



Washington Trip Canceled, See Pg. 6

THE BOLD EAGLE

The Mount Everett Student Newspaper

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Where's Kurt

By Blake Siter and Sierra Blodgett

For the first week of school, Dean of Students Kurt DeGrenier wasn't here because of unknown reasons, including an allegation printed in *The Berkshire Eagle* that a staff member had a negative interaction with him. People were wondering where he was. DeGrenier was gone, but his son Hunter still showed up for school every day, all the way from North Adams. Surprisingly, people started wearing wristbands saying "Where's Kurt" and "Save SBRSD." *The Bold Eagle* could not verify the source of these wristbands, but it seems likely that they were produced by SBRSD students and families supporting DeGrenier and other popular causes.

According to DeGrenier, "I know I've done nothing wrong whatsoever, and that things will be resolved." In contrast, a public



He's Back!!

Cont. Pg #5

Hostile Work Environment?

By Spencer Broderick and Victoria Hammer

At the end of September, *The Bold Eagle* conducted an informal poll that asked multiple teachers the following: "Is the environment at Mt. Everett less friendly than it used to be?" The results of the poll concluded that for a significant majority, the work environment is indeed less friendly than in years past. Is the school really a hostile work environment?



Freedom of speech at Mt. Everett

A couple of days before school started this year mathematics and physics teacher James Berlstein posted on Facebook stating, "This is my 19th year as a teacher at Mount Everett High School. For 18 years, I have worked in a wonderful and productive educational environment. All of that is changing this year. We are now enduring a... Hostile Work Environment." People wondered what prompted him to make this public post of his opinion. We do know that the Facebook

Cont. Pg #3

Fortnite: Can You Stop?

By Austin Murray

When we return to school in September the first question teachers and friends ask is "What did you do this summer?" According to the Epic Games website, for tens of millions kids across the country the answer was "playing Fortnite!"

Fortnite has become a global phenomenon and has a reported 125 million players across all platforms according to Epic Games. Launched in September 2017, Battle Royale has increased the number of users of the original game exponentially. The Battle Royale mode in Fortnite has increased the game's popularity and its overall revenue. On average, the game brings in \$7 million a day as players spent vbucks on skins.

Students at Mt. Everett are facing their own problems with Fortnite. The hit game is attracting many kids with nothing else to do. According to junior Justice Mazerelle "When the game first came out I could not stop." And that's the problem with Fortnite; too many kids can't resist just one more game. Many players under age 18 are joining the craze. It has sparked a new addiction. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), addiction is defined as

Cont. Pg #5

Parking Lot Blues

By Justice Mazeralle

Is the new student parking lot, implemented as part of a district-wide safety initiative, really that much safer? To many students, the parking situation seems to have gotten worse. There have already been multiple problems with this new arrangement, with more accidents and more traffic flow problems. It is very concerning to the student driver community.

SBRSD Superintendent Beth Regulbuto believes this is a better and safer arrangement for student drivers, stating, "It was a little bit about the traffic with people...going in front of buses ahead of time trying to get in and out." It remains unclear whether this was really a problem, and whether this change resolved the problem. In the past, students could leave any time after 2:45PM. Now they are trapped in the lot until the buses pass, causing a mad dash exit once the last bus has passed. Some believe this change solved a problem that never really existed. Will this change ultimately prove better for the community and safer for the students? This is still yet to be answered.

There have already been 2 accidents and 21 incidents since the new parking lot change was made. One accident was when everyone was positioning to leave. The other accident occurred during a hasty and competitive mass departure. The urge to be first out of the lot can partly be attributed to students who have jobs that require them to go to work right after school. The change has also required school

Cont. Pg #8

Summer Breaks

By Jacob Race

Don't you just love that last week of school? Everyone is returning textbooks to each teacher. Then comes the last day. It's a half day that is full of fun outside. Running around, playing soccer, basketball, frisbee and all sorts of activities. The last day is always the best. A group of my friends all agreed to go on a big bike ride that was intended to launch a glorious summer vacation. Little did I know what was in store for me!

