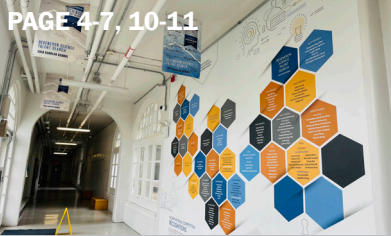


# The Stentorian

## WOWZA

Read Our 95 Senior Wills '25



## REFLECTION

Notes From An Editor-in-Chief



THE NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS MONTHLY, EST. 1981 | VOLUME XLIV, NO. 5 | DURHAM, NC | MAY 2025



# CONGRATS!

**TO THE FUTURE.** The NCSSM-Durham Class of 2025 graduates on May 23. As the academic year comes to a close, 322 seniors of NCSSM-Durham's Class of 2025 have reported their college destinations. The seniors are set to attend a wide array of institutions, from Ivy League universities and top research institutions to liberal arts colleges and public universities across the country. **SEE PAGE 2**

## CLUB SPOTLIGHT



### Grandma Club: Tea, Treats, and Timeless Fun

**KNIT, REPEAT.** In the midst of academic stress, Grandma Club offers students a sanctuary to enjoy life's simple pleasures —tea, crafts, cookies, and community. Founded on the idea that anyone can embrace a “grandma mindset,” the club has quickly become a heartwarming space for weary souls of all ages to connect and unwind.

SEE PAGE 3

## STUDENT GOV

### Presidential Statement from Israel James

**SERVE COMMUNITY.** As we near the end of our time here at NCSSM, I find myself not just reflecting on those moments that defined our experience, but on the people who made it truly unforgettable. And that's exactly what I've tried to do.

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## STUDENT LIFE

### The [Dying] Legacy of Happy Half and Hill Lounge

**RITUAL REVIVAL.** Once a nightly tradition, Happy Half offered students a chance to unwind and connect during the final 30 minutes before check. Now, with declining participation and fading memories, students are left wondering whether this cherished ritual can be revived, or if it's time to let it go and make space for new traditions.

BY ANNELIESE HEYDER  
STENTORIAN EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

With the weather turning from spring to summer, the later sunsets and the reminder that last day of classes and finals are around the corner, students in the past can be found socializing with friends whom they may not see till term, anxiously gossiping about final projects, or just enjoying the warm weather outside during the last 30 minutes before check. However, as you walk down Hill Street and past Hill Lounge, the campus is quiet; students aren't packed together, throwing footballs with the steady stream of chatter flowing down the road. Hill Street and Hill Lounge are dark and ominous, with no student life. What has become of the beloved Happy Half tradition? Is there any way to save it, or have we accepted that some traditions die off and others

must be born?

For those unaware, Happy Half is a time during the last half an hour before check at 10 pm where students can chat with friends, hang out outside, and unwind from the stress of the day. During the months when the weather is warmer, Hill Street is noisy, with lots of student chatter. Even in the colder months, students could be found congregating in Hill Lounge, playing foosball or ping pong. For students, it's a nice thing to look forward to after classes and studying all day. However, it has quite literally “died off”. Instead of the yells of classmates to “Meet at Happy” in the library or the whispers of “I'll tell you at Happy” during class, there is nothing.

Some seniors have opinions about why that is.

Felicity Lipchak '25 shared that she believes that Happy Half declined due to the Class of 2024 leaving last year, and that the current seniors didn't protect the legacy.

Zoe MacDonald '25 also voiced a similar opinion and added, “The former classes would be disappointed to know that Happy Half has ceased to exist. Class of 2026, it's up to you to bring it back before it's gone.”

SEE PAGE 2

## MUSIC

### Big Spoon Moshes at Unipalooza '25

BY MABEL KENNEDY  
STENTORIAN STAFF WRITER

Having practice is really fun but when you're doing it for that much time and you know that when you go back to your room you're just going to have to work on homework and do other stuff SSM students have to do, it starts to drag.” This is the reality for most of the openers and NCSSM's very own Big Spoon's members. As Hazel Cochran '26 states above, UniPalooza wasn't all fun times, a lot of hard work was put into it.

UniPalooza, the name, a spin off of Lollapalooza, is, I'd argue, one of the most important cultural events of the school year. This year it was headlined by Big Spoon the Third. On the humid grounds of

Bryan lawn, dozens of students gathered to support this event on an unsuspecting Friday afternoon, more specifically, May 9.

Students had generally good things to say. As the #1 Curls on campus, our very own Sadie Albright '26 said, “I liked how everyone came together, however, Scotty Doesn't Know was a choice... he definitely knew.” I can agree with this statement and so can various anonymous sources saying other points such as, “I wish Kahan had a solo, the technical difficulties were not that noticeable, and it wasn't as hype as last year.”

The actual show wasn't all I was interested in however, it was the musicians' experiences that stood out to me the most. As it was

SEE PAGE 2



LOUISA WEINARD



MUSIC FROM PAGE 1

# Big Spoon Moshes at Unipalooza ‘25

touched on above, the stress and hardwork the band members put into this show were admirable to say the least. Big Spoon had to learn and memorize around 2 hours of songs to play though and began practicing early on. For three weeks before this event, Big Spoon practiced everyday for 2 hours, adding up to a total of 14 hours of practice a week. Perhaps a seemingly low amount but then added onto the initial stress and expectations of schoolwork, the workload becomes intense. However, when asked, there was no tension between the band members at all, a surprising fact based on the apparent strenuous practices

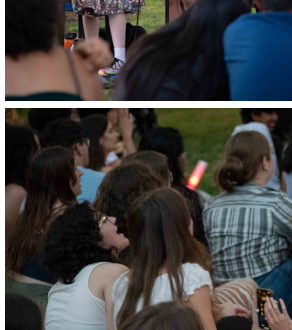
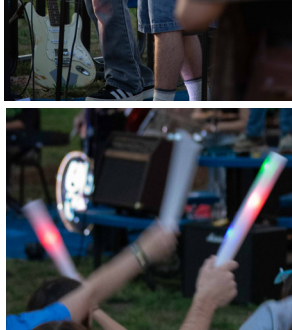
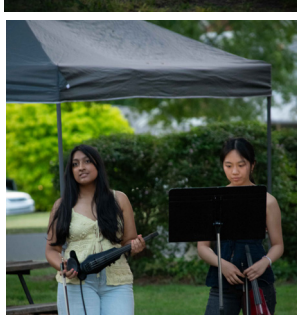
Big Spoon's legacy is also an interesting one. When asked if they've figured out any of the members for the next generation of the band, rising seniors Jiya Zaveria and Hazel Cochran stated that, "it was still in the works," despite them being sad to see their seniors go. Big spoon is a band that is flexible, an ongoing legacy rather than something concrete. The sound may be different next year, members will be different but



it'll still somehow be Big Spoon. Jiya and Hazel will continue the traditions that we know and love, Koffehouses and UniPalooza, but also hope to continue writing and performing their own songs while making a push to perform at more non-school venues (shoutout Local 506).

From Mayday Parade to Janelle Monáe, inspiration for the Big Spoon members came from a lot of places, something that's evident in their song choices for Unipalooza. Members had the chance to pick two "save songs," stated Hazel Cochran '26, songs that had to be included, even if the other members didn't want to. However, the setlist wasn't just made up of "save songs," agreed upon covers and originals were sprinkled into the recipe as well. Seemingly, the band came together in a lot of ways, from their practice and writing sessions to the big performance, Big Spoon became a new band this year that the student population surely will be sad to see go. ■

PHOTO CREDITS TO LOUISA WEINARD & MABEL KENNEDY.



COVER FROM PAGE 1

# Class of 2025 Commit to 47 Colleges

BY TERESA FANG  
STENTORIAN EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As the academic year comes to a close, 322 seniors of NCSSM-Durham's Class of 2025 have reported their college destinations. The seniors are set to attend a wide array of institutions, from Ivy League universities and top research institutions to liberal arts colleges and public universities across the country.

According to Program Assistant Pam Oxendine, NCSSM Counseling Services worked with seniors from May 1-5 to complete their final transcript requests. After May 1, seniors self-reported their decisions to the department, which has released data on the colleges the class of 2025 committed to for The Stentorian. As of May 14, 2024, college commitment data was available for 322 out of the total 342 graduating seniors (94 percent reporting), including early decision, early action, and regular decision commitments.

Unsurprisingly, the most popular destination is the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where 169 NCSSM-Durham students—more than half of those reporting, or roughly 52 percent of the senior body—will enroll this fall. NC State University follows with 68 students, continuing a long-standing pipeline between NCSSM and the state's flagship STEM university.

Beyond North Carolina, students are spreading out across the nation. Four students will attend Yale University, another four will enroll at Columbia University, and four more are heading to Stanford University. Duke University, located just minutes from campus and a popular research partner for many NCSSM students, will welcome 13 undergraduates this fall.

The class also boasts acceptances to all eight Ivy League institutions, with students enrolling at Harvard, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Princeton, UPenn, and Yale. Other notable destinations

include the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2 students), the University of Pennsylvania (5), Carnegie Mellon University (3), Georgia Tech (5), and the University of Chicago (2).

Smaller liberal arts colleges are well represented too. Students will attend Barnard, Davidson, Haverford, Swarthmore, Spelman, and Williams. One student is heading to the United States Air Force Academy, and another to McGill University in Canada.

Two students have chosen to take a gap year before continuing their

academic journeys.

Altogether, the Class of 2025 reported plans to attend 47 different colleges and universities, showcasing the diversity of interests and ambitions that define the NCSSM experience.

Here is a full breakdown of college destinations for the class of 2025: ■



Durham Campus - 342 seniors		322 reporting	
College	# Attending		
Appalachian State University	1	Northwestern University	1
Barnard College	1	Princeton University	1
Carnegie Mellon University	3	Rice University	1
Case Western Reserve University	1	Spelman College	1
Coastal Carolina University	1	Stanford University	4
Columbia University in the City of New York	4	Swarthmore College	1
Cornell University	4	United States Air Force Academy	1
Dartmouth College	1	University of California-Berkeley	1
Davidson College	1	University of California-Los Angeles	1
Duke University	13	University of Chicago	2
East Carolina University	1	University of Michigan-Ann Arbor	1
GAP YEAR	2	University of North Carolina at Asheville	1
		University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	169
Georgetown University	1	University of North Carolina at Charlotte	1
Georgia Institute of Technology-Main Campus	5	University of North Carolina at Greensboro	1
Harvard University	1	University of North Carolina Wilmington	2
Harvey Mudd College	1	University of Pennsylvania	5
Haverford College	1	University of Southern California	1
High Point University	1	Vanderbilt University	1
Howard University	1	Wake Forest University	1
Johns Hopkins University	1	Washington University in St Louis	1
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	2	Williams College	1
McGill University	1	Yale University	4
New York University	2		
North Carolina A & T State University	1		
North Carolina State University	68	TOTAL Reporting	322

COLLEGE STATISTIC DATA ACQUIRED BY THE STENTORIAN FROM NCSSM COUNSELING. THE STENTORIAN.



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STUDENT LIFE FROM PAGE 1

# The [Dying] Legacy of Happy Half and Hill Lounge

Other seniors recall some of their favorite memories from Happy Half.

Connelly Martin '25 shared, "Happy Half was once a place that I found lots of joy and socialization with my peers from all across the student body. And now, as I'm reaching the end of my senior year, Happy Half has transformed into something that is not attended by many. It's slowly dying, which is sad for me to see, as it was once a place of such joy, every night."

Lipchak shared her favorite parts of Happy Half. "I loved just going out to talk to everyone after long days, especially when we were gone for long weekends or breaks; everyone would go out for the first half we were back. There were great conversations. And that's how a lot of like friendships were built. And now that doesn't happen at all."

However, when asked what the junior class thought, these were their responses.

Morgan Price '26 stated, "I've never been to Happy Half", which adds to the point that the nightly tradition is becoming less and less popular among both the junior and senior classes.

Lilly Ferry '26 chimed in, saying she thinks the importance of Happy Half was relayed to the juniors, and that the junior class "were busy and

didn't care."

When asked her favorite memory of Happy Half, she said she liked to attend and sit in the hammocks and watch the spikeball games.

There are certainly other traditions and annual events here at school. The annual watermelon run hosted by the Watermelon Club, the Holi events during the spring, senior skip day and senior sunset/sunrise, and many more. These traditions have lasted and endured, which raises the question of why Happy Half hasn't?

So what does this mean for future classes at NCSSM? Is Happy Half gone for good? It's up to the current juniors to decide if they want to keep the tradition alive or allow it to rest for good. If so, what new custom will they bring to the table, and what will it have in store for the rising juniors? Only time will tell... ■

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## CLUB SPOTLIGHT

# Grandma Club

BY LOUISA WEINARD  
STENTORIAN STAFF WRITER

With the stress of a heavy academic workload heavy on their minds, it's easy for NCSSM students to forget to appreciate the small joys present in everyday life. That's where Grandma Club comes in—a sweet new edition to the slate of clubs offered on campus, this club offers the perfect outlet for students to embrace life's simpler pleasures in community.

