

Warrior Spearhead

October 2019



Lights, Camera, Action!

An Inside Scoop on the MES Drama Club

Welcome to a “whole new world”! Recently, it has been announced that this year’s school musical is the Disney classic, Aladdin Jr.! Aladdin Jr. tells the classic tale of “street urchin” Aladdin, who receives 3 wishes from a magical blue Genie. After meeting the Genie, Aladdin goes through triumphs and hardships, trying to earn love back from Princess Jasmine. This action-packed show, filled with adrenaline rushing dance numbers and moving ballads, will definitely be something to look out for. Excitement is filling the halls as students anticipate what this year’s show has to offer. Led by director Kristine Sliwoski, the MES drama club produces a show-stopping musical every spring season. Some of the recent shows include Legally Blonde Jr., High School Musical Jr., and Beauty and The Beast Jr., which received a standing ovation every night during its three-night run! For grades 6th – 8th , drama club is a great club with many things to do. In drama club, you create a fantastic show with song and dance, learn teamwork, and make friends along the way. Some 8th graders were interviewed regarding the musical. Grace Buckley has participated in drama club for two years, doing the lighting crew in 6th grade and playing Madame de la Grande Bouche in Beauty and The Beast Jr. in 7th. This year, she will be trying out for Genie and her favorite thing about drama club is learning new ways to sing and hanging out with friends whom share the same interests as her. David Seeley has also participated in drama club for two years, playing Ryan Evans in High School Musical Jr., and Lefou in Beauty and The Beast Jr. David will be trying out for the titular character Aladdin this year and he said, “My favorite part of drama club is Mrs. Sliwoski!” If you would like to become a part of this amazing program, please email Mrs. Sliwoski for further details.



“My favorite part of drama club is Mrs. Sliwoski!” - David Seeley

Pictured below; Actors during musical number “Mob Song” in Beauty and The Beast Jr. last spring.



Welcoming Mr. Pape

MES has a new member of our large family. Welcome to MES Mr. Pape!

TALKING WITH MR. PAPE

Mr. Pape wanted to become a teacher because when he was a child he had really bad teachers that he wanted to do better than so that kids would have a good experience. He also had really good teachers and he wanted to embody their practices. When Mr. Pape is not teaching he likes to play music, write, and spend time with his wife and -Mr. Pape

“Everyday try to leave the world better than you found it.”

-Mr. Pape

his dog. Mr. Pape decided to come to MES because he had heard a lot of wonderful things about the Manasquan School District, and he wanted to be a part of the school community. He heard that the students were very motivated and there was a big sense of support from the teachers. Mr. Pape’s goals as a teacher are "to provide my students with a safe and comfortable learning environment that allows them to feel respected and appreciated by their peers as well as myself." When Mr. Pape found out he was the teacher of the month for September 2019, he was very surprised and very humbled. “While the recognition was much appreciated, I am just happy to learn that students seem to be enjoying my class.”

*Prior to teaching
hear at Manasquan
Elementary school,
Mr. Pape taught at
Toms River High
School North for 4
years.*



MR. PAPE

Mr. Pape attended Ocean County College and Monmouth University receiving his bachelors degree in secondary education and English.

VSCO Girl

DO YOU HAVE EVERYTHING IT TAKES TO BE A VSCO GIRL?



SCRUNCHIE, \$5



BERKINSTOCK, \$99



BIG TEE



MARIO BADESCU, \$5



SHELL NECKLACE, \$5

Mrs. T. -

"It is a resurrection of the 90s."



HYDROFLASK, \$40



METAL STRAW \$5



KANKEN BACKPACK, \$80

AND I OOP

The term VSCO comes from the social media platform VSCO where girls would edit photos and send them to friends. The "VSCO girl" trend started when girls who used VSCO started this trend. These girls started wearing all the things that were shown above, and said things like, "And I oop" which means oops, and "SKSKSK" that is the VSCO girls laugh. Most VSCO girls live in coastal areas, resembling a bit of a surfer girl. There have been trends in the past like collecting lokai bracelets or collecting pocket-size hand sanitizers, and now the trend of 2019 is a VSCO girl. Just like those other trends, I think that this trend will only last for about another month before another new trend sets in. I have no particular opinions for or against VSCO girls but I am curious to see what other people think of them. As seen below, I asked a bunch of people what they know about VSCO girls.

WHAT IS A VSCO GIRL?

MR. WAHL -

"I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPT OF THE VSCO GIRL."

MRS. EASTMOND -

"WE WERE THE ORIGINAL VSCO GIRLS."

MRS. WAHL -

"THEY ARE JUST ADORABLE, AND I SEE NOTHING WRONG WITH THEM."

OLIVIA MAES -

"THEY HELPED NORMALIZE WEARING COMFY CLOTHES OUTSIDE THE HOUSE."

TANNER VALIO -

"THEY ARE TREND FOLLOWERS, AND THEY SHOULD LEARN TO STAND ON THEIR OWN."

By Michael McNulty

Mrs. Trischitta's

Warrior Scarecrow

Is Fighting For Victory This Halloween!



Every October, Manasquan challenges its residents to create the best scarecrow, whether it's spooky, creepy, funny, or all three! There are no rules on what the scarecrow can be, so every year the town gets more creative. But however spooktastic the competition is, Mrs. Trischitta's 8th grade honors class always blows the competition away! From robots to mermaids, Mrs. Trischitta's class always astonishes the judges. This year, we knew the competition would be even tougher than last year (especially the Girl Scouts), so we had to step up our game.

The first task would be picking the perfect topic. Ideas included a doctor, a magician, even a Visco girl. But we realized that there was only one idea that would be absolutely perfect, and once we realized what it was, we knew we had to make a Manasquan Warrior.

We planned out a date and time for the project and made sure everyone brought in something to contribute. Then, when 1:00 rolled around on Sunday the 13th, it was time to begin. The entire class met up at 8th grade student Alex Schmieder's house. Once we got into the basement, we immediately began our mission. There were cookies, donuts, and all kinds of snacks for the students. After a while, there were feathers, tape, beads, and paint all over the floor. Of course, we had a ton of fun while we were there, sometimes taking a break to skateboard or put feathers in our hair. We gleefully worked for five whole hours, and when it was complete, the whole class stood back and admired our creation. It was a masterpiece! With this amazing warrior, Mrs. Trischitta's 8th grade honors class has a solid shot at a four-year victory streak.

