



#### drum up spirit

During the drum break, junior Travis Jeter plays the cadence "Rock Steady." As drum captain, Travis chose which cadences to play. "The main goal is for us to entertain the audience," Travis said. "Once that's down, I just play."

# HOME

**McKinney High School  
The Lion 2016**

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Student population: 2,686

Adult population: 221

District 10-5A

[www.manestreamnews.com](http://www.manestreamnews.com)

# a home of our own



*Walk through the door.  
Take a look around.*

People sit on the Socratic stairs. There's that one group of kids who always sing and play their guitars before school.

Principal Gordon Butler stands outside the front doors welcoming students with sarcastic comments and occasional hot cocoa or brownies. Those deck the hall posters that never quite made it down on time. Watching movies at lunch on Fridays. Science classrooms that you always regret not bringing your jacket to. And principals having to shoo kids out at the end of the day.

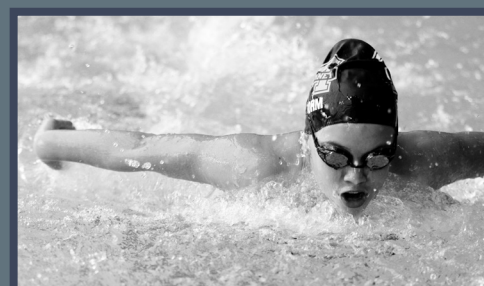
**This is our home.**

**Top:** At the staff-student basketball game senior Alan Martinez cheers on the students as they score on the teachers. Alan was with his friends sophomores Micah Harris, Carlos Echeverria, and junior Rachel Grounds. "I really liked watching the teachers play especially Mr. Stevens," Alan said. "Because I never picture him doing anything athletic."

1. In biology, freshman Alex Cuellar, Davin Price, Collin Peabody heat up water for an experiment to test genetic evolution. 2. Against Frisco Liberty, sophomore Wilson Galvan lines up to go in the game. 3. Underneath the late afternoon sun, senior Kaitlyn Jenkins outlines her chevron themed parking spot.



At the first pep rally, senior Robert Davila yells during a sumo fighter skit while the other Headhunters fall back.



While coming up for a breath of air, sophomore Lindsay Strohm swims the 100-meter butterfly.



At mini Marquette camp junior Alena Horvath takes a selfie with the campers.

Things started to feel like **home.**

# at home



Emily Polk

**We began the year** with strict dress code enforcements and two new principals. Classes had to be held in flex spaces to accommodate our growing population. That new bell serving as a constant reminder that we had

“one minute to get to class.” Thanks to Mr. Butler we knew when it was National Thank a Mailman Day or National Tortilla Chip Day. The Royal Pride Band made it to state, and we watched the live stream from home. When Jacob made those shots in the students versus faculty basketball game we cheered him on as a family.

## Someone from our home.

1. Sophomore Gaby Arroyo and freshman Caroline Swan cheer after a point in the JV volleyball game against Frisco Wakeland.
2. At the homecoming pep rally seniors Josh Brinkman and Patrick Oliver yell during the class spirit stick cheer.

**Top:** At the front of the student section, Dillan Saporito cheers at the Lovejoy game. As a senior, Dillan was able to be a leader in the student section. “Our team was standing its ground against a tough and good opponent and Matt Gadek scored a touchdown to bring the game to a close.” photo by Zanee Logan



Abigail Anderson



Chelsea Salinas

In chemistry class, sophomore Jessica Vigil heats up a chemical to test molar change to determine energy loss.



Ulises Velez

After the Liberty football game, junior Marquettes Keely Roach and Jessie Carithers link pinkies and sing the alma mater.



Ulises Velez

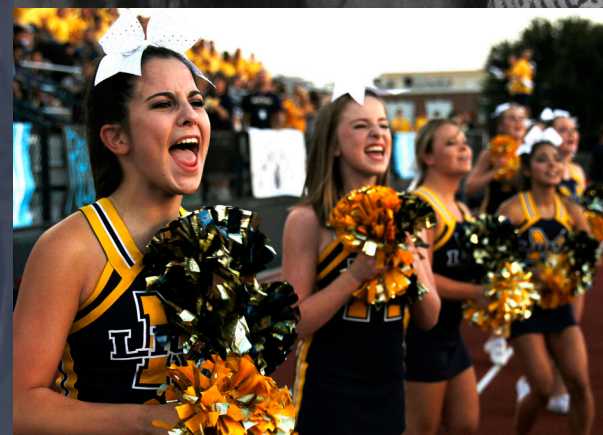
In construction class, juniors Francisco Ramos and Josue Aguilar use a nail gun to work on framing.

