



Upcoming Events

Shortened Days Dismissal at 1:38

Tuesday, April 2nd
Tuesday, April 12th
Tuesday, April 19th
Tuesday, April 26th

Sr. Ring Ceremony
Wednesday, April 6

SCHOOL PLAY PRODUCTION
"His Girl Friday"
Wed. April 13
Thurs. April 14
Fri. April 15
@3:45 in the Corwin Theater

PLUS
Fri. April 15 @ 7:30

C-Track's Last Day
Friday, April 29

B-Track returns
Monday, May 1

ACCREDITATION

Accreditation Team Will Be on Campus April 11-13

Accreditation is a review of the school's entire program by the state. It's required in order to make high school diplomas from L.A.H.S. valid. Teachers, parents, students, and all staff are encouraged to participate. They will observe classes and activities at the school April 11-13. During this examination, students and teachers are asked to know their ESLRs in order to help us achieve the desired 6-year accreditation.

Academic Decathlon Wins State Super Quiz for the Fourth Time

By Brenda Miranda
BLUE AND WHITE SCHOOL NEWS EDITOR

Los Angeles High School's Academic Decathlon team has done their fellow Romans proud by placing eighth overall in the state. The competition was held March 12-13 at the LAX Marriot Hotel. The Academic Decathlon is an annual event in which nine students represent their school and are tested in ten different subjects such as math, economics, social science, language and literature, music, and art.

Like every year, the team started studying in July. They worked very hard, staying after school, coming in during their intersession from morning until night, and even coming in on Saturdays to study. It has paid off. They won both the state super quiz with an overall score of 46,500.6 out of 60,000.

Each of the members is really appreciative to Mr. Hatem, the Academic Decathlon coach of fifteen years. "Mr. Hatem's great coaching skills helped us overpass our expectations this year, and helped build up our strengths," says Tahsin Khan, 11C, decathlon member. They are grateful to have him coaching and feel they owe their achievements to him.

"It felt like a great accomplishment when it was announced that we were the Super Quiz State Champion," says Khan. He says



The Academic Decathlon after their victory at the City Super Quiz at UCLA. They would like to thank Mr. Hatem, who has been coaching the team for fifteen years, for their achievements.

that this is "beyond studying. It's a vigorous experience. We became close friends, and socialized with others. It's much more than just studying."

Khan expects to be in the Academic Decathlon next year also, but he has to try out again for the team. What does it take to be in the Academic Decathlon? "It's not

hardcore memorization studying. Being in it doesn't mean you're very smart, it's how much work you put into it. You don't have to be a genius to be in the Academic Decathlon," says Geng Tan, 11C, decathlon member.

Each year there is "a little competition" to have a position in the Academic Decathlon. Three of the

nine have to be "honor" students, meaning they average "A" grades; three have to be "scholastic" students, meaning they average "B" grades; and the other three have to be "varsity" students meaning they average "C" grades. Each student should have bright and creative ideas, and be willing to put in a lot

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Changes to Tardy and Absence Policies Seek to Get Students in Class

School starts enforcing stricter tardy and truancy policies.

By Karla Hernandez
BLUE AND WHITE STAFF WRITER

As of the start of the new semester school rules for tardies and absences are being enforced more strictly. For many years, students have ignored the school rules, and have done whatever they pleased. Students have always ditched, whether it was just a class or if it was the whole day. Many students may not know this, but their actions, affect the school.

If students are absent, the school loses money. This money could

be used for school materials and even school activities. Another problem the school has is it's not clean. If the school is not clean, then that will be the perspective that others will have about the school.

These issues are more of a concern since the school must go through accreditation. The school might lose its accreditation. Let me explain to you what happens if the school loses its accreditation; your high school diploma will not be useful to you in the future. No one wants to go to school for four years, or sometimes more, and get a diploma that is worthless.

To improve the school, the rules are being enforced. Students should also understand that it is not the school that is creating the rules; they are enforcing the Educational Ed-Code. The Educa-

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Adjustments to Tardy Policy

*Colored late bus passes are issued until 8:00 a.m. and students are sent to class.

*If students arrive after 8:00 a.m., they will be held in the cafeteria.

*Teachers inform counselors, the attendance office, deans, and administrators of the number of tardies that MTA students accumulate.

*3 tardies equal 1 truancy

*4 truanancies will result in a ticket, community service, or Saturday Attendance Program.

