

# Paw Prints

December Edition- 2021

**Psychology Behind  
Being Festive!**

Should School Lunch  
Be Customizable  
with the Cost?

**2021 Rewind!**

Olivia Rodrigo, Shang-Chi,  
Y2K, and more!

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Administration

Mr. Ian Murray- Principal

Mrs. Irene Gonzalez- 8

Ms. Karen Birke- 7

# The Psychology Behind Being Festive

Layout and Design Sanya Ahmed, Writing Arianna Combs  
Interviews Arianna Combs and Layla Rojas

Most people feel happiness during the holidays, whether it is because of your friends, family, food, music or even dancing. You can celebrate whatever you desire. People feel this joy because it gives off a warm and comforting feeling even though it could literally be snowing outside. That comfort that you feel spreads around your body and to others. The month of December has a different level of happiness. The decorations are beautiful, and spending time with the fam while decorating your house can build so many memories and a different spirit will start to take over. Even stores deck the walls and that affects children in ways you wouldn't think of. He or she can walk in and just feel the difference. They say with awe, "Wow mommy, I love this time of year, these decorations just make it so much better!" Scientists have shown that colorful lights make the brain excited or happier.

The excitement that the holidays bring you can even lead to some baking going on around your household. Some families love watching those Christmas baking competitions. So what's stopping people from hosting it in their own homes? This leads to the start of new traditions, these new activities bring people joy. Going along with the baking, I know turning on your favorite holiday jam and dancing while baking is unparalleled. With so many fun things going on, how could someone deny the fact that they get that burst of excitement? Studies suggest that being creative can help you feel relaxed, happier, and enthusiastic about life, and in the "most wonderful time of the year", there's no reason to be a grinch!

Try to imagine being outside by a nice cozy firepit roasting gooey marshmallows with some friends. The holidays reunite us, bringing friends from around the globe home for an amazing get together. These types of things may only happen once a year, which makes it even more special. Hanging out with friends is always a blast and the hormones that your brain releases when you hug, called oxytocin, is scientifically proven to make you happy. Now that you know that, you may never want to let go! This means that not just you will feel happy, but all your friends that get to see you again will feel happy too!



Some parents enjoy helping their children write a letter to Santa.

Photo credit Shutterstock

# The Psychology Behind Being Festive

Layout and Design Sanya Ahmed, Writing Arianna Combs  
Interviews Arianna Combs and Layla Rojas

You cannot forget about opening, and giving, the presents! Kids and adults receive presents during the holidays, whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukah, or Kwanzaa you still exchange gifts. It is not only the gifts that are beautifully wrapped in shiny wrapping paper, but that feeling that you get ripping the paper off or seeing relatives open something they had been wishing for all year. You may not receive gifts this way, you may get gifts in other ways. This could include eating your favorite homemade apple pie that only your grandma makes perfectly. Or reading a beautiful poem that your sister wrote just for you.

Evidence of Christmas cheer inside the brain was found during a study at the University of Denmark in 2015. Twenty people were shown images with either a Christmas or non-Christmas theme. They were having their brain monitored in a magnetic imaging machine. The machine shows parts of the brain when there is an increase or decrease in activity in that area. When there was an increase in activity for this study, that area lit up like what some may call a Christmas tree!

Some people get a positive mood change when they start to feel the weather getting colder, especially us Floridians. Isabella Felder personally is a real fan of this feeling. "I love waking up in the morning to go to school when its dark out and walking out with my robe and slippers on to a nice chilly morning with a hot cocoa in my hand," she delighted. This does not last all the way until summer, so taking advantage of it while it is here just makes it so much better. Some people also love the outfits that come with chilly weather, layering it is just their type of vibe. If your inner fashionista comes out, obviously the cold weather is a total hit.

Photo credit Photography Aryanna Journal



Two friends go ice skating together during winter break.

