

The REGISTER FORUM

"The Oldest Student Newspaper in the U.S."

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Cambridge Rindge and Latin School

October 2011

The Daily Special *Delicious Cafeteria Food, With a Side of Affordable*

By
Owen McCartney
Register Forum Staff

When just looking at the numbers our new head chef, Vincent Connelly, can only be described as a magician. Last year we averaged 200 students eating the food provided in the cafeteria a day. This year there have been approximately 700 hundred students eating the cafeteria food daily, and its only been a month and a half, with the numbers still growing. Teachers and staff are making their way down to pick up lunches for themselves.

Both Interim principal Damon Smith and Student Body Secretary Layla Taremi held the cafeteria up as a prime example of a new and improved CRLS at their



Head Chef Vincent Connelly at Work
Photo Credit: Larry Aaronsen

speeches for the grand opening. Layla claimed, "Admittedly, I have never eaten from the school cafeteria, but this year I've already enjoyed it a couple of times and the quality of the food is so good!" So,

what has changed?

Firstly, it's fresh. Anybody who has been down to the caf this year and so much as peeked at the food can see the difference.

Prepared twice daily so its as fresh as possible when the students arrive this food is prepared, engineered, to be as fresh as it possibly can be. The vegetables are fresh. The meat is fall off the bone tender. And the menu, designed by new head chef Vincent Connelly, is catered specifically to the wants and needs of teenagers.



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Cyclist Crackdown

Students Discuss the Perils of Biking to School



Overflowing bike racks near the main entrance can make getting to and from school a challenge.
Photo Credit: Gabe Sanchez, Register Forum Staff

By
Jacob Colbath-Hess
Register Forum Staff

Students at CRLS have long benefited from the city's bike-friendly reputation and initiatives. But with recent police crackdowns on traffic violations by cyclists, are Rindge students' morning commutes about to get much harder?

The city website's section on bikes is chock full of information about bike riding in Cambridge and the new programs the city is enacting.

It proudly proclaims that bike traffic has more than doubled since 2002, and that three new "Fixit" repair stands – in Harvard square, at Fresh Pond,

and by the Main Library – opened in march, complete with the requisite tools to allow most cyclists to complete repairs on the fly.

But a new Cambridge Police initiative on bike traffic violations that resulted in the CPD issuing more than 60 citations in

"A new Cambridge Police crackdown on bike traffic violations that resulted in the CPD issuing more than 60 citations in the first days of the crackdown alone"

the first days of the crackdown alone, could threaten to undo much of the convenience of bike riding for students at Rindge and cyclists the community over.

Police Commissioner Robert Haas explained the initiative: "Commuting in an urban environment can be dangerous... we are committed to enforcing all applicable laws and educat-

ing the public about best safety practices to ensure that everyone who travels in Cambridge can feel confident about their safety."

The police department, in a press release on the 19th of September stated that officers would be deployed at major intersections and

would focus on crosswalk safety.

The release

referred cyclists to a pamphlet on roadway safety available online at: <http://www2.cambridgema.gov/cpd/> under "News and Events," or at the police station.

Most Rindge students however, were oblivious of the new enforcement.

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Food for Thought: What Should I Get for Lunch?

By
Keely Curliss
Register Forum Staff

For Rindge students this question hasn't always been an easy one to answer.

Current seniors have been limited over the past two years to Broadway side options only, sophomore year, and the following year with access to Cambridge street, but minimal convenience to Broadway.

This fall CRLS students were given back full access to Broadway Market, Starbucks, Angelo's, Monalisa's, Darwin's, Harvard Market and the

newly renovated cafeteria.

Though many still fear the mystery meats and chicken sandwiches once served in the old cafeteria, students have found an oasis in the new food choices offered.

"I wouldn't really change anything about lunch here. We have a wide enough selection of foods to please everyone."

A junior, Layla Teremi, commented, "I used to get food from home for lunch, but now I always get food from the school cafeteria. I am a vegetarian and I love the salad bar at school."

Layla may be branching out to try something new, but when Junior, Spencer Santos, was asked

to comment on his eating

habits since all these op-

tions opened up he said, "I eat the \$5.50 chicken finger box

from Monalisa's most of the time, and some-

times Angelo's." Many upper classmen made similar comments. Senior, Isaac Yablo, said, "I haven't eaten school lunch since 7th grade."

Its not just upper-classmen though, Sophomore, Oscar Buruca, stated clearly, "I eat Angelo's everyday, I mean, everyday."

Even though many students eat lunch at the same place most days, it seems as though they are still aware they have the options.

Yablo later added

"I wouldn't really change anything about lunch

here. We have a wide enough selection of foods to please ev-

eryone."

Some CRLS students may wish for more

choices or cheaper prices, however students shouldn't take for granted what they now have.

While CRLS munches on chicken broccoli ziti, salad bars, Angelo's steak and cheese subs and Darwin's, the rest of America will continue to enjoy their mystery meat on a bun with a side of over cooked vegetables.



Crowds of rindge students picking up lunch at the new cafeteria. Photo Credit: Larry Aaronson

Cont'd from page 1

"Its custom made" he laughs, explaining that the food is reflective of what his own kids enjoy eating at home, and designed to be both tasty and nutritious, meeting the needs of growing young adults like the ones wandering these halls.

"Right now I'm just making it up as I go, but we should have a menu together in two or three weeks" he continues. And people are responding to his cooking fantastically.

Again he smiles, "if we were a restaurant we would be doing great... numbers

are going up" he says, which speaks to one of the biggest missions he was given when he was brought on with money from a federal grant; bringing students back into the cafeteria.

And it's working. With numbers already above three times those of last year's and climbing students are being brought back at ever increasing numbers. Its particularly impressive because the entire kitchen staff has returned to an entirely renovated area, all the equipment is new, and top of the line, state-of-the-art stuff, it's a lot to get used to.

And Vinnie, as he's known, has nothing but praise for the new equipment, although he explains with a grin, "I still cook with pots and pans... I'm still getting used to it."

While he's used to simpler kitchens and smaller staffs Vinnie explains that his moving to CRLS from the elementary schools is part of his campaign to make the public schools healthier.

And he has nothing but praise for the CRLS staff, who he praises emphatically, "can prep food even faster than I can."

In addition to help from the staff at CRLS who have been making all this delicious food possible, the culinary program is also pitching in and manning a station in the cafeteria to help lessen the load on the staff, in addition to taking on some the prep work.

Vinnie explains that he's very interested in getting students involved, and that the help from culinary is great and he hopes to continue connecting the kitchen with the students.

When asked about the kind of reviews he has

been getting back from students Vinnie explains that in his informal, keeping his ears and his eyes open things have been going well.

He proposes that maybe a suggestion box could work in the future, and that he hopes to start adding some more variety to a menu that has been pretty basic so far.

But the most impressive, and most difficult aspect of the new food in the cafeteria to understand is the price. The kitchen is running, and

the numbers aren't back yet so this is approximate, but this food is being produced on a very similar budget to last year.

And that's not per dish, that's total, meaning that over three times the food, of far higher quality is being prepared on the same budget.

How? By cutting out processed food, says Vinnie. Instead of sending raw good like whole chickens out to companies that process it and sell it back to the school system at a price several times over what the school originally paid for it the kitchen staff is simply prepping it themselves.

It's a story that will surely be revisited, but as for now, something incredible is going on behind the serving counters, and it's seeing an adequately incredible response.

Kids are flooding back into the caf. And for good reason too. Ever the gentlemen, Vinnie says he just wants to say a big thank you to, and give some credit to, the kitchen staff for making it all possible.



