

THE WARRIOR CHRONICLE

Walters Middle School * Fremont, CA * March 22, 2021

Learning hubs provide students with a reliable learning place

Guneet Gill Reporter

Throughout the pandemic, the majority of schools have been shut down and students are doing school from Zoom. Students have faced many challenges like Wi-fi issues, distractions in their house, not feeling motivated to focus in school, and many more. These issues have led up to bad attendance and trouble learning.

Because of all those issues, the school district decided to start a program called Learning Hubs. The learning hubs accepts 15 students who have Wi-fi or attendance issues, for example, to go to school so they can learn in a peaceful environment.

Principal Weems stated, “The learning hubs are a good start to bring students back to campus. 15 students who



Photo from Google Images

Learning hubs allow students to learn at a quiet place while following the safety guidelines.

have attendance issues due to Wi-fi issues will come to campus and do their Zoom classes. There will be no teachers or parents [just campus supervisors].”

The learning hub is a safe environment where students can peacefully do their work. Because of COVID-19, the learning hubs will be different from normal schools. For

example, it will take place in the mini-gym and everyone will be socially distanced. So far it is only twice a week, Mondays and Tuesdays, and students will get breakfast and lunch.

Vivienne Diaz, a 7th grade student, stated, “I think the learning hubs are a great idea because students who have Wi-fi issues can go to school and learn in a quiet environment.”

The learning hubs to some people may seem like a great idea since they can see their peers and learn in a safe environment with a good internet connection. But also, to other people, it may seem like a bad idea because even with the COVID cases decreasing, people might not want to risk getting infected.

Teachers share their experiences getting the COVID-19 vaccine

Sirena Perez Hernandez Reporter

For the past month, teachers and school staff have been eligible to get the COVID vaccine. “I feel that there is hope that we will be back to school and be able to return to a more normal life at some point. I still want to be careful to keep others safe, but I am excited that there is hope!” stated Ms. Alves, a 7th grade PE teacher.

Ms. Alves got the Pfizer vaccine at the Oakland Coliseum parking lot on Sunday, February 21.

“I think everyone should get it for their own safety, but I also realize that some people are still unsure of the safety or have other beliefs about vaccines,” she added.

Mr. Antantis, who also got his vaccine at the Oakland Coliseum on February 21, stated, “It is incredibly important because some of our teachers are in high-risk categories and it’s important for everybody as much as possible to get the vaccine.” If everyone

starts getting the vaccine, students could possibly start going back to school in person.

Some teachers miss going to school and are hoping to do so once enough people have been vaccinated. They find it easier to teach in person than online.

English and Academic Support teacher, Ms. Staley, got the Pfizer vaccine at a clinic in Newark on February 28. Getting the vaccine itself doesn’t take very long, but some people may have some bad reactions to it. Ms. Staley explained that she felt sort of sick, as if she had the flu, and her arm felt tight, but those effects only lasted for a day.

COVID was first declared as a global health emergency on January 30, 2020, and it’s great that a vaccine for it has already been made. “I was really excited and impressed that they did it so quickly. That it was so fast,” Ms. Staley added.

Unfortunately, some people may not be able to, or chose not to, get



Photo from Ms. Staley

Ms. Staley gratefully got her vaccine on February 28 at a clinic in Newark.

vaccinated. If someone is looking to get a vaccine shot, they would likely be able to get it at a local clinic, hospital, or a large vaccination center.

Reflecting on March 13, the anniversary of school's last day

Ruben Alonso Reporter

As of now, it has been just over a year since schools, restaurants, and many businesses have closed down. March 13 of this year is the same day in which schools started to shut down because of the worldwide pandemic that has affected everyone because of COVID-19, or commonly known as the coronavirus.

Schools have changed a lot since March 13, 2020. To be specific, in the learning sector, it has affected students, parents, teachers, and school staff. One way COVID-19 has affected people in the school area is social distancing, which has resulted in students learning online and teachers teaching through Zoom.

