



And the School Year Begins...Again!

By Siana Garcia, Editor

We could not be happier to say that school is finally back and running. Early College High School students are in session again after being out of school for over a year due to the Coronavirus. Covid-19 has not only changed the lives of all of those who at one time or another, got the virus, but it has also greatly strained the education of children throughout the United States. Affecting all 50 states, along with other continents, children have had a very difficult time remaining to do their school work. Participation has dropped profoundly, along with their performance in their specific classes. While individuals were finding alternatives, students have had a very hard time with their studies. This month, April 2021, students and faculty have been able to continue their work within the school building, finally allowing them to get back on schedule. At this time, Early College High School is back in class Monday through Friday. Administration is taking the time to get students caught up and fully prepared for the upcoming grade level. While things are not fully back to normal, one step at a time, faculty at ECHS is doing all they can to give students an opportunity to get involved again.

Although school is back to face to face learning again, how is it affecting our current students? Students at Early College have found themselves in a much more difficult position than ever before. There are debates on whether or not students are benefiting with this change, or not. School protocols have altered in several different ways!

So what kind of protocols are involved in a typical school day?



Classes began in-person on February 22nd in a hybrid schedule on the campus, however students in the A & B scheduled format were combined and welcomed back all together on campus as of March 29th.

Students and faculty have to wear masks, clean tables and chairs before and after usage, along with 6ft distances between everyone. These small changes are very effective in terms on Covid-19, but are they a distraction for children learning face to face? Students and faculty have to wear masks, clean tables and chairs before and after usage, along with 6ft distances between everyone. These small changes are very effective in terms on Covid-19, but are they a distraction for children learning face to face?

According to ECHS incoming freshmen, students find that wearing a mask makes it much more difficult to focus on their studies. Brandon Gonzalez states, "It becomes much harder to focus due to the heat it produces, along with the feeling of the mask on your face. It not only tickles but irritates your nose and chin from time to time, but it definitely changes how children are learning, even if it is a slight difference. For those that have a hard time paying attention, like myself, it makes it more complex to continue to give your teachers complete attention."

Despite the difficult changes, children would rather be in class, in comparison to learning online. Students find that online learning was not effective in the same way as face to face interactions.

Touch-Down: The Mars Rover *Perseverance*

By Morgan Stites

Two months ago, the Perseverance Rover touched down on the surface of Mars to collect data of ancient microbial life. Saturday the rover put out the Ingenuity helicopter, which is being used to test the capabilities of flight on the Red Planet. The small device, which stands at about 19 inches tall and is only about 4 pounds, spent its first solo night on Mars. The mini helicopter used solar power and self-heating to keep its own electrical components warm in the -130 degrees (Fahrenheit) night. However, it has other milestones set by the scientists at NASA before it can take off for the first time. The milestones set include surviving takeoff from Cape Canaveral and being dropped off by the Perseverance rover. Its most recent milestone was surviving the harsh Martian night alone, which it did. The final barrier is that the Ingenuity must autonomously charge itself. Only after that can it take its first flight, which will last between 20 and 30 seconds and be recorded by the Perseverance and the Ingenuity itself. The Ingenuity is paving the way for further exploration of the Red Planet, with its testing it can provide scientists with the ability to use other helicopters like it to collect data from areas in which rovers are unable to reach.

"Helicopters on future Mars missions could act as robotic scouts, viewing terrain from above that rovers cannot access, or as spacecrafts carrying scientific instruments. They may even be able to help future astronauts someday explore the red planet." (Sophie Lewis, CBS News). With this not only are we able to explore more of Mars we are able to learn more about the possibility of ancient life on the planet.



The Mars helicopter, *Ingenuity*, sitting on the planet's surface.

Breaking News: Buckingham Palace Reports Prince Phillip Has Died

By Morgan Stites

On Friday, April 9th, the British Royal Family announced the death of Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh and Queen Elizabeth's husband. It was reported that the 99-year-old had passed peacefully that morning at Windsor Castle.

The Duke had a rocky childhood, he was the youngest child and only son to Prince Andrew of Greece and Princess Alice of Battenberg. In 1922 he was ushered out of Greece in a crib made from a fruit box following a coup and his uncle's abdication. In 1937 one of his sisters along with her children and husband died in a plane crash. He would later go on to join the British Royal Navy and fight in World War 2.

It was in 1934 when he first met the future Queen Elizabeth, but they would not form a friendship until 1939 when he toured the Princess and

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The First Day of School: Once, Twice, Three Times

By Brandon Gonzalez

The First Day: (fully online school)

The first day at ECHS was fully online, we were learning through Zoom. At first, it was difficult to get everything set up, like learning how to use Canvas and Zoom. Like for example, learning how to use a new website felt so tedious compared to how we use to do work on paper. Looking back at first it was stressful in the beginning for different reasons, like keeping up with missing assignments and learning through zoom. Also, I hated sitting down and looking at a screen for 5 to 6 hours a day. My eyes were killing me, they were so irritated that I needed blue light glasses and eye drops to do my work. At first It was hard adjusting to learning on zoom, I would fall asleep and lose focus constantly. I did like that we didn't have to wake up so early, we could wake up at 7:50 am. This was very good for kids that ride the bus because we didn't have to worry about catching a bus. Overall, online was an inferior experience compared to physically being at school, I didn't like online that much if I'm being honest.



