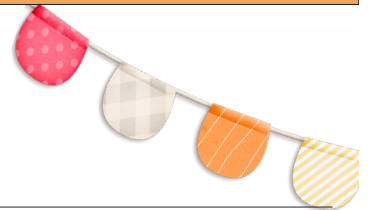


Greeley Central High School



The Highlight



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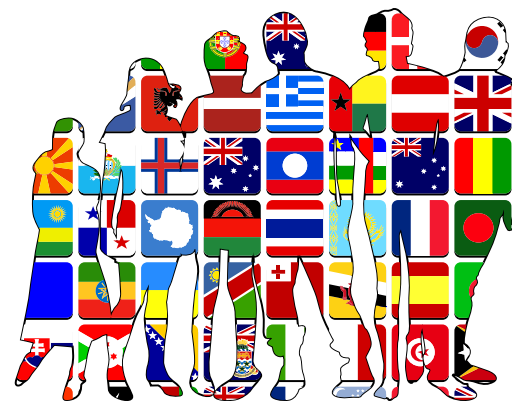
Appreciation Week for the Unique Cultures at GCHS

By: Kaitlyn Romero

The culturally and linguistically diverse (CLD) students were given the opportunity to show other students what one of a kind and interesting traditions their culture has to offer.

When people think of our school, they think of an atmosphere where English and Spanish are the only languages being spoken. What many people don't know is that The Castle has over 20+ languages fluently spoken. Some of the languages being spoken on a daily basis by students are English, Spanish, French, German, Somali, Tigrina, Oromo, Burmese, Rhanighya, etc. Although Central may not teach all of these languages, they do have teachers like Mrs. Alexander who specialize in making these students' time in the Castle a bit easier. Mrs. Alexander, a CLD teacher, specializes in working with kids who are new to a different environment to what they're usually used to. Students who work with Mrs. Alexander, along others, were given the choice to bring part of their culture to this event.

On April 5th and 7th, the school hosted an event for all students that were in language classes. This event consisted of stations set up by students who come from around the world. At each station, presentations were set up showcasing the culture's unique traits. The students were given a passport in which they had the opportunity to learn about the information being presented and fill in their passport. This event was a great way for students to learn about the variation of cultures here at GCHS. We hope to host events like these in the future to keep the ongoing education of cultures!



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Brackets Busted!

By: Sean Rotter

A recap of one of the most exciting NCAA tournaments in history

The year's NCAA tournament (March Madness) was one of the most anticipated in decades, featuring a full normal tournament for the first time since the Covid-19 pandemic. Every year the tournament is packed with buzzer beaters, upsets and unbelievable Cinderella runs by smaller teams. This year certainly didn't disappoint.

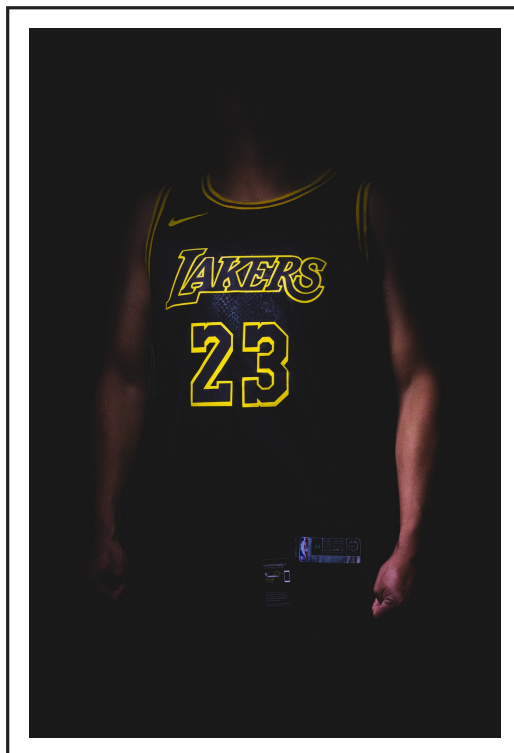
March Madness started off with Saint Peters, a 15 seed in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference, pulling off one of the most stunning upsets in history, taking down college basketball juggernaut and two seed Kentucky in a stunning overtime defeat. Though there were upsets scattered throughout the remainder of the first round, none were quite as memorable or drastic. In the next round "The round of 32" Saint Peters continued their historic run with a defeat of Murray State, and eight seed North Carolina took down one seed Baylor. But those weren't the only upsets, both 3 seed Wisconsin and 2 seed Auburn took huge losses for the likes of 10 seed Miami and 11 seed Iowa State. In the Sweet 16 we saw two more one seeds fall, with Gonzaga losing to four seed Arkansas and Arizona losing to five seed Houston. Saint Peters continued their unprecedented run with another show stopping victory over Purdue, becoming the first ever 15 seed to make the Elite-8. In the Elite-8 the cream seemed to rise to the top with Kansas, Villanova, Duke and North Carolina all moving on to the next level. All of which have extensive histories in college basketball, multiple championships and proud fanbases. The round started off with Villanova and Kansas, with Kansas taking the game in blowout fashion. Later in the night featured bitter rivals Duke and North Carolina slugging it out in a nail biter which ended with North Carolina coming out on top. In the National title Kansas and North Carolina had arguably one of the greatest matches in championship history, with Kansas making a comeback in the second half to a three point win in the final seconds.



