

The Talon

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Lindblom Math & Science Academy • Chicago, Illinois

Mayor Visits, Praises LMSA

By **DYWON PERKINS & JEREMIAH PORTER**
Senior Editors

Mayor Rahm Emanuel visited Lindblom Math & Science Academy to tour the school, meet with students, discuss an initiative to bring more police officers to the Seventh District, and commend the school for its appearance on the Chicago Sun-Times school rankings list.

Lindblom has jumped 64 ranks and landed at No. 43 statewide for its junior-year reading and math scores. Mayor Emanuel visited Lindblom earlier in the year and promised to visit again if Lindblom became a top Illinois high school.

Emanuel said, "I promised your principal...if you make it into the top 50 high schools, I would come back and not only congratulate him, but congratulate the students and the

teachers." Mayor Emanuel walked the halls and visited many classrooms to join their discussions.

Emanuel was greeted with a warm reception as soon as he walked through Lindblom's doors. Emanuel arrived just as a passing period had started, and this gave him a chance to greet and chat with many students that were in the halls. He then joined Mr. Linderman's AP U.S. History class to share his thoughts on controversial historical events, then was escorted to room 100 where he did an interview for CBS about his plans for longer school days.

Emanuel talked about more than just the idea of having a longer school day. "Everybody is focusing on the length of the day; I've also talked about lengthening the school year by two weeks...that is essential for the kids to get an edu-

cation," he said. Although students improved their test scores with the Track E calendar, Emanuel believes it is imperative that students maximize the time they have with their teachers. Emanuel said, "You cannot learn what you need to learn on the shortest day."

The mayor also shared innovative ways for students to communicate with teachers by suggesting students should be offered classes via Skype. As Emanuel shared his ideas with the LMSA staff, he walked the halls and greeted students. Junior James White said, "[Emanuel] was very friendly. He was interested in my life after high school, and shared his ideas on how to be most successful in life...he believes that education is the key."

The mayor was proud that Lindblom became one of the seven Chicago Public Schools to rank in



PHOTO BY DYWON PERKINS
MAYOR RAHM EMANUEL AND SOPHOMORE KASANDRA NEGRETE LISTEN AS SOPHOMORE MALAK TROUTMAN MAKES A POINT IN MR. LINDERMAN'S CLASS

the state's 100 top scorers.

"Your city is a better city because you all are really good students,"

Emanuel said. "I want to thank you personally."

A Night in the Desert

Trip to Qatar provides students with unique stories



PHOTO COURTESY OF MR. LONG

LMSA STUDENTS CLIMB THE DESERT DUNES NEAR THE ARABIAN GULF IN QATAR.

By **ASIA LEE**
Staff Reporter

Nineteen Lindblom students waited at O'Hare airport last month, eager to board a plane to Dulles Aripport in Washington, D.C. Arriving in our nation's capital meant that students were just a plane ride away from their destination – Doha, Qatar.

Two weeks later, these same students returned home excited to share stories about their experiences, agreeing that the most memorable was an overnight stay in a desert.

In the desert, they seemed to discover a few hidden talents. Simply enforcing the lights-out rule at twelve o'clock, science teacher Ms.

Osquist, played a huge part in their discovery.

Trying to set an example, Ms. Osquist entered the girls' tent, took their light bulb, and ran. Fortunately, with or without lights, students stayed entertained, or better yet, entertaining.

The girls hoped that remixing songs for their dear light bulb would convince Ms. Osquist to return it. However, their singing only made teachers happy they took it away in the first place.

Another LMSA science teacher, Ms. Copper, expressed how amazed she was the following morning at breakfast. She told the girls, "We should've recorded you all last night; might get you all a record

deal." Although she was joking, Ms. Copper, along with the rest of the teachers, enjoyed the songs the girls had dedicated to their light bulb.

The desert was the first time all the American students were together, giving them the chance to bond. They surely took advantage of this opportunity.

The students rolled down sand dunes together, played volleyball, chilled on the coast of the Arabian Gulf, and by the end of the night they were sitting in the sand enjoying mutual conversation.

Out of all the parts of the trip, the least expected was an overnight desert trip which turned out to be the best experience these students ever had.

Behind The Music: Victor Alvarado

By **NIAIRA MARSHALL**
Staff Reporter

One of our fellow seniors from the Special Needs Disability Center was featured with Mr. Demski's band at the pep rally on October 21, 2011.

When many of us think of people with disabilities, we seem to have preconceived notions about what they can accomplish. Truth is, they succeed at things some of us only dream of.

Victor Alvarado plays various instruments ranging from drums, piano, cymbals, and even guitar. He shows us that special needs students are more than capable of doing the things we do on a regular basis.

Victor has attended Lindblom since his freshman year and has completed many music courses.

He joined the band this year, but has been playing instruments, and even singing, for years now. Victor actually plays outside of school, at various locations, including his church where he and his family perform.

Lindblom does a wonderful job at giving the Special Needs Disability Center students an opportunity to explore the world on their own, and encourages them to do things that they would

normally want to do without guidance.

Students are taught skills that will make them successful in life, and encouraged to find their talents. Victor explores his talents and expresses his love for music through playing instruments and singing songs like, "Hakuna Matata" or "Follow the Yellow Brick Road." Victor is one of many who represent people with disabilities in a positive way.

Special Education teacher Mr. Ladas, said, "Victor is a tremendous student who exhibits a great deal of musical skill and technical proficiency."

He shows us that through his love of music he is able to express the warmth in his heart.



PHOTO BY MR. DUDEK

DRUMS, PIANO AND GUITAR ARE JUST A FEW OF THE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS VICTOR ALVARADO PLAYS. AT HOMECOMING, HIS SKILL WITH THE CYMBALS WAS ON DISPLAY.



Book Club in jeopardy now that Mayor Daley is gone



Pom Pon makes its return after rough year



Twihards rejoice at release of fourth movie



Girls' Basketball has high hopes for season

Swoop Scoop

SCIENCE FAIR RESULTS ANNOUNCED

The annual Lindblom Science Fair took place November 23 in the ballroom. The winners were:

- Academic Center*
1. Nia Gray — Chemistry: The Effect of Different Solutions on Water Tension
 2. Raymond Thicklin — Earth Science: Is Limestone the Solution to our Acid Rain Problem
 3. Andrea Bossi — Chemistry: Does Plain Water Boil Faster with Salt
 4. Austin Dye — Botany: Frozen Seeds
 5. Faith Jones — Engineering: Bridge Design on Weight Bearing Capacity
 6. Abisola Olawale — Environmental: Effect of Salt on Radish Seed Germination
 7. Kelim Clark — Environmental: Which Alge has the Most Energy *High School*

1. Oluwatobi Opakunle — Chemistry: The Investigation of Biomaterials' Properties

2. Libby Brothers — Environmental: Science Ions in Water: Is our Water Safe

3. Isabeal Raymundo — Mathematics: Fold for your Thought

4. Brittini Pratt — Environmental: Science Dirt Impurities and Plant Growth

The Regional Science Fair will be held at Daley College on January 27, 2012. Students can contact Mrs. Jaiyesimi with questions.