*However you celebrate this holiday season, we wish you all of the joy and festivity there is to offer! Happy Holidays from the Journalism Crew!*

# What's Trending?

By: Addison Brawner, Arianna Vassell, Julia Savin, Mishary Hossain, and Rin Lattanzio

## Lets Rewind On 2021!

2021 has been a roller coaster of emotions that has come with so many twists and turns, but so many amazing trends have come along the way. Let's take a look at some of the most popular 2021 trends.

### The Big Screen

Many movies have come out of 2021. Two of the most popular ones were Cruella and Shang-Chi: Legend of the Ten Rings.

Cruella was a prequel to 101 Dalmatians that explains Cruella De Vil's back story. The movie was released in theaters on May 28th, 2021. Its the third most watched movie on Disney+ right now and has sold 9,399,916 tickets. Lily Reid, a 7th grader, commented that she liked Cruella because it rewrote Cruella's character and gave her a redemption arc. Lily also said, "The costumes were beautiful, and they really brought out Cruella." Emma Fithian, a 6th grader, was of differing opinion. She believes that the movie was overrated, and that the movie changed what people thought about Cruella, but that people preferred the old version.

Shang-Chi: Legend of the Ten Rings is another hit movie of 2021. As explained by IMDb, "Shang-Chi, the master of weaponry-based Kung Fu, is forced to confront his past after being drawn into the Ten Rings organization." It was a smash hit, and became the highest grossing domestic release of 2021. Noah Randall, a 7th grader, thought the movie was awesome. He commented, "The fights were cool and the special effects were good."



Cruella De Vil was rethought spectacularly by Disney. Photo credits: Disney.



Shang-Chi is the holder of the Ten Rings. Photo Credits: Jasin Boland/ Marvel Studios

# What's Trending?

## Lights, Camera, Fashion

Y2K fashion is back! The popular 2000's trend has made a reappearance in 2021. The style ranges from baggy jeans and graphic tees to colorful sunglasses. 7th grader Gabriella Torres said that she thinks the "Y2K trends are really cool" and she, "personally loves all the clothes." Torres believes that "Everyone's style is different, so some like it more than the rest." Y2K fashion was revived by Gen Z on social media, who was nostalgic for the fashion they weren't able to experience.



Y2K fashion is making a comeback. Photo credits: Dope Fashion Sense

## Pass the Mic

Even though 2021 was all over the place, many hit songs have been released. Two popular songs were "Drivers License" by Olivia Rodrigo, and "Stay" by The Kid Laroi and Justin Bieber.

"Drivers License" is a song about heartbreak by Olivia Rodrigo that was a smash hit. It spent eight consecutive weeks at #1 on the Billboard Top 100 and broke many records. 7th grader Lilah Howard said that, "'Drivers License' got really popular, and it should have because it's a really good song lyrically and emotionally."

"Stay" by Justin Bieber and The Kid Laroï was another smash hit and went viral on TikTok. 7th grader Ebby Perez said that she enjoyed the chorus and the end especially, even though it wasn't really in their genre.



Olivia Rodrigo is a rising star in music. Photo credit: Erica Hernandez



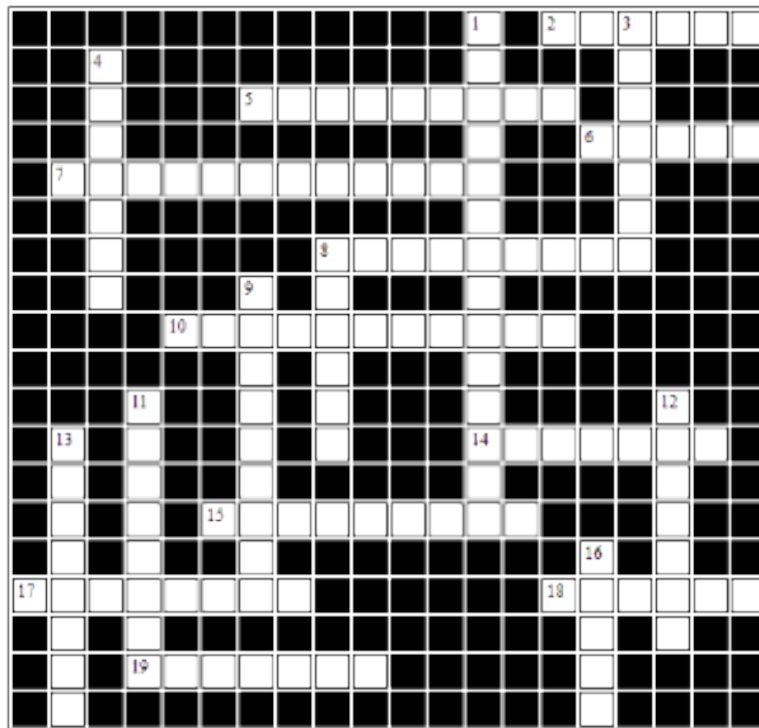
"Stay" by Justin Bieber and Kid Laroï became TikTok famous. Photo Credits: Stay Music Video

