

GRANADA STRIVES TO LIVE WITH EWCSD POLICY

District Dress Code causes some distress.

By Kurtis F.

Many students at Granada are concerned about the East Whittier City School District dress code policy and believe students should be allowed to wear what they want when they come to school. When asked her thoughts on the issue, Savannah R. expressed that it could seem sexist since it seems to often apply to mostly female clothing. Many also agree with this idea, because they think the district is being sexist against women in schools, when they set these rules.

However, in an attempt to show otherwise, the dress code policy printed in the student planner was unscientifically analyzed and it was noted that if one looks at all of the reasons for dress code and figures out which applies mainly to females, then males, and finally either gender, it comes out about even. In spite of this fact, the perception is that female attire is resulting in more dress code violations. Is there specific scientific research or data to explain this? No--it just seems to be the way it is.

The boys on campus are also concerned as Jacob C. argued, "The belt dress code rule is very dumb because of how long it is extended." What he is referring to is the length of a belt, which shouldn't seem to be a big deal. A few boys got a detention because they thought the 'belt rule' didn't matter to them, so they wore them to school. People need to realize that this rule could be in place, because an excessively long belt, could be used as a weapon.

Wearing the ID lanyards is also part of dress code; they need to be

around the neck upon entering campus grounds, until students leave campus. Wearing lanyards that have violent or inappropriate images and professional sports teams is prohibited on campus. The only exception to sport teams lanyards is college Tuesdays, and only college teams. No professional sports teams, ever. If you lose or forget your ID, there is a \$5 fee for a new one and a detention.

Students need to know that dress codes are implemented based on expert advice from local law enforcement agencies, in an effort to keep students safe on campus. In addition, IDs, along with the necessary lanyards, are also needed to keep students safe on campus. Everyone on campus needs to be able to easily recognize who is on campus and whether they belong here or not.

Students have to follow the dress code regardless if one thinks it's stupid or not. Rules are set in place to keep people safe; it is the littlest rule that can make the biggest sense, if one pays attention to the purpose behind it.

READY, RESOURCEFUL, RESPECTFUL, AND RESPONSIBLE STUDENT RECOGNITION

A personal look at SOM/COM from one who knows.

By Che R.

The Student of the Month and Citizen of the Month assemblies, or SOM/COM, as they are called around campus are very exciting assemblies held about every month. Students have a chance at getting Citizen of the Month, or even Student of the Month, by striving to exhibit the Granada Four Rs--Respect, Resourceful, Ready, and Responsible--each and every day.

Citizen of the Month is when each teacher gets to pick two students out of all their classes, who are great examples of what it means to be a Granada Matador to be extra proud of; this effort is

probably many of the hardest decisions they have to make during the year.

Student of the Month is when all the teachers get together and pick only one boy and one girl out of the entire grade to represent the grade level that month as the *best of the best*. Seeing the smiles on these students' faces makes the honor of the day very clear.

After receiving the award, Brooke C. confided that she was a little embarrassed at the assembly, but felt really proud of herself for winning the award. Mateo J. agreed and was very happy with his, too. When asked about her experience, Natalie O. expressed she was feeling kind of shy because everyone was looking at her and clapping, but she felt better after it was over. "When I saw my parents in the crowd, I was pretty confused. Then I found out I won one of the awards, I was happy and so were my parents," shared Brody P. after his special day.

Normally, a journalist does not make the story about herself, but, in case it isn't known, "I received student of the month and it was the best feeling ever. I felt like I was on the top of the world. and my parents were super proud of me. I felt really proud of myself too."

Any student has the potential to also get SOM/COM or Student of the Month or Citizen of the Month. Just don't give up and always follow Granada's 4 R's. It's easy to do, makes Granada a better school, and the result is that everyone is generally happier and more productive as a result. So, who will be the "chosen ones" next month? It's a surprise to look forward to. The special barbecue lunch recipients receive isn't too bad, either...YUM!



PHOTO BY MRS. RODRIGUEZ--STAFF ADVISER

SOM/COM recipients proudly display the certificates they earned for being wonderful and great role-models for those around them.



MINECRAFT VERSUS FORTNITE

*Granada students
more inclined to favor
Minecraft.*

By Ashton T.

