

School Shootings Continue

By Linus Fleischer-Graham

A national emergency is sweeping United States schools. Twenty years ago at Columbine High in Colorado, two students entered the school with guns and killed a 13 teachers and students and wounded 20 others before turning their guns on themselves and committing suicide.

Since the Columbine High shooting, there have been 230 school shootings. There were 103 shootings in 2018 alone. Eight shootings have taken place so far in 2019. Even though America has more school security than ever, shootings like the ones at Columbine are becoming more frequent and deadly.

One such shooting happened as recently as May 7th in Highlands Ranch, Colorado when two students, using handguns that they had concealed in their jackets, killed one fellow student and injured eight more. This shooting happened only miles away from Columbine High, the site of the massacre 20 years ago. Also, on April 30th, at the University of North Carolina, a student killed two fellow students and injured four

more. One of the students who later died, Riley Howell, rushed and body-slammed the gunman, stopping the shooting. Schools now use “lockdown drills” to help the students to know what to do if a shooting happens. This delays the gunman from finding or getting to the students.

Fortunately, according to PCS’s Assistant Head of School (K-4) Gail Wilbur, “Our school conducts monthly safety drills along with monthly fire drills, both of which are mandated by state law....The purpose of the active shooter drills are to make the students and faculty less accessible to intruders who mean to do them harm. Doors are locked, and door shades are pulled down. Students are instructed to stay away from windows and doors and to be very quiet. We have approximately four of this type of drill per year. All school safety procedures are based on our School Board’s policy.”

Fifth Graders Moving Up: What Do They Expect, and What Will They Get?

By Grace Craig

Since most of the staff of *The Hawkeye* consisted of fifth graders, we thought we'd find out what these students are thinking about their upcoming transition to the middle school. We also thought we would interview some seventh graders to see what they thought that their own transition into sixth grade would be like and to see, too, how they think it turned out.

One of the fifth graders we talked to said that she is nervous and does not want a lot of homework, but she wants to start fresh and meet new teachers and see how their teaching style is and how sixth grade will be different from past grades. Another fifth grader has neutral feelings about going into sixth grade but acknowledges that other people may be excited to see what sixth grade is like but still may not be excited to leave fifth grade. Another fifth grader had a different approach to going into sixth grade. He said that he is enthusiastic about going to sixth grade because he will make more friends and get more privileges. Another boy I spoke to says that he is excited to move on from fifth grade and visit new territory and leave the past behind and see what's new.

We also asked some seventh graders what they had been feeling almost two years ago when they were going from fifth to sixth grade and also what actually happened. After all, they have all experienced the same transition that the current fifth graders will experience soon.

One of the seventh graders said she remembers being scared to be with all of the older students and nervous because she did not know how the year was going to turn out. After going to sixth grade, however, she said that it was better than she expected and that most of the bad things she was nervous about did not happen. Another seventh grader said that she thought it was going to be like fifth grade but with different teachers and classrooms, but looking back on it she says it was different than she thought it would be. She also says she could goof off

at the end of fifth grade but couldn't in sixth. Finally, she said there was a lot of drama in her sixth-grade year. A seventh grade boy said that he had just been excited to go into sixth grade and had no other feelings about it. After the year was over, though he felt accomplished, and satisfied. He thought that the year had turned out just "ok, however, because of the drama, but he also said that it was a good year academically and that he got along with his classmates well.

The Many Responsibilities of Mrs. Simpson

By: Olivia Craig

The Hawkeye, recognizing that most students don't realize the many things that Mrs. Simpson does for this school, decided to interview her to find out about her many, many tasks.

The Hawkeye: What is the best part of your job?

Mrs. Simpson: My job is to make things run smoothly, and it means that I have to interact with students, parents, and faculty on a daily basis. That is what I like best.

The Hawkeye: What are some things that you have to do in a regular day?

