

MAY 2023 | VOLUME 4



# THE

YOUR FUTURE BEGINS HERE

# HOWLER



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# STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTION

BY KIKI CHEN

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Student Council is a body of students who work together to represent the interests of their peers in various school-related matters. The members of the council plan events, discuss student concerns, and make recommendations to school administrators while representing the student body. There are various positions in the council, such as secretary, treasurer, president, and vice president. Each year, candidates wishing to run for a StuCo position will make a speech, and students can ask any questions regarding the speech. Afterward, each student has the right to vote. The person getting the most votes gets the position they are running for.

This year, the StuCo election took place on April 28th. After an introduction about the jobs of StuCo, the candidates were called up individually to give their speeches. The speech didn't have to be formal, but they were supposed to persuade students to vote for them. The speeches play a significant role in influencing the outcome of the election. The students were allowed to ask questions to the candidates, but the questions needed to be approved by Mr. Hall.

All people running for StuCo were juniors except sophomore Lian Chang. Junior Erwyn Murphy and sophomore Lian Chang were competing with each

other for the position of treasurer. Juniors Sophie Su and Kerdis Pan were fighting to be the next secretary. Juniors Tim Chen and Andrew Kao ran unopposed and are going to work together as the next leaders of the school: the president and vice president. This event is a chance for students to represent their fellow classmates by convincing the students of their abilities to be a leader. The results of the election are as follows:

**President: Tim Chen**  
**Vice President: Andrew Kao**  
**Secretary: Kerdis Pan**  
**Treasurer: Lian Chang**



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# SPRING FAIR

BY LIAN CHANG

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The Spring Fair is a tradition at HAS that is held every year. It is a festive way to bring people together and enjoy their time with friends. This year, it was held on April 22. Each grade set up two booths: one for food and another for games. Perhaps the most important aspect of Spring Fair is the people who attend, including students, parents, and community members. Spring Fair brings together people from all walks of life and creates a sense of community and togetherness.

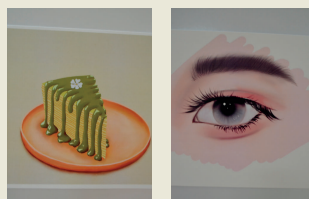
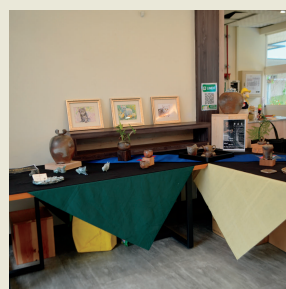
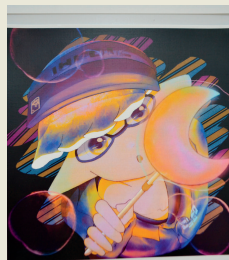
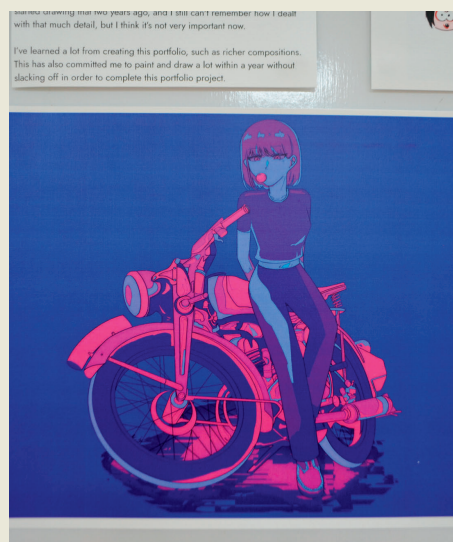
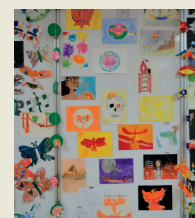
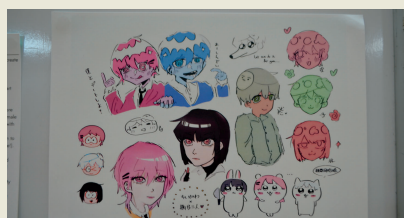
One of the most popular activities people enjoyed at the Spring Fair was the water balloon fight: “I enjoyed the water balloon fight the most because I enjoyed torturing my classmates,” said sophomore Sophie Gau. This is a great way to cool off on a warm day, and it is an interactive way to bond with friends. People of all ages can participate in the water balloon fight, and it is always a highlight of the fair.