The Second First Day: (hybrid school)

To begin with, this day hit differently. As our first time going to school physical for the first time in 11 months felt so great. Things such as riding the bus, hanging out with old friends, and a class zoom were all missed. I remember that people were at first excited that school was getting canceled because of the coronavirus. The excitement only lasted so long when spring break became summer, then we started online school. People were starting to miss school again; I was starting to notice that was happening. I'm sure I can speak for everyone to say that we want life to become normal again, corona really made life worse for different reasons, whether it is for financial or health reasons it affected lots of us. That is why when I heard the school opening back, it felt like some bit of pre-pandemic life came back. I felt excited when I heard this news, because I missed school so much.

On the first hybrid day, getting felt a little bit nostalgic even though it was only 11 months since I had been on one. The night before school I had been thinking about school that I couldn't sleep. When I got on the campus, I got the first-day nerves, but I missed this type of nerves. When I entered the school, my first impressions were that it was a very tiny school.

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Holiday Reboot: Missing the Green

By Michelle Perozek

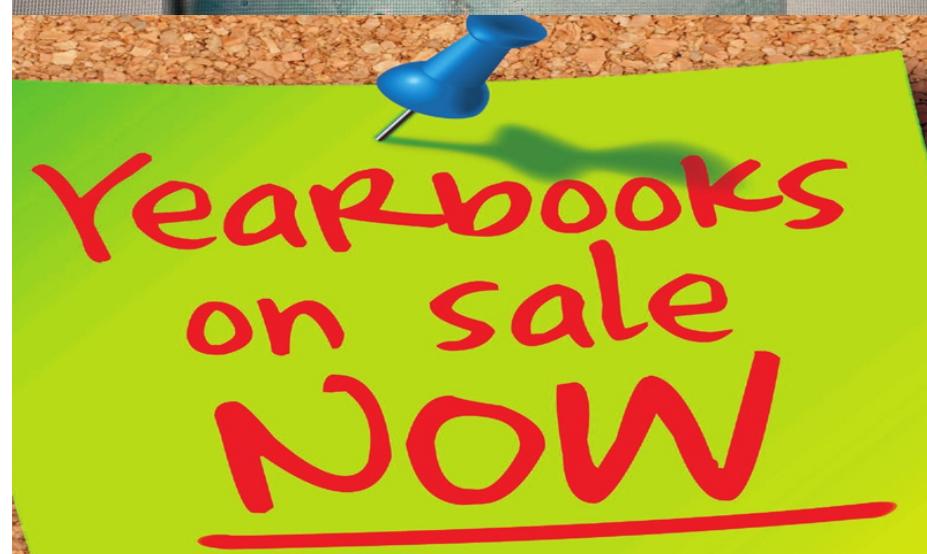
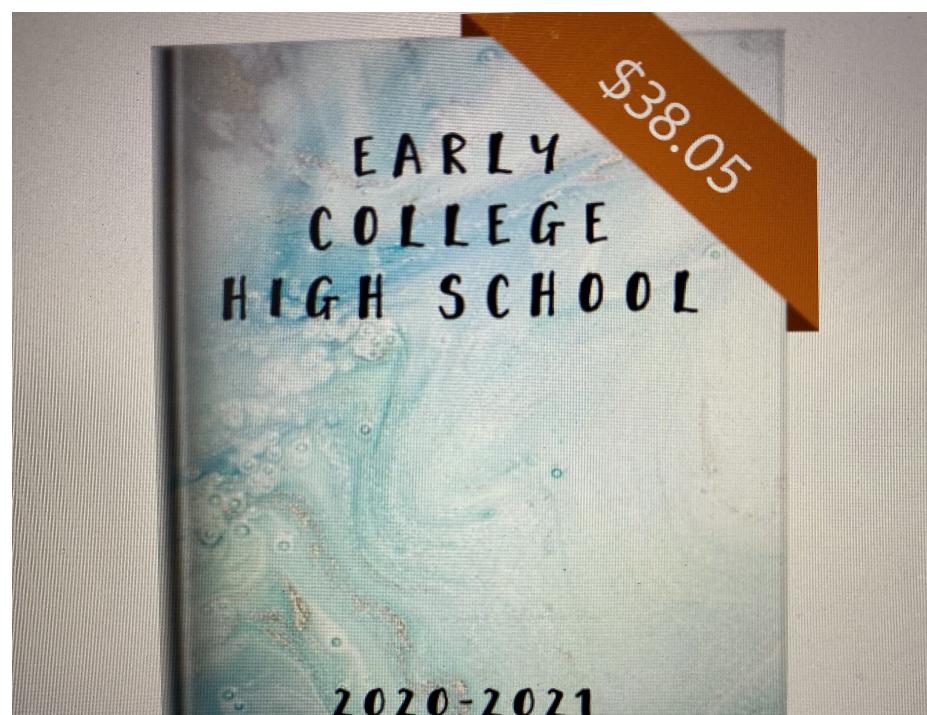
Do we even remember what came to the United States. It was March 17th is? St. Patrick's Day, said that if you wore green then of course! This holiday is you would become invisible to celebrated for many different leprechauns. Leprechauns are the reasons, St. Patrick's Day mythical, fairy like creature, that originated in 1631 when a Church would pinch anything it saw, in Ireland first established a feast which is why people pinch others in honor of Saint Patrick, a patron for not wearing green. Before saint, who had died around the COVID-19 forced us to deal with fifth century. The holiday so many changes and restrictions celebrates Saint Patrick and the parade goers all over the world arrival of Christianity in Ireland. It would line the streets and parties is also a holiday that celebrates were thrown to celebrate. Now Irish culture and heritage. There is that we are in a pandemic many also a reason people try to wear ways to celebrate holidays like St. green on St. Patrick's day, it was Patty's Day have been negatively created by Irish immigrants who