Lebron Playoffs

By: Freli Ndayishimiye

After winning the NBA Championship in 2020 and falling short due to injuries in 2021, expectations for the Lakers were high this season. They had the best odds to win another title out of the Western Conference. In 2021, during the off-season, the Lakers front office traded a lot of players that were a huge part of their 2019-20 playoffs and championship run. When the Lakers fell short to a 4-2 series during the playoffs against the Suns, the Lakers were in panic mode to try to win another championship for their city. They traded Kyle Kuzma for Russell Westbrook who stood at 6'9 and averaged 15.2 points per game with the Lakers and now is a dominant player who's averaging 17.1 points per game and has had 26, 20+ point games this season compared to 13 with the Lakers in 2021. This has helped Kyle Kuzma have more playing time and slowly turned himself into an upcoming AA superstar. But the nine-time All-Star Westbrook has struggled since the beginning of the season and is still having trouble fitting in. His career stats show that he would have been a good fit for the Lakers because he averaged 23 points per game, averaged 8 assists, and shot at a high clip at around 44% from the field and 30.5 from the 3-pointer.



Nonetheless, he has had career lows in all his stats this season with the Lakers; with his struggles with the Lakers, fans have been name calling him and coaches have had to bench him during some games. If Westbrook was a center, it would have been a lot easier for him to fit in as a player because he could just set screens and rebound to help the team win. His role is much harder because point guards need multiple skill sets. They need to have ball-handling skills, need to be a scoring threat, orchestrate the offense, make assists, and also have to play defense on another side. Overall, I believe the Lakers will rerun it with Westbrook and maybe find a new head coach that can help his playstyle fit in with the rest of the players.

The Los Angeles Lakers and LeBron James have had a rough season this year from getting new players and key players missing games because of injuries. During the off season of 2021 the Lakers front office traded a lot of players that were a huge part of their 2019-20 playoffs and championship run. When the Lakers fell short to 4-2 series during the playoffs the Lakers were in panic mode to try winning another championship for their city. They traded Kuzma for Russell Westbrook who stood at 6'9 and averaged 15.2 point per game with the Lakers and now is a dominant player who's averaging 17.1 points per game and has had 26 20+ point games compared to 13 with the Lakers.



