

# PANTHER'S TALE



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Technology High School

187 Broadway

Newark, NJ 07104

www.nps.k12.nj.us/technology

## THS Honors Student Scholars in Pep Rallies

By: Nedjie Jocelyn, THS senior

On Thurs., Dec. 22, Technology High School held their first Honor Roll Rally of the year in the auditorium to congratulate the students who have earned the 10 highest GPAs in their respective classes. There were two presentations, one in the morning for 9th and 12th graders, and another in the afternoon for 11th and 10th graders.

Mr. Reyes, the THS principal, gave a short speech congratulating the hard work of these students, and then handed the baton to Mr. Tejada. As a way of promoting a strong work ethic, this year's THS Student Council team recognized students who achieved Super Honor Roll but weren't part of the Top Ten. Students looked forward to the assembly.

"It felt very good that I was recognized as number one in the senior class... I hope that I inspired others, especially the freshmen, to strive high for a GPA like mine."

—Niruban Bahetharan

Andy Cabrera, senior at THS and member of the Student Council, said, "It was tough to pronounce everyone's names right, but it was fun to entertain everyone." Cabrera was one of the spokesmen for the event whose job was to call the elected to collect their certificates.

Niruban Bahetharan, the senior with the highest GPA, expressed his gratitude in a humbling way. "It felt very good that I was recognized as number one in the senior class...I hope that I inspired others, especially the freshmen, to strive high for a GPA like mine. I felt like the senior class was proud of me while the seniors saw me as a role model."

Recognizing students like this will encourage others to do even

better in their classes. Schools should push their students to strive for more academically, and the rally had this impact. To achieve Super Honor Roll, students need to have a 3.74 GPA or higher. Since everyone likes to be congratulated and recognized, they will work harder to achieve Super Honor Roll.

This recognition shows how THS values the merit of their students. If the school lets their students know that they value learning and rigor, this becomes instilled in the students and influences their perspective of learning. With a changed mind they are able to integrate more academic goals in their plans for their high

school career.

The Honor Roll Rally was a success. From the leaders on the stage to the students cheering them on, everyone felt a sense of Panther pride.



Eight of the Top 10 from the THS senior class, first cycle.



Eight of the Top 10 from the THS junior class, first cycle.



THS Humanities Award winners, second cycle.



A representation of second cycle THS Panther Award recipients.



Mr. Reyes with the Top 10 from the THS freshmen class, second cycle.

On Tuesday, March 21, THS hosted their second Honor Roll Rally. Thavila Dias and Shikiya Chance, members of the Student Council, were the MC's. The freshmen and sophomores received their awards in the morning, and juniors and seniors received theirs in the afternoon. The event started with the acknowledgement of the students who earned Honor Roll with a GPA of 3.35-3.74 or Super Honor Roll with a GPA of 3.74 or higher. Next, the Top Ten from each class were recognized.

In addition to scholastic awards, other students were presented with Panther Awards. The staff at THS wanted to recognize students who daily demonstrate these qualities: pride, achievement, nobility, teamwork, helpfulness, equality, respect, and success. Academic success and honors promote and encourage students to work hard. It's important for students to be recognized for being diligent scholars. Those who received Panther Awards daily demonstrate that "you can't hide from Panther Pride."

### PANTHER AWARDS

#### PRIDE: English:

Grade 9: Daniela Acosta  
Grade 10: Yzaiha Hernandez  
Grade 11: Amy Ann Edzhia  
Grade 12: Talik Thomas

*Humanities Department*  
Grade 12: Bruna Rocha

#### ACHIEVEMENT: PE

Grade 9: Kobir Alicea  
Grade 10: Alex Garcia  
Grade 11: Marcus Abreu  
Grade 12: Darlenys Acosta

#### NOBILITY: SS:

Grade 9: Angel De Leon  
Grade 11: Lizbeth Caguana Guaman  
Grade 12: Liliana Perez

#### TEAMWORK: WORLD LANG.

Grade 9: Carolina Villa and Jessica Jara  
Grade 10: Karine Marculino and Dalila Villa  
Grade 12: Bruna Rocha

#### HONESTY: MATH

Grade 9: D'Andre Stevenson  
Grade 10: Yzaiha Hernandez  
Grade 11: Victor Dias  
Grade 12: Ashley Rivera

#### EQUALITY: SCIENCE

Grade 9: Jocelyn Tapia  
Grade 10: Camille Howard  
Grade 11: Karina Sarango  
Grade 12: Princess Andrews

#### RESPECT: TECHNOLOGY/ CLUSTERS

Grade 9: Kobir Alicea  
Grade 10: Anaja Richardson  
Grade 11: Danshica Vijitharan  
Grade 12: Jacey Gutierrez

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# Principal Reyes Makes THS Rich

**By: Kevin Vega, a senior at Technology High School**

Edwin Reyes, the principal of Technology High School, has been in charge of THS for four years. Prior to his principalship, he was the vice principal for eight years.

Reyes was born and raised in Newark, N.J., and went to Doctor Horton Elementary School as a child. He later attended Science High School before it became Science Park High School.

Reyes did not intentionally set out to become a principal. He stated, "Initially when I first started [in education] no. I wanted to be an athletic director. So I went to school and received my masters of administration to become an athletic director. I didn't get an athletic director's job, so I became a department chairperson at East Side High School for one and a half years until I was promoted to vice principal at Technology High School...I figured I had something I could give to the children. I could build a school community. Things like that ultimately made me change my mind, and I decided it [being a principal] was something I wanted to do."

Nelson Tejada, Vice Principal of Climate and Culture at THS, feels Mr. Reyes is a great leader: "Great principal, very supportive. He allows us to have our own space to do our own thing. He

trusts our expertise and confident in our abilities. If needs to yolk our chain a little bit, he steers us in the right direction and in a very passionate way. He'll use his experiences since he's been here over 10 years. The direction and the mission of the school are what he wants to be the primary focus, but he allows us [vice prin-



**Edwin Reyes, Principal of Technology High School.**  
Source: Thelearningcounsel.com

principals] to stay within our own framework as long as we abide by the mission of the school--which is to put students first. He is the best principal I have ever worked for, and I have worked for four."

Tejada has great pride in the principal he serves, and he puts him at the top of his "favorite principal" list. Principal Reyes is respectful to his staff; he is a

loyal person who puts everyone before himself.

According to Reyes, one downside to being principal is saying goodbye to a class of students every year. "It's tough. I think it became harder when I became principal because you

build so

many relationships with students over time. There's a strong sense of pride seeing a group of students come in as freshmen when they were really young and you see them mature in front of your eyes. You really feel like a parent and share their feelings when watching the kids cross the stage. It's a very special moment, but it's always a tough

**"Bottom line, we love students here and we take care of them, not only academically but socially as well."**

—Edwin Reyes

one. The good thing about it is that some students come back and tell us about their families and jobs." Reyes truly cares for every single student. The parents' excitement equals his excitement. Even though the students aren't his, graduation is an emotional time for all.

Gilbert Irizarry has been a student at THS for 6 years, and he's had many experiences with Mr. Reyes. When asked how Mr. Reyes showed his ability to care for the students, he responded, "Every time we as a class would get in trouble, he would call everyone down for a meeting to explain to us how much he cared and wanted all of us to do well." Irizarry said Mr. Reyes did nothing but motivate the students to stay on the right track and succeed.

Reyes has a big heart. He loves his students and treats his staff with great respect. He's a leader worth following. Principal Reyes' had this final word: "Bottom line, we love students here and we take care of them, not only academically but socially as well."

## More AP Classes Needed at Technology High School

**By: Grace Valerius, staff writer and junior at THS**

Technology High School offers AP classes to better prepare students for college rigor and to give the opportunity to earn college credits in the process. Nationwide College Board studies reveal that the average college applicant to Tier 1 colleges has taken three AP courses during high school. Although having three AP classes is not ideal for some students, having one or two will still allow colleges to see that a student is taking full advantage of their high school education. THS currently offers AP Physics, AP Chemistry, AP Language, AP Literature, AP Computer Science, AP Biology, AP Spanish, and AP Calculus. In the past THS has offered AP Government and AP Psychology as well.

