

# The Town Crier

Paul Revere Charter Middle School  
and Magnet Center

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

Volume 67, Issue 6



Patriots and Michelle Alegria practice breathing techniques in the rose garden.

## Revere Takes a Moment to Refresh

In honor of Mental Health Awareness Month, events all throughout May promote students' mental well-being.

By ISABELLA AGUILAR

Patriots started out Mental Health Awareness Month by taking a breath in the rose garden. On May 1, Michelle Alegria, the founder of We Just Breathe, came to Revere and showed stu-

dents some breathing techniques like breathing through a straw where participants breathed as if they had a straw between their lips, belly breathing, and a breathing exercise that helps you fall asleep. This exercise was organized at the beginning of testing week so students could use the techniques they learned to relax during the state tests. One of the event organizers, Ms. Gutierrez, said, "Not only is it Mental Health Awareness Month, but we also wanted to provide tools for testing and to help students relax and get calmer. I think the event helped students to be calm

and breathe. They also learned the importance of breathing."

Students participating in the activity were also put into a raffle. Seventh-grader Mikey Javid was the winner. He says of the event, "It was very interesting and I enjoyed it because recently I've had some struggles. I do a lot of meditating before bed, and now I also do some breathing exercises like the ones taught at the activity. On bad days, it makes me feel better."

On May 3, a large piece of paper with the words "How do you de-stress during testing week?" was put on a table on

the stage in the quad for students to share their favorite ways to relax. Common responses included sleeping, drinking water, playing an instrument, or running. For this event, anyone who put a response on the board was entered into a raffle just like the breathwork event. The winner, eighth-grader Zane Wolsefer, said he de-stresses by going on Google Earth. Another winner, eighth-grader Daria Sierova, said, "I try to relax and sleep." Sixth-grade winner Melyssa Guillen's preferred de-stressing method is drawing. Event  
*(Continued on page 2)*



The "Mean Girls" cast sings "I See Stars," their grand finale. Page 10



Olivia and Amari do a spring concert dance to "Arabian Nights." Page 13



To buzz or not to buzz? Miles says yes, Jake says no. Page 14



Saniah (right) gets ready to take the lead in the XC Finals. Page 18

organizer Ms. Riley explained her reasoning for hosting the event. "A lot of kids coming into my office seemed very stressed about testing and not doing well on tests," she explained. "I wanted them to see how other kids are coping with stress. The event may not have helped immediately because it was halfway through testing week. But, it probably gave them tips for the future so they can try to cope with that stress. Some examples were drawing, hugging a friend, sleeping, drawing, exercising, maybe things they hadn't thought of."

In the next event, Patriots channeled their creative side and painted rocks in X3. The original date was Monday, May 8, but because so many students signed up, there was also a rock painting session on May 11. Participant Jazmin Marquina said, "I've been having a stressful year, so it helped a lot. Also, I got to talk to my friends and paint a mango." The organizer of the event, Ms. Gutierrez, agreed that painting can be a good way to relax and de-stress. "Painting can be used as a therapeutic activity," she said. "And we used it like that. It was also used to get students together and paint rocks."

Next up in Mental Health Awareness Month was yoga. On May 15, Patriots and Rachel Hirsh from Empowered Yoga came to Revere's rose garden to practice the ancient activity. The practice started off with child's pose, then they came to tree pose, warrior two, downward dog, cobra and some other stretches. The lesson finished off with some breathing in savasana or corpse pose. At the end, students picked their prizes and returned back to their lunch. Ms. Riley shared an interesting fact about the yoga event. "Last year we did yoga, but it ended up being a failure since the yoga teacher canceled at the last minute. So I had to try to teach it, and I am not a yoga teacher. This year, I went to a yoga class and the teacher ended up doing it this year."

The next event encouraged students to listen to their gut. On May 17, Patriots came to X13 to learn about mindful eating and enjoy some candy. Mindfulness is when you are thinking in the moment, not the past, not the future. You focus on what you

are doing at that moment only. Mindful eating is when you focus on your food and how all of your five senses respond to what you are eating. So, for this activity, Ms. Riley and Ms. Gutierrez gave each student one candy and

a sheet of paper where they recorded how the candy looked, felt, smelled and tasted. Sixth grade participant Camilla Morales said, "It was a good way to show how to pause what you're doing and focus on doing one

thing, to pause and enjoy the moment. Also, it was a good experience and a good way to develop an understanding of eating mindfully."

On Tuesday, May 23, the counselors scheduled another event, designing a "breathing stick" in front of the Student Store during lunch. Breathing sticks are a device that can be used in deep breathing exercises. As Ms. Gutierrez said, "Deep breathing exercises can be an essential tool to your mental health. It's a form of showing students deep breathing and a mindful tool that students can use in a time of panic, stress or any emotion."

Revere's final event in Mental Health Awareness Month will be held today during lunch in X13. This Kahoot is intended to be a review on all things mental health. Ms. Riley, who organized all events in Mental Health Awareness Month, said, "So far, it's been really good. We had to do sign ups for every event and on every event there has been a wait list. Mostly sixth-graders have signed up, which I find interesting. I think the yoga was very fun, everyone was participating and at one point everyone was doing back bends and other really fun cool stuff, so I think it was a success." Camilla Morales attended many of the events in Mental Health Awareness Month including breathwork, rock painting, mindful eating and yoga. "I think the activities were really good, especially during testing week," she said. "It was helpful because it increases the skills I have for de-stressing."

Ms. Gutierrez, one of the organizers for all of the events above, is not only Paul Revere's school climate advocate, but she recently got her master's degree in school counseling with PPS and CWA (child welfare and attendance) from California Lutheran University. Focusing on getting a degree while working at a job is hard, but Ms. Gutierrez has some tips. "I had to find balance and take care of myself so I can take care of others mentally, emotionally and physically," she said. "Having a strong support system to pick you up and family support helps a lot. I hope to become a school counselor and I am ready for the next good thing!"



Rachel Hirsh instructs students in a lunge during the yoga practice.



Ms. Riley holds up her painted rock, while Ms. Gutierrez proudly shows off her new master's degree from California Lutheran University..



Ms. Gutierrez and Jazmin Marquina add color to their rocks in X13.



Arcei Phillips asks Judge Young a question on Ms. Gualano's laptop while the judge's face is seen on the classroom projector.

# CHANGE MAKERS

Throughout March, Revere was visited virtually and in person by several distinguished speakers for Women's History Month.



The first visitor came on March 3. **Jamira (JC) Johnson** (top left), the CEO of a clinical skincare line called OAM (On a Mission), gave a Zoom talk. She shared her experiences with beauty stores and chemical-biological engineering. On March 8, **Winnie Young** (top right), a judge from the Compton Courthouse, met with students on Zoom. She talked to students about how she could tell if people were lying or telling the truth and answered many other questions, including one about the tests one must pass in order to become a lawyer.



On Mar. 15, **Liucija Baskauskas** (above left), the grandmother of eighth-grade student Vitalija Schafer, made an in-person visit. Liucija came to America from Lithuania as a child during the Soviet occupation of her country. Later she returned to Lithuania to create the first non-governmental television and radio channel. She gave the advice, "Leadership is success and failure. It is not just success, it is not just a straight path." On Mar. 20 WNBA basketball player **Lisa Willis** (above right) gave a Zoom talk during homeroom. After an activity she said, "What if I told you that you can be the same person that you were when things were going well as you would like to be when things were not going well?"

## Willa Libaw

# Saluting the Forgotten Female Rider



Photo: Putnam County Historian's Office & Archive

Since March is Women's History Month, I thought it was a good time to learn about an important, yet little known, figure in the American Revolution. Everyone probably knows the story of Paul Revere. Originally a humble silversmith, he was made famous by a poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, "Paul Revere's Ride." After checking the lanterns placed in a steeple ("one if by land, two if by sea"), he rode from Boston to warn citizens about the British and became a famous part of the American Revolution. Our school is even named after him!

But what about a much less known hero? Sybil Ludington, daughter of an important colonel, also made an important ride to warn others about the British and ultimately, aided the American Revolution.

On Apr. 26, 1777, Colonel Ludington received word that the British had entered Dansbury, a town in Connecticut. Knowing that they did not have enough soldiers to fight the British, Sybil either "volunteered, (as is often recounted) or was directed by her father to bear the order for muster and to rouse the countryside is a matter of uncertainty," according to the Britannica website. Either way, Sybil rode roughly forty miles with her father's musket to alert the troops, through enemy territory. There was also torrential rain, which can make it much harder to ride a horse. She reportedly shouted, "The British are burning Dansbury!"