Led by a devoted group of juniors nicknamed the "Gran Jury," Grandma club provides a welcoming space for students to play cards, crochet, knit, craft, sip tea, snack cookies and candies, and enjoy the presence of other "old souls." According to Celia Cecchini '26, one of the club leaders, Grandma club was founded on the belief that

"a person does not have to wait to be a 'grandma' or 'grandma age' to do the things they like or enjoy the subtleties of life." This philosophy has held true through events like their tea and cookie social, valentines card making event, and many other creative opportunities. Special guests, such as Dr. Cooper, have even joined in to help teach students to crochet, emphasizing the club's focus on community and celebrating a "grandma mindset" accessible to all.

While still relatively young, Grandma club is excited to expand and take on more elaborate events in the future. Rising seniors and incoming juniors: keep an eye out for club meetings and exciting opportunities to connect with fellow students, take advantage of free food, and embrace your inner grandma qualities! ■



TERESA FANG



I, **Sedem Agbembabiese**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Alex Caza 4th East RLA; Gabriel Kinney my crippling addiction to Banh's Cuisine; Joshua Taylor countless hours of PEC pickup basketball.

I, **Chase Aiken** of somewhat sound mind leave Noah Martinez the responsibility of grabbing the medic bag before all swim meets and practices. I trust you shall take this responsibility with the utmost of diligence and never forget the bag on the bus or in Newbauer's office. To Manny Price, I leave the volleyball club. To Daniel Birnbaum, David Wong, and Matthew Dober, I leave the spirit of Third West in your hands.

I, **Saachi Arun**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave a spectacular senior volleyball season to Leira Smith, Anthien Nguyen, Chloe Harnphanich, Cornelia Okonkwo, Ava Hodgson—all of you better come back to play; RMonahan to Manny Price; Heloise Fratta, Moira Furr, Brianna Reyes, Vineel Gavini, Ivana Afgnui—cherish every moment in RBio, it'll be over before you know it; Nityam to Pragathi Akula and Jiya Zaveri—make Asiafest amazing; Student Affairs to Manny Price; Asiafest dancing to Nimish Kandekar; Late-night Taylor Swift and FBLA grind to Ava Hodgson (stay freaky); frequent Koffeehaus performances to Chloe Harnphanich and Sam Kim; Stargazing to Gauri Menon; Snowball fights to Hadi Abdul; the spirit of 2B to Monse Castrejon and Katie Diaz; Basketball, buldak, debriefs, and SSIB love to my beautiful JSIB Zara Patel—you're going to be the best SSIB ever; and finally, Family to Zara Patel, Grace Pan, and Joshua Chilukuri—I hope you make many more families with your new juniors.

I, **Vasu Bansal**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Soham Kela with energy drinks.

I, **Vincent Barboriak**, hereby leave to Rex Chen my title of Spoonsmaster. To Thomas Fasan I leave somewhat tedious Spanish peer work. To Vidhatu Patel I leave a miniature 3D printed sword, hoping he continues his education in surface modeling. To Matt Dober, Connor Towns, Ansh Meghani, and Jeff Valdivinos I leave a 64 song bracket.

I, **Sofia Barrientos**, leave the Mech lab and questionable safety to Hasita Alluri, Will Dennis, and Shivani Ramkumar. I leave my silliness with Anderson Lam and Troy Go and aspirations of an early bedtime with Kira Ramirez. I leave LSU and chisme nights with Ella Juarez, Heloise Fratta, Katie Diaz, Monse Castrejon, Noah Martinez, Brianna Reyes, and more. For Ella and Jasmine

Herring, I leave keeping 3rd Bryan fun and petting Hope's cat for me. I leave Abby Williford with fond memories of crepes and whatever we did in EE. Who knows. For Sanika Agarkar, rocketry and an upcoming year without cleaning out cracked eggs (hopefully). I leave Thomas Fasan with a clapped sleep schedule; your habits concern and amuse me, in that order. I leave Shreya Sattenapalli and Ankit Biswas with the weight and pride of always being Metrolina kids from Charlotte (the greatest city in the Carolinas). For Billy Dyer, listening to music on the swings with your feet crossed. My headphones are cooler, though. I leave Jay Weaver with the knowledge that I'll always have that LAF ticket video, so watch out. Finally, I leave Linda Duong and Alexa Miranda with gratitude for being shorter than me. Tremendous job.

I, **Silas Beasley**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Quinn Eno Trips, an undying Dr.Pepper obsession, Panera study sessions, and weeklysushi. To Quinn and Aiden Hernandez, I leave the hopes 6 AM gym, Lululemon shorts, the embodiment of "for the plot" side quests, and late-night yaps. To Aiden and Patrick, I leave you both undying optimism despite every challenge you may face, the roles of unofficial SSIB, and NCSSM Wikipedia. To JR, I leave a love for Revolve Church, 2E, and random weekend meal preps. To Aaron Chen and Neil, I leave you both hopes for a bigger room. To Jay W and Shivani R, I leave my love for engineering and the hope that you'll uplift your juniors in Explorations into Engineering Forum. To all my juniors, I leave the spirit of yap and a deep love for the FabLab.

I, **Adrian Bedeley**, being of sound body and mind, hereby leave behind a few pieces of NCSSM that mattered most. To Alex Caza and Ayaan Vora, I pass on the spirit of brotherhood that my roommate John Brown and I share — chaotic peace, and a bond built on late nights and real conversations. Along with it, you now own our couch and the 431 rock. Protect them. To Connor Skeels and Zara Igbokwe I pass down the never ending battle of Calculus. I couldn't beat it but maybe you can. To Sneha Khetan and Daniel Birnbaum, I leave the AR Mock Trial team, lead smart, and keep Ronit and I's legacy alive. To Anne Boafu, I pass down the Ghanaian pride. Make our people proud. To Hazel Cochran, I just want to let you know to keep going hard on physics, it might be your calling. To Myles Pitts, I crown you the new Short King of NCSSM. Wear it with pride, a very special person passed it down to me. To Pragathi Akula, I pass down my Student Ambassador duties — enjoy the blue jacket. To Jay Weaver, Alex Caza, Ayaan Vora, Evan Cunanan and Pierson Davis, you will always be my sons. I love you all.

I, **Erin Bienstock**, of (arguably) sound mind and body, leave pickleball club to Chessa Woods, Cullen Warren, and my jsib, Moira Furr: Let the beautiful game live on and never stop balling. To Jay Weaver, Casey Foeller, and Amarachi Uwakwe, I leave lunch meetings with Dr. Love, Mr. Morey's unwavering sass, and the art of High Powered Rocketry. To Zoe Thaxton, I leave the joys of Pinhook line dancing (ownership previously granted to me by Lucia Paulsen), and my piles of eraser shavings in R002. To Mia Aiello, Katie Diaz, and Monse Castrejon, I leave the love, joys, and laughter of 2B. And finally, to the new residents of 211, I leave the generational One Direction poster.

I, **June Brewer**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Mariam Hanna every

ETC Lobby, where memories were made. I hope you continue to shine as bright as you have this year. To Xixi McMasters, I leave you my check board, where you can draw silly little drawings on every new check sheet. To Nora Brantley, I leave you all the patience to deal with your sister and a lifetime of jokes to make you smile. Your smile is so bright and beautiful and the entire world deserves to see it. And lastly, to Connie Okonkwo, I leave you will all the love and happiness the world can offer. Never let anyone dim your light, sunshine. I know you'll do amazing things next year.

I, **Emily Brown**, being of sound mind and body do hereby leave the following; to Billy, your own guitar, and my spot on the swings; to Aaron, my swag, so it may compliment yours; to

I, **Ethann Burkett**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Alex Caza endless lvis and failed dunk attempts as you continue to fail over and over to head-top someone; to Nikhil Nanduri, I leave you the most prestigious name at this school as you will take on "Golden Stroke", to Connie Okonkwo I leave you the legacy of the Governor's Page Program and an endless bus pass to UNC next year; to Harry Gribbin and Jayden Lee I leave endless water buckets for next years water fights; to Ayden Hall I leave my Waves Sounds Optics knowledge and your giraffe running form; to Tanuj Kart I leave the 1st Hill 2 AM barking session; to Sam Kim I leave my favorite sweatshirt without you having to trade anything for it and my goated DEPOP account;



stupid check question; Reshmi Polneedi (my favorite not-RLA) all the Playa bowls stickers your heart desires; Jay Weaver, Casey Foeller, and Amarachi Uwakwe my beloved rocketry club and the hope you remain burn-ban free and your clouds high; Natalie Dunnigan easy cross-country runs and stops at the park; Thomas Fasan late nights and dreams of a working robot ---may your senior season be everything you want; Caroline Wang, my beloved jsib, hours in RChem bothering Dr. Bruno and a horrible taste in cereal; Lydia Le late night lock-ins and morning runs, and the hope that you'll be able to sleep now that I'm not in your room late at night (please. please sleep);

I, **Mya Britt**, being of sound mind and body, do herby leave Atha Brantley my room, where you crashed out on my floor, to take care of yourself in. I will be with you in spirit at every soccer game. To the future captains of KWAVE, I wish you the best for next year, and leave all my dance moves to you. To the future Vogue Captains, I leave you with my speaker, to blast at every practice. To the future Enthalpy Captains, I leave you

Michael, Bali Hai Fridays; to Anderson, "team"; to Oliver, my goat, my one and only republican senator, I leave to you my best wishes and nothing more; and to goopers, I leave everything I've ever owned, in addition to ten thousand dollars, trivia, and frosting covered cardboard. May your futures shine as bright as your smiles <3

**Julian Burke** - To the next 3B RLAs: i give u dirty showers and over flowing trash cans. To LSU juniors: i leave u with the companionship u will need in the coming year. To spectrum juniors: i give u the feeling of watching love lies bleeding for the first time again. To Sadie Albright: I give u the 301 bean bag (but not literally, as it is not mine) & the river house forever. To Rosa Miray: i give u the puerto rican flag for moff next year. To Micah: I leave U with 100 empty beall classrooms to sing to ur hearts content. To Anna liu: i leave U with all da microphones. To sam: I leave u with a lock of my hair. To Mia: I give u night terrors with a schritchy scratchy at ur door forever. To Irene and Ella: I GIVE U MY HEART SEVEERRR!! JBURP OUT!!!!!!!

to Jackson Warren I leave my 20 pound bass and finally to Josh Taylor I leave my fart spray, your self portrait of Sid the Sloth, Koury Convention Center and our random sidequest outings.

I, **Aaron Castelino**, leave Alex "Curtis" Lin and Jimmy Chen the thrilling legacy of bullet chess and Basketball Legends matches; Avery Yang, Alfred Ye, and Ryan Morelli FIFA nights (please train Shunav Sen to improve his ability to shoot the ball); Aarush Jugdar the jsib/ssib 9th Street outings that never materialized; Lucas Lin SciOly earth science events; Ophir Avsian, Lucas Chiappetta, and Ryan Morelli the Spot; and Aneesh Suddala an honorary Quiz Bowl leadership position (thanks for your perfect attendance).

I, **Celina Chen**, hereby leave Chloe Harnphanich ranting over Pie Pusher buffalo wings, Kageyama, and the legacy to continue our SSIB/JSIB lineage. You will do great things, be good to the next generation! To Jessica Xu I leave blobby super productive study sessions, the lucky vaguely reminiscent

SEE PAGE 5

bracelet, BRAZILIAN FUNK in lib, and late-nights spent in the 2B lounge. "The best view comes after the hardest climb." To Grace Pan I leave the other earbud to my wired earbuds to listen to beautiful melodic tunes and library antics (nikhil lanyard incident, haikyuu incident(s)). Keep giggling cutie pie. To Ophir Avsian I leave interesting library talks, inspirational quotes (Swimming by Flawed Mangoes), and @ophirsoasis on TikTok. To Lucas Chiappetta I leave a sticker stating "I'm not insulting you, I'm describing you". I'll see you at Schrodinger in a few years. To Ryan Cannon I leave the essence of ankle cinching joggers. I hope you stop being weird. To Grace Liang I leave unemployment in the library, freaking people out, and orgo class activity 2 resonance practice. Your mind never ceases to amaze me. I love you all, thanks bye!!

I, **Olivia Chen**, of reasonably sound mind, leave the spirit of 2B bestowed upon me to Monse, Katie, and Mia; keep the karaoke tradition alive. I leave my beloved Koffeehaus to Chloe, Sadie, and Cullen - be goofy and do it well. To Grace, my child, I leave closet raiding, the digicam legacy, silly stickers and ALL CAPS TEXTS; to Chloe, I leave fully present parenting and wack harmonies. Jess and Baylee, treat 209 with care - it'll be your sanctuary during apps szn, school, and everything in between. I leave Laufey songs and tight hugs to Eleena, unfinished tiktok transitions and the best birthday to my AK twin Advika, and successful friend crushes and chain mail texts to Gauri; keep being the sweetest souls alive. To Nimish, I leave pre-hello spontaneous dancing and fierce pickleball tournaments. I wish Tanuj to inherit all Popeyes chicken sandwiches, brownie sundaes, and a very specific jacket. Vineel, I leave physics crashouts and our first lab we never got to complete together. To Zara, I leave periodic late night conversations that last 'till 1 in the morning, and the task of finding a junior you can "borrow" a sweatshirt from for the entire year. Good luck, you won't need it!