Mr. Tejada, VP of Climate and Culture at THS, stated, "Taking an AP course demonstrates that the students are taking the most challenging curriculum available at the school. Secondly, as an added by product, it allows colleges to compare 'apples to ap-



**L to R: Gonzalo Saavedera, Nedjie Jocelyn, Jennifer Boamah, and Katherine Quiles studying in their THS AP Lit. class taught by Mrs. Paruta.** Source: Princess Andrews.

ples' since AP courses are standardized nationwide and they tend to mirror the rigor of a college course. Moreover, AP performance is a key criteria in the merit scholarship decision making process that takes place at most colleges."

This is why it is important to secure more AP classes at THS. Students have different learning modes and strengths in different subjects. Having more AP clas-

ses in the Humanities as well as the STEM subjects will help meet the students' strengths and provide them with more rigorous opportunities.

For example, THS history teacher, Mr. Wagner, is certified by the College Board to teach several history and social science AP courses. Mr. Wagner articulated, "In Newark Public Schools I have taught

AP U.S. History with six classes, plus one as a student teacher. They were extremely challenging and demanding, but I loved it." In contrast, he stated, "There are over 20 possible AP courses that THS could offer, but the reality of the school year and class structure is that only about half of these would be feasible. So, we are left with about six or seven truly 'doable' AP curriculum to offer to THIS students."

Taking AP classes prepares students for success. THS should offer as many AP classes as possible to make students more college ready and for THS students to truly compete at the college level.

**"Having more AP classes in Humanities as well as STEM subjects will help meet the students' strengths and provide them with more rigorous opportunities."**

—Grace Valerius



**By: Princess Andrews, senior and journalist at THS**

Andrea Valerius has more enthusiasm than most teachers. Whether a student is in her fourth, sixth, or eighth period classes, she is always in a good mood. Mrs. Valerius is Technology High School's one and only dual English IV and Journalism teacher.

Journalism, as defined by the American Press Institute, is the "gathering, assessing, creating, and presenting news and information." Journalism essentially prepares news for the ears of the American public. The backbone of Journalism is English, the principal root of all things to be communicated. Hence, it makes sense why Valerius teaches both English and Journalism: to prepare young minds to properly and powerfully express themselves to the world.

Valerius was born and raised in Winter, Wis. a "very rural and country" environment. In fact, growing up her home town only had 317 people! It's a small world after all. Valerius' home town was predominantly Caucasian and Native American. The Wisconsin lifestyle is also very different from life on the East Coast. Valerius described it as "slower" and

## Teacher with a Heart of Gold

"agriculture focused." Towns are often small communities of bars and churches where people take part in activities such as hunting, sports, and fishing. When asked if she missed home, Valerius stated that she doesn't miss the culture but misses her family, since most of them are still living there.

Overall, Valerius, who has lived in Newark for over 20 years, enjoys the diversity and creative opportunities the city has to offer her children and family.

Valerius had the creativity of writing instilled in her young mind by expressing herself through poetry. She decided to pursue writing because it satisfied her curiosity. She earned her B.S. in English from Evangel University and completed over 110 credits to earn a Masters of Divinity from the Assemblies of God Theo-

logical Seminary in Springfield, Mo.

Since then, Valerius has been making an impact on students' lives. She has taught middle school and all levels of high school, but her seniors are special to her. According to Valerius, she likes to "challenge



**Mrs. Valerius, Lead Humanities Teacher and English/Journalism instructor at THS.**

freshmen" and "prepare them for the next level." Nevertheless, she enjoys the "intellectual level of seniors," even if they are "hard to motivate." Furthermore, Valerius teaches English and Journalism because "it hones writing skills and builds students' awareness of the world" around them—which is the best preparation for education and life.

Valerius fiercely believes that writing is a potent tool, claiming "writing has influence and power." She also believes that writing "can be used to make a difference in the world."

Valerius is so devoted to what teaching that she returned to teaching after a 12-year break! She raised four children, and then reentered the teaching workforce.

Kevin Vega, one of Valerius' 8th period journalism students expressed, "Ms. Valerius is one of my favorite teachers because she is so dedicated and wants to make sure her students perform well. She's on top of EVERYTHING. Plus, she's really cool."

Valerius' personality shines—even through students. There is no better teacher than one who is naturally zealous and committed to the classroom. Finally, Valerius encourages anyone who likes to write to not neglect the "power of writing." She believes students need good teachers to help learn the skill of writing, and who better to do that than Andrea Valerius herself?

**"English and Journalism...hone writing skills and build students' awareness of the world...it is the best preparation for education and life."**

**—Mrs. Valerius**

## Future Influenced by Family and Friends

**By: Micaela Fresia, THS senior**

Conner, Emily, and Rashif came to Technology High School on Jan. 18 to enlighten THS millennials on the lessons learned from bad influences and prison time. Mike Ritter, an officer who works for Project P.R.I.D.E., accompanied them. This is a community outreach program of the New Jersey Department of Corrections that spreads awareness of the prison system, promotes responsible citizenship, and reduces the appeal of drug and alcohol to teenagers. He stated, "These people are not actors, this is not scripted, it's not a play. In fact, by this afternoon they will be returning to their correctional facilities."

Connor spoke of things he wanted to change in his life. Coming to THS to speak to a crowd of juniors and seniors proved his will to do better. With tears in his eyes, Connor mentioned Francis, his best friend since middle school. They were drinking while intoxicated and had a car accident. He made it; Francis didn't. The doctor said, "You were wearing your seat-belt, and that saved your life. But Francis hit his chest and died on impact."

Connor realized partying wasn't worth the life of his best friend. "When I was presented with the opportunity to come out and speak, I immediately took it. It's my hope to affect at least one person and create the same kind of shock wave with a positive note."

Speaking about her struggle

with drugs and a reckless father, Emily then shared her story. She lived with her mother early in life, and her father was absent. Ignoring her mother, she moved in with her father when she was 16. Her father threw parties and provided drugs and alcohol. She eventually became a heroin addict. A friend turned on her, and in order to get less time, the friend wore a wire; it led to her third arrest.



**From left to right: Conner, Emily, Rashif, and Officer Mike Ritter. The inmates gave motivational speeches to THS students on Jan. 18, 2017. Source: Micaela Fresia**

She was put in a program that wanted her to speak about her feelings. "All I really got from selling drugs are the khakis I'm wearing."

Rashif, serving eight years in Mountain View Correctional Facility, took the lead speaking role in the THS caf. He reminded the crowd of the oppor-

tunities they have available to them now and to take advantage of them. Growing up in "the projects, the hood," he had to take care of his family

from a young age. Being thrown into adulthood before his childhood ended led him to associate with negative people. "People call them a gang. I them my brothers." He shared how the people that took care of him eventually turned their backs on him. His family was all he had in the end.

Rashif wanted the THS students to change the way they interpreted family and the people they trust. "My last conversation with my grandmother was 'promise me that when you get home, you'll do better,' and I promised. and that's why I'm here... ya'll have a chance with education. That a lot of us wish we had..." Rashif stepped down from the center of the cafeteria as the crowd cheered his message and the courage to choose a different path.

"Nobody made us do this. They didn't give us time off. We volunteered to come so you guys won't be in our position in a year," Conner stated.

These inmates are giving back to the community they left behind. Their parting message: family and friends influence life choices and, similar to a domino effect, they determine your future as well.

**"Family and friends influence life choices and, similar to a domino effect, they determine your future as well."**

**— Connor**



## Get in to Watch “Get Out”

By: Liliana Perez, senior THS

According to the critics of [www.rottentomatoes.com](http://www.rottentomatoes.com), “‘Get out’ is funny, scary, and thought-provoking. ‘Get Out’ seamlessly weaves its trenchant social critiques into a brilliantly effective and entertaining horror/comedy thrill ride.” Rotten Tomatoes rated “Get Out” a 100 percent. Actor Jordan Peele directed “Get Out,” and it hit theaters on February 24. According to Brent Lang, senior film and media editor of [www.variety.com](http://www.variety.com), “As the newcomers stumbled, ‘Get Out’ racked up \$33 million in just three days.” It dominated the weekend of its release. It topped “The Lego Batman,” “John Wick: Chapter Two,” and “The Great Wall.”

