

# the accolade

VOLUME LXII, ISSUE I // SUNNY HILLS HIGH SCHOOL  
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*After over a year stuck in a COVID-19 affected instruction, Sunny Hills is officially back on the hill. To make up for the loss of the in-person experience, we, at The Accolade, dedicated this issue to bring back the Lancer spirit. See Special Sections, pages 2-4.*

JACQUELINE CHANG | theaccolade



MICHELLE SHEEN | theaccolade

**BRAINSTORM SESSION:** AVID teacher Lindsay Safe addresses students in the PAC on May 28 during the student feedback meeting, encouraging them to come up with fresh ideas for the 2021-2022 school year. A few students from all the departments across campus were invited to join Safe and principal Allen Whitten in rebuilding school spirit.

## Back on the Hill: A fresh start

At the end of the 2020-2021 school year on May 28, principal Allen Whitten invited students to the Performing Arts Center to brainstorm ideas before the upcoming school year.

During this meeting, select students from each department — including me, who represented The Accolade, along with the special sections editor — pitched ideas to Whitten and AVID teacher Lindsay Safe that could better school life for Sunny Hills students.

We offered suggestions for how to increase participation in school events and empha-

sized the need to provide more mental support for students.

Though no final decisions were made that day, Safe and Whitten let us students know that our ideas for the new school year would be shared by the district board.

And about three months later, the 2021-2022 school year officially began and almost immediately, I saw the discussions from that meeting go into effect as Sunny Hills made improvements and held spirit-filled events.

School officials organized events before the first day of school to welcome the incoming ninth-graders and the returning or new 10th-graders through the Link Crew freshman orientation and sophomore barbecue, respectively.

Then last week on Aug. 20, the Associated Student Body

hosted the back-to-school assembly — the first one since February 2020. From students excitedly taking pictures with their friends after dressing out for Disney day to seeing underclassmen swarming across campus, donning their class colors, I witnessed the Lancer Spirit in-person for the first time in over a year.

To cap off the first week, I attended the first home football game against Canyon High School. I saw the bleachers crowded with my peers cheering and watched as the marching band filled the stadium with victory songs.

The 2021-2022 school year — my last one here — was off to a fiery start.

So, when the special sections editor, my journalism adviser and I met to discuss the first issue's theme, we circled

around the topic of being reintroduced to in-person school.

We explored the concept of redefining what it means to be a Lancer, thus coming up with the idea to name this issue, “Build, Back, Better,” in reference to President Joe Biden's campaign slogan.

As journalists, we have the duty of reporting and educating our community, and we aim to do just that in this issue by reintroducing “Lancer Spirit” to students.

With the return to in-person learning, Sunny Hills preserved the roots of its culture by upholding traditions like the back-to-school assembly and by bringing changes, such as with the Link Crew sophomore barbecue.

And with that, I can't wait to see what else is in store for us this year!

## How to survive Sunny Hills 101

Never panic-run to your next class when the first bell rings.



krishna Thaker  
Special Sections Editor

Avoid the quad bathroom at all costs.

The quad is for seniors only.

These are the three pieces of advice my older cousin, a Sunny Hills alum-

ni, gave me the day before I started high school. Being an impressionable student, I accepted them completely without question.

However, now, three years later, I realize that the most important things I learned as a Sunny Hills student came from trial and error and many mistakes along the way.

Whether it be finding the best way to study for Advanced Placement exams, learning to time your bathroom breaks to avoid the herd of students or successfully surviving finals season, the most helpful tip I can possibly give is to learn through experience.

So this goes out to those of you who have spent their entire summer watching high school vlogs and “how to be successful in high school” videos on Youtube to prepare for the upcoming year — stop stressing out.

The worst feeling in the world is when you realize that while spending so much time trying to make your high school experience perfect in every way, you forgot to enjoy the four years while it lasted.

I promise you, everything you are stressing out about right now will seem insignificant a few years later when the time to graduate comes.

In the end, no amount of advice or tips I received could have possibly prepared me for the life-changing experience that was high school.

Trying new things (I joined The Accolade staff) will serve the most benefits, so do not be afraid to jump into the deep end; I promise you will not drown.

## ASB president aims to revive Lancer spirit

Sitting in the gym bleachers as a freshman, watching the Associated Student Body [ASB] president and vice president introduce all the great programs at our school, I thought about how much fun it seemed to be the one actually planning it.

Never in my wildest dreams would I ever have imagined that I would be playing such a large role in these events.

During the past year and a half of quarantine, the ASB planned virtual spirit events — like presentations about Club Rush and International Food

Festival's cultural performances — meant to offer some school spirit in a time of complete isolation.

However, now that we are finally back in person, the ASB's first priority is to close the distance between Sunny Hills students by strengthening peer bonds and reintroducing the Lancer spirit.

One way we would accomplish this goal is by putting in the work to improve all school events so that students experience the best possible version of dances, games and everything in between.

We have already started this effort by improving the upcoming Club Rush event, our annual club fair that introduces students to all the different activities at our

school.

Considering that the event was online last year, half of our student body has never experienced Club Rush in person, we are really trying to put in our best efforts into planning and assisting the clubs.

Over the past weeks, the ASB discussed different ways in which Club Rush could be accessible for more students. We are even considering hosting both online and in-person versions so that students can access and refer back to the information presented during the event easily.

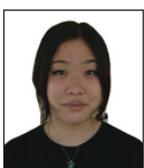
Another idea we discussed for increasing involvement in school events was creating a student feedback poll on the SH ASB website and making it available to

all students. Students can use this poll to voice their opinions on the events we plan and offer improvements as needed.

Because our ultimate responsibility is to serve the student body, I would like to adjust our methods if any concerns arise.

After a long period of isolation and uncertainty, the ASB hopes to make this year ground-stopping for all students in order to show everyone what our school is all about.

So this year, let's get it Lancers!



aimee Kwon  
ASB President

# With return to school, where are we hanging out?

GRACE MIN

Staff Reporter



**QUAD:** Hosting various school events like club rush, sports rallies and the annual International Food Fair [IFF], the quad is iconic. With benches lining the perimeter of the area and a large, open space in the middle, the quad provides a perfect spot for students to hang out during break and lunch. Traditionally, the unspoken rule about the quad states that it belongs to upperclassmen, keeping most freshmen and sophomores out of the area unless invited otherwise.



**FRESHMEN HALL:** Located between the 20s and 40s buildings, Freshmen Hall traditionally holds twhangout spot for freshmen during break and lunch. Its loca-



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tion allows the new high school students to get to their locker quickly (if they enter through the East side) and stay out of upperclassmen populated areas; freshmen also gain easy access to the main areas of school from Freshman Hall, like the library, the quad, the office and the gym. Flower bushes surround the hall, which also has sufficient shade for freshmen to stand or sit under.



**CAFETERIA:** In the mornings and

afternoons, the cafeteria distributes free breakfast and lunch, attracting long lines of students before and during school hours. Since students cannot eat inside, they enjoy their food on the tables outside the cafeteria, which students also use to do homework while they wait for sports practice or wait to go home.



**LIBRARY:** Open from 7:15 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. (closed 12-1 p.m.), the library provides comfort — most importantly air

conditioning — for students during break and lunch. Split into three sections — silent zone, semi-quiet area and social corner — the Lyceum allows students to do their homework, study with classmates or hang out with friends in their free time. Additionally, some students prefer to sit behind the library, where there is grass to sit on and shade to lay under.



**LOCKERS:** Students who do not spend their break and lunch time at the hot spots on campus usually hang out by their lockers for convenience. Typically, freshmen spend their time around the even buildings, sophomores can be found on the West side of campus and juniors occupy the areas surrounding the odd buildings. When students choose not to stay stationary at their lockers, they walk around campus talking to their friends and eating snacks from the Roundhouse or Cafeteria. The lockers are easily the most visited spot for most students, especially those who need the extra space to store things like sports gear or textbooks.

Photos by *Accolade* photographer Audrey Seo

## YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, WE HAVE THE ANSWERS

*Five of The Accolade's seniors respond to the Top 8 concerns ninth- and tenth-graders shared through a social media poll*

**Q: What is the best way to stay organized?**

A: Having to manage classes, extracurricular activities and other obligations all at once can make high school an incredibly stressful time. However, with the right mindset and organizational skills, you'll find it easier to balance all your responsibilities.

The number one tip I can give for staying organized is to buy an agenda or planner in which you can write all assignments and other time commitments. This will keep you from forgetting important due dates and help with time management. It might seem taxing to write down everything you have to do every single day, but this effort will be worth it in the long run.

**Q: Does joining clubs benefit me?**

A: Definitely! Not only are clubs a fun and great interactive way to get to know more people on campus, but they are also

extremely beneficial for college applications. A lot of colleges look at extracurriculars, a big factor of that being clubs, when they examine your application.

**Q: What happens if you go on the quad as an underclassman?**

A: Upon entering the quad, any underclassmen will combust into flames and evaporate into the clouds above. Just kidding, absolutely nothing happens if an underclassman goes through the quad. Though the quad is traditionally considered to be for seniors.

