

From Royalty to Raptors

Students have mixed feelings about Royalty changes

Royalty. Homecoming Court. Kings and Queens. These traditions have been a part of high school for over a century, and while that tradition never changed, our world certainly has. As people in our community continue to change, grow, and learn more about each other, naming a girl as the Homecoming Queen and a guy the Homecoming King just doesn't work anymore, and doesn't include everyone. Knowing that our generation is changing, Student Council decided to change as well.

"This year, Student Council decided to revamp "royalty" into something that recognizes more students in the school, the Raptor Way Award," Riley McMillen '21, Junior Class President, said. "These students encapsulate the meaning of being a student at Eaglecrest rather than just the kids with the most votes."

Each student that received recognition were students who showed Respect, Achievement, Pride, Teamwork, Opportunity, and Responsibility. "Our first priority is to create a space of inclusion and to ensure if we're doing something we're doing it with a purpose," Alexia Jackson '20, Director of Student Advocacy, said.

"I think there was a need for Royalty to change," McMillen said. "Our students are not defined by the number of votes, but rather the good they do for our school." "Despite the stress it had on Student Council to change everything, and the immediate frustration of the student body, changing Royalty made a better Royalty as the school cheered on the six recognized students during the Homecoming Assembly.

"It felt great, like I had actually gotten something," Samantha Burrows '21, winner of Achievement, said.

When explaining to Burrows that the school wanted to include more people and not just base it off of popularity, Burrows was in shock and said she really appreciated it.

"Not that I haven't gotten awards around here before, but this one felt a little bit different. Like the whole school saw me and who I am, and supported me," Burrows said.

Student Council took a chance on change on Raptor Royalty, a new royalty for a new generation of leaders and amazing students. This redefines what royalty really means, and the changing won't stop here either.

"We must keep adapting to our ever-evolving student body. I can promise you one thing, your Student Council is not stopping here," McMillen said.



RAPTOR ROYALTY The Raptor Royalty Court stand together at the Homecoming Assembly, accepting their recognition of the new royalty celebration. "Very grateful and blessed to get this award," Sterling Brassfield '21, Responsibility winner said.

BATTLE CRY Vice President Zion Ruckard '20 leads the school in their battle cry at the Homecoming Assembly with Jah Liang '20. "I like doing the battle cry at games because it signifies how we are one," Ruckard said.

PUMP IT UP Bringing the energy, the Boys Poms team get the Raptor community on their feet as they perform at the Homecoming Assembly.



Coverage by Malia Logan, Photos by Jada Dixon and Delicia Valencia



Play. Sing. Dance. Repeat!

Raptors live it up as they find several activities to have a blast

While dancing is the main attraction at Homecoming, there are numerous activities that make Homecoming a blast. With karaoke, poker, and this year's addition of arcade games, Activities Director Ms. Laferrara speaks to the importance of making Homecoming fun for everyone.

"It is nice to bring something to a dance that is unexpected," Ms. Laferrara said. "The arcade games went well with our Game On theme as well."

When looking at the dance and what to bring to the event-filled lot, Ms. Laferrara makes sure to put everything into perspective.

"We want the dance to appeal to ALL kids," Ms. Laferrara said. "We know not all students love to dance, so we try to provide a variety of activities that will create fun memories and provide additional options for students besides dancing."

Homecoming is meant to be for everyone and for all Raptors to have the time of their lives, and these games bring everything alive as the dance continues to be a fun and inclusive community.



YOUR MOVE Several groups of friends gather in the West Gym to try their hand at poker, laughing and competing as one tries to win it all.

SING IT LOUD! The student body cheers and dances along to the students who participated in Eaglecrest's new Homecoming tradition of Karaoke, different students blurting out song faves.

FAST & FURIOUS Multiple Eaglecrest students put their driving skills or lack thereof to the test as the race each other in a common racing arcade game.

Coverage by Malia Logan, Photos courtesy of Karen Slusher

The Wild Cards Are Out

Art Club holds all the cards as they present their creativity during the Parade



Trinity Bonner '20 walks enthusiastically down the street with her fellow artists, wearing proud a beautiful Hawaiian dancer on the card. "I really like how we got to bring our own creativity when making the cards and bring our own perspectives to it," Bonner said.



"I chose the Joker for my card," Kristen Hackos '21 said. "I think the Joker is the most interesting, cool, and I can relate in a way to the Joker." "It's important to express who you are and what makes you you, and making my card my way was the perfect way to do that," Hackos said.

Coverage by Malia Logan, Photos by Jada Dixon

"The purpose of Homecoming is to not only bring our school, but the whole community together."

-Dulce Garcia '20

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Homecoming

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