

Grand Ledge High School's

The Comets' Tale



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the upcoming
elections on
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Volume 57 Issue 1 October 2024 820 Spring St. Grand Ledge, MI



Letter from the Editors



Kaysen Strohaber

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Hey readers!

Welcome to The Comets' Tale Newspaper! This year we will bring our readers five publications, including a fall, winter, spring, and Senior edition.

This year, we're excited to add a few new elements to each publication. We have added two columns that will be in every publication. Ava Delaney will be keeping the Seniors up to date in the Senior Season column, and Abbie Perri will be bringing you entertainment news in her Pop Culture column. Make sure to continue to check those out!

We love to hear feedback from our readers, so if anyone wants to reach out or ask questions feel free. We are always looking for story suggestions and letters-to-the-editor.

Lastly, make sure to check out our website glcometstale.com and follow The Comets' Tale on Instagram and Facebook.

Thanks for reading!

- Kaysen Strohaber
Editor-in-Chief

The Comets' Tale

Mission Statement

The Comets' Tale, a newspaper produced for and by students of Grand Ledge High School, will provide the student body with information pertinent to events, activities and issues that affect GLHS students.

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Letters to the Editor are encouraged by The Comets' Tale staff. Letters may pertain to an article written or simply act as a form of student expression. All letters must be deemed publishable by the Editorial Board including the adviser. They should be 200 words or less but may be edited for content of length. All letters to the Editor must be signed. To send a letter to the Editor students may drop them in the publications room (room 228).

Harris and Trump's Presidential Plans



Caitlynn McKelvey
STAFF WRITER

This year is the 2024 presidential election, the Democratic candidate is Vice President, Kamala Harris and the Republican candidate is Former President, Donald Trump.

In July, current president Joseph Biden dropped out of re-election in July, due to him fearing that the intraparty battle over his candidacy would be a "real distraction" for the Democrats.



Kamala Harris persuades Michigan voters by advertising her campaign on a billboard. The board included her plans for presidency.

Photo by Caitlynn McKelvey/The Comets' Tale

A New Way Forward

Vice President Kamala Harris and Governor Tim Walz are working towards a new way forward protecting fundamental freedoms, strengthening democracy, and ensuring every person has the opportunity to get ahead no matter where those live. Building up the middle class is a defining goal for Harris's presidency. She aims to push to cut taxes for more than 100 million working and middle class Americans as well as lowering the costs of everyday needs like health care, housing, and groceries. Harris hopes to bring together organized labor and workers, including small businesses owners, entrepreneurs, and American companies to create good paying jobs, and continue to grow the economy. Ensuring protection and honesty for all, formally a prosecutor, district attorney, and attorney general of California, Harris has fought to ensure everyone has the right to safety, dignity, and justice. Everyone deserves to have freedom to live in safe communities, that's why Harris plans to take action to keep our communities safe from gun violence and crime, secure the borders, fix the broken immigration system, and tackle the opioid and fentanyl crisis.

Make America Great Again

The Republican party plans to reverse the worst inflation crisis, this has destroyed the middle class, wreaked family budgets, and pushed away the dream of homeownership for millions. Republicans commit to releasing American Energy, restraining wasteful

spending, cutting uncontrolled regulations, securing the border, and fixing the peace through power. Republicans offer a plan to stop the open-border policies that have unlocked the spread of illegal aliens, deadly drugs, and migrant crime. The first economic agenda uses the five pillars: Slashing Regulations, cutting taxes, defending fair trade deals, ensuring reliable and abundant low cost energy, and winning innovation together. Donald Trump is offering the plan to make the American desire to be affordable again. Republicans commit to lower housing, education, and healthcare costs, as well as everyday prices with more opportunities. Donald Trump stands for patriotic economy. This plan protects the American workers, farmers, and industries from foreign competition. Trump aims to protect essential programs like Social Security and Medicare. Republicans plan to achieve an education that empowers students, advocates families, and encourages American values. As well as restoring the law and order, and the care for veterans for American citizens of our society for brighter futures. Trump believes in the rights of Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. The Republican party plans to return peace through strength, by reconstructing our military and alliances.

To conclude, elections will be held on Nov. 5, 2024, register online and by mail due Oct 21, 2024 and register in-person at your local election office on election day Nov 5, 2024.

The Effect of Local Campaigns in Michigan



Andy Sequoia
STAFF WRITER

This year the presidential election between Former President Donald Trump and Vice President Kamala Harris is on November 5th. With Michigan historically being a swing

state, campaigning is a major form of outreach to smaller communities.

"I think that they [elections] can have a large impact, garnering any bit of support in states that are so closely divided can go a long way," said senior Ben Weston.

Vice President Harris campaigned in Detroit on Sept. 2 at Northwestern High School. Similarly, Former President Trump campaigned in Pottersville on August 29th at Alro Steel. Both parties strategically picked the location of their campaign based off of their target audience. Harris chose her campaigning site to target middle-class factory workers, focusing on the history of Michigan's auto industry. Comparably, Trump determined to host his rally in Pottersville in honor of the growing manufacturing jobs.

Following these rallies, people in Michigan became critical of both candidates and their location of

choice.

"I know Kamala being in Detroit, that's a very diverse area. And I think Trump's rally wasn't in an area of need necessarily, but I think that's a strong thing that Kamala did, she went to a place that should be more focused on versus Trump going to an area that has a lot of supporters already," said junior Sydney Manning.