ECHS YEARBOOKS ARE ON SALE!

Our Early College High School 2020-2021 yearbooks are now available for purchase! While the spread of Covid-19 has drastically changed our lives, the yearbook staff has worked extremely hard to create a yearbook for our 2020-2021 students at ECHS. The current yearbook includes all students, but most specifically a dedication to our 2021 seniors. Although 2021 seniors could not live out their senior years to the fullest, they will have the memories of the past 4 years wrapped into one book. For those of you that have not submitted their senior pictures, senior quotes, or baby pictures, please do so as soon as possible.

Please contact Siana Garcia or Mr. Steslow to get more details!



First Days of School

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By Brandon Gonzalez

Also, that the six feet apart rule was very noticeable, all the chairs were six feet, and we could walk close in the hallways. I also thought it was weird that we didn't have a real cafeteria, it was just a room disguised as a lunchroom. I also hated that barely a few people knew each other, at first a lot of people were quiet in the classrooms. Mr. Sandoval would say "it's ok to talk to everyone," because the classrooms were very quiet. It just felt weird turning to adjust our brains to learn in person at first. As school went on it felt good but I was starting to miss my middle school. Like having your whole group of friends in PE, or eating lunch outside, goofing around were being missed. I also didn't like the hole 6 feet thing because you could barely have a conversation with someone. I understood why we had to do it but I didn't like it. Also wearing a mask sucked because it was very hard to even hear someone or breath, but to be safe we had to wear them. I also really liked no zoom Wednesday, it was a chance to sleep more. I didn't like only going for 2 days, I didn't like it because we only knew half our classmates. Overall hybrid school was good in my opinion, and it was long awaited."

The Third First Day: (5 days at school)

Although this was the third first day, there were few changes. The only big changes that there were as follows 3 feet apart and standing school the 5 days of the week. By this point, more people were starting to get to know each other. People could have somewhat a normal conversation because we were 3 feet closer. Also, I hated that they got rid of no zoom Wednesday, I loved it cause I could get more hours of sleep. I also liked that we finally got to see the other half of our classmates. The school seemed like there was a good amount of people inside it for once, it seemed like there was a bit more joy in everyone. Other than the fact that our bodies have to adjust to going 5 days, the school with the 5-day schedule seemed like it was better than a hybrid school.

** I decided to ask some of the new Freshmen in my class what they thought about this crazy start to the school year..*

Me- "What is your opinion on online and being here at school?"

Leo - "The first day of online was terrible, like it was a terrible experience. Work was very hard for me, but then here I feel like I can actually get stuff done. Others around me are easier to communicate with and I can actually talk to

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Early College High School Newspaper: *The Griffin Gazette* Staff for 2020-21

Siana Garcia - Editor/Chief Creative Officer (Sr)

Josh Petersen - News Editor (Sr)

Lei Carradine Maslian - Staff Writer (So)

Michelle Perozek - Staff Writer (So)

Gia Ruizesparza - Staff Writer (So)

Mallory Waltrip - Staff Writer (So)

RMAC Upcoming Art Exhibitions

By Mallory Waltrip

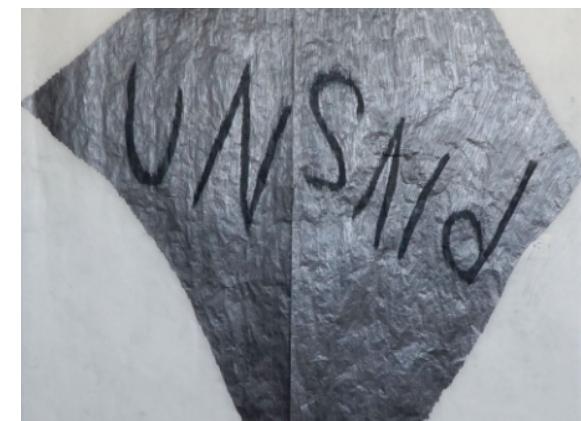
Some might think artists are thriving throughout the pandemic, being able to stay home and work on their art, when in reality, many of them are struggling. Many art galleries and exhibits were closed, which is many artists main source of income. Of course, they could sell art online but even then, they have to pay excess fees and many customers are unhappy with purchases.

Artist-in-Residence programs in the Roswell Museum and Art Center are displaying their residents work on their websites. Many of these works are contemporary pieces with deep, personal connections to the artists. Take Russian resident Masha Sha as an example. Her pieces are grand drawings that allow you to visualize the symbolic meaning of everyday words.

