

## Faces of the past, echo the present

In 1930 Kealing Junior High School opened. It was the first middle school in the city for Austin's African American population. After being closed in the 1970's due to desegregation, it reopened with the magnet program, more than a decade later in 1986—30 years ago. 30/30 Vision celebrates these two momentous events in our school's history.

We take a look at then, and now, and everything in between. It's something we take for granted as we walk through the halls each day. The evidence is all there for those who open their eyes: patches of faded paint, replaced floor tiles, panoramic pictures with fabulous 80's hairstyles—you just have to look closely.

"When I look at these pictures on the wall, I see a young, hispanic girl in a blue shirt. She stands out to me because she's smiling and seems happy to head to high school." said Krystal Valadez (7).

While the building itself has changed some, the spirit inside—the soul of our school has stayed the same. Sure it's reflected the educational needs and interests of each graduating class, but middle school is still middle school.

As we look back, 30 years, we see reflections of this year in the eyes of those former Kealing students, just as we see a little bit of ourselves too. What will be our legacy? What will they say of our vision, 30 years from now?

Story by Juliette Cloutier

Students in Advanced Music Production and Beginning Theatre recreate a photo from Kealing's first yearbook, taken in 1986. Photo illustration by Sydney Kelley

30/30 Vision / Opening  
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# THEN & NOW



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Page design by Rachel Pierron

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# SUMMER

## 30 days of fun

It started with a bell, the final bell of the year. Summer arrived and our adventure began.

“Last summer I went to California, Colorado and South Africa.” said Leah Davis (8). Like Davis, many students spent time in the summer crossing the country and even the world: from Glacier Park to Paris to Greece. Students took in different cultures and experienced unfamiliar environments. For a day or for a whole month, we made each trip count. “I went to California and went to sleep away soccer camp and I learned a bunch of new tricks and skills.” said Charlie Franklin (7).

Those who didn’t travel worked and played locally. Many of us attended camps, played sports or just enjoyed some down time—getting much needed R and R after another school year.

But as quickly as it arrived, it was gone. The endless days of beach volleyball and hiking through mile-deep canyons had come to an end. Our three months felt more like 30 days. Our vacation was over. It was time to return to school, and that first bell of the new year. Story by Juliette Cloutier

### Stranded, without tech.?

Hard to imagine being stuck on a deserted island for 30 days, and without our phones!?! Winn Philpott(8) and Mari Lara (7) share some responses to the question: *What one thing would you want with you on a deserted island for 30 days (with no electricity or cell service)* while Sofia Syed (7), Emily Wootton (7), Eliza Pesina (7) and Aimee Mancilla (7) add to the chalkboard wall mural. The prompt changed every few weeks, and many responses—in fact, 30 per page—are on the pages that follow. Enjoy!  
Photo illustration by Sydney Kelley

