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## Principal Gough earns doctorate in education

Bird Middle School Principal receives degree after years of education

By Danielle Borelli and Gabriella Donahue Staff Writers

Bird Middle School Principal Bridget Gough has seen many sides of the Walpole Public Schools in her lifetime. As a former student, current parent, teacher and principal she has now redefined her role in the community once more: in May, she received her doctoral degree in Educational Leadership from Boston College (BC).

"I was encouraged by Dr. [Lincoln] Lynch," Gough said. "I wouldn't have been able to do it without the support of administration, my colleagues and my family. Knowing that I had all those pieces in place, I felt comfortable being able to pursue [the degree] because it's a huge time commitment and sacrifice," said Gough.

Three years ago, Gough began to pursue her dream of getting a doctoral degree. Lincoln Lynch, Walpole Public Schools' (WPS) superintendent, completed the same course at BC as Gough. Plunging into the doctorate program at BC, Gough had a few goals for the WPS District-Bird Middle School (BMS) in particular. "I always wanted to be able to con-



Mrs. Gough, the Bird Middle School Principal, Mikayla Preto on the right. students Brooke Lanchester on the left and

nect that policy, theory and research to practice, and this program did that."

Working as a cohort amongst other administrators, Gough's group was split into six parts-hers be-Social Justice Leadership. "Boston College has such a great focus on social justice," Gough said. "[The] focus of equity and opportunity for all students is really what interested me to pursue that." "I think that with my new degree, I can take my slice of the dissertation to make sure that we provide learning opportunities for all students and then being able to support novice teachers, making sure they can meet student needs and support them in creating teacher leadership opportunities," said Gough. Gough's accomplishments sparked success amongst eighth graders Brooke Lanchester and Mikayla Preto, who were elected BMS's 2016 National League of Middle School Scholars Award winners this past May. BMS elects two students each year who demonstrate academic achievement, provide service to classmates, are positive role models and demonstrate integrity and self-discipline. "Mrs. Gough has made a very positive impact over the past years because she has helped us to reach our full potential and pushes us to do great things," said Lanchester. "[She] has encouraged everyone to try their hardest, strive for greatness and has provided us with a safe and positive environment," said Preto. Gough chose the winners for their noble actions inside and out of the classroom. "They demonstrate leadership when no one is looking," Gough said. Gough feels that she would not have been able to come as far as she has without the support of the district. "The community is very supportive in terms of providing feedback, resources and volunteering their time to help support us in the achievement of our students." said Gough. With her new degree, Gough admits that new avenues may be created for her, but for now her focus is on Walpole and BMS. She hopes to strengthen programs at BMS in order to meet the needs of the Walpole community. "This is obviously where my heart is," said Gough. "It's a great community to be a part of."

# MakerSpace gives students a new creative outlet

Students expand creative abilities at Johnson Middle School's new classroom



In the newly created MakerSpace classroom at Johnson Middle School, students use glue, beads and other various tools to make creative designs during one of their academic classes.

By Libby Foley and Tara Gordon Staff Writers

In 2015, two Walpole middle school technology specialists and teachers, B.J. Burke and Anne Marie Wyman, created a new classroom known as MakerSpace at Johnson Middle School (JMS), which is now an innovative area for all students and teachers. The new room at Johnson is one of the many MakerSpaces that are developing in high schools and middle schools in Massachusetts and now across the country.

"The classroom is something that very popular now in schools,"

said Burke. This growing popularity is a result of the recently introduced MakerSpace movement.

The MakerSpace movement is a nationwide revolution to implement more creative ways for students to learn and to give students more hands-on activities. MakerSpace allows students to learn through real experiences instead of doing everything on paper and being excluded from the physical world.

The MakerSpace room at JMS is filled with everything from 3D printers and pens to boxes of Legos-the possibilities are endless. Students have created and continue to create all sorts of projects, including anything from a Lego version of the Globe Theatre for English class to a miniature dolphin for their science class.

In order to provide an open and creative space for students, JMS eliminated a computer lab and transformed a former classroom into the innovative area it is now. Teachers can sign up to use MakerSpace for students during their class period, or the space can be used for after-school activities and work.