Some accounts say that when she finally made it home there were some four hundred men on their way. Sybil rode in total roughly forty miles, more than double that of Paul Revere, who rode an estimated thirteen miles. She was only sixteen (Revere was 41). It makes you wonder if our school should have a different name.



The group visited the capitol building, where the U.S. Congress meets.

# A Captivating Trip to the Capital



Mrs. Butler saw the poster of a famous activist hip hop group.



The Washington Monument lights up at night.



The group saw the Supreme Court building on Thursday.

By SOPHIA HARELIK

Ms. Gualano and Mrs. Butler led a trip across the country to the nation’s capital. Twenty-eight students took the spring break journey to Washington, D.C. during the week starting Apr. 3. They visited famous landmarks and museums.

Seventh-grader Nissa Jannati said, “It was super fun and I really enjoyed seeing the White House. Plus it was nice getting to know some Revere students better.”

Nissa and her fellow Patriots visited some famous landmarks in the National Mall including the Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument, and the Korean and Vietnam War memorials. The group also went to the Arlington Cemetery and Ford’s Theatre, where President Abra-

ham Lincoln was assassinated.

Back in L.A., Ms. Gualano said, “It was a very positive experience. I enjoyed sharing my love of history with Revere students.”



Daniel Lewis stands in front of the famous Lincoln Memorial.



Mrs. Butler stood for freedom at the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

## A Day in the Life of Mr. Iannucci

By SOPHIA HARELIK

3:30 AM - He wakes up.

4:30 AM - He eats breakfast, normally a banana and toast.

5:30 AM - He leaves his house and heads to school.

5:45 to 6:00 AM- He gets to school, depending on how bad traffic is.

6:00 AM - He goes to his office and looks at emails, teacher absences, checks his meeting schedule for the week or day and checks in with Ms. Ana.

7:00 AM - Stands outside in the horseshoe and welcomes incoming students.

8:00 AM - Once everyone is in class, he goes back to his office and makes calls and emails.

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM - His day consists of supervision during lunch, nutrition and passing period and meetings with parents, staff or the district. He also checks in with the attendance, counseling and student services offices. He doesn’t have a designated lunch, but rather snacks on granola bars, muffins or pretzels throughout the day.

4:00 PM - Leaves school and heads home.

4:30 to 5:00 PM - Gets home depending on how bad traffic is.

“I work at the best school in L.A. and . . . **Go Dodgers!!!**”  
—Mr. Iannucci



# Class of 2023 Has a Fun Time At Universal

By **OLI ALBORES** and **MATYAS KREJCI**

Eighth-graders enjoyed a trip to Universal Studios on May 5. After an hour or so ride to the theme park, students were set free to go explore the different experiences that the park had to offer.

The park was closed down at 7 p.m. to the general public so that the graduates could enjoy the park themselves. Parsa Montazeri reported, "The park was filled with kids from other schools, and lines were very long. The staff was generally kind and chill."

Kai Hung said, "The park was surprisingly very crowded. Even after all the normal people left, the lines were still close to the same. Most rides were an hour or longer wait."

Despite the long lines, Zachary Fenton was able to go on the Jurassic World ride twice. Evan Dardashti said he had fun "hanging out with my friends and going on lots of rides." He added, "I felt like the workers treated me well, and one even gave me a fast pass for free!"

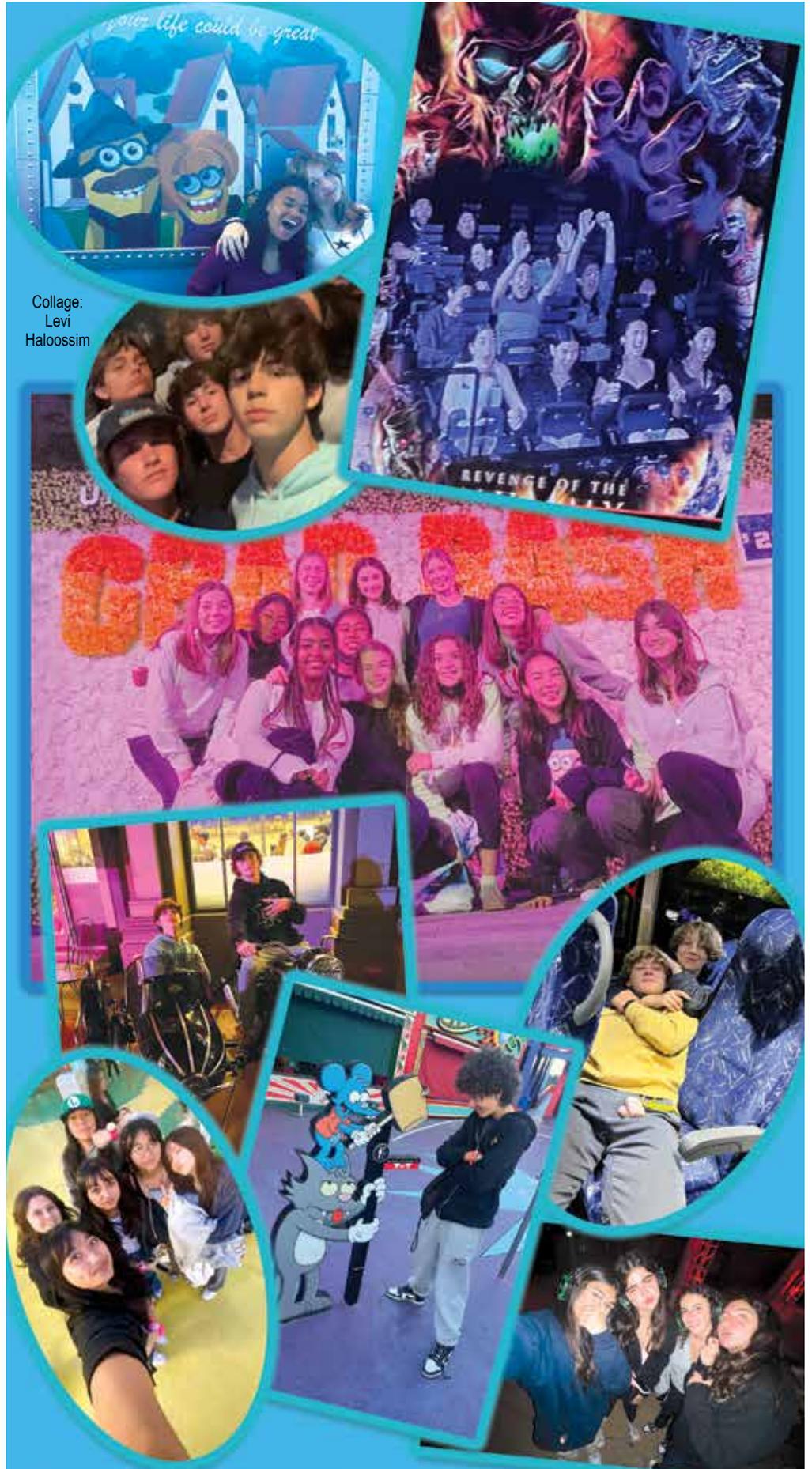
In Ethan Davidian's view, "The best part of the trip to Universal was definitely the Harry Potter section. It was so cool to see all the sets and props from the movies and the rides were awesome!" He added, "At first, I was kind of bummed we weren't going to Disneyland. But when I found out about Universal, I got excited because I always love going there too."

Soleil Hussain said, "My favorite part of the trip was going on the mummy ride! I was excited because Super Nintendo World opened recently and I wanted to see it for the first time."

After the students enjoyed the first couple of rides they needed to refill their energy with a nice warm plate of food. Ethan Davidian said, "I had a churro later in the afternoon. My friends got some cotton candy too, but I didn't want to spoil my appetite for dinner. For dinner I had some Panda Express with a bunch of people."

Although the students loved the food and candy, the goodies came at a high price. Mason Sugimoto stated, "The prices of the Krusty burger and churros were outrageous. A simple burger and drink cost me \$22!"

Beatrice Hudson agreed that things were overpriced. "A water was like \$6.50 and two tacos were \$20," she reported.



Collage:  
Levi  
Haloosim

# Farm Update

Meet the new spring arrivals at the farm.



