

The Stentorian

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

WOWZA

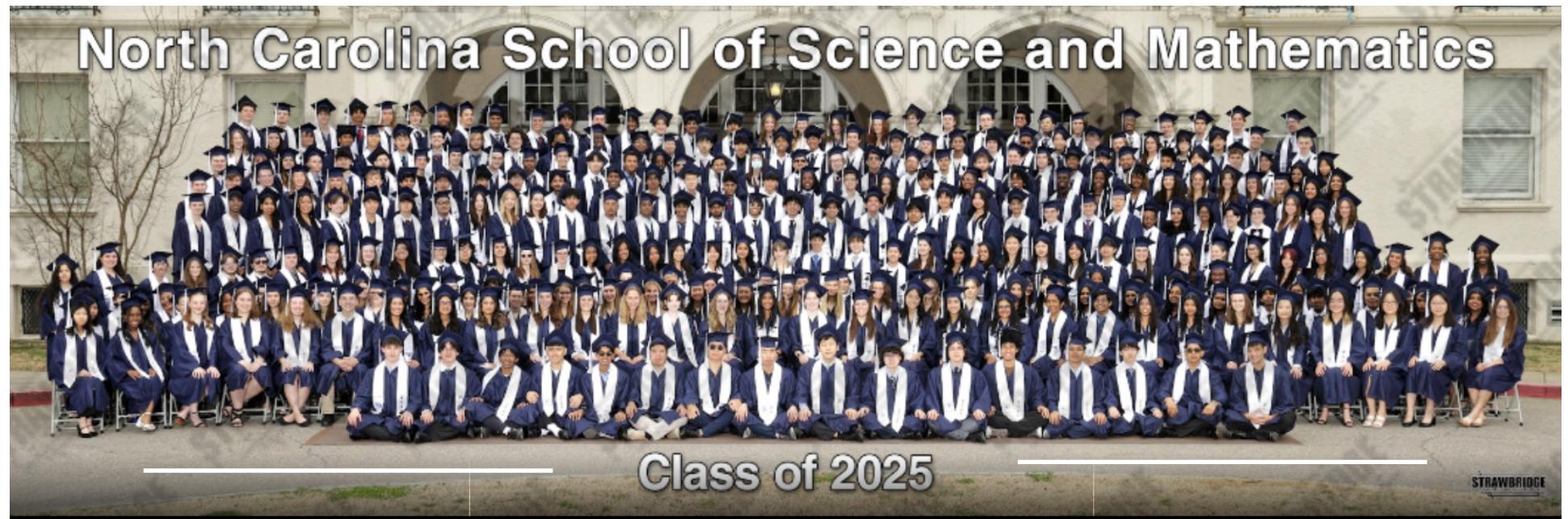
Read Our 95 Senior Wills '25



REFLECTION

Notes From An Editor-in-Chief

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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.

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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

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

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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.

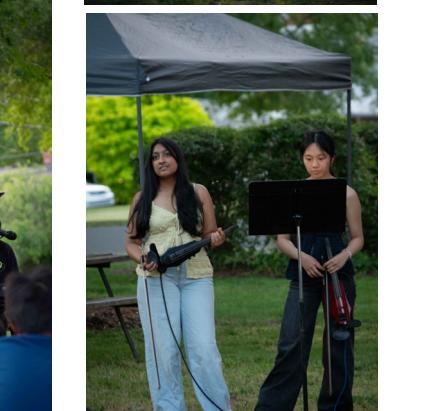
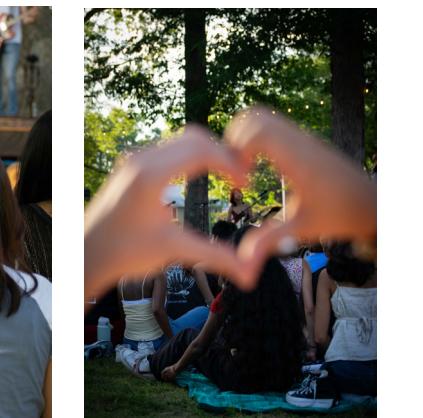
Big Spoon's legacy is also an interesting one. When asked if they've figured out any of the members for the next generation of the band, rising seniors Jiya Zaveria and Hazel Cochran stated that, "it was still in the works," despite them being sad to see their seniors go. Big spoon is a band that is 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, Koffeouses 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: ■

