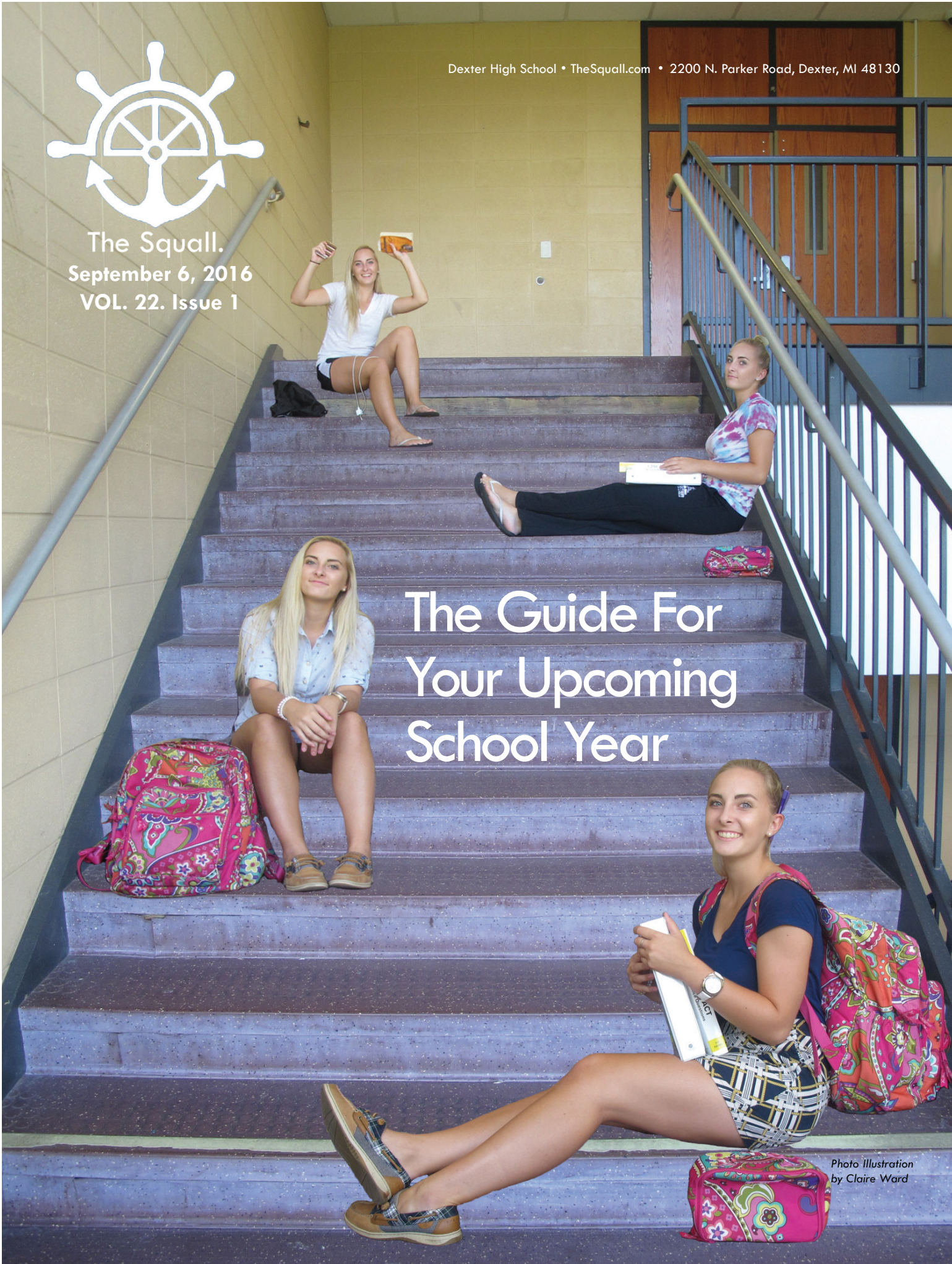




The Squall.
September 6, 2016
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The Guide For Your Upcoming School Year

Photo Illustration
by Claire Ward






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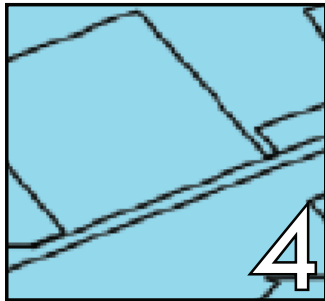
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Nick Elliott  Designer

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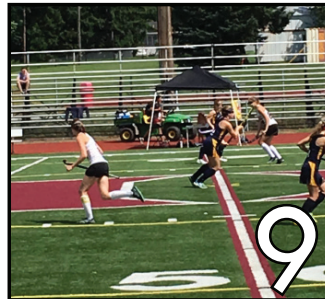
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Photo courtesy of Lex Williams



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Staff Editorials:

Editorials represent the majority opinion of the editorial board. Editorials are unsigned. Columns represented the opinions of the individual staff members who wrote them.

Greenfield, IN. The paper serves as a public forum with student editors making all content decisions. Opinions expressed in the newspaper are not necessarily those of Dexter Community Schools.

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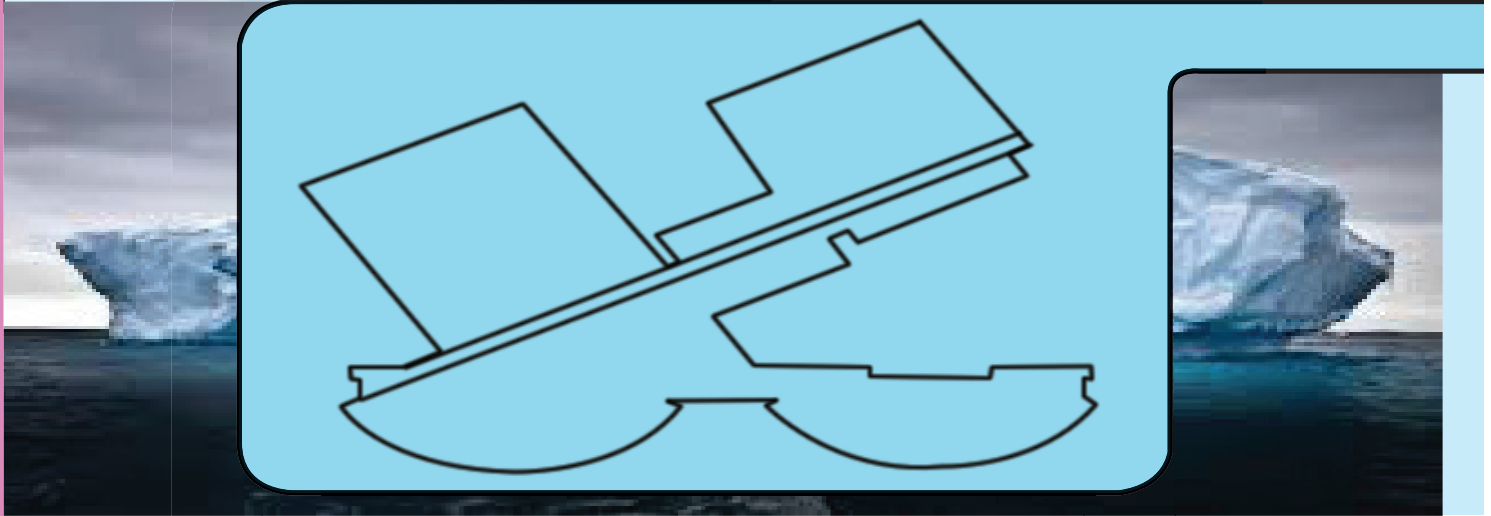
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Get to Know the DHS

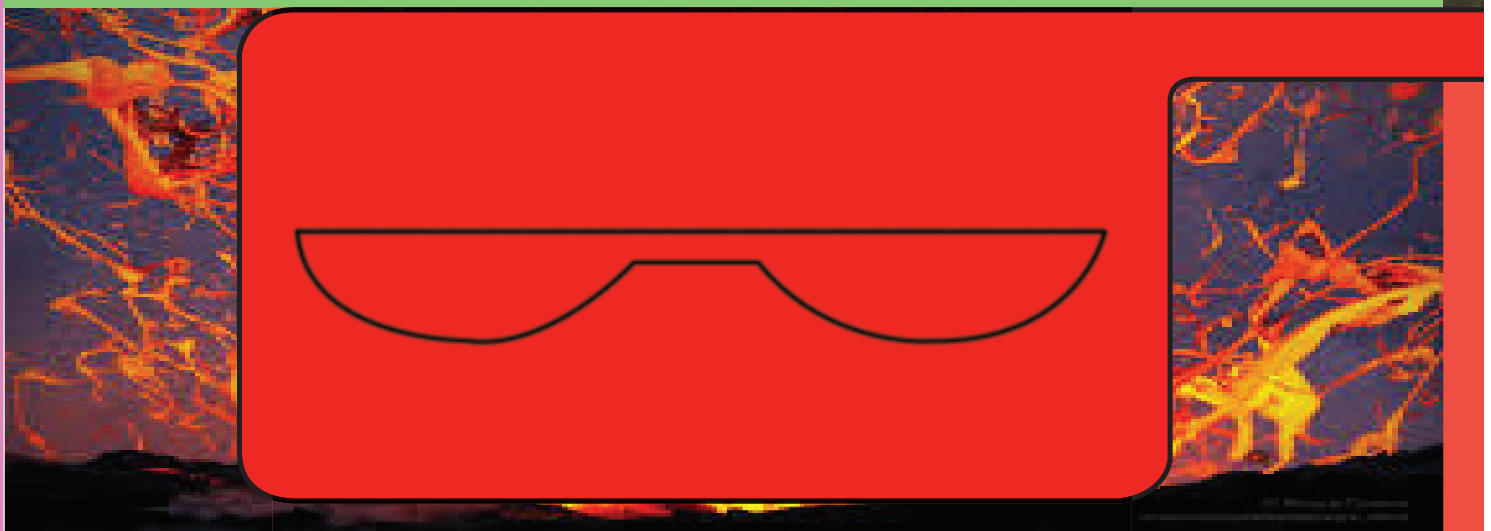


65-75°


Second Floor

Generally the home of the most thermally acceptable regions you'll encounter at the school, the second floor is the place to be if you're looking for a balanced temperature during a stressful school day. Mostly carpeted floors and plenty of windows make for a nice mixture of cool air flow and a comfortable standing temperature.

