

A Forever Remembered Day

By Sophie Bright

Editorial Page Editor

“It is now my great honor to introduce the President Elect of the United States of America, Joe Biden,” announced newly appointed Vice President Kamala Harris as she was giving her victory speech.

November 3rd marked the start of a very important week in US history. It was the beginning of elections for President Donald Trump and Vice President Mike Pence, and Former Vice President Joe Biden and his running mate senator Kamala Harris.

Every year, most US citizens go to an election polling pop up on November 3rd to vote for their President Elect. This year however, the election results were not final on election day due to the amount of mail in ballots that had not been received from Covid-19 regulations. Most people mailed in their ballot to avoid crowds, causing it to take two to three days for all of the ballots to be mailed in and accounted for.

The election results were close for days with 270 electoral college votes needed to win, Biden was leading at around 250 electoral votes. Trump stood at around 230 votes when finally on November 7th, the election was called and the results showed that Pennsylvania had received most of their mail in ballots and decided the election with Joe Biden being the next president elect of the United States.



PHOTO COURTESY OF @MICAHPLAYER ON INSTAGRAM

This is a drawing of President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris that was drawn shortly after election results were announced

“We did it Joe. You're going to be the next president of the United States,”-Kamala Harris a line that will forever go down in history.

On November 7th, it was the first time in history there was an enormous celebration that took place all day. The news interviewed many pedestrians celebrating in the streets. There were people honking horns and yelling down the streets of many big cities around the world.

Joe Biden addressed the public and gave his [victory speech](#) in Wilmington, Delaware on November 7th at 8:38 PM ET. In his speech he addressed the matters of Covid-19 and what he would do to solve this global issue faster. Those movements will not take place however until the Inauguration takes place on January 28th of 2021.

“It's time to put away the harsh rhetoric, lower the temperature, see each other again, listen to each other again.” Biden said. He wants to provide a growing and healthy community and get all the global issues under control, starting with Covid-19. “This is the time to heal in America.”

This was the first time in US history where people were to not crowd and gather to watch the victory speech take place but to socially distance, wear masks, or even just stay seated in their cars. During his speech you could hear the excitement in everyone's voices as they scream and cheer, and you can hear the cars honking their horns in celebration.

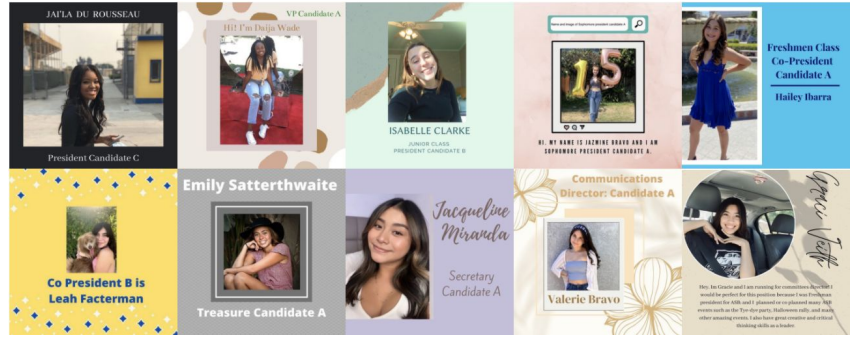
President Trump however was not pleased at all with the outcome of the election. Only a few short minutes after the results had been announced, he tweeted “I WON THIS ELECTION, BY A LOT!” and overall just seems to be in denial according to other tweets that have been posted over the course of the month. Most of which include “If Biden was president then...” and “I won the election...” Trump also called for a recount in states like Georgia in Pennsylvania. He still believes that once all of the mail in ballots have been received that he will come out on top.

President-Elect Joe Biden and Vice President-Elect Kamala Harris made history as she would be the first woman of color to be elected into the White House. Biden has issued that the following day after the inauguration there will be a stay at home order or a more secure or strict rule put in place on Covid-19 management but specific details were not provided.

We can hope that the state of the world will only get better in time to come.

2020 ASB Elections
 By Paris Blanco
Co-Editor-in-Chief

ASB has announced their 2020-2021 election winners. The [positions](#) up for running included President, Vice President, Junior Class President, Sophomore Class President, Freshman Class President, Treasurer, Secretary, Communications Director, and Committees Chairperson.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF @RAMHIASB ON INSTAGRAM
Pictured above are all of the elects for each ASB positions.