**Q: How do you create a club?**

A: At the start of every year, the application to start a club becomes available on the Sunny Hills ASB website, under "Starting a New Club." You need an adviser, 10 charter members, a constitution and an elected president. When you submit the application, which is a google form, you

need to have the names and ID numbers of your members and a template for your constitution is also available on the website. Before the club can be approved, you need to have one representative that will present to the ASB the club's description and answer any questions. After, you wait while the ASB decides to approve the club or not.

**Q: Should I take a zero period?**

A: Only if you need to! I didn't take a zero period my freshman year, and I'm not taking one now because I fulfilled the credits needed. I'm a morning person, so waking up early was no problem for me. But keep in mind that taking a zero period is a time commitment. After all, you're adding another class to your schedule and workload.

**Q: Should I carry all my textbooks and school supplies**

**around all day?**

A: No! Trust me the back pain is not worth it, and your teachers will most likely let you know ahead of time if you need your books or certain supplies beforehand.

**Q: How do you manage school-related stress?**

A: I like to maintain a balance between school and fun to ensure I'm not over-stressing myself. I recommend going to school events such as football games to change your scenery from the pile of work you have to get through. Homework will always be there, but events go by and it's important to prioritize your mental health before cramming for the next big test.

**Q: What is the best way to study for tests?**

A: Teachers give the best tips for what they're tests include and what you should study for! Make sure to ask them what works best, especially if you're having trouble in their class.





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**BREAKTHROUGH (above):** Sunny Hills Pep Squad lifts the Lancer Banner up for the football team to break during their big entrance at the beginning of the football game on Aug. 20.

**YOU DON'T WANT NO BLACK AND GOLD (beside):** Seniors Louis Lee and Leila Tolentino excitedly cheer alongside other spirited students at the football season's first game against Canyon High School on Friday, Aug. 20 at the Buena Park High School stadium.



KRISTEL LACESTE | theaccolade



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**TESTING TESTING 1 2 3:** Associated Student Body president senior Aimee Kwon and vice president senior Ellen Kim introduce the fall sports teams at the annual "Welcome Back" assembly in the gym on Aug. 20.



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**BUST A MOVE:** Sunny Hills Dance Production members senior David Burn and sophomore Ashley Hong perform a jazz routine at the "Welcome Back" assembly on Aug. 20 in the gym.

## Lancer spirit abounds on 1st week of school

Kicking off the year strong, Sunny Hills Associated Student Body [ASB] and Link Crew planned numerous events in order to reignite the "Lancer Spirit" across campus.

With the goal of assimilating freshmen and sophomore students, many of whom have not gone to school in-person for almost two years, Link Crew organized two events.

For the first week of school, ASB planned a spirit week — which included the themed dress up week,

"Welcome Back" assembly and first football game of the season against Canyon High School.

The football game featured routines from Pep Squad, Dance Production, and the marching band.

ASB members also led cheers throughout the game, which ended in a 41-12 win for the Lancers.

All in all, the first week of the new school year was full of Lancer pride.

— Krishna Thaker, *Special Sections* Editor



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**CHEERFUL TIMES:** The Sunny Hills Pep Squad and cheerleaders line the side of the football field, ready to cheer for players during the first game of the season against Canyon High School on Aug. 20 at Buena Park High School.

# Back to School Night

For the first time, some teachers plan to offer parents links to watch or view a pre-recorded video from home

**IRENE SHEEN**

*Social Media Manager*

After going all virtual for Back to School Night last year because of the coronavirus pandemic, the Aug. 31 event next week will be in person but with a hybrid option provided by some teachers.

"It's something that we really want to explore, and we think it's going to be a great way to meet the needs of all of our families because we know there are some families whose guardians can't attend in person for various reasons," assistant principal Melissa Stinson said. "We don't want that to be a barrier for them to participate in this event and their student's education."

Department leaders informed teachers earlier this week that they have the option to either provide parents with a Zoom or Google Meet link to join and watch their live presentation or pre-record video for those at home who can't come to view.

"Not everybody has the same work schedule, so some of them may not be able to make it in the time period," said English teacher Thomas Butler, who chose to provide families with a Zoom alternative. "We want to be as inclusive of everyone in our com-



Image printed with permission from Melissa Stinson

**BACK TO THE FUTURE:** Chemistry teacher Walter Haberaecker introduces his class curriculum for families attending a 2019 Back to School Night. This year's event has a hybrid option.

munity as we can."

Rather than hosting a Zoom meeting, social science teacher David Fenstermaker said he has decided to prepare a pre-recorded presentation for families choosing the digital option.

"I anticipate a lot of people being there, and because of that, I think it would be difficult to manage the Zoom at the same time," Fenstermaker said. "I'm just going to record something [that dis-

cusses] what we're going to do in a given school year, what my expectations are and a sense of how I teach the class."

Social science Department chairman Greg Abbott agrees with the administration's decision to provide a hybrid option for parents.

"It's like an experiment, and if it works well, we should continue doing it even when things go back to normal," said Abbott,

who plans on offering a Zoom alternative for parents. "I think if it works well, and it's convenient for teachers and parents, then why not [do it]?"

Families utilizing the virtual alternative can access the digital program on the SH website, which will contain all the links needed to participate in each teacher's period and additional contact information of teachers hosting just the live Back to

School Night.

Continuing previous years' traditions, principal Allen Whitten said he plans to follow the procedures of a typical Back to School Night in which he welcomes families to the quad and celebrates the start of a new school year with a brief speech.

Parents will then be released to visit their students' classrooms according to their school schedules, and then they will be able to listen to a 10-minute presentation from the teacher. Each period has a five-minute passing period for parents to get to the next class.

"We'll typically have some kind of performance, so this year we've invited [the drumline] to be out in the quad about 15 minutes before Mr. Whitten's speech, which is scheduled to be at 6 p.m.," Stinson said. "Drumline is always associated with school spirit, [so] they'll be out there setting the tone and getting everyone excited."

Senior Danielle Gonzalez said she plans on coming with her parents for the live event.

"I'm definitely most excited about seeing how teachers communicate to parents. ... Back to School Night is never enjoyable if everyone is stressed out the entire night," Gonzalez said.

## Students, staff like new markings, shade at completed lot near PAC

**MICHELLE SHEEN**

*Editor-in-chief*

With the \$2.5 million solar panel carports project near the Performing Arts Center [PAC] completed a week before the start of the school year, student drivers get 220 parking spaces available – more than half of which have shade.

School officials had to wait until the lot was repaved with parking slots repainted before they could officially reopen it Aug. 10, just in time for Lancer Days.

"In the parking lot, before they renovated everything, I couldn't see the lines dividing the parking stalls at all, and parking was so hard," senior Carmina Pineda said. "When they repainted everything, I was so happy because it made my life so much easier."

Senior Luke Linares also sees the value of clearer lines on the lot, especially since he had to deal with the faded markings last semester during hybrid learning when school officials opened up sections of the lot.

"I like that there is shade [for the cars] now," Linares said. "The solar panels are a lot better for the environment ... [and] a good financial investment, too."

Of the 220 total stalls designated for student parking, 143 are under the solar panel carports, while of the 40 slots marked for staff, only 18 have shade.

That's a good deal for social science teacher Arlie Kearny, whose classroom is closest to that parking area.

"I really like all the changes, and the [solar] shade is my personal favorite," Kearney said. "Not having to go to a hot car is awesome."

In addition to the PAC parking lot upgrades, another Aug. 9 change was the three newly painted lanes heading into the area, which allows more cars to move in and out of the location in one direction, allowing more efficient before school dropoffs and after school pickups.

"The people dropping off and picking up people [there] used to [come] from all different directions, and it was madness," Kear-

ney said.

A final new feature at the PAC parking area is the two Charge-point stations, which can power up to four electric vehicles [EV]. However, EV owners will have to pay a fee of approximately \$1 per hour, said Chinese teacher Soonya Gordon, who used the charge port once during the first week of school to add more miles to her Tesla Model S.

"The rates they are charging aren't bad; they're not expensive," said Gordon, who can also charge her car for free at any Tesla Supercharging station.

According to a sign posted at the charging stalls, only staff members are allowed to charge their EVs during school hours from 7 a.m.-3 p.m.

Before 7 a.m. and after 3 p.m., students or anyone else in the community can use them, assistant principal Melissa Stinson said.



For the full news story, go to [shsaccolade.com](https://shsaccolade.com)



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**MAKEOVER TIME:** Workers reslurry and repaint the parking lot next to the Performing Arts Center on Aug. 9 as the last step in finalizing its renovation with solar panel carports.



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**JUICE UP:** With the installment of charging ports by the Performing Arts Center parking lot, teachers and students can charge their electric vehicles for a fee of \$1 per hour.



PHOTOGRAPHER Image printed with permission from creativecommons.com

**UP TO THE TASK?:** Voters will decide Sept. 14 whether California Gov. Gavin Newsom will remain in office during a special recall election. If they choose to oust Newsom, they will also get to decide who gets to replace him.

## Opinions split on Newsom recall

JAIMIE CHUN

Copy Editor

Seniors who were born on Sept. 14, 2003 or earlier will have until Aug. 30 to register to vote for an election to decide the fate of California Gov. Gavin Newsom, though they will have to wait until the recall voting date to register if they miss this deadline.

According to kcra.com, registered voters can opt to vote by mail, which will be sent out by Aug. 16, or in person from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sept. 14 at their respective voting centers.

