



Volume 06, Issue 07 | Date: January 20, 2023

How to Earn College Credit in High School **By: Annabelle Smith**

College Credit Plus (CCP) is a program that allows high school students to earn college credit while they are still in high school. This means that high school students can get a head-start into college early by taking college classes and earning dual credit, including for high school as well. This can be extremely stressful at times, but the hard work will pay off in the end.

Taking college classes while also trying to keep your grades up in high school seems really scary, but it can be a major benefit in the long run. Doing CCP in high school helps students graduate college faster because they will have less credits to earn and also saves money since CCP is free.

When talking about how CCP benefits him, Gavin Simms said, "CCP can help people get a head-start on their college careers and helps you find more independence in your learning." Choosing your classes

yourself makes it so that you are learning about what interests you and, therefore, are more engaged in the class.

CCP is not for the faint of heart, however. Students taking CCP will be put under a lot of pressure since the grades earned in CCP are going to continue on to your college career.

When asked what advice she would give to those who wish to do CCP, Mrs. Bosheff said, "Make sure you are ready to work and you must be responsible." Trying to juggle high school classes, CCP, and a healthy mental state will prove to be a difficult task, but it will be worth the work.

There are some important dates coming up for those who would like to do CCP. The CCP meeting was at lunch on January 10th and application day is February 14th.



The CCP Lounge in the Library where students have time to work on their assignments.

In This Issue	
How to Earn CCP in High School	1
How to Earn CCP continued... Movies and TV of 2023	2
Safety in Winter	3
Editorial: Is the Movie Always Better?	4
Horoscope Outstanding Staff	5
Top 5	6
Spotlight Movie Review	7
Backpage Pics	8



STAFF LIST
Editor Staff:
Veda Agler
Mirrynn Hobbs
Staff Writers:
Adam Parker
Annabelle Smith
Jasmine Coats
Aniya Depaul
Meegan Dockery
Lyric Culp
Editor in Chief:
Mr. Backur

Article continues on page 2

Eligibility testing and placement testing days vary based on the classes you choose. You will have to take the ACT to do CCP no matter if you are doing it in the summer or fall. The last ACT testing day for those who want to take CCP in the summer is in February and the last day to test for fall is in March. There may be other important dates to watch out for on the announcements throughout the remainder of the year as well.

At the end of the day, College Credit Plus can help save money and time by doing college courses during your high school career. CCP is not for everyone, but those who work hard can thrive in CCP.

Movies & TV of 2023

By: Adam Parker

Another year has passed and with that comes the increasingly short amount of time until new shows and movies. From blockbusters, to streaming originals, there's a lot coming out this year.

For starters, the 2023 slate of Marvel is ever-expansive, with at least 10 projects releasing this year, five times the standard from previous years. Some hotly anticipated things to look forward to include the spy thriller *Secret Invasion* and the return of the beloved *X-Men* animated series from the '90s. Also, the long awaited sequel to Sony's animated masterpiece *Spider-Man: Into The Spider-Verse* is set to make its *spectacular* debut.

Taking a look at Marvel's age-old rival, DC, they have a significantly smaller slate coming in 2023, but certainly not a less interesting one. The sequels to DC's *Aquaman* and *Shazam!*, two of their most well received films, are set to release this year as well as the troubled *Flash* movie and the highly fan-anticipated *Blue Beetle* film starring Xolo Maridueña as the title character.

Also set to release this year is *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem*, a new animated film, and *Transformers: Rise of the Beasts*, the sequel to the fan-favorite *Bumblebee* movie released in 2016. The new *Indiana Jones* movie as well as the sequel to *Ghostbusters: Afterlife* are set to release later this year too.

Video game fans aren't to be left out of the fun, either, with *Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves*, *The Super Mario Bros. Movie*, and the much awaited *The Last of Us* series coming to theaters and streaming respectively soon as well.

What are students most excited for, though? Sophomore Marco Pecchia says, "I gotta say *Quantumania* [Ant-Man 3] is what I'm most excited for." Sophomore Bowie Wishak adds they're excited for some of the spookier movies coming in 2023.

With over 80 projects scheduled for release, 2023 will be a huge year for movies and TV. From big blockbuster action movies from Marvel and DC, to smaller scaled projects, this will certainly be an exciting year of hits and misses in theaters and on your screens at home.



2023 summer film slate

Marvel's 2023 slate from San Diego Comic Con



Safety for driving in the winter

By: Jasmine Coots

There's a lot of safety precautions when it comes to driving in the winter. For starters, trying not to slide into someone else's car is the big one.