-Written By Michael McNulty

"It was cool how a whole class of 26 people could come together and make something that fantastic!" -Alex Schmieder

"It was really fun to do something you don't get to do everyday. It was a cool experience, and I'm glad to be a part of this class!"
-Austin Griffith

"It was a great experience, and there was a lot of teamwork throughout the whole class!" -Ellie Ragan



THE INTERESTING LIFE OF MR. MANSER

BY: MATT LOVELAND



Mr. Manser enjoying his “dream” vacation on North Island, New Zealand

When I told Mr. Manser that I was going to be interviewing him, he told me that it has always been a dream of his.

Mr. Andrew Manser has been teaching at the Manasquan Elementary School for 11 years and has many more to go!

I asked him, "What was your craziest experience so far while teaching at Manasquan?"

Mr. Manser said, "I have definitely had a lot of crazy experiences, but an experience that sticks out at me is the one time Mr. Wahl almost beat me in a go kart race during the 8th grade class trip. He did *not* beat me of course, but it was crazy that he even came so close."

Last year was his first year as the MES middle school basketball team head coach. I asked him how it went and he responded, "Coaching basketball is a ton of fun! The practices are definitely my favorite part and I really enjoy watching the players work hard and get better."

Mr. Manser is really busy with teaching and coaching but he still manages time for golf.

He said, "I keep an extra putter and golf ball in my classroom so every once in a while I take a couple minutes to work on my putting."

I was curious to see what his favorite sports to play as well as watch are, because he is into almost all sports.

Mr. Manser told me, "I like to watch a lot of sports. But I think my favorite sports to watch are hockey and baseball. My favorite sports to play are basketball and obviously golf."

I was wondering how he decided to be a math teacher. I would have never guessed his reason for teaching math in a million years. He said, "When I was in high school I was a swim instructor and I taught seven year old's. I really enjoyed that job and I think in the back of my mind I always thought I would like to be a teacher. I also always really liked math. So I put the two together and now I'm a math teacher!"

Mr. Manser always talks about his dream living location. It was very surprising to me and probably will be for many others. He said, "Manasquan. Definitely Manasquan. But if I had to pick a second dream living location I would say New Zealand, North Island, somewhere near the beach, maybe Raglan."

I wanted to know if he played any sports in high school because he seems like such an athletic person.

Mr. Manser said, "Yes, I played football, basketball, and baseball in high school."

Gordon Ramsay Comes to Town

An Exclusive Interview with Chef Lou



On Friday, October 18, the legendary Gordon Ramsay descended on the Blend on Main to film his new show, *24 Hours to Hell and Back*. Earlier that week, Chef Ramsay was filming the same show at a local restaurant in Thomas River. The Manasquan community was ecstatic when they got word that the iconic chef would spend the weekend in Manasquan.

On my way home from school that Friday, I absolutely couldn't believe my mother when she told me that Chef Ramsay was only a few blocks from where I was sitting. Heart racing, I jumped on my bike and began peddling full speed towards the Blend.

I received word from a person that the show was being filmed in the Algonquin theatre parking lot. Instantaneously, I jumped on my bike and rode to Squan Plaza. As I turn the corner, I was disappointed to see huge metal fences completely blocking my view of the set. Seeking a better look, I began to ride my bike around the fencing.

As I turn the corner, I see the iconic Chef Ramsay talking to a person between the set and his car! I grab my phone and walk over to introduce myself. Immediately, Mr. Ramsay shook my hand and gave me a warm welcome. Then, we took a few pictures. "Hello bud, how are you doing?" He also asked, "What sport are you playing?" I quickly explained how I played ice hockey in the next town over. He replied, "Now that is a manly sport." For a few minutes, I couldn't believe the events that had just occurred. To this day, I ponder about the chances of me being at that right place at the right time.

The next week, I interviewed Chef Lou from the Blend on Main to see how he felt about the changes Chef Ramsay helped make to the restaurant. I first asked, "How did you first get into the restaurant business?" He replied, "Wow, first I worked at Roy Rogers in 1987, then the boardwalk, and then about a thousand other places." I also asked questions referencing Gordon Ramsay and *24 Hours to Hell and Back*. Sadly, Chef Lou could not comment until the episode airs in February.

As a Manasquan resident, it is an honor to have such an iconic chef come to a local restaurant on the Jersey Shore. Excitedly, we all wait in anticipation for Gordon Ramsay's episode to air in February.

Alex Passes 8th Grader MES

Always on my Honor

“Each time we face our fear, we gain strength, courage, and confidence in the doing.” – **Theodore Roosevelt**

Scouting has been around in the United States for over a hundred years, building and teaching both boys and girls about leadership, strength of character, honor, and duty. It is a symbol of America and it is great fun. It provides an opportunity to work together with friends, to enjoy activities and look inside yourself to develop practical and relationship skills. In my time with the Scouts, we have conducted activities such as the monthly newspaper drive, Klondike derby, Squan Soccer game refreshments and various camping/fishing trips.

Each time I go to a weekly meeting for Troop 59, there is a great sense of camaraderie and fun. There is also a feeling of confidence knowing that I can talk about shared experiences and demonstrate the values that are important to me. There was a moment during the Klondike derby where we had an event where we had to be the first group to build a fire in under ten minutes. The older boys of our group tried and failed to get it started and we were running out of time. I, being younger than many of them, had to summon the strength and courage to show leadership to them. I showed them how to start the fire using a little trick and our team was the first to complete the task, earning the most points as a result. It was so refreshing to see that by facing an inner fear of failing to meet our goal was quickly turned around into success!

This incident has stuck with me for a while now as one that will always be remembered because of the thrill and excitement that we all shared. I recently interviewed my Scoutmaster Mr. Schemider who explained how he felt about the Boy Scouts. He said:

“Boy Scouts is as American as you can get! It ranks higher than apple pie! Boy Scouts is all about guiding young boys to become young men who can contribute to society and become leaders in their community / workplace and become mentors to future young kids”

That sums up how I feel when I wear my scout uniform to learn about new projects and skills and to help other people who need it. Many people think it's about helping an old woman across the street. We also can give her food bank items if her family needs it and help run errands for her and so much more. I feel Scouting really exemplifies what makes our nation special as it is made up of many boys and girls like myself who get to contribute to a lifelong mission of service and honor and mutual respect to our parents, neighbors and ourselves.



Andrew Marcucci

The Beasts Down Below

Chapter 1:

Drag screaming, the mist of the soggy fishing line filled the air as the reel was on a mission to put a hole in the thumb of the young fisherman. As the rain pounded, the boy's thick boots softened on the slippery dock. Whatever was on the line, was a beast of another world's creation.