Another popular attraction was the different booths that were set up, from delicious food to entertaining games. There is always something for everyone at Spring Fair, and the variety of booths ensures that there is never a dull moment. While people were enjoying the games and food, there were performances for people to enjoy, including the performances of playing the piano and singing. These performances gave a festive atmosphere to the event.



The Art Exhibition is another great feature of the Spring Fair. It was full of an artistic atmosphere and feels comfortable. Artworks of students from art class were displayed in the dormitories, including paintings, drawings, and clay potteries. It was an excellent opportunity for students to showcase their work and for the community to appreciate their creations. There was not only artwork from students but also tea for people to enjoy and relax. A few teachers sat their enjoying their afternoon with tea.

Overall, the Spring Fair was a wonderful experience for everyone. With water balloon fights, different booths, performances, and art exhibitions, there was something for everyone to enjoy.



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# NEW SCHOOL PRESS CONFERENCE

BY JOANNE PENG

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Hsinchu American School is a private, international American school in Hsinchu. It was founded in 2004. They focus on the unique learning needs and professional development of each student with a small class and excellent teacher-student ratio. This year in August, the new school will be used.

On April 26, 2023, Hsinchu American School took the lead in revealing the high-quality American-style campus. Darin Murphy, the principal of HAS, emphasized that after the school relocates it will continue to uphold the same educational philosophy with the school spirit of small classes. The five major changes of the new campus provide students with flexible and intellectual learning environments.

The first change is the environment. The entrance hall of the school uses trees as an image, which is an extension of being with nature, creating a green and natural campus environment, enjoying the phytoncide of nature, and having a comfortable learning environment.

The second change is facilities. The new school building has facilities such as music classrooms, art classrooms, science laboratories, a library, multi-functional stepped classrooms, robotics classrooms, basketball courts, and outdoor physical activity areas for the primary school, covering a total area of more than 12,000 square meters. The campus provides students with sufficient and flexible space for activities no matter if the weather is cloudy or sunny.



The third change is technology. Using high-tech facilities to break through learning limitations, connect to world resources, and fully adopt advanced technological equipment, such as interactive teaching with touch monitors, allows teachers and students to conduct intuitive interactive teaching, giving students an effective and stimulating learning experience.

The fourth change is safety. The design of the new school building focuses on the safety and comfort of students so that students feel like they are coming home every day. In addition, the school cafeteria has multiple functions. It is not only a dining space but also a place for students to discuss homework and hold small meetings.



The last change is sustainability. It uses a green building design and environmentally friendly materials to provide students with breathable air and sufficient light. In the future, it is planned to install more green technology facilities such as solar power generation systems and rainwater recycling systems, so that the school can contribute to a friendly earth while providing teaching services.

Classes begin at Hsinchu American School's new building in August. Chung Hwa University secretary, Liang Quiguo said, " I'm looking forward to creating an international learning experience for students."




# GRADUATION PREVIEW

BY CASEY CHIU

Graduation is coming up soon on June 1st, which is also one day away from the last day of school. HAS holds graduation ceremonies annually just for students to celebrate as a whole and share happiness. During graduation ceremonies, the whole school comes together and enjoys their last day of school together with laughter, food, and drinks.

Why is graduation so important? Graduation is a symbol of change, growth, and embracing new adventures. It also represents a completion of all the hard work each student has done during this school year. The purpose of holding graduation ceremonies is to congratulate the students who have successfully met the academic requirements to move on to the next grade. Students who perform a higher academic achievement will receive certificates according to different categories. The 8th grade, 5th grade and seniors will also receive an academic diploma.



Graduation is a big step for the seniors to take as well. By the end of the school year, they have proven their ability to take the next step into the following chapters of their lives. Completing a high school diploma is a pathway to learning a variety of skills for applying to colleges and jobs. This event can become a remarkable moment for the graduating students. Although the upcoming pressure can be stressful for many seniors, some still feel excited about graduation: "I don't think I look forward to graduation since I do not have a certain goal, but I do feel excited about it," says Bevis Wu. Some students have mixed emotions about graduation: "I feel sad about leaving the school and leaving my fellow students. I would love to stay and watch everyone's growth in different areas," says Ethen Chiu.





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# PROM PREVIEW

BY ANDREW KAO

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Welcome to the grooviest event of the year - the Disco Prom! The Prom is not just a celebration of the end of the school year, but also an opportunity for students to create lasting memories with their friends. Prom on June 2nd is one of our major events in school. The Prom this year will be at Amazing Hall after school from 6:00 to 9:00.