There are many ways to be safer during the winter season. For instance, driving slower and taking your time to get to a destination is a good start. Secondly, having good tires for the winter is very important because if you don't have proper tires you will slide all over the place and that would put you life and others in danger.

Another tip for driving in the snow is to make sure you have gas as the last thing you want is to run out of gas in a snowstorm, and be stranded in the middle of nowhere. Lastly, it's important to keep your attention on other drivers near you.

Proper gear to have in your car during winter includes jumper cables, a snow shovel, water, and a blanket. These are all important because they could save your life in many situations.

For instance, having jumping cables means you could save someone who has broken down and has a dead battery or for yourself, just in case. A snow shovel can be used to get yourself stuck out of snow or to clear a path. Water can keep you from dehydrating and food is also an important thing to have just in case you get stranded for an extended time. Lastly you'd need to have a blanket to keep yourself warm until help would arrive.

Proper ways to have a smoother ride is to drive with caution and not drive so fast; drive slower than you usually drive. It's important to remain more alert to the road and the people driving around you and being really careful with your turns is important, too. Driving slowly can save your life and the people around you. Lastly, make sure you don't have bald tires that won't provide traction. Have proper tires that are filled appropriately with air, typically 32-35 psi. Check your owner's manual for your suggested psi.

When asked for her most important safe winter driving tip, Sophomore Gabby Mitchell said, "Be ready for anything, such as a animal jumping out or if a car slides into your lane. [Driving in winter] is not the greatest. You have to be more conscious."

Miss Lariccia also offered some of her most important tips saying, "Be careful of black ice underneath the snow." When asked how she stays safe on winter roads she continued, "I drive slow, I leave early to give myself more time, and I make sure I have good tires."



Junior Lillian Smith poses for a photo in front of her car.

Is the Movie Always Better? By: Mirryn Hobbs

Film Adaptations Gone Wrong

It's a very common thing to see film adaptations of popular books or book series. *Divergent*, *The Hunger Games*, and *Harry Potter* are all examples of this occurrence. However, there have been many times when the film just didn't do the book any justice.

Authors spend plenty of time creating an original story line for each book. It takes various amounts of time, sometimes years, for an author to write a book which they are proud to release.



In my opinion, in some cases it is better to leave a good book untouched rather than make a disappointing film for it. There have been many film adaptations that successfully captured the plot of a book, but there have been just as many failed attempts.

A large number of people prefer to watch a movie instead of reading a book. Some just don't have the time to spend tediously reading words on a page, therefore a movie may be a better option. In this case, a film adaptation may be a good option for someone with these views.

However, if a person refuses to read a book and instead watches a terrible film adaptation of it, they will never understand the true value and work put into making the book itself great.

In other situations, I think a film adaptation is simply not necessary. Sometimes it is better to leave a book's story on the pages where it was intended to be. Oftentimes directors have a difficult time fitting an entire book into a movie. They try to cram 500-600 pages into a two hour long film and end up missing some of the most important parts of the book.

This can be a problem for people who genuinely enjoy reading. Many times I was excited to see a new film adaptation of one of my favorite books and walked out disappointed by them leaving out the most meaningful parts.

I think *Paper Towns* was a good example of a failed movie adaptation. The book was incredible, yet the movie felt like it had nothing to do with the original story at all.



In conclusion, I do not think film adaptations are needed for the most part. Yes, there have been many cases where movies based on books were great as well as beneficial to non-readers. Regardless of this, I do not think a film should be made unless it is in the hands of someone who truly knows what they are doing.



Horoscope-Capricorn



(December 22- January 19)

By: Aniya DePaul

Element: Earth

Colors: Brown and Black

Day: Saturday

Ruler: Saturn

Lucky Numbers: 4,8,13,22

Strengths: Responsible, disciplined, self-control, good managers

Weaknesses: Know-it-all, unforgiving, condescending, expecting the worst

Likes: Family, tradition, music

Dislikes: Liars, laziness, emotional expression

Personality Traits: Hardworking, Direct, Honest, Impatient, Ambitious

Famous Capricorns: Jared Leto, Denzel Washington, John Legend, LeBron James, Blue Ivy Carter



Adapted from: <https://www.zodiacsign.com/zodiac-signs/capricorn/>



OUTSTANDING STAFF - MR. MOONEY



By Lyric Culp

When you think of your favorite teacher at MHS I am sure a lot of names come to mind, one of which is most likely Mr. Mooney.

