had to find a different way to keep their bodies in good shape.

Elijah Sudaria, 8th grade, said, “It isn’t a challenge to stay healthy in this pandemic because I stay active in my garage working out and going on runs around the neighborhood.”

People like him work out in the public free space areas and going on walks or runs. Elijah also says that he is still as active as he was before COVID came along.

Now that schools are closed the schools P.E system has definitely

changed. Juliette Dekker, 8th grade, said, “P.E is really different now because it’s not as fun for me because I loved playing the games but now, we only work out.”

Not only her but Evyn Diaz 8<sup>th</sup> grade, said “P.E is literally the worst now. It used to be so fun, it was even my favorite subject, but now it’s boring because now all we do is work out alone.”

Through all this, it’s important that parents are encouraging their children to eat healthy and stay fit.

8th grader Prince Paramore said, “My parents encourage me to stay healthy because they want me to stay in shape and to make sure I’m healthy when I’m older.”

When parents encourage their kids to eat healthy and workout, it’s a very good thing to do especially during the pandemic so they can keep their bodies safe and stronger.



Photo from Google Images

It’s more important than ever for students to get outside to exercise and eat healthy during the pandemic.

The encouragement of parents is very important to the students because at a young age, support is something that all kids should have so they feel safe and comfortable in their surroundings. Their support is also crucial during these tough times.

# Yearbook staff adapts to the difficulties of online learning

Miranda Hernandez Reporter

With distance learning, the yearbook staff has struggled with adapting to a new way of producing the traditional yearbook. A yearbook is important in the aspect that only a yearbook can capture moments in time, that maybe social media can't. The yearbook is just like a history book, but contains the events and memories of the students' lives at school in a certain timeline. Yearbooks are significant and the staff who provide them are the key to these, they are the ones who create a magnificent piece of history that no one else can encapsulate.

Thejasree Venkatesh, 8<sup>th</sup> grade, joined the yearbook staff last school year, so she understands the difference in both school years. Now the Editor, Thejasree said, "Last school year was definitely easier. When we needed information, we could mostly walk out of the classroom and interview students, but now with mainly emailing, it's harder. Not many

students respond, and it is this back and forth process.

A lot of the pages from this year and last year are different. We don't have a spirit school week spread, because we can't have all just Zoom pictures. [This school year] I guess, I don't have as much pressure, I can do things at my own pace now because of online school."

8<sup>th</sup> grader Halley Buenrostro, current assistant editor, was also on the yearbook staff last year. "[Last school year] was definitely easier. We're struggling in getting responses from students. It's definitely a hassle. Doing my deadlines last year was a bit difficult, but I think I've improved since then. I honestly don't know, but I think it is easier to finish my work. I get to interact more with the other Yearbook staff. I'm definitely more comfortable in my own house than last year. I'm able to manage my time more often and I'm not as stressed as last year," Halley said.

Unlike Halley and Thejasree, 8<sup>th</sup> grader Alicia Wong became a staff member this school year. Alicia added, "I

think doing the yearbook during the pandemic is very hard, in which we don't have much contact with students because they don't reply back. Usually in a yearbook, we want to catch moments of the year, but we can't do that. We can't go to a basketball game, or go to school events, or take moments from lunch activities. People that do take pictures and send them to us are few...it is really stressful because we have deadlines, and we are trying to get as many people to include, but not enough are participating. There is a lack of participation from students."

This school year has been odd and difficult to all, definitely, but the Yearbook staff has had to go beyond, in order to keep the school's traditions.

Capturing Walters' moments is hard, with lack of participation and the staff not being able to attend events and activities due to COVID. However, distance learning proves its benefits, and the Yearbook staff has not backed down from the challenge. Soon, the 2020-2021 Yearbook will be ready for all to enjoy.

