

CAMPUS

An illustration of three students looking surprised or excited. On the left, a boy with orange hair and a blue shirt has his mouth open. In the center, a boy with brown hair and a yellow shirt is pointing his finger. On the right, a girl with dark curly hair and a red top is covering her mouth with her hand. They are standing behind a chain-link fence. In the background, there are green trees and a blue sky with a grid pattern. Several colorful balloons (blue, white, purple, and orange) are visible behind the fence.

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A TYPICAL EDGEMONT SENIOR'S COMMONAPP LIST

1. Founder of nonprofit; mission to ensure cerulean packets of photo and educational institution identification are sported by the masses, \$15 raised
2. Published research; centered around research question: what on earth do the junior high students do in the middle of campus every lunch period?
3. Varsity Physical Education Tennis (thank you Ms. Schaare for the glowing letter of recommendation)
4. Vice second-in-command treasurer; AP Underwater Basket Weaving fan club, mission for the rich contents of said class to be bestowed upon us.
5. Shall I compare thee to a summers day? Thou art more lovely and more temperate; please accept me, please. Please.

Types of Summer Readers

Gabriel Hwang

Ah, summer reading. You know, that big assignment that looms over every Edgemont student throughout the summer? For the bookworms, summer reading is great! However, conquering a mountain of pages is an arduous task for reluctant readers, who would much rather go hang out, play video games, or practice sports. Join me as I break down the six different types of readers and how they complete, or maybe don't complete, their summer reading.

The Typical Summer Reader

These students do everything they are required to do and not a thing more. They actually read the book, answer the questions, and do what they are asked, which could be something like paying attention to themes in the book. When assigned to take note of character development, they just list the major times a dynamic character grew or changed. Their notes are usually on one to two pages of loose-leaf paper or consist of some Post-it notes on pages of their book. These students just finish the assignment, nothing less and nothing more.

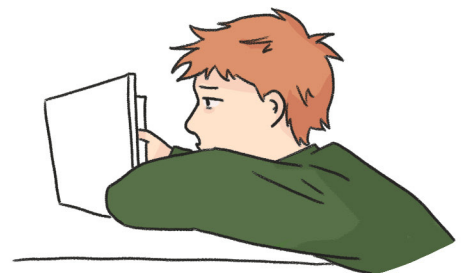


The Procrastinator

These students usually don't start reading until the week before school. They justify their behavior through such lines as, "I don't want to have forgotten what the book was about by the time school starts" or "I'm going to do it toward the end of summer to help me get into a good working mindset for school." When they finally start the assignment, most procrastinators put their heads down and get the job done: reading the book, taking notes (on good days), and doing what's needed. However, not all procrastinators can pull through – eventually, the time pressure will get to them – so they choose completion above all else. Be skeptical of any notes these students take, as a common maneuver they use is putting blank Post-it notes as decoys to make it seem like they took notes about their book.

The Absent Minded

Simply put, absentminded students forgot (or chose to forget) about their summer reading. On the last day of break, they suddenly realize their fatal mistake. Entering total panic mode, these students google how to read a book fast, and approximately ten to fifteen minutes later, resort to their beloved SparkNotes.



“I Read the Book”

They may have “read” the book, but they didn’t really read it. They barely followed the plot and misunderstood the book’s whole premise. They give generic answers for reading checks, analyses, or opinion questions. When asked about the main character, they may say something like, “Oh, him... Um... I thought he was a very smart and well-written character.” The excuse that (never) fails them is, “I read the book at the very start of summer, so obviously I’m gonna forget it.” In group projects, they either don’t contribute or do so with well thought-out ideas (that may or may not be from SparkNotes).



The Good Student

These students do a good job with their summer reading (in accordance with the name). They put a lot of care, effort, and thought into the assignment. They take their time reading and write down meaningful thoughts and details important to the plot. They read between the lines, noticing motifs and underlying messages from the author. When assigned to take note of character development in the book, they take note of every significant time a character changes and explain how it develops the character and contributes to the story. Their answers sound sophisticated and insightful. Good students are resolute, and I wish I could say the same about the next type of reader...

The Pretentious

I guess we should wrap up this article with debatably the most annoying type of summer reader. Last, and definitely least, is the pretentious student. Let’s be honest, we all know that one kid who has a Post-it note filled with details on every single page of their book. The notes are colored, with each color having a different meaning, and you can find a piece of paper at the end of every chapter with an entire analysis of that chapter. Their analyses are admittedly flawless. They don’t just take notes on character development but, rather write essays about it. They are pretentious (hence the name) and are most definitely doing it to impress people and get attention.



As the school year progresses, I wish you the best of luck with all your English reading endeavors (if you end up really reading the books). Which approach will you take for those assignments though?

5 Stages of grieving the Summer

Ryan Im

Back to school season is officially upon us, marking the loss of yet another summer. This sudden change can be overwhelming and lead to a number of responses from your body and mind, often coming in multiple waves. Whether you are feeling sad, confused, or angry about the transition, remember that all emotions are valid. The Campus community is here for you, so let this article serve as a guide to coping with your grief.

1. Denial

Denial is a defense mechanism that your mind uses to help you through an initial shock. After all, losing the summer is a drastic change that always seems to come too soon, no matter how much you convinced yourself you would actually be ready for it this year (almost as if your June self is a completely different person than your current self). You'll do everything in your power to pretend that the calendars are just wrong and that it's actually still July because it is a known fact that months are not supposed to move that fast.

Drowning out the oddly chipper back to school commercials and refusing to talk about the school-that-must-not-be-named, you decide that your summer reading can wait since it's not due for another two months — right? However, denial cannot last forever and is broken by the urge to check your schedule the second it is released and send screenshots of it to your group chats, praying that you won't have to be the only person in your group of friends with early lunch.

2. Anger

Following the period of denial may come anger. After numbing your emotions for so long, they need some form of outlet, possibly coming in the form of panic as you frantically try to read three novels in one week. As it turns out, school was not two months away. Anger could also manifest as you ask yourself why school even exists, leading yourself to spiral into a mini existential crisis.

3. Bargaining

As the first day of school draws nearer, you might find yourself in the bargaining stage of grief. Bargaining is a way for you to feel some control over a situation that is out of your hands. It is not uncommon to feel a desperation for hope that there might be some summer left to spare. You might also have regrets that will come flooding back to you, leaving you wishing that you had made good on your vow to study over the break so school work could be somewhat more manageable.

4. Depression

By this time, your feelings will have had some time to settle in, leading to a stage of intense melancholy that for many is assuaged by plenty of Netflix binges. You'll start to think about all the things the new school year brings with it, such as waking up before 8:00, stressful homework, hoping one hour is enough time to beat the morning traffic, and the risk of being run over by a rolly backpack in the breezeways. When the first day of school rolls around, your depression can make getting out of bed more difficult, and you'll find solace in the snooze button.

5. Acceptance

Though it was a long road getting here, everyone reaches acceptance at some point, even if it occurs after the first day of school. You'll know you've reached it when you give into the desire to make an end of summer Instagram post and start to acknowledge that you'll just have to survive off the weekends now. But who knows? You may manage to find some optimism hidden amongst your grief. After all, a new school year means a new year to start fresh, so maybe school is not such a terrible thing after all. If you don't feel this way, don't worry about it too much — you still have winter break.

Useless School Supplies Daniel Silver

TW: Constant back pain, jokes that don't hit the mark, and tons of wasted money that could have been spent on bake sales

Welcome back to school! As we all know, a new school year brings even more crippling debt after spending far too much money on a bunch of overpriced school supplies that you will never use! This trend is really getting out of hand. You have been tricked by your teachers to waste tons of money on useless school supplies like these, and I don't know how we keep falling for it.

TI-30X IIS Scientific Calculator (\$17.99)

This is mostly for all the middle schoolers reading this article: these calculators are a waste. Yes, mine got me through 7th and 8th grade math (barely,) but at the end of the day, you're going to need a graphing calculator anyway, so why buy this? Lots of functions on the graphing calculator may not be useful in 7th grade, but it will be a life saver in the long run (as a bonus, it will also give you PTSD!) You can also use the money you just saved to buy something from Burger King, or you can be smart with your money. The choice is yours!).

Crayola Colored Pencils 24ct (\$6.99)

When was the last time that you have ever truly needed to use your own colored pencils during a class? It's been a while, hasn't it? But let's say that you actually use your own colored pencils. How nice must it be to use those beauties about five times over the course of 9-10 months! "Oh, I use my colored pencils every week!" said absolutely no one ever. If you ever need colored pencils, there's always that one kid with the 100-pack, so don't sweat it.

Elmer's Glue 1ct (\$1.99)

Read colored pencils above.

A binder for literally every class (\$5.99 per)

I cannot stress this enough: YOU DO NOT NEED FIVE OR SIX BINDERS! I see all of the seniors carrying a computer and occasionally a notebook, and then the middle schoolers, 7th graders in particular, who carry the equivalent of a hippopotamus on their back to and from class. You think you're a superhero, but you're actually just on a super fast track to chronic back pain before the age of twenty! Just group your classes together. It's really helpful! Congrats, you just saved yourself another eighteen bucks!

High School Planner (\$18.99)

Planners would not be on this list about five years ago, but with the emergence of Google Classroom, they have faded into irrelevancy. When asked about their opinion on some of these items, an anonymous 9th grader quipped, "What even is a planner?" Unless you like wasting your precious money, why would you spend 19 dollars for this? It really hurts my brain almost as much as the brain freeze from the milkshake you can buy from Shake Shack with that saved money!

Textbooks (free for the most part, I guess)

This isn't about saving your precious money; this is about saving your precious spine. Please, please just use a PDF!!!! This doesn't save you any cash right now, but it will save your back, which has been in absolute agony since the day you came here. #JusticeForSpines!

Pens and pencils (\$2.99 10ct, \$4.99 10ct)

Finally, we have pens and pencils. You may be asking yourself, "Is this guy stupid?" Possibly, but I have my reasons. You can always ask the random person — I mean friend — who sits next to you for a pen or pencil. Let me walk you through what you have to say. "Do you have a pen?" you ask. "Yeah, here you go," your friend says. And as soon as the bell rings, run.

Don't worry, your friend won't be mad. For him or her, it's only a writing utensil, but for you, it's a treasure. The other route you could go is borrowing from your teacher. Of course, you have to return the pen/pencil at the end of class (don't be that guy,) but it will last you a good 55 minutes. That's a lot of time! Just cycle through those two options the whole year, and you won't have to spend a dime on writing utensils. That's, like, super great.

In total, you just saved \$71.91! You can afford to take a 58 dollar flight from JFK to Chicago with Spirit Airlines and get a Little Caesars deep dish pizza while you're there! Or just stick to Shake Shack's milkshakes if you plan on wasting money on a pencil or two.

HOW TO SURVIVE YOUR DAY OF SCHOOL



Shiv Sibal & Vidhan Bokaria

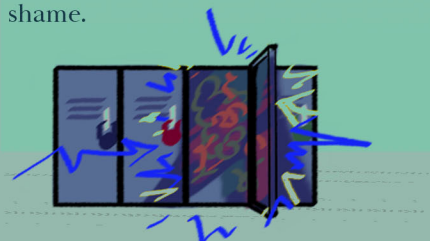
Ah, the first day of high school. A rite of passage that makes the bravest among us quake in our Velcro sneakers. But fear not, for we will impart to you the most foolproof, infallible guide on how to survive your inaugural journey in high school.

Lunchroom Strategy: The lunchroom is a battlefield. Stake out your territory by glowering at anyone who dares to sit at your table. Rule the school early on by loudly declaring your food allergies, preferably ones that are entirely made up.

Rapid-Fire Greetings: Greet every person you meet with an elaborate secret handshake, and follow that with a three-part harmony of “Happy Birthday” in their honor. Friend or foe, it doesn’t matter; you’re establishing dominance through bewildering friendliness.

Social Media Status: Document every moment of your high school journey on social media. Use dramatic filters and cryptic song lyrics to ensure everyone knows just how profound your teenage angst is.

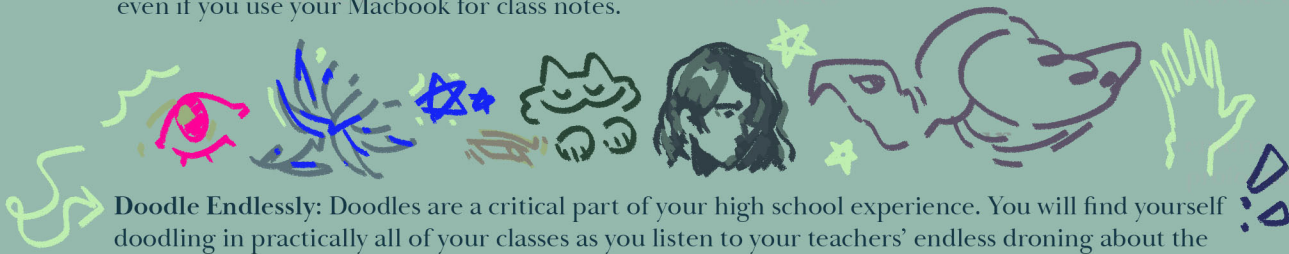
Locker Artistry: Make sure you have the coolest looking locker in your building! It’s your mini art gallery, and it should blind anyone who dares to gaze upon it. Your locker should put all the artwork and murals of the C building to shame.



Cut Class Like a Pro: Cutting class is a true art form. Develop an intricate system of escape routes and secret hiding spots around the school. Bonus points if you sneak out during your monthly fire drill! Remember to wear a cheap disguise and speak in a fake accent when sneaking past the principal's office.

The Perfect Backpack: The size of your backpack should be inversely proportional to your body size. If you are able to close the zips easily, you are doing it wrong. Fill your bag with color-coded notebooks, binders, and folders so that when you open it, everything falls out. Your back should ache every single day from the burdensome weight you carry, but at least it's becoming stronger! Also, make sure you have the most expensive stationery to round out your perfect backpack, even if you use your Macbook for class notes.

S H H H



Doodle Endlessly: Doodles are a critical part of your high school experience. You will find yourself doodling in practically all of your classes as you listen to your teachers' endless droning about the Quadratic Formula or the English Civil War. Make sure your doodles mean something. They have to tell a story. Your story. By the end of the year, you should be able to look back at your doodles and relive your high school memories. In fact, your notebook should look better than the AP Art Portfolio you will be sending to College Board.

