

# THE DRAGON

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## Rancho Cordova School

By Lydia Rak | Staff Writer

The second d.tech will be opening in the fall of 2023. It is located in Rancho Cordova, a city in Sacramento County and although administration is excited about this new expansion, students are experiencing mixed feelings. Many students came to the same conclusion: d.tech has too many problems to be opening a new school. They need to focus on this one.

"Bad idea," says senior Nic Mah. Sophomore Nalini Kotecha agrees saying, "I feel like it seems kinda unnecessary. There are still a lot of problems with this school and there are a lot of things that need to be improved before we look at a new school." They continue saying, "The same problems will just transfer over and become twice as big with two locations." Senior Gabriel Rowland concurs saying they, "will probably take their view off of this school so this school might go down a bit. They have enough problems here, they don't need to make a new one" Sophomore Kaz Murray says, "We need to focus on the one that is already there."

The idea for a second school location has been in mind for a while and many people have encouraged the idea of a second location over the years. The formal petition for a charter was put in front of the local school board last year, according to Nicole Cerra. "We put a petition before their board last spring and this summer they voted on it and approved the petition."

The school will share the same values of design thinking, dlab, flexible schedule, advisory, intersession and competency based learning but the day to day schedule might be a little different.

Wendy Little is one of the primary school designers. She was a founding member of the original d.tech and served as Director of Intersession for many years before moving to the Sacramento area. Her move is why they ended up being interested in the area to begin with.

Rancho Cordova continues on page 6



Image courtesy of Design Tech High School website

## d.tech Language Education

By Kaz Murray | Section Editor



Illustration by Mackenzie Chan

Here at d.tech, language education is a vital part of our schedules. Students either take Spanish with Joe Schneider and Mariela Gonzales-Orta or choose to spend time on a different language outside of school. But around the halls, many people are well-versed at a wide variety of languages from across the world – from Cantonese to Hebrew, Hindi, and many more.

"All of my relatives and a lot of my friends speak [Chinese]. Speaking Chinese forms a bond with them," Sophomore Cal Chang says. They speak both English and Chinese and believe that speaking multiple languages can benefit both oneself and one's experiences in life. Along with them, Junior Kaelan Yim speaks Cantonese and English and he explains his enjoyment of Etymology, the study of deconstructing words to find its roots, and how speaking more than one language helps in the understanding of how words and phrases work together in different languages.

d.tech Language Education continues on page 3

## Caltrain Electrification

By Annika Larson | Staff Writer

The electrification of Caltrain, the commuter rail service on the Peninsula, continues to progress. In July, electric trains were tested for clearance on the Caltrain tracks. One of the new electric trains was pulled along the tracks between Santa Clara and Tamien stations to ensure that it could safely travel along that section of track. The plan is for electric trains to eventually run along the majority of the Caltrain system; currently, all tracks north of Tamien Station in San Jose are scheduled to be electrified.



Two new electric train sets on display at Caltrain's San Francisco Terminus.

Image courtesy of Caltrain

d.tech students welcome electrification: a majority of students who ride the train to school feel positively about the project, and only one respondent to our form felt negatively. Sophomore Aneesh Ahuja hoped that electrification would make Caltrain more reliable, while freshman Jaylen Amlani noted the benefits in reducing pollution, saying that they were "so excited to have trains that don't constantly cough up black smoke ... and pollute the air."

Caltrain Electrification continues on page 11

# Do you have a passion for truth? A desire to get involved? Do you want to *make* something *tangible* and *real*?

(Do you need to add something to your college applications?)

## Do you praise the Oxford Comma?

### Come join the Dragon!

We are always looking for new Writers, Researchers, Illustrators, Photographers, Graphic Designers, Web Designers, Social Media Maestros, and More.

Voice your opinions; wade through lies, exaggerations, and political answers to find the real truth; get inside access to the inner-workings of this office-building-turned-school; and help keep one of the last vestiges of old d.tech alive. And remember, anything you don't know, we can teach you!

## THE DRAGON

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### **About Us**

The Dragon is the official newspaper of Design Tech High School. Now in its 7th year, The Dragon aims to be the voice of the d.tech student body, reporting solely at the behest of it. We were founded in 2016 by d.tech English teacher Lessely Anderson, and over the years we were advised by Anderson and underclassmen English teacher Patrick Sullivan. Since 2020, we have been operating with the advisory of Sophomore English teacher Karissa Lecroy.

In 2017, we released our first print edition newspaper, and since then we have released 14 physical print editions and two digital prints (during the COVID-19 school shutdown), all of which can be accessed through our archive.

In 2018, we branched out into video content with production of The Broadcast Dragon or TBD, later renamed Video Dragon News or VDN. TBD and VDN were well known for their analysis of the school as well as their comedic stylings, which usually included a creative misuse of their titular acronym, such as VDNs Vlad's Dead Now, a reference to the departure of video director Vlad Morozov.

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic forced a restart of The Dragon, as access to the website, resources, and people were lost. Former writers Isabella Gámez ('22) and Steven Sutton ('23) quickly assembled a new team, bringing together new and former staff writers, artists, and web designers. A new website was created, and the release of articles began again in September. Later, in April of the same school year, an organizational mishap occurred within d.tech administration that caused The Dragon to lose our website yet again. Two digital print editions were promptly compiled and released starting in May. Print production, as well as web publishing, began again in 2021.

Now, in 2022-23, The Dragon is still here, documenting the school and its students as it continues to evolve and change.

## Your Horoscopes

By Steven Sutton | Co-Editor in Chief

\*\*Please be aware that the following is completely satirical, and solely for the entertainment of the reader. Neither the author nor the Dragon News intends to offend with the following, and any relation to actual events is purely coincidental. Again, this is, in its entirety, satire.\*\*

### Aries (Ram): March 21–April 19

The stars will align during your season next year, finally giving you firm astrological permission to yell at your Starbucks barista at 3:30pm!

### Taurus (Bull): April 20–May 20

You'll be receiving a letter this week informing you of the next steps the IRS will be taking against you, which is kind of weird, isn't it? I mean, who sends letters anymore?

### Gemini (Twins): May 21–June 21

Today, 'The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe' is a fantastic story about a mystical land. Tomorrow, it will be either a philosophy of inhumane treatment undertaken by poultry farmers the world over or a scientifically proven method of picking up chicks. Either way, you'll have a lot of eggs by next Wednesday.

### Cancer (Crab): June 22–July 22

It would appear as though all that cyberbullying is about to come back to haunt you as you experience what true public humiliation is when you become a question on British "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?"

### Leo (Lion): July 23–August 22

You'll get everything you ever wanted in the coming week when you come across a winning lottery ticket on the side of the road! Money, fame, everything a person could dream about! Unfortunately, with fame comes the press, and with an inability to keep paparazzi away your loan shark will finally find your address.

### Virgo (Virgin): August 23–September 22

Standing on a street corner in a wealthy suburban downtown with an acoustic guitar and original songs about "being the nice guy" will not turn out to be a profitable endeavor this week, but who knows! Try singing louder next time.

### Libra (Balance): September 23–October 23

College is a big deal for you and the stars know it. But, they advise, it's important to keep your options open. If they were you, they'd start betting on an inheritance.

### Scorpius (Scorpion): October 24–November 21

Things haven't been going well for you, the stars tell me. They say that you've been having mental health problems, that you've been depressed and overly anxious. They say that you have really been struggling, and they would like to impart some advice: please choose a different urinal.

### Sagittarius (Archer): November 22–December 21

Be weary when choosing majors to declare as you complete your final round of college applications this January. "Astrology" and "astronomy" are frightfully similar words, and when you are expecting to do your classmates' charts, being handed a physics textbook can be quite a shock.

### Capricorn (Goat): December 22–January 19

Did you know that if you play "Maybe I'm Amazed" by Paul McCartney in reverse, you can hear a recipe for lentil soup?

### Aquarius (Water Bearer): January 20–February 18

Your faith in the social constructs that form the foundation of American society will be challenged this week when, despite the lift kit and "Let's Go Brandon" flag affixed to your pickup truck, you get pulled over for drunk driving by a black female police officer.

### Pisces (Fish): February 19–March 20

This week, you'll become the envy of all the penny-pinching, khaki-wearing dad's in the neighborhood as you become the first person to ever make a million dollars solely by collecting change from between your couch cushions.

## d.tech Language Education (Continued)

By Kaz Murray | Section Editor

"Especially with Spanish and English... there are some words that we learned last cycle, like 'amistad,' which means friendship. It doesn't directly correlate to friendship, though... but what 'amistad' is is the Spanish translation of the word 'ami', which means 'to be friends with.'" Yim says that Etymology should be something the language courses should focus on teaching more instead of just memorizing words from Spanish to English and vice versa.

Not everybody in the school speaks a different language, though, and despite believing that language education can connect others and be beneficial to learners, Freshmen Alisha Eldershaw and Skye Leinbach say there is still room for improvement around d.tech and the Bay Area. "Here at d.tech, I think that... it's kind of lacking," Leinbach states. "It, of course, is going over common verbs and all that, but at my old school, I already learned that." She questions the levels in which Spanish language education at d.tech is distanced. Leinbach says if she were to move up further, she feels she would fall behind, but knows too much in her current level. "Maybe if they had a Spanish 1.5!" she jokes.

Eldershaw has a few ideas of how the language education could improve as well and mentions "including some ideas from [language apps] into their instruction," mainly featuring an addition of the popular language learning apps such as Duolingo, Rosetta Stone, Babbel, and more into curriculum to give a bit more diversity in how students learn languages. She also spoke about starting early, as in elementary school, and immersing children in language learning from a young age. "It would be awesome if we had language classes

in elementary school, since they pick up languages faster and this would give students free time to choose classes in high school."