# Puzzles and Games

By Anna Acosta, Keven Cabrera, Kaylie Gonzalez, Isabella Pardo, Kyra Vaccato

## Winter Crossword!

DIRECTIONS: As you read the clues, try to think what winter themed word corresponds to the clue. Have fun!



### Across

2. a sensation that occurs when you get cold
5. tree decorations
6. clothing item that goes around your neck when its cold
7. a hot drink made with milk or water and chocolate or powdered chocolate.
8. perfect for fight in the winter where it snows
10. a period of vacation between semesters
14. gloves for winter
15. striped candy that is shaped like a walking stick
17. the last month of the year
18. flower arrangement in a ring used for holiday
19. the red nosed reindeer

### Down

1. what you attach gum drop buttons too
3. a hanging, tapering piece of ice formed by the freezing of dripping water
4. a candelabrum used in Jewish worship, especially one with eight branches
8. a sled drawn by horses or reindeer, especially one used for passengers.
9. a feathery ice crystal
11. the animal that pulls Santa's sleigh
12. something that you could make during the holiday out of snow
13. an item given to someone without the expectation of payment or anything in return.
16. small white ice crystals formed when temperature drops below freezing

# Puzzles and Games

By Anna Acosta, Keven Cabrera, Kaylie Gonzalez, Isabella Pardo, Kyra Vaccato

## Finish The Lyrics!

DIRECTIONS: Fill in the blanks of these common holiday songs!

1. Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_
2. Oh, the weather outside is \_\_\_\_\_, but the fire is so \_\_\_\_\_ and since we've got no place to go, Let it \_\_\_\_\_, Let it \_\_\_\_\_, Let it \_\_\_\_\_!
3. \_\_\_\_\_ the Red-Nosed \_\_\_\_\_ had a very \_\_\_\_\_ nose and if you ever saw it, you could even say it \_\_\_\_\_
4. Oh \_\_\_\_\_, Oh \_\_\_\_\_, come light the \_\_\_\_\_
5. Frosty the \_\_\_\_\_ was a \_\_\_\_\_, happy soul. With a corn cob pipe and a \_\_\_\_\_ and two eyes made of \_\_\_\_\_
6. Sleigh Bells ring, are you \_\_\_\_\_? In the lane, snow is \_\_\_\_\_. A \_\_\_\_\_ sight.... We're \_\_\_\_\_ tonight, Walking in a \_\_\_\_\_ Wonderland
7. You better \_\_\_\_\_ out, You better not \_\_\_\_\_, You better not pout, I'm telling you why... Santa Clause is coming to \_\_\_\_\_!

## Mad Libs

DIRECTIONS: Fill in the blanks with the part of speech that fits the context.

Then, enjoy reading your adventures as a gingerbread man!