After a count of all the online votes, the results are as follows: Jai’La Du Rousseau for President, Daija Wade for Vice President, Isabelle Clarke for Junior Class President, Jazmine Bravo for Sophomore Class President, Leah Facterman and Hailey Ibarra for Freshman Class Presidents, Emily Satterthwaite for Treasurer, Jacqueline Miranda for Secretary, Valerie Bravo for Communications Director, and Gracie Veith for Committees Chairperson.

“As Vice President, I honestly just want to make our school smile. Times are hard right now and are probably going to continue in this trend for a while longer,” says Vice President elect and COMPASS senior Daija Wade.

President elect and QUEST senior Jai’La Du Rousseau states, “I am excited to have this opportunity and I’m, so grateful that the student body chose me to be representative of the student population. My ultimate goal is to take into consideration the concerns of each student.”

The Curious Case of Zoom Cameras
By Isabella Talavera
Copy Editor

This year, all of our classrooms look different: each and every person at school is using Zoom, something we know all too well how to use now and didn't think twice about last year. At Millikan, we have [Zoom Norms](#) given to us by administration. Naturally, our mics are muted unless we want to talk, but cameras are a different story.

I think we should enforce cameras on. Like the teachers, I find it incredibly awkward talking to black rectangles with only names on them. I can't ask for help or even talk because I don't know the faces behind those names. I perfectly understand why people are uncomfortable or unable to turn on their cameras, but this already blank virtual classroom feels even emptier when there are no faces. It's especially important that we maintain our relationships during quarantine because we shouldn't lose those already existing and new relationships. When we hopefully return next semester, it's still going to be awkward because we didn't get to know each other over Zoom. It's great that we even have platforms to use for this current school year, and so we should use them to the fullest.

Lots of teachers tell their students to have their cameras on so that they can continue teaching to actual people and faces. Other teachers tell their students to have their cameras on so that they can take roll and acknowledge their students' presence, while others might want their cameras off so students aren't distracted. In doing so, they can ensure that their students are watching and paying attention, and they won't have to teach to black rectangles the whole time or deal with distractions. Of course, some teachers do understand the difficulties of Zoom and understand camera preferences.

"For us teachers it is soooooo soooooo hard to teach to black rectangles! We have no idea if you understand us, if we need to repeat or re-explain.. I did not enter this career to be a YouTuber!" explains PEACE teacher Andrea Glenn. "I know so many students' computers get laggy with cameras on, that sucks and is not fair.. so I get it."

For students, there are multiple reasons as to why they don't want to turn on their cameras. Sometimes their connections are poor and their computers can't support their cameras,

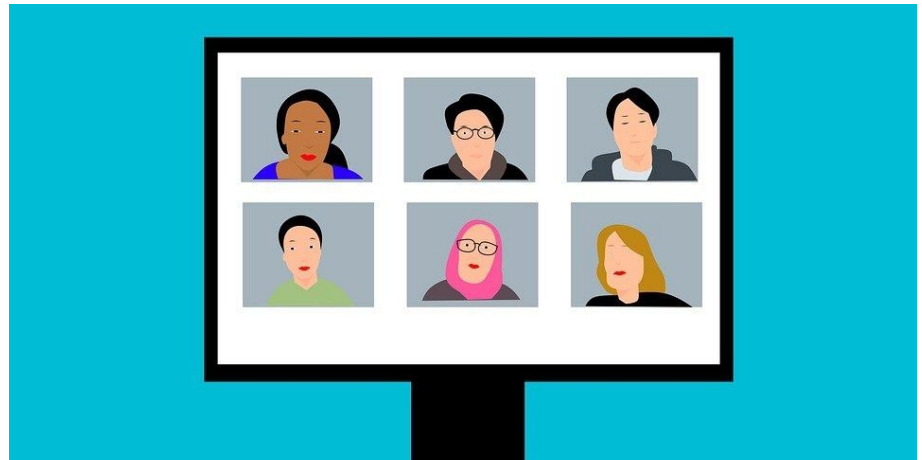


PHOTO COURTESY OF MOHAMED HASSAN FROM PIXABAY

Depending on the size of classes, more or less cameras will be turned on, either revealing attentive students or several black rectangles to talk to throughout the day.

and they'll freeze up as a result. Other times, students get self-conscious and don't like looking at themselves, or they're not feeling well in general. They can do other activities while their cameras are off, or they may have other people in the room with them.

