Boundary Proposals Would Shake Up the School System

Emma Busbee
News Editor

D.C. officials released a revised proposal for elementary school boundaries as well as three proposals for changes to the current school feeder system for all schools on April 5, sparking waves of controversy throughout the city divided by its schools.

Problems have risen within DCPS due to an unequal distribution of students and academic performance. Wilson and Deal are both located in Ward 3 in Northwest and each boast high diversity and enrollment well over 1,000. By contrast, Anacostia High School, located across the city in Southeast, has 751 students and is 99 percent African American.

The current method for determining where DCPS students go to school is a neighborhood feeder system. Children go to the public school near where they live, or that their lower schools “feed into.” However, many out-of-boundary students are able to enter public schools outside their neighborhoods by lottery. Out-of-bounds Wilson students reacted similarly to their school, Hardy.

Boundary lines for DCPS schools have not been updated since 1968. Wilson’s jurisdiction stretches all the way across Rock Creek Park, covering almost half the city, while the rest of DCPS high schools’ jurisdictions are generally considered a “hate group” and does not receive much outside support.

In 2009 WBC set out to picket Wilson High School from 8:15 to 8:45 a.m. on June 9. The Westboro Baptist Church (WBC) is a Kansas-based church known for its radical religious beliefs, its extreme protests against gay marriage, and its pickets at funerals for soldiers.

There are 40 members of WBC, most of whom are relatives of Fred Phelps, who was the head of the church until his death in March. The church’s first service was held in 1955. Its anti-gay picketing started in 1991 in Kansas and then traveled around the country. WBC is generally considered a “hate group” and does not receive much outside support.

In 2009 WBC set out to picket Sidwell Friends School in D.C., and over 150 students met the protest with signs of their own. Some of the signs read, “There is that of God in Every-one” and “I Kissed a Girl and I Liked it.” WBC had previously referred to Malia and Sasha Obama as “satanic spawns” and, because of their attendance at Sidwell, chose to protest outside of their school.

The same year, WBC picketed Wilson, and students reacted similarly to Sidwell’s students in 2009 with signs and a protest of their own.

Now, five years later, WBC is visiting Wilson again to protest Wilson’s LGBTQ+ Pride Day. Immediately after WBC announced these plans, Wilson students, KelliK Dawson and Brian Keys, took to Facebook and started planning a peaceful counter-protest. Hundreds of supporters, excited to stand up for their beliefs, have already posted on the Facebook group, titled Westboro Meet and Greet. Students plan on creating posters, holding rainbow flags and standing together against the WBC.

Wilson students and outside supporters have come together in such a unified way that almost 1,000 plan on attending the WBC counter-protest in order to support LGBTQ+ Pride Day at Wilson. Principal Pete Cahall said in an email to one of the Facebook group founders, Brian Keys, that although the school couldn’t officially endorse the protest, students wouldn’t face consequences for participating. Openly gay mayoral candidate David Catania asked D.C. residents to stand with Wilson “in support of tolerance and respect.”

Senior Josh Kennedy-Noce took to the Facebook group to share his own story growing up with two moms. “I’m super excited for this protest because I want to show these haters that family comes in so many shapes and sizes,” he wrote. This post received over 130 likes and the support of many people in the group.

“If I’m really passionate about stuff like this,” said Gus Markand, an openly gay Wilson freshman. “Who are they to tell me who I can love and who I can get married to.”

Markand has the support of his peers, Wilson’s principal Pete Cahall, and D.C. Council-member David Catania.

Westboro Baptist Church to Target Wilson Pride Day

Sophie ReVeal
Videographer

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**TEACHERS HEAD OUT INTO THE WILD**

by Megan Bell

**MS. HARA**

Kristin Kowalew, World History, AP Human Geography, and Sociology teacher, will be leaving after three years at Wilson. During her time here, Kowalew has been involved in multiple activities and clubs: WISP, the Wilson Players, Human Geography Quiz Bowl, as well as tutoring students in Russian after school. “I have particularly enjoyed working with students and staff during the Wilson Players fall and spring productions and the One Acts. There are some incredibly talented young people in our midst,” says Kowalew. While at Wilson, Kowalew has been able to develop and teach courses that have allowed her to cultivate her own vision and to “grow a lot personally and professionally.” She says her favorite experience at Wilson has been, “watching students grow over the last three years, seeing them grasp the real-world meaning and identify what is most important to them from what they do and study, and witnessing their talent and creativity shine in and out of class.” After Wilson, Kowalew hopes to remain active in education and community development.

**MS. DEVINE**

World History 1 and 2 teacher Aimee Devine has been at Wilson for four years, including one as a student teacher. For the past two years, Ms. Devine has coached the JV Volleyball team, and this year she became involved with the softball team, where she really enjoyed being surrounded by wonderful and fun ladies. As a new teacher, Ms. Devine had “nothing to compare Wilson to but has loved so many things and will cherish these experiences.” During her time here, “I’ve grown as a person and will be forever changed by being changed by this experience,” she says, and “I’ve really loved the one-on-one conversations that I get to have with the amazing youth of this generation.” Ms. Devine will be moving to Salt Lake City and will be teaching a religious course based on ancient scripture. As a final message to Wilson students Ms. Devine says, “Be an active participant in your life!”

**MS. TOCCO**

HealthCorps coordinator and guru Micheline Tocco has been at Wilson for two years, where she has worked to make Wilson a healthier place. HealthCorps, which aims to empower students to lead healthy lives, has been active around Wilson implementing programs and sponsoring activities to promote improving health. Ms. Tocco teaches lessons on nutrition, fitness, and mental resilience, and runs various activities including the Dance Club, Healthy TiGIRLS, and Teen Battle Chef- whose first place in the regional cook-off she considers to be one of her favorite experiences. “The whole school community has been so welcoming and open to me and my programs, and we have such a diverse and amazing student body,” Ms. Tocco says of her time at Wilson. Ms. Tocco is moving to Boston where she will continue to work in the health and wellness field.

**MS. BAER**

After five years at Wilson filled with World History, U.S History, and student government, Susan Baer will not be returning this fall. “I love the diversity that Wilson provides and have been impressed by the talents and knowledge that this student body possesses,” says Baer. While at Wilson, she said she has grown as an individual and as a teacher, and has been able to meet wonderful students and coworkers. “I have a lot of favorite experiences: utilizing the many historic sites in D.C. to teach and promote history with my students, working with student government, dance parties in the classroom, and seeing the progress and growth of my students throughout the years.” Baer will be heading back West and attending graduate school.

**MS. MATSON**

Ms. Jennifer Matson, English 9,10, and 11 teacher has been at Wilson for three years. She has been involved with curriculum writing, DCAS test prep, and has been an active part of helping make DCAS run smoothly and be accessible to all students. Of her experience at Wilson, Ms. Matson says, “It’s been really positive. I’ve never worked with smarter teachers and with so many resources-it’s a cool place to work.” While at Wilson, Ms. Matson has enjoyed amazing teachers who are role models here at Wilson- “there is a lot of excellence here,” she says. Ms. Matson will continue to teach in Prince George’s County.
E-Cigarettes Impact on Health Remains a Mystery

Sophie ReVeal

Over 1.7 million middle- and high school students used electronic cigarettes in 2012, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The percentage of high schoolers who tried them had nearly doubled from 2010 to the time the survey was taken.