School News

720 Students Make the Honor Roll; 3.0 GPA

By Lydia Gomez

BLUE AND WHITE COMPUTER
EDITOR

Congratulations! To all the students that made the Honor Roll. The ceremony that awarded 720 students for their excellent effort in the fall 2004 semester was held on Wednesday, March 23rd.

Those who earned a 3.0 - 3.59 GPA were given honors, while students with a 3.6 GPA or greater were given high honors. The calculations of their grade point averages include D's and F's and exclude the extra points given by AP classes. Their hard work and determination was acknowledged and rewarded.

According to Mr. Carey, magnet coordinator, 100 more students made this year's Honor Roll than last year's. One in every six students made the Honor Roll this

year, which means that about 15% of the school got a 3.0 GPA or higher.

"Being part of the Honor Roll is very important to the students, because it guides them towards the future," said Ergit Papparisto, 11C. Like other students, Papparisto feels that being part of the Honor Roll makes him an "O.K" student and recognizes that hard work does pay off.

The Honor Roll ceremony that recognized these outstanding students began at 7:00 p.m. in the West Gym. Along with the ceremony, entertainment was provided for the students and parents. To finish off the night, Mr. Greg Davis and the catering class provided refreshments and snacks.

The ceremony began with the Presentation of Colors by JROTC, followed by the pledge of allegiance by student body president,

Vera Zadneprovskaya, 12C. The national anthem, performed by Delia Rios, 12A, was a vocal performance worthy of the entire audience's ovation.

The entertainment included a vocal performance by Jamie Lou Henderson, who sang "Goin' Crazy" and a cultural dance from Jalisco, Mexico performed by the Folklorico Dance Club. In addition, there was a magic show presented by Joe Monti from the Magic Castle. The performance was comical and enjoyable.

Prior to the student recognition, Principals Mr. Martinez and Mr. Fernandez spoke a few words to congratulate all those present on their hard work and achievement. As one of the announcements, Mr. Fernandez stated that following the class of 2005; all high honor roll students will receive academic jackets as rewards. It would rep-

resent school spirit and academic accomplishment. It would also serve as a motivation to all other students to strive for success.

As for this year's honor students, they received pins of recognition and discount coupons to Shakey's. The Honor Roll certificates were not distributed at the ceremony, but can be picked up at the Magnet Office, if you haven't done so already. The certificates are available to the tracks that are currently in session.

The perks of being on the Honor Roll may not seem clear to many,

but in the future it can be of great help. When it comes to applying to colleges and competing with other students, being part of the school's honor roll can put you in the lead. It not only demonstrates your aptitude but determination as well.

Wilmer Blanco, 12A, an Honor Roll student since ninth grade would like to add, "The life we all face ahead is based on the actions we take today. Achieving academically is only the first step to a successful future."

Stricter Candy Ban Shocking Students

By Paloma Carrero

BLUE AND WHITE STAFF WRITER

As a result of the candy/junk food ban started about a year and a half ago, the Los Angeles High administration has decided to put an emphasis on stopping the illegal candy sales on campus.

This has been a shocking blow to students, especially those students on A-Track, who were hit with the hard news in their first week back. "There are posters everywhere," says Leo Flores, 11A. "We weren't even made aware of this." But in actuality, that's what the posters are for. It's the way that the administration and leadership class are trying to carry the message across.

Although B and C-Trackers were aware of this, they were still just as shocked. Frank Duran, 11C, says he's seen these posters since January when winter break for B and C-Trackers came to an end, and he misses his usual "candy boost" that kept him going throughout the day.

And although many students feel this way, the candy ban has been a rule that has been ignored until this point. And it all goes back to the junk food ban, which was a senate bill that prohibited all unhealthy food items on the campus.

For a while the entrepreneur candy sellers had a sort of loophole since they felt that the ban applied to the school selling not the student. However, it does apply to students. Candy sales are restricted within all school premises. The only legal selling allowed on campus is permitted at the student store. So technically, when students sell candy, it violates the LAUSD codes and is therefore illegal.

Leadership adviser, Ms. Altin, said that the administrators went to the district and asked them how to handle this problem. The district's response was that the "bootlegging" in schools should be handled by our school administrators, meaning Mr. Fernandez and

Mr. Martinez.

This also applies to the many other high schools in the district. Surprisingly enough, L.A. High doesn't have as big of a problem as other high schools, which is a good sign.

Mr. Fernandez and Mr. Martinez are dealing with it by enforcing severe consequences. For all of you who don't know them they are: parent meetings and candy confiscation. The school Leadership class is helping as well, by posting the flyers all over campus.

