

THE WARRIOR CHRONICLE

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Biden's first 100 days in office: What has he done so far?

Khanh Do Reporter

Joe Biden officially became the United States' 46th president on January 20, 2021. It has been over 100 days since he did, and his accomplishments have been seen across the United States. According to Newsy, several people who voted for Donald Trump in the 2020 election actually think that Biden has done a decent job so far.

Out of all his achievements, his actions related to the COVID-19 pandemic have been the most noteworthy. As reported in KHN, Biden pledged to have 100 million doses of the COVID vaccines distributed. In the end, he had accomplished twice the targeted amount, resulting in a total of 220 million vaccinations in the US as of April 22.

"I am glad we're getting more people vaccinated which was a part of his goals," expressed Caitlin Bautista, 7th grader.

Many workers like restaurant owners couldn't work due to the pandemic. As resulted from this, Biden passed the 1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief bill in March to assist these workers and with school reopenings, as stated on CNN Politics. This includes a stimulus check of \$1,400 for individuals whose income is below a certain point.

Breanna Ronquillo, 8th grader, said, "I think it was very kind and considerate of Biden to sign the bill, as many Americans have been suffering financially due to COVID-19."

In addition, on April 14, Biden ordered the withdrawal of about 1,500 U.S. troops in Afghanistan. The war in

Afghanistan, which has been the longest war the United States has fought, cost the country trillions of dollars.

Finally, Biden has signed orders that assist with conundrums like inequality, immigration, and the environment. Executive orders that assist with the discrimination between white and POC in homeownership and transgenders in the U.S. joining the military, as well as oppositions against former President Trump's immigration policies that banned travel to Muslim countries, had been signed by the Biden.

Biden also held a global climate summit, devoting to decrease the US greenhouse gas emissions. Mr. Kinnear, 7th grade English teacher, said that he is glad that Biden's presidency has been helping the environment because improving the environment is crucial to him.



Photo from Google Images

Joe Biden addresses the Congress on April 28, 2021, with Vice President Kamala Harris and Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi.

Major COVID-19 crisis in India forces the subcontinent back into a lockdown

Vikrant Pratapa Reporter

COVID-19 is still a huge problem in the world. Unfortunately, while vaccinations are being distributed more, the virus is still thriving in places like India. The conditions have become so serious that people are buying oxygen concentrators, which are devices that produce oxygen for people.

Mr. Nicholson, 7th and 8th grade math teacher, said, "This situation is very tragic. The whole world should help. If India is affected, the rest of the world will hurt. India should take more protocols and more safeties. Many of my students' have had personal experience with this disease and some of their relatives have been impacted by COVID-19."

7th grade student, Saarthak Korde stated, "Many people are not wearing masks in public places and not enough COVID-19 vaccines are being distributed."

This disastrous situation in India arose due to elections in five states. As elections and cricket championships were going on, there were no safety protocols, and stadiums allowed 130,000 people to enter. Social distancing was also not mandatory, and most people were unmasked. In less than a month, things were starting to unfold. India was hit by a second wave, and many cities were forced into lockdown. In the midst of April, the country was averaging around 100,000 cases.

7th grade history teacher, Mr. Thompson, stated, "I think it's tragic to see the scenes on TV and read about what is going on there. It seems that it's just a bad combination of factors, including new variants, which are far more contagious than, say, what most of the world had experienced in 2020.

On May 4, Biden placed a traveling restriction that anyone who is currently in India cannot travel or come back to the United States. This was placed to limit the number of COVID-19 cases entering the US. US Airlines is the only major U.S. carrier operating non-stop flights between the two countries, says CNBC.

Academy Awards' new diversity standards hope to include more participants

Alicia Wong Yearbook Staff

The 93rd Academy Awards, also known as the Oscars, took place on April 25, 2021. This year's Oscars made history in many ways, one of which was their implementation of new representation and inclusion standards for the Best Picture category.

