



- GREELEY CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL -

MAY 15, 2018

Issue 14 Volume 79

# ONCE A WILDCAT, ALWAYS A WILDCAT

## A NEW LEADER AND WHAT LIES AHEAD FOR GREELEY CENTRAL

*S. Garcia*



On Monday, April 30, 2018 Greeley Central High School received surprising news that would change the Wildcat family tremendously. With no clue as to why Dr. Pilch had arrived in the library during the teacher work day, Mr. Kent Henson, principal of Greeley Central High School, explained that he would not be returning as principal of Central.

After two years here at the castle, Henson will be leaving to be assistant superintendent for District 6. Megan Martinez, English teacher at Greeley Central High School, described the moment Henson broke the news saying, “the whole room shifted and nobody knew what to do or what to think, it felt like the air got sucked out of the room,” and because of this transition, there is some fear for the future. While many around the building asking questions, there is one that really matters the most, What now?

Central has taken the next step to find the best fit for this position at Greeley Central High School and Mr. Cary Smith, assistant principal, hopes the next principal will, “keep a good mind that fits into the culture, and be a system thinker.” The process of picking this position started by the position being posted online and will be left open for two weeks. They will pull applicants to interview over the phone or screen and pull three to four to interview in person. The district will interview the applicants first and then they will recommend three applicants to be interviewed at Central. Finally, Dr. Pilch will be the one to make the final decision. As we come to this long process we wish luck to all applicants and thank you for choosing to be apart of the Wildcat family.

We want to thank Henson, for improving Greeley Central High School and for keeping the best interest of students in mind. We appreciate you for focusing on academics and encouraging all Central students to achieve greatness. You have improved our teachers by allowing them to interact with students more and that’s what makes learning better and more efficient. Greeley Central High School has not only demonstrated growth in students and teachers, but we have also grown as a school and we couldn’t thank you enough for all your hard work and accomplishments. Good luck on your new career and never forget, once a Wildcat, ALWAYS a Wildcat.

# ADVICE TO SENIORS FROM TEACHERS

*M. Diaz*

May 26, 2018 is the beginning of a whole new life for the class of 2018, why not start with advice from the very people who helped us reach the finish line?

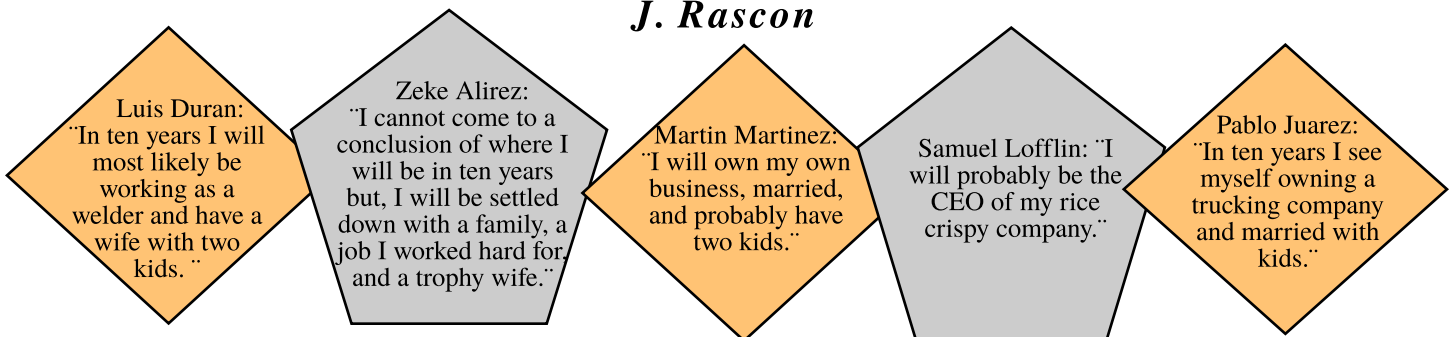
Mr. Jackson, a social studies teacher here at the Castle explained, "As a senior, be sure to do a lot of research in the field you wish to study in college to prevent you from wasting time, money, etc." Jackson also said that as a senior you should, "be a role model, and seek out younger Wildcats." Lastly, Jackson added, "as a senior try to be the senior you would've needed as a under classman."