Joseph Andres feeds baby goat Inky. The baby goats (Inky and Tennessee) require the most care. Tennessee (not pictured) thinks he is a big goat and does not realize he is so small. The baby goats play with the older goats and come home with Ms. Robertson on weekends.



Mochi the baby chinchilla eats some grass. Mr. Robertson says Mochi is doing well and loves playing with students.



Liliana Silva (left) and Yvette Thompson hold Cotton Candy and Lollipop. The new chickens will lay green eggs in the fall because they are Ameraucana breed.



Teams from around LAUSD gather in a gym to participate in the first ever Super-Quiz.

## ACA DECA TEAMS WIN HONORS

Revere's competitors make their mark at local event.

By JONAH HOURIANI

Patriots of Aca Deca are ecstatic when they walk into the gym where the first ever super-quiz competition will take place. Paul Revere students practiced and studied for this moment the whole year and were ready to prove themselves to the rest of the contenders. It all began on Saturday morning of Mar. 22. Patriots stepped on the big yellow bus at 6:30 and drove to Holmes Middle School in the valley. Revere's team was one of the first to arrive and used this opportunity to strategize what they would do during the competition.

The competition consists of five subjects: math, science, history, fine arts, and literature. Students also read the novel Chains, by Laurie Halse Anderson, about the American Revolution written from the perspective of a young girl during that time. Students took the test and have yet to receive their scores.

The main event was around the corner and students of Paul Revere's Aca Deca team paraded into the gym where the first official Super-Quiz would take place. Revere had two teams, one representing eighth-grade and one for seventh. Each of the teams from each school went up to a table with a proctor and answer ten questions on their iPads. Patriots were cheering on their

fellow students during the competition.

When the results were finally revealed, Revere did not score first place overall but the seventh grade team was awarded... first place out of every seventh grade team there! Mr. Hamanishi (pictured in circle) praised his students for persevering and not giving up. All seventh grade students had earned themselves a gold medal for placing first. Mr. Hamanishi said, "I was very pleased with the results, and I am looking forward to the seventh and eighth grade group to continue on their path to great things at nationals."



Revere's team will be heading to nationals which is the top middle schools from the whole U.S combined. This is a big change from last year because the competition was not held at a different school but instead, Patriots had to participate in the competition from Revere.

Finally after much anticipation, Revere's team received their scores back. First place in fine arts went to Viktoria Amarillas. Aaron Rahimi placed second in literature and will receive a silver medal. Maria Afzal and Hannah Sadzik placed a solid third and fourth in mathematics. Hannah Sadzik placed second in science.

Eighth-grader Aaron Rahimi said, "Although lengthy, the experience was rather gratifying."



Revere takes the stage after the seventh grade placed first in the Super-Quiz.

# Making Math Memorable

Four Revere math teachers lead special projects for their classes throughout the spring semester.

By ASTRID VILLATORO

This year in honor of some special days, four seventh-grade math teachers decided to add a little fun to their classes.

For Valentine's Day Ms. Palcan did an activity involving calculating one's heartbeat when it has to work faster as the body exerts itself. She had her students find their heartbeat and calculate how many times their hearts beat per hour. "I wanted to do something related to Valentine's and our hearts as well as math," Ms. Palcan said. So she invited her students to Town Hall to do the Cupid Shuffle. She played a video and followed the steps while her students followed her movements. All this movement made their heart beat start to race. Once they stopped dancing, students checked their pulses and counted.

Ms. Manes and Ms. Stewart's classes



Ms. Manes shows off her students' posters.

were learning about inequalities. To see how far their knowledge on inequalities goes, they assigned a group graphing project. Students were split into groups of four. Each group was assigned a single problem to figure out. In this project, students were given one question with six different parts. The first part being a word problem, it was about a movie producer looking for extras in his movie that fit his requirements. In the second part required that all the graphing combinations be found and then to be graphed. The third part was



Ms. Palcan's students follow her dance movements in Town Hall during the Cupid Shuffle.

to define the variables in the combinations. Parts four, five and six stated that there were two combinations that fit the requirements the movie producer needed for his extras to be selected. Once they were selected the inequalities had to be found, then counted to be able to complete the linear system. Once all the parts were completed, Ms. Manes or

point one, four, five, nine (3.1459). This number goes on forever without a number ever repeating, it is used to find the lengths of arcs, curves, radius, diameter and the volume of solid shapes. On this day many mathematicians and math teachers decide to celebrate this day by eating pie or doing activities related to Pi.

Ms. Hubbard did a Pi related activity that revolved around measuring the radius of solid circular objects in the classroom. Ms. Hubbard put circular objects on the tables, and



Ms. Stewart supervises her students' work

Ms. Stewart reviewed their work, and if it got their approval, the paper was turned in and each person was given their own take home quiz on inequalities and shading in graphs.

March 14 is the day that falls on the digits three fourteen. Three fourteen has been designated as a national holiday for Pi called "Pi Day." Pi is a math term for the number three-



Ms. Hubbard explains the activity to the table

students had to use a measuring tape to find the circumference of the circle. On a separate piece of paper, students had to write down the original measurements, then divide the measurement in half. Many students wondered why they had to divide the number in half. It was explained that the circumference was the radius of a circle squared. Pi is the radius of a circle, so if the circle was measured correctly the answer would be exactly 3.14. Ms. Hubbard explained that over the years mathematicians discovered that, any circle no matter how big or small it is, when divided in half will always be 3.14.



Ms. Palcan, from left, Ms. Manes, Ms. Stewart and Ms. Hubbard compare notes in Town Hall.

# Praiseworthy Patriots

By BECKETT DREYFUS

Over the course of the year, many Patriots have earned praise for their outstanding actions. Here is just a small sampling of achievements.



Nissa Jannati was given a Student of the Month from Ms. Asahina.



Ms. Stewart gives Ethan Davidian a Student of the Month for improvement.



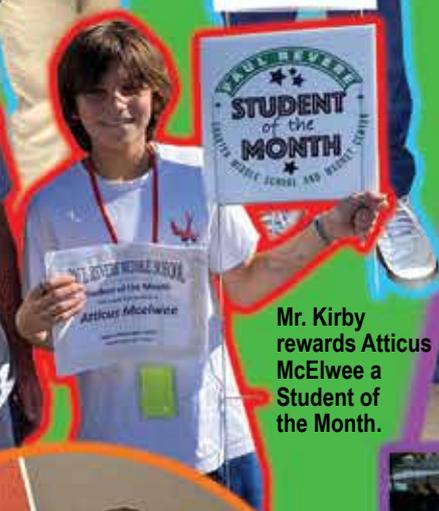
Bella Madrideo (from left), Astrid Villatoro Castaneda and Noah Trost hold up their Level Up cards for improving a whole letter grade.



## THEY PUT THE A-E-E IN AWESOME

Almost three dozen Patriots got a perfect report card in all three years at Revere!

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Alexandra Amarillas | Sarah Hajmomenian  |
| -Dmitrienko         | Hayes Hubbard      |
| Philippa Ang        | Kai Hung           |
| Jaden Arciga        | Abigail James      |
| Dilani Badkar       | Robert James       |
| Roxana Bakhtari     | Alexander Mazzocco |
| Lyla Brugger        | Zoey Morris        |
| Natalie Chen        | Oliver O'Donnell   |
| Olivia Clark        | Riley Oku          |
| Lily Clarke         | Aaron Rahimi       |
| Natalia Crystal     | Aiden Samadi       |
| Jordan Detwiler     | Brandon Samadi     |
| Beckett Dreyfus     | Vitalija Schafer   |
| Emme Federman       | Ilan Shapiro       |
| Bailey Gair         | Nathan Shenassa    |
| Gabriella Gilyard   | Payton Song        |
| Lilianna Gilyard    | Ella Temer         |
|                     | Ian Wilson         |



Mr. Kirby rewards Atticus McElwee a Student of the Month.



Jake Gallagher received the highest award of 1st Place Award of Excellence in the Visual Arts category at the State National Level for all California middle schools!



Ms. Wright (left) and Ms. Hubbard pose after receiving their Staff Superstars.



Brett Rosenblatt (in front) and Jasper McClary hand Ms. Esparza and Mr. Shibata their Principal's List certificate in exchange for a sticker.