Featured Poet of the Month

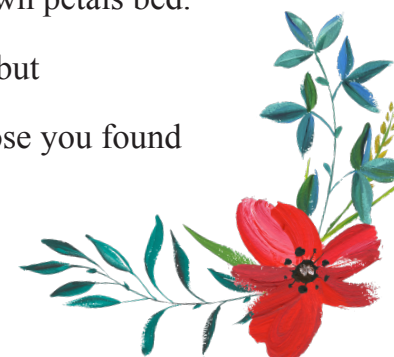
Pretty Rose in a Greenfield

By: Yulia Henao Lozano



In the greenfield, you found me.
My petals were close.
I was naked and alone.
Your hand felt warm when you
Picked me up.
You seemed delicate, innocent,
My sweet little boy.
I hid my imperfect spines,
For you.
But who were you to
make me pretend I wasn't dangerous.
To make me pretend I couldn't be the reason
Of a single tear of blood
Droppin from the top of your right snow hand.
The same one you used to rip me off my roots,
And the same one you used to submerge me in water.
I tried to bloom, but you hid me from the sun.
You hid me like I was your secret.
I tried so hard, just to see myself in the ground again

But this time, petal by petal.
While I was still trying.
Petals and more petals were falling off me.
And when the only piece of my red skin was left,
I stopped looking down,
I looked at you, and what you had in your hand.
She.
White, delicate, tidy.
She was the light.
She was the perfect flower for the empty jar
I would leave.
It was late,
so late.
I tried to look at you again, but
I was already on my brown petals bed.
I was already dead.
And I wish I didn't try, but
I wish I didn't change.
I wish I was the pretty rose you found
In that old field again.



Seven Mindsets

By: Preston Roser

Seven mindsets, GCHS's new attempt at promoting mental health & wellness throughout the classroom, has become a disappointment amongst the opinions of Central's students.

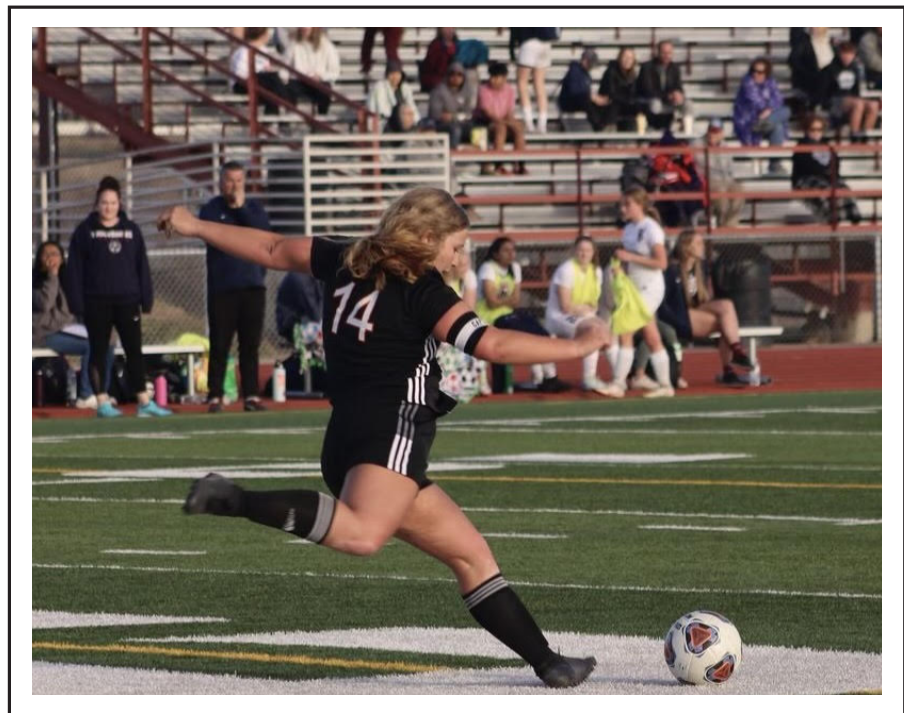
Greeley Central's Seven Mindsets is a new course around mental health, however, most students and even teachers question the benefit of such useless and ignored lessons. This course has made Seminar into a graded class where we watch videos on mental health as well as go through a slideshow which "promotes" the way people think about mental health and how they react in certain situations. The questions, which are to be answered at the end of every lesson, guide the people answering the question to a certain answer or way of thinking. For example, the questions make the individual answering them feel like there is something they are doing wrong or something they have to do, such as, "how do you continue to make that person feel valued," rather than asking how does the person themselves feel valued. This, in my opinion, makes the questioned feel like they are in a position where they have to consider how they affect other people far more than how they are affected. In a course surrounded around mental health, it would be better if it focused more on the individual's mental health than what they do or have done to other people, it's not a course about social relations.