In April, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) proposed banning the sale of electronic cigarettes, or “e-cigarettes,” along with other currently-unregulated tobacco products including cigars, pipe tobacco and hookahs, to minors (under age 18). The proposal also includes evaluating e-cigarette ingredients and labeling intended use.

Major U.S. medical associations including the American Heart Association have supported the FDA’s proposed ban, pointing out the absence of proof that e-cigarettes do not cause long-term harm, as well as the suggestion that they may worsen nicotine habits and make it easier for younger kids to use this product and get hooked.

E-cigarettes are battery-powered devices that simulate smoking a real cigarette. They work by heating up and vaporizing chemicals that you inhale, including glycerin, propylene glycol, and in most cases, nicotine, a highly addictive drug that acts in the brain and body. Real cigarettes are made up of tobacco leaves along with additives like nicotine. Smoking anything can be harmful to your lungs, and 80% of lung cancer cases are caused by smoking.

E-cigarettes were created to be a safer alternative to tobacco cigarettes and a means of helping people get over cigarette addiction. They also allow people to smoke indoors, as they produce a byproduct of water vapor rather than smoke, another reason they have become popular.

Very soon after e-cigarettes hit the market people got addicted. Research has shown that the majority of people who use e-cigarettes become addicted.

**MA:** Did you like it when you first tried it?

**Anon:** Yeah, it was good. There were many flavors like Pina Colada.

**MA:** What was your first flavor and was it your favorite?

**Anon:** Mint, and yes.

**MA:** Isn’t it different smoking an e-cig than a cigarette? If yes, how so?

**Anon:** Yeah, it is. Well, it depends on what brand you buy? Many brands try to replicate that real cigarette feel.

**MA:** Do you still smoke cigarettes? Why or why not?

**Anon:** No. People have problems, I have problems. I smoke cigarettes to chill out. I dont like to talk about it. This is why cigarettes are bad, they work off of people’s problems. It becomes a bad habit because it comes with a positive and negative. It helps one cope with their problems but at the same time it destroys the body. It takes years for the chemicals in a cigarette to leave your body.

**MA:** What can you say about e-cigarettes?

**Anon:** E-cigarettes have different chemicals right? That are not FDA approved, you can research more about that to see if it’s im correct. E-cigs do not have tar in them which destroys your lungs, an added bonus the cigarette provides. Also the e-cig is more portable. If you want to smoke a cigarette, you have to leave wherever you are, buy a pack, then smoke it. Whereas with the e-cig all you have to do is charge it every once in a while and change your e-liquid sometimes.

**MA:** Is the e-cig a valuable way to stop cigarette smoking?

**Anon:** No, it all comes from self control. The e-cig will only meet you halfway, the rest is up to you to decide whether or not you want to stop the addiction or not. Also if you could just quit without the e-cig, then why don’t you? Even though it is hard to go cold turkey on smoking, it pays off in the end.

**MA:** Would you recommend the e-cig?

**Anon:** No I wouldn’t. Just tackle your addiction with self-control, but what do I know, I have problems just like everybody else.

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**NEWS**

E-CIG USER FINDS HABIT TOUGH TO CONQUER

The E-Cig, which started as an idea in the 1960s, is now used nationwide. Composed of a battery, vaporizer, and e-liquid, the e-cig is meant to be used as an alternative, a vaporized solution. Since I have never smoked a cigarette (or an e-cig, for that matter) I coerced a friend of mine into sharing his personal opinion on the e-cig. My interviewee has asked to remain anonymous.

by Michael Aniekwe

**Anonymous:** My girlfriend introduced the e-cig to me after I’ve been smoking cigarettes for some time. She was worried that I was smoking too many cigarettes.

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**Boundaries and School Assignment to Change**

FROM P 1

are about that third that size. In a phone interview, Mary Cheh, the Ward 3 councilmember, stated her belief that “there is over crowding of schools in Ward 3 and the underutilization of their facilities.”

She said she fears that if the city lottery would help to decide whether or not you want to stop the addiction or not. Also if you could just quit without the e-cig, then why don’t you? Even though it is hard to go cold turkey on smoking, it pays off in the end.

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are about that third that size. In a phone interview, Mary Cheh, the Ward 3 councilmember, stated her belief that “there is overcrowding of schools in Ward 3 and the underutilization of schools in other areas.”

To combat this issue, a newly formed boundary committee has released only a comprehensive proposal for new DCPS elementary school boundaries.

The boundary committee has also proposed three policies, two of which could get rid of the feeder system altogether. Policy B is very similar to the current feeder system: each student has a right to enroll in one elementary, middle, and high school close to where they live. Policies A and C involve city-wide lotteries for high schools, take away the feeder system, and give students a mostly-equal chance at DCPS schools anywhere in the city, with preferences for siblings.

The committee will make a preliminary decision on the proposals in late June which will be followed by a period of public comment. Their final recommendation will come at the end of July or August, and the mayor will decide whether or not to endorse it in September.

Principal Cahall says that the plans for next school year are likely to bring a “lack of predictability and neighborhood schools.”

Under Mayor Gray’s plan, the endorsed policy would come into effect in 2015. However, since Gray did not win the Democratic Primary and can’t be re-elected, mayoral candidates Muriel Bowser and David Catania would be able to stop the process altogether. According to the Washington Post, both Bowser and Catania have said they can’t guarantee a continuance of Gray’s proposal if elected.

In a statement Bowser said, “Let me be clear about my position. I will only support neighborhood school assignment. This means that students must have by right, as opposed to lottery, an assignment to a school at the elementary, middle and high school levels in their area.”

Principal Cahall says that with effort, a student can get a good education anywhere, but he sees the value in a location close to home. “I like neighborhood schools. It’s crazy to have a lottery system. Wilson’s not just a school, it’s a community place.”

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It is estimated that the NCAA, a non-profit organization, earns around $800 million per year from college sports. Also, recently, CBS and the Big 10 conference reached a TV deal that is projected to produce $45 million in revenue for 12 out of its 14 schools during the 2017-2018 school year. However, none of this money will end up going to the players, which I believe is a mistake. Instead, it will go to pay the million-dollar salaries of coaches and NCAA executives.

And while it is true many players will go on to make millions of dollars playing in the pros, it does not mean we should ignore their needs as players now.

Generally, a college athlete practices for upwards of four hours each day plus spending time in the classroom. On top of that, there is the constant travel from game to game, and with the recent conference realignment, this sometimes is a cross-country journey. As a result, playing a sport in college is like having a full-time job—one that is unpaid.

