

THE REBELLION

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Walpole High School

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Walpole High bids the Class of 2012 farewell at graduation

Photos/Kristen O'Leary and Andrea Lee



School Committee Member Nancy Gallivan congratulates Senior Jaquil Brooks as he receives his diploma.



Senior Jenna Harrop accepts an award from Vice Principal Hahn.

By Andrea Lee
Class of 2013

Administrators, teachers and members of the community have alluded to the Senior Class of 2012 as one of the most successful and one of the most memorable in recent years. Academically, more Walpole High students will be attending top-notch universities next Fall than ever before. Guidance Department Head Mrs. Jennifer Dolan referred to this Senior Class as a rarity by notably going "above and beyond in terms of academic sequences and extra-curricular realms." Academics aside, even Principal Stephen Imbusch recognized the seniors as a great class, especially for their hard work ethic and focus. So, the 2012 graduation was a bittersweet gathering as Walpole High came together on June 3rd at Turco Field to wish the class of 2012 a last goodbye. The band welcomed all graduates as spectators, eagerly awaiting the arrival of the soon-to-be graduates, packed the bleachers. Despite the windy and cloudy weather, the occasionally overcast weather never turned into rain and therefore never deterred the enthusiastic



Senior Emily Rose gives the Salutatorian speech.

attendants of the special day. Led by the black robed faculty and marshals, the excited Senior Class, dressed in blue and white robes, walked to their seats as Mr. Falker and the student band played the processional. Mr. Imbusch started the 138th graduation exercises by welcoming everyone and thanking all of the guests.

Music teacher Mr. Falker and a group of senior chorus students then sang The National Anthem. After all were seated again, Senior Class President Bryan Rockwood took the stand to present the class gift (a donation for activities) to the Junior Class. Junior President Michelle Monahan accepted the gift, and in her thank you on behalf of the entire Junior Class, she said, "We can expect great things from you." Senior Salutatorian Emily Rose stepped to the podium next to present an enthusiastic motivational speech for the class of 2012. She compared the process of graduating as slowly taking off on an airplane and how the Senior Class was currently on the runway awaiting clearing for takeoff. After the metaphorical opening, Emily described the Walpole education system with an acronym for REBELS: Reading Empowers Brains; Education Liberates Societies. Rose brought history into her speech, talking about human rights and the belief of existentialism. At the end of her monologue, she wished the class well and said, "fasten your seat belts and have a nice flight!" After applause, Valedictorian John Griffin proceeded to give his speech to the class.

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Walpole voters narrowly approve override by 307 votes

By Matthew Brownsword
Class of 2014

September 11, 2001: The day strikes fear and powerful emotions in the hearts of American's around the world. No one, not even the most dedicated citizen of Walpole, will remember that day as the day that a school override passed. Unfortunately, that date is one of the last memorable days for Walpole's school-supporting townfolk, as that unfortunate day was the last time that an override passed in Walpole. An operational override was voted down in 2007, and since no person looks back at 9/11 with good memories, override voters have not ever had a day, an election, to be proud of. Not until June 2, 2012.

Last Saturday, the voters of Walpole, or the 46 percent of eligible voters that showed up to the polls, the override voters of Walpole finally had something to cheer about.

In an election characterized by the final question on the ballot, the override vote tallied 3,809 to 3,502 votes in the affirmative. With the extremely close margin of 307 votes, a recount will not be out of the question, but the override seems to have passed. Five of the eight precincts in Walpole voted Yes,

with only one precinct having a margin over a hundred votes. The closest precinct was precinct eight, with a 37-vote margin in the affirmative, while the largest margin was in precinct two with a 259-vote margin in the affirmative.

The selectman's race seemed to have also been dictated by the question on the bottom of the ballot, as the two incumbents, Nancy Mackenzie and Chris Timson beat out conservative opponents and override opponents such as Robert Luce and Christopher Donovan. Timson and Mackenzie combined for 52% of the popular vote—27 and 25 percent, respectively—while no other challenger reached more than 15 percent.

Jennifer Geotsis and Patrick Shield won the two spots on the School Committee—yeah, you guessed it, two override proponents—beating out the only non-override supporter on the School Committee ballot, Christine Coury. Shield had 41%, Geotsis garnered 31%, and Coury fell in a close third, with 27%.

Though all the individual results of the election of 2012 were important in the future of Walpole, the override question clearly dictated the results of the election. All the aforementioned victorious candidates supported the override for Proposition 2 1/2. The override, for



Photo/ Matthew Brownsword

'Walpole Pride' poses for a picture after a town meeting.

the first time in eleven years, passed.

