



BMS Set for School Election



By Elianna Murray, Ruth Gravelle, and Payton Theile

The U.S. had a presidential election in November of 2020. That was pretty exciting. But here at Bexley Middle School, we have elections as well! The Student Council presidential elections are just around the corner. They will probably take place the week of February 16. To be an informed voter, let's hear from some of our candidates.

First, we have Rachel Levin who is in eighth grade. Rachel wants to be president because she wants to "improve the school as a whole." She also says she will "establish better support for mental and emotional health, create safe places for minority students, and make support systems for students who need help."

"I am a passionate person, and I love leading discussions, especially around topics concerning school," said Rachel when asked what made her a

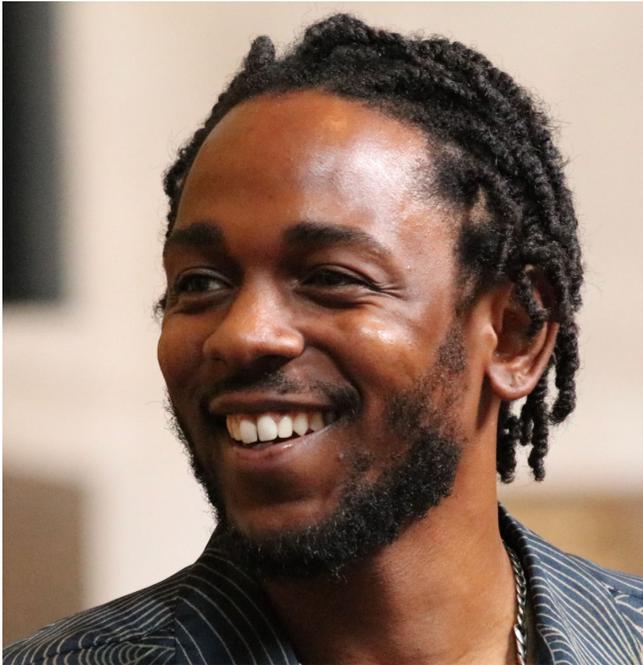
good candidate." Rachel has also done Student Council in the past; she was in it last year but didn't have a specific position.

The second candidate that we interviewed was Amiya Bowles, who is a seventh-grader. "I would love to be president because then I could express my ideas to everyone at school to help make it a better place," said Amiya. Amiya is a good candidate because "I am not only kind and love helping everyone, but I participate in lots of the school things. I have lots of relationships with people at school, and I feel like I would be a very helpful, caring, and organized president." Amiya also says that she has done student council before in elementary school and was a representative. "I never got to become president, but I would love to become one now," says Amiya.

Our last candidate, Nicholas Nanberg chose not to answer. Speeches will be played on the upcoming news show! Vote the week of February 16!

Kendrick Is An All-Time Great

Kendrick Lamar Duckworth is one of the best artists of all time because of his award winning, genre defining albums. With 12 Grammys and many more nominations, and he only has four solo albums. Kendrick Lamar's discography all has something to do with modern day problems, if it's growing up around violence and seeing death at a young age or talking about modern day racism from the perspective of a black man.



Kendrick was more influenced by his surroundings growing up rather than scarred, which gave him the material for his first studio album.

Growing up in Compton gave him a lot of material and stories to tell on his second studio album, 'good kid, m.A.A.d city'. This album made Kendrick's popularity increase with all the storytelling songs from the perspectives of his friends. My

personal favorite song is The Art of Peer Pressure which is about how Kendrick was peer pressured into robbing a house with his friends. Most Kendrick fans say this is his best album. As far as the instrumental goes they are very Tupac and Dr. Dre inspired but with his own modern hip-hop style. This album inspired many of the newer rappers of the 2010's.