New Kitchen Manager Vincent Connelly Being interviewed in the renovated cafeteria. Photo Credit: Larry Aaronson



Students manning their food station, serving meals prepped in culinary class.

Your Parents Are Gay?

An Inside Look at Students at CRLS with Gay Parents

By
Mica Agate-Mays
Register Forum Staff

At CRLS, having gay parents isn't unheard of. There is a large number of students attending who have two moms, two dads, or single gay parents, yet it's a topic hardly ever discussed.

"When classmates find out that I have gay parents the reaction is usually pretty neutral," said junior Maya Sommer when asked how peers re-

acted when they discovered she has two moms. "When I was younger, there definitely were times when I avoided talking about my parents because I simply didn't feel like explaining my family situation. Now that I'm older, it's a lot easier to bring up," she added.

Perhaps having gay parents is getting easier as peers get older. Are students just more mature around the subject of gay families or is it that they have already learned about it and are used to the fact?

Senior Aidan Dunbar talked about his experience. "I have never directly lied but definitely changed pronouns and made it less clear. Having gay parents is not something I broadcast, not because I am ashamed but because it's something I shouldn't have to. My friends all know and it doesn't make a difference to them, I'm not friends with the kind of person who would get angry or care about me having gay parents."

One thing people wonder about children with gay parents is how they came to be, because it obviously does not work the way it does with a man and woman having kids. Mainly, gay couples use sperm donation, adoption, or a surrogate to conceive children, or even a combination!

Since the law has not always

supported gays and lesbians having children, many parents have adopted children from other countries or of other races. These kids have added to the incredible diversity of CRLS's student body.

Some people believe that being gay can be "passed down" or "spread" like a disease, but there has been no link found between gay parents having gay children. The American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry released a document in 2011 explaining some of the re-

"Having gay parents is not something I broadcast, not because I am ashamed but because it's something I shouldn't have to."

search done on children with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender parents. According to this study, these children:

- Are not more likely to be gay than children with heterosexual parents.
- Are not more likely to be sexually abused.
- Do not show differences in whether they think of themselves as male or female (gender identity).
- Do not show differences in their male and female behaviors (gender role behavior).

Senior Rosa Booth summed up her experience and her hopes: "Cambridge, MA is not a bad place to have gay parents in 2011. Hopefully, it will come to be no big deal no matter where you are."



"Probably one of the most successful [drives] we've had to date. [We have] had over 70 appointments, with 35 plus usable units" --Ann Marie Ciccarelli. Photo credit: Larry Aaronson

MUSIC REVIEW



Lovato performing live in September 2010

Unbroken- Demi Lovato

By
Maia Holloway
Register Forum Staff

Demi Lovato has grown up and matured into a real artist with music that the majority could listen to and enjoy without holding their lunch in their stomach because of sappy lyrics.

The album is more R&B based with Timberland producing a couple of songs. Missy Elliot, Dev, and Jason Derulo are featured in the album.

Unbroken takes a less pop rock approach and has added more synths and bass beats.

After being in treatment for an eating disorder, Demi Lovato has come back as a true star. The songs on Unbroken are not something that is topical Disney material with sunshine, rainbows, and teenage lovers.

"The album is more R&B based with Timberland producing a couple of songs. Missy Elliot, Dev, and Jason Derulo are featured in the album."

This album has lyrics that show heart break but also victory! The hooks are catchy but not in a bad way were you can't get the tune out of your head.

Unbroken is still generally mainstream with some originality and would be perfect for someone that likes the music of Mindless Behavior and Keri Hilson. Nonetheless songs like Skyscraper, For the Love of a Daughter, Together, which features Jason Derulo, show heart and strong emotion that could only be produced by someone who went through real pain and distress.

Don't take this album too seriously; Unbroken still has some party tracks like Hold up and All Night Long featuring Missy Elliot.

Skyscraper was given its rightful place as number 10 in Billboard's hot 100. Unbroken has gut-

wrenching lyrics and shows Demi Lovato won't be like her fellow Disney artists resembling Miley Cyrus.



UNBROKEN
DEMI LOVATO

City of Cambridge Goes for Gold Through Green

CRLS Deck part of overall City Environmental Project, as well as Open Space

By
Gabriel Sánchez
Register Forum Staff

The deck and seating area on the Cambridge Street side is only one of a few new additions to the CRLS campus, but it is one that may be the least known.

School department Chief Operating Officer James Maloney, spoke of the green initiatives that had been a main goal in the plans for building this new space. “When we began the planning for this project back in 2007, one goal was to create more inviting open space for students around the campus. The area where the decking is being installed has been identified as an underused outdoor space that should be reclaimed for student use.”

In addition to being an area that has been chosen to be open public space, it is part of an overall plan by the City of Cambridge to be part of a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). The City of Cambridge has done this through several projects including CRLS, the new police station, and the library, just to name a few. In order to do this the city has invested money to renovate these buildings and add solar panels, as well as other green additions. At the ribbon cutting ceremony for CRLS on October 1st, the mayor discussed how the city hopes that these projects will give the city a LEED Silver certification (the third highest level), although the city was hoping to go for gold.

The deck is part of the process to go for the gold. The deck is made out of plastic and wood scraps that have been recycled to make a material called Trex Decking. According to the manufacturer “Trex saves around 400 million pounds of plastic and wood scrap from landfills every year.”

According to the manufacturer “Trex saves around 400 million pounds of plastic and wood scrap from landfills every year.”



New deck area being finalized. Photo credit: Gabriel Sánchez

The original plan involved putting grass down, however it was scrapped after the designers were informed by the City of Cambridge Arborist that the grass would eventually kill the surrounding trees by slowly strangling the tree's roots. The \$75,000 plus project includes lights in addition to the current circular seating areas. Although the deck will be mainly for socializing during lunchtime and down time, the idea of holding performances there has been suggested as well.

Reactions from students who have been curiously watching the building of this project have been mixed; while students appreciate the fact that it's shady, the particular setup of the new addition seems to be drawing some criticism. Senior Lauren Brunet points out that “the benches around the trees aren't the most conducive for socializing since everyone would sit facing away from on another in the circle.” While the design seems to raise some questions, CRLS students appear to think that they will definitely check out this new hangout.

CRLS Teachers on the Front Lines of Reform

By
Thomas Barrasso
Register Forum Correspondent

Students are becoming conscious of the benefits that technology can have throughout the learning process; whether it is a flash card application on their smart phone or an online service that allows them to check the work they missed while absent, there is little doubt that technology will be a major factor in education reform.

As retired senior citizen Jean Raymond puts it “not taking advantage of modern technology would be detrimental to learning.” Furthermore, “any technology used in a classroom is a plus if properly utilized.” There is no question whether technology will play a part in education reform, but how it can be properly utilized is a topic of great debate.

CRLS mathematics instructor Joel Patterson strives to answer that question. He has clearly demonstrated an ability to engage students using the new technology at CRLS.

Two of his former BC Calculus students, seniors Alex Barry and Lauren Brunet, synchronously stated “that his simulations helped to vi-

sualize the complex theories.”

Mr. Patterson attributes his success in part to the “graphical animations in Sketchpad and Geogebra,” which allows “the geometry to move out of a still diagram on paper and enter a student's imagination.” Especially in a course like AP Calculus, animations can be vital in explaining three-dimensional concepts.