We talked about the bike ride for over an hour, planning the route and time. After the field day ended, we loaded our buses, soon to start the ride. Around 1 PM, I ventured off with a smaller group,



Double Ouch

nearly being run over by a car for doing a wheelie down a hill. We came up to the gas station in Sheffield and met up with the rest of our group. Rolling down the road towards the school, we take a quick turn to get across the road. I tried to steer up the curb but got caught. That is when I knew, I messed up.

SMASH! Next thing I know I'm laying down with the worst pain I have ever felt in my life. Everyone rushed back to see what

Cont. Pg #8

Are You Ready For Prom?

By Emellin Pineda

The Prom is falling into place. The venue is set. The date is set. The junior class, which is responsible for organizing the event, chose, but haven't disclosed the theme.

The prom will be held on May 3rd, 2018 at Crissey Farm. Juniors and seniors are allowed to go. Sophomores and freshmen are allowed to go if an upper classmen invites them. The tickets will most likely be the same price as last year \$60w, hopefully not more.

How has prom changed through the years? It used to be all about how you drove to prom, like in a firetruck or a limo. Now it's all about how you ask someone to prom; it's called a prom proposal. It's an over the top way to ask someone to prom, like renting a billboard, filling up a girl's room with balloons, or asking her to prom with sticky notes on her car.

Two teachers shared their prom experience. History teacher Jeffrey Lang remembered his prom being expensive. It was at a country club. He said about his meal, "It's the kind of meal you would have at a wedding." He enjoyed his prom very much. Mathematics teacher Sarah Siket said this year's prom budget is the same as when she went to her prom. Her junior prom was at Wyantenuck Country Club. The students had invited the teachers to watch them enter. She said, "It was cool that all the teachers got to see students walk in to prom." Both teachers commented that their prom date had to be opposite sex. Now societal norms have

Cont. Pg #6

Hostile Env. Cont.

post was taken down. Furthermore, according to the September 4th issue of *The Berkshire Eagle*, Sheffield Police Chief Eric Munson said, "Officers were informed of the 'ambiguous and concerning' post... and investigated it. ... At the conclusion of the investigation, Munson said there was never a threat to any of the schools in the district."

Dean of Students Kurt DeGrenier, said, "I feel like if Mr. Berlstein felt that way he had a right to be heard; maybe he didn't use the right venue to do it, but everybody has a right to their own opinion and to try and express it and make it better for themselves".

A group of concerned parents and community members weighed in by creating another Facebook page named Save SBRSD and reposted Berlstein's original post. Many people showed significant concern about Berlstein's opinion, and the Save SBRSD account quickly became an outlet for parents of children at SBRSD to express their own opinions and concerns about work and learning environment in the district. Quickly after the account was created, the Save SBRSD Facebook page gained a substantial amount of likes and followers. The page gained nearly 200 followers and 194 likes. In support of sentiments posted to the page, a group who remain anonymous produced and handed out "Where's Kurt?" and "Save SBRSD" wristbands at the start of school. The post by Berlstein came at the same time as the Dean of Students Kurt DeGrenier was still absent from the school for unknown reasons.

Many policies, procedures, enforcement rules and routines were changing in school at the same time, although student and staff manuals had not yet been published. These actions upset many students, staff and parents. Berlstein and many other teachers have confirmed that the environment in the school is different in a negative way that is probably unknown to the majority of the public at this time. *The Bold Eagle* asks a simple question of the district's administration and the school committee: Why?

Athletes Leave- Grades Drop

By Jack Seward-Dailey

The term "student athlete" is used quite commonly these days. However, many are confused as to which comes first...the student or the athlete. Some argue that Mount Everett student athletes are negatively affected by early dismissals, while others do not see a problem. In a small school that travels for athletics, early dismissals seem a necessary evil.

Among the student body, leaving early is considered a great thing. You get to spend time on the bus with your friends, miss class, and hopefully win a game. These great things could also be harmful to your grades. Sophomore Makenzie Ullrich said, "You have significantly less time for schoolwork. By the time you get home you are tired and homework is the last thing you want to do." This seems to be the case for many students with core G period classes. A common thought is that the problem could be solved by working on the bus to athletic

Mt. Alcatraz

By Sierra Blodgett

The new school year has brought a good number of changes. The why for those changes is simple: "To create a safe environment for students and staff," says Facilities and Food Service Director Jeremy Wells. Since the year started, some have been wondering what the actual rules are. Well, most seem to revolve around entering



Propping doors open is a no no!

and moving about the school at various times during the day.