You pop out of the oven. In the bright light, you see [person]. "Are you ready to open the gifts!?" They scream. You are startled and begin to run. You jump over a [noun] and dash to the door. "Wait, come back!" they yell. But you do not listen. You find yourself in the middle of [place]. After running so much, you are exhausted. You lie down next to a [noun] and close your eyes. When you wake up, you are surprised by a [animal] in the distance. The [animal] begins to run away. "Hey wait up!" you say. When you finally catch up, you realize you've made it to the North Pole! As you explore, you come across a small village. The village is decorated with [plural noun] everywhere. As you walk into the village, the smell of [nouns] fills the air. Elves run around carrying presents and wrapping paper into small buildings. In the middle of it all, a big beautiful Christmas tree shines like you've never seen before. As you admire the tree, somebody taps on your back. You turn around to find Santa! He hands you a present. "Thank you!" You yell with excitement. You open the present to find a [noun]. Before you can respond to this [adjective] gift, you suddenly wake up to realize it was all just a dream!

# Indian Ridge Middle School Sports



## The 5 Benefits of Being a Student Athlete

By Amiyah Blandon, Morgan O'Steen, Rolando Tomasini, and Lylah Fine



45 million kids are involved in organized sports in the United States according to the Open Access Journalism of Sports Medicine. These numbers have decreased since 2008. This is awful because sports can have a lot of benefits. Five of which are: it can lead to better academics, improve physical health, build life skills, improve mental state, and can be therapeutic to people with physical disabilities.

According to First Tee, playing sports can lengthen a person's attention span. This leads to better academics and possibly a scholarship in the future. A study done by the University of Rochester shows that exercise increases blood flow to the brain and increases concentration. Kylie Tirado, seventh grader, explained, "It [Playing a sport] helps with time management." By balancing your sports life and school life, you learn the importance of managing your time to make sure everything gets done right. As some studies show, most students who participate in a sport have better grades and graduate at a higher rate.

Jonah Pertnoy, a 7th grader, agreed, telling us "[Sports] help my physical health," backing up a study by Eastwood College that says sports increase stamina by strengthening bones and muscles.) Another 7th grader, Danny T., who plays basketball, stated that sports have allowed him to have a healthier body. He also stated that sports have allowed him to focus instead of fidgeting. Regularly playing sports can prevent chronic diseases, develop a healthy heart, and strong bones. Aside from keeping you healthy, sports can also increase certain skills.

Eastwood College claims that sports can enhance leadership skills, improve capacity for goal setting, and build character. Both Jonah Pertnoy and Kylie Tirado testified that sports can help you make friends and build self confidence. Jonah agrees that sports have helped with his self confidence because, "I can go outside and know that I'm going to do well." Students who play sports learn to be loving and peaceful citizens by working with their teammates. Sports also help people deal with the ups and downs of life more peacefully, and have a more positive outlook.



# Indian Ridge Middle School Sports

In an article by Ohio University, they claim that sports have many positive impacts on children, and can be extremely helpful to kids with anxiety. By reducing anxiety and self consciousness, kids gain an increase in emotional control and a positive mood. They also claim that being involved in any team activity such as boxing or chess can provide an exit for negative emotions and reduce the chance of students pushing their negative emotions on to someone else.

The United Nations say that physically disabled people often face social barriers and sports can break that barrier by showing that they can do as much as everyone else can. Sports also help show them what skills they have even if they have a disability. Everyone can see that differently abled people are still participating in the same activities as everyone else. They can understand their full potential and increase the likeliness for a change in society.



The volleyball team at practice!  
Photo credit: Mr. White

## Cheerleading

Indian Ridge’s cheerleading team consists of twenty girls, and they practice after school everyday for two hours in the yoga room. During a practice, the girls work on learning their different cheers, stunting, and tumbling. Many people believe that cheer isn’t a sport, which is one of the reasons why it was only recently added into the Olympics. 7th grader, Lucy Livengood, has been on the cheer team for two years. Lucy said that she thought it took so long because, “there is a lot a dancing, which can cause people to be blind about it being a sport.” In contribution to her team, Lucy’s role is to tumble and jump. The cheer team works so hard everyday and should definitely be recognized more often.



