

## SPORTS



### TOP 5 MOMENTS IN SPORTS

This is a brief look back at the most monumental moments of the trio of our fall sports teams.

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## STUDENT LIFE



### KID CANNABIS

"I hear so much about pot that I just had to try it. I can see why people would want to do it. It was fun and all, but I just don't think it was worth the risk."

-senior Mary Jane said

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## OPINION



### PUMPKIN SPICE CRAZE

Join in on the craze surrounding Pumpkin Spice as a groupie and a hater go head-to-head discussing the pros and cons.

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## ENTERTAINMENT



### NETFLIX EPIDEMIC

With now 69.17 million subscribers worldwide, it's safe to say most people know and love Netflix. This infographic will not only give insight to the amount of Netflix people watch but what shows are binge-watch worthy.

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# CHEATER CHEATER PUMPKIN EATER

A look at student, teacher perspectives on the issue

**Omama Qureshi**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

Due to the lack of a concrete definition of cheating in the Student Handbook or Code of Conduct, the fact that administration cannot force or request teachers to change grade inputs because of state laws, and an overall competitive academic atmosphere, students are finding more and more excuses to commit the act of cheating.

"I think that people cheat because they are afraid of failing or keeping up their grades in the class," senior Daniel Barrera said. "They'll cheat to stay afloat, whether it's to keep a certain GPA, pass in order to play sports, or to avoid disappointing their parents."

### WHY IS CHEATING CONTROVERSIAL?

Although the policy and its disciplinary courses are both controversial, perhaps the very definition of cheating is the root of the problem. Only 36% actually cling to the point of view that copying off another student's homework is cheating.

"Copying work when you haven't even tried or attempted to understand the assignment is definitely cheating," junior Emeline Rose said. "Anything you take credit for that you copy down from a neighbor or Internet source without citing your source is, in my book, cheating."

### TEACHERS

Of 33 academic teachers, 51.5% report every student they catch cheating and 48.5% do not. Based on the current cheating policy, a student's first offense will result in a zero, the second offense results in a zero and a possible referral, where the punishment depends on the severity of the crime. 91% of students polled do not believe this is an effective policy because it is not clearly stated that teachers are required to report students they catch cheating.

"The view point is that the zero received is their punishment," chemistry teacher Somer Bockover said. "For students that cheat, they

typically do not care if they are awarded a zero, or they're willing to risk it. Unless there are other consequences, students will never see a problem with their actions."

### STUDENTS

According to the poll of 150 students, 80% of students admit that, were they to catch a friend or fellow classmate cheating, they would not turn them in.

"They wouldn't turn in someone because they think that they might lose that friend," senior Sarah Cleckler said. "Also, they might think that other people will judge them by talking bad about them in social media for doing the right thing."

Because such a culture exists here, cheating has become an issue that apparently does not have the perfect solution to.

"It's impossible to stop something that has been going on for forever," senior Katie Draper said. "So many people cheat, whether it's small, like on homework, or large, like on tests. There's no way around it."

88% of students believe that teachers do not catch every student that cheats in class. Therefore, the popular attitude is that the current policy is ineffective in regards to decreasing or preventing cheating.

"Teachers don't catch everyone because technology has made it a lot easier to cheat," junior Andie Harding said. "Also, the main focus of classes, nowadays, is to make good grades rather than learn. That makes kids desperate."

According to the poll, all around majority believes that there are flaws in the current policy. Students and teachers alike will continue to express concerns about the issue of cheating, but to English teacher Angie Thomas, students who cheat will reap the consequences in the long run.

"When you cheat, no learning takes place," Thomas said. "You're cheating yourself out of knowledge and pay the price in college. Conse-

Have You Ever Cheated?

Yes but not caught **83%**

Yes & reported **12%**

No **5%**

Do You Believe Teacher Report  
Every Student They Catch Cheating?

No **88%**

Yes **12%**

Would You Report a Classmate for Cheating?

No **80%**

Yes **20%**

Do You Believe Our Cheating Policy is Effective?

No **91%**

Yes **9%**

Do You Consider Copying Homework Cheating?

No **64%**

Yes **36%**

TAKEN BY OMAMA QURESHI