As for teachers in awe at the sheer possibilities of the new technologies at their disposal, Mr. Patterson offers this bit of advice: “it took

“The primary goal of this program is to improve student achievement through the use of technology in elementary and secondary schools.”

some patience getting used of the ēno™ pen... but

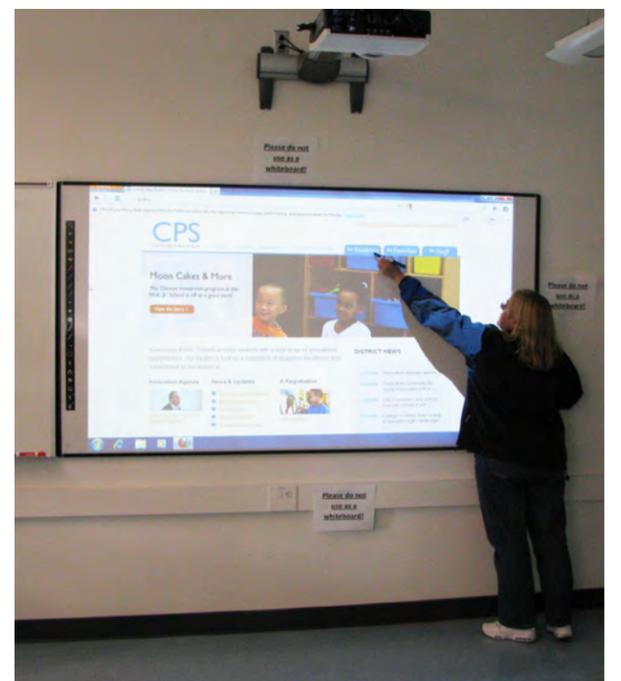
I can't save a PDF of my dry erase writings.”

CRLS is not unique with its inclusion of modern technologies like ēno™ boards, touch screen computers, and Wi-Fi Internet. The United States Department of Education began a program in 2002 known as Enhancing Education Through Technology “EETT” that began awarding public schools grants that totaled \$700 million dollars. EETT's website states that “the primary goal of this program is to improve student achievement through the use of technology in elementary and secondary schools.” Citing economic recession funding has since been on the decline, appropriating \$100 million in 2010.

With that in mind CRLS looks toward the future; as technology becomes increasingly

common in our daily lives it will also become commonplace to see computers, projectors, and perhaps even tablets in a classroom environment.

According to an online comparison of public high schools in Massachusetts, the City of Cambridge spent over \$24,000 per CRLS student in 2008. With its very own IT department, and programs to train teachers how to make better use CRLS's sizable digital investment, future students may even forget the day before presentations, animations, and touch interfaces were the predominant mechanisms of learning.



Computer Lab Manager Elizabeth Carmen demonstrating an ēno™ board. Photo credit: Gabriel Sánchez

Religious Diversity at CRLS Revealing Group of Students Surveyed on Theological Views

By
Conor Patterson
Register Forum Correspondent

We live in one the most religious countries in the world, yet a new, albeit limited, CRLS-based survey suggests that our city (or at least our school) might be moving in exactly the opposite direction.

Over the course of the first week of October, this reporter handed out 50 surveys to a diverse collection of members from the CRLS community including students and teachers from arts, academics and Community Meeting classrooms.

The survey consisted of five prompts, each of which asked the surveyed party to rate their belief in a certain form of theism on a scale of one-to-seven, one being full-blown atheism and seven being unwavering theism (figure 1).

The most notable result in this data, although some might argue is the most predictable, is the tendency of the CRLS community toward religious skepticism.

By far the most popular answer both overall and in four of the five questions was “one” (the extreme in the atheistic direction).

An impressive 40 of the 50 surveyed people claimed no belief in the anthropomorphic, Abrahamic God depicted in Question 2. Six of the surveyed answered “one” to all five

The most popular response to the prompt “I believe in God(s)” was the strongly theistic seven, followed by the agnostic four.

What are we to make of this data? For one thing, it is clear that some students are still struggling to understand spirituality; yet many students remain firm in the belief that there must exist some form of a higher power.

Additionally, there seems to a stigma tied with being labeled as an “atheist” or a “non-believer.”

CRLS is not alone in this sentiment, however. A recent study at the University of Minnesota showed that atheists are by far the least trusted people in America. Less than half of the Americans in that survey stated that they would approve of an atheist as a presidential candidate or as a spouse for their children.

While one would hope that we at CRLS aren't quite so dismissive, this survey suggests that many of these same sentiments are deeply ingrained in us.

questions, as opposed to the two bold outliers who to answer “seven” five times.

This appears to highlight the growing ideological gap between Cambridge and the rest of the country.

To many readers, this may not come as much of a surprise. Yet one trend in this data seems to contradict the bulk of the data.

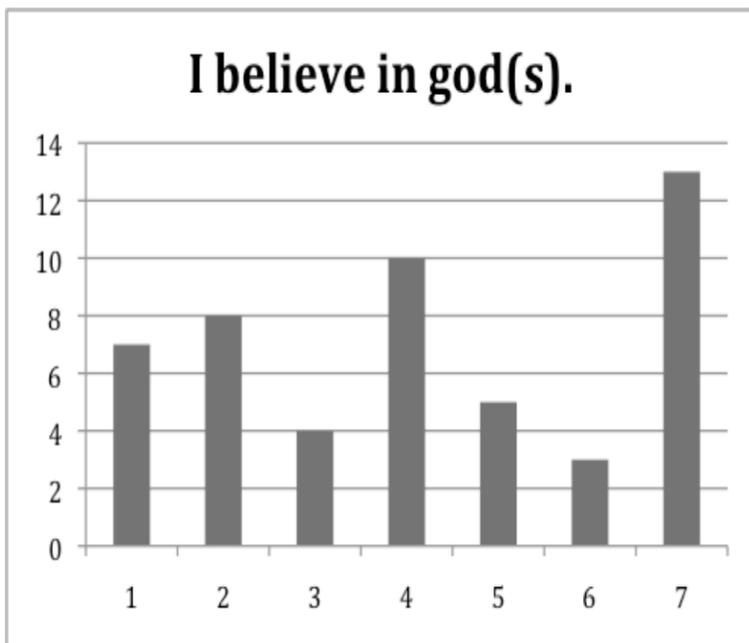
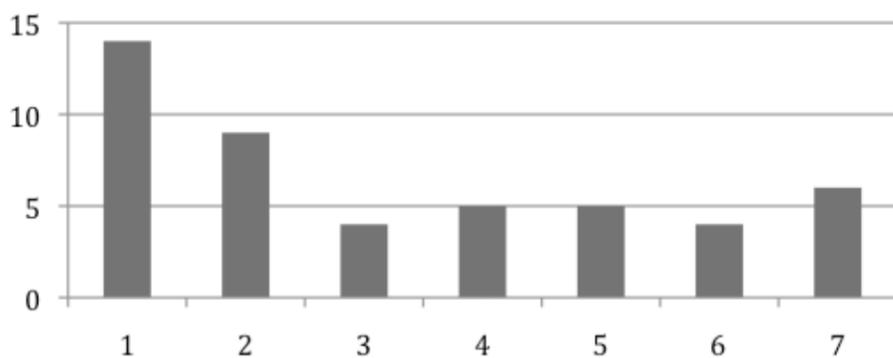


Figure 1. On a scale of one (disagree) to seven (agree), students' responses to the above statement.

A recent study at the University of Minnesota showed that atheists are by far the least trusted people in America.

I believe in a personal god(s) that is one who takes an interest in individuals, hears and answers prayers, and passes judgment.



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Starts 10/19

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Bike Safety Cont'd From Page 1

Even those who regularly bike to school expressed surprise or even disbelief when asked their opinion.