## up in smoke

At the start of the second half of the Crosstown Showdown, seniors Shawn Pitts, Isaias Sanchez, Cecilia Guerrero, Alex Vilarino, and Jack Sicula throw baby powder in the air. Although the security told them not to, they threw the baby powder to bring up the spirit in the student section. "I told everybody to throw it up in the air whenever we ran out for halftime," Shawn said. "Everyone was shocked we actually did it. After that it was pretty hype. I'm glad I did it." *photo by Hannah Mead*

## CLOSE TO HOME

We finally settled in. McKinney High wasn't just a renovated building anymore, it was a home (with cracked tiles and everything.) You can be yourself at home, and that's what we are. We sit on couches and benches between classes and eat lunch throughout the building in those little family rooms. But it's more than that. With so much time spent outside of school in extracurriculars and sports, classmates and teammates became like family members. And we support our family members. Like when Jonny won homecoming king. And despite what the scoreboard said, we came out baby powder in hand, to every football game. This is our home.



Aleyam Velazquez

Juniors Allie Penton and Jenna Brasuell cheer on the football team.



Aleyam Velazquez

During the halftime show, junior Valeria Hernandez performs with the colorguard.



Ulises Velez

On the sidelines, senior Walker Torrain waits to go in against Lovejoy.



Ulises Velez

In ag class, senior Shane Farmer uses a grinder.

# people

division

**pull together**  
 At the homecoming pep rally, seniors Rickey Fantroy, Sophia Salvador and Owen Sutka participate in the tug of war challenge. All the homecoming nominations were announced in front of the student body and then they played tug of war with the arts and clubs nominations against the sports nominations. "I was nervous at first because everybody was staring at me but I was glad to be nominated for Prince of Clubs," Owen said. "It's really memorable to me because the girl I asked out to homecoming I'm still dating."



## HOME SWEET HOME

It's the places around the school, like Mrs. Winters room or the black box. It's being surrounded by people who you grew up with. What you eat (or don't eat) in the cafeteria. Talking to your friends between classes and leaving them after that obnoxious "you have one minute to get to class" bell goes off. Complaining about how cold the school is, and then tweeting about it. Running in to the school to avoid a tardy pass and running out of the school to avoid student parking lot traffic. It's our home.



In Art I, sophomore Jackson Pearson traces an outline. *Isaac Phillips*



During a kickoff at the Frisco Liberty game, seniors Laurel Plunk and Alicia Yianitsas hold up L's. *Zanee Logan*



In orchestra class, junior Josh Snead practices the violin. *Isaac Phillips*



At the homecoming game, senior Nikki Caballero and junior Shuva Gautam play their flutes. *Jessica King*

*Aleyam Velazquez*

## pep talk

In the locker room at halftime against Lovejoy, Coach Jeff Smith talks to the varsity football team about the game. This was senior night and the Lions fell short 50-65. "Coach Smith tells us to keep up our work when we're up," sophomore Jake Smith said. "But he also tells us what to fix when we're short on points. We're more like a brotherhood no matter what."



## HOME OF THE LIONS

Five years from now, the score won't matter. You'll remember the team dinners, pre-game locker room dance parties, and halftime pep talks. Early practices, late games, and bus rides home. Friday (and occasional Thursday) nights at Ron Poe, squeezing together in the student section, fighting to keep a seat after halftime. Showing up to volleyball and basketball games in costumes. And no matter who came out on top in the Crosstown Showdown, we had more spirit. Always.



David Funes

Coach Wes Watson plots strategy with the varsity team during a timeout.



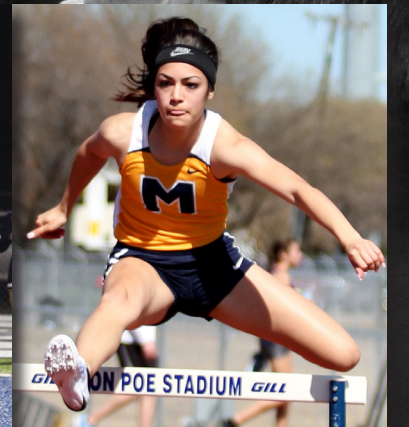
David Funes

Before volleyball playoffs, senior Alyssa Clay kisses Leo's paw for good luck.