According to Oscars.org, this new representation in inclusion standards is part of their Academy Aperture 2025 initiative. However, these inclusion standards won't be a requirement for the Best Picture category until the 96th Oscars. As of right now, it is required to put these standards into consideration.

According to the criteria, the film must meet two out of the four standards to be deemed eligible for the best picture category. The standards include having on-screen representation, themes and narratives, creative leadership and project team, industry access and opportunities,

and Audience Development of women, a racial/ethnic group, LGBTQ+, or people with cognitive/physical disabilities who are deaf or hard of hearing. This was announced on September 8, 2020.

"I'm all for representation but what does race have to do with anything with the Oscars, it just has to be a good movie, it doesn't matter what race you are, just have a movie that has good actors and good stories," stated Jacob Myles Castro, 6th grade.

Some viewers, however, think that these standards for inclusion aren't enough. 8th grader, Misha Singh, explained, "You can propose anything. What matters is if it can make a change. As for the new requirements, I don't think so. They just have too many loopholes...though the idea of diversity is great, I feel that the new standards don't push that enough."

There are differing opinions of the Oscars, but the consensus seems to be that the 2021 Oscars were game-changing. Though the nominees this year were quite diverse, some thought there was still room for improvement.

7th grader, Iman Rashid, said, "I barely saw any indigenous people or just any other cultures. A lot of shows/movies are lacking these too. I think they should branch out because I would love to see indigenous, Asian, etc. get credit for their work."

Despite it all, the variety of nominees are a step forward for a more diverse film industry. In fact, this year two Asians won awards for Best Director (Chloe Zhao) and Best Supporting Actress (Youn Yuh-Jung), among several POC talent being nominated in other categories.

Editorial: We should wear masks for the rest of the pandemic

Juliette Dekker Reporter

Should we wear masks or should we not? In my opinion, I think we should keep wearing masks.

Some people don't like to wear masks because it makes it "hard to breathe." I disagree with people who say this because I play softball, and while we are practicing and playing, we have to wear our masks the whole time. The thing is, I can breathe fine while wearing it!

According to news.stanfordhealth.org, "Emily Gard, a social worker specializing in Behavioral health counseling in Fargo, North Dakota, said, 'Wearing a mask has no impact on our overall ability to breathe.'"

Masks do many things for us. According to henryford.com, COVID is spread through little droplets, so when wearing a mask, it acts like a barrier and stops COVID from entering your immune system. Without masks we would all be getting COVID left and right. If you were walking in a store, and no one had their mask on, but someone had COVID-19 and wasn't aware of it yet and you talked to them without your mask, you are a lot more likely to get COVID as opposed to if you had your mask on while talking to them.

COVID is spread through droplets so if you talk, cough, laugh, and sing, a little bit of the virus will be leaving your body if you have it. And even if you don't have it, then the mask proves as a barrier so that you won't get it.

In my opinion, it is very important to wear one. Some people believe that wearing a mask is dumb or it doesn't help. I strongly disagree because in places where you don't wear a mask, people are getting the coronavirus left and right, and they are putting lots of people's lives in danger. Just because you or someone you know doesn't believe in wearing a mask doesn't mean you still shouldn't wear one. Wearing a mask protects you and everyone around you from COVID.



Photo from Google Images
People in North Korea wear masks while in line so they will remain safe and healthy.

Now, even with the vaccine I think it is still important to wear a mask. According to weather.com it is still possible to get COVID even if you have the vaccine. Also, according to the cdc.gov it takes a few weeks for the vaccine to build up an immune against the virus, so you have to wear a mask otherwise you are still at risk.

Mr. Kenny, a 7th grade history teacher, stated that he thinks people should keep wearing masks even when vaccinated because everybody 15 and younger haven't gotten the vaccination yet, and wearing a mask is something we can do to help protect them. I agree with that because, as someone who can't get a vaccine yet, I like that there are other people in the community who are helping us stay protected.

