

# Wolf Pack News

ROBERT M. SHOEMAKER HIGH SCHOOL, KILLEEN TX

MAY 2021

FREE, TAKE ONE

## 2020 - 2021 school year in review

**SOFTBALL**



**FOOTBALL**



**TRACK**



**BASKETBALL**



**CHICK-FIL-A  
LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**



**BAND**



**CAREER CENTER**



**CHEERLEADERS**



**ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB**



**TENNIS**



**FFA**



**FLORAL DESIGN**



**CHOIR**





# 2020 - 2021 school year in review cont.

## SILVER STARS



## PROJECT LINUS



## LIFETIME NUTRITION



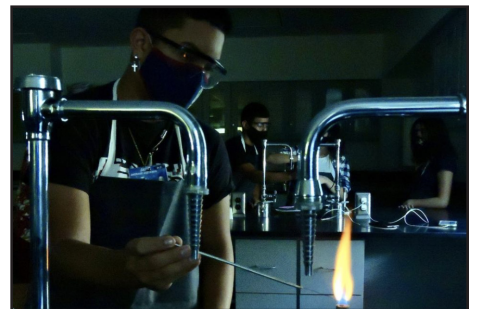
## COLOR GUARD



## VOLLEYBALL



## SCIENCE



## SOCCER



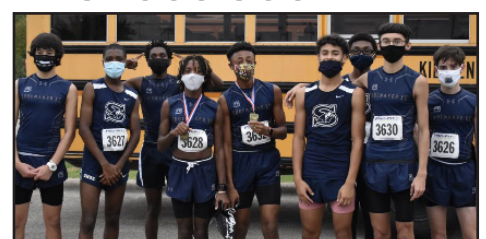
## WRESTLING



## BASKETBALL



## CROSS COUNTRY



## BASEBALL



## SPOKEN WORD



## SOCCER



## PANDEMONIUM STEEL DRUM ENSEMBLE



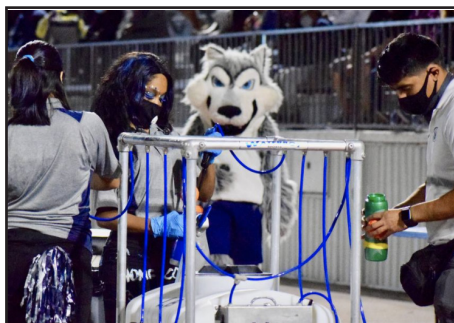


# 2020 - 2021 school year in review cont.

## VISIONARY CLUB



## TRAINERS



## JROTC



## HOSA



## POWERLIFTING



## SHOEMAKER SHOWMAKERS



## YOUTH SPONSORSHIP



## YEARBOOK



## HOMECOMING



## BOWLING



## SWIMMING



## STEM

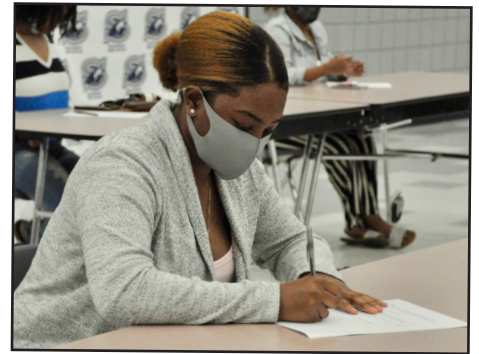


## HEART 2 HEART





# AVID scholarship night





# Experiencing summer with COVID

By: Zyasia Harris and Monaray Baldwin

For students, the announcement of summer break is the best part of their year.

Summer is their break from school, their time away from all the homework, tests, and chaos that comes with every school year. However, this summer will be a little different because of the effects of the pandemic.

Trying to have fun and make memories with others can be hard when there are so many rules set to keep people safe from the pandemic.

Living in a pandemic has been hard, but most people have found ways to keep their daily lives interesting while having fun.

"My plans for this summer are to play a lot of AAU basketball and me and my family are going on a trip out of state," said Junior Antwone Gonzalez. "I am most excited for the trip my family and I are going to take although I don't know where we're going."