"Our goal is not that [students] sit in front of a computer the entire time, the idea is that they are creating and building, hence the name MakerSpace" says William Hahn, principal of JMS.

"We are trying to get [MakerSpace] to be an extension of the classroom," said Burke. MakerSpace is not just a place for extracurriculars, it is also a way for teachers to teach their students in new settings and in different ways.

"The entire school has been involved with MakerSpace at some point," said Hahn. MakerSpace has been used by all students, of all levels and all grades. The room is a way for students to branch out and take a break from the traditional classrooms of school; in addition, students get a chance to work hands-on individually or in collaboration with their fellow peers. When asked if MakerSpace has received positive feedback from students and faculty, Burke said "[the students] ask to be in [the Maker-Space classroom] and they want to be in [the MakerSpace classroom]."

"For the first year it's been a big success," Burke said. There has been a positive response from students and faculty. MakerSpace has given students a positive experience and the opportunity to access their creative sides. MakerSpace has been both innovative and efficient; however, JMS is looking to expand the MakerSpace room in the coming years. "If in ten years down the road, [Maker-Space] looks exactly the same, then we haven't done enough right," Hahn said. Johnson Middle School plans to use MakerSpace for a summer campthat will be run through the recreation department. Additionally, there is potential to move the space outdoors to expand the MakerSpace work environment. As the first year of using the MakerSpace classroom winds down, the JMS faculty, students and community view the addition as a creative success. Through the active usage and positive feedback of MakerSpace, the classroom has proved to be a place of learning, troubleshooting and problem solving, where young students can design, build and most importantly, create through interactive experience and activities. Through the positive and successful experience that the MakerSpace movement has given students, there is a new creative outlet for adolescents that may have not been there before in their academic classes; furthermore, after Johnson Middle School has been exposed to its successes this past school year, the movement has the potential to expand to all schools in the Walpole community.

Page Design/ Ciara Healy, Tara Gordon, and Lillie Hunter

#### Wallace leaves JMS after 21 years

JMS Assistant Principal returns to the elementary school classroom

By Emily Ball and Brynne Bergen Staff Writers

Since 1989, Mr. William Wallace has been through the ranks, from teaching at elementary schools and middle schools to upholding his current position as Assistant Principal at Eleanor N. Johnson Middle School. Over the vears. Wallace has evolved from knowing a couple of hundred students to now interacting with over 400 students at the middle school: however, he recently decided to rethink his position. "Over February break I decided that I wanted to go back to the classroom," Wallace said, "I missed the teaching aspect." Wallace will not be traveling far as he takes on the challenge of returning to the elementary school as a teacher this fall. "There was a fourth grade job open at Elm Street School," Wallace said. "I talked to the principal down at Elm and she was very welcoming."

As for next year, another certified educator will be replacing Wallace. "We have hired Mrs. Liner from Needham Public Schools and she will be taking over for Mr. Wallace." said William Hahn, principal of Johnson Middle School.

After his 21 years of middle school involvement, Wallace is looking forward to returning to the elementary school classroom. "The day to day classroom



Mr. William Wallace stands next to his office where he has spent almost 3 years as Assistant Principal.

I experiences are the things most," said missed Wallace. Although these everyday moments are few and far between, Wallace always tries his best to be in the classroom as much as possible; however, he would like teaching to be his full-time profession. "The past three years, I have been doing less and less of teaching," Wallace said, "and I want that to change."

The lack of teaching in his life led to his reconsideration regarding his role in the school system. As an administrator, Wallace interacts with all of the students at Johnson. Wallace enjoys getting to know all of the students at the middle school, but the absence of teaching led him to believe that he needed to fill that hole in his life. Although Wallace believes his stronghold is teaching, he still inspires the students that he does not teach in the classroom with his everyday acts of kindness. "Mr. Wallace was really nice," said seventh grade student Alison Fair, "and he always said the nicest things to people. Johnson definitely won't be the same without him next year."

Not only does Wallace have a positive impact on his students, but also the players on his team. This coming fall, Wallace will continue to lead the Walpole High School Girls Varsity soccer team as their assistant coach. Although this upcoming soccer season will only be his third year working as the assistant coach, Wallace knows that he wants to continue with this position. "I always enjoy working with the Walpole kids," Wallace said, "so that was an easy decision for me."

