

GROWING *into* THE NEW YEAR

Making ideas bloom



PICTURE PERFECT Members of CHS Student Media pose with awards earned at the State Journalism Conference on Thursday, September 14. Students took a day-long trip to visit Colorado State University for the opportunity to attend several workshops including leadership, design, writing, and captions. The media team won the All Colorado Award, the highest level state award for the competition in two categories: Yearbook and Online News. “It felt amazing to be recognized, and I was so proud of everyone that worked on the book that year—it really gave us a sense of pride in that moment,” senior Isabella Hess said. *photo courtesy of l. thompson*

GREEN THUMB Senior Zoe Edwards inspects the isopods in her ecocolumn, in AP Environmental Science, making sure they are still alive before watering the plants. Students had been working on this project for roughly two weeks, and Edwards’ group had successfully grown a variety of plants and filtered the water to be almost completely clear, with the end goal being a clear water ecosystem for a fish to live and thrive in. “The roly-pollies seem to be thriving- it’s fun to see how much all the plants are growing and see all the changes happening,” Edwards said. *photo by r. metcalf*



Science enthusiasts, teachers and students alike, created a safe and fun learning environment for the students to be able to learn the importance and thrill of science.

Students unearthed their passions, and embarked on a self-discovery journey. From the sciences to the arts, each class became a path that guided them towards their true passion, while simultaneously developing teamwork skills with others.

“During Amy Anderson’s biology lab, we were looking at the north and south slopes, and, working with other people, tried to figure out what we noticed,” freshman Colin Palminteri said.

Besides gaining academic knowledge, many learned valuable life skills, such as the willingness to communicate, and also be able to confidently and freely speak in front of an audience – not only that, students got to learn more about their peers by participating in class activities together, as a group.

Grace Poll’s English classes shared their Moth Project stories, which allowed students a chance to dive deep into the recollections of personal times of the lives of each and every classmate, every event impacting a person in unique ways.

Each shared experience was like a building-block, which helped build connections that extended beyond the classroom, letting interests, thoughts, and strengths of every person be known, connecting like-minded individuals.

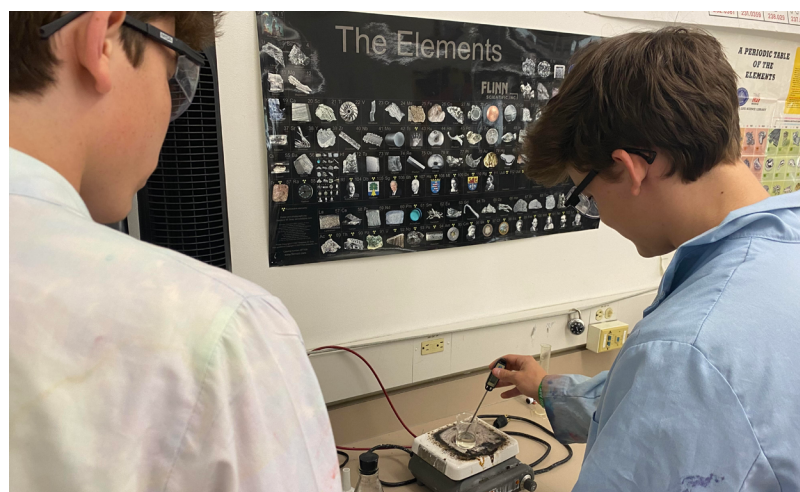
“My Moth Project was on how high risk comes with high reward or failure. While driving in the sand dunes in Utah, I wanted to prove to my family that I wasn’t an inexperienced driver – I crashed. It wasn’t life threatening, but it sure hurt my pride. I learned that with experience and determination, I would eventually complete my goals and improve,” sophomore Polly Fagan said.

“We can
 apply what
 we learn
EVERY DAY.,”

Aaron Shepard, AP
 Psychology teacher

“Building
 relationships with
 kids is a big part
OF MY JOB.,”

Joshua Martinez,
 Security Guard



BREWING UP FUN Sophomore Sawyer Paine concentrates on a chemistry lab in Nicolas Burdick’s class as sophomore Liam Barnes looks on. They did various experiments with liquid salts, trying to find similarities between the chemicals and the unknown liquids that they had to identify by logging chemical properties. “We’re looking at boiling points and we’re trying to discover which of the unknowns match. It’s fun and entertaining,” Barnes said. *photo by d. cirsa*

THINK BIG Aaron Shepard, a psychology teacher, holds a jar containing a rat’s brain, preserved in formaldehyde. During class, he mentioned the different aspects of the brain, and how they allow our brains to function. “During psychology, we talk about the brain and how it works. I think it would be extremely useful for students for the rest of their lives,” Shepard said.

photo by j. pinsonneault **SPEAK FROM**

THE HEART Sophomore John Zeddies wows the classroom with his Moth Project story. He shared his heartfelt story about having a close family friend he deeply cared for move away. “Sharing something personal shows a level of trust with others, and it shows a level of how comfortable you are with your peers,” Zeddies said. *photo by t. woodward*

ROCK ON

Smells Like Teen Spirit

Sophomore photographer Savanna Smith and senior editor Emily Ford attended the 2023 Creativity Weekend at Embassy Suites Hotel in Denver, September 15 - 17, to learn more about portrait photography and the formatting and design aspects of journalism.

Throughout their trip, the two girls explored and met many interesting and inspiring people. One who stood out to Smith was musician and band member Bailey Green from Castle Rock High School.

Green had talent and a passion for music. She put hard work into her practices and own expression of herself. “I think my favorite part about being able to perform is seeing everyone enjoying my music and seeing the joy in people’s faces,” Green said.

photo by s. smith