There are at least 42 doors in the school. According to SBRSD Superintendent Beth Regulbuto, "We can't have the expectation that everybody can see every door, people can come out of every single door and people can come in every single door." Therefore, in an effort to make the school safer the decision is to lock the doors people don't need to go through.

One set of doors where the

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Please Give Us AC

With hot weather comes uncomfortable students. "When I'm in a room that's hot, I can't concentrate because I'm so focused on not being hot," exclaims junior Bella Dawson. "It's terrible when it's super-hot, it gives me headaches," adds junior Savanna Tinker-Cruikshank. They're both wondering what we've all been asking: Why don't all classrooms (and rooms like the library) have AC? While most of the rooms upstairs have an AC unit, next to none of the downstairs rooms do. Also, some classrooms, like the culinary room, have units that have not been installed.

We've all been in a situation where we're uncomfortably hot during class. The atrium area has even gotten hot enough to make some people nauseous. This has a serious effect on students learning. According to *U.S. News & World Report*, "rising temperatures... would have 20 times the negative impact on students learning in schools without AC than in schools with increased AC by 2050." Heat makes it hard to focus and students stop paying attention in class. Chorus director Chris Clark experiences this on a regular basis. In Clark's view, "With many classes, there's enough room with the desks spread out, so there's a decent amount of air circulation, even if there's no AC. In my room that is not possible. When you have 50 students, with built-in risers, there's not much room for air movement, and as such, it gets very, very, very hot in this class... When students are miserable and not performing to their best because the heat is a problem that is an issue that needs to be addressed." Many other faculty members have the same view.

Unfortunately, AC is expensive. According to SBRSD Facilities and Food Service Director Jeremy Wells, each wall air conditioner unit costs around \$5,000 to get and install, with some variation based on size. With roughly 21 rooms without AC, it would cost the school over \$100,000 to install a unit in all of them. This isn't counting the possible AC units already installed that need fixing. However, there are plans to fund for AC in the future. "I want to put the replacement of some [AC] units and the installation of new ones into my capital plan, especially for rooms like the library," said Wells. This means that rooms should hopefully get AC at some indefinite time in the future.

With the daunting cost and demands, it might be easier to put in window units for classrooms. However, they are considered unsafe for use in crowded rooms as they can be accidentally pushed out of the window. This leaves the district with two options: keep things as they are despite the growing discomfort, or start funding to supply more rooms with AC. Fortunately, it looks to be the latter. Until this happens, we must do our best to combat the heat. Thankfully, a good portion of the school year takes place in colder weather.



AC Coming to a classroom Near You

Bold Eagle's Reader's Opinions

The Bold Eagle wants to know what's on your mind so send us your opinions at Bold eagle@sbrsd.org

"Pursuant to state law, no expression made by students in the exercise of such rights shall be deemed to be an expression of school policy and no school officials shall be held responsible in any civil or criminal action for any expression made or published by the students"

Kurt Cont.

email from SBRSD Superintendent Beth Regulbuto said, "I can share with you that the ongoing matter has been resolved." These statements obviously contradict each other.

The final agenda of a special school committee meeting on October 18 includes the following item:
Motion to go into Executive Session for the following purposes:
a. Roll Call Vote required: Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a) (1) to discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual.

The Bold Eagle was unable to confirm whether this session was to resolve the DeGrenier issue, but that is widely considered to be the case.

In the meantime, most of the school community seems very supportive of DeGrenier. At a public meeting on October 4th, a letter signed by 57 Mt. Everett alumni was delivered to the school committee stating, "Part of what makes our district so special and unique is the dedication from our teachers, secondary administration, specifically Paul Collins, Glenn Devoti, Kurt DeGrenier, Angel Rote and Linda Hammill." DeGrenier's job is to enforce the rules, and no one knows the rules better than him. Most of the school community finds it hard to believe the he himself could be a rule breaker.

Sports Cont.

events. Ullrich also spoke to that idea, saying, "There is no way to fix it. You need to be mentally prepared to have a large workload going into the season and figure out how to get work done efficiently." Some people think that the dismissals are a necessary thing that students have to deal with, and many do just fine.

