

the ^{EN} courier

the appleton east student newspaper

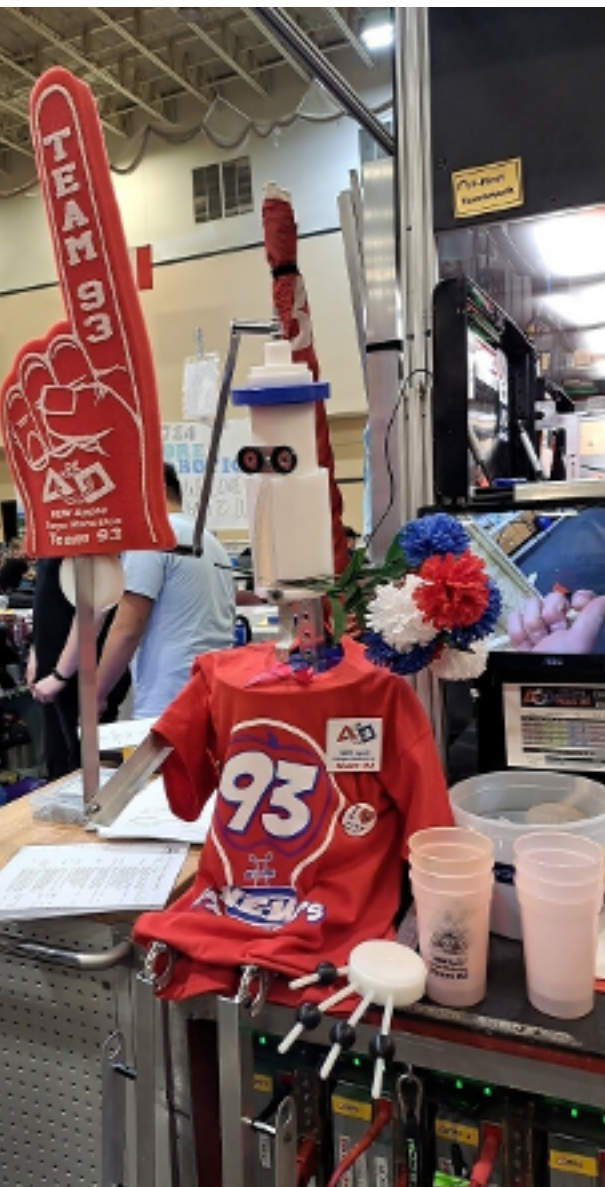


*This
is the
Way*

Robotics Locker Chaos

There is excellent news for anyone who has been complaining recently about our narrow hallways and being unable to pass individuals walking slower. The lockers along the walls in the second and third floors are being removed in a construction project beginning this April. The renovations will provide an additional two feet to the width of each hallway and will provide a convenient “passing lane” for students who are annoyed by those walking normal speeds.

However, this exciting project’s primary purpose is very different from easing hallway traffic issues. Last month, the budget revealed the robotics team would not have enough money to purchase the parts for next year’s robot. The team will instead have to build all the parts from scratch, a project that requires aluminum and steel, as well as gold, copper, lithium, and manganese, metals which can be found in cell phones. These metals will be used to build components from circuit boards to batteries, the most expensive part of the project. One part of the solution was simple: every new member of the team is now required to surrender their phone at the time of joining the team in order to supply these crucial materials.



But that brings us back to the lockers. The cell phones of all 70 members of Team 93 do not have enough metal to build the electronic components of a robot similar to our school’s beloved Tobor 26, or the drive frame and the iconic sculptures that go along to competitions, such as this year’s Fender. A solution was proposed by Mr. Eckrose, who suggested that, since lockers appear to have fallen out of use by current students, many could be repurposed as scrap in order to provide these raw materials. Five members of Team 93 volunteered to come in on Saturdays to remove the lockers. They warn that the project is too large to be completed in a single day, and a certain amount of dust and debris is to be expected until the project is completed, likely next school year. Experts also warn students to be aware of the small step, about six inches tall, that will remain even after the lockers are removed, as the metal portion of the lockers is not entirely flush with the floor.