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES RANKS LINDBLOM IN STATE'S TOP 50

Based on average test scores on state tests, the Chicago Sun-Times released its annual rankings of Illinois schools. Lindblom made the biggest jump, going from #107 to #43 on their list. Northside College Prep was first on the list, followed by Whitney Young and Walter Payton.

Read more about the rankings on page 1 ("Mayor Visits, Praises LMSA") and page 5 ("Sun-Times undermines students").

WINTER BREAK BEGINS SOON

December 16 is the last day of school in 2011. Upon dismissal, students and staff will have three weeks off for winter break.

Classes resume Monday, January 9, 2012.

PICTURE DAY MOVED TO FEBRUARY 8

Due to a change in the CPS calendar over the summer, Lindblom's picture day had to be moved from November 16 to February 8.

Seniors and eighth graders will take their cap and gown pictures on that day. Sophomores and juniors will also be scheduled to take pictures that day. Because of time restraints, ninth and seventh graders will have their pictures taken on March 14. This will also be the make-up day for the rest of the school.

Order forms will be distributed in January.

MILITARY BALL DATE SET FOR EARLY MARCH

The JROTC Military Ball is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, March 3, from 7 p.m. until midnight.

The Military Ball is open to all LMSA students, staff, and faculty.

Tickets will go on sale in February and will cost \$40.

There will be more information as the event gets closer. Any questions can be answered by any instructor in the JROTC Department.

THE TALON IS NOW ONLINE

The Talon has finally made the jump to the internet. Although still under construction, you can visit us online at www.lindblomtalton.com.

In addition to all the stories from the print edition, the online version will have weekly updates and additional pictures you can't find in the newspaper.

WANT TO SPEND THE SUMMER IN ALASKA?

Ms. Dell is taking applications for interested sophomores, juniors, and seniors to study for a month during intersession with Dr. Kristin O'Brien at University of Alaska - Fairbanks over summer intersession.

She is the principal scientist at the research center in Antarctica that Ms. Dell visited last Spring.

Two students will be selected to conduct research with Dr. O'Brien. This is an all expense paid trip; students would live in the UAF dorms.

See Ms. Dell if you are interested or have any questions.

LMSA MATH TEAM WINS ANOTHER MEET

The LMSA Math Team wins continue to add up. Here are the result of their last meet on Saturday, December 3:

LMSA: 1st in Overall Team competition

Algebra: 1st in team competition

Algebra 2: 1st in team competition

Pre Calc: 1st in Team competition

Geometry: 2nd in Team competition

Individual awards went to:

In Algebra: Kwadwo Akompong earned 1st place and Sergio Labra earned 3rd place

In Geometry: Tyler Greene and Melissa Carvajal tied for 2nd place, and Fatima Mendez earned 3rd place

In Algebra 2: Carlos Gutierrez and Veronica Alejandro tied for 1st place.

In Pre-Calc: Eduardo Alejandro earned 1st place and Andres Casillas placed 2nd.

Congratulations to all of our participants and thanks to the math team coaches/tutors (Baker, Bitar, Ghillanyova, Kang, and Morrison) for preparing our students.

YEARBOOKS GO ON SALE IN JANUARY

The 2012 yearbook will go on sale next month. For only \$40 you can have more than 150 full-color pages full of memories.

The last day to buy yearbooks will be March 23.

Learning about the longer day



PHOTO BY MR. DUDEK

ON THEIR WAY TO LUNCH, STUDENTS STOP BY PRINCIPAL MATHER'S TABLE IN THE CAFETERIA TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROPOSED SCHEDULES FOR NEXT YEAR'S POTENTIALLY LONGER SCHOOL DAY.

“Who’s the more foolish, the fool, or the fool who follows him?”

— Mr. Kang

HEARD IN THE HALLS

Sudoku

9	5	4	2		7	8		3
			8		3			
8		3	9		4		6	7
5		9	6	3	2	1	4	
	3		1	4	8		7	
	4	8		7		6		2
7						4	9	
3	8			9		7	2	5
4	9			2	5	3		

Eagles swoop in, help Catholic Charities

Dean Williams helps LMSA students get jobs

BY ARIEL ORNELAS
Staff Reporter

Dean Williams has collaborated for the past three years with Karen Moore, from Catholic Charities, in a program that offers students jobs through WIC.

WIC is a federally-funded health and nutrition program for women, infants, children, and families by providing checks for buying healthy supplemental foods from WIC-authorized vendors, and nutrition education. Catholic Charities finds jobs for the students through WIC.

Jobs were at WIC's facilities at Chicagoland locations. The students needed to meet certain requirements in order to be part of the program. A 3.0 GPA, three letters of recommendation, and a résumé containing past

accomplishments and work history were asked to be provided.

Over the last three years, the program has provided several students with jobs.

"I enjoy the job; our schedules are flexible and even though we do have down time every now and then," junior Chris Canady said. "I'm pleased with it."

Chris works at WIC's 79th street location. Dean Williams feels that this program is a great opportunity for students. "I'm very excited and I hope to continue to build a relationship with Catholic Charities for years to come," he said.

Dean Williams would like to thank our teachers who wrote several letters of recommendation for students and some with short notice, counselors Ms. Weathers and Mr. Perez

for preparing transcripts, sending emails to notify students, and faxing Ms. Karen Moore when needed.



PHOTO BY MR. DUDEK

SEEN HERE AT LAST MONTH'S SCIENCE FAIR, DEAN WILLIAMS HAS WORKED WITH CATHOLIC CHARITIES TO HELP MANY LMSA STUDENTS FIND JOBS.

Time to Raise Some Funds

BY SYIDAH HERRING
Staff Reporter

There has been a lot of fundraising going at Lindblom. From the freshmen to the seniors, everyone has been coming up with ideas on how to earn money for their class.

The seniors in particular have been brainstorming ideas to raise as much funds as possible. The most recent fundraiser for the senior class was the hoodies that were sold for thirty dollars. The hoodies earned the seniors a significant amount of money. Still, a lot of seniors are worried about just how much money the class has and how much they will have to pay when it comes time for senior activities.

"The Innisbrook fundraiser was not as successful as I hoped, but the class sweats made up for it a little bit," senior class president Autumn Branch said. "As long as the senior student body participates in the fundraisers we hold, I'm sure we will be fine."

The rest of the student body has thrown around some ideas also. The junior class has raised money and they feel that they are in a good place when it comes to raising money. The sophomores and freshman are not so satisfied however.

Sophomore Davontay Dickey said, "I feel that our class has not done a good job to raise funds. The ideas that have been proposed have not gone anywhere."

A lot of students agree with Davontay and think there are not enough voices being heard and ideas going forth, but a lot of the student body has said that people who are complaining have not done anything to change that.

All in all, as a student body, the school has come up with ideas on how to raise funds. The seniors have been fundraising exceptionally well, to chip away at the expensive graduation activities such as prom, luncheon and a possible senior class trip.

