



Spark Magazine

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Spark Table of Contents

News

[p. 3] Hurricane Ian Strikes Florida

[p. 4] Parental Rights in Education Law

[p. 5] Florida Man Origins

Student Life

[p. 6] Differences in Sarasota Schools

[p. 7] No More Free Lunches

Opinion

[p.8] FSA FAST Testing

[p. 9] Lunch: Inside or Outside?

Sci-Tech

[p.10] Artemis 1 Launch

Health and Fitness

[p. 11] Nurse Shortages

[p. 12] Tennis Tournament

[p. 13] Emma Morris' Competitive Skimboarding

Entertainment

[p. 14-15] Is Netflix In Trouble?

Humor

[p. 16] A Day in the Life of a Pole at Pine View

[p. 17] Florida Man / Golf Cart

Features

[p. 18-22] New Pine View Sixth-Graders

[p. 22-24] New Pine View Seventh-Graders

[p. 25-27] New Pine View Eighth-Graders

The cover photo features flooding and debris of Yellow Wood Place, a local Sarasota neighborhood. The photo taken on September 29th by Athene Erbe during the aftermath of Hurricane Ian.

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Hurricane Ian Strikes Florida



Water floods neighborhood street in Sarasota county. Many evacuated from their homes and went to shelters without knowing what they were coming back to.

PHOTOS BY ALYSON MIZANIN

By Kai Deng

As the shopkeeper's bell rings out, eighth grader Omy Patel, exhausted looks up at the door of his family's store. Lips dry, he says, "How can I help you?"

Patel has been helping his family with their business in Northport ever since they were hit by Hurricane Ian. For Patel, the initial hit was not the worst, it was what happened afterward.

"The aftermath was just depressing, you see families evacuating, the Red Cross was there, people were crying, my city had no power, no internet, no water... we worked seven hours a day trying to help people," Patel says.

Patel's family store was one of the only ones open after the hurricane, which greatly increased the volume of people coming in and out. From the work he did to help his parents, Patel heard many stories of people describing what they went through. "My roof is gone, my lanai is destroyed my furniture is gone," Patel said he heard it all.

Patel's family is currently helping a woman buy groceries and other necessities. The woman is stuck inside her house due to trees that fell in her

pathway to leave.

"...It's sad because she is so sweet, and she still doesn't have power...,"Patel said.

The Patels received minimal damage to their house, except for their pool cage which was destroyed.

"My parents did not prepare a whole lot [during] Irma, but when people said it would be as strong as

Charlie, we started preparing,"Patel said.

In addition to the initial impact of Hurricane Ian, Northport received a record-setting 19 inches of rain, compared to Osprey, which only received around 6 inches of rain. Due to the amount of rainfall, Northport had days of river flooding.

The flooding was not the only problem, though. Due to Hurricane Ian, some families in Northport were out of power and water for weeks. Patel's family especially had problems with the water outage, they had to time everyday tasks such as showering due to the lack of water.

Currently, people from all over the country are coming to cities such as Northport and helping people who have been impacted by Hurricane Ian.

"People were coming from Pennsylvania and Texas to help out..." Patel says.

Several organizations like the Red Cross have also sent aid to the cities that were impacted by hurricane Ian. As of now, the Red Cross has provided more than 1.6 million meals and snacks.



Clean up begins outside of a development. Trees and debris littered the road and the path to restoration is still on its way. PHOTO BY ALYSON MIZANIN

HB 1557

By Jakob Roche

Something is missing from Civics teacher Liz Ballard's wall. Students who had her last year might have remembered a bookshelf that is now draped with a blanket.

These new changes in Ballard's classroom are due to the controversial Parental Rights in Education law (HB 1557) passed by the Florida legislature March 28, 2022.

The law imposes new regulations on teachers, such as Ballard, over classroom materials that are deemed not age appropriate. Part of the law that is most concerning to teachers is the potential to be sued.

“I’d say probably quite a few teachers were concerned.”

-Pamela Novak

“[the bill is] authorizing a parent to bring an action against a school district to obtain a declaratory judgment ... requiring school districts to bear the costs of the special magistrate;”

This means that parents can sue school districts over perceived violations of the bill, with no defined monetary limits. The school district in question must pay for the court costs, regardless of the validity of the concern.

English teacher Pamela Novak said the regulations were first brought to the faculty's attention the week before students arrived.

“I’d say probably quite a few teachers were concerned,” she said, herself included.

Some of this anxiety comes from the fact that there is a large amount of gray area in what is defined as being age-appropriate, which leaves much up to the interpretation of teachers – and their potential litigators.

“I think part of the anxiety comes from teachers feeling like they are losing some of the things that have always made teaching such a rewarding career.” Assistant Principal of Curriculum Tricia Allen said. “Getting to design instruction that helps students see the wonder all around them is thrilling.”

At the end of last year, Ballard received several boxes of books from a colleague who retired. Although she's planning to add them to her classroom library, she feels compelled to go through every book to ensure that they won't offend any students – if they do, she could be sued. Until then, she said she's going to have to close her library.

Similar measures are being taken by English and AP Statistics teacher Elizabeth Loyer. For the first time in six years of teaching, Loyer sent paperwork home to her English students asking for parents' permission to read and be in the vicinity of her library's books. She also plans to send the same forms to her AP students, just to be extra cautious.

Novak said that although she was worried earlier, as the year goes on, she is getting less anxious. However, she believes this law to be a part of a larger trend that has been going on for many years now – last year, several books were taken for examination from classroom shelves across the county.

For now, teachers will have to wait and see where the trend leads.



Florida governor Ron DeSantis signing House Bill 1557. Photo Courtesy of Douglas R. Clifford

THE ORIGINS OF FLORIDA MAN

BY INGRID CUSHMAN

Millions of people around the country have all heard the wild stories about either the Florida Man that threw an alligator into a Wendy's drive-through window because the ice cream machine was broken or the Florida Man who jumped off his surfboard to try to land on a shark. When people are laughing reading these stories with their friends, do they ever wonder why Florida Man exists in the first place?

Florida Men first started getting popular in 2013 when people made some online memes referring to a high number of bizarre crimes that involved men across Florida. Ever since then, the number of news stories about Florida Men have skyrocketed and spread across

the country, becoming new hot topics.

Why isn't there a Colorado Man or a Delaware Man? The sim-

ple answer is that the transparent public records in Florida make it incredibly easy for a journalist

to access records about these unusual events and write a story about them. Florida Man news feeds on itself. Journalists get information on Florida Man cases and write stories about them. Tcpcalm.com said, "The stories get noticed, they feed the 'Florida Man' narrative; so, we're on the lookout for ever-more Florida Man stories."

Stories of Florida Men are entertaining to read, at least sometimes. People can get a kick out of reading a story about some crazy thing a man did that you never thought could even be possible to do. What Florida Man will be next and when will this trend stop?




GRAPHIC BY AVA LENERZ


ple answer is that the transparent public records in Florida make it incredibly easy for a journalist

Sarasota Schools


By Athena Erbe




This year, Sarasota Middle School (SMS) has one thousand one hundred and sixty nine students on its campus from grades 6-8. In each grade level, students are split into teams such as Aristotle West and Darwin East.



Pine View provides gifted learning for all its students, similarly, Sarasota Middle School (SMS) offers advanced programs such as the Panther Gifted Academy (PGA). Like Pine View, to qualify for this program you must pass an IQ test.



