

ACADEMY TIMES

Academy of Aerospace and Engineering
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Editorial Board
Jean Pasato ~ Benjamin Parke ~ Isabella St. Laurent ~ William Hobson-Rhoades ~ Mrs. Quinn

Hispanic Heritage Hits Home

By Neha Kataria
Staff Writer

The second annual Hispanic Heritage Night at AAE was held on October 4th.

Last year's event focused on fundraising. The school ended up raising close to \$600 for Hurricane Relief in countries affected by Hurricane Maria. This year's focus was to show and express Hispanic culture.

This event incorporated cultures from different Spanish speaking countries that are represented at AAE.

Hard work and late nights went into preparing for this event. Andrea Lacunza created the announcements to advertise the event. The week leading up to the event, Cristian Rodriguez held workshops to teach salsa dancing in class and after school.

Another huge contribution came from Ms. Hussey and her Spanish III Honors class. They created a display about Hispanic culture after completing interviews with students, teachers, and staff from the AAE community.

This event started with a workshop in the auditorium on Bomba, a traditional Afro rhythm from Puerto Rico. This performance was done by Movimiento Cultural from New Haven and included singing, dancing, and explanation on the history of Bomba. Towards the end, they taught the dance one-by-one.

Faith Mitchel and Hazel Patel Learned the dance and later got up on the stage to perform. Many students and parents stood up and moved along throughout the whole performance!

The second part of the night took place in the cafeteria. A potluck was held where students and parents brought cultural dishes to share. The potluck became so large, two lines were created to keep order and parents were asked to help serve some dishes.

On the sidelines a 7th-grade mom was selling items from Guatemala. Just outside the cafeteria, a pig



Families showing off their hispanic heritage through handmade crafts and souvenirs. Photo courtesy of Mrs. DeValle

roast occurred. The pig roast was done by Freddie Valeutin, a 7th-grade parent.

Towards the end of dinner, Farancisca Barria, a 9th-grade student of Chilean heritage, read the poem "Pieccitos" from a prominent figure of Chilean poetry. Another poem was read,

"El Idioma de las Mariposas" written by Katia Fabian.

Overall, over 250 people attended the celebration.

A special thanks goes out to Mrs. Adan-Valdez, the head of the Spanish department, who organized the entire event.

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@AAEAthletics on Twitter

<http://aaen.crecschools.org/>

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Day of the Girl

By Neha Kataria
Staff Writer



In support of advocacy for women, the United Nations announced October 11th as the International Day of the Girl. This addition to the Women Rights Movement was created in 2011 to help advocate for gender equality and youth rights.

The goal is to reach out to as many young girls internationally and give them a voice. More specific goals include helping reproductive justice, body positivity, political representation, and rape culture.

In the US, some new advancements in women's rights are being made by the youth-lead Action Team. They are training school administrators how to respond to sexual harassment and creating menstruation stations.

Lilly Singh, a social media activist, shared her own experience and how this movement impacted her. Before women's rights took a turn, she was told what to do and what her place was in this world. She discussed her restrictions. When she was given freedom and opportunity, her limitations vanished. Her goal is to help every teen girl around the world feel this free and empowered. Her story is a prime example of why this day was created.

"This is a fantastic way to create a gateway for the future generation of women to have access to the things they need," Bella St. Laurent, an editor on the school newspaper, said. "Teaching girls to be empowered and confident today will allow them to change the world tomorrow."

NFL Week 7, From AFC to NFC

By Desaray Champan
Staff Writer

American Football Conference:	JAX 3-0-3	CHI 3-0-2
NE 4-0-2	IND 1-0-5	GB 3-1-2
MIA 4-0-2	KC 5-0-1	MIN 3-1-2
NYJ 3-0-3	LAC 4-0-2	DET 2-0-3
BUF 2-0-4	DEN 2-0-4	NO 4-0-1
CIN 4-0-2	OAK 1-0-5	CAR 3-0-2
BAL 4-0-2	National Football Conference:	TB 2-0-3
PIT 3-1-2	WSH 3-0-2	ATL 2-0-4
CLE 2-1-3	DAL 3-0-3	LAR 6-0-0
TEN 3-0-3	PHI 3-0-3	SEA 3-0-3
HOU 3-0-3	NYG 1-0-5	ARI 1-0-5
		SF 1-0-5

Above are the football teams from different conferences abbreviated.