Overachiever: Make sure to take the hardest classes, regardless of your interests or time. After all, your personal happiness is not nearly as important as the rigor of your classes. Who cares about your mental health as long as you get all A's?



Draft Your College Essay: Don't forget about college essays. There is no such thing as soon enough. Wherever you are, no matter the time, you should always be thinking about your Common App. The time for fun and games is over, and the time for work has just begun.

Teacher's Pet: It's not enough to get all A's. You also have to suck up to your teachers in whatever way possible to potentially secure those prized recommendation letters down the line, as well as that perfect Progress Report comment. Whenever your teacher needs help, make sure to be there because you care.... about your future.

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cryptid

If you follow this comprehensive guide, I am sure your high school experience will be the best that it can possibly be. Remember, this time of your life is a surreal stage for teenage theatrics, and with these tips, you'll be the star of the show. Just be sure to avoid any actual danger and maintain a shred of common sense amidst the chaos!

HOW to WRITE an ESSAY in under 24 HOURS

By: Le Wang

For new and seasoned high schoolers alike, procrastination is likely no stranger to you. Almost everyone knows the feeling: a big essay or assignment looming over your head for weeks, only to be attempted at 11:30 the night before it's due. Despite the warnings of teachers against such practices, procrastination is a quintessential part of high school. Anyone that enters high school will have at least one late night cram session with frantic typing in the dead of night. But fear not, as this guide will provide you with all you need to ace (or at least pass) that essay.

After all, what is weeks of meticulous planning compared to some last-minute genius?

Step 1: The Excuse

If you are past your deadline for your essay or assignment, the perfect excuse will save you from a zero on your assignment. The key to this step is to craft the perfect excuse by having a story that is both plausible and unique. Unfortunately, the imaginary dog eating homework just won't cut it in today's academic climate. The key to getting an extra three days for your assignment includes some creativity on your part. For example, your dog's babysitter's iguana having an emergency or your laptop having an existential crisis will put you in the clear.

Step 2: The Preparation

To actually be able to write your essay, you will need two things. The first is caffeine. This is to ensure that you will not be tempted to hit the hay instead of hitting the books. Typically, one to two cups of coffee should suffice. The second thing required is adrenaline. Having a looming fear of failing your class will give you all the motivation you need to fill up those five pages. The combination of adrenaline and caffeine may be enough to transform any procrastinator into the next New York Times bestseller. With these two things at your disposal, you may never require any of the above excuses.

Step 3: The Essay

Although counterintuitive, the best planning is no planning. When you're short on time, every minute matters. This is why it's best to skip the outlining stage and just start typing. After all, every teacher is sure to appreciate the unfiltered, raw power of your work. In fact, this essay may be so memorable that your teachers will have you stay after class to discuss it.

Step 4: The Art of BS (blatant speculation)

While writing this essay, you may find yourself googling book quotes or historical sources for it. That is a huge

mistake. You're already pressed for time, and ensuring you have accurate information will only slow you down. This is where the technique of BS (blatant speculation) comes through. As long as what you're writing sounds right, it probably is. The teachers probably won't even notice. After all, whether or not George Washington was the first president doesn't really matter. In fact, BSing your essay will give your writing a creative, interpretive touch that a planned essay could never produce.

Step 5: The Thesaurus

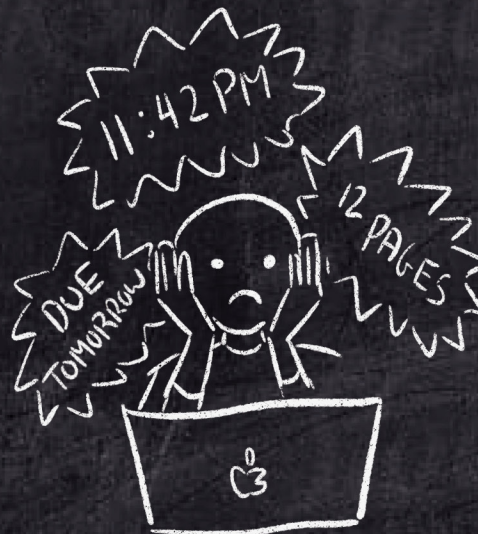
If you've gotten to this step, then congratulations! You're almost through the night! It may be 2 AM, or you may already hear the birds chirping. Either way, there's only a few more steps to complete. Now that you have your first (and almost certainly last) draft, it's time to edit. To give your essay the illusion of being well thought out, dig out a thesaurus from the back of your attic. Or just use Google. Find a simple and boring word, such as "beautiful," and replace them with some obscure fancy language, like "pulchritudinous." Your teachers will just adore this trick, as they will surely never figure out that you aim to hide behind fancy words because you have nothing meaningful to say.

Step 6: Proofread (optional)

A grammar mistake here and there won't make much of a difference. It's probably 7AM for you. Might as well get in that thirty minutes of sleep.

Perfection is overrated anyways.

NOTE: Lastly, to prove how well this guide works: this entire article was written last minute.



Stationery 101

By: Sophie Xie

At the start of every school year, there is always one question on every student's mind: what school supplies will I actually use this year? When the supply list goes up, we all click on it to see what we need. There's always a notebook and possibly colored highlighters, but never explicit instructions on what you need in a pencil case. If you've ever been conflicted about what to bring, this article can help you.

The most essential components of a pencil case are pencils, pens, erasers, and white-out. For the perfect pencil case, I would also add lead, highlighters, a ruler, a protractor, scissors, tape, a mini-stapler, and sticky notes, but I will only detail the essentials.

First up: pencils. Pencils are why you need a pencil case and are arguably the most resilient school supply. They can take notes, draw sketches, erase said notes and sketches, and even provide a tool for you to vent your frustrations! Now, there are two categories: one is the traditional wood pencils used when taking state tests, and the other is mechanical pencils that never dull and don't ever need to be sharpened. The type you choose is personal preference, but let it be said here: mechanical pencils are more cost-efficient and durable in the long term than traditional pencils. There is more variety, and it's easier to customize your pencil to be uniquely yours. BIC pencils are the best budget pick in mechanical pencils. If you're willing to splurge, Pilot's Dr. Grip has a grip that doesn't tire your hand out as fast as the slimmer pencils! That said, traditional pencils are better for test taking and bubbling in answers on the Scantron. They can come in many varieties, but the most classical option is the Ticonderoga yellow #2 pencils. For those of us looking for a pop of color, Ticonderoga also has a series of pencils with assorted colors. Even with color, pencils can be so ordinary. If you're ever looking for something more fun, try a bendy pencil! Tie it into a knot – or not!

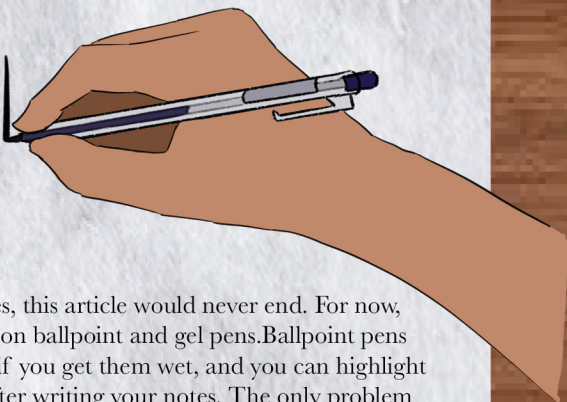
Sometimes the eraser on the top of your pencil works well and sometimes it doesn't. To avoid a scenario where you're taking a test and can't erase the answer you bubbled in by accident, try the white Hi-Polymer erasers by Pentel or Staedtler. Sadly, those erasers get dirty and always look the same. You can also try a Blossom eraser for some color.

Next, onto the school supply that you can never erase: pens. If I were to dive into the endless sea

of possibilities, this article would never end. For now, I'll just focus on ballpoint and gel pens. Ballpoint pens won't smear if you get them wet, and you can highlight them right after writing your notes. The only problem is that they can get stuck easily, so you could find the perfect pen right away or have a pen that needs to be warmed up: and then you've got the perfect pen. Black, red, and blue are the three most common colors, and pink, orange, and green are also out there. If you're looking for a particular brand, Zebra and BIC work pretty well. As for gel pens, there's much more to talk about. Even though they do smear if you touch or highlight them after writing, there's a much smoother experience when taking notes. You can choose from many colors, but if you're bored, try a lava pen!

While pens are generally permanent and you can't erase them, there is one thing that can help cover it up, and it's called white-out. People have differing opinions about white-out; some think it's terrible, because the whole reason you use a pen is so that it won't accidentally disappear! Yet, mistakes happen, and that's when white-out is invaluable. There are liquid and tape-like white-outs. Either is usable, yet liquid white-out takes a while to dry and can be bumpy, resulting in a less-than-ideal writing experience. Tape white out is smoother and more portable, with no concern of leaking in your pencil case. If you're only looking for white-out based on function, BIC makes white-out with some colors for variety. If you want something cuter, try the milk bottle white-out from Kasmira! BIC also has white-out pens for those who prefer to use liquid white-out.

I've covered four types of school supplies in this article, but you should have many more in your pencil case. Hopefully, this list helps when you're compiling your school supplies at the beginning of the school year or just need to replace the pen that's recently died!



How Does The Edgemont Community Feel About The Beginning of The School Year?

Mitchell Vayser

School – it's like a jungle. There are many different groups of people: there's the seemingly miniscule seventh graders, the NPC's, the wannabe hippies, the senior drivers, and that one kid who thinks this is a military school. For many people, it may be complicated to navigate Edgemont. You can have AP Calculus in the C building, but then AP Psych in the D building, and after that it's back to APES in the B building. For somebody just starting out at Edgemont, such complexity can be very tiring and annoying. For example, Alwing Jing ('29) said, "It's kind of hard getting everywhere, but the teachers are nice and I really like the school." I'm not sure how my peers feel, but I think it becomes a monotonous routine by the time you're a senior.

"I was dreading it."

"Teachers didn't ease into the workload at all."

On top of the schedules, the work that you do can be far more difficult than navigating around campus. An anonymous Junior said, "So far it (school) hasn't been great. Teachers didn't ease into the workload at all, we just jumped right into everything." An anonymous seventh grader carped, "I was dreading it because even though summer lowkey sucked, I actually had free time and no work everyday. Now that we're back in school, the work comes back for a long nine months." Abdullah Waleed ('24) lamented, "I do not feel good about the beginning of the school year. I had a great summer, and then it ended, and I had to go back to school. Also, for some reason, last year I decided to take all the hard classes, so now I am taking classes that are way too difficult for me." Many people don't want to go back to school after summer, and for seniors, this school year is the end of our Edgemont careers.

On the other hand, there are students who like school. Ava Thomas ('25) said, "I'm definitely ready to jump into school this year, and I feel like summer has reached a point where I'm ready to get back into a structured schedule and work hard, as much as I do love summer." Feba George ('28) observed, "I feel like this year is going to be great! I am feeling motivated and productive to work this year." In the beginning, most people tend to complain about returning to school, but after a couple of months, they get back into the routine. Then, maybe – just maybe – they begin to actually like school, especially since Edgemont is such a kind, loving, and caring community (really, I mean it).

"I'm ready to get back into a structured schedule and work hard, as much as I do love summer."
- Ava Thomas ('25)

Now that you have heard from a few students at Edgemont, you are probably wondering what the staff think about the beginning of the school year. Math teacher Ms. Forgione said, "I have very mixed feelings when it comes to the beginning of the school year. I love summer! I love the warm weather, being at the pool or the beach, the slower pace of life, and spending days with my family. My boys don't go to camp, so we spend our days swimming, taking the dog to the park, or finding an adventure for the day. I have more time to read and get things done around the house. I am always so sad to see it end. The new school year is exciting though. I love meeting all of my new students and getting to know them. This year, I have mostly seniors, who I have never taught before, so it is fun getting to know them before they leave. Senior year is fun to be a part of, even as a teacher. Watching [them] go through the college process and get those acceptances is amazing! Watching [them] experience your "lasts" is bittersweet. Even though I love summer and the slower pace, it's also nice to be back on a schedule and know what's coming each day. I can't wait

to attend sporting events, plays, and other activities and get to see all of my students in a different light! I have so many things to look forward to as the school year starts.”

Mr. Moses, a P.E. teacher, shares, “My favorite part of the new school year is how it is filled with positivity and excitement. Everyone is anxiously eager to start off on the right foot and make good first impressions. I love getting to know my new groups of students every year and building meaningful connections with them. That being said, it is always bittersweet at the start of the school year knowing that all that family time I enjoyed will be less until next summer rolls around.”

“My favorite part of the new school year is how it is filled with positivity and excitement.”
- Mr. Moses

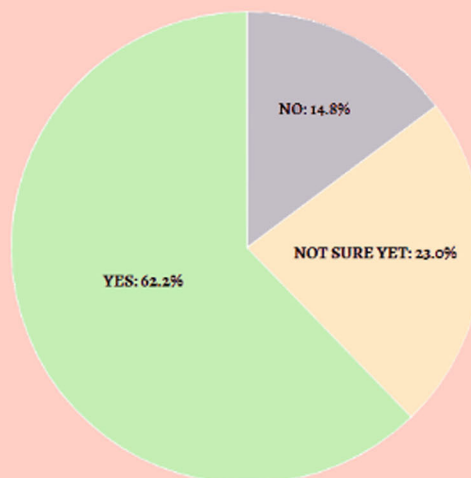
Spanish teacher Ms. Salzano said, “As a teacher, I am always nervous about how my schedule will rotate with the block schedule. Also, I get nervous about what my teaching duties will be (testing room duty, lunch duty, library duty, etc.). Otherwise, I am excited to start a new year, with new students and energy in the classroom. I am always impressed and proud to witness their academic and personal growth throughout the year. I am looking forward to building relationships with my new students, and having fun in class! This year we are implementing a new Spanish comprehensible-input curriculum called Somos that will be an adjustment for teachers and students of the seventh and eighth grade classes. Now that the school year has started, I have gotten back into a healthy routine, personally and for work, including food prepping, balancing the time to exercise, being prepared for the next school day, and getting enough sleep. Every day is different, with different afternoon plans and schedules, but if I can plan ahead and be in control of all the changing factors, I feel better about it - mentally and physically.”