"I'm not surprised [about the recall] in the sense that I know a lot of people are frustrated with some of the handling of [COVID-19], and I think that's what this is all about," said social studies teacher Peter Karavedas, who will be voting but declined revealing who he will vote for.

"Citizens have the right, if they are frustrated, to voice those frustrations, so I think it's great that people are doing so."

Among the seniors who will be voting in this election, senior Edward Cho will vote in favor of Newsom.

"I think he did a good job handling COVID-19. I feel like a lot of people are against his mandates, but I think it was necessary for the prevention of the virus," Cho said. "I think so far, he did a good job and will keep doing a good job."

Junior Tazia Mohammad and her Junior State of America club members plan to release a voter's guide about the election.

"Some of our seniors are old enough to vote, and many other students are old enough to pre-register," co-president Mohammad said. "While not everyone can participate, any small amount of votes gained is still a significant change in our

eyes."

Though sophomore Graham Chun cannot cast a ballot for the recall election, he is hoping Newsom would lose.

"I believe the recall of Newsom is a good idea because he has been dreadful to this state," Chun said. "His lockdown policies on [COVID-19] have been very hurtful to my family. It prevented my mother's business from exporting goods, and some coworkers were unable to come to work, which meant she had to fire people because they were getting paid though they didn't come to work."

On the other hand, some students believe that the petition has been misleading and unfairly judging Newsom's actions.

"While I don't agree with him on everything, he has passed several progressive policies that I believe have a net benefit for our state," Mohammad said. "It also claims that California has the 'lowest

## Students receive chance for pass, no pass grade change

YEHIN LEE

Staff Reporter

Students and their parents will have until Aug. 31 to decide whether to take advantage of a recent California law that allows for any letter grades from the 2020-2021 school year to switch to pass or no pass.

"I was just pleasantly surprised that the state would go through such great lengths to really try to help our students," principal Allen Whitten said. "I know a lot of our students who did just fine throughout these school closures, hybrid and distance learning, but there were a group of students that really struggled, so I'm glad they have a little bit of a safety net here where they can get some help on their transcript or their graduation status."

AB 104, signed by California Gov. Gavin Newsom on July 1, introduces three new educational codes: student retention, pass or no pass grade requests and exemption from local graduation requirements.

"The district is not allowed to limit which course or how many courses [for the grade change]," assistant superintendent of Education and Assessment Services Sylvia Kaufman said during the Aug. 10 Fullerton Joint Union High School District board meeting. "It's open to whichever grades the parents or students feel that they would like to change that grade into a pass grade."

To go through the grade change, parents have to access a link provided by school officials.

As of Thursday, parents of 88 students have requested grade changes, but no one has submitted any retention requests, Whitten said.

Assembly bills 130,104 passed >> Page 7

## Accolade online news website up for trophy from contest

SUSIE KIM

Social Media Manager

For the first time, *The Accolade's* online platform has been named a finalist for Best High School News Website in the Los Angeles Press Club's 63rd annual Southern California Journalism Awards.

"I remember seeing my name on the list of Best High School News Website finalists on Aug. 11 and thinking, 'Woah, that's me; that's my name,'" said Andrew Ngo, last year's *Accolade* web editor-in-chief. "But it is weird — we are still winning awards, and I have not been part of The Accolade since last May."

This is the second year that the Press Club has created a separate category for Best High School News Website, *The Accolade* adviser Tommy Li said. Before that, any high school online en-

tries deemed a finalist would be grouped with college online finalists, making it more difficult for any high school journalism program to win the first-place trophy.

Since the 2020-2021 school year was *The Accolade* online's third year of existence under Li's supervision, the adviser said he was more confident in submitting it for consideration in the Press Club's SoCal Journalism Awards contest.

*The Accolade* online is among four other finalists, including Van Nuys High School's *The Mirror*, which won the top prize last year.

### ACCOLADE NEWSPAPER ALSO NAMED A FINALIST

For a fifth consecutive year, *The Accolade* was named a finalist in the Best High School Newspaper category.

"Our top editors last school year deserve praise for taking on

the challenge of making sure our staff continued our tradition of producing high quality work despite our school being in distance learning," Li said. "Even though I am sure other programs named finalists had similar struggles, I just hope that those who judged these categories will see how our coverage stood out above the rest."

*The Accolade* came in second last year behind San Gabriel High School's *The Mandator*, which was also named a finalist this year along with three other newspaper programs.

"To be a finalist for a fifth consecutive year in the newspaper category just goes to show how much we have maintained our consistency in producing L.A. Times-quality work," Li said. "Even though we won the first-place trophy the first two years that we entered this contest, the ultimate prize has eluded us



**EXTRA EXTRA:** *Accolade* adviser submitted the Oct. 30 "Photo Finish" (left) and Dec. 14 "Wonder Women 2021" PDF print issues to the Southern California Journalism Awards contest sponsored by the Los Angeles Press Club and was named a finalist for Best High School paper for a fifth straight year

since, so hopefully this year, the results will be different, and we will be able to bring home our third trophy."



For the full story, go to [shsaccolade.com](https://shsaccolade.com).

# Delta variant not keeping students away

**KATE YANG**

*Web Managing-Editor*

With the Delta variant bringing COVID-19 case numbers up again, students, parents and staff remain excited about the reopening of Sunny Hills High School for live classroom instruction on Aug. 16, hoping the campus won't have to shut down again.

"As much as I am worried about COVID-19, I just couldn't stay at home anymore," said senior Dominic Siañez, who was among the few who chose to come to campus for hybrid learning during the last school year. "Even though it still feels unsafe now, for the sake of sanity I can't do another Zoom call; staying home and away from friends would be too hard for me."

His mother, America Siañez, looks forward to her son being able to spend his entire senior year in-person and hopes the Delta variant will not pose a large threat to the students and staff.

"I would love for Dominic to enjoy all of the senior traditions and any activities," she said.

"This is a scary time but we all have to do our best to get through this storm."

Myra Deister, Sunny Hills computer science and math teacher, holds concerns regarding the safety of unvaccinated students and staff but ensures she will make an effort to ease the transition for her students from full distance learning to now full in-person learning.

"I plan on taking a more flexible approach this year which includes checking in with students more often, adjusting pacing and assignments, if needed," Deister said.

Although California Gov. Gavin Newsom reopened California on June 15, the Delta variant of COVID-19 was first diagnosed in the state in May.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC] defines the Delta variant to be a highly contagious strain of the COVID-19 virus, one capable of spreading up to 50% faster than the original virus that originated from Wuhan, China.

Dominic Siañez, who received



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**SMILE FOR THE CAMERA:** Senior Dominic Siañez (right) checks in with a South Coast Photography staff member at Lancer Day, Aug. 10, to take his ID picture. Despite the continuing spread of COVID-19's Delta variant, Siañez will be among the early 2,500 students enrolled at Sunny Hills for live classroom instruction.

the Pfizer vaccine in April, said he's worried about the possibility of spending another school year online. However, as a student athlete on the boys volleyball and cross country team, he has more

at stake.

"For cross country, I am worried that we will not only lose some races but also be restricted from racing at certain parks," Siañez said, whose cross country

coach had voiced the same concern earlier to his team.



For the full story, go to [shhsaccolade.com/5204](https://shhsaccolade.com/5204)



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**FILLING THE QUAD:** Sunny Hills student population has increased to nearly 2,500.

## 2021-2022 school enrollment not hampered by pandemic

**DANIEL KONG**

*Business Manager*

In the 2021-2022 school year, Sunny Hills' student enrollment increased by nearly 100 from the previous year's 2,372 to 2,439, school officials said.

The total number of students enrolled for this school year accounts for 627 freshmen, 613 sophomores, 589 juniors, 609 seniors as well as one eighth grader, principal Allen Whitten said.

Social science teacher Robert Bradburn said he is pleased to see that the campus has reached nearly 2,500 students despite last year's distance/hybrid learning

experience during the coronavirus pandemic.

"I think it makes me proud because I know my colleagues and I really try to do a great job for the kids, and we have administrators that love the kids, and when you put those things together, it just works," Bradburn said. "Now, we have a campus that has great classes, great scholarships, great athletes and a great spirit."

"I'm having a great time."

Similarly, senior Ethan Kang was excited to see a noticeable change in the amount of freshmen around campus.

"Coming from Parks, which had only 1,000 students, to Sunny Hills, I was unprepared for

the amount of people that would be on campus daily," Kang said. "Since then, I've grown used to the environment here, but I'm still glad to see the school population growing."

Freshman Jared Dibble initially came to Sunny Hills to follow his family tradition of becoming a Lancer but was also excited about many aspects of the school.

"I've met friends already and some super supportive teachers with great positive attitudes," Dibble said. "A program that stood out to me was baseball because my older brother played and said it was super fun, so I thought I'd give it a try."

FROM PAGE 6

### ASSEMBLY BILLS 130, 104 PASSED

The district first emailed students and parents about these options on July 22 and emailed them again on July 30 regarding the grade change request.

Another recent bill signed into law, AB 130, states that students have the right to enroll either in an independent study program, such as the iSierra Online Academy provided by La Sierra High School, or an in-person instruction but adds requirements to this option.