Seven weeks into the NFL season and here are the standings of each team (Wins-Ties-Losses) in the American Football Conference (AFC) and the National Football Conference (NFC).

The Aftermath of Hurricane Florence

By George Castillo
Staff Writer



On September 9th, 2018, Hurricane Florence made landfall on North Carolina. Despite the hurricane being a Category 1 storm, it still made a significant impact in North Carolina with less severe damage occurring in South Carolina. The hurricane wind speeds reached up to 137 mph, therefore Hurricane Florence still had enough wind speed to take out trees, flood streets, and cause power outages. About 5,000 people were out of power and 2,200 people were in shelters. More than 614,000 homes and business were flooded in Wilmington.

Because Wilmington is a coastal city near the Atlantic, the residents of that area were in serious danger.

Many animals died in North Carolina, a state known for their chickens. Over 5,000 hogs and 3.4 million chickens have died from Hurricane Florence. In addition to this, 47 people died from the storm. The city of Cleveland states that "Hurricane Florence damage was about 44 billion US dollars", while Fox Business said "Hurricane Florence is in the top ten most costliest hurricanes in the U.S". For now North Carolina has been recovering ever since the tragedy, and many people are donating money for families to re-shape their lives again.

Disaster's Destruction



By Brian Sinclair
Staff Writer

On Friday September 28th, in Palu City, Indonesia, a 7.4 magnitude earthquake occurred with more than a shocking 170 aftershocks. More than 2,000 people are confirmed dead and over thousands of people injured, leaving the hospitals overwhelmed. Not only did a massive earthquake strike but shortly after, a tsunami recorded to be at least 16-20 feet high struck the outskirts of Indonesia and slowly leaked into the main cities.

How Low Can Our Grades Go?

An honest look at our school's current grading system

How low are your grades this semester? I bet they're lower than you want them to be; chances are, they're lower than they should be. It is clear that our school is more rigorous than other schools in Connecticut, but just how much harsher is the way our courses are graded and the work assigned?

The average SAT score for a senior last year was approximately 1220, with an average GPA of 2.7 /4.125. However, compare this to the College Board reported data for 2017, and you see that the average grade in Connecticut for a score of 1220 was between a 96 and a 97 roughly, or a 3.9 GPA. This is a 1.2 GPA difference.

If last year's seniors were at their respective home high schools, they may have been almost straight A students; however, here, the average grade was around a C+ to a B-. The sight of Bs and Cs on a transcript as opposed to As and Bs is a daunting one to high school students, admissions officers and parents. Even if our school's reputation eases the pain of a lower-than-average GPA, the loss of scholarships certainly is not to be ignored. Many scholarship foundations use a student's GPA to determine eligibility to even be considered for a scholarship, and the grade deflation at AAE is detrimental to our students, especially those with limited financial help.

The implementation of the weighted GPA system is only compounding AAE's grading issue. Our class average GPA has actually been generally increasing by year, but because of the implementation of the new system, it is in fact going down.

Between 2017 and 2018, the average AAE GPA rose .03 points from 2.67 to 2.7, but the overall GPA went down. How could this happen? The scale changed from

a 4 to a 4.125, making the average GPA smaller than it looks at first glance. During this year, the effect of the new weight is poised to be just as bad, as seniors will now have their GPAs weighted out of 4.25 instead of 4.125 or 4.

The new weighted GPA was implemented in 2016, which would be fine if we were freshmen. However, because we aren't, that means that although we are being judged out of a weighted scale, the much more challenging honors or AP classes we took do not count more than the CP level courses.

