



# The Paw Print

## Bob Miller's 25th Anniversary

On Wednesday, October 15th, our school celebrated 25 amazing years of Bobcats. Students, staff, alumni, and proud parents gathered to commemorate the special night. The anniversary included performances from the music department, speeches from student government officers, past principals, chairmen, and our current principal, Mr. Wikler. What started as a small reception in the library turned into an evening of fun, celebration, and community.

The day began in the library, which was decorated from entrance to exit. Photos of important people, students, and school activities were found on the shelves and while the video displays in the library were playing in a slideshow. Awards and trophies our school won circled the area, as well as school spirit wear and club t-shirts. Additionally, the Student Council contributed a hung chain filled with positive messages and favorite memories written by students. Lastly, visitors could look at a display board made of items going in the time capsule made to commemorate the achievement.

Once guests started piling in, the room was filled with laughter and friendly chatter from alumni, past and current staff members, students, and city representatives that had come to celebrate. Yearbook and elective students documented the evening with photos, and guests snapped their own memories at the beautiful photobooth. With the combination of conversation and delicious food, the evening was already going great.

Next was the speeches. First, we heard from our principal Mr. Wikler, who shared fond memories of his time at the school. Then, guests were able to hear speeches from student council Vice President Colton Newberry and President Olivia Harper. After that, some of our past principals including Principal Tam Lanard, Nicole Donadio, and the one who started it all, Kaweeda Adams. They all shared heartfelt perspectives and personal stories on what Bob Miller meant to them. Additionally, state and city representatives and current staff members shared exciting hopes for the future of Bob Miller. When asked, students Maya Arieli and Easton Davies agreed that their favorite speech of the evening was Governor Miller's. Speaking of, the namesake of our school also came and spoke, later giving out copies of his new book, *Son of a Gambling Man*. The final surprise was the announcement of a new scholarship opportunity principal Kaweeda Adams decided to offer to our school as a gift for the community we gave her. All guests cheered and had a great time, but it was time for part two, the gym!



In the gym, visitors experienced performances from our top music groups including advanced band, chamber orchestra, and choir. Additionally, several alumni came back to play alongside this year's band members. The wonderful pieces were filled with contrasting themes, emotion, and rhythm that made guests want to dance! When asked, "What was your favorite part of the celebration?" Mia Elston answered with: "My favorite part of the celebration was most likely 'Home Means Nevada' 'cause all groups got together and after months of working we all got to hear how long and how hard we've all been working ... I thought it was just so cool hearing all the parts coming together for one night." After each group performed their individual pieces, they presented the audience with a combined piece named "Now Is Our Time" which was a world premier and "Home Means Nevada," which was specifically requested by Governor Miller's family. The piece was written specifically for the school and was loved by all. It was a great way to combine and deliver the feeling of walking into school everyday, along with the welcoming atmosphere of the Miller community. Students from yearbook and journalism classes were there, taking pictures to help cherish the amazing day. This was a day that the school's community, along with so many people who were a part of the impacts we make were able to come together and celebrate. Even as this memorable event came to an end, we know it will be reminisced by everyone who came.

## Veteran Miller Teachers

Think you've been here for a long time? Talk to the teachers! The teachers at our school enjoy it. Some of the teachers here at Bob Miller have been here since the opening, and we're able to learn how they make the best of it. Coach Carpenter, Mr. Ekker, Mrs. Bergquist, and Mr. Goldhammer have all been members of Bob Miller's staff since it opened its doors in the fall of 2000.

"Love first, teach second." That's what Mrs. Bergquist recommended to the new Miller teachers. Other teachers such as Mr. Ekker recommended the same thing: "Students need to feel loved and valued before they can truly learn." Both teachers have had the honor to teach here since the opening of our school.

In the 25 years that Miller has been open, it has changed multiple times and the teachers that have stuck around have witnessed it all.

In an interview, Mr. Ekker stated that, "The biggest surprise has been watching the school evolve while still holding on to its community feel. Technology, curriculum shifts, and district initiatives have come and gone, but the heart of Bob Miller and our students' energy and our staff's dedication has remained constant." On the other hand, Mrs. Bergquist said, "Seeing all the kids grow up" was the biggest change she has witnessed.