I, **Shirley Chen**, being of sound mind and body, leave the warmest hugs and Buldak feasts to Baylee Lin and Jessica Xu; may the late-night conversations filled with love and tears never end. To Clara Choi I pass down my K-drama obsession. To John Guo, I leave silly memories filled with laughter. My love for Wang Laoshi's unserious jokes continues through Alex Lin, Kerry Luo, and David Wong. To August Huang, Jimmy Chen, Jay Peng, and Sam Kim, Bali-Hai runs with level 10 spice continues on. I pass on the legacy of 2B to Monse Castrejon, Katie Diaz, and Mia Aiello; take care of her. To Shrunu Allada, Lily Galapon, and Clara, I leave KWAVE, my pride and joy. To Alex, I pass down the title of the Bao family. To Jayden Lee

+ Avery Yang, I leave behind words that make me lose brain cells. To Emily Lin, I leave my forever SSIB support; Zoey Zhang spontaneous Chicken Bee outings; Hilary Chen sweet giggles. I leave Joe's matcha latte with vanilla syrup to Grace Pan; hair dyeing sessions to Hasita Alluri; b-day party plannings to Micah Wascher. Chloe, Sam, and Clara, may you continue making TikToks. Souranbushi now belongs to Jay + Connor. Finally, to Skib, I will miss you and love you forever.

I, **Abhinav Chivukula**, of Philadelphia, PA, Morgantown WV, and Huntersville, NC, leave my super single dorm-room #349 to Prbhuv Nigam; spontaneous side quests to Tanuj Karthikeyan and Nimish Kandekar; and perpetual pantsing to Vineel Gavini.

I, **Amy Cho**, leave behind some of my favorite memories to some amazing juniors who made this year a lot of fun. To Clara Choi, my favorite JSIB and one of the cutest, most thoughtful people I know, I leave you all our yap sessions that were technically study time but always turned into the best deep talks, plus our church and Duke trips. To Jessica Xu, I leave our late-night study, eat, and random talk sessions. Please continue being iconic and don't burn toast in the 2B lounge. To Hasita Alluri, Clara Choi, and Emily Lin, I pass down our beloved SSIB-JSIB three-man outing "tradition". To Shrunu, may you fight physics just like you did with chemistry. To Jimmy Chen, I leave our Korean church trips, hoping your Korean skills will improve next year. To Chloe Harnphanich, continue being a mom for other juniors. And to Sam Kim, I leave our stop-motion legacy and the mission to "make friends".

I, **Neel Date**, being of sound body and mind, do hereby declare this to be my Last Will and Testament, hereby revoking all prior wills and codicils. I appoint Anesh Suddala and Ankit Biswas as co-beneficiaries and co-executors of the civic engagement I have cultivated among the NCSSM community, in particular on 2nd West. They have the express authority to host debate and election night watch parties in their dorm rooms, as well as to provide pizza to accommodate for truly engaged audience members. An emphasis should be placed on the upcoming New Jersey and Virginia gubernatorial races. Lastly, I grant them the power to appoint new chief political correspondents and analysts from among their junior class, grooming them to take over for the 2026 midterm elections. I also appoint Aneesh Suddala and Vijay Adkin as co-leaders of the Behavioral Economic Forum. They shall succeed me, Pranav Nair, and Rishi Gottimukkala as forum leaders, just as we ourselves succeeded our seniors Maruthi Vemula and Keshav Patel in the same role. I make

this Will freely and voluntarily, intending it to be my legal and binding Last Will and Testament. Signed this second day of May, 2025.

**Dylan Dees** -First and foremost I want to thank you all for making my time at this school so very worthwhile and bearable. However though I fear now that as our time encroaches upon us I must leave you all with a few titles, understandings, and wishes that I have stumbled across in my time here at NCSSM. To start, the trio: for each of you I leave the many late night talks and well-past in room conversations surrounding all the inner-workings of society. I also my dressing and photography abilities. To the girls, yet another group I leave the many fun adventures and spurs of randomness that I have found myself in. Next, the BSU I leave in the hands of Zara, Myles, Connie, Xixi, & Hayley... may their be a plethora of bar table talks and laughs in your future. To those of you who I have yet to mention (too many names and too little characters), I leave with you the many smiles and random interactions that we have found ourselves in. Lastly, to my joy(s) I leave you with all the many smiles, and walks, and talks that one could ask for. With love to all the lovlie people - Dylan

I, **Andrea Dela Pena**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Calculus with Lydia Le, tripping on Tinikling sticks with Brianna Reyes (bless her!), learning fencing from



Esu Tamir, late night Arduino help for my art project from Hayley Williams, and the music department to Manasi Prasad and Micah Wascher!

I, **Cathy Deng**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave this school. To Dr. Avineri, who trusted, listened, and believed in me, you gave me hope. We miss you. I leave my cockroach and accumulated reference sheets to Sarah Zhou.

I leave my cheat sheet to Yvonne He. I leave my applesauce and applause for Lydia Le. I leave bober and my bobaface to Avery Yang. I'll buss it down for Baylee Lin and Jessica Xu. To April Zhang, Jimmy Chen, John Guo, and my twin, Zoey Zhang, Shirley Chen, thank you for understanding me. Jessica Yang, the truest person I know, thank you for good hugs and good food and good company. Meghan Lanzi, let's get Playa soon! Love to Joanna Hu and Sarah Wall, my sticky glass dishes. Skyler Qu, thanks for birdwatching, speaking your truth, and withstanding me in literally every club. Jeremy Adam, they put me in a rubber room with rats. Markandeya Yalamanchi?? Aditi Varshney and Saachi Arun, thank you for putting up with my sleep habits. Abby Sanders, Ani Arunprasad, Evan Pfeifer, Grace Luo, Spencer Thomas, Tatiana Medved, fish tonight? Jett Mu, ftupz tpoñep dpoujhp. cheers all, xoxo

I, **Courtney Dennis**, along with memories and longing for my presence, leave behind the following: head of men's basketball team to Jasmine Herring, BSU to Zara, Myles, Xixi, Hayley, and Connie, and bothering Mr. Johnson to Zara, Jasmine, and Vanessa. I also leave behind the late-night walks to Jasmine, movie nights in the lounge to Hayley, Bella, and Ava; and CarPlay with Hope to all the 3rd Bryan juniors, the responsibility of keeping Jasmine sane to Troy, Myles, and Gabe.

Kalina Parvanova, Quinn Magee, and Itzel Rubio-Mendiola; the fire that ignites Enthalpy to the future captains Musa Gwanzura, Perry Kim, and Jiya Zaveri; and the sound that fills Colours Choir to the future Colours leaders.

I, **Teresa Fang**, being of too many ideas and words, do hereby leave this final remark, in addition to the thousands of blessings and curses recorded in this gift of a paper and issues before. To Tejasvi Shirolkar and Sneha Khetan, my glorious successors, I leave custody of my only child, The Stentorian, 300 talismans against the spinning wheel of death on InDesign, and a sharp tongue (or sword or pen, whichever is mightier); to Billy Dyer, 365 compliments of your fits, awkward waving at the swings, and the fuzzy ghosts of ugly cat paintings; to the sleep-deprived combi crash-out Vidhatu Patel, the One Piece is real and comes out every Sunday, not Saturday, at 11:45 a.m. EST, so get it straight; to Avery Yang, the energy to make your own meals and my gratefulness again for your salty, salty birthday noodles; to Jiya Zaveri and Hazel Menet, the remnants of whatever food is in my drawers to feed your empty tummies (my question remains, how?); to Athena Phan, my words of wisdom and curses against vice, who will need it to protect her patience in a busy senior year; and to Morgan Price, the legacy of kombucha and worker's rights. Do what you will with this information.

I, **Taylor Ellis**, leave Reynolds IC2CID to the future RLAs, Mary Elizabeth Heritage,

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fakeouts; Harry Gribbin with daily barefootedness at 9:30pm; Atha and Nora Brantley with late night Royall chats; Avery Yang with trenches; Jessica Xu with chat and TA hours; Mikayla James with the love of Seth Anthony; and finally, Spikeball Club Captains with the art of the most beautiful game. Keep spike alive! Keep ssm grimy! Make me proud!

**I, Kelly Fung**, being of jumbo mind and body, leave Daniel Zou, Sumuga Swaminathan, and Baylee Lin and dumpling making in hunt kitchen; Adithi Balaji and Zoey Zhang the slowest lab group; Blaney Blizzard two slices of devil's pizza; and second beall juniors the hottest hall.

**I, Taylor Gall**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Mariam Hanna the spirit of wind ensemble, as my senior left to me, may you carry it through both the easy and testing times;



to Lily Hill I leave you bright smiles, pep band hikes behind the gym and, being a menace to our band pres, may you find the same joy that you carry into every room; to Billy Dyer I leave the Reynolds Ghost who may whisper you bits of wisdom to pass on; to Vanessa Knight I leave unfinished knitting projects but never unfinished dreams as I know you'll accomplish yours; to Quinn Magee I leave growth and joy, it has been privilege to watch you find yourself over the past year and I can't wait to see how much farther you'll go; and to all our juniors I leave a wonderful senior year, as much as we SSM kids love to complain, this school it is truly one of the greatest experiences and full of the greatest people.

**I, Anisa Hasanaj**, in all my eternal validity, do hereby solemnly declare this document to be my Last Will and Testament of NCSSM. To Irene Jin, I leave all my spam account posts; may you

transmute them into radiance. I entrust the scraps of the Balkan and Eastern European Cultures Club to Kalina Parvanova. May you carry it forward with honor and make Mother Bulgaria proud. To Hazel Cochran, I grant the wisdom in the books littering my room. May they bring you the same joy they brought me. To Marden Harvey, I bequeath the beloved Bryan 324. May my presence linger in every fairy light and poster, and the room always hum with care. To Bella Rizzuto, I leave the saga of my nose piercing. May you be free from the inflammatory evils. To Sadie Albright, I leave you my Tomodachis, Belhaven, and labs in SWO. Let my spirit haunt each time you gaze upon the electromagnetic spectrum. To Zoey Zhang, I leave the trials of Adobe InDesign. Godspeed. To Tristan Howell, I leave our shared love for shoegaze. May your playlists stay full of reverb. To everyone else: my love is limitless, despite the will's 1200-character limit.

**I, Alexandria Hinkle**, being of mostly sound mind and body, do hereby leave Quinn with the best gym sessions, sisterly spirit, Uber rides, and an academic passion that goes unfaltered. Rosa and Xixi, I'm leaving you a case of Redbull and the manifestation of some juniors that will love spending time with you both as much as I did. Zach, I'm leaving you with the wisdom that comes with being a good senior along with late night Minecraft. JR, I leave you with nothing because your kindness is everything. Thank you for being kind to me. Lily, I leave you with the spirit of Ground Royall. Myles, Gabe, and Troy, I leave you all with the confidence to achieve your dreams. You all are so, so capable, and I have no doubt you three will go on to accomplish amazing things (and a can of raid). Vanessa, I leave you with giggles, great yaps, and charged headphones for every gym session. To both Emma H. and Emma R., I leave you both with a great cheer season. To Callie, I leave you with the SSM Gym community, something so beloved to me. To all my juniors mentioned or not, I leave you all a metaphorical watch and lots of love. Senior year goes by fast! Remember to take it all in!

**I, Adrian Hito**, of sound mind and body (minus shoulders), hereby leave carrying Alex Lin and Alfred Ye during hall-meeting Brawlstars as repayment for Alfred carrying me in DiffEq. I leave my beloved wrestling team in the good hands of Atlas Lad, Ethan Price, and Tate Tucker—and bestow upon Tate the key. To Avery Yang, you are now the fourth owner of the sun-kissed cardboard Gary Michael Lavigne. May his radiant smile lift you from the trenches. To Alex Lin and Jimmy Chen, I leave 3am lore drops and poor advice. My pin collection on the East Chapel E goes to my beloved JSib Troy Gordon and his boyfriend Leroy Yang. Add to it. The E commands it. To Evan Cunnanan, I leave skipping Spanish, the optimal corner triple setup, and with it, my hand-me-down futon. Clean it well. To Thomas from Burlington, we leave the class of '87 trophy. Also clean it well. I leave short conversations to Seungwoo Ji. Finally, to the exalted, most stupendous PB, I bequeath upon thee deep belly laughs, somewhat justified crash-outs, copious amounts of caffeine, all my knowledge, and my most prized hand-me-down, my sticker-filled fire extinguisher. Thank you for being a voice of reason and keeping me alive.