Many indigenous artists have their work on display as well. This is important for their culture, to have a media outlet to display their great work helps their culture express themselves. Their art is an expression of what they view the world around them as. Their work is traditional to their culture, carried on from each generation. Artists like this need support and this is great media exposure for them. Many traditional works from New Mexico were also put on display. The museum itself has a whole section dedicated to artists from New Mexico and art displaying New Mexico tradition.

The museum has these pieces on rotation so there are always new pieces on display.

My personal favorite pieces are by resident Aubrey Hobart, they are personal takes on what she thinks the future will be. Her pieces are very spiritual and meaningful to her. She urges artist to explore their own metaphysical mindset and to keep in touch with their emotions. She transfers her emotions into her artwork. This is a very hard thing for many artists to do but it seems she has skillfully mastered her self expression.



Masha Sha | *Unsaid*



Aubrey Hobart | *Starry Night*

Graduation Has Finally Been Set!

By Siana Garcia, Editor

The Class of 2021 Seniors will have the graduation they have always wanted. Thursday, June 3rd, ECHS seniors will get to walk in their silver gowns and receive their diploma in front of all of their friends and family. While current seniors have been deprived of all of the activities for senior year, students still have the opportunity to formally receive their diplomas and reminisce the four years of their high school experiences.

As a 2021 senior, I could not be more excited for a graduation we all deserve. As most know, all of our seniors have worked incredibly hard to get to where they are now. While all of us have happy and sad memories throughout these past four years, high-school has formed us into the adults we are becoming. ECHS has shaped each and every one of us in one way or another, and it is beautiful for all of our family, friends, staff, and administration to oversee and be apart off.

Rocio Gonzalez Sanchez - Staff Writer (So)

Morgan Stites - Staff Writer (So)

Megan Husby - Staff Writer (So)

Taryn Davis - Staff Writer (So)

Rafael Santillan - Staff Writer (So)

Brandon Gonzalez - Staff Writer (So)

(More) First Days of School

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Me- "What's your opinion on social distancing and wearing a mask?"

Leo- "It didn't feel like much of a difference, to be honest. It's just distance and barely being able to breathe."

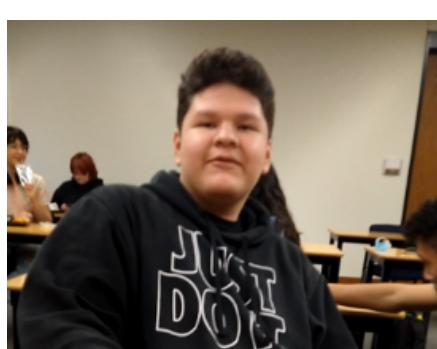


Leo Vega - Freshman

Me- "What is your opinion on online and being here at school?"

Juan- "Yeahhhh Early College, that school..... sheesh."

Me- "Ok?"



Juan Lopez - Freshman

My third interview was with another 9th grader, Joel Rodriguez:

Me- "What is your opinion on online and being here at school?"

Joel- "Well yeah it was pretty good, but Zoom was kind of better in one way. It was better because I got snacks at my house that I could eat. Anyways now Ms. Curtis supplies the snakes now, and then the social distancing was not that much different. Like sometimes it's great and sometimes we yell across the room to talk."

Me- "So zoom was better in your opinion?"

Joel- "Zoom was not that bad"

Me- "So did you like it more than real school or no?"

Joel- "No real school was better, but you just got to bring snacks then your good."



Joel Rodriguez

The last student I interviewed was Kylee Graham, who had a lot to say:

Me- "What is your opinion on online and being here at school?"

Kylee- "So far at Early College I like the experience. I definitely feel like it is more challenging than a normal school, but it's worth it because I could graduate with a college degree if I just stick to it. I definitely think it's achievable for other kids, and I like most of my teachers. My teachers for the majority are good teachers and their willing to help I can tell they like what their teaching and know what their teaching. The teachers have the concept of what their teaching down. Also, the first day of school was the virtual first day of school, and for that one I was kind of disappointed because I love being around people. Having to do more school online was kind of hard for me, but I was also sad at the same time. I was sad because I got to meet my teacher's on Zoom for the first time."

Me- "How was the second first day of school?"

Kyle- "As for the second first day of school, I was very nervous, because I had not been in real school in over a year. So I didn't really know what I was doing, because it was also my first year of high school. It was a brand-new experience with new teachers and very different students."

The school had a few kids from each of the middle schools, so I knew like 4 kids from my school there. I got use to going 4 days a week and I kind of liked having Wednesday off, but to be honest I didn't put much effort at first in the in-person school. I wanted to meet the other kids from the B days and there was a part of me that didn't want to go back. Now that I'm back full time, I feel like we needed this schedule as students. Like it was hard like for even as a self-motivating person as myself to hold my self-accountable, when I was alone. We needed that

accountability by the teachers."

As a final thought, the Freshman experience of the first day(s) at Early College was great. The overall consensus is that online could have been better and being at school is very good. I like my experience at ECHS, it brought a little bit of the feeling of pre-pandemic life back.