According to director Peele, the plot is intriguing. “Chris (Daniel Kaluuya) and his girlfriend, Rose (Allison Williams), have reached the meet-the-parents milestone of dating, so she invites him for a weekend getaway upstate with Missy and Dean. At first, Chris reads the family's overly accommodating behavior as nervous attempts to deal with their daughter's interracial relationship, but as the weekend progresses, a series of increasingly disturbing discoveries lead him to a truth that he never could have imagined.”

This film discusses realistic problems such as racism and discrimination. Since the main character, Daniel Kaluuya, has a white girlfriend, he was nervous because her parents didn't know he was an African American. Peele wanted to show what it was like being an African American in a Caucasian envi-

ronment. He shows different societal standards, how difficult it is to fit in, and how African Americans experience discrimination, especially from authority figures. The main actor, Kaluuya, stated, “This film is how racism feels. You get paranoid and you can't talk about it. You can't voice it. No one around you gets it, so you can't speak about it. And in the end it just comes out in a rage. Those are the times you have to bite your lip, when an officer's disrespecting you, in order to get by. In order to not be strip searched. In order to not be imprisoned.”



Main character Daniel Kaluuya in one scene from the film “Get Out” directed by Jordan Peele and released on Feb. 24, 2017. Source: <http://www.imdb.com>

ronment. He shows different societal standards, how difficult it is to fit in, and how African Americans experience discrimination, especially from authority figures.

The main actor, Kaluuya, stated, “This film is how racism feels. You get paranoid and you

As an African American, Kaluuya felt this topic hit close to home. He knows what it is like to be the outsider, the only black man at a party. He knows how hard the hand of racism hits him as an African American. When he gets discriminated against and thought less of

by authority figures, it becomes increasingly difficult to hold in his anger. He knows how real this situation is and how hard it is for African Americans to walk down the street without being judged, discriminated against, or bullied.

The goal any director is to want their movie to be a success monetarily. If their movie is a success and people enjoyed it, then they love the work as the director. According to Peele, “I'm very happy with it. This is my first time directing a film. It's just such a crazy moment the first time I saw the actual trailer for this movie. It is very tense and very scary. It is a very personal story. It very quickly veers off from anything autobiographical, but I think what interested me most about this movie was dealing with racism, really everything from the subtle racism that many people may not know exists on a day to day basis, or for a lot of people.”

The film “Get Out” has received positive feedback and will likely be considered a masterpiece. Although people believe that movies are just for entertainment, they are actually created to subject their audience to real life issues and the difficult, challenging ideas related to these issues.

## Season Finale of How I Met Your Mother

By: Gisselle Erazo, THS senior

The heart breaking and shocking conclusion of the popular American sitcom, “How I Met Your Mother,” has many fans in disbelief. The final episode, “Last Forever,” was aired March 31, 2014, and was bashed by millions of viewers due to the killing off of Tracy, a favorite character of the show.

The title of the series seems to be self explanatory and simplistic. Many had predictions and high expectations of a satisfying resolution to Ted's love life.

It was no surprise to fanatics that Ted winds up with Robin, a friend he was once in love with in the beginning of the show. However, an alternate ending was created for the fans who were displeased with the finale. Craig Thomas, an American Television Writer, said, “It was quickly announced that [there would be] an alternate ending for HIMYM... We love all #HIMYM fans and respect all opinions... so we want to share Plan B with you on the Series Box set.”

Although followers of the show were discouraged with the finale, the show taught viewers life lessons through a comic story of a group of friends trying to figure out their lives in Manhattan.

Katie Atkinson, one of the

many critics of the HIMYM finale and author of “How I Met Your Mother; Why the Finale Worked,” said, “If you took the title at face value, you're one of the (many, many, many) disap-

Josh Radnor, also known as Ted Mosby, had a lot to say about the criticism that was placed upon the writers. He said, “I thought the title of the show was always a bit of a fake

in our midseason as to what the endgame was,” Harris explained. “But once we were confident that they knew what they were doing, and we actually were told a few weeks before what the end game was, it justified the means. It justified all of the long play of our show.”

There was more to the final episode than what actually occurred, according to Harris. Many of the episodes foreshadowed what was going to happen. Inferences were made with the information already provided, and the death of Ted's wife was one of the many events foreshadowed.

The show's unsatisfactory ending not only influenced the writers to generate a new ending to the show, it left fans unsettled who wanted the hopeless romantic Ted Mosby to end up with Tracy.

Nonetheless, the show provided hours of entertainment for millions of fans who tuned in every week to enjoy the escapades of Ted Mosby and how he met his match.

how i  
met your  
mother



Source: [theodesseyonline.com](http://theodesseyonline.com).

pointed fans following Monday's series finale. Yes, Ted met the Mother, but their meeting ended up being beside the point.” After 9 years of Ted Mosby searching for “the one,” he finally meets Tracy McConnell who is the wife and mother to his kids--which he tells the story to. After only a moment of rapture, the show revealed future Tracy dying in her death bed. Just as soon as Ted found her, he lost her.

out. It was more of a hook to hang the thing on. Really it was more about these are the crazy adventures and these are the lessons I had to learn before I met your mother.” He did not interpret the shows title as literal.

The show was more of a series of lessons learned on his journey to find his soul mate. Neil Patrick Harris, the star of the show known as Barney, said, “Everyone was a little concerned

**“The show was... a series of lessons learned on his journey to find his soul mate.”**

—Gisselle Erazo



By: Nedjie Jocelyn, THS and Panther's Tale editor

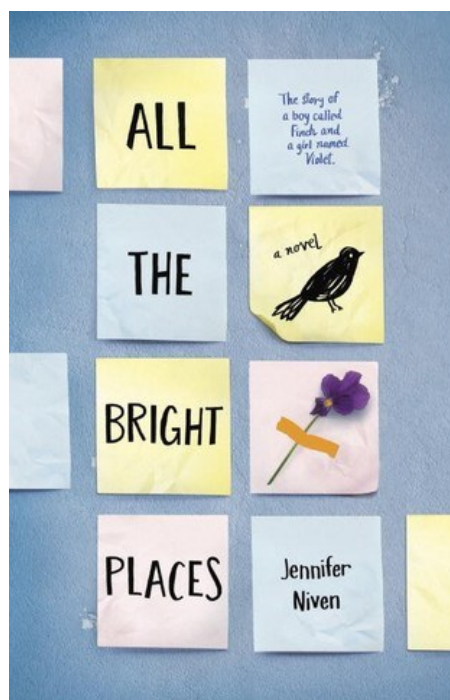
"All The Bright Places" by Jennifer Niven is an ardent novel that dives into the mind of mentally unstable teenagers. The two main characters, Finch and Violet, are on opposite sides of the spectrum when it comes to popularity. Finch is the least appealing, while Violet more desirable. However, they are both battling a depression that led them to the edge of the bell tower of their school. Coincidentally, they find each other there, and Finch is able to convince Violet not to commit suicide. Will she be able to do the same for him?

**"The sympathy and sentiment Niven was able to create between her readers and characters was substantial."**  
—Nedjie Jocelyn

## All the Bright Places

Though Finch saved Violet's life, she was not too keen on him. Their relationship started when they were assigned a geography project to explore their hometown of Indiana. Hence the title, "All the Bright Places." This unlikely couple launch into a journey to seek the unknown treasures of their state. Through all their mini adventures, they fall for each other—hard. Finch, who was able to win the heart of his "Ultraviolet" and give her a reason to live, seems to be unable to do the same. In the beginning of the novel Finch stated, "The thing I don't say is: I want to stay alive" (16).

Though the novel lacked maturity when handling the topics of suicide and mental illnesses, it brought great awareness to these subjects. Niven wrote in Finch's perspective with intense emotions, and his thoughts were well written and expressed.



Source: <http://images.gr-assets.com>.

This often makes it feel like she is romanticizing his issues, especially his relationship with Violet.