The second floor has its ominous spots though. The infamous cold hallway is the coldest spot in the whole school. An entirely cinderblock and window hallway causes it to be either as cold as it is outside or even colder. Make sure to have an extra layer just in case, depending on the day.



Floor Environments

Designer  Hunter EdwardsDesigner  Nick GrecaWriter  Truman StovallWriter  Joe Ramey

First Floor

60-70°

Bring your sweats and your nice blankie because you will be freezing your bumcheeks off when partaking in classes on, or taking a leisurly stroll through, the first floor of the school. Regardless of the time of year, this floor is notoriously cold, with certain spots being colder than others.

One in particular is the hallway adjacent to the media center, with windows bordering the walls. This hallway is easily the coldest portion of the bottom floor. With all of the tile flooring, an extra layer of clothing is a necessity. The only exception to this floor is a full lunch room. Vents in the commons allow a concentrated flow of frigid air, usually to one table in particular.



Third Floor

70-80°

If you end up with a class on this floor in the second half of the day, nothing can save you from becoming a hot, sticky mess. Because the laws thermodynamics as we know them say that heat will travel upward, the collective body heat of every person in the school throughout the day winds up on this floor.

By sixth hour in the spring, this floor essentially becomes Vietnam. Yet some teachers on this floor, with an inconceivable tolerance to heat, refuse to open their windows even on the hottest of days. The air conditioning system is simply not capable of keeping this floor bearable to these suffering students. Just hope you're not one of them.



Laptops For All

DHS will have a 1:1 student-technology ratio this fall along with strengthened WiFi

Truman Stovall Writer
Lisa Zuiderveen Designer

Changes were made over the summer to the district's arsenal of technology. Students will have more access to the internet than ever in the classroom, especially in the high school.

It was made possible through grants, whereby the Dexter schools administration was able to "[purchase] Chromebooks for all of Creekside and Mill Creek... [and] move their mac-books to the high school," Superintendent Chris Timmis said.

Executive Director of Instruction Mollie Sharrar added that "additional laptops and carts in the high school will allow both teachers and students increased access to technology where they will be able to save and share documents easily. Hopefully, this will facilitate increased collaboration with the use of Google Classroom, Google Docs and Google Hangouts."

A system for distribution will likely be ready by the first day.

"Teachers will probably check out a cart at the beginning of the year," DHS Principal Kit Moran said. "It'll have a barcode - it's their cart for the year. Only half of them have printers, so we'll prioritize classrooms that need them.

"Some classrooms don't need carts, like Mergler, Mackinder, Mendez, and Stockwell; They have desktops already. English and social studies teachers will need one; Math teachers maybe not as much."

Since there aren't enough carts for every class (anywhere from 34 to 40), some carts may go unclaimed and be used like carts were in years before. Teachers without a personal cart still need one from time to time for a class period, so they will still have the option to set aside a time for one of them.

Or they may just borrow them from the teacher next door. All of this will be worked out by the administration.

Many students will consider the new and improved WiFi, which is promised to be stronger and better suited to handle

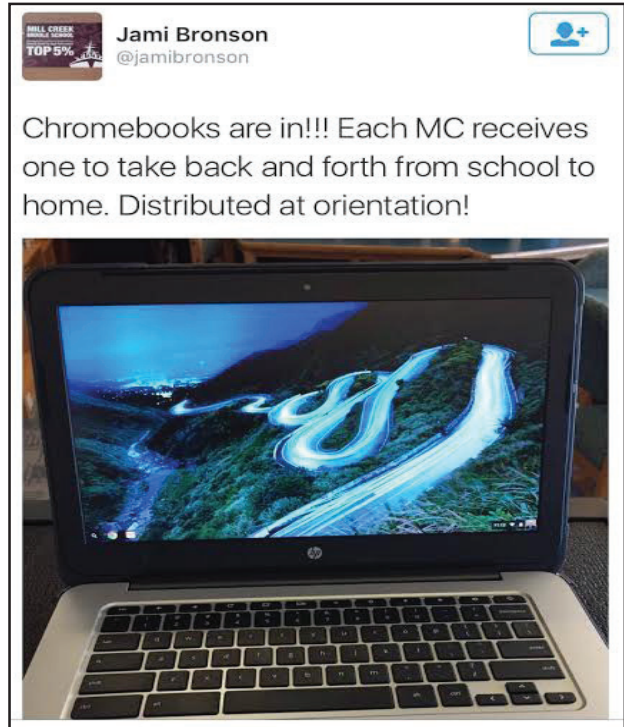


Photo courtesy of Jami Bronson
Mill Creek Principal Jami Bronson tweeted a photo this summer of her school's new technology.

both the demands on the new laptops and students' mobile devices, the cherry on top.

Moran believes that, in the future, the school's access to technology, when it can be used to help kids learn and prepare them for jobs and higher education, is "kind of cliché, but limited by our imagination."



chromebook

Students take home and use at school



Laptop carts provided ONLY at school

Images courtesy of Google

Writer  Tessa Kipke
 Designer  Lisa Zuiderveen

Mrs. Fyke Makes the Switch

After a four-year stretch of teaching at DHS, the beloved English teacher is moving back to Mill Creek

Jill Fyke has always loved teaching middle schoolers. She started in Dexter as an English teacher at Mill Creek, where she found the students and community of team teachers to be “pretty magical, actually.” For the next 11 years, Fyke’s signature passion was for what she was teaching, and the students she taught, became a staple in the middle school.

Then, in the fall of 2012, Fyke underwent an “involuntary transfer,” or a switch brought on by a decrease of students in the eighth grade, that sent her up to the high school.

“I didn’t really decide; it was kind of decided for me,” Fyke said of the change. Nevertheless, her impact has been huge among high schoolers.

“I really liked being in Mrs. Fyke’s classroom, because you could tell she cared so much about her students and the subject,” said Vivian Culp, an exchange student who took Fyke’s creative writing class last year.

Fyke had a good time at the high school, too, stating the impact of going with her middle schoolers and watching them flourish into young adults (“or ‘real people’ I would call them,” Fyke joked).

“Some of the deeper conversations we would have at the high school were awesome,” Fyke continued. “It’s a trade-off, for sure.”

Now, Fyke is making another change, this time voluntary. This September, a teacher many students have grown to see as an integral part of their high school careers will be taking her leave of DHS and moving back to Mill Creek.

Though many high schoolers will mourn the loss of Fyke in the halls of DHS, her former students are happy to see her return to her original post; for many, she remains a beloved middle school teacher entrenched in memories from those adolescent years.

“You could tell she cared so much about her students and the subject.”

-2016 DHS graduate Vivian Culp

“Mrs. Fyke was a really good teacher in the high school, but I think she was the best teacher in eighth grade. You learned from her less because she was your teacher and more because she was someone you were in a room spending time with,” said Lucas Bell, a Dexter alum who originally had Fyke in middle school.

Fyke is incredibly excited for her return to Mill Creek, where she will resume teaching middle school English.

“The only reason I took the opportunity to go back to Mill Creek is I’ve simply always considered myself a middle school teacher,” Fyke said. “I remember how hard the middle school years were for me when I was at that awkward age, and I al-



Photos courtesy of Facebook

Clockwise from top: Mrs. Fyke with recent graduate Nikki Hartman Fyke with recent graduate Maddie Easterday Fyke with recent graduate Grace Wilson Fyke enjoying time with her kids Maddie and Zachary.

ways thought if I can make it a little easier for one or two other kids coming through, it would have been worth it.

“I’m definitely excited to be back in my old room, with my old teammates; working on my old curriculum to make it even better than it was before, and getting those eighth graders ready for DHS.”