## Simone-isms

By Simone Karlon



# New

## Clint Johns

By Lorelai Hartman & Sayuri Rodrigo | Staff Writers

Clint Johns, lovingly referred to as Jimmy Johns, is a man you will never see without his Kangol hat. He's a new teacher here at d.tech, teaching Design for Impact Honors and Prototyping. He also supervises a FIT period. Johns enjoys making and designing things that matter and make an impact on his life. For example, Johns once made a snack car to help his daughter properly manage the amount of snacks she should have, and when she would have them. Before transferring over to d.tech, Johns used to work at Sacred Heart Prep. He was a teacher's assistant in math before coming here to teach design thinking.

Born on March 7th, 1980, and named after Clint Eastwood, Johns grew up on a farm in central California. During his childhood, Johns learned the value of hard work, being creative, and working with what you have. Being inspired by his scouting troop, Johns had the dream of growing up to become a forest ranger, which changed later on in his life to teaching other people. Johns went to UC Davis, which he believes has the "lamest mascot," graduating with a Masters in education and teaching credentials. He also worked as a teaching assistant at UC Davis in the math department when he was a college student.

Image courtesy of Froilan Ulloa



Image courtesy of Akira Tochimoto

## Chelsea Glickman

By Asher Tsien | atsien24@dtechhs.org

"I may be small, but I'm mighty,"

d.tech's new US History teacher, Chelsea Glickman, had a curious life path before finding her spot here at d.tech. After starting her career as a cosmetology student, then working as a hairdresser for nearly 5 years, she became a student at UC Berkeley. She pursued a business major before finding what is now her passion: art history. Glickman fell in love with art history as an undergraduate student, and knew she wanted to be a teacher as soon as she did. She attended Stanford for graduate school before setting off on her teaching career.

Before she came to d.tech, Glickman was a teacher at Hillsdale High School in San Mateo. When asked about the transition from a traditional school environment to d.tech, Glickman said she loves the individual freedom here. She mentioned that she prefers to incorporate creativity and art into her classrooms; something that she's seizing the opportunity to do this year.

Outside of the classroom, Glickman spends her time crocheting and sewing clothes. She's currently working on a fairy costume as part of a Dungeons and Dragons campaign with her friends.

## Angel Vargas-Rico

By Alice Lynagh & Jocelyn Saniewski | Staff Writers

A controversial known advocate for pineapple on pizza and leader of the, "Sounds Gay, I'm In!" Flex Time, Angel Vargas-Rico (él/he/him) is a new teacher at d.tech. He originally taught Mexican American studies, Queer studies, and Asian American studies in Union City, but came here looking for a new challenge. Up to this point he says, "I don't think I have enjoyed such a school so far!" (Vargas-Rico), and that in particular, the students and teachers here are a big highlight.

Angel teaches 9th-grade Ethnic Studies and his class encourages open discussion as students navigate race, privilege, and America's history. Freshman Devyn Sutter, a member of Angel's advisory, says that Angel is a fun teacher and that she loves his class because, "It's a community, everyone is involved and can talk and speak their mind!" As for what Angel hopes students take away from his class, he says, "Not my books!"

Angel moved here in 2004 from Mexico. He was born in the city of Puebla and grew up in Mexico City, one of the only places in Mexico with snow, volcanoes, and frequent earthquakes. He attended high school in Fairfield, California, and it was there that he first found a calling to be a history teacher. He applied for AP US History but was denied by a teacher because he had just started learning English. According to Angel, the teacher said, "Even if you were Einstein, you could not take this class."

Angel was placed in regular history and made a personal declaration to become a history teacher in spite of this discrimination. Before he realized this dream, however, Angel worked in a funeral home in his teens, and now he hosts Tales from the Funeral Home during Wednesday Flex Times, where he shares his experiences.

In his limited free time, Angel likes to take Oscar—his two-year-old dog—to Puppyland or to go out for lunch with his mom. He also builds architectural legos, watches movies, and is currently teaching himself Italian. When asked his thoughts on his chances of survival during the zombie apocalypse, Angel was optimistic. He believes that he would last a long time because of his experiences

**4** watching "The Living Dead," his willingness to sacrifice his friends, and because, "When I wake up, I look like a zombie, so I can camouflage." (Vargas-Rico). Angel's last piece of advice for students is, "Don't do Drugs!" and "Show up on time!"

Image courtesy of Froilan Ulloa



# Teachers

## Andrew Kahn

By Jocelyn Saniewski | Staff Writer

Andrew Kahn, a Bay Area native, is d.tech's new 9/10th grade Academic Counselor. Kahn grew up in San Carlos and attended Carlmont High School, and later earned his Master's degree at San Jose State. He began working in education, teaching English to elementary students in South Korea, where he learned more about teaching and diversity. However, he quickly realized that he would prefer working one-on-one with older students.



Image courtesy of Froilan Ulloa

Spending time with friends and family. He also enjoys playing tennis, board games and a game called "Werewolf" that he says is similar to Mafia. Kahn is excited to learn more about d.tech and start a new journey in counseling.

While earning his Master's degree, Kahn worked as a substitute teacher and an intern for a counselor at Sequoia High School. There, he decided that counseling was a good fit for him. He said that he really liked his school counselors and that they all harbored "qualities that I strive to have, now that I'm a counselor."

In Kahn's free time, he enjoys taking hikes, spending time in nature and spend-

## Mike Tyau

By Elia Kang & Jocelyn Chen | Staff Writers

Mike 'Bam' Tyau, d.tech's new Intro to Visual Arts and d.lab teacher, is a master of graphic arts and long time muralist. As an artist, he designs and constructs large-scale art like murals, but he also enjoys painting with gouache, a water-based paint that is designed to be opaque.

His free time largely consists of activities such as sculpting, woodworking, painting, and nature hiking.



Image courtesy of Mike Bam Tyau

While in high school, Bam was convinced he wanted to become a professional skateboarder. But soon, his career interest shifted and he instead majored in graphic arts. After graduating from the University of San Francisco, Bam worked various jobs in the Silicon Valley tech industry, at one point even working as a video game tester.

As his career progressed, he soon realized how much he enjoyed teaching youth, and after a friend sent him an ad for an open teaching position, he made the decision to apply. As a teacher at d.tech, Bam hopes to pass his knowledge down to his students and encourage them to not only do what he does, but do it better.

## Zach Pugliano

By Samantha Wolff | Staff Writer

This year, d.tech welcomed a new Ed Specialist and 10th Grade advisor to the team, Zach Pugliano.

Pugliano was born on July 4, 1992, on the East Coast. He grew up in the states of Massachusetts and Pennsylvania and went to college at the University of Pittsburgh. Pugliano wanted to come work at d.tech because of one of the main values, problem solving.

Pugliano says that if he could have any superpower in the world, it would be superspeed so that he could get coffee really fast instead of waiting in the long lines. He also has a few hidden talents, such as playing the guitar and the trumpet. Sometimes, he brings his guitar to school, and he can teach you how to play.

One of Pugliano's favorite movies ever is GoodFellas, a fictional story about a man who was a part of New York's Italian mafia. The story goes through the man's rise and fall in the crime world. One of Pugliano's pet peeves are people's knees. Mr. Puglano is also a dog lover, owning a Rottweiler-Pitbull named Hercules!

You can find Mr. Pugliano around the school during the day or at the Special Education Office in room 212.

## Eric Silva

By Kalina Anderson | Staff Writer

Eric Silva, a guy with many hobbies, is now a part of our d.tech community. A favorite new math teacher, that much we can gather, but who is he? What is so great about Silva?

Well, not only does he game, but he's on the hunt for a motorcycle. You could catch him reading a comic book from Batman, Superman, Flashpoint, or Spiderman.

Freshman Elia Kang says, "Mr. Silva is a really great person, and he makes the classroom environment non-stressful". He loves teaching and math, so put two and two together, and you get your newest addition to our math department.



Image courtesy of Froilan Ulloa

He says, "d.tech has a nice blend of nerdiness, application, and drive", and we are excited to welcome him into our community.

## Hot Topics at Student Council: Schedule, Values, and Culture

By Annika Larson | Staff Writer

**A**t the d.council meeting on November 29, the main topics were the school's bell schedule, concerns about long-term FlexTime changes, and a student-raised issue regarding culture changes. Students who ride Caltrain to school have raised concerns about struggling to get on the shuttle in time to make it to the next train after school gets out; d.council discussed the issues with last year's system and proposed solutions to implement for the future. The meeting was open for any d.tech student to bring questions and concerns to the council. One such concern was the change from WYN time to Flex time; d.council is working with school administration to create the bell schedule for next school year. d.tech values were also discussed, with concerns expressed that d.tech has become too similar to traditional public schools since the COVID-19 pandemic, and one student's allegations that the administration is trying to discreetly remove "rebellion" from the school's stated values by taking down the school's value posters about rebellion from classrooms.

d.council said that their largest project was working on the bell schedule for next year, and they discussed whether students might prefer a 70-minute single Flex period or two 35-minute Flex periods. Students who attended the d.council meeting posed questions about the council's involvement with the shift from last year's WYN time, where students had two 50-minute flexible periods at the end of each school day to sign up for any activity they wanted, to this year's Flex time. Council members highlighted their efforts to ease this transition: they said they made efforts to solicit feedback from advisories by doing "huge focus groups" as well as responding to feedback from students and teachers, including that students did not have enough activities in WYN time and were using the time to socialize or use their phones, rather than working on homework, club activities, or curiosity projects. The council also mentioned that the administration didn't approach them about the changes until later in the year, making it harder to provide input.