Junior Terrance King said, "My plans for this summer are to hang out with my

friends and go to football practice and hopefully have a better year than last year. I am most looking forward to just being out of school because this year was very stressful."

Sophomore JT Kinere said that this summer he is looking forward to "hanging out with my family and friends anywhere that is outside the house."

Although it is not at its peak, COVID is still out there and can still have an effect on someone.

"Since I can avoid COVID by wearing a mask. I don't think COVID will stop me from doing anything I have plans for," Gonzalez said.

When asked how he will keep himself safe during the summer Kinere responded, "I will wear a mask at all times when I'm out going places."

During the summer, the hope is for cases of COVID-19 to decrease, and the only way that will happen is if everyone follows safety guidelines.

When asked what he thought the number of COVID cases would look like when the summer is over Kinere said, "I

feel like COVID cases will increase."

This summer may be different from others. "I think more people will stay home because of COVID," Kinere said.



Photo by: Reece Doyle

Junior Antwone Gonzalez dribbles the ball down the court against Allen in December.

## NETFLIX what's coming?

By: Isaac Lee

This coming April and May, Netflix will come out with new TV shows and movies. A full list of what is coming can be found at [Whats-on-Netflix.com](https://www.whats-on-netflix.com).

Shows or movies that some students may look forward to seeing are "Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted", and "Selena: The Series" season 2.

Freshman Jaydon Pangelinan shared some shows he is looking forward to seeing on Netflix soon.

"'Ace Ventura: Pet Detective', 'Jerry Seinfeld: 23 Hours to Kill', 'Lucifer' season 5 Part 2 will come to Netflix between April 10 and May 28," Freshman

Jaydon Pangelinan said. "I am happy Netflix is adding new shows and movies because I have already seen half the TV shows and movies on there."

Freshman Jose Castellanos said, "'The Flash' and 'Big Mouth' and 'Lucifer' part 2 are coming in May." Castellanos added that he had stopped watching Netflix because "I had nothing else good to watch."

The Netflix app has the ability to send reminders when new shows are coming.

"I have the Netflix app on my phone and had it set to remind me when there are new TV shows and movies coming," Castellanos said.

## WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

By: Ciara Weston

What would you do if you won \$5 million for the summer?

"I would invest in GameStop and Apple store for sure," Freshman Sean Henriques said.

Freshman Nick Aragon said, "I would put half in a savings account and buy three or four houses and my mom would live in one. I would also buy a McDonald's. I will be getting paid every month with more millions."

If students won \$5 million for the summer, there are a variety of places they would go. "I would bring my friends with me and we would live in Tokyo with my future family. The way I grew up, I believe I should have a nice lifestyle for me and my family. We would fly all around the world," Henriques said.

Aragon said, "I would go live in two places, Cali and Texas; I would have my close brothers and friends and family with me." So, what would you do with \$5 million for the summer?

# Preparing for STAAR

By: Itzel Diaz

Despite what many students were thinking, Texas Education Agency has decided to keep this year's Algebra 1, English 1, English 2, U.S. History, and Biology EOCs mandatory for all 9 – 12 grade students. Most students agree with the decision of having the tests in person.

"I think it's the appropriate response, without all students taking the test at school there is no real way to have a STAAR test. Plus, the school as ways to accommodate the virtual students," Freshman Da' Rayvion Starling said.

As most students have known of the tests for a while now, most have started preparing for them. Some are looking back on notes, watching videos, asking more questions and going to after-school tutoring sessions.

"I'm not preparing for the tests, as I'm focusing on catching up on other assignments, but it is still in the back of my mind that I need to study," Freshman Zaria Johnson said.

While both students agree on the decision of the way STAAR tests will be conducted this year, they aren't exactly fond of the tests themselves.

"I don't quite like the STAAR tests, because why do we have to do work all year and take more tests just for them to say that the STAAR test is what decides if we pass or not?" Johnson asked.

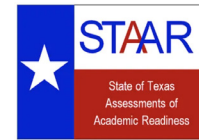
One thing that students are really worried about is the safety of not only the students, but everyone involved in testing, as most virtual students are virtual to stay safe.

