

The Northern Exposure

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NORTHERN EXPOSURE POLICY

THE NORTHERN EXPOSURE WILL STRIVE TOWARD EXCELLENCE BY REPORTING NEWS ACCURATELY, OBJECTIVELY AND THOROUGHLY. PROVIDING LEADERSHIP THROUGH EDITORIALS AND ESTABLISHING A FORUM. "LETTERS TO THE EDITORS" ARE ACCEPTED AND ENCOURAGED, BUT SHOULD BE WRITTEN RESPONSIBLY, IN GOOD TASTE, FREE FROM LIBEL, OBSCENITIES AND INVASIONS OF PRIVACY. "LETTERS TO THE EDITORS" SHOULD BE LESS THAN 300 WORDS AND MUST BE SIGNED. LETTERS MAY BE DELIVERED TO ROOM 2103.

1ST AMENDMENT

CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW RESPECTING AN ESTABLISHMENT OF RELIGION, OR PROHIBITING THE FREE EXERCISE THEREOF, OR ABRIDGING THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH, OR OF THE PRESS; OR THE RIGHT OF PEOPLE PEACEABLY TO ASSEMBLE, AND TO PETITION THE GOVERNMENT FOR A REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES.

On the Cover

Photo of Jill Hummel's painting class.
 Photo by Maria Bisby.

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Pitch Perfect: More Like Perfect Pitch

Rhayla Huff-CoEditorInChief



Michael Howard can recognize pitch and match it. Photo by Maria Bisby

One in 10,000 people have perfect pitch and the ability to match music instantly. Michael Howard is one in 10,000 people who can recognize a single note and match it perfectly.

"Perfect pitch is an ability that takes a lot of time to master. Some musicians don't have it in advanced level ensembles. It's the repetition of hearing the same note so much that you can identify it when you hear it," Howard said.

Also known as "absolute pitch," the trait to have a practically impeccable singing voice with no further help is fairly rare and most people have to work towards this. Where they spend time and dedicate themselves to being a better vocalist, those with perfect pitch seemingly do not

work as hard, but in fact, it is the opposite.

"My freshman year and before, I was straight trash in my opinion. I felt bad, because I loved music, but I couldn't do what I wanted to do with my voice and instrument. One day a switch flipped and I said I want to be great. I want this and I got to work. I started researching for information about singing and trombone playing and spent a lot of time practicing," Howard said.

Most singers with relatively perfect pitch but do not possess perfect pitch but have "psuedo-absolute pitch" where pitch can be matched, but it's much more difficult than having a natural ability. Unlike having natural perfect pitch, psuedo-ab-

solute pitch comes with motivation, time, effort and must be maintained with hard work and dedication.

"I think perfect pitch is very important and I work towards this by going through and practicing scales and making sure I have everything correct whenever I am about to perform a song, or even just in class," Ishani Millet, sophomore, said.

There are a few singers that have the same trait as Howard, a trait rare and absolute. Mariah Carey, Michael Jackson, Beethoven and Jimi Hendrix are the most popular and well-known ones. To put Howard, a junior here at LSN in that same list as those people is quite the feat, and more or less incredible.

"I think that it's really cool he has this, but at the same time it's important not to get a big-headed about it," Jessica Carnahan, senior, said.

At the end of his sophomore year, Howard earned a 2 at the State Music Festival at University of Missouri-Columbia on Saturday, April 28.

Choir may not be his pas-

sion but it is something he uses a natural-born gift in.

"I would say music is a passion. I have Chromesthesia. It means I can hear colors if that makes sense. When I hear certain pitches it triggers a part of my brain that is connected to colors. So when I hear a C, I can see the color blue. This is probably a big part of why I like music and what helped me gain perfect pitch," Howard said.

In fact, Howard wants to pursue the jazz career when he graduates.

"I want to play jazz when I get older. Right now I play in our schools jazz band, I go to the Kansas City Jazz Academy off of 18th & Vine on Saturday's, and I'm a part of the Elderstatesmen's Jazz Ensemble. I want to play in more professional jazz ensembles when I graduate," Howard said.

There may be no riff-offs and acapella competitions in Howard's life, but there is plenty of pitch. Absolute pitch is rare and hard to come by and Michael Howard is one of a kind. Keep singing, Michael.

LIBRARY: BOOKS & NUMBERS

LeeloCox-StaffReporter



The library showcases popular books. Photo by Tiyah Gipson

Keeping things clean, the books organized, making sure the students are taking care of the library and also all the work that goes into making sure all the books are in the library at the end of the year are all part of keeping the library up to the task.