New mayor leaves book club in jeopardy

BY MIRANDA SALDAÑA
Staff Reporter

"So here's the deal, here's the buzz," Ms. Terry, sponsor of LMSA book club, said. Mayor Richard Daley retired and Mayor Rahm Emanuel was inaugurated. Believe it or not, the mayoral election sig-

nificantly impacted the book club at Lindblom.

The Lindblom Book Club was first initiated because former Mayor Daley incorporated this program into most Chicago Public high schools to serve CPS students. Now that Emanuel has taken office, nothing has been said about funding for book clubs in CPS; including Lindblom.

Ms. Terry said that Emanuel has visited Lindblom's library several times and had a lot to say about the books; however, has not mentioned anything about funding for Lindblom's book club.

"We're trying to find ways to get around because of the lack of funding," Ms. Terry said. The Book Club at Lindblom usually receives 20 copies of the book that is assigned. Many would believe that this is going to be hard to achieve with limited funding.

Book Club usually operates by theme, this school year's theme is "Identity." The books read cover topics such as sexual orientation and personal identity. Students that are involved in book club read the same book and discuss it in unity the days that they meet. The book club at Lindblom has been an asset to the Lindblom community. Ms. Terry and students remain hopeful that the appropriate funding will be available for the book club this year.



PHOTO FROM WBEZ.ORG

WITH HIS DEPARTURE FROM CITY HALL, MAYOR DALEY LEAVES THE FUTURE OF HIS BOOK CLUB IN DOUBT.

Meet the Teachers Part II

Last issue we introduced you to ten new staff members at LMSA. Here are three more.



Ms. Gondim
Special Education

Lindblom is her first school where she is teaching in a class.

Before Lindblom, Ms. Gondim worked in business at a staffing firm, where she interviewed people and placed them in temporary jobs.

She quotes, "It's been great working with such a dedicated group of teachers and hardworking students."

She graduated from the University of Chicago, and has a Bachelor's in Psychology.

She mainly helps teach Algebra with Ms. Hennessy, and also tutors in room 200A.

by Kaylah Harrington



Ms. Wydler
English

Before I came to LMSA, I taught at Roberto Clemente Community Academy for five years and Perspectives Leadership Academy in Auburn Gresham for one year.

I attended the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign. I majored in English with a minor in Secondary Education. I am currently attending DePaul University where I am working towards a masters in Writing, Rhetoric and Discourse.

I think LMSA is incredible. The enthusiasm for learning and the kindness of both the students and the faculty is inspiring to me and makes me excited to come to work each day!

Obviously, I'm a WYLD eagle, but I'm also a hungry eagle who is constantly planning her next meal!



Mr. Baker
Special Education

Where did you work before you came to LMSA?

I worked at John Hope College Prep prior to working at Lindblom.

Where did you attend college and which degree did you earn?

I went to the University of Evansville, I have a degree in Special Education. GO ACES!!!!

What do you think of LMSA so far??

I really enjoy working at LMSA! I feel very fortunate to work with such a great staff and wonderful group of students

Holiday season is here at LMSA

BY KIMBERLY WATERFORD
Staff Reporter

To most people, Thanksgiving and Christmas are a time for food, family and fun. But what about those without food or family? There are many people in Chicago that find no significant meaning in the holidays. To them, it is just another day of living in poverty and searching for food.

Poverty in America has risen greatly, and we as a people are not doing enough to help those who need it. There are some people, however, that do what they can for the poverty stricken. Every year, around Thanksgiving and the holiday season, there are organizations that hold food drives for those without food and family.

Lindblom also holds a food and can drive around this time of year. Students within the school are asked to bring in canned and non-perishable foods for the less fortunate. In the past years, Lindblom has col-

lected hundreds of food items and put them to good use.

When the community helps the less fortunate, it gives them a sense of love that they would not have gotten from any place else. Knowing that there are people that are willing to help them only gives them hope to not give up on themselves.

The holidays should not only be about food and family, but also about the love and care that we have for one another.

Giving someone a meal and a sense of hope should make people feel good about themselves. It should encourage them to help out the less fortunate more often. Because Lindblom is one of those organizations that help feed the hungry, everyone in the school should play a part in giving a meal to a hungry family. We thank you for your support. Have a Merry Christmas and remember, it's better to give than to receive.

The Talon

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EDITORIALS

CPS is Wrong; We Don't Need a Longer Day

By **MISSAEL PALE**
Staff Reporter

Thanks to Mayor Emanuel and officials at Chicago Public Schools, Lindblom's school day will more than likely be extended by at least an hour a day for the 2012-2013 school year.

Emanuel and CPS officials believe that the added time will help students succeed in school. The CEO of CPS, Jean-Claude Brizard, believes that "having the shortest school day in the nation puts teachers and students at a disadvantage." Brizard and Emanuel believe that more time in the classroom will make students learn more.

Yes, it might help some students perform better one way or another, but overall, this will only make matters more complicated for students. Lindblom already has colloquium days which serve the same purpose of the extra hours will. They are both meant to provide students with extra help in classes they are struggling with.

What does this mean? It means that the only thing an extra hour in school will do is keep both students

and teachers another hour from home where they might have more important things to do. The longer day will also bring complaints—and lots of them—from the students.

Just because a student spends more time in school doesn't mean he or she learns more than a student that spends less time in school. How much a student learns completely depends on one thing: the student's attitude. A student can spend ten hours in school every day, but learn almost nothing if they choose to not care about school.

On the other hand, a student that goes to school for six hours can learn much more if he or she cares for school. How could making the school day longer possibly make students like school more? If anything, it will make most students stress even more about school. It doesn't matter if CPS adds thirty minutes or two hours more to the day. Students won't be very happy about it.

If CPS wants its students to perform better in school, it needs to actually start thinking about the students rather than the amount of time they spend in school.

We Need a Talent Show

By **JANAE MCINTOSH**
Staff Reporter

Lindblom Math and Science Academy is filled with many talented people.

While walking through the hallways to your classes you may catch someone playing the guitar, someone singing, someone rapping, someone dancing, or you may even catch them showing off their hacky sack skills outside. We may have the next Beyonce', Kanye West, or Jimi Hendrix walking through the hallways of our school, but we would never know unless we give them a chance to broadcast their talents.

So, should we have a talent show? Yes we should. A talent show gives our students a chance to see the different talents their peers have. It gives students a chance to venture outside of their group of friends and discover the interests of their other peers.

There was a talent show back in 2008 that was held after colloquium.

Lindblom alum Malikhah Muhammad attended this talent show and commented that other than the technical difficulties, the talent show was fun and that she would have never guessed that the people who performed had those talents.

Senior Brianna Leonard said, "I think it would be funny to see; we have a lot of singers and dancers at this school and I think it would be fun to see them on stage performing."

However, not everyone was as excited about the idea as Brianna was.

