

Contents

Page 1 -Traditional Schools vs. Technology

Page 2 -Interview: Shun Taylor
-Interview: Donte Finney

Page 3 -Newspaper to Recruit New Staff Members
-Poetry

Page 4 -Health Talk with Ms. L. Jones & Coach Lehtonen

Page 5 -End of Year Reflections

Page 6-8 -8th Grade Week: Pathways to Our Future

Page 9 Comic Strip

Newspaper Staff

Jaz Angeletti
Davisha Cyrus
Briana Claiborne
Joseph Holloman
Elhadj Mbodj
Chayla Stewart
Rajir Williams
Jabari Gibbs
Davionce Moore
Jordan Robinson
Adar Hussein

Guest Contributors

Sheyla Gutierrez

Lion Chronicles

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

APRIL - MAY 2016

Traditional Schools vs. Technology

By Jaz Angeletti & Davisha Cyrus (8th)

Traditional classrooms are filled with desks, big books, and black or white boards. In traditional classrooms, teachers lecture and administer lessons on exactly what students need to know in order to be successful in their classroom. Although the student has little input into what, how, when, or where they learn, history has proven traditional teaching methods an effective form of delivery.

On the other hand, with the growth of mobile devices like the iPhone and iPad, students can essentially learn anywhere. Technology has made instruction a mobile form of delivering instruction. Students can get instruction in the classrooms, at homes, at cafés or libraries.

Technology also allows students the opportunity to learn on their own. With simple guidance from teachers, a student can essentially locate the information, analyze it, and teach themselves.

While these two modes of learning are vastly different, they both perform the important task of ensuring students learn. Some people believe the traditional classroom is the best form of delivery, while others think learning is best achieved through technology. We surveyed teachers and students to

get their opinion on the topic.

Question: Is traditional school, the way you are taught now, still relevant to student learning given advances in technology? We asked students and teachers to weigh in on the issue.

Leonardo Colson: No, traditional school is not the best way to learn because we are using much more modern day technology now, which is opening up new ways to learn much better than the traditional way.

Valencia Henry: Yes, because it will help us expand our learning skills even more and we will be able to apply those skills to maybe make an advancement in technology ourselves

Deshawn Williams: Yes, I still think it's relevant because if we didn't have traditional learning we would probably not be as smart as we are now.

Jesse Alfred: No, because traditional school doesn't really teach us anything about technology anyway.

Roxine Rattray: Yes, it is very relevant because we need all the common core knowledge to be advanced in technology.

Mr. Bonner: Yes, because traditional school will always be "the way of educating learners." All learning follows basic steps: introduce the standard (objective), state the perfor-

mance (students' demonstration), and the assessment (method of rating performance). However, the mode of technology does play a significant role in traditional education.

Ms. E. Thomas: Yes, traditional school is still relevant because even with all the advances in technology, we still need educators to teach us the proper ways to utilize the massive amount of information found on the internet. This is called digital literacy. Not everything on the internet is true, and students must be taught how to discern what information is reliable and what is not.

Jakeria Daniels: I do believe it's still relevant because it is the foundation of creating this technology advancement. I think technology is just a lazier way of learning.

Davisha Cyrus: For me personally, I think traditional learning is very much needed and relevant because with an active, engaging teacher in a classroom, students are very likely to go to school and learn. Some students just need to be in an environment like that to be able to take in information. On the other hand, I also feel that we can simply just go on Google and teach ourselves the information we can learn in school.

Interviewing Track Member Shun Taylor

By Davionce Moore (8th)

We talked to a countless number of track players, but I got the opportunity to talk to Shun Taylor. We asked a good number of questions to see how he learned from his experience of being on the track team.

Davionce: What made you want to join the track team?

Shun: I joined track because I like to run, and I never give up from doing something I love.

Davionce: What is the hardest thing about being in track?

Shun: I think it might have been the pressure of winning or losing.

Davionce: What do you enjoy most about track?

Shun: The feeling of winning and the crowd calling my name.

Davionce: What important lessons have you learned from your coach?

Shun: Everything won't come easy and you have to keep your grades up.

Davionce: What advice would you give to someone who wants

to join track next year?

Shun: Don't ever give up. Push yourself to the limit.

Davionce: How does it feel to come in first place at the meet?

Shun: It feels good to come in first because I accomplished something great.



[Puns]

A friend of mine tried to annoy me with bird puns, but I soon realized that toucan play at that game.
—Chayla Stewart

Interviewing Track Member Donte Finney

By Elhadj Mblodj (8th)

Elhadj: What made you join the track team?

Donte: I figured it would help with my basketball, endurance, and stamina.

Elhadj: What is the hardest thing about being in track?

Donte: The determination to keep going when you're tired.

Elhadj: What do you enjoy most about track?

Donte: You get to have a lot of fun in between work.

Elhadj: What important lessons have you learned from your coach?