Some of you might think, isn't it the same place as last year's Homecoming? How would it be better? From the moment you arrive, you'll be greeted with the pulsing beats of our talented DJ, Neal Cheng, setting the tone for a night of fun and celebration. Enjoy a delicious dinner with your friends, and then join in on the many fun activities we have in store, including raffles with amazing prizes. Bryan Shantz, one of our graduates this year said, "I'm looking forward to the prom because it'll be the first and last prom of my high school life hopefully it lives up to expectations." This Prom has something for everyone, so come prepared to dance, laugh, and make memories that will last a lifetime!

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# RECAP OF NBA PLAYOFFS ROUND 1

BY DAVID KIM

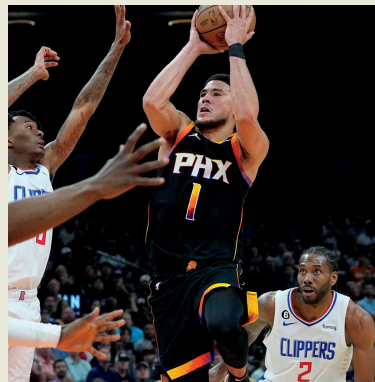
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The 1st round 2023 NBA playoffs took off with an absolute bang! With shocking upsets left and right, some have already labeled round 1 of the 2023 NBA postseason as one of the greatest and the most exciting first rounds we've seen in a long time. The commissioner of the NBA Adam Silver is probably ecstatic in his mansion about the fat paycheck he will receive from the first-round matchup between the Golden State Warriors and the Sacramento Kings alone. In fact, Game 7 between the Warriors and the Kings had a total audience viewership of 11.9 million, which was the highest number of views in a first-round game in 24 years! This article is going to take a look at the key takeaways from every single first-round matchup and make a prediction on the future outcomes.

## Western Conference:

Sacramento Kings (3) vs. Golden State Warriors (7):

As you might've already guessed from just the sheer amount of popularity and viewership that came from the matchup between the Kings and the Warriors, all seven of the games that transpired were equally as intense and dramatic as the last. With the clash of the coaches between Mike Brown, the ex-Warriors assistant coach, and Steve Kerr, the renowned legend that's one of the greatest coaches in the history of the game, it was the matchup of the ages. However, the Golden State Warriors would be the ones to pull off the upset and beat the mighty Kings in 7.



Phoenix Suns (4) vs. LA Clippers (5):

Though the series ended in 5 with the Suns pulling out the victory, the injury-ridden Clippers without Paul George and Kawhi Leonard pulled off a tremendously valiant effort with Russell Westbrook using all his willpower to keep the Clippers at bay. In the end, however, the deadly combination of Kevin Durant and Devin Booker was still too much for the Clippers and overwhelmed the underdogs.

Denver Nuggets (1) vs. Minnesota Timberwolves (8): Overall, there was little that happened during this series. The Nuggets managed to gentleman-sweep the Timberwolves and advance to the next round. As for the Timberwolves, with the absence of Jaden McDaniels and Naz Reid, there wasn't much hope of beating the Nuggets. Nevertheless, Jokic proved himself once again to be one of the best players in the entire planet.



Memphis Grizzlies (2) vs. LA Lakers (7)  
 This was a very entertaining series to watch, but not for the reasons that you might initially think. Though you might believe the 2nd-seeded Grizzlies would cakewalk the 7th-seeded Lakers, that was far from the case. The Lakers were the ones that managed to beat the Grizzlies in 6 games. Yes, you heard that right. The most supercilious and controversial team in the NBA lost to the Lakers in 6. As a result, many were crying tears of joy to see the faces of Dillon Brooks and the entire Grizzlies lineup doing the walk of shame after getting blown out by the Lakers.



Eastern Conference:

Milwaukee Bucks (1) vs. Miami Heat (8)

It is not an understatement to say that one of the biggest upsets in NBA history occurred alongside one of the greatest playoff performances. For context, the mighty Milwaukee Bucks, who were many's title favorites going into the playoffs, were beaten by the Miami Heat, which was one game away from not even qualifying for the playoffs. However, Jimmy Buckets and the great Erik Spoelstra weren't ever gonna back down from a tough fight. Never mind the fact that Giannis Antetoukunmpo was out for games 2 and 3, because it didn't matter at the end of the day. The Miami Heat and Jimmy Butler pulled off one of the greatest upsets and playoff performances of all time.