Both Pine View School and Sarasota Middle School (SMS) provide a diverse selection of clubs and electives. From digital arts to coding, Sarasota Middle School has many courses for students to choose from. Pine View School has fewer electives but provides three world language options for its students. Both schools have sports clubs, such as tennis, basketball, volleyball, and track. Most clubs in SMS are in the morning, while Pine View has most of its clubs during lunchtime because of the longer lunch period.



Most Sarasota County Schools start at the same time, but this year Pine View has changed its schedule to start 15 minutes later. Unlike Sarasota Middle School, Pine View has a whole period set aside for lunch for clubs and activities but has shorter class periods. For comparison, each class in Sarasota Middle School is around 55-56 minutes long. In Pine View, classes are 52 minutes long.

Let's Hear From The Students

"I feel Sarasota Middle School has many electives that I can choose from."
- Aviana Hameed (current SMS student)

"I like that I can pick my seat during lunch in Pine View."
- Andrew Fera Taga (former SMS student)

"The longer lunch period gives me more time to play with my friends"
- Joe Li (former SMS student)



School Lunches

By Ana Easter



Due to the COVID pandemic, federal funding enabled school meals to be free of charge for all students during the 2021-22 school year. However, this school year, the USDA decided not to extend this plan, and has ended funding for free meals. This change has caused an effect on students everywhere in the United States.

In the 2021-22 school year, about 30% of students polled ate school lunch almost everyday. This number has dropped by 3% this school year, meaning that students who ate these meals almost every day, have started packing their lunches instead.

“For the quality and taste of the food, in my opinion, it’s not worth the three dollars per meal. When I pack my lunches, I have more freedom with what I get to eat and how much I want,” said eighth grader Sophia Karanjai,

who has started bringing lunch from home, due to the change in price.

While some students were affected by this change, others were not.

“I’ve always bought school lunch because I’ve never really had time to pack a lunch, and my parents never did either. The price has affected me a little bit but I’m still going to keep buying it,” eighth-grader Kiona Welhage said.

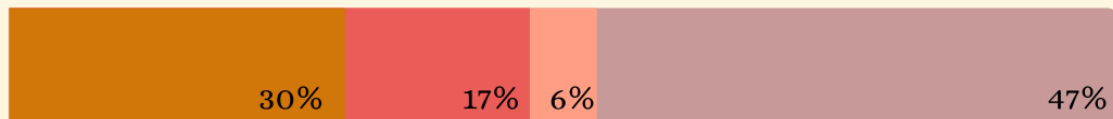


How often did students get school lunch?

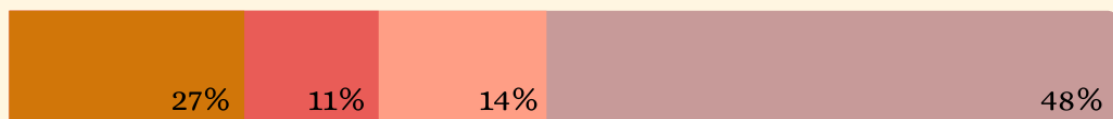
66 students grades 6-8 polled.

- Almost Every Day
- 2-3 Days
- Maybe Once a Week
- Rarely

Last Year



This Year



FSA • Which Is Better? FAST •

By Madelyn Bailey

Your heart is pounding, your hands are hurting, and you're racing to finish the last few questions before your time is up. After all, this year the test is shorter. You finish just before the time expires, you are filled with excitement, until you realize that you must do it twice more.

The short-lived relief you experienced in those few seconds of bliss fades away, and misery replaces it. Now you wonder, are the shorter tests worth the stress of extra testing?

This added stress resulted from the Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) replacing the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA). With FSA testing, students were tested once at the end of the school year, and with FAST testing, students will test three times each school year. This extra testing has caused many students to wish FSA testing stayed in place.

FAST testing has its benefits though. Testing Coordinator Stephanie White said that "FAST testing does give teachers useable data very soon into the school year so that teachers can use that information to help students throughout the year." While the data from FAST testing can be

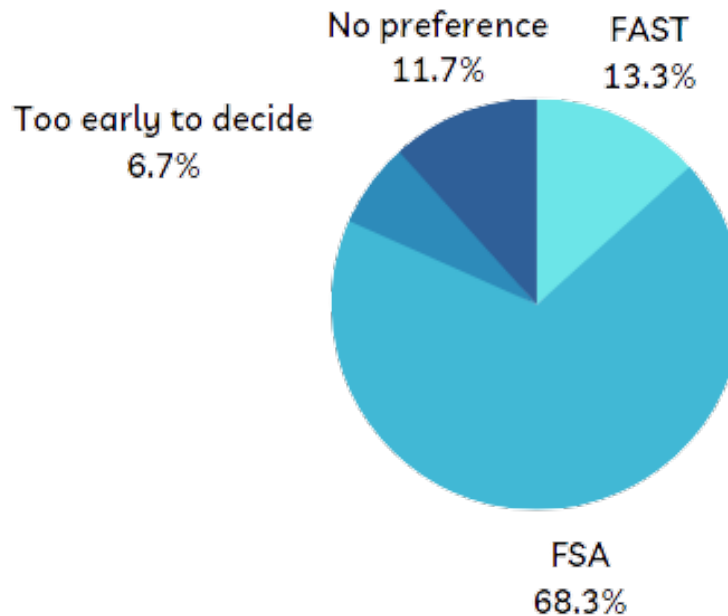
helpful when used appropriately, it is useless when ignored. For the students whose teachers don't use the data to their advantage, FAST feels like a waste of time.

FSA testing started in 2015 as a replacement for the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT). Until this year, it had been

FAST testing is to watch student progress throughout the year instead of just at the end of the school year.

FAST testing is supposed to improve test scores by showing what students need to work on, which allows them to improve their skills before they fall behind.

Right now, it's too early to tell whether this will work, but if all goes well, students should show improvements from the first test of the year to the last test. As of right now, it is not possible to truly conclude if FAST is better than FSA with ambiguous feelings towards both testing methods. Even though FAST testing is supposed to be more helpful for students, the extra stress that comes with it may just not be worth it.



60 people of grades sixth, seventh, and eighth were surveyed on which testing they prefer.

given to students in grades 3-12 every year without fail (except for the 2019-2020 school year when the tests were canceled because of COVID-19).

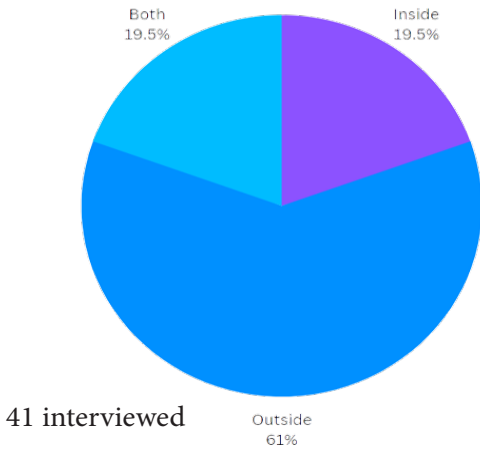
FAST testing, on the other hand, came into place because of legislation that Governor Ron DeSantis signed into law in March 2022. The primary purpose of

Would You Rather?

INSIDE OR OUTSIDE

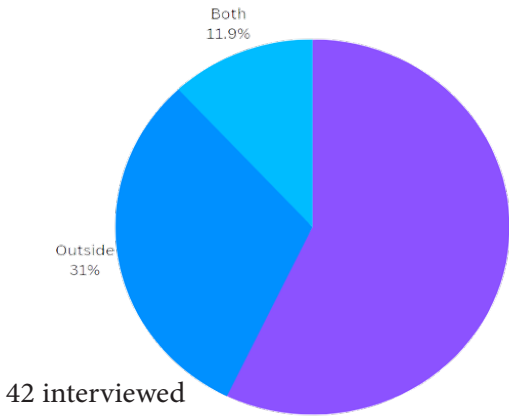
With the Quad, people have different thoughts on whether inside or outside it better. Some of the people like inside seating because of the A/C. Some sit outside because there is more freedom. Here are some of the polls that werer conducted.

