

The TigerScot

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The Balance Between School and Job is Tough in the Best of Times

Opinion By Marcus Hungerford

Waking up at 6:30, getting ready to go through seven classes with very few breaks is hard work, especially when not including participation in extracurriculars. Now imagine a job being added to the stress of all this. The question then is whether or not students should have jobs while still attending high school? This is a hard question to answer!

People get jobs for a variety of reasons. Even while still in school some students get jobs because they acquire cars or they're buying other things. There are conflicting issues with this though. The stress of school is already too much for some students and a job can be even more stressful. Along with the factor of stress there is time. A job can take up quite a bit of time and possibly affect your grades if you lose time used for studying and homework. Another con side of having a job during school is it takes over participation in sports. Having a job will for sure get in the way of extracurricular activities. There are however many pros to having a job.

One of the pros to having a job includes having money for a car. Owning a car requires having insurance and also money for gas. Both can stack up quickly. There is also the fact that having some money on the side is needed because there are more events and things a person can do with their friends like attending the movies, going on a trip, and even going to dinner. Another good side to having a job is also that it helps to prepare someone for the real world and how it works.

A job can teach responsibility and work ethic, both very useful and needed skills in this modern society. Having a job can help a person earn money to go to college. College can be somewhat spendy, so having some extra money put away is definitely a good idea.

I have personal experience with working and going to school. Working while still going to school of course has its stressful moments but it's all about planning and managing the time wisely. Once you get a car a job is needed unless your parents pay for it. I wanted the responsibility of paying for it all myself so I got a job and have been trying to prepare myself the best I can for the real world.

It all depends on the person as to whether getting a job while still in school is too stressful or not.

A Thanksgiving Poll By Matthew Shafer

Why do we celebrate Thanksgiving and why do we eat turkey on Thanksgiving? These are probably questions that others have as well!

The answers to these questions goes way back when the pilgrims came over from England. According to Wikipedia, when the pilgrims on the Mayflower came over to America they befriended the Indians. The Indians taught the pilgrims how to survive. The pilgrims wanted to give thanks to God for helping them. To celebrate they invited the Indians to have a feast. Some things they eat were venison, corn, fowl, and birds. However, historians are at odds on whether or not the pilgrims had turkey.

Today most people eat turkey on Thanksgiving because, according to Jeff Cattel, "Chicken and cows were more valuable to keep around for their eggs and milk than turkeys, which were farmed and hunted for their meat. Plus, one

full-grown turkey was large enough to feed a family.” This why turkey has been in the dinner table on thanksgiving.



The table is set for Thanksgiving dinner! Picture by Matthew Shafer

After polling WMHS students, the number one meal was turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, and beans. The next popular meal varied because this was a write in option and students used it. The third most popular meal was bacon, sausage, garlic bread, and chicken. The fourth most popular was ham, hamburger casserole, cornbread, and pudding. The fifth popular was lasagna, dumpling soup, vegetable mix, and rolls.

Today most people prefer the original Thanksgiving meal that the pilgrims and the Indians may have enjoyed all those years ago.

Recipe for the Holidays

By Destiny Warnekin

Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's: all are great holidays that offer many chances to eat good food! Following are some great holiday recipes to try—bake some good food for your families and watch them smile in appreciation!

Peanut Butter Cookie Bowls

Ingredients:

- 1 pouch Betty Crocker™ peanut butter cookie mix
 - Water, oil and egg called for on cookie mix pouch
 - 1 bag (10 oz) dark chocolate chips
 - Ice cream and toppings, as desired
- Watch Video

Directions:

Heat oven to 350°F Place muffin pan(s) on work surface face down, and spray bottom(s) with cooking spray.

Make cookie dough as directed on pouch.

Roll 2 tablespoons dough into ball, and press down lightly to flatten and shape ball on upside-down muffin cup.

Repeat with remaining dough, skipping every other muffin cup.

Bake for 8 to 10 minutes or until slightly browned. Let cool on pan, then gently remove. These are the “cups.”

Place chocolate chips in microwavable bowl.

Microwave uncovered on High in 30-second increments, stirring after each increment, until chocolate can be stirred smooth.

Use a pastry brush to brush the insides of the “cups” with chocolate. Let cool at room temperature or in the freezer, then fill with ice cream and toppings.

OSAA Rankings Explained

By Dylan Cain

If you're wondering what rank your school is in a specific sport, you'd usually go to the OSAA website and check. There have always been conflicts on which team's should've been ranked higher and lower. People are always wondering how teams are ranked. It's not just an educated guess.

The teams rank represents their place within their classification. Classes start from the biggest schools at 6A, then to 5A, to 4A, to 3A, 2A, ending with the smallest schools ranked as 1A. According to an article titled "OSAA Rankings Frequently Asked Questions" a team's rank depends on Colley Rating and RPI Rating (Rating percentage Index). The Colley method of calculating team ratings is done by using a matrix to solve a big system of linear equations. A matrix, M , is filled with a count of games every team has played against every other team in the same classification. A right hand side vector of win, loss, and tie records, B , is the solution of the matrix M multiplied by a ratings vector X , which determines your Colley Ranking.

On the other hand, the team's RPI is found using a basic formula which has to do with two weighted variables.

The first variable is a team's Weighted Winning Percentage (WWP) which is multiplied by 35%. The second variable is the team's Opponents' Winning Percentage (OWP) which is weighted at 65%. This is commonly referred to as the teams' strength of schedule. Factors included are wins, losses, ties, and location of the contest (home, neutral, or away.) Score differential, coaches/media polls, and rewards/penalties for playing teams outside one's classification are not a part of the OSAA

RPI system. This gives you your RPI Ranking. These stats determine your place in your classification, and if you qualify for State Playoffs. All that for a rank in your state classification!