Senior Alyssa Rosen recognized Wallace and his talent as a coach when she chose him as her special educator for the National Honor Society induction ceremony on May 11. "I was unlucky in the fact that I did not have Mr. Wallace as a teacher," Rosen said, "but as a soccer coach he has taught me a lot, and I am so grateful for that."

Wallace's favorite experiences as a teacher are the moments when past and present students recognize him outside of school and share their favorite recollections in his classroom. "Mr. Wallace's personality made the class better and enjoyable," said sophomore Emma Coakley, "and with him as a teacher it was a good learning environment."

Wallace's classroom is the location of many of his best memories over the past few years. Students remember Wallace for his whimsical attitude in class and his well-known jokes. "I had Mr. Wallace as a math teacher and I learned so much from him," said sophomore Rachel Cerullo. "he made the environment at Johnson enjoyable which really helped." As for Johnson Middle School, Wallace will be a big loss for the community. Wallace impacted not only students but even fellow teachers and administrators.

"Wallace always wants the best for students," said Hahn, "and that is what I will miss most about him."

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restaurant

#### Goodell local banned restaurant

NFLfires Mexican back a t commissioner restaurant

By Aidan Chariton Staff Writer

In 2006, the Dorronsoro family opened up a Mexican restaurant in the center of Walpole: Jalapeños Grill. Jalapeños has drawn in many customers with its vibrant environment of Spanish culture and its delicious Mexican food.

Ten years after Jalapeños opened in Walpole, owner Ricardo Dorronsoro decided to send a message to all of his customers and anybody that drives through Walpole Center: "Commissioner Roger Goodell suspended for life at Jalapeños." On May 3, 2016 a banner was hung above the entrance of Jalapeños with this statement, as a reference to the famous Deflategate case, in which the Patriots and Tom Brady were accused of deflating the footballs that they used in the AFC Championship game of the 2015 NFL Playoffs below the permitted level of pounds per square inch (PSI).

"Suspend [Tom Brady] for games, I'll suspend [Goodell] for life and we'll see who wins," said Dorronsoro.

Dorronsoro is a serious follower

of both the NFL and the Patriots; consequently, these interests make him a steadfast fan of Tom Brady. "Goodell is just a guy taking orders from the owners [of the teams in the NFL that dislike the Patriots]," said Dorronsoro. To further build his argument, Dor-

ronsoro referenced Goodell's suspension of the Baltimore Ravens' runningback Ray Rice when he said, "How can Brady be suspended for four games when Goodell only suspended Rice for one game after hitting his wife?" He sees the Ray Rice issue as a prime example of Goodell's corruption, as he said the commissioner was caught in a lie when he said he had never seen the video of Rice assaulting his wife, when in reality he had.

Although Dorronsoro's banner seems like a playful joke he claimed that if Goodell were to truly come to Jalapaños, he would actually refuse him service.

As far as the actual case goes, Dorronsoro felt that the accusations involved in Deflategate are irrelevant, as after the footballs were brought to the proper level of PSI at halftime, the Patriots outscored the Colts 28-0—compared to the 14-7 score at halftime while using the footballs that were underinflated.

Since Walpole is a neighbor of Foxborough and Gillette Stadium, many residents consider themselves loyal Patriots fans. Hence, by making his stance on this issue so public, Dorronsoro hopes that these fans may also have a new favorite restaurant. As long as the conflict with Brady continues, Dorronsoro will keep the banner hanging in front of Jalapaños in support of his favorite team and player.

"[Brady is] a gentleman and a great ambassador of the Patriots," said Dorronsoro. "Brady's legacy will leave him on top no matter what happens."

Nobody will ever absolutely know whether the Patriots and or Tom Brady ever deflated their game footballs in order to improve their performance; however, residents all know where Roger Goodell will not eat if he ever comes to downtown Walpole.



outside

displays

hanging

Walpole High School's newspaper is committed to informing the public, reflecting the students' views, creating a public forum and serving as an educational medium. Check out our website whstherebellion.com Sophia Giovaniello

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# Is recess necessary for middle school students? For many students, recess is the most anticipated part of their school day.

others, it is a disruption from other Is recess classes. For really necessary so students should be eliminated have more time other activities?



