

# THE EAGLE'S LANDING

THE COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN NEVADA HIGH SCHOOL'S STUDENT NEWSMAGAZINE

WINTER 2020

VOLUME 13



covid-19

distance  
learning

election  
2020

a new  
principal

and much more



Readers,

This year has been anything but ordinary. As COVID-19 hit and school was moved online, a lot of fear and uncertainty settled into our lives. All around, people are talking about shutdowns, illness, and vaccines. The CSNHS newspaper team recognized the negativity that is currently enveloping our lives, and aimed to put a positive spin on the world's current situation.

Inside you'll find articles about distance learning, mask fashion, and the new vaccine. You'll also find articles that focus away from the virus. Articles about cancel culture, celebrities in fast food, and Amy Coney Barrett shed light onto other topics of interest.

A big thank you to Ms. Anderson for her positivity, kindness, and excellent newspaper layout skills. Each day in class, Ms. Anderson lifted our spirits and inspired us to put our best efforts forth into creating this newspaper. This newspaper could not have been possible without her.

In addition, a big thank you to the entire newspaper team. Bella, Lois, Angel, Alysa, Saniya, Jenny, Andrea, Emma, Dania, Lalise, Christian, Jordan, Kyla, Kailey, Kayla, and Ashlee— thank you for all your hard work on this paper. We could not have created such an amazing newspaper without each of your incredible brainstorming, collaboration, and writing skills.

Finally, a big thank you to the readers. The staff's months of hard work on the newspaper was all for the sake of those who would read it when it was all finished, so thanks for taking the time to check it out. We hope you enjoy!

Best regards,

Tova Kligman  
Editor-in Chief



Mr. Anthony Brown, CSNHS Principal

# Interview

with Mr. Anthony Brown, CSNHS Principal

*by Andrea Corral Garcia*

**Anthony Brown has recently become CSN High School's new principal for all three campuses. However, the 2021 school year has set new challenges for all educators, making it difficult for Mr. Brown to meet the students of CSN High School. Therefore, Mrs. Greenburg created a virtual meet to allow students to interact with Mr. Brown by asking him questions, asking for advice, and getting to know him. In one of the virtual meets offered by Mrs. Greenburg I had the opportunity to interview Mr. Brown and write an article for the school newspaper.**

Mr. Brown was born and raised in Las Vegas, Nevada and graduated from Chaparral High School. He played football all throughout his time at Chaparral, ultimately landing a spot on UNLV's football team. Mr. Brown proved his worth to his coaches and became a starter for UNLV's team for three years. Mr. Brown likes to let people know that, "My three backups in college all went to the NFL. So I don't know if I trained them well."

Like many Las Vegas residents, Mr. Brown kicked off his career in the casino industry. After a lot of hard work, Mr. Brown became one of the youngest casino executives at the age of twenty-two. For six years, he was responsible for casino finances. Mr. Brown said, "I saw a billboard that said, 'I'll pay for you to go to college to teach. I pulled out my cell phone and gave it a call.' After working at the casino, Mr. Brown earned his Master's

degree in education and kicked off his teaching career at Johnson Middle School. From there, he became a transition specialist, helping students accommodate or prepare to enter a new institution. After his mentor suggested going back to college for an administrative degree, Mr. Brown began to hold more administrative jobs in CCSD. He started off as a Dean at Sedway Middle School which he quotes as "the toughest middle school in the year." After a year he received a promotion and became principal at Cashman Middle School. Finally, fulfilling his longtime desire to enter the high school scene, he became the principal of CSN HS after George Leavens retired. He quotes "I had to pinch myself to make sure she was telling the truth; it's not often everyone gets an opportunity to work with students like you all."

Mr. Brown is a morning person. He naturally wakes up at around four in the

morning and makes sure to get in a workout before starting off his busy days. He is also a great coach and mentor to a youth basketball club called the Las Vegas Prospects. He even had four players go on to become professional players in the NBA.

Mr. Brown hopes to continue being CSN HS's principal for some time. He hopes to get to meet the students in a safe environment, but will continue to be open to virtual meets or emails. Mr. Brown has a lot of experience not only in the school system, but knowledge in scholarships, colleges, and financial aid. He is a great asset for students seeking guidance about college admissions and the transition from high school to college. All in all, we welcome Mr. Brown to CSN HS and hope to see him for a long time.

# Counselor's Corner

By Colleen Greenburg



A few weeks ago I had an "ah-ha" moment. Three neighborhood friends contacted me around the same time. Michelle called and asked if I could help her with her son's Canvas account. Carly called to ask if I could mail something for her business because she was out of town. Jenanna texted to see if I could take her to get the brakes fixed on her car. I was fairly busy, but was able to fit it all in fairly easily. In the midst of helping everyone I noticed a happy, heady feeling I haven't experienced in a long time. In fact, I haven't felt that feeling since March and I realized what I have really been missing since COVID and that's helping people; taking time out from everyday "stuff" to assist others.

I was also reminded of the importance of mindfulness: a mental state achieved by focusing one's awareness on the present moment, while calmly acknowledging and accepting one's feelings, thoughts, and bodily sensations.

Without a splash of mindfulness I would not have realized what I now know I want to add to my COVID life. I realize I need to be open to opportunities to help and be more mindful. My challenge to you is to take a moment to research what being mindful really is and how to add mindfulness to your life. How can you take action based on what you feel in your heart now, in the moment, instead of old habits or immediate convenience?

## Depression: A Skyrocketing Illness in Teens

By Emma Davis

You're shaking, crying, can't focus, always on guard. The stress from school is becoming too much and you feel yourself slipping into nothing. You want to reach out for help but are afraid you'll be told that you're being overdramatic and that you'll be fine. However, the reality is you aren't fine. You're depressed.

Depression is not a new concept by any means. Originally in Greek and Roman philosophy, philosophers debated whether it was caused by physical traits or psychological damage. Now, centuries later, we know that it can be caused by trauma, chemical imbalances, stress, and many other factors. The group that suffers the most is teenagers, and the number keeps growing.

In 2017, Pew Research Center released a study on depression rates in teenagers and how the amount of cases were growing. In 2007, 2 million teens reported that they had suffered from a depressive episode within the last year. In 2017, that number grew to 3.2 million. That is a 5% increase and was one of the largest jumps reported. When asked why, most teens said it was due to school, sports, friends, or family. The timing of the jump in numbers coincides with the push of standardized testing and placement testing. While this may be just a theory, the pressure to succeed academically has been growing immensely and has taken a toll on almost every student's mental health.

Along with the growing number of cases, Pew Research discovered that girls are 3 times more likely to suffer from depression or depressive episodes. However, girls are also more likely to seek treatment. During the 2017 research, it was found that 45% of girls sought treatment while only 33% of boys did. This is most likely due to the social construct of toxic masculinity and how boys and men are often shamed for

admitting they are battling with their mental health.

