

# ON THE EDGE

EDGEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

• WORLD AT THE WOOD •

OCTOBER 2023



*Freshman Sarah Leonard*



*Senior Aiden Hernandez*

As we just wrapped up the end of the 1st grading period, we wanted to compare the first nine weeks from a freshman's perspective to a senior's! Here is what freshman Sarah Leonard and senior Aidan Hernandez had to say.

Morgan: So how is high school compared to middle school?

Sarah: It's okay, it's a lot different, definitely more challenging.

Morgan: How is the environment different?

Sarah: Honestly good, in middle school, there's a lot of drama. Everybody is honestly nice and stays in their own bubble.

Morgan: Do you have any worries about the end of the nine weeks?

Sarah: No, I mean I don't want to fail but I'm doing okay right now.

Morgan: Haha, always a good thing. What's your favorite high school memory so far?

Sarah: The pep rally or... yeah definitely the pep rally.

Morgan: What's the best thing about freshman year?

Sarah: It's not as challenging as I thought, haha.

Morgan: Do you have any questions for the seniors or any advice you'd like?

Sarah: I honestly can't think of anything right now.

Morgan: Okay well thank you so much!

Morgan: How would you compare high school to middle school?

Aidan: I'd say that you have a lot more freedom in high school but it also comes with more responsibilities. The more responsibilities you have the more freedom you have.

Morgan: What is your favorite high school memory so far?

Aidan: I would say winning CVC for high school baseball my sophomore year with seniors like Ben Welty. That was really fun.

Morgan: Do you have any worries about the end of the nine weeks concerning grades or anything like that?

Aidan: No I don't.

Morgan: What's the best thing about senior year?

Aidan: Not having to be here for the entire day and having four periods of early release and late arrival.

Morgan: Do you have any advice for the freshmen?

Aidan: I would say definitely enjoy every present moment you get because people say that it doesn't go by fast but it definitely does. I remember when I was a freshman and I didn't really think about it when people told me that the four years were going to go by really fast, but now I'm about to graduate already and I still remember freshman year like it was last week so I would just say enjoy every moment.

Morgan: Alright thank you!

# BOO-TIFUL BEGINNINGS

What is now celebrated as a spooky holiday full of costumes, candy, and corn mazes, Halloween was once a time-honored cultural festival. Its roots date back to the ancient Celtic festival Samhain (sow-in). This celebration was created in recognition of the Celtic New Year on November 1. The party was a way to acknowledge and enjoy the final hours of harvest before welcoming the cold, snowy winter.

Today's traditions involving ghosts, haunted houses, and horror movies relate to the Celts' belief in the boundary separating worlds being broken on October 31. The living and the dead would live as one, ghosts from the past returning to Earth. The Celt's tradition is similar to one told by Mr. Farr in Spanish class about "Dia de los Muertos" or Day of the Dead.

Day of the Dead is a Mexican holiday used to observe, respect, and pay tribute to loved ones who have passed on. Individuals dress in costumes and decorate gravestones or altars in their homes. Photos, foods, candles, and marigolds fill the streets and living rooms of people young and old.

From ancient Celtic New Year Celebrations to decorated altars, and finally trick-or-treating, the evolution of Halloween is incredible. Witnessing the adoption of many different cultures and their traditions has influenced our culture in America greatly. Even at its start, Halloween was a way to bring individuals together and enjoy the sweetness of life. Celebrate this year's spooky holiday with loved ones, eating sweet treats and remembering where our traditions came from.



*Senor Farr teaches a Spanish 3 class.*

# STAFF'S FAVORITE HALLOWEEN MEMORIES

In honor of Halloween, we asked some of the staff their favorite Halloween memories, here are their responses:

**Andrejack:**

Sorry, my answer isn't going to be much fun. I was never into Halloween as a kid and have probably passed my apathy onto my children.

**M. Sardella:**

As a child, Mrs. Sardella did not get to trick or treat much due to her location, but after she met her husband she got to pass out candy in the Harbor and really get to take in the joys of a large group of trick or treaters. She enjoyed seeing the holiday come to life.

**Crooks:**

My favorite Halloween memory goes back to my childhood days in Medina. My younger brother and I had one priority-CANDY!!! Our strategy was to get out as early as possible and stay out as late as possible banging on people's doors seeking more candy. We barely wore costumes, because masks and bulking outfits slowed us down; We would smear charcoal on our faces and take an old white t-shirt and write the word "costume" on it, and that was what we called a costume. We literally ran from house to house throughout Medina trying to get a pillowcase full of candy. It was all about acquiring the LOOT. Candy, candy, candy!!! I would throw worthless candy like Tootsie Rolls, candy corn, and hard candies away, down sewers, or into bushes. The real treasure was always candy bars, except 3 Musketeers because they're gross. My brother and I still joke around about how ridiculous we were in our confectionary quest, but those were good times.

