

SHOULD STUDENTS PUT IN MORE EFFORT TO HELP WITH FUNDRAISING?



By Palmira Muinz
Reporter

YES

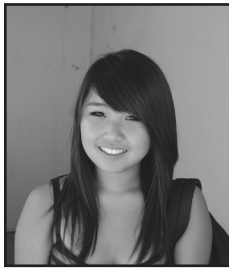
Homecoming, Sadie Hawkins, Prom. School student activities like these are for the students and planned by the students, therefore should be funded by the students. Now, I'm not saying students should take the money out of their pockets (well really, parents' pockets) but what I am saying is that if students want these activities, they need to help fund for it, with fundraisers like bake sales, car washes, even lemonade stands. These activities are a privilege, and by law, our school doesn't need to hold these events for us.

North Huron High School held a bowl-a-thon to raise money for the National Relief Foundation, where students and people from the community pledged money to the foundation. Rochestapalooza is a musical fund-raiser sponsored by the Rochester High School Student Council. Old Brighton High School holds pancake fundraisers for athletics. Along with many other high schools, these schools raise hundreds and thousands of dollars to help out their school and keep the student activities that are desired.

Once we start providing ourselves with funds that help keep these activities, we as a whole school may be able to have more say to what goes on in these events, like themes of dances, locations, and decorations. There are many students that complain about the outcomes of dances, so instead of having sour feelings about Homecoming or Prom and feeling robbed out of 200\$ worth of tickets and pictures, do something about it. Help organize fund raisers that help these dances happen, and earn your right to give your opinion and input into the planning of these dances. But dances alone wouldn't only benefit from these school fund raisers. Student activities such as Mock Trial, OCAD, or even school clubs, like the Spanish club or African humanities can benefit from this extra financial mean.

For the students who do not attend student social events and who do not desire to... well no one is making you, so you have no room to complain. If you do not want to be part of the school you go to or show any school spirit whatsoever, then be your apathetic selves and do nothing to help out. I'm sure we have others who will enjoy going to the dances or being a part of clubs they helped get.

So summing up what I think about students helping organize fund raisers to help afford better school dances and sufficient student activities: it is a right for the students to have to best high school experience, but it is an



Stephanie Kim, 9

"Yes, because it is something we want to do."

Brianna Coulombe, 10

"No, people can't afford much things anymore."



Gregory Vargus, 11

"No, why do we have to pay for school activities if we go to a school that is public?"

Amos Lee, 12

"Yes, Students should be responsible for school activities."



Ryan Reich
Ceramics Teacher

"Yes, because it gives kids real world experience and lets them know that things aren't just handed to them."

By Angelica Mora
Reporter

NO



My opinion is that high school students should not have to aid funds for school activities. School dances, on campus sports and other activities should be funded by the district and school funds. Events such as school dances are a way for the school to give back to the student body for their strong efforts throughout the school year.

Although the school already provides the location and decorations for these activities, I feel that considering the tough economic times we are facing today, the school should assist further so that even those who cannot afford to attend such events can participate.

Students are already working hard academically without having to worry if they will have enough money to enjoy these activities; which should be rewards.. I understand that school funding is being cut due to bad money management by the State, but I don't believe that we should suffer for their mistakes.

Every year it seems that a new fundraiser is popping for us to make up for the short fall of others responsibility. In my opinion when my parents pay state taxes a portion of that money should go directly to cover any activities held at Valencia High School. Parents should contact the school board to figure out what should be done to get a bill passed be able to direct the taxes to cover our activities.

I believe that the money we use to pay for tickets and other items should go straight to the next event plus the money for the location, decorations, and anything else if needed. Why it is that student are always the ones to fill in the blank when another person fails? I have seen many people who have complained about either the dance or the football games.

I overheard some students talking about the one and only Bell game they where talking about the prices of the game they said that why should they pay for a game that is being held at our school and at our stadium. They also explained how the prices on things are increasing and soon they will not be able to afford any of the dances or games. Students at Valencia high school are talking about not attending any school activities at all just to save money or just not to waste money.

More activities are going to be happening throughout the year, and if things keep continuing to increase in pricing then there will be a dramatic reduction in the number of students attending most of these upcoming school activities.