Mr. Darby, a social studies and psychology teacher, said, “I like my classes this year. Typically, I see many of my 10th graders for AP Psychology, but this year was not the case so I am disappointed that I don’t get to work with them again in a different capacity. I like the new 9th graders in my Global I class and the new batch of 10th graders whom I did not teach last year. I look forward to working with them. One of my favorite things about the new school year is meeting new people. A cornerstone of my teaching style is establishing new relationships with my new students and strengthening the connection with my former students. This year I only have a handful of former students, and the majority of my classes consist of students I have never met. I see this as an opportunity to get to know these students and give them an experience they will look back on with fondness. Every year is a new opportunity to try something new or tweak an existing lesson. Each year I tweak or rework my notorious colored class notes packets for each of my classes. Never has there been a year where I have used exactly the same thing twice. Additionally I am planning on incorporating new, short demonstrations in my AP Psychology classes.

Last year, my students did some amazing demonstrations as part of a presentation. My goal is to use their ideas and incorporate them into my lesson plan. I work year round, so I am never really out of a routine. I took several classes over the summer, so I had projects to complete and turn in. However, it took some getting used to when classes began, but once things got moving it was like I never left for the summer. Additionally, I wake up early each morning and train in Jiu Jitsu (class begins at 6:30 am) so this is not different for me when school starts.”

Everyone seems to feel a bit differently about the beginning of the school year. Now that you have heard from the students and teachers here at Edgemont, what is your assessment of the start of the new school year? How is your schedule compared to last year or the years before? These questions would probably work as good conversation starters for when you’re bored and don’t want to talk about the weather.

Do Edgemont Students Like School?





ADVENTURES of a JUNIOR DRIVER

Penelope Kraus

As school starts, there are tons of new beginnings. These may be new teachers, a new backpack, or in some cases for juniors, a new mode of transportation. While it is hard to imagine (and hard to trust) many of your peers and friends behind the wheel, that is the reality of junior year.

Passengers feel anxiety, and drivers also experience anxiety behind the wheel after receiving their licenses. However, new drivers often don't take the time to settle into driving with passengers. Instead, they dive head first into the experience. Oftentimes you may see clown cars of juniors parking on Artillery and Old Colony, or you may see a group of friends blasting music while driving through Scarsdale Village and down the Pipeline.

This newfound freedom of leaving during lunch periods is one that juniors take full advantage of. Not having to be tied down at school or having to sit in the lunchroom is seen as a perk. However, the adventures of these "free" juniors may fall just short of being considered advantages. Let me introduce you to the downfall of junior driving: parking.

Parking on Artillery:

Driving up the heavily wooded road, what creature do you see most often? A deer? A bunny? A squirrel? The answer is... a junior. Juniors have made Artillery their home. A large line of parked cars span the long road, so you can only imagine the chaos. This chaos includes teenagers attempting to parallel park, and

watching, you would be surprised to hear that parallel parking is a skill needed to receive a driver's license.

While skills may be lacking, it is impossible to deny the fact that juniors being able to drive to and park near school is a privilege. But with privilege comes (say it with me)... responsibility. This responsibility for juniors is not only operating a motor vehicle but to venture through the woods without twisting an ankle.

There are two choices of paths to reach class. Option one is paved (unevenly), and when you reach the end of the seemingly mile-long path, you are met with every junior's best friend: mud. However, don't be fooled; it isn't always just a little mud. During rainstorms you will find a swamp. If you don't feel like wearing waders to school, maybe consider path number two.

Path number two is not glorious, either. This path is basically a clearing in the trees. While there are steps towards the end of the path, the rest is made of roots and rocks. If you leave this path without having slipped, twisted an ankle, or gotten a tick, you surely deserve an award.

While I am being somewhat dramatic considering the path is manageable during the spring, the fall and wintertime make my exaggerations understandable. When leaves fall on the ground, nothing is in plain sight. This has led many to not only walk on the ground but to fall on it, as well. This is the same case as when snow falls; not only is the ground covered, but when it melts, what is left? You guessed

it, mud. In any case, there aren't better options for a junior driver, as you will see with their next parking option.

Parking on Old Colony:

Personally, I believe this to be the best parking option for junior year. You can avoid school traffic when going to and from school, and you avoid the mud of Artillery. But, Old Colony isn't all that, either. You run into the same issues of parallel parking with the added bonus of needing to avoid blocking someone's driveway or walkway, oh joy.

While this is an easy task to accomplish, it leads to a trek back to school. If you are late, especially after lunch, to get back to school you have to park several houses away from the campus, leading to an awkward jog to class. The cherry on top of all this is that you have to move your car every two hours or else you receive a ticket. I don't know if you have realized this, but not only are juniors not very timely by foot, but their parking definitely is not timely either, leading to both tardiness and tickets. Other than that, there aren't many disadvantages to parking on Old Colony, so take it from a junior (who can't even drive yet), parking on Old Colony is the way to go.

In sum, current and incoming juniors, I wish you good luck with all of your parking and driving experiences. And to anyone else able to drive, I wish you the best of luck being on the roads with these new drivers.

MS.

AN INTERVIEW ABOUT THE START OF THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

MITCHELL VAYSER

What are your initial feelings about the new school year?

I am more excited about this year because I finally get to start the new school year right. I came last year in the middle of the year — December 12th was my first day —, I didn't know anyone, and now I feel like I have that good portion of the year under my belt. I had the summer to plan with Mr. Hosier and Ms. Joseph, so now, starting fresh feels the way it should feel.

What are your likes and dislikes about the new school year, if you have any yet?

Well, I might say something that students might have mixed emotions about, but I really do like that we are beginning the school year with a strong emphasis on school safety. I think that everyone has been really responsive and truly understands the importance of school safety and the changes that have been made.

What is your assessment of the community based off of the students you have met thus far?

I'm going to go back to what I said when I first started here because it feels the same, except stronger. There is just something so special and unique about this community that's different from where I came from. I came from a 7-12 high school much larger than EHS, and it didn't feel like a family like it does here. I am now embarking on my first full year, and in the time I have been here, I feel that students feel comfortable coming to see me, and I have developed relationships with parents. That should be the case, right? It's not just the assistant principal who is the disciplinarian, and it's great that it's not like that here. Even though we enacted something that students may not like, such as the new ID card policy, they have been great and so respectful, and I love that.

Have you gotten back into some kind of a routine since the start of the school year?

Even though administrators work 12 months, I had the time to be able to breathe a little bit and to really work on the planning for this school year. Summer is just a different pace; we really get time to work so closely together with no time constraints and no one knocking on the door to plan for what I hope will be an amazing school year. So those summer months, as fast as they went, were really the time to start fresh and build up the momentum for this year. That's why I feel like it's such a strong start to the school year.

Do you have any more ideas about improving school security for the new generation of students?

I do feel like lanyards and IDs, as well as having visitors sign in and show their license, is very much a beginning step in the right direction. One thing that I think is most important and probably on people's minds is the way our campus is set up. Something that I think that we're trying to focus on, at least when we're in the buildings, is that we need to be more secure. We will start to have more conversations about the "why" of drills and what we would do in a real life situation if one occurred. We will also invite the police department to school to work with us on drills and safety exercises. Our school community should feel comfortable having the police on campus in helpful ways rather than thinking something is wrong because they are here. The steps we are taking to improve school safety here and the responsiveness and support of the entire school community has most certainly put us on the right path toward improvement in the safety of all students and staff. I look forward to an amazing full year with everyone!

FUNCTIONAL OR NOT?: A LOOK AT SENIORS' SILLY BACKPACKS

Senior year! Many seniors participate in the tradition of ditching their classic Jansport and solid-colored backpacks for some fun, youthful ones. One might think backpack companies would have caught on by now and made cartoon backpacks the appropriate size for high schoolers. How exactly are you supposed to fit all of your school supplies into a bag made for a kindergartener? Maybe your teachers will understand and give you fewer supplies to carry.

Let's take a look at some of the different backpacks the Class of 2024 is carrying on campus and see if they are at all functional or practical.



These two backpacks are pretty practical. They are a decent size to hold the cargo seniors have. I believe a Macbook Pro can fit in there along with some binders and notebooks. The side pockets are able to fit water bottles and appear to be useful. They both also have large front pockets embedded into the backpack, which allows for even more storage. Most importantly, aren't they adorable?

Although this backpack is incredibly clever and unique, it may not be the most practical one. To start, it only has one compartment, the dinosaur's mouth. Additionally, the backpack itself is not large enough to fit lots of items like a hefty laptop and paper-filled binders. At least it's got a cute smile, some detail, and a hook to hang it! Perhaps this one should stay back in elementary school.



I don't think this backpack deserves a stamp of approval in practicality either, as it seems like everything must be shoved in it. However, the wheel pockets on the sides provide great space for chargers winded up really tightly. You might think AirPods or a pack of gum can fit in those compartments, but that's where you'd be wrong. I think these pockets are better suited for loose change. The wheel embellishments on the zippers are super cute, but not when they get stuck on the other pockets and items within the backpack when trying to open or close it. The detail is impeccable, but the side pockets seem to lack space for a regular-sized water bottle. All in all, Lightning McQueen looks great on a backpack, but this one is probably not a reasonable backpack to bring to school as a twelfth-grader.



If you're looking for an interactive and practical backpack all in one, this one's for you. This Peppa Pig mermaid backpack provides room for storing belongings with multiple, spacious pockets, but it also includes a fun and textured design on the front. This backpack is perfect for a student in elementary school (and a senior in high school) who likes some sequined sensory fun and something to do when they're bored in class! This one is a good choice.

At least it has straps for your back. This, do I dare call it a backpack, is smaller than an iPad and I'm not even sure if it can fit a couple of pencils or a notebook. If you're someone who would like this cute little accessory, you would certainly need another, more practical backpack to carry your supplies.



Did you even recognize that this was in fact a backpack? Me neither. This turtle shell pillow, or supposed backpack, would be a great addition to a slumber party or pajama day at school but is not a feasible option to carry laptops, notebooks, binders, and a plentiful amount of writing materials. It lacks pockets, side cup holders, a normal-sized opening... basically any and all space. Anyway, it won't hurt your back when you wear it, since the only item the backpack can consist of is itself. Bonus points for functionality as a pillow when class gets too boring.

While some backpacks were able to receive my practicality stamp of approval, it is in true senior year nature that seniors start their year off with some (likely impractical) fun. Beginning the year being unable to bring materials to class that teachers ask for is a super great way to show teachers you are not going to develop senioritis at any point this year! At least we can grind late work with a cute backpack by our sides.



LANTERN FLIES: OUR MORTAL ENEMY?



It was a beautiful day. Not too chilly and just the right amount of sunlight poking through the clouds and shining over the campus. It was the perfect weather for people to eat on the patio during lunch. In fact, we were sitting there talking, having a good time with our friends, enjoying lunch, and discussing our days. However, this idyllic peace was soon disrupted when across the patio, a boy spotted it. The mortal enemy: a spotted lanternfly.

Many people dislike bugs, but they aren't uncommon around our campus. From bees to flies to spiders, Edgemont has them all. Usually, as long as they don't bother us, we don't bother them. But, spotted lanternflies seem to be an exception. Everyone acts as if these bugs have committed a personal crime against them.

This boy was no exception. The second he saw this bug, or should I say 'criminal', he sprang into action. He ran across the patio at record speed, yelling out a battle cry. Once he reached the bug, he took his foot, lifted it up, and smashed it. It was a more aggressive act than you could ever imagine. After multiple smashes against the ground, he still was yet to be satisfied. He pounded it again, again, and again. He continued to crush the poor bug long after it was dead.

By the time he finally finished the job, it wasn't even recognizable. Does this seem excessive to anyone else? It did to us. We wondered what the big deal about these insects was, and if the extreme reaction was really necessary. So, we researched.

Our first question was, what is a lanternfly anyway? We had been told that they were a threat to society because they were invasive, but we didn't really know what that meant. According to

the Department of Environmental Conservation, spotted lanternflies were first found in New York in 2020. They are described as an inch long with brightly colored wings. They are terrible for tourism and feed on trees, which isn't good for forests and our environment.

Most people don't know that their main source of food is actually an invasive tree species, the Tree of Heaven. In an article by the "The Nature Conservancy," we learned that the Tree of Heaven was introduced to the U.S. in the late 1700's. Since then it has proved to be quite problematic because it takes space from native tree species. We were shocked to find this out! All we had been told about spotted lanternflies was that they were horrible and disgusting, but clearly we weren't told the whole story.

We won't argue with the fact that they are a nuisance; as humans, we despise things that make us uncomfortable, and this species would fall into that category. If you're a person who is afraid of bugs, it's easy to see why you wouldn't get along so well with these flies. Lanternflies are larger than your average insect and look a bit intimidating. However, you don't usually see people get so riled up over a tiny mosquito. And unlike mosquitos, they don't bite. So, fear can't be the only reason people have become so violent.

It's possible that people have become lanternfly killers to boost their ego. People like to feel powerful and assert their control over another creature. They tell themselves that they have to do this for the good of others, but who are they really benefiting? While our state government does want you to kill invasive species, do you really have to make it such a scene?

After our research, we have come to appreciate spotted lanternflies. We don't really think they aren't worth all the hype. So, if you're one of those people that enjoys aggressively attacking these bugs, please rethink this action. We have attempted to explain to our friends that they should take their anger out in more positive ways, like a punching bag or screaming into a pillow.

Yet, it seems that some people will never be convinced. For instance, take the kid from lunch. His repeated violence tells us that nothing but lanternfly extinction will stop his reign of terror over the flies. Each person has to decide for him or herself: are you going to relentlessly chase these bugs, or maybe adopt a more benevolent approach? The choice is yours.

by Juliet Sayer and Nina Cantos



New Teacher Spotlight

ELI SANDLER AND SOPHIE JOST

NEW TEACHER ALERT! This year, Edgemont Jr./Sr. High School welcomes Mrs. Greenberg! She is our new AP Biology and Anatomy/Physiology teacher, and she is very happy to be teaching at EHS!

Mrs. Greenberg always knew she wanted to be a teacher, even since high school. She told us that she would always run home excited to tell her parents about what she learned in school. One teacher in particular sparked her interest in education: her 9th-grade biology teacher, Mrs. Jacobson. Mrs. Greenberg remembers Mrs. Jacobson being very passionate about biology. One fond memory she mentioned was when Mrs. Jacobson said that a plant cell had the most “adorable little chloroplasts.” Mrs. Greenberg said that before and after class, they talked about the show “American Idol”; she knew that Mrs. Jacobson cared about her students beyond how they were doing in class.