Mr. Burch another social studies teacher here at GCHS stated, "Seniors- as you enter the next phase of life consider this list to help guide you: be honorable, be passionate, be open, be true to yourself, be a lifelong learner, make friendship a fine aid, enjoy those around you, get outdoors, right a wrong; and defer short term gratification for long term gain." Burch further explained, "this is a list that I have accumulated from inspirational people that I keep to remind myself daily of what to strive toward. Make your own list to help guide you on life's journey- best wishes-Mr.Burch."

Mr. Pranke, a credit recovery teacher and a history teacher here at GCHS, pointed out that, "There's one month of high school left and your whole life ahead of you, be sure to set yourself up strong." Pranke hopes that, "the senior class will leave ready for the world and with confidence!" Advice from teachers is truly valuable not only because they're honorable people but because they have learned a lot throughout life. If you're feeling a little anxious, find a Wildcat teacher to talk to!

## WHERE WILL YOU BE IN 10 YEARS?

*J. Rascon*



## WILDCATS REPRESENT IN MUSIC CONTESTS

*A. Rotter*

Every year the advanced music groups (Advanced Band, Wind Ensemble, Chamber Choir, Bella Voce, and Jazz 1) at Central compete at contest. These contests are equivalent to regional competitions in sports. How competition works is each group goes in front of a panel of judges and plays the music they have been preparing all semester. Before each group performs, they have time to warm up. After they perform their pieces, one of the judges runs a clinic with the group over the music they played and explains how they can improve or change it to make it sound better. Then they sight read a piece of music selected for them. Jazz Band, however, does not sight read any music. Scoring is based on a 5 point scale 1 being the best. The judges scores are averaged to give the overall score. This is not affected by the sight reading score. Band and Wind Ensemble competed at the contest held at Greeley West. Jazz Band competed at UNC Jazz Fest. Jazz Band competed in competition on April 20 where they received a 1. The choir competed at Northridge on April 24, where they both received a 1. Third Wind Ensemble competed on April 24 and earned a 2. Finally, band performed on April 25 and earned a 1. All 5 groups represented Central excellently showing the other schools what it means to be a Wildcat. Make sure to congratulate all the wildcats who competed in a contest.



# WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT PARTICIPATING IN SPORTS ALL FOUR YEARS?

## Reina Sotelo-Soccer

"I've got to meet and be friends with a lot of girls throughout the years."

## Aubree Monares -Softball

"My favorite part of playing softball for all four years was the opportunity to grow and learn more and more each year. I also enjoyed connecting with and meeting so many amazing girls!"

## Ebony Montanez -Basketball

"My favorite part would be building relationships with my teammates and playing each game with intensity."

## Dayana Alvarez - Track

"Every year has gotten harder and painful but it's helped me to reach new goals and faster times. And my teammates and coaches have helped me through a lot and pushed me to better myself. Track is always a season I looked forward to."

## A. Autobee

### Drew Sedinger-Golf

"My favorite part was traveling with the team to tournaments and competing for the school."

### Toni Dominguez- Cheerleader

"Getting to meet new people and definitely the sport. I love being in the air and trying something new every time especially with my teammates it would make it so much better when we would all hit a new stunt together."

### Xavier Bonham - Football

"It was a roller coaster and it was really fun being able to go out every Friday night and play with some of my closest friends. It's a once in a lifetime opportunity that builds a bond that can never be broken! I'm glad I got to play these four years at Central."

## Steven Maldonado-Basketball

"I'd say my favorite part of playing basketball all four years was just the experience along with growing as an individual and with my Senior class. Having four years to grow as a person and a basketball player while creating memories was definitely my favorite part of being apart of the program for all four years."

