

The emotions of walking back into school on the first day of a supposedly "normal" year. The confusion of navigating new rules. We **DARED** to speak up: to mask or not to mask? What happened to our gym? What's going on with the school board? Why are the classrooms so hot, how come the air conditioning isn't working? Who's behind all this vandalism and when will the bathrooms open up again?

We **DARED** to make this year our own. We learned to **BE** patient through sold-out Homecoming t-shirts, through a new principal and a new dress code. We painted our faces for Powder Puff competitions, chopped hair for Wish Week, ran from senior assassin players, decorated our halls for spirit weeks, watched many new school Instagram pages pop up, and changed the rock to fit current events. We froze outside in Homecoming dance lines, and again as Brandon Hommel burned his bacon. We **DARED** to **BE** hopeful for the return of Principal Andy Abner and for the loosening of Covid restrictions. We looked for our own faces on RCTV and for our friends' faces in the bleachers, searched for new clubs to join and a new sense of normal.

**WALK IT LIKE YOU TALK IT**  
Students protest with signs Feb. 7, in response to the firing of superintendent Corey Wise.  
photo by s. sow



**DARE**



**W**e **DARED** to push through the unknown. We made it to the second round of the playoffs and won the first playoff football game in school history. We defied the odds and cheered Poms on to win 5A state for the second year in a row, and watched as Marching Band achieved the highest score in school history, 72.1, at the Colorado Bandmasters Association state competition. Theater students **DARED** to perform their One-Act, The Amish Project, and became the only One-Act chosen to represent Colorado at the National Thespian Conference. Softball **DARED** to put up a fight at state for the fourth year in a row, and girls volleyball worked to **BE** victorious and place first in region 12 of the CHSAA 5A regional bracket, placing 11th overall in CHSAA 5A and making it to state for the fourth time in school history. HOSA State competitors **DARED** to qualify for the International conference, and we experienced the highs of beating Mountain Vista 57-56 to secure our spot in the basketball state tournament, then stuck together through the low of losing in the elite eight. Wrestling **DARED** to step up to have their best season in school history, and so much more. We **BE**lieved in one cause to support Cece, and we **BE**lieved in each other.



**SHOW YOUR STUFF**  
Avery Oates '23 and Kate Krumenaer '23 display their championship banner and plaque in honor of their back to back state championship wins.  
photo by: k. zizzo

# DARE TO



This was the year things were going to **BE** back to normal, but it became the year of things unexpected. We knew we would **BE** back with our friends and **BE** back in school but it was a matter of having to **DARE** to step up, **DARE** to step out of comfort zones, **DARE** to find ourselves and our places in the world.

Through walkouts and elections, no gym for months, masks, no masks, to championships and playoffs, assemblies and our 100th wish granted, AP exams and finals, and so much more, we **DARED** to stick together and **DARED** to keep trying. We went **BEYOND** expectations.

We **DARED** to persevere, **DARED** to do more and succeed.

We **DARED** to **BE**.

#### ON THE WAY TO WISHES

2022 Wish Kid, Cece leaves the school with her dad, on her way to experience her granted wish—being a zookeeper at the San Diego Zoo. Students raised \$70,022.72 over the span of one week to grant Cece's wish—and others' wishes too. Cece's was the 100th wish granted by the community for Make A Wish Foundation over the 13 years of Canyon's Wish Weeks.  
photo by: m. evans