Jonah Simon, a Junior and chronic cyclist, said that he disagreed with the crackdown: “That’s not right. Bikers only run red lights when there are obviously no cars in sight and its completely safe. We’re completely aware that if a car hit us we’re done, and so we take appropriate precautions.”

He continued to express his opinion that this flexibility is what gives of their advantage over other means of transportation: “it doesn’t hurt anyone, and it probably helps a lot of people get to school on time.”

Cameron Lindsay, class of 2015, echoed that sentiment. “I wasn’t even aware that there were traffic rules for bikes,” he says with a tone of disbelief. Adding that bikers should “most certainly” be allowed to run red lights.

But both Jonah and Cameron were of the opinion that the efforts by the Cambridge police wouldn’t affect their decision to commute by bicycle, nor their experience doing so nearly as much as the lack of bike racks on the Rindge campus.

Cameron’s assertion

that “the racks are PACKED every single day,” will probably come as little surprise to most Rindge students, most of whom are probably used to the everyday sight of the bike racks overflowing; two, even three bikes to a station.

Don Kim, a senior, summed up his and many students’ frustrations while struggling to extricate his bike from another parked on the same rack, “this is ridiculous!”

What may come as a surprise to most students, is that with the renovation

“...We’re completely aware that if a car hit us we’re done, and so we take appropriate precautions.”

came new green initiatives, which include – according to a brochure available at

the Celebrate CRLS ribbon cutting celebration – lights that dim when natural light is available, insulated rooftops, recycled wood and other materials, and yes: more bike racks.

But what the designers of the new campus neglected to anticipate is how increased the demand for bike storage would become, with security having to at times keep students from locking up superfluous bikes to library benches – an occurrence that had become common enough to merit complaint. The solution to what can only be described as ‘too much of a good thing?’ Perhaps Don put it best when he said “more bike racks.”

Defying The Stats by Defining Yourself!

Eight CRLS Students Fly to Missouri for M.S.A.N. Conference



By
Jordan Smith
Register Forum Staff

“As a school looking to become better, bridging the achievement gap should be a top priority. I look forward to taking what I have learned in Missouri back home to CRLS.” This is what Student Body President Bersabell Yeshitila had to say after attending the 2011 M.S.A.N Conference in Columbia, MO.

The Minority Student Achievement Network is a national organization with several chapters in various school districts across the U.S. Each year one of these districts will host a conference and provide that year’s theme. This year the host Columbia Public School District provided the conference’s theme. “Defining Yourself By Defying The Stats.” What exactly does the theme “Defining Yourself By Defying The Stats” mean? According to Nadaizja Bolling the conference was “very geared to providing students of color with the necessary strategies needed for bridging the achievement gap, despite what the odds may say.”

One of the most praised ideas shared at the conference was actually shared by the group from Cambridge. Cambridge appears to be a pioneer when it comes to student run panels directed to an audience of teachers.

Last year during February’s Black History celebrations, The MSAN club put together a panel discussion directed at teachers, that allowed the MSAN students to share how they felt

“...the conference was very geared to providing students of color with the necessary strategies needed for bridging the achievement gap...”



M.S.A.N student’s pose for a picture after a great dinner in downtown Missouri. Photo credit: Unkown Missourian

in a Rindge classroom setting. Students shared mixed perceptions of CP level classes and the struggle of being the only person of color in an AP level class. The reaction from teachers who were audience members at the panel presentation was unanimously positive. It was a huge success.

Aside from the very frequent sharing of ideas from students, the students were given the opportunity to hear stories from several inspirational speakers. One of the most inspirational speakers was a man by the name of Eric Thomas.

Mr. Thomas has recently become a very well-known voice due to his series on how to be successful. Naomi Tsegaye was asked how she felt after hearing Mr Thomas speak. “That was amazing” she said. “What Mr. Thomas said really touched me. I really hope that one day all of Rindge has the chance to hear his brilliant

words.” Luckily he will be here this month!

All in all, the experience that the MSAN team from CRLS has received is one that will



never be forgotten. As a school we can look forward to the great ideas the team has obtained being shared with not only us as students, but shared with the higher-ups, such as the Student Government and administration. If you have any questions or have an desire in becoming apart of the Minority Student Achievement Network, feel free to contact Ed Byrne at EByrne@cpsd.us.

Gym Class Heroes: P.E at CRLS Helps Keep Students in Shape

By
Powell Schneider
Register Forum Staff

Gym. A class that some incoming freshman and non-CRLS athletes might dread to see on their schedule. The thought of running and sweating in the middle of the school day seems to irk those who feel as if they are being forced into the class, and furthermore, makes them resent something that may actually help them in the long run.

According to a 2010

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) overview, 82% of students in Massachusetts did not attend P.E. classes daily. Being that this number is so large, the CRLS community is affected even more, as we are one of the few schools in the state who are allowed to eat off campus for lunch.

With unhealthy temptations surrounding our school, gym provides an opportunity for kids to stay fit. “With gym it’s tough.” says Daniel Salazar, a gym teacher at CRLS.

“We want all the kids to work so they can

learn the activities to keep themselves healthy now and even after they depart from Rindge.” Physical Education doesn’t guarantee its participants ripped abs or toned thighs, how-

“We want all the kids to work so they can learn the activities to keep themselves healthy ...”

ever, it does guarantee the chance to learn new skills and keep your body healthy for the future.

Freshman Anna Eugene says that she personally doesn’t think gym solely keeps her in shape, but it does give people the opportunity to stay healthy

if they don’t do physical activities outside of school.

For those students who don’t do activities outside of school, the physical education department has a world of different classes that follow Rindge’s traditionally extensive course catalog.

Students have options from learning a selection of team sports as well as swimming, to participating in a strength and conditioning program.

Alternative fitness programs such as Yoga and Pilates and a class dedicated to Adult Wellness are offered as well. “I really appreciate

the different classes I’m allowed to take.” Senior Isaac Yablo commented, “my Wellness class is teaching me tactics to stay healthy even after I leave school.”

“We follow a lifetime goal”, Salazar commented. “If we teach kids how to run today, then hopefully in the future they will use that skill to improve themselves.”

Next time you are in gym class and dread the thought of learning something you think you already know how to do, think of what Gym can do for you in the present and what it may help with in the future.

Boston, Occupied

The Register Forum's John Tournas Recounts His Journey to Dewey Square

By
John Tournas
Register Forum Correspondent

Over the past couple of months, a series of demonstrations have been gaining steam in over 60 major U.S. cities. Originating in New York City, these demonstrations and protests are known as "Occupy Wall Street."

So what is Occupy Wall Street? For one thing, the movement is horizontally organized, meaning that no one person or group controls what the movement does.

Rather, in each city there are community meetings and discussions designed to come to a consensus about what is to be done next.

While there are facilitators at these meetings, they are very clear in their intention to not muddy or impede the democratic process that they help along.

And while these groups may not have a central decision-making body, they do all have a universal goal: to restore democracy to America and to fight against the social injustice and greed that has become so prominent in our country.

All across the U.S., and indeed in other countries as well,



Welcome to Dewey Square, occupation in progress Since September 30th, 2011. Photo Credit: Larry Aaronson

"Occupy Boston [is] located in Dewey square, right next to the South Station train stop in the heart of Boston. About a week ago, I went down there to check it out."

the Occupy movement has seen protests and marches of various size and volatility. While all of the marches are peaceful, some have

become more heated than others, resulting in arrests, police batons, and tear gas.