**I, Bella Hocker**, being of completely sound mind and body, gift unto Emma Humann my gold ball and the legacy of throwers; Abby Williford my excuses to get out of class; Patrick Star my specialty advice skills (answer is to always beat 'em up unless they buy you flowers); Cora W may then

tennis team rest upon your shoulders; Nora, my beloved junior sibling, please have my good knee and ability to always find good food; and, finally, Kalina P. the title of craziest on hall. To all my amazing juniors I missed just remember to smile at then first before taking them out;)

**I, Paisley Holland**, of the most sound and mind, an NCSSM student can be, leave an undying passion for literature and art to the class of '26. I leave my only child, Blue Mirror, to Zoey Zhang and Ella Lu, where I know it will be held gently and loved fiercely. I leave all my gluten-free recommendations to Mattie Stinson. I leave crying on the stand and sassy rebuttals to Daniel Birnbaum. I leave chronically online jokes to Sam Lewis. I leave rambling creative nonfiction to Abby Keaton. I leave silly (slightly incriminating) TikToks to Micah Wascher. I leave mogging in photos to KT Mozzo. I leave baggy jeans, and therefore belts, to Nimish Kandeekar. I leave only nice judges to Sneha Khetan. I leave fly-nap to Kolby Gupton and Mia Greeson. I leave bad Midwest Emo to Irene Jin. I leave "let me on" texts to Hasita Alluri. And to Sadie, my sweet JSIB, I leave everything I know. I leave echoing laughter, boxers as shorts, and stupid Instagram Reels. I leave the spirit of being a Bryan resident, and an inability to leave the ETC. My daughter, my best friend, and my mother all at once, I leave you the light in your eyes. May your wired earbuds and specific lack of something take you far.

**I, Ella Rose Holley**, do hereby leave Sadie Elaine Albright the legacy of Wayne County and all things pickle flavored; to Micah Rose Wascher, I leave my middle name in your hands; to you both, I leave many lunch chorale rehearsals; to Samuel Hogan Lewis, I leave PFM ice cream bowls, tragic spoons kills, early morning music rehearsal, and my blessing to find a new singing partner; to Perry Pearl Sunyae Kim, I leave all choreography knowledge, constant dancing, all things pageantry, and of course, "talent!" (with a little bit of southern charm); to Cade Tolofson Hartsell, I leave spontaneous Hamilton outbreaks, tears on the stage, and Shakespearean themed script writing; to Rosa Elise Miray, I leave Christian-camp-counselor core, constant knee injuries, and AP Chemistry crash outs; to Kolby Gupton, I leave the legacy of Bryan 417; to Haley Filzen, I leave NCSSM application advice, Texas Roadhouse rolls, and gluten restrictions; to Sneha Khetan and Shrunu Allada I leave Civic Math and wasp attacks; to Adithi Balaji, I leave many lounge conversations and long mentorship calls; and to all of my juniors, I leave senioritis (sorry!) and many good wishes for your final year at NCSSM.

**I, Aidan Hrynshyn**, of sound mind and body, leave the following things to my beautiful juniors. To Jayden Lee, I leave bumming assignments off of anyone who will text back before 10pm. To Connor Towns, I leave chats in the halls and at the microwave while we make dinner after check. To my son, Nimish Kandeekar, I leave ChatGPT'ed poems and all the Environmental Engineering assignments Dr. Myers can muster. To Noah Martinez, I leave knees, ankles, hips, shoulders, legs, and even feet. Lastly, to David Wong, you know what I'm leaving you.

**Joanna Hu-** To my beloved (but difficult) children Grace and Chloe, I leave you 2am bathroom showers and to find juniors that you'd call family as I did with you two- Love, Mother

**I, Stephanie Hughes**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Kalina Parvanova the rest of my 24-pack of Java Monsters along with the sound of Fetty Wap's Trap Queen and collectibles from McDonalds' Minecraft Meal; Madeline Sawyer the rest of the peach-flavored Celsius' in my 24-pack from Costco as well as Cloche runs in free blocks and Instagram Reels; Taylor Edwards late night debriefs, whether it be in Beall, Reynolds or Chili's; Kaitlyn Horn trips to Duke basketball games (though next year it'll be UNC); Abby Keaton good reads and Joe's runs; Mary Elizabeth Heritage and Itzel Rubio-Mendiola the spirit of 1c and all the laughter its elbow holds; Ella Lu and Zoey Zhang in charge of Blue Mirror, hold the memories you make with each other and the staff dear.

**I, Israel James**, as Student Body President do hereby leave Chloe Harnphanich Student Government and Alumni Career Fair; to Noah Martinez, the spirit of 1st Hunt; to Gabriel Kinney, deep convos in hunt lounge; to Pierson Davis, the Izzy Brick Game; to Elise Carson, the relationship between Student Government and Alumni Association, laughing until tears form at Rockin' Rolls Sushi, and fun trips to Sky Zone; to Monserrat Castrejon, creating new episodes LSU Love Island; to Delyn Manyanga, Kidwind Division of NSBE; to Josh Harvill, taking fun Quinlan classes; to Tejas Avadhanula, Aryan Saha, and Arsh Jha, the piggy pack (our group name); to Troy Hicks, deep conversations on personal and professional development; to Emily Tinklepaugh, Molly Boone, Noah Martinez, and Connor Skeels, the spirit of Rocky Mount at NCSSM; to Manny Price, using Resiliency Ambassador skills to support the student body; to Hadi Abdul, sledding when it snows on campus; to Aiden Hernandez and Musa Gwanzura, uber rides to get food; to Vijay Adkin, 1st Hunt Sock Wrestling; to Sathevik Gorle, the entrepreneurship

mindset; And last but not least, to Joshua Taylor, having the best j-sib a guy can ask for:!!

**I, Landon Jimenez**, first leave the title of CDGK and being an amazing SSIB to Noah Martinez. May you actually take you JSIB to dinner and carry the team. Next I want to give Jayden Lee and Samuel Kim the title of Bench Bros. May you all graduate into starters (we both know it isn't happening though). Next, I want to give lam dinner dates to Emmanuel Price. May your overall positivity mixed in with your crash-outs continue to next year. Next, I want to give the hands of the baseball team to Charles, Tate, and Carter, ngl I don't really care about what you guys do with it. Lastly, I give all my late night talks, my snack-stealing, DG/9th runs, honorary 4E RLA, and deep campus debriefs to Jay Weaver. May you have a bond with a junior next year like the one I was blessed to have with you. Honorable mentions go to Joshua Harvill, John Guo, Enzo Pillon de Lima, Connor Skeels, Evan Cunanen, Taksheel Iyer, David Wong, Ophir Avsian, Alex Caza, Lucas Rodriguez Chiappetta, all of the LSU juniors, and I guess Harry Gribbin. I love you all so much and thank you for being a part of such an amazing year! I will not be coming back to visit you all.

**I, Emily Jon**, of massive mind and rad body, hereby leave KWAWE to Shrunu Allada, Clara Choi, and Lily Galapon. I'm so proud of you guys and know you'll do amazing. I pass down the FOAM legacy to Julianna Jones and leave you and Lucas Lin to survive being Stefan TAs. lmao good luck. To Aaron Wang, whose brain I've watched grow exponentially while his height grows logarithmically—I leave you the next generation of the LNC Math Club to NCSSM pipeline. I hear you've got a lot of juniors on your hands. To Saksham Sethi, I leave you to one day be the next Terence Tao. And lastly, to Minh Nguyen: don't date your jsib.

**I, Kahaan Khatri**, of sound mind and body hereby leave my vast collection of NCSSM treasures to a select few Juniors. Nimish, I give you the fish. Tanuj you can have Black Mamba. Josh, I leave you me and Zains finance bro status. Farewell.

**I, Valentina Kimes**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Hazel Cochran and Sam Lewis Film Club; Perry Kim Feminist Club; Mia Aiello Milk Club, pranks, Monuts between classes, the map of school, a room sign, the sassafras sign, and my ninth street find; Zoe Thaxton, the word "tyrannical", a room sign, and Milk Club; Little Sadie Albright memories of the river, the men's sign, and Milk Club; Molly Boone the women's sign; Quinn Magee and Elise Carson room 202; Kalina Parvanova the check board; and Room 427 the secrets that were

shared under your ceiling and all the giggles that came in between

**I, Prithu Kolar**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave CADING the 2026 valence robot to Muhilan Krishnan (good luck on project mk) and building the robot to Junho Lee Industries. I leave raising money for the team to Manvik Kongwad. To my favorite Zebracorn, Musa Zafiruddin, I leave my amazing SSB skills to pass on to an unfortunate junior. To Aarush Jugdar I leave one side of lettuce from Chipotle.

**I, Arianna Lee**, being of questionable mind and body, leave guava candy and Hunt Kitchen shenanigans to CLCC officers April Zhang, Zoey Zhang, Jimmy Chen, and John Guo; ECA pride and breaking more NCSSM swim records to Natalie Dunnigan; "having fun!" to Alexa Miranda, Troy Gordon, and Musa Zafiruddin; the Pitt Pirates legacy (and the promise to be a better SSIB than I was) to Casey Foeller; programming crashouts to Vidhatu Patel; and empty wall space to hang more blue banners for the amazing Zebracorns team.

**I, Amy Lei**, as I leave NCSSM this May, I'd like to pass on some items. Bigback and Chinese energy to Daniel Zou. My dear JSIB Lydia Le, passing you the lucky fish for success for all your hard work. Sneha Khetan, I can't offer you anything as you are such a dedicated little workaholic, but I offer our struggle through physics. TEDx DPT Legacy to Athena Phan and Casey Register, have fun with Dr. K. Our long long SG Meetings to the amazing Josh Chilukuri and Caroline Wang as well as academic affairs to the dedicated Aaron Wang. My non-existent ping pong presence to David Wong, stop crashing out. Pierson Davis, my last JSIB, I pass you nothing but a nonexistent pan for you to cook eggs on. Richard Shan, I pass you the ability to network and try-hard energy for infinity. And lastly, say hi to Ryden for me, Celia Cecchini, Mishti Patel, Andrew Hattle, Nandhini Thangamani, and Aiden Hernandez, hope you all dream better and dream bigger next year.

**I, Felicity Lipchak**, being of somewhat sound mind and body, do hereby leave chopped hikes in the rainforest, unfinished movie nights, Disney songs, and hugs at check to my dearest Micah. To Moira, Chessa, and Cullen, I leave the pickleball club. I know you'll take great care of her. Lastly, I leave long walks, longer schemes, oat milk matchas with vanilla sweet cream cold foam, navy blue, sunburns, and allergy meds to my biggest cheerleader, Chessa. I can't wait to see all the great things you guys accomplish next year!

**I, James Liu**, hereby leave late nights of playing spikeball under the lights to Jay, Ophir,

and Manny. To my children John, Grace, and Chloe, please come visit me next year and make the most of your senior year. I hope your energy will revive happy half. To David, Jay, Alex, and Zara, keep killing it in soccer, basketball, and volleyball. To Hasita, I hope you can master GPT the way I did. To Vineel, I will leave the stress about college and the tightest pants I can find. To Lucas and Ophir, I leave hours of fake grinding in the library. To Tess and Hadi, I leave the stress and fun of planning HOSA SLC. To Ophir, Charles, and Morelli, I leave late-night games of cards and degenerateness. Finally, I leave the 21st night of September video and the brotherhood of 2E to Kaid, JR, and Ryan C. I trust you will make the community even better than this year (and keep Suge and Peeping in check).

**I, Jeffrey Liu**, leave my fondest memories: The dwarf with a big voice... I mean heart, Ryan M. I gift leftovers, finer ping-pong skills, GOOD-moral words, and the strength of lugging an injured's meal. "Job's not done", so my basketball juniors, I pass thy mentality of zero satisfaction on your championship journey. To Valence Robotics, may you balance Valence culture with POSITIVITY, find Tatiana's successor, and return to Worlds with banners (Vidhatu P, I leave confidence in fashion). CLCC, uphold the legacy of hosting campus's best cultural nights, attaining a Dragon+Mao, and finding juniors who will be family. To the junior like a lil sis, Hillary C, I leave motivation to keep in good health, misspelling of names, and lessons of reflection. Now my fav junior and real lil sis-Anna Liu, I leave a Shakespearean message: To thee steadfast Redbull devotee, sweetest sprite of Theater, kindest cheerer of games, and most aesthetic Liuser to grace us-I bequeath fortune most fair in thy quest for college (whate'er fate, I will be proud). Take with thee our bond in loathing AP Chemistry, tones of Lady Mariah in you, and spirit of Grandam's Guild, for none will wear RLA more nobly than thou.