Our school's athletic teams have about 20 games a season, of which close to half are played as the visiting team. Being from a small area many of these games can be far away. English teacher Kevin Wolgemuth agrees with the dismissals. Speaking on changes to the system, he stated, "The system in place might be the best one possible; there may be too many variables involved to create a better way to do it." However, Mr. Wolgemuth does see the difficulties involved with missing class time. "I don't see them as heavily in my class; I have been fortunate enough to always have honors students at that time, but I do understand the concern of other teachers," said Wolgemuth. Nevertheless, there are dozens of documented examples of students' grades dropping significantly, often into failure territory, because of their inability to manage the demands of missed classwork and less time for homework due to an aggressive sports schedule.

In the end, every student is different and some student athletes remain among the top of the class despite early dismissals, while others are affected heavily. As far as changes to the system go, none seems to be on the horizon. For now, students will have to continue to work hard at both school and sports, and we will see the effects.

Fortnite Cont.

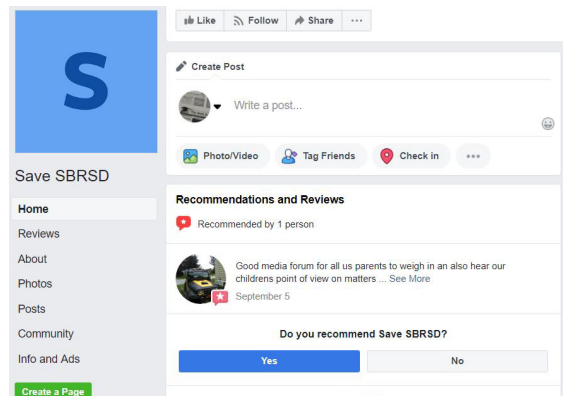
"Unable to stop doing a certain action to the point that it interferes with your life." Earlier this year, the WHO officially recognized "gaming disorder" as a legitimate diagnosis. This convinced many people to seek help for their uncontrollable urge to play.

The game craze is affecting



Warning: may be addictive

many people, especially younger players. It's the first thing they think about when they wake up. They also stay up late playing one last game with their friends. Mazzeralle admits to spending as much as \$1,000 on game skins through the item shop. He is not the only Mount Everett student spending this much to keep up with their favorite game. The Fortnite craze won't last forever, but its sure to be replaced but another expensive and addictive game. So what new game will entrap the minds of young kids? We will just have to wait and find out.



Prom Cont.

evolved and students can attend with whomever they'd like, as long as they're under the age of 21.

Prom numbers at Mt Everett have been going down since 2010. There were 110 students at prom in 2010. The 2018 prom only had 65 students attend. The 41% percent drop amounts to 45 fewer people in 8 years.

One of the reasons that numbers have been declining is because of the increasing cost of tuxedo rentals, flower corsages, dresses, hair, makeup, nails, transportation to and from prom and the ticket prices. For example, it costs at least \$150 to rent a tuxedo. Some who anticipate attending several proms go to Men's Wearhouse and buy a black tuxedo for \$259.99. The declining numbers indicate that more people simply can't or won't take on these kind of expenses.

For seniors, going to prom is the last significant night of your high school experience with your friends and classmates. It is a night you will always remember. After months of planning and preparing, it all comes down to a few hours together.

Student Hunting

By Tucker Wilkinson

There's always something in the fall that anyone can enjoy, whether it's apple picking, carving pumpkins, or getting ready for the fall holidays. But

Cont. Pg #7

No Travel for You

By Brandon Wilson

Why are some of Mount Everett's favorite school field trips being canceled? Nature's Classroom and the Washington D.C. trip have already been chopped, and it remains a question whether the middle school Florida trip will go as well. It remains unclear whether these are outright permanent cancellations, temporary postponements or something else. Many students are likely to be disappointed to hear that these field trips are no longer a part of the Mount Everett and Undermountain curriculum.

There are many reasons given for these cancellations. Undermountain 6th-grade teacher Tony Bleau says of the Nature's Classroom cancellation "Field trips present many challenges (chaperone's capable of keeping children safe and a high ratio requirement of chaperones to student, facilities capable of accommodating the amount of people the school requires us to take on field trips, abundant cost of people attending trips and the fact that our busing costs are absurdly high." How chaperone availability, complex logistics and high cost ranked as reasons to issue the cancellation order remains unclear.