Dedicated signholders and voters battled the pouring rain throughout the day to voice their opinions. In a year that saw Rick Santorum triumph over Mitt Romney by a meager seven votes in a presidential primary in Iowa, the 307-vote margin seems rather decisive. However, when you consider that a total of 7,311 votes were cast on the override question, on a day that was plagued by rain, the 307 vote-margin for a suburb is a small margin.

Out of the 7511 votes in Walpole, 7311 people voted on the override. Even if the 200 remaining voters were all 'No's,' the result would have stood. The most important thing out of that tally, however,

is the fact that, even though the question was on the back and bottom of the ballot, 97 percent of voters voted on the override, not to mention the amount of people that voted solely because of the override.

September 11, 2001: The date that brings about horrid memories in American history also redefined the community of Walpole by the voters' approval of the construction of a new high school. While the historical implications of the 2012 override remain unwritten, over the next five years (the length of time guaranteed without another override proposal), the date of June 2, 2012 will definitely be etched into the thoughts and minds of all Walpolians.

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is pleased to present

The Walpole High School Students and Class of the Month

MARCH

Senior

Rebecca Goula

Literature

Rebecca Goula is an enthusiastic Advanced Placement Literature student. Her keen interest and eager participation contributed in aiding all students in the class to further their understanding of the material.
Ms. Lauren Culliton

Junior

Sarah Duwaji

Spanish II

Sarah is the only junior in a Spanish II Honors class. Sarah realized quickly at the beginning of the year that her language skills were behind those of her peers. Sarah has worked hard consistently throughout this year to maintain a solid B average. She asks many questions and is not afraid to advocate for herself when she does not understand something. She is a model student who works hard in a subject that does not come easily to her.
Mrs. Kate Bacon

Sophomore

Matthew Brownsword

US History

Matt is an outstanding AP History student who demonstrates intellectual curiosity, collaborative spirit, and quiet leadership. It is easy to forget that Matt is a sophomore in high school when he is discussing history. His level of understanding is sophisticated, nuanced and insightful. Not only is he able to tease out premise and argument from challenging readings, but he is adept at pointing out nuance and inference. Matt’s insights raise the level of discussion for everyone in the class. Before making a point during discussions, Matt frequently acknowledges or validates the comments of other students. Matt also brings great energy to collaborative learning. He listens carefully to other students and is open to their perspectives while respectfully adding his point of view. He is fun to work with and respected by his classmates. Matt’s scholarly understanding of history, his sharp intellect, and engaging energy make him a leader in the classroom and a worthy candidate for Student of the Month.
Mrs. Karen Sullivan

Freshman

Zouheir El Idrissi

Algebra I

I am nominating Zouheir for Student of the Month because of his consistent effort in class. He has maintained a grade of C while learning English at the same time. Zouheir is highly motivated and prepared for class every day. He completes class work and homework assignments promptly. Zouheir is attentive, on task, on time, and is frequently eager to participate in class. His positive attitude and determination is an asset to the entire classroom. He is an example to others. Zouheir is consistently polite when interacting with both teachers and the other students in class. Zouheir has excellent attendance and a pleasure to have in class. I strongly recommend him for Student of the Month.
Mrs. Elizabeth Milligan

APRIL

No Senior Recipient

Junior

Taryn Lowney

Geometry

Taryn currently has a 97% average in Geometry. She earned a score of 95% on our recent Chapter test, which involved applying a variety of formulas to compute areas of various shapes and measures of angles of polygons. She exhibits a thorough mastery of the concepts covered. Her homework and class work is always completed. In addition, if she knows she will be absent, she gets the work in advance and makes sure to complete it. Taryn is courteous, polite and respectful. She is attentive in class, makes good use of class time, and asks questions when she has them. Other students in this class could learn from her example. I am proud to nominate Taryn for student of the month.
Mrs. Kathleen Milne

Sophomore

Anthony Divirgilio

Math

Anthony is the student that every teacher wants to have in their class. Anthony has not missed homework all year and homework is done very carefully and meticulously. In class, Anthony is always willing to volunteer to answer questions. Anthony stands out as the most eager to learn the material and to volunteer. If Anthony does not understand how to solve a problem, he will ask for help and clarification. If he understands how to solve the problems, he will always look to help other students. He will get into great debate and discussions with some of the other students on how to solve the problems while we are doing class work. Anthony does not have the highest grade in the class, but in a class of 28 bright students, Anthony stands out as the hardest worker and the one who wants to do the best. Last week we had a difficult word problem, and when I asked for a volunteer to come to the board nobody raised their hand. Anthony then raised his hand and said, “I do not know if it is correct but I will give it a try”. This is my first year teaching honors and all year I have been asking the students to take risks and not be afraid to be wrong, and Anthony displays this ability the best. He is also a nice kid and has a great sense of humor. I would love Anthony to win this award because it has been a pleasure teaching him this year.
Mr. David St. Martin

