



photos by: devyn miranda



# HELPING HANDS

Students gather to create a welcoming environment for newcomers.

"We show them around and give them a safety net where we're just there to support them until they get their footing about Rampart."

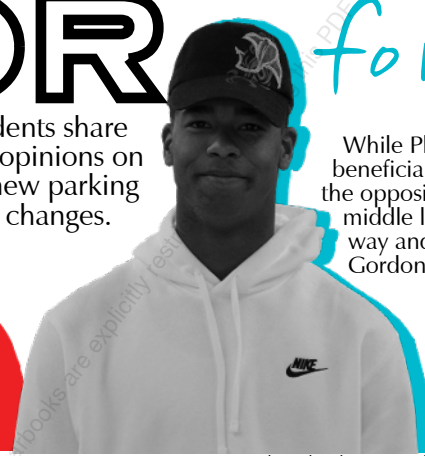
-Tessa Heffner '24

# for better OR for worse

**New renovations.** This year new changes were made to the school's parking lots in hope to better the chaos and confusion previously experienced. Students have varied opinions on whether or not this change is helpful. **Rachel Plechas '23** said, "I think it's a lot better organized than it used to be but I still think a lot of the students kinda ruin it."



Students share their opinions on the new parking lot changes.



While Plechas believes it has been beneficial, **Gabriel Gordon '23** believes the opposite. "I honestly hate it... in the middle lot parents are always in the way and you can't even get in," said Gordon.

photos by: devyn miranda



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**In the family.** Displayed outside of Club Q in Colorado Springs lie the memorials that honor those whose lives were taken from the Club Q shooting. On the night of November 19, 2023 a shooting at a local club, Club Q, touched our community along with many others. For **Derrick Johnson '25** the incident hit very close to home. "My dad was the general manager there and shared owner... he's also a producer and a drag queen there and when the shooting happened he lost two of his closest friends," said Johnson. While the experience has been traumatizing for Johnson and many others, many have been focusing on how kind and supportive the Club Q community is.



# Compassionate COMMUNITY

The impact of the recent Club Q incident on the school and Colorado Springs communities.



# a sign of the **T**IMES

Spread by: *Devyn Miranda*  
 A look back at the 2022-2023 school year.

## beyond **THANKFUL**

Our school has a new principal for the first time in 12 years, and Mrs. Meghan Sanders reflects on her first year in her new role.



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At the start of this school year, **Mrs. Meghan Sanders** switched roles from assistant principal to principal. Making that change has been the most difficult thing about becoming principal for Sanders.

"[As assistant principal] you have a smaller community that you're leading... but now I have to delegate a lot more and I have to lead bigger picture, have a bigger vision and have more perspective ...that transition has been hard and I want to make sure I'm doing it well."

Deciding to be principal is a big decision and Sanders wouldn't want to be principal for any other school.

"I love Rampart. I've taught here, I've coached here, I've led Student Council here. I think this is the best place... the kids, the community, the staff," Sanders said, "I knew that if I went back to high school that I would want to be back at Rampart. I want to be somewhere where I believe in the system that they're doing and I want to be somewhere where I believe in the teachers and leaders working in the school."

Although the switch has been challenging, Sanders believes it is all worth it. She has had many enjoyable

moments as principal, but one memorable moment that stands out was her experience at DECA State this year.

"To see [the students] believe in themselves and to see Mr. Edmiston's face as he's being able to tell these kids [they qualified as finalists at state]... it was incredible to watch and those things are happening all the time."

Sanders appreciates seeing others succeed and thrive in our community and it makes all the challenges worthwhile. One word Sanders used to describe her first year as principal was 'thankful'.

"I just feel grateful that the people here have let me try, let me fumble. They've let me be human and they've let me say hard things and have hard conversations and this staff has given me the space to grow," said Sanders.

In her future years as principal Sanders hopes to grow and continue this welcoming community that she has developed.

"For me as a leader, it's going back to the transition between doer and worker and visionary and leader... working on small steps towards the direction of learning and growing, and being a place where people feel safe." *story by: devyn miranda*

## **SELFLESS**

A student led club comes together for good causes.

## students

Students **Aahana Paul '25** and **Celine Bono '25** created the club known as Heart to Heart in an effort to help better their community. Paul said her favorite part about the club is "the opportunity to show leadership in our community and work with a lot of kids and people in general." Their goal for the club is to continue to support and help those in need. "Recently we did a dance at Academy International [Elementary School], where we raised over one thousand dollars... and we donated half to Bald 4 Bucks and half to a center for homeless youth," said Bono.



photos donated by: aahana paul