Indian Ridge Middle’s cheerleading team at a game!  
Photo Credit: Instagram

# Clubs at the Ridge

BY: KENNEDY ELSTEIN, KENDRA SPITALERI, DARASAN BISPHAM, ANGELINA MAURO

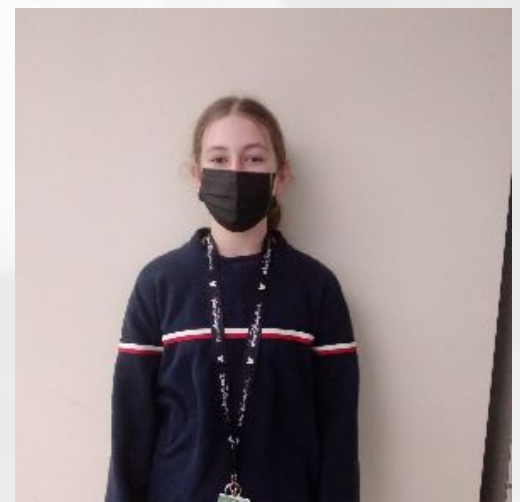
## Hungry For Harvest Drive!

Here at the Ridge we do a yearly food drive for those in need. Cate Andrews is in 8th grade and was one of the top donators. Many people who donated had various reasons for doing so. “I donated because I knew that it would contribute to the club NJHS and because of the ice cream party reward.” The party was probably a major help for the donations. To get points, students had to donate various food items. Cate donated items such as macaroni and cheese, tuna, PB&J, pasta, and many of the double points food they asked for. PTO and NJHS co-sponsor this even every year at IRMS, and have done so for many years. “This event contributed to a great cause for people in need.” Unfortunately, the IRMS Harvest Drive has ended, but many students donated to those in need and what really matters. This great event will be back and running next year!



Cate is beyond excited to share an ice cream party with her class!  
Photo Credit: Angelina Mauro

Lylah Fine is a 7th grader in Mr. Haase’s class. Her class was one of the major contributors to the Harvest Drive this year at IRMS. Lylah’s class was motivated to donate because she knew the food was going to a good cause--people in need. She pitched in by donating ten peanut butter and jelly jars! Her whole class was also motivated by Mr. Haase because he is a good leader, and he encouraged his class to donate. Since Lylah’s class got the most points at a whopping 349, her class will be having an ice cream party! Lylah is satisfied with how much her class donated, however she thinks the school could have donated a bit more to help. Thanks to Mr. Haase’s class, and IRMS, those who are in need of food can have full stomachs!



Lylah enjoyed giving this Thanksgiving for the Harvest Drive!  
Photo Credit: Angelina Mauro

# Clubs at the Ridge

BY: KENNEDY ELSTEIN, KENDRA SPITALERI, DARASAN BISPHAM, ANGELINA MAURO

## Up for Debate?!

In the IRMS Debate Club, a well known club member is Finnley Mcallister, because he is a very motivated speaker. Finnley first started to get into debate in 3rd grade when his sister went into a Debate Club at IRMS, ever since then he has only been getting better. Debate competes in many tournaments, with that there are also different forms of debate. “Before COVID, I used to do congressional debate, but I want to start getting into original oratory.” Finnley has been to many tournaments and has a good streak of placing top three. “Everyone has the ability to become a speaker because everyone has the ability to speak.” Finnley is just one example of a very dedicated speaker at the Ridge!



Finnley Mcallister is a motivated IRMS debate speaker.

Photo Credit: Angelina Mauro

## Terrific Toys

Here at Indian Ridge, peer counseling has hosted a toy drive event managed by Ms. G, as an opportunity to donate to kids without toys this holiday. Evan Christopher, an eighth grade peer counselor, has given a recap of how this years toy drive went. Many kids are in need this holiday, this is why peer counseling decided to step in to give a little hope of joy to children. He believes that helping others is always the right thing to do. The age group of toys being donated range from 1-18, but teens receive things appropriate for their age. However, Legos and Barbies are mostly donated for the younger age group. The goal of the toy drive is to help as many children this year as possible. The real reason is to put as many happy smiles on children’s faces as possible, and continue the gift of giving this holiday.