Also, due to strict NCAA regulations, college athletes are sometimes left without the most basic necessities of life. Shabazz Napier, the championship-winning point guard from UConn, was recently quoted saying that there were some nights that he went to bed “starving.” This issue has been reinforced by other players like the Vikings’ Adrian Peterson, who made remarks about being hungry during his playing career at Oklahoma. It is unacceptable that players who make the school millions of dollars are allowed to go hungry. One easy way to solve this problem is by giving them a cut of the massive profit.

Every season there are stories about top programs breaking NCAA regulations. Recruiting is so competitive that often recruiters will pay athletes to go to their schools. And since often these athletes do not come from wealthy backgrounds, they accept the money in order to help their families. Eventually, this catches up with most players and as a result, the school and the players are punished.

Most recently, Reggie Bush had his Heisman Trophy taken away for violations, and the University of Miami had 13 players deemed ineligible due to recruitment violations. But in order for a program to be successful, it needs top recruits. This problem will continue unless students know they will receive a certain amount of money in college that can go to their families.

By allowing student athletes to be paid, the NCAA will become a cleaner organization and a healthier one for athletes. The amount athletes should be paid is another argument, but the evidence fee payment is clear. A normal student who is given money to attend a school does not have his or her jersey sold for profit, or risk a career-ending life-altering injury. Why shouldn’t those students who do receive a little more for what they are doing?

Also, by giving athletes money in college, they become more prepared to handle the millions of dollars they will make if they play professionally. Too often one hears stories of former athletes who blow their money and are left without anything when their career ends. Getting paid in college would allow them to learn basic financial strategies so they will be better able to handle their money in the future.

A normal student who is given financial aid to go to school makes money off his or her skills and abilities. Why should the school make money off my skills and abilities? It’s a fair point, except that money made from massive college sports programs is redistributed to other sports and clubs at the school that have not received as much funding or support. The school is providing its athletes with a platform to showcase their abilities at the most competitive non-professional level.

If schools were able to pay athletes, there would be very little parity left in college sports. Schools with enormous endowments and lots of excess money would be able to offer the most money to athletes, so all of the best would flock to only a few schools, creating another problem.

As I said before, the simple answer is no, college athletes should not be paid. But the true answer to the question is unfortunately more convoluted than that. College athletes have a dangerous job, and put their bodies on the line every day. There is a very high risk for all, but only a privileged few end up with a high reward.

College athletes should, on the other hand, be able to market their own names without repercussions or consequences. Last year, Texas A&M quarterback, and recent Cleveland Browns draft pick, Johnny Manziel was suspended for allegedly signing autographs in exchange for money. The “scandal” tarnished Manziel’s name and also cost him playing time. This should never have occurred in the first place because athletes should be in charge of what they do with their own name, without any regard from the NCAA.

Colleges should not pay athletes but athletes should be able to make profit from their skills in other ways. There is bound to be some reform in the system sooner rather than later, and it will be of great interest to see which way the NCAA rules.

Meanwhile, Shabazz Napier’s hunger should convince UConn to up the amount of free food available for their athletes.
Sexual Assault Denies Girls the Safety They Deserve

Erin Sternlieb
Chief Web Editor

This spring I have visited a few very different colleges: big, small, private, public, city, rural, East Coast and West Coast. The schools had little in common, except for one somewhat alarming object. Most schools have referred to it as the blue light system. Essentially how it works is that if a student is walking around campus and feels threatened or unsafe, they are always close to one of the blue light poles, where they can press a button and the police department will be notified and respond within minutes.

The light poles seem like a smart idea for campus safety, but what alarmed me was first that they were necessary, and second that the schools' security measures seemed geared towards females. Many of the security measures are aimed at protecting girls from the grow- ing number of sexual assaults on college campuses.

Nineteen percent of college undergraduates will be sexually assaulted during their time at college, and this statistic includes only assaults that meet schools' often-inadequate definitions of sexual assault, and only accounts for the around 12% of women who are believed to report the sexual assault, as reported in The Campus Sexual Assault study by the U.S. Department of Justice.

For me, looking at colleges has coincided with Obama's new initiative to combat sexual assault and the flood of assault reports in recent months, along with media attention in the form of videos, viral articles, and social media campaigns. Obama's stronger stance on sexual assault, which uses Title IX to require schools to increase transparency and improve the rights of victims, stems from public outcry, and his attention to the issue has brought even more focus on the appalling facts.

What scared me on my college visits at first was that it was necessary to take security measures like the blue light system, but the more I learned about sexual assault I became clear that these measures are inadequate. Most sexual assaults are not happening on a walk home by a creepy stranger late at night; at least 80% of sexual assaults are committed by an acquaintance of the victim, according to a publication by the New York Coalition Against Sexual Assault. Sexual assaults are happening at parties, executed by frat boys and by boyfriends when girls are unable to say no. So while blue lights might be a reassuring feature for parents and potential students, they don't even address the real problem.

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The real problem is that schools are ineffective in addressing and preventing sexual assault. Many colleges have poor definitions of what sexual assault is. Often schools do little to nothing to encourage victims or witnesses to report sexual assault. And schools do not have well-trained individuals who are sufficiently independent of the school to fairly assess sexual assault complaints. In fact, colleges often exacerbate the problem by dismissing cases that implicate other students.

Ninety percent of rapes are committed by three percent of college men. This means that college is not a place bursting with rapists and violent men. But the truth is that the #YesAllWomen slogan that has recently been trending on social media is accurate. Not all men are perpetrators, but all women are victims of sexual harassment in some form, whether verbal or physical. The problem is that colleges are not doing enough to punish and remove repeat offenders from campus.

While the problem of sexual assault on college campuses is all around insurmountable, what bothers me the most is that it is violating girls' right to an equal education. It is unfair that girls in my generation, myself included, are scared to go to college. It is unfair that victims spend their time in college attempting to cope with depression and other severe issues. It is unfair that the process of reporting rape is often difficult and demeaning.

Looking at colleges and eventually going to college should be a fun and exciting experience, not a fearful one. To reduce this fear colleges shouldn’t be implementing ineffective blue light systems, but should be making substantive changes to reassure girls that they won’t be assaulted. And if girls unfortunately are, the school should address their cases fairly, quickly, and effectively, and provide the necessary resources for recovery.

Congratulations Sarah! We are so proud of you.

Love, Mom, Dad and Kate
Prom Has Its Drawbacks

Elias Benda
Opinions Editor

Prom is a major, important, and exciting event for high school seniors. Recently, this practice of an end-of-the-year dance extravaganza has been receiving some flak—and in my opinion, rightfully so.

Much of my criticism is a result of one of prom’s possible origins, as a dance for women to advertise themselves in pursuit of an acceptable husband, or a ‘promenade’, according to social-news website BuzzFeed.

On the practical side, prom is increasingly expensive. The average amount spent on prom in 2014 in the Northeastern U.S. was a whopping $1,104 per person, according to U.S. News & World Report. Promgirl.com gives a range of $175 to $2100 & World Report. Promgirl.com gives a range of $175 to $2100 for 2014. The most unnerving statistic shows that those paying for prom have traditionally been those with the lowest income, though that trend changed for the first time in 2014.