6TH GRADE



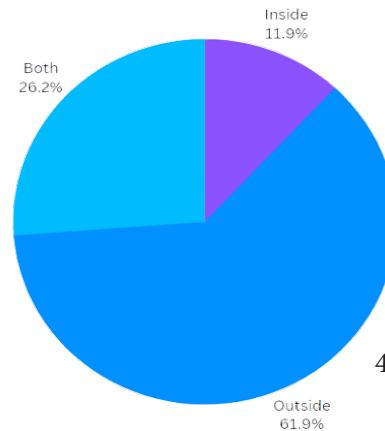
The 6th Grade predominately sits outside at lunch, with a majority of 61%.

7TH GRADE



In contrast to the 6th and 8th grades, the 7th grade shows a clear majority of people sitting outside

8TH GRADE



Similar to the 6th grade, 8th graders have a clear preference for sitting outside.

Where do you sit at lunch, and why?



"Outside. Inside gets really really loud, and outside you can like move around more, and aides outside are less strict." - Brayden Wood (6)



"In the Student Union. I don't like hot air, I like the AC."- Tristan Treadway (7)



"Outside, cuz my friends sit there." - Cagan Pekar (8)

'The Eagle has landed.'

Michael Tagle, Eighth Grade

On July 16, 1969, America put a man on the moon and officially won the space race against the Soviet Union. In the present-day, NASA is attempting to travel to the moon again, but for a much different purpose.

The Artemis Program is a series of NASA missions intended to return astronauts back to the moon. The much-delayed Artemis 1 Mission will be an unmanned flight to orbit around the moon. Artemis 1 will serve as a stepping stone to Artemis 2, which is planned to carry a crew of four astronauts to the moon, akin to how the Saturn V rocket brought the first man to the moon.

Earth and Space Science teacher Dylan Bell, Ph.D in Space Science and Astrophysics, believes it is a step in the right direction, although the Artemis program will not increase our knowledge of the moon. However, the program will serve as a gateway to Mars by allowing a rocket to launch from the moon.

"The majority of the issue of getting into space is our atmosphere, so having the moon as a launch pad, would be much more fuel efficient," Bell said.

The cost of launching the SLS, the rocket that will carry all the Artemis missions, is approximately \$4.1 billion. Problems that occur with the rocket are equally expensive.

After engineers spotted a problem in the rocket's engine bleed system — the apparatus that prevents engine bells from cracking due to the extremely cold fuel that runs through the engine — a hydrogen leak was detected. These problems delayed the launch date by months. After Hurricane Ian laid waste to coastal Florida, the rocket's launch was delayed indefinitely.

"Inherently, space travel itself is dangerous, especially if you have humans or anything living that needs life support, Bell said.

An unmanned mission would be far easier and cheaper to launch.

The Artemis program could open the doors to a new type of space travel by using the moon as a launch pad to bypass and avoid the dangers and inconveniences of the atmosphere. NASA scientists are working to remedy the issues plaguing the missions launch, but until then the mission will be delayed until it is fully safe to launch.

The number of days the astronauts of the Artemis III mission are staying on the moon for.

7

The number of people who have stepped foot on the moon.

12

The number of miles Earth is away from the Moon.

238,900

The amount of money each successful launch of an Artemis mission costs.

4.1 Billion



SHORTAGE OF SCHOOL NURSES

by Megan Ma and Mia Spica

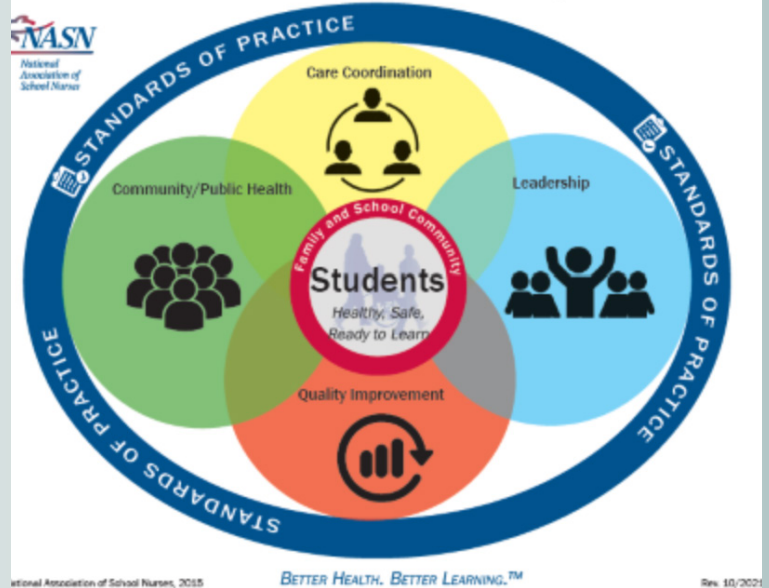
There has been a nationwide shortage of nurses. This includes nurses that work in schools, hospitals, and nursing homes. One cause for the shortage is due to the reduced pay that school nurses receive. Maureen McCarron (RN), the Supervisor of School Health Services for Sarasota County, said that both the Sarasota County School district and the Department of Public Health in Sarasota have plenty of RN and LPN positions open. Another problem was Covid-19. In a survey of more than 6500 critical care nurses released in September 2021 by the American Association of Critical Care Nurses, 92 percent of respondents reported that the pandemic had “depleted nurses at their hospitals, and, as a result, their careers will be shorter than they intended.” In fact, 66 percent said they were considering leaving the profession because of the pandemic.

Although the work schedule includes many benefits including

summers, holidays, and weekends, School nursing is a more demanding job, and they typically do not make as much as a nurse that is working in a hospital setting or a medical facility.

McCarron explained that school nurses are responsible for the healthcare management for any student that may have medical concerns. The school nurse must provide education to students, staff, and families, attend meetings, and write individualized health care plans, and more.

Framework for 21st Century School Nursing Practice™



A visual display of School Nursing Practices. This shows what guidelines they must follow as school nurses. GRAPHIC PROVIDED BY NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL NURSES

well as all emergencies that arise,” McCarron said.

“The job of a school nurse is incredibly involved. So, when the pay is not equivalent to other positions within the alternate professions of nursing, it makes it harder to recruit new staff.”