Last year, train travel was eased by letting students who needed to catch the shuttle leave at 3:25 p.m., ten minutes before school normally got out, but several problems with this approach were discussed by d.council: the shuttle didn't have enough capacity to accommodate everyone, and other students who didn't need to take the shuttle sometimes left early as well. It was also claimed that early release also posed an issue to state education requirements for minutes of instruction. One proposed action was to require students who leave early to show a train ticket, clipper card, and/or special student ID sticker; another was to talk with school administration about the issues with state regulations. While no clear decision was made at this meeting, the council is working towards finding a solution that allows d.tech students to catch the shuttle more easily.

The topic shifted to d.tech's values when sophomore Peyton Wright asked the student council their opinion on what he alleged was the d.tech administration's attempts to remove or deemphasize the school's value of "rebellion" by taking down posters describing it from d.tech classrooms. d.tech's stated values are currently "community," "rebellion," "liberation," and "respect." d.council noted that student-created art depicting the rebellion value was still up, and suggested that the removal may be because students interpreted the value of rebellion differently than the administration expected. The school's rebellion posters are still up in some rooms. Wright also expressed frustration with the administration because he felt that they didn't put enough effort into running the school, and because his posters respectfully criticizing the Yondr system were taken down. The council responded by touting the effort put into crafting this year's schedule in spite of the timeframe the administration gave them, and saying that the administration has the best interest of students in mind. d.council also said that there was an approval process for posters that should be followed, and that issues around censorship and school values are important, but not d.council's area of authority nor expertise.

When responding to a student's questions, d.council noted that they've received a lot of feedback that d.tech is becoming too similar to traditional public schools, and said that they plan to expand the amount of time that students have discretion to spend how they like (similar to this year's Flex time) in next year's schedule. DRG training was also discussed, with d.council agreeing that it's important that students learn how to use the school's equipment; DRG education is lacking among some upperclassmen due to school closures for COVID-19 safety.

Overall, d.council puts in a lot of work behind the scenes in working with the administration, even when their policies and influence are not outwardly visible. Elections for new d.council members will be held after winter break on Friday, January 6.

If you have questions you'd like The Dragon to ask d.council, please email them to us at dragon@dtechhs.org for our reporting on future meetings.

## World News: What's going on in the world right now

By Lydia Rak | Staff Writer

As students and citizens of society it is our responsibility to stay informed on what's going on in the world. This new segment will give a brief, easy to understand summary of current events you should know about.

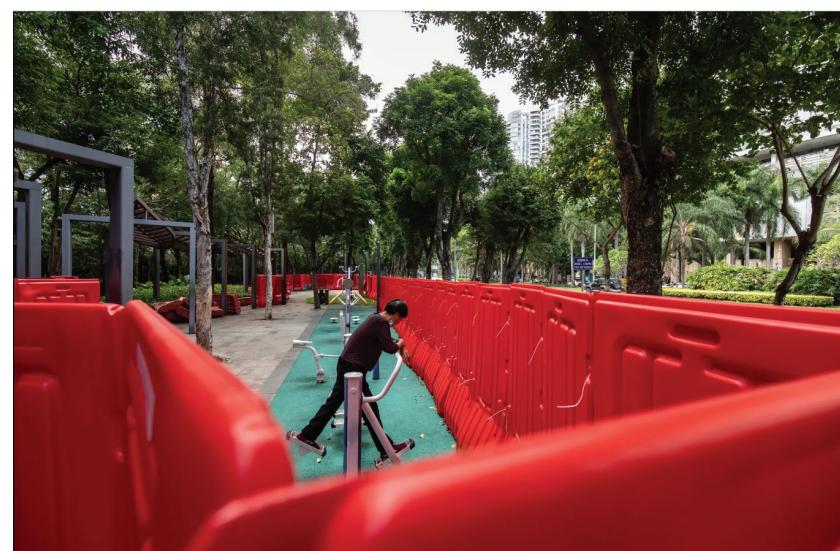


Image courtesy of The New York Times / Qilai Shen

### COVID Restrictions and Protests in China

**C**hina's COVID restrictions have been very tight ever since the COVID-19 pandemic first began in 2020. While the US and most other countries have loosened their restrictions, China's have remained strong and have even got stricter. This past November nearly 530 million people were in a forced lockdown. Some even say they are physically locked in. Others reported having to sleep in factories so they could work while quarantined. Tensions have been rising but they exploded on November 25 when an apartment fire killed 10 people. According to Associated Press reporter Zen Soo, "That set off angry questions online about whether firefighters or victims trying to escape were blocked by locked doors or other anti-virus controls. Authorities denied that, but the deaths became a focus of public frustration. [...] The country saw several days of protests across cities including Shanghai and Beijing, with protesters demanding an easing of COVID-19 curbs. Some demanded Chinese President

Xi Jinping step down, an extraordinary show of public dissent in a society over which the ruling Communist Party exercises near total control." According to New York Times reporter Vivian Wang, "Workers hauled sheets of metal and red plastic to erect barriers preventing anyone from leaving — a physical manifestation of the party's increasingly overt control over daily life." Following the protests, some restrictions have been lifted. For example, people can now get on public transit without mandatory testing. But millions remain in lockdown. Many restrictions remain and it is paying a large toll on Chinese citizens and the economy.



## Best T.V. Shows of 2022

Illustration by Alice Lynagh

Moon knight, another series connected to a bigger plot, is a show based on the popular Marvel comics by Stan Lee and was voted the second best show. "Moon knight is different to other shows in [the Marvel Cinematic Universe] in the way that it doesn't try to expand in worldbuilding in the series as a whole, but instead focuses on our protagonist's story and the world they take on," Sophomore Jayden Santos says. It stars Oscar Issacc and May Calamawy as they search for a long missing treasure with the help of the Egyptian moon god, Khonsu. Santos explains that episode three is their favorite, "because of its cinematography." You can find this thrilling action series on Disney+, as well as other movies and shows in the Marvel Cinematic Universe.

But with over twenty different shows in the running for first, this show won by a landslide due to its character development and unique usage of black and white film throughout its seven years running. "[Better Call Saul] creates its own characters that always make decisions and do things that seem like what their character would do and builds up the characters to feel like real people," Sophomore Hayden White enthuses. Better Call Saul is the hit series that's connected to one of the most famous T.V. shows in history, Breaking Bad, as well as the epilogue movie, El Camino. With its final season airing on August 15, 2022, viewers had nothing but positive feelings about how well rounded the show had been. "Favorite episode... hard to say, but probably season 6 episode 7, Plan and Execution," White exclaims, "it puts two characters who you follow throughout the entire show in this episode for only a single moment, and serves as a the point of no return for the main character." You can find this, and the two other installments of the Breaking Bad universe, on Netflix. It's good to get outside your comfort zone, especially when it comes to the media we consume. Maybe these shows will be pulled up in your queue, perhaps you won't give them a second thought, but one thing's for sure – 2023 won't be lacking in t.v. shows!

## The War in Ukraine

**T**he head of U.S. intelligence says fighting in Russia's war in Ukraine is running at a "reduced tempo" and suggests Ukrainian forces could have brighter prospects in coming months." NPR News reported December 4th. The Russo-Ukraine war started February 20, 2014 and has been ongoing ever since. Tens of thousands of people have lost their lives. Ukrainian resilience and support from the west has surprised many, especially the Russians. The Ukrainian Army has successfully pushed back advancing Russian forces in some areas, and in turn Russia has stepped up their missile attacks, changing the dynamics of the war. With winter coming, conditions will make fighting more difficult over the next couple months.

The US Ambassador to Ukraine Bridget A. Brink tweeted "More cruel missile strikes across the country as Russia tries to punish Ukraine for daring to be free." In order to help maintain the Ukrainians' ability to defend themselves through the winter, the United States will be providing more than \$53 million of electrical equipment to reinforce the grid.

## d.tech's Favorite TV Shows of 2022

By Kaz Murray | Section Editor

**A** developed plot, interesting characters, and a good sense of humor. When students were asked about what made them like a T.V. show, the answers were very similar in style. But what shows captured all of these qualities? Well, look no further for a series that will transport you into magical worlds and energizing plots.

The third most voted show was a series that followed in the footsteps of a very popular series: Andor. A prequel to the original Star Wars trilogy, it came out on September 21st, 2022, and featured protagonist Cassian Andor who was seen in Rogue One, a movie from December of 2016. Many students complimented its compelling soundtrack and incredible actors as some of the reasons they loved Andor. Although the first season ended recently, fans are looking forward to the undetermined release of season 2, so there's plenty of time to catch up on Disney+!



Data as of 12/02/22

Graphic by Renée Rigdon, CNN

## The Latest in Climate

**A**t the United Nations COP27 Conference in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt last November, Prime Minister Mottley of the island nation of Barbados proposed a plan to change the way that environmental project loans and financing agreements work. The plan (known as the Bridgetown Initiative, named after Barbados' capital city), sees the richer countries that contribute the most to climate change such as the United States, China, and the European Union give compensation money to the poorer nations who are most affected by climate change. But this money is not just to help rebuild but to actually reindustrialize with green technology and to help build infrastructure protecting them against the parts of climate change that are already affecting them like sea level rise and extreme weather events. The idea is that the richer countries caused the effects these poorer nations are experiencing and therefore are responsible for helping them. The plan "would overhaul the way much of development lending works. It is also giving voice to developing nations struggling under rising debt from climate damage," says PBS reporter Kelvin Chan. Mottley claimed in a recent essay that "Debt has been growing in developing countries, sapping funds for education, health and clean energy. Much of the increase in debt in some Caribbean countries is related to extreme storms." "The plan would make it easier for countries in the Caribbean, Latin America, Africa, and Asia to get funds to beef up defenses against warming and put off debt payments when disasters strike." This is also appealing to countries like the United States because this could save them money in the long run because they won't need to loan money to rebuild after disasters. This plan estimates that as much as \$1 trillion could be made available for climate financing.