Evan is happy to put his smile on other kids’ faces after the Toy Drive!

Photo Credit: Angelina Mauro

# Jaguar on the Spot

By: Kheira Marouf, Akshay Bhardwaj, Sophia Sierra and Gabriella Larson

This month a bunch of our Jaguars were asked how they felt about the School Board's decision to make masks optional.

**Do you agree with the School Board's decision on making masks optional?**

The Broward County Public Schools' School Board recently made the decision to make masks optional, not mandatory, in all schools.

**57%**

**Yes**

**No**

**43%**

**Mask up!**



Photo credit Kheira Marouf  
Adrianna disagrees with the mandate and believes it is safer to wear a mask.

Adrianna Ramirez is a 7th grade student that feels strongly about masks. “No, I don’t agree. I think it should be mandatory because its the school’s job to look out for the whole community’s safety, not just specific people,” stated Adrianna. “A pro of wearing a mask is the safety and protection you have from getting sick and sometimes middle school students prefer to have it on because it makes them feel more comfortable if they are insecure.” Adrianna explained. “It doesn’t make me feel uncomfortable to see others without masks but I do prefer wearing a mask whether it’s at school or any other public place.” Overall, Adrianna didn’t agree with the School Board’s decision on making masks optional. For the well-being of the whole community, she thinks wearing masks is safer.

# Jaguar on the Spot

By: Kheira Marouf, Akshay Bhardwaj, Sophia Sierra and Gabriella Larson



Photo credit Mason Forges  
Mason agrees that masks should be optional so everyone can make their own personal decision.

## I do!

Mason Forges is a 7th grade student that attends Indian Ridge Middle School. He stated, “Yes, I agree with the School Board making masks optional because not all students enjoy the idea of wearing masks.” Mason does prefer wearing masks in public to stay safe but likes that it’s optional so other people have the choice to wear it or not. “A pro of wearing a mask though,” Mason said, “is it keeps everyone safe and it dims down the risk of getting COVID-19.” So, Mason does prefer to wear a mask, but likes that people can make their own decision.

## Not me!

Nigel Burnett is a 7th grader at the Ridge who disagrees with the mandate. “It is not a wise choice because studies show that if you wear a mask, you are more protected,” argued Nigel. He doesn’t agree with the mandate and thinks it’s not smart in the long run. “Yes, I always wear a mask in public places because it keeps me safe and healthy,” added Nigel. To keep himself and his family protected, Nigel stayed virtual last year during the middle of the pandemic. To sum it up, Nigel prefers to wear a mask and thinks it would be safer if everyone did.

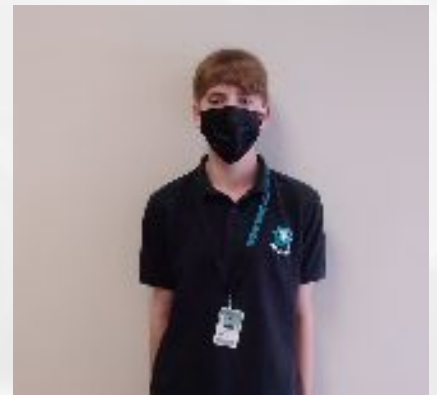


Photo credit Akshay Bhardwaj  
Nigel prefers to wear a mask for his health and safety.



Photo credit Kheira Marouf  
Saige believes we should be able to breathe comfortably and have the option of not wearing a mask.

## Let us breathe!

Saige Beauregard is a 6th grader at Indian Ridge that agrees masks should be optional. “Yes, I agree with the School Board’s decision,” she stated. “When you’re wearing a mask it’s hard to breathe,” added Saige. Saige does agree masks could be beneficial, but she prefers to not wear one herself. She doesn’t wear one in everyday places, but it doesn’t make her feel uncomfortable if others choose to.

