



the CoUnTy ChRoNiCLE

(April Fool's Edition)

THE REAL APRIL
ISSUE IS INSIDE!

Volume 67, Issue 3 - April 2022 | APRIL FOOL'S EDITION | 415 Dry Mill Road, Leesburg, VA | countychronicle.org

SCHOOL RENOVATIONS RESULT IN CORRUPTION, BOONDOGGLES

Michaela Scott | Editor-in-Chief

As school administration faces ongoing challenges this year regarding the return of in-school learning, faculty members have adjusted by implementing new ways for students to learn in school and stay safe. However, students and parents have indicated that these enactments have no correlation to student education and have been rumored to be benefitting teachers' personal lives.

"Our staff has been working day and night to figure out a system that can make our school a better, safer place," assistant principal **Park Matterson** said. "One of the renovations includes our brand new tables in the cafeteria, which allow students to maintain their distance indoors."

The shipments of new appliances to renovate the school began with the round tables to maintain the previous Center for Disease Control social distancing protocols. Administrators also implemented the touchless water



bottle stations, which ensures hydration to learners while preventing the spread of germs.

"We're only just getting started," Matterson said, promising more improvements to the school.

But not all students believe the

improvements are helping.

"The new cafeteria tables are nice, but there's not enough seating," junior **Theo Ulysses** said.

Continued on
ADMINISTRATION, PAGE 2

Teachers Jamee Robinson and Jason Bryant take a break from organizing senior class activities in order to enjoy the hot tub and milkshakes in the principal's office. Photo by Park Matterson.

STUDENTS MISSING IN LOUDOUN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL DUE TO CLASSROOM SPLITS



Cat Pizzarello | Staff Writer

WATCH OUT! Screams fill the school halls as construction workers move in and out of classrooms at Loudoun County High School leaving a haze of sawdust and stench of white plaster and paint behind. An uproar occurs when students re-enter their classrooms to see they are a little more diminutive than they previously were.

Classrooms at Loudoun County have been split into halves, quarters and soon even eighths. Due to the masses of students that Loudoun

Continued on **MISSING STUDENTS, PAGE 2**

Berny Waydling works hard on his math project in his brand new classroom. Waydling feels safe in his new classrooms and enjoys the new confinement of his work space. Photo by Tac Ollerazzip.

WORLD PEACE, AT LAST

Asynchronous Mondays return. The world celebrates.

Daniel DeLargy | Staff Writer

Ladies and gentlemen, recently, the Federal Government has made a unanimous decision to reinstate and mandate Federal Asynchronous Mondays.

It's okay to have tears of joy in your eyes, for today is a grand day of bipartisan achievement. One can only point this grand step forward to my article in The County Chronicle, which advocated for the return of the beloved Asynchronous Mondays, which were recently reinstated by President **Chancellor Biden**

on April 1.

"We must come together on Mondays. This Monday, next Monday, and every Monday," Biden said.

Due to this event, the first steps for world peace have begun. North Korea and South Korea have joined together once again. Israel and Palestine are now friends again, and the cure to cancer was found earlier today.

With this, a calm sigh of relief can be had, for our Mondays are back. Our freedom is back, our liberty which was once taken

from us with a vice grip has finally had its homecoming.

Hundreds of students gather on LCHS's front lawn to host a celebration during the first Monday of the Asynchronous return.

Many celebrities also attended this youthful movement, the likes of **Kanye West, The Rock, and Taylor Swift.**

"Async Mondays have filled the blank space in my life," Swift said.

"It was bound 2 happen," West said.

"I feel so happy to finally

have my Mondays back," senior **Coen Leornard** said. "Thank goodness Daniel wrote that article."

As the weeks pass, students' grades have gone up significantly.

The entire junior class has scored a perfect score on the SAT. 50% of our senior class has been accepted to Harvard Law School.

Asynchronous Mondays have restored the utopia of Earth. The most important thing to come from this is that we get a three day weekend every week. •

Continued from ADMINISTRATION, PAGE 1

"I've had to sit on the floor with my friends since we returned in January."

And things have not improved. The first shipment that made students question the relevance to education and safety was when Principal **Lichelle Muttrell** began ordering golden bidets and complementary mini fridges in every 'staff only' bathroom.

"We have leaky toilets, sinks that are incapable of turning on for longer than two seconds, and broken stalls in our school bathrooms, meanwhile the teachers are living in luxury," Ulysses said. "During school hours, the 7-Eleven down Catoctin is the only place where I can use the bathroom without a flood emerging under the toilet seat, and I actually have a working sink to wash my hands."

