

# MONTHLY REPORT

*The latest news and updates from HOPE Community Academy*



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## Talent Show on April 18

*by Esra Ismail and Ntxhais Thao*

An upcoming talent show will take place on April 18th! There will be a day show and a night show. The night show will start at 5:30pm. The talent show is an important and fun event and there will be lots of singing, dancing, magic and instruments. There will also be many performers, so I talked with a few hip hop dancers, Elizabeth Yang and Ntxhais Thao, and I asked about how they felt about the talent show.

Both replied that they are “Nervous to perform in front of a crowd, but am excited to dance and show off all our hard work and talent.”

I also spoke with Andy Xiong, a pianist and an upcoming star. He will be performing a piece that he wrote himself called “Lost Blue.” When I interviewed Andy, I asked about how he felt about the talent show and his reply was similar to the hip hop dancers, but he was pretty confident because he is really experienced at performing.

“I’m nervous to perform in front of everyone but, I’m excited to share my music with the world,” he said. I agree that he is one gifted musician.

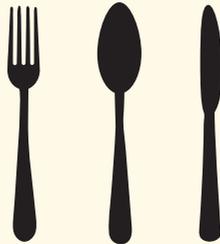
The talent show will have a variety of performers eager to show off all their hard work. The show will be fun and exciting so make sure to support and cheer on our performers!

# Lunch Program at HOPE

by Allisa Lee and Vera Yang

We took a minute to stop down in the school's lunchroom to find out information about breakfast and lunch.

HOPE Community's lunch manager, Mr. Josh Yang, started his job in 2017. His previous manager sent him over to HOPE to be in charge. The people who work in the cafeteria do not decide to make the food list, it is already chosen for them.



"I decided to work here because my previous manager knew that I wanted to be a lunch manager, so he sent me here," said Mr. Josh.

Every month, lunch will be different because it rotates. The food is pretty healthy on the food plate.

"At first, once you get used to it, I think it gets easier [to manage] day after day," he said.

## Sports a Tremendous Success at HOPE in 2018-19

by Moua Pao Lee

The spring sports season has arrived at HOPE as badminton and flag football start soon. Coaching these activities will be Mr. Vang (badminton), Mr. Grover (badminton), Mrs. Sabby (flag football), and Mr. Michael (flag football).

Ms. Benecke, the Physical Education Teacher, says the year has been fantastic.

"It's gone very well," she said. "More kids played this year than ever before."

The eight different sports at HOPE this year are soccer, volleyball, boys/girls basketball, cheerleading, badminton, flag football, and Hmong dance.

"I love watching kids in all grades grow and improve," Benecke said.



# Teacher Spotlight

by Allisa Lee, Vera Yang, Ashley Thao, & Moua Pao Lee



**Mr. Skalicky**, the 5th grade math teacher, loves to see growth of student development. He enjoys seeing students again from the previous years. Mr. Skalicky has grown up in the Twin Cities.

"I decided to become a teacher about 10 years ago. Before becoming a teacher, I worked as a para-professional," Skalicky said. "I enjoy working with kids, so I decided to go back to school and learn more to about becoming a teacher."

Mr. Skalicky is also HOPE's coach for girls' and boys' basketball. He really loves basketball. He had got this opportunity by the P.E teacher, Ms. Benecke. Mr. Skalicky also in enjoys teaching as a coach.



Mr. Skalicky

Ms. Aly

**Ms. Aly** has been a counselor for more than five years, but has worked at HOPE for almost two. We asked her how she feels about sad students. She went on to tell us that she "Loves this job, and can make a big impact on a child's life." A 5th grade student, who has spent lots of time with with Ms. Aly, had some really wonderful things to say.

"She's really helpful, kind, and generous," she said.

If you would like to speak with Ms. Aly, you can find her in room 160.

# MCA Testing Can Be Stressful For Students

by Allisa Lee and Vera Yang

The MCA's (Minnesota Comprehension Assessment) for 3rd-8th graders, starts on April 15 for Reading and Math. Fifth through eighth graders will test on April 30th and May 1st. Newspaper Club decided to ask a third grade student, and a few eighth graders how they feel about the MCA's.

"I think that I'm doing to do fine," said Olivia Vue, a third grader.

An eighth grade boy named Lavee Yang said, "It's cool, but hard at the same time."

Other students said, "I'll be nervous at first and it might be difficult to do." The MCA at HOPE assesses where students are at in the learning process.



# Conferences Wrap Up in 2019

By Ywa Hay Say and Dee Wah



An annual school board meeting happened on Thursday, February 28. We spoke with Mr. Grover, who is on the board, and he told us what staff members do at the meeting. He said that they meet up once a month with seven members and talk about what they should do for school.

HOPE Community School held annual conferences on March 20th and 26th. A few staff members spoke about how they prepare or how they handle these days.

Mr. Grover, the technology teacher, told us what he does for conferences.

“I love to have students come in and show parents their work,” he said.

Ms. Sabby, one of the middle school ELA teachers stated, “I print all my student grade sheets and I also look through and write down their past test scores, especially since it’s spring.”

She cleans her room and talks about what the students should do to improve in school. Ms. Sabby does a great job helping her kids to improve with their work.

## HOPE's Young Artists Inspire Others

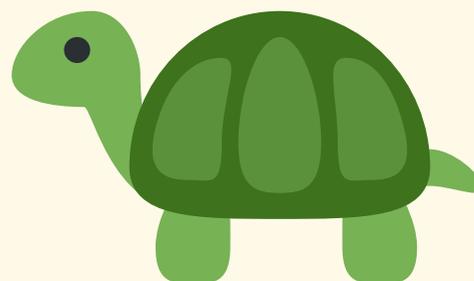
by Moua Pao Lee and Ashley Thao

First grade student, Tyson Yang, and second grade student Sincear Lor drew some beautiful turtles for us. Little kids’ drawing proves that even young people can be artistic.

Thanks to our art teacher, Mr. Yeej, for inspiring and supporting the kids at HOPE to draw what they like. He makes sure they have fun while they learn.

“Having these kids draw what they like makes them happy, and our school happy, because if the kids at HOPE are happy, it makes the directors and teachers happy,” said Mr. Yeej.

Young kids can draw as well as some adults!



# Spring Break Arrives

By Ywa Hay Say and Dee Wah



Spring Break is happening on April 1st through the 5th, so we interviewed three people from our school to find out what they'll be doing during their time off.

The first person we asked was fifth grade teacher Mrs. Ronning, who said "I'm going to Orlando Florida." She's also going with her husband and hoping she will have fun in the sun.



Ywao Soh, a seventh grader, said "I'm going to hang out with my friends and family." He will make sure to sleep well, then he said he's going to have fun.

Eh Htoo, a first grader, said "I'm going to my niece and nephew's house."

School resumes on Monday, April 8.

## Story Ideas?

Do you have a story idea for our next newsletter? Let us know and stop by room 208 or email Mr. Haas at [kevinhaas@hope-school.org](mailto:kevinhaas@hope-school.org)