The social implications must also be taken into consideration. Many people feel they have to go to prom, whether they want to or not, and that they must ask someone to be their date. “Promposals” have undeniably been getting more intricate and complicated, to the point where there is almost a sense of competition for who has the most extravagant means of asking out a date.

It is no secret that some people see prom as a heterosexual event. In this sense, prom can tend to reinforce traditional gender and sexuality stereotypes: one man and one woman together. With this mentality, it is possible that those who don’t identify as straight feel excluded and unaccepted. In some places, this intolerance has led to a push for a “straight” prom, as is the case with an Indiana teacher, who said that “[homosexuality] is offensive to us”. Obviously, Wilson has a decent atmosphere of tolerance, but it is nonetheless important to be conscious of others’ feelings. For more information, DoSomething.org, a youth social activism site, has an article in their Prom Prep Series specifically dedicated to “What LGBTQ Youth Need to Know.”

There is no denying the importance of prom as a social landmark in one’s life. Everyone fondly remembers their prom as a final hurrah of high school. It is a great chance to have fun and express yourself. But as future generations face their special night, it is important to think about those around you, and make sure prom is a fun, reasonable night that everyone can enjoy.

Q Should I work this summer or travel?
A This is a really good question and I have actually been in the same predicament. I definitely think you should travel this summer over working. Traveling is a great experience that lots of people your age do not get. Opportunities to make money will happen year-round, but opportunities to travel for a long period of time will not. You can always work during the school year!

Q I’ll be going off to college soon and don’t know what I should do regarding my relationship with my girlfriend. Can you help me?
A Wow, you are in a really awkward position at this point and time in your relationship. I personally would continue on with the relationship while in college just to see how things pan out. Breaking up before even experiencing how a long distance-type relationship might work out, is not smart. When people do that it is usually out of fear. Things might change in the relationship but the distance will really be a test to see if you guys should stay together or not. I also advise to tone down the seriousness, because it is college and you both will meet new people. Just let the cards fall into place over time, don’t force a breakup, but also do not force keeping the relationship together.

Q How can I turn things around over this summer to be prepared for senior year?
A I’m so happy that you’re interested in using the summer as a time to better yourself for the next school year. Senior year is very important, so being prepared is a good idea.
- Having a set plan or idea will allow you to have goals for senior year that are narrowed down; for example, picking a career path or major makes things a lot easier than being undecided.
- Looking at the Common App when it opens up (August 1st) will really be helpful if you’re planning to attend college. That will allow you to get a headstart on writing your essays and getting the materials together for applying to college.
- Forming a resume will be a good idea as well, whether it’s for a job or college application. People always want to know what you’ve done and your experiences.
- Lastly, prepare yourself to answer lots of questions about your future, whether from your peers or adults. Senior year is the time where you get nagged about your plans after high school almost daily. Be prepared to give answers to those interested without attitude, sometimes people have really good advice or connections along the path you might be planning to take!

Congratulations on a job well done, Naomi. Treasure this moment of success and enjoy the journey ahead!

With Much Love Always, Mom & Dad, Jovanni, Daniella, Dianalyn and Max
THE BEACON

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Thank you to our faithful volunteer, Mary Carpenter.

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Our mission is to provide an accurate representation of the diverse viewpoints, opinions, and concerns of the students of Wilson High School. We aim to serve as the voice of the students. Through responsible, ethical journalistic practices, we strive to provide thorough, reliable news coverage of issues relevant to Wilson.

Advertising and subscription rates are available by emailing becaanchiefeditor@gmail.com, and become property of The Beacon.

The Beacon is a public forum created for the purpose of expressing the views of and providing information to the Wilson student body. Thank you for reading The Beacon.

June 6, 2014

OPINIONS

Picketing Provides Opportunity to Promote Equality

By The Beacon Editorial Staff

As a Staff, we’ve talked and thought a lot about the Westboro Baptist Church’s upcoming visit to Wilson. We’re realized that the fastest way to make the WBC go away would be to ignore them. Hateful organizations feed off publicity and attention, so if we simply went about our daily lives every time the WBC picketed a school or a funeral, it’s quite possible that their cultish organization’s influence would fade.

But maybe that’s not what we want.

Our country was founded on the principle of free speech, and free speech is what creates change. As Jonathan Rauch pointed out in his recent Atlantic editorial, knowledge is born when many opinions are considered and all but the most valid are found wanting. Hate speech, when contrasted with reasonable counter-arguments, highlights the flaws in hateful beliefs.

In publishing our poorly-spelled press releases and using foul language to attack high school students, the WBC is hurting their cause more than helping it: even the Klu Klux Klan has denounced their organization. The Southern Poverty Law Center has labeled them “arguably the most poisonous and rabid hate group in America.” And it seems that the anger the WBC gets about it, the faster the legislation expands to protect our feelings are definitely bit- tersweet.

We’d like to thank all those who worked on the paper with us this year: our writers, editors, and advisers were all a pleasure to work with, and all helped us grow, as writers, managers, and people. The ways we’ve both developed this year have definitely been influenced by our work on the paper.

Most of all, we look forward to the future. While seeing every top ten Wilson Rites of Passage

1. Get your fork taken away by security
2. Be an extra in a “WorldStar” fight video
3. Awkwardly witness sexual activity in the halls
4. Attend a yogurt social and not win an iPod
5. Get forced into a flash mob in the atrium
6. Get abandoned on a field trip
7. Get called sweet by people you don’t know
8. Use a slang term you don’t understand
9. Get hit on by freshmen at least a foot shorter than you
10. Get pushed out of the way in the hall and apologize
Ravanni,

I have watched you grow up as I was just a kid myself when I had you. I was still in high school and would get you to daycare all before my full day began. We have had our good, bad, ugly, and wonderful times. Now you are going off on your own. You have the skills to survive and have been equipped with the ability to make the right decision. Over the past 3 years, you’ve endured a lot from the passing of your grandfather to the sudden death of your stepfather, yet you’ve remained focused and maintained your composure during some obstacles that have come your way.

I’m proud of the young lady that you are becoming and I’m sure grandpa is as well...and what do you think “L” or Rasheem as some called him would say? Things can only go up from here. My oh my how time flies.

We are happy for you and wish you the best.
Love Mommy and your sisters (The Rascals)

HOPE A. OLSON
CLASS OF 2014

Congratulations, Hope.
We are so proud of you!
Love, Lee, Mom and Papi

Congratulations to Wilson Varsity Lacrosse Seniors. Your dedication to the sport is inspiring and will translate to success wherever you go. --Coach Arlotto

JERMAINE, VERY PROUD OF YOU!