Thirteen-year-old, Donnie Marcus, had been on his walk home after a long and painful day of school. On his walk, he saw the current at the Oakfield docks flowing faster than usual. By that time of year in Florida, the Bonita should've been running in-shore, especially with the strong current stirring up all the bait. For Donnie, fishing wasn't just a hobby, it was a lifestyle. Thoughts of him holding up a twenty pounder raced his mind. He zoomed home and quickly grabbed his fishing gear.

When he returned, the tide seemed to have risen about a foot. The conditions were ideal for Bonita. It was an awfully chilly day for Florida, especially in September, when the sun was usually blistering. The forecast wasn't pleasant. In about an hour, the wind was supposed to start kicking and it was going to pour. It was hard rain, the kind of rain that welted your skin, like hail.

He pulled out the biggest hook he had. It was about two inches long and it had a silver tip, which added a bit of shine to draw attention to it. He put on a decent-sized mullet as bait, which he had from last week's fishing excursion. He had a nice seven-foot spinning rod from a local company his dad used to work at before he passed away. It was perfect for fast fishing and it had a beautifully smooth sensation when he reeled it. Every time he looked at it, it reminded him of his dad. He died early last year in a car crash. One morning in February, his dad was driving the parkway to meet his work buddy at this high-class breakfast place. His mom said he remembered his dad being really tired that morning. "He didn't get enough sleep," she kept saying. The police said it wasn't his dad's fault. They said somebody was coming home from a late night out and they had too much to drink. He thought his mom was just trying to keep him from being angry his whole life. "It was definitely not dad's fault," he thought. "Some drunk killed him."

When Donnie got to thinking, he took a pretty nice cast. He launched his bait about twenty-five yards out and it made a loud "plop" when it hit the water. He gently placed his rod on a slant, lying it gently up against the cutting board that stood at the end of the dock. That way, he would just let the mullet run by itself, which would look much more natural than him twitching it around.

After about an hour-and-a-half of rebaiting and switching casting directions, Donnie was ready to give up. His mom would've been making dinner by that time anyway. She got home at around 5:30 and called him as soon as she walked in the door to make sure he was okay. Sometimes, Donnie would be doing homework in his room and his mom would call him from downstairs. He thought she was a little overprotective, but "she does it out of love," he would tell his friends when he had to go home early because his mom didn't like him out too long.

He pulled out his phone and put it down on top of his tackle box, so he was ready for the call. If he didn't pick up, his mom might have sent out a search party for him. Donnie began to reel in his line when he felt a slight pull. He thought his bait just skimmed the bottom, so he began to reel faster. After about a couple seconds, the rod almost got pulled out of his hands. He gave a firm hook set and his rod bent like he'd never seen it before. "Oh yeah!" Donnie screamed out loud. Of course right when he hooks into one, his phone starts buzzing. It was his mom. Donnie flat out ignored it and focused on the monster he had on.

Then a couple minutes into the fight, the rain started to fall, which meant the dock would get slippery. He had an old pair of boots that he wore whenever he went fishing. They had absolutely no traction after being shredded on a skateboard and worn-down from walking home on the sidewalk from the local ponds. Donnie didn't really grow all that much, so he could wear a lot of the same stuff over and over again and also save a ton of money.

After a half-an-hour longer, everything just stopped. It seemed like the hook had just popped out of his mouth. He whispered a bunch of curse words under his breath. His mom would've killed him. Then, he tried to wave the rod in the air out of frustration, but as soon as he pulled it back, the beast tugged once more sending Donnie splashing into the water tightly grasping his rod. As he breached the water, he caught a glimpse of the beast. It seemed as if it were more monster than fish, yet it just swam and swam and swam. Donnie lunged for the dock, gripping the worn wooden planks with his fingers, but the beast was stronger and pulled him down into the murky depths where, somehow, Donnie would survive. Just not on land.

How will Donnie survive? Where is the beast taking him? Will he ever be seen again? Stay tuned for Chapter 2 of "The Beasts Down Below" in the next edition of the Warrior Spearhead.

Written by: Austin Griffith

THE HISTORY OF HALLOWEEN

BY ELLE DUFFY

Halloween—the day when the dead return to our world!

Around 2,000 years ago, Celtic people believed that evil spirits would arise on Halloween day (known as Samhain). For the Celts to protect themselves, they would dress up as terrifying creatures in hopes of scaring the spirits away. They would also carve horrifying faces in potatoes and turnips to scare away any other malevolent monsters that were prowling.

The practice of trick-or-treating came from poor beggars pleading for money and food. In exchange for these goods, the poor had promised to give prayers to keep away the dead.

“The dead could pass into the realm of the living!”

When Irish immigrants started moving to the United States, they brought these traditions with them, and it eventually took root as a United States’ holiday that we celebrate today—Halloween!

Technology Comes Alive With Ms. Kopec

Ms. Kopec makes learning STEM fun and challenging!

When thinking of the best club in the school, the first to come to mind is Video club. Video club is a fantastic club that teaches you about technology while having fun. Ms. Kopec is the leader of this club that many kids take part in. When speaking to Ms. Kopec about video club, one of the many questions I asked her about was approximate, how many kids are in video club, as of today. Her response was about 50, but anyone can join anytime in the year, the people can come to a couple of meetings. Video club is the best club to be a part of.

Ms. Kopec is international society of technology and education (ISTE) certified. She also has two masters, one in cognitive technology and the other in educational technology. Ms. Kopec said that she loves to find the answer, learn about products that will be used in the future, and teaching the kids about technology. Ms. Kopec was made for teaching people about technology and how to use it and video club is one of the best uses of her many skills and educational background.



MS. KOPEC AND CLASS

“Technology and I? We are like magnets; we just fit.”

Amanda Dingler

THE MANASQUAN TUG

THE TUG BRINGS FAMILY AND FRIENDS TOGETHER FOR A GREAT CAUSE

Arms tensing, children cheering, residents enjoying ~ the Manasquan Tug brings family and friends together as they watch teachers, firefighters, football teams, and lots of others battle it out in a tug of war between two towns in order to raise money for the recreation clubs. The Manasquan inlet splits between two towns, Manasquan and Point Pleasant. The rope is pulled across the beautiful inlet water, crashing on the rigid rocks, as a crowd surrounds the people pulling in hopes that their town wins. The money that is raised is split up evenly between Point Pleasant and Manasquan, but bragging rights means something more to the people of Manasquan and Point Pleasant. As live music is played and residents are eating and dancing it is a time to sit back and enjoy.