## Raul Morales -Baseball

"My favorite part about playing baseball were the friends I made and seeing myself grow as an athlete over the four years"

## Miguel Villa- Cross Country

"The bonds you create with the people you run with."

## Zilah Mendiola-Volleyball

"It was super fun and I enjoyed getting super close with every girl on the team throughout my four years and achieving so much as a team. Also, my coaches were very motivating and supportive."

## Recognize These Cats?



**Top Row L to R:**  
Karen Rodriguez,  
Adam Ceballos,  
Alicia Guel,  
Mia Paradez

**Bottom Row:**  
Julian Munoz,  
Sulema Ochoa,  
Esperanza Garcia  
Villarreal

# TO WALK, OR NOT TO WALK? WHY IS IT EVEN A QUESTION?

*J. Doss*

As the final days of the school year approach, it's time for seniors to grab their caps and gowns to celebrate their huge accomplishment. Completing, more or less, 13 years of school is something to be very proud of, and walking at graduation should be something seniors want and need to do.

Walking at graduation is much more than getting a piece of paper and walking across the stage to get your picture taken. Crossing the stage is an event that celebrates all of the hard work and dedication seniors, their parents, and their teachers have put in the many years of school. Some seniors, like Camden Rivera think that, "graduation is a waste of time, you sit there for a few hours, listening to people talk about things no one is really even going to remember." Even if you agree with this statement, walking at graduation is about more people than just yourself. It brings together all the important people in your life who may have helped you get to the very moment your name is called.

For some families, seeing a relative walk across the stage is a huge deal. Plus, seniors may be a huge role model to your younger family members, and walking at graduation may keep them motivated to finish school strong. Why would you want your final memories of high school be three long days of testing, presenting projects, finishing essays? Graduation is the best possible way to finish your K-12 education. Graduation is a very important tradition that everyone should be a part of. Don't be the person who regrets not going to their graduation. If you don't want to do it for yourself, then do it for your family, friends, and everyone who has supported you.



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# ONCE A WILDCAT, ALWAYS A WILDCAT!

## Greeley Central Teacher, Mrs. LaDonna Suggs, Retires after 25 Years at the Castle!

*A. Morales*



LaDonna Suggs is a dedicated teacher who cares deeply for her students. A hard worker with a great sense of humor. She is always willing to help students or staff that need assistance. She advocates for her students and other students in the building who have disabilities, to be sure they are treated like any other student. She consistently stays late working in order to have things prepared for the next day. And she is here first thing in the morning to be sure she is ready for the day. She's knowledgeable, respectful, determined, efficient, and friendly. She will be missed by students and staff.

**-Mrs. Reiber**

Ladonna Suggs is always representing GCHS with pride class and dignity. Ladonna has been a tremendous proponent of our students, in school and in the community.

**- Mr. Davis**

LaDonna Suggs is one of the most kind hearted individuals I have ever worked with. She cares about her students and their well being above all else. I wish her all the best in retirement. **- Mrs. Lackey**

I will miss LaDonna Sugg's quiet and witty humor. She possess the quality of impeccable timing with her jokes and one liners. LaDonna Suggs has taken care of the Special Education Department's social needs for many many years and her thoughtfulness and all inclusive attitude will be missed.

**-Mr. Johnston**

LaDonna Suggs has treated every students as if they were her own and taught me the importance of this tradition.

**- Mr. Frasier**

Good luck and enjoy! **- Mrs. Stacy**

LaDonna Suggs is always willing to help someone and also advocate for students' rights. She is the mother (in a protective sense) of the special education team.

**-Mr. Omoto**

LaDonna Suggs embodies the qualities of a true servant in every sense of the word. She donates her time selflessly and is always there to support others regardless of credit or accolade. LaDonna is a true wildcat and will be missed greatly. **- Mr. Bailey**

Appreciation for a great lady and teacher! I appreciate all your hard work and dedication to students over the years. You truly are an inspiration when looking back at all your work in education with kids and the community. I have loved going out with the girls and getting to know you better! I wish you a peaceful, positive, and rewarding retirement! You are always welcome to cater and hang with the girls!! Much love and well wishes!