The sympathy and sentiment Niven was able to create be-

tween her readers and characters was substantial. There was a feeling of attachment towards the main characters, and it was easy to begin feeling sensitive toward them. However, most characters weren't so developed making the end feel unfinished. She had too many background characters to do them justice; the meaning they held or symbolized was not clear. Niven's should have developed them more. For example, Finch's sisters and father, the counselor, and the two bullies were important instruments in the plot, but they were not finely tuned.

Niven, famous for her coming of age novels, has proven why she is so admired. "All the Bright Places" is an astounding novel, and it is beautifully crafted. It won the "Goodreads Choice Awards Best Young Adult Fiction."

She has published another novel, "Holding Up the Universe," this past October which appears to be just as impressive as her first.

## The Anime Club

By: Irma Requena, THS senior

The Anime Club is an after-school program held in Ms. Midha's classroom that allows Technology High School students to express their creativity through the art of drawing.

Anime first started in the early 1900's, with its first use being commercials and simple cartoons.

THS students use anime as a form of entertainment where they are able to let their minds run with creativity.



Source: [www.pinterest.com](http://www.pinterest.com).

The idea for an Anime Club came from Trinity Pollard, the daughter of Ms. Pollard, Ms. Midha's substitute teacher. T. Pollard found a special connection with various artists she found among THS students, leading her to start the Anime Club. Ms. Pollard explained, "Trinity began the Anime Club after numerous students shared her passion for drawing."

The Anime Club is open to all THS students. Various seniors in this program have presented their work. Thai Rosario, Khalil Michelle, Justin Umana, and Tomas Matos, and T. Pollard, sophomore at North Star, are students taking part in the Anime Club.

Thai Rosario has been fundraising for the Anime Club by selling snacks. He had students pre-order empanadas, which he sold the following week. He made \$100 for the Anime Club. Ms. Pollard also sold cupcakes to raise money. So far they have generated \$200 for the Club.

The Anime Club involves simple activities where students draw cartoons, but it's more than that. In this Club students are able to express their creativity through various forms of artwork, such as animated drawings, realistic portraits, sketches, cartoons, and painting. This allows the members to express their emotions and to relax.

THS has many other interest clubs available to students. It's not too late to join to find a community that shares your interests.

## Building Community at THS

By: Brionna Freeman, THS senior

Technology High School has discovered a way to enhance the school and build culture and community. Tables and tall chairs now exist in the foyer and down the bridge at THS. Not only do they bring a splash of color, but they provide an opportunity for Panthers to spend time socializing and catching up on homework.

What do chairs and tables have to do with culture? According to THS Principal Edwin Reyes, "We want to provide students and staff with a comfortable environment to work in. Research shows that the creation of alternate work spaces enhances students and teacher moods. In some cases it provided people with inspiration to come up with ideas. It also provides opportunities for socialization and enhancing relationships."

THS is always looking for innovative ways to spur creativity and build culture. For example, the colors of the chairs are lime green and blue. The staff wanted to add a splash of color to the school and move away from the traditional grey color scheme. After doing researching and visiting schools, THS borrowed this idea, and it has

turned out to be a success.

These tables and chairs are only a step in the right direction. The bigger picture is how students would adapt to their presence. Students now sit at the tables and chairs to make up tests, complete assignments, or spend time socializing. Nakimah Fuller, a senior at THS, said, "It was a smart decision for the students. Everybody knows that students love being in the hallway, so why not have a place to sit? The students with free periods can use it."



L to R: THS seniors, Crystal Byer, Cynthia Victor, and Avion Saunders, make use of the hallway tables and chairs at THS. Source: Mrs. V.

Not only do the students love them, staff and visitors do as well. Teachers can work on lesson plans or spend time talking to students. Visitors can wait for meetings or plan for presentations.

Increasing the culture at THS is a continual focus of the administration. A small decision like placing tables and chairs in the hallways has had big impact on the student lifestyle and comfort. Students are now socializing with each other more and getting more school work done.

Take advantage of this resource and become part of the culture that makes a difference at THS.



By: Al-Wali Mckie, THS senior

## Super Bowl LI: One for the Books

Matt Ryan and Tom Brady played their hearts out Sunday, Feb. 5, at the NRG Stadium in Houston, Texas, during Super Bowl 51. With four quarters and one overtime, the New England Patriots swooped in and defeated the Atlanta Falcons. It was an incredible game, and the players who should be thanked are Brady and Ryan.

Being a well-developed quarterback is about being a leader. They have to take initiative and make sure that their team is ready. Brady, the New England Patriots quarterback, practices, studies film, and holds meetings with the other quarterbacks. In addition, he brings along offensive coordinator, Josh McDaniels, and coach, Bill Belichick.

Brady told Henry McKenna, writer for Patriots wire, “You try to eliminate as many things you don’t need to do as possible to focus on what you’ve done every week the entire season.” Brady’s method is clever. It shows him what he needs to work on and what he should keep doing.

Brady displayed his athletic AND cognitive skills during Super Bowl 51. In the first half, Brady was tackled five times and had two turnovers. It wasn’t until the second half when Brady came out guns blazing that sent the game into overtime. The Patriots made history that night, having the biggest comeback in Super Bowl history—31 points.

Ryan, the Atlanta Falcons quar-

terback, uses a TV-sized device called NeuroTracker to improve his performance. He says it has helped him sharpen his cognitive skills. Terry Collins, an editor for Cnet.com, reported, “Ryan puts on a pair of 3D glasses at least three times a week and attempts to follow eight yellow spheres that move frantically across a

Ryan’s technique is very different from Brady’s, but it works just as well. He stays focused and doesn’t let antics take him off track. The guy must be doing something right; he beat out Brady for 2016-2017 NFL’s Most Valuable Player award.

As a youngster, Brady would go to football games with his par-



**Matt Ryan (L) congratulates Tom Brady® on his 34 to 28 win after the two went head to head at the NRG Stadium at the 51 Super Bowl, Sunday, Feb. 5. Source: The Sun**

screen. As he tries to keep tabs on them, NeuroTracker requires him to simultaneously concentrate on a tiny green dot in the middle of the screen. The goal is improved peripheral vision.”

ents. He was crazy about the 49ers. One of his earliest childhood memories was the 1981 NFC Championship Game between the 49ers and Dallas Cowboys. He cried for the entire first

half because his mom and dad refused to buy him an oversized foam #1 hand. His favorite player was Joe Montana, quarterback for the 49ers. JockBio editors, wrote, “When Montana found Dwight Clark in the back of the end zone to pull off an incredible comeback, the stadium exploded. That play sent San Francisco to its first Super Bowl and permanently shifted the balance of power in pro football. It also got Brady thinking it would be pretty cool to be a pro quarterback someday.” Who would have predicted that Brady would have a career greater than his childhood idol?

Ryan, however, was not even a quarterback in his Pop Warner days. Although he had a strong, accurate arm, he was mostly used as a tight end and safety. He didn’t have particularly good foot speed, but he could read where a play was going in an instant. This skill ultimately made him a natural as a quarterback.

Brady and Ryan are both amazing leaders and quarterbacks who played an amazing game, but each one’s fate all came down to an overtime coin toss. The final score was 34 to 28 making it Brady’s fifth Super Bowl win.

The Patriots made history that night, having the biggest comeback in Super Bowl history—31 points.  
—Al Wali Mckie

## Belichick—the Greatest to Lift the Lombardi Trophy

By: Niruban Bahetharan, senior at Technology High School

On Feb. 5, 2017, in Houston, Texas, Bill Belichick won his fifth Super Bowl with the Patriots to be considered one of the best coaches of all time. As a coach he plays a critical role in making sure the team plays to their maximum potential. He is the commander in chief of this team. He has been coaching the Patriots since 2000. He has worked closely with Tom Brady to win five Super Bowl rings. Belichick brought great change and enhancement to the Patriots team, and he made the Patriots a team to watch.

Belichick has been coaching for a large portion of his life. He has a passion to coach, but it wasn’t easy. On Biography.com the editors stated, “Belichick got his own start in coaching in 1975 when he took a job with the Baltimore Colts.”

