

ACADEMY TIMES

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Editorial Board

Samantha Boreland Editor-in-Chief~ Sierra Hill~ Rufus Abraham~Hayden Misunas~ Frandi Aguilar-Gabriel~D'Andre Lucy

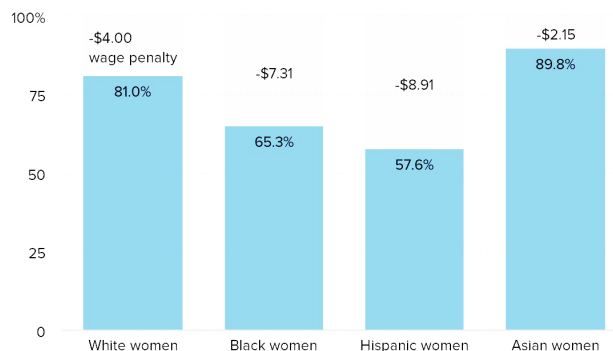
Black and Hispanic women experience the largest pay gaps



Williams becomes an advocate for equal pay for equal work *Indian Express*

Black and Hispanic women experience the biggest pay gaps

Women's median hourly wages as a share of white men's and their per hour wage penalties, by race and ethnicity, 2015



Notes: Values displayed above columns represent the difference between women's median hourly wages and median hourly wages of white men.

Source: EPI analysis of Current Population Survey microdata, 2015

Economic Policy Institut

By Lyric Ross Staff Writer

Serena Williams is considered one of the greatest female tennis players of all time by many.

Williams was born in Saginaw Michigan but was raised in Los Angeles where she learned tennis from her father on public courts.

Although Williams is a huge tennis star, she has been vocal about

being underpaid and undervalued because of the color of her skin and has made it clear that she cannot accept that.

Williams has won 23 grand slam titles and dominated women's tennis for years.

However, in an interview with British Vogue, Williams said,

"In this society women are not taught or expected to be that future leader or future CEO. The narrative

has to change, and maybe it doesn't get better in time for me, but someone in my position can show women and people of color that we have a voice."

Williams talks about how she feels she can be a great voice for those of color and the society of women and how women aren't looked at as their full potential and she wants to help put a stop to that.

According to the Economic Policy Institute,

Black Women are making 65% of white men's medium hourly wage.

Williams talks about how she has also experienced discrimination in the form of sexist remarks.

One male CEO said that female tennis players should "get down on their knees every night" to thank male players."

It shows how some men still don't have any respect for Williams or for women in general.

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Should there be more gender-neutral bathrooms?

A proposal for AAE students to have increased access to a comfortable environment in the building



By Jazz Wachs
Staff Writer

Gender-Neutral bathrooms

will be a step in the right direction for LGBTQ+ students within the Academy of Aerospace and Engineering.

A single-stall bathroom could easily be placed on the second or third floor near where the staff bathrooms are if space was needed, and the cost would be moderate for the impact it would have.

AAE does, in fact, have two gender-neutral bathrooms, but they are in the office.

A student may want to use those bathrooms. However,

they may be in a class on the third floor, and a bathroom trip would take much more time than needed.

Moreover, with the way the stairways are with the designated directions due to Covid restrictions, the trip now takes that much longer.

Having a gender-neutral bathroom on the second or third floor could help students who are uncomfortable in the men's or women's bathroom, but aren't "out" or haven't figured out their gender identity just

yet.

It could be a place for students to be comfortable without fear. Students may be afraid of getting hurt by other students, by their own thoughts or have body dysphoria.

There are several students who would gladly use that bathroom, but even if they don't, they may feel more comfortable in AAE because the school was willing to put in a bathroom that would be available to *anyone* who wanted to use it.

Critiquing the format on the return to school

By Carlos Colon & Sierra Hill
Staff Writers

It's a Monday morning at 7:36 am. The fourth alarm that many CDLA kids set on their phones ding, and they flip open their computer to join their first period class before they drift back to sleep.

Even if they are awake, they are most likely mindlessly doing other tasks while the teacher drones on in the background. Meanwhile, at school, students are sitting in socially distanced classrooms and watch the teacher meddle with Zoom before going on a mask break. After all of this, teachers will be able to get in just 45 minutes of teaching time before students will walk through a narrow hallway to their next class.