Growing up, Mrs. Greenberg wanted to be a mad scientist. She found (and still finds) it fascinating how living things have found so many different ways to survive and overcome challenges, and despite so many differences, we are all made of the same basic components. Super cool, right?!

Mrs. Greenberg grew up in Scarsdale,

NY, and attended Binghamton University. Referring to her decision to become a teacher after college, Mrs. Greenberg said, “It was really hard in my first two years of teaching for me to transition from being a college student to being an authority figure and the ‘adult in the room.’” It took a lot of practice before she felt comfortable directing students. Mrs. Greenberg joined the Teach for America program and got her start in rural North Carolina. Teach for America aims to tackle the problem of educational inequity — when children lack the resources to thrive in a school setting due to systemic racism and/or poverty. She worked with Teach for America for two years before moving back home to New York. Back in NY, she taught science at KAPPA Middle School in the Bronx. She taught at KAPPA until the pandemic hit. The pandemic made her and her husband decide to move closer to their family in Westchester. After settling in Westchester, Mrs. Greenberg opened a new chapter of her teaching career at Horace Greeley High School in Chappaqua, New York, where she taught Biology and AP Biology.

Reflecting on her experiences teaching at various levels, Mrs. Greenberg said she prefers high schoolers to younger kids. She says she chose to stay at the high

school level in part because high school students have the capacity to understand her sense of humor better than elementary students! “You can have real conversations with high schoolers whereas that’s more challenging with younger children.” “I find that high schoolers can be very open-minded and idealistic and sadly, a lot of older people lose those traits.”

We asked Mrs. Greenberg what her first reaction to Edgemont Jr./Sr. High School was. She said, “People really made me feel comfortable, even though I was new.” In addition to the warm welcome, she mentioned how she loves being able to walk outside and enjoy the campus. Mrs. Greenberg hopes to be here for a long time!

Wait, there is more! Mrs. Greenberg’s favorite things other than biology include her family, playing musical instruments (especially the guitar), traveling, being in nature, and her newly adopted kittens, Mocha and CC! She can also juggle, just FYI.

Mrs. Greenberg wants to make sure that all her students feel safe, feel that they are learning something important and enjoy class.

We are so grateful to have Mrs. Greenberg decided to join the faculty of Edgemont Jr./Sr. High School.

EDGEMONT STATISTICS

WEI DEWDNEY

Statistics are all around us; nutrition, air quality, melting points, political opinions, weather, population—anything can be a statistic. There are two main types of data in statistics, categorical and numerical. Within these two categories are two sub-categories; nominal and ordinal for categorical data, then discrete and continuous for numerical data. You won't need to know what these subcategories are for our purposes, but feel free to look them up in your own time if you think that data science is cool. Using data from data.nysed.gov and publicschoolreview.com, I used the coding language “R” to analyze some of EHS's statistics. I am by no means a data science expert; I'm just barely decent. This is not a groundbreaking scientific report that will expose the statistics of Edgemont, this is a sophomore's amateur analysis of readily available data. If you're interested, you can access my research, sources, and

code in its entirety via the QR code at the end of the article.

My primary focus will be on race and ethnicity and how they affect different variables in education; comparing these effects between New York State as a whole and Edgemont specifically. Most of the data I found was from the 2020-2021 school year, which means that the data is not 100% accurate due to complications from COVID-19. Regardless, I hope my findings can help visualize Edgemont in comparison to the rest of the state.

The EHS student body is 51% BIPOC with an Asian majority. This is lower than the state average of about 59% with a Hispanic and African-American majority. Figure 1 shows a simple comparison plot of the racial breakdowns in Edgemont and in NYS. One commonality we see in both NYS and EHS is the white population being the largest out of any racial group. The Indigenous student population locally

and statewide are fairly similar in proportion. However, we must account for the fact that EHS only has 991 students, compared to the about 1.8 million students in grades 7-12 in New York. Edgemont has a higher white, multiracial, and AAPI population. New York State has a higher Indigenous, Latinx and African-American populations. The most noticeable differences between NYS and EHS are the large disparities between their AAPI, Black, and Latinx populations. There are far more AAPI students in EHS than in the average New York public school. Later figures will reveal to us that the AAPI population in Edgemont is mostly Asian, and not Pacific Islander. Many more observations can be made from this graph—but this is a school newspaper article, not a scientific report—so let's stop here for now. Moving onto Figure 2, we see the ethnic distributions in Edgemont for the past two decades. The populations of most

Figure 1 - racial breakdown

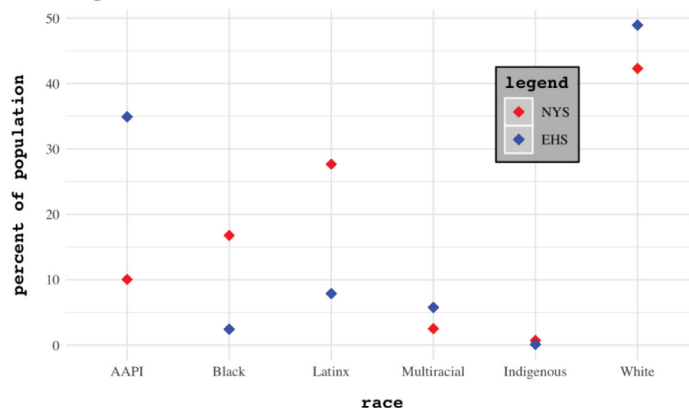
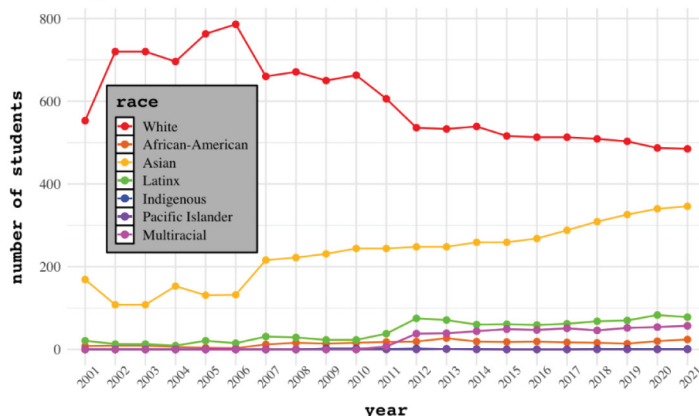


Figure 2 - EHS racial distribution timeline



racial groups are climbing steadily, except for the white population and the Indigenous population. The number of white students in Edgemont over time has decreased from 2006 to 2012 when it starts to plateau. The number of Native American students, however, remains at almost 0 for the past two decades. Previously, we mentioned that Edgemont had a higher AAPI population than the typical New York high school. When we look closer at what makes up the EHS AAPI student body, we see that it's mostly—if not entirely—Asian Americans. Figure 2 shows that, similarly to EHS' Indigenous population over the years, there are little to no Pacific Islander students at Edgemont. At first glance, we see that Asians and whites are the majority, Figure 3 gives us a closer look at the racial distribution of the minority populations.

Edgemont's graduation rates are in the top 10% of all schools in New York State. Students at EHS are well educated and are among the top

20% in overall test scores; so it's only natural that we would have a high graduation rate. Figure 4 displays the graduation rates of both EHS and NYS. As we can see, Edgemont has a phenomenal graduation rate. The one outlier of 92% can be explained by the fact that there were only 13 Latinx students in the 4-year August 2017 cohort; and one of them, instead of graduating, was still enrolled. Edgemont had no dropouts in this cohort according to data.nysed.gov, one of my main sources for this data. Looking at the graduation rate for Indigenous students in Edgemont, we see that there is no point plotted. This is because there were zero Indigenous students in the cohort. This lines up with the data in Figure 3 and Figure 4, which show a small-to-nonexistent Native American population. The average graduation rate for Indigenous students in New York is 84%. Edgemont's proficiency in math and reading is 88% and 83% respectively. This compared to the state average math and reading proficiency

of 54% and 52% further shows how well-educated students in EHS are.

New York State's average diversity score is 0.73, while 0.69 is the national average. As of the 2020-2021 school year, Edgemont's diversity score is 0.63—lower in comparison to both the national and state averages. Diversity score is calculated with Simpson's Diversity Index formula, which determines the probability of two randomly selected entities being of different subgroups. The formula is $D = 1 - (n(n-1)N(N-1))$. N represents the total population and n represents the subgroup population. Using this simple formula, I calculated the EHS diversity scores of the past two decades and plotted them in Figure 5. I've included some annotations to better visualize the data. The diversity of Edgemont has been increasing over time, but we have reached a plateau in the past 7 or so years. Will this plateau lead to an increase similar to the one after the plateau in 2007-2010? We'll have to wait and find out!

figure 3 - minority populations

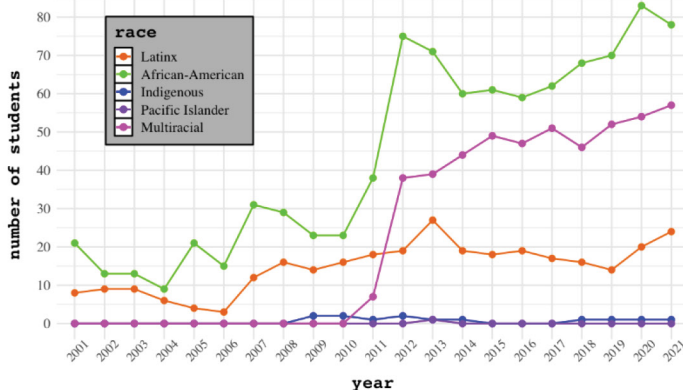


Figure 4 - grad rates for various ethnicities

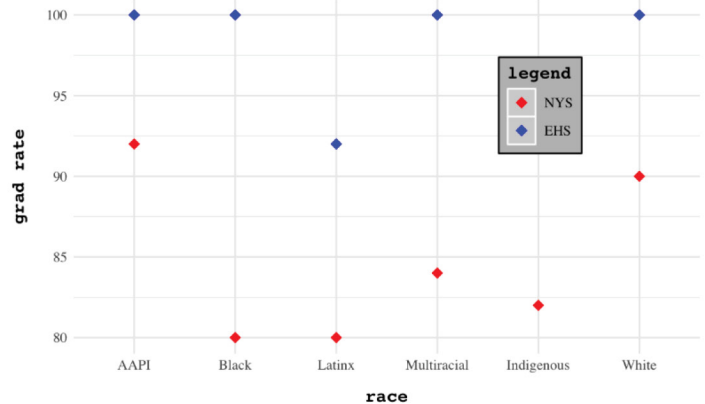
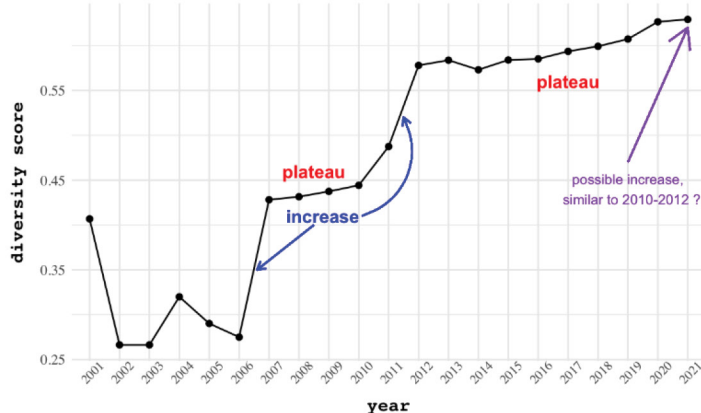


figure 5 - diversity score timeline



ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT

RAHMAN AHMED

LAUREN LEE

After five years of swimming for the varsity swim team, Lauren Lee ('24) is furthering her swimming career at Boston College. She has been swimming for nearly her entire life and is looking forward to leading Edgemont for one last season. *Campus* was lucky enough to sit down with her and ask her a few questions.

When and how did you start swimming?

I started swimming when I was four years old. My mom wanted my brother and I to learn how to swim just as a life skill but also after the tsunami that hit Japan in 2011. When we moved to Edgemont, she put us into a club team to continue learning, and we soon got into it competitively.

What was your worst sports moment, and how did you learn from it?

My worst sports moment would have to be when I broke my arm because I fell off my bike, and I couldn't swim for a few months. We were thankfully able to have a waterproof cast made for me, which allowed me to kick during practices, but swimming had become such a big part of my life that it was so discouraging to see others swimming while I couldn't. Swimming is a unique sport in that if you continuously miss practices and aren't in the water, you'll quickly get out of shape and feel disconnected from your strokes, so it definitely took some time to rebuild my endurance. The experience not only taught me the importance of taking care of your body but also how much swimming, my passion, impacts my life.

What is your favorite sports moment?

I would say that my favorite sports moment was from when I was 12 years old and swam the 50 LCM butterfly and set a metro record. It was so unexpected, which is why it's a core memory to me, and remembering all my teammates screaming for me when I touched the wall is a happy recollection. Unfortunately, I haven't been able to make another cut since then, so being able to say that I've made one is something I'm proud of.

What are your pre-meet rituals/routines?

I wouldn't really say that I have a pre-meet ritual or routine since I tend to get sick before my meets, but when I don't, going to sleep early is definitely an important thing I try to do, even though it can be difficult with homework after getting home late from swim practices. I also always try to use my compression boots to get all the lactic acid out of my system and load up with carbs and protein. My mindset is also very important, and listening to upbeat music before I get to my meet and right before races also helps me get pumped up.

What is your favorite event in swimming?

I'm a sprinter/mid-distancer. My favorite event to swim is the 100 LCM freestyle, which is also the first event that I received a Winter Juniors National Cut in, so after reaching that goal, I definitely enjoyed and favored it more.

Who is your favorite professional athlete and why?

My favorite professional athlete is Carson Foster because he's someone that I can relate to. He was actually practicing with us a few weeks ago for a training camp, and he talked about how he didn't really have a passion for swimming at first and only did it because his brother was. I've certainly been in that boat before, but I have definitely grown out of it. Carson also has a great range of events he can swim, and that's extremely impressive and difficult.

What are you looking forward to most in your college swimming career?