Donte: I learned that if you work the hardest you are bound to be the best.

Elhadj: What advice would you give to someone who wants to join track next year?

Donte: Be prepared to run long amounts of

time and make sure you are in shape.

Elhadj: How does it feel to come in first place at a meet?

Donte: It feels great because I know I worked hard.

Newspaper to Recruit New Staff Members

By Ms. E. Thomas

Our student newspaper at Mary McLeod Bethune Middle School launched just this year, midway through second semester. During this short time, we've put out two solid issues and have learned a lot about what it means to be a part of such a publication.

It has been a lot of hard work as we called upon students and teachers alike to voice their opinions on topics that were important to them. Sometimes our brain-

storming sessions left us with nothing but brain farts, but usually with our combined minds we would come up with great ideas, such as student polls, the middle school dating debate, LGBTQ rights in schools, and if the Georgia Milestones are *really* the best way to judge our learning progress. Some of these articles were published and some never saw the light of day—however, everything was a learning process and everything was done with enthusiasm.

As the year comes to an end, we would like to think about the future of our newspaper. The legacy will continue next school year as we recruit new talents to join our staff. If you enjoy writing, thinking creatively, being opinionated, and working hard, the newspaper is for you.

Look our for announcements and application next year as we launch another volume of The Lion Chronicles!



Poetry: *School*

By Chayla Stewart (8th)

School is something, we must all embrace.
Knowledge we need, to seek out and chase.

Subjects and teaching styles, are plentiful and vary.
Just like the backpacks, we all need to carry.

Sports, clubs, and activities, at every single turn.
So much to do, study and learn.

To get the most from school, we should consistently attend.

Around each corner, there's always a friend.

Our favorite teachers, are friendly and kind.
Their passion and job, to expand every mind.

School is something, we must all embrace.
Just remember to learn, at your own pace.

Health Talk With Ms. L. Jones

By Jabari Gibbs (8th)

Jabari: What does healthy look like to you? In other words, what makes someone's lifestyle a healthy one?

Ms. L. Jones: As long as you are mentally stable, you are stable to me, because that's the main aspect of being healthy and happy.

Jabari: We understand that staying healthy is important to you. When did you first realize that it's important for busy women to prioritize their health?

Ms. L. Jones: When I first be-

came a parent I knew that I had to set an example for my kids. I knew that I wanted them to stay healthy.

Jabari: What do you do physically to stay healthy?

Ms. L. Jones: I work out daily and I don't let anything negative manifest. I always run. Also I try my best to not let you guys get on my nerves.

Jabari: What foods do you eat to stay healthy?

Ms. L. Jones: A high protein moderate carb diet, which is a well balanced diet I also drink between

1.5 to 3 gallons of water each day.

Jabari: Do you take any vitamins to supplement your diet?

Ms. L. Jones: I don't take any supplements at all, no vitamins.

Jabari: What recommendations do you have for teens to ensure they become healthy adults?

Ms. L. Jones: Prioritize your eating habits. Eat 3 well balanced meals and also eat 1 to 2 snacks a day, which can be nuts or veggies. And also one more thing. Eat clean, stay lean!



Health Talk With Coach Lehtonen

By Joseph Holloman (8th)

Joseph: What does healthy look like to you? In other words, what makes someone's lifestyle a healthy one?

Coach L: Eating healthy foods, being active, good healthy social relationships.

Joseph: We understand that staying healthy is important to you. When did you first realize that it's important for busy women to priori-

tize their health?

Coach L: It became important when I was participating in 7th and 8th grade sports.

Joseph: What do you do physically to be healthy?

Coach L: I do cross fit and intensive work outs.

Joseph: What foods do you eat to stay healthy?

Coach L: I eat a balanced diet, no processed foods, and I eat lean meats.

Joseph: Do you take any vitamins to supplement your diet?

Coach L: Yes.

Joseph: What recommendations do you have for teens to ensure they become healthy as adults?

Coach L: Start young, stay consistent, and start healthy habits now.

End of Year Reflections

By Briana Claiborne (7th) and Davionce Moore (8th)

This is a run-down on this year's most memorable moments of things and events that have happened. This article features only some of the best moments and times when Bethune was shining. From dances to games to our clothing drive and wicked Bethune Idol! So here's the top 10 list of the best times at Bethune.