Detroit has a very diverse community with many people of different races, social classes, and ages. Additionally, the city is known as the home of America's auto industry and a hub for factory workers in the middle-class.

"I think campaigning in smaller towns is influential because you're getting into the nitty gritty areas versus the heavily populated cities. But I do think that doing something in the community that actively helps them is beneficial," said Manning.

Differing from Harris, Trump chose to hold a rally in Pottersville, which has less diversity but a dense population of middle-class individuals that work in factories or the farming industry.

"I think that in terms of gathering support for a candidate, campaigning and rallying are two of the most effective tools," said Weston.

The possibility of this positively impacting Trump is

probable, as can be seen by polls. In the days following the Pottersville rally Trump gained 1.2% in the Michigan Presidential Polls while Harris maintained a steady percentage after visiting Detroit.



Grand Ledge citizen expresses their political beliefs with campaign signs in their yard. This was done in light of the 2024 presidential election.

Photo by Andy Sequoia/The Comets' Tale

Close to Home State Elections

Michigan gears up for House and Senate elections



Kaysen Strohaber
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Michigan's current Senator, Debbie Stabenow, has served four terms but does not wish to continue on with a fifth term. Stabenow is currently endorsing the Democratic candidate, Elissa Slotkin.

Slotkin has been a State Representative for Michigan's 7th Congressional District since 2019. Slotkin's main goal of running is fighting to defend and expand Michigan's middle class. She also has goals of lowering costs of health care and keeping children safe from dangers they might come across.

The Republican representative is Mike Rogers. Roger's was the State Representative for Michigan's 8th congressional district from 2001-2015. Rogers main goal for running is to help families save and prepare their children for education. He also wants to restore the economy that Michigan is in and help to create a growing economy.



Ava Delaney
COPY EDITOR

While presidential elections have seemed to take over the news, there are also some local elections, such as an open seat for a Mid Michigan Congress Representative.

Grand Ledge is a part of Michigan's 7th Congressional District which is on the 2024 state ballot.

Tom Barrett is running as a Republican. Barrett is an Army veteran, who has served in the MI, Senate as well as the MI House of Representatives. He is running to help the middle class, decrease violence rates, and help lower taxes.

Curtis Hertel Jr is running as a Democrat. Hertel is a former state Senator as well as the former co speaker for the House. Hertel wants to work towards common sense gun laws and help the Michigan auto plants.

The last candidate is Rachel Dailey, who is running as a libertarian. Dailey previously ran for this seat in 2022. She is committed to individual liberty and the idea of freedoms, specifically American heritage freedom.

Voices Unheard

Students and Teachers Express Frustrations with Grand Ledge School Board



Raegan Ward
STAFF WRITER

The Grand Ledge School Board has held a series of meetings recently, but there is a growing concern among students and teachers about whether their voices are truly being heard. When asked, two senior students mentioned that they have to go through a very lengthy process just to get anything considered.

"It's frustrating," one senior who wishes to remain anonymous said. Teachers share similar opinions. One teacher, who also chose to remain anonymous, remarked that if he did decide to bring a topic up for discussion during a meeting, they chose to dismiss it.

"They'd listen and their eyebrows would raise, then they would quickly change the conversation," he said, "Even if I wanted to share my opinion, nobody even asks for it anyway, so what's the point?"

When students and teachers were asked what they would change if they were on the school board, students pointed out that they would change the cell phone policy, stating that they feel more unsafe with the stricter policy.

Meanwhile, teachers have stated that they would rather enforce a stricter school policy overall.

"The first class of the day should be a homeroom

where students check their phones, where they will stay for the rest of the day," the same teacher commented.

Lack of engagement from the school board has left both students and teachers feeling unheard. As the school board continues its meetings, the hope is that they will start to take these concerns seriously and create a more inclusive environment where students and teachers' voices can be heard and valued.

"We just want to feel like our opinions matter, it's our school we deserve a say in how things are run," said the previous senior student.

The growing discontent among students and teachers suggests that changes may be necessary to foster a more collaborative and supportive school community.

If the board can address these issues, it may lead to a more positive and productive atmosphere for everyone involved. The community is hoping for a shift that will allow for better communication and mutual respect between the board, students, and staff.

One student who has attended several meetings, expressed hope for the future, "If the school board starts listening to the concerns of staff and students, we could finally make real progress." Ultimately, the path forward lies in open dialogue and genuine collaboration. As one teacher put it, "it's time for the board to listen."



Today the school board continues to navigate the concerns of the students and teachers. The Grand Ledge School Board held a series of meetings the past couple weeks to discuss pressing issues.

Photo by Garrett Callison/The Comets' Tale

Homecoming Festivities



GLHS Seniors vs Juniors tug of war. The Seniors won against the juniors.

Photo by Mayson Morgan/The Comets' Tale

GLHS Dances The Night Away



Elizabeth Garcia
STAFF WRITER

The annual homecoming dance for Grand Ledge High School was held on Saturday, Sept. 28 at 7 p.m. in the school's cafeteria. The dance brought

together students from all grades for an evening of music, dancing, and celebration.

The theme for this year's dance was "Candy Land" or "Home Sweet Homecoming". Mx. Lawler, with the help of staff and volunteers, worked hard to transform the cafeteria into a magical candy wonderland that fit the theme.

As well as the cafeteria having the dance, the auxiliary gym included features like party games, such as corn hole and ping pong, along with a photo booth.

The dance floor quickly filled as the DJ began playing music and keeping the room in high spirits.