Mrs. Simpson: I have to update attendance and keep attendance up to date and to call in the lunch orders. Friday is a very popular day for lunch! I also have to set up meetings and to work on big events like graduation, field trips permission slips, and the TV screen as well as update the next week's supplies orders. I also fix the copier and assist in getting substitutes where they need to be.

The Hawkeye: What are some things that you do that people don't think of?

Mrs. Simpson: It changes. I print eighth-grade diplomas, and I do a lot of things for the graduation ceremony.

The Hawkeye: What is the most rewarding thing about your job?

Mrs. Simpson: I like opening the door and saying good morning to the students and seeing the smiles on people's faces.

The Hawkeye: When you first started here, how was it?

Mrs. Simpson :In the very beginning, I was worried about things getting done correctly but then I noticed that I could do it.

The Hawkeye: How about the faculty?

Mrs. Simpson: They are wonderful, I like talking to the teachers and finding out current school events and what the students are learning. I like learning about clubs like Operation Smile too.

The Hawkeye: What is your biggest pet peeve?

Mrs. Simpson: The office being really noisy when I am trying to work.

The Hawkeye: What is the hardest thing you have to do all day?

Mrs. Simpson: Once you get to know how to do things you get used to the process and doing them in the best way possible.

The Hawkeye: Have you always worked at schools?

Mrs. Simpson: No, I have worked at the New York Department of Environmental Protection. They monitor the water and air pollution and hazardous materials. I was in the computer department.

An Upcoming Trip to Vietnam By Sofia Cervantes and Aleena Zhang

The *Hawkeye* sat down with Mr. Ciuffreda to talk about his upcoming trip to Vietnam, which he won because of his great success leading Operation Smile here at PCS. Here is our interview:

The Hawkeye: Where is Vietnam located?

Mr. Ciuffreda: Vietnam is located on the eastern coast, just south of China.

The Hawkeye: Are you going with anybody?

Mr. Ciuffreda: I'm going with two high school students making up part of the "student team" for the Operation Smile surgical mission.

The Hawkeye: What are you going to do in Vietnam?

Mr. Ciuffreda: We're going to assist the surgical team in any way possible that the nurses could use help with, the doctors need help with, the dentist could use help with....

We deliver five different medical modules to the folks who come out to the mission. They are concerned with things like handwashing, toothbrushing, burn care, nutrition guidelines, and hands-only CPR.

They'll teach people how to do these things. Sometimes the only time people go to the doctor is when Operation Smile is there for a visit. We will also meet with the patients in order to provide some entertainment and help kids and parents going into surgery.

The Hawkeye: Why do you have to go to Vietnam to complete this mission?

Mr. Ciuffreda: Operation Smile does lots and lots of missions all over the world. They choose their locations based on places where people don't have access to medical care. Vietnam is actually a place where they have been going for thirty years.

The Hawkeye: How long are you planning to stay there?

Mr. Ciuffreda: For 11 days, I'm going to leave on June 5 and arrive back on June 16. On the way there, I will lose a day, and on the way back, I won't lose any time.

New Teacher Interview: Ms. Miller By Miranda DeOlden

The Hawkeye set out to interview new teachers to find out more about them. One of them is Ms. Miller.

Before she came to teach at PCS, Ms. Miller taught at a boarding school. She was also an eleventh-grade dean and coached soccer.

She says that so far her experience here at PCS has been "great." One thing that makes this school special to Ms. Miller is that all students have a reading period every day.

Ms. Miller says she wanted to become a teacher because she had always loved English class and reading as a student, and she wanted to inspire students of her own.

We also asked her about her favorite part of teaching, and she said that it is that every day is different and exciting.

Some fun facts about Ms. Miller are that she recently got two ferrets named Loki and

Eloise, and she likes playing with her dogs. Ms. Miller has a lot of pets. She has two ferrets and three dogs!!

One problem that Ms. Miller has had so far is that her eighth-grade study hall is very chatty.

New Teacher Interview: Ms Rodrigue

By: Sofia Cervantes and Aleena Zhang

The *Hawkeye* sat down with Ms. Rodrigue, another new teacher, and recorded some fun facts.