# Billionaires and tech businesses continue moving out of California

Germeen Shaker Reporter

Tech companies are relocating out of the state of California due to the fact that it has the highest taxes, which makes it unjustifiable for big corporations to stay. An approximate value of billionaires' taxes would have to be a rate of 24.7%, as reported in *americansfortaxfairness.org*. That rate is exclusively high, especially if they are making an average of 50,000, or 75,000, or 100,000.

Not only that, the pandemic may have completely changed the way companies operate. The U.S. government could prevent this from happening. "If I owned a company and didn't get any benefits from staying here in California, I would move," said Manas Basavaraju, 8th grade. Some tech companies have already announced plans to leave California.

Since November, 39 companies in tech have relocated to Austin, Texas. The wealthy can save millions of dollars by moving from a state like California. For example, Elon Musk is leaving Silicon



Picture from Google Images

Elon Musk is one of the billionaires choosing to move out of California.

Valley for Texas. Therefore he could save up money and let the car company, Tesla, reopen its factory during the coronavirus pandemic. Tesla is also building a 4 million square foot facility just outside Austin, and that's expected to create 5,000 jobs. So, moving out of California for him would probably help him increase by a lot.

"People in California aren't buying their products, so what's the use of staying there," added Manas Basavaraju.

Billionaires are moving to Tennessee, Arizona, Idaho, Oregon, New

Jersey, Florida and Texas. They're mostly moving there because of the tax rate but also because they would profit off them so much more. Texas has no state income tax. Also Texas is seen as more pro-business than California.

According to Elon Musk, the only people left to tax are the average workers who were promised their taxes wouldn't go up, says cn businesses.

**Yearbook needs your portrait!!**

**Go to**

<http://www.hjeshare.com/eShare/?code=walterswarriors>

**and click on the left option.**

**\*\*Send your portrait by January 29 if you want to be in the Yearbook.**

**\*\*\*Info in your School Loop email.**

# Celebrating the Lunar New Year around the world

Urian Paek Reporter

As the Lunar New Year fast approaches, people of Asian culture and heritage all over the world prepare to celebrate in their own traditional ways. From China and Korea to Singapore and Vietnam, the Lunar New Year is celebrated by several Asian countries. However, it is to be expected that they don't all celebrate the Lunar New Year in exactly identical ways. The similarities and differences between these countries' traditions are numerous.

The Lunar New Year's name changes depending on the country, but likely the most common and recognizable name given to it is the Chinese New Year. However, one interesting thing to note is that the Lunar New Year and the Chinese New Year are actually not just two different names for the same event. They do share many similarities, but they aren't exactly identical. For example, the Chinese New Year celebration usually lasts for one week, while other countries celebrate for only a few days.

Although there are a variety of traditional methods to celebrate the Lunar New Year, there are some similarities between all of them. During the Lunar New Year celebration period, buildings are adorned with decorations mainly consisting of the color red. Fireworks are also a classic Lunar New Year spectacle for many countries celebrating Lunar New Year. Finally, several types of dances are very



Picture from Google Images

During the Lunar New Year, lucky red decorations are usually hung up in public and in the home.

prominent in many Asian countries around this time. These dances are usually based off of a type of animal, such as the dragon or the lion.

However, those are where the similarities mostly end. Looking at Korea, some aspects of the Lunar New Year unique to Korean culture alone.

Deborah Lee, a mother of a Walters student and who grew up in Korea said, "We eat special rice cake soup called 'tteokguk.' Families and relatives gather together and they bow to elder family members, which is called 'sebae.' The elder family members 'bless' and give money to the younger family members."

Koreans also have unique forms of entertainment. One game that is commonly played in Korean culture is called Yut-nori. It's almost like a board game involving a board, playing pieces, and four wooden sticks. The game involves throwing the sticks into the air,

then depending on which side up the sticks landed, and then having to move the playing pieces that amount of spaces.

Even countries as far south as Vietnam celebrate the Lunar New Year. However, it is referred to as Tết in Vietnam. Tết is a shortened version of Tết Nguyên Đán, which translates to "Feast of the First Morning of the First Day."