One of the highlights of the evening was the making of a dance circle by Mr. Delaney, a teacher at Grand Ledge. He cleared a space for the circle and started it off dancing for the crowd. After Mr. Delaney started the circle students began to jump in and dance.

As the night progressed, the dance floor remained crowded. The DJ for the night kept the energy high and played very few, if any, slow songs.



GLHS students at the homecoming dance. The dance is something many students were looking forward to.

Photo by The Ledge Yearbook Staff/The Comets' Tale



Mayson Morgan
STAFF WRITER



GLHS held a silent soccer game with kids from Holbrook at the pep rally. The crowd participated using silent cheers.

Photo by Mayson Morgan/The Comets' Tale



GLHS opens the pep rally with the band playing. The audience applauded the band.

Photo by Mayson Morgan/The Comets' Tale



GLHS's Homecoming court female representatives pose for a photo. The representatives had to be voted on to the court.

Photo by The Ledge Yearbook Staff/The Comets' Tale



Ava Delaney
COPY EDITOR

Senior Season

Hello Seniors, I'm Ava Delaney. This year I'll be writing the Senior Information Column to help the Class of 2025 with reminders,

events, and overall senior-filled fun. Follow me throughout the school year for updates and more.

Senior year can be quite chaotic. Here are some important dates and reminders to remember.

Yearbook pictures are due Dec. 20. Make sure to submit your senior picture. Email Mr. Westra-Hall to submit photos. Along with senior ads, parents and others can buy student ads in the yearbook, which are due the same day, Dec. 20.

Proudly, the senior class won powderpuff beating the sophomore first and then the freshman. Go Seniors!

Our winners of Senior Homecoming Royalty got announced at the homecoming football game with Grand Ledge beating Waverly. Congrats to Toby Buckland and Delayne Hengesbach for being our Senior Royalty.

Many Michigan schools offer free college applications during the month of October, any questions about college applications or career preparations talk to your counselor.

Thank you seniors for following along. Stay tuned for more updates and fun in the next publication!

GLHS Fall Homecoming Court

This year's homecoming court had a surprising twist; it features only one boy and nine girls.

The announcement on Wednesday, Sept. 18, sparked some excitement that has consisted of conversation among students and faculty. Traditionally, the homecoming court consists of a somewhat equal number of boys and girls, with few exceptions. However, this year the nominations and votes from the student body resulted in an unusual outcome.

Senior Toby Buckland, the only male representative on court, says, "originally I was pretty uncomfortable, but I had fun with the younger guys on court and it was a good experience."

The nine girls on court also expressed their enthusiasm. The homecoming court was featured in this year's fall homecoming pep assembly, as well as the parade. The crowning of Homecoming Royalty was held at halftime during the football game on Sept. 27, where Toby Buckland and Delayne Hengesbach were crowned. This year's Homecoming Court can be a testament to the evolving traditions and the spirit of unity within the student body.



Kaysen Strohaber
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The 2024 Varsity Cheer team has a total of 27 girls this seasons, it's more than they have ever had before.

With the extra amount of girls it creates challenges along the way that the team has had to work through.

"A difficulty has been our uniforms, since our program has grown so much so has our team numbers and we've never held a team this big before. With that comes some challenges that we've faced this year of not having enough uniforms. We had to get creative with having the uniforms, meaning half the team wore the sideline uniforms and the other half wore the school's competitive teams uniforms," said senior Kiana Ruvolo.

The big team also creates a lot more voices that the coaches have to talk over. Many of the girls see practices as a time to practice as well as a time to be able to socialize with their teammates.

"We all love to talk and share our days with each other during practice and unfortunately sometimes it keeps us from being as productive as we could be," said senior Addison Plough.

Not only do the voices of so many girls affect the coaches, but it affects the girls as well.

"A big team comes with lots of personalities and learning to communicate with so many people can be hard sometimes," said senior Samantha Postema.

Even though a large number of girls can be seen as a bad thing, in many other ways it has been very beneficial for the team. The team has never been this big and since this is the first year it's been so big it allows for the girls to learn new things.

"Every year our coaches challenge us with things like new cheers and stunts, which helps us to work together and strengthen our team. I love seeing all of



Sophomore Anthony Baker takes a drink on the sideline. He played all four quarters of the game.

Photo by The Ledge Yearbook Staff/The Comets' Tale

Varsity Cheer Overcomes Difficulties

the cool new things we can accomplish together and I'm so excited for the rest of the season," said senior Savannah Grosshans.

The girls on the team are very happy with everyone on their team and are excited to be able to continue their season all together. The size of the team allows for the girls to make new friends, talk to people they might not normally talk to, and it creates a bond that

Varsity Fa

they didn't know they could have created until this year.

"The amount of girls this year is what keeps the team diverse and interesting. We are also showing how much our program has grown over the years, and showcasing a much louder and stronger team than ever before," said Ruvolo.



The cheerleaders sing the GLHS Fight Song. All 27 of the girls stand on the sidelines.

Photo by The Ledge Yearbook Staff/The Comets' Tale

Varsity Football Pushes Forward

The Grand Ledge Varsity Football is currently has a record of 4-3. One player throughout the season has really started to excel and make this season the best one yet, sophomore Anthony Baker.

"The season has been going pretty well. We only have one loss and I think we are on the right track to success," said Baker.

The season started off strong, but the team has faced challenges in recent weeks. Injuries for the team have been a problem and as the season continues, the injuries will test the team.