After March 13, 2020, students have had to adapt to a new routine with distractions in the way of their learning.

Gabriella Lucero, 8th grader, said, "Online school is more stressful compared to school on campus and learning is way harder because I feel like teachers give more work. I have distractions at home as well that make it harder to learn, like my phone."

Librarian Ms. Kent-Berge has been affected negatively from the pandemic because technology is the only way she can interact with students and teachers. Also, sometimes she has technology issues, which makes it even harder to connect with them. She said, "I am not too good with Zoom, so when I have internet issues, it makes it harder for me to connect with people."

Parents have had to change their routine and have struggled to help their children with their online learning and

work, having to balance their work and their kids' learning. Porfirio Ureno, a parent of two students who attend Blacow Elementary School, has adapted to his children's new routine in order to help them so they can succeed in school.

He said, "I work at a restaurant, so I've had to adjust my morning routine in order to help them with their needs in school, such as homework, helping them with internet issues, making sure they log in to Zoom on time, and helping them if they don't understand their work. It is just very overwhelming."

Overall, this pandemic has affected not only schools, but everyone in different ways. Everyone has had to make adjustments to their lives in order to stay safe and to help their families and friends.

PTSA organizes fundraiser that brings back Walters spirit wear

Alicia Wong Yearbook Staff

"It's been years since Walters had spirit wear," mentioned Jennifer Parker, historian of the PTSA. From March 22 to March 31, the Walters online spirit wear fundraiser will be live. The link to the online fundraiser will be released on a School Loop email. There, the fundraiser will sell hoodies, T-shirts, and long sleeves in different designs.

"This fundraiser wasn't so much about raising money as it was about bringing the opportunity for anyone to buy spirit wear," elaborated Mrs. Parker. "The biggest goal is to get the opportunity to purchase spirit wear out there."

Prior to launch, Mrs. Parker first had to get the approval of the PTSA Board and Principal Weems. The idea for the spirit wear fundraiser was first brought up in a PTSA Board meeting in February. The fundraiser came to fruition in early March.

This meant that Mrs. Parker got the okay to inform the contact at BSN Sports, the company providing the merchandise of the fundraiser, approval for the organization, and preparation of the whole fundraiser, including the flyers.

"...Just trying to sync up and get the communication going... Which it was, but there's always a time delay... it didn't stop things from happening, but it made



Photo from PTSA

Some of the spirit wear includes hoodies and T-shirts.

things go slower. That part's the challenge, having the patience. I wanted to get this done so I can move on to other things, like focusing on taking care of my kids and working... in the middle of my life I am trying to get this fundraiser going," said Mrs. Parker.

In truth, fundraisers are hard to conduct. Mrs. Parker explained, "A lot of times you don't make much money from fundraisers, that's why we [PTSA] have to do a lot of fundraisers, because the profit margin is so low. Sometimes you have to do all that work for a little outcome."

Due to COVID, there was a lack of communication and interaction within school communities. This posed as one of the many worries for advertising the spirit wear fundraiser.

As the official launch date is fast approaching. "I feel that it's a wise idea for funding because people will not only support the school they attend, but also be

donating to it. The fact that it's online follows the social distancing guidelines, which is a plus as well," said 8th grader Savan Gupta.

7th grader Caitlin Bautista noted, "Honestly, I feel like it would be a good idea, just try to make it exciting and have something to do with the current student likings! It may increase the chances of people purchasing it as well. I might possibly buy if I can, but it's a 50/50 chance. It honestly depends if I'm allowed to or if I like the design."

As the main person in charge of the fundraiser, Mrs. Parker has mixed feelings about the launch. She said, "There's a sense of satisfaction when you start something and are able to finish it...all the work to be done. I hope that they sell. There's always that little worry about whether it flops or whether the information doesn't make it out to anybody."