The Manasquan Tug has raised over \$70,000 in the two years it has been alive. Thousands of people coming to support the

My father was a volunteer for The Manasquan Tug. He was stationed at the Point Pleasant side. "It is pretty cool to see the big rope going across a water way being pulled from either side," my dad commented. "The set up is great. A countdown will begin on a loudspeaker. There are guys in scuba gear in case someone would go over the edge which would be very rare. Once they start to pull, it is the first team to get their orange ribbon, tied on a rope, across a certain line that is fifteen feet from where the ribbon started at. The amount of work that goes into setting it up is crazy. The tug is something the people in these towns will look forward for years to come. It is really something special when all of those people come out and support the recreational clubs."

Trey Morgan is a 14 year old 8th Grader who attends Manasquan Elementary School. During the Manasquan Tug Event he was on the Manasquan side. "I loved to be able to eat and hang

with my friends while watching the Manasquan football beat up on the Point Pleasant football team. I got to chill by the ocean on a nice October Saturday. It was great to support a good cause." The Tug is something everyone fell in love with immediately. Whenever there is good times mixed in with helping out the community, people enjoy the friendly competition.

Mr. Wahl is the Technology Teacher at Manasquan Elementary School. When asked about how he felt about losing he replied, "It was the worst. You know I hate to lose. I am a very competitive person." I had asked about who he cheered for during the football team battle because although he teaches in Manasquan he lives in Point Pleasant. "I was cheering for Squan. My son plays football for Pt. Boro but on the other side of the rope was Pt. Beach."

The people that come and support or even come just to hangout is what these towns are made of. The volunteers that help make this happen yearly are awesome. The Manasquan Tug is one of many things that make Manasquan and Point Pleasant great.



How Well Do You Know Your Rage?

I'm not talking about your average road rage or irate state. I'm talking about one

Rage Against the Machine:

Rage Against the Machine is a band well-known for their fierce music filled with political controversy. This band consists of Zach de la Rocha, vocalist, Tom Morello, guitarist, Tim Commerford, bassist, and Brad Wilk, drummer.

Zach de la Rocha was born in Long Beach, California in 1970. He went to the University of California to eventually earn a PhD in anthropology. Zach de la Rocha faced many racist people because he was of Mexican heritage. After his parents divorced, he moved to Irvine, California and met Tim Commerford.

Tom Morello was born in Harlem, New York in 1964. He is of Kenyan heritage and his aunt was the first woman to serve in the Kenyan legislature. His uncle was considered one of the founding fathers of modern day Kenya. He went to Harvard and earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in social studies. Tim Commerford was born in Irvine, California in 1968 and went to the same elementary and junior high school as Zach de la Rocha. When Tim Commerford was in fifth grade, his mother was diagnosed with cancer. His father divorced and remarried. Tim had to suffer years of abuse from his father when he was living with him. In 1988, his mother died of brain cancer. Brad Wilk was born in Portland, Oregon in 1968, however, he was raised in Chicago, Illinois. Finally, his family moved to Southern California and settled there.

For each of the band members, music played a huge important role in their lives. When Zach de la Rocha and Tim Commerford were in elementary school, they joined a band called Juvenile Expression, then in high school, Zach de la Rocha joined a band called Hard Stance. Zach de la Rocha loved punk bands such as The Clash and The Misfits, however, his attention later turned towards bands such as Minor Threat and The Teen Idles. Later on, he started experimenting with hip hop and began writing politically charged lyrics. Tom Morello was impressed and asked him to be in a band with him.

Tom Morello joined a cover band at age 13 called Nebula. This band did covers of bands such as Led Zeppelin and Steve Miller Band. Tom Morello loved hard rock and heavy metal bands such as Iron Maiden and Kiss. He also loved Alice Cooper, Led Zeppelin, and Black Sabbath. He idolized Tommy Iommi, the guitarist for Black Sabbath, and he was one of his biggest influencers.

Tim Commerford loved rock, and idolized bands such as Gene Simmons and Iron Maiden. Zach de la Rocha taught him how to play bass when they were in the same school. Music became very important to Tim when he had to face abuse from his father. Music allowed him to escape reality and allow music to be a way out of life.

Student Spotlight: Luke Ramire

Multi-sport Athlete and Student



Luke Ramire at basketball practice.

“All you have to do is give it your all and don’t let anything interrupt you.”

Luke is an eighth grade student. He plans to go to Manasquan High School. He gets good grades and is in all of the honors classes.

Luke is also very athletic. He is a captain for the middle school soccer team. Along with soccer he plays basketball and baseball and expects to play on the school team for those sports too. He made the soccer, basketball, and baseball teams in seventh grade. As an athlete he is inspired Bryce Harper.

After hurricane Sandy hit Luke had to live in three houses in a year and a half until he could move back into his original house. This was hard for him but it did not stop him from doing what he loved with his family. Luke learned almost everything he knows about soccer from his older sister.

“I take sports and academics seriously and have good time-management.”

The Secret to Luke’s Success

A FAMILIAR FACE AT MES

BY: KYLIE SPALT

Our new gym teacher gives one and a half thumbs up for the start of this school year.



He was at our school for 13 years, left for 9 to work at Manasquan High School and is back and better than ever. Mr. DeMuro is back as the elementary and middle school gym teacher. He is the boys' soccer coach and wants to keep everyone involved and make sure that they have fun. He has one daughter, who went to college in Colorado and recently moved to Hawaii! Mr. D's favorite past-time is fishing; he has a hundred-ton master's license and in the summer, DeMuro runs a 100-foot party fishing boat. His favorite place to fish is the Bahamas, but his best catch was in California. He caught a 700-pound Mako shark! Because of his love for the ocean, he was a lifeguard in Lavallette through high school and college.

Mr. DeMuro loves teaching so much, that when I asked him what his favorite memory he has is he said that it is in our school.

He

“He caught a 700-pound Mako shark!”

answered, "When teaching here, 15 years ago, Mrs. Fortier, Mr. Shaad and I were sitting on a table in front of three 5th grade classes in the gym, one side of the table collapsed and all three of us fell on top of each other and the three classes watched us and laughed, and there was nothing for us to do but laugh." Another one of his experiences is the loss of his thumb while using a power tool. It is currently in his freezer, as he wanted to keep it. Mr. D give us thumbs up towards a great new school year.



A happy Mr. DeMuro with a big fish!

Need a Halloween Costume?