The closest one of these protests to home is Occupy Boston, located in Dewey square, right next to the South Station train stop in

the heart of Boston. About a week ago, I went down there to check it

out. Right beside a big stone building lies a camp of tents, small in comparison to the the massive skyscrapers that surrounded it, but big in spirit.

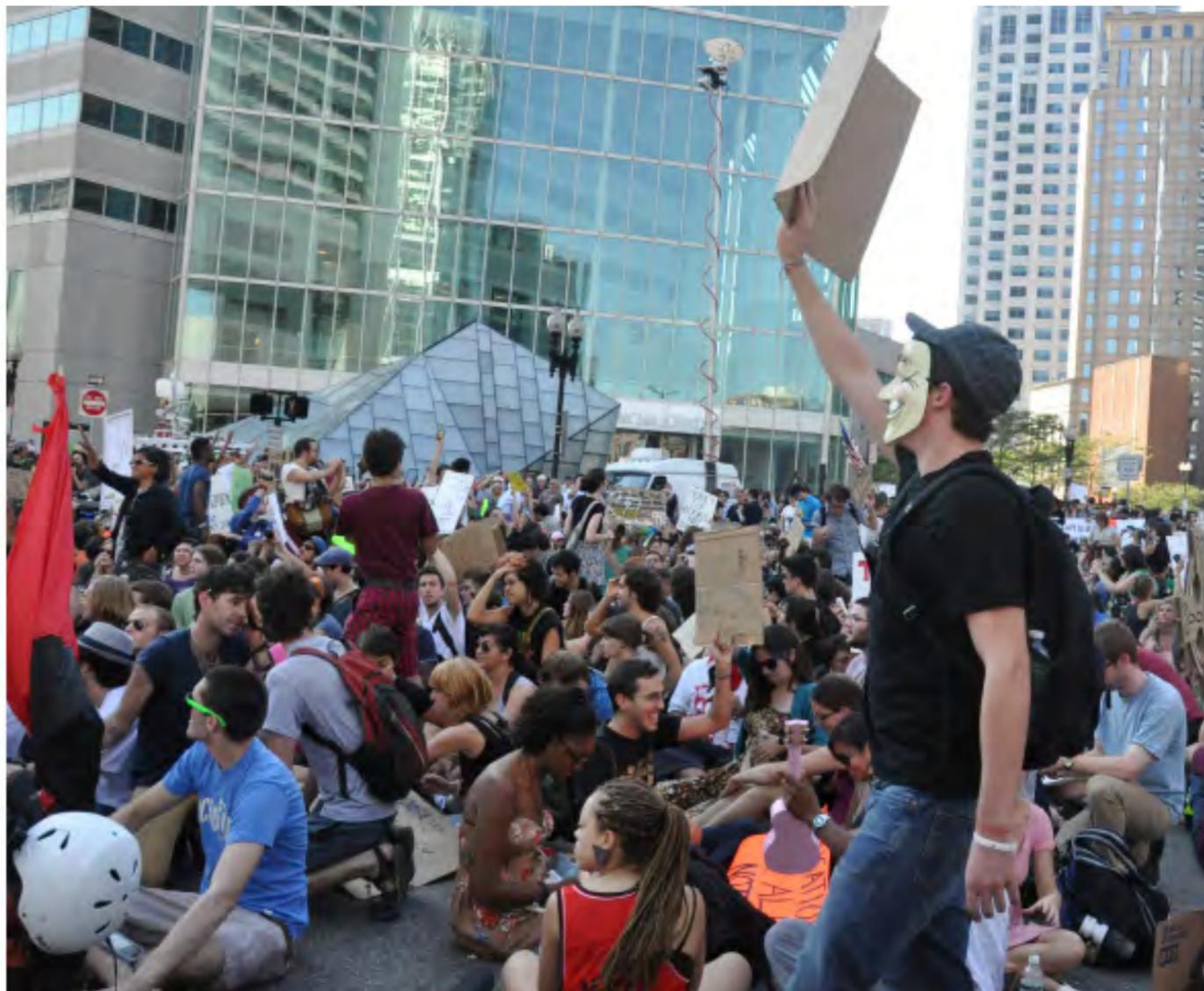
When I got there, a facilitated meeting was taking place, so I listened in. They were discussing, at great length, the means through which they would be having these discussions. Instead of clapping to agree with an idea, it was established proper etiquette to point your hands to the sky and wiggle your fingers. To show disapproval, you point 'em down and wiggle.

Because amplification isn't allowed, whenever anyone speaks, they are to be echoed by everyone around them, a sort of "human microphone," or as the Occupiers call it, the "people's mic."

Around the periphery of the camp were a plethora of signs and posters denouncing corporate greed, economic inequality, racism, sexism, and really everything else that anyone has ever felt is wrong with America.

That's the most important thing about the Occupy movement. It's not simply about one issue or problem. It's about addressing the system, the way in which our entire society is constructed.

No matter what your viewpoint, one thing is for sure, these guys won't go down easy. They won't leave until something is changed. As Russell Simmons recently said, "The poor have nothing to eat, so the next thing they can eat is the rich."



Protesters March on Columbus Day. Photo Credit: Larry Aaronson

Controversy On Wall Street

Rindge Students Begin to Formulate Opinions as Protests Gain Momentum

By
Natalie Schmitt
Register Forum Staff

Currently on Wall Street in New York City, in Boston and close to one hundred cities throughout the nation, there are thousands upon thousands of Americans protesting against the big corporations and the dis-gusting amount of control they have over our country's politics, media and economy. According to Global Issues.org, U.S. corporations

dominate the Top 200, with 82 slots (41 percent of the total) which is just ridiculous. Businesses run by millionaire CEOs are running our country and something needs to be done about it.

The protests on Wall Street are just the beginning of a revolution. In an interview with CBS, businessman Herman Cain said

“The protests on Wall Street are just the beginning of a revolution.”

Americans who want to play the victim card.” This argument that protestors are just jealous is one of the



The Occupy Wall Street movement spans all sorts of demographic groups
Photo Credit: Cryptome.org

most ignorant and immature arguments I've heard. When someone is rude to you in high school it's usually because they're jealous but if an entire group of people is protesting against you it's usually because you're doing something wrong.

The various excuses Republicans have made for

the protests may seem ignorant to those informed of the current economic situation but extremely convincing to those uninformed. The percentage of the population that has no idea of the awful control the corporations actually have over our society and government is the percentage being won over by

corporate propaganda. The issues being protested on Wall Street and around the nation need to be brought to the attention of the American people, so more people can join in the fight for control of our country—to take it from the corporations and return it to the people.

Model U.N.?

CRLS Club Gives Students a Taste of Dealing with International Affairs

By
Jordan Smith
Register Forum Staff

I have had the great honor of being a part of several big clubs here at CRLS. While each club has left its own special mark on me, I have been most involved with a club that has felt the most attached to the Model United Nations Club.

international organization, dedicated to teaching students from all over the world how to be an ambassador or a delegate of a country through role-play. Over the last few years, involvement has steadily been

“I have been most involved with and have felt the most attached to the Model United Nations Club.”

rising within the club as our Monday meeting attendance has inflated to as much as 30 people.

As president of the club I strongly feel that the Model United Nations Club



Last year's delegation at the National High School Model United Nations conference in New York
Photo Credit: Richard Fold

has the most to offer to students. As an upperclassman preparing to go off to college or going out into the real world knowing how to network is one of the most valuable skills you can have.

After attending just one conference, if you still don't know how to network all it means is you didn't give it 100%.

I cannot stress enough how much I feel that the majority of students should be able to experience being a part of a club like this. If you have any further questions about the club, feel free to stop by Mr.Kells' classroom on the 5th floor, Mondays at 2:40 pm.