Fall Sports Preview

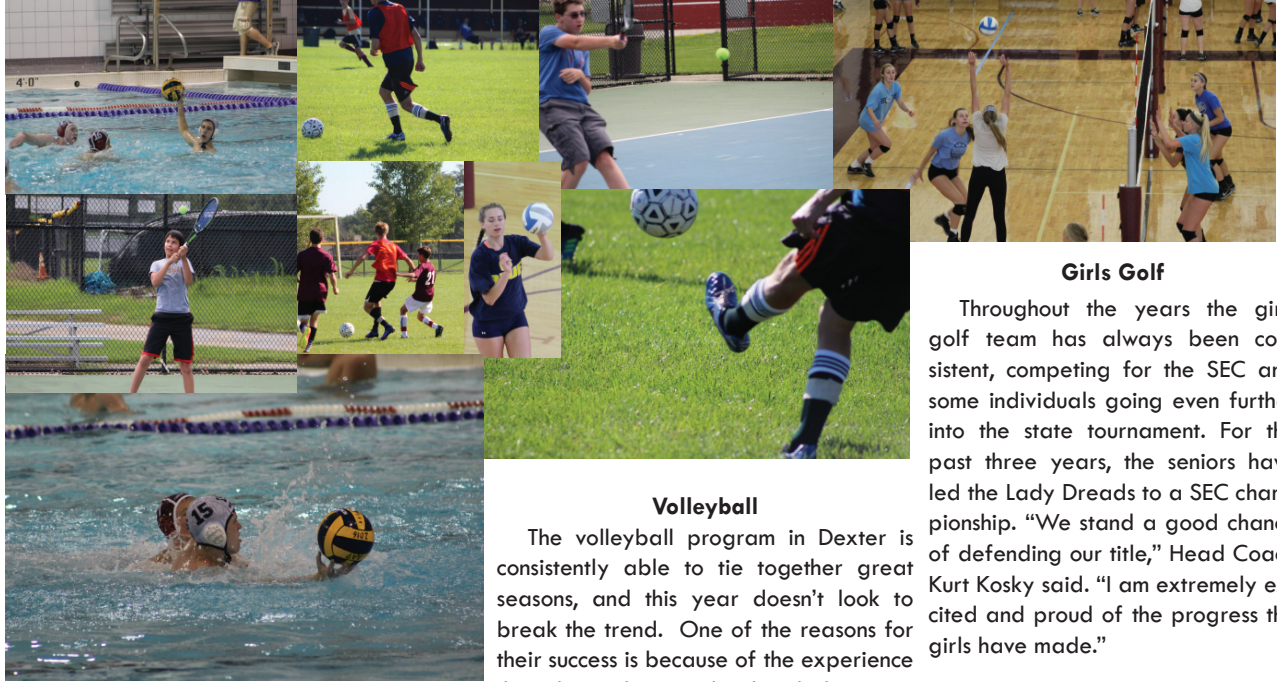
An inside scoop from coaches and players will shine light on the hopes and dreams of each sport's season

Caden Koenig  Writer

Nick LeBlanc  Writer

Nick Greca  Designer

Tyler Woelfel  Photographer



Girls Swimming

Last year, led by both seniors and underclassmen, the girls swimming team won the state championship. Despite key swimmers moving on to their new collegiate teams, the swim team is expected to competitively defend its state title. The incoming junior class, who stepped up big last year, have expectations to continue their great swimming and help propel them to another great year. "As a team I will anticipate us crushing this season, as well as trophying in states again," junior Maddie Kaufman said.

Boys Soccer

In the past, the soccer team has been known to be able to consistently put together quality seasons that run deep into the district tournaments or even state tournaments. In 2014 the Dreads reached the state semifinals before losing a close match with Cranbrook, and last year the Dreads made it to the district semifinals. Despite losing some seniors, Dexter is looking to put together another quality season.

Volleyball

The volleyball program in Dexter is consistently able to tie together great seasons, and this year doesn't look to break the trend. One of the reasons for their success is because of the experience that players have under their belt coming into senior year. There are eight returning varsity players on this year's squad. So, despite losing five talented players, the Lady Dreads's season looks promising as they have the experience and talent.

Cross Country

Last year, the boys and girls teams ended their season well at the Regional Championship. Both teams positioned high during the meet with the boys finishing first and the girls finishing sixth. Runners like senior Marc Lopez will look to end their cross-country career at Dexter on a high note.

Girls Golf

Throughout the years the girls golf team has always been consistent, competing for the SEC and some individuals going even further into the state tournament. For the past three years, the seniors have led the Lady Dreads to a SEC championship. "We stand a good chance of defending our title," Head Coach Kurt Kosky said. "I am extremely excited and proud of the progress the girls have made."




Boys Tennis

Losing a lot of good players last season the tennis team is looking for their younger players to step up and contribute to have a solid year. While tennis doesn't receive a lot of attention, the athletes are still competitive. Although it is a team sport, tennis sends individuals to play at SECs and even districts. For that reason even if the team doesn't do well as a whole there is a chance to have individual success.

Boys Water Polo

For some, the idea of swimming in a pool for an extended period of time is a suicide mission. But for senior captains Alex Janosi, Ben Daugherty, and Kevin Kimmel it is just the opposite. The three captains look to bring together a team that lost key players to graduation. First-time players like senior Randy Gesell look to help fill the void left by departing players.



Writer  Ben Daugherty
 Designer  Caden Koenig
 Photographer  Ben Daugherty

State Championship or Bust?

With a more experienced and talented team than the 2014 Division II title squad, the Dreads have lofty expectations

The whistle blew and the Dexter Varsity Field Hockey team took the field for their first game of the 2016 season.

Freshman goalkeeper, Maggie Jones, arrived with something to prove as this was her first game in a Dexter uniform.

If I'm thinking about being nervous, then it's hard to focus on the game and the shots that are coming at me," Jones said. "...my teammates have made it really easy to not feel nervous."

This was also the first game that Trish Machemer took the field as Dexter's head coach after being an assistant coach for several years.

Machemer was joined by assistant coach Tori Westhead, a recent graduate of Saint Louis University where she was the goalkeeper for four years. Growing up in Ann Arbor and playing field hockey at Huron High School, Westhead was excited to find a coaching position near home where she could continue to work with the field hockey community.

Dexter took control of the game from the start and showcased their talent with a commanding 6-0 win over East Grand Rapids, proving that their freshman keeper and new coaches had earned their spots on the team.

I feel a lot of pressure when I'm playing," Jones said. "I remind myself I'm just here to play because I love it and I'm going to do my absolute best in goal."

Expectations for the season are very high. The coaches and players feel that they have an even stronger and more experienced team than the 2014 Division II state champion team. With such a veteran team, they're dead set on winning another state championship.

"We're looking forward to the season," senior midfielder Sam Labadie said. "We have a lot of talent and coaches that know how to win."

"I remind myself I'm just here to play because I love it."

-Freshman goalkeeper Maggie Jones

Labadie and the rest of the team have their minds set on winning a Division I State Championship. The veteran team is almost entirely made up of upperclassmen with the exception of its freshman goalkeeper.

Led by 11 seniors, the varsity team understands what it takes to be victorious after winning the Division II State Championship two seasons ago.

"We are looking to capitalize on the fact that we have such an experienced group, and are eager to end our last season at DHS on a high note," Labadie said.



The Dreads huddle up before their season opener against East Grand Rapids. Dexter won 6-0.



Dexter and East Grand Rapids line up for the opening faceoff.



Dexter and East Grand Rapids line up for the opening faceoff.

Dexter vs. Fowlerville

The Dreads can't stop Fowlerville's offense, falling 49-13 in the season opener on August 26

Nick LeBlanc  Writer
 Nick LeBlanc  Designer
 Tyler Woelfel  Photographer

During the Dreads' opening drive, a holding call and an illegal man downfield call spoiled a seemingly promising drive. More mental mistakes came at other inconvenient times during the game, too.

The costly mistakes proved too much to overcome as Fowlerville defeated Dexter 49-13.

"I think we could've done a better job of playing smarter and playing our own game of football," senior Travon Reid said.

The Dreads first scored in the second quarter when senior Joey Hiser found junior Nick Filecchia wide open in the end zone. However, Dexter failed to convert on the extra point as it was blocked.

During the game, senior Joey Hiser and junior George Deljevic shared time at quarterback for the Dreads.

Once the first half ended, with Dexter trailing 28-6, the Dreads became visibly tired. At the defensive end, they began to give up big run after big run.

A big part of that is the lack of depth the Dreads have on both offense and defense.

"It's tough because the linemen are playing both ways the whole game," senior Chris Kaufman said. "That starts to take a toll on our running game."

Despite the loss, the Dreads still have some positive things to reflect on.

"Even though we lost, we all kept our heads up and played as hard as we could," Kaufman said. "We could expand on our confidence and putting all of our hard work during practice into our games."

The loss against Fowlerville marks the 24th consecutive defeat for the Dreads, but that won't deter the Dreads. With eight regular season games remaining, the boys are looking to retain a positive outlook.

"This team has more heart and character than any other team I have coached in the last 25 years," Head Coach Ken Koenig said. "We made some mental mistakes last night at crucial times that set us back. They are all correctable things that we will get right to work on."



Dexter sophomore Andy Durand returns a kick against Fowlerville.



The Dreads line up on offense against Fowlerville.



Senior Joey Hiser makes an open-field tackle.



1- The Dreads huddle up before the start of the game. **2-** Senior Seamus McCurren takes the hand off and runs across field. **3-** The Dreads huddle during a timeout before returning to the field. **4-** Junior Kyle Rook makes a tackle against Fowlerville. **5-** Senior Joey Hiser (5) and senior Seamus McCurren (17) walk back onto the field. **6-** The offensive unit walks back onto the sideline after a timeout was called.

Fall Athletes to Watch

Here are some key athletes of their respective teams who you should keep an eye on this season

Jed Howell  Writer
 Nick Greca  Designer
 Tyler Woelfel  Photographer



Ever since her freshman year, Emma Tamer has been dominant on the field. With a state championship her sophomore year and a commitment to play at the University of Michigan coming soon after, Tamer is no stranger to success. However, last season came as a bit of a disappointment as the girls lost in the state semifinals to Ann Arbor Pioneer in a close game, 2-0. Tamer and the rest of the seniors are expected to make a push for a second state title. "I felt like our season had been cut short."



It's hard to talk about the last decade of Dexter football without mentioning the Hiser name. Hiser is the youngest of three brothers who have all played for Dexter. Both of his brothers went on to play at the collegiate level. This fall, Hiser is returning to the quarterback position after playing receiver the past three seasons. He played quarterback from the time he started tackle football in fourth grade all the way through middle school. "I'm really excited to be moving back to QB."