I was among the few students to meet the University of Glasgow representative when he came to visit. Sadly, I am also among one of the very few students that would have a shot to get in. Glasgow requires a 3.0 GPA or higher in order to be considered. Glasgow, like other UK schools, and many U.S colleges, do not consider the rigor that AAE has, so all the recommendation letters or standardized test scores in the world wouldn't be able to get you in as the typical AAE student with a 2.7 GPA.

Like all universities, there are other requirements that may deny some AAE students no matter what their GPA is (1280 SAT, 2 AP Tests at 4+), but there are kids who could get in if their GPA was different. "Some could [get in despite GPA], some couldn't," 12th grade counselor Ms. Wathen said.

Every prospective college student knows that schools like to see growth on their transcripts, both in the level of classes taken and an increase of GPA and average grades, but because of the grading policies here at AAE, both will be absent from our records. In fact, for many students, like me, transcripts show a decrease in grades over time, a worrying aspect for many us.

CAPTION CONTEST

we provide the cartoon - you make it funny



This Month's Top Submissions:

- "Conformity looks good on you"
- "Very Fat"
- "Guess we'll never know"

Directions: If you have an idea about what you want written in the cartoon's bubble it could be published in the school newspaper. Simply scan the QR code and we will select the 5 funniest responses to share.

New Times Cross Lines

How the new scheduling affects students participation in clubs

Soon, clubs will start meeting every Monday after school. Over the past few years, I've been involved in a lot of them: Math Team, Drama, Physics Club, Band, Yearbook. I recently joined the Debate Team. I do clubs because they're my way of exploring my interests. School shouldn't just be about academics. Sports, clubs, and other student groups are a fantastic way to do what you like to do with your friends, which is why I'm writing to encourage all students to try a club.

No matter your interests, there's bound to be a group for you, ranging from dance to creative writing to robotics. Try something you've never done before. And if there really, truly is nothing that interests you, talk to a teacher and start a new club!

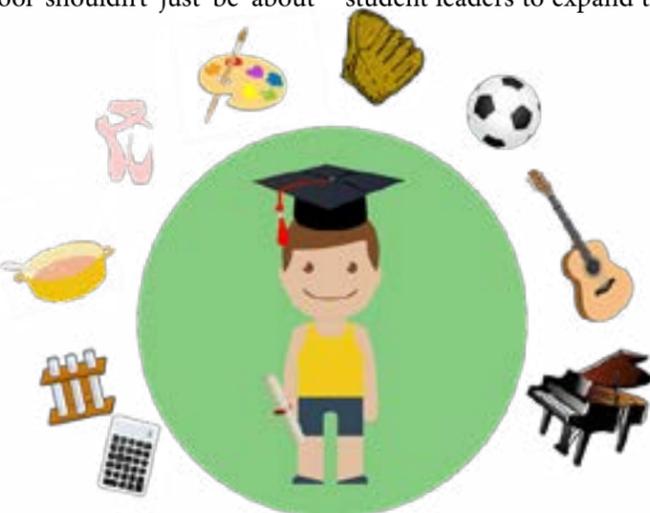
Of course, it isn't always easy to join student

groups. Sports and academics can take up most of our time, and transportation is only available on Mondays.

We used to have a 90-minute X-Block/Lunch period every day for clubs, but starting this year it's down to half an hour. With all these factors, it can be a struggle to join a club.

I'm calling on administration to work with advisors and student leaders to expand the times during which clubs can meet. I understand that money is tight, but there are already plans underway to cancel Saturday school and replace it with Tuesday after school tutoring. We can use the money we save by cancelling Saturday buses to and from Hartford to set up a second day of club transportation on Tuesdays. Additionally, we might be able to change the schedule, sacrificing X-Block on some days in exchange for a longer club X-Block on others, with no monetary cost at all.

We need to find the best ways to make it easier for every student to explore non-academic groups during high school.