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NCSSMSTENTORIAN.COM

Durham Campus - 342 seniors	322 reporting
College	# Attending
Appalachian State University	1
Barnard College	1
Carnegie Mellon University	3
Case Western Reserve University	1
Coastal Carolina University	1
Columbia University in the City of New York	4
Cornell University	4
Dartmouth College	1
Davidson College	1
Duke University	13
East Carolina University	1
GAP YEAR	2
Georgetown University	1
Georgia Institute of Technology-Main Campus	5
Harvard University	1
Harvey Mudd College	1
Haverford College	1
High Point University	1
Howard University	1
Johns Hopkins University	1
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	2
McGill University	1
New York University	2
North Carolina A & T State University	1
North Carolina State University	68
TOTAL Reporting	

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

 **The Stentorian**

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STUDENT LIFE FROM PAGE 1

The [Dying] Legacy of Happy Half and Hill Lounge

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

"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

Agbemabiese, 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; RMorahan to Manny Price; Heloise Fratta, Moira Furr, Brianna Reyes, Vineel Gavini, Ivana Afegnui—cherish every moment in RBio, it'll be over before you know it; Natyam to Pragathi Akula and Jaya 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 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 Vidhut Patel I leave a miniature 3D printed sword, hoping he continues his education in surface modeling. To Matt Dober, Connor Towns, Ansh Meghan, and Jeff Valdovinos 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 weekly sushi. 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 Igboewe 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 Boafo, 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 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, Dylan Dees, being of

sound mind and body, do hereby leave Mariam Hanna every



stupid check question; Reshma 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 hereby 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

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

I, 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 motf 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 schrithy scratchy at ur door forever. To Irene and Ella: I GIVE U MY HEART 5EVERRR!! JBURP OUT!!!!!!

SEE PAGE 5

I, Ethann Burkett, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Alex Caza endless lvls 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; to Avery Yang, I leave behind 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 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; to Avery Yang, I leave behind 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. 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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;



I, **Jacey Hilburn**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave my home, 3rd Bryan, 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 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 Rizzato, 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 unfaltering. 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, **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 moggling in photos to KT Mozzo. I leave baggy jeans, and therefore belts, to Nishim Kandekar. 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, **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 them first before taking them out;

I, **Aidan Hrynyshyn**, 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, Nishim Kandekar, 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.

I, **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 McDonald's' 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 Beall, Reynolds or Chil'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 Ic 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, **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 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 Sneha Khetan and Shrunku 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, **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 Sneha Khetan and Shrunku 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, **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

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 Iam 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 Cunanan, Taksheel Iyer, David Wong, Ophir Avsian, Alex Caza, Lucas Rodriguez Chiappetta, all of the LSU juniors, and I guess Harry Gribbin. I leave 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, **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 Vidhata Patel; and empty wall space to hang more blue banners for the amazing Zebracorns team.

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 (Vidhata 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 (what's ever fate, I will be proud). Take with thee our bond in loathing AP Chemistry, tones of Lady Maria in you, and spirit of Grandam's Guild, for none will wear RLA more nobly than thou.

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

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, **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 finally, to Marden Harvey, Bella Rizzato, and, once again, Hazel Cochran: the knowledge and use of Rathskellar and turquoise rooftop trips.

I, **Emily Jon**, of massive mind and rad body, hereby leave Kwave to Shrunku 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. Imao 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, **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 Hattie, Nandhini Thangamani, and Aiden Hernandez, hope you all dream better and dream bigger next year.

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 (#SSB41); 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, **Pranav Mettu**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Grace Liang and Shrunku 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, **Hima Manne**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Connor Skeels and Co. Hunt 103; Joshua Harvill the responsibility of carrying on Spikeball Club; and Musa Gwanzura "Material Girl (Bass Boosted)".

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 Wymbs 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.