"I'm not against the bill because I do think—and I saw it first hand—that a lot of students were not on the same playing field in terms of technology," science teacher Kathy Bevill said. "A lot of students had responsibilities at home like taking care of their siblings, so I really don't see a problem for this specific incident in terms of the credit versus no credit grade."

In addition, AB 130 states that the Local Education Agency, a public board of education, must have proof that they interacted with the students with assignments, assessments and associated grades.

It must also report the number of students who participate

in the online program for 15 or more school days in the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System, La Sierra intervention specialist said during the FJUUSD board meeting.

The reduction of graduation requirements allowed senior Samuel Valenzuela to have another chance to pass his classes to graduate high school, and he gained the opportunity to stay at Sunny Hills for his senior year.

"I was a little nervous because when I heard it, I thought it was too good to be true," Valenzuela said. "I was able to stay here and sign a whole contract that I was underneath that bill."

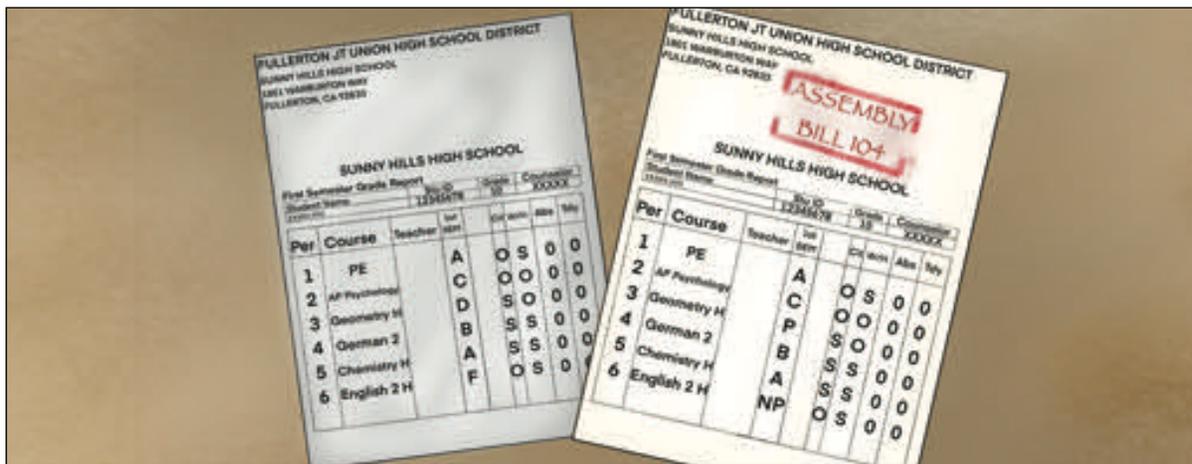
Although he did receive benefits from the bill, Valenzuela was soon followed by difficulties; he had many classes cut from his schedule because he was required to take selective classes for credit.

"The downside is that I can't go to a four-year college, and I have to go to a community college because I can only reach that level," Valenzuela said. "I had to sign a contract saying I will be going to school under the assembly bill, and I agreed to be able to stay at Sunny Hills."

#### RELATED STORY

**Staff Editorial:** AB104 grade change offers good deal for students who struggled last year. **See Opinion, page 8.**

## STAFF EDITORIAL



JACQUELINE CHANG | theaccolade

# AB 104 helps struggling students

**The Accolade editorial board vote count: 16 consider Assembly Bill 104 to be beneficial toward students, 2 do not.**

To some, the two years spent away from live classroom instruction opened a gateway to independent and self-paced studying, but to others, the Zoom-administered classes were nothing but an inefficient method of education — one that would possibly endanger academic achievements and a chance at high school graduation.

California Assembly Bill [AB] 104, however, presents that latter group of students with a chance at redemption, and they only have until Aug. 31 to claim it.

Signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom on July 1, AB 104 provides all high school students in California with the opportunity to “counteract the impact of the pandemic,” as stated by the Los Angeles Unified School District,

with optional grade changes, retention and exemption from local graduation requirements.

Specifically, one important piece of the legislation allows students with parent permission to replace letter grades for an unlimited number of classes with “Pass” or “No Pass” marks instead — no questions asked.

For example, if COVID-19 challenges or some other factors caused one pupil to earn a D in P.E., that can be changed into a “pass” on that person’s transcript. Or, if another person who failed an Advanced Placement class, AB 104 helps the student erase the “F” and replace it with a “No Pass.”

Though such letter grades as “Ds” or “Fs” can negatively impact students’ grade point averages [GPAs], the “pass/no pass” option works in their favor by ensuring that their GPAs don’t take too big of a hit from a cou-

ple of low marks. Though GPA calculation will not take into account “pass/no pass” classes, it’s important to remember what Sunny Hills counselors have been reminding those who are pursuing this option: college admissions officers will see on the transcript the “pass/no pass” marks, though no one knows how they will interpret them.

This is beneficial for students who wish to counteract the poor grades they received within the COVID-19-affected school year with improved grades that further display their academic potential within their retention year.

While this bill may seem trivial to some, it can be a lifesaver to last year’s juniors who struggled during the pandemic and are at risk of not graduating this year with the rest of their class.

Critics of this law may argue that students will not possess any incentive to try hard to receive

high marks in their classes this school year, hoping that legislators will bail them out again this school year because students had to adjust to going back to live instruction.

However, many on the editorial board assert that students should not focus on the what ifs but on the present.

For struggling students last year, take the deal now and do better in 2021-2022.

The Accolade editorial board is made up of the top editors and section editors on the 2021-2022 staff with the guidance of adviser Tommy Li. If you have a question about the board’s decision or an issue for the board to discuss and write about, please send an email to [theaccoladeshhs@gmail.com](mailto:theaccoladeshhs@gmail.com).



For the full story, go to [shhsaccolade.com/](https://shhsaccolade.com/)

## Schools should say no to anti-maskers

ALICE SHIN

Managing Editor

The anti-mask movement has dangerously crept into the meeting rooms of school districts countywide.

Opponents of masks in the classroom are challenging the California Department of Public Health [CDPH] guidelines, which our school district follows, requiring students to wear masks indoors and optional outdoors.

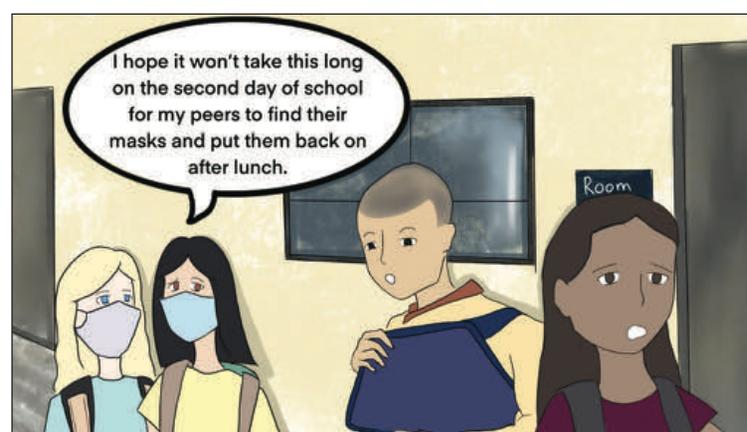
Board members of the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified District, for instance, unwisely voted 3-2 over the summer to send a formal request to the CDPH to make indoor masking for students and

teachers optional, according to an online [ocregister.com](https://ocregister.com) article.

The majority caved in to local parents’ concerns.

Another issue regarding the anti-mask movement centers on such recent activist groups as “Let Them Breathe” and “Re-open California Schools,” which according to recent media reports have helped parents opposing the mask mandate express their opinions to school boards, including the Orange and Tustin unified school districts.

Despite anti-maskers’ concerns about children’s self-esteem in the classroom, what outweighs everything else is the risk of contracting the virus regardless of



JACQUELINE CHANG | theaccolade

age, especially for unvaccinated individuals.

It’s clear then that public schools should strictly enforce the indoor mask mandate and even recommend students to keep their masks on outside, except when eating.

Though it is true that masks are not capable of completely preventing someone from getting infected by the virus, they can

provide additional protection as the World Health Organization “[encourages] mask-wearing even among vaccinated people.”

Here’s hoping that mask mandates remain so that sooner rather than later we can go back to normal.



For the full story, go to [shhsaccolade.com](https://shhsaccolade.com/)

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# Teachers share views



"When people write things down with their hands, they can understand it better."  
- **Robert Bradburn**,  
social science teacher



JACQUELINE CHANG | theaccolade

# Head to Head: Paper or digital?

## Let's go back to traditional worksheets

**KRISHNA THAKER**

*Special Sections Editor*

Solve  $18x = 2(30/3) + 17 - 5x$   
This particular algebra problem has at least eight steps. Eight long steps of subtracting, adding, multiplying and condensing to get the final answer.

While this may not sound like much when solving the problem on paper, it becomes tedious without it.

Distance learning forced students to use electronic devices.

However, as schools transition back to in-person learning, paper will once again become an important tool for students.

According to a 2021 Tokyo University study of 1,000 graduate students, researchers

found writing on paper can increase retention of the material.

Students who use traditional tools can yield better results. These benefits also exist in other aspects of education.

