



Orchestra anticipates rocking out at next week's concert

Get an inside look at how the orchestra prepares for their biannual rock concert featuring Highland Hills Middle School.

Page 11



the bagpiper

NEWS

Page 3 **Dress Code:** Students and staff discuss why they believe FC has begun to heavily enforce dress code this school year.

Page 4 **Driving safety:** Staff explains what causes reckless driving in the student parking lot. Students recall personal incidents they have been involved in.

SPORTS

Page 5 **Football:** FC's football team discusses their past successes this season and how they plan to continue into their upcoming games, including at Columbus East tonight.

FEATURES

Pages 6&7 **High school burnout:** Students and staff discuss how an overbearing workload can lead to burnout in high school.

FORUM

Page 8 **Holiday conflicts:** Columnists explain why they believe that celebrating Indigenous People's Day should be prioritized over Columbus Day.

Page 9 **Editorial:** The *Bagpiper* staff shares their viewpoint on FC's unsafe student parking lot and possible solutions.

A&E

Page 10 **Rock concert:** FC orchestra explains their upcoming concert featuring Highland Hills Middle School.

Page 11 **Band invitational:** Students and staff look forward to their upcoming performance at the FC band invitational.

Page 12 **1 in 1900:** Take a peek inside the life of senior Tristan Robertson, a quarterback on the football team.

Readers,

Welcome to the second issue of the Bagpiper for the 2023-2024 school year. In this issue, we covered a large variety of topics, such as FC's sudden enforcement of dress code, the importance of safe driving, football, and the orchestra's Rock Concert. Our 1 in 1900 this issue is senior Tristan Robertson, quarterback on the football team. Our editorial discusses how the student parking lot raises safety concerns amongst students and possible solutions. Other stories can be found in the table of contents below.

If you have any suggested story topics or questions, feel free to email us at bagpiper.fchs@gmail.com. Also, be sure to check out our online coverage of events by visiting our website at fchsbagpiper.wordpress.com and [@fchsbagpiper](https://www.instagram.com/fchsbagpiper) on Instagram. Thank you for reading, and we hope you enjoy.

Alexa Truex, Editor-in-Chief

Front cover:
Art by Claire White.

Table of contents:
FRESHMAN NICK JETT plays the flute before a football game on Friday, Sept. 8. **Photo by Grace Michell.**

Faculty enforces existing dress code policies

Anastacia Granholm
News Editor

Maddie Fellmeth
News Reporter

Entering into the 2023-2024 school year administrators made it apparent that the dress code policies would be more strongly enforced. The dress code has always been there, but this year, students have noticed it's more policed. Last year the school board adopted the new dress code policy that was to be enforced.

"The dress code is a school board policy that's being enforced in all buildings in the corporation," said assistant principal of student activities Jeff Cerqueira. "The school board wants the appearance to be respectful and to not interfere with the learning environment."

With last year acting as a transition year for the new policy, this year the staff is able to better

enforce and oversee it since they are more accustomed to it.

"New admin is putting more of an emphasis on dress code this year and they are able to better oversee it. Dress code was an issue last year and even before then, but it wasn't as much of a priority as it has been this year," said counselor Jessica Simler.

Not only are administrators making the dress code more apparent to students, but to teachers also. Teachers now can email an administrator if they see a student breaking dress code so the teacher does not have to interrupt class and send their student down during their teaching time.

"We have had a conversation with our staff. Number one, teachers don't have to address the student immediately," said Cerqueira. "Our expectation for the staff is during the class period when individual work is being done our staff should be walking around the room and assisting students. That's

another opportunity for them to check if everyone's in dress code."

Students feel they are being more heavily managed with what they choose to wear and have even expressed that it has made picking out outfits for school more difficult.

"It gives them a sense of control over students when deciding who can wear what. It is really difficult when finding clothes that fit into the dress code because I feel like it's so biased depending on which staff member dress codes you, so I never know what is good enough to wear for school," said senior Andrea Tukis.

Back-to-school shopping may become very difficult for students to find clothing pieces that pass the dress code. Stores today are selling clothing pieces that barely pass Floyd Central standards.

"When shopping, I struggle to find clothing pieces that will pass the dress code because the majority of what I like when shopping doesn't align with dress code rules," said senior Ava Downey.

Many are starting to feel as though they are being targeted by the dress codes. In particular females mainly, are starting to feel as though the dress code is becoming more biased towards them.

"All the time, other students are wearing short shirts and have nothing said to them while I wear it once and am immediately warned about it. It can be frustrating to see the rules enforced on some people but not all," said senior Alyssa Fehr.

Students argue that biased opinions on dress codes affect how they choose to express themselves through clothing. Some feel that they are being put down when trying to show their personality through style and preference.

"The clothes I love to wear

“students are still able to be expressive in what they wear and are still able to follow the dress code guidelines.”

Jessica Simler
counselor

can't be worn to school and it frustrates me because I can't fully express myself through style which is something I do frequently," said Tukis.

While this can be frustrating for students, the admin is now able to hold students responsible for breaking the dress code. The dress code has always been in place, but now the staff can be more aware of the policies in place and follow those rules.

"I think just having all faculty aware of the dress code and holding them accountable for the students in their classroom," said Simler

The dress code hasn't been made stricter by administrators; the administrators are making the policy clearer on what is expected and how it will be enforced.

"Dress code rules haven't really been heightened this year; the new policy was introduced last year and we just wanted to make sure at the beginning of this year that we really concentrate on making sure all students were aware of the dress code and what it was and then how it was going to be enforced," said Cerqueira.

In reality, schools are going to have dress codes. There are always going to be rules and regulations

and students agree that there should be some type of dress code.