We need to wear masks. If everybody would have worn a mask at the beginning of COVID we could have saved so many lives.

Water shortages all over California dips the state into a dismal drought

Zander Del Rio Reporter

Now, droughts have always been common throughout the history of California, that's a given. A recent drought ended just recently back in 2016. That same drought back in 2016 had widespread effects that affected practically the entire country.

According to some studies online such as EPA.gov's article, they state that droughts have gotten worse over the years due to increasing temperatures because of climate change. This drought started as just a minor drought in the North, but it has evolved. According to nbclosangeles.com, 97.5 % of California is experiencing a drought.

This drought is going to have quite an impact on the number of fires in California as well. Even without the drought, fires were happening left and right, but now there is another contributing factor, which is the drought itself. This drought won't be short either – in fact, many are anticipating that the drought will last the entire summer.

The drought was already sparked back in 2020 during spring, specifically April. During this time the drought only affected the northern part of California.



Photo from Google Images

The reality is that most of California is in a drought.

After a long time of this drought affecting the northern part of California, it all changed when, by the 25th of this April, many places had received a below average amount of rain, which is what caused the drought to spread to plenty of other parts of the state, such as Santa Rosa.

Mr. Kuhlmann, 8th grade science teacher, stated, "Droughts in California have been fairly common since it was founded. A couple of things to consider about California when thinking about water is the population, which is large, and agriculture which makes up a large amount of Central California. Both of these factors add up to a large amount of water consumption."

California must face the hard truth of a drought. Try not to use too much water.

Once-postponed Tokyo Summer Olympics will go on, but with several restrictions

Joshua Suthaharan Reporter

The Summer Olympics is one of the most looked forward to events in the world. It was scheduled for last summer in Tokyo, Japan, but COVID-19 canceled it. It will now start July 23, 2021. However, due to COVID still being a problem, the organizers have put certain restrictions in place to reduce COVID spreading.

According to *cbssports.com*, "The country made the decision to ban foreign visitors from the Tokyo Olympics due to the threat of the coronavirus pandemic." However, this rule does not block the press and other officials reporting on the Olympics.



Photo from Google Images
Japan's National Stadium will be used for housing this year's Olympics, which will be held in Tokyo, Japan.

According to *nytimes.com*, "Even without overseas spectators, whom organizers barred from the Games last month, tens of thousands of people will enter Japan this summer after nearly a year in which the country's borders have been mostly closed to nonresidents."

This has raised concerns from people in Japan about whether the Olympics are safe. In fact, most people in Japan voted in public polls that the Olympics should be postponed or cancelled altogether.

Amber Suthaharan, a sophomore at Kennedy High School said, "I don't think they should hold the Olympics this year for the safety of the officials going to the Olympics and for the citizens of Japan."

According to *washingtonpost.com*, "Japan's already overloaded health system can't cope with the additional demands the Games will bring without putting more lives at risk, doctors and nurses say."

Ms. Alves, 7th grade PE and Leadership teacher, said, "I think if I was an athlete and I was working really hard for the Olympics, I would go for sure because four years later is the longest time in a career and you might not get another chance."

Even if there are no fans going to see the Olympics in person from overseas, the numerous athletes participating in the Olympics have to be put under restrictions to limit the spread of COVID.

As reported in *bloomberg.com*, "Athletes at the delayed Tokyo Olympic Games this summer will need to take daily coronavirus tests, a stricter requirement than previously announced." However, that has not stopped unrest in Tokyo.

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Editorial: Mothers play important roles throughout children's lives

Miranda Hernandez Yearbook Staff

On Sunday, May 9, the United States celebrated a very important person in children's lives: mothers. Even though this Mother's Day was different due to the pandemic, it won't affect the attitude and appreciation that we have for our dear mothers. I think it is worthwhile to reminisce about everything that mothers have done, don't you?