Barbados's Prime Minister Mia Mottley speaks during a press conference

Image courtesy of REUTERS/Dante Carrer

United States because this could save them money in the long run because they won't need to loan money to rebuild after disasters. This plan estimates that as much as \$1 trillion could be made available for climate financing.

## Rancho Cordova School (Continued)

By Lydia Rak | Staff Writer

**W**endy Little is one of the primary school designers. She was a founding member of the original d.tech and served as Director of Intersession for many years before moving to the Sacramento area. Her move is why they ended up being interested in the area to begin with. "Wendy was talking to a bunch of different people about her experiences with d.tech and ultimately some folks expressed interest in maybe opening a school up there and so that is how it kinda evolved." Cerra says. The school will open with 150 ninth graders and then every year a new grade will be added. As you can imagine, opening a new school is tough and takes a lot of work, especially since current staff don't live up there. They can't be on the ground talking to people doing a lot of the things that they did when they were working at this school.

Although many students are unsure of the proposal of a new school, some don't mind the idea. Freshman Natalie Rimon says, "I think that it is a good idea. People get sad that they don't get into the school they want so two d.techs gives more people opportunities." Senior Adam Chapman says, "It's okay, but keep it to a limit." Some students don't think it's the best idea but also don't believe it will influence them that much. Sophomore Adam Ryan says he thinks we need to focus on this school but also doesn't think it will affect them. Junior Roman Noravian sums up what most people said well. "I guess I kinda feel weird about it. I feel like there are some issues at d.tech they should address before they expand. I feel like once you expand the quality starts to go down because of more locations. I am not sure if it will affect me that much especially sense next year is my last year."

The dragon has been trying to write this article since early last year now and was denied multiple times from admin due to "not having enough information yet" the dragon emailed multiple times until someone agreed to do an interview.

The Rancho Cordova school is happening no matter what. There are some concerns from students, but school administration is excited about the new advance in the school. d.tech is expanding. Whether this is a good thing we'll just have to wait and see.



The new logo for Design Tech Rancho

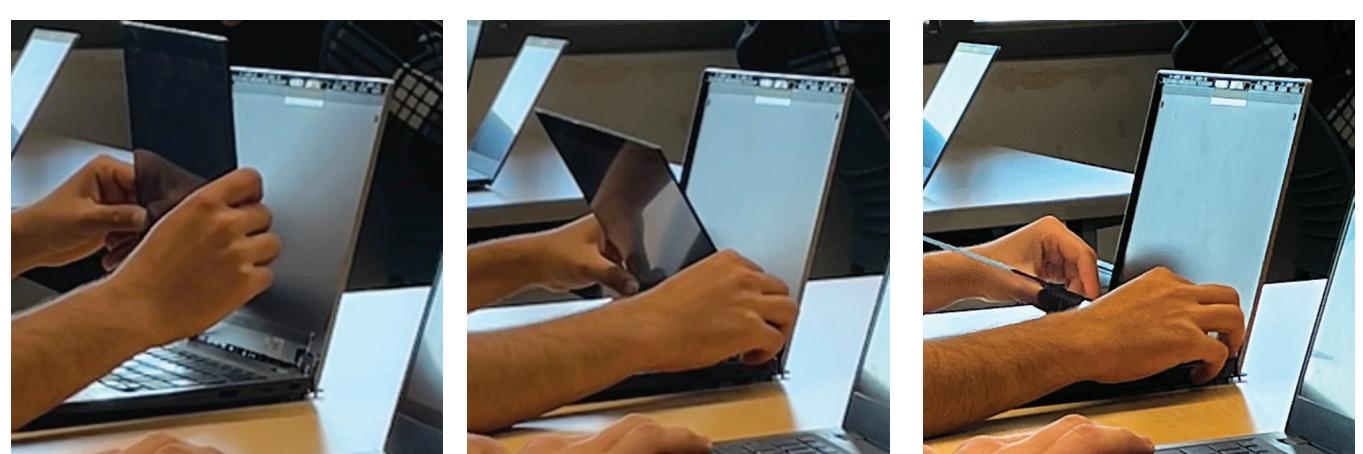


Image courtesy of Cynthia Shi

es. He does say he feels "pretty sick after eating them", but actually likes the meat. He adds, "I think that if we could get food from the Oracle Cafe, that would be better.", which is also a desire of many students in the student body.

Overall, the community at d.tech has fairly mixed reviews about the new free meals served everyday. Some students would rather have the lunches from previous years, and some do not see an issue with the ones being served now, either way it is undeniably a positive effort by the state to ensure that everyone gets free food, even if it needs improvements.

**Whose Chromebook is this?**  
(and yes, that is a school issued chromebook)



## Blast From The Past!

Fire up your time machine because The Dragon is highlighting two articles from years past!

Don't have a time machine? That's okay, we do. Mums the word

### Hard Hat Report: Update on Oracle Campus

By Bibi Wong (Class of 2018)

Originally published in The Dragon Volume 1 / Issue 1 on May 25, 2017

**E**veryone in d.tech is on the edge of his or her seat waiting to see the new school at Oracle. Senior Superintendent with XL Construction Mitch McDonald, brought me along with him to see the building. As it's still under construction, I had to wear a hard hat and an oversized orange fluorescent vest.

The building currently looks like it has a metal frame that outlines the structure of the school and the classrooms. According to McDonald, the new d.tech building on the Oracle campus is "a classic glass and aluminum panel-clad building," two floors, with 16 classrooms that each have an observation window. There are also collaborating sections for group work in between classrooms. Two staircases are located on each side of the school, and an elevator resides in the center of the building. The second floor has a bridge for you to cross to get from one side to the other. The lunch area is open, and it's surrounded by windows. d.tech's new campus also includes a terrace, which will have plants, an amazing view of the bay ecosystem, huge windows for sunlight, and a basketball court. In total, this construction cost \$43 million to build.

During construction, the team had many obstacles. They found an endangered bird species, had a very wet winter, and had to build on top of bay mud. Despite the challenges, the construction team is obligated to complete the new school before the new year. d.tech students will move in the following semester. While walking to the new school, a cold refreshing sea breeze hit me. The school is close to the Bay Trail, which is filled with many species of birds and beautiful botanical plants. On the other side of the school, there are the towering buildings of Oracle which look professional, yet intimidating. The school has a creative ambience with different styles of working environment.

(The Oracle campus is expected to be completed in November 2017.)

This article has been edited with corrections published in Volume 2 / Number 1 (October 23, 2017).

### Op-Ed: d.tech's Image Problem

By Sebastian Golden, Section Editor (Class of 2018)

Originally published in Volume 2 / Number 3 on March 13, 2018

**H**ey there d.tech student. What's your dream job? A programmer at Oracle? A software engineer at Google? Maybe you want to found a startup to revolutionize online marketing. If so, great. If not, you're out of line with the rest of the school, according to the media. As The New York Times wrote back in December, "Big Silicon Valley companies have been in a race to shape students' education and use schools to train their next generation of workers," adding "But until now, none has put public school students a short walk from the chief executive." A Huffington Post blog entry alleged "There is reason to question whether [Oracle Board Chair Larry] Ellison has the best interests of public schools at heart." Even the more subdued views suggest Oracle has undue influence over d.tech: according to IT journal eWEEK, "Another added long-term benefit of such a school is the prospect of it becoming a 'farm team' for future Oracle employees—which could very well become a reality."

As students at d.tech, we know these slanted articles and snarky blog posts claiming we're all turning into Oracle employees are simply not true. But it's easy to understand why an outsider might think that — because that's the image the school puts forward.

Consciously or unconsciously, the administration has prioritized unique opportunities for STEM-oriented students. The school, with its 8,000-square foot design realization garage, is literally built to best accommodate these students, while other programs have no dedicated facilities. And while activities like journalism and art can be done in regular classrooms, music, dance, and theater need their own rehearsal and performance spaces, with stages, lighting, and sound. None of these were included in the new building, and the fact that the designers went out of their way to include such an incredible space for engineering without addressing the passions and interests of other students speaks to a culture that is slowly being forced onto the student body.

There is a multitude of reasons why students choose to come to d.tech. They may enjoy the personalized pacing, the creative freedom within the curriculum, or the individual attention unavailable at other schools; STEM learning opportunities and Oracle-run classes are just a few among them. But because of the uneven allocation of resources and the brand being built around our school, prospective students won't see the full scope of the school and what sets us apart. Eventually, this could easily lead to more and more tech-focused students enrolling, while those who aren't as interested in STEM fields shy away because they aren't aware of d.tech's true nature.

d.tech's mission statement is pretty clear. The website states "At d.tech, we believe that students are most successful when their education is personalized to their needs, and they are asked to use their knowledge to improve the world around them." Yet whenever d.tech is reported on in the news, that message fails to come across. Outside parties may be the ones spreading this misinformed impression of our school, but it's up to the faculty, the administration, and yes, even the students, to set them right. d.tech needs to be conscious of its brand, and shape it to portray an accurate picture. We need to emphasize that we're a different type of high school not because we're training students to work in the tech industry but because we have a truly unique style of education. We need to highlight our personalized learning on the website, in communications with the press, and on school tours.

d.tech has a wonderful, diverse school community. We're genuinely a unique school, where students can learn their own way and pursue their passions. But if the school doesn't take steps to preserve and invest in our true culture, and broadcast who we really are to the world, we risk becoming the Oracle training ground The New York Times seems to think we are.