"The whole school staff and students are put at risk by grouping together. I see

spacing issues, mask issues, and sanitary issues all arising from testing. The school staff and students will have to come to an understanding of the rules and regulations put in place," Starling said.

Most of all, students just want the school district to be a little more understanding of the situation and above all make sure students stay safe.

"It would really help if the school was patient with us. None of us know what's going on or how things are going to work out so if they could be patient and help us out, I think that would help a lot," Johnson said.



## TESTING DATES

May 4 - Algebra I

May 5 - Biology

May 6 - U.S. History

# Spring football underway

By: James Bowyer

Spring ball is underway, and players are ready to put their skills to the test.

Sophomore Darrion Burleson and Junior Thurman Thomas share their goals and what they want to improve going into spring ball.

"My goal is to play to my best ability and show off my skills and give our opponents a scary look," Burleson said.

Thomas said, "My goals this year for spring ball is to clean up my route running and just making them crisper and sharper."

Every player has their reason for playing a certain sport.

"I play football because it is fun, and it is my escape from the world and keeps me focused," Burleson said.

Thomas said, "I love playing football because the excitement it brings, and the adrenaline rush you get from it. I also love putting in work and getting the results I want, and football gives me that."

Spring football helps a lot of athletes realize what they need to improve on during the summer and what their



Photo by: Mrs. Santiago-Green

Darrion Burleson and Varsity football players tackle a Bryan player during the Homecoming game on Nov. 5.

strengths are.

"Spring ball helps me going forward because it can expose some of my weaknesses and things I need to work on. This helps me going into the summer because I can focus on these things, I need to get better at to strengthen my game,"

Burleson said.

Thomas said, "This year's spring ball will help me going forward into the summer because I can clear my mind, and really focus on what I need to improve on. I will improve on what I am already good at as well."

# OPINION

## Preparing for next school year: what to expect for 2021-2022

By: Zyasia Harris

The end of the school year is quickly approaching. This time of the year is especially time consuming and hectic for students and teachers as they begin testing, finalizing grades, and preparing for the next school year.

I think that next school year will offer a better experience for students and teachers, because we have more knowledge on how to keep ourselves safe and faculty are more prepared than they were this past year.

In the last school year, studies show that students performed poorly in comparison to other years. An article on Reuters.com stated, "The number of Fs received by students in Carlsbad, a small, affluent, mostly white city 30 miles north of San Diego, increased by more than

three times during the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year."

Online school has taken a toll on many students, as well as face-to-face learning, because students feel like they aren't receiving the material correctly, which makes it harder to comprehend. These concerns and issues should deescalate by the 2021-2022 school year, due to students having an increased amount of preparedness and an understanding of what it's like to be in school during a pandemic, and teachers should have a better sense of organization next year as well.

Going to school and learning online has been an entire shock and hardship, but we have overcome it, and thanks to that, the upcoming school year should be promising for teachers and students to excel.

## Mental health, school

By: Judith Arreguin

I believe that school can affect a student's mental health. When I was in middle school, I felt pressured into getting good grades which led me to have stress. I thought that if I did not get A's or B's that I would not get into college or get a good job. Tests also added on to the stress because tests usually affect your grades the most. In middle school, I had also become more aware of what others thought of me and to this day, I didn't want to be weird, annoying, or rude, so I became quieter and didn't really talk as much. I wanted to fit in so that I could have friends and not be the 'loner'. I also became insecure because I saw other people who I thought looked prettier and I thought I was not good enough compared to them. Although this is just my personal experience, The Foundation for Art & Healing states that with record numbers of students expressing feelings of depression and loneliness in recent years, and the additional challenges resulting from distance learning, the loneliness epidemic has spread across college campuses.

There may be counselors and teachers that we can talk to, but it doesn't feel like a subject that we could share with them.