By Kayla Halloran Staff Writer

YES, Sitting in a classroom all day is boring, dull, and students are unable to move around at all. Recess is a time for students to relax and have fun in between classes. Without a break, hardworking kids have no time to enjoy themselves or play games outside. Recess is necessary in middle schoolers' lives because it helps students balance their schoolwork and social lives. Recess should be a necessity in middle school because many students stay focused and work hard during the school day and they deserve a break. It is a time for kids to let off steam and have fun.

During school, some students have no classes with their closest friends. Recess is the only time during the week when these kids can chat with their friends and talk about their day at school. Students can also make new friends while they are at recess. Kids can bond over their favorite sports, games and activities, and make connections with

Not only does recess have social benefits, but there are also health related benefits that come with recess. According to the Stanford WebMD, exercise helps students boost their

others through their similar tastes.

brain power and perform well on tests. Combined with a gym class, recess gives students more than the 30 minutes of exercise that they should get.

Although lunch gives kids a break from school, they have to sit at their tables and are unable to move around or play any games or sports. Some students may not have time during the week to go outside and exercise after school due to homework and other commitments. Recess allows kids to get exercise without it being an interference to their after school routines.

After three or four classes, students need time to get outside and relax. Because of recess, kids are able to get a break from the stress of schoolwork and classroom lessons. Students must have a designated portion of time during which they have the opportunity to relax, chat with friends, play games and have fun.

Kids are only kids once and they should not be kept inside throughout the whole school day without time for them to go outside and have a break.

Recess gives children experiences and helps with their social skills. Middle schoolers need fun and social aspects in their school life to give them a break from the stress in their lives.



By Rachel Cerullo Staff Writer

NO, For some, recess is a time to let off steam and play games with others. However, for others, recess is unimportant, uncomfortable and even boring.

During recess, not every student is playing games. Many students stand outside, not doing anything while waiting for the whistle to blow to go back inside. Recess is a disruption from the normal school day and a waste of time, not a time of relaxation.

In addition to the students who do not do much at recess, there are also kids who play dangerously. For example, in the basketball courts, reckless students can inflict or sustain injuries such as concussions or fractures from throwing basketballs around without anticipating where they will land. In most cases, a short lunch and recess are combined in one block, but it could be changed so that lunch takes up the whole block. A recent study that was presented at a meeting of the North American Association for the

Study of Obesity showed that people tend to take in fewer calories when they slow their normal eating pace. If a lunch that takes up the entire block seems too long, there are other places where the extra time could be added. In the mornings, students have minimal time to get from their car or bus to their class for a brief homeroom. A longer homeroom time could help students relax before their first class of the day.

Another option is to extend the extensions and silent reading blocks. By extending these blocks, students would have more time to do activities, see teachers for extra help, or enjoy their snacks and relax.

With the extra time, classes could also be lengthened, giving teachers time to get more done in a given class period, and allowing students to not feel as rushed to finish assessments.

In middle school, students have gym each semester, giving students time to play sports and let their energy out during school.

Along with gym, many students also partake in sports after school. This also allows them to unwind and have fun.

Lastly, school is over before 3 p.m., leaving kids with enough time to play games outside or do sports after school.

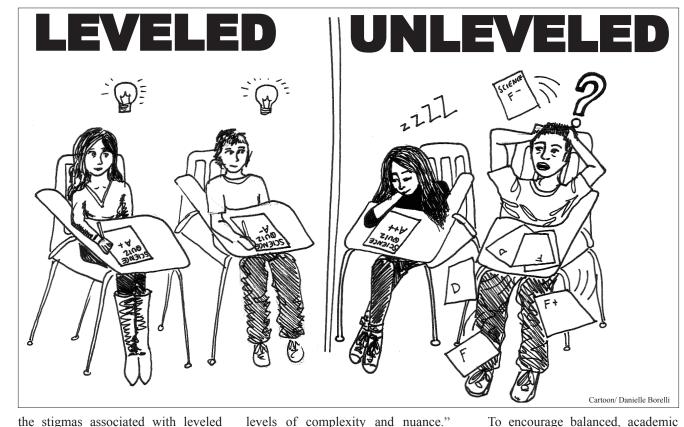
Without recess, there is more time available to benefit students with not only their academics but also health. Having more time in classes, extensions or lunch is better than having a short recess that benefits only some students.

