





LIFE

Take a look into guys' fashion and the price they pay for their beloved labels.

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BOYS LACROSSE

Tonight, 7 p.m. vs Orchard Lake St. Mary's at North.

PROM

Saturday, May 11 at 7 p.m. at The Roostertail

SOFTBALL

Monday, May 13 at 4:30 p.m. vs Dakota at North.

GIRLS SOCCER

Monday, May 13 at 4 p.m. vs Stevenson at North.

GIRLS LACROSSE

Tuesday, May 14 at 7 p.m. vs. Liggett at Liggett.

SPRING CHOIR CONCERT

Friday, May 17 and Saturday, May 18 at 7 p.m. in the PAC.

ART SHOW

Begins Monday, May 20, ends Friday, in the lobby.

SENIOR CITIZEN PROM

Thursday, May 23 at 5 p.m. in the cafeteria.

IDEAS

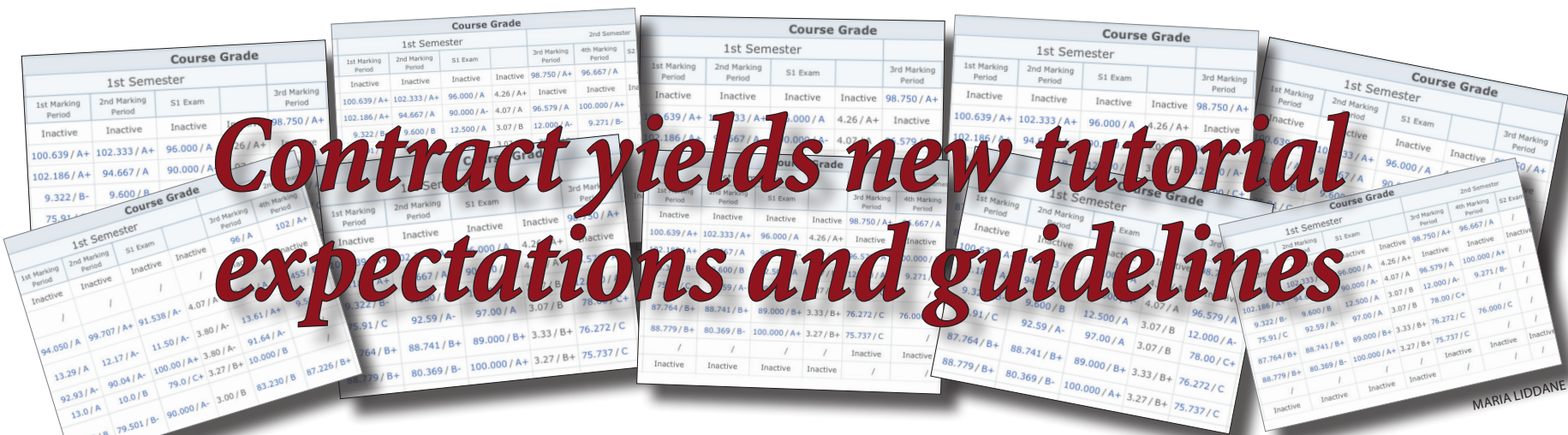
“ I KNEW I WOULD NEVER MISS HIGH SCHOOL. BUT I NEVER KNEW THAT, REGARDLESS, I'D BE LEAVING SOMETHING, IF NOT EVERYTHING, BEHIND. ”

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New teacher contract lays down tutorial guidelines: weekly checkups on students’ grades are required

By **Andrea Scapini**
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The concept of an independent-study tutorial is taking on a new, less independent meaning. The newly-ratified district contract between the Grosse Pointe Education Association (GPEA) and the School Board provides a section specifically regarding high school tutorial.

Along with creating and maintaining “an environment that is academically focused for all students,” the contract states that tutorial teachers are also expected to “consult weekly with each student regarding his/her general academic progress, including grades in classes.”

In preparation for next year's mandatory abidance to this rule, many teachers are beginning to follow it fourth quarter as a pilot.

“Next year we’re all going to have to do this, so right now we want to find out what works well or what are some things we can do to fix other parts rather than start fresh next year and say, ‘Oh well let’s try this,’” interim Assistant Principal Michael Spears said. “Now we

will have tried it, and those teachers will give the rest of the staff feedback and ideas to make it better.”

Classes are taking different approaches. Junior Eleni Doherty’s tutorial has a system of documenting weekly tutorial goals. More independently-minded students such as Doherty view this as too much of an inconvenience to be beneficial.

“It takes up time from tutorial. I feel like I’m in fifth grade writing down goals for the week. I don’t need a teacher telling me whether my grades are good or not,” Doherty said. “I have Pinnacle email me when my grades are bad. I don’t need my teacher to tell me. Other teachers only know my grade for their class, so it’s just weird to have (my tutorial teacher) know all of my grades.”

Other students agree and think that the new rules will not change current study habits.

“I don’t think it’s effective. If a student is going to do their work, then they’re going to do it. A worksheet won’t change that,” sophomore Katie Roy said. “It seems like something that should be used more for kids that never stay on task and need to be more disciplined instead of a whole classroom that’s pretty much always focused.”

On the other hand, some students find value in the enforcement of unplugging the headphones and staying off Twitter to focus on school work.

“It’s a good way to make sure kids are kept

up with their grades. It can be very beneficial to someone who doesn’t have the best grades. The tutorial teacher can help you out to see if there needs to be any help in any subject,” sophomore David Gerlach said.