"Injuries have definitely been a problem, we have some key players who are out right now with injuries who normally play a lot who we could definitely use," said Baker.

Even though the injuries have caused some difficulties on the team, each day the players work very hard to overcome difficulties. Different types of drills and coaching techniques are what help the players to rely on themselves and the people around them.

"In practice we've really been working on discipline on the field for these upcoming teams because they have good athletes and good coaches, so we have to be prepared for anything and everything," said Baker.

With the difficulty of the schedule the Comets are soon to be facing, the intensity of practices are what is going to be essential to prepare them.

"We are prepared for our upcoming games, especially Dewitt which is always a game we get up for. We also have Catholic Central right after them who is ranked #1 in the state so that will definitely be a test, but I'm confident in the team," said Baker.

Baker himself has had a very successful season.

"My performance this season has been good, I'm on track to break a thousand yards and I've earned a chance to take two game day visits to Michigan State. When I play well the team gets hyped up and plays well too because when we have positive energy we play much better," said Baker.

With the performance Baker gives each game helps produce energy for his teammates to run off of. Baker is only a sophomore and continues to break records and gain attention from colleges.

The season is still undergoing but the Comets are ready for the challenges that are ahead of them.

II Sports



Mayson Morgan
STAFF WRITER

The Grand Ledge Boys Varsity Soccer team has started off the season, with a record of 10-4-3. The team continues to win games and grow

stronger as a team.

Varsity captain, Jon Davidson, speaks on the importance of a positive mindset stating, "Player, Ian Deters always starts the game with a good pep talk that motivates the team as a whole to give it our all out there on the field and pushes us to take on, and encounter new challenges as they may face us."

Furthermore, Davidson voices the value of a confident team, being able to connect passes, adjust the pace of the game depending on how the opposing team may be playing, and communicate from across the field. Though these are key aspects to acquire on the field, it is important to also be a team off the field.

The team had disclosed a rule in which all players ride the bus home on away games. This felt like a burden to players until they got to see the bonding

Varsity Volleyball Serves Into The Season



Erin McGinnis
CO-EDITOR

Grand Ledge varsity volleyball has had a productive season with invitations and breaking school records.

Senior, Annie Grew, broke the record for having the most aces on girls varsity. Grew has had a total of 168 aces with a goal of 200+ by the end of the '24-'25 season.

"I was aware that I was in the running for it since last year at the banquet. I didn't know we kept tallies on those types of things but it was definitely a confidence booster and made me want to push harder to become the record holder," Grew shared. "The season is going great! Seeing all of our improvements in practice and showing them on the court makes anyone smile. But seeing it and being a part of it on the inside view makes everything I do for this sport so much more worth it."

Grew has been playing for 11 years and is now moving on to the next chapter by announcing her commitment to play at North Central Michigan College Volleyball this past August.

"I've always thought I would be playing volleyball forever until my junior season when I almost quit and I was for sure not going to play in college but I gained my love back for the sport and I can't see my

they experienced.

"The bus rides were a way we all got to communicate with each other and show support for each other after a game. It was a way we all grew closer with each other," Davidson said.

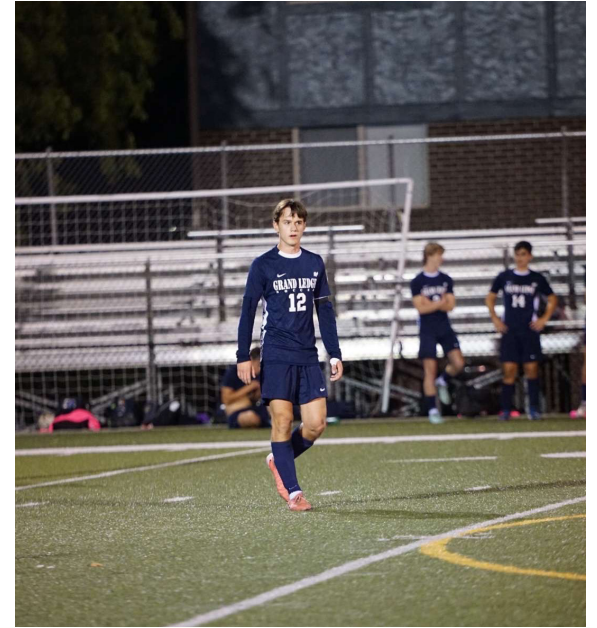
Other varsity starter, Drew Buckland, shares some of the more challenging games the Comets have had to face. Buckland said, the Dewitt game played on Sept. 24 was a game filled with uphill battles and struggles. Grand Ledge was up 2-0 and continued to show tough defense throughout the game. However, the game ended with a tie of 2-2.

The boys soccer team strives to achieve goals they set for themselves and as a team in the beginning of the season. A goal that was set as a team was making it through to districts and pushing to win states.

Grand Ledge took home the Silver Cup on Oct. 2, winning 2-1 against Holt. Joel Hatley scored the first goal by heading it in from a cross kicked by Noah McLaughlin, and another goal was scored by McLaughlin on a penalty. This was a comeback game for the comets. The boys had gone up against Holt earlier in the season and lost after putting up a tough fight. Winning the Silver Cup was an accomplishment the team had pushed to achieve.

The boys soccer team has had a challenging season that has encouraged them to work hard and achieve goals.