The Washington D.C. trip has also been cut for this year's 8th-graders, as well as the economics and American government students who went with them. This trip was meant to get a better understanding of the 8th-grade Holocaust unit, with a visit to the Holocaust Museum as its centerpiece. Mt. Everett Assistant Principal Jesse Carpenter says, "The trip was removed because of changes

to the Massachusetts Social Studies curriculum. We will no longer be studying the Holocaust, so the trip is no longer necessary. We are not sure yet if there will be a trip in place of this." This explains future cancellation, but since this year's 8th-grade will continue with the Holocaust unit, the hasty cancellation might have other causes.

Another very popular school field trip that could be canceled is the Florida trip run by 7th-grade science teacher Asha VonRuden. VonRuden says that, "The Florida trip is not considered a class trip, because most students don't go on it." She says she cannot personally chaperone the field trip, because of her obligations to the tennis team. She says she "hopes someone else steps up and still runs the field trip."

It would be sad if incoming students no longer have the opportunity to go on these amazing school field trips. Hopefully the schools, the administration and the school committee will find a way to bring back what have been some of the highlights of an Undermountain and a Mt. Everett education.



Lots of student drivers

Mt. Alcatraz Cont.

rules seem to be changing is the community entrance. Recently, it started being unlocked for the early arriving music students. It remains locked both through the day, and after school. All other doors are locked at 8 p.m. unless there is a school event.

There has been some confusion regarding the locking of doors between varying sections of the building, such as the doors behind the cafeteria and those just past the art rooms. Those doors were being locked early, forcing people needing to travel between Mt. Everett and Undermountain to walk outside. Shifting timeframes on the locking of these doors indicate the policy remains a work in progress. Remember, no propping of doors.

Concerning the gate that blocks the road going behind the school past the playgrounds, it has been placed there to slow down vehicles passing through. After school hours, cars won't be able to drive behind the school. The superintendent remarked, "I think it should have been there all the time because you know there were some issues with things on the playground last year."

Some of these new regulations are unpopular, such as the change in the student parking lot. But after much consideration by the administration, each of these changes improves the safety profile of the school. And that is in the best interest of all of us.

- New Safety Regulations:
- Same safety plans, like stay in place and evacuation drills
 - Moved the student parking lot to a more visible location where students may not "beat the buses out."
 - Plan to put in door alarms on all but the main school and community entrances.
 - Plan to change public address to announce to UME and ME both. (Currently there is no way to address both schools at once through the PA).
 - When entering the building, particularly adults have to be identified one at a time
 - Gate behind school to slow down cars

Hunting Cont.

for many people in Massachusetts, fall is hunting season, when there are posted legal dates for hunting turkey, bear, deer, duck, and goose. There are a lot of rules and regulations that come with legal hunting. And if you break any of these rules,



Bambi's Dad, RIP

it could cost you more than you think.

A lot of these rules are basic. You must not hunt after dark due to the obvious risk of accident. There should be no baiting (purposely leaving out food) for deer because it's like cheating. It violates

the rules of what the people who wrote the hunter safety book would call a fair chase. Baiting deer can result in big fines from the environmental police.

But for a lot of people, even with these rules, hunting is fun and provides a big thrill. Sixth grade teacher Tony Bleau says, "I hunt to help manage a healthy population of white tailed deer through conservation." He adds further, "it's an enjoyable time with family and friends." As a hunter, I really enjoy it too because of the time you get to spend bonding with friends during the hunt.

Much of the skill of successful hunting lies in the preparation. For example, when it comes to bow hunting, you have to do a lot to get prepared. You have to make sure you air out your clothing and wash them with scent killers. Then you have to scout the areas you hunt to see if the deer are there. The best way to do that is by putting a camera up. Then when you get pictures of potential deer you want to hunt, you put your tree stand up in the area where they bed down and get food. Then you're ready to hunt. When you sit in your tree one day and see a deer, you get a lot of adrenaline pumping through your body, a condition that hunters call buck fever.

In season, many go hunting every chance they can get. It is peaceful sitting in a tree stand for a couple of hours until dark to try and get a deer. Another favorite thing about hunting is all the memories you make with family or even by yourself, and then you can share them with people and pass them on as stories. Hunter Todd Wilkinson says that he "hunts for the enjoyment and opportunities you get and to keep the deer in good population."