Across the nation, schools have been challenged with finding an effective way to return to school. Should they return? If so, how? What are



Students crowd a hallway back to school

Nicole Schroeder

the benefits? What are the risks? For example, many low-income students rely on their school to provide them with a hot meal during the day. On top of this, the psychological benefits of healthy socialization for pupils is undeniable.

Schools across the country originally shut down at just even one or two cases in their respective state. Now, states such as Florida are reopening schools at 800,000+ cases nationwide.

Many Southern school districts are even mask-optional. This means that students are indoors, in overcrowded high-volume

spaces such as hallways and cafeterias with no masks. Many people at a district and legislative standpoint deny the existence or validity of Covid-19 in many aspects, from case totals to death rates and even the efficacy of masks.

And yet, more people have died in 2020 from Coronavirus than from car accidents. If the experts, many with multiple degrees in their fields are correct, then staying home, wearing masks, and social distancing, will help save many lives. If, for some reason, they are not correct, then we will all have been inconvenienced.

From a personal experience, distance learning is tortuous, even if it is necessary. The recommended amount of screen time for someone aged 8-18 is just two hours per day, however when distance learning, students are exposed to screens from 7:35 am to 1:45 pm, with an hour break for lunch. They are then asked to do their homework, which varies in length based on how much their teacher was able to teach that day. The negative mental health effects of being isolated are unparalleled and for this reason, makes distance learning unethical. On top of this, approximately 15% of students have learning disorders, from ADHD to autism, which make focusing by themselves very difficult.

In many, many ways, schools have dropped the ball on the return to school. And yet, many districts will wait too long to shut down, resulting in unnecessary cases, and in extreme cases, death.

Wearing a mask, the new normal...

By Frandi Aguilar
Lifestyle Editor

Are wearing masks the new normal? We all know there was a pandemic at the start of the year that has changed almost everyone's lives. People had to quarantine for around three months to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

After quarantine, people were allowed to go to places if it was necessary but had to wear a mask, and this was the start of a new normal.

Masks are starting to be a requirement world wide in order to go to places. "I don't like it but I will respectfully wear it for safety purposes," said Hayden Misunas, a student from AAE, when asked about his opinion on wearing a mask everywhere he goes.

A few people weren't really that happy about wearing masks everywhere they go and some have even refused. Students are also required to wear a mask while they are in the building.

"Masks are most likely to reduce the spread of COVID-19 when they are widely used by people in public settings," says the CDC on their website regarding the guidelines of wearing a mask.

Masks are supposed to help prevent the spread of Covid-19 when people use them when going into public places.

If people don't wear masks, it is easier for the virus to spread since there is no way of stopping the air particles from going everywhere.

Wearing a mask can really save lives and prevent the spread of Covid-19.

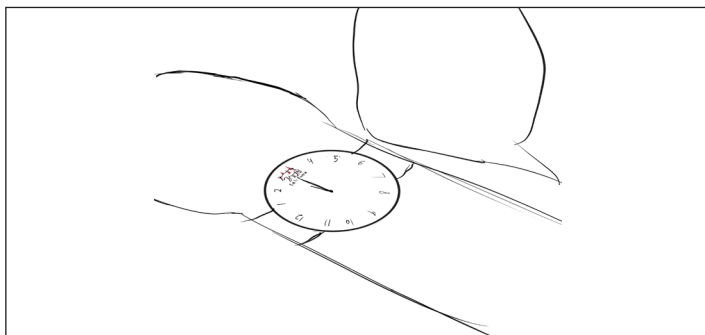
So, people, please wear your mask for your own safety and the safety of others to stop the spread of COVID-19 and not make your loved ones sick.



CDC

CAPTION CONTEST

we provide the cartoon - you make it funny



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.



Everything you need to know about Butterfly Locs



Short & Long Butterfly Locs

Pinterest

By Jadah Wilson
Staff Writer

Everything you *need* to know about Butterfly Locs.

"Butterfly Locs" are the latest hairstyle trend you need to try for a fly look.

To get started, purchase the crochet hair packs, which are very affordable in stores.

Depending on how much hair you have, I suggest you get at least 12 strands/pack, but usually 6 packs can fit a whole head. You can always keep extra to redo them anytime you want.

The Distressed Locs/ Butterfly Locs are pre-looped, so they are easy to install.