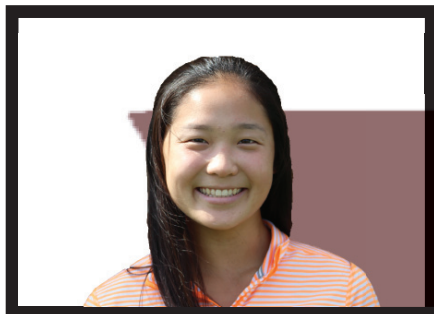
Upcoming Events

Football

9/09 @ Chelsea
 9/16 vs. Ypsilanti
 9/23 vs. Lincoln
 9/30 @ Tecumseh
 10/07 @ Adrian
 10/14 vs. Bedford
 10/21 vs. Parma Western

Field Hockey

9/6 @ Novi
 9/9 vs. Skyline
 9/12 @ Chelsea
 9/14 vs. Marian
 9/19 @ Sacred Heart
 9/22 @ Ladywood
 9/26 vs. AA Pioneer



As one of the most experienced golfers on the team, Rylee Kim is both a leader and role model for the rest of her teammates. Kim has been golfing since her freshman year. She began golfing in hopes of meeting new people and ended up falling in love with the sport. Kim wants to focus more on having fun this fall rather than winning. As the team's No. 1 golfer, Kim likely will have a big impact on this team's success throughout the year. "I'd also like to score a hole-in-one sometime soon."



CC Throughout his high school career, Marc Lopez has made his name as one of the fastest members on the cross country team. After a successful junior season ending in a team win at the regional meet and a chance to run in the state meet, Lopez has big goals for his senior year. He is looking to break the school record in the 5K and earn a spot for his name on the cross country wall. He would also like to see the team finish in the top two at the state meet. Lopez expects his senior season to be his best yet. "Individually, I would like to break the school record."



Taylor Venuto stood as the only freshman on the varsity volleyball team last season. Even though she was the youngest player and the new girl on the team, Venuto was able to make a major contribution as a middle and outside hitter. Now that she has a full season under her belt she can focus more on her game and less on getting to know everyone. Many are expecting Venuto's sophomore season to be a big one with an even larger presence on the court. "Now that Coach Dunn has seen me play a whole season, she has high expectations for me."



Upcoming Events

Boys Cross Country

- 9/13 @ SEC Jam 1
- 9/17 @ Holly Invitational
- 9/27 @ SEC White Jam 2
- 10/01 @ Coaching Legends Invitational
- 10/08 @ Portage Invitational
- 10/15 @ Gabriel Richard
- 10/20 @ SEC Jam 3

Girls Golf

- 9/7 @ Adrian
- 9/14 vs. Chelsea
- 9/15 @ Red Wing Invitational
- 9/17 @ Mustangs Tournament
- 9/19 @ SEC crossover
- 9/26 @ SEC Invitational



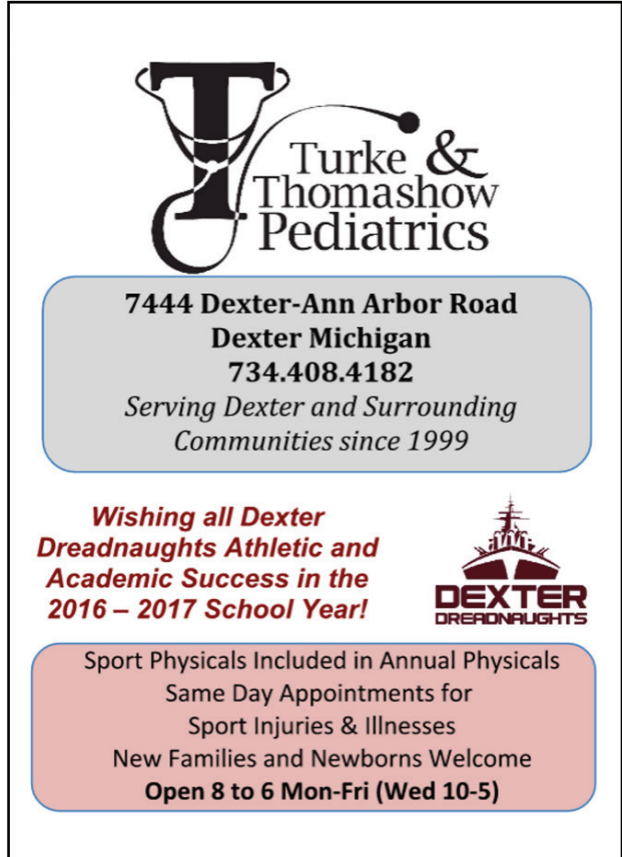
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Writer  Alex Strang
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Lex Williams: Hometown Hero

Boys Cross Country Coach and 2005 Graduate Represents Dexter at the 2016 Olympic Trials

Many athletes only dream of competing in the Olympics, but Dexter alum Lex Williams actually got a shot to compete for his spot on Team USA.

Williams is a long distance runner and ran in the 1500-meter run in Eugene, Oregon, in July in an attempt to qualify for Team USA.

Although he did not make the final cut - only the top 3 Americans in each event qualify - he got the experience of a lifetime. Only the top 30 runners in the U.S. were able to compete in this event.

High School and Childhood

Williams established himself as a star early on at the age of 10 when he won the AAU 1500m. This success continued into his high school career when he finished first in the 3200m at the state meet and third place in the 1600m at indoor nationals. He also left a piece of himself at Dexter by setting and retaining two school records in the 800m and the 1600m.

Despite all of these individual accomplishments, Williams's favorite moments in high school are with his team: "I did some cool things as an individual, but those [three state titles] are probably my best memories," Williams said.

Running at Michigan

After graduating from DHS, Williams ran at the University of Michigan. While there he was an All-American and was first in the Big Ten in the 5,000-meter run.

From Michigan he continued to



Photo courtesy of Lex Williams
 Lex Williams (red) runs in the 1500 meter qualifying round in July at the Olympic Trials in Eugene, Oregon. While he didn't advance to the next round, he called it an "awesome experience."

"The accomplishment of making it [to the Olympic Trials] was my personal olympic medal."

-Lex Williams

start his professional career. Williams signed as a professional athlete with the running brand, Saucony, and the sports drink, SOS Rehydrate.

During his professional career Williams has one memory that stands out.

"Breaking four in the mile is my favorite memory I have of running," Williams said. "The four-minute-mile barrier is the benchmark for elite milers."

Olympic Trials

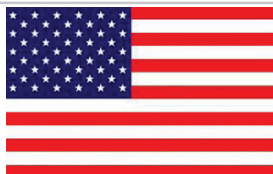
After his olympic trail, he described his experience in Eugene with a smile on his face: "It was awesome. I thought I ran a great race, and just didn't have it the last 30 meters. I got passed by three guys."

He was one of the leaders for most of the race until the last stretch when everyone picked up the pace to cross the finish line to qualify for the next round.

"It ended quicker than I wanted to. I placed 28th, 28th in the country," Williams said laughing. "I can walk away and be happy with that."

"The accomplishment of making it there was my personal olympic medal."

Olympic Medal Count



Gold



46

Silver



37

Bronze



38

Total



121

Statistics courtesy of NBCOlympics

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HIERARCHY of **DHS**

As new seniors feel entitled to the crown of the school, views on the average day changes every year. This change is meant to fit the mold on how the seniors imagined their final year of high school. So, with this comes the basic rules of Dexter High School's social hierarchy.

Claire Ward  Writer

Caden Koenig  Writer

Joe Ramey  Writer

Hunter Edwards  Designer

Hunter Edwards  Photographer

FRESHMEN:

Wow, congrats! You guys survived your tween years and lives as middle schoolers. You have finally made it to high school.

The next four years are going to be some pretty fantastic years. But since you're coming into our (Seniors '17) school, we would like to set some guidelines.

Of course there are some obvious ones that don't need to be mentioned, but I will name a couple just to get the ball rolling.

First, we would like to talk drinking fountains. They are helpful if you have a water bottle or even need to wet your whistle. But turning the fountain head towards the person so when they push it, not realizing what had been done, get water on their shirt and pants is despicable. Most people spot the prank before it happens, and c'mon, you are in high school now.

Next: the hallways. We have five minutes between each class. This time is great to talk to your friends, get a drink of water (as previously stated), and say hello to your significant other (more to come later). One main common mistake everyone has to adjust to, especially freshmen year, is that blocking the hallway isn't okay.

Blocking the hallway includes, but is not limited to the following: stopping in the middle of the hallway, creating a long line at the drinking fountain, and sitting outside a classroom that is locked. This is high up there on things you can do to annoy other people at DHS, but there may be one that tops the list.

Public Displays of Affection (PDA). Trust us. We get it. Most of the relationships you experience are short and full of puppy love. Now, everyone has gone through this stage, so we all try to understand and remember. Nevertheless, we also know you can wait until 2:51 PM to have that makeout sesh (session) with your significant other. We all would appreciate it.

As far as the things you can do. As you enter high school you are given a lot more freedoms at school. Teachers start to trust you and you start to get privileges you haven't experienced at school yet.

For example, nobody dismisses your table for lunch anymore; once you get to the lunch room, you can eat. Believe it or not, this is just the beginning. You have a bigger selection of classes, more extracurricular options, and a wider variety of teachers to help and provide different teaching styles.

Starting high school is a big step in your life. And take it from the seniors writing this article, it goes by super fast. So soak up every fantastic, stressful, boring moment you get in the four years you are about to start.



SOPHOMORES:

The less than notable year that is your freshman semesters of high school are over. You are now a real, functioning facet of our high school that we (and most other high schools nationwide) like to call sophomores. Your days of Earth Science noodle structures and spoonfed criteria are over.

