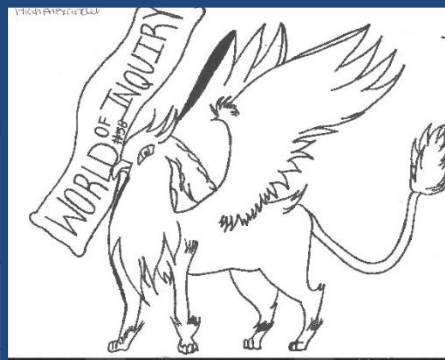


The Griffin Guardian

Volume 1 Issue 2
November 2014

World of Inquiry High School
A student produced Newspaper



Reflections After My First Forty Days

We are CREW. In my first six weeks as a member of the World of Inquiry family I have come to embrace our school motto: We are crew not passengers. Together, we uplift one another to reach our greatest potential. In my vocation as an educator working with young people, I believe at the core of what I do is to nurture the head, the heart, and the hand. Teaching is posing the question that allows students to explore the depths of who they are; molding and filling the mind with knowledge, learning to care about one's self, one's fellow citizens and the community and world around them, and finally working with the hand to heal, build, create, cultivate the soil and perform the physical labor required to get things done.

In my short time at World of Inquiry School, I have seen this put into practice by children and adults alike. I have seen the Griffin Values of Inquiry, Integrity, Self-Discipline, Tenacity and Compassion demonstrated by all members of our school community in the classroom, playground, cafeteria, and athletic playing fields. I have observed kindergarteners showing compassion and sharing at lunch time, our athletes showing tenacity in competition, students struggling for greater understanding in class and exercising self-discipline when confronted with difficult issues, and I have witnessed the integrity of the staff each day giving the best of what they have to provide our students the opportunities of self-discovery.

In my first six weeks at World of Inquiry, I have come to embrace these Griffin Values. I BELIEVE that we are crew, not passengers and we all have the ability to nurture the head, the heart, and the hand of our fellow citizens. I challenge each crew member to make a difference each day by demonstrating or living up to one of these values.

Respectfully,
Kwame Donko-Hanson

Youth Programs in the City of Rochester – CHECK ONE OUT @ www.cityofrochester.gov/youthservices/

Bureau of Youth Services uses the Search Institute's 40 Asset Development® as a framework for supporting youth in their journey to adulthood. The 40 Assets are common sense, positive experiences and qualities that help influence choices young people make and help them become caring, responsible adults. The youth development projects may include: community service/ learning projects; leadership development & character education; effective communication training; and youth empowerment projects.

The [Rochester After School Academy \(RASA\)](#) is a comprehensive after school program developed through dynamic partnerships between community agencies, schools, students and families.

The [Pillars of Hope](#) provides City School District students with visible and accessible professionals and role models, who conduct presentations about their journeys from adolescence to successful adulthood.

The Bureau of Youth Services also oversees two projects that aim to reduce teen pregnancy rates, and the impact this issue has on our community:

The [THRIVE project](#) (Teens Helping to Reinvent Integrity, Values and Empowerment) is an afterschool youth development program offered in 14 City Recreation Centers. This program is a five year evaluative study funded by the US Department of Health's Office of Adolescent Health.

Service and Compassion

"A generous heart, kind speech, and a life of service and compassion are the things that renew humanity."
~Gautama Buddha

Inquiring Minds Want to Know: What's up with the new building? ~Branwyn Wilkinson

So you've heard. The return to our building has been delayed. Or has it? The RCSD will still be assuming ownership of our building on December 1st, as planned. WOIS will regain access to the building two weeks later, as planned. It is not a delay, it is an expanded move.

A "mad-dash move" will not benefit anyone, which is what our return would have been had the original plan of returning home, after the holiday break, been carried out. After the holidays, the entire K-12 student body would have been thrown into an unfamiliar environment. This kind of sudden change would be especially troubling for younger elementary students, because it is so important to maintain routine at that age. Remember that kids in second grade and younger have never even been in our building. While we may think of it as home, the only home some have ever known is Franklin.

Many of our juniors and seniors will also need the routine of the Franklin school to ease them into Midterms; for some students, the midterms will make the difference of earning a much needed Regents credit to walk the stage in June. We would have to spend at least the first week, probably longer, adjusting to a new environment, and we would lose crucial instructional time to prepare for Regents exams.