HIGH-TECH JOURNALISTS: HAVE WE TAKEN OVER?

By: Dominique Riutort and Shekhina Rivera
Editor and Reporter

Facebook, Twitter, Blogging... we've all heard of it. In this day and age, we are all connected through these websites. Lost touch with a few friends? No worries, you'll message them and catch up through Facebook. Have a brilliant thought and absolutely need to let everyone know about it that second? Just Tweet it! Then there are blogs, which are basically a journal that is online and can be viewed by everyone in the world. There are all types of blogs: music, sports, fashion, weight loss, love and relationships, technology and even blogs about cheese. These online journals have become so widespread that even our politicians have them! The possibilities are endless, which is why it has become such a phenomenon.

In some cases, however, it is completely pointless. People are constantly updating their Facebook statuses and Twitters. It gets to the point that no one actually cares that you just walked your dog or are going to bed. Let's face it, people like to be heard. Teenagers aren't the only ones who are addicted to this new lifestyle, adults and even "celebrities" have caught on as well. Many adults, parents, teachers, co-workers, and bosses now have a Facebook or Twitter account. Celebrities find it useful to address rumors and to publicize themselves to their audience for free through Twitter. Not a day goes by without a constant e-mail check, Facebook update, or newly written blog post. We'll even admit that we sometimes get absorbed in this new fad. Everyone seems to have adapted to this way of life.

With this latest vogue, however, people have begun to worry whether

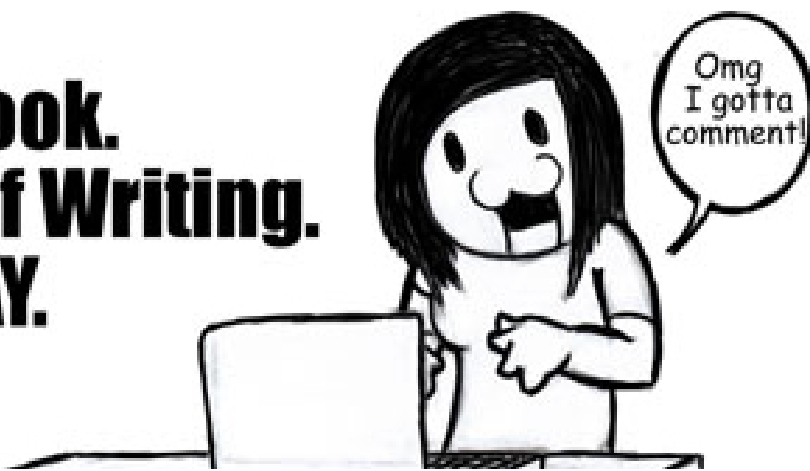
or not usage of these social networking sites are useful or, in fact, harmful. Some people argue that Facebook, MySpace, or Twitter users do not know where to draw the line from the internet and reality. Pass by a couple of teenagers and you might even hear one of them say "LOL" or "OMG." Researchers at Stony Brook University in New York have also recently discovered that too much usage of Facebook (or such) can lead to depression, especially amongst teenage girls. Even Pope Benedict warned that Facebook "can isolate people and marginalize others." Obviously, these arguments are beginning to make sense.

There are those, however, who argue that these social networking sites are completely harmless. Moreover, these sites may even prove to be beneficial for some. For example, there are people who write about things they are truly passionate about

— and reach out to those with the same interests. So me bloggers even get discovered by magazine or newspaper editors and have an opportunity to write or intern for them. For these lucky bloggers, this once in a lifetime opportunity has been given to them simply by showing their work through the internet. So for those of you who have a desire to become a journalist, a thing to consider (besides joining El Tigre) might be creating your own blog—but make sure you know the difference between the World Wide Web and the Real World. Write about what interests you and try to stick to one topic.

In the end, we find that it really just depends on your usage. If you constantly checking your Facebook, Myspace, emal, blogs, and Twitter at the sam tim, then you might have a problem. But as long as you are limiting your time and activity on these website, they technically are harmless.

**Facebook.
The Future Of Writing.
TODAY.**



CARTOON BY CHRISTINA CHAVEZ

DOES HISTORY STOP?