On top of this, the course makes mental health into an assignment which can be read & graded. If the school system wanted to promote mental health in the classroom, how would it be a good idea to make it an assignment which students are obligated to do in order to pass a class? This will lead to answers which have no thorough consideration of the prompt nor answers which actually help a student with their mental health. There will always be students who answer these questions in the way that will pass them, not in the brutally honest way which actually promotes one's opinion & mental health. Students haven't been helped by this course & if anything, it has put more stress & work on the students than provided any good to them. In fact, the newspaper staff is promoting a mental health charity which may even be more impactful than the seven mindset's course implemented within a class that is supposed to focus on completing assignments & improving grades. The way that Central put this course into the student's curriculum & how they are making students participate, makes the Seven Mindsets course Central's new failed attempt at implementing mental health within the classroom.

Soccer JV

By: Lovely Paw

On Tuesday, March 22nd, Greeley Central High School's JV soccer girls had a game at Northridge District 6 Stadium. All the girls left class at 2:15 to head to the game. The weather was extremely windy, snowy, rainy, but with the sun shining. Our girls were very cold but they tried their best to stay strong. They got on the field to warm up by kicking the soccer balls around before the game started. The girls never let weather stop them from excelling on the field and working together for a win. They work hard by listening to the coaches.



Though the game ended with a score of 1-8, with the Wildcats losing, the girls fought hard and made sure to give their best. They go to practice everyday to get better. They work very hard and the coaches always cheer them on. The coaches always remind the girls, "We all came here to have fun and get on the field trying our best. You come here to learn, of course you will make a mistake but if you want to be in that place, put your head up and keep working hard girls. We know you can do it. We don't care about the score. We come here for mistakes and we will help you improve. Don't look down on yourself and we are not mad at you for your mistakes." In an interview with Coach Shannon, one of the girls soccer coaches, we learn that the girls soccer teams are doing really well this year. Coach Shannon has been coaching at Greeley Central for four years and this year has had the most number of girls try out for soccer.

Coach Shannon also comments that the students participating in soccer are also doing well academically. She goes on to say that "success is not measured in wins, but our success is how we are doing with character and skills and progression." There are several players who work hard on their off days, are talented, and are players to watch. Overall, the JV soccer girls at GCHS are making their way this season. We should all be proud of their hard work and determination!



FOUR CORNERS



Athlete of the week Winter Beshears

Favorite sport you play?

Soccer is definitely one of my favorite sports and keeps me going when I'm down.

What's your main source of motivation?

My main source of motivation is my little sister and her hoodlums. Along with my support system of my dad, mom, grandma, and Cynthia and Tomea. I also have always got my motivation from my team always pushing me to better myself.

What form of support do you provide for your team members?

I'm a team captain so I'm always supporting my other players and giving them a purpose to smile I wanna see my players succeed so even when my flaws show I embrace them because I want them to know it's okay to make mistakes if you learn from them.

A quote everyone should hear?

Don't look down when you have a beautiful future ahead of you, success is as big or little as you want to make it. Where ever you find me you'll find me with a smile.



Scholar of the week Hazel

Ibarra- Metsa

What motivates you in school?

What motivates me in school is becoming the role model I want others to look up to. I also want to become a greater version of myself, and get to where I want to be not for others but for myself.

What is your favorite subject?

Although I don't have a specific favorite subject, I would have to say my favorite is AP US History. At times the class can be quite difficult and stressful, but out of all my classes I have formed a close bond with the people in that class and we enjoy each other's company. Everyday it is always very fun and a joy to be in that class.

What is something someone should know about you?

Something someone should know about me is that growing up I have always been into the arts. I've been practicing ballet for 11 years and still going and have practiced other types of dances as well such as tap, hiphop, jazz, lyrical, contemporary, etc. I've also done choir for about 7 years, and 5 years playing the alto saxophone.