Administrators argued that the faculty upgrades, including the workroom's newest disco ball, are necessary in order to manage the pressure faculty is under due to students back in school institutions this year.

"The new disco ball brings me back to my college days," P.E.

teacher **Sue McGue** said. "It helps me burn off stress caused by the pandemic."

Students have expressed their disapproval of Muttrell's teacher workroom remodel, specifically because of the disruption it has caused in active classrooms.

According to an informal poll held during advisory, 93.8% of students in the school building have lost focus due to the heavy metal blasting in the workroom.

"No matter if I am in the science wing, history and English hallway, or math department, the sounds of teachers cheering and partying echo through my classrooms," senior **George Clementine** said. "Last week when I walked by, strobe lights were everywhere and the fog machine was pouring clouds out the workroom door."

Students have also indicated that the teachers' new distractions are preventing teachers from lesson planning and grading. "My government class has been a study hall for three classes," Ulysses said. "I expect to come to school and learn, yet my teachers are taking no responsibility in the classroom."

Teachers have explained that they must have the right tools for

their workrooms in order to be prepared to teach. History teacher **Liz McWhite** also indicated that the newest addition to the teacher's lounge helps her keep energy throughout the day.

"We had a buffet of Panda Express on Monday, Mexican on Tuesday, and Chick-Fil-A on Wednesday," McWhite said. "The variety of the food each day makes going to school a priority for me."

As a result of the teachers' daily gourmet buffet, students tried to protest outside the teacher's lounge, but they were sent back to class with a tardy slip through e-hallpass.

"I can't bring lunch to school, so I'm forced to eat the rancid meals that the cafeteria serves," Clementine said. "The teachers have every different variation of food, while the chicken we eat every day in the cafeteria probably isn't even real meat."

Matterson insisted that students have been eating the cafeteria food for years and mentioned that a change in their meals is not essential for improving the school.

"After being sent to the nurse to have seating during my lunch

period, I peered into Muttrell's office and got a glimpse of her brand new jacuzzi," McWhite said. "Every administrator was inside of it and they all had milkshakes in their hands."

After the student body was made aware of the jacuzzi, students were driven over the edge. On Friday, March 11, 2022, over 200 students raided the administrative offices to make their voices heard and stand up to the faculty.

"The adrenaline rush was insane, we all piled into the offices and ended the mission by flipping Muttrell's jacuzzi," Ulysses said. "We make up this institution and we need to fight back in order to make school a learning community again."

In order to address the ongoing student body's concerns, SCA leaders organized a silent protest on the front lawn to promote learning in the classroom again.

"It went on till the last bell of the day because teacher's weren't aware due to the blaring heavy metal and jacuzzi partying," Clementine said. "It was such a powerful movement, we all crowded on the lawn in the name of education." •

Continued from MISSING STUDENTS, PAGE 1

County has and new class selections, the school has made the decision to make more classrooms by dividing the original rooms at the school.

Senior **Patricia Long** was announced missing on February 18, 2022, and was found later in a science classroom recently split into eight rooms. "I was stuck in the school for the entire weekend because all the new classrooms make it difficult to find an exit," said Long.

According to contractor **Joe Smith**, the room splits were modeled

after hamster hideaways. "Hamsters enjoy the confined and small tunnels and chambers. It makes them feel safe," Smith said.

Many students are reporting feeling disoriented while trying to find their way in the many classrooms at the school. Petitions have even begun to add directional signs and maps in order to eliminate any more missing persons.

Students and staff have also complained about how this has affected the HVAC system at the school. **Gerald Balding**, Advanced Math & Statistics teacher, reported icicles beginning to form on the window

as the heat system doesn't reach his classroom. One of the students in his class also reported losing three fingers due to frostbite on a snowy day at the end of January.

The cold isn't the only occurrence of AC issues due to the classroom splits. **Harold Smith**, junior, brings a tank top and shorts to wear in his computer math class because of the heating issue in the classroom. "I've started losing weight, I've been sweating so much! Some kids even started bringing fans and bathing suits," Smith said.

Michella Butrel, Principal at LCHS, understands the issues of

the classroom splits and is working overtime to rectify the situation. "We are trying our best to solve the issues while continuing to divide the classrooms as planned," Butrel said.

Butrel believes that it provides a sense of safety to students in our school. "If it works for hamsters, it will work for us too," said Butrel.

"Although after working in a confined space for so many hours of my day, I've started experiencing a fear of open spaces," said Balding. "My five-by-ten foot bathroom at home has become a terror to me and all I can think about is how I can return to the safety of my classroom on Monday." •

S.T.I.N.K. PROTEST HAPPENING COUNTY-WIDE TO CUT DOWN ON TARDINESS

Lorenzo Salas | Staff Writer

Due to an increase of students arriving late to school and not showing up to class on time, the school board has decided to implement a new strategy in order to cut back on the lateness. This has led the county to create the "School Tardiness Ideally Not Continued," protest, which will be held on the first of April. The purpose of this event is to cut back on tardiness in Loudoun County.