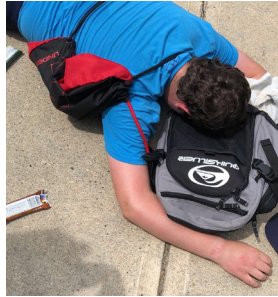
Breaks Cont.

happened. It just happened so fast, I had no idea what was actually going on. High school English teacher Jeanne Lemlin later said, "I was driving down Berkshire School Road on the last day school and I see a group of kids with bicycles gathered around. I immediately pulled over and asked what was going on. They told me they thought he broke his arms. Once I found out no one called the police, I called them." Sophomore Blake Siter said, "I thought he smashed his head." More time went by and the sirens blared and I'm loaded up into the ambulance. It took 6 hours in the hospital, ten x-rays, multiple IV's, and a lot of waiting to learn definitively what happened. My parents kept saying, "You're going to be alright," but I thought differently. The doctor came in with two words, "I'm sorry." That is when I knew my summer was over and I would have to live with this forever. The next words I heard were "Both of these arms, I'm sorry to tell you this, but they're broken."

Over the next few weeks, I was stuck in a chair. I must have watched hundreds of Fortnite streams in that period. A few more weeks went past and I am back in the hospital for the two-arm surgery. I was reluctant when the person before me was only going to take 10 minutes for their surgery. Then I was told the time it would take for mine: 3 hours. I was just thinking, I'm screwed. I was put to sleep and I awoke 3 hours later like nothing ever happened. Six more weeks go by and I was finally able to get out of the chair.

Thinking back on it now, I

could have seriously hurt my head because I was not wearing a helmet. "Any person 16 years of age or younger operating a bicycle or being carried as a passenger on a bicycle on a public way, bicycle path or on any other public right-of-way shall wear a helmet," according to Massachusetts state law. After all I went through, next time, I will think twice before trying to jump a curb, and I'll certainly wear a helmet. From all I hear, broken arms tend to mend faster than concussions.



Darn that curb

Parking Lot Cont.

staff to come outside and control traffic flow out of the student lot because of how uncoordinated it has become. Students race to get out and have a higher chance to get in an accident

This has also affected teachers as well. Teachers now have to park where the students have been parking. Since teachers rarely race out of the building to jobs at Big Y or Price Chopper, most were fine with their old lot, appreciating the shorter walk to the high school.

Dean of Students Kurt DeGrenier, who needs to resolve the new issues arising from the move said, "As of right now the change concerns me." It was concerning from the start to students and staff members. With no clear knowledge of why this change was made, many are left to scratch their head at what appears to be change for change's sake.

Tutorials Save Lives

By Jack Carpenter

Thirty-three minutes for students to goof off or do all of the homework and studying, they failed to do the previous night. Some tutorials may be filled with hard working students, while others are filled with noise and the laughter of unproductive students.

At the start of this school year, a new twist on study halls has been added to the schedule. X Period, or tutorial, has been added between C and D period and runs from 10:33 to 11:03. This new period has been instituted instead of the rotating study halls used last year.

Tutorial looks different in every single classroom in Mount Everett. Many use it for homework, extra help, and meetings, but some do not use this time to do work. During an informal poll of ten classes during tutorial, almost 70 percent of students were found working. Most teachers do their best to encourage and, in some cases, provide students with work. Physical education teacher Joe McSpirtt is one of the teachers who helps provide work if students aren't busy. "I have seniors, so before the SAT and ACT tests I gave out practice tests or study sheets for those that did not have homework to do" said McSpirtt. These advances by teachers can be very helpful for kids who claim they have nothing to do.