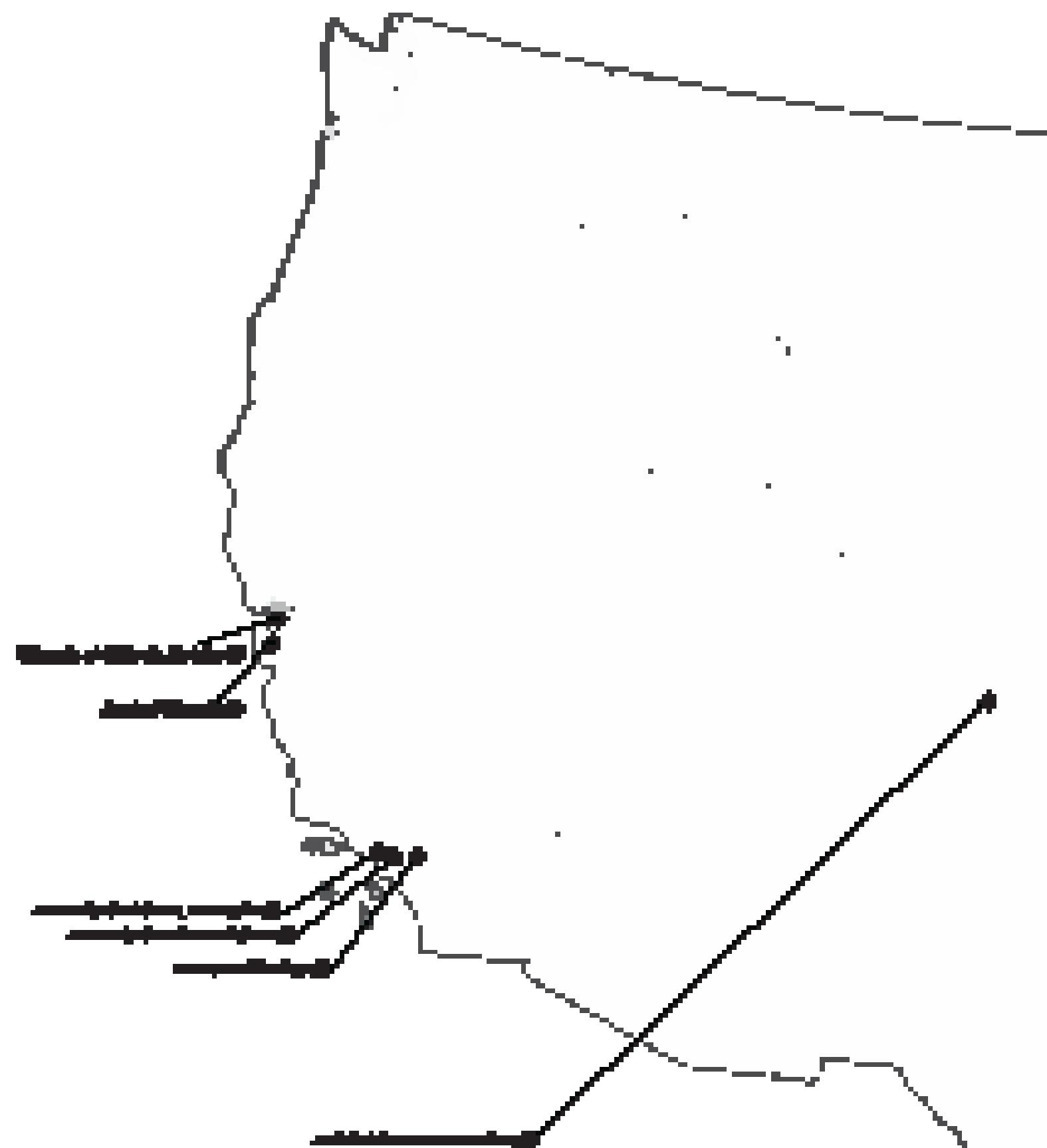
I, **Mabel Kennedy** - I leave to Hazel Cochran: the prized Kneecap postcard, my inherited Panera bread poster and hensforth its legacy shall continue through you, and my sincerist hopes for the future golden days of the rowing team. And finally, to Marden Harvey, Bella Rizzato, and, once again, Hazel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

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 (Vidhata 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 (what's ever fate, I will be proud). Take with thee our bond in loathing AP Chemistry, tones of Lady Maria in you, and spirit of Grandam's Guild, for none will wear RLA more nobly than thou.