There you have it! Calculations, biases, and ratios. Visit www.OSAA.org to find your team/schools ranking!



The official seal of the Oregon School Activities Association, taken from their website.

Electives Are a Needed Part of Our Curriculum

By Adie Olson

In this day of age, electives have never been so important. Electives are courses that are picked by the students, but some electives fulfill requirements to graduate.

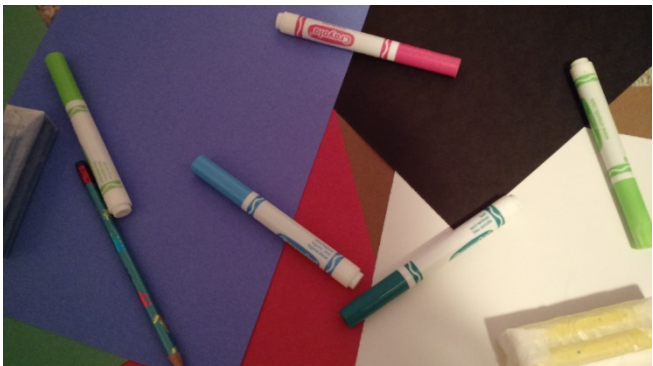
Taking electives are a great way to pursue your passions, and figure out new passions. Studies have shown that music and art are just as important as core classes.

Virginia Penhune, of Concord University, conducted a study on the early development of students. And her studies showed that children under seven who received music

lessons have stronger connections to the brain. But in some schools, the arts programs are wiped completely.

Even though arts are just as important as core classes, they are always put on the back burner. And that is unfair to the kids who need and want an outlet to do arts. For the kids who are constantly stressed out about school, electives can really help. Mary Bagdon, junior, believes that electives are a good thing. She says that they give students the ability to learn new things and have fun. And she also believes that children need them for a well-rounded education.

Electives are supposed to be enjoyable as they given kids a chance to do different things and the kids has chosen them. They allow students to break away from the core classes and have fun. When you pour into something that's not a core class people don't tend to be as stressed as if in a core class.



Electives are a great way to express yourself! Photo by Adrienne Olson

There are some students that skip electives so they can take AP or honors courses. It is the student's choice but too many academic classes may ruin a person's time in school.

Even though most electives don't get you college credit and sometimes people don't believe that they are as important as core classes, electives are equally important. In the end, what the student does in high school is up to them. But they can either be

stressed out all of the time, or maybe learn something new while having some fun along the way.

Halloween Was a Big Success @ WMHS

By Megan Phillips

At Weston McEwen High School on Halloween, the school was filled with zombies, cats, and witches- all costumed students of course! The school hosted a dress up day for the students to celebrate the spooky spirit of Halloween. Many creative costumes were seen around the school, including Krysta Calvert, junior, and her realistic zombie makeup and Ashley Swafford, sophomore and her comical "deviled" egg costume; even some of the staff got involved with this holiday.

Students enjoy being able to dress up because it gives them the opportunity to do something fun and different at school- it's not just another boring day with the same old classes. Samantha Ford, junior, thought that "it was nice to have the opportunity to dress up for the day." Ashley Hill, senior, enjoys dressing up because "it's fun! You can express your feelings! I like to be able to be young again even though we're in high school. Some of our childhood is still there!"

Matthew Shafer, sophomore, also liked Halloween dress up, and said that "It was exciting to see everyone's costumes."

Students look forward to next year's dress up days and we hope everyone had a Happy Halloween!



Keree "Baby Deer" Graves, Matthew "Holy Cow!" Shafer and Krysta "Roundhouse Kick to the Face" Calvert dressed up for Halloween. Photo by Megan Phillips.

Are Teenagers Too Old to Trick-or-Treat...or Sit on Santa's Lap...or Gather Easter Eggs?

Opinion by Erykah Barahona

It's Halloween. Imagine opening the door to another adult fully dressed in a costume, their bag held out for candy. Some say Halloween is just for kids, but some may disagree. Back then, trick-or-treating was meant for young kids, but recently, more and more teenagers and young adults are participating each year.

It may seem unacceptable since Halloween is a kids' holiday, but there are other holidays where adults participate. Some examples include Christmas where presents are exchanged. But, according to Mrs. McIntyre, "Adults should not be sitting on Santa's lap or go Easter egg hunting."

Of course not, but there is a difference of sitting on an old man's lap and trick or treating. But people have their own versions of fun.

In today's pressured-filled society, kids are being forced to grow up quickly. Once a certain age, generally 7-8th grade, they are told they can no longer participate in their childhood

tradition; we've probably all heard our moms or dads say, "You are too old to trick or treat". Yet, one of parents' main priorities is to keep their child feeling as young as possible. By not allowing them to continue their childhood moments, they are putting strain on their kids.

Older middle schoolers and high school students should be able to go door-to-door, collecting candy. Of course there is an age limit. There's a difference between a 15 year old getting candy and 40-year-old, but some disagree with this. According to sophomore Christal Fisher, "You are never too old if you have spirit."



Erykah's Cheshire Cat Pumpkin on the left and Morgan's scary pumpkin on the right. Photo by Erykah Barahona.

Holidays like Halloween give older kids and teens a break from stress and let them have fun". While many teens are doing drugs and partying on Halloween, some teens simply just want to have fun dressing up. They could buy their own candy, but where's the fun in that? If they are in the Halloween mindset and spirit don't rain on their parade!