Although others can argue that technology remains beneficial because of its convenience the increases in students' memory and retention of school material impacts them more.

Over the history of innovation, the brightest thinkers have made great strides using two tools: a piece of paper and a pencil. Students in the modern age can still benefit from the same tools.



For the full story, go to [shhsaccolade.com](https://shhsaccolade.com)

## Virtual learning offers new domains

**ANTHONY KEEM**

*Staff Reporter*

The future of education is here, and it's digital.

As students return to school, many have developed a distaste for the use of technology.

Zoom schooling did not fulfill the potential of digital education. It was an unprepared and panicked response to the pandemic.

However, the best lesson that emerged from Zoom schooling was an example of what digital education should not be.

Acosta Rodolfo, a professor of educational leadership at California State University, Fullerton, believes that online learning has untapped potential to connect with the world's students.

"With online learning we

don't have anymore boundaries, so we should be able to connect with folks in Brazil, in Denmark and in Japan," Rodolfo said.

The internet closes thousands of miles with a click of a button. Why should students be restricted to their schools? To their textbooks?

Learning can become a chance to bring humanity together and progress beyond the borders of nations.

Let the universities become universal and let high schools bring in the highest form of education. Let the students advance beyond the boundaries of paper and into a brighter future.



For the full story, go to [shhsaccolade.com](https://shhsaccolade.com)



"For quick practice I love using technology because it gives you immediate feedback."  
- **Kari Morita**,  
math teacher

# College applications — painful but necessary



"There are just some things you can't do on a Chromebook that you can do on a piece of paper."  
- **Chris Peoples**,  
science teacher

Two words that haunt most Sunny Hills academically minded high school seniors: college applications.



**Grace Johnson**  
Web Managing Editor

and have no idea how to fill any of these out.

With an interest in journalism and sports broadcasting, I plan on applying to Arizona State University [ASU], California

When I hear these words, I immediately become overwhelmed by the fact that I have started my senior year

State University, Fullerton, the University of Colorado, Hope International University, USC and UCLA, all of which are very selective in who they admit.

These institutions offer a multitude of methods on how to apply for admission.

For example, ASU offers three different application options: the Common Application, the Coalition Application and the ASU application.

The Common Application has contracted with more than 900 colleges and is a popular method for students since they have to just fill out one form and write one essay prompt to apply to universities that use this

process.

Some places allow students to submit different types of applications to make it easier, but in reality it requires students to learn different programs if one college accepts one type of application but another college does not.

Universities should simplify down to one system to reduce stress for students and parents.

Because college is essential for students to gain some type of advanced education and to further support themselves in their future endeavors, the pressure of applications is forced onto seniors.

Furthermore, this has encouraged me to set aside more time

to work on college applications so that I can feel confident in my decisions.

I will also be able to do more research on the different methods of applying.

Though they need to be taken seriously, college applications, I fear, can become quite stressful.

I'm going to have to decide whether I want to write three or four different essays since not all of my preferred schools use the same admissions forms.

I know the easy way out is to just boil down my preferences to just two or three universities at the most.

Ultimately, it's not going to be the application that decides how our lives turn out, it's us.



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# NOW TEACHING

*After considering divergent career fields, three instructors join the staff with subjects that reflect their early passion*

## Butler transitions from work at Macy's to job in classroom

YEIHN LEE

Staff Reporter

Five years ago, Thomas Butler can be found training new hires at the Macy's store in the South Coast Plaza in Costa Mesa. But now, he's greeting his students as an English teacher.

"It finally dawned on me that the part of my job I liked was teaching, so why not focus on a subject that I loved, [which is] English," Butler said.

He worked as a salesman but was promoted to manager after getting his bachelor of arts degree at California State University, Long Beach.

Before working at Macy's, Butler said he grew up in Upper Arlington, Ohio.

He began writing fiction when he was in high school, even publishing short stories.

Upon graduating college with a double major in English and creative writing, Butler said he returned to earn his single subject teaching credential in English.

Butler received positive feedback from peers and teachers about his stories.

After graduating, Butler started off his career by teaching at David Starr Jordan High School in Long Beach for two years and then taught at Camp Verde High School in Arizona for a year.

Upon returning from Arizona, he took a position with NOVA Academy in Santa Ana and taught for 13 years.

Despite teaching at the school for more than a decade, Butler missed the culture of larger schools. He then applied for an opening here, where he now teaches sophomore English honors.

"After my first week with my Lancers, I can say that coming to Sunny Hills has been the best move I have made in my career," said Butler, who likes to have his students get involved during classes and often holds Socratic seminars.

"Mr. Butler has been a great teacher so far, and I am really enjoying his class," sophomore Annika Bhatiya said. "I love the puzzles that we solve when we first come into class because the outcome of them is very interesting."

Outside of school, Butler enjoys spending time with family as well as playing the guitar, even having musical discussions with his students after class.

Principal Allen Whitten said Butler will be a great addition to the school.

"He's an experienced English teacher that we know will add a lot to the department and will be a great Lancer," Whitten said.

## Promising pediatrician draws on artistic talents in classroom

MINJEONG KIM

Co-Feature Editor

When she entered California State University, Fullerton, in 2014, Vashtty Lemus dedicated herself to becoming a pediatrician because she loved science and wanted to help people.

The lifelong goal she set in Baldwin Park High School, California would take a U-turn after she rekindled her passion for art in college.

"When I was doing the pre-med track, however, I realized that [the track] wasn't really for me, and I wanted to help someone in a different way," Lemus said.

She changed her major to Art Education because she felt pursuing art as a hobby wasn't enough and wanted to give the same joy she felt while drawing to students.

"I wanted to make them realize that there's a lot of opportunities and different job descriptions that they could get into if they want to major in art," Lemus said.

Lemus graduated from college in 2018 with a Bachelor's Degree in Art Education. After becoming a student teacher at Sunny Hills the same year, Lemus taught 3-D Communication Design under Brian Wall and Preetha Mathen.

She then taught Drawing and Painting at Sunny Hills as a summer school course in 2019 after finding a position in the Fullerton Joint Union High School District through a website called edjoin.org.

"I think Sunny Hills has a special place in my heart because I did my student teaching here," she said.

In 2021, she taught the summer course again after officially receiving the position of a Drawing and Painting teacher at Sunny Hills for periods 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Although senior Sebastian Ramos enrolled in the Drawing and Painting class primarily to fulfill the high school graduation requirement, he relates with his teacher's goal of connecting with the students.

"She always walks around and asks how we're doing or about our interests and it's cool because I feel like she really wants to connect with us," Ramos said.

Principal Allen Whitten believes that the new teacher's two years of summer school teaching experience will help her to become a great teacher.

"She taught at Sunny Hills [the] entire summer so we've already seen her in action and she can do great things," Whitten said.

## Artemyev follows *liebe* for German

DIVYA BHARADWAJ

Co-Feature Editor

For Sergey Artemyev, the process of finding a career was a long and tedious one.

Although Artemyev knew he wanted to be a teacher, his love for exploration made it hard to dedicate himself to one subject.

After exploring numerous careers, including mass media, journalism and public administration, the Russian native pursued his lifelong passion — German.

"My German teacher [influenced me to become a teacher because] her love for [her students] and her passion for German language, culture and history," Artemyev said.

Before accepting a position at Sunny Hills, Artemyev taught German and World History for six years at La Habra High School.

"I am interested in schools that consider foreign languages to be an important part of general education," said Artemyev, who teaches German periods 1-4 and World History period 5.

He looks forward to continuing the German Club and plans on starting a National German Honor Society Chapter — all things that his students are looking forward to.

"It will take some getting used to, but so far, he seems like a fair teacher," said senior Aidan Wong, who's taking International Baccalaureate German.



The Accolade will post more stories online next month about other new teachers.

# SH alumnae start college help service

*Three from the Class of 2021 create Instagram account to help stressed seniors with college essays*

**DIVYA BHARADWAJ**

*Co-Feature Editor*

Senior year. A time filled with spirit days, traditions and most importantly, graduation.

But wrapped up in the midst of these moments, many seniors looking at life beyond Sunny Hills grapple with another challenging season: the inevitable college essay and application.

Class of 2021's Kathryn Aurelio is too familiar with this process.

She recalls opening her laptop to start her college essay.

But immediately, discouragement set in. She found it difficult to motivate herself to start.

Aurelio says she turned to social media for advice, and after scrolling through accounts like @goharsguide on TikTok, the former senior remembers feeling confident about her writing skills.

"It was difficult for me to start as I was petrified of this college process," Aurelio said. "As I procrastinated my college essay, videos on TikTok slowly offered sound advice and thorough explanation."

After completing her essays, she sought reviews from strangers to gain a different perspective.

While Aurelio asked her

friends for input on some aspects of her application, she preferred to ask strangers, so she could be honest about herself.

"I found when a stranger was editing my essays I could be completely vulnerable about myself, which I couldn't do when I was bearing my soul to someone I would talk to again," she said.

She submitted her Common App essay about "the intersection of [her] self-identity and body image by taking the reader through the process of creating a painting." Aurelio believes her essay was a crucial component to getting into her dream school because she did not submit SAT or ACT scores.

Five months after submitting her applications, she started her own essay feedback service and rounded up two of her former Lancer classmates to help her.