Stressed Out Seniors

The college application process and the SAT burden teens

At first, senior year sounds like a breeze. The combination of senior trips and college applications makes it seem like seniors don't have to worry about school at all. Unfortunately, this isn't true at all. As it turns out, junior year grades aren't the only grades colleges look at. The first two quarters of senior year are equally considered for things like scholarships and the actual acceptance to the school.

This becomes a lot harder, however, when the completion of college applications is brought into the picture. Each one requires at least a days worth of work. This means that seniors are putting their applications as the priority in front of their daily class work and homework, but prioritizing this often results in the school work not being completed and the grades- the same ones that colleges are looking at- drop. So, as nonchalant as they sometimes seem, seniors are under far more stress than meets the eye.

Under closer observation, however, the stress can manifest visibly. If you pay attention, they can be seen neglecting their responsibilities and even their favorite hobbies. Even teachers feel some of the pressure connected with the college season. They are feeling encumbered from all of the college recommendations they have to write- let

alone the number of revisions they help with for students' college essays. Thankfully, this takes some of the pressure off of the students' backs and gives them at least a bit of a chance to have some down time to de-stress.

Soon though, the college application season will be done and seniors will move on to the next stage in the college grind, hopefully taking some time to appreciate their hard work and perseverance along the way.



The Hate U Give

By Kavita Parmar Staff Writer

The Hate U Give is a movie about Starr Carter who lives between two worlds. One is her neighborhood where she lives, which is poor and mostly black, and the other is her prep school which is mostly white.

She witnesses her childhood friend get caught in a fatal shooting by a police officer when he got pulled over. The book seems to support minorities, while simultaneously bringing up current events.

The Nun Review:

Adrenaline rush, horror-filled, action-packed thriller

By Jordan Jenkins Staff Writer

When a young nun at a cloistered church in Romania takes her own life, a priest with a haunted past and a novitiate on the threshold of her final vows are sent by the Vatican to investigate. Together, they uncover the order's unholy secret. Risking not only their lives but their faith and their very souls, they confront a malevolent force in the form of a demonic nun known as Valak.

Critics say, "The Nun boasts strong performances, spooky atmospherics, and a couple decent set-pieces, but its sins include inconsistent logic and narrative slackness."



Dear Lyla,

Anonymous:

I'm in love with my brother's best friend, and my brother does not approve, but I really like him, and I think he likes me too. What should I do?

Advice from Lyla:

I could honestly say I was in this situation before, and at the end of it all my brother was right the whole time. He said he didn't want me with him because he knows how his best friend is. I think you should have a serious conversation with your brother and see the real reason why he doesn't want you with him, then decide if that's a type of guy you want. At the end of the day, your brother should respect your decision, but just keep in mind that he is your brother, and he wants what is best for you.



MONTHLY HOROSCOPE

LIBRA



SEPTEMBER 23- OCTOBER 22

A LIBRA IS ..

A libra is a person who is gentle, kind and peaceful. They try to keep everyone around them happy and find it hard to almost always say 'NO' and result in getting stressed.



Birthstone



Constellation

Fun Fact

- Lucky number - 6 element associated with Libra is air
Spirit animal - raven Libras are artistic

Submit your questions by scanning the QR code below and Lyla will give you her advice on your issues.