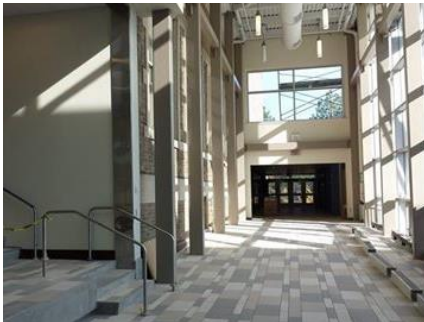
Former Mayor Richards emphasized that "no one else in the country has a building like this." He and Ms. Webster, and the rest of the move management team all came to the decision together to push the start date back, and they have all

always been on our side. Everyone else wants to see World of Inquiry back at home as much as we do.

There is so much to look forward to in our updated building! While classes will not be held there until February 23—after the holiday break—all sports events are being moved, and there will be many other opportunities for students to access the building before classes begin

there. Each grade will be scheduled to do a mock schedule in the new building, and there will be other re-opening events. When we do move back, our building will not be unfamiliar to us. Plus, everything will be state of the art! The former Kindergarten wing has been completely transformed into a huge media center, with books for all ages and new computers that everyone will have access to. The cafeteria has been completely redesigned and we have a real kitchen now. There are also two courtyards, so older students will be able to eat lunch outside in warm weather. There is a greenhouse, and, Seniors, *we have a lounge!*

This is an historic year for WOIS – its first graduating class, everyone agrees that the Seniors should experience our beautiful new building that we have always called home, even if it is for only half a year – glass half full people! In the words of Ms. Webster "World of Inquiry is a gem in the school district;" everyone has been working hard to get us back home as quickly and seamlessly as possible. The February 23 start date is a gift, and we will not have to wait until then to experience our updated building. A Grand Re-Opening Ceremony is being scheduled for early January. Starting then, World of Inquiry will have two homes.



TEACHER FEATURE: MR. BROSER –

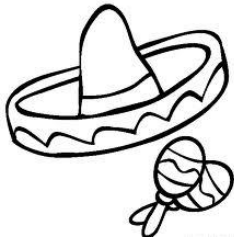
Melea Jones Interviewer- Mr. Broser is a new addition to the World of Inquiry School's staff. During a Griffin Guardian meeting his name was said as the next teacher to interview. Students in the meeting say that he is a very cool teacher and due to his responses in the Teacher Feature column, the student's statements are proven true. Mr. Broser is a cool and ambitious teacher and I have high hopes that he will teach my fellow Griffins the value of believing in themselves.

Q. Why did you become a teacher?

A. I think since I was very young, I wanted to be a teacher. I wanted, and I still want, to offer my students an opportunity to learn. Maybe they'll learn new material, or they'll learn better study habits, or perhaps they'll simply learn to believe in themselves. I became a teacher to help students find a reason to learn.

Q. What do you like about teaching?

A. I like the challenge - it's difficult to make students believe that, with the right attitude and practice, they can achieve anything. But I believe that's the message that every teacher needs to promote. I also love meeting such a diverse group of students. Each student has a special talent or interest. I enjoy meeting with and getting to know them.



Q. Why do you want to teach at World of Inquiry School?

A. World of Inquiry is a unique place. Unlike most public schools in the area, it is trying a new approach on learning. I love the idea of outward bound trips and field studies. I think it's a great way to encourage learning while also allowing students and teachers to better understand each other. I hope that while I work here, I can become a better teacher and a positive contributor to the school. Go Griffins!

Q. What advice would you give to students who want to succeed in school?

A. Something worth achieving is never easy to achieve. I understand that for many students, it can be frustrating to try and not succeed. But, I believe that's the first step - you can never succeed if you never try. Plus, the more challenging the goal is, the more satisfying it will be to achieve it.

Our NEW SPANISH TEACHER!

Q. What new teaching methods do you plan on using to help your students succeed in class?

A. I hope to help my students learn through a variety of ways. I may use games and group activities one day, and then a short movie clip and discussion questions another day. I also know that each student learns differently. So, I will do my best to use music, videos, interviews and other activities to teach lessons.

Q. What is your favorite pastime/hobby?

A. I love music - I love to listen to it, and I love to make it. I played the euphonium (a small version of the tuba that sounds like a trombone) for many years. I stopped when I went to college, but I'm relearning now. I believe there are few things in the world as rewarding as making music.

Q. What is one of your favorite books?

A. Harry Potter - I grew up reading and waiting for the release of each new book. I even reread the series when I was working in Ukraine for Peace Corps. My friend had all seven books on his computer, and he gave them to me before I went abroad. For me, they never get old!