The Hawkeye: Why did you come to PCS? What inspired you?

Ms. Rodrigue: Getting to know the students.

The Hawkeye: Why did you choose to become a gym teacher?

Ms. Rodrigue: Because I believe that students should have a physical outlet in their day, and I get to organize it in fun ways.

The Hawkeye: Is this your first time teaching at a school? If you taught before, where did you teach?

Ms. Rodrigue: I taught Wordsworth Academy in Philadelphia

The Hawkeye: Do you enjoy your experience at PCS as a gym teacher?

Ms. Rodrigue: I do very much.

The Hawkeye: What is your favorite sport?

Ms. Rodrigue: Soccer.

The Hawkeye: How do kids change throughout the year?

Ms. Rodrigue: I believe that they are more open and comfortable in my classes and our relationship which allows for us to have more fun.

The Hawkeye: What do you like about gym that inspires you the most?

Ms. Rodrigue: The teamwork. I love to see students work together and achieve more.

The Hawkeye: Do you have a pet?

Ms. Rodrigue: Yes, I have two dogs. Liberty and Tonka.

The Hawkeye: What do you do in your free time?

Ms. Rodrigue: I'm a soccer coach for PSA.

The Hawkeye: What is your favorite hobby?

Ms. Rodrigue: Running and hiking with my dogs.

The Hawkeye: What do you do when you're bored?

Ms. Rodrigue: Read or watch movies.

The Hawkeye: What would you do for your birthday?

Ms. Rodrigue: Spend the day at the beach.

The Hawkeye: What is your favorite game?

Ms. Rodrigue: My favorite PE game is Quadrant Ball. My favorite board game is Monopoly.

The Hawkeye: What do you think about PCS?

Ms. Rodrigue: It's a great little community where everyone supports each other.

The Hawkeye: Do you like the PCS environment/community?

Ms. Rodrigue: Yes very much. Students are respectful and honest and hardworking.

The Hawkeye: What's your favorite color?

Ms. Rodrigue: Royal Purple

The Hawkeye: What's your favorite animal?

Ms. Rodrigue: Hippos.

The Hawkeye: What is your favorite school subject?

Ms. Rodrigue: Science.

Art in French: What Seventh Graders are doing in French

By Isabella Craig and Laura Babikian

We seventh-grade French students have been studying art and how to speak about art for the past month. We studied how to discuss different types of art such as impressionism and classical and abstract art. We discovered that if you like classical art from times like The Renaissance, you should go to Le Louvre. If you like modern art you should go to Centre Pompidou. Something interesting about Le Centre Pompidou is how all of the pipes that let the building function are on the outside of the building, instead of being hidden in the inside. Lastly, Le Musée d'Orsay is the place for you if you enjoy art that dates between 1848 and 1914. A fun fact about Le Musée d'Orsay is it used to be a train station before it was a museum, and the massive

clock on the building has been used in many movies.

One of our assignments was to write a paragraph on a piece of art that we enjoy. Some of the pieces were *La nuit étoilée* (*Starry Night*) by Van Gogh, *Les toits rouges* (*Red Roofs*) by Pissarro, and *La répétition de danse* by Edgar Degas. These works are all impressionist paintings. One can tell an impressionist piece of art from other types by the strokes. The brush strokes are visible in a impressionist work. On the other hand, there is modern art, such as *La cène* by Andy Warhol or *Le ballon rouge* by Paul Klee. Modern art consists of cubism, pop art, and surrealist art. This unit has taught us how to really decipher what a piece of art means, and it has made us appreciate art much more.