Although not all of us may be blessed with privilege, fortune, and absolute health, something is certain, love from a mother is the best privilege of all. In times of hardship, nothing compares to mother's love. A mother's love is something that we can retreat to, to find comfort in, to be embraced in.

Something that comes with that mother's love is the support that we receive. Even though sometimes that parent might not agree with you, in time, mothers always decide to have our backs. The support from a mom is the greatest thing we can ever obtain. Also, whether that support may be financial, emotional, or be a simple pillar of reassurance, a mother goes all in.



Photo from Google Images
Mothers play many roles in their children's upbringing.

I think we can all agree that not everyone can be parents, and that raising human beings who know practically nothing is an immense task. With this, mothers are teachers, they teach their children lessons about life, about how to live, about morality, and how to express themselves in their own unique ways.

Not only is raising a child to be the best they can be important to a mother, but it is also really important to society as a whole. Raising children in a satisfactory way can prevent damaging effects later on and can help serve as a model to those very children who might have their own one day, or just simply

need to know how to take care of someone else.

Of course, not one person in the world is perfect, and that includes mothers. Mothers are their own persons, with their own struggles, differences, and opinions, but I believe that that makes them so much more precious, and special. When those children grow up, they can think back to all the arguments that might've happened, or the flaws that they noticed in their mothers, and learn from them as well as appreciate them.

Undeniably, mothers are significant people who serve a great purpose in a person's life. Whether it is a mother or a mother figure, they are sure to show love, support, and be a model that helps guide us towards the right path.

Therefore, this Mother's Day, I hope that you honor the person who has been influential in your life, and that deserves the 'mother' title. Whatever you choose as a gift, whether it is expensive, homemade, big or small, it does not matter as long as you truly do feel grateful for your mother, as well as having a heartfelt sentiment when you deliver it.

Ms. Weber and her dog, Stella, keep each other cheerful throughout the pandemic

Manas Basavaraju Yearbook Staff

Ms. Weber, 8th grade math teacher, got Stella in June 2009, right after she graduated from high school. The Weber family had unfortunately just lost their dog. So, they were looking for a puppy to make them feel better.

"I was a little sad about our old dog passing away, and the idea of getting a new dog made me a little more excited," said Ms. Weber's brother John. When Ms. Weber and her siblings looked for puppies, they found Stella. Ms. Weber immediately loved her.

"I loved her eyes, and her rolly little belly," Ms. Weber commented.

"We chose Stella because we wanted a female dog and her eyes were the same color as ours," said Ms. Weber's mother. Stella was adopted at an animal shelter, so Ms. Weber doesn't know her exact breed. However, she guessed that she is a German Shepard, Husky, and Bernese Mountain dog mix.

The Weber family took a lot of time to train their dog. "Stella was a silly pup, so she got into everything. It took a long time to get her to know the rules of the house." With a great dog comes great responsibility, so the whole family pitched in and did the various chores related to Stella. It's hard, but according to Ms. Weber, it's worth it because the whole family loves Stella.

The Weber family has to send someone on a walk with Stella every day, no matter rain or shine. "Stella never fails to remind us about her daily walk," said Ms. Weber. It's harder to go on vacation however, because they have to either take Stella with them, or they have to ask someone to look after Stella when they're gone.

When Stella's around, a lot of funny things happen. "One time I was leaving for a bike ride with some of my friends. We had just left the driveway when Stella ran after us barking. She was mad that we were leaving and wanted to come with us," Ms. Weber added.

Another funny story was when Ms. Weber and her mom were doing some gardening. "Me and my mother were doing some yard work outside. We weren't paying attention to Stella, and Stella went up the hill to one of the neighbor's houses. She let herself in and noticed lunch on the counter. She helped herself to it and devoured it! Luckily, everyone in the neighborhood loved her, so it was fine."

Ms. Weber has an awesome dog Stella, and is enjoying living with her very much.

Photo from Ms. Weber

Ms. Weber and her dog Stella enjoy their time at John Burroughs Park, West Park, NY.