Q. Where would you like to travel?

A. Australia. It's a very interesting country and continent. I think that the reason I'd want to go to Australia would be the same reason someone would want to visit Canada or Ireland - it's a part of our popular culture, as such observed in our movies and restaurants, but I know very little about it. Plus, who wouldn't want to see a live kangaroo in the wild?

SAT Practice Questions:

Sentence Completion:

Because King Philip's desire to make Spain the dominant power in sixteenth-century Europe ran counter to Queen Elizabeth's insistence on autonomy for England, ----- was -----.

- (A) reconciliation . . assured
- (B) warfare . . avoidable
- (C) ruination . . impossible
- (D) conflict . . inevitable
- (E) diplomacy . . simple

The answer is somewhere in this newsletter!



WHAT AN INCREDIBLE FALL SPORTS SEASON!!

Self-Discovery



INCLUSION



DIVERSITY

Empathy



COMPETITION



COLLABORATION



FAILURE

SUCCESS



Caring

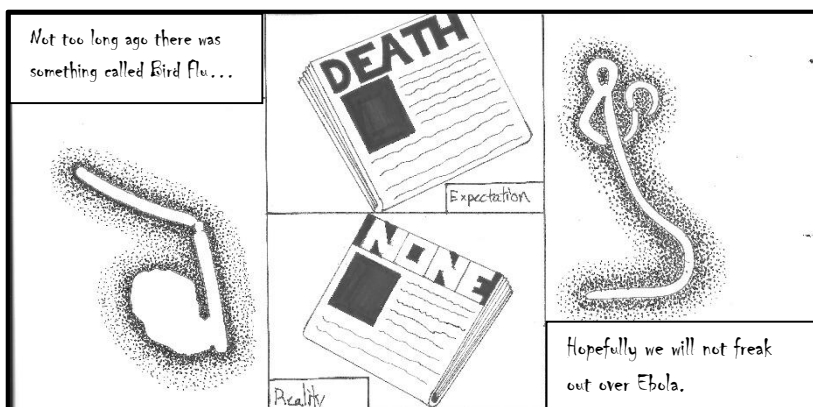
My Take – Unique Fair-Smith

Unless you have lived under a rock (one without Wi-Fi) for the last two months, you're likely very familiar with the term "Ebola." The way our media portrays it, you would think that all of humanity and society will soon devolve into something akin to the post-apocalyptic movie *28 Days Later*. However, I must say that I am personally flabbergasted by how late America is to the party, at this point it's not even fashionable.

Ebola is nothing new, it's been around for decades and as a country we have done little to nothing substantial to deal with it. We've managed it, sending a few doctors here and there whenever it killed a few HUNDREDS or THOUSANDS of people, which I guess is the quota for how many non-Americans have to die before we can even give any situation a look see. But we have been considerably distanced from the issue because it was never "our problem."

Yet, all it takes is for ONE American to die from this disease on American soil and we start taking the issue very seriously. I guess maybe it is fashionable to be late.

All over the nation communities are taking preemptive measures to prevent an outbreak and prepare local doctors for the anticipated wave of Ebola infected patients. Politicians are talking about closing and limiting borders to prevent citizens of Ebola ridden countries from coming here. A single cough and the entire room turns and looks at you as if "I have Ebola!!" is carved onto your forehead. Clearly we are facing an unprecedented situation, guess the morgues are going to be busy.



We've never faced such a threat before, except for that time we did. Anyone remember H5N1? The Bird Flu, everyone was going to die, and not one American did. Take a deep breath people, this happens every few years, and by "this" I mean absolutely nothing is what happens every few years. Our media is creating hysteria over Ebola being this nation's shattering pandemic just like they did Bird Flu, desperate to sell newspapers.

The thing is, Ebola, for as long as it has been around (it's old enough to be my middle aged parent) has pretty much the worst success record of anything that has ever killed American citizens. Rollercoaster

rides have killed and maimed more Americans in the last 15 years than Ebola has in the last 40 years (The red coloring on the Ride of Steel isn't just paint anymore). Along with that, there are hundreds of other things that have been killing Americans more effectively than Ebola. Heart attacks, car accidents, physical violence, spontaneous human combustion (google it), drug overdoses, alcohol abuse, cigarette smoking, to mention a few.

I'm not saying Ebola shouldn't be scrutinized by our media, but the real killer headlines, sadly, get very little press. Instead of putting our collective efforts toward those very real issues, we spend those resources on an issue that is yet to even become an issue. What's your take?