"We really think demonstrating against tardiness is the way to go. It is a rising issue that needs to be addressed and we believe in taking a stand against it," said superintendent **Oscar Byers**. "By having this protest we believe that this will lead to positive change."

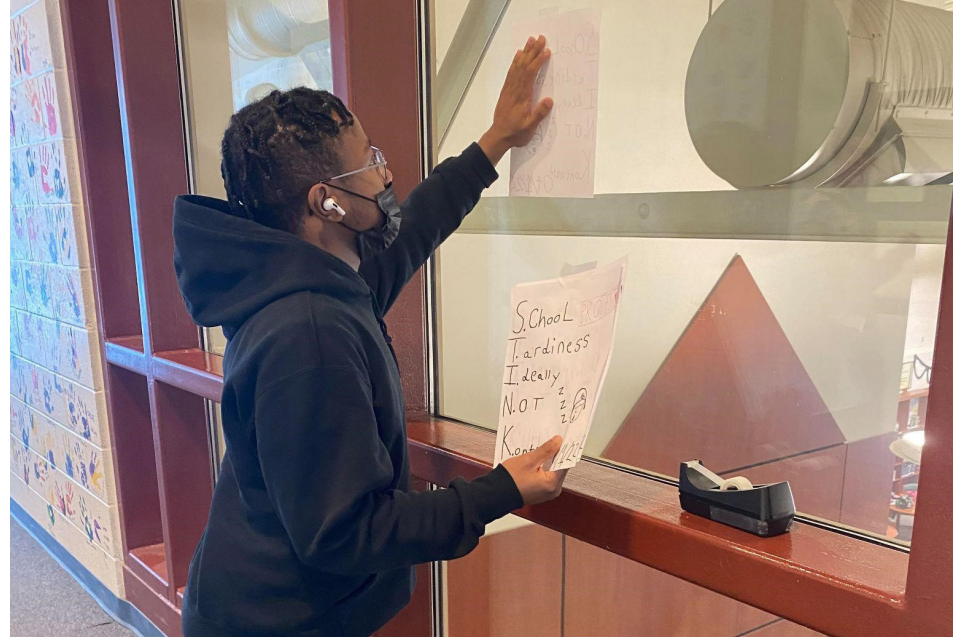
Local delinquent **Hobbie Hoffman** said, "Hell yeah man! I love protesting, I can't wait for this protest. I'm sure happy that they made this protest on a school day. More people will want to show up as opposed to others. The only thing I have against this is, I have no idea what we are protesting."

This protest being county-wide has led to multiple people questioning the legitimacy of the protest. Seven year old **Lucas Miller** at Catocin Elementary

said, "I don't understand why we are protesting, why don't we just go to class?"

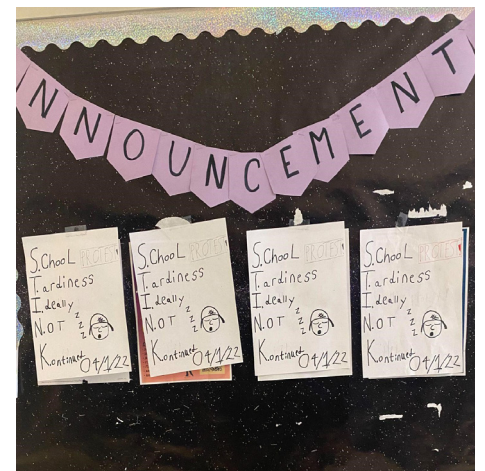
This led Byers to release a public response: "The purpose of this protest is to take a stand against the injustice of being tardy. If we don't protest, students will feel more inclined to show up to school tardy," said Byers. "As students in America, it is our responsibility to protest and it is our right, we must stand against this injustice otherwise tardiness wins."

The event is going to be on April 1st and will last from 9:15 till 4:03. However, approximately one month before, the county test ran the trial at Loudoun County High School. The results promised success as the statistics for tardy students dropped 90%. After the protest many students went from showing up to class late with Chick Fil A to showing up to class early and on time with an apple for their teacher. **Martha Bryant** said, "I love school! I love to learn, I never would have thought that I would love going to school but thank you Loudoun County! I love school now. I strongly believe that the school board has the right idea and we need more of those," said Bryant.



Charles Hamlet hangs posters around the school in order to spread awareness for the protest. Photo by Lorenzo Salas.