But if you're like Francis Gomez, 11A, whose wondering, "Why students selling candy harms the school," the answer is actually going to shock you.

These student entrepreneurs are taking away business from the student store. Many of the clubs and sports teams depend on funds from the student store for uniforms and equipment. So when the student store can't make money, the sports teams are being shorthanded even more.

Mr. Coronado, Student Store manager, said, "You name it, we pay for it." He also said that the loss in funds hasn't been felt as hard because there is money saved up from back when L.A. High was allowed to sell candy. But now we're using up these funds and

eventually, there won't be much.

It seems there's a dark future awaiting our clubs and sports teams if the situation does not get better. "Everything is just getting more complicated. We can't even fundraise," says Zazy Tamayo, 11A. Tamayo is a sophomore softball player and says she fears the future for the L.A. High sports teams. But in fact student clubs and sports teams can fundraise as long as their products follow the LAUSD's health food guidelines. This means granola bars, sports drinks, and fruit chews.

Health concerns are another reason "bootlegging" candy is unsafe said Mr. Coronado. Candy bought from the students isn't guaranteed like it is from the Student Store. So if a student were to get sick, the student couldn't sue or claim medical expenses from the school. Since the school isn't "liable if products are damaged."

All in all, as Mr. Coronado said, you have to "educate the students" on how to eat healthy before making drastic changes. Since the changes made were actually too sudden. This way the changes will be permanent and as it seems, this is one of those decisions that's here to stay.



Candy and soda machines like these were banned about a year and a half ago. Now sales by individuals are also being stopped.



The L.A. High website, unbeknownst to many, contains a lot of useful information about our school.

LAHS Website Full of Useful Resources, Links

By Gualberto Castro Marlon Bustamante

BLUE AND WHITE STAFF WRITER

Have you ever seen the L.A. High website? Do you even know how to get there? You're not the one to blame. L.A. High's website address is pretty long and complicated. The website however, has lots of useful information and links.

"Our website has lots of interesting things," said Mr. Langton, a C-Track computer teacher. These links have careers, colleges, news, and lots of other great stuff. L.A. High School's website is really useful for all of us. For all the reading people, the L.A. High's website also has information about our library. For example, they have this new program named "Library Catalog." What it does is help you find any information about a book you want to read and the website tells you if it is checked out or not.

Some of you are probably asking yourself, Why is the school website address so long and complicated. The address is (www.lausd.k12.ca.us/Los_Angeles_HS) It is long because it has to show that the school is part of LAUSD. "The ca is part of the government," said Mr. Langton, who thinks

that we should change the address of our school to a much simpler address. For those lazy people out there here's one easy way to find the website. Go to www.google.com, then type Los Angeles High School. They're going to give you a link to get there and that's it.

For those that actually have seen the website, if you notice, most of the things in it are pretty much outdated. The reason for that is that Mr. Langton doesn't know about everything that goes on around here. If he does, he can't go check it out because he is busy teaching, and he can't get anyone to take pictures of the activities. If you can take pictures and take them to Mr. Langton in Room 206 it would be very helpful. This is because some of you get pretty tired of seeing the same thing every time you go on the site.

This website has information about the band, art class, sports, clubs and more. They also have a map of our school. You can see 360 degree pictures of most of the parts of school campus which is called "Easter egg hunting."

All students at L.A. High should check the website out, and look at the interesting links it has. The school's website is one place where you can find out a lot about this school.

School News

Drop-In Center Helping Students With School and Life

By Sharmin Mamun

BLUE AND WHITE STAFF WRITER

The Drop-in Center is a free service offering all students assistance in ten areas including homework, everyday from 3:08 to 5:15 in Harrison Hall.

Michele Garcia Martinez, 10B, a participant in the Drop-In Center said that it is a very beneficial program because it offers help in many ways, so students should take advantage of it.

The services that the Drop-in Center offers are:

- * CAHSEE Test Prep
- * Tutoring
- * College counseling
- * Community service
- * Computer Usage
- * Conflict resolution / Peer meditation
- * Cool and relaxing Environment
- * Leadership Development
- * Employment Training
- * Homework Help

Because the Drop-In Center contains all these programs inside it, Shonte Thomas, the director of the Drop-in Center said, "The Drop-in Center is like the mother, and all the programs in it are like the children."

This is a brand new program at Los Angeles High School. The birth day of the Drop-in Center was November 1, 2004.