Thirsty for more from bygone eras? Well, I'm slightly worried that you're drinking a newspaper (ink is not digestible btw), but nevertheless you can find all of our past print editions on our website at [dtechdragon.com/archive](http://dtechdragon.com/archive).



Photo by Matthew Silverman (Class of 2019)



Image courtesy of Vivian Lambeth

may be, I think we can all agree that those hamburger patties look pretty suspicious! Keep your eye out, lunch staff.

A popular area to eat said lunch is right near the Bay Trail, where another mystery may be dwelling. The Belmont Slough is about 9 miles long and runs through the city into the bay, but could something otherworldly be residing in it during high tide? Out of over 60 responses I received on my survey, at least 7 students say they definitely believe d.tech has its very own aquatic monster, while the majority 27 admit they are at least open to the possibility. One student believes our mystery monster is "just Larry taking a swim", while others claim it is "a harbor seal, bro". What may have been multiple seal sightings, however, have already led to a name being coined for our local legend: "His name is Mr. Frumples," says Junior Izzy Martin.

Recently, I had the opportunity to talk with Spanish teacher Joe Schneider about the supposed haunting in his room. According to him, the hauntings first started at the beginning of cycle 3, when he walked into the room one day and found a doll resembling one in the book his class is reading, *El Ekeko*, attached to the board. Over the days following, the doll started to move to different places around the classroom, thoroughly freaking out Schneider. When he came in early one morning, a sign hung on the window reading "El último sacrificio", which translates to "The ultimate sacrifice". After that, the hauntings only proceeded to get worse, one day resulting in a pentagram made from the "El Ekeko" books with the doll standing in the middle of it, accompanied by a creepy printed-out picture. Over the next few weeks, the picture of the doll attached to Schneider's board began to have black blood coming from its eyes and the word "sacrificio" was taped all over the classroom. Soon after, a second doll showed up, identical to the first but with blue coloring. It has since disappeared, but its red twin was last seen stuck in one of Schneider's ceiling tiles.

But what really is el Ekeko? The book that Joe's Spanish 2 class is reading, *El Ekeko: Un Misterio Boliviano*, is a Spanish book by Katie Baker that tells the story of Paco, a young Bolivian boy who discovers a doll that brings him whatever gifts he asks for. In Bolivian folklore, the Ekeko is a god of prosperity and good fortune. He commonly appears as a little statue of a man wearing a mustache, traditional Andean clothes, and carrying food, money, and other objects of prosperity. He can usually be found as an amulet on a necklace or sitting in a comfortable place in the house with money or cigarettes as offerings. As this tradition suggests, Ekeko is known as a positive symbol of good luck, so if you're going by the official lore, it makes no sense why one would malevolently haunt a Spanish classroom.

However, the Ekeko doll isn't the only thing plaguing Schneider's room. He is often perplexed by even more strange happenings. Things like automatic paper towel dispensers going off at random times, students' belongings mysteriously disappearing, flags falling off the wall straight into the trash can, and whiteboard marker holders losing their magnetism are all commonplace in room 103. Is there a possibility that d.tech has its very own ghost? Whatever the case, Schneider would like it out of his room, saying he does "want to, like, suss it out a little bit". He does not intend to communicate with or disturb whatever is in his room, but is interested in having students or anyone more experienced with the paranormal come in to investigate or make contact.

Many of Schneider's students often still throw the doll at him as a prank and claim he's the one moving it around and doing the "haunting", but Schneider says, "Why would I do that? It's genuinely pretty scary.". He thinks it is unlikely that a student is performing the hauntings as a prank, given that they still happen even when he is the last person to leave the building and one of the first to enter in the morning. Students are not allowed to enter the building before 7:30, when Schneider arrives, and he claims he locks his door at night. "I guess anything's possible," he says.

In the late 2021-22 school year, you may have noticed mysterious ciphers popping up around school. Similar to the school-wide puzzles from this year's Geocaching Intersession class, these ciphers were often hidden in specific locations around the school like the front desk, the ping-pong tables, etc., and each one would lead you to the next. These ciphers were made by Sophomore Jayden Santos and were originally part of a plot to figure out DRG instructor Nick Barella's birthday. Santos used the pigpen cipher, a simple geometric cipher, to encode messages that led to websites with riddles. Once decoded, participants would have to solve the riddle on the website to find more links or locations around the school. Though all of Santos' class attempted to solve the ciphers, only one person discovered Nick's birthday. Santos says, "One of my friends, Abraham, he was the one who solved the case [of] Nick's birthday. [...] He ended up just taking the easy route. He emailed Nick's dad." Santos assumes that not many people were able to solve all of them as it was nearing the end of the year and people were more prone to giving up, but he did tell me he had begun planning another cipher project, this time school-wide. Unfortunately, the project was dropped for lack of traction or a concrete topic. More may be coming, but we will just have to wait and see.

**Want to see your creative writing, photography, or art published in The Dragon?**

We are now accepting submissions for student work publishing both online and in print. All types of art are accepted  
Submit it to dragon@dtechhs.org!  
We publish student work both online and in print.

Stories longer than 600 words may be truncated if they end up in print.  
Full length will be available online.  
Submit images with a brief artist's statement.

## Book Review - They Went Left by Monica Hesse

By Jocelyn Chen | Staff Writer

**T**hey Went Left is a novel written by Monica Hesse. It details the events in a post-WWII world following a girl, Zofia Lederman, on her search for her brother, Abek Lederman. Being Jewish under the Nazi regime, Zofia is forced from concentration camp to concentration camp, and she becomes separated from Abek. This book is beautifully crafted, displaying raw emotions and filled with unexpected twists of fate. Her journey through her mental anguish from trauma is both fascinating and inspiring.

This book's coverage on Zofia's mental state brings you through her experiences and leaves you feeling just as lost and confused as her. Where education primarily focuses on the times during the Holocaust, this book is told during the recovery period, the often untold aspect of the war. During this time, even though they were technically "free," people were still trapped in their own minds, and more often than not, they were left without basic human resources needed for living. This is a fantastic book that covers things from mental health to the impacts of a devastating war on families. If you enjoy reading books about World War II and want to learn more about the effects that the war had on people even after it ended, then you will definitely find this book to be a great read.

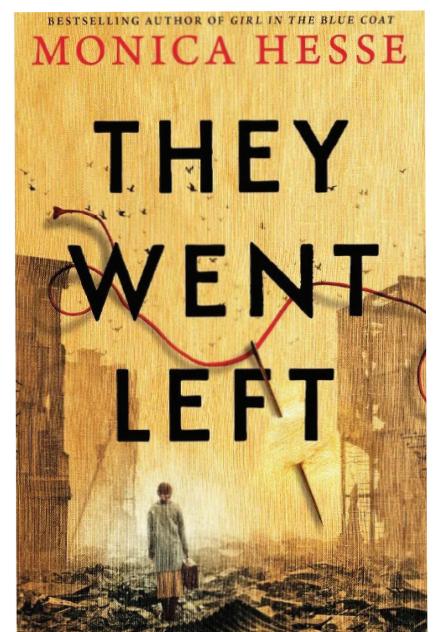


Image courtesy of Little Brown & Co.

## Caltrain Electrification (Cont.)

By Annika Larson | Staff Writer

**A**ccording to Caltrain, the new electric trains will be faster, safer, and more environmentally friendly. Electric trains will also be able to run more frequently—up to six times per hour! Right now, Caltrain's locomotives run on diesel fuel, the combustion of which produces the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide. Currently, the electrification project is scheduled for completion in 2024 in spite of past delays. As of December 2021, the project had an estimated cost of \$2.4 billion.

Almost all trains operated by Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART), a train service in the East Bay, San Francisco, and the northernmost parts of San Mateo County, already run on electricity. Caltrain's planned electrification will bring its propulsion technology in line with BART as well as commuter rail systems in Denver, Boston, and London, among other places.

The electrification process will also allow for high-speed rail to run through the area as part of the planned California high speed rail project. The project aims to connect Los Angeles and San Francisco by passenger rail, with a one-way trip taking less than three hours. However, the project has been criticized for its high costs: although it was originally estimated to cost \$33 billion, the high-speed rail system is now projected to cost between \$69 billion and \$99 billion.

## Cray Cray for Midnights

By Elie Sarver | Staff Writer

On October 21, 2022, 'Midnights', the 10th studio album from Taylor Swift, was finally released to the world, and within the first 24 hours, started breaking records left and right.

During the first day of the release of 'Midnights', Taylor Swift reached over 288 million Spotify streams from her new album, breaking a record of most streams in the first day of an album release. As well as breaking the most album streams in the first day, Swift also broke the record of being the most streamed artist since album release.

Not only did 'Midnights' break Spotify records, it also broke Apple Music records. Taylor Swift broke the all time record for the biggest album ever released globally on Apple Music. Swift also now has the record on Apple Music for the biggest pop album of all time by first-day streams.

As the first week of release came to an end, 'Midnights' stole the spot for the largest sales week for a vinyl album (since Luminate began tracking such sales in 1991) with over 575,000 sales, surpassing Harry Styles's 'Harry's House' at 182,000 vinyl sales. As well as record breaking vinyl sales, 'Midnights' has the biggest streaming week of the year with 857 Million official streams, and taken the spot of 3rd largest streaming week for an album as well as the largest streaming week ever for an album by a female artist.