You can get them done in a salon or you can do it yourself depending on how good you want them to look.

If you don't want to do them yourself, you can get them done at the salon for \$180-300 for an extended length.

If you decide to DIY, \$100 will be enough for the complete look.

Having a personal hairstylist might reduce cost as well.

How to Maintain your New Look

When you sleep, make sure to wear a bonnet or a silk scarf to keep your hair secured in the protective hairstyle, so that you don't mess it up or have it frizz.

There's going to be fly-aways and little locs jumbled together, so remember to always finger your locs thoroughly and you'll be fine.

With proper maintenance in place, Butterfly locs can last for 2 months or more. Re-twisting the new growth on traditional locs is routine as the hair grows out, but you don't want to twist or style the roots.

Always keep them hydrated with oils, moisturizers, and wash if possible so that the hair grows faster.

If you don't use product, it'll just get messy and you'll receive no hair growth at all. Hair loss will occur if you don't take care of it.

Now that your new look is done and cute, be sure to take lots of pictures.

You can wear Butterfly Locs anywhere and style however you please.

Enjoy!!

TikTok to be sold to an American company



A man using TikTok on his phone

TicTok.mobl

By Cole Miller
Staff Writer

On August 6th, an executive order was signed by President Trump to ban the social media app TikTok from sale in American app markets. This sparked negotiations to sell the app to an American company, which have gone underway.

The Trump administration, which signed the order, did so in order to curtail any threat of American data being given to the Chinese government through TikTok.

TikTok is owned by ByteDance, a company based in the People's Republic of China.

In order for the ban to be lifted, TikTok would have to be purchased by an American company, of which, at this time, several have considered buying up the subsidiary.

Most recently, the

supermarket chain business Walmart and another company named Oracle, both of which are American companies, announced in August that they would team up to purchase TikTok from ByteDance.

"[...]ByteDance has received tentative approval for an agreement with the U.S. Government to resolve the outstanding issues, which will now include Oracle and Walmart together investing to acquire 20% of the newly formed TikTok Global business" Walmart stated. (Walmart, Sept 19)

However, on September 27th, a federal judge granted TikTok a preliminary injunction, which it requested, which has delayed the ban of the app. TikTok's lawyers stated,

"We will continue defending our rights for the benefit of our community and employees.

At the same time, we will also maintain our

ongoing dialogue with the government to turn our proposal, which the President gave his preliminary approval to last weekend, into an agreement" (CNET, Sept. 27).

So far, the plan for what to do with TikTok goes like this: a new American company named TikTok Global will be created, with ByteDance, Oracle and Walmart owning an 80% stake, a 12.5% stake, and a 7.5% stake respectively.

Whether TikTok Global will be a ByteDance subsidiary or an independent company is still up for debate between the corporations.

President Trump has stated that ByteDance will have nothing to do with TikTok Global, or else he will not allow the deal to go through thus keeping TicTok banned in the United States.

"It has to be 100% as far as national security is concerned" Trump said. (The Guardian, Sept. 16)

Tesla's 5 for 1 split makes stock more accessible



Getty Images

Elon Musk

By D'Andre Lucy
Staff Writer

As of August 31st, Tesla's five-for-one split of their common stock went underway.

In simpler terms, current shareholders will hold more units of capital and ownership in the company. Stock splits don't hurt your total holding value, stock performance does.

Tesla closed at a whopping \$498.32 per share. Pre split, this would equal \$2,491.6 per share.

However, with this split, you purchase less of the company than previously, specifically less.

Nonetheless, this still makes ownership more accessible to this historical run Tesla is having.

Following this news, on the 23rd, California Governor signed an executive order that banned the sale of new passenger vehicles that is not zero-emission.

Combine this with the possibility of a Blue outcome in the near election, and Tesla will be a stock to watch.

Low Arctic ice almost breaks record

By Ashanti Mclean
Staff Writer

As if this year isn't crazy enough, this is the second time in this century where the Arctic ice has been at such a low.

As of Sept. 15, there was a minimum of 1.44 million square miles of ice that covered the Arctic ocean. With temperatures falling, and new ice forming, coverage has been increasing.

"The 2020 minimum was nearly a million square miles less than the average annual minimum between 1981 and 2010" (Fountain, H. 2020, September 21. NY Times).