The CDC releases new COVID-19 mask guidelines

Choosing Safer Activities

	Unvaccinated People	Your Activity	Fully Vaccinated People
		Outdoor	
		Walk, run, or bike outdoors with members of your household	
Safest		Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated family and friends	
		Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people	
Less Safe		Dine at an outdoor restaurant with friends from multiple households	
Least Safe		Attend a crowded, outdoor event, like a live performance, parade, or sports event	

Image from the CDC

CDC eases up on the mask restrictions.

Kason Lai Reporter

The CDC announced on Tuesday, April 27, that those who have gotten all of the required vaccinations and have waited two weeks, can take off their masks in certain circumstances, such as exercising outdoors with relatives and friends.

“People who are vaccinated will likely appreciate the less strict guidelines. People can now enjoy more relaxed outdoor social gatherings without wearing masks. If more people are vaccinated, hopefully, things can reopen on a larger scale,” commented Katherine Bjornson, 8th grader.

These guidelines are based on data that suggests vaccinated people carry much less virus and outdoor areas are safer than indoors, which is why most of the acceptable situations are outdoors, and vaccinated people can sometimes remove their masks. The new guidelines also could serve the purpose of having a very positive impact on the nation’s efforts to help vaccinate the population, a possible cause of the recommendations.

“I believe that the new guidelines will motivate most people to get vaccinated, but it depends on if the person thinks that the vaccine is safe enough. If a person thinks that the vaccine will not protect them after they get it, then they probably will not want to get vaccinated,” said Daniel Vaidhyan, 6th grader.

It is plausible that the new guidelines could serve as an incentive to get the shot and change people’s minds since vaccine hesitancy plays a role in slowing the national vaccination rate.

The potential of the guidelines to assist the United States in the vaccination efforts could save many lives by increasing the demand for vaccinations. The only way to figure out if the new guidelines help is to wait and see what occurs in the future.

Disneyland announces its reopening to California residents first

Konchence Delaney Reporter

Disneyland California reopened on April 30 with strict rules and guidelines. Disneyland is usually a crowded place with lots of visitors from all over the world, but due to the pandemic, only California residents are allowed to currently go.

“I feel like it’s okay that it’s open to California residents, although it really shouldn’t be opened because COVID rates aren’t completely okay right now,” said Jennylei Bumanglag, 8th grader.

Disneyland is also not allowing people to take pictures with any of the costumed characters to follow social distancing rules. Disneyland won’t be showing fireworks, either.

According to *latimes.com*, there will be a new ride based on the animation *The Secret Life of Pets*. Although a new ride is opening, some rides will also be closed.

Going to Disneyland means you must follow the rules correctly. When at Disneyland, you must wear your mask at all times, except for when you are eating. If you lose your mask, the workers are supposed to give you a new one.

While waiting for the rides, you must wait outside. Waiting inside is prohibited and all queues will be outside. There will also be an empty row of seats between each row. Each household will have to stay 6 feet apart, even if a group got tickets together. “I think it’s good that is reopening because everything is boring and it would be fun to visit there,” said Alanna Ponder, 7th grader.

Disneyland will be closing some of their rides, but most of them will be open. *Abc7.com* states that rides like Pirates of the Caribbean, Space Mountain, Autopia, The Many Adventures of Winnie the Pooh, It’s a



Photo from Google Images
Disneyland in Anaheim reopened on April 30 with strict guidelines in place.

Small World, Splash Mountain, and many more rides are still open. Not only rides but some restaurants will be closing. Restaurants that will be open include The Tropical Hideaway, French Market Restaurants, Galactic Grill, Cafe Orleans, Little Red Wagon.

Disneyland might not be as crowded before due to all the new rules, but many people still want to go.

Gardening with Ms. Goodfellow

Adrian Saldivar-Murillo Reporter

Ms. Goodfellow, a 6th grade math and science teacher, loves to garden in her free time. “I love to go out in the garden right after school. After being on the computer all day, it is great to get outside and be with my plants,” she said.