Now that you've passed your easy breezy first year of high school, you are no longer the bottom of the totem pole. The Pythagorean theorem is a thing of the past, right? Wrong! Don't make the mistake of failing to challenge yourself this year. Take advantage of the provided classes that can set you up for success

If you do decide to take the route of immaturity, leave it all in the classroom.

in your dreaded junior year. One of the biggest mistakes you can make is carrying over your lazy tendencies from freshman year to your sophomore year. Don't be that student.

Along with freshman year tendencies, your actions shall NOT carry over. Your decision to make your mark freshman year is one of (hopefully) deep thought and time. Whether that mark was positive or negative, the same shenanigans you pulled freshman year will not fly. You're a different person, a year older, and you represent our school. If you do decide to take the route of immaturity, leave it all in the classroom. Another one of the biggest mistakes you can make is taking it to Twitter.

Read a book for God's sake. Like the ones you (didn't) read freshman year English. Organize! Keep that backpack clear of all trash. You'll need the space for the textbooks that you *should* be carrying around and using to your advantage. There's no complaining when all of your resources are in front of you. Don't be that guy who's too scared to ask Mr. Heuser for help on an essay. He's like the coolest guy ever. Take your time and ask the questions that need to be answered. After all, you'll need to know by next year.

Prepare, prepare, prepare. The three things you are called to do your sophomore year. Just as you would prep for a hurricane or other natural disasters of sorts, you are to prep for the coming storm. Your junior year; and that storm is brewing.

"On to the next one" - lyrical genius 'Jay-Z'



JUNIORS:

Brace yourselves. This year really will suck. I know, I know, that sounds like the most cliché thing in the world. At the beginning of junior year, things seem okay. They can even seem pretty good. Then all of the sudden you have two papers on Tuesday, a Pre-Calc test Wednesday morning, an APUSH project due Thursday, and a basketball tournament over the weekend. These are usually the times where you find yourself laying face-down in your bed, too overwhelmed to even eat. You don't want to get to this point, so here are some helpful tips to prevent having a mental breakdown every other hour.

Get a planner, keep the planner on you at all times, and actually use it. Time management is so important when you have what seems like a million assignments. You want to stay ahead as much as you can. When you get an assignment, start working on it the earliest chance you get. Do not put off studying until the night before, and don't wait until 10 on a Thursday night to start a paper due in class the next day. Do your big assignments the same day you get them, and get as much done as early as possible. You can do that 10-minute vocab assignment at lunch; you can't write a full essay.



Every spring, juniors prepare for the SAT/ACT. You should too. Take a prep course, review your basic math and reading skills, and actually get a decent amount of sleep the night before. Knowing the material is important. What's more important, though, is not stressing out about the standardized test too much. Your future really does not count on the SAT. Yes, the SAT is important; however, you can retake it, and once you get to college it won't mean anything. More and more schools are making the decision to not require SAT/ACT scores as sometimes they aren't accurate reflections of the student. That being said, you still have to try. Many schools still want to see your score. Just try not to stress yourself out about it too much.

With all the stress, you can't forget to have some fun. Go to the football and basketball games. Go out to the corn maze. See the school plays. Do what you enjoy doing. This year may be your hardest year academically, but plenty of things can be done to lessen your stress.

But, congratulations! You made it to the upperclassmen years of high school. No longer can people tell you, "you were a freshman last year; you can't say anything about hating them" or "you're literally 12" because you aren't anymore! Just make sure you know where you belong; you aren't seniors yet. If a senior wriggles in front of you at the game, don't yell and complain. They don't care that you've been there since 3:30. They've been in your place before and have seniority.

This is the year you get to have fun, but not too much fun. You're finally free of the shackles freshman year places on you and that follow you (aka haunt you) as you complete sophomore year. Concentrate on school work, get stuff done, but don't let it stress you out to an unmanageable point.

SENIORS:

Guys, we made it. We've suffered for three years to get to this point, but we're finally here. This is the year we get to rule the school. Here's a little advice on how to spend your final year in grade school.

Make the absolute most of it. Go to every football game, every basketball game, dress up on spirit days, go to school plays, go to Homecoming and Prom (especially Homecoming -- it can be as much fun as you make it, so make it amazing), build relationships with your teachers, and mend old relationships with classmates. Pretty much do anything you want to do (within reason, and don't be rude about it either).

This is your last year with the protection of a house to come home to each night, and having all your closest friends around you all the time. You don't want to wake up on graduation morning and realize you regret how you spent your last year in Dexter. Pretty soon all of us will be spread out around the country, maybe even outside of the country, and will be forced into a world of financial management and all-nighters writing term papers.

Work hard to get where you want to be in the fall of 2017. If that happens to be Stanford, you'd better already have your application essays written (if this is where you want to go, I have no doubt your applications are almost already completely finished and you've already had multiple interviews with admission reps). If that happens to be WCC, start getting your application together, because the process can be long. The point is, this is the last year you have before you aren't guided through life. Now is the time to bust a little ass to give yourself the best opportunity to thrive once next September comes around. Working hard doesn't stop after acceptance. You can't just screw around after declaration day. You still have to work to maintain your grades; colleges can always revoke acceptance.



With all this newly found seniority, occasionally check yourself. Just because you're a senior doesn't mean it's cool for you to push around the freshmen, or make fun of them for being confused as to where the fifth floor is. The poor little guys looking like Nemo on the first day, alone in a big open ocean, is just trying to find someone they know. If you see a freshman -- or anyone for that matter -- looking completely lost or helpless, give them some help. I promise, it won't bring you down in social status.

This is our last year. We have 278 days from today before we are officially Dexter High School graduates. Whether that number seems large or small to you, it will go faster than you believe. We have 278 days to make the most of. Here's to us. The only thing left to say is that this year is going to be L17.

An Unforgatable Summer

One year after an African experience the author traveled to India to help out another a less-developed country

Julia Bell  Writer

Heather Brouwer  Designer

Julia Bell  Photographer

After 39 hours, four airports, 7,000 miles, and zero sleep, I have arrived in India! I am immediately struck by the people. There are so many of them.

They are speaking so fast in a language I have never heard. I notice them staring as I pass by, and I find myself staring back. My eyes are drawn to their clothing. The colors are as warm and welcoming as the people wearing them.

I am handed a wide-eyed baby boy, no older than a year, and pulled towards a flip-phone to be photographed. A few teenage boys huddle around to snap a picture, and then rush to show their friends.

I'm on a big white bus with colored paint striped across both sides. It rattles as the wheels roll further and further down the left side of the road. There are no stop signs, lights, or speed limits.

We pass a couple rickshaws, a few trucks loaded with fruit, a handful of motorcycles, and a countless number of cows. We swerve in and out of traffic to the tune of loud car horns, which are eventually drowned out by the Bollywood music on the radio.

I am standing in front of the Golden Temple, on bare feet that were rinsed upon my arrival. I am surrounded by people from all walks of life and I feel genuinely welcomed. We are given a tour of the dining hall, where volunteers prepare free meals each day for roughly 100,000 visitors. It's uplifting to witness so many individuals interacting peacefully despite race and religion.

I wake up sick in the middle of the night and spend all morning in bed. The discom-



Julia and several other people who volunteered in India decorated their hands with henna at the end of their trip.



Prayer flags hang between two trees near a museum.



An Indian man driving a horse-drawn cart is stuck in a traffic jam.

fort of illness is much greater when you're a day's distance from home.

It's now afternoon, and standing in front of a pile of rubble I can't help but overlook my troubles as I imagine those faced by the 800 slum-dwellers who have recently been evicted from the slums and forced to spend days on the road with nowhere else to go.

Each morning of my remaining time in India would be spent volunteering at a summer camp. I would make my way down a steep and winding road to a field where I would be greeted by dozens of energetic children, eager to play. I spent countless hours kicking soccer balls, jumping rope, and drawing.

I found myself drawn to a young girl named Bindiya. Neither one of us could understand the others' language, and we found it difficult to communicate with words.

Although I couldn't tell her how much I loved India or how much I missed my friends and family, she always seemed to understand what was going through my mind.

In the afternoons, I would continue to gain a better understanding of the culture and people of India, as I explored the country and built relationships.

One afternoon, I found myself standing in a field with water up to my waist. I grabbed bundle after bundle of rice seedlings and transplanted them into the water. The sun beat down on my back and I quickly became exhausted. I sat down for lunch with a new appreciation for each grain of rice on my plate.

A few days later my backpack was tied to the back of a horse, and my boots were tied to my feet. The monsoon rains poured down as I hiked my way through the Himalayas. As the sun disappeared over the mountains, I climbed into a tent and fell asleep under the clear Indian sky.

As my time in India drew to an end, I bid farewell with a visit to the Taj Mahal. To consider this ivory-white, marble mausoleum a New Wonder of the World is an understatement at best. I stood among an enormous crowd of people, most Indian but many tourists, gazing in awe at the famous symbol of love.

**I am surrounded by people
from all walks of life and I
feel genuinely welcomed.**

After 21 days, 10 miles hiked, 9 games of cricket, and 40 cups of chai, I returned to the United States. It was hard to believe how quickly the weeks had passed. I was excited to see my friends and family back home, but I wasn't ready to leave my new friends and family on the other side of the world.

I will cherish the memories of this experience for the rest of my life, and I hope to return to India soon.



Julia colors with a young girl, Bindiya, from the summer camp.



The streets of urban India are packed with people and cars.



Many people gather at the Golden Temple in Northern India.

OUR VIEW: Summer Homework is Here to Stay

As annoying as summer homework on the beach can be, it keeps you sharp and is beneficial in the long run

Staff Editorial  Writer
Nick Elliott  Designer
Claire Ward  Illustrator

Hopefully it's all finished by now, but we all know that for some, three months wasn't enough time to complete their summer homework.