Cleveland Cavaliers (4) vs. New York Knicks (5)

Many were stunned to see the Cleveland Cavaliers show such a disappointing performance against the Knicks. The Cleveland Cavaliers were many's dark horses to come out of the East, but this series put rest to all those expectations. Cleveland's best player, Donovan Mitchell, just didn't show up when it mattered most. On the other hand, Jalen Brunson and Julius Randle lighted up the beam and exposed the Cavs' flawed defense. The Knicks proved themselves to be a legitimate contender and sent a statement to everyone in the East.



Boston Celtics (2) vs. Atlanta Hawks (7)

No surprises here. The Boston Celtics, one of the more likely contenders to win it all, knocked out the 7th-seeded Atlanta Hawks pretty comfortably. Though, Trae Young's game-winning shot from 30 feet behind the basket while facing elimination to force game 6 was a notable feat. Besides that, the C's have proven to us once again the dynamic duo of the two Jays should be feared across the league. Regardless of the lack of Ime Udoka, the fearsome Celtics and Joe Mazulla are still one of the best in the world.

Philadelphia 76ers (3) vs. Brooklyn Nets (6)

Not much to say here as well. The Philadelphia 76ers with their 2023 season MVP Joel Embiid swept the post-KD and Kyrie trade Brooklyn Nets without breaking a sweat. The Sixers look extremely dangerous with the tremendous trio of Embiid, Maxey, and Harden. On the other hand, the Nets' recently acquired Mikal Bridges showed that the regular season was not a fluke, and that he could be one of the best young stars moving forward.



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# MAY 24TH BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT PREVIEW

By Neal Cheng

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May 24 is our last basketball game for this school year, but this time is different from other games we played before because we are playing in a tournament and our opponents are not international schools; they are local public schools. Usually, public schools have better training systems, so this tournament will be a big challenge for all teams.

For many seniors, this last game is an emotional experience. It marks the end of a journey that began years ago when they first picked up a basketball and stepped on that court. It's a chance to reflect on all the hard work and dedication that they've put into this sport and to celebrate the friendships and memories that they've made along the way. There is a sense of urgency to this game. They know that it will be their last chance to hear the cheers and feel the support. They want to make this game count, leave a lasting impression, and create a memory that will stay with them forever. This is also an excellent chance for freshmen and juniors to gain experience. They are going to inherit the basketball team from the seniors.



Our team captain, Bill Cheng, is also a senior, and the message he wants to convey to all the seniors is to enjoy the game, the time we can spend on that court, and the time with your friends. The result of the game does matter, but participate and enjoy it. Senior Neal Cheng said, "Basketball is one of the most important things in my life, but playing basketball and playing basketball for school have very different meanings. Playing for the school gives us a sense of pride, but unfortunately, I don't think I'm able to play school varsity in college, so I'm going to cherish this last game."

Wish our team the best of luck on the court, and best wishes to our seniors to continue following their dreams and don't give up on their favorite basketball.

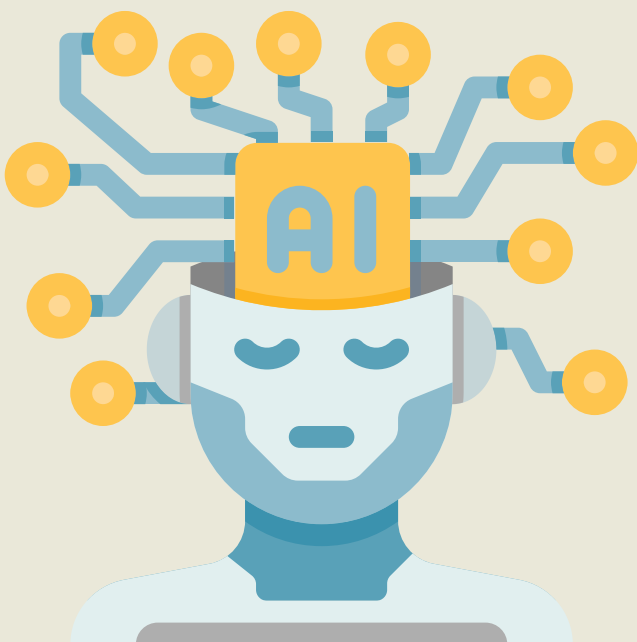
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# HOW DOES CHATGPT INFLUENCE STUDENTS?