*"It's been here longer
than I have, and
that's a LONG
time" -Mrs. Graziano*



This kid looks pretty good with
one of the simple costume ideas!

Is your time running out to find a costume for Halloween? If yes, I have the solution for you!

To start off my research, I interviewed a few girls from the second grade—Taylor and Stella. I found a lot of great ideas for the 2019 Halloween season. Taylor is being a cheerleader with one of her friends. Though that is a pretty classic choice, Stella went with a different approach. She chose Flo from the Progressive commercials!

Let's not forget about the traditional Halloween costumes that you can't go wrong with. You can go as a ghost by simply throwing a sheet over your head and poking a couple holes in it! Or you could dress up as a zombie by just getting some old clothes and ripping them up with a touch of fake blood.

It is exciting to see all of the kids dress up at the annual Halloween parade. I asked Mrs. Graziano how long the parade has been around and she said, "It's been here longer than I have - and that's a LONG time!" MES has been doing this for over 40 years and the costumes get better year after year.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!



A HALLOWEEN NIGHT

BY: KIERA BERLIN

KIDS LAUGHING,
JACK'O'LANTERNS SHINING,
GHOSTS GIGGLING, FEET STOMPING,
PUMPKINS SMILING, MONSTERS ROAMING,
WITCHES CAACKLING,
CAULDRONS BUBBLING,
CHILDREN TRICK-OR-TREATING, CANDY FLYING
ZOMBIES STUMBLING, JACK'O'LANTERNS SHINING,
BLACK CATS CREEPING, CANDY - CORN CRUMBLING,
MUMMIES MARCHING, BATS SOARING, FOG INCHING,
EYES GLOWING, DOORS CREAKING, WOLVES HOWLING,
BROOMSTICKS ZOOMING, FRANKENSTEIN FUMBLING,

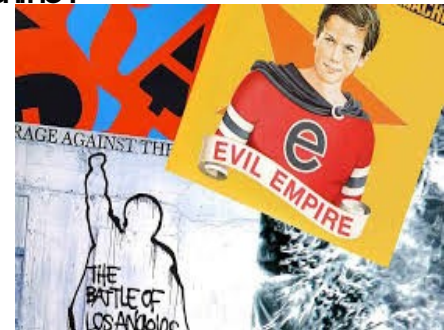
HALLOWEEN IS HERE

Each member of this band faced an enormous amount of adversity and troubles. Whether it's being of a different heritage or facing abuse from your father, music allowed each member to escape reality. Music is the perfect outlet to vent out your anger or allow it to comfort you when you're depressed. Music allowed them to have a voice when no one would listen.

Forming and Naming of the Band

Tom Morello broke up with his former band called Lock Up. The drummer of that band asked him if he would jam with Zach de la Rocha and Tim Commerford. They hit it off right from the start. Then, Tom Morello contacted Brad Wilk to be the drummer of the band. Soon enough, they had formed a band called Rage Against the Machine in 1991 that would soon be super famous. Rage Against the Machine got its name because when Zach de la Rocha was freestyle rapping before he was recruited for Rage Against the Machine, he wrote a song called "Rage Against the Machine".

"Rage Against
The Machine'
and 'Evil
Empire' are
certified 3x
platinum in the
U.S. with sales



"Renegades" album cover (top left), "Evil Empire"
album cover (top right), "The Battle of Los Angeles"
album cover (bottom left), "Rage Against the Ma-

Album Success

Rage Against the Machine's first album was an immediate success. It was simply called "Rage Against the Machine". This album reached triple platinum status, received heavy radio play, and the image of their album cover is the Vietnamese Buddhist monk meditating while on fire to protest the murder of fellow Buddhists.

Their second album "Evil Empire" was also a huge success and also reached triple platinum status. This album reached number one in the Billboard's Top 200 in 1996. In 1997, Rage Against the Machine opened for U2 on their PopMart Tour. All of Rage's profits went towards helping organizations, such as UNI.T.E., Women Alive, and Zapatista Front for National Liberation.

"The Battle of Los Angeles" is their third album. It was released in 1999 and sold 450,000 copies in the first week. Then, it reached double platinum status. Just before this album was released, Rage Against the Machine performed at Woodstock in 1999. This was the second largest music festival that attempted to imitate the Woodstock festival in 1969.

The final album from Rage Against the Machine is called "Renegades". This album was released in 2000 and reached platinum status about a month after its release. It consists of covers of songs by Bruce Springsteen, Bob Dylan, Minor Threat, Eric B & Rakim, EPMD, MC5, The Rolling Stones, Cypress Hill, Devo, and other bands.

Rage Against the Machine's Unique Sound

This band, quite frankly, made an entire new sound that would impact the music world forever. The best I can do to explain it is it sounds like heavy metal rap or rock rap. The drums and the bass hold the entire band together while Tom Morello does his crazy stuff with his guitar and Zach de la Rocha sings his politically charged lyrics. In fact, Rage Against the Machine's sound is so amazing, on their album they said "all sounds made by guitar, bass, drums, and vocals" because people wouldn't believe their sound was made by only four things.

Breakup

A little after the "Renegades" album came out, Rage Against the Machine split up. Zach de La Rocha left the band because "it was necessary to leave Rage because our decision-making process has completely failed" Even though Rage Against the Machine broke up, each member continued to pursue music.

Zach de la Rocha pursued a solo career and worked on a solo album. He also worked and recorded with other bands. The other members of Rage Against the Machine got a new vocalist, Chris Cornell, and named their band Audioslave. After Chris left the band, the rest of the members split up for a little bit. Tom Morello continued playing and became known as the Nightwatchman. However, Tom Morello, Tim Commerford, and Brad Wilk got back together and found some new vocalists to form a new group called The Prophets of Rage.

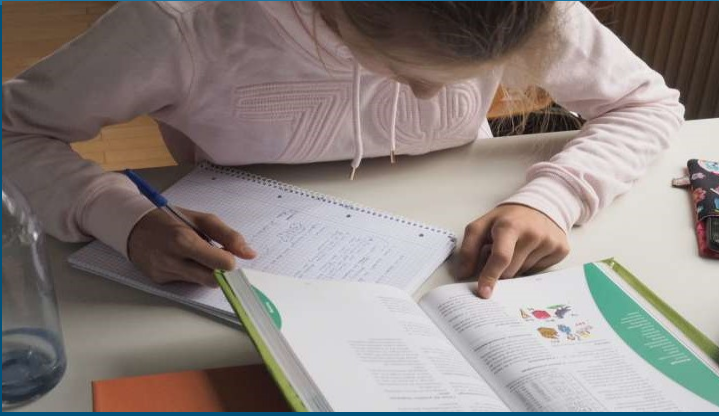


Rage Against the Machine band members from left to right: Zach de la Rocha, Brad Wilk, Tim Commerford, Tom Morello.