EDITORIAL: Students should not do remote state testing

Morrow Ivanez Reporter

Since the school year is coming to an end, state testing is starting up again. This year, since we are online, it will very obviously be different than if we were in in-person school. Due to this, I believe it will be harder for students to DO the standardized testing especially if they have siblings or a loud learning environment. There is also a possibility that some students may cheat, which is not good.

I strongly believe that we shouldn't do state testing this year and hold it off until we get back to school due to those reasons, that students may or may not have the proper learning environment and the cheating since we are given access to different websites.

State testing is mandatory as we know it, we've done it almost every year in our school career but this year is different for all of us and it might not help having a huge test at the end of the year.

This year has been stressful as it is and a huge test that you can't do in school, where it's easier, might just add to that stress. As someone who has been going through a lot of stress, the thought of having this test makes me more stressed.



Photo from Google Images

State testing is most likely still going to happen online, from home, this school year due to the pandemic.

While yes, it's good that we take the test to see where we are and what we don't get, the stress that comes along with it is not. So we should hold off the testing until we get to in-person school.

"It's a little bit irresponsible, and it's easier to cheat, especially if we're at home and no one is supervising and we can find all the answers online," 8th grader Janelle Sanders said.

As I stated earlier, students might have a big cheating problem and no one is supervising them. But 7th grader Amy Geng said, "I don't like state testing, but

if I get to do it at home I think I'd be able to relax more while doing it. If we were in school, I'd usually get pretty nervous, wondering if I'll finish it on time or not, but being able to be at home and do it in my own environment makes it seem more peaceful for me, and maybe I would get a better score on it."

While yes, it may be easier for some students, doing it at school may be more beneficial. Taking this into consideration, holding off the state testing until we get back to school may be easier for some students.

Amanda Gorman achieves one of her greatest accomplishments

Evyn Diaz Reporter

Amanda Gorman, Los Angeles native, age 23, has accomplished many things that earned her the right to perform at Biden's inauguration in January and for the Super Bowl too. Amanda Gorman was awarded with the title National Youth Poet Laureate at the age of only 7!

Gray Bae stated, "Overall, it seems like a very inspiring and motivating [inaugural] poem, because the purpose of her message is to hold on to hope even in the greatest moments of despair, and to see all the good that has happened, and to cherish all of life's difficulties as opportunities for learning and growth."

As stated from Mr. Bae, he believes that Amanda is a very inspiring writer and believes that she is giving people hope and reminding them that just because of these terrible times,



Photo from Google Images

Amanda Gorman recited her powerful poem at the Biden's presidential inauguration.

people should not stop pursuing their dreams and they should have faith in themselves.

Amanda Gorman really is an inspiration to everyone, and she has

been throughout her whole life. Amanda Gorman's love for poetry never ended and she was awarded the OZY genius award in 2017! She was the college woman of the year in 2018 and eventually made her way to the inauguration.

Ms. Staley, 7th grade English teacher, said, "I think Amanda is an inspiration. What a powerful, and intelligent young woman. I really enjoy her speeches. I just watched a show called Amend and she was in it, giving life to old speeches, and I think she did a wonderful job." Amanda is a person who really enjoys raising people's morality and telling them to push ahead.

Amanda has won many awards throughout her young life and she isn't stopping there. She will be remembered in the history books as the youngest poet to ever recite poetry at the presidential inauguration.

2020 Pixar movie *Soul* wins two awards at the Golden Globes

Isaac Luong Reporter

On February 28, Sunday 2021, *Soul* won two awards at the Golden Globes. This was live on the channel NBC. They won the best-animated movie and the best original score. *Soul* came out on December 25, 2020, and came out on Disney Plus on the same day. *Soul* was a very good movie for a lot of people.

According to Ethan Kennedy, a 7th grader said, "I enjoyed this movie a lot and it was a blast to watch."

Soul won the best original score, which



Photo from Google Images
The movie *Soul* came out in 2020 and has caught the attention of viewers ever since.

means that they won the best background music. The score was judged by John Batiste and two others Trent Reznor and Attius Ross, who were a part of the Nine-Inch Nails. They most likely won the best

original score by mixing in Jazz and Classical music while the movie was playing. This allowed the music to sync with the scenes. According to sfgate.com Emeryville got the studio's

ninth win for best original score.