Bilichick started as an assistant coach with the Colts which only paid \$25 a week in 1975. Later on he moved up to defensive coordinator for the New York Giants and was praised as one of the brightest minds in the game, according to biography.com. In 2000 he became the head coach of the New England Patriots, and he has been there ever since doing a phenomenal job set-



**Belichick holds up the Lombardi Trophy after his fifth win with the Patriots on Feb. 5, 2017 in Houston, Texas. Source: <http://espnational.suntimes.com>.**

ting records for the Patriots.

Even though he was not in full command of the Giants team, he still stood out and showed excellence. When he did become a head coach, his full potential was evident.

This past season the team only suffered two losses—even with Brady out the first four games—and won Super Bowl 51.

The Super Bowl is one of the NFL’s greatest games—and Bilichick is very familiar with it.

Jerry Izenberg, a writer for The Star-Ledger, reminded the world that Belichick was making his seventh Super Bowl appearance as a head coach with his win/loss record 5-2.

On Feb. 5, 2017, at NRG stadium, Bill Belichick made history by winning his fifth Super Bowl with the Patriots. “On a football team, it’s not strength of the individual players, but it is the strength of the unit and how they all function together” that makes them successful.

### Patriot’s Record Under Bilichick

Year	Team	W	L
2000	Patriots	5	11
2001	Patriots	11	5
2002	Patriots	9	7
2003	Patriots	14	2
2004	Patriots	14	2
2005	Patriots	10	6
2006	Patriots	12	4
2007	Patriots	16	0
2008	Patriots	11	5
2009	Patriots	10	6
2010	Patriots	14	2
2011	Patriots	13	3
2012	Patriots	12	4
2013	Patriots	12	4
2014	Patriots	12	4
2015	Patriots	12	4
2016	Patriots	14	2

Source: <http://www.pro-football-reference.com>.



# First Ever National Honor Society and Music Collab!



Technology High School students are inducted into the NHS on Feb. 2, in the THS auditorium. Source: Mrs. V.

**By: Niruban Bahetharan, senior at THS**

The National Honor Society (NHS) and the Technology High School Music Department collaborated to create a memorable night on Feb. 2, 2017, to honor the hard work of these students.

The NHS holds a yearly induction ceremony to recognize new members. They were required to have at least a 3.5 cumulative GPA and demonstrate insight on their membership application. All new members are also expected to contribute to society.

The Music Department showcased their talent and celebrated their hard work. These are two of the biggest organizations at THS; therefore, it takes great responsibility to run them efficiently to create a product.

Michael Iovino, the NHS advisor and history teacher at THS, said, "Currently, I am the chapter advisor, and have been for close to ten years now. However, the officers are the true leaders of the local organization. Each group of officers steer their

chapter in a personal manner. Our current chairperson is Niruban Bahetharan. He is co-chaired by Gonzalo Saavedera, Viridiana Villasenor, and Joselyn Jaramillo. In turn they have junior shadow-officers: Amy-Ann Edziah, Chantaly Villalona, Yaa Obeng, Dora Calva and Oliver Lopez, who will begin transitioning to leadership next year."

Even though Mr. Iovino is the adult in charge of the NHS, the president plays the key role. The leaders are responsible for finding activities for the NHS to sponsor and hold meetings to explain future activities, such as going to a soup kitchen to participating in the New York Aids Walk.

In regards to the Music Department, Christopher Montague, the Music Department Director, stated, "I am in charge of/director of the band and chorus. Student leaders

are Michael Peralta and Andy Cabrera for the band, and Viridiana Villasenor for the chorus." Cabrera and Villasenor are both dedicated individuals. They never miss any practices and are role models to the other students. They use their own time for the betterment of their groups. Their hard work never fails to pay off.

The audience was a mix of parents, friends, and current NHS members. Mariela Ramos, an NHS member since 2016,

said, "The current members were required to come that night because it was a sign of support for the new members to have role models to look up to after officially joining."

The NHS is all about bringing a community together, so the old members came to support the new members being inducted. The old members are upperclassmen in high

standings in terms of academics and community involvement.

The members of the band have various types of musical backgrounds. Some are new to the art of music while others have more experience. For example, Andy Cabrera, the student band leader, said, "I began to play the saxophone 6 years ago, and I learned from my mentor Mr. Hynes, who has 40 years of experience on the saxophone."

Cabrera has demonstrated excellence in playing the saxophone. Perfection is a product of practice. He invested much of his time to learn to play as well as he does today. Since he has mastered the saxophone already, he can now help develop the novice saxophone players.

The NHS and music department had a wonderful night to show the excellence possessed by these students. No matter if it is academic achievement or musical accomplishments, the talent will reap its own reward.

**"No matter if it is academic achievement or musical accomplishments, the talent will reap its own reward."**

**—Niruban Bahetharan**



Mr. Montague joins the THS band in their auditorium for a celebration of hard work and talent on Feb. 2. Source: Mrs. V.



Senior Student Leader, Viridiana Villasenor (far L), leads the THS choir in a night of song and dance on Feb. 2. Source: Mrs. V.



# One Team—One Goal



**L to R: Shanae Brooks, Daahnasia Knighton, Coach Lanza El-Sherbini, Karina Gonzales, and Brittany Brown celebrate Senior Night at their last THS home game. Source: Mrs. D.**

**By: Janari Newsome, THS sophomore**

One team. One dream. One goal. One passion. This basketball season for the Panther girls was filled with ups and downs, but through it all, they stuck together. They started the season with a three-game winning streak and tried to hold on to it throughout the season. However, they were not successful. In order to have a strong team, they have to keep their heads up.

The Lady Panthers are looking for improvement next year, and with the team still young, they achieve this goal. Julia Ferreira, sophomore and shooting guard at Technology High School, said, “We need more of a team bond

throughout the whole season and that will further extend to greatness on the court and better communication and trust.”

A team bond is the most important factor to having a successful team. Without this, nothing goes right. Everyone on a team should get along in order to have a good outcome on the court. If trust is distributed to teammates off the court, it’ll be easier to trust them on the court.

The Lady Panthers started out the season with 12 players, but they lost three before the season ended. Sanaa Rozier, sophomore and point guard at THS said, “Although our season wasn’t the best, I still appreciate my coaching staff and team-

mates, and I’m hoping for a better season next year.”

A team needs confidence, and they need to work together until the end. Winning isn’t everything, but learning is. Even though no one wants to lose, losing is a test to see how strong of a team you are.

The 2016-17 Tech girl’s basketball team had four seniors graduating, and this will have a strong impact on the team. Victoria Lanza El-Sherbini, coach of the Lady Panthers, said, “They have strong leadership, and they have been part of the program since I began coaching for Technology High School.”

Even though losing seniors will be hard, others will come behind to lead the way. The coaching staff has been with these girls for four years. But if they have done their jobs, they’ve left a great example for the remaining teammates to fol-

low.

No matter how high the number is on the loss side of the column, a team is still a family. Janari Newsome, sophomore at THS, stated, “This team has been through a lot this year, and I can honestly say I’ll miss everyone. Without my team and my coaches, I wouldn’t put up the numbers I did, so I’m thankful for them all, and I’m looking forward to next season.”

The Lady Panthers finished the season with 5 wins and 16 loses. Although they didn’t have a strong record, they managed to keep working hard.

Technology Lady Panther aren’t just a team, they’re a family. The seniors passed down great leadership and ambition to the rest of the team, and it will surely be shown next year on and off the court.



**L to R: Coach Lanza El-Sherbini, Brittany Brown, Shanae Brooks, Daahnasia Knighton, and Karina Gonzales listen to the referee share game rules at their last THS home game. Source: Mrs. D.**

## THS Softball Inspires Young Women

**By: Shanae Brooks, THS senior**

In the spring of 2017, the Technology High School softball team began an amazing season at Branch Brook Park at the Lake Street fields. This sport allows players and coaches to come together to build new relationships, stay healthy, and to keep their bodies fit--while having fun and learning from each other.

Softball has inspired and influenced many young women. Brittany Brown, a senior at THS stated, “I first started playing softball because I liked watching baseball, so I wanted to play. Then as time went on, I liked the chemistry and the environment with the team and Lanza and Ms. D. I enjoyed the sport and the ‘behind the scenes’ stuff too.” Brown loves the mechanisms of the game and the friendships she has built.