**Cooper:**

Mr. Cooper says that his favorite Halloween memories are when he was 11 or 12 years old and he tricks or treats using a pillowcase. He loved looking at how full the entirety of his pillowcase was with candy.

**Izzi:**

Mrs. Izzi says that her favorite Halloween memory is when she took her daughter trick or treating when she was three years old. She says that it "was the first year that she really knew what trick-or-treating was and she was so excited the whole time."

**Notar:**

I would say my best memories of Halloween were when I was in grades 4 & 5 and my friends would dress up and walk around the neighborhood together trick or treating. At the end of the night, we would each have a huge bag of candy and we would go home, dump it all out, and get excited to see what we got and what we could eat. I think this is one of the reasons why I like candy so much as an adult.

**Fowler:** Mr. Fowler's favorite Halloween memories include trick or treating whilst looking like a "homeless bum" as well as being a red devil three years in a row at ages 4, 5, and 6, it "warmed the cockles of his heart".

**Moore:**

Mrs. Moore says that her favorite Halloween memory was when she would do face paint for her children's costumes. And the specific neighborhood that they trick or treat in gave out many king-size candies.





*Freshman Carly Kray poses with Senior Katie McCollister in their costumes.*

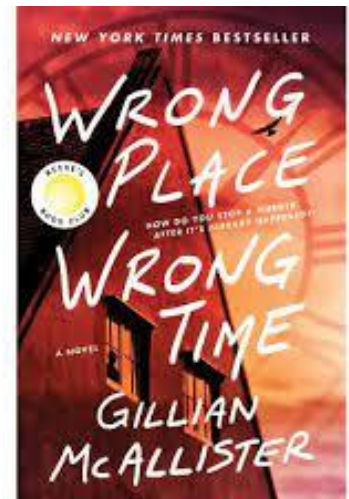
## Trunk or Treat!

The Student Council participated in a trunk or treat on Saturday, October 21st. This event is held by The Kendall Foundation, which is a non-profit organization that strives to help members of the community get employment and donates funds to help support the public. At the trunk or treat there was a parking lot full of cars decorated by various schools and businesses, which passed out candy to all ages of children. As well as the themed cars, The Kendall Foundation also had games, face painting, a man creating balloon animals, food, and Kona Ice, which were all free and open to the public. The Student Council contributed four cars each with their own group dressed up according to theme. We had a Grinch car, a Toy Story car, a Scooby Doo car, and a Wizard of Oz car. The Grinch group won third place in a contest for best decorations. All of the members who participated had a lot of fun and The Kendall Foundation is grateful for all of the Edgewood support.

## BOOK NOOK

Welcome back to the Book Nook! This month's book was *Wrong Place Wrong Time* by Gillian McAllister. This book includes many plot twists and always leaves the reader on the edge of their seat. Gillian McAllister is a British author who is well known for her seven novels, all of which have been bestsellers.

If you are interested in reading books and want to get into new genres, you should join Book Club! Book Club is a club where students as well as a few teachers meet once a month in the library at 7 a.m. to discuss the book of the month. If you don't want to join the book discussion you can still come to the library to meet some friendly people and get some book recommendations!



*October Book Club Selection*



# TEACHER FEATURE

Morgan: Where did you go to high school and college?

Moore: I went to Ohio State and Kent State and got my master's at Walden University.

Morgan: What are the other schools that you have taught at?

Moore: One other school, it was in Tulsa County; otherwise I've been here the whole time.

Morgan: Why did you become a teacher?

Moore: My honest answer is that I really like science and I didn't know if I wanted to go to grad school right away but I knew that I needed a steady job and a good job because I'm very independent. So I majored in biology and physics and got my education degree so that I could ensure that I would have a job when I graduated because science teachers were in high demand at the time. But what also made me switch was there's definitely not a lot of women in the science field so I wanted to encourage more females to enter and have confidence that they're smart enough to enter the science field.

Morgan: What are your favorite things about teaching?

Moore: You! Students like you! I think just when you can have fun with the kids and get to know the kids.

Morgan: Do you have any funny memories, funny stories? Just so you know Bidwell told me how people would terrorize his house haha.

Moore: No... everyone is pretty nice to me so I don't have any bad experiences that way, they've all been good. They might not say "hi" to me in the grocery store and avoid eye contact haha.

Morgan: What's your favorite Halloween candy?

Moore: I'm a little picky. I like the more expensive candy haha, none of that cheap stuff in the store. You've got to go get some good stuff at a candy store.

Morgan: Yeah that's fair. Anything you want to add?

Moore: I would say that I definitely love teaching anatomy and biology and physics!



***Mrs. Moore***

# SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

For the month of October, Mr. Notar chose Jacob Ranck as the senior to be featured. When describing Jacob, Mr. Notar says that he is a “polite and caring young man.” Jacob says that he feels “beyond honored,” to have been chosen for this month. Jacob is a percussionist in the marching band and producer for EMTV. One fun fact about Jacob is that his height reaches 6 '7! His future plans are to attend college in pursuit of studying cybersecurity and Intelligence. Mr. Notar also mentioned something that stood out to him about Jacob is how he says “Good Morning,” and “Good Evening,” every time he sees Mr. Notar. Congratulations, Jacob!