(If you would like to tell us YOUR TAKE on a school issue - lunches, sports, pep rallies, etc., please submit your opinions to room 128)

OTHER NEWS:

- **STEP JAM!!** DECEMBER 13th!!! Watch for MORE!
- Parent-Teacher **Conferences Thursday 12/4** in the secondary Cafeteria. 5:30-7:30pm
- **Get your tickets for PIPPIN!!!** Wednesday, January 14th - \$15 for DINNER and THEATRE! See Mrs. Porretta-Baker
- Secondary students using Social Media can follow **@WOISGriffins on Twitter** for school announcements, updates, etc. This account will not follow you back- it is just for students to receive updates and news.

Go home and write

-Henry Davis

A page tonite.
And let that page come out of you
Then, it will be true.

What comes out of me
is myself. That's all you should
expect. What else do i have to offer
other than what i truly am and not
what others see me as. What comes
out of me is what i have been given.
This education, given to me and not
that child i see on the corner of the
street, too poor to afford one.

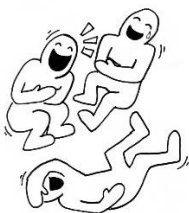
But how i see what i give.
i see nothing special. I hear nothing
special. I hear others saying i am
nothing special. Just a kid. An asian.
no a Chinese kid, who gets stuck
with bad luck. They see me as just
like every other kid with tan skin and
slanted eyes and Asian background. i
hear them say open my eyes. But
they need to open theirs and see who
i am.

I have personality. I have everything
that others have. But at the same
time i don't. I don't want to be that
same kid. I don't want to be like the
100's of children at my school and the
same vanilla colored desk doing the
same math problem off of the same
lined piece of paper. But we all have
equal worth. This is what my page is
about.

This is my page for English B.

A corny joke:

Griffin: You know what's odd?
Turkey: What?
Griffin: Every other number!



Beats and Bops

Music Reviewer: Doug Vorndran

"Everybody lookin' at you crazy, what you gon' do? Lift up your head and keep moving, or let the paranoia haunt you?" Kendrick Lamar's "I (Love Myself)" is his most recent release since his 2012 ground-breaking album, 'Good Kid m.A.A.d City'.

I am currently writing this review at the same time I normally listen to this song, right after my work shift is up, and I'm heading home. As depressing as a job at McDonald's may be, I'm not here to complain, this gem of a single has the power to flip my mood completely. I'm slouching in my chair, waiting for the madre to pick me up, flip this song on, now I'm doing that Kendrick 2-step in the middle of the McDonald's lobby. Not even lying. I mean how could you not? This song is pure positivity! It gives that great vibe of well-being, joy, and freedom. From what seems to be an all live instrumental beat, no artificial sounds here, it's just pure human exhilaration. Kendrick pushes the need for self-confidence and all around loving yourself as a person. It's almost like he is handing you your new found spirit and saying "there you go, do something great with it." Without giving away too much about this single, I shall conclude this column and tell you this much: listen to it.

For a good live performance, watch Kendrick Lamar - i (Live on SNL)

STRAIGHT UP WITH ZEE

Hi Zee,

I don't have a date to the dance. What should I do, should I just not go?

*Sincerely,
Dateless in Rochester*

Dear Dateless,

Of course you don't need a date to the dance! That is *not* the golden ticket. Going to the dance without a date is just fine; you could just go with some friends. When you go the dance, you're going to have fun and make memories, you don't need a date to do that. The amount of fun that you have is for the most part entirely up to you. When you go to an event, like a dance, it's not who you go with that determines the amount of fun that you will have, but the **attitude** that you go with. If you go to the dance with a bunch of positive energy, then that's just what you will get out of it.

So don't stress about a date, go with some friends and I'll bet that you'll have twice as much fun. I hope that you decide to go to the dance because if you really want to go, and you don't go because you don't have a date, well, sorry to say, but it is kind of a lame reason not to go to the dance. I hope you will write me back to tell me HOW MUCH FUN YOU HAD going dateless!

Peace, Zee

IF YOU WOULD LIKE ADVICE FROM Zee, DROP your note off in room 128.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER:

Guest Columnist: Chris Widmaier

College Profile: SUNY OSWEGO



The college search is not an easy one, and it is never too early to start thinking about where you want to go. Some of the best colleges, and more importantly the best college for you, might be schools you haven't even heard of! SUNY Oswego is one of those schools.