Due to COVID-19, it's to be believed that depression numbers will go up due to isolation and stress. While everyone is worried about their physical health, many people are ignoring their mental health. Many kids are saying that online school is 10x harder and more stressful than regular in person school. "I feel overworked. 5+ assignments a day, 3 tests a week, anywhere from 2 to 5 hours of homework. It's a lot. It [virtual learning] feels optional and it's really hard to find the motivation to do anything. We aren't learning anything, just looking up answers. You'd think that during a pandemic, schools and teachers would be more understanding that this is a difficult way to learn," says a junior from CSNHS.

I asked a few peers what the hardest part of having depression is. "The hardest part is trying to hide and cope with it knowing it's there and I won't receive the support I need from my family." "The hardest part? I don't know how to reach out for help. My pride gets in the way of my mental health a lot." "Faking happiness to my family. I don't want to worry them but sometimes all I want to do is scream and cry and ask how they don't notice me slipping away." "Definitely finding the motivation to do anything. Everything feels so optional because I know that in the end nothing I do matters."

After this, it's obvious that reaching out for help is one of the hardest things you can do. Teens are often told that their depression isn't real or that everyone gets sad. The truth is, depression is real and learning how to cope and work through it is the hardest and best thing you can do. Below are some resources that are free to use. It's okay to get help and admit that you aren't okay.

[www.7cups.com](http://www.7cups.com)

[www.betterhelp.com](http://www.betterhelp.com)

[www.pridecounseling.com \(LGBT+\)](http://www.pridecounseling.com (LGBT+))

## UNR going Online: Increase in Covid Numbers, Flu Season force UNR Online

By Annaliese Farris

The UNR President announced that the university will be moved fully online due to the increase of covid cases and the upcoming flu season and the cancellation of spring break to limit the spread and to protect the residents, students and staff. Mr. Sandoval said, "We're trying to make the best of a really difficult situation that keeps in mind the health and safety of the students, faculty, staff, and the people that come on this campus as well as the community." He added, "I mean, the other concern was, one-in-nine cases in Washoe County could be traced to the university. So we have an obligation not only to our campus community, but to the community at large."

There will be problems transferring lab based classes to online classes as it will be hard to change lesson plans mid-semester. One student attending UNR said "I am a hands on learner so transferring to complete online labs and classes would be very difficult for me to get around." Many students had agreed that were taking harder classes or sciences that required more help or hands on experience.

A UNR freshman, Jayden Williams, said "I'm 50/50 on the topic of online school. On one hand, I'm perfectly fine with it being online since I'm at home and it's easier for me. But on the other hand, I really want to move up to campus. The lab classes would be a lot easier and being able to have the chance to live with my best friends is amazing. So I'm not mad that it's online because I save money being at home and it's easier to manage but at the same time I'm upset because I won't be able to experience college like I would've imagined, and the labs are going to be painful."

Even though other schools have fewer cases, some like CSN South are taking precautions in case of an increase of Covid and the flu by moving more classes online, limiting access, and promoting cleanliness on campus.

# Updates on Covid-19

By Tatiana Costa

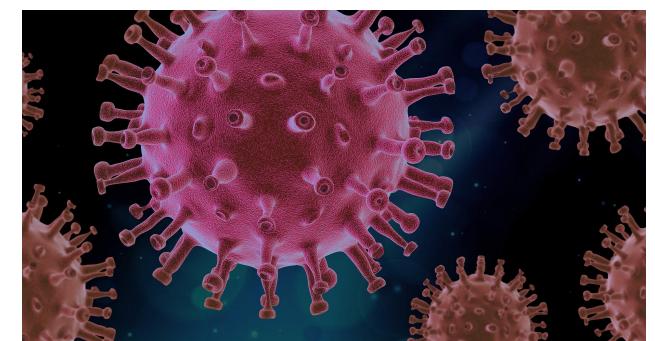
By now, over 15 million cases of COVID-19 have been spread across the United States. The death toll sits at around 286,000. Over 10 million tests have been taken in the United States.

Worldwide, the number of cases has grown to around 68 million, with around 44 million recovered. The overall death toll worldwide is around 1.56 million. The virus has been affecting elders and people who have underlying health conditions such as lung or heart disease.

President Trump was diagnosed with COVID-19 in the beginning of October. He was taken to the hospital soon later, and treated for this disease. Trump was released days later and claims to be better and maybe immune to the virus. He claims to be working on vaccines with drug companies such as Johnson & Johnson, Moderna, and Pfizer. In the following days, the Trump administration announced a deal with CVS and Walgreens for a possible vaccine that seniors could get for free. According to Pfizer, their current vaccine is 90 percent effective in combating the disease.

Hotspot cities include California, Texas, New York and Florida. According to Vox Magazine, "Part of the problem is America never really suppressed its Covid-19 cases to begin with," German Lopez wrote, explaining why experts were anticipating a new surge in cases.

"Think of a disease epidemic like a forest fire: It's going to be really difficult to contain the virus when there are still flames raging in parts of the forest and small embers practically everywhere. The country always risks a full blaze with each step toward reopening and with each failure to take precautions seriously." The highest countries with confirmed cases is the U.S with India



close behind. In other countries, such as India, Brazil and Russia over half of the confirmed cases recovered.

"They're really much more super-spread at events than super-spread of people. We used to think that a single person may be particularly prone to spreading it a lot. It is much more likely it's the circumstance in which that person is, as opposed to anything specific about the specific person." says Dr. Anthony Fauci. Many people still go to restaurants, events and work, which can increase their chances of getting the virus. Symptoms could take up to 14 days to appear. Many people don't show symptoms until they've already spread it to other people.

Some of these symptoms include fever, shortness of breath, fatigue, body aches, headaches as well as loss of taste or smell, sore throat, runny nose, nausea or vomiting and diarrhea. People should take the proper precautions before going to public places such as getting tested and wearing a mask.

# NO FEAR, THE COVID VACCINES ARE HERE!

## NEW VACCINES CLAIM TO BE 95% EFFECTIVE

By Jennifer Chaney

UNITED STATES-- After eight months of living in a global pandemic of the virus known as Covid-19, scientists have now created two vaccines. *The New York Times* posted an article on called "New Pfizer Results: Coronavirus Vaccine is Safe and 95% Effective". According to the drug company Pfizer, which created the vaccine, it was 95% effective and there were no significant side effects of the vaccine.

"The data showed that the vaccine prevented mild and severe forms of Covid-19," said Pfizer.

Pfizer claimed that the data showed that the vaccine was 94% effective in older adults, which are the people who are most vulnerable to Covid-19. They said that their vaccine's efficiency was consistent across race, ethnicity, and age. The most serious side effects of the vaccine was fatigue and headaches. Another company called Moderna reported that their vaccine was 90% effective.

Many people have concerns about the virus because of how fast it was produced. Vaccines for viruses usually take years, and many people are scared about how the vaccines could affect everyone. Both Moderna and Pfizer must still have the vaccine authorized by the Food and Drug Administration for it to be actually used around the world.

"I feel hopeful about the vaccine. At this point, I am willing to be optimistic about anything. With a 95% success rate I feel pretty positive that the FDA will authorize it, hopefully as soon as possible," said Tova Kligman, a Senior at College of Southern Nevada High School West.