A quote everyone should hear?

"If you are brave enough to say goodbye, life will reward you with a new hello"
- Paulo Coelho



Artist Of The Week Marvin Tercero

What is your form of art? My form of art is music, audio production, and anything that has to do with music really.

It resonates well with me from a young age to now, and I am still going strong with this art. **Do you have someone that motivates you?** My parents have been my motivation, and I can't thank them enough, but in all honesty, everyone I've encountered with, whether in the arts, sports, people I've talked to a lot to a little, everyone has played a role in my life that motivates me one way or another. **Something everyone should know about me?**

I wrote 5 complete band arrangements (took at most 3 month each) for Pep and Jazz band, 2 fully composed original pieces, This years whole Marching Band show (9 month project), and a Jazz piece (5 month project). At home, I provide music lessons, produce music on the side, and I am a secondary mixing engineer at my church

I play various instruments, Piano, Saxophone, and drums. **What do you think you provide to your medium?** I don't think I can speak much for myself, but from what I was told over the years, I would provide a vivid, inviting atmosphere everywhere I go, down to earth, and that I somehow elevate negative vibes/energy, to a completely different energy. And honestly hearing these words from many people is another thing that motivates me to keep striving and try to provide positive energy to those around me and no matter what goes on.



Staff Of The Week Nicole Busson

What inspires you to do what you do for the school?

"I am here for the kids."

Favorite author?

Audrey Lorde, "The Cancer Journal"

Something everyone should know about you?

"If you Google me, I have an IMDB page."

Favorite Quote

"We need to be having difficult conversation so that we can discover the differences between us."

House Prices

By: JJ Espinoza



If you are planning to move out or looking to find a new home, don't look forward to it being cheap. Colorado house prices are going through the roof passing the average home prices. Is living in Colorado worth it, or is it time to think about moving out of state to find somewhere cheaper?

You might ask why I need this information. I'm still young, but just like everyone else, you'll eventually need to move out, and this information could help you. What is causing these ridiculous prices? The answer is pretty simple. It's because home values have increased due to a variety of factors from the growing population, lower interest rates, and builders focusing on luxury homes. The average cost of living in Colorado is about 7% higher than in the average U.S. city. It's expensive to live in Colorado, especially if you pick a big city. In February 2022, median home prices in Colorado were \$594,500 about 51% higher than the national median of \$392,450. Then if you are renting a place the median monthly rent for a two-bedroom apartment was \$1,600 nearly 24% higher than the national median of \$1,294. Those sky-high prices might hit you like an avalanche, but keep in mind Colorado is a big state. So there's still hope that you can find housing within your budget if you're willing to move to a lower-cost area. For example, buying a home in Fort Morgan, which sits an hour and a half east of Denver costs around \$317,000. Also total housing costs in Pueblo, just a couple hours south of Denver, are 11% lower than the average U.S. city. Buying a house in Colorado could be expensive but it just depends where you want to live. Is Colorado your forever home?



Kyiv

By: Britain Robbins

In the earlier days of the Russian and Ukraine War, Russia was confident that they would be able to take total control over the Capital of Ukraine, Kyiv.

Officials Estimate that although more than 10 million people had to flee their homes in order to stay safe during the war, Russian invaders are on their way to leaving the capital in hopes of being redirected elsewhere. Putin is leading Russian Troops into the South and East cities that they already have in their control. Atrocities in Ukraine within the past month have been extremely difficult to hear about, but as of right now, 70% of Russian invaders have left Kyiv. Throughout the War their main objective to capture Kyiv has been a failure to their subjecting, meaning that in order to fulfill their goal, Russian troops are repositioning for major military activity meant to further negotiations. With the support of Biden, Ukrainian military will be provided with the things needed to defend themselves and increase mutual trust. CNBCNews explains "Putin is twisting the knife in the open wound of Ukraine in an attempt to force the country and its allies to capitulate." This information given illustrates how Putin is threatening Ukraine by using his hierarchy to manipulate the country into doing what he wants done. In response to the, Biden claims, "we're going to continue to provide the Ukrainian military with their capacity to defend themselves. And we're going to continue to keep a close eye on what's going on." Although the United States is not a part of the War from head on, President Biden is making sure Ukraine residents and Troops are being moved around safely. Despite the fact that the Russian military is still in Ukraine, now that they are out of the Capitol, Ukraine will surely be in much less danger

