

What's News Noelle?

Thank you, Donald Trump



Photo by Hannah Dyer

Noelle Harff, *Social Media Editor*

Not many people read this column besides teachers and very few students who have nothing better to do in homeroom. Not because I am a terrible columnist (I hope), but because the majority of people don't read the news, and many don't care about politics. That is, until a rich man with a spray tan stepped onto the world stage. He stopped saying "You're fired" on "The Apprentice" and started firing at the media. Welcome to my column.

I want to thank Donald Trump. I want to thank him for saying things so outrageous that people started paying attention. Whether you follow CNN or FOX News, I can guarantee you have witnessed "politically incorrect" behavior by our president. Whether you applaud his candid voice or are appalled by Trump's taboo speech, your stance doesn't matter... your reaction is what makes all the difference.

Everyone has something to say about the president. Before, it wasn't uncommon for only those with a NPR playlist and a New York Times subscription to be considered "politically informed". Today, anyone with a Twitter account can get in on the conversation.

"We are in a time of vibrant active political discourse," said CSU journalism professor, Dr. David Wolfgang. "Throughout history you can observe the growth of journalism parallel that of democracy."

Trump capitalized on publicity by combining politics with pop culture. Because of this combination, viewership drastically increased among media. Revenue of Fox News, CNN, and MSNBC was \$3.87 billion dollars in 2015 and grew to \$4.99 billion dollars in 2017, according to Statistica.

Is it polarizing? Duh. But I believe it is better to be separated and taking action than together and complacent. The fact that we are separated shows the complex diversity we are facing in this country, and thanks to Mr. President, we are all talking about it. Not only talking, but taking action. Look at the voter turnout in 2018's midterm election. 2018 was the first year ballots have surpassed 100 million with 113 million voters in the midterms, according to CBS.

Americans have proven that they will stand up for what they believe in. Standing up means marching, talking, and most importantly, voting. I believe we owe a thank you to Donald Trump for creating politically active Americans willing to take a stand.



Graphic by Delaney Atchison
Photo courtesy of Joint Base Andrews