"There are 18,431 books in the library. Currently, we have 821 marked as lost but we also have 1,159 that are overdue, so about 2,000 total," Michael Russell, librarian, said.

"We do an inventory at the end of the year. We go through and scan all of the books that we have and it will tell us what we have missing or what we didn't get scanned," Russell said.

It takes a while to go through over 18,000 books.

"It takes about a day depending on if we get interrupted by other things. Three to four days to do inventory and try to find the books we

don't have or we didn't scan," Nathan Miller, librarian, said.

Many people forget their Chromebooks or they are brought to the library broken. The technology people who work in an office in the library care for any Chromebooks brought in.

"In the month of October, there were about 174 Chromebooks brought in to be checked out because there was something wrong. There was about 382 that was checked as left at home," Miller said.

Caring for the library takes time when it comes to books, but when it comes to furniture there is not much to do.

"We don't have problems with the library's furniture because the furniture is actually meant to be moved around. We set it up to where people can move things to fit their ability or sitting arrangements with friends or study time," Russell said.

With the many people who have used the library during bronco time, lunch, in the morning, or just during the day, you would think it would be more messed up or trashed but it is not.

"There really isn't a lot of trash in here after the day or anytime during the day, the kids here are more mature than that, they know how to care for things. Sometimes we would get random trash around but not a ton," Russell said.

SBE stands for Supervised Business Experience. SBEs are just student workers from the business program that pick places to work in the school.

There are two students who work in the library called SBE workers. There is one in the morning and one in the afternoon, Trent Handley and Matthew Hopkins. Handley works in the morning and Hopkins works in the afternoon. SBEs have to work

with Chromebooks and Book checkouts and with Tawn Rockwell.

"When we check out loaner Chromebooks, the SBE's have to use paper tickets, so I would just change it to online tickets to make things easier and more efficient," Handley said.

SBEs have different jobs in the library, but mainly they help do regular tasks like assisted Rockwell.

"My main job is to help Ms. Rockwell at the front checking out books and loaner Chromebooks, but if it's fairly quiet in the library, I help out Mr. Russell and Mr. Miller with stuff," Handley said.

As you see there are many jobs you don't really think about walking into the library during the day. Make sure you thank Russell, Miller, Rockwell, Handley, and Hopkins for taking care of our library, having books organized, and making sure it is a comfortable place to be.



The fiction section of the library. Photo by Tiyah Gipson

POPULAR APPS DOWNLOADED IN 2018

TiyahGipson-JuniorEditor

The first thing people notice when they see a teen is them on their phone. What are they doing, you ask? Odds are that they are probably on one of the millions of popular apps across the nation that everybody uses today.

Twitter is a news and social networking service designed for users to post and interact with others through "tweets" or public messages. Twitter is usually where you will visit and see how someone is feeling and their "mood" of the day.

"I think it's one of the best social medias, personally I like it more than Instagram because it's more engaging and funnier. I love memes and that's where I find a good amount of them," Odelia Chukwusom, sophomore, said.

Instagram is another social networking service where you can share photos and videos. Through Instagram you have the opportunity to like, comment and share different photos and videos. You can now make Instagram stories sort of like one can do on Snapchat. Instagram is owned and developed by Facebook. The creators are Kevin Systrom and Mike Krieger. Facebook is another network where the process is very similar to Instagram.

Netflix is a American media service that was founded by Reed Hastings and Marc Randolph. On Netflix they stream many different movies, tv shows and documentaries. They have a section for Netflix originals including movies and tv shows like "13 Reasons Why", "The Princess Switch" and "Bird Box".

"I love Netflix, I think Netflix is great. I think it's nice because you can kinda watch shows at your own pace, whereas I do so much [and] I'm busy all the time [and] I don't get to watch shows when they're airing on tv, so it's nice to be able to watch them there," Jessica Brown, English teacher, said.

Netflix gives you the chance to watch shows you like and will even give you recommendations.

Snapchat is an app made for Android and IOS and was initially released in September of 2011. It was created by Evan Spiegel, Bobby Murphy and Reggie Brown, who were former students of Stanford University. Snapchat was created to provide people, more specifically, teenagers, with a faster way to share a moment and a message.

"My opinion on snapchat is that it is a great and easy way to see what everyone is doing, and not to mention the great filters," Adrianna Brown, junior, said.

Snapchat continues to add many different upgrades and newer features to their app whenever they can.

Amazon is founded by Jeff Bezos, who also happens to be the CEO of the company. When on Amazon, you can find anything you are looking for as far as shoes, clothes, appliances, phone accessories and electronics. As awesome as it sounds, that is not all that Amazon has to offer. Amazon also offers a source known as Amazon Prime, which allows you to stream different movies and tv shows through Amazon. You can rent or buy movies, subscribe to different channels and even get the opportunity to go "premium" and watch everything for free.