Not only did Taylor Swift break streaming and sales records, she also broke Billboard records by becoming the first artist to hold all top 10 spots on the Billboard Hot 100.

Keeping on the topic of breaking things, Taylor Swift also broke Ticketmaster. Taylor Swift announced an Era's tour to be happening in 2023, and getting tickets wasn't exactly the easiest thing to do. When getting tickets for the Eras Tour, there was a presale. To get into the presale, one has to be picked randomly. Ticketmaster said that approximately 1.5 million people were sent out a presale code, but once the presale came out, over 14 million people attempted to get tickets. For the stadium closest to us d.tech students, the presale was originally at 10 am, but due to "historically unprecedented demand" our presale got moved 5 hours later. Once the presale was finally opened, the queue had over 2000 people, and Ticketmaster kept crashing, meaning that the people who were almost at the top of the queue kept on getting pushed to the back over and over again. Some fans waited multiple hours for even the smallest chance at securing tickets. Not only did Ticketmaster make it extremely hard to achieve tickets during the presale, Ticketmaster also closed the General Sale, leaving the people who didn't get a presale code to forage the resellers who sell tickets for extremely inflated prices. Only about 2% of fans were able to receive tickets, which means that one has a better chance of getting into Harvard, than getting to see Taylor Swift in concert. Those who managed to achieve tickets to the Eras Tour should consider themselves lucky.

At tea time, everybody agrees that Taylor Swift will go down in music history.



Illustration by Cynthia Shi

## Stuff to do in the Bay Area

By Jocelyn Saniewski | Staff Writer

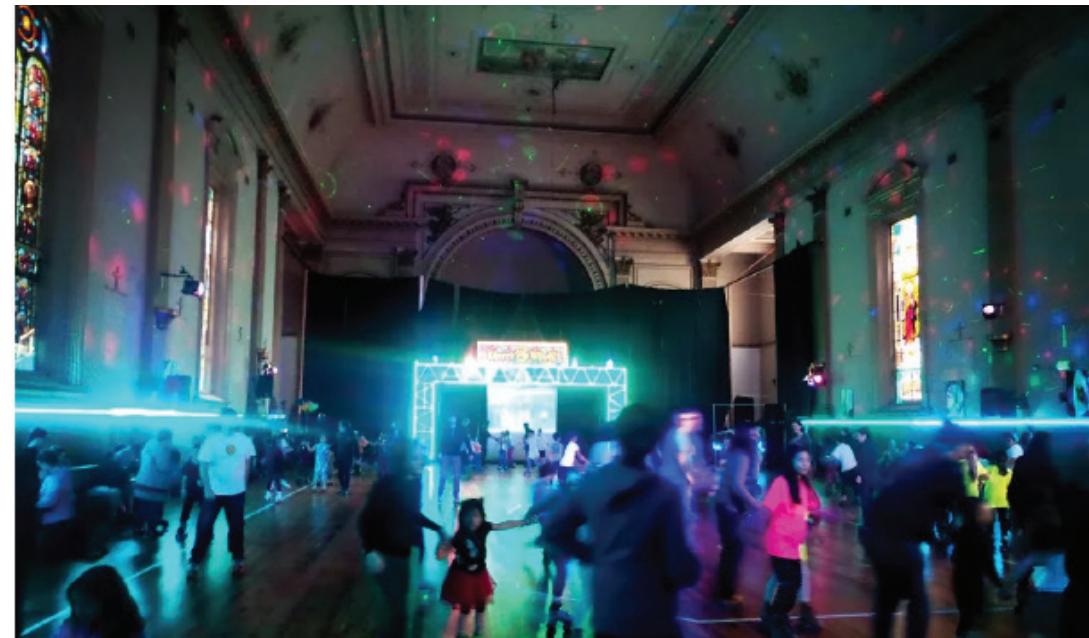


Pictured is the outside of The Church of 8 Wheels, a monochromatic church.

Image courtesy of staypineapple.com

**Church Of 8 Wheels**  
554 Fillmore St, San Francisco, CA 94117

The Church Of 8 Wheels is a repurposed church now being used as a roller disco. With drinks, music, and rentable skates the Church of 8 Wheels is a great way to spend your night. General admission starts at \$13 and skates are rentable for \$5.

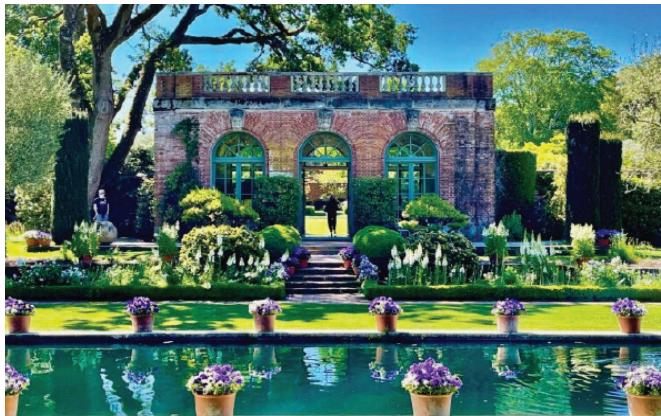


Pictured is the inside of The Church of 8 Wheels during a skate session.

Image courtesy of Claudya Martinez from byclaudya.com

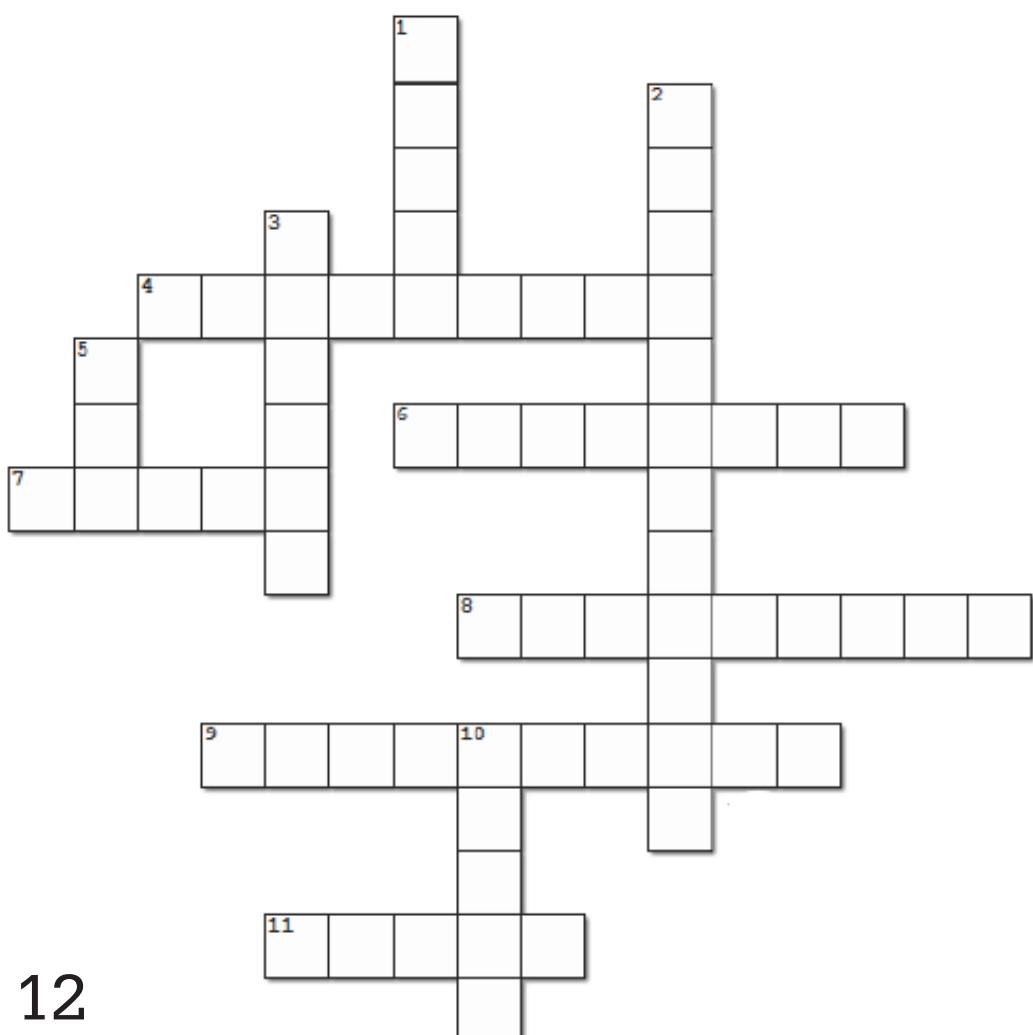
**Filoli Gardens**  
86 Cañada Rd, Woodside, CA 94062

Only three minutes from The Pulgas Water Temple, Filoli Gardens and estate is a gorgeous botanical garden and home with numerous varieties of rare flowers and fruit trees. Adult admission is \$25, 17 and under admission is \$15.



Pictured is the Filoli gardens reflecting pool surrounded with beautiful flora

Image courtesy of travelswithmaitaitom.com



Pictured is a train car passing the Balboa Theater in 1926. The appearance of the Balboa remains the same today. Image Courtesy of the Balboa Theater



**The Balboa Theater**  
3630 Balboa St, San Francisco, CA 94121

The Balboa Theater in Outer Richmond has been providing entertainment since 1926. Showing reruns and new releases, the Balboa is one of the Bay's greatest treasures. General movie admission is \$15.



**The Pulgas Water Temple**  
56 Cañada Rd, Redwood City, CA 94062

The Pulgas Water Temple only 13 minutes from d.tech is a tranquil corner of paradise monumenting the first arrival of water from Hetch Hetchy to San Francisco. Admission is free.