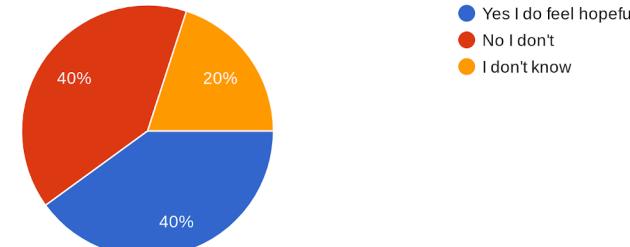
Both the drug company and newspaper lines are currently waiting for the FDA's authorization of the vaccine, which could apparently take weeks. If the FDA decides to approve the vaccine, the world may change by the beginning of next year. Will things go back to normal?

\*Poll of students from West Campus



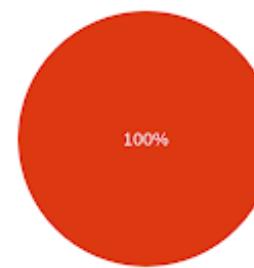
Do you feel hopeful that the Covid vaccine will work for everyone?

5 responses



Do you think that life will be returning normal by spring?

5 responses



Do you think that the FDA will approve the vaccine?

5 responses



## Students Feel Burdened by Pandemic

By Lalise Gizaw

The last two years in high school can be the toughest. There are many obstacles including standardized tests, perfecting transcripts, playing sports, and volunteering. On top of that, the CSN HS school students have college classes. If it is tough during normal times, how hard will it be for the CSN students during the pandemic? On March 15, 2020, school, business, and hotels shut down in Las Vegas. So how exactly did this pandemic affect the students?

Since school was closed, it transferred online. For Clark County school districts, the rest of the 2019-2020 school was excused from March to May 2020. In August 2020, every school from kindergarten to college in Nevada transferred the classes to distance learning education. That did not sit well with many students. Most are not comfortable with the online environment because they are not used to it. In a survey of CSN West students, 59% of students reported that they do not like online school. One of the reasons that the students did not like the online environment is because the teachers are giving far more assignments than normal times. About 68.4 % of students said that they are receiving more assignments. A senior student said, "Teachers and professors overestimate the amount of time we have, because we 'are at home.'" It's obvious that online schooling has been tough on kids, the suicide rate is at a high at the moment."

Standardized tests are the most important piece when completing a college application. Almost every college has made the ACT and SAT test optional for an application. However, these students still have to take these tests because many scholarships require them. There is only one test per two months, and they have been canceled until September 2020. In normal times, students would retake the tests to

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## School Shut Down Forces Students To Go Online

After schools were forced to be shut down because of the world-wide pandemic, students are forced to move their learning to online, which in some eyes, created chaos.

By Hailey Sanchez

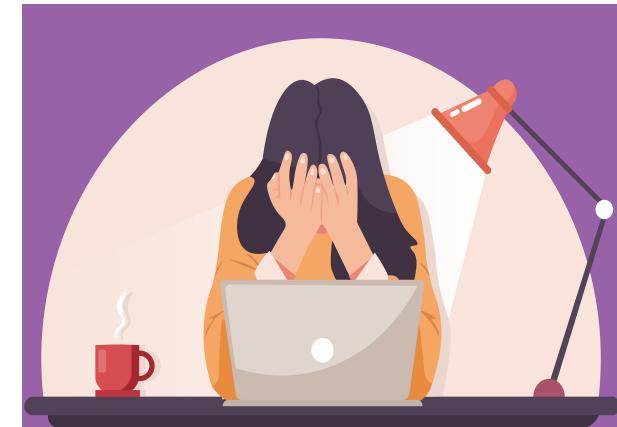
It is no secret that the Coronavirus has ruined many people's plans for the year. Road trips, concerts, festivals, and sports were all cancelled Monday, March 16, 2020 because of this deadly pandemic. This forced everyone to socially distance themselves to keep better control of the virus. A lot of people weren't able to go to work for several months and schools were shut down and moved to online, which only created chaos. However, some students saw a benefit on having online courses.

"The only benefit I can think of when it comes to online learning is that I do get more time to work independently," Karlee Miannay, a junior on the CSNHS South campus, said. "But the bad part about that is I don't always get to ask questions when I don't understand something." As for others, no benefit was found in online learning. Angeleague Johnson, a student from the CSNHS East campus said, "Honestly, I hate to say this other than it being easier, there is no benefit to online learning. It's a waste of a year. I think it is not as bad for high school students but regardless I wish everyone took a gap year because it's hard to learn right now. Especially for younger children."

More students seem to dislike online learning and wish they could go back to in person learning than those who wanted to stay online. Further, almost all students thought that the school would not be opening up any time soon, forcing everyone to stay online and make the best of it.

"I think it's definitely in the cards, but I hope the school doesn't open any time soon, because it's just not safe to go back in person yet," said Brianna Peterson, a student from the CSNHS East Campus.

Victoria Legaspina from the CSNHS West campus said, "I do not think we will be able to go back to school anytime soon because it is too much of a risk to



people's health, especially since the vaccine being made is so new and experimental."

It had been a struggle for most students to get used to the online learning environment when many are used to being able to socially interact with others and see their friends on a daily basis. Although online learning has presented the benefits of being able to sleep in a little longer and getting work done with more time on students' hands, not everyone agrees.

"My least favorite part about online classes is how disorganized it has made me. My days start later now because there's no reason for me to wake up early, and I feel as though my work ethic has depleted," CSNHS student Allieson Pham said.

With the pandemic numbers slowly increasing now, it's likely that schools and workplaces won't be opening up anytime soon. More plans will have to be cancelled and everyone will have to continue socially distancing from others. It's important that people wear a mask, wash their hands often, and always stay at least six feet away from others when out in public. Otherwise, society may not see a maskless future.

## Burdened Students

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students took the ACT/SAT test once. However, 91% of those who took the test, were not able to retake the test. A student said, "The test kept getting canceled due to covid."

Many students have been behind on college applications. Many are also worried about their resumes because they have not been able to participate in activities due to things such as community services being closed. In a survey, 51% students reported that they have not participated in extracurricular or community service since Covid-19 started.

Seniors and juniors have overcome many obstacles during this pandemic. One student said, "My motivation to do things really went down. I am constantly tired and thinking about what it is that I actually want in life but I am constantly confused about everything." Some of the teachers are not understanding these students' problems. To help reduce some stress from these students, CSN HS West is hosting social times on google meet so those students can talk together.

Until the problem is solved, CSN families and other families in the world, we are all alone, together.



# Missing Masks

By Dania Garcia

Mask fashion has been very popular recently, but many people also refuse to wear a mask in public where it is required. People complain that they can not wear the mask because it bothers them or for medical reasons. and argue with retail workers. While many were fearing how bad the corona virus might be and stocking up on food and cleaning supplies, others don't want to help lower the COVID case numbers by wearing a mask.