Ulises Velez

Principal Gordon Butler runs the "M" flag after the Headhunters failed to notice that the Lions had scored.



Nicole Land

At the McKinney Boyd meet, senior Brooke Merrick runs the 300 meter hurdles, her favorite event.

# seniors

## division

up in smoke  
Taryn Kenedi, Ashlyn Ross, Morgan Inglis, Alicia Yianitsas, Emma Kelley, Demi Davenport, Natasha Packer



### HIT HOME

Their freshman year was the last to have been in the old building and the year of first lip dub. The underpass went from four lanes to 12 lanes with confusing exits to get to the school (you had to be from here to know how.) They would be the only class to walk across the stage and shake Mr. Gordon Butler's hand at graduation after he announced he would be leaving at the end of the year. Maybe it was at the last pep rally or home football game that it sunk in. This was it. It was the last time they would call this place home. But no matter where they go, they will always have a place to come home to.



Zanee Logan  
Dressed in their best hawaiian gear, seniors Jacob Smith and Jack Scula cheer during a kickoff.



Ulises Velez  
To take a break from painting his spot, senior Asher Outarsingh plays the banjo.



Ulises Velez  
Before the Hamlet play, senior David Funes has his beard sprayed for his character.



Ulises Velez  
At the homecoming carnival, senior Zach Vernier wins the pie eating contest.



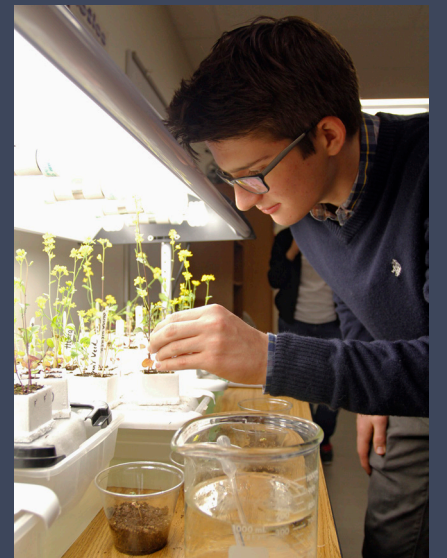
Chelsea Salinas  
Outside, senior Taylor Peabody paints her parking spot.

# the home stretch



*As the year went on,* we gained 10 minutes to our lunches and lost a few minutes from some classes. We have our traditions and we showed people that no one messes with them when 1,773 people signed a petition to keep painted senior parking spots.

Those reserved spots became even more valuable the second semester after sophomores earned their drivers licenses, which made after school traffic a nightmare. But that didn't matter when you could stay after school in your favorite teachers' rooms (and still come back **home** to visit those teachers after graduation.)



1. At the Crosstown Showdown basketball game, senior Kristian Maya cheers after a McKinney basket. 2. Before the state competition, the cheerleaders are sent off with a Touch the Lion ceremony while the drum line performs. 3. In environmental science senior Owen Sutka places a plant under a light source.

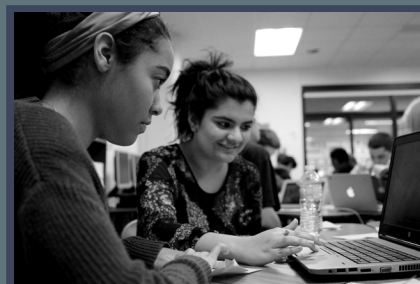
**Top:** Against Celina, senior Demi Davenport slides on base in a close play. Because it was her last season, she wanted to leave everything on the field. "Whether its diving for balls or sliding into bases," Demi said. "I'm going to do my best for my team."



At the Collin County cattle show, senior Reece Phillips leads his steer.



Before the game against North, senior Josselyne Orbegoso, juniors Jade Hollins and Nicole Stuessy, and sophomores JaMiya Braxton and Sarah Jacobsen stand during the national anthem.



In professional communications juniors Kyla Lightfoot and Urooj Qureshi practice origami.





Aleyam Velazquez

### solo dance

During a slow dance at morp, sophomore Elizabeth Warren slow dances without a partner. She went to morp this year without a date or group because she had fun last year and didn't feel like she needed to stay home. "There's no point in finding anyone else to dance with when you can just dance with yourself," Elizabeth said. "At first it was kind of awkward when the slow song came on. I was like 'oh shoot I don't have a date' but I don't need a man to make me happy, I can dance with myself."