Pictured is the reflecting pond at The Pulgas Water Temple.

Image Courtesy of SFPUC.org

### Across

4. The type of place d.tech was before moving to the Oracle campus.
6. You go to this every morning.
7. d.tech has two of these in the hallways, and can often be heard during class.
8. You're reading one right now!
9. Standard issue device provided by the school for students.
11. The name of d.tech's robotics team (no periods)  
Hint: Freshly baked!

### Down

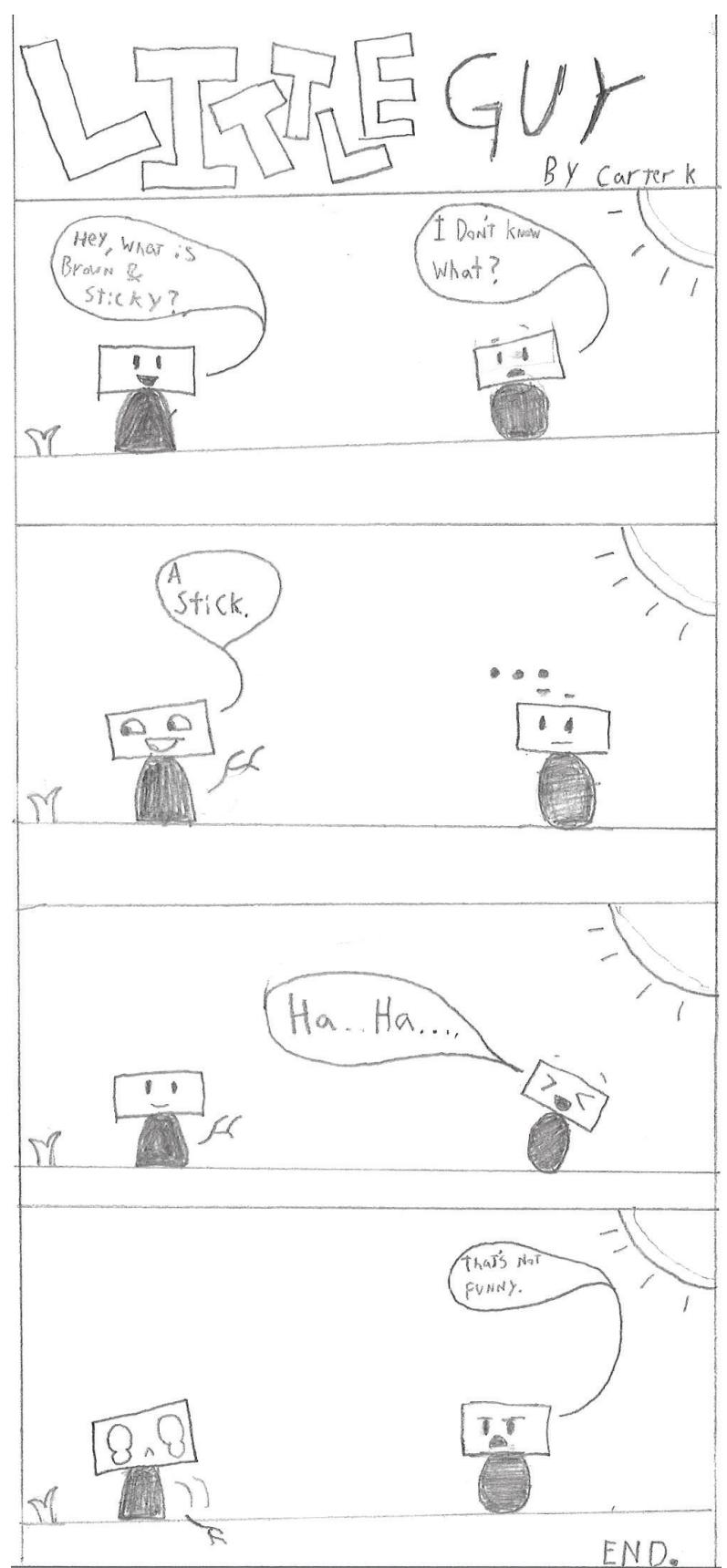
1. Alternate name of the lush, wet area behind d.tech's campus.
2. 2-week long activity that takes place three times a year.
3. One of our school mascots (this one can fly!)
5. The other school mascot (this one can swim)
10. You can find one of these on the interior walls of d.tech

**Comic**

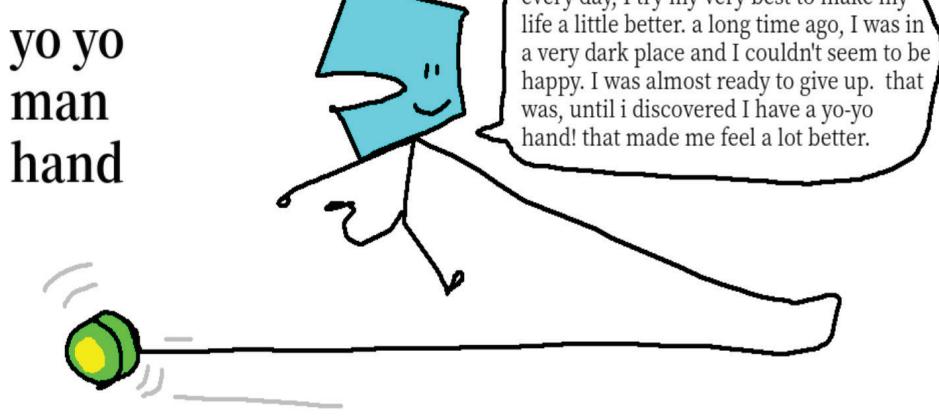
By Sophia Ledoux

**Little Guy**

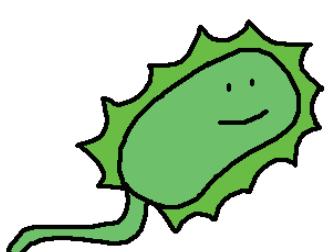
By Carter Kisich

**Simone-isms**

By Simone Karlon



*Prokaryote (a simple fellow, a classic)*



*Eukaryote (a complex individual.)*



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## Word Search (38 words total)

Aristocrat  
Atlas  
Birds  
Breakfast  
Carnival  
Corduroy  
Diction  
Distraction  
Dreaming  
Engulfed  
Express  
Fahrenheit  
Fallout  
Fever  
Finding  
Flames  
Golden  
Gothic  
Interior  
Invention  
Lobotomy  
Movement  
Partnership  
Pink  
Random  
Reelection  
Regress  
Sectioned  
Senator  
Slightly  
Temple  
Unfortunate  
Watermelon  
Welcome  
Wind  
Wonder  
Wrong

## Overheard @d.tech

Since the start of the school year, Dragon staff members have been collecting a list of silly things we've heard out-of-context at school. Names are included if they are A) known and B) they make it funnier. This list has been edited to remove offensive language and things that are just disgusting.

The word buttock has been used in place of a word you should know.

"People wrote on my beans, I don't know why..." - Fannie

"Booty, booty, booty, drop it, drop it, booty, booty, booty"  
- Nathan Pierce

"I printed so many Michael Jordans" - Simone Karlon

"Don't out-French me; I'll baguette you 'till I'm blue in the face." - Clarissa Gámez

"My brother doesn't read... I don't read."

"People who like sheep farming in cold, inhospitable places are disproportionately Scandinavian."

"Those florists, always drunk on their own power."

"I want to know how much money is in my bag of money."

"The first paragraph is like Superman's underwear"

"It's a really sad pregnant woman with a cowboy hat."

"Life is a remix"

"Would you bounce more if you had more (buttock) fat?"

"I call him like Walmart Harry Styles"

"[John green] is so pathetic in a hot way"

"The wax is made out of wax"

"Ding! Red flag"

"Hey, Batman! Do you have HBO Max?"

"That first epic move you made was out of your mother's uterus."  
Nathan Pierce

"Because we are all trouble makers and there is no meaning to life."  
Nathan Pierce

"I'm like a therapist, but I'm not gonna respond to you because I just don't care"

"I hate mathematics because it doesn't use Greek and Latin roots"

"Oh, I thought that said ecoterrorism, not ecotourism! . . . I can't unsee it"

"With the squirrel in the cage in the back of the car. It smelled awful"

"I feel all cut up now. Like floaty. Floating on a cloud of happiness"

"Gasp..monogamy"

"There's no A.S.S. in geometry," in reference to triangle symmetry.

"It was at that point where the enemies became lovers"

# Math Puzzles

## Sudoku (medium)

	2		3	4	5	9		
1	9		2				4	
4							6	
7			1			6		
		3				5		
		6		8				1
9						6		
5			7		1	9		
		1	8	3	9		7	

## Sudoku (hard)

		9	2		3			8
5							4	
		3			6			
				1	2	6		
9				6			8	
	2	7				9		
						7		
4			8					9
			5					

## How to solve a KenKen

5 +			8 ×	
2 ÷	2 -	9 +		
			2 -	
	4 ×			

The goal is to fill the entire grid with numbers, making sure that no number is used more than once within a row or column. For a 4x4 puzzle, the numbers 1-4 should be used. For a 5x5 puzzle, the numbers 1-5 should be used. The number and math operation shown in the upper-left corner of each cage (bolded region) describes the relationship between the numbers in the cage. For the first puzzle, the upper-left cage has a 5+, which means that the two numbers in that cage add up to 5.

## KenKen

+13	-2							+4

## Overheard @d.tech (continued)

"Alright, cheating is good"

"It's edible, but is it edible twice?"