Varsity Soccer Runs to Victory



Senior Drew Buckland watches as the ball is kicked. The game was close but the Comets won.
Photo by Mayson Morgan/The Comets' Tale



Kylie Goodman waves to the crowd during their breast cancer awareness game. The girls won 3-2 that night against Okemos.

Photo by Erin McGinnis/The Comets' Tale

life without it." As well as holding the school records, she also currently holds the position for second place in the state for aces.

Kylie Goodman, senior, was in the running for athlete of the week in the Lansing State Journal for Sept. 16-21 and announced her commitment to Northwood University Volleyball.

Goodman comments on the girls '24-'25 season,

"The season is going good so far! Last week we got a huge win over last year's conference champ Holt, and we are still on track to reach our team goal of winning the conference this year!"

This year's district conference is being held at Dewitt High School on October third that will determine the teams standing for the '24-'25 season.

Meet Your New Teachers



Maansi Budapanahall
STAFF WRITER^{www}



MRS. BULLOCK
Foreign Language and ESL Department
Classes: Spanish 2, English as a Second Language, English Language Learners, American Language and Culture

Mrs. Bullock studied at the State University of New York at Cortland where she received a Bachelor's Degree in Spanish Education and a Master's Degree in Second Language Education with a concentration in English as a Second Language. She became a teacher after remembering fond memories with her mother when they played school as a little kid where she always acted as the teacher. She has now been a teacher for 14 years. Bullock enjoys being with her family, making sourdough bread, training in martial arts, and playing Fortnite during her free time.



MS. HARRIS
English Department
Classes: English 9

Ms. Harris studied at Michigan State University where she got a Bachelor's Degree in education and became an English teacher. After a big move from Florida to Michigan, she struggled to find her place at school. She later met a teacher who helped support her through her educational career and Ms. Harris knew she would like to do the same for her own students. Harris also has a talent for playing the trombone. She is excited to continue being a teacher at Grand Ledge High School and is excited to meet more students.



MRS. HICKS
Math Department
Classes: Geometry, Algebra 2

After years of knowing what she would plan to do in the future, Mrs. Hicks crafted a plan for her career path, where she ended up studying at Central Michigan University. She enjoys helping students learn and grow and watching as a new topic finally clicks in for them. Hicks enjoys bowling and cross stitch, as well as watching her students and her children grow.



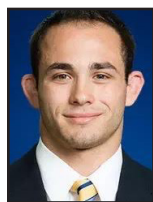
MS. HILLARD
Health and Wellness Department
Classes: PHW Health, Mental Health and Movement

Ms. Hillard did not always want to go into the teaching path. She originally went to college to pursue a career in the medical field, but instead found a passion for teaching when working in a summer school tutoring program for elementary school students in the 25th percentile. She ended up loving the connection between her and the students and loved watching them grow academically. She studied at Central Michigan University where she received a Bachelor's Degree in Health with a Minor in Physical Education. During her educational time, she studied abroad in Ireland where she was able to teach. She would like students to know that their mental health is very important and that you should always give yourself self-care.



MR ITURRALDE:
Social Studies Department
Classes: US History, World History, Economics

Mr. Iturralde studied at Michigan State University where he initially majored in political science. He ended up not connecting with the field's career opportunities but instead liked the teaching aspect it offered him. A big reason he decided to continue his career in teaching was because he loved teaching history and civics to students. A fun fact about Iturralde is that he co-parents a cat named 'Kitty' and is a co-advisor for Asian American Student Union.



MR. MASSA
Health and Wellness Department
Classes: PHW Health, Personal Health and Conditioning

Mr. Massa studied at the University of Michigan decided to go into education after meeting influential teachers who helped support him and help him achieve his goals and ambitions. He decided to carry the same support and kindness forward and give back to the students. Massa has had many successes in wrestling including being a three-time Division One All-American, Big 10 champion, two-time national champion, and three-time state champion. He is always welcoming students to stop by his room and have a conversation with him anytime.



MRS. QUEEN
Health and Wellness, Physical Education Department
Classes: Health 11/12, Family and Society, Parent Child

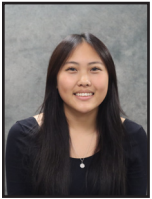
Mrs. Queen began her teaching career after being influenced by many teachers throughout her educational career and decided she would like to pursue a career in teaching. She studied at Central Michigan University for her undergraduate and graduate degrees. During her free time, she teaches aqua zumba, is a part-time therapist for a private practice, and also instructs at a gym. This is Queen's 25th year teaching and she is very happy with the welcoming environment that was given by the students, staff, and district.



MR. SCHMIDT
Math and Computer Science Department
Classes: Geometry, Web Design, Computer Science,

Mr. Schmidt grew up in a family full of teachers and he knew after a short time that he would like to become one too. Schmidt grew up as a dancer and his first job was at Everett High School in the dance program. He currently also teaches gymnastics at Spartan Dance Center in East Lansing. Schmidt studied at Saginaw State University and even after 20 years of teaching he is still very excited to teach. He enjoys helping people understand a topic that they might not know much about or have never done before. Schmidt is ready to help add more STEM classes at Grand Ledge High School. He would like to advise that students should join computer classes offered because our world is constantly developing with technology and knowing how it works is beneficial for all ages.

Learn About Our Clubs



Kameron Yang
STAFF WRITER

As Grand Ledge begins the 2024-2025 school year, there are many opportunities coming for the student body. The High School has clubs fitting for everyone and if not, students are more than welcome to create clubs

too.