I'm looking forward to seeing how Early College is going to be in the future. I feel like once life starts to go back to normal as it uses to be, going to school at Early College High School will improve even more.

The 2021 Grammy Awards

By Michelle Perozek

Sunday, March 14th 2021, the 63rd Annual Grammy Awards took place. It took place in L.A. at the STAPLES Center where many social distancing restrictions were made. Most celebrities were seen wearing masks and avoiding others as much as possible. Harry Styles opened the Grammys with the first performance of the night performing "Watermelon Sugar." The first award of the night was Best New Artist won by Megan The Stallion. Next award up was Best Country Album won by Miranda Lambert for her album "Wildcard."

Soon after a performance from Taylor Swift, the next award was Best Pop Solo Performance won by Harry Styles with his song "Watermelon Sugar." This became Harry Styles first ever Grammy. Next award was Best Melodic Rap Performance which was won by Anderson Paak with his song "Lockdown."

Next award up was Best Latin Pop/Urban Album which was won by Bad Bunny. This award was Bad Bunny's first ever Grammy as well. Next up was Song Of The Year which was won by HER with her song "I can't Breathe."

Then a first seen performance was made by CardiB and Megan The Stallion to their song "WAP." Next award was Best Rap Song which was won by CardiB and Beyonce with their song "Savage." Due to this win Beyonce ties Alison Krauss as the female artist with the most Grammy wins. Next award was Best Pop Vocal Album which was won by Dua Lipa with her album "Future Nostalgia."

Next award was Best R&B Performance which was won by Beyonce with her song "Black Parade." This resulted in Beyonce breaking the all-time record for most wins by a vocalist in Grammys history with a number of 28 Grammys. After a performance from Doja Cat performing "Say So," the next award up was Album of the Year won by Taylor Swift with her album "Folklore." This made Taylor Swift the first female artist in history to win *Album of The Year* three times.

Another performance was from BTS performing Dynamite, this is also the first performance BTS has ever done at the Grammys.

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Protests Break Out Again



Photo Credit: Christian Monterosa/AP

By Morgan Stites

As the entire country watches the trial of Derek Chauvin, the police officer who killed George Floyd last May, another horrific event began to unfold nearby. Daunte Wright was pulled over during a traffic stop as the police found out he had an outstanding warrant while on his way to his brother's house. He had called his mother for insurance information and was asked to come out of the car without an explanation as to why. Daunte went to get back in the car as the police officer, Kim Potter, claimed that she meant to pull her taser but accidentally pulled her firearm, fatally shooting Duante.

As word began to spread about another man killed by police, the people of the community just north of Minneapolis began to get angry. Especially, as only ten miles away another cop was being put on trial for murdering an unarmed man. Protests sprung up across the nation just as they had last May. The Twin Cities area was put under a 7 p.m. curfew in wake of these events. Hundreds of people went up to the Brooklyn Center Police Department and soon the protests began to clash with the police. After nightfall the demonstration was deemed unlawful by law enforcement but people did not leave and things became increasingly violent. At least forty people ended up being arrested. People around the country planned protests, from Portland to New York City, as Americans continued to speak out against the pandemic that is police violence.

Concerns Over J&J Vaccine

By Siana Garcia, Editor

The current Johnson and Johnson vaccine that aims to protect against Covid 19, has taken an unfortunate turn when new evidence began presenting itself to the public. While over 7 million individuals have received the vaccine, several women have developed blood clots after receiving this specific Covid shot. Due to this issue, health authorities have reason to believe that the Johnson and Johnson vaccine has something to do with it. At this time, these providers have temporarily stopped administering the Johnson and Johnson Covid vaccine to further investigate a potential link to these blood clots. While under current investigation, it has left millions of individuals worried that they are or could be in danger of developing blood clots after receiving the vaccine. Authorities are advising the public to remain calm, despite the current pause of the Johnson and Johnson Covid vaccine. Will

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Trump Supporters Have Crossed the Line

By Gia Ruizesparza

Will 2021 be worse than 2020? Well, on January 6th of this new year, thousands of people broke into the U.S Capitol building. It was first thought to be a peaceful protest, but as soon as Trump supporters knocked down the doors of one of America's most important buildings, a line was crossed. Former president Donald Jr. Trump had announced the election was unlawfully stolen by the Democrats before the incident occurred. Windows were smashed, documents were torn, and people were hurt. Not only did they get hurt, but 5 Americans lost their lives during this event. Officer Brian Sicknick was beaten to death by rioters as they tried breaking into the federal building. Ashli Babbitt, who had come all the way from San Diego, was shot by a police officer after attempting to break down the U.S. Senate Chamber's doors. Benjamin Phillips from Pennsylvania had a stroke during the invasion. Kevin Greeson, who came in from Alabama, had a heart attack at an unknown point of the riot. Lastly, Rosanne Boyland was crushed to her death in the fight.

This event affected everyone in the United States. Citizens were shocked at the results of what had happened and most were mad.