# EDITORIALS

By: Hayden Anton, Victoria De Leon Regil, Kelley Wyatt, Lily Shuman, Enrique Leyva

Many people have different opinions when it comes to school lunch. Some people prefer to bring their lunch instead, others say it's healthy and is good. What do we think?

Although school lunch is not the students go-to option, it is healthy for students, and makes it possible for students that can not afford lunch to still eat. The county has been thoughtful enough to make school lunch free for students and staff. Due to the

## For the last time, NO!

**Should School Lunch be customizable with the cost?**

COVID-19 pandemic some parents have lost their jobs making it hard to provide funds for meals. Kids like this may never be able to eat and school lunch might be their only meal of the day. When schools closed up two years ago the federal government provided funding to offer school meals in effort to reach children. School lunch has a very good meal system allowing each kid a drink, main meal, and fruit or veggie. There is all ready a option to buy extra snacks if needed like pop tarts, chips, etc.... You can even buy ice cream on every Wednesday of the week. School lunch is critical to student health and well-being, especially for low-income students, and ensures that students have nutrition they need throughout the day to learn. Research shows that receiving free or reduced-price school lunches reduces food insecurity, obesity rates, and poor health. Eating lunch raises your blood sugar level in the middle of the day, which gives you the energy you need to get to 4:00. It also enables you to focus and concentrate on the rest of the afternoon. If this is not happening, kids could get really sick. All students are encouraged to power up to learn with nutritious school meals!


**Photo credit Hayden Anton**  
This is a lunch being served on the daily. As the image shows there is one main meal, a fruit or veggie in this case fruit, and a drink.



# EDITORIALS

\*\*\*Editorials reflect the opinions of the writers and those interviewed, not the opinions of the Journalism staff or IRMS as an entity.\*\*\*

By: Hayden Anton, Victoria De Leon Regil, Kelley Wyatt, Lily Shuman, Enrique Leyva



Yes, say less!

Should School Lunch be  
customizable with the cost?

Photo Credit Jackson Jesse A cafeteria like this is where students eat everyday.

I think school lunch should be customizable with a cost because some kids might have allergies or may not like the food being served that day. Food would be much healthier and appetizing for the students at school if lunch were customizable. For example, there could be a salad bar or a sandwich stand. This might help students in choosing food and even reduce the amount of waste. This can help students make healthier choices and not eat as much junk food. This would mean having more options. Daniel Noah, a 7th grade student at Indian Ridge Middle School believes school lunch should be more customizable, but with a cost. When asked about his opinion of school lunch, he said, "On a rare occasion the pizza tastes decent." Daniel Noah started. "Some of the food is inedible [for me], and if I could get different food for an extra dollar or two, that would be splendid." The limited selection also poses a problem for his religion. Daniel must have Kosher food because he is Jewish. This means no pork, shellfish, dairy, and other meats. So on the days when cheeseburger is the main meal, he is forced to take the snack box which is not a filling enough for him. He says that, "If more options were represented, then I would be much more open to school lunch." This could also help students open up to more food they might have never known they liked. Having something to enjoy eating could create a more energized and satisfied student population.

# What Are the Northern Lights?

By Matthew Wheeler, Nikolai Williams, Rose David-Adelee, and Samantha Almonte

## *What Did People Think They Were?*

Different countries and cultures had different ideas of what they thought the Northern Lights were. The Romans believed the Northern Lights was their Goddess of the dawn, Aurora. This means that whenever they would spot the Aurora Borealis they would believe their goddess is speaking to them or sending them a message. The Greeks believed and worshipped a sun god (Helios). They thought that Aurora Borealis was the sister of this god. They believed the god would fly through the sky at dawn to tell her brothers and sisters a new day has arrived. In China, they believed the Aurora Borealis was a cosmic light show due to a battle in the sky between fire-breathing dragons. These dragons are Benevolent and Malevolent. The Japanese thought that if a baby is born under the Aurora Borealis the baby will be attractive, smart, and have good luck. As you may see, all of these cultures have been affected by Northern Lights. These lights seem to impact a lot of people.