#### Middle schools should adopt leveled classes to suit lack options learning Middle schools styles

By Daanya Salmanullah, Liv Claus, and Kristin Gotthardt Staff Writers

Currently, middle schoolers in Walpole Public Schools lack options when it comes to courses. All courses except those in 6th grade mathematics and 7th and 8th grade English and math are unleveled. Leveled courses allow kids to either take a standardized edition of a course or an advanced, more academically challenging version. The myriad of standardized classes prevents students from gaining a more personalized education; therefore, Johnson and Bird Middle School need to implement a policy that gives students the option to enroll in classes better suited to their abilities.

Because teachers must accommodate different types of students in one course, it is inevitable that they will consistently use tactics that make sense to all students. In a leveled class, all students would be grouped by learning pace and ability, which would consequently increase the amount of content each student absorbs. Although leveled classes benefit some students, they may have some pitfalls. Students placed in advanced classes may develop a sense of superiority in comparison to those in standard-level courses. The aspect of leveled classes can lead students who need to learn at a slower pace to develop low selfesteem and lose academic confidence. If Johnson and Bird are able to erase



the stigmas associated with leveled classes, this problem can be avoided.

In an article written in The New York Times, a few elementary school teachers grouped their students by academic ability and saw positive results. "If you don't have a stigma attached to the group, then I don't see the problem," said Ms. Cathy Vail, a teacher at Public School 156 in Brooklyn, New York. "At the end of the day, [students] are learning the same words, but just with different

The majority of students in any advanced class has honors-level grades and high test scores, but this should not deter other students who would like to explore more demanding subjects. If students are given the opportunity to choose the course level that they feel is tailored to their learning style and interests, then they can feel both comfortable and academically challenged in a hard class, and a waiver is the

perfect way for a student to do this.

To encourage balanced, academic risk-taking, the middle schools should implement a policy similar to the new waiver structure that the high school is instituting next fall. Instead of allowing students to waive into six academic classes every year, Walpole High Administration is limiting the amount to two. With the ability to waive into two challenging classes, students will be able to explore certain fields of study without inundating their schedules with difficult courses.

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# ENVIRONMENTAL E D U C A T I O N W E E K



#### MIDDLE SCHOOL

#### ALTON JONES STUDENTS VISIT

By Lindsey Sullivan and Dana DeMartino Staff Writers

A typical day of middle school classes does not usually involve building fires and identifying bird calls. For three days, the W. Alton ecology, wildlife ecology and archaeology Jones camp did just that—incorporated fun acamong other environmental education topics. tivities with a hands-on science curriculum.

ploring nature and science during the Environmental Education Week The middle schools have been completing Environmental Education Week for 30 years. For the last ten years, the two schools have visited the sleep away camp, W. Alton Jones, located on the campus of the University of Rhode Island. Along with the three days spent at Alton Jones, students also visited the Lloyd Center in Dartmouth, the Mu- games that were nature-reseum of Science in Boston and Save the Bay in Providence, Rhode Island. Johnson Middle Johnson Middle School student. School students completed Environmental Education Week from May 16 to May 20.

"They get to access their science curricu- half of the week met with the students who lum in a really different and cool and en- had spent the first half of the week at gaging environment and interact in a way in the camp.

classroom," said Nicole Ekholm, a teacher at Johnson Middle School and a supervisor on the Alton Jones field trip. Specifically, the students learned about wet-land

"We learned about animal pelts, what Annually, both Johnson and Bird Middle they eat and how long they live," said Ka-School sixth graders spend a week ex- tie Kummings, a Johnson Middle School sixth grader, on what she had learned during her first couple hours at camp.