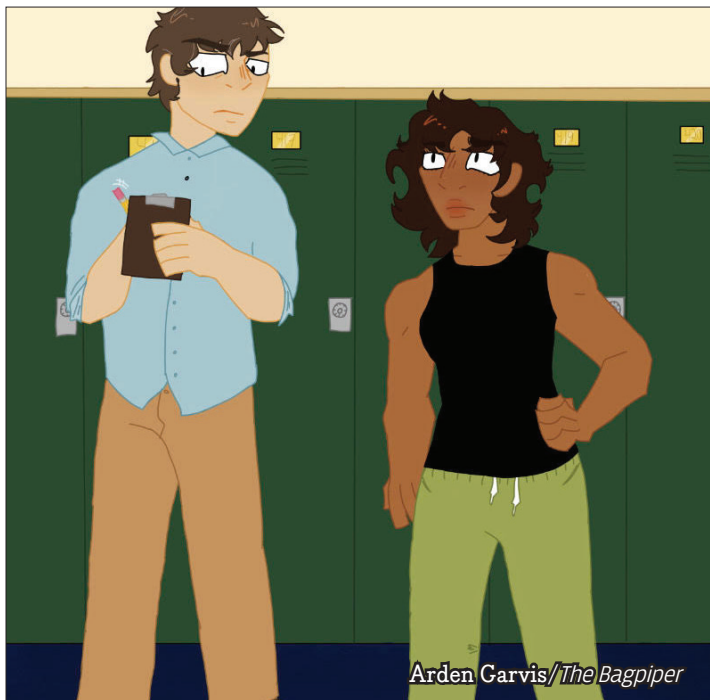
"I do think schools should have dress codes because without them there will be students wearing outlandish things, but they should be more lenient on some clothing pieces," said Fehr.

The annoyance that accompanies a student when picking out an outfit can become exasperating when they are constantly thinking about the dress code. The disappointment hits when the thought of all the guidelines that follow the dress code prevents a student from wearing their favorite outfit.

"I struggle picking out an outfit, especially if I plan on wanting to dress up. Most cute outfits don't follow this year's dress code so it makes it harder to pick an outfit. I hate that I have to re-wear the same type of outfit every week," said sophomore Gracie Turner.

While choosing outfits has become harder for students, administrators feel that students should still feel free to express themselves as long as they adhere to the dress code policies.

"Students are still able to be expressive in what they wear and are still able to follow the dress code guidelines," said Simler.



Arden Garvis/The Bagpiper

Parking lot safety concerns student drivers

Alexa Truex
Editor-in-Chief

Anastacia Granholm
News Editor

The FC student parking lot can be a daunting place for new drivers. With around half of FC's student body finding a parking spot every morning and rushing to leave each afternoon, the lot can quickly become dangerous.

"I think it's [accidents] more common in a high school student parking lot due to new drivers," said Student Resource Officer Robbie Woodruff. "I mean, it's a lot of cars if you think about it, almost 400 cars, I believe, and as the school year goes on we get more and more because the older sophomores get their license and juniors get their driver's license."

As a result of the hundreds of cars, there are also hundreds of available distractions.

Assistant principal of student activities Jeff Cerqueira said that almost anything can be a distraction, from students walking through the parking lot to other

cars searching for a spot.

"When your attention is drawn to something else, you lose focus on what's going on in front of you or off to the sides of you," said Cerqueira. "Then unfortunately, you end up bumping into another vehicle."

In addition to typical parking lot distractions, a few drivers have complained about other students completely disregarding the arrows that mark the direction of the parking lanes. This can cause major safety issues.

"One morning, when I'd just gotten to school, I was driving down one of the parking rows looking for a spot," said senior Anna Smith. "But all of a sudden a truck started speeding down the same row going totally against the marked arrow, and I was forced to pull into a spot quickly or get hit."

However, in doing so, Smith said her front bumper left a scratch on another car's back bumper.

"I was just so frustrated that because of another person's carelessness, I had to deal with the

consequences. I mean, the arrows are definitely there for a reason," she said.

Similar to Smith, many other students face incidents in the student parking lot. However, a smaller percentage actually get involved in more serious accidents.

"So in a year it looks like there are about 14 accidents," said Woodruff. "So it's really about once a month that we face accidents."

Accidents happen inside and closely outside of the FC parking lot. Early in the mornings or in the afternoon traffic, the roads get flooded with high school drivers.

"When I first got my license I was worried about the other drivers in the parking lot for sure. Like in the first week of me having my license someone opened their door and hit my car while I was trying to back out," said junior Gianna Ivers. "After like five months of driving I ended up getting rear ended right outside of the school parking lot."

Not only are students faced with the dangers posed by other student drivers, but they are also faced with the issue of parents using the student parking lot as a way to drop off their kids in the mornings.

"We had one situation early in the morning when it was dark outside where we had an adult cutting through the student parking lot that actually ran over one of our students," said Cerqueira.

FC staff shares that the best way to avoid alterations while driving in the parking lot is to remain patient. By getting there early enough to avoid rushing, or



Grace Michell/The Bagpiper

OFFICER ROBBIE WOODRUFF directs the morning traffic on Monday, Sept. 18.

waiting long enough after school for the lot to clear out, students can better ensure their safety.

Cerqueira said, "If the students will continue to obey the speed limit or get here early enough that they can park safely, it'll resolve a lot of issues."

In fact, as it begins to get darker in the mornings, Woodruff said that driving slowly is of utmost importance. With lots of students walking from one car to another, or just into school, it can be easy to miss them if a driv-

er is not paying close attention.

Ultimately, Woodruff and Cerqueira agree that there are safety issues in the student parking lot and there is a learning process that comes along with being a new driver.