The first thing most people want to know is how far away a school is. At an hour away, OSWEGO is close enough to go home for a weekend to get some home cooking, but far



enough away so your family members won't be stopping by on their way to the mall. The best part about its location though is that it is on the shore of Lake Ontario. You could learn to canoe, sail, swim, and maybe even SCUBA dive.

These types of things are probably not what you're going to major in - so you're probably wondering about academics. SUNY Oswego offers over 100 different majors. They can't all be listed here, but what this means is that there are many options if you fit under the "I'm not

completely sure what I want to be" umbrella.

According to collegedata.com the most popular programs are business, education, communication, and psychology. I found it interesting that on Oswego's school's website they mention that most classes have between 10-19 students. You might have a few freshman classes with more than 100 students, but that is to be expected in a school of 7,000 students. Once you get out of these larger introductory courses, you'll probably be in classes about the same size as the ones you are in now.

If you're thinking that this might be the school for you the next step is to consider what your chances of admission are now, and what you can do to improve your chances. **The most important factor for admission is your GPA.** The average GPA for the freshman class is 3.5. They also consider standardized tests, your college essay, and extracurricular activities. If you want to be one of the 49% of applicants that they admit, you better do your work, learn to write and do something after school! (SEE THE LIST OF CLUBS YOU CAN JOIN IN THIS NEWSLETTER!!)

Learn more at www.oswego.edu

SAT WORD FOR THIS ISSUE: PEJORATIVE

Write your definition, put it in a sentence, and submit it to the counselor's office for a chance to win a REAL COOL COLLEGE T-SHIRT!!



A Varsity Sport for your Mind

*District Wide First
Robotics Team
3838*

*Join our
team today!*

*See Miss Slack
In Rm 155
For more
information*



World of Inquiry Varsity Soccer Boys Seal a Moment in History

Thomas Nhat Le
Alex Brunelle

After the exciting soccer season, the World of Inquiry School #58 Varsity Boy Soccer team (17-3-2) accomplished what no other Rochester city school has been able to. They won both the **Class C Sectional V** and **Far West Regional Championships** and advanced to the class C State Championships. Head Coach Deon Rodgers states that “[we] are carrying the hopes and dreams of the elementary school and the entire Rochester City School District on our backs.” Prior to the final game, Captain Jason Cherin—senior number 14 and RCAC Player of the Year, and James Weh (sophomore number 12) gave an inspirational and emotional pre-game speech. “We can do it, guys,” Cherin says, “we just have to communicate and work as a team.” “We have made it this far, why not just win this last game?” Weh posed this question moments before the team exited the locker room and headed for the turf. The team’s motto throughout the season was an acronym which spells out “TEAM: Together Everyone Achieves More.”

Although the Griffins fell to Rhinebeck (Section IX), who scored a controversial goal midway through the second half, with a final score of 1-0, the fans and the coaches were all proud. “I’m proud of you guys,” says assistant coach Sarah Benjamin (RIA), “Everyone is. You guys made history this year.”

A trend that began for the Griffins half way through their season was saying the school pledge after every game. Even after their final loss, the School 58 fans and team repeated the pledge one last time for the season. The players truly believe that they will make a states’ championship run again in the 2015 soccer season. The Griffins are a young team, losing only three seniors this year: Jason Cherin (Sweeper), Nico Lopez (Left Back), and Israel Aliyev (Right Midfield).

The Griffins began the season with a rough start. After two coaches stepped down due to scheduling conflicts, Coach Rodgers was introduced. He and Benjamin led their team through the remainder of the season and on to the State final game where their season came to a heartfelt end. At the post game ceremony, the Griffins received finalist medals and a state plaque. After the team was called up to be recognized, Rodgers delivered a very emotional speech, stating that “we learned from our mistakes... our successes and our failures, and next year we will be ready. Next year we will be back!”

We the Crew....

Join the Newspaper Team! WE NEED YOU!!! Looks GREAT on your COLLEGE RESUME!

Editor in Chief - Melea Jones

Photographer – Thomas Le

Reporters - Zhanna Thompson, Branwyn Wilkinson, Unique Fair-Smith, Aziza Evans, Alex Brunelle, Thomas Nhat Le

Music Review - Doug Vorndran

ANSWER: D

Illustrator – Miah Alexander and Unique Fair-Smith

Special Shout out to Erica Bryant for her guidance in developing The Griffin Guardian

And HUGE SHOUT OUT to Democrat & Chronicle for printing this month’s issue! WOOT WOOT!