Kyler Lam, an 8th grade student of Vietnamese heritage, said, "For Lunar New Year you get [a] red envelope with lots of money in it. You usually eat fish pork...Money trees are luck, they stand for good luck, they are not really made of money. The more leaves on a money tree, the luckier you are."

Countries all over Asia celebrate the Lunar New Year in various different ways. However, one thing that they all have in common is that they all serve as a celebratory transition from one year into the next.

## Returning to school would be different

Ariana Narvaez Reporter

Going back to the school campus is not promised this year. Although the district might let students go back, there are many things that need to be done before returning. Going back to school can be either hard or easy, maybe even both depending on how people look at it.

Going back to school will be very different than it was before. Ms. McClintock, Assistant Principal, was positive about the school district already cleaning the most used things at school, such as door knobs and the bathrooms. "All staff members will have to get the vaccine," said Ms. McClintock. The vaccine is very new. Getting the vaccine will keep students and staff safer. Students will have to wear masks and gloves. The 6 feet apart rule will still have to be followed. Teachers will have to separate desks and won't have as many students in class at a time.

Going back to school won't be easy. It needs to have careful planning to decrease risks around contracting COVID. It might take students a lot longer than they thought to go back to school.

### STAFF

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# Mrs. McClintock figures out her work-home life balance

Daisy Lwin Reporter



Photo from Mrs. McClintock

Mrs. McClintock does her best to work from home. She also has the extra challenge of helping her three school-aged children with their Zoom lessons daily.

Mrs. McClintock, the assistant principal, supports the principal in the administrative operation of Walters. She plans schedules for teachers and deals with student behavior. She directly supervises lunch, hallways, and special events. But after COVID hit, she had to work from just like the teachers.

During the pandemic, she stays with her family and works at home. She said that now she always has to cook every meal for her family.

“My job is easy and hard at the same time,” explained Mrs. McClintock. “It is easier because it is flexible and it’s harder because it’s more difficult to connect with and have conversations with students.” But she also added that some things are easier to plan because “You don’t have constant interruptions.”

Now that Mrs. McClintock is at home, she can’t communicate and plan meetings as well as she could in person. Mrs. Ranaweera explained, “It is difficult in the sense that we can’t be at work together and collaborate face to face like normal. However, we are all making it work together.”

Mr. Kenny, a 7<sup>th</sup> grade History teacher said, “I feel like Mrs. McClintock is generally keeping me updated on school-wide issues. Overall, planning, and meetings haven’t changed much in terms of whole staff meetings. We still hold them on the same days and cover much of the same material we would cover if we were in school. The key thing missing in meetings is working with other teachers as only one can talk at a time in a Zoom meeting, but that’s not something they can easily control with so many people in the meetings.”

## Staff Feature: All about Mr. Banaag

Melissa Lujan Reporter

School psychologist Mr. Banaag has been working at Walters for eight years. But before working as a psychologist, he was a college professor and taught psychology.

Now that everyone is working online because of COVID, working as a school psychologist is hard. “It’s pretty tough...I think that’s one of the things that I find the most challenging. One of the other things I had to shift was, one of my primary purposes is testing with kids. I need to actually be in contact, physically, like I have to be in the same space to do that and I can’t do that right now.”

Core Support teacher Mrs. Briggs said, “I have been working with Rafael (and known him) for almost three years...Rafael is a genuine person with a big heart who is always thinking about the students. I always learn something new when I talk to him.”

Outside of school, one hobby Mr. Banaag enjoys is traveling, but he can’t really do that now because of COVID-19. “I like going to Hawaii just because I feel very comfortable there. I like the islands. I like the temperature. Another one of my favorite places to go to is Paris,” Mr. Banaag said.

He also enjoys photography, but he doesn’t do it as much these days unless something special happens.



Photo from Mr. Banaag

Mr. Banaag and his wife Aileen enjoy their time in Paris in April 2019.