LOVE,
MOM & FAMILY
On a warm June 2, 2013, the Wilson varsity baseball team took the field at Nationals Park against Maret in the D.C. Baseball Classic. The weather was great, the fans were cheering, and things looked very promising for the Tigers. The team built a 1-0 lead, and kept it all the way through the fifth inning. Right when the elusive city title seemed to be in Wilson’s grasp, the skies opened and it began to pour. The game was postponed because of heavy rain, and was rescheduled to resume three days later at Maury Wills field. Everything went downhill from there. At Maury Wills field, Maret had a resurgence and things looked very promising for the Tigers to extract their revenge. The #4. This meant a first round split which brought Wallis to the umpires allowed the game to continue. Because the field is astroturf, anything stop them this year.

The Wilson Tigers track team had practiced rain or shine, preparing for any obstacles that might come their way in the championships. Ultimately, the months of hard work paid off. The Tigers made history as both the boys and girls won the DCIAA outdoor city championships, the boys earning their first win since 2006, and the girls since 2003.

Helping to lead the Tigers to their win was senior Ross Pendergast, who ran a personal best of 9:55 in the 3200-meter race, earning first place against long-time rival Abdur-Rahmaan Kelly from Roosevelt. After taking the lead early in the season due to injury, Pendergast returned to the running scene just in time for the city championships, and went on to win a DCIAA race for the first time. Pendergast will attend the University of Michigan in the fall and plans to run for their club track team.

Another Wilson Tiger who made history at the city championships was senior Asey Calhoun, who became the first DCIAA runner in 20 summers to win the 100, 200, and 400-meter races, while also assisting his team in the 4x100-meter relay. Calhoun will run track for North Carolina State in the fall.

The Wilson girls faced a tough matchup against Dunbar, but came out looking strong. Senior sprinters Ashley Younger, Deonna Diggs, and Harper Randolph all placed in their events. Younger won both the 100 and 200-meter dash, with teammate Randolph coming in close behind. Diggs went on to win the 100-meter hurdles, while underclassmen Asia Amis and Jordan Dean earned first and second in the 400-meter race. In the girls’ 3200-meter race, the Tigers swept the podium, with freshman Mayim Lebrich placing first. The boys lacrosse team had a spectacular season, winning the WILL championship. Go to TheWilsonBeacon.com to read Ben Kostyack’s article on the team.
The intimidating girls lacrosse team had a very productive season. Junior Suzanna Carnevali-Doan gave the season a thumbs up, saying “This season was the most intense it’s ever been! Everyone really worked as a team and improved tremendously.” The lady Tigers boasted a 7-6 record.

The softball diamond was full of victories this year. Junior Hannah Thompson, former All-Met Honorable Mention, reported, “The softball team really came together this season. We have a winning record, (13-4) going undefeated in league play.” On May 30, the Tigers won the DCIAA city championships, crushing School Without Walls 20-0.

According to Wilson tennis player Yannick Roots, the team had a successful season, with both JV and varsity winning the majority of their matches. In the DCIAA Championship, junior Muhammad Ismail defeated sophomore Francis Dragulet in a tiebreak set 10-8. Wilson swept the singles podium for boys, winning first, second and third. Junior Suzie Newell persevered through early rounds of the girls bracket before being defeated in the semifinals. Wilson also finished first for team points overall.

Despite the unforgiving winter, the crew team put their work in and got results. Sophomore rower Thomas McCarren explains, “Our first couple of races did not meet our expectations, but as the season went on, we got better and better.” Boys crew earned a bronze medal at Nationals, while the girls placed 19th in the nation.

BOYS CAPTURE BRONZE - Wilson’s varsity boys crew team earned 3rd place at Nationals on May 23. Pictured to the left, the team throws coxswain Cleo Krups (10) into the water. On the right Peter Maeder (10) celebrates the team’s bronze medal. Photo by Carl Stewart

See thewilsonbeacon.com to read Asa Canty’s article on the Wizards basketball team’s recent success.
WHERE WILL THE CLASS OF 2014 TIGERS MAKE THEIR MARK?

Claire Parker: Has danced ballet for 12 years and is planning to pursue it after high school at the San Francisco Ballet School.

NR: How does ballet school work?
Nathaniel Remez: The San Francisco Ballet School is basically a feeder program housed in the same building as the San Francisco Ballet. The idea is that you go to the school, work your way up through the levels, and then eventually you go to the company or another company...[But] there are a lot more kids in the school than make it. There’s a lot of competition.

CP: What do you think you’ll be competing a lot with your classmates?
NR: I feel like I’m not a very competitive person. I feel that I’ll do what I have to do to get where I want to go, but I’m not going to have to worry about anyone else. I’ll end up where I’m supposed to end up.

CP: What made you decide to pursue ballet beyond high school?
NR: I think that I kind of realized maybe in the first or second year of high school that [ballet] is what I want to do as a career. I got injured and I couldn’t do anything for a while, and I realized how important it was to me. And then it became a reality last summer when I went to SF Ballet (their summer program), and they asked me to stay for the year last year. I was almost able to do that, but in the end I decided with my parents to come back home, finish high school, and then move on from there.

CP: What reactions have you received from people about your plans?
NR: There are two major reactions I get. One is people are very interested and excited; they ask me questions about it and they think it’s cool. Or the other reaction I get, which is actually kind of fun to get, is that people are so confused about it that they just say that this is a good idea but it is a dangerous job.

CP: What have been the reactions you’ve received from people about your plans?
NR: There are many reactions. Some good and some bad reactions. Some say I should just go to college and then pursue my career in becoming a D.C. firefighter once I finish college. Some say that this is a good idea but it is a dangerous job.

CL: There have been mixed reactions. Some good and some bad reactions. Some say I should just go to college and then pursue my career in becoming a D.C. firefighter once I finish college. Some say that this is a good idea but it is a dangerous job.

CP: What do you hope to accomplish as a firefighter?
CL: I would like to become a Lieutenant first and then Captain and possibly even the D.C. Fire Chief of the Fire and EMS Department. In order to accomplish my goals, I should always be better than the next man. Never be average; always strive for the best.

CP: Do you think that Wilson and D.C.’s education system focuses mostly on preparing people for college and encouraging them to go?
CL: Yes, Wilson and DCPS have encouraged many students to go to college. They also encourage you to visit places such as the College and Career Centers at your school where you pick out your route for the future after high school. I think that is a good idea for some students that want to attend college after high school but [for people like] myself, I believe they should also focus on vocational training because college is not for everyone. [But] without the College and Career Center at Wilson, I would have never found out about the DC Firefighter Cadet Program.

Seniors Choose Alternate Paths

Claire Parker: What do you think about going to college or doing something else?
CL: Well since the program does not really start until January 2015, I have planned to attend Clark Atlanta University in the fall of 2014 to get my college experience and start working on my majors.

CP: Did you think about going to college or doing something else?
NR: I think that if you are interested in becoming a firefighter?

Calvin Lewis: Actually, this is something I always wanted to do growing up, and I believe if you stay focused on becoming something in life and put in the work for it, you will have a great outcome. The Fire Department will also pay for your college education.