Another CRAL to the Finish Line

By Jean Pasato
Editor in Chief



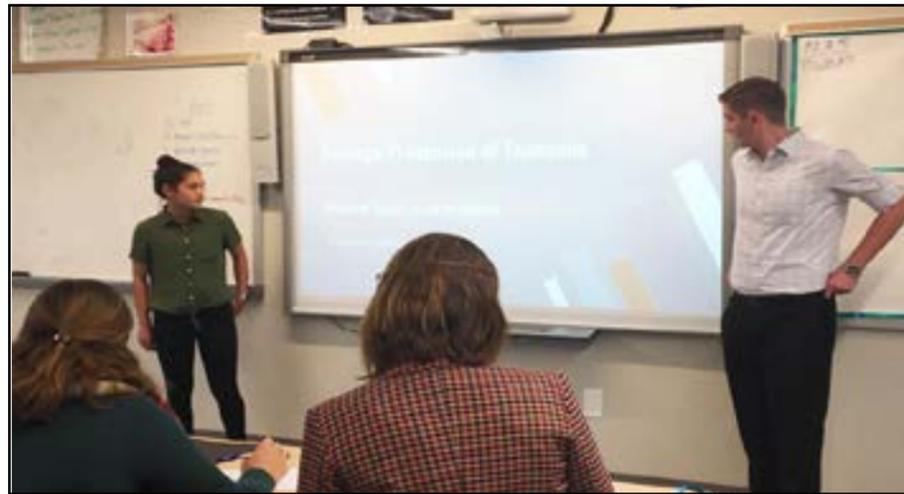
Cross Country team photo. Courtest of Coach Manby

Congratulations to the AAE HS Cross Country Team in securing 1st place in the CRAL Championship Meet! Every runner gave it their all and did so well--we couldn't be prouder of both individual and collective performances. Special shoutouts to **junior Jacob Karvelis**, **senior Andrew Hall** and **senior Will Hobson-Rhoades** for breaking the sub-19 mark! And another shoutout to **freshmen Thomas Tencza** and **David Stone**, **sophomores Joseph Mazzei** and **Baheer Akberzai**, and **seniors Grace DiCicco**, **Will Hobson-Rhoades** and **Andrew Hall** for setting PRs with more than a minute below their previous season records! Once again, we're so proud of you Jets!



Senior Neha Kataria practices her presentation before the event

Senior Shark Tank Event A Success



Seniors Sabrina Porter and Mark Beauregard presented their capstone proposals in front of a panelist of judges



Sharks included Mrs. Combs, Ms. McKenzie, Mr. Brenton, Mr. Klezlewski and Mrs. Kinkaid

Shark Tank is an event designed after the popular show on ABC in which budding entrepreneurs get the chance to present their ideas to the sharks in the tank -- five titans of industry with their own lucrative empires and willing to invest in the next money making idea. Similarly, seniors spend the evening presenting their capstone projects to a panel of teachers, administrators, members of industry in that field, and parents who all give their feedback on the viability of the student's project, their research and essential question, and offer advice on how to improve upon their project in order to bring it to fruition by the May exhibition event. The capstone project is a senior graduation requirement. Mr. Wollins, capstone teacher and coordinator, works tirelessly with the help of Ms Guay and Ms. Wathen, as well as fellow capstone teachers, Mrs. Quinn, Mr. Madore, Mrs. Kinkaid, and Dr. Aramli in order to make this event a success every year. This will be the third year the event has taken place, and we look forward to it becoming a long-standing tradition at AAE

Smells Like Teen Spirit



Samantha, Charlotte, Ava, Ashley, and Antonette doing a fun pose to show their AAE spirit.



High school social studies teacher, Mr. Williams and Jyheim Cooke, doin' it to them.



Ms. Hussey and Neha Kataria matching on pajama day.



Freshman Aniya Davis and sophomore Giahye Merridith pose in full pj onesies



Bella, Kaitlyn and Sydney doing a wacky pose.

School Ends, But That's Not All

By Theodore Colbenson
Staff Writer

AAE lines up another year with fall clubs in full swing. The selection of clubs is open to anyone interested. These events will vary from art, sports, academic skills, and even opinion encouragement! First, there are more physically active clubs for competition or just to occupy oneself. Such competitive-physical clubs include the intense quick-armed Ping Pong club with Mr.