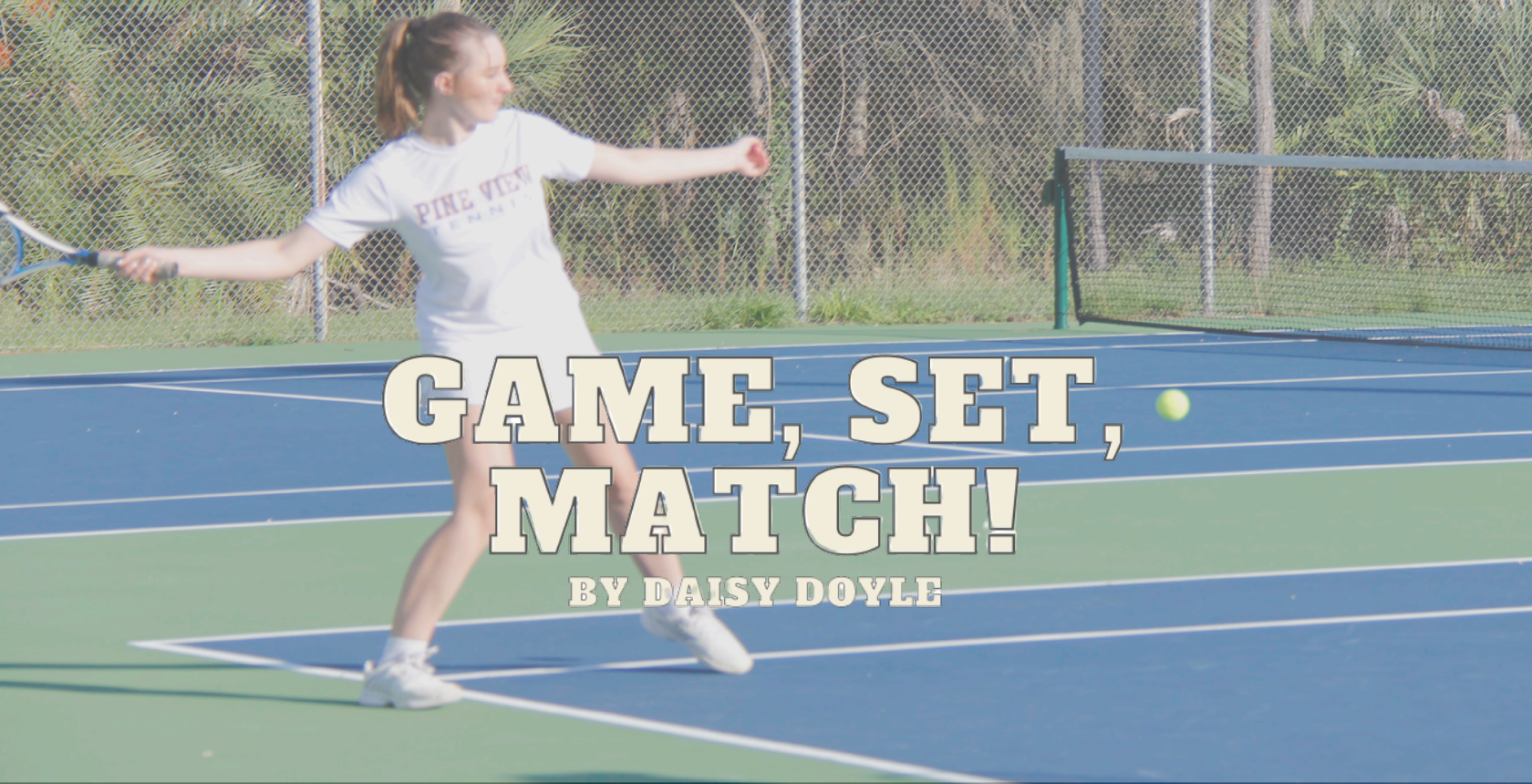
This is one of the reasons nurses have been difficult to employ due to the overwork and underpayment of the school district. Obviously, this is an exceedingly difficult and taxing job, but a very essential and important job. Most people don’t realize that school nurses are required to go to hurricane shelters. As a group, we must express our appreciation to our nurses and medical officials during this challenging time.



The substitute nurse sits at her desk working as a replacement due to the absence of the other nurses. One nurse retired and one resigned. PHOTO BY CLAUDIA NOWAKOWSKI

A school health room is a mini-emergency room for the school.

“The nurse(s) need to be able to manage the multiple daily visits, the daily medication distributions, as



GAME, SET, MATCH!

BY DAISY DOYLE

Practicing her forehand swing, eighth-grader Charlotte White shows remarkable footwork, agility and coordination. White is a member of the Pine View tennis team, who won the County Tournament October 18 as a result of their competitive performance. PHOTO BY DAISY DOYLE

Tennis is one of the few middle school sports here at Pine View. Caroline Cannon, Faye Klutke, Kathryn Logan, and Charlotte White are all eighth-graders on the Middle School Girls tennis team at Pine View.

Faye Klutke has been playing for 6 years now, and practices about 4 times per week in the morning and

afternoon. "I play in tournaments occasionally on the weekend," Klutke says.

Practicing almost every day, the students were confident in their chances of winning the County Tournament. Having won many tournaments in the past, they were looking forward to their chance to

bring home the gold.

Hurricane Ian caused many missed practices and some damaged courts, but they were able to start back up quickly. As a result of their hard work, dedication, and teamwork they won the tournament on October 18.

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE SPORTS GAMES AT PINE VIEW AND VENICE MIDDLE? WHY?



RAQUEL KUSHMAN, GRADE 7, VENICE MIDDLE

"[At Pine View] I think they are talented and skilled. [But at Venice] I think we are in the middle, we are not the best, but we are not terrible either."

ELVIS DEHANEN, GRADE 8, PINE VIEW

"[Sports] are a good way to stay active, and if you need a workout where you want to lose weight, and you also meet friends."



SKIMMING THE SURFACE

BY MAYA NOWAKOWSKI

The blue-green water erupts around her board as eighth-grader Emma Morris glides across the water's surface. As she catches the incoming wave, balancing becomes her key focus.

Skimboarding involves using a skim board to travel across the water's surface, meet an incoming wave, and ride it back to shore. While riding the wave, skim boarders perform several impressive surface and air maneuvers.

Morris began skimboarding at the age of seven and has now been doing it for over five years. She was inspired to begin skimboarding and to get better by the older kids whom she would watch.

"I grew up on the water, so I've always had the passion to get out there and be active on the beach," Morris said.

Morris said she enjoys skimboarding because of how freestyle it is,

"There's really no rhyme or reason to how you do it, you can just go out there and have fun," Morris said.

While skimboarding may seem simple and easy to do, this

is not the case. When performing tricks on the board, one must jump on a moving board, which is going very fast. So, it is important to remain balanced and confident on the board.

"The second you get wary on the board, it will get in your head, and you will mess up. It's just a

very 'mindset' sport because of how fast and intense it is," Morris said.

Not only is skimboarding very mentally challenging, but there are also many physical challenges, as well.

"I have off days all the

time, and it becomes difficult to execute even the simplest of tricks, even mentally when you have off days, you tear yourself down a bit, but you just have to realize that everyone has off days, and it's okay," Morris said.

She wishes to continue to participate in skimboarding in the future.

"I want to get to some higher-level competitions, and stay with my trainer to constantly get better," she said.

"I grew up on the water, so I've always had the passion to get out there."

**Emma Morris,
eighth-grader**



As she skims the water and sets herself for a round of freestyle tricks, eighth-grader Emma Morris rides her ZAP padded board. Morris prefers pads to wax for grip on her board. PHOTO PROVIDED BY EMMA MORRIS



As she holds up her trophy, Morris (right) and her trainer Naji Taha (left) stand in front of the ZAP competition. During her performance, she does several tricks which are worth a certain amount of points depending on the difficulty. PHOTO PROVIDED BY EMMA MORRIS

But it's not all bad for the company. In the third quarter of 2023, Netflix was able to bring back 2.41 million customers to the brand, and with the release of the ad supported version, Netflix believes that the company will be able to get 4.5 million new subscribers in the fourth quarter, a large decrease from the 8.3 million in 2021, but it's better than nothing.

As subscribers and stocks for the company seem to be rising, only time will tell if Netflix is able to bounce back from this horrible start of the year for the company, and the only people who can decide are people like you, viewers who simply want to watch on-demand streaming. One question remains, will anybody be able to take Netflix's crown as the behemoth of streaming?