Teenagers tend to have opinions on many topics. So, the staff thought it would be interesting to investigate just what Granada students are discussing and debating. Naturally video games is always a hot topic, so the question is: Which is better--Minecraft or Fortnite?

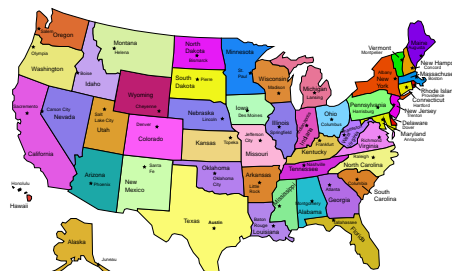
Which one is better? Minecraft or Fortnite? Now, it depends on where you live in the USA. For Granadians, that would be California--and the winner--Fortnite?...

What? Wait a minute. Before you get all bothered, look at the research. In Google Trends, it shows a map of the two games and where they are most popular. For those who love Minecraft, you will be surprised to learn that Minecraft is more popular than Fortnite in only five states: Alaska, Utah, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. Everywhere else in the nation, Fortnite is most popular.

Also in Google Trends, Minecraft and Fortnite are tied in "actual" popularity. How does this information add up to the experts at Granada? It's hard to say, since all of this may change, because everybody likes different games, and new ones are coming out every day. But loyalists will often return to what they are used to. For example, someone who started playing Fortnite might like it at first, but then it starts to get boring. Then they start playing Minecraft,



and they are really enjoying it because they have a creative mind. Same thing for Fortnite; that person might really enjoy competing against others. Overall the Fortnite and Minecraft debate will change over time. And, who knows what will come next?



"My parents always send me here for their vacation."

The Granada Middle School Journalism Club is always looking for writers, editors, and photographers for future issues of **The Matadorian**. See Mrs. Rodriguez in room #39 to apply. You can also email a message to: arodriguez@ewcsd.org

CONFIDENCE TAKES WORK

*Your attitude is
everything.*

By Cali P.

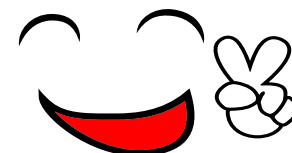
Sometimes students don't always enjoy school. They may struggle with stressful issues at home that carry over to school. Or, sometimes school is just difficult for them. Whichever it may be, school should be a safe place for all students, no matter what.

Don't be afraid to talk to others. Find someone you can talk to, whether it's a teacher or your friends. There are always people you can talk to; someone is always willing to help you. Talking to others makes you feel better.

Another important thing to know about feeling good about yourself and school, is having a great attitude. This is how to make

yourself feel confident and comfortable at school. Give yourself a mental makeover! Not literally, but think about your choice of friends, or where you hang out at nutrition and lunch. Make a few new friends, or hang out somewhere different. Feeling comfortable and liking your environment is a big part of feeling confident.

Another big factor in making school a safe place is the way you walk around on campus. Have good posture, walk with confidence. Smile at those around you, and say, "Hello," or "Good afternoon." It's amazing what a friendly smile can do for a person. It makes you and the other person feel great--it's a win-win for all--it doesn't get any better than that. So work on your attitude, and you'll find school is even better.



CHOICES AND MORE CHOICES

*Professionals share
their insights with
students.*

By Angel G.

What is Career Day? Career Day is a day to have an opportunity to see the variety of jobs that you can do in the future. On Career Day 2019, Granada has different adults come talk to us Granada Matadors about their careers.

There is one person in particular that catches everyone's eye, and that is the "Netflix Guy,"

or at least that is what everyone calls him. He is doing trivia from different shows that are on Netflix. If you answer correctly you get a pin from Stranger Things.

There are also chefs who make food right in front of you. But the food isn't like any food seen before, they are awesome food sculptures! On top of that, the Los Angeles Fire Department has a fire truck on the blacktop, and informs amazed students about what all the different buttons and gizmos on it do.

One of the other highlights of the day is a music teacher showing students how to hold different instruments and how to play some easy notes. Additionally, a retired military personnel teaches students what is required when going into battle. He lets the students wear and hold it to (Continued page 3)

(CHOICES continued from page 2)

find out how heavy the equipment is.