YouTube is an American video-sharing website and app. YouTube was founded by Jawed Karim, Steve Chen and Chad Hurley, with CEO Susan Wojcicki in February of 2005. You can share videos with your friends, family and anyone else you would like. You also get music suggestions and listen to any of the music you want to and you can even make and upload your own videos to YouTube from your device. Not only that but you can also use YouTube Premium which allows you to enjoy YouTube with no ads, downloads and all access to YouTube original movies and tv shows.

GOOD OMENS: A REVIEW

DavidStevens-StaffReporter

Good Omens, by Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett is a story detailing the end of the world. Now Heaven and Hell are both okay with this, but on Earth Crowley, the demon, and Aziraphale, the angel, are conspiring to keep the world spinning. They have to deal with a witch, search for the antichrist (who has been misplaced of course), without being discovered by their bosses, and all before the world ends this Saturday. A little while after dinner time, to be more accurate.

Gaiman is a master storyteller, with works like *American Gods* and *Stardust*. Pratchett is known for his epically hilarious satires and parodies, seen in his long-running series, *Discworld*. The two in collaboration have created a wonderfully crafted story filled with hilarity and car snakes.

"I think a collaboration between Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett would be fantastic. I think Neil Gaiman is a master at building worlds and working with mythology and Terry Pratchett at building worlds in a more fantasy realm. Combined they

would be real wicked, funny and uh, just wicked in general," Michael Russell, school librarian, said

Both writers have worked with religious themes before. Gaiman in *American Gods* and Pratchett in *Small Gods*. In *Small Gods* there was a conflict between real faith and belief in dogma. Where *American Gods* played with the meaning that stories provide us and the conflict between old stories and new ones.

"Both of them, especially Pratchett, can be both tongue in cheek, and force us to look at the realities and our perceptions

in a very different way. Probably it would offend some people, my guess is, but that is what I think they would consider their job. Taking some of the religious and historical facts and standpoints or viewpoints and analyzing them, some might feel mocking them. But I think that would be a refreshing read," Michael Russell, school librarian, said

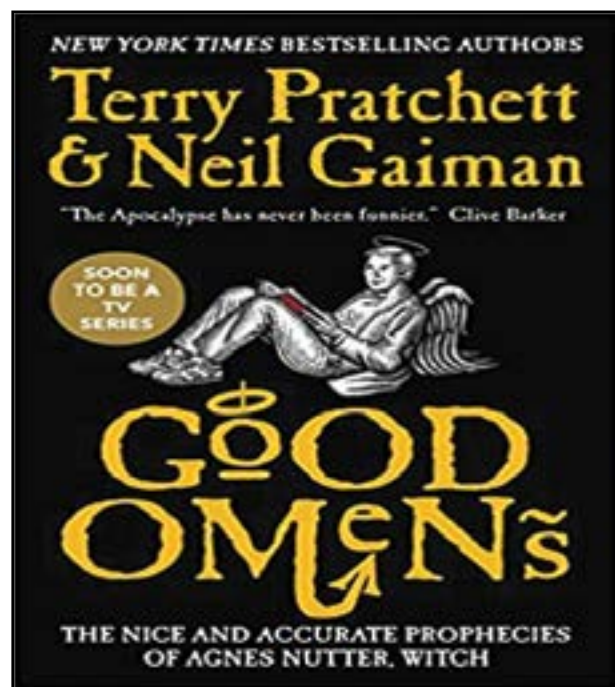
This story is a lot lighter than these. Heaven and Hell's representative on Earth, Aziraphale and Crowley have grown to like humans and have decided to make sure the Antichrist lives such a

normal life that he cannot decide between good and evil. But there is a mix-up. Most everything believes a young boy named Warlock is the antichrist, but in reality, it is a young man named Adam.

While the search for Adam is on, the four horsemen of the apocalypse, War, Famine, Pestilence and Death, are walking on earth. War is delivering weapons to unstable regions. Famine is publishing diet plans, most of them involving a lack of eating. Pestilence is sitting on a leaky oil freighter, surrounded by garbage and refuse. Death, is in all these places.

All these nightmarish things were predicted by one Agnes Nutter, a witch who has written the only accurate prophecies in the world. Which is a problem, because they are so specific and accurate that no one cares.

On top of all this craziness, there are things like rediscovering Atlantis, aliens and murderous housepets from Hell. All-in-all, it is a fantastically apocalyptic ride and there is nothing better to pick up and read in the face of the world's coming doom.