Netflix	\$9.99-\$19.99/mo.
HBO Max	\$9.99-\$14.99/mo.
Hulu	\$6.99-\$12.99/mo.
Disney+	\$7.99/mo.
Apple TV+	\$4.99/mo.
Amazon Prime Video	\$8.99-\$14.99/mo.
Peacock	Free-\$9.99/mo.

This table shows the prices of streaming services in 2022 compared to each other. As pictured, Netflix is clearly leading in prices throughout all the streaming services in the table.

TABLE PROVIDED BY cabletv.com



This graph shows the Year To Date price of a single Netflix stock, plummeting around the first quarter.

GRAPH PROVIDED BY [GOOGLE FINANCE](https://www.google.com/finance)

IS NETFLIX IN TROUBLE?

By Timothy Nesanelis

Everybody loves to sit down, relax, and watch a show you found on Netflix, a behemoth streaming service that seems to have thousands of shows and movies, but did you know that the powerhouse of streaming started with much more humble beginnings. Netflix was founded in 1997 by Reed Hastings and Marc Randolph, with the idea of a subscription-based service with no due dates or late fees and unlimited access to content at \$19.95 per month. It also had a “Queue” that subscribers use to specify the order in which DVDs should be mailed to them and a delivery system that automatically mails out a DVD as soon as the previous DVD is returned. Even as Netflix switched from DVD to internet streaming, this formula proved a success, and Netflix rapidly began to climb in subscribers. But in 2022’s first two quarters, Netflix reported their first loss in subscribers since 2011, and it wasn’t any small amount, it was over two million people. Due to this, Netflix’s stock plummeted a whopping -58.97% since January 3rd, 2022. Why are people choosing to leave the streaming service, and what is Netflix going to do about it?

A large factor in Netflix’s decline in popularity is pricing. At the beginning of 2022, Netflix announced it would be raising its prices, and subscribers were furious. In the United States, Netflix’s premium package costs a whopping

\$19.99 per month, compared to its competition, with Hulu’s \$14.99, Amazon Prime’s \$14.99, and Disney Plus’s \$7.99 per month, it’s clear to see why customers are choosing to pay and watch other streaming services instead. Many of these users have simply moved on to less pricy options, but Netflix has a plan. Starting November 2022, Netflix



will release an ad-supported version of the service at \$6.99 per month, with a limited catalogue, as not all of Netflix’s shows and movies will support ads. It will also be cracking down on account sharing, to hopefully encourage people to finally start paying for the subscrip-

tion.

Another component in the Netflix decline is the Netflix Originals that the company is putting out. As Gabriella Vatu from makeuseof.com puts it, “It’s clear the company is investing in quantity rather than quality, hoping that some of the titles it releases will be successful.” There is no doubt that Netflix has created immense success in titles such as Squid Game and Stranger Things, but if viewers see non-worthwhile shows completely engulfing the platform, people will simply stop paying so much money for non-quality shows.

The final component to Netflix’s decline is the failing binge-watch model. Netflix released seven episodes of Stranger Things season four on May 27, 2022, racking up 286.79 million viewing hours in its opening weekend. It held back the two final episodes until July 1, requiring fans to retain their subscriptions for at least two months. Shows that are released on a weekly basis tend to have people coming back to the show and opening the app every week. Shows that have six or even upwards of up to twelve episodes released on a weekly basis force customers to stay with the service for a minimum of four months to complete the show. Netflix, however, disagrees, stating in a letter to their investors, “We think our bingeable release model helps drive substantial engagement, especially for newer titles.”

Life of A Pine View Pole

By Anna Zhang

Hi there. I am Edward and I am a pole. Yes, a pole. I live with my fellow poles near the yellow building. Pine View has a lot of blue poles to help support the awnings. Something you should know is that every student at Pine View walks into at least one pole a year. To express my feelings, someone named Anna Zhang interviewed me for how I feel. Here is how it went:

Anna Zhang (AZ): Hello, I am Anna Zhang, and I am part of middle school journalism. What is your name?

Edward: My name is Edward, and I've been part of Pine View for many years.

AZ: How do you manage students bumping into you?

Edward: Well, I have been dealing with this for a while. I have gotten used to students at Pine View bumping into me accidentally.

AZ: How does it make you feel?

Edward: It is annoying how students do this repeatedly. They should watch where they are going, because us poles have feelings as well. I have strong beliefs on this.

AZ: Could you explain how it happens?

Edward: Sure. So, stu-

dents are walking with their friends, they are not paying attention to where they are walking. I try to warn them, but, of course, they cannot

hear me because I am a pole. Then, suddenly, they walk right into me, dropping everything they have.

They quickly gather their belongings and make sure

no one around saw what happened because it might be embarrassing for them. I just think about how they could have avoided that by not being on their phones and paying attention

to where they walk. Then, I say loudly, "watch where you are going!"

AZ: Do you have any friends that are also being walked into?

Edward: Yes, most definitely. I

have a friend named Billy and another named Patty. They get walked into daily, as well. They have expressed their feelings of annoyance, too.

AZ: I see. We should do something about this. Maybe put up a sign somewhere.

Edward: Yeah, that might work. I don't know.

AZ: Thanks for your time.

Edward: You are welcome.

Something I forgot to mention is how it hurts when the students at Pine View bump into me. I have quite a few dents on me, and it will not get fixed soon. When they bump into me, I give them a piece of my mind sometimes if they are not sorry. One time, this lousy elementary student bumped into me, and it was painful, very painful. I told him, "Watch where you are going, or you will be sorry." The student looked surprised and quickly looked around at my response. Another time, this other student at Pine View bumped into me and said sorry after! That was the least painful. They apologized! I couldn't believe it!

I hope this message reached the right audience. Maybe these students will learn their lessons and stop bumping into us poles.

“They should watch where they are going, because us poles have feelings, as well.”



Student collapses when walking into the pole. The student collapses makes a dent on the pole. PHOTO BY ANNA ZHANG

REACH YO' MINIMAL POTENTO'

COME TO FLORIDA MAN SCHOOL

BY GIORGI HILGENBERG

You have heard of what a Florida Man is. A person who does crazy things such as throwing an alligator through a fast-food restaurant window or someone trying to shoot

down a hurricane. Most learn how to be a Florida man on their own, but now there's another option: come to the best Florida Man school around, Rohan Dash's Florida Man School. You can

learn to be the best Florida Man of all time.

You will learn all the basics such as losing all your common sense and thinking about different ideas. Most



of the Florida Men get put in jail, so they must learn how to fast-forward time to get out and do Florida Man

stuff again. Also, you cannot forget about the materials you need to commit your Florida Man shenanigans. Do not worry about paying for the mate-

rials, the Florida Man School provides them for you.

There are simulations you can use to see how good of a Florida Man you are. There are ponds with semi-ag-

gressive alligators where you can practice throwing them.

There are also the very good Florida

Men that have done honorable deeds.

One Florida Man that was educated by Dash saw an elderly woman who needed medical help, so he stole a golf cart to help get her to the ER. With the help of this Flor-

ida Man, another life was saved.

Now, back to school. You will be able to learn all the necessities to save a person and have the items to help the people until real medics arrive.



GOLF CART ESCAPE

BY SANTIAGO FERNANDEZ

It was a cold Friday afternoon, and I was on my usual hunt for golf carts when I spotted a stray golf cart. Left by an aide that seemed to have left to reprimand some hooligans messing around. This may be my only chance to get the opportunity I have been yearning for years.