I'm looking forward to training with new athletes in a different facility and getting to work with

the coaches to foster my specialties. The different locations of the training trips with the team is also exciting and something that I'm looking forward to.

What's your favorite thing to eat before a meet?

Like I said before, carbs and protein are super important so my usual is pretty much spicy rigatoni with grilled chicken.

Who's a better swimmer, you or your brother?

I wish I could say that I am, but my brother is definitely a better swimmer than me.



“

I can't take credit for this quote as my coach came up with it but, 'Work works.'

”



Welcome to a new (well not exactly new) member of the Edgemont athletics team! The newly-promoted head coach of varsity tennis, Alexa Goldberg, is currently in the middle of her third season with the girls' team after guiding them to the sectional finals in the 2021-2022 school year. She took over the role of head coach this summer. Coach Romney, the previous head coach of the Edgemont varsity boys tennis team, had a wonderful and successful career, guiding the team to multiple league wins and nurturing the skills of the history-making state champion doubles team last season.

Alexa stepped up after he retired, not only willing but excited to inspire and innovate. She is very accustomed to Edgemont, having played on the tennis team under the guidance of coach Jim San Marco in 2014. She ended up winning the state championship in her senior year.

Alexa then went on to play at Skidmore, a top 15 college for tennis, and after graduating she earned her master's degree in Early Childhood and Childhood Education while pursuing coaching full-time. Coach Alexa is an inspirational figure to both athletes and students at

Edgemont. Here are some things you should know about her.

Why did you want to become a coach?

Tennis is my passion and teaching others how to play a sport I love is extremely rewarding. Tennis is both a physical and strategic game. You can play anywhere, anytime, and it is so exciting to watch young players develop their love for the sport that I care about so deeply.

What do you hope to inspire in the players you teach?

I would like to inspire players to believe in themselves. I support and encourage all my players, but they have to believe in themselves and their abilities to really be able to achieve their goals. Additionally, I hope to inspire a love for the game. I really enjoy the sport, and I want all my players to have fun while they are playing and to truly enjoy the experience and joy of being active. That's what it is really all about, and sometimes we lose sight of that when we are in the midst of intense competition.

I know you are also a first-grade teacher. How is coaching tennis similar to teaching?

MEET THE NEW HEAD COACH

I love helping my students and tennis athletes grow, develop, and more importantly, achieve their personal goals. Teaching is a journey, as is coaching, and you are there for the good, the bad, and the ugly in order to support individual growth and learning. It is essential, as a teacher and coach, to remind students and players of what they can achieve. It is my job to encourage, support, and challenge them in their endeavors.

How would you describe your style of coaching? What core values guide your coaching?

I consider myself pretty much a hands-on coach and demonstrate and show my players what it is I am asking of them. I can be very intense and passionate at times, and I care and have high expectations for my players. Everyone should be encouraged to succeed to the best of their abilities. I have a few core values that guide my coaching. One is confidence: players should have extreme self-belief in their abilities and skills. Another core value is determination: players can push through uncomfortable situations. Resilience is a third core value that guides my coaching. Losing is part of the game. No one likes to lose, and it is how you bounce back and refocus after failure that demonstrates resolve and the type of athlete you are and the player you are. A final core value would be respect for oneself and others. Players need to act in a way



that shows appreciation and respect not only for the game of tennis but also for their teammates, opponents, and coaches.

How does it feel to be the head coach of both the girl's and boy's tennis teams at Edgemont, especially with that role being mainly male-dominated for so long?

Words cannot describe how grateful I am for this opportunity to be the head coach of all varsity tennis at Edgemont. It is a privilege. I have big shoes to fill, from Coach San Marco and Coach Feinstein for the girls' team and Coach San Marco and Coach Romney for the boys. I am extremely lucky to have them in my corner to guide me and support me on this journey. I hope to bring a piece of their history and legacies into the programs while adding my own approach to elevating and hopefully leading both teams to success. I think it is really special to have a female in this position and it reflects great progress and recognition of women in leadership roles.

What do you hope to inspire in the athletics community of Edgemont?

Let's dream big! Dream for the sectional championship and the state championship. Set a goal for yourself and work hard to achieve it. Anything can happen if you can believe it.

Speak a little bit about your team this year and how you feel about this season.

The girl's tennis team has been tremendous. They are currently undefeated in the league and are

playing amazing quality tennis. Most importantly, they are playing as a team, cheering for each other (both on and off the court) and really playing as a cohesive group. In my first year as head coach, we came second in our section, and it was a remarkable season. Last year, we got to the quarterfinals but came up a bit short. This year, I truly believe this team has what it takes to go all the way and come home with the team state championship. They are ready to really make a name for Edgemont Tennis.

Girls

to do that along with Coach Romney was something I will cherish my entire coaching career.

When you were a tennis player in high school and college, what kind of coach were you looking for? Do you think you fit that description?

Personally, I needed a coach who cared about me not only as a tennis player but as a high school student and individual. Coach San Marco was the ideal coach for me and was always active, present, and supportive. He was always there for me and he encouraged me, both on the court and in the classroom, to be the best. To this day, he is someone I look up to and go to for advice and guidance. He is a very special part of my life, and he has been since high school. I am very lucky to have had him as a coach and now as a mentor. I truly hope that I fit that description for my players on both teams. I hope to build strong relationships with all my players and remind them that we are all on this journey together.

What is the most rewarding part of your job?

By far, the most rewarding part of my job is to watch my players grow not simply as tennis players but also as individuals and good citizens. Who and where they are at the start of the season is never where they end up at the end and to witness and be part of that transformation is so special.

Coach Alexa is very engaged and active within Edgemont Athletics. She looks to motivate her players on and off the court, something she has been very successful in doing. If you head up to the courts, you might see three signs taped to the fence: the first one says "One team. One Goal", the second one reads "A.C.E." (Attitude, Commitment, Energy), and the third says simply "Believe." This is a sweet tennis tradition Alexa has brought to the school, as slogans for each year aim to foster a community within the team. Coach Alexa Goldberg clearly takes a very hands-on approach to guiding her players, and she will continue to impact the athletics community positively going forward.

How did it feel to be coaching a state title-winning doubles team during the boy's season? (Coach Romney led and developed an amazing boy's team last season-Coach Alexa came in during the state championship to help support them.)

It was a special experience to be a part of Eli and Nick's state championship this past spring. Coach Romney and I worked together to make sure the boys were ready, both mentally and physically. To watch everything come together the way it did was amazing. It was even more endearing for me, having won the doubles state championship myself with Tomo Iwasaki 10 years ago; no one has been able to achieve this since then. As a coach, you dream of the opportunity to coach your players to a championship, and

**BRINDA
ROY**

EDGEMONT

Soccer

Kiran Chokshi and Alex Kathi

Heading into the first round of playoffs with an 8-8-1 record, the 2022 Edgemont boys' varsity soccer team had high hopes for their first game against Byram Hills. Unfortunately, those hopes came to an end after a last-minute header goal from Byram Hills at the end of a double overtime. Since then, Edgemont has moved up to Class A, where they will undoubtedly have to face tougher competition than last season.

Following a flaming preseason, they were back in full heat, with the 2023 team consisting of 16 players returning and 12 new recruits. In their first game of the year against a tough opponent in Tappan Zee, they fought hard but lost 3-0. Despite this loss, they kept their head high going into their next match against a talented Rye Neck team. Rye Neck gave Edgemont a tough challenge, and after an enervating 76 minutes, Rye Neck snuck a goal past the Edgemont defense giving them the win. After this loss, the boys were devastated but looked to the future and got ready for Brewster.

With two magnificent free-kick goals from Captain Leny Jung ('24) and a goal from Franco Do Valle ('25), they easily took the win. After a rain delay, Edgemont was set to take on Sleepy Hollow. Following a gritty, high-tensioned game, Leny Jung put in a goal to tie the game up. Henrique Branco ('24) stepped up and put in a last-minute goal to give Edgemont the comeback win.

Since then, they have been on a losing streak with losses to Pearl River, Pelham, Yonkers, and Eastchester. Despite the potential this team has, the 2023 Panthers have found playing in a new higher league a struggle. Sitting with a current record of 2-6, it has been hard for them to gain some respect. However, with familiar opponents coming up, they hope to gain back their momentum. Captain Derek Sun ('24) says, "This team has a lot of potential. We have a lot of returning players who are seniors now. If we just start playing well together we can win many games."

With such motivation from the captain, the team is bound to turn it up soon. Halfway through the season and battling through injuries and exhaustion, they continue to work in the hopes of turning their season around before the playoffs roll in.

Filling the shoes of last year's team is always going to be tough. The Edgemont girls' varsity soccer team was outstanding last year, and they face the tall task of running it back in 2023. Luckily, they've stepped up to answer the call. The season started with a sectional finals rematch when Edgemont faced the Irvington team that knocked them out last year in a thrilling 3-1 final on Halloween weekend. On the road, the Panthers took the fight to the Bulldogs, ending up with a scoreless draw through 90 minutes, but a golden goal by Irvington got past Edgemont in the overtime period to give the Bulldogs a hard-fought win.

The Panthers responded by conjuring memories of last year's dominant team with an outstanding 8-0 win against Roosevelt, and half the starting lineup was able to get involved in the goal-scoring action. Some tough home games against Walter Panas and Nyack were next up, but Edgemont held their home win streak, picking up back-to-back 2-1 wins while Captain Mia Kai ('24) bagged three goals in the process.

Then came the end of that streak, with a tough loss at home to sectional favorites Rye. The Panthers responded well, as they always do, but despite most observers agreeing Edgemont played better, a great shot from outside the box gave Eastchester a 2-1 win. Looking ahead, the message is simple.

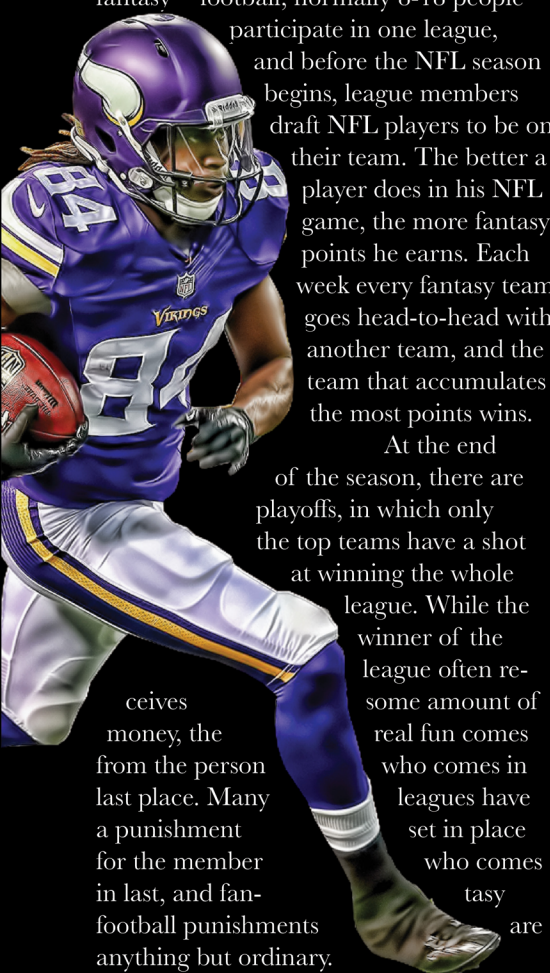
Captains Fiona Stern ('24), Iliana Dimopoulos ('24), and Mia Kai ('24) have been reminding the team that their 3-3 record is the same as they had last year before their huge winning streak, and motivation is at an all-time high. They now look ahead toward a huge rematch on homecoming weekend against Eastchester, as well as rivalry games against Ardsley and Pelham, hoping for some more of the magic that led last year's team to the sectional final.





PUNISHMENTS: THE REAL FUN OF FANTASY FOOTBALL

JOSH TOPF



Fantasy football is an extremely popular activity during the NFL season. In fantasy football, normally 8-18 people participate in one league, and before the NFL season begins, league members draft NFL players to be on their team. The better a player does in his NFL game, the more fantasy points he earns. Each week every fantasy team goes head-to-head with another team, and the team that accumulates the most points wins.

At the end of the season, there are playoffs, in which only the top teams have a shot at winning the whole league. While the winner of the league often receives some amount of real fun comes from the person who comes in last place. Many a punishment for the member in last, and fantasy football punishments are anything but ordinary.

One such punishment, which has been rapidly gaining popularity over the past few years, is the "Milk Mile." This is the punishment set in place by my league. This punishment is exactly what it seems, based on the name. Whoever is participating in the "Milk Mile" must drink a 12oz cup of milk, then run 400m around a track, and then repeat

those steps three more times. By the end, the "Milk Runner" will have ended up drinking 48 oz of milk while running a mile. To make this even more challenging, many people have extra rules or stipulations, such as that the mile must be run in under a certain amount of time or else the entire process has to be repeated. Overall, the "Milk Mile" is an easy-to-set-up and very entertaining punishment for any fantasy football league.

Another punishment that is commonly used with the younger generation is the "social media takeover." During the social media takeover, the loser must give the winner their login credentials to their social media account. The winner, for 24 hours, can post whatever they want on the loser's account. This punishment varies quite a bit based on the league, as the severity of the punishment is entirely up to the winner who has full control over what gets posted.

The extremely cruel "SAT punishment" is another option. This punishment is more popular among adults, while teenagers who will have to take the SAT eventually aren't as affected by it. As its name suggests, this punishment entails the loser being required to take the SAT. To avoid this being an easy punishment, and to avoid the loser just turning in a blank sheet, this punishment requires them to achieve a certain score or else they must keep retaking the test. As a result, it can be excruciating for the loser.