"I think that student drivers do a great job driving in the mornings and in the afternoons because otherwise there would be more accidents than once a month," said Woodruff. "I think you guys do a great job and just be diligent while driving."

“If students will continue to obey the speed limit or get here early enough that they can park safely it'll resolve a lot of issues.”

Jeff Cerqueira

assistant principal of student activities

FC football tackles early season opponents

Allyson Duckworth
Sports Co-Editor

Kenny Ward
Sports Reporter

In recent games, FC football has thrived, winning big and scoring many points. The team has not forgotten about their unfortunate end to last season, though. The team has been taking the necessary steps to make a run in the state tournament this year.

“Gaining confidence after two losing seasons, it feels good to know we are finally on a winning roll,” said senior offensive guard Justin Brown.

With a current record of 4-1, the team is anticipating continued success. Players are not tossing fundamentals out the door. They are still giving it their all during practices and taking no reps off.

“Going hard through practice and getting all of our reps in definitely benefits what we do in the game itself,” said freshman running back Luke Jacobi.

Some players during the spring and the summer are practicing and lifting, while

others in different sports work to gain another level of readiness for the season as well. Whether it’s basketball, track, or wrestling, these multi-sport athletes arduously prepare themselves for the season.

“I wrestle to help with conditioning and mental toughness and also did spring practices to get technique down,” said Brown.

Having a tough mental capacity and having motivation towards personal goals is a key part to having a rewarding season. The team has found the recent victories a step in the right direction.

“It has brought in a lot of energy the last few weeks and practice has definitely helped the team come together more. We all just have to work as a team because we are all really excited,” said senior running back Mitch Bernardi.

Through all of the hard work and dedication shown throughout the off-season, players have set their sights on bigger and better things. One player, senior quarterback Tristan Robertson, has made his

checklist, and his top goal is a regional appearance.

“I want to be first in the state for passing yards, but it is definitely more of a team goal this year. After a rough couple of years, this year and this team I feel like can step up and go to the next level along with sectionals and regionals. We have a shot at it,” said Robertson.

Many other players have high expectations for themselves. Junior linebacker Kailey Bush wants a touchdown, but not just any touchdown though. She aims for a score on the opposite side of the ball, at tight end.

Junior wide receiver Isaac Kaiser has set lofty expectations. Record setting expectations to be exact, but said that the work he put in during the offseason can get him above and beyond these goals.

“Training this season was a little different. I really tried to focus on adding weight and increasing strength, but also chemistry and timing with Tristan,” said Kaiser. “One personal goal for me this year is to pass Eli Branham in all-time total receiving yards. With the connection me and Tristan have now, I think this should be no trouble at all.”

As the team aims for the skies, they all know that one of the main goals is to remain family. Kaiser has become a leader this year. As an essential player for FC football, he has developed his leadership skills compared to his sophomore year.

“For the underclassmen this year I have really tried to lead by example. Something that the seniors and players that have graduated taught me was to just



Sophie Douce/The Bagpiper

SENIOR MITCH BERNARDI runs the ball up the field during the FC football game against Seymour on Friday, Sept. 8. The Highlanders defeated the Owls 50-47 during the homecoming festivities.

keep my energy up every day so everyone can feed off me and get excited,” said Kaiser.

The jump from freshman to sophomore year can be challenging, but these sophomores have stayed on a very rigid and strict path, showing us that no obstacle can bring them down. The sophomore class is still learning and taking the steps they need to lead the team, and developing into a very special group of athletes.

“My role on the team as a leader hasn’t changed very much. The upperclassmen are still guiding me to become a leader on the team whenever that time comes,” said sophomore offensive lineman Blanton Varvel.

With high hopes and charisma, the team hopes to build and continue to win big games. They played Jeffersonville last Friday, Sept. 15, winning 42-7. The Highlanders play away tonight at Columbus East.

FLOYD CENTRAL FOOTBALL

Upcoming games: Sept. 22 @ Columbus East
(All at 7 p.m.)



Sept. 29 vs BNL

Oct. 6 vs Jennings County

Oct. 13 @ New Albany

Sectionals Begin Oct. 20

Lily Douce/The Bagpiper

Upperclassmen face the struggles of burnout

Senior students as well as staff share the contributing factors to the feeling of burnout throughout the school year

Ally Cunningham

Features Reporter

Lucy Owens

Features Reporter

Burned out, fatigued, disengaged, exhausted, and overwhelmed. These words are often used by sources to describe senioritis. According to The Oxford Dictionary, senioritis is defined as, “A supposed affliction of students in their final year of high school or college, characterized by a decline in motivation or performance.” After being a student for 11 or more years, burnout and senioritis become an issue for many juniors and seniors.

Senior Teagan Kennedy said, “I’m already starting to reconsider my dedication to

theater, although I will continue to do it because it’s definitely something I am passionate about. At the beginning of the year I was getting things in ahead of time and now I am just getting everything done by the due date.”

The school year is not even a quarter through, but some students are already starting to feel tired and ready to graduate. Being involved in sports and having a job at the same time is one of the many reasons why burnout is such a major topic in schools.

Health and P.E. teacher Solomon Bennett said, “I understand sometimes a person’s situation where they have to have a job, but I always try to tell student athletes that you have your whole life to work so if you don’t need to, I don’t think you

should because you are going to work for 40 to 50 years of your life.”

Depending on the classes taken during the school year, the workload could increase or decrease, changing the way responsibilities are prioritized. Whether it’s going to practice or going to work a shift, both are shown to be a complication in the decision for when to sit down and work on schoolwork.

“I focus way more on sports than I do on school, which needs to change because without good grades I cannot play my sport. I do things for football outside of school and I do not do school work outside of school,” said junior Camden Harritt.

While some students play a sport, others have a job and these roles have similar effects on their

responsibilities outside of school. The amount of practices to attend or shifts to work can result in creating a struggle for teens.