The students of Granada learn many things on Career Day and have a great time using and seeing the various items the presenters shared with them. The event comes in handy for eighth graders who will research a possible career choice in second semester.



Images of work done by first responders and LAFD continue to inspire students.

HONORING THOSE WHO SERVE

Veterans are given the respect they earned.

By Katie M.

Veterans Day is celebrated every year on November 11th. This year, Veterans Day landed on a Monday. It is a special day to honor our veterans, and it marks the day when World War I ended.

Some fun facts about Veterans Day include that the last living veteran of World War I was Florence Green, a British citizen who served in the Allied Armed Forces, and died on February 4, 2012, at the age of 110. Also, there were about 18.2 million veterans as of 2018.

What is the difference between Memorial Day and Veterans Day? On Memorial Day, which falls in May, we honor the men and women who died while serving in the military, whereas on Veterans Day, we celebrate the service of all of the men and women of the United States military, naval, or air service.

The next time you see a current or veteran member of the military, remember their service to our country, and thank them.

HOW CAN ALL HELP THE HOMELESS?

Being homeless hits close to home.

By Katie M.

In the last few years, the state has been dealing with a growing population of homelessness in California. According to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, there are approximately 50,000-60,000 homeless people in Los Angeles County. California has the most homeless people compared to any other state in the U.S. The main causes for this problem are the lack of affordable houses, poverty, and high taxes, to name a few.

Many in Whittier have noticed that parks, such as nearby Parnell Park, are being used as campgrounds by the homeless. This prevents locals from visiting the parks and feeling safe having their kids playing in the park. The homeless population is often moved elsewhere, but it doesn't stop the problem, it just hides it for awhile.

The question is: what can society--everyone--do to help solve this problem for good? How much responsibility does society have? What can you do to try to help? Are you willing to find out how?

GRANADA STUDENTS ONCE AGAIN STEP IT UP

It's payday for ASB and students with successful fall fundraiser.

By Amanda V.

Students from all grade levels throw their backpacks on the ground and rush off to do the fun activities the Step it Up Event has to offer. They choose from the tempting array of choices such as slurping shaved ice, bouncing in bouncy houses, running a race course, a soccer score game, and more. Some kids lazily lounge next to the booths where kids are talking and eating the shaved ice.

In order for students to qualify to participate in this great event, they ask friends and family members to donate funds to Granada. If they raise a certain amount, they receive an invitation to attend. It has become a popular annual event that students look forward to. When asked why she attended, Isabella N. responded, "I mostly wanted to hang out with my friends. Oh and also the shaved ice is really refreshing." When asked how he got to be at the event, Owen joked, "I have a rich aunt, plus I'm a smooth talker and I'm the favorite in the family."

In addition to the activities already mentioned, every 5-10 minutes, the Step It Up coordinator calls out numbers (the number on the wrist band) for students to come up and spin the wheel to win cash. The coordinator obviously enjoys the fun he brings to the school, "The whole event is used to raise money for schools and I have been working with Step It Up for five years, and I've been fundraising for plenty of more years." Granada must be one of the best schools he gets to work with,

of course,

It's not only the students who get to have fun. The teachers wander around the event making sure kids are safe, while eating their own share of shaved ice.

While the rewards of this and other fundraisers are gratifying, it's also important to remember that ASB and other school-sponsored fundraisers are important to support as they allow the groups that are holding them to make Granada an even greater school to attend. These funds raised are then used to promote club, classroom, and school-wide programs that are unique to Granada and its community. So the next time a fundraiser is announced, step it up, and help support it any way you can.



PHOTO BY ASHTON T
These girls are "Stepping Up" with shaved ice--it looks like a lot of fun!

HOGWARTS
COMES TO
TOWN

Mr. Arviso's book club become Harry Potter experts.

By Kasandra A.

Since Mr. Arviso's book club has decided to start out with Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone, the famous fantasy fiction novel by J.K Rowling, it seems it is a good time to inform everyone else about this amazing book. Making its debut years ago as the series opener in the official Harry Potter multi-volume series, "The Sorcerer's Stone" really delivers a great experience to those new to the series. It provides a great storyline, memorable characters, as well as some juicy lore to keep the readers on the edge of their seats.