# The Town Crier Opinion

## An Urgent Plea for Peace

By KIANA SARAF

From the war crimes of the 1940's Holocaust to the individual snide remarks made by internet trolls of this era, Jews have endured a special type of racism over the years: anti-semitism. Whilst one might believe that the outcast of Jews started by the Nazi occupation of Europe has long since been dismantled, it is only with the rise of modern day media that these hate crimes—physical and verbal—have resurfaced.

The conquest of attacking Jews in the media has gotten especially aggressive in recent years, as the current Israeli-Palestinian conflict, spired from a dispute over separate religious beliefs (Jewish vs. Muslim) about who deserves the region, has invoked more rage against Jews “greedily occupying Muslim land.” In the perspective of proponents of Palestine’s views, the Israelis have been occupying the Palestinian rightful territory for far too long. As part of the Torah, the Jewish holy text, Israel is considered their religion’s homeland; to supporters of the Israeli reign, it seems near ludicrous that a culture recorded to have been born in 1988 is now claiming that the Jewish land of origin has always been theirs. Unlike many territory conflicts of history, the seemingly easy fix of arranging an equal split of land between the two people is not possible in this scenario, as it directly juxtaposes the claim of both sides. More than just a clash of two persistent governments, the upcoming war is a clash of religion: easily one of the most sensitive and passionate topics to debate upon. Furthermore, it doesn’t help that many highly influencing celebrities, who have neither a substantial grasp on the complex issue nor definite care of the citizens in both countries, happen to be where most Americans get information on the conflict, albeit often twisted by an uneducated opinion. In these posts, Jews are regularly demonized as being the main escalators of violence between the two people; as being the ones to passionately hate their opposing side. Though it can't be said that all Jews don't differ from that opinion, it seems to have eluded the masses that many Jews may be sympathetic towards the people populating Palestine and open to a peaceful resolution.

Even when given distance from the accusatory posts aimed towards Jews, regular followers of the religion must take special precautions in order to stay safe out in public. Just last year, a terrible event took place near the Beverly Hills Connection Center, in which a group of anti-semitic people physically mutilated anyone who bore affiliations—such as the Star of David—to Israel. Because of such circumstances occurring on multiple accounts in Los Angeles, most of which leaving the solicitors of these crimes unpunished, many Jews now find themselves hesitant to show any connection to Israel. Jews have been put into the position of having to cover their identity from regular threats that may occur on the streets—a new societal norm that is tragically similar to the concealment of their religion faced in the dark days of the Holocaust. While the territory issue surrounding Jews and Muslims happens to incite some tension between the two parties, there is no excuse for the continued aggression towards the opposing side of the predicament, especially when the individual lives of Jewish supporters are now facing such blatant violence. By no means should this dispute have spiraled into the amount of physical turmoil that now plagues the streets of LA. Now, it is up to the bystanders—the only people who may find themselves present during these attacks—to make a stand against whoever happens to be initiating violence: Muslim, Jew or otherwise.

### TALKING HEADS

## Where should our extra week of break go? Winter or summer?

*In a controversial move, LAUSD voted to have two weeks of winter break rather than three, with one week added to the summer.*

“We should definitely have three weeks during winter because if someone had a planned vacation for that last week, they would miss an entire week of school. If there was another week of break you wouldn't miss anything.” —Ava Romero, Grade 6



“Making winter break two weeks is a bad idea. Kids don't get enough sleep, having to wake up early for school and staying up late for homework. Having three weeks gives us time to get the sleep needed to grow.” —Zoey Broughton, Grade 7

“I think that making winter break two weeks instead of three is a bad decision. If there are two weeks, that entire time could be spent doing family activities instead of having time to relax and do whatever you want.” —Dylan Moran, Grade 7



“I think we should have three weeks of winter break even if they added onto the summer. We already have long enough summers and for the three weeks in winter we can go outside more and socialize.” —Sam Moussavi, Grade 7

“Two weeks would be better because we're already in the middle of the year in December. That extra week off of school can further disintegrate everything we learned in the first semester. Students already forget material easily enough.” —Kiana Saraf, Grade 7



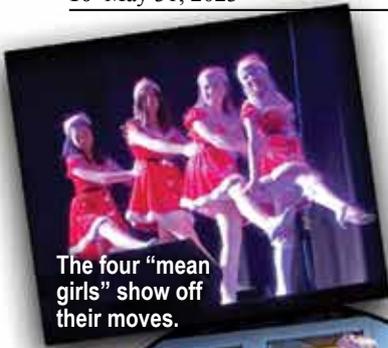
“I understand both sides. Students and families might prefer three weeks to travel during winter. The three-week break, however, does not align with other districts and colleges. For example, I will need to take time off time in June to attend my son's graduation.” —Mr. Schepps, History

“We should have two weeks in the winter break. Having a longer summer makes more opportunities for me to spend time with my family. Summer is a nicer season to hang out with friends than winter.” —Aaron Ghayoum, Grade 8

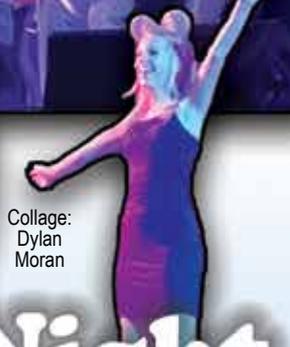
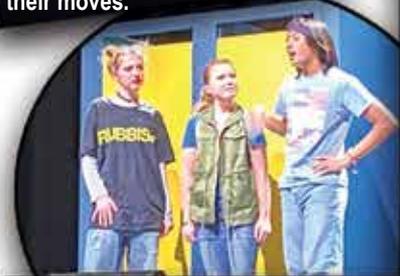


*Interviews and layout by Josie Van Wagenen*

# Entertainment



The four "mean girls" show off their moves.



Collage: Dylan Moran

## Revere Sees Stars at Night

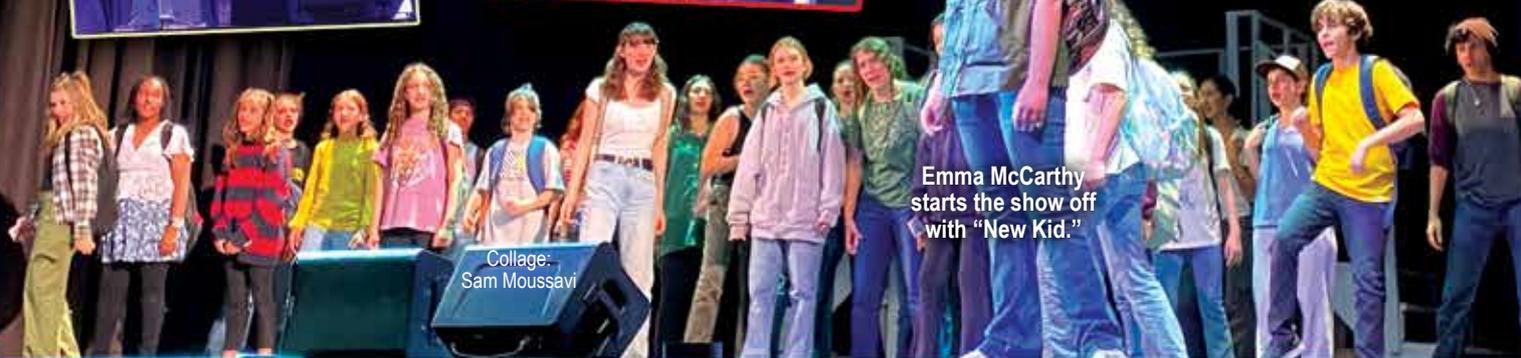
The spring musical showcases lots of fun singing and dancing.

By **BROOKS FRANCO**

"Mean Girls," the most recent play orchestrated by Patriot actors, became "one of the biggest productions ever performed at Revere," as said by director Laura Ganz and

choreographer Aaron Jung. In April, dances and songs such as "I See Stars" impressed the audience, but it took a lot of practice. One of the three lead actors who played Cady, Emma McCarthy, practiced a lot at home and at school. "My brother helped me study my lines by quizzing me every night for one dollar per session!" Emma explains. "Mean Girls" circles around Cady Heron,

a "home-schooled weirdo" who has spent most of her life isolated in Kenya with her parents. After her flight to Chicago, her school year is filled with love, chaos and tragedy. "I was full of adrenaline and excitement while I was on stage," Emma states, "The show had a great message about self expectation, which resonated with audience, cast and crew alike."



Emma McCarthy starts the show off with "New Kid."