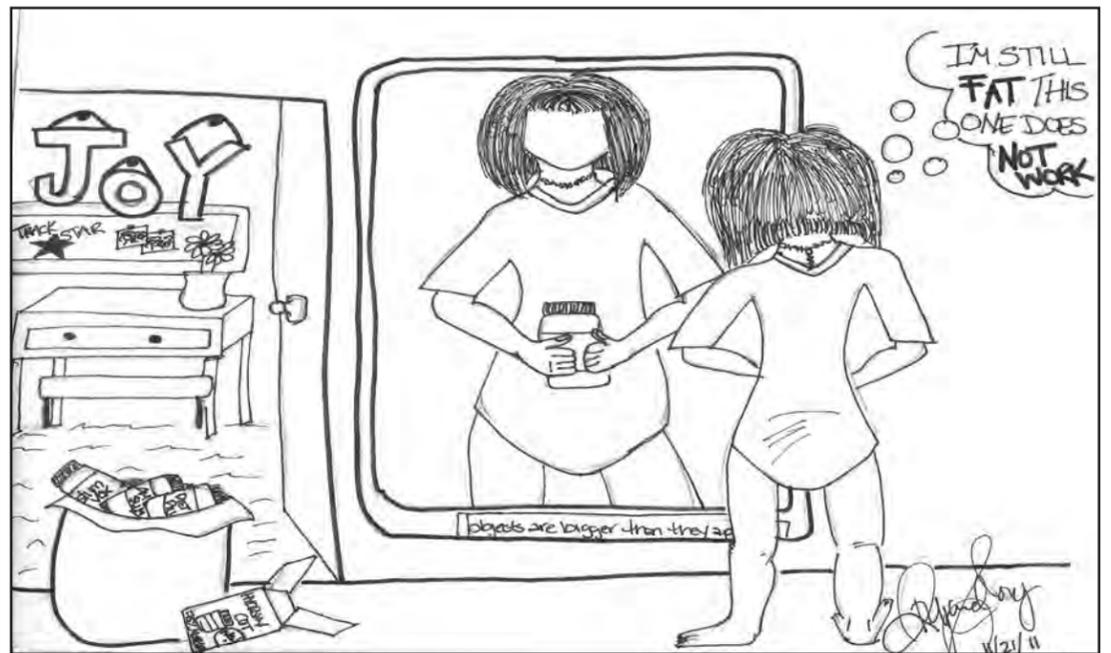
Senior Eriean Howard said, "I would not go; I don't think that there would be many people willing to get in front of the school to perform. There are not many talented kids here at Lindblom."

There are mixed reviews about having a talent show, but why not begin a new tradition: Lindblom's Annual Talent Show.

We have nothing to lose, and you never know what new talents you may discover.

DYAMOND IN THE ROUGH

BY DYAMOND JOY



Why are the PCs so Slow?

By **MR. WOODS**
Tech Coordinantor

A common question that I receive from students is "Why are Lindblom's Computers So Slow?" The answer basically breaks down like this:

Reason #1: Antivirus software

Originally, our computers were protected by a antivirus program called Trend Antivirus.

This antivirus software had a small kernel (i.e. occupied a small amount of memory and did not demand much of the central processing unit (CPU)) and did not slow down the computer to a large extent. However, starting last year, the Chicago Board of Education's Information and Technology Services (ITS) pushed onto our computers through the central server (a computer that sends files and information to other computers) a new antivirus program

called McAfee Antivirus. This program is more advanced, and thus has a large kernel. This is not much of a problem for newer computers with more than one core (i.e. 2 or more CPU's in one CPU chip), but is a big problem in single core computers, such as the ones in the Library, and computer labs. The only computers in the building at this time that have more than one core are in Room 225 with Mr. Baskin.

Reason #2: Domain Controller

Up until this past year, Lindblom housed an intermediate domain controller (a server that houses student login information) in our MDF Room (202) here at the school. Thus, when students logged into their computers under INSTR, the information was fetched locally, and logins were smooth. Now, ITS decommissioned our intermediate domain controller in favor of a main domain controller which is housed downtown and is

more centralized. If it were a matter of distance, this issue would be somewhat insignificant; instead, all the schools in Chicago are accessing that server.

This slows down the network considerably due to high bandwidth (lots of data flowing the network wires and limited numbers of wires and equipment, similar to traffic during rush hour). That is why when students (and staff) log in, it says "Applying Settings" for a very long time. However, most computers run at normal speed once the login process is complete. At that time, most speed degradation is caused by Reason #1.

I have called the ITS department and have requested a resolution to this issue.

Pom Pon Squad Returns After Year of Controversy

By **DYAMOND JOY**
Staff Reporter

The Lindblom Pom Pon team has been one of the most controversial topics over the past year. If you weren't there to actually see their performance at last year's pep rally, you definitely heard about how "scandalous" and "inappropriate" it was.

Apparently last year, while the Pom Pon team was practicing for their performance at the pep rally, Ms. Mest noticed some things that she felt were inappropriate for a high school pep rally and asked them to remove it after consulting with Mr. Mather. Unfortunately, none of those things were removed from the performance, which made some teachers and staff feel very uncomfortable due to their 'obnoxious' music and 'provocative' dancing.

However, this year the Pom Pon team has definitely risen from the shadows. Their dances were creative, exhilarating, and really got the crowd pumped, all while staying appropriate.

"The pom pon team was very respectful of what was and was not appropriate based on their choreography and music this year," Mr. Mather said. According to Mr. Mather, the pom pon team coach made a great effort to communicate with Ms. Mest and him about dances and outfits to keep everything appropriate and fair. Even people who didn't go last



PHOTO BY CORENTHIA KENEARD

THE POM PON SQUAD PERFORMS AT PEP RALLY, WITH SENIORS BRIANNA HOBBS AND CASIMIR LACOUR STEPPING FORWARD

year noticed the major difference. "I didn't go to last year's pep rally, but from what I heard and saw this year, it didn't look as scandalous as people said," math teacher Mr. Kang, said.

But, the pom pon better watch out, because the Lindblom cheerleaders were hot on their tails as far as performances this year. "Pom Pon normally performs better than the cheerleaders, but the cheerleaders did

really good this year.

"They definitely brought something new to the table and showed the school they are a force to be reckoned with. But Pom Pon still did an amazing job," sophomore, Jaylon Tucker, said.

OPINIONS & EDITORIALS

Sun-Times undermines students



PHOTO BY TALON STAFF

THE CHICAGO SUN-TIMES SEEMS TO GIVE CREDIT TO EVERYONE EXCEPT THE PEOPLE THAT MIGHT DESERVE IT MOST — THE STUDENTS. HERE, SENIOR MAVERICK SHARKS WORKS ON HIS SCIENCE FAIR PROJECT.

BY STEPHEN MINTER

Staff Reporter

The Chicago Sun-Times was at LMSA last month to highlight the school for our amazing academic efforts.

LMSA was ranked the No. 43 high school in the state of Illinois and also ranked the No. 6 high school in the city. This is a major jump from being No. 107 last year.