Photo Credit: Stein Egil Liland  
Northern lights near a mountain side.

## *What Are They and How Are They Formed?*

The Northern Lights are a display of colorful lights in the sky. These lights are located in the northern hemisphere. They also go by their scientific name Aurora Borealis. The Aurora Borealis begins by activity in the sun that shoots out gas clouds. These clouds are made of plasma. After about 2 to 3 days, these ejections will reach Earth. When the gas clouds collide with Earth's magnetic field, lights are shown in the sky.

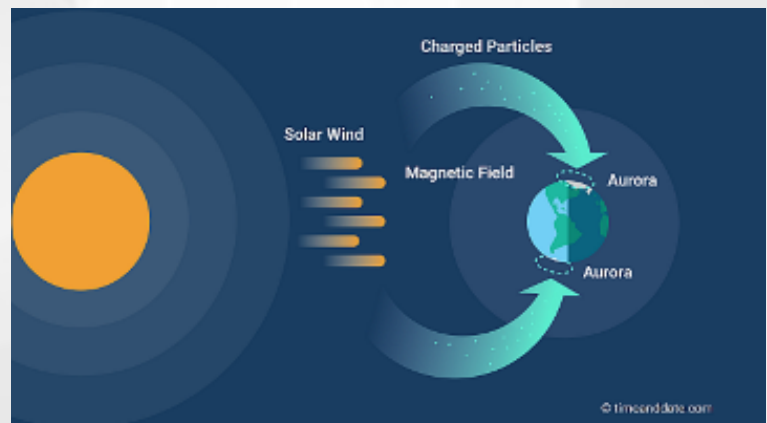


Photo Credit: Timeanddate.com  
Solar wind causes the northern lights.



# Questions

- Question 1: What mood do the Northern Lights bring you?
- Question 2: How do you think the Northern Lights can help us?
- Question 3: What did some people think the Northern Lights were?
- Question 4: What causes the Northern Lights?
- Question 5: How long does it take for solar winds to reach Earth?

# Interviews

## Lily Reid

Lily Reid has never been able to go see the Northern Lights. She has learned what the lights are from her parents and relatives. She thinks that the lights have a positive impact on the Earth, because a lot of people travel to see the magnificent bright display, but she believes it will affect the people living nearby. If she were to actually go see the Northern Lights, she would feel bubbly and joyful. According to sources online, they say that the best place to go see the Northern Lights is in Alaska. Lily thought that a good location to see it is Alaska because it's cold from her experience. She thinks that the Northern lights are green because of the sun. Although she has never been to watch it, she intends to go in the future.

## Amalia Berta and Daniella Giraldo

Amalia Berta and Daniella Giraldo are 7th graders at Indian Ridge. Amalia learned about the Northern Lights in school, while Daniella heard about it in the very well-known movie Polar Express. They both would like to see the Northern Lights. Amalia that the northern parts of America would be the best place to see the lights because it is cold. Both Daniella and Amalia think that the lights are mostly green, and blue is because of the short waves. "It is good to see the lights in the northern part of America because it is mostly cold and dark so they would appear better.", Daniella says. Amalia and Daniella would enjoy going together.



Lily Reid, 7th grade student, explains what she thinks about the Northern Lights.

Photo Credit:  
Samantha Almonte



Amelia Berta and Daniella Gialdo, 7th grade students, give their views on the Northern Lights.

Photo Credit: Rose  
David-Adelee

# Upcoming Events:

January 9th- **Miami Dolphins vs. New England Patriots**  
@ **Hard Rock Stadium, 1:00pm**

January 9th- **Early Release Day**

January 10th- **No School- Teacher Planning Day**

January 14-30- **South Florida Fair, West Palm Beach**

January 17th- **No School- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

January 19th- **Miami Heat vs. Portland Trail Blazers**  
@ **FTX Arena, 4:30 PM**



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