Right now, it has only a few students coming in to take advantage of this opportunity. But more students should go to the Drop-In Center to help themselves to get an easier life. It is really easy to

join the Drop-In Center because you just drop in or drop by and fill out an application.

Charquinta Spears, 10C, goes to the Drop-In Center to get help. She said that she can really see the "improvements she is making in her classes" because the program actually helps the students.

The teachers who help students

with the homework are UCLA undergraduates. They can help students with any subjects, such as Algebra 1 to AP Calculus, English, etc.

The job-training program helps students to write résumés, prepare for interviews, and learn how to work. And the fun part is with this program you get paid for learning. So, don't let the opportunity pass

by you. Earn money while you can.

The Drop-In Center is funded by a 21 Century Grant sponsored by Korean Youth Community Center along with UCLA. But it is also considered a federal grant because the federal government gives money to run the program.

For more information see Shonte Thomas in the Harrison Hall right after school or just drop-in.



Everyday after school, the Drop-In Center fills with students. Some of them come for tutoring, some for other help, and some just come to hang out.



The Drop - In Center is very helpful because there is about one person to help every two students, so the students get more personal attention.

Academic Decathlon Completes Another Successful Year of Competition

Continued from Page 1

of work. Tan says "this year, the Academic Decathlon was my life, my first priority for everything I did." It just takes a lot of dedication and passion for this.

When asked about this group of individuals, Mr. Hatem responds by saying, "this is a very eclectic group. They're different from each other, with a couple of minor exceptions. They each have different strengths, different weaknesses, but they each contributed greatly to the team." He is extremely proud at what this group of students has done.

The members of the Academic Decathlon become a close group. "Some," says Mr. Hatem, "don't even know each other when they begin. I'm always intrigued that we start out with kids from different clicks. They become good friends. I have kids that come ten years later to visit, and they even come as a group. They all become really tight, and a close group of kids." Not only do you gain the knowledge that you are studying, but being together for so long and so much, you get friends that can be with you for years.

Mr. Hatem always expects to do well. "There is no point in doing this if you're not going to try to do your best," he says. He continues by saying, "I can't imagine doing

this without high expectations. I'd be a fool to put so much hard work into this without wanting to do a good job."

Doris Voronca, 12C, a decathlon member of two years says, "Every year we always feel we could have done better, but I think that goes for anybody, even if you won second place." However, she is very proud of what her team did. "We accomplished a lot, and we're

very proud of ourselves. We achieved something spectacular, that some believed we couldn't even do."

Voronca would like to offer some advice to future decathletes: "Any aspiring member should just believe in themselves, and never doubt their capabilities because they can do more than they think they can."

Members of the Academic Decathlon Team

Honors
Geng Tan 11C
Tahsin Khan 11C
Kusuma Lapanunt 12C

Scholastics
Hui (James) Zhe 12C
Doris Voronca 12C
Alfonso Refazo 12C

Varsity
Sophary Om 12C
Kimberly Ramirez 12C
Ergit Papparisto 11C

JROTC Update

Our cadets went off to Camp San Luis Obispo March 17 and returned on March 21. At camp, cadets participated in various activities that will improve their leadership skills, increase their sense of responsibility, and encourage them to have fun.

One of those activities is the Leadership Reaction Course, a station in which the cadets have leadership roles in order to complete their missions, including the successful relocation of ammunition and equipment, a successful es-

cape when they are just within the grasp of the approaching enemy, and the rescuing of wounded peers. Also, they participated in obstacle courses to challenge them in physical performance such as climbing ropes, jumping six-foot walls and slippery fences, crawling through barbed wires and repelling from a five-story high cliff!

Now that they have returned, they will begin preparing a group of some of our finest cadets for the All-City Staff Competition, another race to continue on our quest of being number one.

Blue and White Staff

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Student Body Elections

The Student Body election will take place from April 11 to Friday April 15. The voting will take place during lunch at the attendance office. Remember to bring your school I.D. if you plan on voting.

School News

U.S. Out of Iraq Club Clashes with U.S. Army in School Debate

By Doris Quintanilla
BLUE AND WHITE EDITOR IN
CHIEF

Students and administrators flooded the Corwin Theater on February 28 to watch three representatives from the U.S. Out of Iraq Club go head to head against three representatives from the U.S. Army.

Although the topic of the debate was simple, "Should the U.S. get out of Iraq now?" it raised controversy.