No Freshman Recipient

CLASS OF THE MONTH

Ms. Monica Friar

Pre-Calculus Period 2

This is my first time nominating a class for Class of the Month, and I feel strongly that my Period 2 Precalculus class deserves this nomination. They are a mixed class of 28 juniors and seniors, and each student is a pleasure to teach. As a whole, they are enthusiastic, hard-working learners that stay engaged with challenging Precalculus material. The more difficult the problems, the more they rise to meet the challenge. They are also good working together in groups – helping explain the material to each other and with those who are struggling to stay engaged until they understand. I wholeheartedly recommend this class for Class of the Month.

CLASS OF THE MONTH

Mr. Ben Kamper

Freshman Physical Education

When this class first started, they were out of control! The class has 35 students and many of them had a lot of energy. After some guidance, the class learned how to channel this energy into physical activity. As a result, this class stays active for the entire period, engages in competitive team games, and has channeled their inappropriate energy into enthusiasm and excitement. There have been no discipline reports for the month of April and the classes participation grades have increased dramatically. I look forward to teaching this class for the rest of the year.

EXTRA CURRICULAR AWARDS

Daria Grady

Mrs. Paula Fontaine

I nominated Daria Grady for Student of the Month in Robotics because she worked extremely hard on the Business Plan. Being a member of the Business Team, they were responsible for developing and creating a business plan for the Robotics Competitions. During the Robotics Build season, she demonstrated the qualities of a leader by developing and creating a well-organized business plan. She took the initiative to learn new computer software, organized the data, collaborated with others, and demonstrated enthusiasm throughout the entire process. I have enjoyed working with her and admired her willingness to lean new ideas and concepts. I feel she is deserving of the Extracurricular Student of the Month.

Steven Salenik-Raccuia

Mr. Michael Falker

It has been several years since WHS has been represented at the All State Music Festival. You must first complete an audition for the Southeast District Festival with a high enough score to make that festival and high enough to receive a recommendation for the All State auditions. Now you need to learn a new, very difficult piece and take another audition at the state level. Steven put in many hours of work to successfully pass both auditions. The festival took place on March 1, 2, & 3 in Boston. The culmination concert was in Symphony Hall. Approximately 400 students from all parts of the state participated in one of the four groups; Concert Band, Jazz Band, Chorus & Orchestra. Congratulations Steve and thank you.

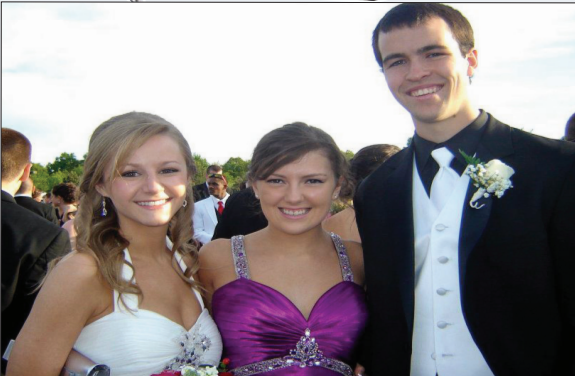
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Seniors Casey Ricci, Christine Drogan, Hannah Doelling, and Erin Strickland.



Seniors Kayla Sweeney, Erika Welter, and Ryan Morris.



Seniors Suzy Gallivan and Genna Swanson pose before the prom.



Seniors Lorna D'Sa and Emma Batting with Mr. Falker.



Seniors Justin Connolly and Cailey Griffin.



Seniors Luke Witherall and John Griffin.



Prom Court Members Jen Moore and Jackie Reilly.



Seniors Jessica Verbisky and Tessa Bloechl.



Seniors and Juniors celebrate prom together.



Seniors Dave Thibault and Dan King.



From left to right: Erika Welter, Jacqui Conley, Emma Spang, Connie Paolini, and Michelle Radoccia.



Walpole High 2012 Prom Court, from left to right: Unique Smith, Steph DeSantis, Jessica King, Devyn Blume, Jackie Reilly, Jill Songin, Jen Moore, Bill Cullinane, Matt Ryan, Luke Witherell, Cam Benoit, Jaquil Brooks.



Class of 2012

Matt Lavanchy

School:
Wheaton College



What is your biggest high school regret?
Not winning a Rec League Championship.