The high school provides clubs in many categories including diversity clubs, sports clubs, rights and environmental clubs, career clubs, subject related clubs, fun clubs, and more.

Grand Ledge High School has six diversity clubs. The Hispanic and Latino Student Union (HLSU), Black Student Union (BSU), Diversity club, Gender Sexuality Alliance (GSA), Student DEI, and The Asian American Student Union (AASU).

Diversity clubs have been making a rise amongst the High School as all of these clubs were created over the past three years.

"I feel like it is very important for this school to the people inside of it, and to continue to have a space for others to feel like they aren't alone," said junior Anna Moua, a board member of the AASU.

The High School has three language clubs, including German Club, French Club, and Spanish Club. Addi-

tionally there are three sports clubs, Ultimate Frisbee Club, Bowling Club, and Archery club. Alongside that there are two career clubs, Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA), and Career Club. Along with four subject related clubs, Mathletes club, Literature Club, AP Calc Club, and Quiz Bowl.

Containing the largest number of clubs is the category of rights and environmental clubs which has 14, Sweets for a Change, Women's Equality, Upcycling Club, Diversity Club, Students Making a Change (SMAC), National Honor Society (NHS), Safe Driving club, Peer Assistance Leadership (PALS), Key Club, Model UN, National Technical Honor Society (NTHS), Links, Eco Club, and lastly the Animal Rights Club.

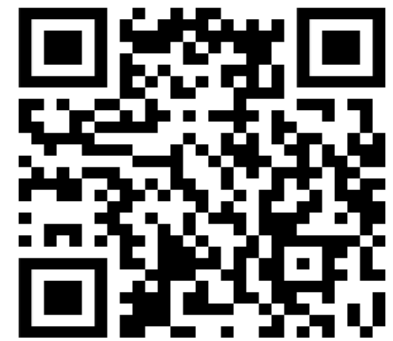
All of these clubs advocate for making a change and helping others and the world around us. "We wanted to create a club that benefitted charities around our neighborhoods and to create an opportunity for students to have fun and gain NHS hours," said junior Avi Skinner, President of Sweets for a change.

Lastly, containing 10 clubs is the category of the fun and miscellaneous clubs. These are Anime Club, K-pop Club, Cribbage Club, Dungeons and Dragons Club, Crochet Club, Cuisine club, Book Club, Girls Who Code, Poetry Club, and Skateboarding Club. These clubs provide students with similar interests a space to connect. "Anime Club is a safe space for

students to hang out and share interests of different anime genres, without feeling any judgment," said Mx. Ok, the advisor for Anime Club.

All of these clubs meet after school on different days of the week, some every week, others only once or twice a month.

Joining a club is a way to socialize and connect with peers. Whether it may be an in-school club, or an after school club. Grand Ledge High School offers many clubs and more will be added as the years go by. For more information on clubs you can visit the Grand Ledge High School website and look at the Athletics/Activities tab to find information about the clubs.



GLHS AP Classes



Adelaide Fitton
STAFF WRITER

This year at Grand Ledge High School, two new advanced placement (AP) classes are being offered. AP courses are challenging college level classes offered to high school

students to earn college credit. The new classes are AP European History taught by Mrs. Read and AP Precalculus taught by Ms. Westen. They are available to GLHS students as of the 2024-2025 school year.

Grand Ledge offers 16 AP level classes; AP Statistics, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Precalculus, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Physics, AP U.S. History, AP World History, AP European History, AP African American Studies, AP English Literature, AP English Language, AP Psychology, AP Macroeconomics and AP Microeconomics. Students who take these courses obtain a weighted GPA which allows for the scale to go higher, all the way up to a 5.0.

Ms. Westen has been a teacher in Grand Ledge for many years. This year she undertook the responsibility of turning the school's normal Precalculus class into an AP Precalculus class that met all the criteria from the college board so her students could succeed

on the exam. Ms. Westen compares normal Precalculus and AP by saying that about 70% of the class curriculum was able to remain the same while the "the rigor of AP precalculus is the same as the rigor was for Precalculus it's just different content at times because I have to match what the college boards tells me is AP content"

The title of AP in the past has scared off prospective students because of its notorious reputation for being challenging; however in this case more students are enrolled in AP Precalculus than there were enrolled in Precalculus last year which shows the appeal of AP credits to colleges and high achieving students.

Mrs. Read has taught AP World History for the past three school years and this year added on AP European History. She encourages students to take an AP history class by saying "They are super fun, we get to do a lot of really cool things, we get to learn a lot of really cool stories, we get to do bigger and better projects and have a more authentic experience with history... You get skills that can transfer pretty much anywhere"

The College Board offers many opportunities for teachers to learn more about the classes they are teaching. These include online and in person summer institutes where they can learn from other teachers

on the best strategies for teaching. Mrs. Read speaks on these opportunities as a great way to learn from other teachers from different backgrounds and get a start on creating curriculum for new AP classes. "I was training with people from Africa, Europe, both coasts of the U.S. I think we had someone from South America as well... The plan is to walk away with at least two full units prepped and done."

Both teachers agreed that there are no downsides on their end to teaching an AP class; however, students must consider the rigor of the class and its importance to their future before signing up to take these challenging courses.



Mr. Westra-Hall teaches AP English Language students. He has been preparing them to take the AP exam in May.

Photo by Adelaide Fitton/The Comets' Tale

Grand Ledge Goes Pink



Andy Sequoia
STAFF WRITER

This year, the GL theater department is putting on their production of the 2004 movie, Mean Girls. The cast is in their third month of rehearsal and feels very sure that they are on

track for opening night.