Good Omens by Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett.

Changing the Boundaries; Changing Minds

MariaSmith-JuniorEditor

Staring the 2019-2020 school year and onward the school boundaries are changing. They are using this as an alternative for building a new school, and it could affect a lot of students and it could also potentially force some of the current freshmen at North to change schools. After voting at a meeting on Dec. 13 the district announced that the Winterset neighborhood, between Chipman and Longview Road, will now be going to Lee's Summit instead of Lee's Summit West.

This means that some of the current freshman and current sophomores at West will be going to Lee's Summit next year. While you have to draw the line at some point, making the current freshman change schools at the start of their sophomore year is unfair.

"Someone has to move, but it seems like they should still have an option. It's hard to do anything like that. To like change schools. So it'll be hard no matter what," Delaney Boulden, freshman, said.

Freshman year, people work hard making friends and finding the perfect place to be in the 15 minutes you have after you get off of the bus and before classes start. To have everything you have been working towards ripped out from under them in favor

of boundary changes that say that juniors and seniors can stay and sophomores and freshman have change schools is not fair. Incoming freshman going to a new school is not that big of a deal because it is not necessarily uprooting them from the school

their boundary plan, is also considering support of these individual students," Lara Cole, English teacher, said.

The boundary changes can only be temporary. If the district decided to make a new high school, which they should, it would be a more per-

amendment in the change that lets families who have one student in high school and the other is going into as a freshman or sophomore.

"We were confronted with children in two different high schools next year. It's extremely stressful for my family. We wanted our daughters to have the support of one another through high school. We've made friends, we live in the district. My daughter, my younger daughter has gone to school since kindergarten all the way through eighth grade with the same group of people she only has two friends that were affected by this transfer if she had to go to Lee's Summit high school. I think that Lee's Summit is an excellent school don't get me wrong. I just wanted what's best for my family," Michael Brown, a parent of a Lee's Summit R7 student, said.

This solution for overcrowded schools is only temporary because of the growing student population in Lee's Summit. In order for the district to stay on top and be able to properly teach all of these new incoming students there needs to be more schools, which might seem like a lot of work and is potentially far off in the future, but it is the best solution for a growing town like Lee's Summit.

"This is a big-picture decision. The LSR7 District has to consider the overall welfare of each student in the district," Lara Cole said.

they know and making them start over again. That is what freshman year already is; a transition year.

"This is a big-picture decision. The LSR7 District is a social system that has to consider the overall welfare of each student in the district. Yes, there are going to have to be some students in our district who will be reassigned to a different building, and this will be difficult for them individually. I hope the district, with

manent solution to the growing number of students entering the district.

"I am in favor in the proposals that include plans for building facilities. We are an outstanding community with the school system that draws in more families every year. New facilities will support that constant growth," Cole said.

Students and parents alike do not have to be worried about being separated from their siblings, as they put an

WARNING: Breakout of Senioritis All Across LSN

MadiSmith-CopyEditor

Senioritis: an infectious disease that affects seniors all around the world. Causing history worksheets to be left blank and English grades to drop, this sickness has been causing grief to the seniors in LSN this year, and it is not going away.

This “sickness” is actually not a sickness and affects seniors every year as the graduation date comes closer and seniors are accepted into college. Seeing the end in sight and already knowing what the future holds results in seniors across the country to slack off, not doing their homework or studying for tests because they think their future is set in stone.

Procrastination becomes a real problem for seniors with senioritis. Although this is experienced by every grade level in high school, it seems to become significantly worse for those

burdened with this disease.

“Senioritis affects my school life by making me procrastinate on studying for my tests and doing homework. My stress has suffered from senioritis,” Nick Mathis, senior, said.

This increase in procrastination leads to the majority of a senior’s homework left undone, causing grades to plummet. However, at LSN, it seems as though late work is consistently welcomed, more so than freshman, sophomore, or junior late work, almost as though some teachers expect this decrease in motivation.

“Oh man, I think it’s a real and definite thing that when they start to see the end is near it gets tough to be motivated, especially once the weather turns nice in the spring. It starts to get hard to stay focused,” Chris Gerding, biology teacher, said.

Most seniors begin

to stop caring about their grades and begin to “cruise” their way to graduation once they have been accepted to college or have determined what their frightfully near future holds.

“My parents get concerned that I’m spending more time with work than school, but I would rather do something I know will benefit me and others than work on homework that won’t make a difference in a year,” Anne Ball, senior, said.

Avoiding senioritis can be difficult as seniors try to focus on their future and are constantly looking towards the light at the end of the tunnel. Pushing through and finishing the school year can be hard, but as seniors and students, we must continue to reach the end of this chapter and reach a new kind of freedom.