Called College Essay Gals, they use the Instagram platform @collegeessaygals (101 followers) to promote their services and provide college information.

Her partners are close friends Anika Madan, who attends University of California, Irvine, for public health sciences and Amaya Mitchell, who also attends USC but majors in psychology.

Like much of their senior year,

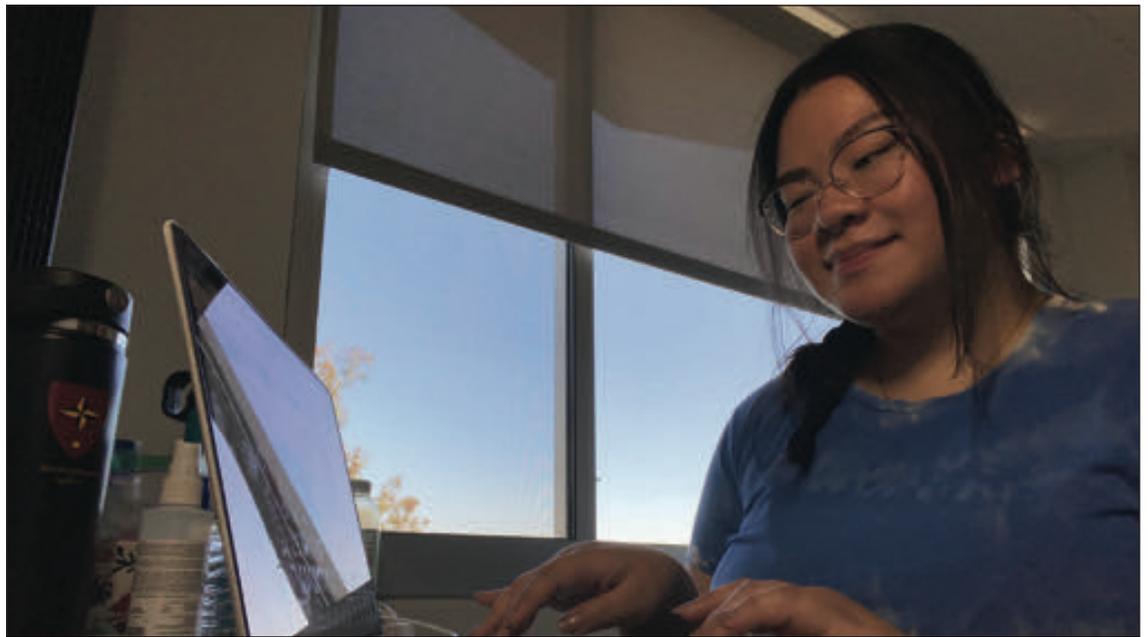


Image used with permission from Kathryn Aurelio

**COLLEGE HELP:** Kathryn Aurelio, Class of 2021, sits in front of her laptop to find application information for the essay editing service she started with Anika Madan and Amaya Mitchell.

Aurelio's partners found out about this opportunity virtually.

"[Kathryn] created a poll asking if anyone wanted to start this business, and I virtually raised a hand," Mitchell said.

They edit UC essays (\$10 for one, \$35 for all four), the Common App (\$20) and supplemental essays required by private schools (\$10-\$15), according to their Instagram.

Essays are read within a week,

but immediate services are offered at a different rate. After Aug. 31, prices will change to fall rates, and they plan to continue editing essays until February.

"I wanted to provide and spread awareness of versatile resources, not just traditional companies, that could cater to students of all economic standings with [a heavier focus on the needs of] each individual," Aurelio said.

While applicants are not in

need of the college students' service yet, they look forward to helping as many students they can.

"I feel excited in helping students with their applications because I understand that writing about yourself can be extremely difficult, but if they are comfortable with sharing their story with us, they will hopefully feel more confident in sending in their refined essays," Mitchell said.

# Students, teachers enjoy COVID-free summer

**NEVYA PATEL**

*News Editor*

Clothes. Sunscreen. Wallet. The typical trifecta for a perfect beachside vacation.

Before the pandemic, not many people would have thought to bring a face covering with their essentials on vacation.

But since the threat of COVID-19 first emerged, Sunny Hills students and teachers decided to enjoy a bit of fresh air away from their homes.

During their 10 week-long break from school, they abided by COVID-19 regulations when required.

Freshman Ryan Berry spent July 21-28 on the island of Hawaii with his family and friends, where health regulations were lenient compared to those in California. At the time, Berry and his family were not vaccinated but tested negative before leaving.

"I wasn't going to turn down a vacation just because I had to wear a mask and follow safety

procedures," Berry said.

While the state of Hawaii lifted its outdoor mask mandate, Berry spent most of his time fishing and enjoying the beautiful scenery near his family's beach house.

"The house we were staying in was right next to the ocean, so we grabbed some fishing poles and went out fishing," he said.

Chemistry teacher Walter Haberaecker, along with his wife and four children, also explored destinations outside of California; instead of visiting one or two states, he went on a six-week trip across 21 states from the first week of June to the third week of July.

Unlike the other students, the Haberaecker family packed one less summer essential. Their adventure throughout the United States did not include masks since requirements differed in the states he traveled to.

"There were no mandates on having masks on [in other states]," Haberaecker said. "I never ran into a situation where I was refused service for not hav-

ing a mask."

The road trip started in Southern California and headed across the country to the Florida Panhandle, north to Michigan and west to Michigan before cruising down to their West Coast home. There were week-long stops in Texas, Florida, Michigan and Montana to visit family.

"As soon as we left, it felt like we were in free land," Haberaecker said. "We were going to do this trip last summer, but we weren't prepared enough, and our baby was too young. But my now 1-year-old [can] go out more and do more things, so we felt like he could handle it."

While students like Berry stayed in the United States, junior Joel Lopez headed to Guatemala with his cousin.

Although Lopez received both doses of the Pfizer vaccine in May, he continued to wear a mask and followed social distancing protocols to protect his grandfather, who he was visiting for two weeks.

"I was excited to go, but we



Image printed with permission from Walter Haberaecker

**ADVENTURE AWAITS:** Chemistry teacher Walter Haberaecker and his family explore Mammoth Cave National Park.

were all so nervous and scared because we didn't know if we were going to get sick," Lopez said.

He said Guatemala charges fines for not following mask regulations, which encouraged him to keep his masks on in public.

"I have a sister there who said she saw the police stop these men and arrested and fined them for

not wearing masks," Lopez said. "So I thought, 'Oh that's scary — what if we forget to wear ours and get fine?'"

After nearly 18 months of COVID-19 restrictions, this summer break proved to be a transition into the old routine.

"It honestly felt like I was free again to almost go back to normal," Lopez said.

## EDITORIAL

## TAKING ON THE MICKEY EMPIRE

*Scarlett Johansson justified in her lawsuit against Disney*

RIDA ZAR

*Opinion Editor*

Since the 1930s, superheroes, largely regarded for their passion, sense of justice and commitment to the people, have served as role models for younger and older generations.

As one of Marvel's most popular warriors, the Black Widow is no exception to the rule.

The actress behind this character, Scarlett Johansson, models this ideology after mass media and entertainment company, Disney, allegedly failed to fulfill its end of the bargain on her contract for her newest movie, "Black Widow."

According to The Wall Street Journal, Johansson filed a lawsuit in Los Angeles Superior Court on July 29 — 20 days after the movie's release in theaters — citing an alleged contract breach for Disney's decision to make the film available for pay per view streaming on Disney+ at the same time as it's playing on the big screen.

All this without her consent, like how Thanos got rid of half the population with a snap of his fingers without seeking permission from anyone to do so.

In response, a statement was released by a Disney representative, who claimed that the Mickey Mouse flagship "fully complied with Ms. Johansson's contract and furthermore, the release of



**FIGHTING FOR JUSTICE:** Actress Scarlett Johansson, who reprises her role as Black Widow in Marvel's most recent blockbuster movie release, has filed a lawsuit against Disney citing a contract breach because of its decision to also stream the film for video on demand.

'Black Widow' on Disney+ with Premier Access significantly enhanced her ability to earn additional compensation."

If Johansson's claims are accurate, and her lawyers can prove that she actually lost more money with the film being available for viewing online rather than the theaters, seeking out a way to reclaim the money Disney robbed her of is justifiable.

Like many other actors, her

salary is largely based on the film's box-office performance; by releasing the movie on Disney+ simultaneously, Disney prevents Johansson from making the money she warranted for her work.

In the second weekend after the "Black Widow" movie's release on July 9, it suffered a sharp decline in theater viewings — 11% more than the average decline of the past 10 Marvel movies. This can be explained



## LEGAL FIGHT WITH DISNEY

- Disney under fire after releasing "Black Widow" on both Disney+ and the big screen on July 9, 2021 without Scarlett Johansson's consent
- She claims a decrease in her earnings after box offices report less viewers

Compiled by Sydnee Tallant

Images used with permission from Walt Disney Studios

sion that the Mickey empire lacks regard for its employees.

According to The Wall Street Journal, in 2019 her representative contacted Marvel — a subsidiary of Disney and producer of "Black Widow" — in regards to the issue. Marvel chief counsel Dave Galluzzi told them that the film would be released as the traditional theater release first and that they "understand that should the plan change, we would need to discuss this with you and come to an understanding."