I sprinted as fast as I could to the golf cart with my legs aching from the sheer force of my run, I jumped 4 feet in the air and landed into the driver's seat of the vehicle. With the aide screaming at me I stepped on the gas with maximum force; the cart accelerated, forcefully pushing me into the seat.

Looking in the rearview mirror I saw the aide, Michael Bartholomew James Maximus Howard III Jr., radio for help in his golf cart. At that moment, I knew I had to leave the premises soon. The golf cart started smoking, I assumed it was over heating. Luckily, the golf cart had all the tools I needed to inspect the engine very carefully.

Making sure nobody saw me, I drove behind Building 17 and then popped the hood revealing a quad turbocharged V8 engine with a power output of about 1100 KW. This blew me away, but I had to

brush off this and do the maintenance needed. Turns out it just needed some more radiator fluid. I had just managed to pour it in when I heard the sirens.

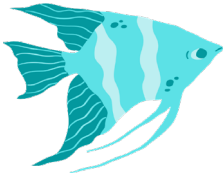
I jumped in the cart, stepped on the gas, and without my seatbelt on I was off. This cart was crazy fast, but before I knew it Officer Williams was on my tail. We were going at least 200 mph, but Williams was catching up. Any evasive maneuver I pulled would not faze the officer.

My last resort was to do the impossible, an endeavor to drive up building 17, to avoid capture. I drifted around the corner of the Blue Building hoping to throw off Officer Williams. Then, I pressed on the gas as hard as I could and went for it.

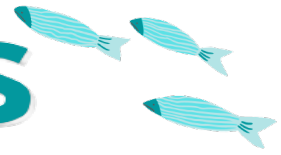
Thankfully, there was a conveniently placed ramp right in front of where I wanted to go, so I drifted the golf cart in that direction, launched into the air, shifted my weight and managed to make the golf cart parallel to the building.

I had never been more stressed; this was life or death. The cart landed on the side of the building and suffered the unfortunate effects of gravity, which were too much for the little guy. In a crash, the cart landed upside down and I was quickly arrested. Tried as a minor, I only got one year of house arrest, so I am hoping to try again next year.





6th GRADERS



Nattinee Aaron

Interviewed by Faith Downey



Nicholas Abellana

Interviewed by Faith Downey



Robert Arroyos III

Phillipi Shores Elementary

Interviewed by Faith Downey



Mina Atarodian

Tatum Ridge Elementary

Interviewed by Faith Downey



Ella Barker

Lakeview Elementary

Interviewed by Faith Downey



Ali Bensar

Nur Academy

Interviewed by Athena Erbe



Tatiana Boyarkina

Glenallen Elementary

Interviewed by Athena Erbe



Skylar Bredlau

Southside Elementary

Interviewed by Athena Erbe



Thomas Brion

Bay Haven Elementary

Interviewed by Athena Erbe



Scarlett Byrne

Southside Elementary

Interviewed by Athena Erbe



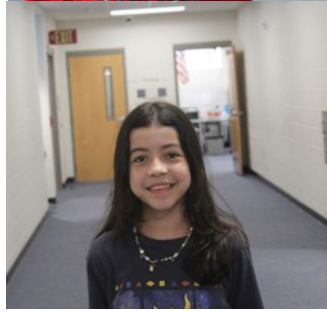
Kate Chen
Homeschooled
Interviewed by Benjamin Jiang



Federico D'Argenio
Taylor Ranch Elementary
Interviewed by Benjamin Jiang



Case Dam
Englewood Elementary
Interviewed by Benjamin Jiang



Ellie Darling
Gulf Gate Elementary
Interviewed by Benjamin Jiang



Emma Darling
Gulf Gate Elementary
Interviewed by Benjamin Jiang



Ryland Demao
Interviewed by Josh Kottler



Alexis DeMassa
Imagine Elementary
Interviewed by Josh Kottler



Jheremy Fajardo
Tatum Ridge Elementary
Interviewed by Josh Kottler



Georgia Fritz-Bryant
Gulf Gate Elementary
Interviewed by Josh Kottler



Isabel Georgieva
South Side Elementary
Interviewed by Josh Kottler



Caroline Giraud
Gulf Gate Elementary
Interviewed by Katerina Mazzo



Kiran Grewal
Laurel Nokomis Elementary
Interviewed by Katerina Mazzo



Beatrice Gushterov
Tatum Ridge Elementary
Interviewed by Katerina Mazzo



George Gushterov
Tatum Ridge Elementary
Interviewed by Katerina Mazzo



Connor Guzman
Cranberry Elementary
Interviewed by Katerina Mazzo



Matthew Heilman
Stratford Elementary in California
Interviewed by Felix Ratner



Carson Jiang
Kingsway Elementary
Interviewed by Felix Ratner



Christopher Kovacs
Phillippi Shores Elementary
Interviewed by Felix Ratner



Dakota Koval
Cranberry Elementary
Interviewed by Felix Ratner



Nour Kurczek
Phillippi Shores Elementary
Interviewed by Felix Ratner



Ryan Lahey
Tatum Ridge Elementary
Interviewed by Vivien Serine



Peilin Li
Taylor Ranch Elementary
Interviewed by Vivien Serine



Jerry Liu
Union Township in New Jersey
Interviewed by Vivien Serine



Hudson Lowry
Laurel Nokomis Elementary
Interviewed by Vivien Serine



Elliot Ma
Bay Haven Elementary
Interviewed by Vivien Serine



Birdie McLaughlin
The Islands Elementary School
in Arizona
Interviewed by Anna Zhang



Mihir Mehta
Ashton Elementary
Interviewed by Anna Zhang



Chloe Mertzluft
Tatum Ridge Elementary
Interviewed by Anna Zhang



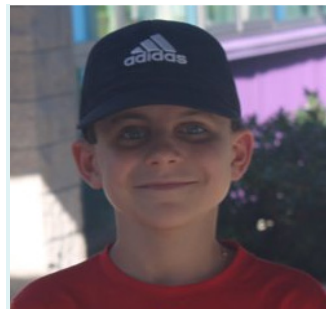
Mohamed Mrizigue
Phillippi Shores Elementary
Interviewed by Anna Zhang



Emma Newton
Ashton Elementary
Interviewed by Alexander Dharaj



Iris Paothong
Ashton Elementary
Interviewed by Alexander Dharaj



Jackson Quisenberry
McNeal Elementary
Interviewed by Alexander Dharaj



Sophia Raicu
Homeschooled
Interviewed by Alexander Dharaj



Remington "Remy" Rekus
Dodgeville Middle School in
Wisconsin
Interviewed by Alexander Dharaj



Samantha Rogers
Interviewed by Timothy Nesanelis



Maya Ruffin
Suncoast Elementary
Interviewed by Yasmin Cox



Daniel Sanchez

Englewood Elementary

Interviewed by Yasmin Cox



Nicholas Shaitanoff

Long Island School For the Gifted, New York

Interviewed by Yasmin Cox



Sofia Szczypek

Lakeview Elementary

Interviewed by Yasmin Cox



Lillian Teague

Spokane Elementary in Washigton

Interviewed by Andrew Fera Taga



George Vanderee

Venice Elementary

Interviewed by Andrew Fera Taga



Nicholas Velliky

Southside Elementary

Interviewed by Andrew Fera Taga



Brayden Wood

Science and Arts Academy in Illinois

Interviewed by Andrew Fera Taga



James Woods

Out of Door Academy

Interviewed by Andrew Fera Taga



Jason Wu

James Dougherty Elementary

Interviewed by Anna Zhang



Nathan Zhan

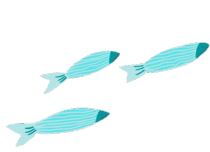
Elisa-Nelson Elementary in Palm Harbor

Interviewed by Faith Downey



Xiao Zhang

Interviewed by Josh Kottler



7th GRADERS



Aidan Alickolli
Sarasota Middle School
interviewed by: Andrew Fera Taga

If you could start any class/club, what would it be? Why?