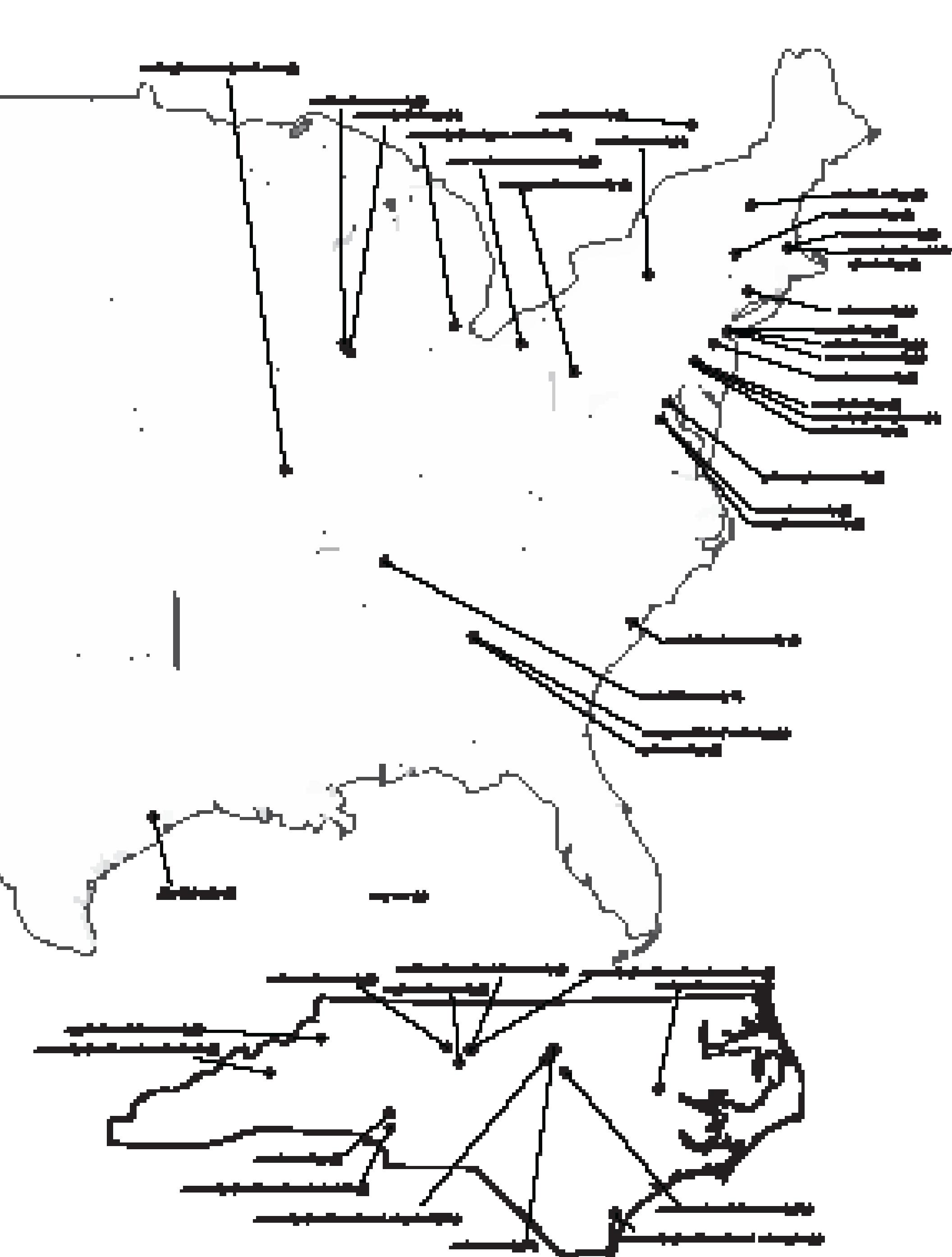
I, **Kahaan Khatri**, of sound mind and body hereby leave my vast collection of NCSSM treasures to a select few Juniors. Nishim, I give you the fish. Tanuj you can have Black Mamba. Josh, I leave you me and Zains finance bro status. Farewell.

I, **Grace Lu**, 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 (#SSB41); 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, **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)".