“As is the case with any kind of procrastination, you just got to chunk things as best you can. Break

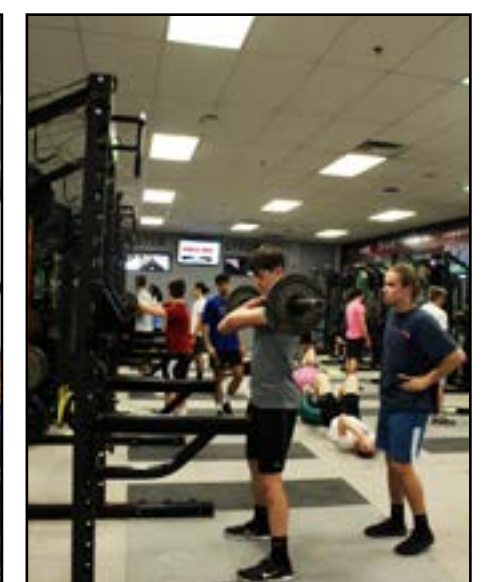
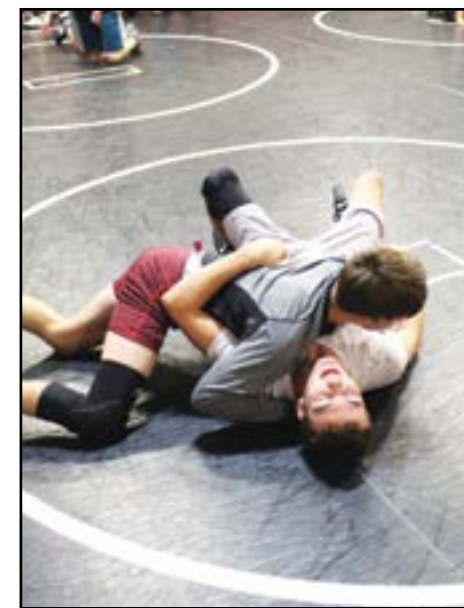
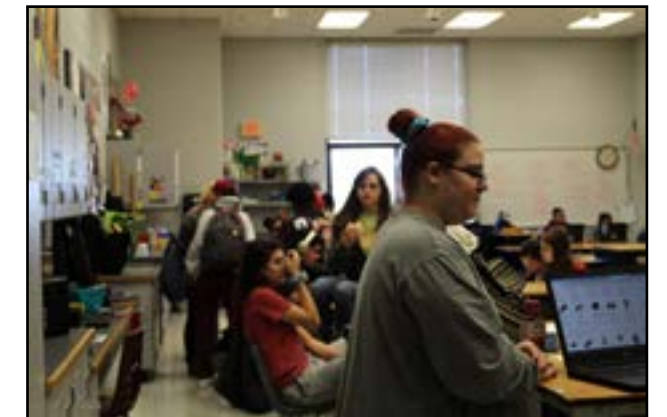
things apart so you’re not stuck doing something like a paper and studying for a test all in the last minute. But that’s how most seniors survive. And just keep your eyes on the prize and at the end of this it’s all going to be worth it. Especially kids in IB classes, it’s really difficult but it is going to be worth it for sure at the end. So thinking about that end result is important,” Gerding said.

Good luck seniors! Power through it! You are almost there.



Seniors at this time of year often struggle with senioritis. Photo by Maria Bisby.

North In Photos



Photos by Maria Bisby.

The Busy and Bright Future for LSR7

KaylerSmith-StaffReporter

It is no surprise that the growing community of Lee's Summit has caused some schools to be bursting at the seams with students. The increase in attendance has caused a need for adaptation within the school district.

Several elementary schools and two lopsided high school populations are forcing the redrawing of the boundaries for student distribution, shaking up the destined future of many young students. LSW and LSHS have nearly a 500 student difference, with LSW covering the spread.

"Summit Lakes and LSW are overcrowded and the prediction is if we stay where we're at, they're going to continue to grow. LSHS is under capacity and so they need to [redistribute] to save the district money versus building a fourth high school which could cost up to \$100 million," Dr. Jeff Meisenheimer, head principal, said.