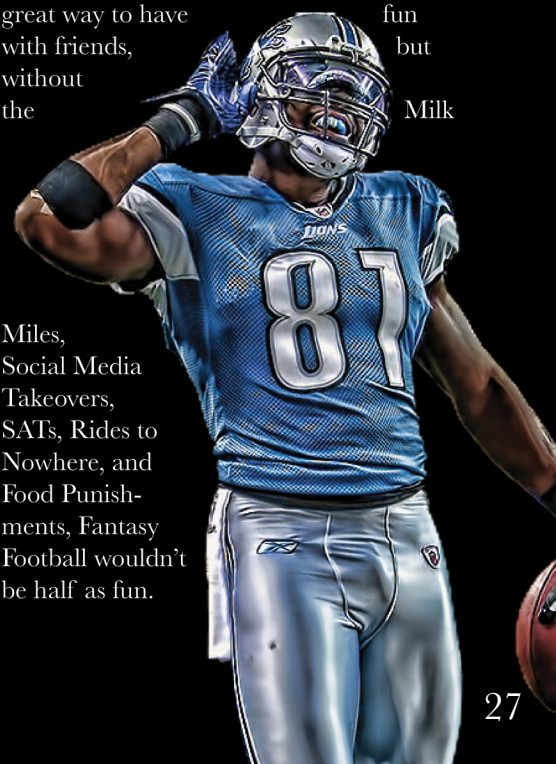
Next up is the highly tedious and infrequently used "Ride to Nowhere." In this punishment, the loser must ride on the winner's choice of transportation, spend the whole day going to a random place, and then travel all the way back. While

many people would think this is easy, it is made much more difficult by the fact that the loser may not use his or her phone or other electronic devices during it, except for a camera to take photos.

The last punishment, and a personal favorite of mine, is what many refer to as the "food punishment." In this punishment, the loser of the league has to go to an establishment such as IHOP or The Waffle House and they have to stay there for 24 hours. The only way to reduce the amount of time is to eat a waffle or pancake. For every waffle or pancake they eat, an hour is taken off their time. This presents the loser with a daunting challenge: do they sit bored waiting for the day to end, or do they stuff themselves with food to make the punishment end sooner? Either way, they aren't allowed to leave their table or go to the bathroom until their time is up.

Overall, Fantasy Football is a great way to have fun with friends, but without the Milk

Miles, Social Media Takeovers, SATs, Rides to Nowhere, and Food Punishments, Fantasy Football wouldn't be half as fun.



2023 F1 SEASON IN A NUTSHELL

As the 2023 F1 season comes to a close, we are seeing one of the most entertaining and nail-biting ones ever. Max Verstappen is leading the championship with four other drivers right behind him. This season could come down to the final race!

I awake from my dream and rub my eyes as I recollect my thoughts. In reality, the 2023 season has been quite the opposite. Max Verstappen, the leading driver for the Red Bull Racing, is running away with the trophy at an astonishing 374 points. Sergio Perez, Red Bull's other driver, is in second with 223 points. Red Bull as a whole and their pair of elite drivers are putting on a dominant performance in 2023.

First, let's go over how F1 works and what happened in 2022. Formula 1 is the pinnacle of motorsports, and cars in these races have enough downforce to theoretically drive upside down in a tunnel. Each team tries to build the fastest car within a set of rules over a season. Arjun Rajdev ('26) says that he recently got interested in F1 because "the idea that you could create a car and each company can optimize it within a new standard/budget is cool." Arjun also finds it interesting that there is more than just driving in circles in F1, as opposed to the repetition of races like NASCAR. Pit stop strategies and the technicality of the racks make it more interesting. In F1, 10 teams with two drivers each travel around the world as they compete in circuits that can vary in layout. Only the top 10 drivers in each race receive points. The driver with the most points wins the Driver's Championship and the team with the most points wins the Constructors' Championship.

2022 was a year filled with ups and downs between Red Bull and Ferrari, F1's most historic and successful team. At the start of the season, Ferrari was strong behind their star driver Charles Leclerc, but Red Bull's car proved to be stronger down the stretch, with Max Verstappen fighting back from early reliability problems to win the championship in a landslide. After a dominant ending to the 2022 season, Red Bull is looking to repeat their success in 2023, and that's exactly how things have gone so far – they have won nearly every race of the season. The reigning world champion Max Verstappen has been dominating the 2023 season so far and has already clinched the title with five races remaining. Teammate Sergio "Checo" Perez, is under pressure to keep his spot on the team, as poor results, crashes, and off-track drama have blemished his season. Checo's lackluster performances have received heavy backlash because Redbull statistically has the fastest car and he has often underperformed compared to Verstappen.

Long-time F1 fan Ethan Kurian ('26) described the 2023 season as "kind of one-sided," highlighting Red Bull's dominance. He added that "Red Bull dominated because the other cars didn't have any competition to provide. Max [Verstappen] won basically every single race except for a few here and there."

Thus far, the only race winner outside of Red Bull was Ferrari's Carlos Saiz. As previously mentioned, Ferrari was strong in 2022 but ultimately lost out to Red Bull's top-drawer innovations. The 2023 season has seen Ferrari be much less competitive, but they got some crucial updates after the summer break and scored their first win of the season in Singapore. It seems like Ferrari has finally got things right as they look to take second place in the Constructors' Championship from Mercedes.

Since Ferrari won in Singapore, Mercedes has had to change their strategy in attempts to fend off a late Ferrari run at their spot in the Constructors' Championship. The gap is now just 26 points in Mercedes' favor – much less than the cushion they had at the start of the season - so they need to push out crucial upgrades to stay ahead.

Surprisingly, in their successful start to the season, the German car manufacturer was fighting primarily against Aston Martin, an established and iconic car company that recently took over the Racing Point team in 2021. Aston Martin has long-term plans for a championship challenge, and their efforts to get there include a new factory and wind tunnel. At the start of the 2023 season, it looked as if Aston Martin, led by two-time world champion Fernando Alonso, would bring the fight to Red Bull following their huge jump in development.

Since the start of the season, Aston Martin has drastically fallen behind in car development and is now fighting to keep fourth place in the Constructors' Championship against a fellow UK car manufacturer, McLaren. McLaren had struggled immensely at the start of the season and even during pre-season testing, McLaren driver Lando Norris expressed his concerns about their lack of pace. In the first half of the season, things seemed to be what Norris was expecting.

Out of nowhere, however, in the second half of the season, McLaren looked to have showed up with a new car. However, like many other teams, McLaren's car is very track-dependent, meaning it may be very fast on one type of track and slower on another.

Another big contributor to McLaren's success is rookie Oscar Piastri. The former FIA Formula 2 champion had already made a name for himself by leading a race and getting his first top three finish. He replaced fellow Australian Daniel Ricciardo for 2023 and helped McLaren pull away from their former midfield rivals Alpine.

At the end of 2022, Alpine confirmed an all-French lineup with the recent signing of Pierre Gasly, who would drive alongside Esteban Ocon. Like 2022, Alpine is looking very mediocre this year. It also doesn't help that they have been plagued by reliability issues and their drivers clashing with each other on track.

Alpine's closest competitor, Williams Racing, is a distant 63 points off. Williams has had one of if not the slowest cars in the past several years and is looking to bounce back into the middle of the pack. The team has had much success in the past and is even considered to be the second best in the history of Formula 1, but is now trying to claw back from underfunding from the previous owners. They are led by driver Alex Albon, who has scored all of their 21 points so far.

The next in the standings is Haas, who signed veteran driver Nico Hulkenberg for the 2023 season, pairing him up with Kevin Magnussen. Despite some valiant qualifying efforts, the Haas car doesn't seem to have the race pace to get a good amount of points. The main issue with their car is that they are overheating the tires.

Another team that has struggled and was made fun of this year is Alpha Tauri, the sister team of Red Bull. Former driver Nyck DeVries hasn't been able to catch a break, failing to put up any meaningful results, and after wrecking his car every other weekend, costing the team a fortune.

He was replaced mid-season by former Red Bull driver Daniel Ricciardo. Ricciardo sat in for only two full races before suffering from a hand injury. Then, former F2 driver Liam Lawson, who currently drives in Super Formula, was subbed in for him. In a massive surprise, Lawson in some races outperformed his teammate Yuki Tsunoda, who had been on the team for the entire season. Unfortunately, the team hasn't seen enough of him to give him a seat in F1. Instead, they signed the safe bet Daniel Ricciardo and key driver Yuki Tsunoda until 2024.

2024 will be an interesting year, as many drivers reach the end of their contracts, giving us one of the greatest silly seasons yet. Silly season is when teams and drivers get a month off to develop their cars. During this time, teams also extend driver contracts and can opt to drop them.

As the name suggests, silly things happen around this time. For instance, rookie Oscar Piastri drives for McLaren, but his whole career leading up to F1 was built off of Alpine. Alpine preemptively made a statement saying Oscar would drive with them, but when he said that he wouldn't be driving with them, McLaren scooped him up and didn't look back. For 2024, there is only one seat left to be taken, and that is for Williams Racing to decide.

There you go, That's a recap of our favorite sport Formula 1. We hope to have brought you up to speed on champions, flops, rivalries, and everything in between to show you what racing is all about. Now, you can't say it's just 20 cars going in circles.

JASON CHEN & YASH SHAH

Take on Biden's Impeachment

To say the least, President Joe Biden has seen better days; in only the past month, an impeachment inquiry was opened against him, his son Hunter was indicted on gun charges, and, to top it all off, Congress doesn't seem to be getting any closer to passing a spending bill to avert a government shutdown (as of Sept. 23, the time this article was written, but a later stopgap spending bill was passed to keep the government funded until mid-november).

Mr. Biden's impeachment inquiry was announced on September 12th by (now-former) Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy. It is based on potential abuse of power by Mr. Biden to profit off of Hunter's suspicious business dealings – particularly with Ukrainian energy firm Burisma – that overlapped with his father pushing the Ukrainian government to crack down on corruption in 2014. Some even believe the president had invested himself in the firm.

What the inquiry is really looking for, though, is proof President Biden was involved in Hunter's business dealings or tried to influence policy to benefit him while serving as Vice-President or President (there is no issue if they worked together between his terms from 2017 to 2021). While there is no current evidence of any wrongdoing – even after an anonymous FBI whistleblower claimed that the Bidens were involved in a bribery scheme in Ukraine that led each earning \$5 million – the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability will push on and show their potential evidence on September 28th at the first Congressional hearing.

Mr. Biden has been extremely open, sharing tax returns for the past 25 years, but many Republicans hold the opinion he acted with “corrupt intent” in his son's dealings, according to the Washington Post. They claim that President Biden's removal of the top prosecutor of Ukraine (a part of his crackdown there and a move supported by the E.U.) aided his son. Hunter's business partner, Devon Archer, refuted this and told investigators it was a “setback.”

Hunter has lived a difficult life, facing challenges in the public light such as the death of his brother, Beau, which led to struggles with drug abuse and subsequent discharge from the Navy. He eventually entered the world of business and made millions, but a laptop leak in 2020 revealed some of his fishy business practices.

Moreover, it was revealed he sometimes had his father on speaker phone while also talking with his business partners but testified that the president was never engaged in the dealings beyond “idle chitchat.” Although Kevin McCarthy stated that the inquiry was a “logical next step” of GOP investigations into the Bidens, it's important to note how McCarthy was pressured by the far-right representatives into using his own authority to open the inquiry as opposed to leaving it to a House vote as he previously said he would do. A lack of confidence to get the votes required to open the inquiry is due to a lack of widespread, bi-partisan support and concrete evidence of malpractice. The White House is attacking those points to counter the inquiry, stating that it's an attempt to slander Mr. Biden and take his attention away from his job.

Along with this, White House is also stating the inquiry is political, and this may be partially true, given that the whole reason for opening an official inquiry is wider access to documents, subpoenas, testimonies, and other benefits; however, none of these new resources were tapped into after the inquiry was announced – Mr. Biden's opposition instead went on camera to attack him.

Another element of this is how representatives of the right-wing Freedom caucus, such as Marjorie Taylor Greene and Matt Gaetz, threatened to strip McCarthy of his role as Speaker, which took a record 15 different votes to get. This leverage did play a role in opening the inquiry, though it is likely a combination of factors. In a poll sent to the Edgemont student body, over 75% believed Biden wouldn't get impeached. A majority also believed the inquiry is politically based in attempts to hurt Mr. Biden while former President Trump fights off numerous legal cases, including multiple related to his role in the January 6 insurrection and trying to overturn the 2020 election. These results are consistent with broader polls, including one by Yougov where 41% believed the inquiry was an attempt to hurt President Biden's reputation ahead of the 2024 election.

While Edgemont thinks the inquiry won't be enough to dislodge Biden atop the polls, the future of the inquiry is unknown given the current instability of the House. Nevertheless, President Biden remains undeterred, and he will do whatever he can to help the country, telling reporters, “I get up every day, not a joke, not focused on impeachment. I've got a job to do.”

Layout by Vidhan Bokaria




Public Playlist

What Music Did Edgemont Listen To This Summer

 Zachary Philips



 Custom order

Music is the basis for human culture worldwide. As of this year, Spotify alone had 551 million users, an astonishing number. Music continues to be an integral part of human culture in many different ways, through live singing performances or even exclusively instrumental music. There are so many genres of music, meaning everyone can find at least one thing they like. This begs the question, what did Edgemont listen to this summer?

Everyone has his or her own favorite from the summer when it comes to their favorite album, favorite singer or rapper, or even a new genre they explored. One person may have loved an album someone else hated, and they may both have loved another album. The art of music is subjective. Everyone can find something he or she can enjoy because of music's variety. Through a series of interviews, we will find out what Edgemont students listened to this summer, perhaps inspiring you to listen to some new tunes.

This summer featured tons of new hits. "Song of the summer" is a commonly used phrase to categorize a popular summer anthem and is a label one can award to a song they enjoyed the most-- a song they can tie their summer memories to.

I first asked Rustin Mirhaji ('25) what his "song of the summer" was. "I really like 'Sprinter,'" Mirhaji said. "Sprinter" is the newly released song featuring a collaboration of British duo Central Cee and Dave. This song was featured on their new EP Split Decision. I asked Mirhaji, "Why 'Sprinter?'" He responded, "It attests to many events that happened in my life. I find them pretty relatable, and I like the vibe." Mirhaji's response exemplifies music's ability to connect to memories. Mirhaji was able to connect the song to

events in his life that make the song special to him.

When asked about his "song of the summer," Gabe Tanen ('25) responded, "I listened to a lot of Pink Pantheress...My favorite song from her, with Destroy Lonely, was 'Turn Your Phone Off.'" "Turn Your Phone Off" was a single released by Pink Pantheress featuring another musical artist, Destroy Lonely. This song features a fast flow from the two as they sing and rap over a UK garage instrumental music. Gabe also discussed his favorite artists from this summer, his number one being Tame Impala, another big name. Gabe is also fond of Kendrick Lamar, a seventeen-time Grammy winner.