After the event occurred, many had wondered if the situation would have been more violent if it were a different race committing the same actions. As rioters are coming out or being identified by police, they are losing their jobs and receiving hate. One of these people is named Paul Davis, who was fired by a Texas law firm which he worked in. The company publicly announced on social media that he is no longer working for them. Sadly, another incident that occurred after the event took place is suicide committed by police members. Officers Jeffery Smith and Howard Liebengood committed suicide after protecting the Capitol against Trump supporters. All of this negativity and sorrow could have been avoided if everyone stayed home as they should. Till this day, COVID-19 is still spreading across America even though people are going out. Hopefully America learned a lesson to stay home and follow government rules.



Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh

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her sister, Princess Margaret around the Britannia Royal Naval College. The two began to court soon after and eventually got married in 1947. They were married for over 70 years. Queen Elizabeth had said during a 1997 speech to commemorate their 50th anniversary that, "He has, quite simply, been my strength and stay all these years."

Since 1952, when Elizabeth was crowned as queen, Phillip had served in a supportive role to the crown. Up until 2017 he had made over 20,000 solo appearances, 600 trips to other countries, over 5,000 speeches, and worked for almost 800 charities. His life and legacy will live on through the people of Britain and all those he aimed to help.



Photo Credit: Vanity Fair 2021

New Mexico Public Education Department: Switching Back?

By Gia Ruizesparza

Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham gave New Mexico schools the approval of returning to class in a hybrid learning environment on January 26th, 2020. This means half of the class attends in person, while the other half attends online. School districts are required to keep COVID-19 procedures while teaching. Everyone must follow safety protocols while learning, such as social distancing and wearing masks. Some people are excited to switch back while others are annoyed. Most students have agreed that this decision was made too quick causing people to rush. ECHS students were asked about their personal opinions on hybrid learning. The following statements were given:

"It's an unnecessary risk making teachers work harder after getting



used to online learning"- Zachary Dekay.

"It feels random to start hybrid in the middle of this semester"- anonymous freshman. "I think I've gotten used to online learning, and I'd personally rather stay home instead of 2 days a week." -Cleofas Serrano. "Try telling a kindergartener to leave their mask on for 7-8 hours" -anonymous

"I think it's a good way to get back on track. We've become antisocial and it will give us a way to socialize a bit more" - Rocio Gonzalez.

There are pros and cons to hybrid learning, but there are also some for online learning. ECHS has already started hybrid learning, and not that many students have returned.

Many are staying home to reduce the risk of COVID-19 since it is optional to stay fully online if they want to. Districts in states with big populations such as New York or California have also approved hybrid learning.

As time goes on more and more cities are returning to in-person learning. Hopefully the COVID-19 situation has left by the end of this year. The only way to make sure corona fully leaves is to social distance and keep everything clean. Sooner or later, Early College High School will return together as a family and everything will return to normal. For now, students and families will continue to learn new ways to deal with the "new normal." The only way we can best prepare for what will happen next is to make the best of what is happening now.

Tampa Bay Wins Super Bowl LV

By Lei Maslian

On the 7th of February, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, led by Tom Brady, won Super Bowl 55 (LV) against the reigning champions, Kansas City Chiefs. The National Football League did allow 25,000 fans to attend the Super Bowl following the protocols and were tested days before the actual event. With a score of 31 - 9, the Buccaneers were able to win the title for the first time in over a decade, previously winning the Super Bowl for the first time in franchise history in 2002.

The event was held in Tampa, Florida (in the Bucs home stadium) where the Buccaneers shut down the Chiefs. The Chiefs were the first team ever in Super Bowl history to not score a touchdown. In Tom Brady's first year as a Buccaneer, he led his team to another championship and his seventh Super Bowl ring. Tom Brady is now the record holder as the first and only player to ever win SEVEN Super Bowls. He is also the oldest player to play in a Super Bowl at 43, and he said that



"Yeah we're coming back. You already know that!" after hoisting the Lombardi trophy.

On the other side of the field, Patrick Mahomes, the quarterback for the Chiefs, could have won his second Super Bowl in his short career but was stopped by the Buccaneers stifling defense. Patrick Mahomes has recently been considered by many American football enthusiasts as the next Tom Brady. Most NFL fans considered him to be the best quarterback of the season, and many sports writers said that if he would have won this Super Bowl, he would have closed the gap between him and Brady. Mahomes said that the Super Bowl LV loss was "the worst I've been beaten in a long time," as his team never scored a touchdown and only scored 9 points on three field goals. The win really showed why Tom Brady is considered to be the Greatest of All Time (GOAT) in the NFL.



The 2021 Grammy Awards

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The final performance of the night was done by Roddy Ricch. Finally the last award of the night was Record of The Year won by Billie Eilish with her song "Everything I Wanted." This made Billie Eilish the first soloist in the century to win *Record of The Year* two years in a row at the Grammys.





Mr. Brown and the ECHS Gaming Club (renamed from the Video Game Club) met on Wednesday, April 14th to discuss this years agenda, gaming events, and the 2020-21 election of club officers.

ECHS Gaming Club

By Rocio Gonzalez Sanchez

Due to the pandemic the fun of the gaming club has almost gone to Game Over, but after a bit of time and cooperation from fellow students, an advisor, and the principal the Gaming Club is seeing a bright new start. Starting Friday April 16th, 2021, we will be having our first session. As of Wednesday April 14th, 2021, officers were chosen to run the club and a couple of ideas were discussed to start the club back up. This club was formerly known as the "Video Game Club" but with a couple of ideas and a new mindset it has been changed to "ECHS Gaming Club." This club is usually just a way for students to interact with one another and just to have fun. Depending on the schedules and what the officers decide this club will have sessions every other week or two sessions a month at the least.