The inconvenience of construction will be nothing compared to the benefits of having this additional space in our hallways, however. Next year, those who are stressed by the new two-minute passing times will successfully be able to sprint past anyone impeding hallway traffic in order to arrive to class on time.

New Graduation Requirements for EAST students



Appleton East has made a new requirement for all incoming freshmen to take one class at the TESLA Engineering Charter School. Of course they will be able to choose which TESLA course they would like to endure. East believes that students should be embraced on some of the principles of engineering. TESLA shows students how to define problems and come up with several solutions and trials to solve a problem. Therefore incoming freshmen's exposure some of the engineering principles will evoke critical thinking, etc. However this new plan will take place of an elective that may be desired for other classes. TESLA will do its best to keep students engaged while encouraging new thinking methods.

Early Retirement After a Big Win in the Stock Market

Mr. Kurth earned enough money to retire this year. He hit it big on the stock market. In his AP US History class, Kurth has been teaching his students about the Great Depression. The stock market crashed causing the banks to fail then causing a chain reaction of events that lead America through the Great Depression. With Kurth's increased knowledge of the stock market from him teaching Civics and U.S. History, he has invested some money into stocks. Luck was finally in his favor and he WON BIGGG!!!!!! He won \$1,000,000,000,000,000,000 allowing him to retire early. Mr. Kurth is a beloved teacher by many of his students and will be missed greatly, but now he is mega rich and doesn't have the patience to be around high school students anymore.



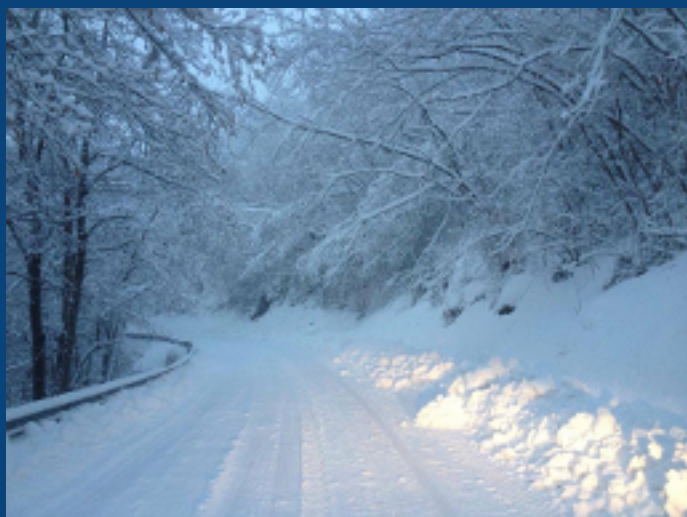


Snow Days Get Iced!

Have you ever worn your pajamas inside out or flushed ice cubes down the toilet in the hopes of a snow day? Those days are coming to an end.

At a recent Appleton Area School Board meeting, a new policy was approved regarding snow days. The policy states that on days when students are unable to attend class due to the weather, they will no longer be having the day off. Instead, all students in grades K-12 will be required to attend online classes via Google Meet from 7:55 AM to 3:30 PM, as they would with normal school. Attendance is mandatory. Cameras and microphones will be required to be turned on. Failure to comply with these guidelines will result in immediate failure of the class.

The policy will go into effect on April 1, 2023. Questions or concerns regarding this policy should be directed to school board representative Mr. Thomas Tutone at 867-5309.



Chocolate Milk Removed Due to Budget Cuts

It's a sad day when a delicious childhood beverage must be removed from a school, but sadly, this is what it's come to. There is nothing that can be done.

"After all, the \$500 printers that only have one use are more important than kids getting a drink they like. Just drink regular milk," Said spokesperson for AASD, who requested to be left anonymous.

Students, however, have more than a few things to say on the matter.

"This is unforgivable! An intolerable injustice!" Said one outraged senior. "To take away chocolate milk is to take away our freedom of choice!"

A teacher on the third floor of the circle was overheard saying, "It's honestly ridiculous. Why in the world would they choose to remove it?"