**Class of 2025 total reported = 322
unreported = 20**



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 peeten, 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 Cornelius 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 Cornelius 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 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, **Caitlin Priechenfried**, leave to my most amazing and perfect Jsb 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, Reshma 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

off of hammocks on blown. To Eleena Chacko I leave all the nights of eating Buldak. 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, Shrunk, 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. & Shrunk, 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, **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, **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 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 Sneha Khetan I leave the legacy of 4B Mock Trial captain. 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

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 nessm volleyball legacy, hopefully one day in the future you wont less it with LaFlame like you always do. To Josh I leave



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, **Yashaswi Saini**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Jasmine Herring slickback buns, vending machine cokes, watching Euphoria until I am, taking naps in each other's beds, playing Uno, dramatic exits, TikTok sounds of the week, late-night gossiping, and Public Relations Director. I leave Angel Butcher Chipotle runs, RexHum papers, and Dr. Cantrall's Sexy Red jokes. I leave Lilly Ferry jaw-dropping lore, editing Amstud papers, and being a hater. I leave Gabriel Kinney, Myles Pitts, and Troy Hicks being forced to go places with Jasmine and the responsibility of making sure she leaves her room next year. I leave Chloe Harpanich the stories of surviving Dr. Jacob Brown and the SG social media pages (use them wisely). I leave Bella Rizzuto microwave popcorn (sorry for eating all of yours). I leave the 3rd Bryan juniors listening to City Girls on the way to Chick-fil-A with Hope Gambill. I leave Ava Hodgson basketball games and "monkey never cramp". I leave Adaa Aggarwal and Amarachi Uwakwe the legacy of Wilson and the 252. Finally, I leave Cornelia Okonkwo a reminder that she is not grown.

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

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 Nandini Thangamani and Elizabeth Taber, I leave my Secret Santa gift. Please use it well; To Sneha Khetan 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

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, Nandini Thangamani unserious martial arts runthrus, Celia Cecchini piano harp duets, Hilary Chen clothing swaps, Jahnavi Bondada that to do list your dad shirt and plant daddy hat, Vidhata Patel soft boy jeans, Jishnu Kolla the title of neuro demon, and lastly, Seungwoo Ji the title of nessm's #1 abb.

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

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, **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 violin- i mean harpisi- 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 Reshma 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, **Deepthi Selvaraj**, leave Quinn Magee my chaotic and chill RLA energy and excitement for move-in week, Abby Wilford my abs-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

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 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

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 Shrunk,

I leave countless Amtrak rides and all of my dance knowledge. To Hilary Chen, I leave our wonderful SNL and hammock nights, and Domingo, To Shrunk

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 Aarshe 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 Aash 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.

I, **Hadley Woods**, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave Kalina Parvanova D-Block Joe's runs; Romi Reischneider 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, **Caroline Yanni**, being of soundish body and mind, leave my favorite JSIB Elise chance meetings in a coffee shop, may 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 discs (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, **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 Nandini Thangamani. To Prbhuv Nigam, I pass down Monster Energy, my survival kit, and its heavenly contents. I leave Tejasvi Shirokár, 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, Nandini 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 Nandini Thangamani as my successors. I leave with you two my immense love for the game. Carry my legacy, whatever that entails. Good luck.

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; scooting, fluffy hair, one-pie Instagram stories, and excessive food spending to Nishim 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 loudest yappers.

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.

I, **Brandon Yang**, being of sound, mind, and body, do hereby leave Cullen Warren, Aneesh 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, Hilary Chen, and honorary 2nd Bryan juniors Helen Chen, Vidhata 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, **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 Shrunk, 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 buldak 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, Shrunk, Vineel, and Shreya, I leave the spark of the Neuroscience Club. To Zara, I leave Big Backing and the Zoodoodoo Eats legacy. To Tanuj, I leave forever jobless spontaneous outings. To Ryan Cannon, I leave reels and doomscrolling in the library. 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 Nandini Thangamani. To Prbhuv Nigam, 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 Nandini Thangamani. To Prbhuv Nigam, 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 Nandini Thangamani. To Prbhuv Nigam, 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 Nandini Thangamani. To Prbhuv Nigam, 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 Nandini Thangamani. To Prbhuv Nigam, 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 Nandini Thangamani. To Prbhuv Nigam, 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 Nandini Thangamani. To Prbhuv Nigam, 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 Nandini Thangamani. To Prbhuv Nigam, 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 Nandini Thangamani. To Prbhuv Nigam, 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 Nandini Thangamani. To Prbhuv Nigam, 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 Nandini Thangamani.

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 Royal. The WWII dorms for nurses became Hill House, named after Watts's 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 Eller, 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 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 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, 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.

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 bought with someone else's burnout.

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.

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?