Junior Ava Pfaffenberger said “It feels like a lot of times when you have homework and work it’s hard to have time to decompress and have down time before you have to go back.”

Teachers have tried to make the workload more manageable while still challenging their students due to most schoolwork turning to online work a few years ago. Teachers explained how they understand how difficult it is to juggle many tasks at once and they attempt to help reduce some of the assignments.

Health and P.E. teacher Melanie Hussung said, “I think how the workload is completed is different now compared to a

few years ago. Everything seems to be more digital, which is nice for the students and the teachers. I can’t say if it has changed in other contents but I do think I have tried to be more fair when it comes to workload and my classes.”

For some people the workload doesn’t affect them as much mainly because they enjoy school and challenging themselves with harder classes.

“I have always liked school and taking hard classes because it makes me feel more accomplished. I like going to work and being around people that I do not know from school or sports and I like getting the experience,” said Pfaffenberger.

However, some upperclassmen experience the pressure of getting everything

What factor do you think causes the most stress at school and why?

Lizzie Didat & Grace Michell/*The Bagpiper*



Hadley Pugh

“I think school work causes the most stress because it is coming from seven different classes daily.”



Emma Kochert

“I think work causes the most stress for me at school mainly because it requires a lot of my time and energy.”



Audrey Brieschke

“Being able to manage your time with school and sports get hard sometimes, especially on game days.”



Henry Cook

“School work causes me the most stress because with a lot of AP classes I have a heavy workload and lots of exams.”



Hope Periago

“Definitely work, when I get off super late and I have to cram to finish all my homework for the next day.”

done in time to graduate while maintaining good grades. Some students may feel tension from parents, teachers, and others to get to their responsibilities on time, as well as being attentive and focused while there.

Senior Sam Lockhart said, “I feel pressure from myself because I know what I am capable of doing. I am somewhat of a perfectionist so I add more stress to myself.”

Additionally, work ethic is something that a number of students struggle with maintaining throughout the school year. Seniors especially start to battle with keeping their work ethic strong towards the end of the school year.

“I am starting to be able to tell that I am losing steam, already taking shortcuts where I can, and just doing the bare minimum to graduate,” said Kennedy.

This viewpoint on work ethic is a common occurrence often titled as senioritis. Most educators see seniors encounter this at some point in their last year of high school.

Hussung said, “The amount of work that most seniors have is a lot. After three years of school work leading up to senior year, it does get more tedious doing more and more school work. But, high school goes by so fast and when you eventually look back, it feels like a glimpse in time.”

Other teachers also know the relationship for seniors with senioritis and try to understand so they can help. Many of them will give advice for what to do when feeling burnt out or unmotivated and how to stay focused.

“Students get so excited to ‘be out’ or ‘be done’ and forget that they still have to put the work into their academics as much as the ‘fun’ stuff. As a result, they

end up feeling burnt out because they did not put the effort in at the beginning and are now playing catch up,” said math teacher Samantha Poindexter.

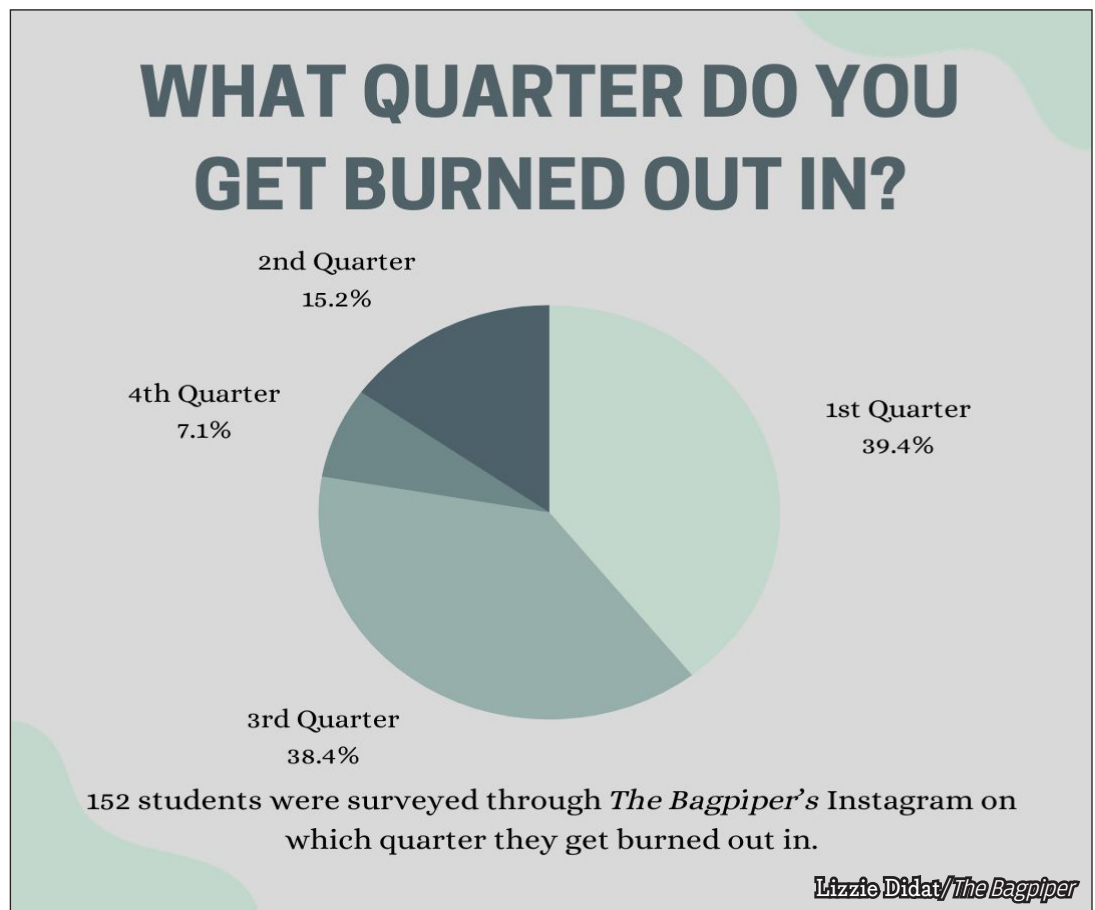
Furthermore, a number of teachers have young kids that can not be left home alone and they show how it can be a struggle to leave for work without them. Having a spouse at home to take care of the kids is very helpful to educators who teach all day and then have to coach a sport or sponsor a club after school is out for the day.