1. August 21 was the epic back to school dance! All the kids that went had so much fun!
2. In October we had our clothing drive. We had the students bring in clothes for children in need, and also the class that brought in the most clothing won a pizza and ice cream party! Woohoo to them!
3. In December, students perform at the Winter Concert. Our kids shined on that stage which was a night that many of us won't forget!
4. Now we're heading into the new year... January 4th, the first day of the second semester... I remember this day like it was four months ago... everyone showed up to school in their newly bought Christmas clothes, new phones, fresh haircuts, and all the jazz!
5. February, the month of love... pssh, more like the month when we had the BOOK FAIR!! February 8-12th was the week of our Scholastic Book Fair! If you got a chance to jump on into the library that week, you can agree that the Book Fair was sensational!
6. March Madness!! No, quite literally, March was crazy. We had our spectacular Career Day with all of our wonderful guest speakers and professionals as they talked about their lives and jobs. To this day I still hear some students talking about Career Day and the volunteers that visited us. Career Day was a day to remember!
7. Now we're talking about April. On April 15th we had the stunning band, Hero the Band! They performed songs from their new album, "Bleach." Hero the Band came to our school and brought a new sound to Bethune... rock! Bethune had a live concert performed by a *rock band*! Sure, this was not everyone's cup of tea or music to their ears, but hearing a new sound at Bethune surely had people talking for days... and days.
8. April showers bring May flowers... now we're springing into the month of May. May 2-6 was Teacher Appreciation Week. This was the week we thanked our teachers for raising that 79 to an 80 or letting your late homework still pass for a full grade. Also in the lovely month of April we had our annual Bethune Idol. Our students performed, sang, and danced. We even had an amazing poetry reading.
9. This highlight goes out to our 8th graders. You guys will be leaving soon onto high school, going from the big kids in middle school to the smaller ninth graders. May 16-20 is 8th Grade Week. This is your week, the week where you guys have fun and enjoy some things of middle school while you still can. Read more about 8th Grade Week on page 6!
10. The last and final highlight of this year is obviously the **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!** May 26th is when school ends and summer begins!

8th Grade Week: “Pathways to our Future”

By *Adar Hussein and Chayla Stewart (8th)*



Does the smell of hot waffles drifting through the air, tugging on your five senses and making your mouth water sound deliciously good?

The eighth grade activities week started with a scrumptious breakfast on Monday, May 16, 2016. **Chayla Stewart** served as our lovely Mistress of Ceremonies, presenting guests and introduc-



ing the entertainment like a seasoned late night talk show host. **Jabari Gibbs** opened the festivities with a welcome to

the audience, and **Rae’Ven Jennings** wrapped up the event by reciting the poem *Hey Black Child* by Countee Cullen.

Our theme, “Pathways to the Future,” was the topic presented to us with wisdom and foresight from Assistant Principal **Rodney Jordan** of Towers High School, and



Richard Freeman, Head Football Coach for Morehouse College. Their message was spot on, leaving us with the inspiration to forge a strong path for our future and advice on how to be careful with who we choose to share that future with.

The entertainment was spectacular. Our awesome BMS Dancing Divas performed a Praise Dance that was ele-

gant and graceful, while our own eighth grader, **Ka’Necesia Avery**, performed a solo



dance on stage as the other divas danced in circular motion on the floor. BMS Chorus sang a rendition of *Conqueror* from the Empire soundtrack, and *Believer* by Christina Milian, and eighth graders **Angel Love** and **Brianna Walker** had solo performances. We were all amazed with the extraordinary talent our peers possess!



On Tuesday, we designed crowns. Although initially we felt we were too old to participate in an arts and crafts activity, once we got

started, we had mad fun. **Candice Hamilton** and **Jakeria Daniels'** crowns were particularly beautiful, making us feel like kings



and queens. We cherished our crowns and we wore them to school proudly.

Wednesday was the yearbook signing party where we received our dearest memento of eighth grade year. Teachers cooked out on the grill—we could smell the wonderful aroma of the hotdogs and hamburgers before we got to the cafete-

ria. As we signed each other's books and t-shirts, we listened to the music of Jeremiah, Kodak Black, and Future. Even though the breakfast was great, the Signing Party was even better.

At the yearbook signing party we received our dearest memento of eighth grade year. Teachers cooked out on the grill and we could smell the wonderful aroma of the hotdogs and hamburgers before we got to the cafeteria. As we signed each other's books and t-shirts, we listened to the music of Jeremiah, Kodak Black, and Future. Even though the breakfast was great, the Signing Party was even better.

Finally, the event we have all been waiting for, Friday and the dance. The theme



for this year's dance was "A Night in Paris." The time we spent getting our hair, and nails done, and picking out our clothes and shoes was worth it because we looked marvelous! The dance was all that we had hoped for.

Reaching this eighth grade year is a milestone. We have worked hard and played hard. Teachers have prepared us for the challenge of high school, and now, we are ready to take it on.



Congratulations to our rising 9th graders who served enthusiastically on our newspaper staff!

**Jaz Angeletti
Davisha Cyrus
Joseph Holloman
Elhadj Mbodj
Chayla Stewart**

**Rajir Williams
Jabari Gibbs
Davionce Moore
Jordan Robinson
Adar Hussein**



“Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma - which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of other's opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow already know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary.”

-Steve Jobs

Comic Corner

by Sheyla Gutierrez

By: Sheyla Gutierrez ☹️