"I definitely prefer camera off, and I know that the majority of students agree with me as well. With the camera on, we feel so much more pressure to look our best even though we're at home and we shouldn't have to worry about it," says COMPASS junior Elyana Lopez. "Teachers definitely have other ways of checking if we're there and engaged, by asking questions and telling students to answer verbally or in the chat, and most students do reply to those requests. Having a camera on causes a lot of anxiety that is simply unnecessary."

A good compromise that some classes use for cameras is turning them on during attendance or specific activities and lectures, then turning them off during independent work so students don't feel like they're constantly being watched. Yes, it's good to see other people's faces so you aren't talking to emptiness, but it's important to take in both the feelings of both teachers and students when it comes to cameras due to teaching and learning in the middle of a pandemic. The important thing is that everyone is in attendance, and that regardless if their cameras are on, hopefully learning and teaching move on.

Sign Language Club Now Handy Over Zoom

By Paris Blanco

Co-Editor-in-Chief

Created last school year, the Sign Language Club continues during online learning. Founder and President, PEACE sophomore, Crystal Duncan, started this club last year after coming from a middle school with students who are hard of hearing.

“My friends and I all began learning sign language to communicate [with the students who are hard of hearing] and decided it was a good idea to bring to high school,” states Duncan.

As for content, Sign Language Club spends time learning sign language and about [deaf culture](#). Much of this is done through movies and videos that are about people who are hard of hearing as well as sign language. Although all of the founders of the club have the ability to hear, they have learned from a teacher who is deaf and only shares what they know.

Duncan also says, “I believe sign language is an important topic to learn about because hearing people learning it will bridge the barrier between the deaf and hearing community.”

With Sign Language being offered at Millikan as a club, many wonder why it hasn't been converted into a class.

QUEST Junior Lindsey Yates shares, “This is probably because of able-ist thinking reducing sign language to less than an actual language. Or, Millikan just didn't want to add it as a language course option for budget reasons. I would love an ASL class at Millikan where we could learn it better and faster than in a club.”

Though, QUEST counselor Ms. Barragan explains that it is due to a lack of teachers and funding because “most language teachers need to teach or have the ability to teach another class besides their language.”

Nevertheless, Sign Language Club meets every Monday at lunch. As of now, the club meets over Zoom via this [link](#).

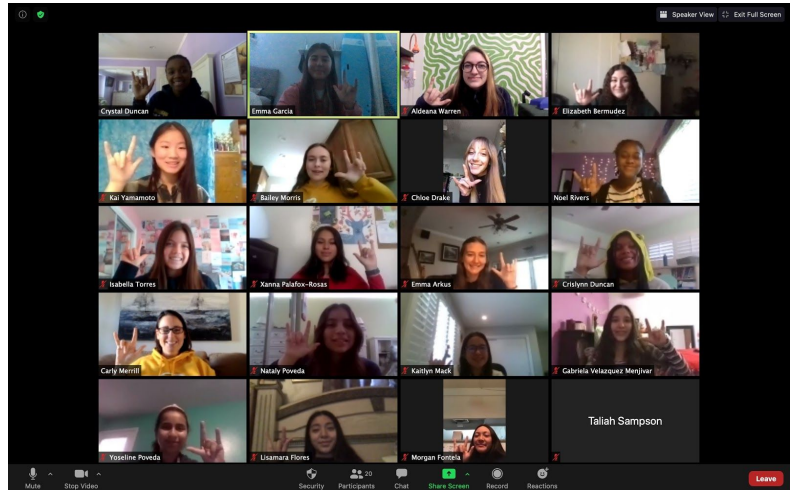


PHOTO COURTESY OF CRYSTAL DUNCAN
This Zoom screenshot features the Sign Language Club's 2020-2021 members. They are all holding up the sign for "I love you." Club President, Crystal Duncan, is also featured in the upper left corner.

Meet Our New Activities Director
By Emma Sharman
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Mr. Robinson is taking over for Andrea Itson as Millikan's Activities Director and FOCUS Advisor from the 2020-2021 school year onwards. While it is a rather unusual time to begin a job that is so reliant on human connection, Robinson is in it for the students and he's up for a challenge.

According to Robinson, his new position brings many new duties. He lists some of the essential responsibilities as the Activities Coordinator as follows: Overseeing student groups, programs like ASB, events, building overall school spirit, managing digital platforms, facilitating the ASB budget, student store, fundraising, and supporting Millikan's culture climate goals by instilling a sense of belonging in students.

"This has always been a position I have dreamed of. I graduated from Millikan and when I started working here five years ago, we already had an amazing Activities Director. Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would get such a tremendous opportunity," Robinson says.