Next, I interviewed Darren Kim ('25). Darren said, "I've been listening to albums like Lil Uzi Vert's Pink Tape, featuring production from artists such as Ken Carson. I've also listened to the NewJeans EP [and] Get Up, which blew my expectations out of the water." Pink Tape and Get Up are two projects released this summer featuring experimental tunes from artist Lil Uzi Vert who ventured into genres such as metal along with a new catchy EP from NewJeans. I asked Darren if he branched out into any new music genres this summer. He replied, "Recently I got into Japanese City pop as a new genre. I like the atmosphere created by the lead instruments, as well as the percussion."

After being asked what artist he recommends from this summer, Vibhu Vajpayee ('25) responded, "Gunna." When I asked why people should listen to him, he responded, "he swims like a seal on the beat. Or a dolphin." Gunna, four-time Grammy nominee and successful Atlanta rapper, released his new album, A Gift and a Curse, in June.

I followed up with Roger Jiang

('24) with the same question. He said this summer he listened to, "Virtual Riot, because he makes good EDM, and because his songs are in Geometry Dash. He knows how to pay tribute to older songs."

Bennett O'Reilly ('25), told me "[he] listened to a lot of JID this summer." I asked if there were any new artists he started listening to. He replied, "I started listening to a lot of [Playboi] Carti. He really started a new generation of music. I've also listened to a lot of Kendrick [Lamar]."

Next up was Penelope Kraus ('25), "I really listened to a lot of SZA. She is very catchy, a good beat to it, good car songs." SZA, a platinum artist, recently featured on Travis Scott's Utopia and is currently on tour and gets Kraus' stamp of approval.

Leah Paley ('25) gave her vote to Rihanna. When I asked why, she responded, "She is a really good singer, a good mix of pop and rap, suits a lot of people's interests."

Finally, to wrap up my interviews, Charles Gomez-Burke ('26) said his favorite artist of the summer was Yeat. "He is the 'G.O.A.T.' artist right now, and he flows like water," said Gomez-Burke. Yeat, the new hit artist from California, rose to fame with hit songs, "Money So Big" and "Out The Way."

After hearing a variety of music recommendations, I hope you can try some of them out and expand your own music taste, whether rap, pop, or one of the other 337 sub-genres of music, Edgemont listened to a wide variety of music that may inspire you the next time you load up Spotify. Edgemont is a small district, but everyone's individual taste in music shows the diverse culture within.



Singer, songwriter, and actress Olivia Rodrigo recently released her sophomore album, *GUTS*, on September 8, 2023. In 2021, she released her first album, *SOUR*, after her single, “Drivers License,” turned into a hit. Her second album, *GUTS*, has captivated audiences since its release, inviting a myriad of emotional responses and sparking thought-provoking conversations.

The impact of *GUTS* on its listeners cannot be understated. It navigates themes of heartbreak, self-reflection, and personal growth with raw honesty and vulnerability. Rodrigo’s ability to articulate intense emotions through her music creates a space for individuals to reflect, heal, and find strength.

Here is what a few Edgemont students have to say about *GUTS*:

“My favorite song is “Get Him Back!” I like that some of the songs have a pop-rock sound. I also like that the lyrics seem genuine and that the songs differentiate from one another and aren’t all on the same topic.”

- Anonymous Edgemont Sophomore

“I really like Olivia Rodrigo’s new album *GUTS*. I think it’s very different from her first album. It has lots of styles of music in it. My favorite song would be ‘Ballad of a Homeschool Girl’ or ‘Pretty Isn’t Pretty.’ I honestly like all of them, it’s hard to choose a favorite! I like both *SOUR* and *GUTS*, but if I had to

choose, I think I like *GUTS* a little better.”

- Anonymous Edgemont Freshman

“I really liked the new album and thought that it was very relatable. I really like the songs ‘Pretty Isn’t Pretty’, ‘Teenage Dream’ and ‘Ballad of a Homeschooled Girl.’”

- Anonymous Edgemont Freshman

“Omg I don’t even know where to start. The new album is really good. Sadly, I can relate to a lot of the songs. Olivia Rodrigo is so good at putting how she feels into words. I think that *SOUR* and *GUTS* are very different from each other. *SOUR* is more about the ex and *GUTS* is more about Olivia. She better make more music soon!!!”

- Anonymous Edgemont Junior

“*GUTS* is amazing. I love everything that Olivia Rodrigo does, but this album is truly incredible. The whole album is just so relatable. My favorite songs on the album are currently ‘The Grudge’ and ‘Love is Embarrassing.’”

- Anonymous Edgemont Senior

“I really like how Olivia Rodrigo’s music speaks to her emotions and experiences. Her songs are so relatable and capture the rollercoaster of teenage emotions. Whether it’s heartbreak, friendship, or self-discovery, her lyrics are extremely powerful. Her music is the best to blast in the car and to sing along to. Olivia’s music really validates the ups and downs of being a teenage girl.”

- Anonymous Edgemont Edgemont Junior

“Honestly, I think I like *SOUR*, Olivia’s first album, better than *GUTS*. The songs resonate with me more and the music is a bit softer, which I like. *GUTS* is too harsh for me.”

- Anonymous Edgemont Freshman

“There is so much to say about *GUTS*. It is truly an album with no skippable songs. I L.O.V.E. the melody, tune, lyrics, and beat of every song. I cannot stop going around my house belting out the words to every one of her songs. My family finds me so annoying. I’m on the waiting list to get tickets for her upcoming tour. Hopefully I’m lucky enough to secure tickets for me and my friends.”

- Anonymous Edgemont Sophomore

“I think the new album is so great. It’s amazing how Olivia continues to pursue her passion of writing music and performing for people of all ages. Her music is inspiring and relatable, especially the song, ‘Pretty Isn’t Pretty’ on the album, *GUTS*. I love how she continues to focus her music on similar topics that are meaningful to her.”

- Anonymous Edgemont 7th Grader

“GIMMEEEEEEEEE *GUTS* TOUR TICKETSSSSSSSS!” - Anonymous Edgemont Senior

by Chloe Strongin

The Effects of THE ERAS TOUR

Haarrathi Kanna

It's time to Speak Now about the Taylor Swift Eras tour. The unique concert features Swift performing songs from all ten of her albums. Her sixth tour is her biggest one yet, with 146 concert dates spanning five continents. It started in March 2023 and will end in November 2024. The massive tour has influenced the world culturally, economically, and even politically.

The ticketing process of the tour has become infamous. Ticketmaster, one of the official partners of the Eras Tour, introduced the “verified fans,” process, which worked as a lottery, granting lucky fans a one-time access code to buy tickets during the presale.

Unfortunately, Ticketmaster crashed and sold all their tickets in the March presale due to “extraordinarily high demands on ticketing systems and insufficient remaining ticket inventory to meet that demand.” Millions of fans were unable to buy tickets to the concert, and they were devastated. Taylor Swift weighed in herself, stating that it was excruciating to see mistakes like this happen. The debacle was taken to a political level when the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee scheduled a hearing on competition in the ticketing industry, addressing whether Ticketmaster constitutes a monopoly. The hearing was unique, being the first one where senators were quoting Taylor Swift lyrics as they spoke about consolidation in the market.

Taylor Swift's first tour following the pandemic has caused a sort of “Swiftmania,” with people going to desperate measures to buy tickets, as many Edgemont students well know. One student wrote, “I signed up eight accounts in order to get a presale code. Once I got the code, I gave it to my mom to buy tickets while I was at school. My mom logged onto ticketmaster and was placed in a 2000+ queue.” Many students said that this was a generally stressful experience. One joked, “It's like Black Friday but online and Taylor Swift-themed.” 81% of Edgemont students responded that the tickets for the tour were overpriced.

One of the biggest effects of the tour is the economic phenomenon surrounding it. The tour has brought in a projected \$2.2 billion in ticket sales from North America and created nearly \$5 billion in consumer spending in the U.S. According to Dan Fleetwood, the president of QuestionPro Research and Insight, if Taylor Swift herself were an economy, she would be bigger than that of fifty countries.

Additionally, because people bought tickets to other destinations to view the concert, the cities Swift performed in economically flourished. According to the Edgemont survey, students traveled to destinations from Colorado to Poland to see Swift perform. Hundreds of jobs opened up in each city as the Eras tour came in, increasing employment rates. The tour increased sales for local businesses; concert-goers bought a lot of friendship bracelets, which became a trendy memento of the concert.

When Swift performed in Chicago, the occupancy rate in hotels reached 97%, an all time city high. Minneapolis even temporarily renamed the city Swift-Apolis for the weekend of the concert. Due to these substantial economic effects, countries that didn't have tour dates scheduled, like Canada, begged Swift to perform.

Another brilliant marketing move by Swift is the new Eras Tour Movie. A full length, professionally filmed version of the concert is being released. While the average amount spent to attend the in-person concert is \$1,300, the ticket price for the movie is \$19.99 for adults (a clever ode to her fifth album) and \$13.13 for children (another clever ode to her favorite number). Certainly, every

Swiftie unable to attend the concert is making plans to attend the movie.

The Eras Tour is even sparking academic interest. An academic conference is being held in Melbourne, Australia, just before Swift arrives in February 2024. Its purpose is to discuss Taylor Swift's cultural and economic impacts.

Edgemont students who attended the concert had glowing reviews. One student said, “It was cathartic, me and my friends spent the whole time screaming and singing our hearts out, I don't think I will ever experience anything like it again. There was so much energy and passion in the stadium and Taylor put on such an amazing show.” Others said it was one of the best experiences they've ever had and they would definitely go again.

This concert craze is unlike any other the world has seen. Yet, it is definitely justified by the surreal quality of the show and the talent of Taylor Swift. Next time she goes on tour, we'll all have to hope that Ticketmaster is “Ready for It.”



which Taylor Swift album are you?

Kaushambi Roy

Have you ever had trouble deciding what your favorite Taylor Swift album is? If so, try this quiz. Maybe you already know which one you love most, but let's see if your results match up. At the end, you will know your top two favorite albums based on which letters you chose most. Make sure to answer each question!

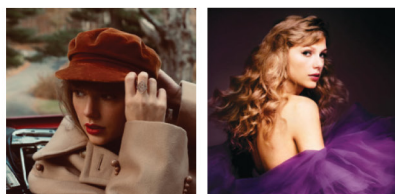
- 1) What's your favorite color?
 - a) Maroon
 - b) Green
 - c) Yellow
 - d) Black
 - e) Pink
- 2) What's your favorite animal?
 - a) Owl
 - b) Horse
 - c) Dog
 - d) Cat
 - e) Bird
- 3) Who's your favorite superhero?
 - a) Black Widow
 - b) I don't like superheroes
 - c) Wonder Woman
 - d) Black Panther
 - e) Captain America
4. Where would you most like to visit?
 - a) Tokyo
 - b) Italy
 - c) Caribbean
 - d) Paris
 - e) London
5. What do you like to do in your free time?
 - a) Scroll through your phone
 - b) Read
 - c) Cook/Bake
 - d) Listen to music
 - e) Talk to friends
- 6) What's your favorite class?
 - a) English
 - b) Global
 - c) Lunch
 - d) Music
 - e) Chemistry
- 7) What's your favorite food?
 - a) Sushi
 - b) Pasta
 - c) I don't have one
 - d) Pizza
 - e) Anything fancy
- 8) What's your favorite season?
 - a) I love them all
 - b) Fall
 - c) Summer
 - d) Winter
 - e) Spring
- 9) Disney comfort show?
 - a) High School Musical
 - b) The Simpsons
 - c) suite life of Zack and Cody
 - d) Descendants
 - e) Jessie
- 10) Favorite thing about fall?
 - a) Sweater weather
 - b) Anything pumpkin spice
 - c) I don't like fall
 - d) Halloween
 - e) The colors and the leaves





Results

If you got mostly A's, then you are...



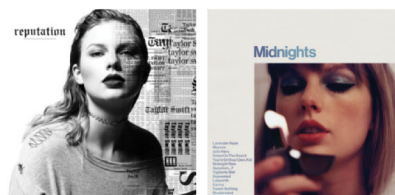
If you got mostly B's then you are...



If you got mostly C's then you are...



If you got mostly D's, then you are...



If you got mostly E's then you are...



Albums ranked by popularity among EHS students:

1. 1989
2. Speak Now
3. Reputation
4. Lover
5. Folklore
6. Red
7. Midnights
8. Evermore
9. Taylor Swift (Debut)
10. Fearless

Songs ranked by popularity among EHS students:

1. Wildest Dreams (1989)
2. Dress (Reputation)
3. Getaway Car (Reputation)
4. All Too Well (Red)
5. Better Than Revenge (Speak Now)



IS THE MCU STILL RELEVANT

In 2008, Marvel Studios released *Iron Man*, a refreshing new take on the existing comic book superhero, and it was extremely well received. Over the next eleven years, Marvel released twenty-two more films with many other heroes existing in the same universe as *Iron Man*. This unique franchise of interconnected storylines and characters is known as the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU).

The first twenty-three MCU movies are known as the “Infinity Saga” because the underlying conflicts in each film were caused by a set of powerful, ancient objects – the infinity stones. After the conclusion of this saga with *Spider-Man: Far From Home* (2019), many Marvel fans were unsure what would happen next: would Marvel move on to new franchises? Would they continue the MCU? Or would they stop making films entirely? The third option was a joke, but it took another two years to find the answer, as Covid threw a wrench into all of Marvel’s plans.

The Infinity Saga includes Phases 1, 2, and 3, while Phase 4, beginning in 2021, kicked off the Multiverse Saga of the MCU. In this article, Campus will delve into the main criticisms of the Multiverse Saga, as well as what Edgemont thinks about newer Marvel films.

The first movie of Phase 4 was *Black Widow* (2021), but at this point three Marvel TV shows had already been released: “*WandaVision*,” “*The Falcon and the Winter Soldier*,” and “*Loki*.” All three received solid ratings; however, the MCU films of Phases 4 and 5 have had mixed reviews overall, with some claiming the movies take the MCU in interesting new directions and others claiming they are confusing, poorly written cash grabs. In terms of the movies of Phases 4 and 5, they have been pretty disappointing. When the Edgemont community was asked to rank the five existing Phases of the MCU, 65% said Phase 1, 2, or 3 was the best, with 33% saying that Phase 3 was their favorite. 55% of respondents placed Phases 4 and 5 in the bottom two spots (in any order). From these results, it is clear that Edgemont either doesn’t like or care much about Phases 4 and 5, and it seems the world agrees, too.

