

MONTHLY REPORT

The latest news and updates from HOPE Community Academy



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STUDENT GOVERNMENT BEGINS

by Ywa Hay Say and Kylie Vang

This year there is student government at HOPE Community Academy. The program helps students to hear their own voices heard by representatives around the school.

Grace, a 7th grader, said, "I wanted to run for Vice President because I want to experience leadership and grow my leadership towards my peers and the little children."

Mrs.Stark, a middle school teacher, said the goal of student government is to be a leader in the school and implement different events and fundraisers."You can expect fundraisers, middle school events, and other activities," she said. "I help students by assisting them plan events and further grow their unique ideas."

Esra, an 8th grader and the president of the student body said, "It's very hard to convince Dr.Lee, we have to do lots of proposals."

Student government plans dances and does their best to make school a better place.

FALL CONFERENCES HAVE ARRIVED

by Dee Wah and Kyaw Khu

Parents and teachers rarely see each other throughout each school year. During conferences, teachers get a chance to speak to parents about grades. Teachers tell parents if a student is doing good or bad.

Middle school social studies teacher, Mrs. Stark, knows how to get ready for the annual event.



“I hand out the grade sheet, report any concerns to the parent, and make a plan to ensure they have good grades in the future,” she said. Conferences will take place from 4-8 PM on Wednesday, November 6, and Thursday, November 14.

HALLOWEEN DANCE DAZZLES STUDENTS

by Titus Vue and Htee Hser

A spooky and scary dance happened at the school gym on Friday, October 25. At the dance, students were hanging out together and taking pictures.

“It was great to see all the costumes that the students were wearing,” said Mr. Haas, a middle school teacher.

The kids received treats including cookies, chips, candy and juice. Overall, most kids we spoke with enjoyed themselves.

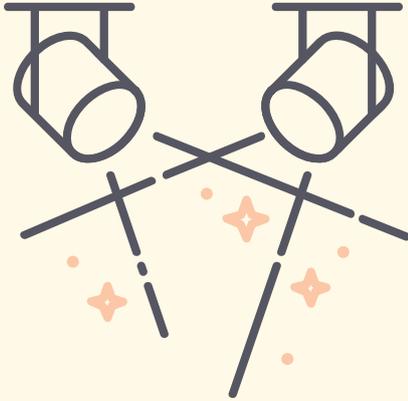
“My playlist certainly was a big hit, so I was pretty proud of that,” said Ms. Carlson, the middle school EL extraordinaire.

New this year was a photo booth. Next year, things are sure to be even better.



Teacher Spotlight

By Tah Due Nah Moo, Kortez Khang,
Toumeng Yang, Isaiah Xiong



Some people think **Mrs. Ahrens** has been here forever, but she hasn't. She's worked at Hope Community Academy for eight years. In the past, Mrs. Ahrens has worked at a job she hated and was lucky to get out of.

"I worked for a school in South Minneapolis that I did not like working at all," said Mrs. Ahrens. "The students were very very disrespectful and it was very very stressful, and it was a 45 minute one way from home, so I spent a lot of time in my car which made me very, very sad."

Mrs. Ahrens has a husband and four kids (3 girls and 1 boy). One of the girls got married this year! Her favorite grade to teach is 8th because she loves to teach Algebra 1. Out of all the teachers I think she is one of the most persistent on making students learn. She's always asking if anyone needs help, and she's always explaining easy routes to equations. She also gives out different ways to solve problems. In all, she is a very respectful person who feels lucky to be teaching in this school.

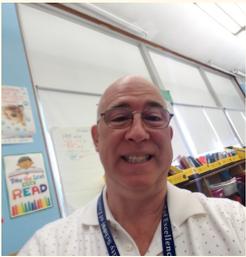
This month we talked to **Mr. Robertson** about his life in and outside of the school's walls. Mr. Robertson, 61, lives in St. Paul with his wife and daughter. He really likes teaching because of his students.

"I like interacting with young adults and making them feel success," he said.