The Model United Nations as a whole is an



Image Credit: Flagspot.net

REGISTER FORUM

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Established in 1891 as the C.M.T.S Register

*“Listening to every voice,
printing what you need to hear”*

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Mr. Vimeo

Math Teacher Uses Internet to Extend Classroom into Homes

By
Kevin Xiong
Register Forum Staff

Mr. Benson, CRLS' own AP Calculus teacher, has a new idea.

"I realized that the way I was testing, the homework that I was giving, and the way that I was structuring my lessons was not working and could be done a lot better," Mr. Benson revealed.

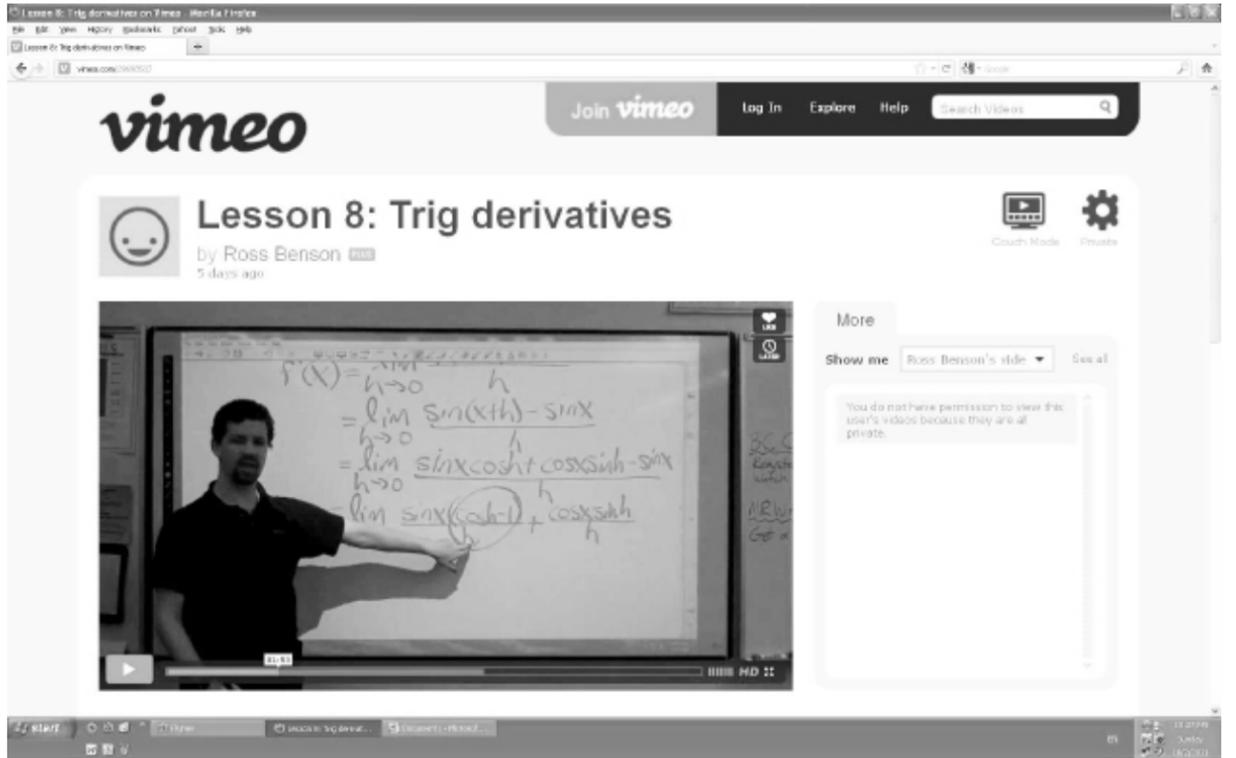
Now, things are different. When students in Mr. Benson's AP Calculus BC class return home to do their math homework, they do not fish through their bags for writing utensils, homework planners, and handouts with an endless number of practice problems printed in black and white.

Instead, they turn on their PCs and MacBooks and iPads, and log onto CRLS' very own Moodle site to find the link to a ten-minute video they must view that night on vimeo.com. For those ten-minutes, they forget that they are at home sitting before a computer screen, and watch as Mr. Benson stands before his ENO board and delivers his lesson. After watching, they go to an online forum to post a comment or question they have about the lesson.

Mr. Benson has effectively turned traditional education on its head. Students experience the lesson at home, and then come into class the next day to do what was formerly known as "homework."

He cites two documentaries, *The Finland Phenomenon* and *Race to Nowhere*, and two CRLS graduates as his inspiration for the new format. "For their senior project, Anna Lee Hirschi and Joan Brunetta gave a presentation on their high school educational experience. The presentation led me to change the way I taught and helped me solidify this new idea."

"The amount of work we've been giving students is detrimental; too much homework doesn't help with student understanding," explained Mr. Benson. "Doing it this new way



For homework, students in Mr. Benson's class watch a mini-lesson on vimeo.com and take notes at their own pace by rewinding and replaying the video. Photo Credit: Kevin Xiong

means that homework is now something that I know helps students ... and I can focus class-time on student understanding of the material through more problems, activities, and projects."

Thus far, the videos have received a positive response from their viewers.

"It gives us a chance to learn at our own pace," said Hoon Hong, a CRLS junior currently taking the class. "I like it because if I don't understand something, I can just pause or rewind the video. It simplifies the note-taking process."

Alec Arceneaux, a senior taking Mr. Benson's class, agrees. "It gives the teacher more class time

to actually teach things only he can fix. If he has to teach things that the student can learn at home, it takes away valuable instructional time. This way is more productive."

News of Mr. Benson's new system has also spread to students in other Calculus classes.

Sam Rater, a junior also studying Calculus, expressed that "Mr. Benson's ideas sound fresh and relevant to our progressive culture."

However, this innovative teach-

ing technique might not make traditional instruction obsolete just yet.

"The videos have their flaws too," acknowledged Hoon. "For example, if a kid doesn't understand the material or has clarifying questions, they can't be answered right away. These problems end up stuck in their head overnight."

Jeff Chen, one of Mr. Benson's former BC Calculus students and a current freshman at MIT,

"I like it because if I don't understand something, I can just pause or rewind the video. It simplifies the note-taking process."

also heard about the videos.

"I'm fairly sure that I, as a student, would have chosen this new format if I could have when I was student," confessed Jeff. "But, at the end of the day, we need to analyze AP

results, among other factors, such as student survey results and parental opinions, to decide whether to continue this teaching format."

Mr. Benson is optimistic about the idea. "I have gotten a tremendous amount of positive feedback so far. Students seem to really like the video lessons and they are getting the material. But I'll have to wait until later in the year to see whether or not this method is working better than last year's methods."



Mrs. Cesario, this month's teacher feature, has taught CRLS history classes for thirteen years. She currently teaches U.S. History II and Constitutional Law. You can contact her via email (jcesario@cpsd.us) or find her in room 1606 during lunch A or lunch B. Photo Credit: Gabriel Sanchez

In the Spotlight: Mrs. Cesario

By
Kevin Xiong
Register Forum Staff

RF: How does it feel to be the senior class advisor?

JC: It feels good! I've done this before, but it's so great to get kids excited about senior year.

RF: What responsibilities do you have as the senior class advisor?

JC: Formally, my responsibilities include helping with organizing senior activities like prom. Informally, I motivate seniors and make sure that this year is interesting, engaging, and fun for them! Senior year is a memorable year. It should be awesome.

RF: What's something that no one knows about you?

