8th Grade Creative Writing Staff

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Ziggy, Official Husky of "What's New?"

What's New at NMS?

STUCO ACTIVITIES KEEP US ALL WARM DURING WINTER

By Brynn Sellers and Londynn Clifton

Do you like all the fun activities that student council does for our school? Do you feel our school wouldn't be the same without all the fun? Meet the people who make it all happen!

You all know Mrs. Baker. She is the one who plans and organizes most of our school activities. She took over Student Council 5 years ago, and is loving it. She started because she enjoys interacting with students in ways that allow them to give back to their classmates and their community. She says, "It's a purposeful way to help young people think beyond themselves and develop empathy for others." Her favorite part of student council is that she gets to watch a diverse group of students come together with a shared goal: to leave their school and community better than they found it! Her favorite activities for student council are planning the eight grade formal and CURRENTLY getting Masked Singer ready for us! Before Mrs. Baker was in charge of student council, Mrs. Thimke was the advisor. Mrs. Baker also wanted to add that she appreciates the staff and their willingness to help. Mrs. Baker encourages all of you to stay involved in our upcoming and current school activities.

Next, we interviewed Mrs. Hoyt, another STUCO advisor, and asked her a few questions. She said that she has been teaching for 6 years and helping with student council for 3. When asked what her favorite part of being involved is, she said she likes all the positivity that it brings to the building. She said her main role is just helping out wherever is needed. We wondered why she started and she said that she started because of Mrs. Baker. Did you know they are best friends? Anyway Mrs. Hoyt also said to stay involved in the school activities!!!

The third person we interviewed was Ms. Lawrence. She is the maker/artist of student council crafts. Ms. Lawrence started because she said that it is fun to do things with the kids. The hardest thing she makes is usually the decorations for the 8th grade formal. Her favorite creation she has ever made is the elephant and lion that she made last year for the formal. Ms. Lawrence said that she has been doing this for a couple years. She doesn't have a least favorite part because she likes everything she does, but working concession stands would be her least favorite if she had to do them. Like all the other advisors before her, she said stay involved!

If you see them around the building say thanks to them! They do so much work for us to have a fun school year. Thank you to all of the people who help out with STUCO!!







Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Hoyt, Ms. Lawrence

NEW SUBSTITUTE NURSE: NURSE AMY!

By Evie Stowers

Nurse Amy started substituting for school nurses in Buffalo, New York. She had offered to help the nurse at the charter school, EVCS, and they were excited to have extra help! She substituted there for five years before moving back to her hometown, Norwalk.

When asked what type of nurse she is, she answered that she was an RN. RN means Registered Nurse. She went to the University of Cincinnati and got her bachelors in science and nursing.

Nurse Amy's favorite thing about being a school nurse is helping kids take care of themselves. She's substituted a few times here at Norwalk, and she said she loves her coworkers and the teachers that work here. It's a great environment!

If you ever see her in the hallways, make sure to say hello!

MS. GUTHRIE'S KIDS ARE GAMERS!!!

By Londynn Clifton and Brynn Sellers

We went down to Ms. Guthrie's room a couple times to play some games. We played regular Uno on one day and then decided to step up our game with Uno No Mercy!

We played Uno with Aiden, Maddie, and Kaitlyn. It was more fun in their classrooms than it is in ours. All of their personalities are SO fun to be around! In our first game Aiden won. In our second round of UNO we didn't get to finish but it was between Brynn and Aiden, looks like Aiden has some natural UNO skills!

When we came back the next day we played UNO NO MERCY! Sadly, Maddie got 28 cards so she was out. But, everyone else kept playing and they weren't going easy. They were playing all of their +10's, +6's, +4's, and +2's against us. We had many plays where somebody had to draw 12+ cards! Someone even had to draw 40!! We were having so much fun, but we were cut short on time.

Londynn and I both hope to go back and play many more games with our friends in Ms. Guthrie's class!

JARETT IS A STRONG FRIEND

By Mason Mckeefer

I interviewed Jarett Strong. His special talent is that he can play bass guitar. His favorite subject is History because it's interesting. His favorite teacher is Mr. Bement because he is super funny. When I asked him what he looks forward to in high school he said, "To get college applications". He wants to go to Ohio State University. Jarett wants to live in the Midwest. Jarett wants to get a business degree. He wants to work in a business when he gets older.

Jarett likes to play video games when he gets home because it helps him relax. Jarett's favorite video game is Fortnite because it helps him unwind after school. Jarett's favorite thing to do with his family is go on vacation because he likes to spend time with his family.