After a journey through the halls and peeks in various classes, two Sun-Times reporters wrote an eye-raising review as to the 'true' reason of the schools' success.

The article failed to recognize us, the students, as one of the key factors in the schools recent triumphs. As a matter of fact, the only time we are mentioned is when a majority of

us are being labeled as low-income students.

The main issue with that is our financial status should not matter in terms of our academic success.

"It seems as if they tried to make it seem that since we're low income students we have no other choice but to be smart and that is definitely not the case," said Shanice Willis.

While the article was indeed well written, it did not notice the students as much, or as well, as it should have.

I personally thank the Sun-Times for recognizing the schools accomplishments; I just think that next time, they should acknowledge every aspect that contributes to Lindblom's success. Giving credit where credit is due is vital.

THE EDITOR'S CORNER

Can't We All Just Get Along?

BY AUTUMN BRANCH

Editor in Chief

Graduation, one of the most anticipated ceremonies for a typical high school student, is almost here, but celebration of our final months together has been disregarded for the sake of insulting those whom we once called, "friend".

Why is there so much hostility within the class of 2012? Underclassmen don't seem to have this issue. Many believe that students wait until senior year to show their true colors, but our class has always suffered from this.

The division began freshman year. Many had come from schools predominately populated by other students of their race, so once they experienced the diversity of LMSA, many stuck with their comfort zone: people who looked like them.

As time progressed this trend did die down, and students saw that despite racial differences, they actually related with each other.

With that issue behind us, the class of 2012 now suffers from an even bigger system of separation. Not necessarily separation by race, but separation by cliques and cliques within cliques.

The class of 2012 consists of: the second floor/library clique, the 3rd floor right wing clique, the 3rd floor left wing clique, the first floor clique, the anime lover's clique, and the list goes on.

A clique in general would not be such a great issue, but these groups argue with each other and some are too stubborn to put differences, if any, behind them.

Don't get me wrong, our class is not completely divided. There is interaction between cliques, but many feel that if their friend has an enemy, that person must be their enemy as well. Going through life with that mentality will get you nowhere.

You'll end up with very few friends, and angry at the world without probable cause.

Don't let graduation come and you are still holding grudges. In fact, many people don't like each other and don't even know why. Let it go. This is our final year together, so we should spend it accordingly, together. I understand not everyone will get along all the time, but students tend to blow things out of proportion. A simple suggestion could be received as an insult, and a nudge in the hallway may be received as a push out of anger. Misunderstandings can result in many damaged relationships.

If you have a problem with someone, talk it out in person. Don't resort to social networking websites because you will not get anywhere. If anything, you'll make the situation worse.

Just a few pieces of advice: spend your time doing something constructive like college and scholarship applications and essays, or homework.

Also, know who your real friends are, and don't disregard them for people who just want to be butt in your business, or simply be 'friends for now'.

Enjoy this last year. It's almost over.

Goodbye Access, Hello Nurse's Office

BY DEBBIE FARIA

Staff Reporter

The nurses have relocated their offices to the area in the north wing of the building where Access used to be. Access moved to a bigger off-site location which is better for them.

"I've been to the nurse in their new location once and I like it. It gives the nurses more accessibility

because they have their own space and they are not split up," senior Chazz Johnson said. The nurses love their new space as well; it is more convenient and it is easier to find them.

"I haven't been to the new location, but I remember going to the nurse last year," senior Kristin Williams said. "I was sent to about two different locations because they didn't know where the nurse was."

"Now with more permanent location there will be no confusion about where to find the nurse," she said.

Most students are still unaware that they have moved, but when a nurse is needed they are directed to their new office.

One thing that is new about the nurse's office is that they will not allow any students to enter without a pass. If students come to the nurses' office without a pass they will be sent

back to where ever they came from. The nurses also say if another Access wants to use that space they will be moved again.

"I hope that the nurses stay there because I don't really know what Access is. The nurse will probably benefit me and the students more," Anthony Weathers said.

Boys' Swim Team at a Disadvantage

BY KEENAN SCRUGGS

Staff Reporter

At one point it seemed that LMSA's swimming season was over due to maintenance neglect of the pool. There have been many arguments as to what, or who, is to blame for the pool's malfunctions.

It all started when the pool regulations began to change for CPS. When LMSA's pool was checked the drain cover was not working. The company that rehabilitated the building in 2005 was supposed to fix all the piping systems, but instead they neglected to do so and

signed it off as complete and finished. Since this company is now out of business, the challenge was to find out how the pool's draining system would get fixed before the boys' swim season began.

Many members on the team are concerned about how their season will go since the girls' swim team did not do as well as they usually do.

Team co-captain Francisco Perez said, "The girls had a lot of good swimmers and could have won their conference easily, but without having regular practices in the pool they fell short this year."

This year is going to be even more challenging for the boys' team because they are now in one of the best conferences in the city and face schools such as Morgan Park, Simeon, Payton and Jones.

Senior Marco Duenas said, "Our season is going to be much harder because we face better teams. Home field advantage is more important than ever this year."

Because of the pool's malfunctions, the team will practice at Englewood High School. Transportation may be an issue for some team members since the location is not walking distance.

With all these obstacles in the way, the team remains optimistic about the season and hope that the pool will be up and ready for water polo season.

The Talon is online at:

lindblomtalon.com



Can the NBA Season be Saved?

NBA Lock-out upsets fans; Players and Owners lose money

BY MILES STIFF

Staff Reporter

Lindblom students showed mixed concerns when the NBA didn't tip off its first regular season game. The NBA has locked out its professional players over money concerns; it is the second national sport to do so in the past year; football being the first.

Some students were excited about the 2011-2012 season, but were saddened when the lockout occurred.

"It's just dumb, how are you going to lockout NBA players over money," senior DeAndre Harmon said. "[Players] have been getting paid millions for years now, plus the NBA makes billions of dollars!"

AS the lockout continued, some students found other outlets to satisfy their thirst for basketball entertainment.

"I didn't really like the NBA anyway, college basketball is more

entertaining," senior Dion Boyd said. "College players play with more heart because they have a goal," he said.

All things involving the NBA have been put on hold. Sure signs of the NBA not continuing this year was the cancellation of the summer league. This is where fans get a first look of recently drafted players.

With the recent release of the popular video game NBA 2K12, fans of the NBA felt teased because rookies were not featured on the game.

"It was pointless to buy the game this year, it's just like playing [NBA] 2k11," senior Dywon Perkins said.

With the ongoing NBA lockout, NBA players have simulated a basketball league called the Drew League. Players hold simple exhibition games against other members of different NBA teams. Highlights of these games can be seen on the popular site YouTube.

The NBA has lost revenue since its lockout began yet they complain that money is the problem. NBA players are paid to entertain, which some are amazing at. It doesn't make sense to lockout the source of the NBA's riches — the players.

Players that have been drafted in the most recent years will suffer the most from the lockout. They finally reached their dream, most making it from tough upbringings. The money they were supposed to make now has the potential to be taken away in an instant.