These numbers just go to show how slowly, but surely, humans' effect on the planet are beginning to rise to the surface.



ChemistryWorld.com

Melting Arctic ice impacts Earth global temperature

The negative effects caused by humans are beginning to

rise to the surface just as fast as the Earth's sea levels. Lack of sea ice plays a role in the warming of the atmosphere.

"The ocean surface is darker and absorbs more of the sun's rays, re-emitting the energy as heat. That leads to more warming and more ice loss, with the process continuing in what scientists call a feedback loop" (Fountain, H. 2020, September 21. NY Times).

The fact that humans are one of the main causes for these events goes to show that they can do something about what they have caused.

Reducing the amount of time spent in a vehicle is a great way of being a part of the solution.

"When you save a gallon of gas you can help keep 20 pounds of CO2 out of the atmosphere. You also get lots of benefits by walking to the office, school, or grocery store" (Harnish,C. 2016, June 23)

Necessary solutions are needed in order to ensure that the planet can continue to run at a semi-smooth pace. Changes must be made sooner rather than later.

Covid-19 empties animal shelters across the U.S.



A woman who participated in the Covid-19 vaccine trial kisses her newly adopted foster dog

By Cortland Carbone
Staff Writer

COVID-19 has affected all of us in a multitude of ways. Our home and work lives have dramatically shifted and our everyday worries have moved to the forefront of our minds.

Not all of these changes have necessarily been negative! A positive impact? The surge in adoptions and fostering of shelter pets during the pandemic.

Nonprofit organization, the Richmond SPCA, reported that even during the early stages of COVID-19, it was apparent that as adoptions increased, there was a significant decrease in shelter intake, or the number of stray animals entering shelters.

This time during

COVID-19 has resulted in "tens of thousands fewer homeless dogs and cats" losing their lives across the U.S. The National Database for shelter animal statistics, Shelter Animals Count, released a COVID-19 impact report that provided exciting evidence of this surge. Through March-June 2020, it was calculated that 89 percent of homeless animals left shelters alive in comparison to last year's 86 percent.

The placement of so many shelter pets during these unprecedented times is a welcome development and demonstrates the value of companionship that these animals provide during periods of uncertainty.

Quarantine, maybe not that bad



Gifty.com

How Corona made us stay in quarentine for months at a time

By Anthony Walker
Staff writer

On March 13, 2020, quarantine happened for the entire state of Connecticut. However, what is intresting is that this event may have helped take some stress off of your shoulders.

The quarantine helped a lot of students who needed a break from school to recuperate.

During school, students need a break, and quarantine gave students the ability to rest, catch up on sleep, and create some healthy habits that lack with school stress and early wake times.

Quarantine made millions of people stay home for months at a time because the virus was spreading very quickly. As a result, during that time, the virus affected less and less people every single day.

According to Conecticut's daily Covid report, the state saw some of its lowest numbers between the months of May and August. Cases went down every single day during the summer months.

On September 26th, there were no reported cases in CT, showing that wearing masks, and social distancing works.

Anti-Mask Maniacs



Anti-masker sitting on the ground in Costco protesting

Nowthisnews

By Thomas Tencza
Staff Writer

There are many civilians around the country that do not want to wear a mask. There's many reasons why, like them thinking COVID-19 is supposedly "fake".

Most of these stubborn people are middle-aged conservative women, there have been some men under the same description too that have had public temper tantrums as well, but it is less documented.

Primarily these fits of rage have been in public places like grocery stores with a lot of spectators watching from the sidelines.

These anti-maskers are completely shameless and

one has even sat on the ground like a child when the employees at a Costco told her to put on a mask because of state law.

"I feel threatened, I FEEL THREATENED! BACK UP! THREAT ME AGAIN!" Is what a Florida man screamed at an employee of a Costco for telling him to put a mask on.

Most of the people who dislike masks are very aggressive and have definitely low self esteem, but they should recognize that what they're doing is putting themselves and others at risk of getting and spreading COVID-19.

If anyone who is reading this knows someone like this tell that person to have some common sense.

\$25,000 Tesla



Tesla

By Rufus Abraham
Editor

On Tesla Battery Day, Tesla announced their concept of

the 25,000 dollar Tesla car and how it would be ready by 2025.