Sponsor and C-Track English teacher Ms. Tyler, club President Vera Diaz, 12B, and Diana Navarro, 12B, represented the newly founded club and did not hesitate to let their voices be heard.

"The Iraqi people can't be free with the army there," Ms. Tyler said, starting off the debate. She also went on to say that President Bush "claims" to defend democracy, but what we're really doing is "sending a message to Venezuela and Iran... Washington will take whatever it wants to take."

One army sergeant who represented the con side (that we shouldn't get out of Iraq now), started off by saying that getting out now won't help the Iraqi people. He also hoped that the

debate would clarify several issues.

"I'm not saying that we're the 'super power' or that we're perfect," he said, "but we have people there that need us, and want us there."

The debate not only mentioned the Iraqi people who are being affected, but also the people here who are being affected. Diana Navarro brought up the fact that education funds are being hurt due to the war fact. She argued that there are not enough scholarships due to the war.

But the army sergeant said that the financial aid has nothing to do with the military.

"My son is in high school right now and he's struggling with financial aid and books," he said.

For the most part, the pro side was cheered on by the audience. But this was not enough to persuade the speakers for the con side to change their views.

"The U.S. Out of Iraq Club doesn't present points of what would happen if the U.S. were to get out of the war now," said JROTC Colonel Andrew Kim, 12A, who represented the con side. He also went on to say, "Our reasons for entering the war do not constitute our reasons for withdrawal." Kim was responding to the fact that the U.S. Out of Iraq

club kept making remarks about why the U.S. should not have entered the war in the first place rather than focusing on the current situation.

"Bush claims to want to defend democracy while the U.S. was the one to sell weapons to Iraq in the first place," Diaz said boldly.

"Yes, no weapons were found and our reasons for entering are questionable... but as the saying goes, 'you break it, you fix it.'" Kim shot back.

For the most part the audience was into the debate, cheering or booing speakers when they would make a strong statement or stir up some controversy.

So why have a debate? After almost three years of being at war, what's the point of all this? Well, according to C-Track Leadership sponsor and coordinator of the debate, Ms. Altin, everyone should choose positions, "being neutral is not acceptable."

Marlene Blanco, 12B, who attended the debate, agreed by saying, "we're all growing up and stuff and we're all basically the voters of tomorrow. Teenagers should start caring more because what's happening now is definitely going to affect our future. The future is closer than we think."



Most seniors are looking forward to Grad Night because it's at Disneyland, and they get to spend a night away from home with their friends having a blast.

Seniors Looking Forward to Final Activities

By Brenda Miranda
BLUE AND WHITE SCHOOL NEWS
EDITOR

Seniors, what are some of the few things you are most looking forward to this semester? Most of you are saying things like Grad Night and Prom right? Senior activities are what make the last four years worth all the trouble that we have gone through.

Okay, so everybody take out a marker and get your calendar because here come some important dates: Tuesday, April 6 - Ring Ceremony; Saturday, April 9 - Senior Picnic; Thursday, May 19 - Grad Night; Friday, June 3 - Prom; Thursday, June 16 - Senior Awards Ceremony; Wednesday, June 29 - Graduation.

The senior picnic as always will be held at Six Flags Magic Mountain. The trip there will be all day from 9 a.m.-11:00 p.m. and will cost \$45. The picnic itself will be from 11:30-1:00, and that includes food, activities such as basketball and volleyball, and unlimited use of their attractions.

Maricela Bravo, 12A, is looking forward to this event because, "it's at Six Flags and I really enjoy going there. Plus it will be the first time I go with ALL my friends so it will definitely be great."

Grad Night is at Disneyland. This year the price is \$70 and that's only because Disneyland has raised the price. Many students like Brayan Martinez, 12A, are looking forward to this trip, "because you get to come back the

next day."

Stephanie Barillas, 12A, is looking forward to this trip, "just because I want to see if I could last staying up all night."

Buses leave for Disneyland around 10:00 p.m. and return the next morning around 6 a.m. The park is open to the graduating class of 2005 and their guests, older than 16. Many schools from all over the state will go to Disneyland.

Some students aren't enthusiastic about going to Disneyland, but they're still very much looking forward to grad night for other reasons. "I can't wait for grad night because it's all night, and I get to dance and have fun, even though I'm not a big fan of Disneyland," says Jackie Aparicio, 12A.

Prom will be held at the Los Angeles River Center & Gardens. The L.A. Gardens includes halls for dancing and eating, so there is no need to worry that there will be dancing on grass. This year Senior Council has many big plans for the prom such as: a caricature artist, pool table, and air hockey table.