Collage: Sam Moussavi



Dozens line up behind the first speaker, sixth-grader Jose Torres, who reads his haiku about winter titled "Tis the Season."



Seventh-graders Makayla Farhami (left) and Nicolette Khashayar hold up the certificate and anthology that all participants received earlier.

# Revere Writers Radiate

The annual literary festival gives Patriots a chance to become published writers. Free food is an added bonus.

By **JACK DORFMAN**

The publication of Paul Revere's 19th Annual Literary Anthology was cause for celebration on May 11. Young Author's Night, which last year expanded into an annual "Family Literary Festival," again attracted hundreds of attendees who feasted on free food and free speech all night. Sponsored by PRIDE and organized by Mrs. Mello, the event gave hundreds of participants an opportunity to shine.

A total of 410 writers contributed poems, stories and reports. Even teachers Mr.

Schwartz and Ms. Mello contributed to the 2023 book. The designer of the front cover, Sarah Dong, drew Paul Revere holding a flaming torch riding on a paper through a beautiful library.

The festivities were kicked off by Mr. Schwartz and Mr. Slavin, the MCs who called out the names of this year's talented writers. Students were called up to collect a free copy of the anthology and a certificate of participation. After the MCs went through everybody's names, all authors had the optional opportunity to read their piece of writing up on a mic.

The main part of the event was in the quad, where there were tables of anthologies on the stage but families and authors were talking and enjoying the food all around the school. As the sun remained in the sky, Patriots siblings' zoomed up and down the

school, excited to hear their siblings' poetry and prose.

Some people were getting a bite to eat at the hot dog and churro stands spread around the school, and some were building a delicious taco at the area near the library. People quickly hurried back to the quad for the celebration.

Patriots rushed to get in line, thrilled to be able to share their writing. They had a few moments to share their piece before a light bell reminded them that their time was up. Finally, the night ended and happy families walked back to their cars with a full belly and a book of writing.

"This year's book had a lot of very good pieces of writing and I am so excited to read the book," says seventh grader Sophia Harelilik. "I feel like there are a lot of gifted writers hidden in the shadows at Paul Revere."



Mrs. Mello helps pass out the anthologies in the quad.



Mr. Slavin stands by as the last speaker, seventh-grader Julian Blanchard, finishes off the night with "Big Jump," his 100-word story.



The taco plate was not complete without a visit to the rice and beans station.



# Lights, Camera, Action!

Patriots strike a pose on the red carpet before they walk up proudly to receive their awards.

By **AVERY KAWEJSZA**

After preparing their films for months, on Apr. 21 students submitted their creations for the 9th Annual Film Festival. With a total of 26 films entered, there were a variety of categories to choose from including animation, live action, music video, documentary, PSA and commercial.

On May 12, Patriots and friends gathered in the auditorium to watch the films they worked so hard on. Mr. Hyman awarded prizes to each of the winners including Zach Patawaran who won a trophy and a cash prize with a free Palisades pizza. He commented, "It feels amazing to know that I've won two years in a row. It encourages me to pursue film in the future."

Other awardees like Sarah Schmidt enjoyed the opportunity to share their cinematic creations with friends. She said, "I thought everyone had really great films and people were really supportive of each other." Many of the attendees felt the festival was a great way to experience other's creativity.



Lincoln Bruno collects his certificate and prize for first place in the live action category.



Ms. Green Jansen's class won the Founder Award for "Mike's Feelings."

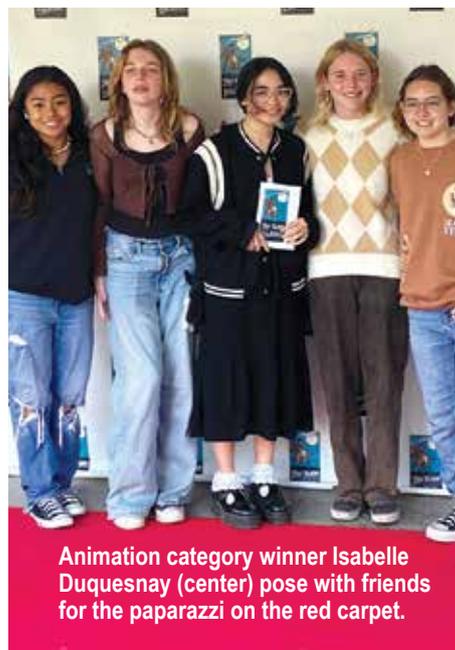


Theodore Mihalev marches to the stage to accept his award in the documentary category.



Zoey Morris (left) and Sarah Schmidt show off their trophy.

- 2023 WINNERS**
- The Lisa Robbins Founder Award**  
 "Mike's Feelings"- Yen Nguyen, Lillyann Loya, Fitzum Womack, Logan Zemplak, and Teyas Peterson
- Animation**  
 "Sustainable Oceans"- Isabelle Duquesnay
- PSA**  
 "Trash"- Emma Bolch and Surya Kaplan
- Music Video**  
 "Global Stress"- Ryan Hajmomenian  
 "Government Rap"- Zach Patawaran
- Live-Action**  
 "Alarm Clocked"- Lincoln Bruno
- Commercial**  
 "No Way Neighbor"- Ethan Jackson, Tonya George, and Shanna Byrd
- Documentary**  
 "The Invasion of the Virus"- Joshua Cole Wood, Daniel Fridman, and Salar Arani



Animation category winner Isabelle Duquesnay (center) pose with friends for the paparazzi on the red carpet.

# Spring Concerts



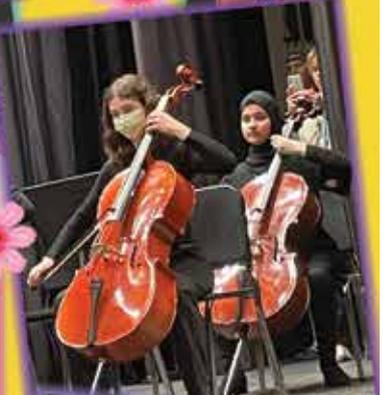
Mr. Samuel



The annual concerts held the week of May 23 were farewell performances for two retiring music teachers, Dr. Tautkus and Ms. Cronin.



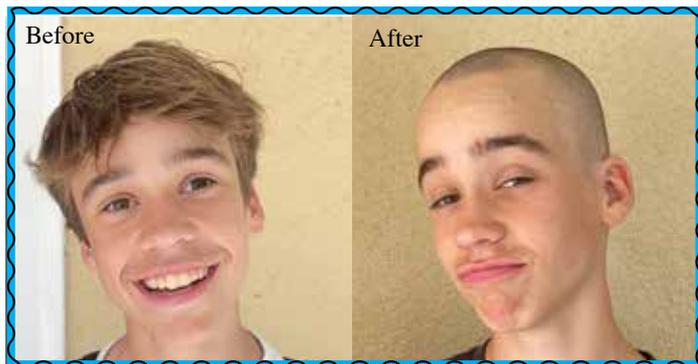
Dr. Tautkus



Ms. Cronin



# Lifestyle



Eighth-grader Carl Lunkewitz before and after the buzzcut.



Eighth-grader Justin Martinez before and after the buzzcut.

## To Buzz or Not to Buzz

With more and more boys on campus choosing to buzz, Mr. Amos gets some competition.

By CHARLOTTE ROBLEY

The buzzcut trend has made its way to Paul Revere. From the beginning of the school year, students of all grades have taken up the trend with great enthusiasm. Egged on by classmates and peers who got the cut themselves, numerous students have grabbed their electric razors, eager to join the craze.

But while many kids at Revere are fond of this trend, others have doubts and reservations. Eighth-grader Justin Martinez says, "The worst part about a buzz are people's reactions. Some opinions were mixed. Some people said it looked better than my hair before, and other people just laughed and asked 'why?'"

Yet even if some are disgusted by buzz cuts, others are not so easily discouraged. A great deal of kids, the rough majority of them being eighth-grade boys, have gotten

the buzz. In fact, different variations of the buzz have also appeared on Revere's campus, like eighth-grader Carl Lunkewitz who shaved his whole head. "I had to go bald because I didn't want so much W-Rizz," he explains. In fact, it seems as though his choice to shave his head started a domino effect among the eighth-grade boy community. Charlie Balatbat, Jack Balatbat, Holden Hurtz, Matyas Krejci, Jack Wimmer and many more have all taken up the challenge. Carl Lunkewitz said, "Everyone started doing it, so I guess I'm just a trend setter."