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

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 have 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

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 unis, 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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NCSSM

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 staring 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. ■

"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

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

have mercifully provided us with some questions from their own exams. They were pulled straight from their own mighty memories, so I trust these questions completely and will NOT in fact be memorizing the answers, at all. BTW, I heard this exam will happen in early June via proctored Zoom.

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 π , Euler's identity, and residual sleep debt.

4. Let xxx represent your GPA, and yyy your number of

hours slept this week. Show that as $x \rightarrow 4.0x \rightarrow 4.0x \rightarrow 4.0$, $y \rightarrow \text{toy} \rightarrow \text{[REDACTED]}$. Use a Lagrange multiplier if you're feeling fancy, or just cry.

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: Include external variables such as bird-watching, existential dread, and the Big Spoon concert.

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

9. You have 6 unsolved past problems, 3 panicked Messenger chats, 2 unread Canvas announcements, and 1 chemistry packet due. Create a Markov chain to represent your decision-making process. Explain why every state leads to "eat pizza in the PEC."

10. Derive a function that describes the rate at which motivation decays when the Bryan courtyard hammocks are reinstated. Bonus: Include external variables such as bird-watching, existential dread, and the Big Spoon concert.

11. Define a topology on the set of all NCSSM students such that all paths lead to the Bryan lobby. Justify whether this space is connected, compact, or simply chaotic good.

12. Finally, prove the following identity:

(NCSSM Senior) squared = (Fear of adulthood) + (Last-minute Common App edits) + (Fifth pod of Keurig)

Use the Fundamental Theorem of Crying in the Shower. ■

Keep up with the latest at NCSSMSTENTORIAN.COM



THE STENTORIAN
MAY 2025

WATTS

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

BY TERESA FANG
STENTORIAN EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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. ■

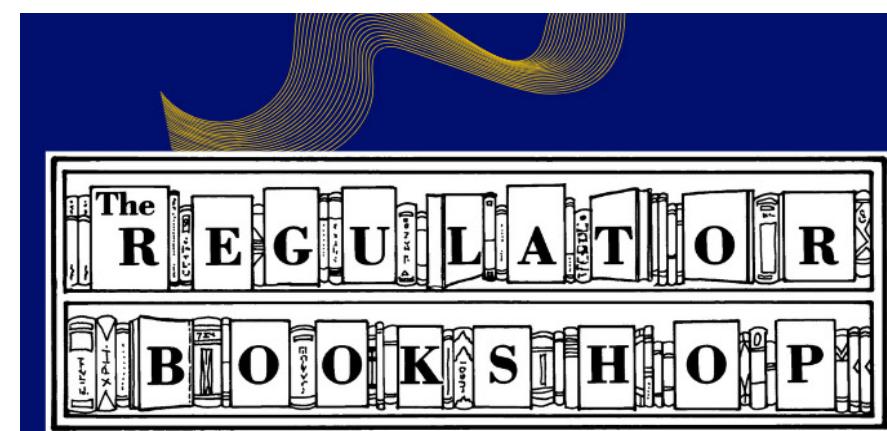
"I heard it crying at night," said one senior. "Or maybe it was just the HVAC. But it felt personal."

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

THE STENTORIAN
MAY 2025



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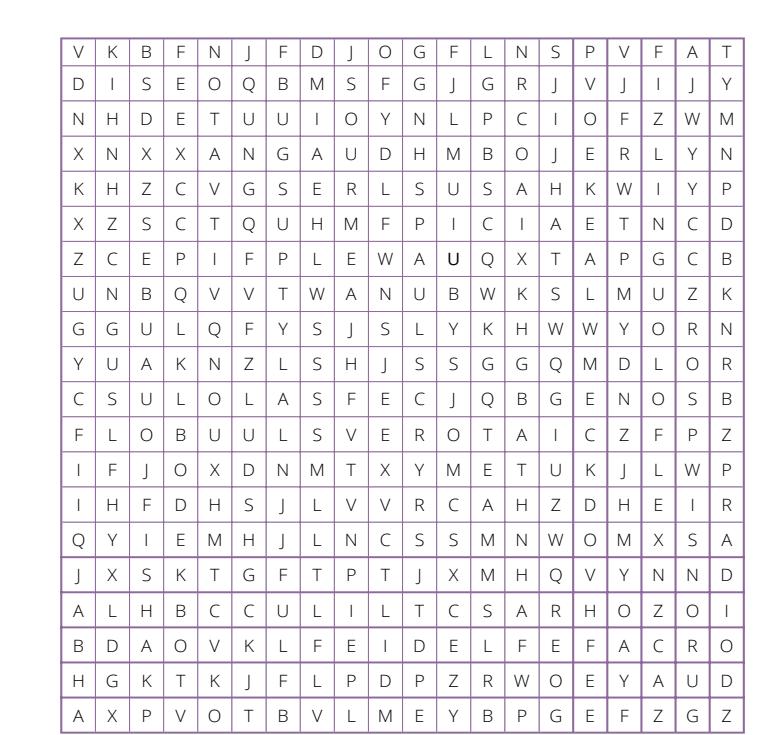