Concerned sophomore Camryn Schmike was reportedly devastated, asking why they wouldn't just replace the white milk with chocolate milk instead. Another sophomore student, who requested to go unnamed, even called for anarchy.

In fact, an article from nunuchocolates.com written by Justine Pringle in 2022 actually says that chocolate milk is cheaper to produce than regular milk, because "chocolate milk is typically made with lower quality milk." In fact, according to the article, "Students in schools will now be able to drink eight ounces of low-fat and fat-free chocolate milk containing 38 percent less sugar than they used to," so it's also healthy.

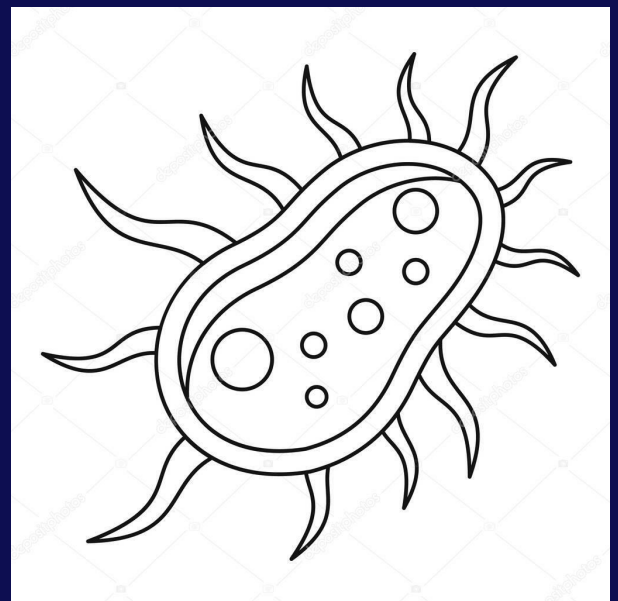


What do you think? Care enough to unite against a cause? Let your voice be heard! Let us know at: <https://forms.gle/4tpYQjuPfeZSD2G26>

E(ast)-Coli: Another Outbreak?

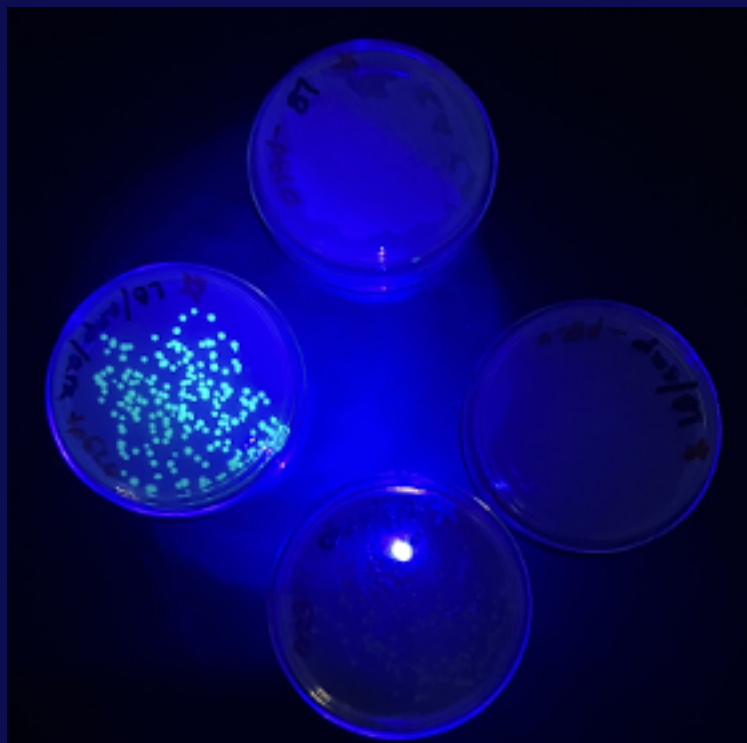
Several weeks ago, Mrs. Platt's 7th hour AP Biology class attempted a seemingly innocuous laboratory experiment ---- bacterial transformation. This process involves inserting DNA from one organism into a different organism to give the different organism a new trait, such as adding an insect-resistant gene from an organism to corn that was not previously insect-resistant. Mrs. Platt obtained several containers labeled "Escherichia coli" (E. coli bacteria) from a scientific materials provider for the experiment. She also obtained DNA containing GFP, green fluorescent protein, which causes jellyfish to glow. The goal of the experiment was to cause the bacteria to glow under ultraviolet light. To avoid contamination, Mrs. Platt told the students to place all contaminated materials into a garbage bucket at the back of the laboratory that she would later bleach. The next day, the students observed their transformations, which were successful. There was glowing bacteria! Mrs. Platt and the students were happy. The students were told to place their bacterial plates into the bleach bucket, as they had done with their lab materials the day before.