Although the buzz is popular, not everyone is willing to get it themselves. Many people treasure their hair the way it is, like sixth-grader Romeo Jensen. "I like how it's unique, and how a lot of people don't have hair like mine." He appreciates his hair, even though he is sometimes called "Ice Spice" because it looks so similar to the famous rapper's hairdo. It is also full of family history. He says, "My mom used to have curly hair, and my grandma used to have curly hair." Although he agrees that kids should do what they want to with their hair, he warns

all those considering buzzing their locks to think twice before making a decision. "Before you get a buzz cut, make sure you want it," he advises.

Others are willing to go all in with trends, like sixth-grader Oliver Balatbat. Though his older eighth-grade brothers, Charlie and Jack, got buzz cuts, Oliver said that he wasn't influenced by them. He had ulterior reasons to cut his hair, as he got the cut because, in his words, "I didn't like my hair. It was weird, and it got in my eyes." Although he was full of excitement at first, he admitted that he wasn't thrilled with the results. "I like my buzz cut, but I cut it way too short," he said. "I'm too bald now." Despite the less than ideal length, Oliver has no regrets.

Whether people decide to follow popular trends or their own unique style, hair is a powerful way for people to express themselves. There is no right answer to the buzz cut controversy; just keep in mind that people will criticize or at least tease anyone who tries it. Perhaps staying true to oneself and embracing other people's choices is the best policy.



Sixth-grader Oliver Balatbat before and after the buzzcut.



This is how sixth-grader Romeo Jensen *would* look if he got a buzzcut.

Warmer weather is encouraging many Patriots to cool off by wearing many different styles of shorts.



Collage: Beatrice Hudson

# DEAR PARSA

In his farewell column, eighth-grader Parsa Montazeri replies to students' messages.

**Dear Parsa:**

**I'm not a very good runner, and I always get bad times on the mile. All my friends tease me, and it makes me feel really self conscious. How do I get them to stop?**

**Sincerely, Slow and Sad**

Dear Slow and Sad

I totally feel you, since I'm not the best runner as well. Luckily I play sports as much as I can so I still am decent, but all my friends are athletes, so compared to them I'm a turtle! Now, if you're all good friends, then you should know that as much as they tease you they don't really mean it and they are always still your friends. But if it's really bothering you, I think you should be honest. Just tell them to stop bothering you and tell them that you're trying your hardest. Hope that helps! —Parsa

**Dear Parsa,**

**With the school year coming to an end most teachers are finishing up and giving the last few tests. So many of my teachers are giving tests that I can't remember all of my studying and notes! How can I remember all the stuff I've learned without tiring myself out?**

**Sincerely, Forgetful**

Dear Forgetful,

A good strategy that I use is "progressive overload and balance." Let's say you have a week to study for a big math test. Over the course of the week you would gradually study for more time and more intensity. So the first day you study for 30 minutes, and over the course of the week you increase that by 10, for example. The time you study should always be about the same as the time you relax, play sports, or do other hobbies. So let's say you get home at 4, and you have soccer practice at 8. But you have to leave at 7:45. I think you should study until 5:30, relax until 6:30, pick up a bit more studying until 7, and then do other hobbies until 7:45 when you leave. —Parsa

*P.S. Since I'm moving on to high school, I must say goodbye to you all as the author of this column. It has been super fun and a privilege to share my thoughts, advice and experiences with you. Always remember that life is full of twists and turns, and that even the toughest issues can be overcome with a good mindset. Be kind to yourself and others, and never stop growing!—Parsa*

# REVERE'S BEST DRESSED

Finalists from the 2023 yearbook poll show off their best looks and face the fashion police.

By **PARSA MONTAZERI, MASON SUGIMOTO and LONDON JOCHEN**

**CLAUDIO ACUNA** "The brown hoodie looks good with the black pants." (LJ) "That hoodie has nice colors that complement the fit." (MS)

**LENNON BOMBET** "The first look is the best because the jeans are baggy and swagger." (MS) "Plus the pose is sick." (PM)

**JUDAH HARVEY** "My favorite by far is the first look because the colors match really well and the earth tones go tuff." (PM)

**JAKE LIPSKY** "The jeans in the third photo are nice and the colors match well together." (MS) "I like the color of the crewneck." (LJ)

**BAILEY LOPEZ** "I love the shorts and the gray shoes in the middle photograph." (PM) "Yes, those shorts are really cool." (LJ)

**TRISTAN MANLUTAC** "In the middle photo, the color and black color scheme is super cool." (MS) "The whole vibe is cool." (PM)

**CHELSEA SARGENT** "I like the long sleeves in the middle pic." (LJ) "The second look is simple but stylish." (MS)

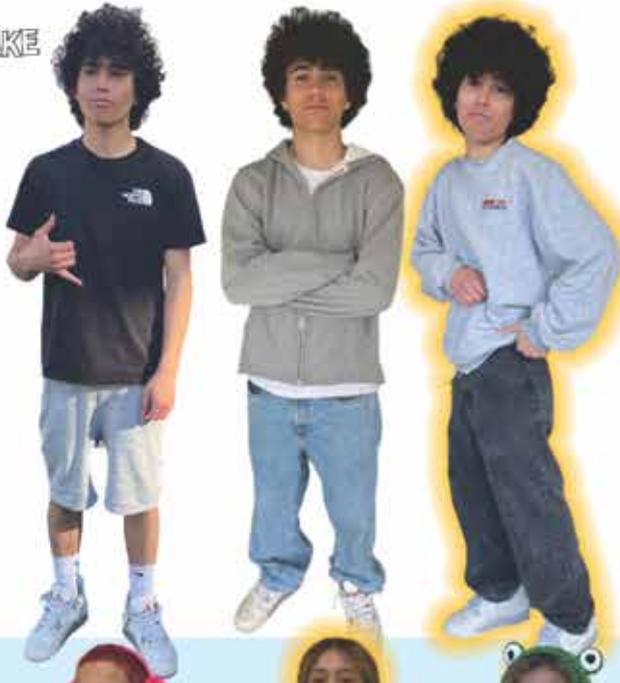
**SARAH SCHMDT** "Her first outfit is definitely the best since the shoes and jacket match." (PM) "The white and gray go well." (MS)

**AUBRIANNA SOBHANI** "The middle look is original and a standout." (MS) "Yes, it's very unique and bright." (LJ)

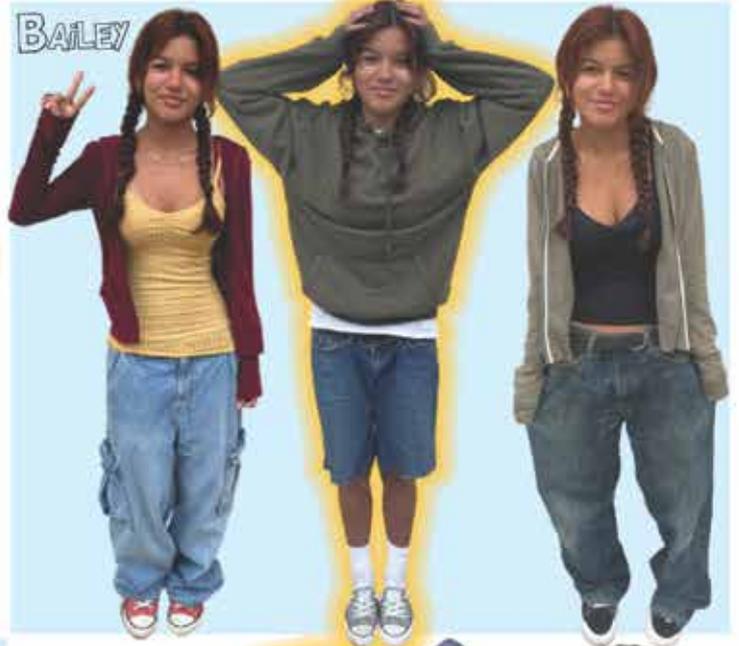
*(The outfit rated most appealing by the fashion police is the one with the outer glow around it.)*



