

SEEN & HEARD
on Aug. 24

Sofia Martinez (11) "This year, I was surprised by photography because Mrs. Asha is so much fun, and I didn't know how much I could do with a camera."

Joelle Marchiani (12) "Mr. VanErt surprised me because he's so energetic, but also because statistics is so different than any math class I've ever had."

Noah Toney (10) "The teacher I was most surprised by on the first day was Mr. Maduneme because I like his accent and was not expecting it."

Peerce Ward (9) "I was most surprised by Mr. Rodriguez on the first day of school because he was fun and serious, which makes it fun."

Griffin Johnson (10) "On the first day, Ms. Ziemann was definitely the most surprising because she has a very different style of teaching that makes you learn."

Preethi Keerthipati (11) "The carpets were gone, which was really surprising. I didn't know that they were being replaced over the summer."

FIRST DAY FASHION



"MY OUTFIT MADE ME FEEL GREAT AND EXCITED BECAUSE I GOT A LOT OF COMPLIMENTS."
-DELANEY WILSON (11)

"I JUST PICKED MY FAVORITE THINGS TO WEAR. IT WAS NOT A BAD WAY TO START SCHOOL."
-GEHRIG WILSON (9)



"LOOKING NICE WAS A NICE WAY TO START THE YEAR, AND MY BOOTS WERE COMFORTABLE."
-MORGAN MUIR (11)



LOOKING CLASSY /// Skimming his schedule, sophomore **Jorge Martinez** checks to see if he got all the classes he wanted on Aug. 24. Some of the classes he enrolled in were Pre-AP Spanish 3, Soccer and Art 1. "Compared to freshman year, I felt like I actually knew what I was doing," Martinez said. "Freshman year was the hardest. It just gets better from there." \\ Photo by Macy Loyd

Students take on first day of school with nerves, excitement

TOUCH OF CLASS

For the first time in 78 days, the daily ding of the bell at 8:35 a.m. was met with a little less than 2,000 students streaming out of the cafeteria doors and into their first period classes.

The 2015-16 school year began on Aug. 24 and included many changes, such as DEN everyday, tiled floors and over thirty new staff members. However, new and returning students alike, maintained the status quo of first day feelings.

"I was nervous for the first day of my last year of high school," senior **Heather Choi** said. "Even though I've come to this school for four years, this was actually the last year that I would be a part of it and I would no longer return to it."

Meanwhile, sophomore **Shiva Kumar** had a different perspective.

"I felt really confident about how my school year would start," Kumar said. "Unlike freshman year, I realized it's just another day and another challenge. I was also more comfortable with my surroundings and knew a lot more upperclassmen."

Extracurricular activities, such as band and sports, that required practice over the summer, also played a role in how students felt about the first day of school.

"I would definitely say that being in band helped me feel more comfortable," freshman **Jacob Shackett** said. "I knew more people and knew the school."

Alongside Shackett, junior **Elisabeth Ford** also faced her fears on the first day of junior year.

"I had heard juniors tell tales of academic horror," Ford said. "It turns out, they are all true. It's really stressful to manage time between clubs and homework. I just try to take it all week by week."

UNLIKE FRESHMAN YEAR, I REALIZED THE FIRST DAY IS JUST ANOTHER DAY AND ANOTHER CHALLENGE."
Shiva Kumar (10)

LET ME TAKE A SELFIE /// With a quick snap, junior **Hanna Stapleton** and sophomore **Ryan Nesbitt** take selfies to promote Photography Club at the Club Fair on Aug. 31. Stapleton is vice president of the club and took AP Photography this year. "I love the dark room," Stapleton said. "I joined Photo Club to get more experience with it because I am considering a major in photography." \\ Photo by Savannah Lundin



KEY PLAYER /// Gliding his fingers across the keyboard, senior **Nataniel Carrasquillo-Medina** plays music to attract potential members for National Art Honor Society on Aug. 31. The club handed out fliers and cookies and made their booth more decorative this year for the Club Fair. "We're trying to spread the word so we can do more art projects," Carrasquillo-Medina said. "We want to make something to last even after the seniors graduate." \\ Photo by Macy Loyd



ALLERGENICS UNITE /// With renewed effort to spread the word, seniors **Connor Nesbitt** and **David Rocha** explain the purpose of the Food Allergy Support Group at Club Fair. The cafeteria can't feed students with allergies because of contaminants. "Every year, I have asked if we could have a microwave for students with allergies," Nesbitt said. "I wanted to recruit more people for my cause and have a positive community for the minority." \\ Photo by Savannah Lundin

MEET AND GREET /// With a smile and shake of the hand, freshman **Christopher Jacobs** meets principal **John Sloan** during Open House on Aug. 31. Jacobs had been to Open House with his older siblings before with older siblings, but it was his first time meeting Sloan. "At first, I didn't know what to think of Mr. Sloan," Jacobs said. "Since he [Sloan] was new, I was wondering what kind of changes he made, but he's a really nice guy." \\ Photo by Macy Loyd