Regarding the games that will be played, there will be a variety of different ones, as well as different consoles to play on. So far, we have students who are willing to bring their Nintendo Switch as well as multiple controls. Our Advisor will be bringing a PlayStation as well. A couple of games that we would like to bring back from last year would be Super Smash Brothers, Mario Kart, and we have added different games to play as well. Along with video games, we will have card games and board games. It's a way for all students no matter what type of games they are into can come interact and play with other fellow students.

According to the website, videogameclubs.org, there are multiple perks to being in the club. There are skills that many

students need after not being in school for so long such as socializing.

Being able to socialize with peers and build connections with one another is important. As well as teamwork. Students can work together to solve things and get through obstacles in games and can improve their mindset. Communication with teachers may lead to rapport and having a better understanding. This club may help students form relationships with fellow students and teachers.

A big goal of this club is to be able to get students to interact with one another. Due to the pandemic, new students who came to ECHS haven't been able to interact with fellow classmates or upperclassmen. We hope that this club can be a way where all students from ECHS can bond and have fun. We hope to continue growing this club and for it to stay here for a long time. As this club is getting back onto its feet we would like to know if anyone is interested in taking part in it and cooperating with us. So far, we have a couple students and some teachers involved, but all help is welcome! More players and members are always welcome. We are also looking for a member who is interested in making us a logo for our club.

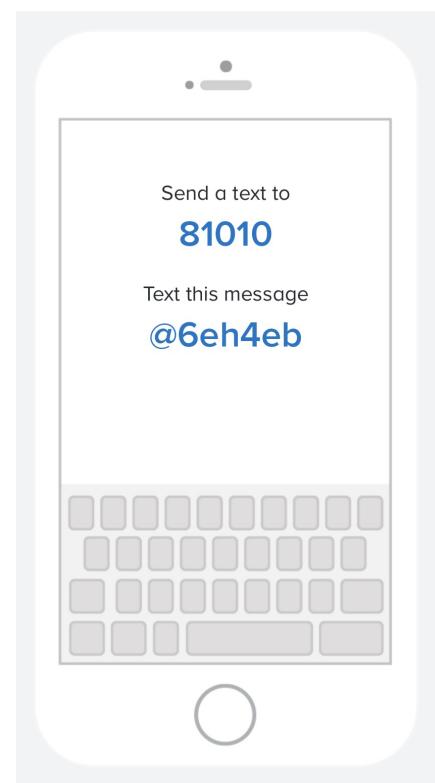


Last year was the first year at ECHS for what was called the "Video Gaming Club," however this year Mr. Brown (sponsor) and the club members decided to broaden the name and the events to include other types of gaming, which led to the name change.

Robotics: Hanger 84 is Back in Business

According to Ms. Huckabee, the Early College High School robotics club, Hanger 84, has begun once again organizing club members, as well as some of the veteran members will be knocking the dust off of the robots in the coming week. Any students who are interested in joining the Robotics Team are asked to use the Remind App to send in their information. Then students will be notified via the Remind App of upcoming meetings, work sessions, and events.

The ECHS Robotics Team has been very successful in local and regional competitions over the past couple of years, but like all clubs and organizations, new members are needed to keep it thriving.



Text @6eh4eb to 81010 to show your interest in Hanger 84 Robotics.

Popular Music During the Pandemic

By Michelle Perozek

It's very safe to say that this last year has been very eventful, both good and bad, but mostly bad. Now, of course everyone tried their best to make life still seem normal, so many songs were released by many different artists. So if you are looking for some new music to listen to, here are some recommendations:

- Life Goes On by BTS- This song was written to provide comfort during the pandemic
- I'm Not A Cynic by Alec Benjamin- I personally recommend this song because the lyrics are from an unusual perspective
- Stay by BTS- This is a very upbeat song and it's an amazing driving song
- Somewhere Only We Know by Keane- This is one of those songs where you can just scream it
- Heart Like Yours by Willamette Stone- A slow and beautiful constructed song, it usually calms me down when I listen to this song
- Dear Maria, Count Me In by All Time Low- Very upbeat and just fun to sing along too
- Last of The Real Ones by Fall Out Boy- This is also a very upbeat song, so if you need a hype song, this one is perfect.
- If You Love Me for Me from Barbie Princess and the Pauper- yes this is a barbie song, but old barbie is superior in my opinion, not to mention how beautiful this song is. It is mainly piano and then pretty vocals to top it off
- Iris by Goo Goo Dolls- This is a slower song but has very meaningful lyrics
- Chicken Tendies by Clinton Kane- This song is a mix of slow and fast and it may just be your regular sad love song, but it's still fun to sing along with.
- Russian Roulette by Red Velvet- This song is just really catchy, and I don't know why.
- Must Have Been the Wind by Alec Benjamin- This song kind of tells a story but keeps a part of it a mystery, I think many people can relate to this song due to the unspoken problem that it told through the song.
- Classic by MKTO- kind of an oldy but still a goody
- Night Changes by One Direction- A slow paced (semi-love?) song
- Someone You Like by The Girl and The Dreamcatcher- Another slow-paced love song but the way their voices mix at the end is really beautiful.
- Lovesick Girls by Blackpink- A very catchy song, this song was definitely made for dancing.
- Sea by BTS- I find this song is very calming and when you really pay attention to the lyrics, you can tell they are very well written.