JAKE



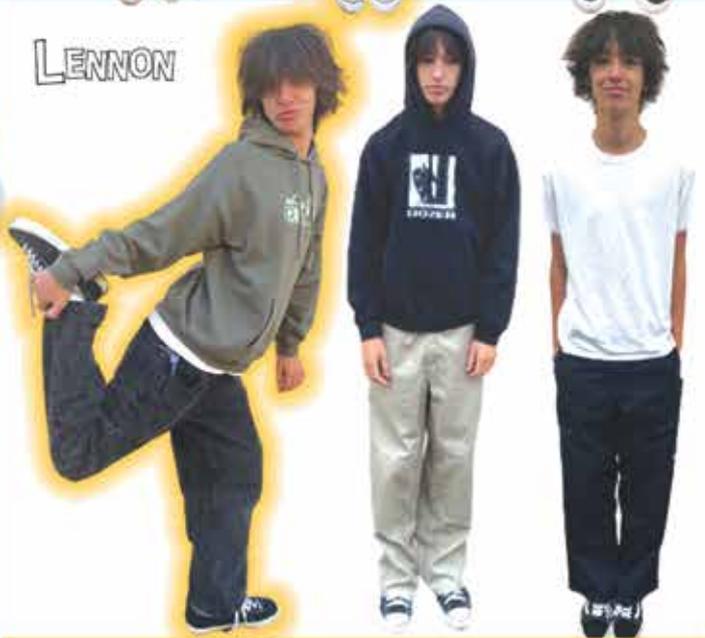
BAILEY



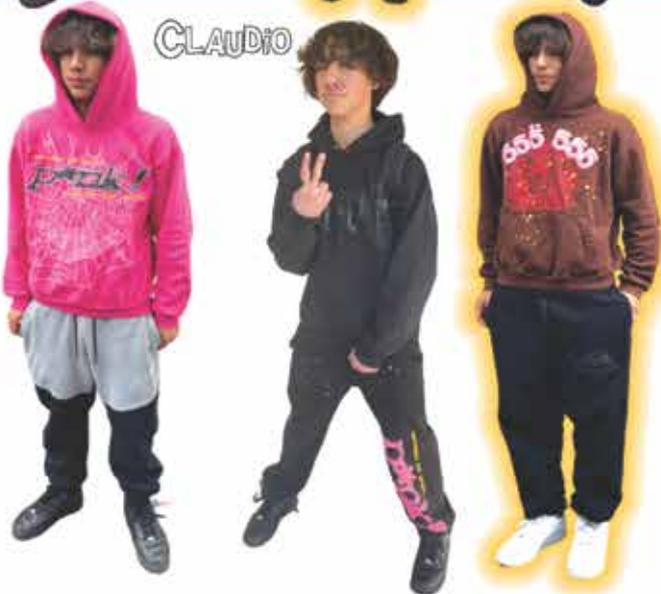
AUBRIANNA



LENNON



CLAUDIO



THE FASHION POLICE



PARSA, LONDON, MASON

## The Joys Of Getting There First

Revere runners hustle to the finish line of the XC Finals.

By **BELLA MADRIDEJO**

Students line up against the starting line as they wait to hear the three words, “ready, set, go!” As the last word is shouted, the mob of students is running across the grass. The students do a grass lap and then head off to the west driveway. They make their way to the front of the school and go through the east driveway. Then they do another grass lap to head to the west driveway to receive their time after their one and a half mile time. On April 19, the ten boys and ten girls in their P.E. class were chosen to run in the semi-finals. The semi-finals, on April 27, consisted of a smaller mob running the same course as they hoped to get into the top ten. The top ten boys and girls of each period were chosen to run the same course again on May 12 as the finalist. There were six groups and they were all separated into different periods made up



Jesus Ballado sprints to the finish line as Revere’s fastest Patriot.

by their grade and gender. The groups had the fastest runners in the school all compete for first place in their group.

The top runner for boys was Jesus Ballado, who shaved 12 seconds off of last year’s time. The seventh-grader stated, “I felt pretty relaxed, I thought since my friends are running, I might as well run too. I didn’t expect to get first place though. My friends are also extremely fast but in the end, I did it. I was tired during the last 100 meters but I kept on pushing through. I enjoyed it and felt it was fun. I would definitely do it again.”

Female winner Maya Hively also had an exhausting race for her. She said, “I didn’t

feel like it was that competitive, I expected to get first place. I was tired too during and after but I was extremely happy to get it over with.” Maya won last year’s race as well, but at a slightly better time.

Mr. Wright, an eighth-grade science teacher, also participated in the run to help support the students but also try to beat them. He was able to get a time of 9:40 even though he wasn’t used to having to run at such a fast pace though so this cross country tire him out. Mr. Wright stated, “Improving your time takes dedication and hard work.” Every Patriot worked really hard and pushed through to give all their efforts into this run.

### SIXTH GRADE



**Fastest Sixth-Grader**

- Max Goldsmith 8:49
- Cade Mccoy 8:58
- Connor Stackick 9:22
- Cassius Foiret 9:31
- Austin Roy 9:32.02
- Charlie Dick 9:32.74
- Max Konecke 9:41
- Ethan Mackan 9:48
- Max Everly 9:49
- Marco Sampao 9:50



**Fastest Sixth-Grade Girl**

- Sadie Ephrain 9:57
- Julia Sibley 10:14
- Isebelle Lim 10:36
- Mia Kennedy 10:49
- Denise Gonzalez 10:52
- Katie Dahlberg 11:10
- Mila Humby 11:11
- Emma Traister 11:13
- Ayla Jannipour 11:22
- Charlie Coberlyn 11:31

### SEVENTH GRADE



**Fastest Patriot**

- Jesus Ballado 8:04
- Justin Funk 8:21
- Mitchell Majors 8:31
- Dylan Moran 8:42
- Kyngston Blades 8:45
- Jake Dabbay 8:47
- Sebastian Funk 8:51
- Shaya Bijanpour 9:04
- Adam Jarvis 9:07
- Quentin Kaufman 9:08



**Fastest Female Patriot**

- Maya Hively 9:00
- Heleena Barnett 9:05
- Paloma Alpert 9:11
- Paloma Kimura 9:17
- Paige Song 9:30
- Eva Upton 9:49
- Skylar Poursalimi 9:55
- Eleonor Mammen 9:56
- Lilou Hashemi 10:05
- Ellerie Newell 10:06

### EIGHTH GRADE



**Fastest Eighth-Grader**

- Jackson Richmond 8:09
- Jack Levy 8:14
- Sam Schwartz 8:15
- Noah Szeder 8:21
- Sebastien Grove 8:22
- Jack Balatbat 8:25
- Marley Duff 8:47
- Blake Anna 8:48
- Jeffery Ren 8:50
- Yurac Dicke 8:56

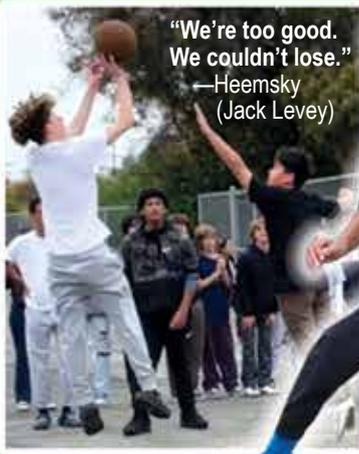


**Fastest Eighth-Grade Girl**

- Saniah Varnado 9:01
- Vitalija Schafer 9:07
- Lexi Burrell 9:11
- Zoey Morris 9:15
- Bailey Gair 9:30
- Violet Cash 9:34
- Abigail Hanelin 9:56
- Ava Dyer 10:04
- Lili Gilyard 10:07
- Elsa Rodriguez 10:18

# MARCH MADNESS FINAL RESULTS

Collage: Mason Sugimoto



"We're too good. We couldn't lose."  
—Heemsky (Jack Levey)

"We won by a lot every game. It was easy."  
—Scammer (Shyan Chadha)

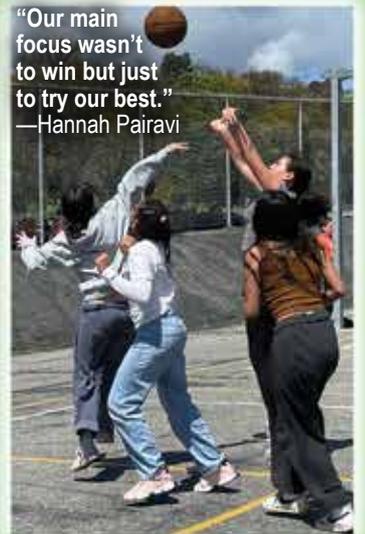


Brandon, Jaelyn, Hudson, Benji, Shyan, Max, Jack

## Girls Division



"Instantly we started working together and that led to our victory."  
—Bella Banafsheha



"Our main focus wasn't to win but just to try our best."  
—Hannah Pairavi



Hiyab, Bella, Shaiel, Iman, Dalilah, Hannah

## 7th Grade Boys



"At 6 foot, my job was defense and playing in the post."  
—Raad Derakhshan

"I'm him."  
—Quentin Kaufman



Quentin, Gaetano, Levi, Malakai, Figo, Raad

# ON TRACK FOR HISTORY

Revere's P.E.P. teams have had record-setting seasons.