These premium luxurious cars are both better for the environment and cheaper to use than gasoline or diesel powered cars. This would mean that cars of gasoline and diesel nature would inherently be eliminated.

Rest in peace Ruth Bader Ginsburg



oyez.com

By Josh Bell
Staff Writer

On September 18th, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg passed away due to complications of metastatic pancreas cancer.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg was noted as one of the greatest supreme court justices ever.

In 1993 Ginsburg was appointed to the supreme court by President Bill Clinton. She was the oldest Supreme court justice,

serving for 27 years in this position.

Being only the second supreme court justice, she came with an agenda that she immediately started implementing equality for everyone.

Some of her most notable accomplishments were helping legalize same-sex marriage, expanding abortion rights, providing voting rights for everybody, improving the immigration system, minimizing health care restrictions, and continuing affirmative action.

To honor her legacy, for a week there have been continuous marches by hundreds of thousands of people holding signs and items that represented her.

"Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you."

- Ruth Bader Ginsburg

School year hits speed bumps

By Troy Weir
Staff Writer

At the beginning of the year, teachers usually have to worry about getting students down off their summer high and into a school schedule, but when the world comes to a stop, getting students back on track is a more intensive process.

"I think there's definitely something that's missing that momentum that drives," said, ECE English teacher, Mrs. Sinesi.

After months of quarantine, one possible reason could simply be the extended amount of time students had off from the rigors of coursework. Many teachers have had to make the tough

decision to stay home and lose a lot of the implicit ways of communication.

"Being a distance learning teacher it is hard to tell other than what is submitted and what is discussed on zoom the level of engagement, atmosphere and connection that's happening" said Sinesi.

Hurdles in the adjudgment process are all the things that can't be communicated through Zoom and masks like body language, facial expressions that would otherwise be easy to spot and counsel.

But teachers like Sinesi have led the way in making the best out of a difficult situation through calendars, lenient first quarter deadlines, and constantly taking input.

Teachers seeking self improvement

By Samantha Boreland
Editor-In-Chief

This year teachers have placed a focus on improving their own classrooms.

In a research block I was in, I had a teacher ask all the students if there was anything she could do to be a better teacher.

I thought this was interesting because she only has us for a research period. So why was it important for her to ask us this?

I've noticed in my time at school, administration will often ask for student's opinions but never actually

reflect on the opinions given. This teacher was asking because she sees any advice worth taking into consideration.

This is a pattern that is demonstrated through the various surveys and several teachers I've witnessed asking about what they can improve upon so far this year.

So where will this go? It is important to note that the climate of school is set up to where students don't have the opportunity to share.

So a push to hear student voices is in itself a big improvement. School has been in

session for almost 4 weeks so it's too close to say whether or not teachers are actually implementing change.

But even the trauma scan given out to students shows an effort towards caring for the students district wide.

However distance learning has encouraged flexibility among teachers, so it would not be a shock if teachers were flexible with any changes their students want to see.

Students continue to hope that their recommendations will ultimately help change teachers for the better.

Students left out of the conversation



kaffinated conversations

Students feel without a voice on Zoom

By Anthony Daigle
Staff Writer

As the new school year came upon us we all knew there would be more challenges with our current situation.

Both the kids that are going to school physically and the CDLA kids have to still be in class together through Zoom, but for some CDLA kids it is even more difficult to participate in class through Zoom when they don't have a microphone to communicate with the class and teacher.

There aren't too many people with this issue, but as someone who does have this problem, and knows other people with the same issue, I can say we get frustrated.

For the people who do have to deal with this problem, it makes school that much more challenging to get through.

Some teachers don't always look at the chat or have it pulled up so you can't ask questions, and when they call on one of the students who don't have a microphone and just think they aren't there it frustrates them because they don't have a voice to participate.

In-class versus distance learning



Zoom

Students take all of their classes online this year due to Covid-19

By Josh Wilson
Staff Writer

This year is really answering a question that many students probably thought about at least once. We were forced to surpass our limits and be very flexible when it came to how we interacted with each other.

Now that every student has experience in distance learning, the question is: Is distance learning better for students than learning at school?

As a distance learner

myself, I must say you have more free time learning from home.

A lot of time where I would normally be doing anything school related is opened up to me now, such as waking up early to get ready for school, or taking the bus ride to school and back.