What This Means to Me:

This band has changed my life forever. Music is my outlet to vent when I'm furring or connect to when I'm depressed. This band is always my go-to because I can always count on it to get me pumped up and angry. Sometimes, the best part of my day is when I can just sit down and listen to their music. Some of my personal favorite songs are "Down Rodeo", "Bulls on Parade", "Know Your Enemy", and "Testify". My whole family loves this band and other heavy metal bands. I'm proud to say that even my 10-year-old brother jams out to Rage Against the Machine. As much as I love this band, I cannot speak for you. So, the next time you get a chance, plug in some earbuds and listen to some of best songs in all of history.

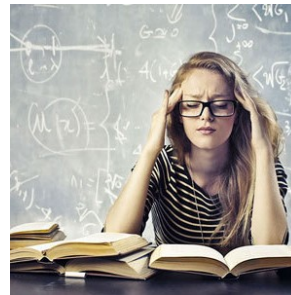
By: Hannah Snyder



PRO'S & CON'S OF HW

STUDENTS THROUGHOUT HISTORY HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR OPINIONS ON HOMEWORK, BUT ARE THEIR ARGUMENTS STRONG ENOUGH?

Students around the globe, have battled homework for years. Many say there should be homework, while many say there shouldn't be. No side is right but they both have their own opinions to back their side up. Below, their opinions are shown.



As the picture on the left shows, the student has become very stressed out from the amount of homework she has.

Pros

It can be used to study from

During a week where a quiz or test is coming up, a teacher might assign homework that will have questions on there, that may be like the questions on the quiz or test. The student can also then use this to study from or to use it to quiz them self.

It can help the student's grade

Certain homework assignments are given out and can be worth a good some of points that can bring the students grade up. These assignments can vary from easy completions that can help your grade or assignments that are graded on accuracy and can help your grade even more.

Cons

It takes away sleep and free time

When kids head into middle school and high school, they'll start to get involved in more extracurricular activities and this will take away from their free time and along with that they might have hours of homework to do and may not have any free time during the week. Plus, if the student has a lot of homework, or takes a long time on it, then the student might be going to sleep at a relatively late time like 11:00.

HW can put anxiety & stress on the student

Along with the many hour's homework can soak up out of the day, its also puts lots of stress on the students. With all the stress on the student from their homework it can lead to forgetfulness and then bring them anxiety about whether or not they have all of there work done.

Homework is meaningless because it takes away from my free time at home."

Samwell Berlin added, "I don't like homework, but it teaches us to do stuff independently."

By" Tanner Vallio

MES Boys Basketball Team

By: Ryan Mulvaney



RYAN MULVANEY AT BASKETBALL
CAMP

Everything—negative—
pressure, challenges— is all
an opportunity for me to
rise.

—NBA Legend Kobe Bryant

As a former and returning player on the MES Boys Basketball Team, I am beyond excited for this upcoming season under Mr. Manser and his great coaching talents. We have six returning players, David Seeley, Jack Mead, Luke Ramire, Shane Hagerman, Cameron Reynolds, and me, Ryan Mulvaney. Last season we were led by some great 8th graders who were great role models for us and our team finished 1 game out of the playoffs and us returning players are thrilled to have a chance to win a Championship. The basketball team practices almost every day, at each practice we are all very competitive and constantly striving to get better. Some of our biggest opponents include Spring Lake Heights and Brielle, and we cannot wait.

I interviewed and asked Mr. Manser if he was excited for the upcoming season. “Big time! After all the fun I had coaching last year I am definitely looking forward to doing it again.” Mr. Manser was a great coach last year and helped all of the players on the team improve. I am ready to work hard at practice everyday and help lead our team to a championship. Go Squan!

The Hidden Truth About Fishing Revealed

Find out what these two students talked about when debating about the secret of fishing.

Line running, reel spinning, pole arching, this what I live for when I fish. Fishing has been a major part of my life. Fishing has brought my father, my grandpa, and I closer together when we fish together as a family. When I fish with my family and friends it becomes not only a hobby but a sport for me. Fishing allows me to push myself to catch a better or different kind of fish between my friends and family. When I get the chance to fish on a boat it fills me up with excitement and enjoyment. Some people think fishing can only be as much as a hobby, but people who have experienced the true feeling when fishing, call it a sport.

In my school, some fishermen believe fishing is a sport due to their knowledge of how some of the arduous challenges can be when fishing and the vigorous effort it takes to catch a good fish. Other people believe it takes very little skill and knowledge to fish and think it can only be a competition rather than a sport. An avid fisherman in the eighth grade of Manasquan

“It’s called Fishing, not catching”

Elementary School named, Andrew Marcucci, believes fishing is a

sport. Andrew was asked, what qualities does it take to make fishing a sport, he responded with, “You have to be able to have the ability to keep trying and the strength to reel it in. You have to have the skills to know the types of fish and where they like to swim and what tackle and bait to use when fishing.” I asked Andrew, what makes fishing more than just a competition, he said, “You aren’t just competing against the other people, you are competing against the fish. You must know the knowledge of the fish and the right bait and tackle to catch the fish. You have to learn the patience to be a true fisherman and to give the time to be a good fisherman.” Andrew

was also asked, is fishing only luck, he responded with, “No, fishing is more than just luck. You need to know landmarks and certain weather patterns to fish well for good and big fish.” Andrew Marcucci believes fishing is a sport due to all the abilities and attributes it takes to become a good fisherman. A student in the eighth grade of Manasquan Elementary named, Luke Ramire, believes fishing can only be a competition rather than a sport. I asked Luke, why do you believe fishing is only a competition rather than a sport, he said, “I believe it is just like a spelling bee and it can only be a hobby because of the complex situation. Most people are fishing for a meal or for fun not doing it competitively or in a sports feel.” Also, I also asked Luke, what can make fishing more of a sport in your opinion, he responded with, “Fishing can be more of a sport by making it more in a league and making it go one on one rather than it being mostly individual.” Although people believe fishing can’t be a sport, if you have ever been in a fishing tournament you would “reely” know the true competitive and sport feel it has while competing.