Since softball is also a mental sport, it can help improve stamina. Coach Lanza El-Sherbini, THS athletic director and softball coach, stated, “Softball encour-

ages a healthy lifestyle. It also promotes self esteem, goal setting, teamwork, time management skills, and the ability to deal with adversity.” Lanza has played softball since she was young. Since the sport has impacted her life, she wanted to share this with the girls and help them by encouraging their lives.

Not only is this sport fun, it helps students develop skills and achieve things they



**Back L to R:** Odalys Contreras, Angelica Rivera, Jocelyn Romero, Shanae Brooks, Brittany Brown, Luisa Guzman, Perla Tineo-Matos, Karina Gonzalez, Paulina Lugo. **Middle L to R:** Karine Marculino, Stephany Rodrigues, Chantaly Villalona, Breanna Brito, Jazzlene Pontier, Stephanie Alvarez, Dahnaasia Knighton. **Front L to R:** Destiny Castro, Daniela Ramirez. **Head Coach:** Victoria Lanza El-Sherbini, **Asst. Coach:** Jayme Alves-Filho, **Volunteer Coach:** Kristin Daugherty Giovanonne. **\*\*Missing:** Vanessa Aguilar, Nicole Krenz, Veronica Torres, and Eden Vivanco. **Source:** Mrs. D.-Giovanonne.

never thought possible. Dahnaasia Knighton, a senior at THS, won SEC conference player of the year in 2016. She stated, “It was surreal. I couldn’t believe I won, first of all, but then when it was settled, I was extremely excited. Winning conference player showed me where hard work, dedication, and commitment can take you and where it took me.

Last year was my best season of softball and winning SEC conference player of the year just made me even more proud of my performance as

a player as well as a member of our THS’s softball team.”

Last, with every sport becomes responsibility, goal setting, patience, and leadership. Karina Gonzalez, another senior at THS, became captain of the softball team her junior year. When Gonzalez discovered she was captain, she was overwhelmed, yet nervous. She was astonished and honored to be captain, but she knew it would be a responsibility and a lot of work since it’s challenging to be the person the whole team looks up to.

Gonzalez stated, “I was very excited! Being captain is a huge responsibility, but I know Coach Lanza would not have picked me to be captain if she didn’t think I was well prepared to lead our team.”

In conclusion, softball is an intense, yet fun sport. It teaches students athletic as well as social skills. It’s lasting value can be seen in the lives of the girls that put in hours of dedication to win on and off the field.



# Never a Good Time to Say Goodbye

**By: Yasmine Johnson, THS senior**

Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2017, the senior cheerleaders shouted their hearts out at Rafael Hernandez elementary school in Newark, N.J. Since this was the seniors' last game, they left the crowd with a memorable halftime performance. Most of the seniors have been cheering since their sophomore year which is the same year Susana Abreu, THS cheer coach, joined the team.

What's the purpose of being a cheerleader? Yasmine Johnson, senior at THS, stated, "Being a cheerleader allows you to develop trust, be determined, be persistent, and to step out of your comfort zone."

This sport prepares students to be tomorrow's leaders, who through the development of athletic skills, leadership, and teamwork will be vital members of the community.

Senior Alliyah Pimentel expressed, "Sophomore year I wanted to be the manager, but the cheerleaders convinced me to

join. I'm glad I did. The cheerleaders were amazing." These girls never wanted to have a "boot camp" setting, so they always made sure they had fun. Whenever the ladies learned new cheers, they would enjoy the beats and breaking out into dance or song. Many cheerleaders have thought the sport was-

n't for them, but they ended up happily participating in cheerleading.

Johnson further stated, "I began cheering my 8th grade year and during my freshman year, Mrs. Paurta, who was the coach, wrote on a Christmas card 'Merry Christmas. Captain in training :).' During my

sophomore year I took the captain position, and I have enjoyed every moment." While many students came in shy, Johnson worked with them, and by the end of the season, they developed confidence.

Cheerleading coach, Susana Abreu, stated, "It was very enjoyable seeing the girls grow up into caring individuals. No matter who stepped foot on the team, the girls always made sure they welcomed and treated everyone the same. Although this is my final year coaching, these girls made my last year my best and always kept a smile on my face."

The senior cheerleaders ended out their seasons giving back. The team has adopted Panthers and donated items needed to an autism class at Benjamin Franklin elementary, located in Newark, N.J.

Although these girls may end their cheering journey in high school, the skills obtained will stick with them forever.



**Senior cheerleaders from L to R: Yasmine Johnson, Alliyah Pimentel, Sy'Ann, Santiago, Jazlyn Hardy, and Cynthia Victor. Source: Yasmine Johnson.**

**By: Liliana Ventura, sophomore at THS**

Technology High School students use different strategies to maintain their grades and earn college scholarships. Not only will good grades open the door to opportunities, but they will also help students be more confident.

Samantha Lindsay, writer for Prep Scholar, stated, "Often, the key to success is knowing when to ask for help, and high school classes are no exception. If you don't understand a concept, don't wait until you've already bombed a test to get help." When a student is confused about her work, the first thing she should do is ask for help. Laura Oyuela, sophomore at THS, explained, "Stay updated on your grades in every class and ask teachers what you can do to improve your grades." Students should never be scared to ask the teachers for help when they don't understand something. Teachers are here to help students get good grades.

The first obstacle to overcome when working for good grades is procrastination. KStone, author of "Overcome Procrastination Once and For All," stated, "...Delete or delegate from your To-Do List those things that don't relate to your top 3-5 goals...Link tasks you don't like to your goals, and...Plan the whole day out." These tips will help overcome procrastination.

THS Sophomore Christie Ortega, mentioned, "You have to think about the effects of procrastination. Waiting too long can possibly result in getting bad grades." Procrastination can also lead to laziness. When students are lazy, they don't want to complete their work.

Other challenges students face when trying to maintain good grades are not understanding concepts taught in classes, or not having enough time to complete classwork. These challenges can produce stress for the students. Authors Hunter Maats and Katie O'Brien from the Princeton Review website, stated, "...so few students get great grades...not be-

them. Taking time outs and getting enough sleep are some ways to reduce stress. If students lower their stress levels, it will help them get good grades.

Another way to maintain a solid GPA is to take honors or AP classes. These classes can make or break a student's GPA. However, Samantha Lindsay, writer for Prep Scholar, stated, "If your school

## Highway to Success

you can get good grades. Also, taking AP classes increases your GPA depending on how well you do in that class." When taking an AP class, it's always good to understand the student's work limitations and how hard the course is.

Completing homework is another topic related to student success. On the EzKIDz website, editors stated, "Do your homework immediately after school. Time management is essential. If you're given an assignment that's due next week, don't procrastinate; get started within a few days of receiving the assignment. The more time you have, the less you'll stress." Oyuela explained, "For the most

THS has a retake policy that most students use. With this retake policy, the student can retake an assignment or quiz if they meet the criteria. Using the retake policy, students are able to correct their mistakes and possibly get a better grade when they retake the assignment or quiz. Students should also use the retake policy to improve their grades. Oyuela stated, "I try not to use the retake policy or else it will make me lazy and make me not put in all of my effort the first time. The retake policy is good because it helps you get your GPA where you want it. But at the same time, it's not preparing us for the future because retakes don't exist in the real world."

Getting strong grades helps students learn more, improve their academic skills, and master key concepts and, hopefully, earn college scholarships. This is the highway to success. Those who overcome the obstacles and complete the journey will reach their academic and life goals.



**L to R: Christie Oretga, Liliana Perez, Cassandra Maldonado, and Laura Oyuela work for success in Mrs. Valerius' Journalism class at THS. Source: Mrs. V.**

cause they aren't willing to be more stressed; it's because being stressed prevents you from reaching your academic best." When students are stressed, the last thing they want to do is their classwork. Liliana Perez, senior at THS, said, "The hardest thing students face when trying to maintain their grades is the amount of work they receive from each teacher." If teachers give too many assignments, it is hard for students to complete

uses weighted GPA and you're in some AP or Honors classes where less than perfect grades will translate into impressive GPAs, you should focus your efforts on raising your grades in those classes." If those courses are weighed and will help you get a strong GPA, then the students should put more effort in them.