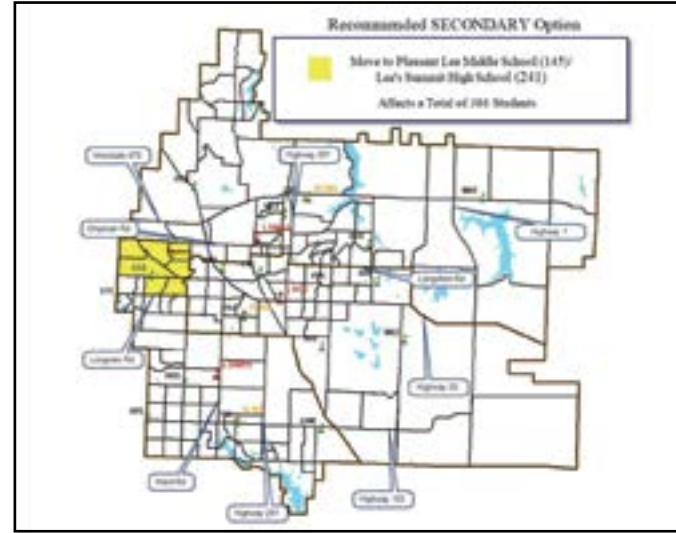
The Comprehensive Facility Master Plan (CFMP) committee has been working for months to invent solutions that

would be in the best interest for as many families as possible. They have narrowed to one "master plan", involving four elementary schools and two high schools.

The plan has all students that attend Cedar Creek Elementary (CCE) in LSW's boundaries becoming LSHS territory. All current ninth and tenth graders in that area that attend LSW will attend LSHS next year. This plan was sent to the December Board of Education meeting for a vote.

Not all parents were on board with this plan. Father of two children that would have had to attend different high schools, Michael Brown, gave an emotional testimony before the board pleading his case to keep his daughters together at LSW. The board more than understood and upon voting, board member, Ryan Murdock, proposed a motion to amend the plan for families like Brown's.

"I move that the Board of Education approve the 2019 boundary changes with amended parameters, including if a current eighth grade student submits a request and has



The LSR7 Comprehensive Facility Master Plan.

an older sibling who is currently a sophomore or junior in high school. He or she will be approved to remain in his or her current school, the parent will still be responsible for providing transportation, and this transfer will be approved for the duration of his or her high school experience," Murdock said.

The motion was voted on with a unanimous decision to approve the plan with the amendment. The board made it a point after their unanimous vote to emphasize their urge to start with Phase II of the CFMP as soon as possible.

"I want to challenge everybody up here at the board... We have to

start now on the second phase pronto. After we get this done we need renovations going at the buildings. And I'm not speaking just to LSHS or PLMS, we have multiple areas where we need some renovations to buildings. Let's go," Murdock said.

Murdock then went on to quote a line from one of his favorite shows, The West Wing, saying "It's go time."

Students, parents and staff should be hopeful for where the district is headed with this determination and proven hard work from the board. For more information, visit the LSR7 website to see a full, detailed copy of the plan.

A National Epidemic: Obesity

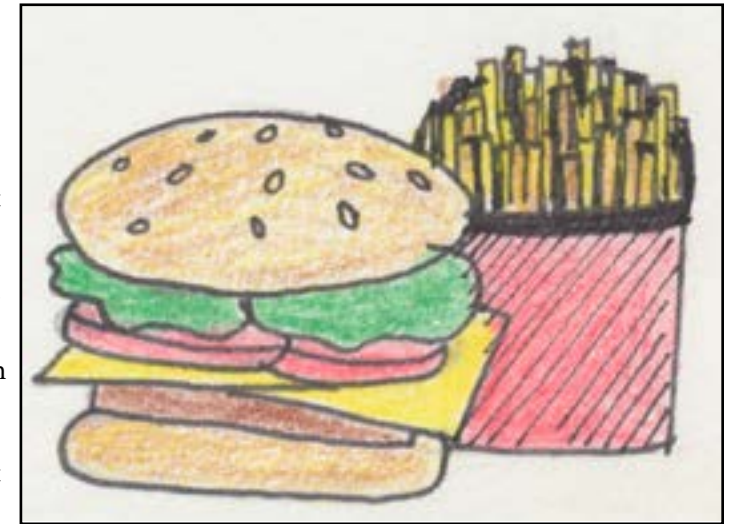
PrajuktaGhosh-StaffReporter

The undesirable state and being overweight is known as obesity. Being obese is considered a horrific disease that cannot just be cured with natural remedies but harsh medicines. Obesity does not just have an influence among today's youth but it does affect any individual irrespective of their age, sex and heredity. Obesity has the taken the shape of a social issue where a bunch of people are trying to figure the most logical reason behind it and ways to fix it.

"Ways to fight obesity are in my opinion eating a healthy diet with foods from variety of food groups and living and active lifestyle. It does not mean that you have to run ten miles every day to reduce fat but make sure to move your body more," Ashley Wickman, Nurse, said.