BY BEVIS WU

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ChatGPT was released on November 30, 2022, and its appearance has completely changed the world. ChatGPT can help people develop more advanced virtual assistants, for example, Siri and Alexa. People often use ChatGPT for assistance in work like students using ChatGPT for completing assignments. Therefore, students will be the main focus of this article. Lots of students now use ChatGPT and they may stop learning about the assignments. From personal experience, I feel like when I'm using ChatGPT, I kind of stop thinking about why the answer is like this and just straight up insert the response that ChatGPT generated for me. Even though I know it's not the best thing to do, I often get lazy when using ChatGPT.



“I can provide assistance to students by answering their questions and providing them with information on a wide range of topics,” said ChatGPT. Even though ChatGPT might be a really easy tool for researching things, sometimes we shouldn't directly copy what it says. There are students that use ChatGPT to write the whole essay. Teachers only need to copy and paste and ask ChatGPT if it generated this. It is really easy for teachers to find out if you copy anything or not. In conclusion, I recommend using ChatGPT wisely and never plagiarizing anything from ChatGPT or any other website.

# THE HOWLER IMPROVEMENTS

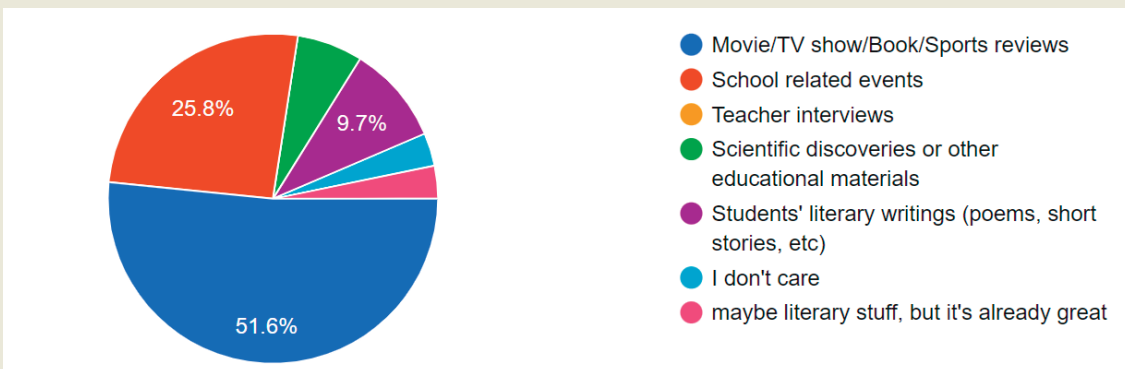
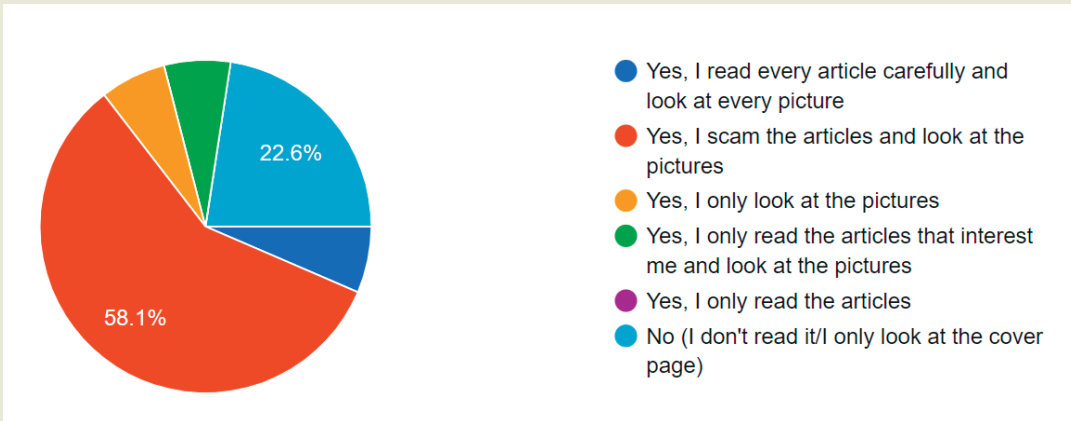
BY SOPHIE GAU

After doing The Howler magazine for a year, I wondered how many students really pay attention to our articles, so I decided to do a survey to figure that out and get some middle schoolers' and high schoolers' opinions on how the magazine can be improved. I got a total of 31 responses from middle school and high school students.