Well, no. It's never that there wasn't enough time. Never. Yet there is something going on with summer homework that almost all of us can relate to.

We're high schoolers, the epitome of procrastination. We're not good at dealing with deadlines in the distant future. It feels like the part of our brain that's supposed to make us want to do things now so that we don't have to worry about them later just doesn't work, and it can end up being very stressful to complete even simple assignments.

Sophomore Mason Loudermilk said that summer homework "makes it hard to focus on extracurricular activities."

Vinny D'Oria goes so far as to say that it's "bad, horrible - it shouldn't exist."

You might be relaxing on the beach or trying to fall asleep when you remember that you have summer homework due in a few weeks. Something about that feeling of not quite being able to completely let go takes away from the summer experience, and for some, can even be a source of anxiety.

Even worse is remembering that a submission to the inescapable turnitin.com is due in a few hours, and you're not quite up to speed on the latest details of Enrique's Journey.

Maybe you even made plans to see a movie with some friends that night and would hate to blow them off even if it meant starting the school year with a B+.

Nobody would lie and tell their teacher that their grandma recently passed away in rural Sudan and that they need one more day to finish the assignment so that they could go to the funeral, not the movies that night, right?

This is the situation students seem to constantly put themselves in, but there's something to be said about summer homework besides "just get it done."

Some students, like Junior Mason Monroe, feel that summer homework "keeps you sharp" during the long break from school.

He said that he likes it for that reason. Indeed, it can be an invaluable resource for teachers to have students prepared for the mental transition from summer to school. It allows them to assign homework during the first week of school without anticipating hundreds of questions from students who had no idea what was going on during their lectures.

For that reason alone, summer homework won't be going anywhere, even though students often find it annoying. Next summer, it'll be best to take it on, preferably not in the commons the morning of the first day of school, but in June or July, or August... eventually...



Writer  Tessa Kipke
 Designer  Nick Elliott
 Photographer  Nick Elliott

New Tech For a New Year

An influx of new technology for DCS is meant to give students and faculty an advantage, but it may come with a cost

In the 2016-17 school year, Dexter Community Schools can boast that it “officially has 1:1 technology” for its students, meaning that for every child enrolled, there is a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet available to them in school for educational use.

The administration is beyond thrilled because, of course, this pushes Dexter farther and farther down the road to superior education, and we as a community are extremely invested in our schools and our children.

“I’d rather eat high-quality meals in the school cafeteria than have an abundance of computers at my disposal.”

However, it must be asked whether this development was truly necessary. Thousands of dollars were spent on new devices (including iPads for K-2 students, Chromebooks for third-eighth graders, and laptops for high schoolers) meant to help teachers teach and students



Laptop carts sit in a teacher's lounge on DHS's second floor.

learn, but how effective are they really? A high school student who has grown up watching Dexter become more and more technologically advanced can vouch for the fact that these devices change how we learn, from lesson plans to classroom dynamics, but not all would agree that this change is for the better.

A lot of this deals with the way our schools spend money. Of course, some of the money came in the form of grants and donations meant specifically for technology, but the fact that we are so very rich in expensive and not entirely necessary computers, but poor in so many other ways, is a bit hard to swallow.

Personally, I'd rather eat higher-quality meals in the school cafeteria than have an abundance of computers at my disposal (or, while we're at it, maybe not run out paper in classrooms part way through second semester for the third year running).

In a classroom, there are different ways to use technology. One is as a tool, to assist students and teachers doing projects online, writing papers, researching, or presenting Powerpoints. Obviously, computers are super useful in this respect, and nobody would argue that they shouldn't be used this way.

Another way is as kind of a teaching substitute, where instead of explaining a concept or vocab term themselves, teachers let students loose on the Internet, or even show videos of other teachers giving a demonstration. Don't get me wrong - this is a totally understandable practice, and it's often quite effective. But if it's done constantly, consistently, classes and curriculum become a confusing mash of vague Internet content and other teachers' words.

As useful as the Internet can be, it simply isn't the same as having a real person in front of you, teaching, learning, absorbing.

In many cases, instead of helping teachers and students work together, technology creates a bigger divide. Less focus on buying things for our schools and more on quality and human-to-human interaction could bring about more cohesive learning environments, benefiting everyone.



Wait... We're Seniors?

After 12 years of schooling, this will be our final hurrah. Let's make Year 13 one to remember.

Alright guys, this is it. It's the last time most of us will see each other for the rest of our lives.

We've been going to school together for 13 years and it all comes to an end here. Quite honestly, I'm not ready yet. I think back to our freshman year and how the seniors seemed so mature. I look at us as seniors now, thinking about how we still look like freshmen.

...we'll have to learn how to live on our own. I'm almost 17, and I have yet to figure out the right cereal to milk ratio.

The past 13 years have been quite a rollercoaster of ups and downs. There have been many firsts since we started going to school together. While we were in fourth grade, Barack Obama became the first African American to become president. In seventh grade, a tornado hit the whole town. In 10th grade, Dexter officially became a city. The summer before our junior year, gay marriage was legalized. American hero, Bruce Jenner, has transitioned and now goes by the name Caitlyn.

In less than a year we will be dropped off at a new school, and we'll have to learn how to live on our own. I'm almost 17, and I have yet to figure out the right cereal to milk ratio. That aside, it's now time for us to step up and take on the responsibilities of the senior class.




We lead the student section. We are the ones underclassmen go to for advice. The choice is ours to make it a great year or not. Though I am stressed beyond measure, this year is going to be the best year of school in Dexter.

We are front row for every football game, we

have the opportunity to take a reduced schedule, and most importantly, we have senior skip days.

I probably just lost any confidence people had in our senior class, but I promise, follow our lead this year; it's going to be L17 (get it? It's like lit, but we're class of '17, so it's L17).



Tyler Valentine  Writer
Tyler Valentine  Designer
Caden Koenig  Photographer

Notable Events since we began Kindergarten



Writer  Megan Sarns
 Designer  Nick Greca
 Illustrator  Nick Greca

Millenials: #Voters Be Informed

Young people need to look beyond social media platforms while formulating political opinions

The presidential race is a marketing campaign, and we are the target audience. Although few will be eligible to vote in November, millennials of all ages have been influential players throughout the entire process, from the initial debates and dwindling of candidates to primaries to the Democratic and Republican conventions.

Earning the support of young voters has always held significance; in a political landscape where a higher percentage of voters hover around the age of 45, locking down the 18-30 demographic can provide a boost to a candidate's numbers on election day.

With that said, in this election, appealing to a younger audience seems all the more important, and politicians have had to adjust their campaigns to the way our generation is informed of political issues.

Why do politicians market to a younger audience? Young minds are malleable to change. Older voters are likely to have already committed to a political party and ideology and are harder to reach; young voters are still developing their ideas and opinions.

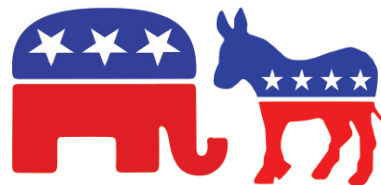
Social media makes them more accessible and allows politicians to speak directly to their audience.

If a political party is able to earn the support of someone while they're young through the use of social media, they can nurture that support for life.

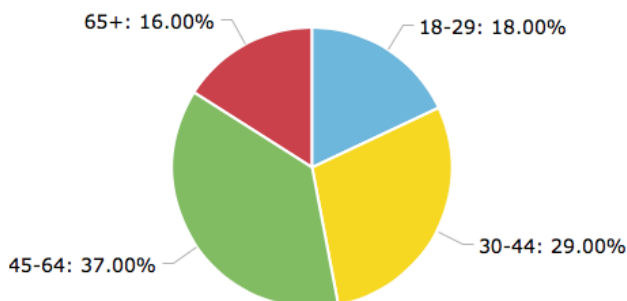
In earlier generations, parents had a dominant role in the beliefs of their children, but parents' political influence has diminished as the information kids have access to has become harder to control due to the internet.

However, young people should be wary of the way politicians reach out to their audience. Millennials can be easily manipulated by tweets and trending hashtags that barely scratch the surface of what a politician or political party represents.

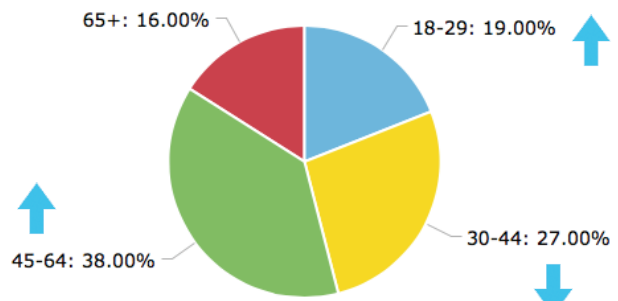
In a world of instant gratification and unlimited knowledge, the way information is processed is complex; to truly understand the product, the buyer needs to look beyond 140 characters.