However, in the next two to three weeks, there were a mysterious number of absences from Mrs. Platt's 7th hour class. They were "sick." At first, Mrs. Platt thought they were just avoiding the large unit test after the lab. Mr. Reichenberger also had an unusual amount of students out ("They were just scared of the take-home test," he said). But then, several students were absent from her 8th hour biology class as well (also claiming "sickness"). Normally, Mrs. Platt would just write off the absence as skipping, but its coincidence with her AP Bio absences, a class of students who never skip, was concerning. The next week, when nearly half of 8th hour bio was absent with "sickness," Mrs. Platt started to investigate. The office called the parents of some of the students to confirm whether the students were actually sick. One parent reported her son having loss of taste and smell, stomach cramps, and fever. Further calls yielded the same symptoms.



Another Outbreak? Continued

Mrs. Platt was confused until the next Monday when she needed to prepare another lab. She walked into the back room where she kept lab materials, and to her horror, discovered the garbage bucket she had forgotten to bleach had fallen off the table. Several broken E. coli plates were on the ground. Mrs. Platt wondered whether the students were suffering from E. coli infection. Hastily cleaning up the broken plates, she saw another broken test tube that she hadn't noticed before. It was labeled "SARS-CoV-2." Was that a joke? Frantic, Mrs. Platt did some quick research. Strangely, the students' reported symptoms were a mix of COVID symptoms and E. coli infection symptoms. Mrs. Platt quickly reported this to the school, and sent one of the broken plates to a lab to be tested for COVID. Only yesterday the results returned. The plate did not contain SARS-CoV-2 virus, the COVID that rocked the world two years ago. It contained a *bacterially transformed* COVID virus ---- COVID augmented with E. coli. The school has decided to, after spring break, engage in two weeks of virtual learning in order to put the school under "deep cleaning" to rid itself of E. coli COVID. Any students who are in Mrs. Platt's room any time during the day are **encouraged** to get tested over spring break, as we do not know how long it takes to manifest symptoms. Parents and families will be informed about any updates regarding school closure. One can only hope this has not spread past Appleton and turned into another pandemic.



Profe Rivera's Secret Pop Star Career



You may have heard the voice of the gregarious Ms. Rivera, also known as “Profe” to her students, around the second floor circle teaching Spanish and greeting her students with a friendly “Hola hola!” But, did you know that her vocal talents extend to singing pop songs and selling out stadiums around the country as well?

A recent rumor among Ms. Rivera’s CAPP students says that Rivera has been living a double life: High school Spanish teacher during the day, and pop star sensation during the night. EnCourier sources have informed us that her most likely identity is the Grammy-award winning singer Taylor Swift, and frankly, we can’t believe we haven’t caught on sooner. The resemblance is uncanny!

When asked about her blonde counterpart, Rivera let out a nervous laugh and said she’s never even listened to Ms. Swift’s songs! Really Profe, in this world? It’s weirder if you haven’t listened to a Taylor Swift song. Students have even caught her humming one of her hits from her newest album, Midnights! Elene Giorgadze, the EnCourier’s resident Swiftie and Taylor Swift expert, said “I know every single Taylor song by heart, and Profe was definitely singing “Bejeweled!” I had to come in early to talk to Mr. Pritzl about a test, and I heard Profe singing. I totally thought it was Taylor!”