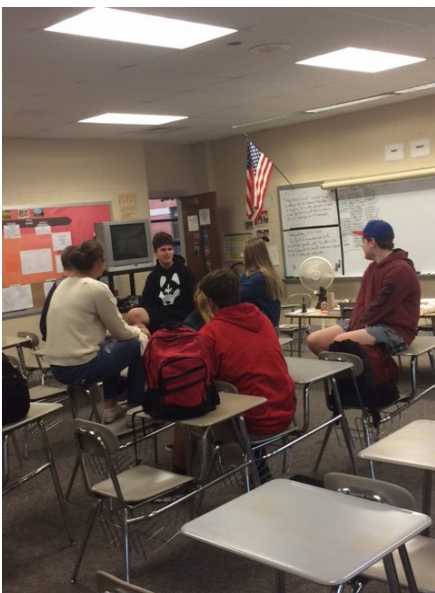
Tutorial has to do what no other study hall at Mount Everett has done, which is to be a long lasting study hall alternative. There are many plans for tutorial in the future. Assistant Principal Jes-

Tutorials Cont.

se Carpenter said, "Tutorial will be expanded to include advisory lessons and specific interventions for students to help improve their academic skills." This block will also be a great period for class meetings and club meetings, which are usually held after or before school. Having a set period every day as a study hall can be a lot more consistent for both teachers and students.

Sophomore Alek Zdziarksi likes tutorial more than last year's study halls, and uses all the time he has for work. "I like how tutorial is an actual period because last year we weren't guaranteed our study halls every day. This really enables me to do work every day in tutorial."

Many people have welcomed this new change to the schedule. Others preferred the rotating study halls with a home-room. Either way, it will be interesting to see what happens to tutorial throughout the rest of this school year.



Study hall or party hall?

The Curse of G-20

By Seth Nack

The 11th-grade English teacher has quit...AGAIN! Some believe that is because of all the spirits of the many teachers that have departed from that classroom, G-20. No one can really blame Ms. Cupp. She had



We hope she lasts

to drive from Westfield to Mount Everett every day. Besides, word is that she got a big raise in her new teaching position.

Her quick departure caused a rush to fill the position, with lots of interviews going on. The school had to find a substitute to fill in for her quickly. Fortunately, Ms. Valentini was able to do a fine job subbing temporarily to keep everything under control. She did that up until September 25th when Ms. Victoria Aldam took over permanently. Aldam is a Mt. Everett alumna and daughter of 12th-grade English teacher Ms. Wendy Casey. Aldam is doing a great job. How-

ever, she feels that all the talk about ghosts and spirits is false and that "currently I am not aware of the presence of any of those" she says.

There has been quite a lot of turnover in G20. Many recent teachers that have taught 11th-grade English have left for various reasons, including other teaching jobs, new careers and a belief that their future was not secure at Mt. Everett. Ms. Cupp left for a new opportunity. Andrew Graham and Annie Christianson left for other reasons. Nicholle Dupont left to become a writer. Jan Storti...who had held the position for many years, retired in 2007. The average tenure of each of her successors was 2-3 years.

The job of filling the positions fell largely to English department chairperson Jeanne Lemlin and Principal Glenn Devoti. Lemlin explains that scheduling interviews is challenging because many candidates had to travel long distances to reach our school. This year was even harder to find a replacement because the school year already started and they needed a teacher as soon as possible. Luckily, Ms. Valentini flew in like air support, followed by Ms. Aldam who hopes to break the curse of G-20 and teach in that classroom for a long time.



Nurse Jeanne takes extreme measures against Juuling

H O R O S C O P E S

By Blake Siter and Austin Murray

Aquarius (January 20—February 18): Water will be your enemy. Invest in a good rain jacket and water-proof boots....NOW!

Pisces (February 19—March 20): There may be trouble ahead; be prepared for a jolt and keep your nerve up.

Aries (March 21—April 19): You are going to have hard times in the near future, but you will find your true love through it.

Taurus (April 20—May 20): Keep your head up, your time will come.

Gemini (May 21—June 20): You will find love eventually; the right one might be in front of you.

Cancer (June 21—July 22): Stop stealing other people's loves and stay on the straight and narrow.

Leo (July 23—August 22): Your strong opinion will get you in trouble unless you can document it with facts.

Virgo (August 23—September 22): Your luck is good so this is a great time to buy a lottery ticket and take chances.

Libra (September 23—October 22): Don't be a downer. A negative attitude towards life makes others want to run away from you.

Scorpio (October 23—November 21): Put down the phone and go on an adventure. Live life to the fullest.

Sagittarius (November 22—December 21): Your life seems a mess right now, but wait a few weeks and all will be well.

Capricorn (December 22—January 19): You have a major accomplishment coming up in your near future.