He describes his prior time as a middle-school teacher as one step in helping him towards his goal of helping students to obtain new knowledge as well as teaching them the importance of individuality and growth. He adds, "As the Activities Director at Millikan, with the help of my ASB and FOCUS student leaders, I now get to help provide an experience for our student population that is filled with energy and school spirit."

In light of the current situation, Robinson explains that "this is truly an unprecedented year, and I'll never stop trying to provide that Millikan spirit that we've built together over the last few years. As you plan an event or activity, you need to understand that things won't always go as hoped," He emphasizes how indispensable it is to be adaptable and flexible, "and be willing to try a second or third option."

Despite everything, Mr. Robinson takes a joyous and hands-on approach to his duties, stating that "the main responsibility of the Activities Director is to have the entire student population in mind. Everything we do is for the students!"



*PHOTO COURTESY OF MR. ROBINSON
New Activities Director Mr. Robinson excitedly poses for a selfie with Millikan's mascots Millie and Robbie Ram.*

Dedication to the Drumline

By Emma Sharman

Co-Editor-in-Chief

The drumline carries a critical representation of school spirit at any football game or rally. It wouldn't be the same without the rhythm of the drumline rumbling through the stands and getting everyone's energy up. Millikan's drumline recently participated in the very first digital rally of the 2020-2021 school year (the first of its kind), which was spearheaded by Mr. Robinson.

However, beyond their participation in filming for this event, the Millikan drumline has not been able to return to campus for practice. Currently, they are limited to Zoom practices only.

According to PEACE sophomore Aaron Schreiber, "We have been doing zoom classes on our odd days. We hope to hit the field as soon as we can get back to school."

COMPASS junior Kimberly Orellana Lopez has a similar account, stating that, "We have worked on a series of exercises that strengthen our playing technique so that when we eventually go back, we'll be a stronger group."

Orellana Lopez mentioned that there's not much that can be done for instrumentalists for the time being due to Covid-19 precautions, however, "Some of us have taken it into our own hands and gotten together to practice...in a socially distant manner with masks on. As of right now we are looking forward to having a winter percussion season but everything is so uncertain, we aren't sure if we will be able to march," and she adds, "without a doubt, we will continue to work our very hardest and be prepared for next year!"



*PHOTO COURTESY OF KIMBERLY ORELLANA
LOPEZ*

*Millikan's drumline stands upright on the stage of the
Brigham auditorium with their masks on, ready to be
filmed for Millikan's first ever all-digital pep rally.*

Not So Physical Education
By Isabella Talavera
Copy Editor

Due to COVID-19, students and teachers cannot come to school for lessons and practice. Different sports teams practice in their own ways, like the football team practicing on the field at school or the dancers performing on Zoom. Millikan PE classes have also taken to Zoom for instruction and exercise.

Millikan's PE teachers meet their students on Zoom just like other classes to give them their instructions and routines. Students are provided with certain exercises as well as workout

videos to follow. The students generally follow the provided workouts, since the goal of PE at home is to keep fit during the current pandemic. Students can be put into breakout rooms of their choosing so they can work out with friends in their classes.

"I don't like PE, I'm not allowed to make much noise or jump as things will start falling down, so it's very difficult to actually do exercises. Plus I'm much more lazy at home, so I'm not even tired by the end of class," shares COMPASS freshman Jacqueline Nguyen.

PE classes and sports teams are extremely limited in what they can do. Students and teachers have to work from home, so there's no room for teambuilding or team-oriented games. There are no weekly mile runs, bleacher runs, swim units, or generally any sports the students can play. But some students find that a good thing, and they like to keep active with PE.

"I do have PE, it's working out kind of, I manage, I just don't like to do the assignments that require me to have my camera on and work out. But overall, like the workouts aren't easy but neither are they really difficult," adds SEGA sophomore Angelina Pizano.

"The work is what I'd expect and I'm glad there is no big run day, although that's going to be fixed next year..." SEGA freshman Jordan Johnson explains.

Students have mixed opinions about the situation, given that distance learning makes it hard to become motivated about doing work, PE exercises included. There are also technical difficulties, such as freezing or lagging screens. However, as long as they work, students can take this opportunity to stay active in the midst of a pandemic until school opens back up.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PXFUEL

Because of the need to maintain social distancing, physical education classes have relocated to Zoom. Students and teachers try to maintain a steady personal home workout routine despite the distance learning, something both beneficial and negative to students.