We’re very excited to see how Rivera balances her teaching life and her singing career with her upcoming Eras Tour! Good luck, Profe. The EnCourier looks forward to a potential Spanish album in the future.

The Real Me

Do you fact check my articles? Probably not, because then you would notice there's no such country as Georgia, and I was lying this whole time. I'm not really an exchange student from Georgia; I'm somebody else. Here is my biggest confession. Get ready for it.

The reason I decided to come to America during my senior year is very unusual and weird for people, so I tried to keep it hidden from the media. I'm the distant cousin of Prince George of Greece and Denmark. I'm the princess Helen - Iris of Greece and Denmark. I had a really complicated childhood, and I always tried to escape it with my hobbies and reading about other people's lives. I've spent my whole life daydreaming about a normal person's life and not having all the responsibilities as part of the royal family.

Finally, when I grew up, I told my mother that I wanted to dictate my own future and that I had no interest in being under pressure from the media and the royal family rules. I just wanted simplicity to, follow my dreams and live the life that I would earn with my own achievements. My family was not so pleased with this fact, but they couldn't stop me because they knew my stubborn personality. I wanted to experience a lot on my own, so I decided to apply for a program with the scholarship.

The reason I chose to get the scholarship and fight for it was because I didn't want my family's filthy money, and I wanted to become a fully independent person. I was a bit worried at first because I thought that I was not good enough to get the scholarship, but I still got it. Not gonna lie, coming here was hard. Adapting to normal life was just as hard as being part of the royal family. I faced many difficulties on my own, without the help of my title and without mentioning that I was a princess. I finally experienced normal life, and it's the best feeling ever. I feel like I understand the world now and I've matured a lot since the first day in the USA.

As we are getting closer to me going back to "my ordinary life" which is not ordinary at all, I wanted to confess my secret to you. I hate lying, and I felt so bad this whole time. I have one request for you, though: please, don't tell this to anybody. Otherwise, I will have some issues with the media and my family's reputation. I really don't want that to happen. Thank you so much for listening, I feel better now:))

The History of Saint Patrick's Day

Have you ever wanted to know the history behind the May holiday Saint Patrick's Day? Today is your lucky day! (*ha, get it?*) To start, this red, white, and blue holiday is celebrated on March 17, the day Saint Patrick passed. But before he passed away, Saint Patrick established monasteries, churches, and schools. This holiday became a thing when immigrants to the US transformed Saint Patrick's Day into a worldwide holiday we celebrate. Some fun traditions from this holiday are singing many joyful Christmas carols, Such as "Deck the Halls" and "Spooky-Scary-Skeletons." Another aspect of this fall holiday is that it is filled with pumpkins and parades with fireworks that scream, "Happy Fourth Of July!" And love cards get passed around on this holiday and everyone is dressed in green. Sometimes people enjoy staying up until midnight to watch the ball drop, which marks Saint Patrick's Day! Many children's goal in their life is to catch that green Easter Bunny, but, most don't succeed. But at last, this fun holiday that comes with all these *definitely* authentic traditions was created to honor Saint Patrick and what he did for us.



Horoscopes!!!

Aries: March 21-April 19

Hackers, liars, schemers, bullies, masters of absolute evil. These people will try to get in the way of your internal fire. Don't let your passion smother; feed it with protest and challenge. Remember to take your medication and incorporate regular wellness activities, anything that will give strength and stability to your flame. Don't be afraid to flame your friends and loved ones. It never hurts to have support.

Taurus: April 20-May 20

LOOK OUT!!! Something or someone is coming your way. Whether it's wrapped in a silk ribbon or arriving in a HOT, shiny Lamborghini, prepare for the unexpected. Fear is your biggest enemy right now. Fight the adrenaline and put yourself out there and openly interact with the world around you. Isolating yourself will prevent the glorious things from heading your way.