Editor's Note: A tentative agreement has been reached. The season is scheduled to begin on Christmas.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WALLPAPER.NBA.COM

THE LOCKOUT WILL FINALLY BE COMING TO AN END, AND FANS WILL BE ABLE TO WATCH PLAYERS LIKE DERRICK ROSE TAKE TO THE COURTS.

ARTS & CULTURE

Something to Sink Your Teeth Into

Twilight's fourth movie may be the most anticipated in the series with #5 right around the corner

BY BRIANNA LEONARD
Staff Reporter

The highly anticipated fourth installment in the *Twilight* Saga series, *Breaking Dawn: Part One*, was released in theaters on November 18 and fans were going crazy over the premiere.

The fourth movie in this series answers many the mysteries of this passionate saga. The film is directed by Bill Condon, an Academy Award winning director. *Twilighters* expected the movie to do big numbers with its early ticket sales and even bigger numbers within its opening weekend. They were right.

Devoted fans are swooning over the vampire-human romance yet again. But, since this is the fourth movie in this series, what about it makes it still

so appealing to its viewers?

"I've been waiting to see Bella and Edward's wedding since I read the book," senior Eriean Howard said. "I just seen the trailers and it just makes me even more excited."

It seems like there's always one part of the movie that is a must see for the fans.

Senior Erika Butler said, "The storyline draws you in everytime. If you read the books, you already know what's going to happen but its always better to actually see it on the big-screen. Its gives the book life, which is what all Twi-hard fans want."

Hopefully this movie will fulfill every "Twi-hard's" dream and keep them satisfied until part two of *Breaking Dawn*. There will be millions of teens, and even their par-

ents preparing for this epic movie. People waited outside of hundreds of movie theaters for the midnight premiere. The long wait is now over and a new one will start as the countdown for the fifth installment of the series will begin.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.BREAKINGDAWN-THEMOVIE.COM
THE LATEST TWILIGHT MOVIE PREMIERED AS THE #1 MOVIE IN AMERICA.

Great story + great graphics = *Uncharted 3*

BY ANTONIO WRIGHT
Staff Reporter

Adventurer Nathan Drake, is back again in *Uncharted 3: Drake's Deception*.

In this, his latest adventure, Drake finds himself in search of the mythic "Atlantis of the Sands," an ancient city of immeasurable treasures, long forgotten since the days of its discovery by the protagonist's venerable ancestry. Hunted by a powerful woman with goals no less than the retrieval of the treasure and his death, Drake, along with his fellow adventurers, must traverse the world in search of clues that might lead them to the forgotten city.

But this game spoils its fans in various other ways besides the magnificent story telling. From the option to play the game in any style between a stealthy assassin to an all-out gunfighter to the excellent platforming elements, this third installment of the series simply smothers gamers with possibility.

To begin, the combat is the same as from the previous two titles, but refined to the point of near perfection. It is now even more fun to engage multiple enemies in heated battle with the crumbling façade

of a Renaissance chateau the only cover, and a handy revolver the only comfort. If that's not appealing enough, the melee has been improved, adding interactive environments to the combo-mania of button mashing.

The visuals of the game have also been honed to a shiny point as developers Naughty Dog have made innovations in flame, smoke, and water mechanics to make this the most visually attractive *Uncharted* game in the series. The magnificent set pieces are stunning as usual, but this time they draw the player into the game on an even deeper level, adding to the richness of the game's storytelling.

To make this game the perfect package, the multiplayer is back from *Uncharted 2* and it is refined and beautiful. As many may know, a multiplayer beta was released earlier this year which allowed most but not all of the problems to be worked out. The Facebook feature is still annoying, but the massive level of character customization more than makes up for this. The multiplayer, when paired with the beyond impressive single player mode, makes *Uncharted 3* an elite title, and a worthy addition to anyone's collection.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NAUGHTY DOG
NATHAN DRAKE RETURNS FOR MORE ADVENTURES IN UNCHARTED 3.

Changes at *Two and a Half Men* seem to work

BY BABAFEMI ODUGBESAN
Senior Editor

CBS' popular show *Two and a Half Men* attracted and held on to the attention of millions of viewers with its pilot in 2003.

Two and a Half Men ends Charlie Harper's (Charlie Sheen) reign over the show in his last season with the cast in 2011. His interest in beautiful women, expensive whiskey and fancy cars kept his character captivating and the show interesting. However Sheen's scandals in his personal life left the show in need of a replacement. In order to not start season nine with an unexplained change in characters, the episode begins by

explaining Charlie's final drunken one-night stand was ended by a train; he was pushed over the railings into an incoming train by crazy girlfriend. The accident left his leeching brother Alan Harper (Jon Cryer) and nephew Jake Harper (Angus T. Jones) homeless.

Two and a Half Men added a new character, Charlie's replacement, Walden Schmidt (Ashton Kutcher) who bought the house, and Alan's psychologist helped land him another stay in the famous beach house. Kutcher, as many of us know, played the part of Kelso in the popular *That 70s Show*, and is a suitable replacement of legend Charlie Sheen. Unlike Charlie, Walden is a much more settled and a nicer person; however, he

still has some of the same qualities of his predecessor. Walden is rich, tall, handsome, smart and attracts beautiful women; that makes Alan envious. Walden brings certain flair to show with his charisma and style.

Jake Harper (Angus T. Jones) is still on the show and his perfectly incorporated into the plot of each episode. In addition to his hilarious stupidity he brings a new gift to the Harper/Schmidt family. You'll just have to watch and see.

We'll have to wait to see how the rest of the season unfolds, but for now, Walden is a great addition.

Third Time is not a Charm for Paranormal Series

Paranormal Activity 3 opened strong; dropped sharply

BY NATALIE PEREZ
Staff Reporter

Last month, the highly anticipated *Paranormal Activity 3* came out in theaters. As a prequel to the first two movies, this one was expected to be bigger, better and much scarier.

The first two films were a success in the box office and the third candid and creepy camera movie about a demonic force that haunts a pair of sisters, made \$54 million at the box office the day of the premiere. It set a record for the strongest horror opening and the biggest September-October debut of all time. It defeated that weekend's other two wide releases, *The Three Musketeers*, and *Johnny English Reborn*.

Even before it opened, *Paranormal Activity 3* had scared off most of the usual October horror competition. It was expected to open big, in a range of \$36 to \$41 million, based on the \$40.6 million opening for last October's premiere. Despite all the good reviews that have been writ-



PHOTO COURTESY OF PARAMOUNT PICTURES
AUDIENCES FOUND THEIR WORST NIGHTMARES COMING TRUE DURING A VIEWING OF PARANORMAL ACTIVITY 3.

ten, *Paranormal Activity 3* earned a "C+" grade on Cinema score, indicating the film would tumble during weekend two. It did. The same thing happened with the last movie: *Paranormal Activity 2* had a "B" rating last fall, and still dropped 59 percent in its second frame.

The drop in ticket sales is probably

because the movie was a waste of money. Nothing about the movie was suspenseful and it was just the same as the first two movies.