I would start a fishing club where we would go on a boat in a lake and fish.

Where do you see yourself in 20 years?

I see myself being an engineer and working hard



Anand Carpenter
Laurel Nokomis
interviewed by: Anna Zhang

How is PV different from your last school?

“At my old school, no one expected me to ask for help. At Pine View, I can ask my classmates for help when I need it.”

Where do you see yourself in 20 years?

“I can see myself as a co-owner of a company.”



Isabella De Liz
Sarasota School of Arts and Sciences
interviewed by: Faith Downie

Where do you see yourself in 20 years?

“I see myself owning a business and having a degree in law.”

Is there anything else you'd like to tell me about yourself?

“I speak German.”



Hadi El Hakim
Sarasota Middle School
interviewed by: Faith Downie

What are some of the biggest differences between PV and your old school?

“The school is bigger and there is a longer lunch. it is required to take a language.”

If you could change one thing at PV, what would it be?

I would change the schedule so middle school started at 11 AM



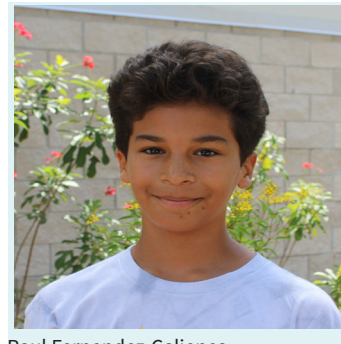
Andrew Fera Tega
Sarasota Middle School
interviewed by: Athena Erbe

What would you do with a million dollars?

“A lot of things. First, I would invest 300,000 dollars in stock. Then, I would spend the rest on a new house.”

Is there anything else you'd like to tell me about yourself?

“I am bilingual, I can speak Romanian and English. I am on the tennis team.”



Raul Fernandez-Calienes
George Washington Carver Elementary in Miami
interviewed by: Felix Ratner

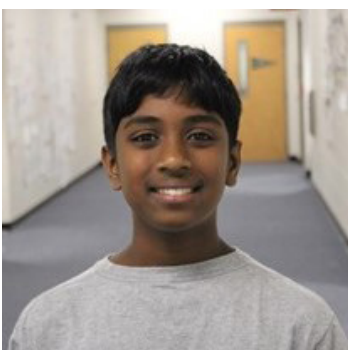
If you could change one thing at Pine View, what would it be? Why?

“The time schedules are a little weird, like 57 minutes instead of one hour? Make it consistent.”

If you could start any class/club, what would it be?

Why?

“I don't know, like a gaming club or something?”



Sanul Gamage
Sarasota Middle School
interviewed by: Alexander Dhanraj

If you could start any class/club, what would it be?

“I would start the Asian Club. I am Asian, and I think it would be good to learn about unfamiliar cultures and traditions.”

Where do you see yourself in 20 years?

“I would be graduated from college and starting a family in the north.”



Joshua Kottler
Woodland School
interviewed by: Benjamin Jiang

What would you do with a million dollars?

“Probably start a law firm.”

Where do you see yourself in 20 years?

“Probably as a lawyer.”



Maya Kulesza
Laurel Nokomis
Interviewed by: Alex Dhanraj

What are some of the biggest differences between PV and your old school?
“Pine View is a lot better. You learn more, and the school itself is a strong community.”
If you could start any class/club, what would it be?
“I would start a free period class other than lunch. In this class, we can study and do homework.”



Yueheng Li “Joe”
Sarasota Middle School
Interviewed by: Andrew Fera taga

Where do you see yourself in 20 years?
“On Mars collecting space rocks”
Is there anything else you’d like to tell me about yourself?
“I am 5’6, [...] and I don’t like pizza”



Adam Malaj
Sarasota Middle School
Interviewed by: Anna Zhang

If you could start any class/club, what would it be? Why?
“I’d probably make it so we have a gardening club.”
Is there anything else you’d like to tell me about yourself?
“I really like swimming.”



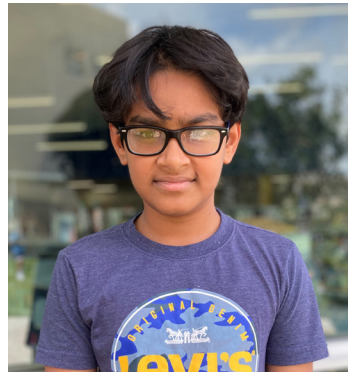
Natalie Merino
Dr. Mona Jain Middle School
Interviewed by: Vivien Serine

If you could start any class/club, what would it be?
“Drama Club.”
Where do you see yourself in 20 years?
“Maybe an actress.”



Katie Messina
Sarasota Middle School
Interviewed by: Vivien Serine

What are some of the biggest differences between PV and your old school?
“Pine View is harder.”
If you could change one thing at Pine View, what would it be? Why?
“How much work there is and how many tests we get.”



Arun Ramkumar
Valley Montessori in California
Interviewed by: Felix Ratner

If you could start any class/club, what would it be? Why?
“It would probably be a boys volleyball club, because I like volleyball a lot”
Where do you see yourself in 20 years?
“Probably still trying to form like a YouTube channel. I’d have a better job on the side- I like messing with car a lot- maybe lawyer.”



24
Abijah Ramos
Student leadership academy
interviewd by Maya Nowakowski

What would you do with a million dollars?
“I would probably invest about 50% of it to the stock market, and then give some to family and friends.”
Where do you see yourself in 20 years?
“I would like to be an engineer, maybe and architectural engineer.”



Vivien Serine
Rosa International Middle School New Jersey
Interviewed by: Josh Kottler

What are some of the biggest differences between PV and your old school?
“Pineview has an outside”
Where do you see yourself in 20 years?
“Working as a lawyer”



What are some of the biggest differences between PV and your old school?

“Its harder than my old school”

What would you do with a million dollars?

“Buy the lot behind my house and plant fruit trees”

Rachel Storino

Laurel Nokomis

Interviewed by: Katerina Mazzo



If you could start any class/club what would it be?

Why?

“I know there are already art clubs, but I would probably start another craft club because I really like art.”

Where do you see yourself in 20 years?

“Probably in medical school, or law school.”

Rachel Vecchioni

Former School

Interviewed by: Katerina Mazzo



If you could start any class/club what would it be?

Why?

“Baseball club.”

What would you do with a million dollars?

“Invest 90% and use the rest to buy a boat.”

Blake Wood

Former School:

Interviewed by:



If you could change one thing at Pine View what would it be? Why?

“Middle schoolers could start early, too.”

Where do you see yourself in 20 years?

A successful orthodontist who is rich.”

William Wooden

Former School:

Interviewed by:



What are some of the biggest differences between PV and your old school?

“Pine View has a longer lunch period.”

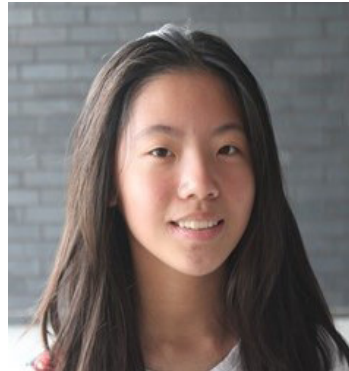
If you could change one thing at Pine View what would it be? Why?