The movie generated an additional \$60 million from Disney+'s \$30 rentals of "Black Widow." Johansson had made \$20 million as compensation for her work. However, had box-office sales increased with the profit made from Disney+, her salary could've substantially increased.

Because Johansson confirmed the plan for the movie's release prior to its publication, it's only ethical that Disney upholds its end of the bargain and provides the actress with the compensation she agreed to. Anything otherwise displays the company's inability to respect its employees in hopes of creating its own profit.

Taking all of this into consideration, it's not difficult to see Black Widow in Johansson, as expected as someone who plays a hero, she gives her all in the fight for justice, even for herself.

## Lancers still not aware of 2-year-old Apple Arcade despite the low price

JAIMIE CHUN

*Copy Editor*

A large, 8-foot hairy creature with a noticeably big foot. Perhaps it can be alarming and formidable, but can it be sneaky?

That's the only way to be successful in "Sneaky Sasquatch," a stealth adventure game in which the thief-like sasquatch tip-toes across the camping ground, scavenging for supplements and ransacking trailers, all while avoiding the "ranger danger."

And this game can only be found on the Apple Arcade, a video game subscription service approaching its two year anniversary.

However, this video game ser-

vice may have been too sneaky with Sunny Hills students because, as of Aug. 26, 83% of 144 respondents on The Accolade online poll have never played any of these games.

This large majority includes eSports adviser and chemistry teacher Walter Haberaecker, who believes that students have already adjusted to their current gaming services.

"[The gaming service] industry is already occupied by other players besides Apple, and they've been in that field for many years like Nintendo, Xbox," Haberaecker said. "It's very full, and people already have their games they like to play."

Regardless of its current unpopularity, current Apple Arcade

subscriber sophomore Nathan Leopoldo recommends fellow game lovers to explore the service's exclusives, which can also be accessed through a one month free trial.

"I've had a positive experience using Apple Arcade because it's a great price considering the amount of games at your disposal," Leopoldo said. "It's an annual \$120 annually [to play on PlayStation] compared to Apple Arcade's [\$49.99]."

Apple Arcade also makes sure to supply entertainment for all users. For example, "NBA 2K21 Arcade Edition" — No. 2 on Apple's "Top Arcade Games" list — gives the best of both basketball and arcade as fan favorite players virtually take the court.

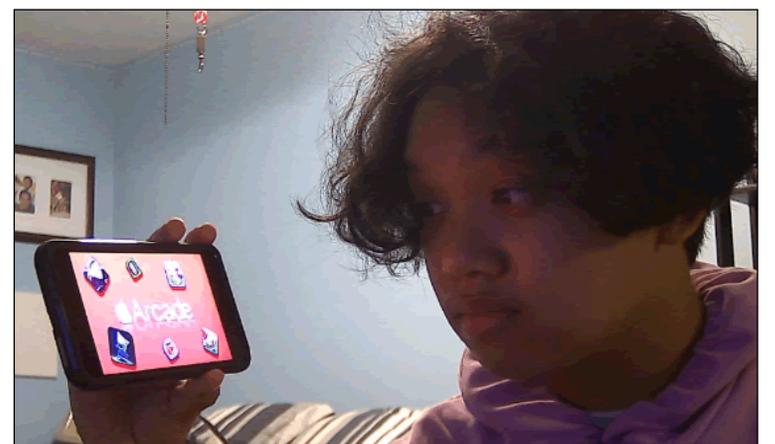


Image used with permission from Nathan Leopoldo

**READY PLAYER ONE:** Sophomore Nathan Leopoldo shows the Apple Arcade screen, which offers video game options.

"There's definitely more games than when I subscribed half a year ago like ["NBA 2K21" Arcade Edition], which is mainly on consoles, but it's now on Apple Arcade as its own version, which is much cheaper," he said.

If Apple Arcade keeps up enhancing the quality and quantity of their products, it has the poten-

tial to become as widespread as the already established industries.

"Apple Arcade is definitely worth it for the price," Leopoldo said. "You'll definitely find something in there you really enjoy."



For the full story, go to [shsaccolade.com/category/ae/](https://shsaccolade.com/category/ae/)



# COVID-19's impact on reopening of the BIG SCREEN



GRACE MIN

Staff Reporter

With movie theaters opening their doors after almost a year of dark screens, empty recliner chairs and static kernels in the popcorn machine, eager moviegoers rushed to fill the vacant seats, but many remained hesitant to return to the cinemas.

Especially with movie ticket sales decreasing 42.3% since 2020, the experience lacks the full-house atmosphere that most people pay to go to the cinemas for.

"I feel like the half empty theaters is what made the movie experience different," senior Jasmine Lee said. "You did not get to hear a collective laughter or gasp with every joke or emotional scene."

In early April 2020, COVID-19 forced the temporary closure of indoor theaters, increasing the popularity of at-home streaming services like Disney+.

But around March 2021, movie theaters reopened, bringing small crowds of viewers in the spring and attracting even more

the following summer.

"The experience was almost the same as before the pandemic," Lee said. "We had to wear masks when not actively eating, and there were less people in the theater."

Lee returned to the big screen to watch "Black Widow" on Aug. 17 at the Edwards Movie Theater in Brea Downtown.

"It's nice to go to the movies because the experience is different than watching a movie at home," she said. "I pay money to go to the theaters, not just for the big screen and the snacks, but for the people who watch the movie with me."

Though COVID-19 protocols — masks for the unvaccinated, social distancing and disinfecting after every movie showing — do not have much effect on the routine of going to catch a movie, Lee felt the lack of people in the theater had affected her cinema experience.

"Everytime something important happens in the plot, or if there is a plot twist, I like to see how other people in the movies are experiencing it with me," Lee said.

"Unfortunately the reaction wasn't as impactful as a packed house would've been."

“ I pay money to go to the theaters, not just for the big screen and snacks, but for the people who watch the movie with me . ”

– senior Jasmine Lee

Sophomore Diane Revillosa watched "A Quiet Place Part II" on June 25 at AMC Fullerton, where the theater allows vaccinated people to watch without a mask on.

"I felt safe going to the movie theater knowing that I am fully vaccinated, and I continue to wear a mask," said Revillosa,

who only visited the cinemas once since its reopening. "To me, the COVID-19 protocols did not make the movie experience much different than before the pandemic."

Despite theaters following safety protocols, many people still choose to watch movies at home to take precaution.

"My parents still think it is dangerous even though a lot of people are vaccinated," said senior Jamie Suh, whose last movie theater experience was watching the film, "Avengers: Endgame" in 2019.

Furthermore, junior Jeffrey Tran thinks watching movies at home is more convenient than going to the theater since he also adapted to streaming services for movie entertainment.

"If things do return to normal, I would most likely continue to pay to watch movies at home," he said. "Being able to comfortably eat and watch a movie using my own equipment is better than paying to go to the movies; especially since it is cheaper and I get to avoid any risks of being in public during the pandemic."



ALL ILLUSTRATIONS BY Samantha Galang | theaccolade

## BTS' recent all-English lyric releases have become too 'Westernized'

When "Dynamite," the first BTS song completely in English, came out on Aug. 21, 2020, I remember initially thinking that this was an amazing way for BTS to publicize itself to wider audiences beyond just South Korea. The Asian pop band broke records with this new track as it became No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100 on Sept. 5, 2020.



dominique Chang  
Asst. Business Manager

However, the release of more English only singles like "Butter," which came out on May 21 this year, and "Permission to Dance," released July 9 this past summer,

had me questioning the K-pop band's sudden shift in language choice.

Varying opinions on this topic arose as some of BTS' fans, known as the ARMY, have referred to the band as becoming "too Westernized," while others have seen this as a beneficial marketing technique for BTS to cater to an international audience.

I believe the English only lyrics definitely have an influence on the band members' "Westernization," but the music itself is also a factor that needs to be addressed.

Korean lyrics bring something new to the table for international fans to interpret and analyze. However, English only lyrics blend in with normal Western pop culture

songs and lose the aspect of analysis many fans enjoyed when the songs were in Korean.

BTS debuted as a Korean hip-hop focused group but slowly changed its music genre to mainstream pop, which makes fans like me believe the band's music is becoming too generic. Although I'm glad that BTS is getting more recognition on an international level, that has come at the price of losing the band's distinctive sound.

Their performances lately have also leaned toward Western pop culture as they do not dance in the Korean hip-hop style they used to. It's a pity that their style of dancing and performing changed with their shift to English language lyrics

as well. For example, BTS debuted with the song, "No More Dream," on June 12, 2013, which showcased the group's Korean hip-hop style through its dark clothing and difficult choreography. Now, it blends right into pop culture with the band's bright clothing and less difficult choreography, as seen in songs such as "Butter" and "Dynamite."

I still plan on supporting BTS; however, I will not actively listen to its music. Its newer songs are still very catchy and nice to listen to, but I prefer the BTS classics — these are the ones that brought something new to foreign fans to interpret and experience. Therefore, I will listen to BTS' old songs and only occasionally listen to any new ones.



# EARLY COLLEGE COMMITS

*Lancers' top golfers tee off on their verbal decisions post-high school*

ESTHER OH

Staff Reporter

## JUNIOR COMMITS TO USC

When junior Carson Kim started playing golf at the age of 7, he didn't expect to be recognized as one of the greatest players in Sunny Hills history, and he certainly didn't expect to be scouted by USC.