The horror in this type of movie comes across as fake. Save your money and go rent *Freddy vs. Jason* if you want a real horror movie.

SPORTS

Football Season Ends Short of Expectations

What contributed to the Eagles' disappointing season?

BY JERRVON EWING
Staff Reporter

Lindblom's football team will try again next year in the Great Lakes conference after this year's disappointing season.

The Eagles came into last season with a chip on their shoulder and something to prove. They were a favorite to win the conference, and did so behind Coach Frazier's leadership and the play of three key seniors as well as three key juniors. These six players were able to lead the Eagles to a 5-1 conference record, 6-3 overall record, and a 2010 conference championship.

The stellar performance of the Eagles granted them access to the Great Lakes conference, which is a tougher conference than the Inner-

City 2 conference they played in last season.

The Eagles came into this season with high expectations but did not have the same success this season after losing three key players. In fact, they ended the season with a 2-4 conference record and a 2-7 record overall.

Senior defensive captain Deshante Dunning, who has played linebacker and led the team in tackles for the past three seasons, said last season "we were a family."

Dunning said the team had a lot more chemistry during the 2010 season and struggled this season because they "had a lot of inexperience" and a lack of work ethic from certain teammates, which makes him feel as though he "failed [his] team as a captain." The Eagles lost their

homecoming game for the first time in four years as they were defeated 14 to 6 by Bowen.

Junior quarterback Brent Taylor didn't get to play last season due to injury. He believes he could have improved their record even more last season by making life easier for his teammates. This season he felt as though some of his teammates "just didn't want it." He felt a huge shift in the team's enthusiasm and desire to win this season.

There is no clear place to point fingers, but no one knows what went wrong for the Eagles this season. They will be losing their three senior captains this year, but they will have a chance to regroup as they return next season, hoping for another conference championship.



PHOTO BY JONATHAN UPSHAW
SOPHOMORE GLEN SMITH AND JUNIOR JOHN ROBESON TAKE A BREAK AFTER A LONG PRACTICE AT LINDBLOM PARK.

Who will Win the Super Bowl?

(Hint: They having a losing record!)

BY DAVID MCDANIEL
Staff Reporter

With the season already in mid-form, it may be quite easy but also difficult for people to decide on who they feel will reach the Super Bowl. In my opinion, the New England Patriots will face off against the Philadelphia Eagles.

Coming out victorious will be the Philadelphia Eagles. Though the Eagles are currently off to a rough start sitting at 3-7, I believe things will turn around before the playoffs begin. (Editor's Note: Since this article was submitted the Eagles have fallen to 4-8). They have won their last two games which haven't been close and showed that they are turning things around.

On the other hand, the Patriots are playing well at 5-2 as they are a favorite to win their division. The Eagles will defeat the Patriots

because although they both have versatile offenses, the Patriots have one of the worst defensive schemes in the NFL.

The Eagles don't have the best defense in the league, but their offense scores a ton of points and that is a substitute for their sub-par efforts on defense. The Patriots are also a high scoring offense which would make this a intense upbeat game.

Just because I chose these two teams to reach the Super Bowl doesn't mean there aren't other elite teams out in the league who have the potential too.

Every team has the same goal before the season starts, which is to not only reach the Super Bowl in February but to win the title as well. With 32 teams in the league, every team has the same chance of being crowned king once the season starts.

But in February, only one team will win it all - the Philadelphia Eagles.

Lady Eagles Anticipate a Great Season

BY ANGELOU JOHNSON
Staff Reporter

Basketball season is here and the girl's team is definitely ready to win.

"We're going to be really tough this year and also be the strongest team in our conference," Coach Lawson said. Last season, the Lindblom girls'

basketball team placed third in their conference with just five losses. This year they plan on winning their whole conference. Some of the teams they play include South Shore, Julian, Chicago High School for Agriculture Sciences, Washington, Fenger, CICS-Longwood and Corliss.

"I think that we have very high chance of having a successful season," Effina Jackson, the team captain, said.

"As long as we all play to our full potential and keep up the intensity that has been shown in practice, we have a great shot at taking the championship for our conference with no doubt."

Many returning players along with newcomers make up

the team. "We have four out of the five starters returning from last year and also have ninth graders that'll add a lot to the effort of winning," Coach Lawson said. These ninth graders include Avery Allen and Elizabeth Toye.

Also returning to the team is senior Doneisha Hawkins; joining her are seniors Nicole Smith and Ashira Anderson. Sophomore Toya Cole is on the team accompanied by juniors Cre Williams, Shamier Little, Jerrien Howard, Janna Jones and Effina Jackson. One of the things that the coach would like to see change this year is the fan support.

"The girls have a very exciting team just like the boys. We would like a lot more support from the student body this season," Coach Lawson said.

Effina added, "We have the talent to take on our conference, but talent doesn't always win games. If we stay humble, focus, and continue to work hard, then I believe that we can go far."



PHOTO BY AUTUMN BRANCH
LMSA LADY EAGLES PLAY DEFENSE AGAINST GEORGE WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

LMSA Sports Update

Swimming

The Lindblom Eagles swim team went 11-0 in their conference last year. They were the only team in the city to go undefeated. Now, they will enter the second best conference in the city. Most of the team is excited about the new conference matches. With an undefeated season under their belt, they are anxious and ready for this new season.

"As far as the higher conference, honestly it's sweet," senior Marco Duenas said. The conference features schools such as Walter Payton and Juarez.

"Our team has a great attitude going into the season and I'm sure our efforts will match," he continued.

Senior Francisco Perez is also confident that this season will go by swimmingly.

Lindblom's pool is currently closed. Most players have not swam this year and did not have time to practice for this season. The girls' swim team did not do well this year compared to last year because they did not receive much practice time.

The boys' swim team may share a similar fate having no pool of their own to go to.

The swim team may have a good season this year, but what's to come of next year? The team is 75 percent seniors who are claimed the top players.

"We need all the support we could get especially because most of our seniors are graduating this year," junior Sergio Guzman said.

A team meeting was held November 5 for try-outs and information about future matches. Boys' swim team coach Mr. Demski realizes the condition of the players and will have another pool close to the school available for the team to practice.

-Christopher Gee

Cross Country

Sergeant Lawson, coach of the cross country team, seemed to be very proud in the team and effort put forth this year. The cross country team had eight meets this season, during September and October.

There were only about 15 students that were in the team that took cross country seriously, Coach Lawson said. The team had about 30 students that first signed up, but as soon as they went through the first practice, many of them quit.

Lawson says he thinks it is because most of the students aren't really familiar with the sport, but he wishes that students would give the sport a chance and actually take it seriously.

There were a couple of students that were very good runners, and two students were chosen to run a competition. Cameron Hill, one of the top five runners, came in first place.

Lawson also mentioned that there was a championship this year but the runners could not make it to the meet because of a PSAT test that took place the same day. Most of the runners are juniors so they did not make it. Sergeant Lawson will be the cross country coach next year as well.