“Not being able to go anywhere without a pass at lunch.”

Gabriella Yao

Former School:

Interviewed by: Josh Kottler



If you could change one thing at Pine View, what would it be? Why?

“Probably the 2nd language thing.”

Where do you see yourself in 20 years?

“Probably at a job I somewhat like”

Christina Zheng

Laurel Nokomis

Interviewed by: Benjamin Jiang

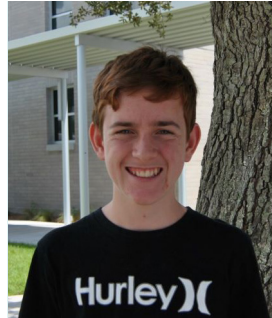


8th GRADERS



Logan Barcelo
Laurel Nokomis
Interviewed by Maya Nowakowski

What hobbies and/or sports do you participate in?
“I swim, I enjoy art and playing the electric guitar. I really like exploring new things. I also did crew over the summer for a week.”
What professions are you interested in? Why?
“I’m interested in the medical field and just anything that involves architecture or art. I would also like to be an Olympian, boxer, or just do sports in general. I would also like to compete in the MMA (mixed martial arts) fighting.”



Christian Barrett
Sarasota Middle School
Interviewed by Michael Tagle

What professions are you interested in? Why?
“Probably engineering because I enjoy building stuff and I find it pretty cool”
What hobbies and sports do you participate in?
“I do soccer, taekwondo, and then that’s about it. I used to do coding but not anymore.”
What classes/clubs/teachers do you enjoy?
“I like History, and I’m doing speech and debate, which is fun”



Navleen Grewal
Roslyn Middle School
Interviewed by Kai Deng

What hobbies and or sports do you participate in?
“I am participating in Speech and debate PF (Public Forum), I am a black belt in taekwondo, I have been doing taekwondo for four years.”
What professions are you interested in? Why?
“Something to do with computers or animals.”
What or who inspires you? Why?
“Emma Watson, she does a lot of good things for women’s rights.”



Victor Kozlovsky
Booker Middle School
Interviewed by Mia Spica

What hobbies and/or sports do you participate in?
“I am joining the track team, and I play cello for chamber orchestra at Pine View.”
What have been your first impressions of Pine View? What challenges have you faced?
“It’s a good school, some challenges are the tests.”
What or who inspires you? Why?
“Im inspired by John Mahrous (student at PV) Because he’s cool.”



Yoojeong Lee
Chinook Trail Middle School in Colorado
Interviewed by Gigi Hilgenberg

What professions are you interested in? Why?
“I’m interested in medicine. My grandpa died before I was born and I want to be able to help people. I want to be a neurosurgeon.”
What or who inspires you? Why?
“My parents inspire me. My mom didn’t speak English at all, and now my parents both work at USF.”
What hobbies and/or sports do you participate in?
“I play the violin, I sing, and figure skate.”



Megan Ma
Kennedy Junior High in Illinois
Interviewed by Ingrid Cushman

What have been your first impressions of PV? Have you faced challenges?
“It is really big, I got lost. I don’t really think I’ve faced many challenges, just feel like, since it’s eighth grade already, its harder to make friends because everyone else has friends from before.”
What professions are you interested in? Why?
“I want to be a psychiatrist when I grow up, but I don’t really know why.”



Cristian Nichi
Christa McAuliffe in New York
Interviewed by Ana Easter

What have been your first impressions of PV? What challenges have you faced?
“It’s a really nice school, and I haven’t faced any challenges yet, I like all my teachers.”
What hobbies and/or sports do you participate in?
“I like to swim.”
What or who inspires you? Why?
“I’m inspired by Gary Hall Jr. He’s also a swimmer, and he’s also diabetic.”



Lindsey Parker
Laurel Nokomis
Interviewed by Ana Easter

What hobbies and/or sports do you participate in?
“I swim for the [Sarasota] Sharks.”
What professions are you interested in, and why?
“Something in the medical field, or biology or marine biology because I really want to figure out how things work.”
What were your first impressions of Pine View, what challenges have you faced?
“There is a lot more homework than at my last school, but I like it.”



Gabriella Pina
Laurel Nokomis
Interviewed by Megan Ma

What or who inspires you? Why?
“There is a sailor from China, her name is Lily Xin, and she grew up in Communist China, she moved to Great Britain. She was kind of given the path of a sailor, and even though she didn’t choose it, she decided to embrace it.”
What jobs are you interested in? Why?
“I was looking into naval architecture, or something related to marine science because I think the ocean is really beautiful.”



Alexander Shaitanoff
Long Island School for the Gifted
Interviewed by Megan Ma

What other places have you lived in/traveled to? Have you experienced snow?
“I lived in New York, I’ve been to Europe, and China, and recently moved here. I’ve experienced snow.”
What hobbies and/or sports do you participate in?
“I swim, and I did gymnastics. I’ve dived for a year, and it is my favorite.”
What or who inspires you? Why?
“I am inspired by people who are good at everything and try to be the best at everything they do, and successful people who came from nothing. I am inspired by all good people that exist.”



Kylan Silva
Laurel Nokomis
Interviewed by Timothy Nesan-
elis

What hobbies and/or sports do you participate in?
“I used to play basketball for two years and then I played soccer for a year, , and right now it’s my second year of doing rowing. Some of my hobbies are playing video games, watching TV, reading, and sleeping.”
What careers are you interested in?
“Doing Health or Science, I really want to get into science, I love learning about the human body and math.”
What or who inspires you? Why?
“My dad because he is hardworking, he enjoys his time, he has fun, and he puts a balance in everything.”



Carys Smith III
Laurel Nokomis
Interviewed by Daisy Doyle

What professions are you interested in? Why?
“I want to be an architect, because I like drawing, and it seems really fun.”
What hobbies and/or sports do you participate in?
“I do crew.”
What or who inspires you? Why?
“Danny DeVito because he is an interesting person.”



Mia Spica
Saint Martha’s
Interviewed by Madelyn Bailey

What hobbies and/or sports do you participate in?
“I play lacrosse, and my mom is going to sign me up for crew. Some hobbies I really like are going on my phone, and sometimes I make bracelets.”
What classes/clubs/teachers have you enjoyed?
“I think Journalism is really fun, and I’m also in Debate club, that’s fun, and I think Mr. Yotsuda is really cool.”
How would you describe yourself?
“I’m really talkative, and I like to get along with people.”



Taylor Teague
Libby Center Odyssey in Washigton
Interviewed by Jakob Roche

What hobbies and/or sports do you participate in?
“I like art, I’ve started doing crew, and I like cross country and track. I’ll start doing that once the season comes in. And me and my sister are learning tennis, we’re not good at it yet.”
What classes/clubs/teachers have you enjoyed?
“I really like my math class, my teacher is really nice. My ELA class I’ve also got a really nice teacher, and my art class, partly because I really like art.”



Makar Thompson
Louise R. Johnson
Interviewed by Santiago Preciado

What hobbies and/or sports do you participate in?
“I used to do basketball, now I go to the gym as a hobby and sport.”
What professions are you interested in? Why?
“Neurosurgeon because you make a lot of money and help people.”
What or who inspires you? Why?
“My dad because he is the president of a successful company.”



Lukas Vecchioni
State College of Florida
Interviewed by:Adam Elshimy

What other places have you lived in/traveled to? Have you experienced snow?
“I lived in the Philippines most of my life, there I was homeschooled for a while. I have seen snow.”
What hobbies and/or sports do you participate in?
“I like music, I play the clarinet and I like bass and piano.”

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