While 'good kid, m.A.A.d city' was a movie in Kendrick's eyes, his next album 'To Pimp A Butterfly' was like a book. It was a story revolving around a poem Kendrick wrote for Tupac. At the end of each song he read more and more of the poem with the last line relating to the next song on the album, and then at the end of the album on the song Mortal Man he takes clips from an interview with Tupac talking and then makes it seem like he is interviewing Tupac. "Butterfly was another highly acclaimed outing known for its funk-laden mix of bravura, community politics and vulnerability. Lamar was nominated for a whopping 11 Grammys later that year and won the first award of the 2016 show, specifically for Best Rap Album. (He'd already received four other Grammys pre-telecast, making him the biggest winner of the night.) He later brought the house down with a politicized performance of "The Blacker the Berry" and "Alright" that fused spoken word, live jazz, traditional African dance and a reference to the death of teen Trayvon Martin."

Then just the next year Kendrick released 'DAMN' with lots of hit songs like "HUMBLE", "LOYALTY" with Rihanna, "DNA" and "LOVE". 'DAMN' was the

Financial Education Makes Sense

By Miles Hockenberry

Have you ever sat in a class and wondered, “When am I ever going to use this?” The truth is, you won’t use it - not as much as you’ll handle money. Instead of the standard curriculum, students need to take more financial classes because they need to learn how to save for retirement, and they could have better opportunities in the future. Many teenagers and young adults struggle with applying for a loan, opening a bank account, paying off debt, and saving for retirement. This leaves them struggling to manage their money.

For one, students need to learn how to save for retirement. According to a report by GoBankingRates, 33% of Americans have no money saved for retirement. Considering that you need about \$1 million to retire on average, Americans are falling behind. It is also important to know that 42.2% of millennials have no retirement savings, compared to 28% of seniors according to Forbes. Therefore, it’s the younger generations that struggle the most with this, probably because they’re fresh out of school and haven’t had a chance to learn this. Older generations experienced the same thing when they were young. Therefore, schools are the ones responsible for providing financial education.

Similarly, learning how to manage money can provide more opportunities in the future. If students aren’t taught how to open a bank account and save money, they may decide not to go to college

(or drop out) for financial reasons. They also need to know how to diversify their investments, and they need to learn how to invest in the right stocks, something that isn’t typically intuitive. “Research has even shown that students are more likely to drop out of school because of ‘outside pressures’ than poor grades,” says Paul Goebel. If students cannot learn this information early on, they may not go to college,



or they may never move into their dream home. This just reinforces why financial literacy is so necessary.

Some people may argue that financial literacy isn’t necessary for schools. They say that this is the role of the parents because teachers are unqualified to teach this. This statement is incorrect because many parents are also unqualified to teach about finances, and we can’t guarantee that the parents will teach their children about finances. Financial literacy needs to be the role of the teachers, because they could take required classes about finances, unlike parents,

BMS Student of the Month



By Payton Theil e, Ruth Gravelle, and Eli Murray

It's a new month which means a new Student of the Month! This month's Student of the Month is a 7th grader who has recently been involved in the BMS musical, *The Addams Family*! She portrayed the dark and sad Wednesday Addams-which is a very different side to the one and only...Lucy Robinson!

When we asked Lucy how covid has affected her theater experience she says that, "...I got the chance to dedicate more time to singing, acting, and really just performing as a whole...practicing a lot more

than I usually do." Lucy also says she started her theater career at a young age, "I started...I was 5 almost 6" she says she started because her mom had found "a great theater camp." Not only that but Lucy says "A couple of members of my extended family have been acting and singing for a while..." so it has been in Lucy's genes! "I mainly just do theater...I enjoy hanging out with my friends and family," says Lucy. Well, that wraps up our article! Please stay tuned for more coming next month! If you have any people for upcoming months please contact us.

Kendrick Lamar Continued

first album in its genre to win a Pulitzer Prize and the first album to win the award that wasn't a jazz or classical album.

Overall Kendrick's achievements over the 2010's have made him one the greatest rappers ever. With all of his awards and his amazing albums filled with classic songs all with great meanings behind them of what Kendrick grew up around and problems like modern day racism.

Financial Education Continued

and the understanding of finances would be secured in the teacher's hands.

To conclude, financial literacy needs to be taught in today's school system to secure the well-being of future adults. Money is used every day by almost every adult, so it's obviously important for our society. If we can teach students how to solve for x , conjugate -ir verbs, and graph a parabola, why can't we teach them about money - the basic building block of society?