One thing Mr. Robertson likes outside of school is to play golf, and his best score is an 88. Sorry to say Mr. R, but Tiger Woods averages about 68! Mr. Robertson says he'd like to finish his career at HOPE.

"I'll be here until I retire," he said.

Mr. R also has a daughter in second grade here at school. Stop into Room 202 to say hi sometime!



Mr. Roberston



Mrs. Ahrens

Lunch Nuggets

by Hope Chu-Yang-Heu

Students may think they pay lots for their own lunches, but really we don't pay much. In fact, we pay just \$2.98 per day. Our lunches are pretty cheap because some HOPE families are at low-income levels.

Mr. Skalicky thinks that our lunches are healthy enough for us and that the lunch staff puts the right amount of healthy food in our meals. Some students I spoke with think this isn't true, however.

A typical lunch for us might be salad, pizza, and milk. We asked Dr. Lee, the school Principal, how he felt about letting students bring their own lunches in the future.

"I don't mind as long as it's easier for us to come to school ready," he said.



UNIFORM POLICY IS HERE TO STAY

by Annabella Yang and Ler PwelHsee

Some of us have different opinions on uniforms. Some of us like it, some of us don't.

When asking Dr. Lee, our Principal, about the uniforms and why we have them, he said, "It's for us to identify as a school."

His quote means that we should stay together as a group.

"We should focus our attention on academics," Dr. Lee said.



"I'd like to listen to what the students want to wear," he said. "Now we have student leaders (student government), I'd like to listen to what they want to see. Maybe we can have a different style."

So who knows, we may not get rid of uniforms, but we might be able to convince him to try a new style!

FEATURE: LIFE OF A TEACHER

by Phoenix Yang

"Life as a teacher is completely AMAZING!" said Mrs. Sabby, one of the middle school ELA teachers.

Morning routine is the most difficult for a teacher because they generally wake up around 5 AM. When Sabby wakes up in the morning, she always blow dries her hair, simply because it won't always be wet. If it's not dried, she will be cold all day long.

When she gets to school, she gets all of the papers ready for the morning classes. Coffee always helps Mrs. Sabby because it keeps her awake.

When Mrs. Sabby taught her first year at HCA, she was very nervous but excited to see her students.

"The 7th Graders were extremely quiet in my first year so I just wondered if they'd ever speak," Sabby said. That must've been really awkward!

Teachers always try to do their best each day.

"I really love all of the students, I just try to give my best effort," Sabby said.

Besides teaching, Mrs. Sabby is also a coach for volleyball, basketball, and flag football. Students think she is an amazing person who is very compatible and who loves teaching ELA. Mrs. Sabby is a person who loves cooperating with others just by volunteering out of nowhere. She is a very creative person and this is shown each day through her teaching!



MRS. CURRAN STARTS AS P.E. TEACHER

by Ava Hang and Emilio Guerra

Mrs. Curran started at HOPE on August 28th, 2019. She's the new Physical Education teacher and sometimes covers for classes. She likes playing volleyball, going to concerts, and trying new restaurants. She teaches P.E. and is the Sports Programs Director. With an office in the library and working in the gym, she is doing quite well.

Improving games and how students practice are just a few things she wants to help. She is also in charge of hiring coaches to lead the teams. Before HOPE, she taught at two different schools.

She was also the assistant varsity volleyball coach, and 7th grade basketball coach. Mrs. Curran wants to change the games to be more organized and would love to see all grades improve.

"In the future, I would like to have grade level teams play away or home, not both teams at home or both teams away," Mrs. Curran said.

"I think at the middle school level, everyone needs improvement, but that is why we join sports. It helps work on our skills and continue them!"



Volleyball Team Crushes It

by Skylar Vang

HOPE's volleyball team has been doing great!

"We won so many games this year," said Mrs. Sabby, the team's coach. Many of the students play because they love the game so much.

"It's a really fun sport, it helps you with communication," said Grace Lee, a 7th grader. The team had more wins than losses this season.