CP: What do you hope to accomplish as a firefighter?
NR: What do you think about going to college or doing something else?
CL: I would like to become a Lieutenant first and then Captain and possibly even the D.C. Fire Chief of the Fire and EMS Department. In order to accomplish my goals, I should always be better than the next man. Never be average; always strive for the best.

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FEATURES

SHINE BRIGHT LIKE A DIAMOND
PROM 2014

For more prom photos check out thewilsonbeacon.com
Na thanDa vis
Wild Thing is off
to college.
Daddy, Mommy and Lukie Wild Thing

But the wild things cried, “Oh, please don’t go—we’ll eat you up—we love you so!” And Na than said, “No!”

So here we are, sending you off with terrible roars, gnashing teeth, and all our love.

WILSON’S ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CONGRATULATES THE 2014 GRADUATION CLASS

To learn more about the association go to Wilson’s website and click on alumni.

wilsonhs.org

BRAVO!
TO THE WILSON THEATER DEPARTMENT’S AND WILSON PLAYERS’ GRADUATING SENIORS FROM THE WILSON THEATER BOOSTERS

NATHAN DAVIS WILD THING IS OFF TO COLLEGE.

BUT THE WILD THINGS CRIED, “OH, PLEASE DON’T GO WE’LL EAT YOU UP WE LOVE YOU SO!” AND NATHAN SAID, “NO!”

SO HERE WE ARE, SENDING YOU OFF WITH TERRIBLE ROARS, GNASHING TEETH, AND ALL OUR LOVE.

DADDY, MOMMY AND LUKIE WILD THING
FEATURES

My Life So Far: D’Mani Harrison-Porter

Hearing the name D’Mani Harrison-Porter, for most Wilson students, is closely associated with the number 1,000. While the rest of us struggle to get in our community service hours, he faces a struggle of his own, a race against time: to beat the DCPS record for most community service hours before he graduates this month. He is just shy of the current record of 1,238 hours and although he says, “after a while I stop keeping track,” he isn’t done working.

D’Mani has more to his name than just “the guy with 1,000 hours,” however. Aside from dedicating an incredible amount of time and effort to bettering the community by, say, founding the Wave Club, which donates sandwiches made by students to shelters around D.C., he plays an active part in school life. A longtime member of the drama program, D’Mani has been in just about every play put on in all four of his years at Wilson. He is also a member of the choir, where he sings as well as plays the role of right hand man or choir administrator to teacher Lori Williams, tasked with handling social media for the choir, making sure everyone is aware of trips, and more. A lot of his hours are spent using his talents in these two fields. For example, he helps out at Alice Deal Middle School with the drama program.

“I’ve always found myself to be a student who does a lot of extracurriculars, so I took advantage and found a way to help people,” he says.

D’Mani’s community service hours pay off quite a bit, although he says “I don’t do things to get recognition, but it feels good to get it.” Recently he has been nominated for multiple awards, including the President’s Volunteer Service award for community service and the Standing Ovation award from the WorldStrides Heritage Performance music competition, where he represented Wilson, beating out ten kids from ten schools across the country.

His extensive resume has helped him a lot. Next year he will attend Morehouse College in Atlanta, where they will undoubtedly appreciate all his hard work.

D’Mani’s modesty and kindness are among his many great defining features, which complement his achievement on and off the stage. When I asked to sit down with him, we had to postpone our interview because he was the front man in a flash mob put on at STEP. This truly embodies who D’Mani is as a person and as a member of the Tiger community. He is the Renaissance man of Wilson.

Matthew Smee
Web Sports Editor

COMMUNITY CUTIE - Senior D’Mani Harrison-Porter has over 1000 community service hours. He will be attending Morehouse College this fall.

Go to thewilsonbeacon.com to read Ellie Botsford’s most recent article in Spanish.

CONGRATULATIONS ETHAN CANAN!

TO OUR SON,
ARIEL L. WATSON
CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2014
ON YOUR GRADUATION AND THE COMPLETION OF YOUR FIRST STEP ON A JOURNEY TOWARDS A WONDERFUL LIFE!
LOVE MOM & DAD!
Editor’s Note: The Beacon set up two students on a blind date, each hoping to find the Kim to their Kanye. If you are interested in having a blind date for next year’s Baewatch scan the QR code or visit the URL provided and we will do our best to set you up with your soul mate.

For this edition of Baewatch, The Beacon decided to get fancy.

The lovely people at Pete’s Pizza bestowed us with a beautiful $30 gift card for the happy couple to use on their date. But that isn’t the only reason why this month’s Baewatch was so special: Sophomore Zoe Mills and Junior Martin Sakansong had a great time talking about their hobbies, despite the fact that Martin doesn’t have any. They also hit it off talking about soccer; Zoe plays on a travel team and Martin tried to play as a kid but said he wasn’t very good. Finally they talked a lot about the student elections, discussing the various candidates and their super complicated platforms. Before the date, Zoe admitted that she was mostly looking for friendship. “I’m a strong, independent woman,” Zoe said. “Besides, life is short and friends last longer.” Martin, on the other hand, has been looking for love. But not too seriously, because “it’s whatever.” At the end of the date, once the pizza was finished and the gelato was gone, both Zoe and Martin were feeling pretty good. The couple returned to school and headed on to their respective 5th periods, but it’s safe to say that the two will remain buds.

The date was rated off the charts by Zoe, with a rating of 11 out of 10. Martin gave it a 7.5, which was still really good! The two really had a great time, and they’ll be sure to wave at each other as they walk between classes.

Sadly, this date just about wrapped things up for the 2013-2014 editions of Baewatch.

Four dates were set up by the Beacon, and we are proud to say that all eight participants still know each other’s names. If you’re as upset to see Baewatch end as we are, don’t worry because it will be up and running next year, with a whole new set of prospective romances and gift cards to Pete’s. Be sure to sign yourself up; who knows, maybe you’ll also rate your date an 11 out of 10!

www.tinyurl.com/beacondatelab
With a lacrosse stick in your hand since almost the day you were born, we know you are going to rock the lacrosse world at Bard College next year! We are so very proud of you!

Love, Mom, Dad, MaryGrace and Maisie

“Today is your day, your mountain is waiting. So get on your way.”

Dr. Seuss

Don’t go to Walls, don’t transfer from Wilson. --Charlie Caspari
Don’t let grades make you who you are. --Ali Sefsaf
Don’t procrastinate, don’t have too much fun. --Yannick Roots

You might be a sophomore, but you’re still a freshman. --Zach Essig
Don’t follow your friends, be a leader. --Jazmyne Lomax

Always remember your dream, don’t let it get behind you. --Me’shel Davis
Don’t make “save your grades week” a quarterly thing. --Sheila Hasugian
Don’t, while carrying pottery, fall down in front of a bunch of juniors that you kind of know and run away. You’ll regret it for the rest of your high school career. --Patrick Mulderig

Don’t procrastinate cause you won’t stop. --Isabella Cruz
Keep up with your work, no matter how late it is. --Erik Latimer

Best of luck next year! We will miss you guys so much and are so grateful for your hard work!
To the Graduating Seniors of the Beacon Editorial Staff:

Thing 1: Nay to the weed

You in the halls. ing when I’m not here to cook

being afraid and wearing cloth-

you really ought to know about

share with you a few final things

ways. Before I go, I’ve decided to

The Beacon moves in mysterious

out my boy Woody Wilson, but

I’m surprised they didn’t pull

Columnist

Jack Price

Address

If this isn’t one of the Five

Pillars of Fashion, it really

should be because it’s way more

practical than the Pilgrimage to

Milan. The main issue with weed

socks isn’t the fact that your

mom cries every time you wear

them, or that “Yonkers” is still

in your Top 25 Most Played; it’s

that marijuana leaves are ugly.