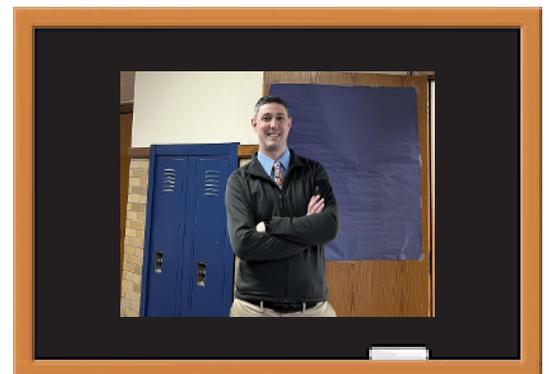
He has been teaching full time in our district since 2009 and prior to his time as a teacher he substituted here at McDonald as well as working at a bank throughout college. One of his more interesting jobs before becoming a teacher was working in a swimming pool factory.

Mr. Mooney currently teaches science for 7th and 8th grade students, plus one physical science class for 8th graders. Each class is unique in their own way, and with that there are a variety of strategies to keep each group of students interested in their education.

When asked about different exercises and activities he uses to ensure learning is fun for his students, Mr. Mooney replied, "Using brain breaks and humor can keep the class from getting stale. I try to use a lot of think-share-pair activities so students can use problem solving skills with their peers."

Some students might get restless in the middle of a class and don't have the motivation to get through the rest of their assignments, so Mr. Mooney tries his best to assess the class at the halfway mark of the class to see if his students need a "brain break" or if they are able to power through their work.

When asked how he feels about Mr. Mooney's class, 8th grade student Aidan Smith, replied, "I like it. He makes learning fun and I look forward to his class."



I'LL START TOMORROW....

TOP 5 COMMON NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS NEVER KEPT!

BY MEEGAN DOCKERY

Eat Healthier



Better eating is always a constant resolution that is made every year that most people never reach. A lot of this is because they try to jump right into a hardcore diet and cutting everything else out, which makes it a lot harder to stick to. If it was done on a more gradual note, more people would most likely be able to achieve this goal.

Going to the Gym

Lifting weights and getting jacked sounds really good and easy. On the first of the New Year the determination and energy runs high. But sometimes quickly or slowly the common phrase becomes, "I'll start tomorrow!"

Diet
ALWAYS
START
Tomorrow

Get Organized

Organization and being organized comes pretty easy to some, but can be more difficult for others. Many start off well with this resolution but fall off the band wagon when they get tired or just say they will get it later. But another reason why some struggle with getting organized is because they simply just don't know where to start.



Phone Detox



The high usage of phones is not uncommon, especially for teens. A common resolution is to lower usage or choose a specific amount of days for the year to not use your phone at all. The issue with this is that, although they may stick to it in the beginning, wanting to know what's going on in the world and your friends' lives is often a traction that pulls students and adults back into their old habits.

Find Love

Nothing sounds better than finding your one true love in the New Year but this is not something that is really in your control. If you fall in love with someone, then it happens, but it's not something that you are really in control of.





SPORTLIGHT BY LYRICCULP



Name: Gavin Schriener

Nickname(s): GP, G-Unit

What sport(s) are you involved in?: Golf, Bowling, and Baseball

What is your go to hype song?: "Ice Cold" by Lil Tjay

Who is your favorite athlete?: Tiger Woods

Favorite sports memory: Winning sectionals last golf season

What is one goal you have for this season?: Make it to state in bowling



Name: Averie Latimer

Nickname(s): Ave lats

What sport(s) are you involved in?: Volleyball

What is your go to hype song?: Anything by Taylor Swift

Who is your favorite athlete?: Peyton Manning

Favorite sports memory: Bus rides in 7th grade during basketball season

What is one goal you have for this season?: Win every game next season



Movie Review: 13 Going On 30

By: Aniya DePaul

13 Going On 30 is about a 13 year old girl named Jenna who wants to fit into her current society, especially with the popular kids at school. On her birthday a mishap happens that results in her locking herself in her closet.

In the closet she repeats, "I wish I was 30, flirty, and thriving." As she continues repeating her wish, Jenna accidentally knocks over magic wishing dust her best friend Maddy had gifted her. When she wakes up the next morning her wish had turned into a reality, but there were missing pieces in her life. Jenna quickly realizes this wasn't the life she wanted for herself at all.

There are many things to like about this romantic comedy, one being Jennifer Garner, who plays Jenna in the movie. She captures the essence of a 13 year old girl in a 30 year old woman's body extremely well, making the movie funny and enjoyable to watch.

Although it's a great movie it's very predictable, and you're unlikely to be surprised.



Overall it's a classic movie that everyone should at least experience once.

CHRISTMAS FLASHBACK