Favorite teacher moment?
When Mr. Szymanski rode the mechanical bull at Troy Sal's grad party.

Best high school memory?
Sneaking into the Taylor Swift concert.

Mike Demers

School:
Marines or Massasoit



What is your biggest high school regret?
Not trying.

Most embarrassing moment?
Falling down the stairs.

What TV show best describes your high school experience?
Real World

Best high school memory?
Winning the state championship.

Christina Freiberger

School:
Elon University



What is the dumbest thing you got in trouble for in school?
Switching names with Steph DeSantis on picture day so our pictures showed up on each other's IDs.

What is your biggest high school regret?
Being friends with Giorgio.

Most embarrassing moment?
Tripping up the stairs in front of the crowd at the Hypnotist.

Randy Zankel

School:
Keene State College



What was your best decision in school?
Taking two of Braccini's classes.

What TV show best describes your high school experience?
That 70's Show

Favorite person at the high school?
Jeff the Janitor "J.E.F.F. Jeff Jeff Jeff!"

Bryan Rockwood

School:
Marist College



What is your biggest high school regret?
Not taking an Art class. If I had known about the ratio...

Most embarrassing moment?
Reading my speech for Class President only to start with "Good morning Mallpole High School...damnit."

Favorite teacher quote?
"You know, your essays should be like a nice bikini. Enough to cover the subject but small enough to keep it interesting"-Mr. Morris

Jenna Harrop

School:
University of California Santa Cruz



Most embarrassing moment?
Sam Obar mistook me for Sydney Gillis once.

What was your best decision in school?
Journalism. I love my journaBFFs.

Favorite teacher moment?
Mr. Balkus made me do pushups for (loudly) swearing when I couldn't find Australia on a map.

Cam Benoit

School:
Hobart College



What is the dumbest thing you got in trouble for in school?
Getting a piggy back ride from Mike Kelley all the way down the history wing.

Most embarrassing moment?
Changing out of my singlet in the gym and noticing everyone could still see me.

Favorite teacher quote?
"Hi honey, welcome to hell!"- Mama Sal, first day of freshman year.

Christian Kelley

School:
Hiram College



What was your best decision in school?
Putting a prepaid cell phone in Mr. Gibson's ceiling and calling it in class.

Favorite teacher quote?
"30 lashes with a wet noodle"-Monica Friar

Best high school memory?
When Mrs. McDonald locked herself out of my physics class.

Steph DeSantis

School:
Bridgewater State University



What is the dumbest thing you got in trouble for in school?
Getting yelled at by the librarians for high-fiving my friend.

What was your best decision in school?
Not playing field hockey.

Best high school memory?
Egging the boys soccer team from my roof when they tried to TP my house.

Russell Ollis

School:
Colby College



What is your biggest high school regret?
Not taking a class with Braccini. I want to know why everyone loves him.

Favorite teacher quote?
"See kids, this is why I eat bowls and bowls of Captain Crunch"- Mr. Jean

Best high school memory?
34 June Street

Kim Keeman

School:
Quinnipiac University



What is the dumbest thing you got in trouble for in school?
Holding my phone before school even started..when my phone was off...

Most embarrassing moment?
My life.

What TV show best describes your high school experience?
Awkward.

Senior Profiles

Bill Cullinane

School:
University of New Hampshire



Most embarrassing moment?
Dancing shirtless with Woodsy in the pouring rain to "Milkshake" in front of every team at Bay State Camp.

What TV show best describes your high school experience?
Man vs. Food

Favorite teacher at the high school?
Mrs. Sprague. If it wasn't for her, I probably wouldn't be going to college.

Katie Cavaca

School:
UMASS Amherst



What is your biggest high school regret?
Not doing track.

Most embarrassing moment?
Getting hypnotized and strutting my stuff around the auditorium.

Favorite person at the high school and why?
Ms. Rhodes because she makes me Ramen noodles for lunch.

Craig Hanley

School:
Bentley University



Favorite teacher quote?
Ben Kampper, "Get hours now, next thing you know, you'll be doing 25 to life in Cedar Junction."

Favorite person at the high school and why?
Bill Cullinane. He's huge.

Most embarrassing moment?
Getting dropped at football as a Freshman when I got called up to varsity (Riegal).

Mikey Gallagher

School:
St. Michael's College



Most embarrassing moment?
Getting hit in the face by a man who will remain anonymous.

What was your best decision in school?
Being good-looking.

What is the dumbest thing you got in trouble for in school?
Playing my PSP in Math and no one else got hours.