Hussung said, “It is nice to get a break from the craziness at home, but I still miss them. It is especially hard right now because of volleyball. There is extra time away for practice and games, but now that they are getting older it is a bit easier because they can come to games and I can see them at the gym.”

Social studies teacher Jeffrey Thomas agreed with the difficulty of being at work all day without his kids. His spouse works on the weekends and he works during the week, so they switch off the responsibility of taking care of everyone at home.

“My wife works on the weekends so she’s home through the week and they plan activities together like the zoo which I would love to go to. But it’s sometimes a nice reprieve to get away from the demands and constant needs of the little babies and talk to other adults like teachers and the students,” said Thomas.

Additionally, Poindexter has the same outlook on her kids at home. She explained that it is very important to be able to break up time between work and family. Finding time for everything and splitting it up evenly is the key to making sure there is enough time for everyone at home, work, and



extracurriculars.

“I used to work from 6:30 a.m. until 8 p.m., get ready for bed and then do it all over again. This started to cause problems and after self-reflection I realized I couldn’t do that to myself or my personal life. I wasn’t being the best teacher, parent, friend or family member by doing this. So, I set myself a time limit and said no work after a certain time,” said Poindexter.

Students in high school realize the difficulty of deciding when to hang out with friends, go to practice or work, and when to focus on homework. Time management is shown to be a conflict in teens’ everyday life and many are familiar with that battle.

“Doing and caring about

school work doesn’t just help a student learn the material and pass a test, it teaches students time management, how to be and stay organized,” said Poindexter.

Student athletes start to feel the pressure more throughout their sports season because of the practice and focus that sports require.

These students start to focus more on their sports than on their academics, and this sometimes causes them to fall behind and results in them getting burned out.

Harritt said, “I feel that I don’t have much time to do my school work during football season because practice lasts until 6:30 p.m. every day. By the time I get home it’s around 7:15 p.m. Then I still have to eat dinner, shower,

and do my homework.”

After working hard for the bulk of high school and being so close to graduating, students tend to get tired and less motivated to work as hard and go all the way for the remainder of the school year.

Seniors and juniors alike are starting to prepare for what is to come after high school, whether that be taking a gap year or continuing on in their education in college.

Bennett said, “As you are getting ready for college or going into the workforce, prepare yourself for the future. I know it is hard and most students just want to be done but, it is good to always be thinking about the next step in your life so that you can succeed and finish strong.”

Columbus Day falls out of favor in American culture



Finally Speaking up

Olivia Eblesisor



Standing for the Voiceless

Atlas Coble

Every year on the second Monday in October, the American people celebrate the landing of Christopher Columbus in the New World. But in recent years, Columbus Day, along with the man himself, has become more shunned among Americans while the holiday Indigenous Peoples' Day has risen in popularity.

Celebrated on the same day, Indigenous Peoples' Day takes a different approach to Columbus's story. Instead of celebrating landing on the American continent, Indigenous Peoples' Day lifts up the people that Columbus took as slaves, killed, or otherwise mistreated during his time on the continent,

a practice that was continued by later European settlers of the continent.

In an interview with NPR, Chairman and CEO of the Indigenous Peoples' Initiative Dylan Baca said, "Should we recognize a man whose labors killed children, killed women and decimated the Native American population here? I don't think that is something that we want to be honored."

During his time in the New World, Columbus and his crew were notorious for their cruelty and inhumane treatments. While conquering tribes, they frequently kidnapped many young girls from their homes and forced them into slavery.

"He also managed to kidnap young Indigenous girls and force them into sexual slavery to provide pleasure for himself and his crew members. To make matters worse, he became a sex trafficker, preferring to kidnap girls between the ages of 8-10, noting

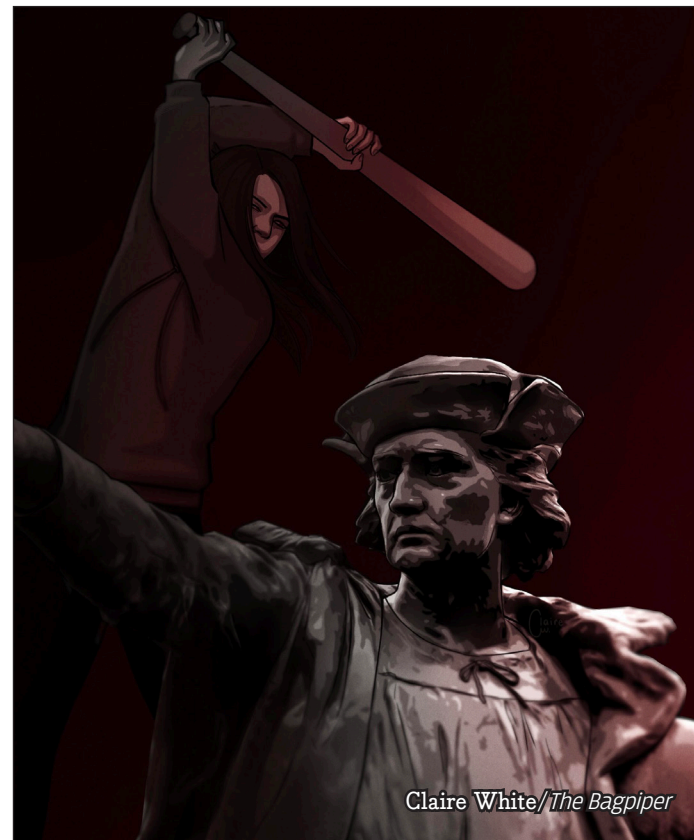
that they bring the best profits," said Kala Bhattar in her article for The University of Alabama at Birmingham Institute for Human Rights blog titled "Why we should celebrate 'Indigenous Peoples' Day' instead of 'Columbus Day'."