Percentage of voters per age group



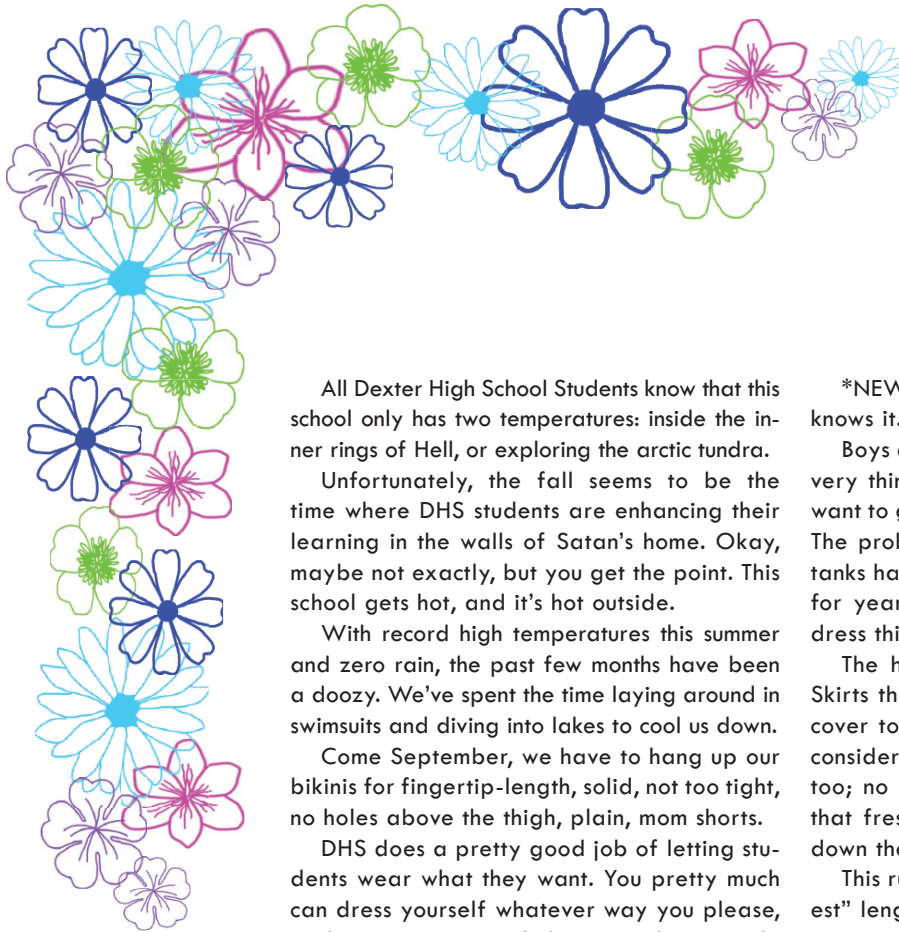
2008



2012

Statistics from Cornell's Roper Center

Angry liberal FEMINIST KILLJOY



Claire Ward  Writer

Claire Ward  Designer

Julia Bell  Photographer

All Dexter High School Students know that this school only has two temperatures: inside the inner rings of Hell, or exploring the arctic tundra.

Unfortunately, the fall seems to be the time where DHS students are enhancing their learning in the walls of Satan's home. Okay, maybe not exactly, but you get the point. This school gets hot, and it's hot outside.

With record high temperatures this summer and zero rain, the past few months have been a doozy. We've spent the time laying around in swimsuits and diving into lakes to cool us down.

Come September, we have to hang up our bikinis for fingertip-length, solid, not too tight, no holes above the thigh, plain, mom shorts.

DHS does a pretty good job of letting students wear what they want. You pretty much can dress yourself whatever way you please, as long as you aren't hurting other people while doing so - or aren't dressed at all.

Dexter Community Schools sends out a handbook every year to the district. In this student handbook, you can find the dress code spelled out for everyone to see. The problem with all schools in general, is not that the dress code is there, it's that the dress code we have is geared towards the female student body more than the male student body.

The DCS handbook states "Undergarments showing shoulders not covered (no spaghetti straps)" are examples of "inappropriate dress". Having undergarments showing is inappropriate, but clumping it in with spaghetti straps insinuates that female students should try to steer clear of letting their bra straps show.

NEWS FLASH: girls wear bras, everyone knows it.

Boys do not tend to wear tank tops with the very thin straps like girls tend to (but if you want to guys, you rock those spaghetti straps). The problem is boys do wear tank tops, bro tanks have been an on-again off-again trend for years now, but the district does not address this as "inappropriate dress."

The handbook also tells us that "Shorts/Skirts that are not modest in length (need to cover top of thigh and bottom of rear)" are considered inappropriate. I can get this one too; no one wants to see the bum cheeks of that freshman girl hanging out as she walks down the hall to Mr. Parker's English 9 class.

This rule specifies that skirts must be "modest" length, and this is where the issue comes in again: I have never seen a boy wear a skirt to class if it was not part of a costume. The district is making sexist regulations as to say girls must cover up, with little mention of boys.

Now, I'm not just here to criticize the dress code policy, it does tell students sagging isn't allowed (which let's be real, is one of the worst fashion emergencies in existence), and that shoes with wheels will not be permitted. These are totally viable things to keep out of our learning environment.

Now, I won't lie, our school is pretty slack on dress code violations (WHICH IS MUCH APPRECIATED). Nothing is worse than a 60-year-old male teacher telling you your shorts are distracting. Problems arise in telling a 17-year-old girl her shorts are distracting, because it comes down to who the administration thinks is being distracted by a girl's legs.



DRESS CODE

A SEXIST ISSUE THAT INVOLVES MORE THAN SHORT SHORTS AND TANK TOPS

Dress code rules have been put in place for the longest time, preventing students from showing too much skin. Female students have been told that their shoulders are distracting, the little patch of skin on their thigh that shows through the hole in their jeans is distracting, that even their collar bones (a body part that we have no control over) are too distracting.

These things are not too distracting to other girls, girls honestly do not care about seeing someone's shoulders, but they are too distracting to the male classmates at the school.

The problem is boys do wear tank tops, bro tanks have been an on-again off-again trend for years now, but the district does not address this as "inappropriate dress."

I can remember being told of the "3-finger rule" for all tank tops beginning in the third grade all the way into high school. In middle school, we were forced to stand in a line as the teachers told us whether or not our outfits were appropriate ("We" meaning the female

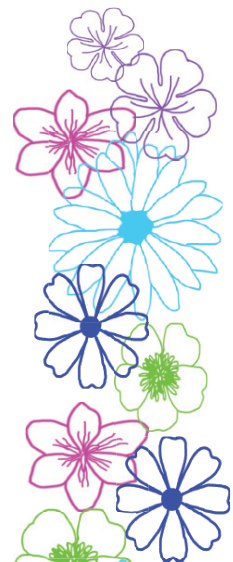
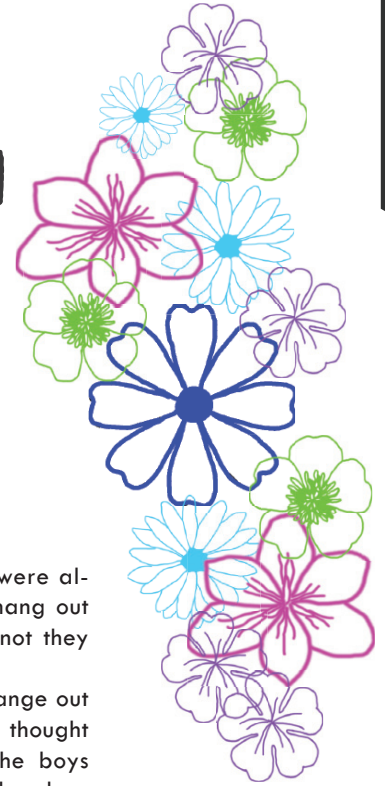
student body). During this time, boys were allowed free-time to watch movies or hang out while the girls were told whether or not they were being "too sexual".

Having a teacher tell you to go change out of a pair of athletic shorts that you thought seemed completely innocent, while the boys in your class are peeking through the door and laughing at each girl as she is told to go change, is absolutely humiliating.

We are 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18-year-old girls; We are not trying to be sexual or promiscuous by wearing a pair of shorts or a tank top. We are trying to dress for the weather outside and the temperature of our school.

We don't come to school to distract boys. We come to school for an education. Dress codes over-sexualize the female student body, and a focus towards girls in the handbook shows a sexist injustice.

Dexter High School shouldn't change its policies towards dress code, nor do I think there should be more policing in what students are wearing. Students should be able to wear whatever they feel comfortable in, to an extent (no one should come to school in simply their underwear). The policy in the handbook however, needs some changes. Right now, it is geared towards girls, and this over-sexualization of young woman trying to get an education is a humiliating, unjust experience that needs to stop.



Album Reviews

Lil Yachty fails to impress, while Frank Ocean's new album leaves plenty to discuss after a four-year wait

Andy Dolen  Writer
Claire Ward  Designer



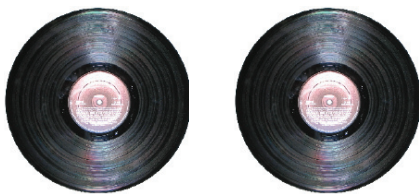
Summer Songs 2 - Lil Yachty

Lil Yachty, aka Lil Boat, has been buzzing as of late, and it's mainly due to his collaborations with many big-name rappers such as Chance The Rapper and new hit artist D.R.A.M. When rappers have a glimpse of fame, it's seen as an opportunity to jump on it, just as Lil Yachty has done with his new mixtape "Summer Songs 2".

The rapper's unique tone and verses have had people excited to finally hear an album of his own; however, it was not as hot as expected. Just like Frank Ocean's new album, Yachty only released his album exclusively to Apple Music.

"For Hot 97" and "All In" are some of the few songs in this album where you can actually listen to the whole song without it being repetitive. This is most likely because these are the two songs with the most features from other artists.