JC: I recently started watching Game of Thrones on HBO. It's about castles from the Middle Ages and power in the kingdom. It's really good. I'm also a huge Harry Potter and Lord of the Rings fan.

RF: What is your greatest extravagance?

JC: Treating myself to a day at the salon. But I don't normally do that.

RF: Why do you teach history?

JC: It really is about people and how they react and get along. I'm a very social being.

RF: Who do you admire the most?

JC: My husband.

RF: Describe yourself in one word.

JC: Busy.

RF: What do you consider your greatest achievement?

JC: Being able to find something great about my job everyday.

RF: What is your greatest talent?

JC: Breaking down material so that everyone can understand and interpret my vision.

RF: Do you have a personal motto?

JC: Don't be afraid to try new things. I'm always mixing things up.

RF: What is one message you'd like to get out there to CRLS students?

JC: Opportunity. CRLS students have so many opportunities that other students across the state do not have, and they should take advantage of them!

When Clubs Take Over

By
Naomi Tsegaye
Register Forum Correspondent

On October 6th and 7th the Media Cafeteria transformed into the temporary home for the 20 different clubs Cambridge Rindge and Latin has to offer. The excitement was evident in the eyes of 100's of students who rushed through the door during Lunches A and B in order to be the first to sign up for the variety of clubs that were represented. Posters were set up at each table along with a representative from the club.

"It was set up so easily! I got to sign up for Model United Nations which I've wanted to do for the longest time. Everyone was really nice and helpful," Rosa Booth exclaimed when asked what she thought about Club Day.

Some of the clubs that attended included; Student Government, Future Teachers Club, The History Club, Model United Nations, More Students Achieving Now, Culinary Club, Club 4, Global Awareness, Ethiopian Club, Falcon Friends, Creative Writing Club, Spanish Club, Ski Club, Drama Company, Robotics Club, Radio Club, Brocapella, Speech and Debate, Turkish Club and many more.



MSAN display board.
Photo Credit: Gabriel Sanchez

The Brocapella club was not shy about voicing how accomplished they were. Performing at assemblies and talent shows the club has really taken a turn for the better with more and



Members of the Latin Club stand with displays. Photo credit: Larry Aaronson

more men joining the accapella group. "We were surprised at how many guys signed up this year. The number grows each year and we're really proud of how popular it has become," Turney McKee a senior at Rindge said with a grin on his face.

The number of people who attended surprised the students who were presenting their clubs. Student Body President Bersabell Yeshitla was at the Club Days for Student Government where she noticed the increase of interested students running around signing up for as many clubs as possible. "Usually, there are not as many students coming to club day because of how its scheduled during their lunch but this year I saw more students come than any other year I've been at Rindge. It was great to see so many students willing to get involved!"

Election Fever: CRLS Teens Discuss Next Presidential Race and Voter Enthusiasm

By
Clay Whitley
Register Forum Staff

This time three years ago, a new batch of freshman were beginning their career at CRLS.

They were a diverse bunch, however one thing seemed to be common amongst them all, the buzz of excitement about the historic elections that would occur that very year. The prospect of the first African American president enthralled the CRLS population. Next year, those very same freshmen will get to participate in the electoral process for the first time.

The 2012 presidential elections that will take place next November 6th are already winding up. The republican primaries are in full swing, and election fever has gripped the country. Mitt Romney and Rick Perry seem to lead the GOP challenge to incumbent President Obama.

This year's seniors will be the first to graduate during an election year. When asked what she thought of next year's presidential elections, senior



How will you cast your vote? Photo credit: Blog Critics Culture

Emily Rockwood said, "I remember the elections of 2008, and how it changed the country for the following 4 years. I look forward to being able to have a say in how our country is run for the years to come".

Senior Ilana Sandberg echoes her excitement, however she has slightly different view on the matter, "I'm damn excited that I

can vote but seeing as I live in MA it doesn't seem like my vote will really make a difference"

The excitement may

"It's all about having a say, once we have that, we have a voice, we have even the slightest amount of power, and that my friends, feels good."

not extend throughout the entire student body, however. Senior Christian "C-Dog" Delegas is skeptical, "I honestly don't feel ready.

The transition between 17 and 18 is incredibly minute, and being given the responsibility to take part in making decisions that will affect

the country seems like a responsibility that should be put on the shoulders of someone who knows what's going on."

While there are many opinions on the matter throughout CRLS, one

thing remains certain. The right to vote is given to all citizens by the constitution, and senior Santiago Reina appeals to the students who can vote to exercise that power, "It's all about having a say, once we have that, we have a voice, we have even the slightest amount of power, and that my friends, feels good."

So remember seniors, let your voice be heard in our country, and register to vote!

Registering to vote is easy, and there are many ways to do it. Students can download the National Voter Registration form online, and then mail it into the local election office. If that's too difficult, students can kill two birds with one stone and register at the Department of Motor Vehicles when getting a drivers license; however the easiest way it to visit this site: www.cambridgema.gov/election, the website has all the information on registering in Cambridge. And remember.

Anyone can register to vote as long as they are 18 year old on or before election day, so go out, and help elect our next president!

Mean Girls (or Guys)

Is the Phenomenon of the “Popular Clique” Real World Fact or Hollywood Fiction?

By
Natalie Schmitt
Register Forum Staff

Almost every modern movie that takes place in high school features various cliques and groups as well as an idolization or intense hatred of the “popular” kids. But how realistic are these movies? Is the way high school in America is portrayed in the media realistic or ridiculous?

“You always see that stereotype on TV where the cheerleaders and football team rule the school or whatever but it’s really not like that at Rindge” Says Violet Neff (’12).

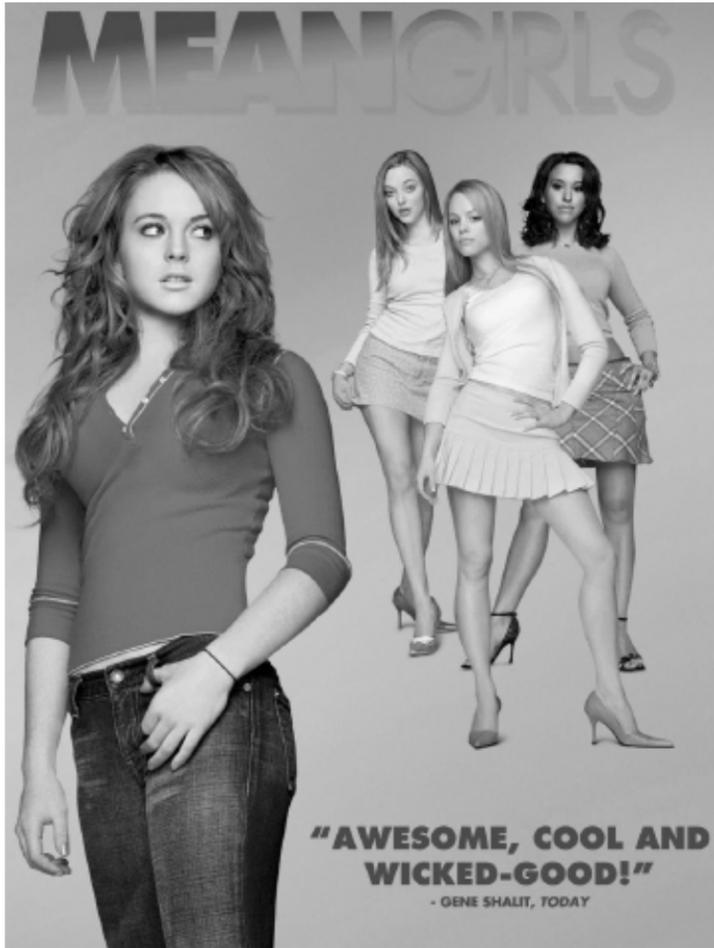
The CRLS community is a lot more diverse than most schools and the presence of cliques a lot less apparent: “a lot of the time you’ll see kids walking through the hallways dap-ping up 4 or 5 different kids—those 4 or 5 kids might all be from different ‘cliques’ but we’re integrated enough to not let that interfere with personal relationships” says Sterling Singletary (’14).