Canterbury, and the expressive strong flow of DNT-Dance Crew with Ms. Lattarulo and Ms. Samperi. There is also the calm rhythmic art of crochet club. Then, there are the more academic or mentally active clubs that are for those that enjoy strategy and a test to one's growth over time. This can go for the slow, but mentally quick, paced Chess club with Mr. Johnson, the skillful learning and eventually competitive Math club with Ms. Dion, the power-

fully opinion based Debate Team with Mr. Williams, the complex, but fun Computer Science club with Ms. Ryer, and the always advancing fame of Robotics with Mr. Wollins and Ms. Lemke. Finally, there are simply those clubs that are to your own thing and collaborate with others like the Strategic, but always enjoyable, Game club with Mr. Hayden, and the freedom to express your creative ideas through Quill Crew with Mrs. Conti.

Girls Volleyball

By David Carmona
Staff Writer

The Jets played at home against their conference opponent Achievement First.

It was a slow start for the Jets, allowing Achievement First to gain an early lead. As they controlled the serving from the beginning, the Jets found their fire and pulled it together to gain a lead and reeled in the first set.

The Jets continued to use Smart Plays and Great Defense and were able to take the following 2 sets taking the competition 3-0 (25-23, 25-6, 25-17).

Honorable mentions are **senior Kaitlyn Murphy** with 20 assists, an Ace, & 6 kills; **sophomore Sydney Ball** with 2 Aces, 6 Kills, 1 Block; and **junior Adriana Ramirez** with 9 Ace, 10 assist. Look forward to more wins coming from the Lady Jets this season, with a majority of their home games on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Cross Country

By Raheem Jackson
Staff Writer



Cross Country at the CRAL Championship. Photo courtesy of Jeremy Clapis

The AAE HS Cross Country team participated in their last meet for the regular season with a beautiful fall run accompanied by Parish Hill on October 10th.

The AAE boys did exceptionally well, and won overall, only losing the 1st and 3rd spots to Parish Hill.

Senior Andrew Hall PRed at Wickham Invitational and continues to work hard to lower his time and push towards that sub 20 minute mark.

Props also to **junior Emily Ngo** who crossed the finish line first for girls. **freshman J'Shawn Gonsalves** hit his first ever sub 21 minute run, and **junior Adittyta Patil** cut off almost a full minute from his previous meet.

Girls Soccer

By Desaray Chapman
Staff Writer

The Jet Eagles are on their way to finals.

On October 12th, the Jet Eagles played the Pirates of Parish Hill in a rematch of Wednesday's game. The Jet Eagles built a strong game from the previous game with a comeback tie of 0-0.

The defense was led by **senior Bahati Constantine** (AAE), **junior Seanna Noble** (AAE), **Junior Samantha Roberts** (AAE) and **junior Najee Armour** (AAE).

The offense was led by **freshman Azaylia Roche** (AAE). **Senior Captain Desaray Chapman** had 13 saves for the Jet Eagles.



Team Photo Courtesy of Angelina Kohler from BPU, Senior Captain Desaray Chapman's Girlfriend.

Athlete Spotlight: Adittyta Patil



By Raheem Jackson
Staff Writer

This month's athlete spotlight goes to Cross Country rookie Junior Adittyta Patil. This season was his first season, but it was certainly one to remember.

"My motivation is initially and still continues to be to get faster for basketball and to see the time for Cross Country to go down overall," said Patil. His



Junior Adittyta Patil

love for basketball is what keeps him motivated to continue to keep working to become faster. He also plans on improving his skills.

Adittyta went from running a 28:02 time in his first meet, to improving his time by almost 3 whole minutes to a 25:19 during his final meet.



Football

By Mauri Castro &
Anaiah Smith
Staff Writers

The CREC Colts were able to achieve their first win against Amistad High School on September 29th.

The Colts were struggling before half time, trailing by a score of 12 to 14.

After coming out of the locker room going into second half, the Colts scored a touchdown putting them in the lead for the first time in the game with a game ending score of 34 to 22.

The following week, the

Colts took a loss against Plainfield High School, giving CREC Colts a wakeup call to practice hard and focus on their by-week to play against their next opponent, Griswold on October 20th.



Wide Receiver Tj Murray catching a reception for 15 yards
Photo courtesy of David Kauffman