

# Bexley Schools Get Three Snow Days!

By Helena Sidel

Bexley has been getting a definite increase in snow days this winter, and with all of these snow days, you've got to wonder what people have been doing with their free day!

What activities do students enjoy while having a snow day? Chad Salmon, a 7th grader at BMS says, "Usually I spend my time reading or playing video games," while other students like to go outside and be with friends, "Well, obviously I like playing in the snow! I like playing in it with my friends or sisters. Sledding is one of the snow activities I usually do," says Payton, a sixth grader at BMS.

Are snow days during COVID more restrictive than usual, or is it more the same? One student found wearing masks to be one of the restrictions, "I do think it is fun still, though if you are going to for example Miller's Hill, you have to wear a mask which is a bit hard while going sledding," says Payton. Another student finds less restrictions and things more

about the same. "It is very similar because you can still be with your friends and play in the snow," says Ellianna Murray, another sixth grader at BMS.

Lastly, I asked some BMS students what the difference is between an in school day and an out of school day for them. A lot of students said that they felt not having school on an in person day was more fun, "On an out day of school it doesn't feel very different there is just no work. But on the other hand, on an in school day it feels very nice to just not have school and it feels more real," says Ellianna. For one student, getting up on an out of school day is hard, "On an out of school day it kind of sucks cause you have to get up early in the morning but on an out of school day you get to sleep in," says Chad.

For some people, having so many snow days can be really fun, and for other people, having so many snow days can be not as fun if there were only a couple. What side are you on?



## BMS Elects New President

By Sarah Hockenberry and Payton Theile

Our middle school previously held an election for the Student Council president. The student who won the election by only 10 points was none other than Amiya Bowles! Today you will hear about Amiya and what she will do to improve the school. Not only that but you will hear how Mrs. Robertson, a sixth grade teacher, feels about the elections. You will also get a chance to hear from Rachel Levins, the second place winner (by a close margin) of the election.

To begin with, Amiya says it feels cool to have a new responsibility to spread her ideas throughout the school. Amiya hasn't been president before, but she is happy she's become one

now. Amiya states that she will "...try my best to plan events for months such as Women's Month, Black History Month, etc". She says she won't rush and she'll make sure her thoughts are planned out.

Mrs. Robertson's thoughts on the whole idea of the Student Council elections is that she feels it's important to have the entire student body vote

on the president, whereas only student council members vote on positions like secretary or marketing. Mrs. Robertson also was talking about how close the votes were this year. Rachel Levin and Amiya Bowles were 10 points away from each other,

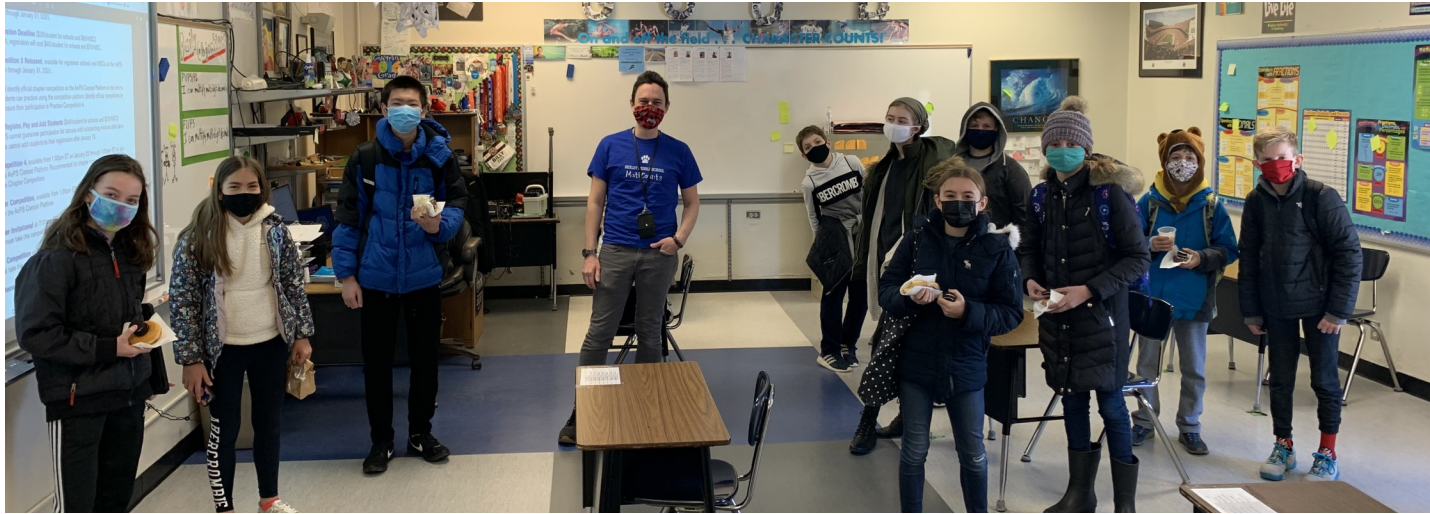
which was closer than they have ever been. She said that they usually did paper votes, but since Covid we changed to doing a google form, "This gave us really fast results and allowed the students to vote whenever it was convenient for them". Mrs. Robertson said she was excited to continue to do Student Council, even through COVID

Lastly, we have our 2nd place winner, Rachel Levin. Rachel still enjoys the experience of Student Council and is still participating in it. She would like to keep trying to address student mental health and more.

All in all, Student Council is a great way to allow input from the students themselves. The Student Council highly encourages people to join, no interview or anything similar like that to participate in Student Council. Please consider attending the next meeting!