By Wan Po
Reporter

History, with its limitless power. Listen and experience carefully, there is no shred of breath or any sense of liveliness. We have stopped, and we are stopped. Massive amount of little drops of water are grouping together on our bodies and the greenness under our still feet are growing into like babies protected by its fragile grassy-colored skins. These are the characteristics of Spring and it is finally here. The world is living and moving constantly as usual like the hearts in every single frozen person on the surface of earth at this moment.

If you look very meticulously that you can see those dot-like little ants are stretching their way with sweats on their homeland. Except for human, all the other creatures are working as hard as they can to prepare for the winter and its depraved power to freeze almost everything. The water drops are gradually merging into the fresh new air of summer.

One of the definitions of brown is Autumn and the color is making its way into part of our history. Can you feel the breezy chills? Can you see those rotten fallen leaves right next to you? Our bodies are almost fully dry after the entering of Autumn and the arid keeps exploring into the deepest parts of our skins. When the night comes, the wind can almost blow us away like little dolls. With the brilliant light of the moon glimmering

on the surfaces of our bodies it shows a kind of rustiness, like those aged history text books that were buried under the base of the library. Winter is a ballerina with a cold-hearted heart and a passion to freeze and stop everything so it can dance freely receiving no judgments from mankind. We all have to learn again how it feels like to be still because water is coming back onto our bodies but quickly it is transforming into dangerous ice shells all over us. The only source keeping us all alive is that little thing constantly pumping in all of us, with the unwavering strength and passion of being alive.

Now, the walking ones continue, the working ones continue on with their work, and the living ones keep living their lives. We have finished our short little stop and nothing else has seemed to stop with us. But we have made something called history.

Even though we have stopped, time doesn't stop with us. The earth still spins, people still age, and the seasons still change. History is dependent on what happens as time continues pass, and regardless of if it's us doing it or not, things still do occur. The human race isn't quite so significant such that something as unstoppable and indestructible as time will be forced to stop along with us. Even if we don't move, our surroundings do, and that's all that matters in order for change to occur, and in turn — history.

SILENCE IS GOLDEN...OR SO THEY TELL ME.

By BEN CERCEA
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Another year, another person who has to write this. This year, for some strange reason, they decided to pick me. Who is they? The government of course! Well, time to start. Beware children, this was not intended for those who aren't good at critical thinking...

The new Pakistani Taliban chief, Hakimullah Mehsu, let reporters interview him. Within this interview, he decided to crack some wise jokes about vengeance. A day later, a suicide bomber attacked a U.N office in Islamabad. Coincidence?

I love msn.com. If you are ever bored, just go on it. Stories of epic fails, money issues, and just plain strange stuff are on it, like this story. Two vampires just got married. A bride and groom decided that for their wedding they will dress up like Halloween creatures and say those lucky words, "I do."

New research says that children born in richer places will end up living to the age of 100. They however, did not say that they will probably be obese, sugar addicted, old people who will be living on air respirators.

Why did Wal-Mart get rid of their smiley faces? Was it because they scared away the shoppers?

Do you have the new Google Earth? If you don't you should download it as soon as you finish reading this....why? IT WILL TELL YOU EVERYTHING ABOUT GLOBAL WARMING!

Transformers 3 will come out in 2011. Maybe Megan Fox will learn how to act by then...I know, I just lost half of my audience...owell...

Where is Former President Bush? I miss him. Maybe he is in Alaska duck hunting with Dick Cheney. Why Alaska? Well, he can see Russia from there duh!

Did you know that the Octuplet mom has a RSS feed? What will she say on that? I had to change 36 diapers today? 8 children just threw up on me while I was burping them? Nope, she is talking about going to college...is she going to take all of her kids with her? That will be very interesting. "Sorry professor, I need to change my babies diapers'..."

By the way, the most cyber-bullied kid is coming to the O.C. Isn't it ironic that he is being posted on the web for coming here? Wouldn't that make you want to bully him more? Now, I am not telling you to bully him, he is a nice guy, but broadcasting it on the internet is kind of ironic, he was bullied on the internet wasn't he?