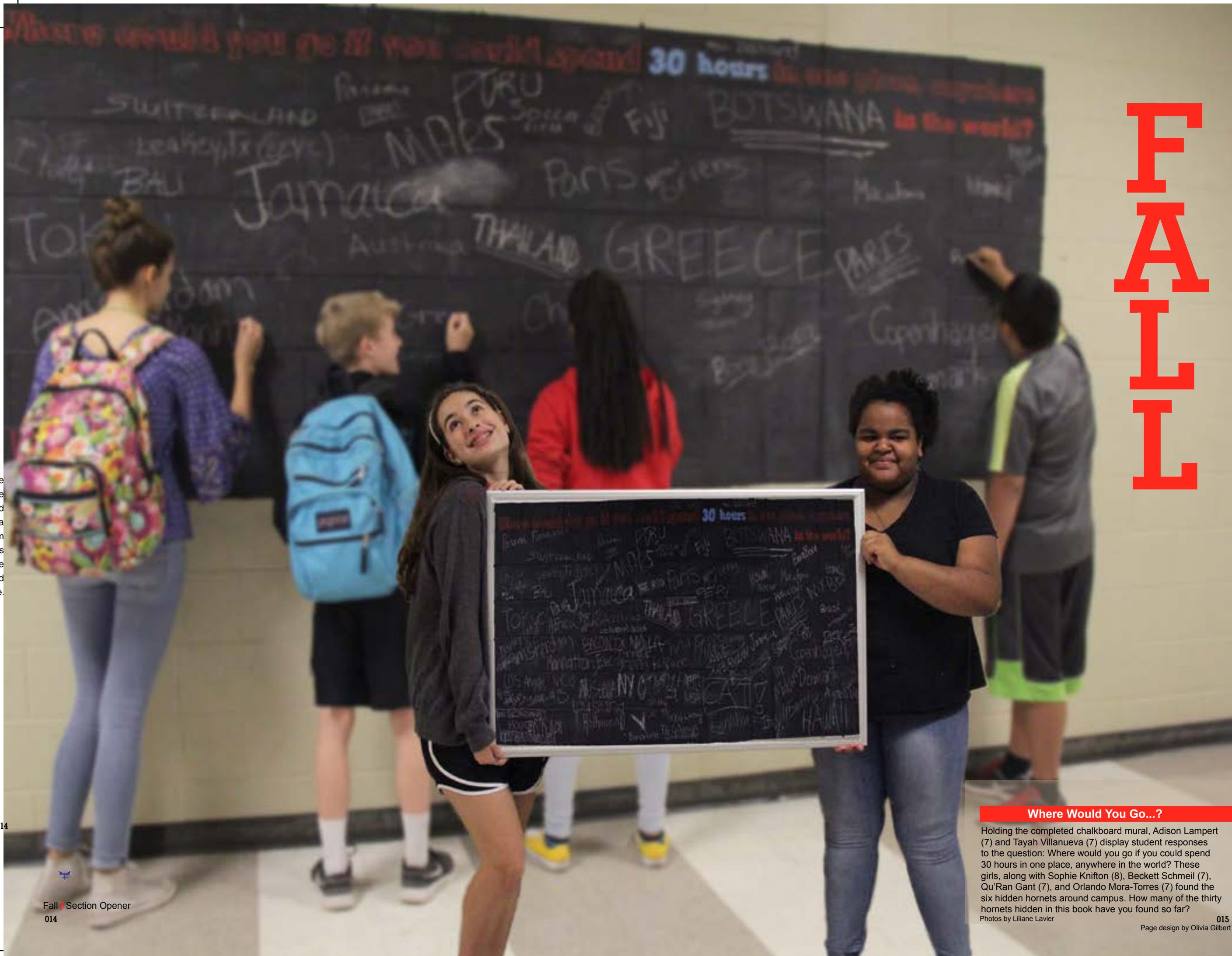
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Page design by Emily Taleff

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# 30 hours of homework

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Just barely back to school and it already started... homework. That one thing that all students know, but definitely don't love.

In a kid's perfect world there'd be no homework. But even in that perfect world, most of us understand that there are just some types of practice that happen at home.

Luckily, our teachers sought out ways to keep the work we did at home interesting, like memorizing lines for a class performance or heading into Downtown Austin to take pictures for a photography project. Extended projects gave us practice, but also taught us how to prioritize, "I do a lot of homework on the weekends," said Chloe Lein (6). While some students preferred taking on work in a solid chunk, others refused to let any moss grow on their backpacks. "You should always do your homework the day that its assigned, especially Monday-Thursday, said Joseph Bates (8).

By mid-fall, we had our time management strategies in hand, and what had felt like endless hours of homework, was now peppered with enjoyable school activities. We had time for NJHS Inductions, dunking teachers at Fall Fest, or lighting up the stage at Lip Sync off, filling the Fall with fun. Story by Benjamin Robison

### Where Would You Go...?

Holding the completed chalkboard mural, Adison Lampert (7) and Tayah Villanueva (7) display student responses to the question: Where would you go if you could spend 30 hours in one place, anywhere in the world? These girls, along with Sophie Knifton (8), Beckett Schmeil (7), Qu'Ran Gant (7), and Orlando Mora-Torres (7) found the six hidden hornets hidden in this book have you found so far? Photos by Liliane Lavier

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# W I N T E R

## 30 seconds of cold weather

The brown and golden leaves fell off the many trees in Austin. Winter came and left, as if it never happened, little trace of snow or ice. Yet we still broke out our sweaters, coats, and jeans to keep ourselves warm from the rough winds and nearly freezing temperatures.

The bulk of winter was taken up by students studying for mid-terms and finals and pulling those dreaded all-nighters. The highlight? Winter break, of course. "I went to my grandma's house in Missouri for four days," said Charlie Franklin (7). Many of us gathered with our family, celebrating the holiday season, while others stayed in Austin and enjoyed their short winter there.