On September 26, 2020, President Trump had a ceremony in the White House to announce Amy Coney Barrett as a nominee for the Supreme Court. In that ceremony most people were not wearing masks or social distancing properly. On October 1st, Donald Trump tweeted out that him and the first lady had tested positive for COVID-19. It is ironic that in the September 29th presidential debate, Trump mocked Biden for wearing a mask all the time. This is just one example of how wearing a mask and social distancing is important in these times.

Many people who refuse to wear face masks claim that they aren't effective or that they can't get the virus. Although this virus can affect people differently, anyone can still test positive for it and pass it on to other people they come in contact with. Masks have been proven to be able to prevent other illnesses like influenza. An experiment with droplets and masks proved that when the droplets were released from the mouth, the face mask prevented them from being exposed outside of the mask. Social distancing six feet apart can also help the virus not spread as much. Sneezing and coughing is an easy way for the virus to spread through people if they are close to one another. Keeping a distance is important because a sneeze can travel 19 to 26 feet when not wearing a mask, but with a mask it helps not travel that far. Using the right mask is also important: Medical masks, N95 masks, or any cloth

mask with two layers that fits right on the face. Masks should also cover your nose and mouth properly to be safe. A reusable cloth mask is more affordable than a surgical mask since they last longer and can be washed. Some people might use a thin mask that doesn't really protect from a cough or sneeze.

Most Americans might not feel comfortable wearing masks due to the culture here. The United States is seen as a free country, and some people might feel that being obligated to wear a mask is interfering with their freedom. In other countries, like Japan, people would wear masks before this pandemic even if they just had a slight cold. They seem to be more considerate of others and look after themselves so they don't get others sick. Wearing masks in public places is not that hard. If people refuse to wear face masks, staying home would be the best option for everyone. Face masks don't have to do with taking people freedoms away; they are about lowering the COVID-19 case numbers and keeping the country safe.



## Masking Mayhem in Style

by Kayla Mykovich

Many dread and disapprove the mandatory requirements of wearing face masks. Unfortunately, there is little we can do about this current pandemic situation. However, we can choose what type and style of masks we wear. An exciting way to bring out your individuality as well as encourage yourself and others to stay safe is to use masks as a fashion accessory. Since the Coronavirus outbreak, masks are mandatory when out in public, so why not make the most of this inconvenient nuisance.

Coronavirus has revolutionized the mask industry by bringing to light new designs, styles, colors, fabrics, and models. Kaylie

Mendoza, a student here at CSN, explains her thoughts on masks and how fashion is encouraging their use saying, "fashion is a plausible way to encourage people to wear face masks. The more people wearing masks, the better." The mask market has exploded, causing a mass production of masks to ensure that every individual has access to this new necessity. Competition between companies is fierce, with each striving to compete for their market share. Mask marketing and creativity is now at its finest with constant development of new and unique product designs.

Others chose to ignore the companies' trends and decided to



make masks of their own as shown on various YouTube channels like Melanie Ham's. Kaylie Mendoza shared, "at the beginning of quarantine I pulled out a sewing machine [...] and made masks that would fit my three year old sister's face."

On the other end of the spectrum, high-end fashion companies hopped on board with this new opportunity. Kyla Jones, also a student at CSN explained, "Depending on who's creating the fashion, it can encourage people to wear their face coverings. I know if I ever got a mask that Drake designed I would wear it more than I wear my other ones." Drake has yet to release any masks. However, Gucci has put masks on their modeling runways and Vogue produced multiple articles surrounding the topic of fashionable face masks. And so our newest fashion statement is born.

## Thinking of Traveling? Covid Has You Thinking Again.

by Angel Ardon-Elias

Again.

We love to travel, but because of Covid-19 we have not been able to. When we think about traveling, we think that airlines are the ones that are the most affected, but Covid-19 has also affected shops, hotels, and areas that are the most dependent on tourism like the Bahamas, Cancun, and Disney World. Luckily some airlines are like Alaska Airlines where "No mask? No travel." Hawaiian Airlines says, "We're ready for you. We've reinforced and enhanced cleaning procedures and modified in-flight services to promote physical distancing." On JetBlue, they are "conducting temperature checks for our customer-facing crewmembers." All these airlines and more are open now ready to travel again with the safety guidelines of the CDC.

The CDC has recommended to not travel if sick or with someone that is sick: "Wear a mask to keep your nose and mouth covered when in public settings, including on public transportation and in

transportation hubs such as airports and stations," wash your hands often, and check the airlines' website to see what they are doing in order to stop covid from spreading. For more information for traveling safely please visit the CDC website.

If you are planning to travel in a bus then you want to reserve tickets because they are operating at half capacity, testing temperature, and requiring masks to travel. Trains are doing basically the same things: you have to wear a mask, they are operating at half capacity, and testing temperatures. For both buses and trains, avoid touching common surfaces and if you do need to touch them sanitize your hands using hand sanitizers or by washing your hands. Always practice social distancing and hygiene after you get off the bus or train. open.

Hopefully everything will go back soon and we can all go traveling again normally.

## College Covid Conundrum

by Christian Grata



You're invited to go to a house party, upon arriving your friends greet you and make their way into the house. Left and right there are people all around you drinking, dancing, having a good time. The party continues to grow, making its way outside. The party ends and you go home; the next day your friends text you and say they have Covid and have given it to their families. In spite of the current state of our nation there are those who continue their carefree lifestyle with blatant disregard for the safety of those around them.

It is normal for kids to want to continue to go out to have fun. There are even those who still go out with their friends on the

regular. That being said it's important to follow the CDC guidelines which include wearing masks, social distancing, and avoiding large groups. The real issue is that kids have been throwing parties with over fifty people attending in small spaces without masks. CBS published a story covering a viral video taken of a college party in the state of Georgia where dozens of students attended without masks in an apartment complex.

Now if using the excuse of ignorance or complacency wasn't bad enough, in some areas, students are actively attempting to contract Covid-19. According to an article released by USA Today, Alabama students are purposely trying to get infected with Covid-19. The students hold parties where everyone puts money in a pot and tries to get infected, after which the first person to contract covid-19 takes all the money. Most of the attendees either don't believe that the virus is a big deal

## Amy Coney Barrett: Pro & Con

### Amy Coney Barrett Is Unfit To Be An Associate Justice of the Supreme Court

by Ashlee Tan

Many Americans are finding themselves divided once again, seeing that Trump's new confirmed elect, Amy Coney Barrett, has very different views than Ruth Bader Ginsburg. One of the biggest issues that the two women disagree on is the act of keeping abortion legal. Ginsburg fought to protect the Roe v. Wade law, whereas Barrett is fighting to abolish it. Barrett is not only unfit for a Supreme Court Justice position, but she is also far too inexperienced to have any sort of judicial position of power. Her lack of knowledge, as well as her tendency to avoid general questions regarding the law, combined with her inability to separate church from state and her three short years of judicial experience, is exactly why she should not be in such a high position of power.