Jarett enjoys playing trumpet in the school band. His favorite part of band are the trips because he likes to explore places.

Jarett wants to be a truck driver because he wants to explore the country. Jarett looks up to his dad because his dad is a truck driver. Jarett's favorite part of history is World War II, because it was the most advanced war for its time.

Don't be afraid to say "Hey" to Jarett when you see him around. He's a big dude, but he's a teddy bear at heart.

STUCO HELPED PUT TOGETHER A FUN REWARD DAY

By Andrew Palacios Mendez

I interviewed Brynn Sellers, Ethan Jones, and Londynn Clifton about the pep assembly and their time in Student Council. Firstly, I asked them what their favorite part about the pep assembly was. Brynn said her favorite part was the Trucker Awards because she likes seeing who the teachers thought deserved the award. Londynn said, ”My favorite part was speaking in front of people because it's fun to do and I like to work on my social skills”. Ethan said that his favorite part of the assembly was introducing the basketball team because his friends are on the team.

Next I asked them how long they have been in STUCO. Ethan said he has been in for one year. Brynn has been in the student council for one year.

Then I asked them what they like about STUCO. Brynn answered that she likes doing and making all the activities. Londynn said,” I like having a say in what happens in the school”. Ethan said, "I like coming up with ideas for the school”. Lastly I asked them if they are going to do student council next year. Ethan said that he is planning on signing up next year because he enjoyed doing it this year. Brynn and Londynn are both going to sign up for student council in high school next year because they like being in Student Council.

FUTURE INNOVATORS/FUTURE LEADERS

By Emma Holbrook

The Future Innovators Robotics Club has three different teams: The Coding Pirates, The Quackers, and The Dominating Emperors. They are a private robotics club team and have done well with the program the three years they have been doing it.

The Coding Pirates decided to make their team because they weren’t accepted in the school one. They have done fairly well this season and beat their previous personal record by 100 points. Their team works together well with good teamwork, but they need some improvements with dealing with stress at tournaments. They are going to state this year because they won the teamwork, skills, and amaze awards this season.

The Quakers are one of their newer teams. They decided to make their own team because there was limited support from past coaches. Their team works fairly well together but they have some problems and eventually work them out. They have done fairly well but they have had a bit of a time crunch. They made it to state for their first competition with the design award from their notebook. They also said they like their coach and the team is very hardworking.

The Dominating Emperors are their third team. They made this team because the school did not accept them this year. They work really well but they definitely have arguments. But they figure it out eventually. They have not made it to state yet but are hopeful because they are good at the skills part of competitions. The team enjoys robotics and are thankful for Future Innovators to get more practice and like they have more support if they have problems.



The Future Innovators

KYA KREISCHER WINS THE PUZZLE CONTEST!

By Krista Bergman and Layla Koch



Krista and I interviewed Kya Kriescher after winning the Puzzle Page Contest. We first asked Kya what her favorite puzzle or riddle to solve was. She replied by saying the word search was her favorite because they are simple, fun and easy to solve. We then asked her if she had a strategy for completing the page. Kya explained that she did not have a specific strategy, but she did try to focus on solving one puzzle at a time. She said it really helped her! We also asked her what she thought the hardest puzzle or riddle to solve was. Kya answered by saying the last riddle (the hard level riddle) was the hardest in her opinion. She said it was very tricky, and she was stuck on it for a long time. At the end of the interview, we asked Kya if there was any other type of puzzle she wished could have been included. She shared that she wished there was a crossword puzzle. She said they are her favorite type of puzzle.

Don't forget to check out this week's Valentine's Day themed puzzle page! We have new riddles, word searches, and mazes! When finished, make sure to turn it in to Mr. Bement's room (305) to receive a special prize!

"ZOOTOPIA 2" IS A LOT OF FUN

By Londynn Clifton and Brynn Sellers

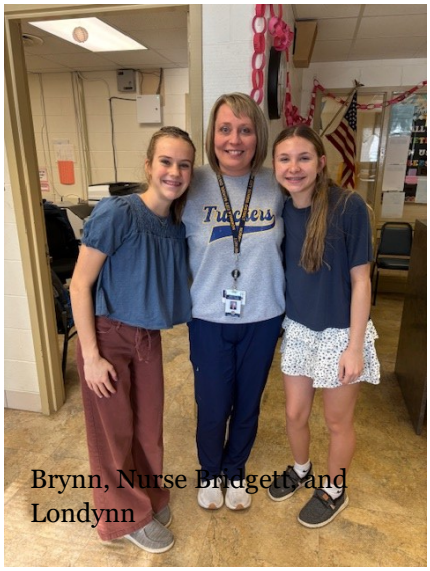
Brynn and I went to watch Zootopia 2 in the theaters a couple weeks ago. Judy and Nick meet new friends after becoming a rookie cop duo. But they have a problem, they can't go to the gala they need to attend to catch someone.