Columbus himself was not secretive in his desire to enslave the people he met in his voyages. It was incredibly clear from his own writings what he planned to do.

In an article from UnderstandingPrejudice.org "Christopher Columbus: The Untold Story," "From his very first contact with Native people, Columbus had their domination in mind. For example, on October 14, 1492, Columbus wrote in his journal, 'with fifty men they [Native Americans] can all be subjugated and made to do what is required of them.' These were not mere words: after his second voyage, Columbus sent back a consignment of Natives to be sold as slaves."

As Columbus' voyage became a memory of the past, the mistreatment of Natives did not cease. During Andrew Jackson's presidency, he forced Natives off their land and to reservations far from their homes. This event is known as "The Trail of Tears," referring to the horrors they endured during this point in time.

An article from the National Park Service said, "More than a thousand Cherokee – particularly the old, the young, and the infirm – died during their trip west, hundreds more deserted from the detachments, and an unknown number – perhaps several thousand – perished from the consequences of the forced migration."



Claire White/*The Bagpiper*

Even today, the Indigenous people of North America are in more danger of crimes being committed against them due to the rampant racism they face. One infamous example of this is the Highway of Tears in Canada. It is a section of Highway 16 in Canada where many women, primarily Indigenous women, have gone missing or been murdered since 1970, with these crimes continuing today.

The article "Dozens of Women Vanish on Canada's Highway of Tears, and Most Cases Are Unsolved," Dan Levin wrote ofCarolynn Bennett, the minister of indigenous and northern affairs, "During her meetings, families and survivors have complained of

racism and sexism by the police, who she said treated the deaths of Indigenous women "as inevitable, as if their lives mattered less."

Countless countries have had histories of cruelty against the Native people that had originally resided on the land decades before them. The Native Americans and their ancestors have suffered from blatant discrimination from colonizers since the arrival of Columbus. Despite this, America still chooses to celebrate a man who supported the genocide and enslavement of the Native people who welcomed him to their land. This year, instead of commemorating a tyrant, use this Oct. 9 to learn more about the cultures he attempted to eradicate.

“

Should we recognize a man whose labors killed children, killed women and decimated the Native American population here? I don't think that is something we want to be honored.

Dylan Baca

CEO of Indigenous Peoples' Initiative

”

Reckless driving endangers students

Bagpiper staff

In the hustle and bustle of a typical day at FC, for many it begins in the student parking lot. The safety of our students should always be the number one priority; however, recent events have brought to light a glaring issue- the unsafe condition of the student parking lot. The lot at FC has become a hotspot for reckless behavior, endangering not only the students themselves but also the entire school community.

So, what are the issues posed exactly and how can we fix them?

First, we believe that one of the most prevalent issues in FC's student parking lot is the alarming disregard for traffic flow and safety protocols. The designated rows and arrows that guide vehicles are there for a reason. They are designed to prevent accidents and ensure an efficient and safe flow of traffic. However, some students have been going against these marked arrows, creating a lot of overall confusion and endangering the safety of other students.

"There's one specific row where a lot of trucks go totally

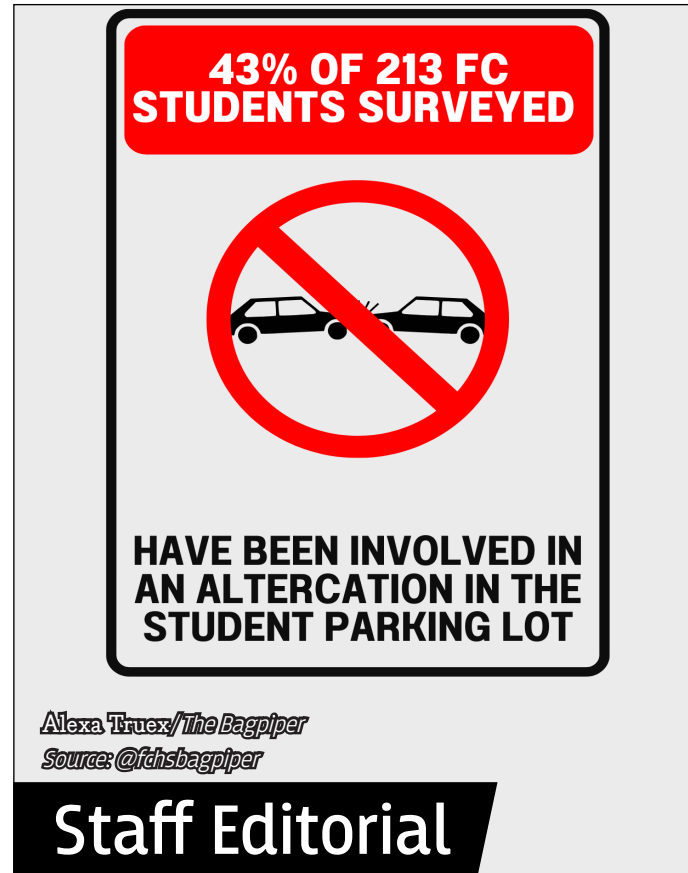
against the arrow in their row, I'd almost think they didn't know the arrow was there," said senior Anna Smith. "It can be kind of nerve wracking to watch that because it's right by an entrance where so many people turn into the parking lot."