**-Mrs. Stapleton**



# SENIOR BBQ

*M. Hinojosa*



As the seniors are taking their last moments at Greeley Central, one tradition that the seniors put on every year is the senior barbecue.

This is where the seniors have a cookout in front of the west entrance of the school, with a bunch of food, drinks, and activities. Tyler Barrera, a senior at Greeley Central states, "I feel like it's a great way to end the year, I know a lot of people are moving away for college so it's a great way to have some fun together before we start our own path." We all know that this barbecue is going to be a lot of fun, but also very emotional considering we are all going to start a new journey in our life, but we also know that this BBQ is going to mean a lot to the class of 2018. Barrera also explains, "I think it means a lot because it's the last school based thing we will do together other than graduation, and what's more fun than listening to good music and starting the summer off right."

As of right now the barbecue is set to be on May 23rd at 6:00 p.m., we hope a lot of you seniors come out and celebrate that you are graduating. Plus, you're not too old to have fun with your fellow peers, you don't want to miss out on this long term memory that you'll never have again.

## SENIOR MOMENTS: BASEBALL EDITION

What is your favorite moment from this season?

*B. Yackey*

**Alex Yeadon:** (Catcher) "My favorite memory is going to Grand Junction and playing elevator tag."

**Sage Hudson:** (First-Base, Pitcher) "My memory is coming together as a team and winning as a team."

**Trystan Herrera:** (Right-Field) "My memory from baseball season is the time we went to Grand Junction and played elevator tag and just spend time there as a team."

**Sam Perez:** (Right-Fielder): "Going to Grand Junction."

**Jaren Lesser:** (Short-Stop) "Everytime I get to step on the field and get to warm up with my amazing throwing partner Cesar Loma."

**Xavier Bonham:** (Center-Field) "Going to Grand Junction and all the games we are winning including beating mountain view 1-0 and being Longmont's only loss."

**Zeke Alirez:** (Right-Field) "My favorite baseball memory for this baseball season would have to be playing elevator tag in the hotels in Fruita."

**Brett Yackey:** (Left-Field) "My favorite memory is dunking on each other on a small hoop at the hotel in Fruita after we played our first game."

**Raul Morales:** (Third-Base) "My memory from baseball is our game vs. Northridge when we went to extra innings and I scored the walk off run."

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## WHAT THE NEW NEED TO KNOW

A few wise words from our Wildcat seniors to new  
Wildcats!

*Z. Chilcott*

**“Your senior year goes by really fast and so you need to stay prepared and get everything starts early... don’t get lazy.” -James Doss**

**“Get everything done and turned in on time the beginning of each semester so you can have the end of the semester stress free.” - Josie Tucker**

**“What happens, happens and it just gets worse the longer you wait.”  
- Benjamin Schmidt**

**“This year will fly by faster than any other - enjoy it.”  
- Avery Becklenberg**

**“Don’t not go, don’t blink, you’ll miss it.” -Shelby Bowen**

**“Art is what you can get away with, if you’re Andy Warhol. If you aren’t, don’t even try.”  
- Elizabeth Ho-gland**

## WE’VE FINALLY REACHED THE FINISH LINE

*S. Garcia*

Wow! Within a blink of an eye, the time has finally arrived for the class of 2018, and what has been four years has become less than two weeks. With six days left of school, seniors continue to countdown the classes, hours, and minutes until their big day. We are so close!