**I, Grace Luo**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave to my JSIB Helen Chen my sisterly love and proudness — seeing you smiling in the hallways always made my day better. To Manasi Prasad, I bestow endless more giggles and smiley faces as one of us (the blind) leads the other (also blind) in orchestra rehearsals. To Natalie Dunnigan, may you receive many more "snailed you" and "turkey" fist bumps at the end of fulfilling swim practices (go beat the dudes). To Alfred Ye, I pass on the math modeling club (I know you'll take care of it better than we did). To Jay Peng, I leave tiger pride and more Chapel Hill High SMTs ;) To Alan Cheng and Aaron Wang, I proudly leave the legacy of math competitions; go show others that NCSSM is not to be taken lightly!! And

to Avery Yang, I hope to give a better computer when I have the money, and leave behind bippy and boba stickers, our wonderful poster that is supposedly in your room, happier trenches to come, and my absolute support in all your future endeavors. Thanks everyone for making my senior year amazing :)

**Mabel Kennedy -** I leave to Hazel Cochran: the prized Kneecap postcard, my inherited Panera bread poster and hensforth its legacy shall continue through you, and my sincerist hopes for the future golden days of the rowing team. And fianlly, to Marden Harvey, Bella Rizzuto, and, once again, Hazel Cochran: the knowledge and use of Rathskellar and turquoise rooftop trips.

**I, Jose Lopez**, of mostly sound mind and slightly exhausted body, hereby leave: To Muhlian and Jason, I leave my mech skills—may they carry Valence to Worlds and beyond. May your swerve drive never get obliterated mid-match (you know what I mean). I leave you the spirit of late-night CAD grinds. Remember: if it looks sketchy but works, it's just creative engineering. To Tejas and Luka, my legendary ping pong skills—may you serve with grace, slam with style, and dodge the occasional flying paddle. I leave you the sacred duty of keeping the ping pong club alive, breathing, and possibly even thriving. Please, don't let it become a ghost club again—play on for those who once paddled before you. To Jimmy-ahh, the best CLCC officer of the people, I leave you with billions of social credits and the cultural pride straight from the motherland. To Sunny Shin, I leave my esteemed title as the CLCC Grand Senior Liaison. It is now your solemn charge to make CLCC GREAT AGAIN. To Troy, my favorite Zebracorn, whose CAD game is unmatched, I leave not only mech wisdom but also the sacred knowledge of scouting. Lastly, I leave this school—tired, grateful, and very much ready for a nap.

**I, Luke Malta**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Connor Skeels changing people's minds one conversation at a time, bus rides to swim listening to country music and sleeping (#SSB4L); Lucas Chiappetta dedicating every waking minute to RChem work; August Huang being the loudest bench player possible and having the best ACE chant of all time; Troy Gordon and Carolina Wang making Dr. Bruno's life as hard as possible;

**I, Hima Manne**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Manasi Prasad with infinite Ninth Street runs and cute quests; Samantha Boomershine with buying post-soccer game kids meals; and Dr. Lavigne with an endless supply of Fever Tree.

**I, Marilyn Martin**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Grace Roberts swim goggle Jellycats and inside jokes that never made sense; Cora Wymb's my legendary soccer skills and pregame naps; Leira Smith the art of elite-level bed rotting and blanket cocoons; Zara Patel my basketball handles and PG-level intensity; Anthien Nguyen banana splits and spontaneous sugar highs; Ava Hodgson lit PFM breakfast dates and endless chocolate chip waffles; Casey Foeller air-fried Oreos and late-night snack experiments; Atha Brantley my back pain—may it mysteriously disappear for you; Chessa Woods all the candy I've hidden in my room (you know where); and Moria Furr endless watermelons. To all of you, I leave my abundant stash of Hi-Chews. May they never run out.

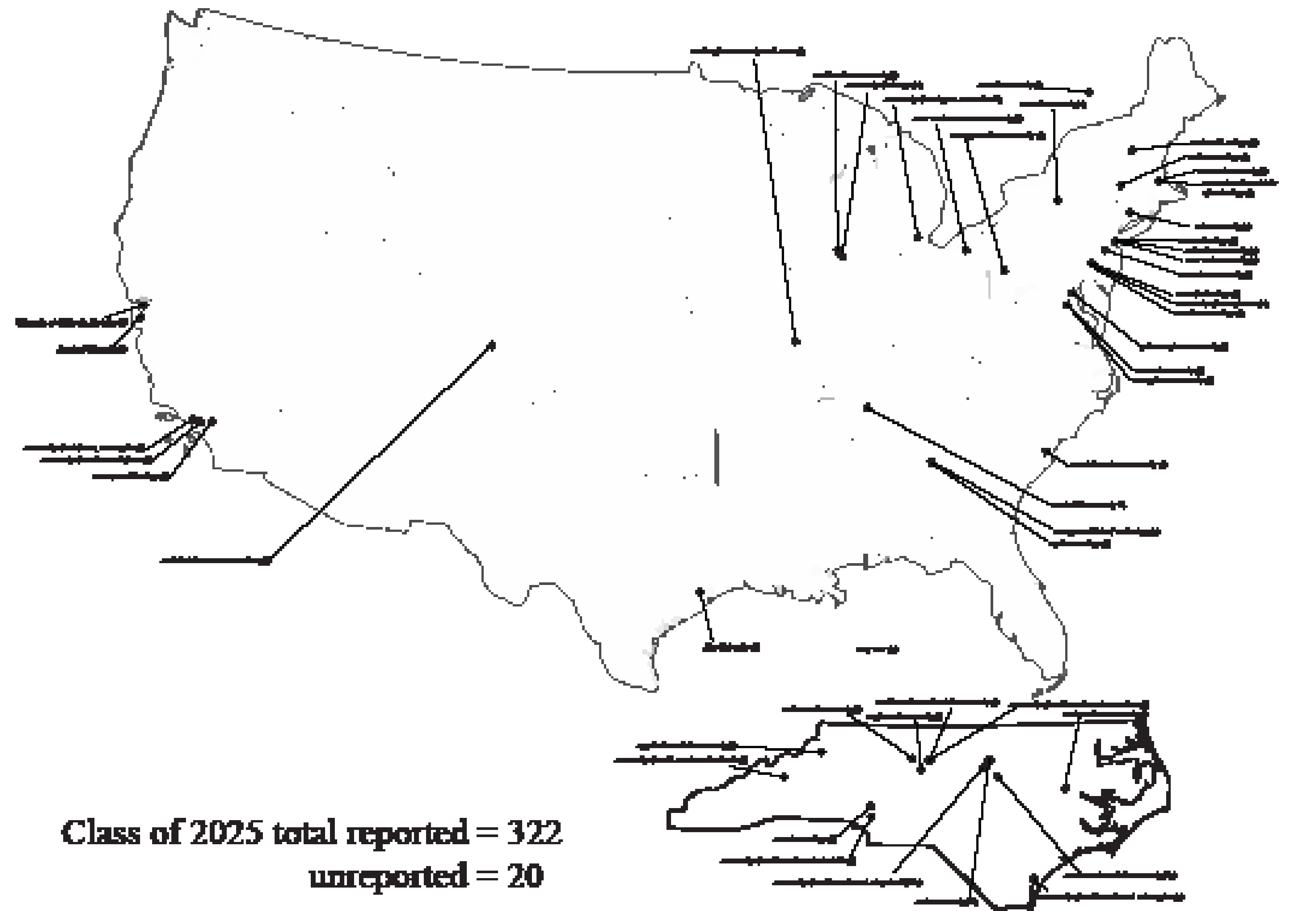
**I, Tahalia McCalla**, being of sound mind and full heart, leave these pieces behind to the juniors who made this journey beautiful. To Amarachi and Gabe, I leave my love for NSBE—a family that lit my path as a future Black engineer, please keep my "torch" burning. To Mikayla James, I leave pride in our Afro-Caribbean roots—may you wear them boldly and beautifully. To Vanessa and Zara, I leave my passion for Colours choir, may you find immense joy in every rehearsal, perfect or off-key. To Celia, I leave my ambassador duties and the ladies who became my second moms in that office. To Natalie, I leave talks in the lounge with beautiful sunsets. To Lauryn, I leave my legacy—never forget your light. To Conny, I leave endless laughter, continuing being the epitome of joy. To Delyn, I leave my unshaken belief that you will rise and thrive. And to Maryclaire, I leave every piece of advice I could give, with hope you'll pass it forward. To my juniors listed or not, I leave my endless love and support- you got this!

**I, Kush Mehta**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Luke Meardon, Thomas Fasan, Aryaman Shukla, and Ryan Morelli our late night games of Monopoly; Om Shah late-night conversations and all of the fun we have had together on ninth street and around campus.

**I, Pranav Mettu**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Grace Liang and Shrunu Allada the remnants of Big Pharma Forum; Tanuj Karthikeyan endless double-jumping to the ceiling tiles; and to Samuel Kim the baggiest of jeans and clip farming.

**I, Caspian Miller**, being of relatively sound mind and body, leave Connor Skeels and Co. Hunt 103; Joshua Harvill the responsibility of carrying on Spikeball Club; and Musa Gwanzura "Material Girl (Bass Boosted)".







I, **Jett Mu**, leave to Bryan Zhong my Joe Biden action figure, non-negotiable; to Troy Gordon the legacy of 3ECHHS; to Leo Yang, Lucas Lin, Avery Yang, the Ento binder, my pecten, ChatGPT subscription; to Cathy Deng my best hugs. Lastly, I declare to levy a 100% tariff on Dr. Lavigne for all exported goods.

I, **Kate Muiruri**, being of sound mind, leave our precious BSU to Cornelia Okonkwo, Hayley Williams, Chizara Igbokwe, Myles Pitts, and Xiomara McMasters — lead it with love and courage. I leave laughing on van rides and post-soccer food runs to Chizara Igbokwe. I leave the struggle and survival of RChem to Lucas Chiappetta. To Amarachi Uwakwe, I leave Playa Bowl runs and taking pics on the digital cameras any chance we get. To Cornelia Okonkwo and Delyn Manyanga, I leave our laughs and memories in the PFM and library. Continue to be some of the funniest people I've had the pleasure of living with for the past year. To Vanessa Knight, I leave you the late-night rants and terrible reality TV binges — never stop yelling at the screen. Thank you all for the joy, chaos, and memories.

I, **Tabea Nett**, do hereby leave my love of the theatre and of SAB trivia in the capable hands of all of the Gooners, trusting that you know who you are and how much it means. And to Alissa Kurtzke I leave guardianship of the braincell and the woodchipper, each to be used in emergencies only.

I, **Catherine Parker**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Chessa Woods the good family name; Mia Aiello Bryan 223 and all that comes with it; Abby Williford endless Press crepes; Moira Furr an infinite number of neighborhood runs; Avery Yang absolutely trenches workouts; Tejasvi in class side eyes and luck for better biology teachers; Cade long runs directly after waking up; Monse, Katie, and Mia all hall traditions, culture, and decorations.

I, **Gyani Patel**, being of a questionably sound mind and body, do hereby leave Joe's and Cloche coffee runs to Kalina Parvanova; late night crash-outs to Madeline Sawyer; IC2CID's sanity (or lack thereof) to Mary Elizabeth Heritage; a box of two years expired ramen to David Wang and Hadi Abdul (in the hopes that they one day learn to cook); and boba runs to Quickly's (but only to get there and realize it's closed), to Soham Kola.

I, **Janvi Patel**, do being of sound body and mind hereby leave countless memories to my beloved juniors. To Advika Arun and Gauri Menon I leave falling

off of hammocks on blawn. To Eleena Chacko I leave all the nights of eating Bulldak. To Hasita Alluri I leave the love of the color red and to KT I leave the love of physics. To Micah Wascher I leave walking through treetops in Peru. To Pragathi Akula and Tanvi Appani I leave brownies & hot chocolate talks. To Shreya, Shrnuu, and Soham I leave the position of ICIDIC captains. To Sneha Khetan I leave the legacy of 4B Mock Trial captain. To Tanuj Karthikeyan I leave getting lost in the neighborhoods. And to Vineel Gavini I leave pushing people down snow-covered soccer field hills.

I, **Anushka Pramanik**, being of sound mind but questionably scented feet, hereby leave “Paranoia” on Blawn to Gauri, Advika, Eleena, Nimish, & Tanuj. “Coincidental” matching outfits to Advika (we took the sib title too seriously but I wouldn't want to be mistaken for anyone else. Staring at each other in chem to Gauri. Baggy jeans to Tanuj. TikTok edits of unfinished shows to Nimish. And to the both of you I leave joblessness. The bop candle to Grace P. (not Oikawa, sorry). Stolen Alfredo bites to Ryan. Frigid walks for drinks to Mattie & Tejasvi. Confused physics status to Vineel (I promise you will be the first person I take a picture with at graduation). Blasting King Von at forum to Grace L. & Shrnuu, with the fact that nothing we ever discussed was on topic. Cancer kids meeting J. Aniston & “pterodactyl” yells to Micah. Thanks for DIFFicult EQ support to Sneha, whose smile brightened mornings. Physics gaslighting (we were wrong) to Chloe. D-block fever dreams to Sadie & Mia (still convinced those videos were AI). And to 420's next inhabitants, may your laughter echo like ours once did. A piece of my heart stays with all of you, and I carry fragments of each of you wherever I go.