By SOREN COHEN

The '23 track season was historic for many reasons. The Riders had a record setting performance at the Phil Berk Invitational, where Saniah Varnado broke the school record for the girls 200 meter dash in a time of 25.21 seconds, and she got first place in the event. Charles Davis managed to break *three* school records at the meet, where he broke the 400 meter record with a time of 53.49, got 5-10 in the high jump to break that record, and managed to break the long jump record since he jumped 19-00.

In addition, the boys 4x400 team broke the Revere 4x4 record. Jesus Ballado, Sebastian Funk, Mitchell Majors and Jaelyn Miller combined to break the record by three seconds with a time of 3:54.

The girls' track team poses with their plaque after winning the finals at Oaks Christian.



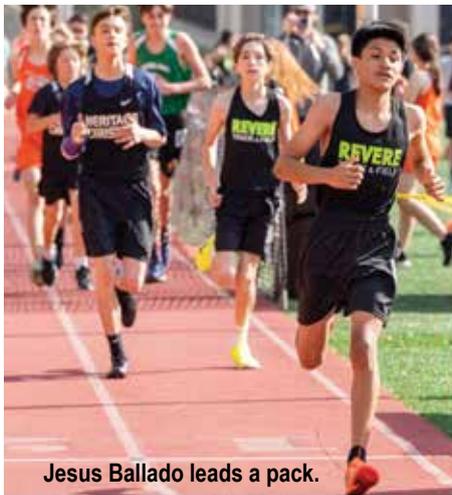
Then, at league finals on Thursday, May 11, Saniah Varnado broke three school records. Mr. Foxson explained, "To put it into

perspective: Her times were so dominant that her 400m time yesterday would have won the girls city section high school prelims that also went off yesterday."

perspective: Her times were so dominant that her 400m time yesterday would have won the girls city section high school prelims that also went off yesterday."



Saniah Varnado crosses the finish line.



Jesus Ballado leads a pack.



Micah Martin powers through the 1600 run.



Harmoni Brooks races off against a Heritage runner.



Zac Fenton sprints down the track.



Paul Revere's lacrosse team poses after defeating Culver City in an away game. The team went on to defeat Brentwood 8-4 in the championship game at home, capping off an undefeated season. Seventh-grade midfielder Dylan Moran scored three goals. Eighth-grade goalie William Russo kept Brentwood to three goals (four if you count the one that bounced in and out).



The boys' volleyball team poses after winning the championship. The team came together to beat Village Christian in three sets, with team captains Henry Levin (#11) and Sam Schwartz (#12) leading the Riders to victory. Sam recalls, "In a difficult match, setter Zach Patawaran (#19) and I made serves that helped boost our team to a win in the second set. And then in the third set, setter Payton Song (#8) started the set off with a 7-0 run, leading the team to victory."



The Revere boys' tennis team had a memorable season but lost in the playoffs. Jeffrey Ren (top row, far right) led the team throughout the season. "I supported my teammates and cheered them on when they were down," he said. "Being able to be a part of a team is a great opportunity."

**Beckett Dreyfus**

**We Should Be Able to Watch Live Sports During Class**



Throughout the whole school year, there have been several big sporting events going on while students are in class, such as the World Cup, March Madness, MLB play-offs and more. With

all of these great games going on during school hours, the question of whether students should be allowed to watch any of the games has been up in the air. I agree that students should not be watching the games while the teacher is giving a lesson or handing out work. But when students are all done with their work, I believe there is no reason why we shouldn't be allowed to watch some of the incredibly entertaining games.

Eighth-grader Benji Taylor agrees. "I think we should be allowed to watch games during downtime. I love to discuss the games with my friends after they are over, but it is hard to discuss the games if my friends and I can't watch them."

When the World Cup was going on, Revere sports fans were more interested in the games than their actual school work. This is because this past World Cup was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. In the knockout round games, five of the fifteen games went to penalties. So for many Patriots who were interested in the World Cup such as me, it was hard to focus on schoolwork when some of the games were very intense and in penalties. Eighth-grader Parsa Montazeri said, "The World Cup is special for us all, not just because it happens every four years but because it brings joy into our lives. It was extremely hard for me to focus on classwork when I was worried about who would win."

Another example of a big sporting event that was going on during class was March Madness. This annual tournament is so great the games are just so unpredictable. In fact, no one has ever predicted a perfect bracket. There are so many upsets and teams that surprise people or the "Cinderella" teams that make it farther than anyone would have ever predicted.

From my own experience, it is not enough to just watch the highlights of the games or see the scores. *School* time is a *great* time for seeing sports history being made in *real* time.



# FUN RUN!

By NOAH TROST

A run sponsored by the P.E. department and PTSA promoted physical fitness while also supporting some good causes. Runners gathered monetary pledges from the public based on the number of laps they promised to complete on Wednesday, Apr. 12. Students and teachers jogged or walked with their friends with energetic music inspiring them to finish each lap. Water sprayers helped everyone soak up even more fun. Participants passed through as many checkpoints as they could. They needed a minimum of 8, but many runners easily passed this mark. The overall amount raised was \$18,725. In addition to student programs and activities at Revere, funds will benefit the North East Trees charity, which designs and builds parks with green space in L.A., hiring young adults to help beautify the city, and allowing people to have volunteering opportunities to do their part. The classes from each grade with the most pledges were Mr. Foxson's period 4 eighth graders (\$1,400), Mr. Kirby's period 3 seventh-graders (\$1,094), and Ms. Chen's period 5 sixth-graders (\$1,502.50). They all won a pizza party as a reward for their hard work.

Collage: Beatrice Hudson

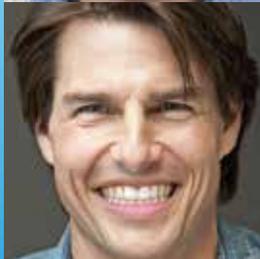
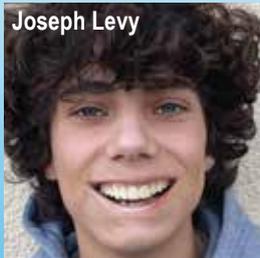
# Fun Zone

**SPOT THE DIFFERENCES** Can you find all ten changes that were made to the photo on the left? Photoshopping: Parsa Montazeri



Jumping for joy from left to right are sixth-graders Grady Rockwell, Oliver Balatbat, Conner Baker, Noah Williams, Gavin Baron and Gabriel Williams.

**TRADING SMILES** Finalists in the “Best Smile” yearbook poll exchange grins with celebrities. Photoshopping: Per. 5 Yearbook artists



SPOT THE DIFFERENCES ANSWERS: 1. Emptyre logo changed right person. 2. Loyola paw print. 3. Smile on kid on the right. 4. Missing butterfly on right wall. 5. Rat on the ground. 6. Changed pants color. 7. Changed hoodie character color. 8. No more Nike swoosh. 9. RyanReynolds' face replaces Ollie's. 10. Monkey in woods.



Ms. Robertson (from left), Mr. Alpert and Ms. Stewart chat and eat the treats they got for Teacher Appreciation Week.



Outside the library, Victoria Reloba paints characters from "World Ride Adventures," a new book series.



Maya Melamed holds up a jar with a pig for her science project.

# AROUND REVERE

By BECKETT DREYFUS



Ms. Takashima (from left), Jackson Baril and Damiah McCauley make "upcycle" bracelets.



Students crowd to pet "Dreamer" during a special assembly for Ms. Robertson's kids.



James Feresten, Lucas Rosales and Matthew Ojeda work on their "underground" art project.



A student auditioning for the Jun. 5 talent show has moves to prove that "Revere's Got Talent!"



Group of eighth-grade students work out at the lunge station during fitness day.



Student volunteers in the library help keep Revere green and clean. They came to school on Saturday, Apr. 22 to participate in the Earth Day Cleanup.