It is quite normal that a person with an unhealthy lifestyle and who eats food

with huge amounts of calories are more prone to obesity. Maintaining healthy physique and consuming a nutritious diet or exercising on a daily basis can help fight obesity. Although sometimes it gets harder for a person to release weight and eventually treatment, hence the only alternative left is surgery, which is also not a fun thing to do just in order to lose some calories. Scientist believe that there is a link between high consumption of fructose and obesity. Many authorities have shown concern towards the high-fructose corn syrup used to sweeten drinks and other junk food items. It is also said that there is a close relationship between fructose consumption and diabetes. "Teens should know that this disease can be prevented and lessened by making some lifestyle changes because it is all about developing and learning healthy habits that you exhibit in your everyday



Graphic by April Cowan

life," Wickman said.

Obesity is rarely caused only by our genes. And that happens because, along with the possible genetic factor, obesity also takes over our lifestyle factors and regular diet. Even with genetic liability, people can balance their health by making certain changes in their lifestyle and diet or by taking aid from family and peers. There are also several small lifestyle changes that may help prevent obesity. Also

obesity in childhood can add up to some dangerous health problems. In adults obesity is considered to be linked with high blood pressure, cancer and other chronic conditions.

"It is a chronic disease which plays a major factor in your life and is something that cause much greater issues. Although you may not see the ramifications of what you are putting into your body now," Shelby Hoffman,

volleyball head coach, said.

Childhood obesity can enormously affect the social, physical and emotional well-being of children. Children at this spot generally feel uncomfortable when it comes on getting involved in activities or interactions with their peers or classmates, which gives others an opportunity to bully those kids, in one or the other way. And eventually this creates an inferiority complex for those kids.

"This has a big impact on teens because all of the options available to us that are unhealthy. We have easy to access to awful things that we can put in our body but we have to be able to make the right choices," Sydney Allen, senior, said.

Choices in these situations need to be made wisely and carefully because one wrong step can lead to a road of unhealthy choices.



Graphic by April Cowan

Global Women's March Coming January 2019

MariaBisby-StaffReporter

Two years ago women all over the nation lit the street on fire with their voices. 2019 gives them an opportunity to do it all over again. The 2019 Women's march will open up another opportunity for women to make their mark on Washington along with other areas of the world.

The Women's March for 2019 is called #Women's Wave and it will mark two years since the resistance to Trump's presidency and will send women to the polls once again to vote. Since the last march in 2017 that had a turn up of almost five million across the nation at the sister marches. The 2019 march has gone global and expected to have the double the turn up across the globe people marching for their own reasons. The #Women Wave stands for many things including equal rights for all that want them. Since the Women's Wave has gone world-wide there is a opportunities for other problem to be made aware.

"I think this march gives Women a voice even internationally where sometimes it's not heard. It can show women [internationally] that in the United states that we are pushing for more rights and show well maybe I deserve

more than what I'm getting. It shows that we all have a voice," Sadie Creemer, sophomore, said.

The 2017 march brought a spike in women voting in the United States but, the effectiveness of the upcoming January march is to be decided

"First of all it is an international movement and I think that the organizer and women in the United States have the best venue to do this. It's hard to tell the

effectiveness of them because there has been problems with continuity in the past, and there are alot of voices speaking about different things, sometimes when those voices contradict one another there is an issue in continuity," Tavish Whiting, government teacher, said.

Where as there is no way telling how this march will affect the future there is a way to show that this march has in the past opened up other opportunities for

womens but for some it has opened up a voice. "[I believe] that it has absolutely been heard maybe not in congress but all over the world that there has been so much more protest and ideas of I can make a change," Creemer Said.

There is also uncertainty of how exactly this will play out.

"There is no clues to show how this is or isn't effective it's something for historians to look at since it is such a new thing," Whitting, said.

There are so many voice that have spoke at the past march about things such as LGBT rights, abortion issues and also the "me too" movement that also play into women rights.

"While there is so many voices sometimes they can contradict each other they can lag continuity. If the organization can keep a very concise theme then they would have a stronger voice," Whiting, said.

The goal of the whole organization is to make equal rights for women and to make women heard. 2019 will be the year that women set their mark on the world in belief to make their voices heard.



Symbol for the Women's March.

Determined to Win: What Helps Boys Varsity Basketball Succeed

KatieLangle-StaffReporter

The boys varsity basketball season started strong with a win at the Phog Allen Classic Championship. The Broncos won a close one against William Chrisman in the championship. There are high expectations for the season. Last season the boys were 13-11, they beat high profile teams such as St. Joe Central, Park Hill South and Blue Valley High School.