***Jacob Ranck***

# PAINT THE PLOW

This year, Mr. Notar’s Principal’s Advisory Council got together with the preschool classes to paint a snowplow that the Ashtabula County Road Department donated. The high school students were assigned to one or two preschoolers and were able to help them paint on the plow. They could put the preschoolers' handprints around the plow with our school colors: red, gray, and white. Both preschoolers and high schoolers said that they had a fun time getting to do an activity together and will be reminded of it every time they see the plow!

The Principal’s Advisory's next event is that they will be participating in the Ashtabula County Winter Parade on November 17, along with the Athletic Council and Cheerleaders.

If you are interested in being a part of the Principal’s Advisory Council next year, all you have to do is email Mr. Notar or mention it to him the next time you see him!



***Addi Ettinger and Natalie Houser assist the preschoolers with painting their handprints on the snow plow.***

# NOVEMBER NEWS

This month there are plenty of upcoming events to keep students busy. To start off the month, the **Freshman and Sophomore classes are doing a fundraiser**, selling butter braids, and taking orders from November 2nd to November 16th. The **Student Council had to cancel the talent show on the 10th** due to a lack of interest. Also on November 10th, the **Principal's Advisory Club starts their Giving Tree Project drive that goes to December 14th**. There will be a decorated Christmas tree in the outer cafeteria that will have tags with specific gifts hanging on it. People are able to take a tag and purchase a gift, and the gifts will be dropped off at Akron's Children's Hospital. There will be a **Book Club meeting in the library at 7 AM on the 10th** as well. **November 13th is World Kindness Day**. If you are looking for a show, see **Pops Pizazz And All That Jazz at 7 PM on November 15th**. On the **17th we are having picture retakes** for anyone who does not like their original picture or was not photographed. In addition to picture retakes, the **Ashtabula Christmas Parade will be held on the 17th; Principal's Advisory, Athletic Council, and Cheerleaders will be participating**. **No school from November 22nd through 24th due to Thanksgiving on the 23rd**. At the end of the month, there will be **state test retakes**. **ELA is on November 27th, math is on November 28th, Gov and US History are on the 29th, and Biology is on the 30th**. There will be a week for state test retake makeups in December. If you are interested in art, be sure to check out the **art club every Wednesday from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.** **Quiz Bowl started practices this month**, so if you are interested let Miss Fischer know. Need help with schoolwork or grades? **Tutoring and help with organization are available to all students at Edgewood. Mrs. Vencill is located in room 201 on the second floor**. Please email her with questions at [c.vencill@buckeyeschools.info](mailto:c.vencill@buckeyeschools.info).



# FIRST BLOOD DRIVE OF THE YEAR

On October 24, the National Honor Society hosted its first blood drive of this school year. The NHS members worked with the American Red Cross Association to host a student and staff participation blood drive in the gymnasium.

When giving blood, you donate around one pint of it. And for every pint, it can save up to three lives. In an average year, approximately 13.6 million units of blood are collected across the United States.

We asked **Jocelyn Franklin** some questions regarding her experience with the blood drive. **Abby Clutter** interviewed her, and here are her answers:

**A.C.:** “Jocelyn, was this your first time giving blood?”

**J.F.:** “Yes, it was.”

**A.C.:** “Wanted first interested you into giving blood?”

**J.F.:** “I thought it would be a cool experience and would help to benefit other people’s lives.”

**A.C.:** “Would you consider donating blood again?”

**J.F.:** “Yes, I would; it was not a bad experience. The blood drive helpers made me feel comfortable and not freak out. Rachel Kemmerle was one helper there for me the whole time.”

**A.C.:** “One final question: what is your biggest takeaway from this experience?”

**J.F.:** “Definitely eat healthy all week and hydrate a lot to avoid getting sick.”

In addition to Jocelyn, The National Honor Society and American Red Cross would like to thank all students who signed up to donate blood in this year’s blood drive.

Students who want to apply to the NHS next school year must have a certain number of volunteer hours to be considered. Class of 2025 MUST have 20 hours of community service hours that are logged through Mobile Serve. The class of 2026 MUST have 25 hours of service logged. Applications will be available in October 2024, and more information will follow once the next school year begins.



*Jocelyn Franklin receives support from an NHS member while she donates blood.*



# ON THE EDGE STAFF

## REPORTER



**Abby Clutter**  
First Blood Drive of  
the Year

## EDITOR & PHOTOGRAPHER



**Annie Laugen**  
Layout Editor and  
Photographer

## REPORTER



**Austin Paneto**  
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November News and  
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**Jadyann Rivera**  
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