Oyuela, a sophomore at THS, said, "You have to find people that are as motivated as you so



# Senior Survey Yields Surprising Results

By: Awilda Gonzalez, THS senior

The Technology High School senior class is full of diversity, not only when it comes to ethnicity, but also in their interests. Seniors were surveyed about their school and social media habits. Ninety seven students took the survey, and the results were surprising.

When asked what they planned to do after high school, 83.5 percent said they will attend college. In the article "Fewer U.S Graduates Opt for college after High School," by Floyd Norris, a New York Times writer, he stated, "Last October, just 65.9 percent of people who had graduated from high school the previous spring had enrolled in college, the Bureau of Labor Statistics said this week." Clearly, THS has a higher percentage of students who plan on attending college after graduation, as opposed to the 65.9 national average.

Many high schools hold a 10-year reunion for graduating classes so that they can reunite and reconnect. According to the article "Class Reunion Statistics," by the editors at grouptravel.org, "On average about 20% to 30%

of your graduating class will attend your class reunion." Out of the 97 seniors who took the survey, 87.2 percent said they would attend a 10-year high school reunion. This data is much greater than the national average. However, when asked how many students would revisit the school after graduation, only 53.6 percent said they would.

Listening to music is part of every teenagers life. Nevertheless, just like other areas in life, everyone has specific preferences. In the article, "The Most Popular Music Genres in America," posted on, Rap Rehab, it stated, "Neilson Music, compiled sales of CD's, vinyl, digital downloads, and streaming to find out the most popular music in America. Rock turned out to be the most listened to genre with a 30 percent average." R&B/ Hip Hop was not far behind with 22 percent.

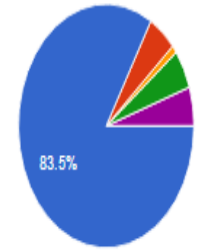
However, when it came down to the most popular music genre at THS, "I listen to everything," was the top contender with 40.2 percent, followed by rap at 25.8 percent.

Social media is also a prevalent aspect of every teenager's life. Today, most students have Snapchat, Twitter, Instagram, or Facebook. The most-used app in the THS senior class turned out to be Snapchat. The popular application surpassed every other app with an astounding 56.7 percent. According to statista.com, Snapchat is also the most popular social media app used by teenagers and young adults. Whether the students have it installed for the filters or the quick pictures, Snapchat is an app that will keep them entertained.

In conclusion, after seeing the results of the survey, it is safe to say that although THS is full of diversity, many students share the same priorities. After high school, most students plan on attending college and a little over half stated that they would come back and visit. When it came down to music, most people listen to all genres. In terms of social media Snapchat won by a long shot.

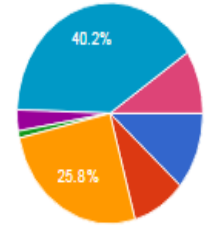
This survey yielded interesting results that reflect the interests of a diverse population.

What do you plan on doing after high school?



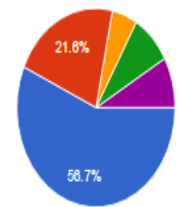
Attending college	81	83.5%
Joining the Military	5	5.2%
Looking for a job right away	1	1%
I have no idea	5	5.2%
Other	5	5.2%

What music genre do you listen to most?



Rock	11	11.3%
Pop	9	9.3%
Rap	25	25.8%
Country	1	1%
Other	3	3.1%
I listen to everything	39	40.2%
Other	9	9.3%

What social media application do you use most?



Snapchat	55	56.7%
Instagram	21	21.6%
Facebook	5	5.2%
Twitter	8	8.2%
Other	8	8.2%

## The Meme Team: Journalism Club Staff



Source: <http://onsizzle.com>



Source: <https://i.imgur.com/>

Me: My stomach hurts

Mom: Yea, cause you always on that phone



Source: [hotline.bling](http://hotline.bling)



Source: [knowyourmem.com](http://knowyourmem.com)

**Grace Valerius:** "Journalism club is the best! The time spent with Mrs. Valerius is very beneficial. She teaches us how to become better writers, not only in the Club articles, but in giving us strategies that can be transferred into all other school writings."

**Princess Andrews:** "I'd like to thank the Universe for bringing me to Journalism. I've never been in a Club where it feels like you're relaxing and working hard at the same time!"

**Faith Valerius:** "Our time in Journalism is productive and fun. Even though it is only 30 minutes, we learn a lot."

**Gil DaSilva:** "Journalism has made me enjoy writing as a whole. It taught me how to write beyond the boundaries of fiction and taught me to be informative with my writing. The environment of this group is homey, and I enjoy being here."



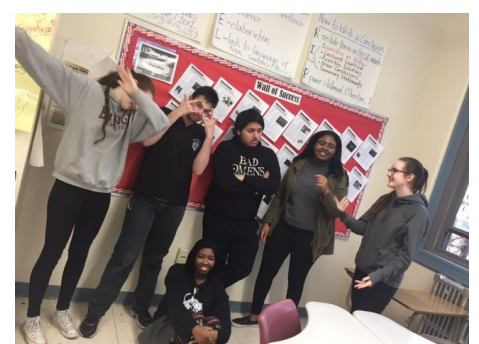
Me: \*Has 400 things to do\* Also me: Source: <http://ifunny.co>.



Source: [knowyourmeme.com](http://knowyourmeme.com)

**Nedjie Jocelyn:** "Everyone I met in Journalism Club is easy to interact with, and they have made the experience even better."

**Kevin Vega:** "Journalism Club has helped me enhance my social skills because in order to create my articles, I had to interview people and meet them one-on-one. Now I never feel nervous when speaking to someone whom I don't normally talk to."



**L to R:** Grace Valerius, Gil DaSilva, Kevin Vega, Nedjie Jocelyn, Faith Valerius, Princess Andrews. Missing: Jackson Guaman. Source: Mrs. V.



# Puzzle Challenge

p l s o c i a l e e s e m e d  
 m e i i a m s c m n n b d v y  
 g u r n z n a i q r a u g x y  
 u p s i k p t t j e p t a m m  
 h e n i s e d e e t c u y u w  
 j f h y c c d v k t h o c a b  
 o k m a h a o i z i a y t z r  
 f o f k d e l p n w t t n e q  
 h g v w w r y l e t p e d o e  
 k g v o l b a s y a t n x x o  
 h c w b o g s m d f i v i z n  
 k e m r x i x f l t e a r q a  
 k u n b k d x i k b j y j f c  
 t j d i w r x k o o b e c a f  
 l y v x v r v m a j u q v e t

- Facebook
- Facetime
- Linkedin
- Musically
- Myspace
- Netflix
- Oovoo
- Periscope
- Snapchat
- Tinder
- Tumblr
- Twitter
- Vine
- Wattpad
- Youtube

Topic of Puzzle: \_\_\_\_\_

Created by Gil DaSilva, staff writer and THS senior

**Another Moon**  
 I frown upon him,  
 yet he loves me still.  
 I give him curses,  
 yet he gives me love  
 The more I hate, the more he  
 follows me.

Four happy days bring in  
 he hath my love,  
 So will I grow, so live,  
 so die, my lord.

Full of vexation come I with  
 complaint  
 by Cupid's strongest bow  
 and his best  
 gold-tipped arrow,  
 by the Goddess of Love's  
 innocent doves  
 endure the livery

Four days will quickly steep  
 themselves in night.  
 Four nights will quickly  
 dream away the time.  
 Won thy love doing thee  
 injuries.

If then true lovers have been  
 ever crossed,  
 It stands as an edict in  
 destiny.  
 There will I stay for thee on  
 another moon.  
 —Ashley Perez  
 THS Senior

**Sweet Lady**  
 Sweet Lady  
 With eyes of true power  
 And true beauty  
 My queen  
 thy beloved  
 I can spend four days or eternity  
 with you  
 And be happy  
 You're my heaven composed of  
 love  
 And passion  
 Now my love!  
 May I ask?  
 Will you marry me?