## Calendar

January 25 <sup>th</sup>	2nd Semester Starts
February 12 <sup>th</sup>	Lunar New Year
February 14 <sup>th</sup>	Valentine’s Day
February 15 <sup>th</sup>	President’s Day



# Article review: *Avatar the Last Airbender*

Navjot Waraich Reporter

"I would rate it 10/10 just for the comedy, but the animation is great," said Cynthia Ortiz, an 8th grader.

Cynthia also mentioned that one of the main characters named Aang is her favorite because he always had great facial expressions. And she also says that people should watch this show and that she would 100% recommend it in her opinion.

According to Nickelodeon, the show is about the world divided into 4 nations: Water, Earth, Fire, and Air. Then the fire nation threatens to engulf the whole world. And only the avatar controls all of the elements, and only the avatar has the power to restore balance. Then Nickelodeon says that it is no simple task for the Last Airbender, a 12-year-old boy named Aang.

Mr. Cruz said that he would give this show an 11/10 he explained that he thought everything was well thought out. He also mentioned that the characters had an interesting

background. And that it had a resolution. He had also mentioned that the show taught him that people can learn from their history and heal from it.

Mr. Cruz said, "I would like to say that anyone that I have met who has watched the show has loved it. I can say for certain that people will like the show if they have not watched it because there are characters that you grow to love and pretty epic action scenes."

According to Nickelodeon animations, the network that made *Avatar the Last Airbender*, the creators were Michael Dante and Bryan Konietzko. Nickelodeon also said the show's original run started February 21st, 2005 and ended July 19th, 2008, and had 61 episodes in total.

According to Nickelodeon, they have a spin-off show from Avatar called the *Legend of Korra* which was also made by Michael Dante and Bryan Konietzko.

9th grader Max Medina, a former Walters student, said that the show had taught him how to push through any



Photo from Google Images  
Katara the water bender, Aang the Avatar, and Sokka from the water tribe band together.

situation and overcome obstacles. He also says that people will like this show because of the characters' personalities, it's comedic, and that it teaches good moral values. He explained that his favorite characters were Toph and Sokka.

Max says that he would rate this show a "9/10 because it's timeless and enjoyable."

Currently, this show is available on Netflix, CBS, Amazon prime video, YouTube from \$1.99, google play movies & TV from \$1.99, Vudu from \$1.99 iTunes from \$59.99, and Nickelodeon.

# Article review: Pixar releases new movie *Soul* on Disney+

Cynthia Ortiz Reporter

This story stars Jamie Foxx as a jazz musician named Joe lost in a world where human souls pass through on their way into and out of life.

*Soul* is a beautiful movie that takes all about your soul's personality. This movie has an amazing cast including Jamie Foxx, Tina Fey, Daveed Diggs, and other astounding stars.

The New York Times said, "In about 100 jaunty, poignant minutes, "Soul," the new Pixar animation feature, at ease tackles some of the questions that many of us have been losing sleep over since childhood. Why do I exist? What's the



Photo from Google Images  
In December, Disney Pixar's "Soul" was released digitally.

point of being alive? What comes after?"

For Pixar, it is not the first time they have ventured into the unknown like this they also made movies like *Coco*, which talks about or has something to do with death or like *Inside Out* about what's going on inside your head.

"This lovely, funny film, animated gorgeously, asks big questions about life",

said the Wall Street Journal. This is a perfect movie to watch with the whole family. It is rated 96% rotten tomatoes.

The animation is astonishing compared to the earliest work of Pixar. This movie shows how much Pixar has grown from *Toy Story* to now *Soul*. Pixar is known for doing movies like this including *Inside Out* and *Coco*. Most children and adults alike can find these movies relatable or even comedic. But *Soul* is able to connect with people on another level. Pixar went for the unanswered questions that we always struggle with and put some kids at ease.

Don't miss the movie *Soul* available currently on Disney+.