Gemini: May 21-June 20

Set aside a moment to scream about your mortality. This is the time to listen to your body. So run around the neighborhood naked, and cut ties with the people who make you feel bad about yourself! You will be awarded catharsis, but only if you're willing to say goodbye to all of your ghosts. You're due for this spring cleaning, so don't shy away from it.

Cancer: June 21-July 22

Approach your subconscious with companionship. It's a dangerous thing when wonder is lost, which is why you need to pay a visit to your past. Bust out the good old kid's cuisine and tube tv, and grant your younger self the hug it craves. Trix is not just for kids. You can't change the past, but you get to choose how to view it.

Leo: July 23-August 22

Stock up on Tums and Pepto, because things are about to get acidic. Raw emotions are malignant now, so don't cross-contaminate your attachments with your tears. After relieving yourself of any fecal rancid relationships, wash your hands before you spew misinterpretation. This is a good time to open yourself up to new electrons, as a covalent blonde may be just around the corner.

Virgo: August 23-September 22

You're not a wizard. Not yet. To progress to that stage you need to seek out mentors both new and old. Write a tome and verbalize affection towards those who have gotten you to where you are. Approach life with exhilaration, and cherish the present moment as if it's your last. In the truest sense, just be alive. Just exist. This is the way of the wizard, get out there and just be.

Libra: September 23-October 22

What's that behind your ear? Nothing. If you crave a little spare change at this time, stop looking between the couch pillows and start thinking outside the box. When a new opportunity shows up on your doorstep, take it as if your life depends on it. The universe edges you to start a new pyramid scheme and exchange Krypto with your loved ones. Putting in the effort is all you need for the Benjamins to fall into your grasp.

Scorpio: October 23-November 21

Love people as generously as you can, otherwise, a melancholic trip to the cardiologist is on the horizon. You may feel a general sense of worthlessness at this time, but don't let that discourage the passion you have for the people already around you. Keep that same energy as you pump the warmth into your space. Home is where the heart is. And if things become desperate, you can always buy a body pillow.

Sagittarius: November 22-December 21

Relinquish from thy chambers, otherwise, thou will only want to couch the hogshead. Embrace the craft of thy court jester. As ye who makes ye laugh last, laughs last. Throw down thy gauntlet, 'tis the way to disinter any restraint on thou confidence. Juggle and banquet with thou acquaintances, traverse hidden passages. Go where thee pleases. Fare thee well, traveler. Always champion the jester within. Playfulness is fortitude

Capricorn: December 22-January 19

An uncomfortable itch inside your nose? Do something about it. Your hair feels a little too long today? Do something about it. Don't be afraid of going too far with your impulses this month, maybe being bald will unravel a new, life-changing perspective. And while you're at it, invest in some oils and shoe shiners. That head of yours needs a good ounce of dusting and self-care now. So dedicate moments to yourself; you deserve to feel rested.

Aquarius: January 20-February 18

Due to the stars' current alignment, many potholes and cracks are interweaving into your everyday life. Remember, if you step on a line, you break your dad's spine. So when the wind blows in your direction, just lean in and embrace it. In this time of tribulation, it's good to remember that there's always a beautiful poppy amongst the weeds. Things aren't always crystal clear and that's okay. Sometimes we have to trip over our feet in order to heal.

Pisces: February 19-March 20

Untangle your web of inspiration. Allow yourself to give birth to new, creative material. Your voice needs to be heard, it has the power to change someone's life so give it that chance. If you find your mind in a stagnant condition, experiment with new mediums. Switch the easel to your wall, and make something out of dirt. Don't limit yourself. Don't hesitate. Just do your thing.

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This Issue's Contributors

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Jo Buck - Saint Patrick's Day
Elene Giorgadze - The Real Me
Delaney Lehman - Kurth Retires, Tesla
Liliana Monson - Comics, Chocolate Milk
Mats Ridlehoover - No Snow Days
Clara Shober - East Coli Outbreak
Sophia Timm - Horoscopes
Melina Wendt - Robotics Lockers

Happy April Fool's Day!

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NEXT MEETING

April 13 FLEX Mr. Otis