This in itself can be a large safety issue for students walking or driving in the parking lot. Going against these arrows not only creates confusion, but can lead to near misses and collisions. It is extremely important for all drivers to abide by these guidelines to maintain a safe environment for everyone.

In addition to violating traffic guidelines, drivers speed in the parking lot, very much exceeding the posted speed limit of 10 miles per hour.

"I hear students revving their engines and hitting their gas all the time while I'm parked," said junior Gianna Ivers. "A lot of cars very obviously go way faster than they need to while driving around in the parking lot."

The rush to get in and out of the parking lot has led to reckless driving and, more



importantly, close calls with pedestrians. It is essential that students remember that the parking lot is a shared space where everyone's safety should be a top priority.

With so many students in a small space every morning, our staff believes that the best way to combat the safety issues is by placing someone to monitor the parking lot every morning and afternoon.

Assigning a staff member or a trained adult volunteer to patrol the parking lot during peak hours could help deter unsafe behaviors and promote responsible driving among the students. These patrols could remind students to follow marked arrows, adhere

to speed limits, and exercise caution.

In addition, administrators must follow up with clear consequences for reckless driving within the school premises. Violations of traffic rules in the parking lot should be met with disciplinary actions, including warnings, fines, or even suspension of parking privileges.

It only takes a few reckless individuals to create a hazardous situation. By taking proactive measures such as increased patrolling and appropriate consequences, we can ensure that the FC student parking lot becomes a safe and welcoming environment for all.

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Mission Statement

The purpose of the *Bagpiper* is to truthfully report the news and to engage the audience in online and print media. We strive to provide the meaning and significance behind all news, making visual connections between events and the readers. Above all, we aim to uphold the ethical standards we see in the professional field while serving all faculty, staff, students, and the community.

“

It is essential that students remember that the parking lot is a shared space where everyone's safety should be a top priority.

”

Orchestra plans for rock concert's return

Breanna Fischer
A&E Reporter

Next week's orchestra rock concert has not been held since the pandemic hit, this being the first one in three years. A lot of time and effort goes into preparing and rehearsing for the concert, as well as a lot of outsourced and hired help. This year especially has been more difficult with no one in the current orchestra having played this concert before.

"A lot of rehearsing goes into all the instruments and pieces, we'll have auditions for the electric instruments...and we hire out some accomplished professionals as our drummer, our keyboard player, and our sound mixer," said orchestra director Doug Elmore.

"We're doing orchestra rehearsals with the middle schools

and getting the middle schoolers ready, we're also having sectionals and we're all working on very specific pieces to make sure they're perfect," said senior violinist Haley Kellams.

Sound is extremely important to this concert going smoothly, this being the only orchestra concert where the sounds are altered technologically to make over 400 string players sound right on the gym floor.

"The sound engineering job is colossal with six orchestras out on the floor, probably 25 microphones that are set up for the orchestra, plus microphones for the solos, the drumset, the piano, speaking mics for the directors," said Elmore.

Unlike past and current concerts, the rock concert is completely unique when it comes

to the use of technology.

"Most of our other concerts for the year have full orchestra performances, where we have our strings, our percussionist, and as such they're purely acoustic presentations. We don't really use technology to enhance the sound of the orchestra at all, it's [just] us on a stage," said Elmore.

Most commonly played orchestra music is available for rental or purchase; however, the pieces for this concert were arranged directly from the famous recordings.

"I arranged the songs for the orchestra from the original recordings of the pieces," said Elmore. "I had to sit down and just replay the CDs over and over again, hours and hours and hours until I got it right. This rock concert that we do is something

“The significance of this performance I think is to really get the younger kids involved, to show the little kids what they can accomplish, and have something to look forward to and continue motivating them.”

Aiko Escobar-McClimon

senior

that is very unique to us.”

The concert is quite different compared to the other orchestra performances students will see throughout the year. There are not only the highschoolers involved, but the entire middle school orchestra as well.

"It's enormously gratifying and uplifting to see all of the middle school through highschool playing together; to see all your hard work all on the gym floor at once and there's hundreds of kids playing their hearts out on this music and then their parents many of them grew up listening to this music and get all fired up, it's a very powerful emotional experience," said Elmore.

Additionally, being able to perform with high schoolers provides a great opportunity for middle schoolers to understand how the orchestra operates at FC and what is required of them.

"I'm really excited but I'm also really nervous to play with the upperclassmen," said seventh grader Lexi Platt. "I feel like if I mess up or make a mistake

the older kids will see it, I'm really working on it so I don't mess up anything during the performance.”

This performance incorporates a wide variety of musicians from the middle school to the highschool, getting the middle schoolers more involved with the orchestra program to help spark them to continue playing.

"The significance of this performance I think is to really get the younger kids involved, to show the little kids what they can accomplish, and have something to look forward to and continue motivating them," said senior violinist Aiko Escobar-McClimon.

The expectations for this performance are held to the same standards as all of the other performances.

The orchestra rock concert brings people together for a night of fun and old music. With this performance both the high school and middle school get involved, learning from each other and connecting through the music.



Jorge Zarate / The Bagpiper

SENIOR SRIKAR VAASAN follows along with the rest of the orchestra, in preparation for the rock concert, on Sept. 7. Photo taken by Jorge Zarate.