In order to understand how unsuited Barrett truly is for this position, we must first look into her past statements, views, and actions. According to an article titled, "The Problem With Amy Coney Barrett's Nomination isn't Timing. It's Her Views," by Nathan Robinson, reporter and columnist of The Guardian Weekly, "Barrett sided with police who shot a mentally ill man to death after his mother had called 911... Barrett indicated that she would have kept a Black man in prison who had been convicted on the basis of incredibly dubious eyewitness testimony." Barrett has

group named People of Praise and serving as a 'handmaid', a female role of position. This can be seen as out of the ordinary, even for the normal American. Due to her religious beliefs, it is obvious that she lets this sway her political beliefs, even if she says otherwise. Barrett has only had three years of experience in the judicial field, only becoming a judge in 2017 after Trump had nominated her to the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals. Before that, she had never worked for the government, or had any background in law, which is usually common and essential for a Supreme Court Justice nominee to have. In the article, "Amy Coney Barrett Is the Least Experienced Supreme Court Nominee in 30 years," by Stephanie Mencimer, staff reporter of Mother Jones Magazine, "Barrett has never tried a case to verdict or argued an appeal in any court, nor has she ever performed any notable pro bono work, even during law school," which further proves how unqualified she truly is.

Another example in which Barrett presents that she is unqualified can be found from her confirmation hearings where she avoids several questions regarding how she will take leadership of the Supreme Court. Evidence of this can be seen when Barrett fails to name all five freedoms when asked. She

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### Amy Coney Barrett Was Not A Bad Choice For the Supreme Court

Claiming she's a raging homophobe and relentless pro-lifer, Democrats don't have all the facts.

By Tova Kligman

On October 27th, Amy Coney Barrett was confirmed to the U.S. Supreme Court. Barrett is a 48-year-old mother of seven children. She received her law degree from Notre Dame, clerked for former Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, taught law at Notre Dame, and served on the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals. She was nominated by President Trump after the death of Ruth Bader Ginsburg. People were outraged at her nomination, proclaiming that she was a bad choice for the Supreme Court because she possesses viewpoints that go against Democratic ideals. However, when the facts are analyzed, it is clear to see that Barrett was not a bad choice for the Supreme Court.

Women fear that Barrett will take away the right to have an abortion. In her 2017 Court of Appeals confirmation, Barrett stated that, "I think it is very unlikely at this point that the court is going to

fundamental element, that the woman has a right to choose abortion, will probably stand." Here, Barrett stated that she does not believe that Roe v. Wade will ever be overturned. In addition, it is important to understand that it is outside of Barrett's power to make laws banning abortion since the job of making laws belongs to the Legislative Branch and the Executive Branch, not the Judicial Branch.

It seemed that Amy Coney Barrett was avoiding certain questions during her confirmation hearings. For instance, when Senator Cory Booker asked Barrett about the peaceful transfer of power between Presidents, Barrett stated, "Well, Senator, that seems to me to be pulling me in a little bit into this question of whether the president has said that he would not peacefully leave office. And so, to the extent that this is a political controversy right now, as a judge, I want to stay out of it, and I don't want to express a view on that matter." After hearing this, many people were reluctant to support Barrett, because it seemed that she was unprepared or unwilling to answer a simple question. However, it goes against the law for a Supreme Court Justice to divulge their thoughts and opinions on a legal matter that they could oversee in the future. If the Presidential transfer of power did not go as planned, the Supreme Court would get involved. So, when Senator Booker asked Barrett about her thoughts on the peaceful transfer of powers, Barrett could not answer because, as someone who was about to be confirmed to the Supreme Court, she could be in charge of overseeing that case. The same thing happened when Senator Booker asked Barrett if she



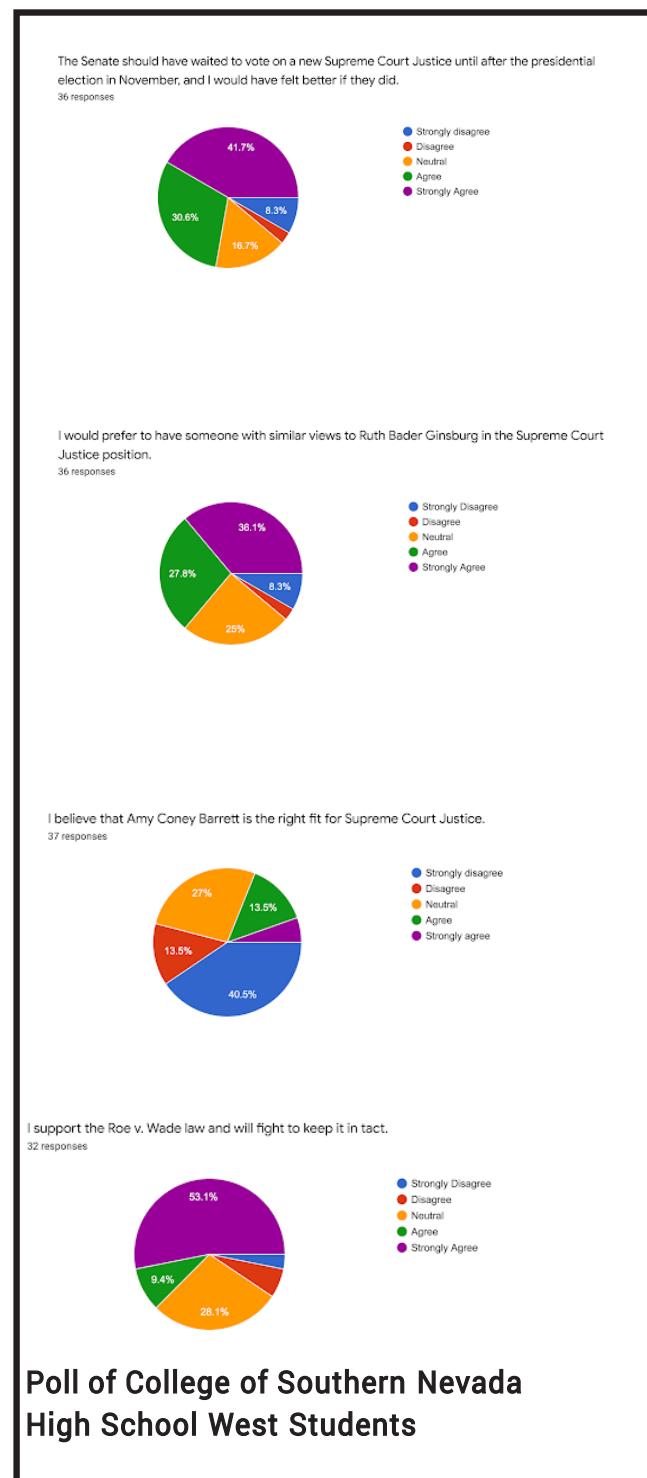
*Continued on Page 11*

## Amy Coney Barrett - Unfit to be Supreme Court Justice

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responds by talking about the freedoms of speech, assembly, religion, and press, yet when she admits that she is unaware of what the fifth freedom is, she asks, "What am I missing?" Such a casual response not only concerned, but angered many, since the question is featured on an American citizenship test. Therefore, immigrants could get this question wrong and be denied their citizenship, yet a Supreme Court Justice nominee got the question wrong and still got confirmed. The double standards between this woman, and pretty much anybody else, are both baffling and disturbing.