## Student of the Month: Ella Hughes



By Elli Murray and Ruth Gravelle

Happy March! This student of the month is a big fan of math. She recently moved on to the second round of the MathCounts competition. Give it up for Ella Hughes! MathCounts is a math club that Mr. Gardner runs every year. They practice once a week and then do a competition with other people in the U.S. This season is over but anyone in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade is welcome to join next year!

How has Covid affected MathCounts? Well first "The way meetings are structured has been pretty drastically altered. A portion of the meetings have been entirely on zoom," said Ella. Also, "The competition itself was completely online, too. In previous years, going to the competition involved going to a nearby university. There was still plenty of bantering going on in the team, and everyone was more or less enjoying themselves, but it was definitely different," said Ella.

Like we said in the beginning, Ella really likes math. She says she prefers math "...over other subjects by a pretty large margin." She says Math is her 'thing.'

"Other people might have their sports, or their art, but I have my math," she says. Ella instantly joined MathCounts when she heard that the middle school had a math club. Ella first joined the team at the beginning of sixth grade and has been doing it ever since. She says that for a person who has skipped 2 years of math, the questions for MathCounts are still challenging, which was a reason why she stayed. Ella is thankful for this club because she says she wouldn't have this kind of opportunity in the state she lived in before. She says that she's still learning, just like everyone else.

Besides being an excellent mathlete, Ella has other talents too. "I'm a very avid reader, so that's what most of my freetime is spent doing," said Ella. "I also play piano quite seriously - the piece I'm currently learning, Haydn's Concerto in D Minor, is about 50 pages long and includes orchestral accompaniment," she said. Ella says she also likes to draw (mostly self-portraits), and she has a strong interest in philosophy! If you know anyone with a special talent that we could interview for the student of the month article please contact us!

## Getting Comfortable with Masks

By Elli Murray and Ruth Gravelle

Previously worn by a much smaller part of the world population, masks have become a part of our everyday lives. Some people are so used to wearing them by now, that they hardly notice them. Others find masks annoying. Let's see what opinions students at BMS have on the topic.

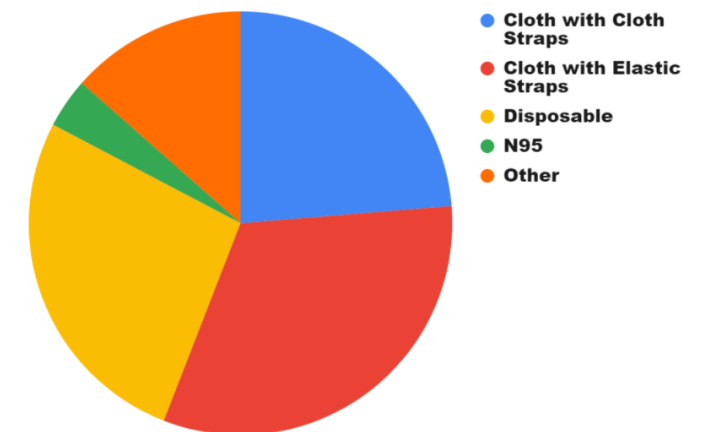
Students seemed to have mixed feelings about the best kind of mask. 32% of people like cloth masks with elastic straps, 27% of people like disposable masks, 22% of people like cloth masks with cloth straps. When asked which kind of mask is best, Max Carnigan said, "I personally think the N95. Even though I don't have one, the best and most safe mask has to be the N95." While only 4% of students prefer the N95, it is scientifically proven to be the safest.

Masks can be annoying, but as I mentioned before, many people are used to them by now. 73% of people said that masks do not bother them, while 27.2% of people said that masks are still annoying. "I noticed right away that wearing a mask for an extended length of time caused pain in my ears (because of the loops). Thus, I researched and found an attachment for masks to allow the loops to join behind my neck (as opposed to over my ears). This has saved my ears from the pain of having the loops over them for an extended period of time, but it has caused some strain on my nose, which bears most of the pressure of the mask now. While this is a somewhat painful side effect, I am more than willing to go through this to keep people safe during the pandemic," said Mr. Gard-

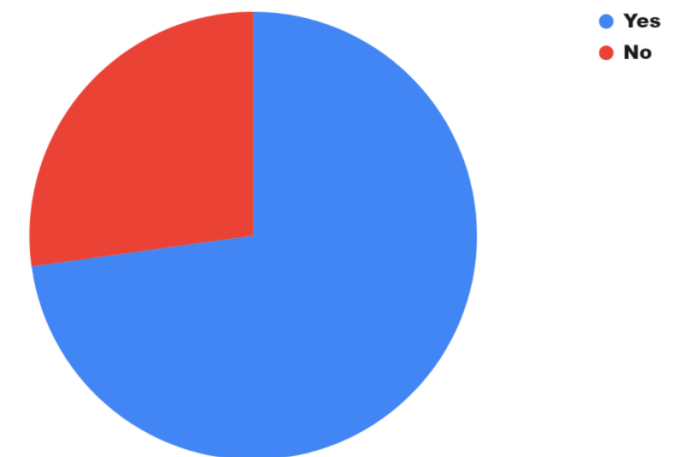
ner when asked what about masks bothers him.

When asked about masks and safety during band, Brianna Dekle said, "In band some people just pull down their masks, but I am fortunate to have a mask that is specially designed for band (made by Erica

**What mask is the best?**



**Are students used to wearing masks now?**



Golden)! It takes longer to get in position, but other than that it is really helpful! The mask completely covers your nose and mouth and you move a fold to get to a small hole, big enough for the mouthpiece!"

Looks like most people don't mind just wearing a mask for safety. Keep it up BMS!