On Saturday, May 26, 2018 class of 2018 will be walking across the stage with joy, excitement, and tears. Crying; not only because they’re sad to separate from their friends, but because they’ve finally accomplished one of the biggest steps towards their future and it’s unbelievable. Marylu Garcia, senior at Greeley Central High School, states, “Graduation has seemed like a figment to me for 3 years and it’s still surreal to me that I’m leaving Greeley and going to college. I’m scared but excited for my future.” Alicia Guel, senior at Greeley Central High School also explains, “I’m scared and excited. Scared because I have to be an adult now, but excited because I get a fresh start.” Marissa Hejdak, senior here at Greeley Central High School, described her feelings about graduation by saying, “I feel accomplished and happy that this is it. The people I grew up with, the people I watched grow are all going their separate ways and will be dealing with the real world. It’s crazy but a good feeling because this is probably the best accomplishment of the start of life.” With different emotions going through each senior’s mind, I can assure you they are ready for graduation.

Greeley Central High School’s graduation ceremony will be held at the District 6 Stadium at 10:30 a.m. Families and friends attending the ceremony should arrive at 10:00 a.m, but seniors need to arrive no later than 9:45 a.m. All males are highly recommended to wear black pants, dark shoes, and a shirt of their choice. Females are not allowed to wear any high heels and need to meet dress code standards. Seniors, enjoy these last few days of high school-don’t take it for granted, and good luck!. Always remember, once a Wildcat, always a Wildcat.













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# MISTY'S SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

*M. Diaz*

"2-0-1-8... 2018!!... YES YOU CAN!" is the chant I can hear playing in my head, something that also helped motivate me to finish school. My journey started at Bella Romero Elementary School. Bella Romero has a tradition, at each assembly, each class will yell out their class chant, "2-0-1-... 201\_" and then directly following, the teachers and the whole gym would then yell back, "YES YOU CAN!"

As a freshman, I wasn't focused on graduating, let alone college. I was the type of student who came to the bus stop everyday, went to school then decided to leave with my friends. At the end of my sophomore year, I realized, if I didn't get on track, I was going to need to transfer or end up not graduating. Since I didn't want to switch schools, I realized I had to do everything in my power to be the best student I could be to make up for my freshman and sophomore years.

That last semester of my sophomore year, I really got my act together by having good attendance, good grades, and even making the cheer team for the next year. Wanting to join the cheerleading team (as well as making the team) definitely pushed me to continue doing well in school. I've been on the cheer team for two years where I met and worked with amazing people, while learning so much throughout the process of being on the team. I'm so thankful for the experience of being on the team it was amazing and I eventually would love to do cheer at UNC because I fell in love with cheer at GCHS. Cheer might not be your passion, but I would encourage everyone to get involved- it makes you want to be successful.

My high school experience was a rocky road, but I'm thankful for it all because it has shaped me into the person I am today. I now want to do something huge in my life! I'm so thankful I attended GCHS rather than any other high school! I have met amazing people on this wonderful journey of high school and also throughout elementary and middle school, it was crazy watching them grow up as well. I wish you the best Class of 2018, thank you for being on this journey with me and thank you to all my teachers and those who have helped or guided me I'm so thankful for all of you and wish the best for you all! Thank you!

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## REGRETS? WE ALL HAVE THEM.

*J. Gallegos*

Throughout a senior's four years of high school, they have faced many situations they wish they could go back and fix, whether they did not attend class, missed the winning shot or did not join a club. While senior year has been one of the most fun and rewarding years, it has also left students with thoughts about how they could have handled their high school experience differently. When you're in high school, you're still learning about yourself therefore, you won't always make the best decisions.

Coming from a soon to be graduate, I thought it would be a good idea to reflect on some regrets I've had and some advice I wish I was given. First and foremost, procrastinating. It is one thing I love to do, I always complete my assignments at the last minute. Was it a smart choice? No, but my advice to you is get what you need to get done because it's better to finish and be done with, than staying up past midnight just to finish five pages of homework you had three days to do.