-Trey Morgan



What If Your House was Mowed down by 170 mph Winds? By James Martin Burns

Debris flying, cars floating, Hurricane Maria made landfall in Puerto Rico as a category 4 hurricane and leveled everything in its path. This was the worst natural disaster to affect these regions. This storm proved to be more fatal than deadly Katrina.



“[Maria caused] \$90 billion in damage.”

These are devastated locals rummaging through their now flattened homes.

Hurricane Maria made landfall in Puerto Rico on September 20, 2017. The storm left the 3.4 million devastated residents stranded if they hadn't already fled. Those who stayed put had to withstand 175 mph winds. These winds are strong enough to tear down well structured homes.

This damage was traumatic considering the fact that more than half of Puerto Rico's citizens live in poverty. This meant that many families didn't have a strong home or structure to shield them from the thrashing winds of the storm. The mayor of Catano, Puerto Rico even said, “months and months and months and months are going to pass before we can recover Maria was a huge setback financially too. With the country already billions of dollars in debt, this storm cost the island about \$90 billion. Puerto Rico makes most of its money off of tourist attractions and with what happened the attraction will be limited to certain areas with no damage. The limited area for tourists drove tourist sales down and the island lost more money. Puerto Ricans however were dedicated to get back on their feet and start over again. At the end of the horrifying episode, 130,000 people fled leaving family, friends, and neighbors. Of the people that stayed, 3,057 people tragically lost their lives protecting their family and their home. Maria was a huge setback financially too.



Put Your Cellphones Down and Experience The Great Outdoors

It's amazing what you can do when you put down your phones.

The great outdoors has always been a huge part of my life. When I was five, I realized how much I loved being outside, but it was my father who really taught me just how wonderful the outdoors could be. There are many reasons why I love spending time outdoors. There are so many awesome things to do that could be done in the outdoors. Here are just a few reasons why I love the outdoors.

One of the first things I ever started to do in the outdoors was to shoot clay birds in the Pine Barrens. My brother and I love to shoot clay birds with our dad. Every time we go, I get better. Shots firing, gunpowder exploding, I aim and shoot the clay birds, watching them spray like fireworks. I always try to hit more clay birds than I did the last time. I currently can hit two clay birds one after another. Next time I go, I will try to hit three. Every time we pack everything before we go, I get more excited. We pack the clay bird thrower in the car the night before and we gather all of our guns and ammunition to put in the car the next morning. We wake up early to get there before everyone else. Sometimes we have it all to ourselves! This is probably my favorite thing I ever do. When we are there, we also shoot rifles and I always try to hit a very small target to see how accurate I am. That is also very fun! One day I will be able to go hunting with my dad and brother.



The author pictured holding a largemouth bass that he caught.



I also love to go fishing. Pole bending, drag screaming, I dream to catch a keeper. Ever since I was young, I have been to all the Macs Pond Fishing Derbies. My dad got me into fishing, and now that I'm older I go fishing by myself. Whenever I have the chance to go with my friends, I go with them. I have learned so much from my dad and friends that have to do with fishing. They taught me all the knots I need to know and what lures I should use. Fishing is so fun and interesting because I never know when I am going to catch anything. There are many reasons why the great outdoors is so great, but these are just a few reasons why I love the outdoors. In conclusion, I love putting my cell phone away and experiencing the great outdoors with my friends and family. Online gaming does not compare to the beauty of nature!

"Catch and release is the best. Catch them small and let them grow!"

Alex Schmieder



FALLING INTO FALL

Enjoying the most beautiful season of the year.

*A crisp breeze blowing, autumn is here.
The pumpkins are nestled in the dusty patch,
autumn is here.*

*The chilly air nibbled at my nose within the overcast
afternoon, autumn is here.*

*The trees have turned a golden orange before my
eyes, autumn is here.*

*As I stood in the forest, the leaves fell a marvelous
orange they were, autumn is here.*

*Early in the morning, a subtle frost blanketed the
dewy grass, winter is right around the corner.*

By: Abbey Hippe



All You Have to Do is Increase Your Bat Speed

In sports you always have to play offence and defense. Like all sports offence is a big part of being able to win games. For baseballs offence it is very important to be able to hit a baseball good. As well as your swing, your bat speed has a very big effect on how well you hit the ball. Although there are many other factors like if you hit the sweet spot on the bat or not, how fast the pitcher is throwing, and the type of bat (type of metal or wood) the speed at which the ball goes to meet the ball over the plate will vary how well the hit will be.

The science behind this is actually very simple. It is all about momentum. Mass is a big part of mass, as the equation to find momentum is

Momentum=mass (kg) x velocity (m/s). The other very big part of momentum is velocity which is how fast you are moving in a certain direction. So with a bat having a much larger mass than a baseball and if you swing the bat faster the ball will be hit much, momentum, as the equation to find momentum is

Momentum=mass (kg) x velocity (m/s). The other very big part of momentum is velocity which is how fast you are moving in a certain direction. So with a bat having a much larger mass than a baseball and if you swing the bat faster the ball will hit much, much better.

The New York Yankee's All-Star Aaron Judge has one of the fastest bat speeds in the MLB. Not counting his very first appearance when he had been brought up to the Yankees late in the season he has an average of 35.3 home runs per season. That about 35 home runs per season, that is amazing in the MLB. Aaron Judge is only a single example of how well you can do with a faster bat speed.

So like most MLB players, aim to increase your bat speed with a decent sized bat. This is definitely a good way to increase how well you hit the ball and ultimately help you in the game.

James Michko

*Can you hit a
baseball even
better.*

“If my barrel hits
the ball, I think
good things are
going to
happen.”

-Aaron Judge



Aaron Judge moments
after hitting a baseball.

Are Video Games a True Cause of Violence?



Video games are often times used for a get-away from life struggles or just something to do for fun. However, with public violence occurring more than ever before, the question begs: Are video games to blame for the recent rise in violence?

Video games originally started as testing for soldiers in the military and war for quick-time situations. In these experiments, soldiers need to learn that they can't stop to think but rather act in the moment. They were testing units for planned violence, thus supporting the theory of video games playing a key role in violence these days. However, recent data and research might prove otherwise. Both sides of the story have strong points but only you can decide the final conclusion.

"Violence begets violence."

- Gospel of Matthew



STUDIES ON AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR

The American Psychological Association

The American Psychological Association task force on violent video games "found that violent video game exposure was associated with: an increased composite aggression score; increased aggressive behavior; increased aggressive cognitions; increased aggressive affect, increased desensitization, and decreased empathy; and increased physiological arousal."