Since I'm learning from home, I no longer have to spend three hours doing those things. Not to mention I have more freedom working from home.

Handing in work from home seems to have its pros and cons.

Unlike school, everything is virtual. So that means no paper assignments, which can be a good thing at times and also a bad thing sometimes.

This is because sometimes there can be issues with your internet, which causes you to lose time when working on assignments, but doing work online gives you a less

chance of losing your work, or getting it "eaten" by your dog.

During class time, I feel as if it is much harder to focus.

This is because we have many distractions at home and discipline isn't enforced as much as it would be at school.

Many times during a Zoom call, a student will say "I'm going to get something to eat" or "I'm going to let my dog out."

These may sound like things that are necessary and should be excusable, but if the same student was in school it would be impossible for them to get something to eat, much less let their dog out.

Students, including myself, have, at times, done things during online school that we wouldn't normally do at regular school, which is translating to a heavy impact on a student's academic performance.

Covid-19 vs. Football



Hudl

CREC Colts season cancelled?

By Jordan Thomas
Sports Writer

This fall, 2020, highschool football levels Varsity down through Freshman Football were cancelled because of the world-wide pandemic, Covid-19.

Most states in the country are still playing football this season, but Connecticut is not going to be participating.

Senior, Jonathan Crockett was interviewed on how he felt about the season.

"I'm disappointed in the choice that was made not to play... this can hurt my recruitment to play at the next level" Crockett said.

On September 10, dozens of high school football teams showed up outside the state capitol in Hartford to protest and try to demand the season back.

There were hundreds of players who showed up to the protest.

Also, to back up the protest a petition was signed by 33,000 people, which was for the season to be played if not this fall then in the spring.

As of now the CIAC is thinking about the idea of having football in the spring for a month between the winter and spring seasons. The season would be shortened.

Star volleyball player

By Rodirick Mathews
Sports Writer

For the month of October, the *Academy Times* newspaper would like to highlight senior volleyball player, Ashley Rinaldi.

We've seen her outstanding kindness, and her ability to excel in both the classroom and on the court.

Rinaldi was a top contributor against MLC as the volleyball team dominated as a unit firing on all cylinders. The Jets won with a score 25-8.

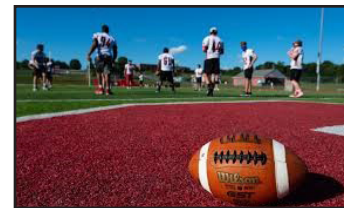


Rodirick Mathews

Rinaldi holds trophy from conference win last year

Currently the Jets are 6-0 this season.

Will football play in the spring?



thezone.rep-am.com

Football players not able to pick up a football-yet

By Alex Arroyo
Sports Writer

According to WTNH news 8, The Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) have released plans for high school football to continue during the spring.

The CIAC board of control is calling it a "Second Semester Alternative Season" where football will be played.

This is not only for football as the CIAC confirmed that this will be true for any fall sport that will miss 40% of their season.

Coach John Acquavita of Wilbur Cross Football stated "Now that it has been canceled for this fall, and we are all back at the starting point.

This has got to be the best news we could hope for because the world hope is what we're looking for"

This is great news not only for football players, but fall sports as a whole.

With early conditioning starting back up again there seems to be a solid plan lined up for this spring.

After a long struggle of trying to get another season, football players can finally have something to look forward to in these troubling times.

Soccer possibly cancelled?



Boys soccer team takes group photo donning masks

Jonathan Jacobs

By Hayden Misunas
Sports Writer

The question remains, how long will the Aerospace boys high school soccer team really last?

Because of the new regulations put in place for the Aerospace boys soccer team, it gives plenty more reasons for Mr. Wiener, CREC's district's athletic director, to go ham.

With their first game played on Monday, October 5th, the boys will have to be extra precautious while trying to keep up with all the new rules.

"I think there will

be problems because the athletes may have difficulty keeping their masks on the whole time, and one of Mr. Wiener's associates may try to get us canceled for that," said Frandi Aguilar of the Aerospace boys high school soccer team.

"Masks are like a muzzle; they silence and disrupt our performance during our recent practices.

Soccer is all about communication and if you can't tell what someone is saying you could hurt your team" said Jae'len Mitchell, another player on the Aerospace boys high school soccer team.