> The camp created a hands-on learning environment much different than the classroom, presenting new information through different activities and games held outside on the Alton Jones campus. "We learned about archaeolo-

gy and paleontology, then we\_ played a lot of fun lated," said Ajay Bhagavatula, a

On Wednesday May 18, the sixth graders who arrived at Alton Jones for the second A highlight of the trip was

which they would not necessarily get in the created during this cross-over, when the entire grade played an activity called "Predator-Prey". The interactive activity demonstrated how the food chain works by assigning each group of students a different animal, such as a mouse or a hawk. Similar to the game of tag, the students who were predators chased and attempted to catch students in the prey groups.

> "I liked the game because I got to run around and find out how the food chain worked," said Jessie Gavel, a Johnson Middle School student. Not only did the camp focus on the educational angle, but there were also multiple teamwork and bonding activities scattered throughout the three days. Students participated in activities such as attempting to untangle from a "human knot" and zip lining between wooden platforms. The games required students to communicate with peers outside of their usual friendships.

ously incorporating the science curriculum. Bill Brady, a chaperone and parent,

said, "It is a very positive experience."

STUDENTS

BAY THE AND

TAKE

DAY

"They come back as a different grade," said Ekholm, "and they come back with relationships they did not necessarily have at the beginning of the week." Environmental Week allowed the sixth grade to bond while simultane-





Photo credits/David Cuzzi

SAVE TRIPS LLOYD CENTER

> By Dana DeMartino Staff Writer

Information gained at W. Alton Jones by the students was expanded upon by the day trips during Environmental Education Week. This year, Bird Middle School visited the Lloyd Center for the Environment in South Dartmouth and Save the Bay in Providence, Rhode Island from June 6 to June 10. The Lloyd Center field trip focused on educating students in coastal and watershed issues, ecosystems and endangered species. Save the Bay allowed students to help improve and learn about environmental issues affecting Narragansett Bay while on a two hour boat ride.

Lloyd Center is a nature preserve with exhibits such as an observation deck and an aquaria room with skeletons of marine animals. The preserve allowed students to explore a shoreline and find out about how salt marshes and Estuaries help the environment.

Save the Bay is a non-profit organization that deals with cleaning and preserving Narragansett Bay. The organization allowed kids to see how they can help protect the bay and how important it is to the ecosystem.

The coordinator of Environmental Education Week at Bird Middle School, David Cuzzi said, "The benefit of the day trips is that students get to experience different places in Massachusetts and Rhode Island and see how they affect the environment."

Students spent the days doing various activities such as picking up creatures with fishing nets, going out into the Narragansett Bay, and studying various animal lifestyles. Environmental Education Week left students with a deeper understanding and appreciation of ecosystems and organisms, and the day trips supplemented this information by providing an interactive atmosphere that emphasized wetland ecology and marine organisms

To left: Bird Middle School Students explore Narragansett Bay and search for mole crabs on the beach.













# THE REBELLON'S TOP

# 5 Summer FLICKS

Whether you are a movie buff or a bored teen, check out the Rebellion's top 5 must-see summer films!

Picture Credits/ imdb.com

By Nirupa Abraham, Meaghan Luoung and Cathrine Paul



#### Me Before You

Based on Jojo Moyes' bestseller novel, the film explores the relationship between Louisa Clark (Clarke), a bubbly young woman left jobless, and Will Traynor (Claflin), a wealthy banker who is paralyzed. After she is assigned to become his caregiver, Louisa is asked by his family to show him the worth of life. Although his pessimism does not allow a connection, Louisa eventually transforms Will and both form a deep bond.

Release Date: June 3
Genre: Drama
Starring: Emilia Clarke, Sam Claflin, Jenna
Coleman

PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED © Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 13

Picture Credits/ youtube.com



#### X-MEN: APOCALYPSE

The first and most powerful mutant, Apocalypse (Isaac), rises after thousands of years and enlists four followers to help him on his quest to destroy humanity and create a new world led by him. The X-Men must band together to defeat Apocalypse and save mankind.

Release Date: May 27
Genre: Sci-fi
Starring: Jennifer Lawrence, James McAvoy,
Michael Fassbender, Nicholas Hoult, Oscar
Isaac



Picture Credits/ youtube.com



#### FINDING DORY

Set six months after the beloved Disney classic Finding Nemo, the forgetful but humorous Dory (DeGeneres) is accompanied by Nemo and Marlin (Brooks). As the group sets out to find Dory's family, they encounter different challenges and meet new friends along the way.