Is Judy and Nick's chemistry enough to prove themselves once more? The fugitives are on the run, could something good happen? Get ready for plot twists and high stakes. We both loved this comedy and we are sure you will too! If you're planning on watching this, be ready for a bumpy ride!



#NURSELIFE

By Brynn Sellers and Londynn Clifton



Brynn, Nurse Bridgett, and Londynn

We went to interview Nurse Bridgett in her room past the office. We asked her what schools she has worked at and for how long. She said she has only worked at Norwalk and she has been here for 4 going on 5 years. For the first part of the day she is at the high school and in the second half of the day she is with us at the middle school! However, before she was a school nurse she delivered babies for 20 years.

We both know nurses have to go to school for a while, and she went for 4 years at the University of Toledo. She has always wanted to be a nurse which is what makes her special to our school. The most common diagnosis she sees is dizziness and lightheadedness. She says kids need to EAT BREAKFAST AND DRINK WATER! In her free time Nurse Bridgett goes to her kids' sporting events which to her, "Is life."

CHEER TEAM SHOWS A LOT OF SPIRIT

By April Aguilera

The Norwalk Middle School Cheerleading team has competed at many competitions including state, placing sixth at the OHSCCA state competition. The next and last competition they compete at is the Ashland University on February 15th. The team puts in a lot of hard work at practice to get first place.

Lily Miller on the 7th grade cheer team was interviewed first. Lily describes to us that her favorite skill is a standing tuck because it seems like a cool trick, while her least favorite skill is any type of handspring because they hurt her wrists. This is Lily's first year cheering. She had gotten into cheer by getting invited to mini cheer. Her favorite competition was the Firelands cheer competition because she felt like everyone did really well and had fun as a team. Lily wants to accomplish getting her full by freshman year. When she had first started she knew she was going to get far with it.

We got to interview Allie Wiegel on the 7th grade cheerleading team. Allie's favorite skill is back handsprings because she's good at it, her least favorite is a pike jump because she is not good at it. She had gotten into cheer because others have told her to try out for it. She's been doing it for two years now. Her favorite competition was Firelands because her team had done really well and had good energy throughout. Allie wants to accomplish her back tuck in upcoming years. She did not think she would be where she is now in just two years.

The third person we got to interview was Kylie Johnson. Her favorite skill is toe touch because it is her best jump. Her least favorite skill is left hurdler because it is her worst jump. Kylie has been cheering since the first year of mini cheer. She wanted to try something new so she chose cheer that is what got her into cheer. Her favorite competition is Midview because they won. Something Kylie wants to accomplish in the upcoming years is her back handspring. Kylie did not think she would be where she was when she first started cheer.

The last person we interviewed was Alivia Darovich. Her favorite skill is round off back handspring tuck because it is fun to do. Her least favorite skill is standing back tuck because it is hard. Alivia has been cheering for 8 years. Her mom got her to try cheer. Something she wants to accomplish later on is getting her full. She did think she would be where she is now because she puts in the effort and practices.

NMS WRESTLING HAS BEEN GREAT!

By: Dhruvin Bhatt and Ryker Crumrine

We interviewed Carter Pelton for NMS wrestling and he has been doing great. We asked him how his season has been going and he said,"Good, and I only lost one match and won 14." We asked him what his favorite match was in the season so far and he said, it was his match against Clyde because his opponent was really competitive and the game was intense. We also asked him how he did at his tournament last week and he said, "I placed first and did pretty good." He loves wrestling and it is one of his favorite sports. Lastly, his favorite things about wrestling are winning matches and meeting new people. He has wrestled for three years in total, one year being with AAU and two years with Norwalk.

We interviewed Evelyn Nestor for NMS wrestling and she said that her season has been going good. She said her best match was when she was wrestling someone from Avon and she was losing but came back and pinned him! In her tournament last week she didn't place because of a neck injury, which was devastating. But she placed first in the last tournament. She said that she likes wrestling and it is cool. And her favorite part is winning and being aggressive. She has been wrestling for two years and all for Norwalk's Middle School.

Wrestling has been going great for Norwalk and they are improving so much!





