

# THE VIKING JOURNAL

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## Bullying Prevention Month



*The NK P.E.A.C.E. club shows off their support for Unity Day on October 9<sup>th</sup>. Students shown: Alexandra Houchen, Bethany Cleaver, Emily Shane, Melina Harvey, Darby Lowney, Hannah Ronning, and Andrea Willis*

You've heard the speeches every year since elementary school: "Don't hit. Don't say rude things. That's bullying and it's bad. Don't bully." But has this ever really worked? Has bullying stopped?

Can you tell which of these situations is bullying? Telling someone, "You can't sit with us!"; physical abuse, such as punching, slapping, biting, etc.; calling your best friend profane names; telling the girl next to you in math class something about the boy in behind her that may or may not be completely factual; going to the mall and intentionally "forgetting" to invite someone; posting a picture of your friend online without their express permission; threatening to tell a secret or share embarrassing photos of someone else.

If you know that all of these are bullying, then you must have been paying attention in elementary school. However, if you witnessed any of these things happening, would you be a passive bystander, or would you stand up and change the situation? Would you be strong enough to notice if you yourself were being a bully or would you ignore it and continue on your way? So many people, when they see bullying, make excuses to justify standing back; excuses like "They're friends, they don't mean it," or *Please turn to page 4*

# Viking Voices

Viking Voices is a column that focusses on the opinions of the students for world issues, and news. But this column can't be possible without the student support. If you would like to comment on next month's topic and have your opinion possibly be in the next newspaper, please go to our Facebook page and message us! Or just comment under the monthly topic!

This month's topic: The benefits of domestic surveillance by the NSA outweigh the harms.

Recently there has been wide controversy over the NSA (National Security Agency) invading American's privacy by tapping into phone records and e-mail contents. Some argue that this is a clear violation of the Fourth Amendment (which states: The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.) Other people argue that the benefits of the NSA outweigh the harms. Their argument is that the NSA helps to stop terrorist attacks and further protects the American people. The discussion really goes down to this: are people willing to give up a little privacy to get a little more security?

## **For:**

The NSA is using domestic surveillance to help protect the American people. A big argument that always gets overlooked is that the internet and cell phones aren't exactly private. People should be aware of the risks that they are taking before they communicate over the internet. Sometimes, for the benefit of national security, people need to sacrifice some privacy for some safety. For instance, the Boston Marathon bombings were executed and planned within the United States. The government had no way of knowing about this plot until it was too late because they lacked a way to monitor terrorist activities domestically.

## **Against:**

In light of the June 2013 NSA leaks revealing extreme surveillance methods used by the US government on both a domestic and foreign level, the nation is in disarray over balancing privacy with national security. But the argument is simple: current NSA surveillance is in violation of the Constitution. The Fourth Amendment clearly states that before searching private communications, the government must first "demonstrate probable cause or individualized suspicion". Is unrestrained access to millions of law-abiding citizens' personal email accounts demonstrating "probable cause"? Is collecting metadata and recording phone calls of all 120 million Verizon users "individualized"? What we need is security reform- a system that prioritizes adequate oversight and targeting, protecting the safety and privacy of US citizens.

If you would like to participate in Viking Voices please leave a comment under next month's topic on our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/thevikingjournal>) or send us a message with your opinion. Please be sure that messages are less than 100 words, otherwise cuts will be made to your opinion.

# Olympic Champions



*The North Kitsap Vikings against the Port Angeles Riders in one of their first games of the season. They're going to be playing against each other on October 24<sup>th</sup>. Photo taken by Ms. Smallbeck*

## **Girls Soccer, Football, Volleyball, Tennis**

NKHS teams are Olympic champions. Please see next month's issue of the Viking Journal for the results. Cross Country and Girls Swim are advancing to leagues.

### **Volleyball**

This season the Volleyball team is 12-0 which is "spectacular for the volleyball team". They're going to be playing against Port Angeles Thursday the 24<sup>th</sup> which is suspected to be more of a challenge than they have had in previous games. If they win that game, the Viking Volleyball team will be the league champions. They hope to go state this year- a dream that evaded them last year-. The last time the team went to state was two years ago. Sarah Holt, a Varsity Volleyball player, when asked for a quote, said: "We have been blessed to have such a great team and to have been able to compete well this year, and this season." *By Amanda Bannon*

### **Cross-Country**

Cross Country is a sport about distance running. Courses are 5,000 meters of endurance and determination. (Sometimes in the rain. Or hail.) Needless to say, they are not easy. However, the sense of community in the team and the self-satisfaction of personal growth is more than enough for students of North Kitsap to participate every fall. *By Josh Talosig*