According to cartoonbrew.com "*Soul* beat out *Onward*, *Over the Moon*, *The Croods: a New Age*, and *Wolf Walkers* for the best-animated movie. They got the beautiful animation by letting the filmmakers in the movie record Jon Batiste's style of playing the piano. This created a realistic animation and allowed it to sync perfectly with the scenes."

Soul won two awards best-animated movie and best original score.

Coyotes leave wilderness and invade local neighborhoods

Sascha Tung Reporter

Coyotes have always been around us but recently they have been coming into urban areas and have been harassing and attacking the locals. Runners and hikers have come into contact with them most recently early this year in places in the East Bay. A hiker was attacked along with a 3-year old girl.

Coyotes seem to be descending upon suburbs as they search for food and space to roam. "People wiping out apex predators and clearing land which coyotes prefer to forest," stated Verge Science online, explaining why the coyotes are present.

As humans start to expand their land they take away the land coyotes used to have. As a result, coyotes move into urban areas needing more territory.

Bea Karnes said, "Coyotes play an essential role in the ecosystem eating rodents. But when given access to human food and trash

their behavior changes and they lose their fear of humans.

While Coyotes play an essential role in the ecosystem, they are natural predators and will attack humans or pets.

8th Grader John Guzior said, "The coyotes are begging to invade urban areas and we should try to fix the problem."

Locals are beginning to get angry at coyotes for attacking them and their pets and want something done about the coyotes.

Some urban locals advocate that we try to coexist with coyotes instead of trying to remove them from the area.

8th grader Adam Galit Smith declared, "I'm fine if they exist around me but it also feels good to know that they aren't near you and that you can feel safe."

But the past may have the answer to our problems

"Coyotes were common in San Francisco but they disappeared from



Photo from Google Images
A coyote is seen on the streets walking and attacking the innocent locals

the city in around 1920 here and elsewhere they were seen as pests of threats to livestock trapping, poisoning, and bounties were common," according to Verge Science.

Photo from Mrs. Edelman Mrs Edelman, a SDC teacher, has two cats and loves carnations.



Teacher Feature: Mrs. Edelman

Itzayana Justo Nunez Reporter

Mrs. Edelman teaches Math. Her favorite subject in school was English because she loved to write. She likes books that have a purpose to them and that are meaningful. Mrs. Edelman’s favorite types of movies are historic movies that are based on true stories. Mrs. Edelman’s favorite part of teaching is when a kid is struggling and when they get it, she likes to see a smile on their face.

She has two cats and the reason why she got another one was that her cat died two years ago. Her favorite food is Mexican and Italian food.

After high school, Mrs. Edelman’s favorite flower became Carnations because they are affordable and pretty. Ever since Mrs. Edelman was little, her favorite color has been pink. Mrs. Edelman likes spring because of the weather.

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Agenda Artwork Contest!

Would you be interested in creating the front cover photo for the Walters Middle School Agenda for the 2021-2022 school year? Well you are in luck!

We will be having a contest to see which student’s artwork will be used as the front cover for next year’s agenda!

Artwork guidelines:

- Required dimensions of 8.5” x 11” (sheet of paper)
- Artwork must be submitted as either.JPG or.PDF
- Artwork should be in portrait mode
- Must be original design (not copied, traced, or swiped from the internet)
- Must use school-appropriate images
- Name of school: Walters Middle School
- Academic Year: 2021-2022

OPTIONAL: can incorporate the following if desired

- Walters logo
- School Motto: Warriors Pride
- Name or signature (in small print) on artwork

Submissions should be sent via School Loop message to Mr. Bae by April 12.

Check your School Loop email for more details!!

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Calendar

March 20th- First Day of Spring

April 2nd -9th -Spring Break

April 4th- Easter

April 22nd- Earth Day