"[Ms.] Clark knows what she's doing, she's been doing this for several years. I trust that her and Mrs. Petersen did the rehearsal schedule to get us ready on time," said junior Sabrina Harvey-Cronk.

A new year brings a new group of people: this year production is without many seniors to fill lead roles. Senior show-lead Delayne Hengesbach commented on this by stating, "for a long time we had the same people in upper roles, so watching new people come in and see how they work and working with them is so cool. That's the best thing about theater, is working with a ton of different people."

This year's show has seven lead roles, all of which are double casted. The show has two casts, a gold and a blue cast to help bring more opportunity. Of the 14 leads, eight of them are experiencing their first time as lead characters.

"Every year people graduate and new kids come in and it creates more opportunity for underclassmen

and for juniors," said Harvey-Cronk.

With so many participating seniors in the musical program leaving this past year, spotlight roles have been opened to younger students.

"We have no senior guys, which is kind of odd because normally we have at least three or four senior men," Hengesbach stated.

"The biggest thing with production is letting people have their shot. Because even at callbacks there were people I was like I've never heard this person sing or I've never seen them act." Seeing new people have their shot is exciting for the theater program. Hengesbach continues by stating, "it's super cool because you don't really get to know these people until you get to see them shine on stage and so definitely with a ton of seniors leaving that's one of the biggest things."

Although this is a change for cast and crew, most feel that the show is running much smoother than last year's production of Little Mermaid.

"I think this [show is] easier because Little Mermaid was a lot of technical blocking, and this one is set in a high school. You know, there's a lot more generic blocking," states Hengesbach.

Harvey-Cronk agrees by stating, "they [rehearsals] have gone a lot smoother compared to my sophomore year in Little Mermaid. They're really fun and we get a lot of work done."

Pop Culture Column



Abbie Perri
STAFF WRITER

Hey Comets, I'm Abbie Perri and I will be writing the Pop Culture Column for every Comets' Tale Publication. This publication we will be talking about recent and upcoming

tours, especially ones near our area.

Sabrina Carpenter recently came to Detroit on Sept. 26 and her shows have been really good so far. She performs her chart topping new album "Short n' Sweet" with a couple of her more popular songs from her other albums like "Feather" and "Nonsense".

"The show was great, she looked amazing and never fail to impress me," senior Izo Kelly says.

I've personally really liked her show and especially her outfits. She changes through the night to many different outfits and they all are just so perfect. There have been some comments on her outfits and especially her hair, right now there is a whole debate about whether she is wearing a wig or extensions, either way her hair looks amazing.

Another big one that happened was Billie Eilish: HIT ME HARD AND SOFT tour that happened on Oct. 7. Multiple people went to this one as well as the Sabrina Carpenter one too.

Former One Direction Band member Niall Horan also came to Grand Rapids, Michigan on his The Show: Live on Tour.

"It was amazing, the way he always connects with fans make it so much more special," senior Aleigh Lasky says.

His concerts always consist of many interactions with the fans.

Look out for more singers coming to Detroit in the next year like Tori Kelly, COIN, Stevie Wonder, Justin Timberlake and many more.

Concerts have been bigger than ever. If you have suggestions for more pop culture topics or events for me to write about in the next publication, scan the QR code down below to leave suggestions. See you in the next publication.



SCAN
ME!



The cast members of the Mean Girls production rehearse for their show. They listened to the directors as they gave them instructions for what to do next.

Photo by Andy Sequoia/The Comets' Tale

New Phone Policy Strikes Controversy



Kameron Yang
STAFF WRITER

Grand Ledge High School implemented a new phone policy at the beginning that sparked controversy amongst the student body. Some believe it to be helpful to their education,

while others find it to be an extreme measure.

When asked about the cell phone policy five out of five students stated that they do not find the cell phone policy to be an extreme measure.

"I think it is kind of smart because it makes students more productive in class," junior Madison Wohlscheid said. As the school year has progressed, opinions on the cell phone policy have died down, but many students do still have a lot to say.

Some students say they find it to be a bit unfair that they cannot go on their phones in class because of the consequences of those who chose to disobey the policy.

"I feel like if you have bad grades and it's because of your phone then it would make sense but if you have good grades and want to be able to use it for music you should be able to," junior Isabela Blixt said. Even with the thought of finding the cell phone policy to be unfair, most students agreed that with the policy in place, they have been more productive in class than they were in the past. Teachers have noticed this as well, many agreed that their students have been more

productive in class. Teachers have also noticed that their students have become more social as well.

"One thing I've also noticed besides just students working on what they're supposed to be working on in class is that there's more socializing going on, definitely more conversations happening than just students looking at their cell phones which I think is a good thing but now as teachers it's something we will have to begin managing," Mr. Iturralde, a new teacher at Grand Ledge High School said. One thing that some teachers and many students find questionable is punishment given to those who break the policy. Most students stating that they find three out of the five punishments to be reasonable. The first punishment consists of students putting their phone in the cell phone holder for the rest of the class period. The second requires students to put their phone in the cell phone holder for the remainder of the day. The third punishment asks students to put their phone in the cell phone holder for the remainder of the school day along with a 10 day behavior plan. The fourth consists of putting your phone in the cell phone holder for the remainder of the day along with a 20 day behavior plan and the fifth punishment requires a 40 day behavior plan and one day out-of-school suspension.