*The Viking Football team played hard against the Sequim Wolves. This game ended in a victory and caused the crowd to erupt in cheers. Photographs by Hannah Hawkins*

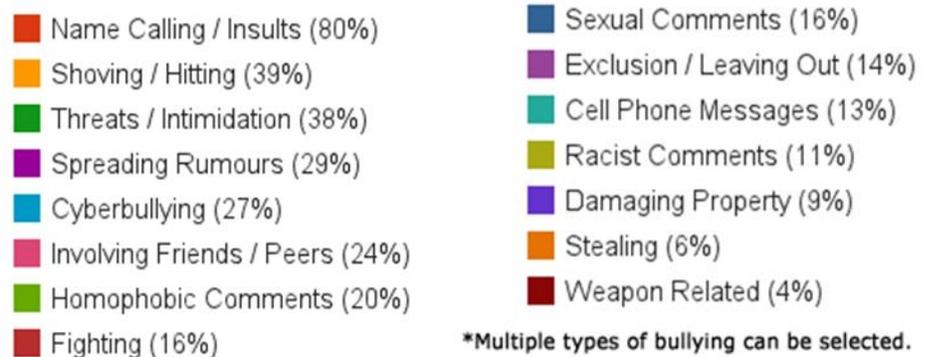
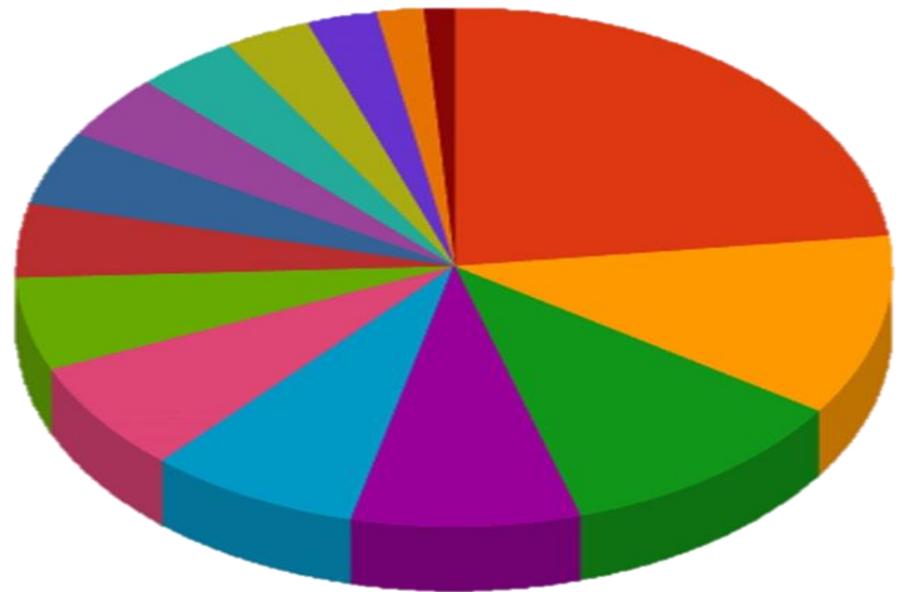
# Bullying Prevention Month

*Continued from Page 1*

“If they were feeling hurt, they would stand up for themselves. They don’t need my help,” or “I don’t know them; it would be weird,” or “It’s none of my business,” or “If I step in, I might become a target.” But these are just excuses. Step in. Tell the bully to stop, or tell an administrator what is going on. Do something. Do not be a bystander; be an Upstander. Stand up for what is right.

Bullying cannot be allowed to continue. It can lead to depression, poor grades, a fearful school environment, or self-harm. Bullying is a common denominator in suicides and school shootings. It encourages dropping out of school and running away from home. It is against the law.

It seems that many students do not realize the effect their words have on other people. “People always make fun of me for being short. They think they’re just joking and don’t mean to be rude or offend me but I hate it. It makes me feel so bad about myself,” says one NKHS student. “I wish they would just realize that it’s not okay. It’s not okay!” Make sure you think before you act. Make sure that your actions are always the kindest thing you could possibly do.