But what about surrounding schools? According to the School Community Policing Partnership 40% of US high school students say there are potentially violent cliques at their school.

Cliques at CRLS must be different than those that exist elsewhere. Psychologist Thomas Berdnt wrote in his book America’s Youth “When Kids are tossed together everyday, six hours a day for the entire school year friendship groupings form quite naturally”.

If cliques are just a natural part of a high school’s social environment, how is Rindge unique?

When asked about his feelings towards Rindge’s social structure, Connor Donovan (’13), stated “I think Rindge has a more unique social structure than any other school for one



CRLS is lucky that they don’t have to deal with the above.
Photo Credit: IMDB

reason, diversity. We hear that word so much but it’s so true, the diversity here improves the Rindge ex-

perience for all students. The diversity here alters the normal opinion on cliques from a bad thing to a good thing.” But where did these cliques come from? The past two years, due to renovations on the main campus buildings, Freshman class-

“I feel like the grades that went through Freshman Academy had to have the freshman experience as sophomores and that changed the way they’ve developed and found their place in the school as a whole.”

“Diversity. We hear that word so much but it’s so true, the diversity here improves the Rindge experience for all students.”

es have been sent down to Freshman Academy where they are isolated from the sophomores and upperclassmen. Did having their freshman year be close to a repeat of middle school change the classes of ’13 and ’14?

“Personally, being at Freshman Academy I noticed even more cliques

came out of there but since we were in the same building, all of the cliques integrated with one another” says Sterling Singletary (’14). Violet Neff (’12) had her own unique opinion: “I

feel like the grades that went through Freshman Academy had to have the freshman experience as sophomores and that changed the way they’ve developed and found their place in the school as a whole.” The general consensus is that CRLS has a unique and diverse social structure where cliques aren’t like the ones you see on TV. As a result, the attitude in the air is for the most part friendly and welcoming and people are almost always open to making new friends.

In this respect, students are in agreement that they are fairly lucky to be members of such a diverse and accepting school like Cambridge Rindge and Latin. So get out there and get to know your fellow students, because no other school has a student body quite like Rindge.

Opportunity at Rindge

By
Ciara Anderson
Register Forum Staff

CRLS is a unique place. From both a social and educational standpoint it has a whole lot to offer.

In the eyes of Dan Weathersby, a school S guidance counselor, “CRLS offers a lot of opportunities for students to advance their interests and support their needs; if a student is looking to explore something they have the opportunity to research it and we support them along the way. We make it hard for students to fail.”

His intention is for everyone, from his new freshman to his wizened seniors, to be challenged as learners.

“Some important parts of being successful are being disciplined and doing the same things everyday. In college you don’t have much support: you’re doing things for yourself, and if you don’t get things done you won’t be doing well in class.” added Weathersby.

This year the school is trying to develop new strategies to push students to take advantage of our new school, and the new classes they have to offer.

CRLS is currently offering a new creative writing class, which was promoted extensively this past school year. It was expected to have only one or two classes during the year, but has since become a four class course.

Mr. Weathersby thought this class was a great idea, and a fantastic learning experience, “I think that this is different than a lot of classes, as it is discussion based; it allows students from all different backgrounds to experiment with different opinions.”

Classes around Rindge thrive off of addressing issues and using that as an opportunity towards education. Building off of our diversity helps CRLS students become more open-minded and accept that not everyone is the same. Issues from across the world are often demonstrated through Rindge offers are beyond the high school standard.”

Classes at our school, for example, is a great representation of acknowledging issues and raising awareness. Most of our assemblies are done through STARS, and it’s a different way of seeing life through our school.

Senior Jordan Mosley voiced his opinion “The classes that Rindge offers are beyond the high school standard.” Victoria Corcione, another senior at CRLS agrees. As she visited colleges she found that some of the colleges had worse facilities and fewer opportunities: she was overqualified for them. Corcione believed that “When you leave a school like this, its hard not to leave with experience and a fantastic education.” In essence, take advantage of the course catalog and don’t be afraid to challenge yourself. Take your education into your own hands..



CRLS freshman Otis Emslie looks away as 9th grader Cam Lindsay radiates school spirit on Wacky Wednesday.
Photo Credit: Larry Arronson

They Shoot, They Score

The Freshmen Girls Squad kick off Strong

By
Turney Mckee
Register Forum Staff

It isn't often that freshmen sports prove to be the most newsworthy assets of an athletic department. However these past few weeks the freshmen girls soccer team has proven to be a bountiful source of both heartwarming victory and surprising controversy.

The girl's soccer program has not fielded a freshman squad for a significant amount of time. The program is only two years old, and as a result is still working out many of the kinks. When interviewed by the Register Forum Staff, Maryann Cappello, the CRLS Director of Athletics, gave us the lowdown on the team.

So far the squad has done very well. They are remarkably close to being undefeated: a testament to their passionate players and devoted coaching staff.

As of Monday, the 17th of October, the team boasts an 8-1-1 record: one of the best win percentages at CRLS this fall.

The team members appear to be very content with their performance. Player and Captain Rachel Harkavy expressed her happiness with their performance to date. "We've got a really good thing going here, and I expect to see it



With fear in their eyes, defenders shy away from Freshman Captain Ruby Booz's killer shot
Photo Credit: Larry Arronson

continue in the seasons to come." Team mate Eliza Klein mirrored her sentiments, opining that "We got out of it what we put into it, so I guess I'm pretty happy with our performance."

For the two-year existence of the program, the team has been run by Ninth Grade Supervisors, which could be described as soccer-savvy volunteers. In addition, for the limited duration of the program, the team has only practiced 3 days a week.

This limited practice schedule has recently sparked some controversy over an alleged breach

of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which essentially protects Americans from discrimination on the basis of gender. The complaint was based off of the practice schedule of the boys freshman team,

which "We've got a really good thing going here, and I expect to see it continue in the seasons to come."

practices 5 days a week: significantly more often than the girls team's 3 day schedule.

There are certainly mixed feelings on what has been called a resolution to the issue. According to the CRLS athletics administra-

tion, an extra practice has been added in addition to a player-run conditioning day, totaling to 5 workouts a week. These events are still in development, however they may prove to alter the structure of the freshmen

team which could have long term

implications on the girls soccer program as a whole.

Controversy aside, the success of the team, in the eyes of varsity soccer player Isabel Koyama, "Will advance the freshman

program and in the long run prove to benefit both the varsity squad in addition to the 9th graders." That these young women performed so spectacularly speaks towards their future successes.



Student Government and the homecoming crew gettin' jiggy with it at Friday's game
Photo Credit: Larry Arronson

CONGRATULATIONS



Maryann Cappello, our very own Athletic Director
Photo Credit: Larry Arronson

By
Register Forum Editing Staff

The Register Forum would like to congratulate Maryann Cappello, the CRLS Athletic Director, on her recent recognition as the MIAA Conference Athletic Director of the Year. Athletes and fans alike should be pleased to hear that Rindge Athletics has received yet another award.