Track Season

By: Daniel Santillan

Cold practices for these athletes are what makes them better and helps develop their strides for success on the track. Colorado has made it difficult for these athletes mentally as they feel frozen almost everyday, but if you spoke to any of them, they would tell you, every second of it is worth it. Central had their first track meet during spring break on March 14th, this allowed the coaches to make up their mind on where to place their athletes. Along with this 11 days later, Wildcats had their second track meet on March 25th and both boys and girls had great performances. Following these dates track athletes have 7 more meets to showcase their full potential. The track team's captain, "Yahir Chairez Salazar" was asked, "Are there any outstanding players?" Salazar responded with, "Some outstanding athletes that we have currently are in our field events. We have Leon, Tate, Emma, and Grace, who are all qualifiers for state at this moment. They have improved tremendously and will continue to." These athletes have performed amazingly for Centrals track team, but the question asked was "What is the main goal for the track season, overall?" Yahir stated short and simply, "We are trying to send as many athletes down to state as we can. We are looking strong." Yahir gave wise words for the team and now the girl track captain, "Cambria Jensen" was asked a few questions to follow up. "What is your role and how do you contribute to the team? Are you competing next year and if so what are your goals? Jensen's reply was "to always give my best effort in practices and meets and to set a good example for the other females and younger athletes. Yes, I am competing next year and hoping to be a better influence and individual for the team and myself as I am going into my senior year."





Major League Baseball Opening Day Trades

Rockies trade Tapia for Randall Grichuk and sign Kris Bryant as well

By: Sage Sathe

In a surprising turn of events as we near the end of Baseball Spring Training, Raimel Tapia, an outfielder for the Colorado Rockies signed a one year contract with the Toronto Blue Jays to avoid arbitration for 3.95\$ million dollars and in return the Blue Jays traded Randall Grichuk to the Rockies.

With opening day within the home stretch it would seem the Rockies managers are looking to change their usual fate in the postseason this year with the new signing of 2016 World Series MVP as well, Kris Bryant. Perhaps all of our new signings will help increase our chances to make it into the postseason playoffs and possibly even win the World Series. Wouldn't that be a sight!

With a batting average of .360 so far this year in spring training alone, Randall Grichuk seems to be a promising sign this season.

Higher Grounds

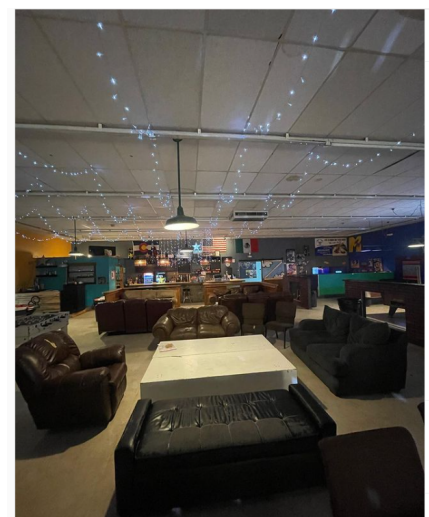
A place free from the problems of the world

By: Noah Vasquez

Higher Grounds is a "Safe Space" run by an organization called Youth for Christ. It's a place where kids 13-19 can go to hang out that's drug free, gang free, and judgment free. Higher Grounds has been around for about 25 years now and was once known as "The Belly of the Whale." I've been going to Higher Grounds for nearly 4 years now. The people who work and volunteer there do it for the kids who go, and are always willing to help with anything the kids need. It may be run by a religious organization, but that organization won't ever try to push their religious beliefs on the youth who come to Higher Grounds or anyone who is involved. The sole purpose is to offer a safe place for teens to hang out and socialize. There is so much to do at Higher Grounds. They have pool, air hockey, foosball, and video game consoles. There's a food/drink bar where soda, chips, candy, and energy drinks are served. They also have a milkshake bar.