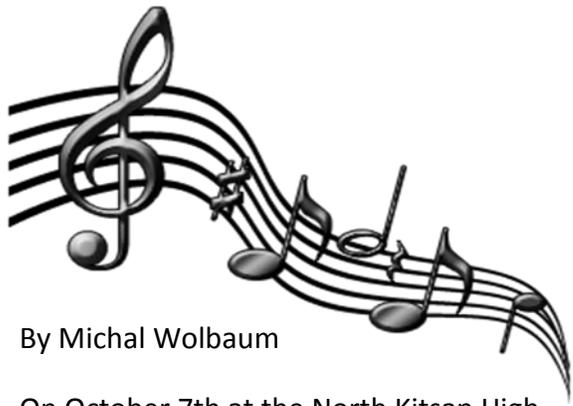
*This graph shows statistics from 2011-2012 on different types of bullying that was reported. Keep in mind that many kids are afraid to report bullying or refuse to. The numbers are probably significantly higher than those shown here.*

Try to think about the other person for a change, instead of focusing on yourself. Sarcastic retorts, “joking” insults, intentional exclusion, we see these things every day but we don’t stand up and do something about them. It’s time to do something about it. The NK P.E.A.C.E. Club is trying to do just that. They are committed to eliminating bullying

by creating a more positive atmosphere at our school. They meet after school on Wednesdays in room 303. This is a great start; but they cannot do this alone. Everyone in the school has to be dedicated to making a difference. We have to unite against bullying so we can eradicate bullying once and for all.

*By Emily Shane*

# Music Matters



By Michal Wolbaum

On October 7th at the North Kitsap High School Commons, the high school music program was given a \$6500 check.

This is part of a bill that was passed on May 3, 2011, that allowed Music Aid Northwest to distribute \$40,000 to music programs that they deemed worthy of support.

North Kitsap High School is the second school to have received this generous donation. The money will go towards repairing and replacing instruments and buying new music.

This kind of support can continue with the Music Matters program, which uses the revenue from "Music Matters" license plates to donate to the school of the buyer's choice.

This whole new system has provided hope for the music programs that have recently felt the strain of the budget cuts in 2012 where the entire budget for the music program was cut.

Visit the Washington State Department of Licensing site to order your very own Music Matters Specialty License plates, specify that the money should go to NKHS, and support our music education!

# Clubs

Neiland - TSA Technology Student Association

TSA is a national, non-profit organization for any student interested in technology. Advised my Mr. Neiland, North Kitsap has the largest chapter in the state. It isn't a club that simply meets once a week, but is really dedicated to personal growth in technology, innovation, design, and engineering. Last year a number of NK students participated in the largest national TSA event to date; many placing in the top ten in subjects such as Video Game Design, Technical Sketching, and Manufacturing Prototype.

Smallbeck – FBLA Future Business Leaders of America

FBLA brings business and Education together in a positive working relationship through innovative leadership opportunities and career development programs. Since Mrs. Smallbeck has been running the club its members have always been contenders at state events; but NK can now boast that FBLA is nationally recognized. After placing top in-state, Justin Severs went to nationals Microsoft Word Expert exam. If you are interested in getting a head-start towards a future career, FBLA is just for you!

# Mystery Teacher

This week, we spoke with a certain teacher who:

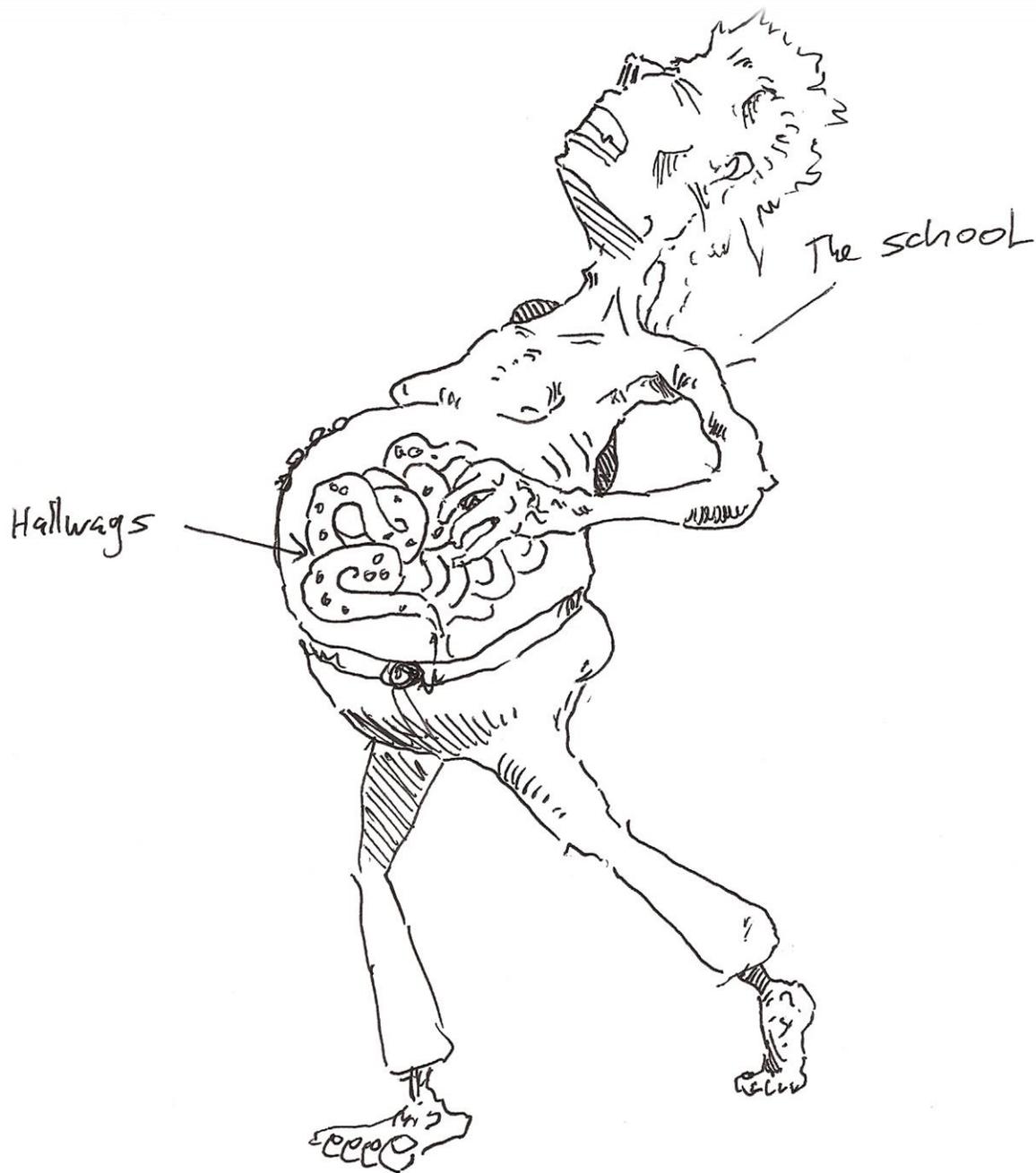
- Enjoys skydiving
- Led wildlife viewing trips throughout Alaska
- Guided sea kayaking trips
- Lived in a Yurt



Submit your guesses of who this teacher is to our Facebook Page: The Viking Journal. We will tally up the results and post them in our next issue, as well as the real teacher behind this issue's Mystery Teacher

# We Need A Lax Solution

by Magnus Cain



THE SCHOOL'S MALADY

## Artist Corner

The Viking Journal supports all form of self-expression. If you would like to display your artistic talents, whether it's photography, drawing, or poetry, please message The Viking Journal and your art may appear in the next month's issue.

Please send your art!



# Amanda's Analysis

## IRON MAN 3

Tony Stark faces his most lethal and obscure villain yet: the Mandarin, who has been behind a series of bombings all over the United States. With the country in panic, and Iron Man having anxiety attacks, will Tony Stark be able to save the day?

Iron Man 3 does not hold back when it comes to comedy; there were definitely enough "cheap trick[s] and cheesy one-liner[s]" to keep the audience laughing and to keep the film light. However, when it comes to seeing a lot of Iron Man action, the audience is in for a letdown since Tony has to let go of his suits for most of the movie to revert back

to weapons like dart guns and Tasers. Though it is refreshing to see Tony not as sickeningly self-confident, it's an interesting turn to see Tony as more of the love-sick-puppy than the "genius-millionaire-playboy- philanthropist". One thing is sure, if you haven't seen the movie, you will love the plot twist and "you'll never see [it] coming"

Rated: PG-13 for sequences of intense sci-fi action and violence throughout, and brief suggestive content

Amanda's Analysis:



## Thirteen Reasons Why

Jay Ashton brings to life the horrible, yet relatable, story of Hannah Baker: a freshman in high school who left behind seven tapes with thirteen names. And Hannah Baker? She's dead. And the thirteen names? These are the thirteen people responsible for her suicide. Tape by tape Hannah Baker tells the story of her life, "well, more specifically why [her] life ended."

Thirteen Reasons Why is a book that inspires thought, contemplation, and reflection. Jay Asher has the rare gift of making the audience feel like they're listening, rather than, reading, the tapes. She makes Hannah so relatable that Asher could be talking about the girl

that sits next to you in English, or the freshman in the back of the library. Thirteen Reasons Why causes the reader to reflect on their lives, how they've treated people, how they've been treated, and most importantly, how they're going to change their behavior. In a time where bullying is still a huge issue in schools, Thirteen Reasons Why is truly and eye-opener.

Amanda's Analysis:



*Do you have a comment on this month's movie or book? Or would you like to rate it? Find me on Facebook on The Viking Journal where you can rate next month's movie and say your opinion on it. You may even be quoted in the next newspaper!*