Students enjoyed sleeping all day or going on vacation to places outside of Texas, maybe even the United States, and visiting wherever we could for the short two week respite. Either way, we relished the time off of homework and classes.

While the rest of the country took a beating, Austin had hail. We rushed outside with umbrellas or even just our pajamas to enjoy the closest feeling to snow that many of us Central Texas get to enjoy. We kicked off the new year with a new semester of electives and a return to school in January. It was a new year and a new attitude. Halfway through the year and just a little bit closer to the 30th birthday of our first graduating class. Story by Juliette Cloutier

### What Would You Eat?

In this challenge, Brienna Martinez (7) and Gage Allen (7) hold the chalkboard mural and display student responses to the question: *What food would you eat for 30 seconds nonstop?* These two, along with Lilly Grogono (7), Ellen Fritz (8), Braden Rosen (6), and Champ Turner (8) found the hidden hornets, winning their place on this page and getting to make some of the first responses on the wall mural. Photo Illustration by Sydney Kelley

033

Page design by Ava Longi

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# SPRING

**Who would you most enjoy having a 30 minute lunch with?**

*(living/dead/or fictional)*

**T**ick tock, tick tock. It felt the moment spring began, we were already counting down the seconds until summer. So much so it seems like it's less spring and more just pre-summer. But spring is not a season to be forgotten. What other season can you do school track or tennis? In spring, we took off our backpacks, put down our pencils and enjoyed the warm air. With so much time left until summer, you probably need it. Take some time off of your school routine or else the school months remaining will drag on forever. Every student needs to be relieved of some of the pressures of school, so let the breeze and sunshine help you.

When the flowers bloom in spring, with them, come responsibilities. Everyone you accomplish brings summer one moment closer. April is filled with projects and in May, finals come along. Every student has their own version of Spring coming. No matter what your Spring holds, take in every minute of it.

Take a moment, pause what you're doing, whether it's a project due soon or a test you're studying for, and enjoy this time while you've got it. You're at school 7 hours a day, 5 days a week, not even including the mounds of homework awaiting you at home. There's a danger of letting all your free time get away. It's easy to forget what's around you when you don't have the time to enjoy it. You get plenty of work, so make sure you get plenty of play. Enjoy what you can, while it's still around. You're only in middle school once, so make it count.

### Who would you choose?

Holding the finalized chalkboard with student answers are William Taylor-Burton (7) and Julian Castillo (6). The student responses answer the question: Who would you enjoy having a 30 minute lunch with? Anne Franklin (7), Abdullah Sharif (6), Reha Kakkar (8), and Blake Houston (7), along with the other two students, found the Kealing hornets hidden around the school. Have you found any of the hidden hornets in your yearbook?

“I like seeing all the pretty wildflowers,” Henry Rogers Wagner”