Social studies teacher Sean McCarroll is one who is taking part in the change this quarter.

“It is a little inconvenient because I get 30 grade reports to review and sign and all that, but I can see it’s important,” McCarroll said. “I have a seventh-hour tutorial so a lot of times people just sit here on their phones and they’re not doing much, so it’s almost kind of a waste of time for them. I could see why it’s important especially because then we sit down and they’re held accountable for actually getting their stuff done.”

The new enforcement of the tutorial rules may alter the way students decide to schedule next year, but it is still unclear what effect this will have.

“We don’t know how this will affect student’s scheduling in the future. Will it increase tutorial? Will it decrease it? We don’t know. If I had to speculate, I would guess that there would be a slight decrease in tutorials when they know that there’s that expectation,” Spears said. “At the same time, I think some students may take tutorials knowing that they will be more guaranteed in the environment that they can work well.”

SEE EDITORIAL PAGE 7

Can a smart phone be too smart?

By **Chris Elliott & Erica Lizza**
STAFF REPORTER & INTERN

In a world where technology advances exponentially on a daily basis, users have been long pondering who is utilizing the information they choose to release. But users now risk the possibility of jeopardizing their privacy without knowing it by simply posting a picture.

NBC Action News recently reported that smartphones attach a geotag to each photo posted when the device's Location Services are turned on, giving the exact location of where the photo was taken. With this in mind, senior Christian Carlsen has decided to take extra precautions to ensure that his location is private.

“I don’t have my photo map on for that reason because I don’t want people to know where I take pictures. I feel like any time you turn on Location Services, you’re exposing yourself to the Internet, and anyone can find out stuff about you that you don’t want them to. My Instagram is on private. I feel that keeps you safer from random people following you and using your information to harm you,” Carlsen said.

Once the device's camera Location Services are turned off, photos taken with that device no longer have a geotag, NBC Action News reported.

Interim Assistant Principal Michael Spears is aware of scenarios in which giving out general location information could be dangerous.

“You have apps like Foursquare, for example. Foursquare can be very dangerous because people link things like Twitter and Facebook accounts to it. So let’s say I check in at North on Foursquare. Somebody can go on Foursquare and see who is at Grosse Pointe North High School. They can click on my profile – and perhaps I have linked my Facebook to it – so there’s a link where you could see it, if that profile is public. You could find out a lot of things about me. You could find out that I’m not home,” Spears said. “So, to me, the Location Services are more real-time dangers. It’s the personal users. It’s the potential for cyberstalking or personal safety being compromised.”

Another growing fear among users is that software companies – such as Apple, Android and HTC – constantly collect location data, regardless of whether Location Services are turned on. Following their investigation, the Wall Street Journal reported that as an iPhone was moved from place to place, the device “continued to collect location data from new places” even after Location Services were turned off.



Adjust your privacy settings and choose which apps have access to your location by changing settings in your iPhone (top) or Android (bottom).

Freshman Andrew Nurmi is wary of such data collection because of his uncertainty behind why the data is retrieved in the first place.

“I think it’s kind of creepy,” Nurmi said. “The way I see it, where I go should be my business. I don’t think that they would keep track of my location with malicious intent, but I feel that it is still weird and unnecessary for them to know where I am. Honestly, I don’t see the point of them doing it, and I think it is wrong.”

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Links program builds upperclassman leadership, freshmen receive guidance

By **Dayle Maas & Marie Bourke**
EDITOR & ASSISTANT EDITOR

Frazzled and doe-eyed, freshmen are left to wander the halls on their first day of high school without knowledge of where to go or what to do. The upperclassmen seem to have this “high school” thing down, flitting around the hallways with speed and an air of superiority.

Enter: Link Crew.

Link Crew is an international program that assigns a leader to a group of freshmen to help them acclimate to the culture of high school.

“It breaks down the walls – breaks down the comforts – but it’s really quick. The goal is to get them to realize ‘Hey, this is what I do in my life, and if I make school a better place, it’s gonna be a more enjoyable experience,’” English teacher Joe Drouin said.

Chemistry teacher Kristen Lee said the only command freshmen are given on their first day is “Go, you’re in high school now,” and they don’t receive much other explanation. She wants freshmen to have something more than a planner and a list of rules to guide them through high school.

“I think being an upperclassman, you can think of things like ‘Oh, I wish I had known that’ or ‘Oh, I wish someone had helped me with that,’” Lee said. “As freshmen, I think they’re kind of afraid to talk to teachers sometimes, so they have someone else to talk to.”

Drouin, who just attended a training conference for the program, said Link Crew is much more than helping freshmen.

“The misconception is that it’s geared towards freshmen,” Drouin said. “As the whole process goes, it puts a lot of onus on the juniors and seniors, or the Link leaders, and they get to really create the culture of the school, and it gives them some ownership in the school. It gives them a vested interest in where the school’s going.”

Teachers heard about the program through the PLC Monday meetings.

“I can’t say for anyone else, but I was looking for something to get involved in with students outside of the classroom. I teach some freshmen, not a lot, but I wanted to be able to help them,” Lee said.

The program will start with next fall’s freshman class of about 350. Current sophomores and juniors have submitted applications to be chosen as one of the 70 student leaders. Two student leaders will be assigned to 10 freshmen.

“We’re kinda tackling two ends of the scale here. We’re trying to help all the freshmen, but we’re also building leadership skills, which is why I think it’s such a great program,” social studies teacher Sean McCarroll said.

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