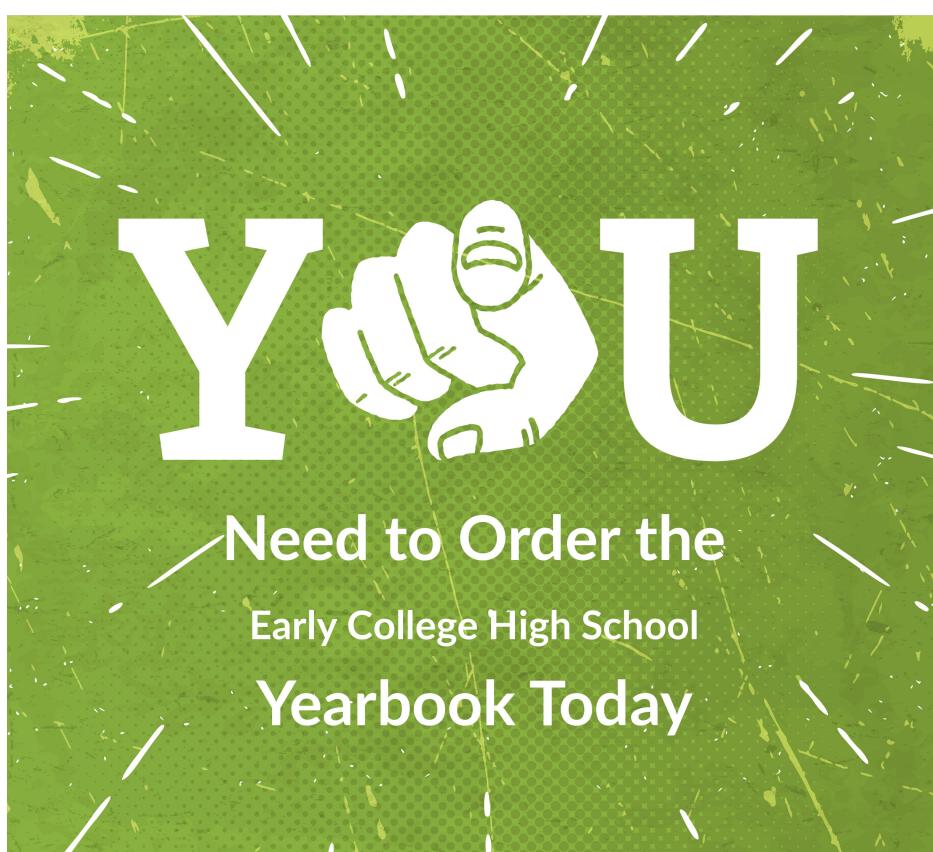


Concerns Over J&J Vaccine

Continued from Page 5

this change how many vaccinations are distributed after this Covid vaccine is reapproved? Despite the fact that authorities are confident that this is not an issue, people everywhere are frightened that there will be a great amount of problems along the way.

Due to this, many people are no longer feeling confident about receiving the Johnson and Johnson vaccine, along with the other vaccines as well. This is definitely causing a huge strain within all of the Covid vaccine industries and so forth.



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Genshin Impact Review

By Rocio Gonzalez Sanchez

Genshin Impact over the last year has become a game of high status and high reviews. It is a role-playing game (RPG) which also introduces free roam. This open world game was published by miHoYo September 28, 2020. Since then, its population has skyrocketed off the charts and brought many people to enjoy the game from different parts of the world. A big part of Genshin Impact's success is the variety of platforms it has access to. The world of Genshin Impact is centered on a gacha system to get different characters. Some characters are limited, and their availability is on what the game knowns as 'banners.' Along with getting new characters there are also quests and exploration in this open world experience.

Many players think having a game which is self-paced is more enjoyable along with the unique characters who are easy to connect with. There is a lot of diversity in this game. Players

who are into action and fights are welcome to battle with monsters as well as solve different puzzles. Genshin Impact is a good way for players to drift off into another realm and destress. There is a ranking in the game which goes by 'Adventure Rank', because of this rank it can be possible to play with other people.

Personally, I think this game is extremely eye catching and fun to play. Genshin Impact also has a unique way of portraying characters and stories. Some characters have different stories and can eventually become playable characters. Most players believe this game is entertaining, open, and self-paced. This game is still ongoing, and more things are in store for players in the future. The community is growing and so is the love for this game. Genshin Impact is by far one of my favorite open world games and I would recommend it to anyone who enjoys a self-paced, fantasy games.



PlayStation Europe, Aug 1, 2019



April 16, 2021

Students in the ECHS Gaming Club had their first gaming event after school today. Members played competitive video games, such as Mario Kart 8 Deluxe, Super Smash Bros, as well as other Playstation games. Today's event was the first since in-person classes have begun.