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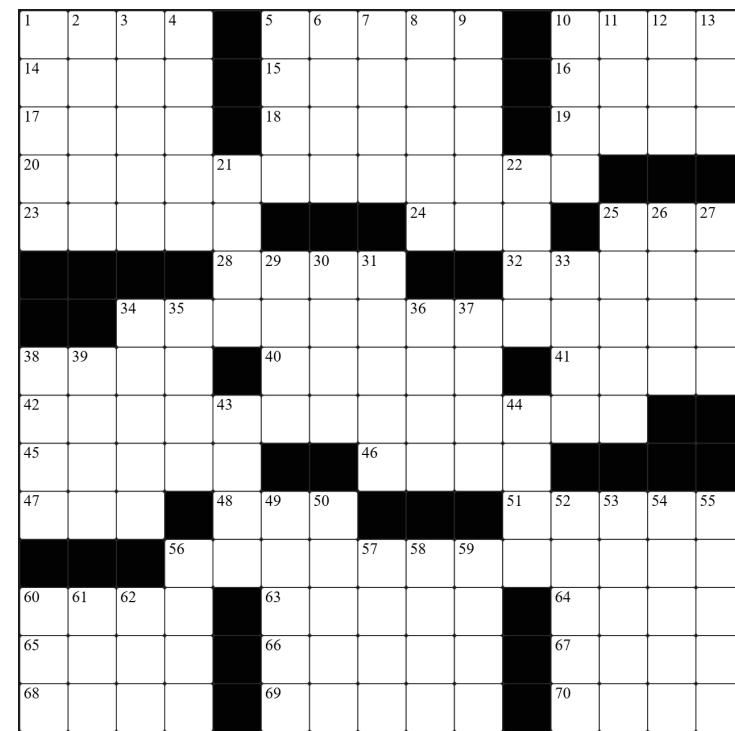
NCSSM Acronyms Word Search



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

MORE PUZZLES! Play FREE from The Stentorian's archives of puzzles, diversions, and editorial cartoons at: ncsmstentorian.com/puzzles/

STAN'S DAILY CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- Coin-op music player
- Campus structures
- Frequent flier
- Genesis 4 name
- Top players
- Green-light
- Glue together
- Kind of crown
- Surrealist Magritte
- Venerable pain reliever
- Video gaming pioneer
- Shortened "I'm shocked!"
- Sound like "Boom!"
- Effective
- "Comic" music
- Northwest NHLers
- Truckloads
- Cropped up
- 41-42-Across, essentially
- Pioneers' lumber source

- Be good for
- Brief moment
- Haddock cousin
- Inventory
- London concert hall
- Sandwich seller
- Inform electronically
- Not engaged
- Pass over
- Kolkata coin
- It means "long distance"
- Casual refusal
- Welding, for instance
- Mythical archer

- For from subtle
- Voice reservations
- Overly repeated
- More perplexing
- Clear wrap, for short
- Places for pads
- Recognize orally
- NorCal county
- In a deadlock
- Merriment
- Slip into
- Broody music
- Saucy talk

- Went like the wind
- Kitchen gadget brand
- miracle!
- Far from
- Things in tables
- Moving walkway maker
- Profit from
- Nintendo hero
- Fawning flattery
- Innate
- He followed Harry
- Published
- Color changer
- Song-certifying org.
- Composer Stravinsky
- Black tea
- Lunchbox sweet
- Potter accessory
- Bit of a galaxy
- Alejandro's "another"
- Dental device
- Unwitting accomplice
- Of things heard
- What hoops haven't
- Grandson of Abraham
- Flat military hat
- PD alerts
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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.