I, **Caitlin Priechenfried**, leave to my most amazing and perfect Jsib Natalie Dunnigan very holly and jolly synchronized swim routines, to Heloise Fratta I leave croissants (the French way), and to both of them alongside Grace (Right) I leave the 4x100 Freestyle Relay School Record. Elise Carson, I'd leave you mami, but you most definitely already have her. To Lilly Ferry, I leave puddle jumps, late-night Minecraft playthroughs, and a little bit of whimsy should you ever need it, although I don't think you will. To Emma Humann, I leave the best Doctor-Coach a very serious athlete could ever ask for, alongside the challenge of building a throwing team better than the old one (impossible). For Tess Crumpton I leave a message of good luck that is 90% serious and 10% sarcastic, Reshmi Polneed the occasional shopping cart, and to all of First Beall juniors, I leave the whiteboard (which, for the record, I had to wrangle from Glaxo all the way to our lounge). I wish all of the upcoming seniors

a year of working ACs and amazing memories <3.

I, **Skyler Qu**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Prbhuv Nigam, Bryan Zhong, and Troy Gordon the wonderful Third East residence hall. I know I've left her in capable hands; To Alex Lin, I leave my Secret Santa gift. Please use it well; To Ryan Cannon and Avery Yang, I leave many more nightly hunt crashouts; To John Guo, Jimmy Chen, Zoey Zhang, April Zhang, I leave the keys to make CLCC



block parties so much better next year; To Caroline Wang and Alex Lin I leave the Campus Improvement Committee. Buy more air fresheners! To Anlan Yang, I leave the hope of doing well in many more Environmental Science Olympiads and competitions to come. And finally, to Billy Dyer, I leave the gift of birdwatching, perseverance, and more birds. Do great things, my JSib.

I, **Emily Raspanti**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Abby Williford and Emily Tinklepaugh the beloved “Yard Goats” IM volleyball team; Caroline Wang and Calli Johnson the legacy of late-night rants and chaos; Anusha Kamath a collection of Carolina blue items (the better blue); and Mr. Woodmansee a pdf of “Fantastic Mr. Fox.”

I, **Karina Rodríguez-Cortés**, being of sound body and mind, leave to Casey Register and Linda Duong trips to Chicken Bee and/or Lime and Lemon. I also leave the memory of my mom's food that we would eat when necessity showed. I leave constant DoorDashing and Bryan Lobby as a hangout spot where everyone could fit. I leave movie and series watching late at night, even if you will no longer have my projector. I leave our collective love for Chishiya along with other Alice In Borderland characters. I leave Japanese

lessons with Suwa Sensei to Casey, along with the memory of the speech competition. Finally, I leave the unlimited affection I have for both juniors, and the seniors, in our friend group.

**Chris Rozario** - What a school year with so much fun stuff accomplished. lots to leave behind but few of extreme value. To m=Manny I leave the chris rozario ncssm volleyball legacy, hopefully one day in the future you wont less it with LaFlame I like you always do. To Josh I leave

I, **Julianna Savage**, being of fire, vogue, and breath, hereby leave my NCSSM inheritance to my juniors. To Calli Johnson, I leave the 2nd Beall Senior Sibling tradition. May you find a Second Beall junior with no senior sibling and provide them with your wisdom and guidance. To Nandhini Thangamani and Elizabeth Taber, I leave my beloved room, 211, and the task of hosting late night debriefs and maximalist decorations. To the new Second Beall RLAs, I leave you the keys to this hall

and position and the task of upholding the vibrant culture of our amazing hall. To the future Enthalpy Captains Musa Gwanzura, Perry Kim, and Jiya Zaveri, I leave you the year-long commitment of sharing the art of dance, the weeknights spent in ETC Lobby, and the bright flame that is Enthalpy. To the future Vogue Captains Perry Kim and Kolby Gupton, I leave this incredible and young club and the legacy of vogueing that we have created. And finally, to Sanjay Sannareddy, I leave the French Horn section. May you be blessed with a good group of junior Horn players that will make you enjoy your time in the NCSSM Wind Ensemble. May you all continue to thrive and enhance the culture and vibrance of this campus.

I, **Deepthi Selvaraj**, leave Quinn Magee my chaotic and chill RLA energy and excitement for move-in week, Abby Wilford my absent s-sib love which I'll return in college <3, Aiden Hernandez my favorite memories from the state fair and excitement for your future, Andrew my ghibli king the same mysterious energy I attempted coming here, Patrick my apologies and love for the stress me and Silas give and the fun energy , to JR the vending machine with my last \$1.50 or wait \$2.50 for Diet Coke I don't even like, Tristan the PF experience I never committed to just like japanese class, to XiXi, girl just please rest you

already work too hard. Brandon! be the kind soul you are :) To my juniors in general, the lock in that never happened and future class absences because I'm sick but may you get that A please! And in general, my love for you and how much I'll miss y'all I hope you stay in my future :) Thanks for making my senior year amazing <3

I, **Vincent Shen**, leave Daniel Zou friday night karaoke and nanxiang fried chicken, Zoey Zhang last minute chicken bee runs and the most calming convos, Nandhini Thangamani unserious martial arts runthrus, Celia Cecchini piano harp duets, Hilary Chen clothing swaps, Jahnvi Bondada that to do list your dad shirt and plant daddy hat, Vidhatu Patel soft boy jeans, Jishnu Kolla the title of neuro demon, and lastly, Seungwoo Ji the title of ncssm's #1 abb.

I, **Cameron Shue**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Samuel Lewis my beloved rainbow Patrick Star plushie

I, **Hannah Stevens**, being of sound body and mind do hereby leave Cade Hartsall eyes for the cupola; Alissa Kurtzke a passion for hatred; Sam Lewis one percent of my Amish essence; and Dr. Tougas the many conquests of Britain past.

I, **Robbie Stoffel**, being of sound and mind, hereby make, publish, and declare this document my last will. To my wife, Faith Wagner, I leave our honeymoon in Japan. To my husband, James Gardiner, I leave the Tango and nights lying on Watts' lawn. To our four children: Alissa Kurtzke, Elisa Mae, Ren Rau, and Alexa Miranda, I leave four unfinished quickly's punch cards, 1 punch, 1 punch, 2 punches, and 2 punches respectively. Also to Alissa as well as Perry Kim and Cade Hartsell, I leave Investigations into Queer History Forum. Also, to Ren, I leave my unwavering respect for Ms. Alter. To my crazy sister Hannah Stevens, I leave gossip sessions within the confines of her office. To her darling, Tabea Nett, I leave Cassius's best wishes for the afterlife. And to Alex Dickens, I leave Sherlock watch parties in royall lounge. To my favorite violi- i mean harpis- i mean bassist, Noral Cool, I leave half crying, half laughing, and another half driving Mr. Kirk crazy in electrical engineering. To Makara Trick, I leave peaceful morning breakfasts. To Arianna Lee, I leave walks to our favorite Joe Van Gogh lattes. Lastly, to Lily Hodges, I leave our lovely Minecraft base.

I, **Sachita Pari Tiwari**, after two years of questionable choices and amazing memories, hereby leave all of the sweet treats in my fridge to Sumuga Swaminathan. I trust you to make at least semi-wise decisions without me. To Reshmi Polneedi and Sumuga Swaminathan, I leave the goofy late nights we've had in Beall 106, accompanied by hot Cheetos and frozen fruit. To Celia Cecchini, I leave our post-check convos full of overthinking, with wisdom I hope you'll pass down to your juniors. To Marden Harvey, Josh Harvill, and Jessica Xu, I leave the leaf decomposition research, our iconic ecology table pose for pictures, and 9th Street outings to be continued. And finally, upon Soham Kela, Saishrunu Allada, and Shreya Sattenapalli, I bestow my beloved Bollywood dance club, ICIDIC; I hope you guys have as much fun with it as I did. Thank you all for making my senior year so unforgettable, and I hope yours is just as perfect :)

I, **Rudhra Unnikrishnan**, as I leave the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics, leave behind a few possession to the following: To Abhav Kunchakuri, I leave my phone number and class schedule so you can always call me for help, advice, or just because — and my favorite nap spot on campus. To Sumuga Swaminathan, I leave the receipts from our coffee runs and my black off-shoulder top

I, **Mantra Swaminathan**, hereby leave my fondest memories of NCSSM to the juniors I have grown to love. To my jsib, Tanvi, I leave the ability to read every situation and astute observation skills. To Pragathi, I leave a life full of expression through abhinaya. To Shrnuu,

I leave countless Amtrak rides and all of my dance knowledge. To Advika and Hasita, I leave the art studio, my second home on campus. To Chloe and Grace, Olivia and I leave nights of floor-rotting and guac-eating. To Jess and Baylee, I leave the status of best-neighbors and my beloved room 209, enjoy it just as much as I did. To Monse and Katie, I leave sitting on the floor of Second Bryan while talking for hours, and crepes. Anushka and I leave our friendship in another universe to Gauri and Advika, hoping they can find juniors that mirror them as well. To Tanuj and Nimish, I leave constant side-quests and joblessness. To Mia and Micah, I pass down my drawing of everyone in our stats pod table combined. Finally, to Tanvi, Pragathi, and Shrnuu, Bindi and I leave a family tree legacy that we hope you will pass on to whoever comes after you.

I, **Shirley Tian**, declare these to be my final wishes. I give my finance bro-ness to Soham Kela, Elise Carson, and Jimmy Chen. I give my humble abode of Bryan 427 and its hidden trinkets to Connie Okonkwo - please treat it kindly! I give martial arts to the one and only taekwondo god, Jessica Xu. To Taylor Edwards, I give Snorlax, who you'll hopefully spend many more nights with (if you can somehow lug him back to Boone...). Lastly, and most dearly of all, I give Big Spoon, my lifelong legacy, to Hazel Cochran and Jiya Zaveri. Take good care of it.

I, **Sachita Pari Tiwari**, after two years of questionable choices and amazing memories, hereby leave all of the sweet treats in my fridge to Sumuga Swaminathan. I trust you to make at least semi-wise decisions without me. To Reshmi Polneedi and Sumuga Swaminathan, I leave the goofy late nights we've had in Beall 106, accompanied by hot Cheetos and frozen fruit. To Celia Cecchini, I leave our post-check convos full of overthinking, with wisdom I hope you'll pass down to your juniors. To Marden Harvey, Josh Harvill, and Jessica Xu, I leave the leaf decomposition research, our iconic ecology table pose for pictures, and 9th Street outings to be continued. And finally, upon Soham Kela, Saishrunu Allada, and Shreya Sattenapalli, I bestow my beloved Bollywood dance club, ICIDIC; I hope you guys have as much fun with it as I did. Thank you all for making my senior year so unforgettable, and I hope yours is just as perfect :)

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that somehow became yours. To Hilary Chen, I leave our wonderful SNL and hammock nights, and Domingo, To Shrnuu Allada, I leave an SD card filled with my most iconic pictures, To Manasi Prasad, I leave all my Bollywood knowledge, a lifetime supply of naan. To JR, I leave my favorite swing in our little park and many, many planarian grafts. To Aarshea Banerjee, I leave... Abhav. Good luck with that one! To Aakash Basarkar, I leave your Zara modeling portfolio and a reminder to please use it the world deserves to see. To Aarsh Jha, I leave our late-night talks, every bizarre Conrad Challenge idea, and a dose of common sense (you'll need it). To the rest of my lovely juniors I couldn't name, I leave you all my love and the luck you'll need to survive senior year.

**Claire Van Meter** - To Athena Phan and Sneha Khetan, good luck!

I, **Aditi Varshney**, leave behind the fragments of my favorite memories. To Hasita, my forever JSIB, I leave our unspoken language and knowing glances. To Grace, I leave counseling trip rambles and late-night blobby work sessions. To Chloe, I leave quiet hours of hair curling and nail painting. To Shrnuu, I leave our K-drama marathons and the heart of Neuro Club. To Jess, I leave ramen-fueled 2B lounging— Amy Cho and I officially pass the bulldak noodle warrior title to you. To Grace Roberts and Clara, I leave PFM breakfasts disguised as skipped morning classes. To Eleena and Advika, I leave the sacred three rounds of weekend breakfast. To Ava, Shrnuu, Vineel, and Shreya, I leave the spark of the Neuroscience Club. To Zara, I leave Big Backing and the Zadoodoo Eats legacy. To Tanuj, I leave forever jobless spontaneous outings. To Ryan Cannon, I leave reels and doomscrolling in the library. To David and Jay, I leave Rotten Bananas—may you carry forward the combination of questionable strategy, and keep to the ASA Olympics crown where it belongs. And to Lucas and Ophir, I leave the title of school's biggest and loudest yappers.