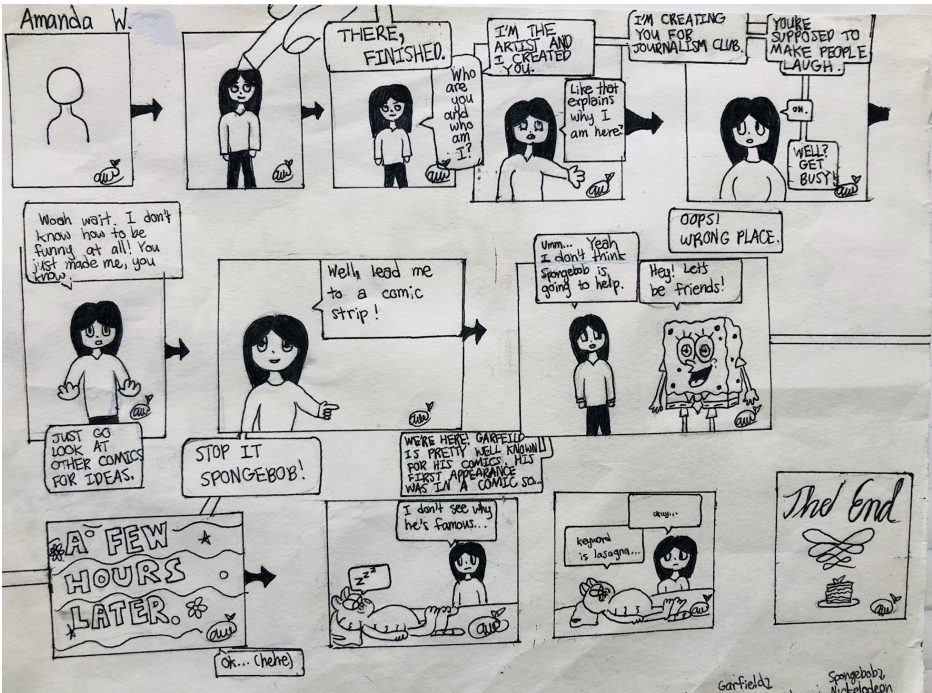
The book starts off when an eleven-year-old boy by the name of Harry Potter, is chosen to be a wizard at Hogwarts, the school of magical education. It continues to follow Harry's journey through his first year at Hogwarts, where he discovers the truth of his parents'

tragic death.

Rowling's way of creating adventure is incredibly captivating and absolutely imaginative. Plus the character development with Ron and Hermione, makes the book a whole lot better.

Overall, this Harry Potter book introduces an interesting plot that keeps you craving for more. The magic from the adventures you and Harry go on cannot be replicated from anywhere else. In addition, this is a great book that will motivate students into not only meeting their AR goals, but maybe turn them into life-long readers. So experience the spell-casting journey in Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone.

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STICKELERS [sic].
by Terry Stickels

Here's a "trickledown" puzzle. The rules are simple; you merely change one letter on each line to make a new word and continue until you reach the final word.

Example: COAT

VASE

Ans: COAT
COST
CAST
CASE
VASE

TOOTED

SAILOR

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STICKELERS [sic].
by Terry Stickels

You have 22 blue socks and 24 black socks in a drawer.

If you reach into the drawer without looking at the socks, what is the smallest number of socks you must take from the drawer to be assured of getting one pair of blue socks?

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A TASTY
TREAT
ACTIVITY



By Naomi B.

A fun and tasty idea to make is a Marshmallow Snowman. For this project you'll need 2 pretzels, 2 marshmallows, 1 mini chocolate chip, and 1 orange sprinkle.

Directions:
First stick both marshmallows onto one of the pretzels for structure
Then break the other pretzel in half and stick the two halves in the sides of the bottom marshmallow.
Then melt your chocolate chip and make eyes and a mouth and buttons.
Add the orange sprinkle as a nose.
Enjoy this tasty and fun winter treat!

Only look here if you really can't figure it out on your own!

Stickels Answer
TOOTED
TOOLED
TOILED
SOILED
SAILED
SAILER
SAILOR

You might pick the 24 black socks first.
Then you would need to pick two more.

The answer is 26.
Sticklers Answer