Kim, who has been on Sunny Hills' golf team since his freshman year, has been unofficially recruited by USC since he was 13 years old, and on July 22, he made his verbal commitment to join the Trojan family.

"With the recruiting process, you have an idea of who is looking at you based on things like coaches following you at tournaments, sending questionnaires and following you on Instagram, so I knew USC was looking at me," he said. "But when USC told me that I was their No. 1 recruit, I was actually really surprised and excited."

Per National Collegiate Athletic Association [NCAA] rules, Kim was able to start talking to university golf coaches on June 15, after he completed his sophomore year of high school.

"One reason [I decided to commit to USC] was the coaches and another was the facilities and the state-of-the-art training centers," he said.

"I felt that the coaches were the ones who would be able to guide me to the PGA tour. I also value academics, which USC is strong in."

Ranked 25th in the nation and fifth in California for class ranking, Kim said he practices for about up to 10 hours a day at the Los Coyotes Country Club in Buena Park during the summer with an hour break in the middle of the day for lunch.

Kim said he gives credit to his best



Image printed with permission from Eric Lee

**FORE!:** Junior Eric Lee takes a swing during the July PGA of America in Kentucky, where he tied for second place.



Image printed with permission from Carson Kim

**FOCUSED:** Junior Carson Kim keeps track of his shot during the 2020 Junior Players Championships in Florida.

friend and golf teammate, junior Eric Lee, who he has known since both were 7 years old.

"We really pushed each other to work harder and get better in golf and in life," he said.

At USC, he said his goal is to win the Haskin's Award as well as help the Trojans win a national championship.

"I want to be known as someone who is courageous enough to take risks," Kim said.

## TOP GOLFER SAYS YES TO CAL

Ranked No. 9 overall and first in class ranking.

Nine years into his golf career and a year shy of graduation, junior Eric Lee has already made his verbal commitment to the University of California, Berkeley, over the

summer.

"When I first received contact from Berkeley, I was excited to finally be able to interact with them after being scouted years ago," Lee said, who started hitting the links when he was 7 years old.

To start the process of getting college offers, the junior said he first contacted the Cal Club Golf Team after about two years of that team sending him questionnaires asking for information such as height, weight, resume and grade point average.

Per NCAA rules, Lee said he was able to start talking to the Golden Bear coaches on June 15, after he had completed his sophomore year of high school.

"The coaching staff and golf program that Berkeley provides was the biggest factor in my decision," said the golfer, who made his verbal commitment June 22.

Over the summer, Lee said he practiced at the Los Coyotes Country Club in Buena Park for about 10 hours every day with breaks in between for meals.

Boys and girls golf head coach Scott Enrico also had high praise for his top player.

"When [Lee] told me he committed [to Cal], it felt like one of those proud dad moments," Enrico said.

"Eric has this attitude on the course where nothing is going to stop him, and no one is going to beat him."

During his next two high school seasons, Lee hopes to rank first in the nation, and when he joins the Golden Bears, he hopes to lead Berkeley to an NCAA Division I men's golf championship.

"I hope to become a person that people can look up to and be known for being a positive guy on and off the field," he said.



theaccolade file photo

**ON THE GO:** Defender senior Anika Osborne in an April 20 home game against La Habra. Osborne has made a verbal commitment to play for the girls soccer team at the University of California, Irvine.

## Senior girls soccer player heading to Irvine to join the Anteaters

ALEX LEE

Staff Reporter

Senior Anika Osborne is a legacy student.

Her mom, Christina Osborne, played soccer as a defender for Sunny Hills from 1982-1984. Christina Osborne — along with her older brother, Jaron, also an SH alumnus — introduced Anika Osborne to the sport and by the time she was 6 years old, she was already playing club soccer for the Rangers in Fullerton.

"They pulled her from [the recreation] level and asked her if she wanted to play club, and we didn't know what that was," the mother said. "She loved running around even more than the boys did, so she played, and she learned how to win and how to lose well and with self-esteem regardless."

More than a decade later, her daughter has accomplished another feat that neither of her older family members have ever done.

Anika Osborne verbally committed over the summer to play for the girls soccer team at the University of California, Irvine

[UCI], becoming the first athlete in her family to eventually play for an NCAA Division I soccer program once she officially signs her letter of intent in November.

"I was super excited and accepted it," the girls soccer player said. "I was also scared at the same time, so kind of all emotions were going through."

Other than UCI, the senior said she had received college offers from Utah State and California State University, Fullerton. But what drew her to playing for the Anteaters, who have a 1-2 record in their 38th season as of Thursday, was what they had to offer for the major she wants to pursue.

"UCI has been a dream school of mine ever since I was younger and just the way it leads to medical programs for other opportunities made me finalize my decision," she said.

Girls soccer head coach Jeff Gordon praised his athlete for her versatility on the field.

"Anika is a rarity in that she is both an amazing defender and forward as well," Gordon said. "She can play anywhere on the field and dominate."

Getting a scholarship offer from any

college also means a lot, he said.

"A UCI soccer scholarship means that you are not only a great soccer player, but also a great student," Gordon said. "This is our second player [under Gordon's coaching] to sign with UCI."

Heading into her second year on the team after she had transferred from Rosary Academy in Fullerton in her sophomore year, Anika Osborne celebrated with her teammates in 2020 when they won the Freeway League title, going undefeated.

"It was very exciting to be Freeway League champions last year after being in a dry spell in the league," Anika Osborne said. "This year for CIF, we plan to carry that same determined attitude but hoping that all of our hard work will come out with a better outcome."

*If any other coaches know about verbal college commits among your athletes, contact The Accolade at theaccoladeshhs@gmail.com so our sports team can look into writing more features on our online website.*



For the full story, go to [shhsaccolade.com](http://shhsaccolade.com)

# FALL SPORTS PREVIEWS

## CROSS COUNTRY



AUDREY SEO | theaccolade  
Jaden Wiggs

After finishing third place in the Freeway League during a pandemic-riddled season that started seven months ago, the boys and girls cross country squads hope to improve their league standing this school year while also advancing at CIF meets. The

runners will attend their first invitational at La Serna High School 8:00 a.m. on Sept. 11. The team hopes to increase collective bonding as the sport is both individual and team-oriented.

— Kristima Aryal, *Web EIC*

Last season, the Sunny Hills football team finished second place with a 4-1 Freeway League record — the only loss coming in the last game against La Habra. After winning its 2019 CIF Division 8 title, the team aims to be CIF champions once again

while setting a goal to wrestle the Freeway League title from La Habra. The team will play their next non-league game on Sept. 3 7:00 p.m. against El Modena at Buena Park High School.

— Henry Lee, *Asst. Sports Editor*



AUDREY SEO | theaccolade  
Max Spero

## FOOTBALL

## GIRLS GOLF



KRISTEL LACESTE | theaccolade  
Katie Pyo

The girls finished third in the Freeway League (7-3) last season and qualified for the CIF Team Divisional Championships. The girls golf team tees into the new season with five returning players and one newcomer on the starting lineup. The team also

hopes to advance deeper in the CIF play-offs this season. The Lady Lancers will play their next non-league game on Aug. 31 at 4:10 p.m. against West Covina at La Mirada Golf Course.

— Rachel Yun, *Sports Editor*

The girls tennis team tied second with Fullerton in the Freeway League (6-2-2) last season and made it to the second round of CIF. The team sets foot into season with a powerful singles lineup and consistent doubles teams. The athletes hope to dethrone

Troy in order to win the Freeway League title. The Lady Lancers will play their first preseason game on Sept. 1 at 3:00 p.m. against La Serna at the Sunny Hills tennis courts.

— Henry Lee, *Asst. Sports Editor*



theaccolade file photo  
Natalija Glavy

## GIRLS TENNIS

## GIRLS VOLLEYBALL



REBEKAH KIM | theaccolade  
Dylyn Williams

The girls volleyball team finished Freeway League with a record of 2-6 last season, but no overall standings were given out to the teams. The girls volleyball team hopes to dominate this season by focusing on perfecting the fundamentals. The Lady Lancers

finished Freeway League with a record of 2-6.

The Lady Lancers will play their next non-league game on Aug. 31 at 5:30 p.m. against Brea at the Sunny Hills gym.

— Kristima Aryal, *Web EIC*

The boys water polo team placed fifth with a Freeway League record of 1-6 and finished with 2-6 overall record. With six returning seniors and new underclassmen who are set to make an impact on the starting lineup, the team anticipates making a

run at CIF this year, which means finishing top three in the Freeway League.

The Lancers will play their next away non-league game on Aug. 31 at 4:00 p.m. against Whittier.

— Rachel Yun, *Sports Editor*



KRISTEL LACESTE | theaccolade  
Nathan Kim

## BOYS WATER POLO



For the full previews of football, girls golf and boys water polo go to [shhsaccolade.com](http://shhsaccolade.com).



**Tommy Li**  
Adviser

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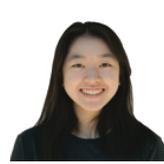
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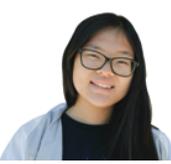
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