At the most recent senior meeting, Mr. Craft, career advisor here at L.A. High said, "For the past twelve years, maybe minus one, I've been to all the proms, and this one looks to be one of the best." When he said this, it really pumped up some of the seniors, and now they are really looking forward to it.

Girls are especially looking forward to this trip because it's one of the days when they will look their best. Ariana Vega, 12A, "I'm looking forward to prom because I get to dress up nice and look pretty. I get to be in a limo with my friends, and it's just going to be nice, and great!!," she said with a big smile on her face.

Graduation is going to be at Housh Field as it is every year. It will be at 5:00 p.m. and we hope to see a lot of you there. Students like Andrew Rivera, 12A, are looking forward to this event because "it's the capping of our four years in high school."

does get boring, but it's better than taking your chance and getting caught by security, and then having to deal with the consequences.

Administrators are hoping that with these changes the school will be a better and safer school. "I believe in a safe and clean school, as long as everybody works together and if these things happen, L.A. High will be a better school," says Mr. Fernandez.

New Year Brings Changes to Tardy Policy; Saturday Attendance Program

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tional Ed-Code is rules that the Board of Education adapts for all schools at the state level.

Tardy sweeps are now done everyday during first period. If students are not in class before 7:40 a.m. they are considered late. If students are late because of the bus they will receive a late bus pass. These slips count as an unexcused tardy and change color everyday. As these tardies accumulate, a student will receive Saturday Attendance.

Jackie Aparicio, 12A, says, "It's stupid. The busses being packed is not the students' fault. If they're packed, they don't stop." She also doesn't agree with the tardy sweeps because they keep you from getting your education.

Mr. Moy, history teacher, Rm. 156, confirms from personal experience, that the Olympic bus gets really packed and doesn't stop.

Tardy sweeps can also be done at any time from 2nd to 6th period. They will be announced randomly and if you are caught, you are likely to receive a warning. If you are frequently caught and security, deans, or police recognize you, you are likely to receive a ticket.

If students are caught ditching inside the school, they will be taken to the Dean's Office and will be searched. Students...I know what you're thinking, "Isn't this against the law?" To tell you the truth, no. According to Mr. Valadez, C-Track dean, the school has the right to search all students.

If students are constantly caught ditching, inside the school, they have a chance of getting a ticket.

These may not exactly be the best consequences to get students to go to class "If the purpose is to get students in class, there is a chance of students not coming to school, just to not face the consequences," said Mr. Moy.

Students, understand that the school police work in the school. They don't work for the school. The difference is that, the school doesn't have a say if students get a ticket, or if they are arrested. The school police has the right to do this. The only time in which the school has a say about whether a student should get a ticket is, if an administrator personally tells the officer to write a ticket for a student who is ditching a lot, or otherwise committing a crime on school property.

Seniors, you might think that because you're 18, you can ditch school and write your own note to get a PRC. Well, you can't. According to Mr. Valadez, C-Track dean, even if a student is 18 years old, he or she still needs a parent's note, to clear an absence.

Students who are caught ditching outside of school are brought back to school. Their record is checked and then they receive a punishment. A student can get a ticket or community service.

While there are many rules being enforced more strictly, this doesn't have to affect all students. Mr. Fernandez, Co-Principal, says, "If you follow the rules and go to

class on time, you won't get caught."

A new Saturday Attendance Program has also begun for students who are tardy a lot and have a lot of absences. If you receive Saturday Attendance, you have to go to the school for 3 hours and do class work. If you don't attend on Saturday, your parents may be fined, you will get suspended, or you will be expelled.

Erik Fuentes, 12A, isn't sure this is fair. He said that sometimes parents have to go in to work early in the morning and rely on their older child to make sure that his or her little brother or sister gets to school safely.

Some feel like there is no acceptable excuse, though. "If a student is late they should be punished," says Mr. Williams, Art Teacher, Rm. 214. "It is not the students' responsibility to take their siblings to school; it's their parents. If a student is tardy because of the bus; get up earlier."

Mr. Williams agrees with these rules being enforced. "It's about time. For so long we've had an up and down enforcement and students didn't know what to expect, so no wonder they're all messed up."

The administrators' advice to students is to come to school on time and go to class. The school enforcing the rules is not to hurt students but to make sure that students will have a good future. Erik Fuentes, 12A, agrees with ditchers receiving a punishment. It is understandable that sometimes, class