Release Date: June 17
Genre: Family
Starring: Ellen DeGeneres, Ty Burrell,
Albert Brooks



Picture Credits/ active6.com



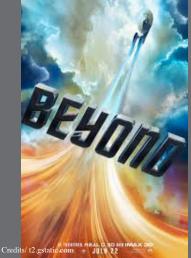
#### SUICIDE SQUAD

The third film in DC's Extended Universe unites imprisoned supervillains like Deadshot (Smith), Joker (Leto), Harley Quinn (Robbie), and Enchantress (Delevingne), who are ordered to carry out black ops missions and to save the world from an unknown threat.

Release Date: August 5
Genre: Action
Starring: Margot Robbie, Cara Delevingne,
Ben Affleck, Will Smith, Jared Leto



Picture Credits/ youtube.com



#### STAR TREK BEYOND

In the third installment in the rebooted Star Trek franchise, the USS Enterprise is destroyed by a wave of mysterious aliens on the outskirts of Federation Space. Stranded on a remote planet with no means of escape, the crew faces danger from an enemy filled with hatred for the Federation and what it stands for.

Release Date: July 22

Genre: Sci-Fi
Starring: Chris Pine, Zoe Saldana, Idris
Elba, Zachary Quinto



Picture Credits/ youtube.com

# BCMS VS Finity Butler and Grace Donovan Staff Writers

Through a detailed online survey, The Rebellion asked students at both Johnson and Bird Middle School about current trends that are surfacing in their schools this summer.

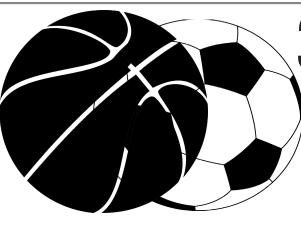
55% of boys chose Nike as their favorite store as it supplies them with the popular Nike Elite socks, favored by 51%.



This summer, 58% of girls are planning to rock the comfortable athletic style while the other half intend on wearing light-weight summer dresses.



52% of middle school boys play basketball. The popularity of athletic brands among boys cater to the popularity of basketball, which seizes more than half of athletes.



39% of girls play soccer.

Preferred sport among middle school girls capturing 39% of athletes while dance was second with 31%.

# **WALKING DEAD**

25% of boys chose the zombie-apocalypse based thriller, "The Walking Dead," as their favorite show.

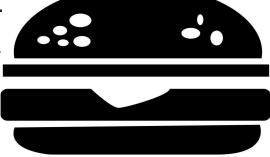


25% of girls prefer tuning into the competitive dance drama "Dance Moms".

## DANCEMOMS

29% of boys head to Cumberland Farms on the half day.





33% of girls prefer to go home on the half day to eat lunch.



To go along with the 38% of boys who prefer to listen to rap music, 45% prefer Drake.



Both Adele and Justin Bieber tied for the most popular artist among girls with 29% each. 70% of girls listen to pop music.

Despite differences between boys and girls, social media appears to be an area where they come to an agreement. Snapchat is the most visited app among middle schoolers, and Instagram comes in second place with 27% among both boys and girls. In third place, YouTube is visited by 15% of girls and 25% of boys.

## Fall sports captains give advice to incoming freshman

Helpful points for playing a fall sport at Walpole High School

### Field Hockey



Melanie Weber, Megan Fisher & Sophia Giovaniello
What advice do you have for incoming freshmen for
the upcoming season?

Condition hard over the summer because you definitely want to be in tip top shape for preseason.

#### What should incoming freshmen do to prepare themselves for the season?

We recommend attending captains' practices and run and condition as much as possible. Try to sharpen your skills as well.

#### How much do you take into account an athlete's presence at pre-season events/captains' practices?

It definitely looks good to show up to a lot of things over the summer. It shows dedication and hard work and is a good chance to show your skills.

#### Girls XC



Stephanie Forester, Mikaela McSharry & Rebecca Whearty

What advice do you have for incoming freshmen? If there is a new sport you want to try, go for it, you could end up loving it!