Pelton and Nestor anchor the NMS Wrestling team.

DREAMING OF BRAZIL

An original story by Sofia Skolyak

He stood in the garage with his wife, laughing as they held two darts. In front of them was a world map, taped in the middle of the wall, colorful with the beauties of the world. They both held the dart together, giggling without a care. With a swift throw it stuck into the map, landing on a green country. They walked over to the dart, looking closer to see where it had landed. Brazil, vast and bright. It was perfect.

They already started planning the trip, booking tickets, buying new clothes, and calling off work. They jittered with excitement together for weeks until the day came. They got on a plane and started their flight. They laughed and talked the whole way until the plane landed at their destination. They left the airport, bags in tow as they stepped outside. They marveled at the beauty. Tall trees, beautiful buildings, the sound of seagulls in the distance. Their trip truly had started. They went all over the country, staying at different hotels, exploring beaches, rainforest, hiking trails. Life was perfect.

Then he woke up. He looked over at his nightstand, staring at the photo next to it of his wedding. Next to the photo was a ceramic jar with his wife's name engraved in it. Their photo album lay underneath it, dust building up on the cover.

THE LAST PASSENGER

An original story by Evie Stowers

The plane flashed red. Static crackled overhead from the speakers as a warbly voice tried to speak. Bits of words came through, and my ears strained to hear.

"....plane failing....left engine not working...remain calm...please grab a parachute...we're lucky we carry parachutes– also–"

The voice cut out. Panic rippled throughout the people, voices crying out in fear. All of a sudden, everyone stood up at the same time, crowding an area where I assumed the parachutes were. My heart pounded against my ribcage.

I was travelling solo, planning on meeting my parents in California. But now, I wasn't so sure I'd see them as soon as I thought.

"Please make a single file line! We need to make this as orderly as possible!" A woman's voice called out, and it took me a minute for my eyes to find her. She was a short and portly woman, with her forehead creased in concern and worry.

The line stretched to the back of the plane, and I realized a minute too late to get into the line. I ended up being dead last. I felt as if someone shoved a cotton ball down my throat.

The small, forty-person plane swerved to the right, and I gripped a seat to stay standing. The line thinned out, and people sat back down with their parachutes.

A smart-looking man, two people in front of me, craned his head backwards, his eyes searching as if he was counting.

"Oh no," I saw his lips form the words. I couldn't hear him, but I read his lips. "Quiet!" he shouted. No one listened. Babies bawled their eyes out and parents shushed them with sad faces. Some adults were crying. "I said," the man heaved in a huge breath, "*Be quiet!*"

The plane immediately became silent, and the man's voice quivered as he spoke. "I am sorry to say this..." He looked around the plane. Then, his eyes focused on mine. "There are thirty-eight people in this plane, including the pilots and assistants." There was dead silence, and it seemed everyone was holding their breath. "But there's only thirty-seven parachutes."

My heart dropped as I realized.

I was the thirty-eighth person.

PEP ASSEMBLY FEEDBACK

By Connor Hoffman

During the pep assembly, I asked some students in the crowd what they thought and what they should add to the pep assemblies. When I asked some students what they thought about the pep assemblies Alaina Halmilton said that they are fun but she doesn't like sitting next to random people and would rather sit next to her friends.

I asked William Scott the same question and he thought that the pep assemblies are really fun and that he loves to watch them.

When I asked some students about what should be added to pep assembly, Kellynn Marshall said a hula hoop contest would be fun and could get the crowd cheering louder.

Finally, I asked Trevor Driskel he said that they should add more decoration because the pep assemblies are bland and they would look better.

COACH LEE IMPRESSED BY NMS ENTHUSIASM

By Dhruvin Bhatt

I interviewed Mr. Lee, the coach for the 7th grade boys basketball team.

I asked him how he thinks his team has been playing and just in general how the team has been doing and he said, ”Fantastic, they have been playing together for many years and their skill and talent has gone up drastically and are continuing to improve!”

He said the team looked pretty shy in the assembly, but Ethan Jones did great with introducing them. He also was impressed with how loud it was and the overall vivid feeling of the place. I asked him if he had been to past pep assemblies and he said he hadn’t. But he likes that the people at the assembly get recognized for their hard work and enthusiasm. His favorite part of the assembly was when the Spirit Stick event was happening.

Lastly, I asked him who he thought in his opinion won the pep assembly and he said the 7th grade because they are much more enthusiastic. The pep assembly was amazing and I can’t wait to see more next year!