Grace Lawlor

School:
Endicott



Favorite teacher quote?
Ms. Mac, "Not gonna lie kinda pissed"

What is the dumbest thing you got in trouble for in school?
Making a fake syllabus and distributing it to my freshmen english class, and it threw off the entire week of work.

Favorite high school memory?
Pat Maloney's Tupac debate.

Tyler Creighton

School:
UMASS Amherst



What is your biggest High school regret?
Not being athletic

Most embarrassing moment?
Being a boat Fresh-Soph year.

What TV show best describes your high school experience?
The Bachelor

Jon Trudell

School:
Syracuse University



Favorite teacher quote/moment?
When Mr. Alan began using my name to express his frustration with the film class: "What the Jon Trudell?!"

What is your biggest high school regret?
Not getting involved with school activities as a freshman or sophomore.

Best high school memory?
Music trips to Philly, both 2009 and 2011.

Shannon Cullen

School:
Roger Williams University



What is the dumbest thing you got in trouble for in school?
Mr. Bakale yelled at me for having a staring contest in the library while he was talking; I was exiled to the silent reading area.

What TV show best describes your high school experience?
Wizards of Waverly Place or Hannah Montana.

Favorite person at the high school ?
Genna Swanson. Obviously.

Tim Merrigan

School:
USAF



Most embarrassing moment?
I drilled my head while walking through a doorway in front of 30 people.

Best High school memory?
205 Club.

Favorite person in the high school and why?
Mullaney, he makes the best cookies.

Hope Kelley

School:
UMass Amherst



What is the dumbest thing you got in trouble for in school?
Falling asleep in class, the nurse had to come wake me up.

Most embarrassing moment?
Getting hypnotized and dropping it low in front of the whole school.

What was your best decision in school?
Not taking school too seriously: working hard but having fun with my friends along the way.

Justin Connolly

School:
Westfield State



Most embarrassing moment?
My pants fell down while I was playing Willy Wonka.

What TV show best describes your high school experience?
Probably Little People, Big World.

Favorite teacher moment?
It will be Mr. Szymanski's last day quiz. I'm ready.

Class of 2012 Graduates from Walpole High

Continued from Page 1
Griffin focused on the idea of personal fulfillment and success. He said, “We don’t know what lies ahead in our paths, but that uncertainty creates a great opportunity.” He brought to attention three questions that he believed everyone should ask themselves about their lives: “Are we competent at what we do? Is what we are doing creating some sort of positive difference in the world? Do our endeavors make us happy?” Griffin added, “Life is simply too short to live unhappily.” As his speech went on, he encouraged bravery and success: “Never let anyone tell you that you can’t do something simply because it hasn’t been done before.” Despite being interrupted by strong winds, which would happen several times during the ceremony, he ended wishing the class happiness and fulfillment in what they do and concluded with

this anonymous quote: “Remember today, for it is the beginning of always. Today marks the start of a brave new future filled with all your dreams can hold. Think truly to the future and make those dreams come true.” Next, administrators distributed the plethora of scholastic achievement awards and scholarships. The Administrators immediately distributed Department Awards for excellence in certain areas of academics and electives and followed by a significant amount of scholarships. Students received scholarships based off of very different criteria, which were listed in the pamphlets so the guests could recognize the achievements of the winners. Twelve other seniors were additionally given an award for the criteria of “excellence in academics.” After all of the awards were given, Vice Presidents Mr. William Hahn and Mr. Edward Connor stood at two separate podiums for the most anticipated mo-

ment of the program: the giving of the diplomas. As Assistant Principals alternated calling out the names, Superintendent Lincoln Lynch, Principal Imbusch, and Mrs. Nancy Gallivan presented diplomas to each senior. All 241 seniors came forward amidst cheers and the occasional noisemakers to accept their diplomas with broad smiles. Even though the wind caused several to lose their caps, once the last senior received their diploma, the students proudly turned their tassels and soon after hurled their caps skyward, filling the air with blue and white and shouts of excitement. Officially graduates, the class filed out to the sound of the band to greet their friends and family and the next phase of their life. To continue Emily Rose’s analogy, the Senior Class of 2012 had officially taken flight.



Seniors Shannon Cullen, Ryan Hibbard, Sarah Lund, and Bobby Gay pose for a picture after the ceremony.



Seniors Adrianna Frattasio and Amanda DiMartino pose for a picture after the ceremony.



Senior Aine Duffy accepts her diploma from School Committee Member Nancy Gallivan.



Seniors eagerly process onto the field as the 2012 Graduation Ceremony begins.

Photos/ Danielle Levya, Kristen O’Leary



Seniors hold their caps down from the gusty wind.



Senior Andrew Berardinelli accepts his diploma from school committee member Nancy Gallivan.