So ugly. Why else would people

light them on fire? Also, gainful

employment is a pretty good

look.

Thing 2: Word on the

Street(wear)

We must guard against

the acquisition of unwarranted

influence, whether sought or

unsought, by the streetwear-

industrial complex. The poten-

tial for the disastrous rise of

bad streetwear exists and will

persist, particularly in eighth-

graders who have just discovered

Urban Outfitters.

Thing 3: Be Careful with

Camo

No matter how hard you try,

you will never look as hype as

Mr. Singer. Sorry.

Thing 4: Be Basic

Sometimes, dressing simply

is a good idea—it draws focus

to you, rather than to your

red corduroy sweatpants that

you bought on sale from some

unintelligible Japanese website,

wore once and realized were a

huge mistake. Basic stuff almost

always looks more expensive

than it is. Also, don’t spend a lot

of bread on basics when the Gap

has sales like every two weeks

and in addition to getting a new

designer who is somewhat wary

in moderation. If all else fails,

hit up Uniqlo.

Thing 5: Beat the Crap out of

Your Shoes

This applies to other articles

clothing, too, but shoes are

the most obvious example, and

what kind of senior am I if I

don’t go for the low-hanging

fruit? Sometimes you just have

to put down the toothbrush and

give up on keeping your shoes

clean. Most shoes, especially

ones with a white base, look a

lot better with a little wear and

tear, and this way you don’t

have to walk like Daffy Duck to

keep your cypher complete and

crease-free.

One last thing: spend time

WITH (and steal ideas FROM)

as many types of people as

possible. If your friend group is

homogeneity incarnate, your de-

velopment as a fashion god and

fashionable individual will be

severely limited. The more people

you interact with, the more ideas

you have access to. Also, the more

people you know, the more options

in between classes, and every
day brings you another one step closer
to filling the void created by your

pet hamster who “ran away”

when you were eight. Shoutz 2 da

dead hamster. Shoutz 2 da

Beacon.

Emmie, Sofie, Natty & Luke -

Key Elementary thru Wilson SHS

buddies forever. Making the

Palisades and your parents

proud!

Summer Movies

Conall Rubin-Thomas

Junior Editor

When it’s summer, you

want to go outside. You want to

go to the beach, hang with your

friends, or go hiking. But there is

one good reason to stay indoors

during summer—other than the

air conditioning— the Summer

Movie Season.

“Summer Movie Season” re-

fers to the time between the first

Friday of May and the middle

of August, when Hollywood

releases its blockbuster movies.

Most popular during the Sum-

mer Movie Season are the action

movies; films that feature heroes

facing difficult odds and danger-

ous challenges, often involving

fights, shootouts, and chases.

Below is a listing, complete with

descriptions, of some of this

summer’s most anticipated ac-

tion movies.

On June 27, “Transformers:

Age of Extinction” smashes into

theaters with new characters

and a new storyline, beginning a

new Transformers trilogy. New

to the franchise is are Dinobots,

a new Transformers trilogy. New

“Transformers, as well as ac-

tor Mark Wahlberg, who has

replaced Shia LaBeouf. “Trans-

formers: Age of Extinction” is

predicted to be a massive box

office success, no doubt due to

its new cast, new robots, and its

inventable product tie-ins.

“Guardians of the Galaxy” opens on August 1. Guardians is about an unlikely gang of intergalactic heroes who defend the galaxy from any threat. The movie features a green-skinned female assassin, a larcenous raccoon and a hulking, talking tree. This film will likely be an enormous box office draw, with a sequel already scheduled.

“I into the Storm”, which opens August 8, has one of the most original plots of the summer. A group of high school students film the effects and aftermath of a tornado with handheld cameras. Basically a found-footage disaster movie, the trailer showcases some pretty incredible scenes, with fi-

tery tornadoes and other images of destruction.

Finally, on August 15 “The Expendables 3” promises to end the season with a BANG! The third movie in the blockbuster series about a team of mercenary

aries is sure to please action fans

with its over-the-top violence and

explosions. Former action stars

Harrison Ford, Antonio

Banderas, and Wesley Snipes

join the cast in this install-

ment. The Expendables series is

already getting a fourth movie,

and shows no plans of stopping

unless Hollywood runs out of

grizzled, former action heroes to

work with.

“Over the Top” opens on July 4. “Over the Top” is about a former muscle

builder who becomes a show

cage queen. The film features a

masculine, out-of-shape actor

who is extremely passionate

about the profession. The film

is a feel good story about

overcoming the odds and

finding one’s true self.

On July 11, “The Wolf of Wall

Street” opens. “The Wolf of Wall

Street” is the true story of

hypocritical stockbroker

Jordan Belfort, who approaches

his profession with an extreme

depravity. The film is sure to

be controversial but also

entertaining, especially for

those who enjoy the wild and

crazy exploits of Wall Street.

On August 15, “The Guardians

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is already getting a fourth movie,

and shows no plans of stopping

unless Hollywood runs out of

grizzled, former action heroes to

work with.
5 CRIMES AND MISDEMEANORS (1989)

Woody Allen is my FAVORITE filmmaker, despite his family drama. I chose my favorite out of his enormous collection. Allen tells two stories, one an existential drama concerning a man (Martin Landau) who experiences a crisis of faith while trying to deal with an unstable mistress. The other, a comedy about a documentary filmmaker (Allen) who’s forced to make a puff piece about a man he absolutely hates (Alan Alda). It covers everything good about Woody, from a brilliant deconstruction of religious obligations to my favorite Woody-ism ever (“It’ll be a year [since we last slept together] come April 20th. I remember the date exactly, because it was Hitler’s birthday”).

4 THE WOLF OF WALL STREET (2013)

I’ve already said a lot about the Wolf of Wall Street, so I’ll keep it brief. Imagine Oliver Stone having a mental breakdown while filming Wall Street (1987) and convincing Charlie Sheen to do the rest of the movie under the influence of Quaaludes, plus directing the remainder of the movie completely naked. What you’re picturing right there is pretty much the Wolf of Wall Street.