Lil Boat's best songs seem to have a limited amount of lyrics. Listening to Yachty's kaleidoscopic verses for an entire song become annoying, but when he comes in the middle of a song with a good verse it definitely lights up the track. I'm predicting Lil Yachty remains as mostly a feature rapper with some other big name artists, but may not become his own star for a while. **Rating: 2 out of 5.**



Blond - Frank Ocean

The visionary artist's highly anticipated new album was finally released this summer after years of begging and some disappointment by his fans. Four years after Ocean released his best selling album "Channel Orange", he has decided to show another side of himself and his versatile singing voice.





After listening to Frank Ocean's new album "Blond", it was easy to see that Frank was striving for more of a quieter, meditative sound, and it didn't fail to impress. "Blond" not only shows a sense of the old Frank Ocean, which the world has been waiting to hear for four years, but also shows his true artistic talent, range of vocals, and rhythms in a storytelling-type album.

After years of starting on the down low Frank still decided to keep his music exclusive and initially will only release it to Apple Music subscribers, but this most likely won't last for long. After this much anticipation, I predict that "Blond" will be in the top three rated albums of summer 2016. **Rating: 5 out of 5.**



Album art courtesy of Google



Writer  Caden Koenig
 Writer  Jed Howell
 Designer  Jed Howell
 Photographer  Jed Howell



Subway, when it first started, became a pioneer for food service when we recognized its impact on ordering food. Subway set the bar for sandwiches, and now we see new people pushing that bar higher. In search of restaurants with a similar serving style, we headed to downtown Ann Arbor. This brought us to Pieology and KouZina.

Pieology

Only hearing about this new pizza place made us curious to how it would work with having a subway style order. Worries arose such as how long will it take? How much food will there actually be? Is it expensive?

Immediately walking into the restaurant some worries left as we scoped out pizzas from different tables on the way to the line. On the wall one menu stands with the best combinations of their pizzas, but they also let you create your own.



Along with the easy ordering process the atmosphere was nice. It was very modern and relaxed resembling a Chipotle-type vibe.

A big aid to the comfortable atmosphere was the customer service. The employees were easy going and well trained. After ordering and paying for our meal the waiting began. The music in the background and the comfortable booths made our five minute wait feel much shorter.

The fresh ingredients gave each bite its own flavorful experience. The only downfall to this pizza was that the eight pieces only lasted us about two minutes. To be fair there were three of us; however, for some it may be small for two people. This could change how the prices resonate.

At the \$12 price point, one pizza would make a perfect lunch date or quick snack, but for a full dinner you may consider looking elsewhere.

The pizzas were very tasty, but if you are purchasing multiple pizzas the price starts to add up quickly. The overall restaurant was fantastic and we expect to be back soon. It seems Pieology has mastered the subway-serving style of one of the most beloved foods: pizza.

KouZina

As a fairly new restaurant in the Ann Arbor area, KouZina is relatively unknown, but we expect that to change. The first thing we noticed when we walked into



KouZina was the modern, industrial style that occupies the space.

Another profound feature when entering the restaurant was the noise of the blaring music. The music was our only complaint concerning atmosphere. Once we got over the annoyance of the loud techno beats the experience was quite pleasant.

The ordering process began with the choice between a gyro, bowl or salad. We opted for the bowl mainly for sharing purposes. We were then helped down a line with a variety of toppings that we could add to our entrée.

In the end, we had a decent amount of food for under \$10. The ordering experience was comparable to that of Chipotle or Subway. Personally, we thought the food was great; however, this was our first experience with greek food. We did find that we had an abundance of rice when comparing toppings.

The service was great as they were very quick allowing us to get in and out of the restaurant in less than twenty minutes. They were also quite friendly and helpful.

Our overall experience was positive, and we would definitely recommend for a lunch or quick dinner out.



Atmosphere

Taste




Service

Value



FIVE BY FIVE

Class of 2020 Edition

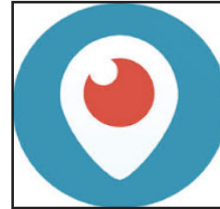
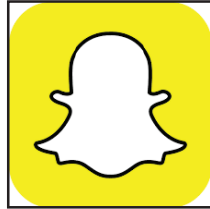
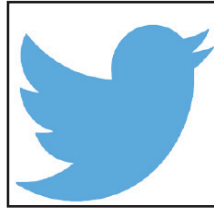
Joe Ramey  Writer
 Tyler Valentine  Designer
 Joe Ramey  Photographer

	<i>Have you heard about it?</i>	<i>Who are you voting for? Why?</i>	<i>Bro, did you just fart?</i>	<i>Upperclassmen crush?</i>	<i>Mr. Cislo: Hot or Not?</i>
 Aidan Holland	No, no I don't.	Nobody because I can't vote. *childish giggles*	No, I'm pretty sure I didn't. You would know better than me, so I'm not sure.	Grace Lopez.	HOT.
 Aidan Baird	No.	For what...? I don't know, probably no one.	No.	I have no idea. *Points* Probably that girl over there. The blonde. (Marin Waddington)	No.
 Nathan Whiting	About what...? *laughs* No, I haven't heard about it.	No one. Because. Just because.	Yeah *enthusiastically*	Taylor Swift. She's an upperclassman, right?	Not.
 Quincy	About what. *nervous laughter* Sure bro.	Good question. I don't know. Undetermined.	No dude?	I don't have one. Boi.	Totally, bro.
 Kevin Cislo* *Mr. Cislo's answers are fictional	Have I heard about it? Boy I am it. *Mic Drop* TGANG or die!	No comment. Free Gucci though my man.	I have a problem with flatilating in childrens presence .yes, I did fart.	Illegal. No lawsuits for Kevin...BOY!	Fact. *No further comment*

Writer  Caden Koenig
 Designer  Andy Dolen
 Writer  Joe Ramey

Social Norms Of Social Media

The key to improving your social media reputation



When MySpace was released in 2003, it started a craze of social media. Today, MySpace is no more, a mere dinosaur of technology. At first, the new, countless different social networks ran amuck with no rules. The lawlessness lingers to this day. But for the average person, there are some unspoken rules when using the big three (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter); the social norms.

As each social network has become popular, there are now different rules on how to conduct yourself upon these individual networks to blend into the norm.

Double posting, depending on what network, can be a dangerous game.

Let's start with Instagram. If you have not found out yet, many people are adamant about not posting twice in a day in fear of judgment of another follower's opinion. This has now evolved into a rule about double posting. Now double posting is few and far between on Instagram unless it comes from one's spam account (which we'll talk about more later). A frequent poster on Instagram will be seen with a new post maybe 3-5 times a week, which is still daring. Maybe the reason is that the post is a photo and not as common as a concise, typed up representation of your thoughts.

Spam accounts are a new fad in the Instagram world that seem to defy these rules. Spam accounts break most social norms because they are the account only a select few are allowed to follow (since most are private) and they are used to post, rant, and even flaunt new apparel. The majority of posts that make it to one's spam feed are full of photos people consider not good enough for their real Instagram account but good enough to share on social media.

Next is Twitter. There is no judgment placed upon multiple tweets or retweets in a day. Many prefer this to tweeting rarely. This norm does not apply as much to Twitter because a simple tweet does not make as many waves as a picture most likely elaborately filtered and edited before being posted.

As the first norm now hits the last of the big three, Facebook, the rule appears nonexistent. Now that it is common knowledge that parents have taken over Facebook, posts of any sorts in any quantity are welcomed by the caring parents that grasp onto the new technology.

Next, there are the minor rules that, for the most part, go unnoticed or unfollowed. These include following-to-follow-

er ratio, excessive commenting/ retweeting, or the normal posting hours.

Many find the "ratio," as it is commonly referred to, as not much of a rule, but rather a way to flaunt your status of how cool or interesting others think you are on your social network. Really, this means nothing. Disregard it because anybody who wants followers can get them and you can follow as many people as you want.

Next is excessive commenting or retweeting. It is not necessarily frowned upon to be so active, but the constant retweeting of unnecessary videos or commenting inside jokes you have between the commenter and the poster may agitate a few.

The recommended posting hours are usually somewhere in the afternoon to night time (roughly 2-8 p.m.). Posting sometime in this time period will most likely get you the most likes and activity out of your followers.

Double posting, depending on what network, can be a dangerous game.

No matter the judgment one may receive from being active and posting to entertain all of their followers, this norm trumps all: no politics.

Never, ever, ever should the average person discuss their political views on social media. While some people probably enjoy reading this type of post, trouble always comes from it on all three platforms.

Talking politics leads to arguments between people who would never dare say the things they are posting if they were face to face. Truthfully, and frankly, few people really care. It is your opinion and you stand by it, but all your followers don't have to have the same opinion. It's like the old saying that people would tell each other before you could argue about it behind a screen, "Never talk about money, religion, or politics."

Following these recommendations will boost and most likely improve your social media reputation.

Lisa Zuiderveen  Designer
 Heather Brouwer  Designer

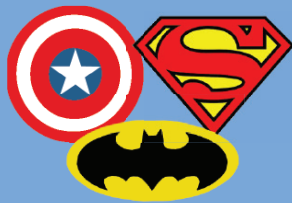
HOMECOMING: A Guide to Spirit Week

SPIRIT WEEK: September 19th - 23rd

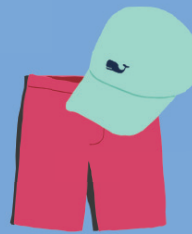
PAJAMA



SUPERHERO



FRAT



SAFARI



MAROON &
GOLD



Good places to look for gear for spirit week is at Goodwill, Rag Stock, and Meijer.

CLASS FLOATS: Cities Around The World

NEW YORK



LONDON



VENICE



HOLLYWOOD



THE GAME: Dexter vs. Ypsi Lincoln
September 23rd at 7pm

THE DANCE:

September 24th from 8pm - 11pm