"How do you draw something twerking?"

"There are Great Tits," in reference to the bird.

"Do you care if we Google 'murder tips'?"

"You can tell he gets his flirting skills from Reddit."

"People who act like they're normal are weird"

"I DON'T WANNA BE BRITISH!"

"I wanna throw you out of that window"

"I'm gonna call the world wide web of Russian babushkas to come and kick your (buttocks)"

"[Gru] is a sexy man... he has broad shoulders"

"That invite is for the 'Grow your own boyfriend'"

"A decade is 12 years"

"That baby is chunkier than apple pie"

"He's not half a buttock anymore; he's about a third of a buttock now."

"To be pathetic means to be likable"

"Time to engage in arson"

"I don't even know what an anchovy is"

"Its symbolism on steroids"

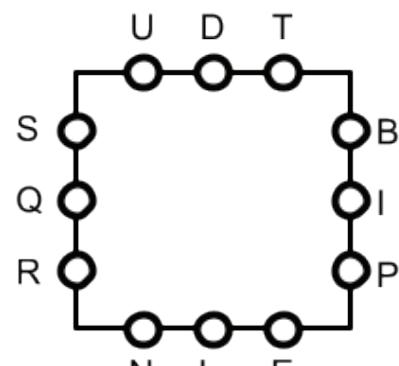
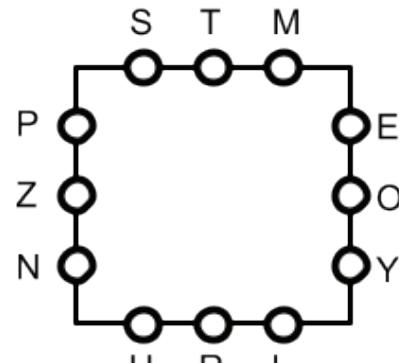
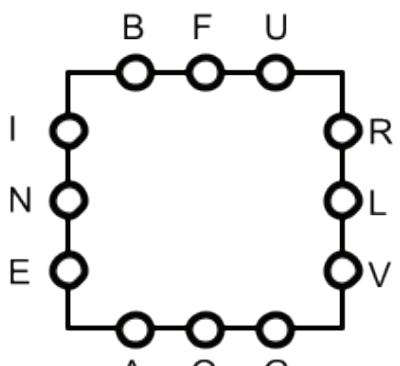
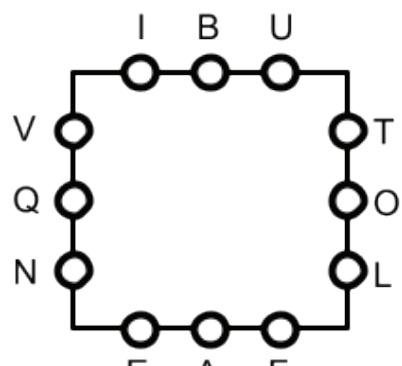
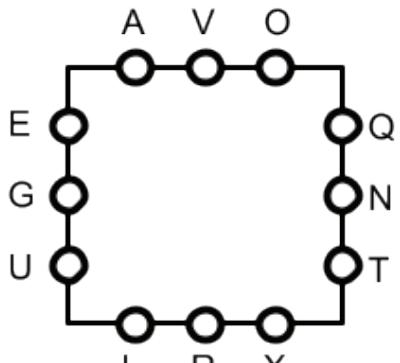
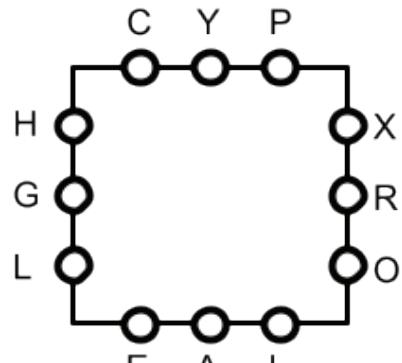
## Letter boxed

Make words by thinking inside the box.

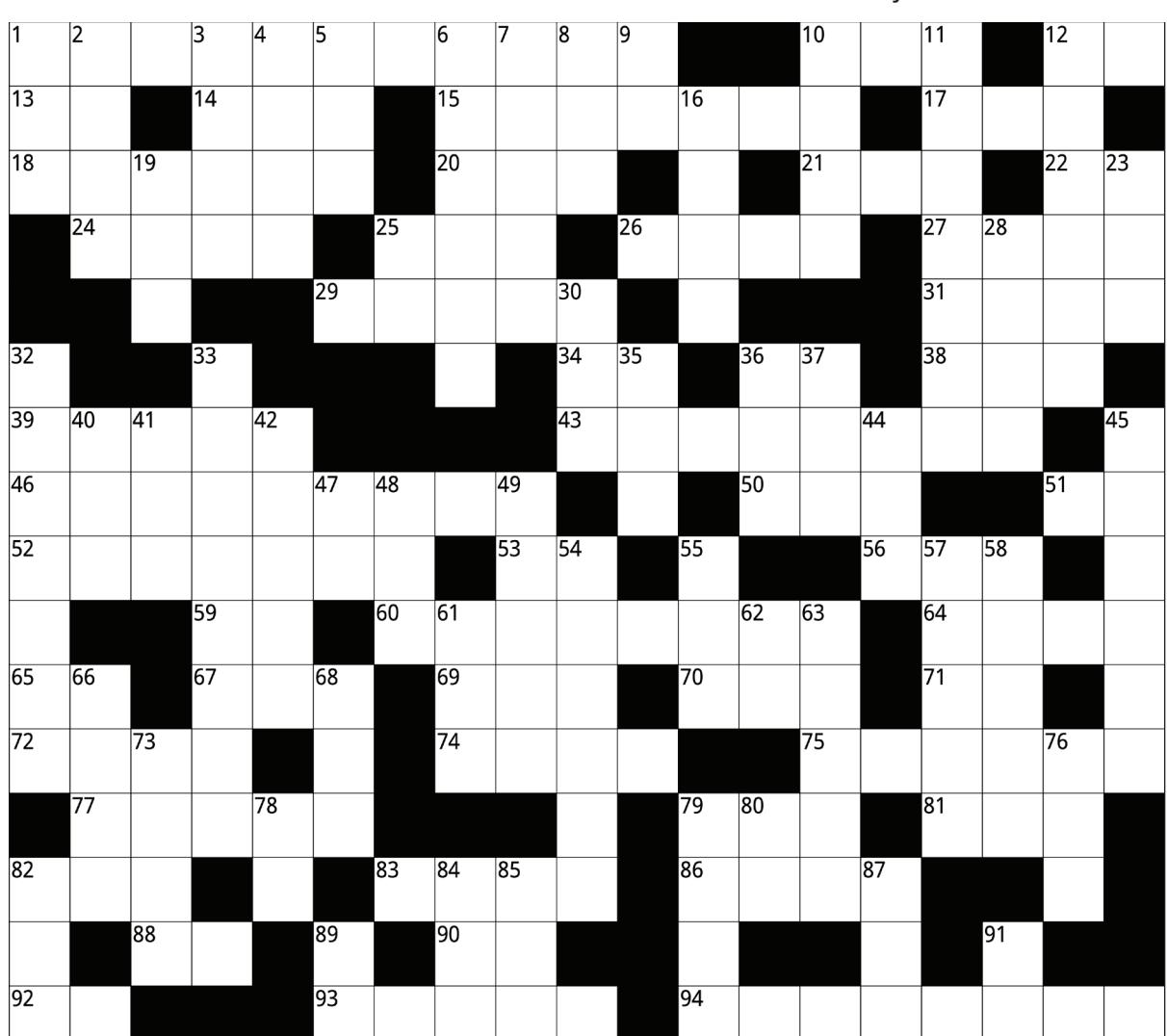
Draw lines to connect the letters and form words

- The last letter of the first word becomes the first letter of the next**
- Consecutive letters cannot be from the same side

- No letter may be used twice in a row
- Letters may be used more than once
- Words cannot be hyphenated
- Once you've used all the letters, you've solved the puzzle!**



**Stuck? See below for our solutions** • Idea courtesy of The New York Times • Puzzles made by Nate Posner



Crossword by Imogen McAlester

### Down

- Lots was dumped into Boston Harbor
- Opposed to
- What Jack Sprat's wife couldn't eat
- Less than twice
- Hoo\_\_
- Looks like a tusked seal
- A problem
- French for fire
- Slang for toilet paper
- A condition prevalent amongst teenagers
- Moral
- One who uses something excessively

- Identical or fraternal
- Explosive material
- Sp: That, that's or it's
- Good luck, texting lingo
- A cord made by twisting natural or synthetic fibers
- Past tense of sit
- A padded place for your arm to go
- What an NFT isn't
- Quick rest
- Length of time something has existed
- Is Da Way, saying from a knuckles meme
- Software that combines enterprise data and information
- Butt of all Dragon jokes
- What seven did to nine
- The \_\_ Movie
- Game recently acquired by the New York Times
- American soldier, in brief
- ps://
- To investigate
- Used a door
- Involving the environment
- A collection of maps
- Pest you might tent your house for
- Used for fishing
- Disappointed or whiny expression
- This animal spits at you
- Pile
- Not dry
- Conjunction for 'furthermore'
- Female chicken
- The egyptian sun god
- The 'M' in F = M\*A
- Short for orange juice
- Sound often heard while thinking
- A period of time
- An expression of surprise
- The sound a dog might make
- This \_\_ The Way, a Mandalorian saying
- Form of greeting

Here is our example.  
We solved it  
**RAMPAGE-EXISTENTIAL**  
Follow the lines and  
you can see!  
Can you solve it with  
fewer words?