Except for a few standouts, like *Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3*, *Spider-Man: No Way Home*, and *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever*, Marvel has, generally speaking, lost its touch, but why? Campus asked the Edgemont community to give their opinions on this question and compiled the four biggest reasons for the MCU’s decline.

The Big Four Reasons

“Endgame” means the end

One of the biggest complaints about the new Multiverse Saga of the MCU films is that they don’t have a clear direction. Many fans speculate that this is because there was a satisfying conclusion at the end of Phase 3, with *Avengers: Endgame*. After all, what could “*Endgame*” possibly mean if not the end?

One anonymous junior explained, “Marvel became a joke with its attempts to capitalize on past sagas that had already received effective closure.” Another anonymous junior put it this way: “Phases 4 and 5 are horrendous compared to the Infinity Saga... in the first three phases it built up to Thanos, [and they] should’ve ended it there.” Both respondents made good points – the first three phases really felt like they were building up to a big finale, but the last two phases couldn’t deliver that sensation, leaving fans wondering why they were still watching.

Uninteresting characters

The next reason why the MCU’s popularity has declined is because of the characters. So many Marvel fanatics loved watching the earlier films because the characters were compelling and personable. For example, take the story of Tony Stark, an arrogant billionaire who became a superhero and, eventually, (sorry for the spoiler) sacrificed himself to save the world. Just like him, all of the characters in the Infinity saga are interesting to watch, but when Phase 3 came to an end (after *Endgame*), many well-known and beloved characters were lost.

Arjun Gupta (‘29) told Campus, “Some of the faces of the franchise have died in

the story... and the replacements just aren't the same in terms of humor and style.” Ava Thomas (‘25) wrote, “It also is really hard to let go of the characters who are iconic to the MCU as a whole, and they have definitely been missed in the multiverse saga so far.” She also said that said characters “haven't really been replaced by many characters with the same likable qualities as the past ones.”

Quantity over quality

Another alarming problem with the multiverse saga is that Marvel seems to be trying to pump out as many films (and TV shows) as they can, without taking the time to polish let alone develop them. In 2019, Marvel released three MCU films, and in 2021, they released four, not to mention the five to six (depending on the criteria) Disney Plus miniseries, which are basically stretched out movies.

Last year, in 2022, they released three films and two “almost-films” – The Guardians of the Galaxy Holiday Special and Werewolf by Night – as well as multiple Disney Plus miniseries. As Abdullah Waleed (‘24) explained, “Another reason why more recent Marvel movies and shows may be lacking in terms of quality is because the company is producing so many of them that the overall quality is deteriorating.” An anonymous senior also wrote that “[Marvel] most likely wanted to get as many characters out as possible in the time frame they were given” and noted that other than a few good films, Marvel is mostly producing ‘cash-grab films with poor CGI.’”

About the whole “Multiverse” thing...

The final, and possibly most valid, concern about the Multiverse Saga relates to that very name: the “Multiverse.” Many fans enjoyed a clear storyline that connected the individual films in the Infinity Saga, but that aspect of the MCU has been lost in the films of Phases 4 and 5. The concept of a multiverse seems to have destroyed the possibility for a linear plot, which has a level of clarity that most viewers enjoy. This complexity seems to have taken a toll on Edgemont students’ reviews, as many respondents said Phases 4 and 5 have been messy and hard to follow.

The Multiverse also brings up a whole host of concerns, including extreme confusion, gaping plot holes, and a lack of importance. In terms of the last issue, one anonymous eighth-grader said, “The Multiverse makes everything so meaningless; if your favorite character dies, don’t worry! There’s an infinite number of them out there!” The respondent also noted that “some movies do it well, like Spiderman: No way home, but most just induce a headache.”

Overall, it seems as if the Edgemont community has proven an effective sample group, agreeing with Marvel fans and critics worldwide. Both believe the MCU just isn’t the same as it used to be, but among all these detailed, valid criticisms, there is some hope for the future. Many students told Campus they enjoyed Spider-Man: No Way Home (2021) and even more said that they loved the non-MCU animated Spider-Verse duology. One senior even went as far as saying, “I think the Spider-Man films will be the only successful Marvel films for the next decade.”

Aside from Spider-Man, many respondents expressed hope for the future of the MCU by looking at the overwhelming success of Phase 5’s most recent release, Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3, as a good sign for movies to come. Also, after diligently watching the beloved post-credit scenes in recent MCU films, some said that they are expecting another big crossover that will revive the excitement of classic Marvel movies.

So, to finally answer the question posed in the title of this article (is the MCU still relevant?), it seems like a clear yes. Despite lots of disappointing releases, Edgemont students and Marvel fans everywhere still have interesting takes on the MCU, with many criticisms about characters and plot lines. Most importantly, though, all have hope that someday Marvel will listen to their misgivings.

BLAKE FEINSTEIN





CAN EDMONT DECIDE? BY BENNETT O'REILLY

On April 15, 2022, it was announced that Greta Gerwig's *Barbie* and Christopher Nolan's *Oppenheimer* were to be theatrically released on the same day: July 21, 2023. Outside of being released on the same day, these two films couldn't be more different; *Barbie* is a fantastical comedy about the iconic female playdoll, while *Oppenheimer* is an epic biopic thriller about the life of J. Robert Oppenheimer, the "Father of the Atomic Bomb." It was the irony in the linking of these two polar opposites that attracted audiences worldwide, inspired memes across social media and led to the cultural phenomenon known as "Barbenheimer."

Leading up to the simultaneous release of the films, many debated which movie would be better overall and which would have the better box office performance. While *Barbie* outperformed *Oppenheimer* financially – earning over \$1.4 billion dollars, making it the highest grossing film of the year and the 14th-highest grossing film of all time – *Oppenheimer* impressed the critics more, receiving scores of 93% on Rotten Tomatoes and 8.6 on IMDb as compared to *Barbie*'s 88% and 7.1. Regardless, both films were incredibly successful and are, deservedly, critically and publicly acclaimed.

But what did Edgemont think? Matthew Howard ('25) told Campus that "Barbie was a very good movie with the director really leaning into the animated world of Barbie." Since Barbie is already such a recognizable icon in pop culture, many viewers were impressed with Gerwig's ability to make the Barbie world unique while still staying true to its roots. On the other hand, Howard said that *Oppenheimer* was "a very intriguing

movie about a confusing man who is confused about his own ideas...it makes you question the morality of his actions." Even though these movies couldn't be more different, Edgemont students are clearly still able to enjoy and find theatrical value in both.

That doesn't go for everyone, though, as some, unlike Howard, seemed to think that *Barbie* was a letdown in *Oppenheimer*'s shadow. "Oppenheimer set such a high standard that *Barbie* simply wasn't as good in comparison," said Abhinav Ganesh ('25). This opinion was also reflected in many students' adjectives used to describe the two films. *Oppenheimer* was "unparalleled," "sensational," "a cinematic masterpiece," "immersive," "gripping," "thrilling," "intriguing," and "goated"; however, *Barbie* was described with terms such as "good," "fine," "fun," "not memorable," and "funnier than expected."

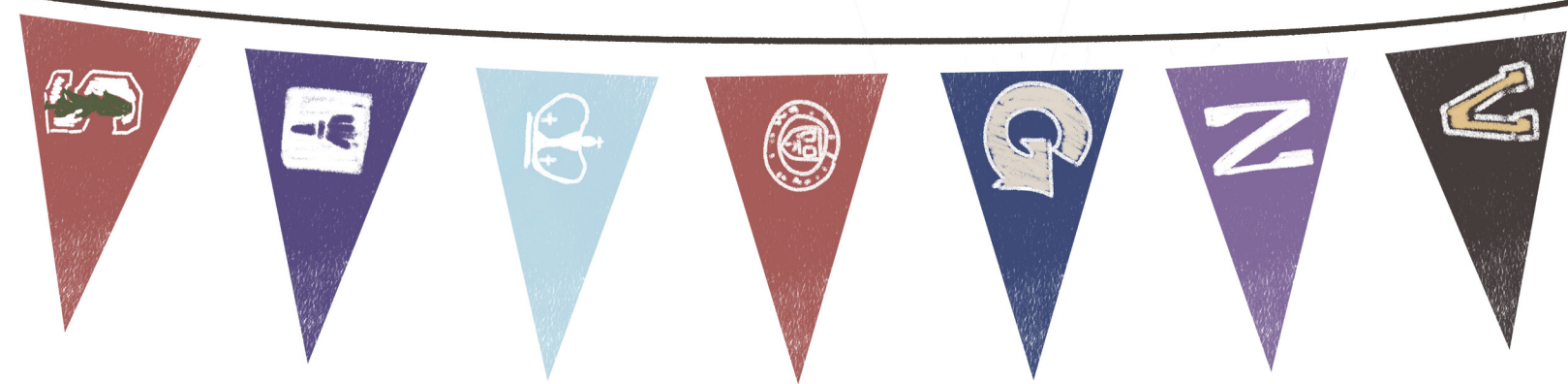
Students didn't seem to be nearly as excited or descriptive of *Barbie* as they were of *Oppenheimer*. Their impressions of *Barbie* were bland – not super memorable nor something they wanted to talk about. *Oppenheimer*, on the other hand, got Edgemont students going, using words commonly reserved for English class alone. In fact, it was difficult to find someone who had watched both movies and enjoyed *Barbie* more than *Oppenheimer*. That was until I came across Mr. Lograso, the band teacher, who said that "Barbie was a lot of fun" and a "much more enjoyable experience than *Oppenheimer*."

Out of all the people I asked about "Barbenheimer," only 5 students had seen both films – most had seen one, but many hadn't seen either film. Of

the students who watched both, 80% (4 of the 5) liked *Oppenheimer* more. It appears to have resonated with the pupils of Edgemont Jr./Sr High School in a way that *Barbie* couldn't. From my research, it was *Oppenheimer*'s more mature and intense subject matter that students enjoyed and appreciated more than *Barbie*'s fun and goofy vibe. Also, it doesn't hurt that one of the movies has a 10-minute scene of an insane explosion while the other doesn't.

As for me, I was at sleepaway camp when "Barbenheimer" took the movie scene by storm, but even there – in a society with zero social contact – people were excited, anticipating their viewings and sharing passionate opinions. I watched *Oppenheimer* in theaters and absolutely loved it. I was captivated by the visuals and loved the grand cinematic experience of it all. I didn't get around to watching *Barbie* until much later and unfortunately wasn't able to watch it in theaters, which may have skewed my opinion.

I thought *Barbie* was a fun, creative movie with great visual work and perfect casting. Although it was over the top at times, I enjoyed much of the comedy throughout. Regardless of what people think, "Barbenheimer" was undeniably great for the film industry. It got people back to watching movies, talking about movies, and, most of all, going to the theater in masses – something that hadn't happened since pre-Covid times. On the plus side, they're both great, original movies not Marvel or another huge franchise. So whether or not you like bombs or Barbies, Barbenheimer is Kenough for Edgemont.



The Impact of Affirmative Action on College Admissions

Anya Pathak

Affirmative action, as it applies to college admissions, commonly refers to a policy aimed at increasing the number of students from historically underrepresented backgrounds on campus. It was conceived in an attempt to address the historic and systemic discrimination in our society, in which college admissions also played a role.

Even though Affirmative Action has been the subject of several legal debates since its inception, colleges have used the policy in student admissions, resulting in increased enrollment of diverse students. For example, Harvard University's enrollment of Black and Hispanic students increased from less than 5% to around 27% over the course of the last 40 years. However, on June 29, 2023, the Supreme Court ruled against race-conscious admissions in U.S. colleges, stating that Affirmative Action as a policy violates the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment of the Constitution.

Since the ruling, several academic officials have stated that the Supreme Court's decision is regrettable and will lead to reduced opportunities for minorities, slowing down the nation's progress toward racial equality. When California banned race, gender, or ethnicity-based admissions by voting into law Prop 209 in 1996, the percentage of Black students enrolled in UC Berkeley fell from 6.7% to 3.7% in 1998, an approximately 45% drop in enrollment in just two years, despite an increase in the number of applications.

In light of the decision, colleges

and universities are looking for alternative options to assemble a diverse class of students and are emphasizing personal essays as key pieces of this year's application process. Many colleges are requiring supplemental essays asking students about aspects of their upbringing, cultural background, or how they will contribute to diversity and inclusion on campus. While this is not meant to become a substitute for the racial "checkbox", it still enables colleges and universities to promote diversity while theoretically maintaining a "race-neutral" approach.

The use of essay prompts with words and phrases such as "identity" and "life experience" in these supplemental questions places greater emphasis on individual differences among applicants. For example, the Johns Hopkins University prompt is "Tell us about an aspect of your identity or a life experience that has shaped you." Many of the essay prompts used this year by selective colleges are intended to ensure that college essays remain an open doorway for students to express who they are. By including personal stories and examples of how their race has influenced their unique life experiences, students can explain how they may have overcome stereotypes and biases and/or promoted diversity and inclusion.

How will the Supreme Court decision on Affirmative Action affect Edgemont's college applicants? To assess the impact of the new changes on our school community, I surveyed several seniors. One senior said, "The end of

Affirmative Action helps me, because it has been said that, for most minorities, having to list your ethnicity is harmful to your college applications. Not having to tell colleges my ethnicity makes me feel more secure in the fact that I will be fairly judged when I apply." Another student stated, "The only impact that I see that it could have on me is that whichever college I end up going to will be less diverse as a result, which will make my educational experience less well-rounded."

Overall, the current seniors' answers collectively suggest that the future of diversity in colleges remains uncertain. My survey also showed that changes to the familiar admission process have increased stress levels among seniors as application deadlines approach.

The Department of Education and the Department of Justice under the Biden administration released guidelines this August to help universities update their admissions policies to ensure compliance with the Supreme Court's ruling. However, these guidelines do not discuss financial aid and race-based scholarships, and there is, of course, more to learn about the full scope and impact of the Supreme Court's decision to end Affirmative Action.

At EHS, our rigorous curriculum effectively prepares our high school students for competitive admissions year after year. I am certain that the Class of 2024 will fare well.