Although the Supreme Court Justice position should not be granted to anyone, because it is a position of power that sticks with you for life, Amy Coney Barrett is definitely the last person who should be in this position. Her views alone put people's lives in danger, yet mixed with her ability to somewhat change and restrict their rights now that she is confirmed, she should not be allowed to hold any type of judicial position. Until she can truly separate church from state, and show examples of that in her decisions and cases, she should not be in such a high position of power, that obviously belongs to someone



## Amy Coney Barrett - Fit to be Supreme Court Justice

continued from page 10

excused from his past or future crimes. Barrett responded saying, "Well, Senator Booker, that would be a legal question. That would be a constitutional question. And so, in keeping with my obligation not to give hints, previews or forecasts of how I'd resolve the case, that's not one that I can answer." Once, again Booker asked Barrett a question about her opinions on a legal matter that Barrett may be tasked with overseeing in the future. Abiding by the law, Barrett informed Senator Booker that she is not allowed to divulge her thoughts on this matter.

It is important to understand that judges are not political activists. According to the official Code of Conduct for U.S. Judges, "A judge should not act as a leader or hold any office in a political organization, make speeches for a political organization or candidate, or publicly endorse or oppose a candidate for public office[...]" Furthermore, in Federalist 78, Alexander Hamilton states that the Judicial Branch has neither "force nor will." In other words, the job of the court is not to judge by its own personal opinions. Rather, judges exist to interpret the law faithfully and make sure the written law is properly applied. Therefore, the fact that Barrett is conservative is irrelevant, because she is bound by United States law to objectively judge according to the law, without letting her personal beliefs sway her decision. She fully understands this saying in her 2017 Senate confirmation hearing saying, "It's never appropriate for a judge to impose that judge's personal convictions, whether they derive from faith or anywhere else on the law." Thus, considering Barrett's personal beliefs is irrelevant when considering her validity as a judge. All one must consider is if she is truly dedicated to interpreting the written law.

## SENIORS

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By Alysa Bravo

War. Tragedy. China. One hero can save China from the Huns... Or umm from the Rourans? This is one of the many differences between the animated movie, *Mulan* 1998 and live action remake, *Mulan* 2020. So, does the new *Mulan* live up to the original *Mulan*? As we reach a new generation, then comes a new generation of movies. To analyze these movies we must get the controversies out of the way, consider the similarities and the differences, and also take a deeper look into the actual original *Mulan* story. Warning: there will be spoilers of both *Mulan* movies.

#BoycottMulan was a previously trending hashtag due to the controversies of the main lead, Liu Yifei. Yifei openly showed her support to the Hong Kong police on social media. Many fans were enraged by this because of long fights against Hong Kong police brutality against protesters fighting for democracy. Time Magazine's Andrew R. Chow wrote the article Here's what to know about the *Mulan* Boycott where he pointed out that the casting of Liu Yifei was "celebrated by an online community angry over a recent wave of whitewashed roles." Some have remarked how her powerful voice was not used for good. Excited fans

## Mulan, the Animated, the Live

were devastated in figuring this out and the news was quick to spread. Yohana Desta quotes Christina McCarthy (Disney CFO) in Disney Admits *Mulan* Controversy Pileup Has Created a "Lot of Issues for Us" saying "It's common knowledge that, in order to film in China, you have to be granted permission. That permission comes from the central government." This suggests that Yifei had said these things just to get on the good side of China's government in benefit of the film. Many students who have viewed the movie (for \$30 + a monthly description) were distraught and CSN student, Sean White even critiqued Disney: "Mulan 2020 suffers from what all the Disney live action movies suffer from. Disney believes they will make money no matter what so they put in less effort. It was also weird because they wanted a more "realistic story" which removed mushu, but then threw in a magic witch and ki superpowers." Other people brought up recent issues taking place, such as Ashton Wilson who explains it to be "very shallow. It was filmed in a country where a current genocide of Uighur Muslims is going on, where as it could have been filmed a multitude of different places" The movie is also described as "trash" (by Juliana Poppel) or "ew"(anonymous). Putting these things aside, there were many fans who did enjoy watching this live action and were happy to see famous actors such as Gong Li (known for her role in Memoirs of a Geisha), Jet Li, (famous martial artist and actor), and Donnie Yen (known for his roles in the Ip man sequels). One student said, "I think it was good and it did not deserve the hate it received". Comparing these two movies can be extensive from the changes in the story to the controversies concerning the actresses/actors. A major change was

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## A Gathering

A New Way to be Together Apart

By Lois Ahfrenon

I've never imagined that online gathering would be fun. I was hesitant to join the first Zoom party I was invited to by friends. The new idea sounded weird and hard to accept. How can someone dress up for a party, or cook food and attend through a screen? After attending the first Zoom meeting, I enjoyed it just like a wedding that I would attend in person. Dressing in wedding outfits and getting ready has a great feeling. It's true that I would like to see, hug, and kiss my loved ones in person, but until that time digital gatherings are an alternative.

People always like to share their successes and sorrow with others. It is human nature to desire to be with people you love during bad days and good days. And it has always been that way. This had to change when the Coronavirus Pandemic broke out. The pandemic was very sudden; It changed our lives in a very short time. Before the pandemic people had weddings, graduations, baby showers, sporting events, religious and family gatherings planned. All those ceremonies were under attack when the pandemic raged. For a while, people just had to spend their time with the people they were quarantined with. But it was hard to enjoy quality time without loved ones. One senior student says about these times, "the pandemic has definitely decreased my friend circle as well as the amount of gatherings and parties I attend." These type of changes affect teenagers negatively most of the time.

The new quarantine season was going to be an age of isolation. Many schools postponed their graduation ceremonies, couples canceled their weddings, some couldn't attend their religious service. Millions around the world are suffering with stress and loneliness during these times. The Mental Health Foundation says about loneliness during coronavirus: "In our combined efforts to stay safe and

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# ARTS & LITERATURE

McKenzie Olsen won third prize, \$100 cash, in this year's Spark Poetry Contest! Congratulations. Here is one of her award-winning poems.