I, **Nikhil Vemuri**, seeking to immortalize my name in this institution, do hereby leave: to Grace Pan, clipfarming in the library and ceaseless (CEASELESS) laughter; scootering, fluffy hair, one-pic Instagram stories, and excessive food spending to Nimish Kandekar; Lululemon and baggy jeans to Chloe Harnphanich; weird side eyes to Advika Kalla and even weirder smiles to Hasita Alluri; and a promised, unfinished game of table tennis to Sumuga Swaminathan. To Eleena Chacko, a messy ICIDIC coed dance; to Lily Galapon, poetry and prose; and my sister (just take her away) to Gauri Menon. And to all juniors: a fleeting and indelible senior year.

I, **Thrista Venkat** of sound mind and body leave late night talks and the Royall Hall Ball to Atha Brantley. I leave over 80 hours of Attache work a semester to Nandhini Thangamani, Soham Kela and Shreya Sattenapalli. To Sneha Khetan I leave the legacy of the Charluzz and many loud laughs and stories on the Charlotte South Bus. Finally, I leave Catalina Butler doing random tiktok dances in the middle of the dorm hallway.

I, **Jude White**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Mariam Hanna working circuitry; Sumuga Swaminathan stress free physics and math (it's impossible, I'm sorry); Ellie Scott strong cross country finishes (be better than me); Zara Igbokwe and Cora Wymbs shared custody of the elite orange soccer jerseys, left to me by your predecessor Mac McColley; Emma Humann nightly First Beall planks with the stipulation that she upholds their legacy; and Lydia Le working AC and a peaceful absence of late night song yelling.

I, **Hadley Woods**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Kalina Parvanova D-Block Joe's runs; Romi Reifschneider the volleyball club; Manny Price the Men's VB Instagram; Samantha Boomershine lounge gossip sessions; and the library to the incoming liaisons, treat it well.

I, **Markandeya Yalamanchi**, of relatively sound mind and body, leave my big blue couch to Leo Yang, Troy Gordon, and Avery Yang. To Ryan Cannon, I pass down the Quickly's wand. Nature trail walks now belong to Avery Yang and Prbhuv Nigam; don't fall into the creek. The curse of evil senioritis now rests on John Guo and Jimmy Chen. Use it to justify the 200 absences. To Celia Cecchini, I pass down overpriced Joe's drinks and Duke dining hall food. The key to the heights of NCSSM now belongs to Nandhini Thangamani. To Prbhuv Nigam, I pass down Monster Energy, my survival kit, and its heavenly contents. I leave Tejasvi Shirolkar, Avery Yang, and Shunav Sen my disdain for Energy and Earth Science. Adrian Hito and I give our tragic sleep schedules to Alex Lin and Jimmy Chen. To my JSIBs Colin Haynes and Seungwoo Ji, I leave my best wishes. And now, my chosen seven: Prbhuv Nigam, Ryan Cannon, Nandhini Thangamani, Jimmy Chen, Alex Lin, Celia Cecchini, and Avery Yang—you are the light of the class below. I will miss you. Finally, I name Ryan Cannon and Nandhini Thangamani as my successors. I leave with you two my immense love for the game. Carry my legacy, whatever that entails. Good luck.

I, **Brandon Yang**, being of sound, mind, and body, do hereby leave Cullen Warren, Anesh Suddala, and Ryan Morelli to

lead Second West; Saishrunu Allada and Taylor Edwards to pair the next class of Senior SIBling and Junior SIBlings; Trevor Bedson to manage (and definitely improve) my website NCSSM Time; and Rex Chen, Yvonne He, and Sarah Zhou to score highly on all Codebusters tests taken.

I, **Jessica Yang**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave my dowel and electrical tape for EV with the hopes that you make T3 at states or nats. I leave behind late-night AP study sessions and scolding Lydia to the 2nd Bryan, Zoey Zhang, Hiliary Chen, and honorary 2nd Bryan juniors Helen Chen, Vidhatu Patel (go sit with Triple Strange people), Michael Chen, and Lydia Le. To my Valence juniors, I leave behind the wish for another World Qualification; don't let us down. To the junior Yangs ( ), Brandon Yang and I leave behind a superior last name. To all the juniors, especially Alfred Ye, who is taking over my clubs, I leave behind my excellent leadership abilities and skills of NOT stopping and canceling meetings in the second semester. I hope you run the club better than us and meet more people during the second semester. Lastly, I leave this place.

I, **Caroline Yanni**, being of soundish body and mind, leave my favorite JSIB Elise chance meetings in a coffee shop, may you always be able to track down your future JSIB with as much success as I did. To Natalie, I leave swimming which is all I have to offer you, and the only personality trait that matters. To Emma, I leave all the Pitbull songs in the world and the broken wooden discus (don't you dare throw it away). May you carry on our legacy with the new throwers. To Tess Crumpton, I leave all my hopes and dreams of another broken streak and to Meghan I leave the spirit of the pride, may it live on forever. To Rebekah I leave nights of Brooklyn 99 and to Lydia I return your room which was always rightfully yours. Please get some more sleep next year. Lilly Ferry, I leave you long walks to the waste management facility and the best of luck at whichever ivy you choose to attend. I hope you look back fondly on our time spent in the lounge together when you're stuck in physics next year. And finally, to all of First Beall's future seniors, I wish you the best of luck with the new juniors. The every other year curse is real.

I, **Mason Zhang**, being of questionable mind and body, hereby leave my TSA all nighters and caffeine addiction to Sarah Zhou; love for saxophone quintets to JR Pagar and Lily Hill; Chinese class conversations and spy-movie shenanigan to Lai Antian/Atlas Lad; Chinese class jokes to Wang Laoshi; and Mariam Hanna, Lily Hill, Alissa Kurtzke, and Sarah Zhou the future of Pep Band.



TRIVIA

11 Fun Facts About NCSSM History

**DID YOU KNOW?** Through examining government websites, yearbooks, internet archives, and more, we have put together a short list of historical facts about our campus. Shoutout to Jett Mu '25 for researching.

1. The few cultural festivals now are handfuls of many more festivals from back then.

2. In 1999, the year the ETC opened, NCSSM Drama held a contest with 3 other community schools to see who can perform the best short play.

3. There is a wall of plaques near Blobby and the Pollinator Garden of students and staff who died while at or being part of NCSSM. The last entry was in the early 2000s.

4. Watts Hospital was built in 1909 on a budget of \$7.6 million dollars in today's money. George Washington Watts wanted to build a hospital that rivaled Johns Hopkins so people would stop going to Hopkins for medical treatment. Watts Hospital mainly served White patients while Black patients had to go to Lincoln Hospital in the Hayti neighborhood.

5. Watts administration is Watts today. The nurses home was called Wyche up until 1-2 decades ago when it became Royall. The WWII dorms for nurses became Hill House, named after Watts'son-in-law. The men and women's dorms became Reynolds, who is believed to have taken a lot of pictures and documentation in the 50s. The pavilions adjacent to Bryan were the Beall Pavilions named after Watt's wife, Laura Valinda Beall Watts.

6. Watts soon lost competition to the Durham County General Hospital, built in 1976. Governor Terry Sanford envisioned this hospital to become NCSSM. The next governor, Jim Hunt, carried this idea further and helped gain bipartisan support for it. Securing public funding was a challenge.

7. Preston Reynolds, a physician, historian, educator, and author of *Watts Hospital of Durham, North Carolina, 1895-1976: Keeping the Doors Open*, was key in integrating and de-segregating Watts Hospitals.

8. Bryan was named after Joseph and Kathleen Bryan, who were among the primary benefactors of NCSSM.

9. The PEC was named for Charles Eilber, a former chancellor, while the ETC was named for John Frederick, a former director.

10. A new hall was built in 1985-87 and in 1991 was named after Jim Hunt, who is still alive. During the construction up to its completion, the students called it New Dorm and continued so until 1994, despite the official name.

11. Meanwhile, the Hunt students lived at Carolina Duke Motor Lodge on Guess Rd. as the dorm finished.

12. In 1994, NCSSM was the filming site for "Against Her Will: A Carrie Buck Story." In the movie, Watts Hospital is called the "State Colony for the Epileptic and Feeble-minded." ■

REFLECTION



LEFT PHOTO: EDITORS-IN-CHIEF ANNELIESE HEYDER (LEFT) AND TERESA FANG (RIGHT) AT WELCOME DAY 2024. ANNELIESE AND TERESA AT WELCOME DAY 2025. RIGHT PHOTO: ANNELIESE AND TERESA AT WELCOME DAY 2024. TERESA FANG

Confessions from a Reluctant Editor-in-Chief

BY TERESA FANG  
STENTORIAN EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Flexed toes were the requirement for being on the demo team of my old taekwondo dojo, and I get why—kicks look sharper and stronger that way. I appreciate our masters for teaching all of us how. We either look good together or die looking bad. I always joke about the time I cried in class for not wanting to do the weird group exercises across the mats. It's embarrassing to be the wheelbarrow of the human wheelbarrow, digging my palms into the smelly mats and apologizing for not moving my arms fast enough.

I know that group activities can be embarrassing for all of us in the group. I know that our group can be a big one. In the worst-case scenario, I know we could hide the ones with floppy toes in the back of our formation and still perform in competitions with a sufficiently high score. See, like most high school students, I'm aware of all the little tricks that can make my life a little easier.

Yet, I'm ignorantly unaware that I just made someone else's life a little harder. I didn't yet understand the hard work it takes to turn embarrassment into accomplishment—that group work could be transformative if we respected each other's strengths and tried. I was so focused on avoiding shame, so sure someone else would do the work, that I neglected to care. I left my team with a half-baked product and a sorry-I-felt-like-playing-video-games excuse. My comfort was burned out with someone else's burnout.

These two years haven't been easy. All 600 or so of us gave up more than we could list to come here. For me, it was my love for journalism—leaving behind Chapel Hill's established networks and local independence to Uber back and forth from school, stressing about "super-important" meetings and the clubs I had to lead.

We all gave something up to be here. So why do we

sometimes act like we've given up for nothing? Why should we treat our new commitments as resume fodder instead of meaningful work? What about the people we leave hanging when we disappear? What is it about this school that makes us betray each other?

Why is it that when you give up something to come here, you then give up the opportunities that this school gives you?

The manner by which NCSSM students express their commitment to things overlooks their reliability: getting a leadership position (or a college acceptance, recently) versus putting in the work after you get that commitment are vastly different in scope and impact. I'm not proud of it, but I caught myself judging students in the same manner as those on the political right: as superficial snowflakes.

Committing to the fullest is simply a part of my life—I, too, wanted to bake bread every day at home during the quarantine months, but I witnessed my community grieve the murders of Asian women at Atlanta spas and the elderly getting slashed and knocked over across the country. For me, it was my responsibility as a human being to give speeches at vigils, to protests, and report the best I could for my people, even though the most complicated word I knew back then was "polarization." My boss never told me what to cover; it had always been me behind the wheel. Being a human being was how I became a journalist.

When we agree on something with others, it's all the more important that we bear this commitment in mind. Many people do not have the privileges afforded to the average NCSSM student.

We are privileged to experience a safe school environment in such diversity. This is good. But the larger student experience does not stop. It begins.

There is so much diversity, and different types of it, at NCSSM. There is so much going on that we do not have time to process anything, and that places us in a hard spot

because NCSSM students want to try everything.

The school makes it a law for teachers to make assignments due strictly at 10 p.m., in the name of allowing us to sleep. But how could we possibly? Students chose to give up their previous at-home lives to come to this place and garner an education where they want to spend time producing something high-quality. But there are expectations with such high bars that some people can reach them while others can't, creating an achievement gap of shaming and spite between students and teachers.

Like in any nation, there are both responsible and strange people. We are no strangers to people "disappearing," being unresponsive or uncooperative in the middle of important projects, which then becomes a "teaching lesson" for us young people to overcome and adapt. But this is incredibly difficult to overcome in a pressure cooker environment. We cannot be curious to explore our niches without worrying about falling behind in other stuff.

These are the conditions that have shaped my writing. They have shaped me to choose what to write, even when I don't know if anyone will read it; to recognize privilege; to have the courage to say this system isn't working the way it should. On my J-Term trip to Arizona, I stood over the Grand Canyon and breathed. For the first time in months, I wasn't overbooked. I was just burnt out—and suddenly, that felt okay. I had chosen these commitments. My hands were full and dirty, but the work wasn't just

functional. It was joyful. The Canyon's layers reminded me of my own: research, newspaper, humanities journal, hours in the studio. The strife had deepened my appreciation for what it means to create something honest.

The conditions of strife have created my appreciation for a sincere humanity. I see it in and am thankful to my teachers who gave me unconditional support, small chats, deep discussions, and great restaurant recommendations. My peers who live on my polar opposite but make time and effort to connect. If not for them, I would have actually become devoid of all happiness and hope, and become one of those people who complain about the impossible when they've never seen the other side of the earth. I would never have had the courage to write this, nor the skillset to write with an open mind.

I'm glad we're snowflakes. I wish everyone had the chance to be one. Because if that were true, maybe we would all learn to live a little. It matters that we persist through these troubles so that eventually all our crash-outs today will just be like minor inconveniences in the future. We keep making life harder for everyone so then more people can know the privilege of real dialogue.