Many teachers at the high school agree that as long as staff continues to enforce the policy, it will continue to work.

"I would assume it's going to stay as long as we are consistent with it cause what's true with any policy is long as teachers follow it and administration follows

it and then supports teachers in doing that then it will continue, so as long as we have that support then yes it will and it should continue," Mr. Westra-Hall, an English and Journalism teacher at Grand Ledge High School said.



Grand Ledge High School's new cell phone management room is equipped with phone lockers. Students have been sent here for ISS.
Photo by Kameron Yang/The Comets' Tale

Big Changes in C3 Schedule



Cecilia Arredondo
STAFF WRITER

This year, Comet Care and Connect (C3) has changed significantly, students are no longer able to use the entire class period to do their homework because of the increased amount of

IXLs students are meant to do during their C3 class.

Last year, C3 was used as a homeroom between 1st and 2nd hour for Grand Ledge High School students. This time was a way for students to catch up on homework, make up assessments, and socialize. As long as students did their homework and weren't disruptive, the class was pretty laid back.

"This year, they're making us do IXL, and I find myself most of the time doing IXL and not my homework. So even though we're going to C3 and it's supposed to be homework time, I'm doing IXL and

I still have to do my homework when I get home," sophomore Rylee Hays said.

C3 additionally moved in between to 4th and 5th hour, which angered many students.

"I felt like morning C3 was more convenient for me," sophomore Keely Ackerman said. Students like Ackerman had gotten used to last year's schedule, but it took a while for that to happen.

Although many students dislike the schedule change in C3 this year, others find it beneficial. They get to collect homework from their classes throughout the day and work on it during C3.

"I really like that C3 is at the end of the day, so I can have more homework to do," Hays said.

Sophomore Ajay Beers agrees, "I do a lot of IXLs and homework and it helps me in Mrs. Bowen's class."

Some students instead use the time for social activity and having fun with friends instead of doing homework. The length of C3 additionally increased

from 25 minutes to 35 minutes, making it 10 minutes longer and over a half an hour.

"I think it is very unnecessary due to the fact that we're not gonna do any homework," sophomore Neven Byers stated. By this time, students like Byers don't want to be at school, "I am ready to go home," she added. "I personally think it's stupid, and we should either have it every day or not at all," sophomore Anthony Baker said.

It appears that students either love or hate C3, and sophomore Alexander Augustine is very passionate about his C3 class.

"I really love my C3 so I'd say that it should be everyday," he stated.

"These are my friends and this is also my favorite teacher," Baker added.

Whether students like the new version of C3 or not, these changes are long term and will last at least to the end of the year.

Halloween Games

S E N K U G G W F M Z X Y N S R O L V R
 X V T R P G P C S F H T E E H E N L W A
 G C Z E O B M P G W B E N J A B D A K Z
 I Y X X T C C P I V W O K E U O J F X O
 G Z X Q H J Y F U O B G B S N T A O U I
 C R A U O P D D L H T I H Y T C Z S I V
 S U A S W V C L N J R V F O D O A B T L
 B U Q V L F A S C A R Y R X S N F S R O
 I R I C E H F K P H C E M Y Z T A M O P
 J Q G M E Y X K T L V B H H W X J C U R
 D N V R T T A E R T R O K C I R T M E R
 N V I L A W P R R H H R A B V Z P D O S
 S F O E E Z Z U D Y K O O P S K I W A I
 U Q K F F G K Q O F O K P W I P B V W S
 Z O M B I E C H B V L I H N S W V U P Q
 C A U L D R O N G E Y E H W K C X R B N
 N B P C T J P N I R F Y R H V B O J U V
 D X E T R A J G Q L O H Y U D X F L I J
 R X G C D X A Q B W O Z H X P E Y E S O
 Y E J Q M L S O Z P I D K O A B X V M E

- | | | | |
|----------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| Cauldron | Howl | Halloween | Ghost |
| Zombie | TrickorTreat | Pumpkin | October |
| Candy | Graveyard | Spooky | Spider |
| Scary | Fall | Haunt | Candycorn |
| | | | Bones |

Would You Rather



- Would you rather go trick-or-treating or go to a costume party?
- Would you rather carve a pumpkin or go bobbing for apples?
- Would you rather encounter Ghostface or Michael Myers?
- Would you rather watch Coraline or Beetlejuice?
- Would you rather eat circus peanuts or black licorice?
- Would you rather spend the night in a graveyard or spend the night in an abandoned building?
- Would you rather make your own costume or buy one from the store?
- Would you rather feel a cold breath on your neck or a hand grab your ankle from under the bed?
- Would you rather go trick-or-treating to a house in the woods or go trick-or-treating to a haunted house?
- Would you rather be able to fly like a witch on a broomstick or transform into a black cat?

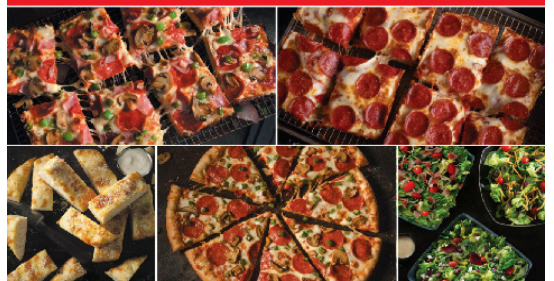
Dr. Wright's Joke of the Month

How do Dr. Wright's jokes change during the Halloween season?

Scan the QR code to see the answer!



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