The first part of the survey is about students' The Howler reading habits. Only 6.5% of the students read every article thoroughly and another 6.5% of the students only read the articles and look at the pictures they are interested in, 58% of the students do scan the articles and look at the pictures, while 6.5% of the students only look at the pictures and 23% of the

students don't read The Howlers at all. So in conclusion, 30% of the students don't read our articles at all, and that's a third of the students. Something definitely can be improved to increase the reading rate of The Howler.

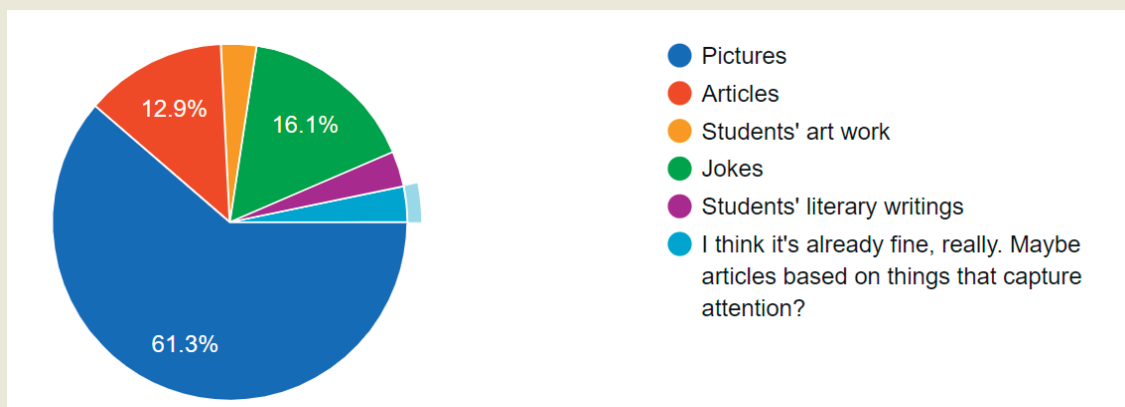
The second part of the survey is about students' reading interests. It asks students what kind of articles they would like to read more in the future. 26% of the students would like to read about school-related events and 52% of the students prefer movies, sports, TV shows, and other entertainment reviews. School-related events and entertainment reviews are already the major features of The Howler, so I guess we are on the right track there. But 52% of the students would like to



read more about entertainment reviews, so the journalism class can probably include more of those next year.

The third part of the survey asks students what kind of materials should be included more in The Howler. 61% of the students would like to see more pictures. Pictures seem to be a feature a lot of students are interested in. In the first part of the survey, 6.5% of the students also claim that they only look at the pictures. And six of the comments I received suggest that the journalism class includes more pictures in the magazines and one comment suggests more aesthetically pleasing designs. Visual cues seem to be an element students pay great attention to. We can use an eye-catching cover page and pictures as a hook to attract more

readers. The declined reading rate of The Howler may also be related to students' information learning habits. Nowadays, communication, news, and even school news are digitized. In 2020, the total daily circulation for the US daily newspaper was about 23.6 million copies, down from 62.5 million in 1980. Reading news on paper is no longer the norm. The Howler is already digitalized, but another way to increase the reading rate is to send digital copies of the magazine to students and parents through email. Articles from The Howler can also be posted on the school's social media. It not only makes The Howler accessible to a wider range of readers, it is also more environmentally friendly.



What are some improvements we can make to improve the reading experience or make students want to read The Howlers?  
9 responses

- ldw to see editors photos
- the quality of pictures.
- Make the visuals more aesthetically pleasing to the eye, and add more student creations
- Include amazing photos of me
- Adding more pictures cuz students always look at pictures instead of reading it.
- Nothing, we are perfect.
- Ad more funny pictures
- maybe keep some articles short and some longer for different topics, and yea personally I love it already
- include more pictures and less words

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# JOKES

BY HOGAN WONG

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Today, I asked my phone “Siri, why am I still single?” and it activated the front camera.



When does a joke become a dad joke?  
When it leaves you and never comes back.

You don't need a parachute to go skydiving. You need a parachute to go skydiving twice.



The doctor gave me one year to live, so I shot him. The judge gave me 15 years. Problem solved.

My wife told me she'll slam my head on the keyboard if I don't get off the computer. I'm not too worried, I think she's jokinlkjhfkln m,.nbziyoao78yv87dfaoyuofaytdf.