This investigation utilizes essential points that lead towards violence, however, other examinations have important points that oppose the previously stated study by the American Psychological Association.

RESEARCH ON NON-VIOLENCE

The Przybylski and Weinstein Study

They put together an experiment where 1,004 British video game players (ages 14 and 15), of which 540 were boys, 461 girls, and 3 as another gender orientation were all observed. Specifically on their behavior during and after play time.

"We found adolescents were not more or less likely to engage in aggressive or prosocial behaviours as a function of the amount of time they devoted to playing violent games," stated by Przybylski and Weinstein.

Whether you support either sides of the story, violence, specifically in school systems, is no joke. It has been on the rise within the past year and seems to have no end in sight. So, decide which position you side based off pure data. Not bias. Make the right choice.



Students across America are coming together in a joint national effort to implement a later and healthier start to the school day. Many are concerned that current school days, “Increase stress and decrease productivity in schools,” high school student, Carmelo Laraya writes. Millions of students and adults across the United States are signing dozens of petitions to have school start at 10 am and conclude after the required number of hours have been completed (Varying per U.S state).

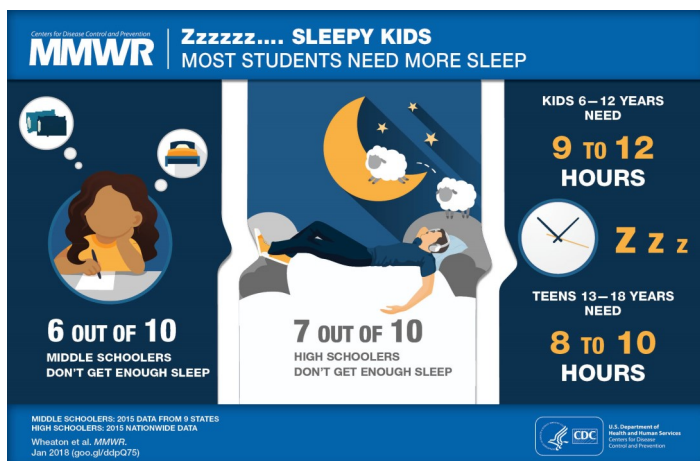


“The main reason for adolescents not getting enough sleep is school start

Many significant studies have shown that current school hours are malignant for student’s physical and mental health. According to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, “Not getting enough sleep is common among students and is associated with several health risks including being overweight, drinking alcohol, smoking tobacco, taking drugs, and poor academic performance. The main reason for adolescents not getting enough sleep is school start time.”

As student council president, I have been asked by many students to address school start time. I have researched this topic and have concluded that a later school start time is beneficial for students and has a positive impact on their education. There is also a legitimate concern regarding school sports and practice times. If school were to end at 4 pm, sports would practice later. Completing homework may become an issue for athletes. I am in full support of school starting later in the day, if the day doesn't surpass 4 pm.

Mr. Cinelli is Manasquan Elementary's Guidance Counselor for the middle school. As a specialist in counseling and student interactions, I decided to ask him what he thought about a later school start time. He replied, "A later school start time could defiantly be beneficial, depending on timeline and the hours of the day. Many families are working by 9 am, so this may become an obstacle for students and parents." Mr. Cinelli also added, "Research shows that a later school start time is beneficial for students and their educational experience at school. It also prepares them for the real world, where start times for jobs are becoming more flexible." Overall, I had a very successful conversation with Mr. Cinelli, and I thank him for his time.



"Research shows that a later school start time is beneficial for students and their educational experience at school."

Going out for a new team at MES, try field hockey.

GO, SQUAN!

FIELD HOCKEY

The origins of field hockey can be traced to ancient Egypt, Persia, and Greece. But the game we play today was developed in the British Isles in the late 19th century.

Field hockey is similar to every other sport that is played with a stick and a ball. It shares many similarities with golf and hockey. For example, it is a lot like hockey because you have to dribble up and down the rink/ field, except for the fact that in hockey you can use both sides of the stick to dribble and for field hockey, you can't. Also, in golf, you use a skill called driving and in field hockey, we also use a skill called driving. In field hockey driving is when you put your hands together near the top of the stick and follow-through from your hip to facing forwards. The field that we play on has two sides like most sports. We also have a line that marks 25 yards to the goal, after that, there is a dotted line that marks 16 yards to the goal. In field hockey, you can only shoot from inside a designated area, which is called the circle. The positions for field hockey contain forwards, mid fields, defense, a sweeper, and a goalie.



For the MES team I have 8 goals

This is the most successful team I have had since I started coaching.

-Ms. Mellilo

Field hockey is one of my favorite sports to play. I started playing in 5th grade when I was 10. I fell in love with the sport right away. I love everything about the sport. I have played on the MES field hockey team for three years. The MES field hockey team is so much fun and if you are looking for a new sport you should try it out. I also have played on the Jersey Intensity field hockey team for two years. Jersey Intensity has taught me so many things that we help me expand my field hockey career.

WATCH OUT APPLES, HERE COME BANANAS!

A BANANA A DAY KEEPS
THE DOCTOR AWAY

Facts

- Some nutrients maintain good blood sugar levels.
- Bananas can improve digestive health. They include fiber which is what helps you to digest food.
- Bananas help with weight loss, before and after workouts.
- The potassium in bananas is essential for heart health.
- Bananas are easy to add to your diet because they take so little time to eat! You could just add them to your cereal or yogurt.

Nutrients

- Potassium: 9%
- Vitamin B6:
- Vitamin C: 11%
- Magnesium: 8%
- Copper: 10%
- Manganese: 14%
- Net carbs: 24 grams
- Fiber: 3.1 grams
- Protein: 1.3 grams
- Fat: 0.4 grams

Songs about Bananas

- The Banana Song
- HollaBack Girl
- Minions Banana Song
- Dr. Jean's Banana Dance
- Banana Boat Song
- Banana Man
- Apples and Bananas

"The best part about bananas is peeling them then eating them" - Luke Ramire

"Chiquita bananas are better than Goya bananas.

Change my mind." - Trey Morgan

"MES is going Bananas for bananas" - Mikey McNulty

"Go bananas for bananas" - Mrs. Wahling

"Bananas are succulent" - Elle Duffy

"Who needs apple phones, when you have banana phones" - Kiera Berlin

Ryan Mulvaney, a student who eats a banana every day at lunch, says that it prevents him from getting cramps in his legs a cross country practice.

"Bananas are an appealing treat" - Mrs. Trischitta

Written by: Patrick Watson