Another regret I had was not creating closer bonds with friends. Entering high school, I came in with many friends that I even considered family, but now being a senior, I'm only walking out with a couple. My advice to you is always keep in touch with each other and if you were ever to get in an argument, don't let it break your friendship up. Senior Tyler Barrera stated, "One regret I have in high school is caring too much. I feel like throughout high school, I cared about what people around me thought of me so I followed a lot," he went on to say, "One thing younger classmates should remember is they only need to do things for themselves. Get your grades up and make yourself happy!" Grant Rivera, another senior here at GCHS stated, "My biggest regret throughout my high school career would definitely be not being more involved in clubs or activities, it wasn't until my junior year when I really started to get involved in clubs or attending school events." Even though we've made mistakes, they help us learn and grow for the future.



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## SENIOR THOUGHTS

*L. Contreras*

**Yaneth Robles:**

"Something I would tell my younger self is to not hang out with bad influences."

**Ana Bocanegra:**

"I experienced a lot both good and bad but both things that will help me in the future."

**Ashley Allmon:**

"My favorite thing about Central is the teachers, because they are all really encouraging and helpful. They definitely want to see you succeed and push you to do the best you can."

**Joel Rocha Guzman:**

"Overall my favorite memory while being a student at GCHS is playing football and enjoying time with friends."

**Anastasia Hernandez:**

"You never truly know what someone is thinking or feeling always ask someone if they are okay, even if they seem like the happiest person you know..."

## LOOKING AHEAD: ADVICE TO NEW FRESHMAN

*B. Yackey*

Dear Incoming Freshman,

I know a lot of you are worried or scared for your first days in high school, but don't fear we are here to help you with the do's and don't's as you enter your freshman year. Here are some tips to succeeding as you enter high school. First, start by knowing where your classes are without having to look at your schedule, often times an upperclassmen can help direct you towards your class, so don't be afraid to ask. Try to get enough sleep, often times with extracurricular activities and homework it is tough, just be sure you manage your time wisely. If you don't do so well at the start of the school year, that's fine, as long as you know that you're putting in the effort and trying your best to do well in school, you will do well!

Don't compare yourself to others, you are your own person so be unique in your own way. Don't change who you are in order to fit in with others, find friends who like you for who you are. Your freshman year is the most important year of high school, don't fail your freshman year because then you will be behind for all 4 years of high school. Don't get in with the wrong crowd, the quickest and easiest way to ruin your high school life is to get in with the wrong crowd. Finally, participate, participate, participate. Don't be afraid to go out for that sport, don't be afraid to go to that club meeting, don't be afraid to go to that sporting event, don't be afraid to get out there with your classmates and have fun. Follow your heart, but don't forget to take your brain with you.

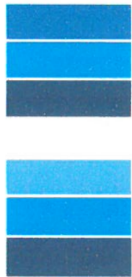
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Seniors 2018



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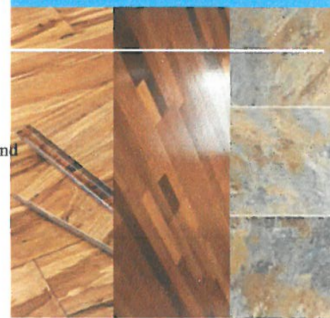
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## AFTER HIGH SCHOOL I PLAN TO...

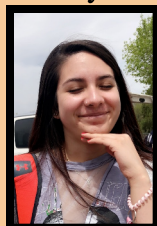
**MaryLu Garcia**

"I am going to CSU and Majoring in International studies."



**Johnae Martinez**

"Attending Northeastern junior college and becoming an elementary teacher."



**Alejandra Hernandez**

"Attend Colorado Mesa and earn a bachelors in exercise science and minor in kinesiology"



**Lindsey Mendez**

"Go to UNC to get my BSN and specialize to become an emergency room nurse."



**Grant Rivera**

"Attend Colorado State University and earn a bachelor's degree in Environmental Engineering."



**Mayra Garcia**

"I plan to attend school at Colorado State and major in apparel merchandising."



## EMBRACING SENIOR DITCH DAY

*T. Menard*

Every year, schools across America, have seniors that participate in a day known commonly as Senior Ditch Day.