#### What should incoming freshmen do to prepare themselves for the season?

Practice at least a little over the summer. There are usually captains' practices. If you don't practice over the summer it's going to be a difficult start to the season.

#### What are you looking for in the incoming fresh-

Kids who are dedicated and hardworking at practice but also kids who know how to have fun and aren't afraid to be themselves.

### Boys Soccer



Jonathon Sarkis & Justin Burns

#### What advice do you have for incoming freshmen?

High school soccer is a lot different than soccer when you are younger, so work hard and get strong.

#### What are you looking for in the incoming freshmen?

We are looking for you guys to hustle hard and we will need some of you guys for next year, so work as hard as possible.

# How much do you take into account an athlete's presence at pre-season events/captains' practices?

It helps a lot if you go, so you can get to know everyone and everyone will get to know you.

#### Football



How much do you take into account an athlete's presence at pre-season events/captain's practices?

If you think about not going to a pre-season event because you are a freshman and you think you're not good enough or something like that, just show up! The thing that gets on upperclassmens' nerves is when younger kids don't show up to team events.

# Where can incoming freshmen find out about captains' practices or other information regarding the upcoming season?

You can easily find our numbers somewhere and shoot us or anyone else on the team a text with your questions. Mostly captains' practices get around from texts and word of mouth, so ask your buddies if they heard anything as well.

#### Boys XC



Alex Bjornson & Jack Bushway

What advice do you have for incoming freshmen? Come to captains' practice as much as possible.

#### What should incoming freshmen do to prepare themselves for the season?

Run frequently over the summer.

#### What are you looking for in the incoming freshmen?

Hard work and dedication, team enthusiasm and a willingness to push each other.

Where can incoming freshmen find information regarding the upcoming season?

From Jack Bushway and Alex Bjornson.

#### Girls Soccer



Tess Erwin, Meghan Foley & Tayla Randall
What should incoming freshmen do to prepare
themselves for the season?

They should keep skills sharp by going to captains' practices, and they should run over the summer.

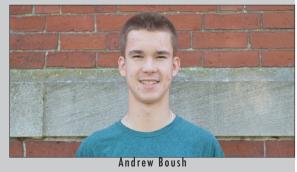
# Where can incoming freshmen find out about captains' practices or other information regarding the upcoming season?

When they come to the preseason meeting, the captains will get their numbers and inform them throughout the summer about times for captains' practices and other events.

#### What are you looking for in the incoming freshmen?

Hard workers and girls who can play as a team.

#### Golf



What advice do you have for incoming freshmen? Keep your mind focused on your goal and never lose hope, you have just as much of a right to be successful as anybody else.

#### What should incoming freshmen do to prepare themselves for the season?

Find your weaknesses, accept them, and make them your strengths. We are looking for consistency—it's what separates the amateurs from the professionals.

How much do you take into account an athlete's presence at pre-season events/captain's practices? Very much so. It's important to do your part and practice with the rest of the team. Nobody is perfect at this game, and everybody could always use a little bit more practice.

#### Volleyball



Responses by Coach Cyr

#### What should incoming freshmen do to prepare themselves for the season?

First- Conditioning! Volleyball is a fast-paced sport that requires quick reactions, strength, endurance and lots of jumping! At tryouts all players are required to run a mile (more than once), complete agility drills, planks, push ups, sit ups, jump rope, etc.

Second- Learn some basic skills. You don't need to know a lot but coming in with some knowledge will help. If you're coachable, then we can teach you skills.

There are cuts in volleyball. In the past I have had to make cuts at all 4 grade levels. Players should have a backup plan if they don't make the team.

#### Swimming & Diving



Bobby Burke & Padraic Curran

What are you looking for in the incoming freshmen?

Enthusian and willings are

Enthusiasm and willingness to work hard.

#### How much do you take into account an athlete's presence at pre-season events/captains' practices?

Not too much. It definitely gets noticed when freshman are at preseason events, but we understand that some people are busy or have not decided to join yet.



Sophie Nemec & Elizabeth Duseau What advice do you have for incoming freshmen?

Make sure you have good time management skills. Practice takes up a lot of your time after school so you have to make time to do your homework.

# What are you looking for in the incoming freshmen?

Really good swimmers or divers who put effort in and show up.