Analysis of This Year's NBA Free Agency By: Jack Gordon

This upcoming NBA free agency is set to be one of the best in recent history. The players available include arguably the best player in the league, Kevin Durant. Other stars available include Kawhi Leonard, Kyrie Irving, Klay Thompson, DeMarcus "Boogie" Cousins, Kristaps Porzingis, Kemba Walker, Nikola Vucevic, D'Angelo Russell, Khris Middleton, Jimmy Butler, and Tobias Harris. Other players like Julius Randle and Paul Millsap are also available. But where will they all sign? These are my predictions:

Tobias Harris: Brooklyn Nets: I think that Harris will end up with the Nets for a couple of reasons. First, the Nets have a gaping hole at power forward (which Harris plays) and plenty of cap space to sign him with. Second, unlike other free agents on this list, Harris has not said that he wants to stay in Philadelphia. After being there only a couple of months, we have no idea if he is happy. Harris has been struggling in Philadelphia, with his scoring taking a big hit after playing with three other all-stars in Joel Embiid, Jimmy Butler, and Ben Simmons. The Nets

have an appealing young core to play around Harris.

Jimmy Butler: Philadelphia 76ers: Jimmy looks very comfortable in Philly. His game seems to fit perfectly with Ben Simmons and Joel Embiid, and he looks happy in Philly, laughing with Embiid on the bench, and giddy when he hits game winners. All of this just seems like too much to leave behind for Butler, and I see no reason why he would leave.

Khris Middleton: Milwaukee Bucks: One word: Giannis. Why would Middleton want to stop playing with the best player in the world? And after a deep playoff run where Middleton was a large contributor, Middleton will likely stay in Milwaukee.

D'Angelo Russell: Brooklyn Nets: The Nets would want to resign the young Russell for whatever money it takes, especially with him coming off a breakout season. The Nets would still have cap space for Harris if they resigned him, and with the Nets making the playoffs for the first time in a while last year, I don't think they would want to shake things up.

Nikola Vucevic: Orlando Magic: With the Magic making the playoffs this year, Vucevic will likely stay put, especially with the possibility of other free agents coming to Orlando. He could also go to the Mavericks, but the Magic just seem more likely for him.

Kemba Walker: Dallas Mavericks: With Dallas having the young star Doncic and having traded for Kristaps Porzingis, there is a lot of talent there, but no above-average point guard. This is a good opportunity for Kemba to finally make the playoffs. If Dallas signs Porzingis to a max, then Kemba cannot get a max but will likely settle for less in exchange for being part of a true contender for the first time in his career.

Kristaps Porzingis: Dallas Mavericks: After being traded to Dallas, he must have told Dallas he would resign, as he has not yet played for the Mavericks. He has posted about being happy to play with a fellow Eastern-European in Doncic. Dallas will most likely sign him to a max.

DeMarcus Cousins: Los Angeles Lakers: Boogie was not a good fit with the Warriors

whose efficiency with Boogie on the floor was the worst it has been since 2015. We also know Boogie wasn't committed long-term to the Warriors, as he signed only a one year deal, so I expect him to sign a deal somewhere else. The Lakers seem like the best option. LeBron has been looking for another star, and Boogie may be that guy. Boogie took a league exception to sign with the Warriors last year, and if he does the same in LA, the Lakers will have cap space for another star, creating the Big Three that LeBron wants so desperately.

Klay Thompson: Golden State Warriors: Klay was a part of the original Warriors team that won in 2014-15, and I don't see him leaving. He seems to accept his role as the lesser of the Splash Brothers and seems happy in Golden State. If KD walks and Boogie doesn't resign, all of a sudden the Warriors have cap space to sign him to a max, which Klay will most likely accept. While there are rumors swirling that Klay will sign with the Lakers, I think a max contract from the Warriors will be too much for him to turn down.

Kyrie Irving: New York Knicks: The reasons for Kyrie going to New York are way too significant to think he would return to Boston. With the Celtics coming off a bad second round exit where they lost the series 4-1 to a young Bucks team, Kyrie did not look happy. He grew up in northern-New Jersey, and when he requested a trade from the Cavs, the Knicks were one of the four teams he wanted to join. Before the season, Kyrie told Celtics fans he planned to resign, but when asked if he still planned on returning during the season, he got upset and responded, "I don't owe anybody [anything]." It is also a question of whether the Celtics want Kyrie to resign after the disappointment of this season and the lack of cohesion in the roster. Irving also failed to step into the leadership role he was supposed to take. The Knicks will have approximately 74 million dollars in cap space, enough for two max contracts, and all evidence points to Kyrie taking one of those max contracts to start to form the Knicks' big two.