On this day, seniors take a break from their stressful school lives and just simply do not go to school. The day has become infamous for being an excuse for seniors to blow off school work and just not come to class. Yes, that usually results in an unexcused absence unless you can convince your parents to call you in, but could this day actually be beneficial for students?

Amongst all the stress brought on by finals, AP tests, projects, upcoming college enrollment, upperclassmen have a lot to deal with when it comes to school during this time of year, maybe it would be a good idea to give seniors an official day where they are able to miss a day of school during the week to relax and get away from all the stresses they are dealing with.

Students are generally given things like weekends and breaks so that they can rest and relax. However, in a majority of schools and districts, days like Senior Ditch Day are not allowed and come with punishments like not being able to attend prom or not walking at graduation ceremonies. If the day were made official and allowed little to no punishments, students would most likely not ditch their normal class. This could reduce the amount of unexcused absences greatly. Implementing Senior Ditch Day, as an official day, with little to no consequences, is a great idea and one that the administration should consider.



# GRADUATION LOCATIONS

*J. Rascon*

Generations of Greeley Central students have had their graduation ceremonies at District 6 Stadium. Although D6 stadium is a suitable place to host our football and soccer games, our graduation ceremony is a result of all the hard work our students put in and our students deserve something better. The three major high schools in our district include Greeley Central, Northridge, and Greeley West. Theoretically, if all of our high schools had our ceremonies at D6 stadium, there would not be an issue, but apparently, West will have their ceremony at UNC's football stadium. This brings a controversy because although West is 5A and has IB programs, Central and Northridge both have strong AP programs and set their students up for success. This brings the question, "Why does West get to have their graduation ceremony at the university stadium?" Several students and faculty have brought up that question. Luis Duran said, "UNC's field is a lot nicer, I don't understand why we don't get the same offer." I agree with Duran, our Ceremony should showcase the hard work our students and faculty put in to get to this point, UNC would be a suitable area to hold our graduation ceremony.

## ARE YOU READY TO GRADUATE?

*A. Mcfall*

**Monica Brown-**

"Heck yeah I'm ready to graduate, I'm so over the whole school thing."

**Dustin Elkins-**

"Oh yes! It's been a good run, but I'm really tired. Free me please!"

**Jessica Vallejo-**

"I'm pretty pumped to be able to walk down that stage, and I'm really looking forward to being able to travel the world and sleep in all I want."

**Mariah Fabela-**

"Yes I'm ready, but not emotionally ready, only physically, the one thing I'm most excited for is all of the fun seniors get to have at the end and the memories we will make; it shows me that all my hard work is paying off."

**Callie Jones-**

"I guess I'm ready, but not 100%, mostly excited but I am pretty nervous, it's completely a bittersweet feeling"

**Hannah Kiburz-**

"I am so excited to graduate. It's been an amazing four years at the Castle, and I feel so prepared to go out into the world and live my life."

**Haidee Cervantes-**

"Graduating has been the only thing on my mind since I walked through those Central doors, but now that it's happening, I wish I could go back and value every memory here more. Yes, I'm ready to graduate, but it's bittersweet."



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## SENIOR LADIES, BE AWARE: LEAVE YOUR HEELS AT HOME

*L. Contreras*

Graduation ceremonies are special events where students and family members get to dress up. For someone who is not familiar with heels and has no past experience with them, it's smart to not wear heels. Although you may feel as if they will complete an outfit only wear what you are comfortable with. If students decide to wear heels at graduation keep in mind practice is key. Do not choose such a high heel if this is your first time wearing them, before the ceremony practice walking in them at home. Posture has so much to do with how you look when your walking in heels, from the way you step to the expression on your face. Everything matters when you want to become a pro at wearing them. Senior Karen Haro Gonzalez says, "I honestly think it's not a good idea to wear heels on the day of graduation because we are going to be walking quite a bit and there is a chance you can fall." Therefore, any student can wear whatever they would like within the school rules, although when choosing to wear high heels it's important to know there's a risk of falling.



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