## Teens texting and driving

By: Natalie Sanchez Santiago

Texting and driving has always been a very serious topic among teens and young adults. For several years, ever since phones have been around, there has been a problem with texting while driving. Not to mention all the other things that go with unsafe driving, which could be drunk while driving, or not having a seatbelt while driving, etc. But the one that I feel is the most common is texting and driving. I think it's the most common because it is the easiest thing to do. What I mean is that everyone in the world has a phone, and since it's such an easy thing to hide while driving, people get into more frequent

accidents.

Just in this month, May 2021, there have been over 2,800 car crashes in the state. All have been caused by texting and driving and or while under the influence. Thankfully law-enforcement have been on the lookout and more attentive to looking if people are on their phone while driving.

According to Drivesafeonline.org, "In 2018, there were 36,750 deaths related to car accidents and of these fatalities, 5.7% were due to the driver texting and driving or talking on their cell phone. Texting while driving has become such a massive problem that 48 states banned texting and driving in 2019. Texting and driving statistics from the past five years show

how prevalent the problem has become.

In 2017, there were 37,133 deaths due to car wrecks. About 434 people are killed because the driver was using their cell phone at the time of the collision. A report by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety found that 1 in 3 drivers knew someone or had a relative who was injured or killed in a car crash. The dangers of sending a text message while driving is real and can lead to serious injury or fatality."

There are now more and more websites on how it's unsafe to text and drive and things you should do so that way you don't want to grab your phone.



## Ready for graduation

By: James Bowyer

Graduation for the 2021 seniors is when students graduate and make it to the real world.

This year's seniors have been waiting for this day since they were little kids, only hoping they would make it to this day of graduation. Many have put in hours of arduous work, years of discipline, many nights staying up late to finish assignments for the next day.

Seniors have overcome a lot of obstacles to reach this moment of their life. Graduation is important because not everyone graduates from high school and that is particularly important if someone is looking to go to the next level in life. Not even the military will accept you if you do not have a high school diploma or a GED (General Education Development Test).

Graduation is the night the seniors get to walk that stage in remembrance of all their challenging work through the years.

According to Americanstationery.

com, "One of the largest milestones you will face is a graduation. Graduation certainly does close the door on one era and begins a new one. Graduation signifies a time of completion, a successful end to an academic era culminating with a ceremony, in which you are handed a diploma."

I feel like graduation is indeed a milestone in a young adult's life and the building blocks to get them ready to step out into the real world.

According to Montana.edu, "Graduation not only can bring up feelings of excitement, pride, and anticipation, but also those of loss, discouragement, and fear. Feelings of loss are commonly felt by students as they face a multitude of changes in their lives."

Graduation can be tough on some people because not everyone is ready to go out into the real world. It can definitely humble you real quick if you are not prepared.

## Life after high school

By: Jayden-Elizabeth Smith

After high school, many people go down different paths in life. Some go to trade schools, others go to college, some do not go to either. They try and find jobs at fast food chains and get their lives together.

According to Statista.com, "There were approximately 19.6 million college students in the U.S. in 2018, with around 14.5 million enrolled in public colleges and a further 5.1 million students enrolled in private colleges."

A lot of kids prefer to do a trade school because, it takes less time and, there are fewer people in their work field. So many people go to colleges mainly for that college experience.

A lot of high schools offer trade school classes like welding, cosmetology, and many more, so when you graduate, you could already have your certification in that field. They do not have to wait two or more years to get their career started. With cosmetology, after the first year you are working in a salon with other stylists.

If you work hard in the fast-food work place you can be promoted quickly to a high position. Some even make it as high as manager. In high school, a lot of kid's first jobs are at a fast-food chain and, they can continue that job.

Some kids go and work in a family business that their father, or grandfather had started and one day, it is going to be handed down to them. Some kids go into the military, and they are making money as the government is paying for their college. So, they get their education, debt free the. They have housing options so they do not have to worry about paying rent, it comes out of their paycheck.

### Riddle:

I have no doors but I have keys, I  
have no rooms but I do have a space,  
you can enter but you can never  
leave. What am I?

courtesy of  
Everythingmom.com

Answer: A keyboard

Shoemaker High School Newspaper Class 2020 - 2021  
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