Kawhi Leonard: Toronto Raptors: Kawhi is notoriously quiet and doesn't give us a lot of hints as to where he plans to sign this off season. But with the Raptors making a deep playoff run and Kawhi being arguably the best player of the playoffs in that time span, the Raptors will try hard to resign him. They also have cap space to offer him a max contract. Again, we have no idea if Kawhi is happy, but with the Raptors making a deep playoff run and Pascal Siakam turning into a really good player to support Kawhi, as well as with the addition of a hall-of-fame defensive big man in Marc Gasol, Leonard will likely stick around in the North.

Kevin Durant: New York Knicks: While KD has not said he wants to go to New York, I would bet the house on him signing with the Knicks this offseason. There is overwhelming evidence: KD's agent, Rich Kleiman, has ties to New York. KD moved his business, Thirty Five Ventures, to the Big Apple. There are rumors swirling that KD will have his own television show on MSG during the season. The Knicks have space for the max KD would require, and moving provides KD with the opportunity to pair up with Irving and a top-five draft pick (and we know KD likes being on good teams). With all of these ties to NYC, most experts predict KD will sign with the Knicks.

A Look at Life: An Editorial

By Jack Gordon

One of the fundamental questions of life is its purpose. What should one do with a life? What makes a good life? Throughout history, many great philosophers have weighed in with their opinions. The Dalai Lama said that the purpose of life is to be happy. Aristotle thought that happiness is important, but virtue has to be maintained when trying to attain it. But which of them is right? With countless opinions on the matter, there is truly no correct answer. But I believe the answer is somewhere in the middle of everyone's opinions. To find this perfect middle, you must look through the

views of different people. This is essential because life cannot have a purpose that is good only for people of a certain economic situation, racial background, or education. The purpose of life has to be something attainable for everyone. We must look at views of others from many backgrounds to figure out the true meaning of life.

We must first look at the question from the view of an ethicist. An ethicist would say that the purpose of life is to act morally. What this would entail is being good to others, living by moral principles (preferably without hurting others), and not wavering from those moral principles. An ethicist would say that helping others and acting morally is more important to living a good life than personal happiness. An ethicist would see life as an opportunity to do good for others that must be seized.

Now let's look at the question through the view of a technologist who would say that the purpose of life is to advance human society and technology by making advancements in technology, discovering new principles, and finding new ways of doing things. For such a person, these elements, not helping others, would be the purpose of a good life. Perhaps one might say that if you help others along the way, great, but it is not a priority. They would say that happiness is not of the most importance if in losing it you advance human technology.

But more importantly than the view of a technologist and the view of an ethicist is the view of normal people. This view is so important because most of us fit the category. So, as discussed above, we have an important view, as the purpose of life must be something that all people can do. In fact, the view of normal people is as close as we can get to the purpose of life. Not being rich enough to devote all their time to charity (as they must work), they would see helping others, not as a top priority, but important. They want to help others, but it is not their only goal in life. The other goal of these people is happiness. People want to be happy. They want a family that makes them happy, a house that makes them happy, and

life in a place that makes them happy. But most people are not psychopaths. They understand that helping others is important and must balance that with their own pursuit for happiness in order to live a life they see as "a good life."

Among all of these views, there is a happy medium somewhere. But there is not one happy medium in the world. There are 7.4 billion happy mediums out there. There must be a happy medium for everyone, and simple logic clearly tells us this. As seen by looking at the questions from different points of view, people live in different situations. A rich person who doesn't have to work can dedicate a lot more time helping others than a poor person who must work. A technologist would value advancing society as a way of helping others, but an ethicist would have different ideas about how to help others. For each person must find the all important balance between personal happiness and helping others.

