

AARDVARK INSIGHT

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 28, 2021

ISSUE #8



GOT SPIRIT?

AINSLY ACEVEDO

Spirit week is where various themed activities happen around school. It's usually meant to show your school spirit, or to bring awareness to a specific event/cause. Students are encouraged to wear outfits that correspond with a specific concept for the day. March 1st - March 5th was AAA's spirit week for our second semester! The week consisted of animal, twin, holiday, generation, and pajama day. Throughout the week, we saw students show their creativity! Animal day felt like an actual zoo at campuses, and at home. Sue San hosted our lunch activity, charades. The winner of the best-dressed contest was our lovely, Abiel Irving!

For twin day, all we saw was double! Jamie Fegardio and Erianna Anderson presented a questionnaire contest: "How well do you know your twin?" Our winners were not a set of twins, but a set of triplets! Ainsly Acevedo, Luke Grubbs, and Amari Reid tripled the fun. Bringing back the holidays, felt like we were in different months of the year. Instead of an activity, a calendar photoshoot was held to show off various celebrations. Our winner was festive, and a present, Julia Hernandez! With different generations, we saw young and old throughout the day. Ainsly Acevedo and Frank Lizardo hosted a luncheon game of Family Feud!

Our amazing Jebari Richards showed his school spirit as a thriving soldier. Lastly, pajama day was the comfiest of them all. During lunch, everyone winded down for the weekend by watching "Olaf's Frozen Adventure". An unknown winner as "ooooo", showed being comfortable, warm, and cozy. Each winner received a gift card as their prize. This spirit week was for sure one of the best. The greatest part was making wonderful memories with our students and staff that will be cherished forever.

A PASTOR'S JOURNEY

ALLIYAH ADAMS

Pastor Anobile didn't start out being a pastor, he started out as a chaplain. He worked as the chaplain at Southern in October of 2016 and realized that God was calling him to become a pastor. He wrestled with the thought. But what motivated him to make his decision were those around him. Both his father, and brother inspired him to take on the challenge; to follow God's plan. They showed him that being a pastor doesn't mean you have to put on a fake persona. That he could still be himself and enjoy his life too. After giving it much thought, Pastor Anobile decided that becoming an evangelist is what he needed to do.

Pastor Anobile started his journey into becoming a preacher by getting a master's degree in the seminary, for theology. After getting his credentials, he was hired by the conference. In January 2020, Anobile was officially a pastor. He could definitely say it changed his life. Individuals looked at him differently, and his dating life was affected greatly. People had a certain negative stereotype about pastors, so it was tough. Becoming a preacher had him coming out of his space bubble. "Every time I give a sermon, or go to teach, I feel like I'm going out of my comfort area."

Pastor Anobile has only been a pastor for Duluth, but he believes that if God wants to place him somewhere else, he will go. Until then, he enjoys his time at Duluth. Pastor Anobile has had some positive, and negative outcomes becoming a minister, but it was all worth it. He has gotten closer to God through his work, stepped out of his comfortable zone, and made a change in other people's lives. Furthermore, the crazy part is that his journey has only just begun.



GOT FAITH?



BENJAMIN SEATON



Faith is something that we all know the meaning of, but struggle to understand how we can establish it in our life. It's when we believe in something we cannot see. But there is more to it than that. Faith is the firm persuasion, assurance, and strong conviction that God is working, and will make whatever we asked for to happen. Telling others about this type of trust will have more of an effect than some people think. According to Hebrew 11:1, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Trust is very similar.

When you trust something, you're believing that it will come true; whether it's something you heard or saw. Now, faith is exactly the same, just without you hearing, nor seeing. It's an act of certainty. For instance, Mr. Hamer's first experience of faith is a perfect example. Hurricane Katrina was a category five, and caused great damage in Louisiana, New Orleans. Mr. Hamer stayed in Texas after the hurricane passed. Unfortunately, he didn't have any plan, no place, nor money for Texas. He couldn't return back to home because of something. "It was the first time I felt an actual connection with God. I knew - not felt - knew that I had to stay", stated Mr. Hamer.

Plus, he didn't even know about God yet. He doesn't remember if he heard Him but felt it. Imagine being in Mr. Hamer's position? What would you do? Would you stay following a gut-feeling, or go home? Now, don't get the wrong idea. You can have faith in God that He will watch over, and provide for you in all your situations, nonetheless, don't use it as an excuse. Faith is pure trust, not ignorantly being convicted.