This year the team returned four starters; Javaunte Hawkins, Mikel Henderson, Jack Gatti and Tommy Erwin. They are hoping to have a season filled with success, but they have a difficult schedule ahead.

"We opened with Rockhurst, one of the better teams in the State. [Also this season] we play Blue Valley and possibly Grandview or Lawrence, those three teams are all ranked among the top seven in KC. We will also play Raytown South and Park Hill South, both really good teams. And then we get to our conference season. Most games



Photo by Maria Bisby

are challenging," Michael Hilbert, head coach, said.

The team has played many notable games so far this season. They have won games against Olathe South, Ruskin and St. Thomas Aquinas High School. On November 30, in a game against Truman High School, Javaunte Hawkins beat his own school record and scored a game high of 44 points. Hawkins is now the second Bronco to reach 1,000 career points.

The team followed that

performance with back to back home wins against cross town rival LSW by a large 40 point margin of victory, 84-44 and a win against Raytown South in a thriller, 61-59.

The Broncos have been placed on the 810 Varsity top 25 list. This is a sports talk radio station that releases a list of the top 25 teams in the Kansas City area. It is based on their opinion, wins and losses and who is on the team. To start the year LSN was

ranked number five out of the 25 teams. Even with a high ranking, the Broncos still want to continue to improve.

"My goals for this season is just to keep improving everyday. And make sure I'm building team chemistry with everybody," Elijah Smith, senior, said.

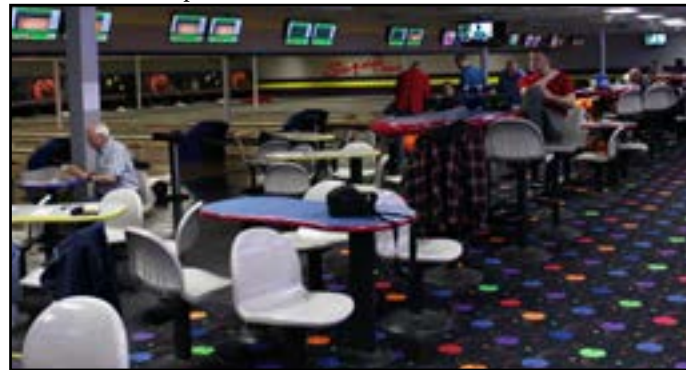
The Broncos credit a lot of their success to team chemistry. A factor that has always been an important one- chemistry between players is the glue of the team and it allows them to have the success they do. LSN has always prided itself on the chemistry of its players, however, this year something about it just feels more special.

"I think as a team we get together more, we're all closer. We have a closer bond this year," Mikel Henderson, senior, said.

The Broncos are now 10-2. The next time they play will be at the Liberty Invitational, at Liberty High School. Go out and support your boys varsity basketball team!

Striking for Gold

AJConner-StaffReporter



Summit Lanes is the meet-up place for the bowling team. Photo by Maria Bisby

Last year the bowling team appeared in Bronco TV, making its debut in student publications. This year, a change in team structure and a new tactic for victory have brought fresh energy to the team as they try to knock down competitors.

“We have a club and then we have a competitive team. The competitive team is where we go to tournaments, win scholarship money and go to state and stuff. If you’re in the club, you just have fun, but it’s different between bowling as a recreational sport with the team,” Tim Gilio, senior, said.

Both club meetings and team practices are Mondays at Summit Lanes. Anyone who would like to join either group only needs to spare some time each week.

“I remember going to bowling and being socially awkward the first day because I didn’t know what to do. I didn’t know anyone. Then I got to know everyone, like Tim. He’s like an older brother to me, and we all kind of came together,” Naveah Cahill, freshman, said.

It may surprise some to learn that the bowling team does not have a captain this year, but members say the team

is more unified without one.

“Last year we weren’t conjoined as a team. That’s the tough thing, that’s what’s different. Now we’re a team. Last year we were just individual bowlers bowling together, none of us really related to each other. It wasn’t the same,” Gilio said.

The team has changed in other ways too; four out of the seven bowlers bowl with two hands, a style unsurprisingly called two handed bowling.

“It’s sparked a huge growth in the form. It’s taboo, it’s different, old-

er style bowlers aren’t used to it yet. You get a lot more revs, you can spin the ball a lot more and hook it a lot more. You throw it a lot faster and get a little bit more control over the ball. It is harder to some people but the speed is a big factor for me,” Gilio said.

Two handed bowling seems to work, as the team has placed fourth and second in their tournaments so far. With another tournament in February and state in May, the self-titled “Bronco Bowlers” are just a few frames from first place.

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Graphics by April Cowan