Things We All Should Know (But Some Don't)

By Albert Zhu

Q: What is the world's smallest country?

A: Vatican City

Q: Why does your blood look blue when you look at your veins through your skin?

A: The way light interacts with it makes it appear blue, but it isn't actually blue.

Q: What colors do dogs see?

A: Black, brown, yellow, blue, purple. The myth that dogs only see in black and white is false.

Q: What percent of our brains do we use?

A: Close to 100%. The statement that we only use 10% may be that neurons in the brain are not always firing. If you are sleeping or resting your brain, you may be using only a small amount.

Q: What is the largest freshwater lake outside of North America?

A: Lake Victoria.

Q: What is the diameter of the earth?

A: Approximately 8000 miles.

Q: Where is the world's most ancient forest?

A: Cape Tribulation, Australia.

Q: Who is the only boxer to have an undefeated career?

A: Rocky Marciano.

Q: What is the *Mona Lisa*'s common name?

A: La Gioconda.

Q: Who was Henry VIII's first wife?

A: Catherine of Aragon.

Q: When was the Euro introduced as legal currency on the world market?

A: January 1st, 1999.

Quotations for Common School Problems By Eleftheria Damianakis

The *PCS Hawkeye* was wondering how famous quotations could help with common school problems, so, we put together a list of those that address some.

Problem: Bad Grades

Quotation: "What makes a child gifted and talented may not always be good grades in school, but a different way of looking at the world and learning." – Chuck Grassley

Problem: Not doing homework

Quotation: "I'm not telling you it's going to be easy- I'm telling you it's going to be worth it." –Art Williams

Problem: Being overwhelmed by too much work.

Quotation: You don't have to be great to get started, but you have to get started to be great. – Les Brown

Problem: Being easily distracted.

Quotation: I never dreamed of success. I worked for it. – Estee Lauder

Problem: Getting discouraged by classmates

Quotation: No matter how many people tell you that you can't do it – keep going. --Anonymous

Fake News

By Alexi Meyers and Eleftheria Damianakis

News flash! There have been some occurrences of S. P. G. R. or Spontaneous Personal Gravity Reversal, throughout the

school. If you're infected, your gravity will change at random times. Although it makes it hard to take tests, it can be fun to sudenvhtrioe;lp352'[4]o\|?!><mm. Oh! sorry about that. My word's gravity just got reversed, but I turned upside down (if there is such a thing now) and that's helping.. Going back to what I was saying, it can sometimes be fun to fly into the air. to counteract the effects, Mr. Patton has decided to put short railings along all of the floors and ceilings and tie the affected students to massive rubber bands to keep them on the ground. I would definitely need that! Just be careful outside until some ceilings are built outside because if you get S.P.G.R. outside you will never get back!

In addition to that, the hallways of the upper school building will have springs on their walls to help students get to class faster. Mr. Patton said that this will ensure that there will be no excuses for being late to class and that it will motivate kids to get to class quicker. Now, getting to class late will have great consequences because wherever you are, you have a quick way to get everywhere. What's more, Mr. Patton is also thinking of making some type of Student Pinball event, to see which human pinballs can ricochet through the hallways the fastest.

Mr. Papp has also convinced Mr. Patton to add in rock climbing inside of the gym and as a way to get inside of the gym. There will be a giant rock wall leading into the gym, with a bungee cord for protection. Inside of the gym, there will be high platforms that you can bungee jump off. **WARNING!** They forgot to ask for railings, so you will have to watch out, and only jump off *with* a bungee cord. Mr. Papp said that when the student teacher, Ms. Darsella, came, everyone liked different exercises, so bungee jumping and rock climbing will be the new main gym exercises! If you don't like heights...well, then get over your fear soon. You can try to ask Mr. Papp to make an exception for you, but the whole point is to get over your fears, so good luck with *that*.