All in all, if you ever want to just get out of your house on a Friday night, and want a safe place to be able to hang out and relax, Higher Grounds is the place for you.

The address is 134 11th Ave Greeley, CO – we hope to see you there!



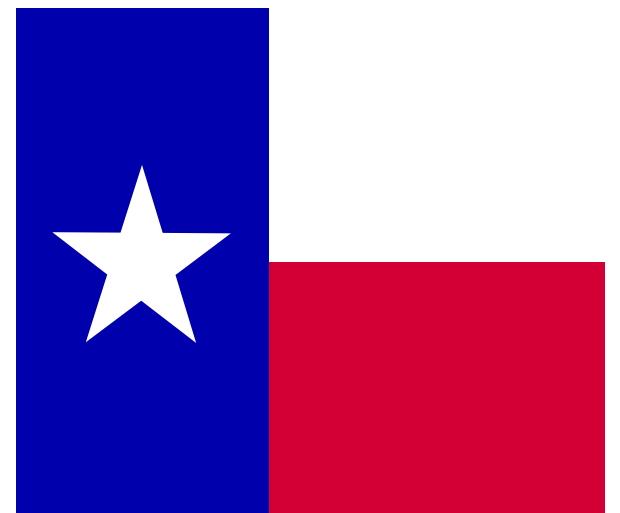
From Texas and Now in Colorado

By: Carlos Rascon Escalante



Mr. Owens is a World Studies teacher here at Greeley Central. He came from Houston, Texas, where he taught World Studies. From his Arrival here what he notices is the pride, the history and the combined culture at Greeley Central is something that Texas schools are trying to create, but have not mastered. He loves the atmosphere here at GCHS and thinks that our rivalry between GCHS and Greeley West is noteworthy. Mr. Owens is impressed with the positive culture and communication the teachers have with students. He tries to implement a learning environment for his students to grow from mistakes. He is the same way as a coach, but expects a lot out of his athletes. He comments on how the community here is much smaller than what he was used to in Texas, but that is something he is so grateful for. He also says that the emphasis on sports in Texas is something he wants to bring to our schools here.

He wants students to excel academically and physically. He explains how kids that are good at a sport and enjoy it should feel the experience and have a memory you could have with you for life. "I love to compete and convince kids in the school that want to play is something they should experience, i can not say how many soccer are good come to this school just do even come out and in texas and attention and the way sports are structure there are always cuts we usually get 120 kids show out and will cut 50 of them and so just the attitude that are different around sports and I don't know what it is we have good soccer players we should convince them come out and play and be involved in this program" He would want to express that energy and desire to the sports here in central, and even introducing sports into different classes, He would love to see a conditioning class, He loves the fact the school has a weight training class but he says "Let's expand on that" Not only playing the game but athletics could teach alot to adults and to a highschooler.



With his involvement to the program and to teaching Mr. Owens brings passion to both, the passion to teach and express and create relationships with young scholars and athletes, with also having passion for his subject matter. He adds on by saying "I'm more stuff in coaching with teaching. I allow mistakes and room for improvement and growth for kids to grow and as in the classroom I set a very strict bar and what I do. With asking what he was thankful and grateful he feels lucky that Greeley Central called him first. He applied every school in Colorado and Central reached out for him first with him doing a great interview and the way the staff came up to him and express how they would really want him here and it's just got him to the point where he felt welcome, With all he feels lucky he came here to be with kids and be proud to be in this building, With him being nominated "The District Award" and for him doing this 8 years this means the whole world for him.

He is really appreciated to be a Wildcat and be a teacher here and being welcomed, From the Greeley boys soccer team to his Students, I would like to say thank you to Mr. Owens for being a really amazing person, Beyond from this article he is a really amazing teacher and has made great memories with us, every athlete could see how he is trying his best to make us better athletes than what we were yesterday, We are also lucky to have Mr. Owens here in Central and Thankful for what he did for us all, Thank You, Mr. Owens!