Ms. Goodfellow grew up in a house with a lot of plants and learned about gardening from her mother and sisters. Other than that, she sometimes reads books about the subject or tries new things on her own. “I just try things, and if they work--great! And if they don't--oh well! There are always more plants available to try again,” she added.

In May 2020, Ms. Goodfellow moved from Fremont into her house in San Leandro, and after unpacking, she started working on her garden. Her front yard was initially just 400 square feet of junipers. In the back, it was just dirt with a few bushes and weeds. Ms. Goodfellow's summer project was to tear all of that out first.

The most difficult part of her gardening experience was moving rocks into the garden. She strained her back and was unable to work on it for several weeks. “Thankfully my neighbor helped move the rest of the rocks,” she said.

Ms. Goodfellow relied on many of her neighbors' green bins to help get rid of all of the junipers that she removed, and it took a couple of months to get it all done. She also hired a teenaged neighbor to help move mulch and rocks.

After the initial yard work, Ms. Goodfellow replaced all of the junipers with a drought-tolerant garden with lots of succulents, lavender, sage, and milkweed to attract monarch butterflies. She loves different types of lavender, and bulbs that send up pretty flowers each spring.

In the back, she created a vegetable garden that's about 50 square feet. In this garden, she grows herbs, tomatoes, zucchini, etc. In addition to the vegetables and flowers she's grown, Ms. Goodfellow has a huge orange tree.



Picture from Ms. Goodfellow
Ms. Goodfellow's garden grows nicely after months of hard work.

Ms. Goodfellow probably spends about 3 or 4 hours a week in her garden. It was more last summer and fall as she was preparing it and planting. Now that it is pretty established, she just has to focus on watering and weeding. She is running out of space to plant anything else.

“I like to garden because I like the connection with the Earth. It is very satisfying to watch things grow, and it makes the yard look so much prettier.” she concluded.

With contributions from Thejasree Venkatesh, Yearbook Editor

Editorial: Debating schools reopening after one year of distance learning

Daisy Montano Reporter

Some common questions asked around the Bay are “When are schools going to reopen?” “Is it safe for schools to reopen?”

I think that schools should reopen. I think this because being at home all day isn't helping students with their mental health. All students do is sit in front of a computer screen and listen to what the teacher is saying. When we're at school we can be with our friends socializing and doing something productive.

It was confirmed that this year students will not be returning to school because it is too “risky.” Others say that students should be allowed to go back to school as long as the schools are sanitizing the school every day.

Isabel Martinez, 8th grade student said, “Yeah I don't see why not. San Jose and Milpitas are now open. Not to mention most adults have the

vaccine now. Most kids are struggling in school and missing their friends.” I agree with Isabel... Schools around us are opening, so why can't our school reopen?

According to future.ed tens of thousands of children are out for the flu, and other common colds. Reopening the schools would risk the health of many students. Reopening schools might affect some people's health.

Opening schools this year would be good for students' mental health, but I also think that going back to school would be a risk. We could be risking our lives and the lives of other people by possibly getting exposed to COVID. There is a chance that we get exposed to the virus and we spread it more, making the schools shut down for possibly even longer.

Victor Nevarez, 7th grader, said, “I think schools should reopen because other schools are starting to reopen and

COVID is going away. Also, many teachers have gotten the vaccine already so we just have to wait until they are done completely. Once they are done then there should be no problem returning to school. I agree with Victor but, at the same time, I disagree. With all of the teachers getting vaccinated that doesn't mean that it is safe to go back. All of the procedures that the school would have in place might not be enough.

I have noticed that I have become more isolated from my family since I am in my room most of the time. I have also noticed that me and my friends that used to be close aren't that close since we don't see each other due to COVID. Students' mental health has gone down due to having to be isolated from people for so long. Also, many parents have noticed that their children's grades have lowered because of being inside all day.