Band Invitational hosts talent tomorrow

Danielle Ashby
A&E Reporter

Preparation is at a high in the FC performance building. Bands anticipate the big day to come, one of those events even having an impact on not only the students, but students of schools expanding across many counties.

The band invitational has been a significant event in band competition for the last 32 years. Before FC hosted the invitationals, there was really nothing like it. FC saw the opportunity of what could be created from expanding off

previous concerts and snatched it. It is an exciting part of the year in which bands from various schools visit to perform their musical abilities and wow the crowds.

“I went to the one last year and it was a lot of fun because we got to help out a lot and we got to meet all the other bands. It was a really long day but it was a lot of fun and is a great way to understand the high school band experience,” said sophomore Sadie Coddington.

The day of the invitational is a hefty one. Last year it was a busy day trying to set everything up in

the football stadium. Students like sophomore Ozi Poulter helped clean the fields in preparation. The students of FC’s band did the hands-on work, which took time, but provided them an excellent opportunity for teamwork.

“It’s super stressful throughout the day, but watching other bands play is really cool because you get to meet a whole bunch of different people in a bunch of different schools who have experiences with marching band,” said sophomore Finley Wehneman. “It’s just a really cool thing to experience.”

Bands will be playing their music in sections, referred to as “classes.” They follow from scholastic classes to open classes and end with an exhibition. Each group of classes have a performance that lasts 15 minutes, smaller bands moving first then building up to the larger ones.

“There are several different classes based upon the size of your band or the size of your school,” said band director Harold Yankey. “Floyd Central is an open class A, which are the biggest schools, but we’ve got schools that are really small and medium sized and all different sized this year.”

Teachers and students are confident in the success of the turnout. They had done a good job advertising the event and attempting to reach as many listeners as possible. The yearly turnouts seemed to have never failed, reaching about 5000 visitors during the day.

“I think the turnout will be really good. Last year we had a really good year so I don’t think it’ll be any different,” said Coddington.

There are unique traditions

Band Invitational Schedule	
4:00 PM Triton Central Marching Tigers	5:57 PM Silver Creek Marching Dragons
4:13 PM Salem Marching Lions	6:15 PM Awards
4:26 PM Eastern (Pekin) Musketeer Brigade	7:30 PM North Oldham High School (KY)
4:39 PM Southwestern Rebel Regiment	7:45 PM Tell City Marching Marksmen
4:52 PM Madison Marching Cubs & Guard	8:00 PM North Harrison Cougar Band
5:05 PM Corydon Central Vanguard	8:15 PM Bullitt East High School (KY)
5:18 PM Henryville Golden Band	8:30 PM Scottsburg Band of Warriors
5:31 PM Heritage Hills Marching Patriots	8:45 PM Southridge Marching Raider Band
5:44 PM Charlestown Marching Band of Pirates	9:00 PM Sound and Spirit of Columbus

Noah Vivrette/The Bagpiper



Grace Michell/The Bagpiper

FRESHMAN BROOKLYNN STARK performs for the marching band before going in the color guard on Friday, Sept. 8. “I handle it by trying my hardest in both band and color guard. I take band as a class and so I’ll be in concert band too, but when we practice and perform I do color guard.”

that take place in addition to the shows, including the jazz performance that first plays before the shows begin and the freshmen speeches.

“My expectations are mostly that I’m going to be down at the field most of the time for jazz band, then later if I have time I’ll just watch other bands until it’s our turn to play on the field. I’m also really excited for freshmen speeches, where the freshmen in my section talk about a certain thing for a certain amount of time in front of the rest of the section. Last year for mine I talked about the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles,” said Poulter.

There is much to be done, so it is not surprising that the kids and adults will start getting hungry. Luckily, the invitational has that covered. The food there tends to be the major money maker of the day.

“I’m excited for the food,” said band director Briston Hatchell. “They have concession stands with many different foods that you can look forward to.”

Band may not be competing

for a prize, but that does not stop them from bringing their own baggage to the checkout. The expedition that will be played at the end of the night is of their show “Essence of Time.” Band has been rehearsing this performance for a while; even performing it during the homecoming football game. There is a twist, though, because they will actually be playing a second part to the show to add on to their previous performance.

“It’s pretty much exactly what you would think it is. A show about clocks and time. I think this year we have some really good music and we have a good chance to go far this season,” said Poulter. “Hopefully we can end up scoring well in the end, because even though we don’t compete, we still get judged.”

There is a lot of anticipation about tomorrow’s invitational. Communities come together just to have a great time without the sense of rivalry and with eagerness to impress people with the time and effort they put into these shows.

1 in 1900: senior Tristan Robertson

Claire Jones

1/1900 Editor

What are your goals for the rest of this football season?

“For the team I’d say that we have a good shot of winning the sectional, maybe even the regional, and then for my personal goals I want to get the record for passing yards because I’m pretty close.”

How do you keep the team’s morale up throughout the season?

“It’s a really long season. We practiced a lot before, but I think that coach made a good point of having us be really close through all grades, so it doesn’t matter who it is, but just hanging out with your friends making sure everybody likes each other is the easiest way.”

What has been your favorite memory with the football team this season?

“We won a game on a last second trick play. I threw the ball to Camden Harritt. Camden Harritt threw the ball to Isaac Kaiser, and he caught it in the endzone and we won by one point against a team from up north, so that was a pretty good memory.”

How does football differ from basketball?

“Football’s a lot bigger team. There’s like 120 of us through all four grades, and then in basketball there’s a maximum of 30, so just getting to know everybody, you have a lot more people looking up to you in football that you have to lead.”

Grace Mitchell/*The Bagpiper*

To watch a multimedia video about Robertson, go to fchsbagpiper.wordpress.com or [@fchsbagpiper](https://www.instagram.com/fchsbagpiper) on Instagram.