## My Guardian Angel

by McKenzie Olsen

We were both springtime babies  
Born when the flowers bloomed  
And the geese came back  
And the nights were warm and short  
His eyes were ocean blue  
And he had golden hair  
When he smiled  
It melted my heart  
I was awkward  
With deep brown eyes  
And untamed hair  
He was athletic  
Basically famous

Charmed even the cruelest of people

I was nerdy  
Only winning ribbons

Never good enough for my successful family  
All I could do was play piano  
Yet he loved it

Told me one day I'd rule the world  
Encouraged me  
Since that is what angels do  
And I adored him  
Knowing he would always be there  
Right beside me  
I leaned on him  
We leaned on each other  
We both had depression  
For we both had that need  
Of pleasing people  
And it tore us apart  
But we hid behind our masks  
And continued on life's journey  
The days turned to months

The months became years  
He was my shoulder to cry on  
When I felt worthless  
He was my pair of arms  
Hugging me as I failed  
He was my voice  
When my own faded away  
My piano player  
When I refused to play again

My smile

When I felt I could smile no more  
He was my light  
When I was trapped in the  
shadows  
He was the pair of ears  
That listened to my sobs  
He was my Guardian Angel  
Who kept me from ruining my life

His name  
Meant God given  
Because God knew  
I needed him most  
And I adored him  
Thinking for the rest of my life  
He would always be there  
That was a decade ago  
He died in November  
And I've missed him ever since  
I hate depression  
And I wonder if  
He'd still be here  
If I had been there  
Begging him to stay  
His grave is beautiful  
It has blooming flowers  
Engraved with little birds  
The nights are short  
And they are always warm  
Sometimes I miss him  
So much my chest could cave in  
And the agony burns

So much the tears don't stop  
But I look across the valley  
Towards the snowy mountains  
When the brightest star is shining  
And all our songs come on my radio

I look up  
I can still hear his voice  
He is singing to me  
And waving to me

The most beautiful angel in the sky  
Some days I want him back  
But I know that is selfish  
Because he is Home now  
There was this one day  
I was feeling hopeless  
And I sat at the piano  
Playing because that is what I did best  
That is when he came  
And leaned against the piano  
Watching and smiling  
As I glanced out of my eye's corner  
I saw my Guardian Angel

He wore white  
He was younger  
With silky blonde hair  
And blue eyes that encouraged me

To play on  
He wants me to live  
And one day  
I will see him again  
And hug him  
And hear his laugh  
And watch him play piano  
And kiss his face  
Oh how I can't wait

## Tik-Tok Trends and Teens

by Kyla Jones

TikTok has taken the world by storm during this global pandemic. Since the beginning of quarantine, little kids, teenagers and even elders have turned to the app TikTok for their social media entertainment. It has changed the world for the better and sometimes the worse, but TikTok has been a creative outlet for people all over the world. In the beginning of March our lives changed: there was no more inperson school and there were no more gatherings with more than 10 people. TikTok had already been a popular app around the world but with COVID-19 it began to have a big break. Trends have begun and shared throughout the app and the fun people are having is remarkable. From dancing with parents to toddlers “cooking” on their own, the participation from millions of people throughout the app has allowed people to slowly but surely get through these hard times.

Grandsons film their grandmas making pasta for Sunday dinners and moms of 6 show how to make dinner for a large family on a budget. The most viral videos often involve kids’ parents participating in a video their kid most likely forced them to do but the parents always end up killing it. Some parents have even gone viral and ended up on the news for their comedic and dancing skills; one girl and her mother were featured on CBS for their smooth choreography and coordinated rhythm.

TikTok is a place for learning many hacks such as getting your colleges book downloaded for free or learning how to make a beat for a song. Kids have used the app as a way of compromising when getting in trouble with their parents -- many kids and teenagers suggest a certain number of likes so that they stay off punishment or get to keep their phone and users with their many likes always come through.

The latest trend on this game changing app is a dance to a creative remix of Walking in a Winter Wonderland. Many couples, friends and parents with children have decided to hop on the train and participate for the holidays. TikTok is a place for parents too: they show their toddler experiences, ask for help on how to effectively punish their kids and there is even a man on the app who gives the kids perspective and feelings when their parents say things that may seem hurtful or excessive. TikTok is an app that brings all people together and gives opportunities and insights for most. Will you try and get yourself involved ?



## Celebrities in Your Fast Food

By Bella Adargo

The world has gone crazy over the Travis Scott burger at McDonalds and The new “Charli” drink, named after popular TikTok influencer Charli D’Amelio, at Dunkin Donuts. It seems that Celebrities have found even more ways to fool you into buying their new products. Not only do you see them on TV, but they have also made an appearance in your fast food meals and drinks. These products sell out fast and seem to be in high demand when. It is crazy to see how wild everyone is going over a simple coffee and burger.

Charli D’Amelio is a famous tiktoker who gained fame by dancing on the app. She recently came out with a drink at Dunkin known as the Charli Drink, with an iced caramel cold brew coffee with whole milk. A freshman from WHS tried the drink and said: “ It didn’t have the strong cold brew tastes as other coffee does. I was expecting something more special, but it’s just like any other coffee with caramel.” The drink obviously did not live up to his expectations. Another celebrity that came out with a fast food item was Travis Scott. Travis is a popular singer who is also known for dating Kylie Jenner. He partnered up with McDonalds and came out with the Travis Scott meal. It included a quarter pounder with bacon and lettuce. Later another celebrity by the name of JBalvin came out with a meal of his own, a simple Big Mac with fries and a Mcflurry. Overhyped would be the best way to put it. There is nothing truly special to these meals and people are just wasting their time and money.

What do the workers have to say about this? Have they tried it too? As a worker in the fast food industry at McDonalds, I can say that people are feeding into lies. The new celebrity endorsed meals created unnecessary mayhem. The Travis Scott meal was in such high demand that the ingredients needed to make it quickly ran out and put fast food workers under a lot of stress “It was fun to work with Travis, but it was impossible to keep up with the orders” said my fellow coworker at McDonalds.

## Mulan Compared

*Continued from Page 12*

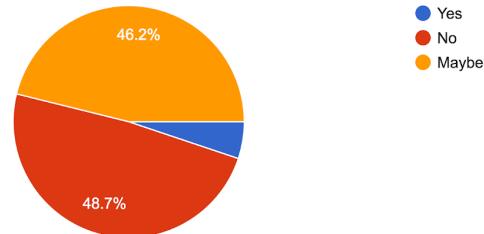
the name of Mulan. In the original movie Mulan’s surname is actually Fa Mulan (Fa Ping in war) compared to the new one’s Hua Mulan (Hua Jun). Another thing that was highly criticized by many was that the movie was missing the original and favorite contents from the older *Mulan* movie. If you watched the first movie, there should be no doubt that you fell in love with Eddie Murphy’s character, Mushu, and his beloved chirping companion, Cri-kee, the Cricket. Fa Mulan turns to these two characters for guidance, however in the newer *Mulan* movie, Hua Mulan turns to the phoenix ancestor. Many fans were disappointed by this decision. Another huge change was the change in the musical numbers. Reflection won the hearts of many kids and Disney fans which was sung by Lea Salonga. The new *Mulan* has an instrumental version in which there is an inability to sing along. If we look at other Disney live-actions, a defining part in these movies were the remake of their popular songs. This includes *Beauty and the Beast* “Be our Guest” and *Aladdin*’s “A Whole New World.” These movies would simply not be the same without these iconic numbers. We must also take into consideration the similarities. This includes the values that *Mulan* must bring honor to her family and the value of praying to their ancestors.