The protest has also seemed to have garnered the attention of teachers as they wholeheartedly support the protest. For example, Sociology, which had the highest number of tardy students, has dropped its tardies down to zero. The sociology teacher responded about the protest. "I went into teaching with the idea of inspiring students and helping shape them into young responsible citizens. However, seeing the state of the current generation, I see that won't happen," said **Mr. Stuart**. "This protest, however, gives me hope because if students have the illusion of free will, they might feel inclined to actually make change." •



Posters of the protest hung around the school to inform students of the upcoming demonstration. Photo by Lorenzo Salas.

SCHOOL BOARD COORDINATES PROTEST AGAINST SCHOOL BOARD

Liberty Harrison | Managing Editor

It all started with an email, a protest, fervent with complacency sparked through simple key-strokes.

The administration sent it out, teachers read it and communicated to the students: this is when, where, and how you can protest.

The uniformity of the email ensured its authenticity, its familiar structure and verbiage highlighted its origin within the very administration being protested.

The event had been approved by the administration after all.

After the school board had experienced first hand how encouraging a protest about their incompetent handling of a sexual assault case worked well to dispel criticism towards them, they decided to foment another approved protest, this time against their cover up of a teacher's, **Anthony Broxer's**, inappropriate actions towards several of his students.

And so, one cool March morning, teachers reminded students of the time, and the students streamed out onto the front lawn,

which was the administration-designated walk out area, where they stood demonstrating without signage, which the administration had banned, in rebellion of the administration and how they had handled a recent disciplinary event.

Students, risking their reputation at the school, although they were assured in the original email that they would not be penalized, were supervised as they stood silently, breaking the status quo through their courage.

Ten minutes being over - the time allotted by the administration for the protest - the students walked back into the building, reluctantly yet proudly, knowing they had truly stood up for others and for themselves.

While some students weren't super invested in the case, they still choose to involve themselves in this noble demonstration.

"I just knew, since some of my friends were going, I could really fit in with the crowd if I went, and I heard something about this student as well, I think that was really wrong," sophomore **Daniel**

Peters said.

Others felt more strongly about the issue being protested.

"I'm so glad the school board organized the ten-minute silent protest. I was ready to bring the issue to national news on my own, and I already had a letter written to the editor of The Washington Post," **Janet Howard** said. "But luckily, those ten minutes of silence were just what I needed to feel purged of my anger and my desire to change the system."

With such borderline revolutionary acts, these students miraculously, with only a small amount of help from the School Board, found an effective way to communicate their distress, as well as truly damage the reputation of the School Board.

The School Board responded by hiring a spokesperson, priorly an actor, who communicated to the student body the gravity of their actions, coming close to tears several times during his moving speech as he explained the impact these students actions had on the School Board members.

A rumor soon circulated after the event that during closed session, the School Board had taken the drastic action to acknowledge the event happened at one of their private meetings and had consented to going to court as a defendant in a lawsuit brought against them by one of the affected students.

Another protest, planned by the School Board preemptively, is scheduled for a still unknown announcement they are planning on making at the next School Board meeting, which, according to a source close to the board, will likely take place at the height of the lawsuit.

"We realized that allowing these students to believe they were hurting us would actually help us," laughed **Tim Marsh**, Loudoun County School Board Member. "They aren't going to do anything else, children are complacent these days, as long as we give them a superficial outlet they'll take it and go back to doing nothing about these things the next day. It's why I, in fact, everyone in the government loves this new generation so much." •

CAPTAIN CRUNCH ANNOUNCED TO BE NEW CAPTAIN OF LCHS

Maggie Sheridan | Editor-in-Chief

After many debates, our school has finally made the difficult decision to change our mascot. Although the former logo for the Captains was a good option, students and staff agreed it was boring and we needed to add some spice.

There were many ideas of what a good mascot entailed and what would be most appropriate for our school in particular. Eventually, we finally decided upon Captain Crunch, to the delight of many.

“Captain Crunch was an idea the students had and submitted as a proposal. Us faculty and staff agreed it was a great idea. It is very unique and fits our motto of the Captains, while also having a fun aspect,” Principal **Michelle Luttrell** said.

Everyone agrees that this mascot is a much better option than the previous. “We kids here at County absolutely love the Captain Crunch cereal,” senior **Taylor McCully** said, “We all bond over it and eat it for breakfast constantly, so of course it is great to see our school is represented by the cereal we love.”

The school has even started changing the sports jerseys and logos around the school, which the Captain Crunch brand sponsored. The new jerseys depict the Captain Crunch man next to a bowl of cereal on the

front of them with CC in large letters to the side.