-Xylina Del Real

Boys' Basketball

Lindblom Eagles are returning two starters from last season. After losing six key seniors that contributed to last year's success, the Eagles are rebuilding and expected to come back down to reality. Last year the Eagles were one game away from going downstate to Peoria for the state championship.

The loss of the seniors will affect Lindblom greatly. The team last year had a lot of time to build chemistry with one another. This year will be filled with relatively new players. They will have to work hard to bring it together to win games this year.

Last year's team was full of skilled players that could create scoring opportunities on their own. This year's team will have to work hard, run the plays, and play together to increase their chances of winning especially in the Red Central.

This year the eagles have moved up to a much tougher conference from last year, the Red Central. The conference is home to some of the top schools in the city. The Eagles will be facing Division I prospects every game. With only two starters

returning, the Eagles will have tough battles each and every night. With the season a few weeks from now, the Eagles have to gel quickly if they want to compete with the likes of Curie and Hyde Park.

The Lindblom Eagles' head coach Zach Linderman said, "We will have to come to practice and work very hard each day to compete with the elite teams of the Red Central."

The Eagles, without a doubt, will have many chances to prove that last year's season was no fluke. The Red Central will certainly be competitive this year with all the teams in the conference hungry for victory. Lindblom is simply one of the many teams that plan to have a successful season. The Eagles opened their season at the Stagg Thanksgiving Tournament on November 21.

-Ervin Stanford

And the award goes to...

SEVENTH GRADE

Outstanding Student
Andrea Bossi
Leadership Award
Danica Jayco
Most Improved
Mycala Worshman

EIGHTH GRADE

Outstanding Student
Garvey Gregory
Kennedy Graves
Leadership Award
Suliyat Olagbenro
Jordan Rodgers
Most Improved
Lakela Bailey
Kaleel Barner

NINTH GRADE

Outstanding Student
Gabriella Garcia
Chazz Mccullough
Leadership Award
Kaylah Harrington
Chris Edomwande
Most Improved
Alona Davenport
Bernard Johnson III

TENTH GRADE

Outstanding Student
Ololade Olawale
Onintze Contreras
Davonta Dickey
Leadership Award
Jutoria Aaron
Daja Dampier
Toya Cole
Guadalupe Huerta
Most Improved
Symone Dawson
Alexander Grant
Valeria Vargas

ELEVENTH GRADE

Outstanding Student
Izel Martinez
Brandon Meza
Leadership Award
Janna Jones
Leslie Pearson
Most Improved
Lonnie Watts

TWELFTH GRADE

Outstanding Student
David Litt
Lucia Salas
Marcoantonio Duenas
Leadership Award
Arthur Jones
Most Improved
Christopher Gee

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Overall Excellence
Shalyiah Sledge (9)
Latrice Tucker (9)
Ivan Diaz (10)
Diego Gomez (10)
Francisco Delreal (11)
David Litt (12)

COUNSELING DEPT.

Outstanding Service To Community
Sibhan Murphy
Rachel Brown

ENGLISH

Overall Excellence
Danica Jayco (7)
Denise Hernandez (7)
Devin Montgomery (8)
Kaylen Herring (8)
Ashley Castenada (9)
Christopher Triplett (9)
Reyna Alvarez (9)
Austin Watkins (9)
Melanie Walton (10)
Hector Delreal (10)
Andres Casillas (10)
Brandon Peralta (11)
Asia Lee (12)
Leadership Award
Breyanna Collier (11)
Erican Howard (12)
Doneisha Hawkins (12)
Most Improved
Raymond Thicklin (7)
Jalen Morris (7)
Yasmine Washington (11)
Brandon Meza (11)
David Litt (12)

FINE ARTS

Overall Excellence in Music
Kennedy Graves (8)
Jacqueline Vargas (9)
Chequita Grant (9)
Ben Rezko (10)
Jeremy Villarde (10)
Most Improved in Music
Xavier Garrett (9)
Courtney Craig (9)
Darrell Harris (10)
Breyanna Collier (11)
Gregory Barnes (12)
Overall Excellence in Art
Jacob Thomas (7)
Maline Vest (7)
Jordan Rogers (8)
Catherine Brown (9)
Eriana Glover (9)
Esmeralda Velasco (10)
Toya Cole (10)
Micole Thompson (11)
Ashleigh Brogdon (12)
Mittithyah Harris (12)
Overall Excellence in Dance
Brianna Hobbs (12)

MATHEMATICS

Achievement Award
Andres Casillas (11)
Rachel Rezko (12)
Overall Excellence
Malina Vest (7)
Denise Hernandez (7)
Rebecca Bowman (8)
Daja Walker-Parker (8)
Keyashia Willis (9)
Courtne Milons (9)
Eriana Glover (9)
Chequita Grant (9)
Cierra Howard (10)
Terrence Glover (10)
Isaiah Brisco (10)
Veronica Alejandro (10)
Jaylon Tucker (10)
Dyamond Joy (10)
Jada Brown (10)
Diego Gomez (10)
Missael Pale (11)
Eduardo Alejandro (11)
Gregory Barnes (12)
Most Improved
Michaela Lowe (12)
Leadership Award
Lonnie Watts (11)
Marco Perez (12)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Overall Excellence
Kennedy Graves (8)
Walmer Saavedra (8)
Jacqueline Vargas (9)
Leadership Award
Edgar Padilla (10)
Aja Andrews (10)

SCIENCE

Overall Excellence
Jacob Thomas (7)
Diana Fernandez (7)
Jordan Rogers (8)
Cecilia Deleon (8)
Evelyn Estrada (9)
Shalyiah Sledge (9)
Milam Milhouse (9)
Michelle Fung (9)
Elizabeth Toye (9)
Jaylon Tucker (10)
Josue Bastida (10)
Eduardo Alejandro (11)
Darnisha Stevenson (11)
Shacara Samuels (11)
Lauren Lanier (12)

SOCIAL STUDIES

Overall Excellence
Denise Hernandez (7)
Brianna Baymon (8)
Joshua Johnson (8)
Karina Reyes (9)
Markel Mitchell (9)
Brandy Darling (9)
Maria Valenzuela (10)
Mariah Woods (10)
Brittany Welch (10)
Eduardo Alejandro (11)
Maliaka Johnson (11)

WORLD LANGUAGES

Overall Excellence in Arabic
Andrea Bossi (7)
Cecilia Soto (8)
Keyashia Willis (9)
Michelle Fung (9)



12th



11th



10th



9th



8th

Please Note: No seventh grade picture was taken since most winners were attending the science fair during the ceremony.

Leticia Vergara (10)
Tonyae Tolliver (10)
Veronica Alejandro (11)
Asia Lee (12)

Excellence in Chinese
Abisola Olawale (7)
Cynthia Estrada (8)
Bolaji Opakunle (9)
Diamond Harris (10)

Osayuwamen Edomwande (10)
Leadership in Chinese
Karen Guadarrama (11)
Rachel Lanagan (12)