Story by Juliette Cloutier

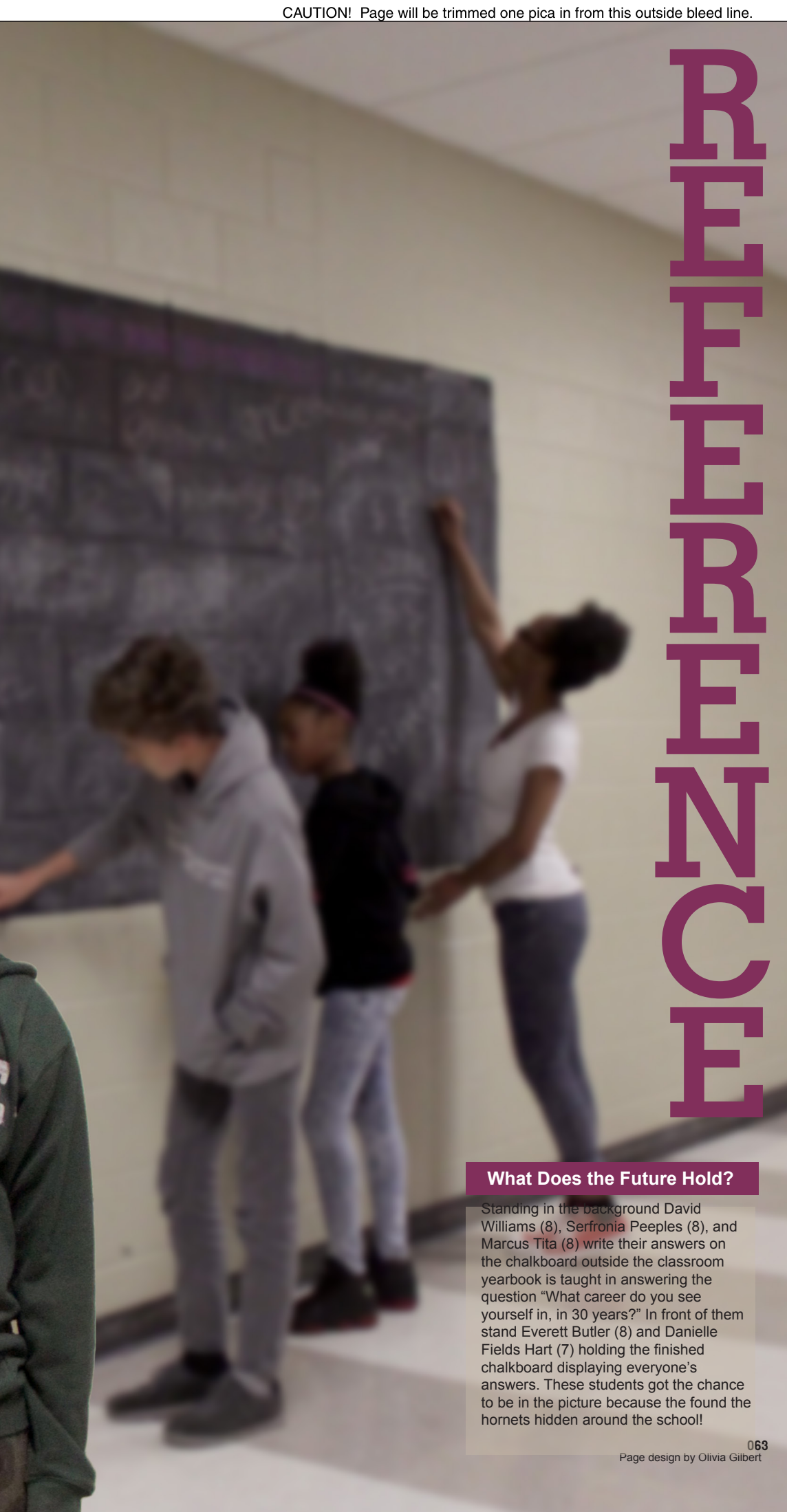
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# REFERENCE

## 30 years to come

As the 2016 school year comes to a close, and we part with the eighth graders who head off to high school, and greet the new 6th graders, who are about to open a new chapter in their life, we can't help but remember moments from the past, and speculate on the future. 30 years have passed this school in a flash, and the next 30 will probably go by even sooner. When our generation of Kealing students look back 30 years from now, will they remember their after school clubs, their favorite classes, their quirky teachers or their favorite moments at lunch? Or will it have washed away over time? Maybe a few will keep their yearbooks and report cards, and look back on their time in middle school. They might sit down in their home, with their kids or their families, and look back and try to remember what it was like. After all, is that not the purpose of the Yearbook? To capture the moments that we have forgotten, to keep the 2016 Kealing experience alive, for generations to come? So we won't forget the 30/30 school year, even after the 50/50 and 60/60 years have passed. We have plenty of time left, so enjoy the present. Let the Vespa collect your middle school memories for you to dwell on later, and go out and make new ones. Don't worry about what you'll forget, find new things you will remember. Story by Benjamin Robison

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### What Does the Future Hold?

Standing in the background David Williams (8), Serfronia Peeples (8), and Marcus Tita (8) write their answers on the chalkboard outside the classroom yearbook is taught in answering the question "What career do you see yourself in, in 30 years?" In front of them stand Everett Butler (8) and Danielle Fields Hart (7) holding the finished chalkboard displaying everyone's answers. These students got the chance to be in the picture because they found the hornets hidden around the school!

063

Page design by Olivia Gilbert

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Faces of the past, echo the present



# NOW & THEN

## Looking forward to looking back

It would be shortsighted to consider the history of our year without looking at the bigger context lying around in our school, not quite hidden from anyone's view if they were to look. Focus on it for some time, and you would see an explosion of bright clothes, beatboxes, and hairspray fly out everywhere, coloring the school a different light.