The aux gym also has a new mural of the man himself surrounded by his famous crunch berries. “During gym, I always find myself glancing at the new mural of Captain Crunch, it is so vibrant and colorful and makes my mouth water,” McCully said.

“After deciding on Captain Crunch, we had to get work started right away on the design,” Luttrell said, “All extra money from the budget will go towards making every blank spot around the school related to the Captain in some way.”

The SCA played a key role in the final decision on the mascot. “As a group, we spent long hours trying to come up with something that we thought everyone would like,” SCA junior delegate **Jiya Manalel** said, “Captain Crunch is the best cereal, and many students are obsessed with it, so we knew that was the one.”

One way in which the school has incorporated Captain Crunch into the lives of students is by offering free bowls of the cereal to students every morning until 9:15. “The cereal has been a huge hit,” Luttrell said, “Even I can’t help myself, and have to sneak a bowl or two every once in a while.”

Some parents were a bit critical of eating so much sugar in the morning, however the school has eased all of their worries. “We have actu-



Senior Taylor McCully enjoys a bowl of Captain Crunch cereal before school while showing her support for our new mascot. Photo courtesy of Taylor McCully.

ally found that the high sugar intake increases students’ attention span during class,” Luttrell said, “It is even correlated to higher test scores.”

The Captain Crunch man has had a positive impact for so many students. “I am so glad the school decided to use him,” Manalel said. “Imagine using something silly like just the Captains, how odd would that be?”

“Hopefully, Captain Crunch will continue to be a hit throughout the school and continue to make its mark for all, it certainly has thus far,” Luttrell said. •

LCPS HEADLINES THE WASHINGTON POST YET AGAIN CONSISTENT CLASSROOM TEMPERATURES DRAW NATIONAL COVERAGE

Evelyn Kuzminski | Layout Editor

Mask mandates, mascot changes, school board lawsuits, and state championships have put LCHS and the rest of the county school system in the national spotlight time and time again. Last week, the school made headlines once more after all its classrooms maintained a steady 70°F throughout the week.

“No more ice boxes at Loudoun County High School,” the headline from The Washington Post read. The article described a rare phenomenon for the school - an even room temperature throughout the entire building, which lasted a whole week, no less.

In a school built nearly 70 years ago, it’s hard to find any sort of climatic consistency. The discrepancies are generally chalked up to age or a piece of equipment in need of repair here and there, but while they’re no one’s fault in particular, they can still be a source of discomfort for students.

English classrooms tend to feel more like an Arctic tundra than northern Virginia, according to junior **Marcus Roland**. “I must be sitting in front of a vent or some-

thing every day,” he said. “I don’t know how my teacher spends the whole day in there.”

But some classrooms lean more towards the Sahara end of the spectrum. “The choir room is always hot, without a doubt, no matter what,” sophomore **Catherine Pike** said. “I always walk in there and wish I was wearing shorts and a tank top.”

“I literally need two or three different layers to make it through the day at the right temperature,” freshman **Alex Sandal** said.

But during a surprisingly temperate week for late February, classrooms seemed to match the pleasantries of the outside weather.

“It was crazy,” senior **Mackenzie Smith** said. “In four years here, that’s got to be the most normal any of my classroom temperatures have been.”

Even freshmen, with considerably less time at the school under their belts, noticed the difference. “I didn’t need my sweatshirt all day,” freshman **Corey James** said.

Students also acknowledged the national recognition that came from The Washington Post. “It was refreshing, honestly,” junior



Sophomore Elise Kent holds a print edition of The Washington Post, from the day Loudoun County High School made headlines about its building temperatures. Previous controversies from the county have also made national news, and the resolution of the school’s climatic inconsistencies became next in last week’s publication. Photo courtesy of Elise Kent.

Olivia May said. “We’re always in the news for all the negative stuff that goes on here: the school board drama, the mascot drama, the mask drama. It was nice that this isn’t something controversial, it’s just a thing that happened that everyone’s happy about.”

“Everyone knows Loudoun County,” sophomore **Maggie Knolls** said. “We’re not very incognito. And some of that’s the politics, but some of it’s our state champions, our outreach, and I feel like this is one of those more positive things, too.”

Previously this year, LCPS has been in the news for several issues and controversies. These matters have made headlines for prominent publications and broadcasters, including The Washington Post, The New York Times, Fox News, and CNN. Last week’s steady temperatures were just one more item on the ever-growing list of events putting the school in the public eye.

“We’re always on the news,” administrator **Renee Brown** said. “I’m sure that next week there’ll be another school board fight, but for now it’s nice for the attention to be on something positive.” •