3 DAZED AND CONFUSED (1993)

I’m a sucker for romanticization of teenage life, as long as it’s done well. Dazed and Confused, a twenty-four hour slice of life of the last day of high school in 1976, is done damn well. It presents the last day of school almost as an unstructured teenage commune, with all the strolling around and peeking heads in classrooms, and the nights spent driving around a one-horse town looking for any parties happening with a mustachioed Matthew McConaughey. As the big party ends, you’re going to wish you were right there with that mustache.

2 THE DARK KNIGHT (2008)

There was a long period of time where The Dark Knight was my number one favorite film, and it was hard for me to finally accept that something had taken its place. My first viewing of The Dark Knight marked the point where I became a movie nerd. It was the first movie where I could clearly identify what its merits were, and how they formed a fantastic film. When I got it on DVD, I watched it every single day of winter break that year. I’ve watched it so many times, I’m amazed the disc stills works, but I never get tired of it no matter what.

I KISS KISS BANG BANG (2005)

Like The Wolf of Wall Street, I’ve already talked about Kiss Kiss Bang Bang before. I’ve talked about it’s hilarity. I’ve talked about Robert Downey Jr.’s freewheeling performance, I’ve said what needs to be said. Please, for the love of God, watch Kiss Kiss Bang Bang.

COP OR NAH?

WITH KOPETSKY AND SMEE.

Z-SANDWICH

We thought we would never see the day: after what felt like an eternity of waiting, Z -Sandwich is finally open! Centuries ago, Z -Burger announced the upcoming opening of its second branch, a sandwich store, but the store never opened. The bright green, yellow, and red sign, which read “Z-Sandwich,” provided false hope for a number of years. It’s very possible that the owners of Z-Sandwich forgot about their plans, since it seems unlikely that it would take five years to buy enough bread and sandwich meat to start a business. But they finally did it, so we gave it a visit and a taste.

Upon entering, we realized that this was no normal eatery. The music selection was like no other—we were entertained by the smooth stylings of the Royal Concept and various other FIFA soundtrack artists, as well as old school Britney Spears and various other FIFA soundtrack artists, as well as old school Britney Spears and various other FIFA soundtrack artists, as well as old school Britney Spears and various other FIFA soundtrack artists, as well as old school Britney Spears and various other FIFA soundtrack artists, as well as old school Britney Spears and various other FIFA soundtrack artists, as well as old school Britney Spears and various other FIFA soundtrack artists, as well as old school Britney Spears and various other FIFA soundtrack artists, as well as old school Britney Spears and various other FIFA soundtrack artists, as well as old school Britney Spears and various other FIFA soundtrack artists, as well as old school Britney Spears and various other FIFA soundtrack artists, as well as old school Britney Spears and various other FIFA soundtrack artists, as well as old school Britney Spears and various other FIFA soundtrack artists, as well as old school Britney Spears and various other FIFA soundtrack artists, as well as old school Britney Spears and various other FIFA soundtrack artists, as well as old school Britney Spears and various other FIFA soundtrack artists, as well as old school Britney Spears and various other FIFA soundtrack artists, as well as old school Britney Spears and various other FIFA soundtrack artists, as well as old school Britney Spears and various other FIFA soundtrack artists. As we took our first bite into the three sandwiches we ordered, we immediately realized one thing: the unique sandwich shop we had believed to be in was actually just a Potbelly in disguise. With identical prices, sizes, and tastes, this place might as well have been a Potbelly. The meatball sub was properly toasted and well sauced, but it was nothing we hadn’t seen before. Their trademark sandwich The Masterpiece was pretty much a copy of Potbelly’s signature sandwich The Wreck, both meaty and beefy. Don’t get us wrong, these sandwiches tasted good, but we feel that with five-plus years of preparation, they should have come up with more original and groundbreaking sam-

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Final Verdict: Cop, at least until Jimmy John’s runs it out of business (if it ever opens, because as we have learned it takes on average five-10 years to open a sandwich shop).

*Quick side-joans: this establishment had literally, YEARS to perfect their interior design, yet they forgot to proofread their overhead menu, which had the “Meatball sandwich” listed twice. **Also they have close to no web presence (try googling “Z-sandwich”).

FINAL VERDICT: COP.
Wilson Students’ Creativity Displayed at the First Annual Arts Fest

Zoe Mills
Contributor

During the week of May 19-23, the first Arts Fest in Wilson’s history took the school by storm. “This one is kind of an experiment to see what happens,” said art teacher Mary Lambert, one of the heads of Arts Fest and the initial organizer.

The festival was a great opportunity for students to sell their work as well as gain feedback from others, whether from participating in performances or having their original art hung in the school. Students were also able to participate by helping out behind the scenes, from designing publicity materials to helping set up and earn some community service hours.

Some Arts Fest events took place during the week, such as the creation of the tall painting on Monday and a flashmob put on by the theater department at STEP on Tuesday. The anticipation was mainly focused around Thursday, where food, art, music, and live performances took place from 4-8 p.m.

Serena Wiltshire, a Wilson parent and the head of Arts Fest for the PTSO, worked all year with Lambert, Alex Wilson, and other PTSO members to get the show up and running. Wiltshire plans to stay on as the head of next year’s Arts Fest, so that the extravaganza becomes an annual event. The end goal is for it to become a community event to show student talents and the types of art programs at Wilson.

The festival gave students an opportunity to showcase their different types of art. Numerous students set up tables to sell work, including drawings, paintings, sculptures, t-shirts, jewelry, photographs and plants. A concert featuring Wilson band members took place, as well as a fashion show showcasing handmade clothing worn and made by students. Three West Side Story songs were performed by the fall musical’s original cast, as well as a few scenes from this year’s Shakespeare play, Two Gentlemen of Verona. There were also opportunities for kids of all ages, whether a Wilson student or younger sibling, to get their faces painted and their arms, hands, or legs decorated with henna. Wilson’s 2014 Art Fest was an experiment well done!

CONGRATULATIONS
NELL BAYLISS
AND THE
2013–14
WILSON TIGERS

ARTISTS CORNER

Compiled by Ellie Melick
What will you miss the most about Wilson?

- "The squad. Shoutout to Chris, Steve, Will, Matt, and Sophie"
  - Richard Sheler

- "Dress code tyranny"
  - Eileen Connor, Natasha Timmons, Emma Whitehead, Rosie Cohen, Maddy Taub

- "The trusty ‘ole Beacon"
  - Nathan Davis

- "Ms. Guo’s cherubic smile"
  - Kenny Hahn, Amara Kutos

- "Baby J-Rad"
  - Ulysses Campbell

- "The trusty ‘ole Beacon"
  - Eileen Connor, Natasha Timmons, Emma Whitehead, Rosie Cohen, Maddy Taub

- "Each other and the experiences"
  - D’Mani Harrison Porter, Harper Randolph

- "Ms. McGlennon"
  - Drew Cave, Brian Angel

- "Everything"
  - Alicia Oluhara, Farah El Sobki

- "Jack Price"
  - Emmie Woscoboinik, Misora Enslein, Sofie Heffernan

- "The ratchetness I guess"
  - Henry Hoffman (left)