WIRELESS CONNECTION

SUNA JUNG

Suna Jung, a senior, currently lives in Seoul, South Korea, and continues courses as a connected student. She went back to Korea last year when other schools began to close because of the pandemic as all students started to join their classes by connecting. A few days after arriving, she struggled with following her schedule, and getting used to the time change. Even to this day, she's still not used to the time difference. Since Seoul is 13 hours ahead of Georgia, Suna is taking classes at night.

It was worse during the daylight-saving time; with the time difference of 14 hours. She joined late at night and went to sleep early in the morning. Fortunately, there were less required classes this year, so she did not have to take many like before. Furthermore, Suna has no major issues with keeping up in her classes. Although, a disadvantage is missing school events. She knew there were some school occasions canceled due to the Coronavirus. Yet, she didn't expect that she couldn't participate in the graduation physically. "I had hoped that I could get vaccinated before the graduation, but it did not work. But I am not saying there are only limitations.

Actually, there are more advantages to staying here", states Suna. She feels more comfortable living with her family and can go almost anywhere with public transportation like buses and subways. Jung believes she's doing better in Korea than she thought. Before going back home, she assumed it'd be hard to keep up with her courses. In the end, it is interesting to still take classes in a different country, and different time zone without big problems. It's better to be able to connect with some difficulties than not being able to take any classes at all.

ACADEMIC ADVICE

STEPHRON ALLYSON

One moment that every high schooler looks forward to within their high school years is graduating. Students who have one more year until they move on to either college, or other life opportunities, are seniors. Their experiences can be used to help others succeed. High school isn't easy, but it'd be helpful hearing counsel from the seniors. Especially hearing from the valedictorian: a student who has, most likely, straight A's, and a high GPA.

For the class of 2021, that someone is Sue San Kwon. She knows that college seems to be the goal that is pressured on high schoolers. Not attending college would seem to lead to an "unsuccessful life"; heavily depending on the individual. "For people wanting to attend prestigious colleges, high grades in high school are going to be completely worth it. Not only are you more likely to get accepted, but it can open up scholarship opportunities for you", explained Sue San. Even though making straight A's won't work all the time, you can get a GPA higher than a 4.00 threshold by taking honor/AP classes." Sue San strongly suggests setting goals, which according to research, is very important in education.

She advises high school pupils to set short-term goals as well as long-term. She also encourages learners to be better at time management, while still having time for recreation. "Don't make excuses for yourself just because you want to have fun; having fun is healthy. However, finding an appropriate time for each activity is even better." Remember these tips from Sue San. Her knowledge may help you if you're struggling. "It's not about getting amazing grades. It's about analyzing who you are as a student, and how you can perform to the best of your ability. That is what you want to maintain."



TRACK AND FIELD

JELANI RICHARDS

At AAA, there's a popular sport that is offered towards the students, Track and Field. There is a reason why this sport separated into two. Track represents running events such as dashes, relays, and hurdles. Field represents other occasions that take place on the grass. This includes pole vault, variations of throwing, and jumping.

AAA has had it for a while now. Jelani Richards, a junior, has participated in the sport during his freshman year. At that time, he did shoot put; 100m and 200m. Now, this year as he partakes in track again, he does 100m hurdles, 4x100 relay, shot put, long jump, runs 100m, and 200m. However, Track and Field is not a one-man team.

Other students that take part are Bao Nguyen, Jebari Richards, Ashauna Simms, Amari Reid, and Ramfis Liriano. They all participate in various events even though some are involved in the same. On March 4th that Jelani Richards was present. The first event he did was the 4x1 relay. "I could have done better at it, but I plan to do better next time. I did well in the 200m. That was my best performance."

Being the only girl, Ashauna would compare herself to her teammates. "They work out, and are taller than me, so it seems unfair. Also, it would probably be more motivating to have other girls on the team." Regardless of the disadvantages, she enjoys running, and jumping at their events. As the season continues, with God's help, they aim to improve for future meets.



Upcoming Events

May 3 rd -7 th	Senior Trip
May 3 rd	Student Association Elections
May 13 th	Academic & Sports Awards
May 18 th -20 th	Final Exams
May 21 st	Last Day of School
May 23 rd	AAA Graduation

Banquet, Field Day, Spiritual Retreat and CERT training!!
April was a busy month for AAA. Check the highlights of those events.