30/30 vision means looking at where we've been--30 years of our school's rich history. It means looking at where we are--Volume 30 of the Vespa showcases everything that was written down in our own personal textbooks of this year.

Fast forward 30 years. Maybe you're a paleontologist or a deep sea diver or a WWE wrestler. Maybe you have a family to call your own or you've chosen to go solo down your path. No matter where you end up, chances are, every now and then, you'll think back to this year and your time here, and how it impacted who you are and who you've become. You'll remember who you were and 30/30 vision will take on a whole new meaning.

"The thing that I'm going to look for in 30 years is my friends," said Kate Davern (8). "They helped me get through my whole middle school experience and after it's all done, that's what I'll remember."

Look back often--it's all part of looking forward and creating your own 30/30 vision.

Story by Juliette Cloutier

Taking a cue from the past, Sydney Fulton (6), Anushka Parag (6), Breyonn Wooley (6) and Jayden Alvarez (7) give their best rendition of this photo taken as part of the closing of Volume 1 of Kealing's yearbook.

Photo Illustration by Sydney Kelley



# top 30

Putting together a yearbook is NOT easy. Luckily it is usually pretty fun. Volume 30 was no different. The staff worked tirelessly to organize, identify, upload and re-upload their way through the 2015-16 school year to bring this publication to you. How'd we do?

Behold: the 30 things the Vespa staff couldn't live without.

Compiled by Mira MacLaurin, Editor-in-Chief

1. Cover - on the arm of the glasses frame; 2. Pg 1 - bottom rt; 3. Pg 2 - on the wall above the picture; 4. Pg 14 - on Sophie's shoe; 5. Pg 17 - top rt, on the volleyball; 6. Pg 19 - bottom rt, on projector screen; 7. Pg 21 - center, on football helmet; 8. Pg 23 - on Siena's shorts; 9. Pg 27 - top rt, on AV/D poster; 10. Pg 28 - on camera view screen; 11. Pg 30 - top of page on sweater graphic; 12. Pg 31 - on wheelchair next to sticker; 13. Pg 34 - bottom left, on gym floor; 14. Pg 39 - on whiteboard (photo 3); 15/16. Pg 41 - top right on red bulletin board (photo 3); and bottom left, on pink bid sheet; 17. Pg 45 - bottom right, under crane sculpture; 19. Pg 53 - top rt, on tree; 20/21. Pg 64 - bottom left, on timeline; top left, on red bulletin board; 22. Pg 86 - top left on graph paper; 23. Pg 94 - top picture in plants; 24-28. Pg 108 - in the O's on the headlines; 29. Pg 111 - on school bus; 30. Pg 112 - middle, on the computer screen.

112 Page Design by Mira MacLaurin



1. Alisha Morejon. (7) and Mikaela Loera(8) update the hallway chalkboard 2. Madelyn Pollack (8) adds to the work board. 3. Addie Johnson(8) takes on the button maker. 4. Itati Garza (8) and Amari Berry (7) highlight names on spreadsheets. 5. Led by Mae Rizk, yearbook staff gets untangled from the human pretzel, one of the many first day icebreakers. 6. Jackie Meisel (8) and Ava Longi (8) navigate through *Monarch*. Photos by Mira MacLaurin, Isaac Lewis, and Kristen Scott

# VESPA STAFF



Front Row: Peyton Dashiell, Noor Elhagehassan, Darynne Jester, Rachel Pierron, Sydney Kelley, Mira MacLaurin, Jackie Meisel, Ava Longi, Heidi Ellis, Danaja Burton, Kanisha July; Row Two: Hannah Griesmer, Mae Rizk, Ava Motes, Ben Robison, Juliette Cloutier, Bridget Rhodes, Sophia Takvorian, Isaac Lewis, Mikaela Loera, Kristen Scott; Row Three: Miriam Ballard, Alisha Morejon, Maddie Madiedo, Annalise Woolley, Olivia Gilbert, Emily Taleff, Milla Gary, Sydney Grossfeld, Lisa Hendrix, Esmeralda Bueno-Vanegas, Lily Lavier, Zoe Min, Mia Hernandez, Emily Wang, Itati Garza; Back Row: Allison Schafer, Maddy Pollack, Catherine Beckett, Addy Lemoine, Addie Johnson, Gracie McDaniel, Amari Berry, Sharia Binion Photo by Laurie Pena-Brooks

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