Now that we have compared the live action and the animated version of the film, it is time to bring in the ballad. To put simply, the “Ballad of Mulan” is the mother and the influence of the movies. Perhaps the movies had loving and ecstatic characters which lightened the tense actions, but the ballad had a more serious tone. Also, in the “Ode of Mulan” there are no love interests such as Li Shang or Chen Honghui. *Mulan 1998* and *Mulan 2020* did have something completely right, which is Mulan’s love to her family. In all versions of the story, Mulan takes her father’s place in the war and she wants to restore honor to her family.

by Saniya Carrillo

Which of your favorite celebrities or influencers have you seen cancelled? Do you think they deserved it? Cancel culture is a form of ostracism that involves “canceling,” or ending support to certain groups or influencers. People will boycott work and try to take away their platform. In the past, influencers have gotten called out for mistakes and bad behavior. One celebrity that was part of cancel culture was Abby Lee Miller. According to Fox News, she is known for her famous Lifetime Channel TV show, *Dance Moms*. Lifetime announced that they were cutting all of their ties with her after the accusation that she had made

Do you think people deserve to be cancelled for their past mistakes?  
39 responses



racist remarks. This also led to the cancellation of one of her other TV shows, and ended *Dance Moms* early. Additionally, Hartley Sawyer, from the CW’s *The Flash* was accused of being racist and misogynistic after tweets had resurfaced from 2012.

He was then fired from his TV show. Furthermore, Shane Gillis, an American comedian, was cancelled due to offensive comments made on one of his podcasts. Following the accusations, *Saturday Night Live* stated that they were not aware of

his actions, yet they announced that they had fired him. These examples are very serious occurrences, and caused the celebrities to lose many opportunities and even their entire careers.

Cancel culture has been around for a long time, however gained even more popularity due to the app, Tiktok. Some users either had no consequences for their actions, or got so much hate to the point where they were getting death threats. For example, Tiktok influencer, Nessa Barrett, made an inappropriate dance to a religious song. When prompted to apologize, fans did not think she

*Continued on Page 16*

## The 2020 Election

by Jordan Hill

Donald Trump. Joe Biden. Millions Watching. America Has Decided. On November 7th, 2020, America declared Joseph Robinette Biden Jr. to be the President-elect of the United States. Having defeated incumbent Donald Trump in the 2020 United States presidential election, Joe Biden will be inaugurated on January 20, 2021, becoming the 46th president of the United States.

After an abnormal, four-day-long election, Joe Biden became president-elect Saturday, November 7th after winning Pennsylvania, though the presidential election overall came down to just a few states: Arizona, Georgia, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and most importantly to us, Nevada. Throughout the first states to report, Florida and North Carolina, Donald Trump was managing several points better than Democratic polling had forecast, and considerably ahead of most surveys conducted. According to New York Times'

How Joe Biden Won the Presidency, Joe Biden grew increasingly discouraged as the night carried on, and it became transparent that the president was running stronger than foreseen. According to NBC News, in a turn of events, Biden’s chances had improved as the big cities of the North reported their votes. Democratic nominee Joe Biden had secured 253 electoral votes on Friday, leaving him 17 shy of the 270 needed to win the White House. Though Biden’s lead in Arizona, which has 11 electoral votes, declined slightly overnight, while new data from “too-close-to-call” Nevada, which has six electoral votes, was also expected that day. It would take until Saturday, when Pennsylvania was called in his favor, to confirm that Biden had won more than the 270 Electoral College votes needed to declare the presidency. As many Democrats were apprehensive and some

## Zoom - the New Party

*Continued from Page 12*

save lives, our usual ways of YouTube, Instagram, WhatsApp, seeing family, friends or just Netflix Party and Facebook familiar faces have been put “on pause.” It is important to keep strong social networks to prevent poor mental health. That means people needed to adapt how we connect with others and find new ways to stay in touch during this time. In an effort to keep human gatherings meaningful, it was important to ask in what ways does the current need of social contact need to be addressed. The table, the food, the script is not the purpose of gatherings. The community has to focus on interacting with others. Thus, lives we once lived out in the world are now being streamed among friends, families and communities longing for connection. The Los Angeles Times states, “Almost overnight, virtual gatherings of all kinds are cropping up across the internet, aided by easy-to-use technology like Google Hangouts, Zoom,

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## Celebrities Canceled

*continued from page 15*

was genuine and were very offended. Another influencer, Chase Hudson, was also a victim of cancel culture. A video of him saying a racial slur was leaked, and fans were very offended. Although he had apologized, people thought that it was half hearted, and he did not deserve their forgiveness. People argue that young Tiktok influencers are still learning and growing from their mistakes. There are countless other celebrities and influencers that have been victims of cancel culture. There are many mixed opinions and beliefs about it. According to a junior at CSN, cancel culture is not a positive way of getting influencers to own up to their mistakes. What do you think? Do you think that young people should be exempt from cancel culture? Is cancel culture a positive or negative way to get people to own up to their mistakes?

## 2020 Election

*continued from page 15*

Republicans were optimistic going into the election, both sides can say they were greatly affected by this election. As the election is coming to an end, it is no longer about wins or loses but the smooth transition from one president to another in order to prioritize the unification of an angry and split nation, the fixing of a fragmented Congress, and the healing from a continuing economic and public health crisis.



## Our School

College of Southern Nevada High School (CSNHS) was established in January 1996 as the Community College High School. A name change took place in the fall of 2007 in order to align with the change at the College of Southern Nevada (formerly Community College of Southern Nevada). CSNHS is a public school of choice in CCSD that is housed on the College of Southern Nevada campuses. The mission of CSNHS is to facilitate the successful transition of students from high school to post-secondary education by providing dual credit coursework. Students must complete a competitive application, which is reviewed by the faculty and administration in the following areas: GPA, rigor of previous course work, attendance and discipline record, two essays, and teacher recommendations. A select number of juniors and seniors are chosen to attend CSNHS. College of Southern Nevada High School is accredited by the Northwest Accreditation Commission now a division of AdvancED. College of Southern Nevada is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. All three College of Southern Nevada High School campuses recently received five stars from the Nevada School Performance Framework of the Nevada Department of Education.

## Social Media: The Struggle to Keep Positive

*by Kailey Kaldy*

Many people are on social media multiple times a day and they get sucked in ending in hours of wasted unproductivity. There are several good things about social media such as keeping people connected, giving out news and updates, sharing your life with friends and family and so much more. It is really exciting to go on social media and see your friends going out and doing what they have always wanted to do. There are also countless down sides to social media such as seeing other people post pictures and they have your dream body or they are living your dream life. Social Media has a huge impact on body positivity and insecurities.

We decided to go out and ask four people what they felt about social media and if they believed it was toxic. All four responses had positive and negative feelings. Some of the things they found good about social media were that you can keep in touch with your friends. You can follow inspirational quotes and really positive people so that you do not see as much

negative stuff. But on the flip side there is also a lot of negativity on social media platforms because if someone seems confident or gets "famous" there will be people who hate on them. Also people tend to compare themselves to social media models and all that does is tear down your self esteem and confidence. We also asked what app they think is the most toxic and three people said that they thought Instagram is the most toxic mostly because what you see depends on who you follow. One person voted for TikTok. Your for you page is a mix of popular creators and what kind of videos you like or comment on; also people can duet videos and start arguments or hate on peoples' videos. Social media truly has no boundaries. Social media apps used to be very happy and we used it to share our lives with others but it has now turned into a toxic place especially for younger teenagers who are easily influenced.