And my final confession: yes, I was a reluctant editor-in-chief. But I am always proud to sign Teresa Fang on my works—not because it's perfect, but because it's honest.

Here ends my case study on my NCSSM experience. Q.E.D.



TERESA FANG

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Presidential Statement From Israel James, SBP

BY ISRAEL JAMES  
GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

As we near the end of our time here at NCSSM, I find myself not just reflecting on those moments that defined our experience, but on the people who made it truly unforgettable. When I embarked on this journey as Student Body President, I promised to lead for, and not over, the student body. And that's exactly what I've tried to do, whether it was listening to your ideas, advocating for your needs, or creating new opportunities that would leave a lasting legacy.

One of my most proud accomplishments is organizing the Inaugural Annual Alumni Career Fair, a thought that came from a brainstorm between student government and the alumni association that evolved into a spectacular event connecting students with graduates who were once in our shoes. It was a reminder that innovation is not just located

in the lab or on a research poster, but also in how we build bridges for each other.

And wow, did we have fun this year. I don't think any of us will ever forget the chaos and the hilarity of spoons, watching people sneak around campus, spoon on the nose in a desperate attempt not to get out. Or the Lock-Ins throughout the PEC, where we played basketball to dodgeball after inspection, reminding us that NCSSM is as much heart as it is brains. Prom at the Museum of Life and Science was out of a fairy tale, and viewing everybody looking sharp taking pictures at Duke Gardens was like being in a movie. Walking through downtown Durham or 9th Street after submitting Orah passes. Going to the Eno River to have fun with friends. The annual Watermelon Club race and how watermelon was scattered all across Hill Street. Speaking of Hill, we were able to see Hill House's transformation in the new renovations that took place

earlier this year.

This year, the Class of 2025 became more than just students, we became a family. From singing Taylor Swift during the power outage of our junior year to celebrating each other's accomplishments across every discipline, our bond grew deeper, stronger, and more meaningful. We've been role models to our juniors, showing them what it looks like to lead with kindness, creativity, and courage.

Where do I even begin naming all of our accomplishments? Our student body received national research awards, wrote peer-reviewed articles, launched innovative start-ups, won athletic tournaments, created amazing and inspiring art pieces, and was accepted into so many spectacular schools. Another major accomplishment is getting to this point. The long night study sessions and the projects we spent hours working on has finally paid off. We really did lock-in this year!

We showed that greatness comes in many faces and from many different places. And we accomplished all of this while attending the #1 Public High School in America, as ranked by Niche, a title earned day in and day out.

To our faculty and staff, thank you for believing in us even when we did not believe in ourselves. Your mentorship over the past two years have been the keys to our success. And to Chancellor Roberts, thank you for your unwavering leadership and for reminding us that education is not about success, but about purpose.

As we go forward from here, I want all of us to carry the NCSSM unicorn spirit with us in all that we do. Keep asking questions. Keep building communities that represent the values we lived here. And also, give back whether that be through mentorship, giving, or sharing your story with future Unicorns.

We are the new generation of changemakers. And though we'll be

all over the world pretty soon, we'll always be part of this legacy. I want to stay connected to all and each of you. If you're celebrating something like a graduation, wedding, job offer, probate, or anything that you want to be celebrated for, I will always love to show up. I want to keep showing up for you as you've been showing up for me.

Thank you for believing in me to serve as your president. Thank you for making NCSSM a place where brilliance thrives. I am so proud of us, how much we've grown, how hard we've worked, and how we've carried ourselves through it all.

Here's to the Class of 2025: the changemakers, the trailblazing units, my friends for life.

To our bright futures ahead,

Israel M. James  
Student Body  
President, Class of 2025  
North Carolina School of  
Science and Mathematics

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SPORTS

The Streak is Broken at Historic Durham Athletic Park

BY PRESTON MULLINS  
STENTORIAN STAFF WRITER

Durham Athletic Park, the former home of the Durham Bulls minor league baseball team and Bull Durham, the iconic film, now hosts a different tenant: the NCSSM Unicorns. In a ballpark steeped in winning history, a struggling high school baseball team sought to capture a bit of that magic for themselves. The players entered the 2025 season starving for a win; the Unis hadn't tasted victory in three years. The team underwent a preseason of practice and preparation in hopes of finally breaking the streak that had haunted them for so long. The losses began to roll in as games began for NCSSM, but hope was not lost. The margins of defeat for the team were not what they had once been; the players realized they had the one thing they needed the most:

a chance. When a matchup arrived at home against Triangle Math and Science Academy in early March, it initially felt like any other game. The Unis warmed up and took their usual positions on the field. Each and every player held a sliver of hope for the possibility of victory, but no one dared to get their hopes up. The streak had lasted for years, what would make them think it could be broken now? That chilly night at the DAP was one that the NCSSM baseball team wouldn't soon forget. Not only was the streak broken, but it was obliterated. The Unicorns routed the TMSA Tigers 18-2. This result came out of nowhere; one moment the streak was alive and well, and the next it was gone. NCSSM had piled up loss after loss for over 1000 days and just like that, the win column was no longer home to an enormous goose egg. The members of

the team were unfamiliar with the sweet taste of victory; they would cherish it forever. The ghosts of the old ballpark came through for the Unis that night. The NCSSM baseball team had been the running joke of the school for ages, but following the win, the taunts and jeers quieted down, at least for a little while. The losses returned in the next few games, and a new streak began, but the team was able to pick another win later in the season, this time 6-4 on the road against Neuse Charter in late April. While the Unicorns were still far from a great baseball team, they had restored a bit of pride to their name, and the streak that had hung over their heads since 2022 was finally over. After all of the suffering the team had gone through in recent years, 2025 Uni baseball rode off into the sunset with a glimmer of hope for the future in hand. ■

INCREDIBLY SERIOUS NEWS

Final Exam Study Guide for the ‘Post-NCSSM Math and Everything Else Test,’ for June 2025

**NEVERENDING GRIND.** In a final act of academic absurdity, NCSSM seniors must conquer the legendary Post-Math-and-Everything-Else Exam—a chaotic blend of calculus, caffeine dependency, and existential dread. This guide, generously (and questionably) passed down by the grandseniors, offers sample questions to help you prepare for the test no one knew existed but everyone somehow fears.

BY TERESA FANG  
STENTORIAN EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Dear seniors, If you are reading this, please give the grandseniors our sincerest thanks, for they have blessed us with the knowledge to hopefully ace the post-NCSSM math exam (which also has a bit of every other subject imaginable, somehow). When I brought up my memories of the entrance math exam as a sophomore to some of our UNC brothers and sisters last weekend, I believed that was the end of traumatic overstudying and that we'd spend the next two years having fun and dancing on the beautiful Bryan lawn every day. I didn't foresee that there would be a surprise exam to test whether our knowledge retention is longer than a goldfish's. Who knows how many more surprise exams we will have to endure, but the grandseniors

- 1. Compare the growth of the Fibonacci sequence to the number of emails you received titled "Free food in Blobby (walk don't run)" in a single semester. What mathematical model best describes the rate of inbox saturation? Be sure to show all 492 steps.
- 2. Prove, using indirect contradiction and at least one Hall Scream in the ETC gym, that the probability of getting into a good college increases with the number of problem sets you "collaborated" on but didn't actually understand.
- 3. If a student walks from Hill to the ETC in under 4 minutes carrying an iced lavender matcha from Joe's and a TI-84, what is the minimum amount of shame they must feel for not taking the tunnels? Express your answer in terms of  $\pi$ , Euler's identity, and residual sleep debt.
- 4. Let xxx represent your GPA, and yyy your number of

- 5. Calculate the volume of a metaphorical void created by dropping your calculator down the Bryan stairs from 4th Bryan 17 minutes before the AP Calculus BC exam. Assume it echoes with your last three coherent thoughts.
- 6. A student takes 8 courses in one semester, joins 4 clubs, runs for 2 positions, and attends 6 optional speaker lectures. Prove that this student exists only theoretically and was last seen orbiting the library at Mach speed. Bonus: Derive a matrix transformation that maps "ambition" to "burnout."
- 7. Using combinatorics, determine how many possible outfit combinations can be made from the same two NCSSM hoodies, one pair of sweatpants, and seven unmatched socks. Include all valid permutations for Thursday, 8:30 a.m. (C block).

- 8. Using integral calculus, calculate the total amount of caffeine consumed by a student over the course of finals week. Be sure to account for exponential increase on the night before the Multi final and the delta spike

WATTS

Watts Tunnel Sealed Forever; Seniors Mourn, Juniors Whisper of Ghosts

BY TERESA FANG  
STENTORIAN EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As the Class of 2025 prepares to graduate on May 23, they leave behind not just textbooks and PFM cookies but the spectral remnants of Watts Tunnel, now sealed behind sterile plaster walls like a tomb. Once the artery of campus chaos, covered in neon ducks and strange student prophecies ("Don't trust the ceiling tile"), the tunnel was abruptly entombed earlier this year. No warning. No ceremony. Just a wall, like the end of a horror movie where the haunted house wins. "I heard it crying at night," said one senior. "Or maybe it was just the HVAC. But it felt personal." Now, the tunnel lives only in legend. Seniors speak of it with the reverence of war veterans. Juniors stare blankly, like villagers in a ghost town who don't believe the mine was ever real. "My roommate once got lost in there for three days," whispered a senior. "She came out different. Quieter. She only eats from vending machines now." Other stories persist: The

Phantom of the Tunnel, who rollerblades silently at 3 a.m. The ducks that move when no one's looking. The forbidden mural that predicted this very blockade, right next to the drawing of a suspiciously wide-mouthed ogre in a lab coat. Juniors scoff. "What tunnel?" But we know. As we walk the graduation stage, we honor not just our class—but a sacred passage beneath our feet. The Watts Tunnel is gone. But its spirit lingers. And sometimes... it honks. ■

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PUZZLES

NCSSM Acronyms Word Search

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D	I	S	E	O	Q	B	M	S	F	G	J	G	R	J	V	J	I	J	Y
N	H	D	E	T	U	I	O	Y	N	L	P	C	I	O	F	Z	W	M	
X	N	X	X	A	N	G	A	U	D	H	M	B	O	J	E	R	L	Y	N
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I	F	J	O	X	D	N	M	T	X	Y	M	E	T	U	K	J	L	W	P
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H	G	K	T	K	J	F	L	P	D	P	Z	R	W	O	E	Y	A	U	D
A	X	P	V	O	T	B	V	L	M	E	Y	B	P	G	E	F	Z	G	Z

TWAN PFM ETC CCP NCSSM PEC ERL MODS towels chairs shells water waves radio hats bucket fish

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STAN'S DAILY CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	
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60	61	62			63							64			
65					66							67			
68					69							70			

ACROSS

- 1. Coin-op music player
- 5. Campus structures
- 10. Frequent flier
- 14. Genesis 4 name
- 15. Top players
- 16. Green-light
- 17. Glue together
- 18. Kind of crown
- 19. Surrealist Magritte
- 20. Venerable pain reliever
- 23. Video gaming pioneer
- 24. Shortened "I'm shocked!"
- 25. Sound like "Boom!"
- 28. Effective
- 32. "Comic" music
- 34. Northwest NHLers
- 38. Truckloads
- 40. Cropped up
- 41. 42-Across, essentially
- 42. Pioneers' lumber source

DOWN

- 1. Han Solo adversary
- 2. WWII menace
- 3. Land on Lake Victoria

- 4. Berry-bearing tree
- 5. Things in tables
- 6. Moving walkway maker
- 7. Profit from
- 8. Nintendo hero
- 9. Fawning flattery
- 10. Innate
- 11. He followed Harry
- 12. Published
- 13. Color changer
- 21. Song-certifying org.
- 22. Composer Stravinsky
- 25. Black tea
- 26. Lunchbox sweet
- 27. Potter accessory
- 29. Bit of a galaxy
- 30. Alejandro's "another"
- 31. Dental device
- 33. Unwitting accomplice
- 34. Of things heard
- 35. What hoops haven't
- 36. Grandson of Abraham
- 37. Flat military hat
- 38. PD alerts
- 39. Went like the wind
- 43. Kitchen gadget brand
- 44. "\_\_\_ miracle!"
- 49. Far from subtle
- 50. Voice reservations
- 52. Overly repeated
- 53. More perplexing
- 54. Clear wrap, for short
- 55. Places for pads
- 56. Recognize orally
- 57. NorCal county
- 58. In a deadlock
- 59. Merriment
- 60. Slip into
- 61. Broody music
- 62. Saucy talk

May 15 Open Waters Daily Crossword by Stan's Daily Crosswords on USA Today





# Latin America Fest (LAF)

PHOTOS BY LOUISA WEINARD

**LATINÉ STUDENT UNION (LSU).** Looks like we've got a mystery on our hands... Latin America Fest was held on May 3 from 7:00 - 8:30pm in the ETC Auditorium, and the clues all point to an unforgettable night. Join us as we unmask the beauty of Latin American culture through dance, spoken word, musical performances, and more.