—Andrik Mera  
 THS Senior

**Cupid's Strongest Bow**  
 I swear to thee by  
 Cupid's strongest bow  
 Keep my promise, love  
 I am beloved of our beauteous love  
 we share  
 If then true lovers  
 have been ever crossed,  
 It stands as an edict in destiny

Set your heart at rest  
 I know your desires  
 And never question it,  
 My mind will lose it  
 As due to love  
 as thoughts and dreams  
 —Kimberly Mercado, THS Senior

# Jokes

**Q:** Why can't you trust an atom?

**A:** They make up everything

**Q:** What do you say when you are comfort-  
ing a grammar nazi?

**A:** There, Their, They're

**Q:** What's the worst thing you're likely to  
find in the school cafeteria?

**A:** The food!

**Q:** Why did the clock in the cafeteria run  
slow?

**A:** It always went back four seconds.

**Q:** What do you call friends who love math?

**A:** Algebros

**Q:** What happens to a frog's car when it  
breaks down?

**A:** It gets toad away.

# The Panther's Tale

Technology High School 187 Broadway, Newark, NJ 07104  
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## Mission Statement

- To publish news, information, and opinion articles for and about student, faculty, and administration activities, interests, and policies.
- To maintain high ethical standards with regard to fairness, personal and legal rights, responsibilities, and accuracy.
- To provide a forum for free and responsible expression of student opinion and present well-balanced, locally researched coverage of issues of broader student interest.
- To strive for excellence in the technical aspects of writing, including grammar, spelling, clarity, and precision.
- To welcome diversity and to increase the scope and depth of our coverage; to heighten mutual understanding in the school.

## Special Thanks

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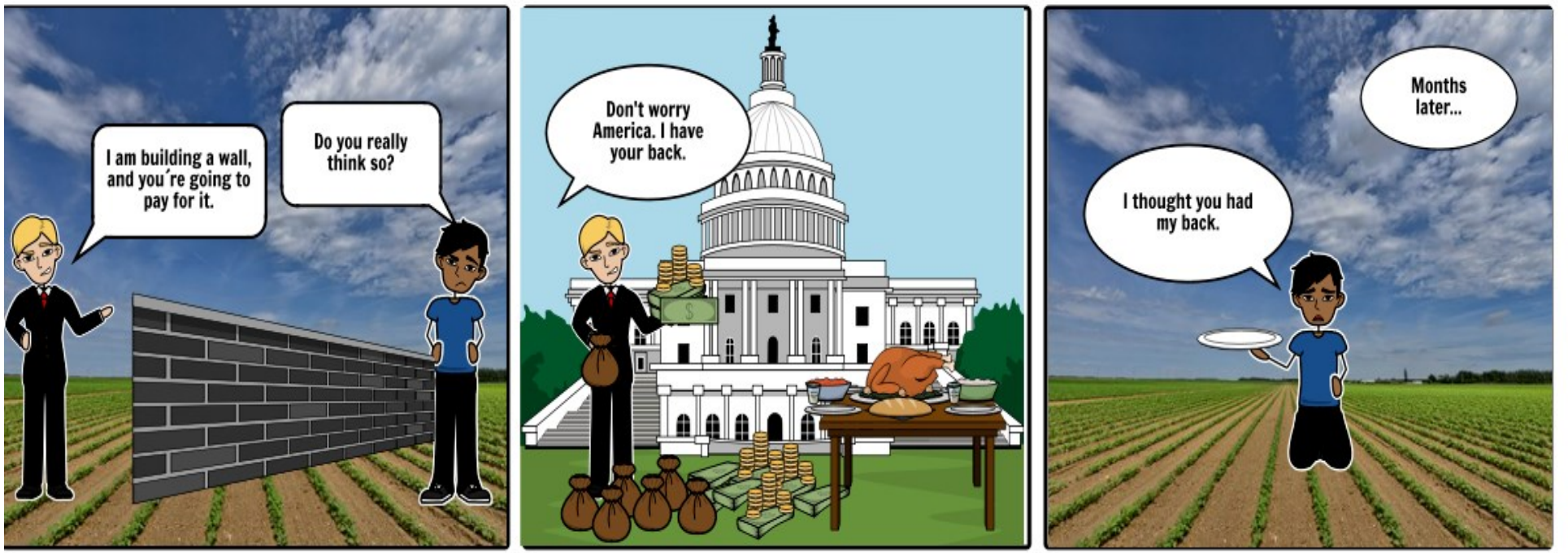
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Political Cartoon, created by Sandra Santiago, THS senior

### Take a Good Look

Take a look around you...  
 what do you see?  
 Momma sittin' here cryin' cause  
 "daddy" was on TV  
 A black man with his hands up  
 still shot by police  
 These "niggers" were born to  
 die  
 It's like this thing is a sickening  
 disease...

Take a look around you...  
 what do you see?  
 An honest man beggin' for his  
 life on his knees  
 It's a cold world where death is  
 the golden key  
 And when we see them officers,  
 the only thing we do is flee

Take a look around you...  
 what do you see?  
 Ima tell you, that these weren't  
 the only three  
 but Michael, Tamir, and Tony  
 were all teens  
 and they had their life taken  
 'cause some stupid little things

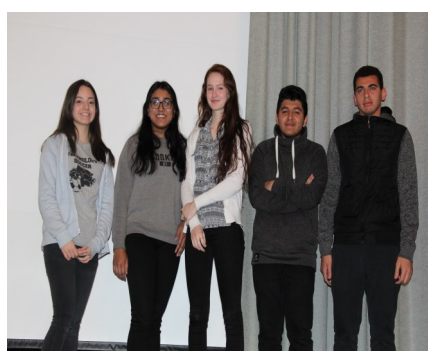
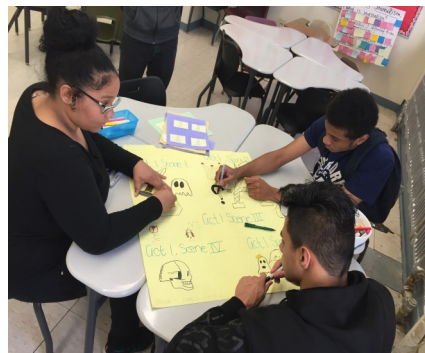
So I say,  
 Take a look around you...  
 do you question what you see??  
 How come all of this seems to  
 be a big ole' dream?  
 How come we protest,  
 for only about a week?  
 Then act like everything's  
 gonna' turn into a new routine

If ya'll take a look around you  
 ...ya'll soon gone' start to see  
 That these small guns are  
 snatchin' away big dreams  
 Then the whole public's turnin'  
 into something real mean  
 And this creates violence which  
 was actually never meant to  
 be...

It seems...our justice is the  
 actual criminals of scenes  
 And they somehow are forgiven  
 by all the judicial teams  
 We have to find a way to stop  
 this, by all means  
 Because soon, you won't be able  
 to tell me what you see...

By Avion Saunders, THS senior

## THS Photo Gallery



### Veterans Are Less Than

America is the land of the free  
 and the home of the brave  
 But when the army is brought  
 up you stray away  
 You cowards run in the opposite  
 direction  
 When those who join fight  
 to keep us free from communist  
 beliefs and oppression

Veterans are less than those who  
 sit at home  
 How does that make sense?  
 I would say "No!"  
 Veterans are less than those who  
 do nothing but have a lot to say  
 How does that make sense?  
 I would say "Nay!"

Veterans are very vulnerable  
 They live on the streets because  
 no ones cares to give them a  
 home  
 They risk their lives and die  
 so we can live in safety  
 But when they come back they  
 do not live normally  
 It is a struggle to find shelter  
 and food—they need a strategy  
 Veterans are very vulnerable in  
 their own country that is a  
 tragedy

Veterans risked their lives  
 They sign up to fight in different  
 countries when they know they  
 can die

Why do they fight?  
 So that when you go outside  
 you see a beautiful peaceful  
 environment not a tragic sight  
 They fight in places like the  
 Middle East  
 They fight so that there is peace

Soldiers do not run away instead  
 they stay and fight  
 The shackles of communism  
 and oppression drop at their  
 sight  
 The army does not run away  
 instead they fight across the sea  
 They fight so at the end of the  
 day America is still considered  
 home of the brave and land of  
 the free

By Jamie Santos, THS senior