Teachers have also had the chance to have memorable experiences in the years they've been here. Each teacher that was interviewed shared their favorite adventure. Mr. Ekker expressed that, "Watching students step into France, Switzerland, or Spain for the first time and actually using the French or Spanish they learned in class. It's life-changing. You could see their confidence grow with every conversation, menu order, or interaction abroad." In the years of Miller, there have been many fun field trips that have been chaperoned by teachers. We

know with this, that not only do the students enjoy it, but the teachers feel joy watching students feel like they blend in and belong with their current surroundings. Bob Miller and our students' energy and our staff's dedication has remained constant." On the other hand, Mrs. Bergquist said, "Seeing all the kids grow up" was the biggest change she has witnessed.

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# The Multicultural Night

Bob Miller Middle School's inaugural Multicultural Night was on September 24, and there were performances from choir, orchestra, band, and other groups representing several different cultures.

In an interview with Laya Vinay, who performed with Concert Choir and did a small group dance, she said, "I did a dance and sang in choir, and I felt that went pretty good, and I think the crowd enjoyed them," when asked what performances she did and how she thought they went.

Even then, another question was: What was going through your head as you were getting ready for the dance? And Vinay replied: "I was absolutely terrified, because there were so many people, but other than that, I knew I was going to have fun and that was all that mattered."

When asked: Did you expect that many people to be at the multicultural night? Why or why not? She responded with: "I actually did not expect that many people to come. I thought there were gonna be way less people. I thought it was mostly going to be teachers and parents but there were a lot of kids from the school and I'm very grateful for that."

There were so many performances at this night from small groups and clubs, too many to count! I hope that next year, even more people will come to this event, and it will be even better than last year!



Laya Vinay after her interview.



recites slam poetry during Multicultural Night.

Photo Credit: Ms. Ford

## New Teacher Spotlight: Ms. Lancina

**What school did you previously teach at and where was it?**

"I previously taught at EB Comstock Middle School and it was in Dallas, Texas and before that I worked at Challenger and that was in Glendale, Arizona."

**What are some differences between teaching at Bob Miller vs. your old school?**

"There are a lot of differences, there is a difference in the staff, like the community of the school. I would say that my students here are kids that are willing to learn, which is refreshing, that's really nice to see. There are things that vary from state to state that are different, like Texas has their own pledge."

**How do you like teaching at Miller so far?**

"I love it so far, it's been really great."

**What are some hardships of being a new teacher at the school?**

"Remembering people's names can be difficult because there are a lot of staff members and everyone



Ms. Lancina smiles for her picture during the interview.

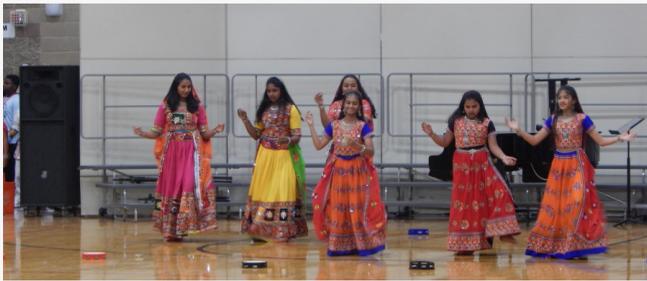
Photo Credit: Rishi Nagelly

is busy all day, so it's hard to get to know people. I think it can be challenging to adjust and learn how the school flows."

**What do you like about teaching that made you choose being a teacher?**

"I like teaching because I like being able to help other people. I really enjoy seeing kids learn and learn about their passions."

-Ryan LoBue & Rishi Nagelly



Dancers dazzle the audience during the first Multicultural night and the BSU's drumline waits to perform their piece.



The Echoes of Rhythm group performs an engaging act.



The Miller Orchestra plays a captivating melody in celebration of the school's cultural gathering.



A crowd of people await the exciting performances for Cultural Night.



The Miller Concert Choir and Orchestra combine to create a honorable symphony.



# 6th Grade Spotlight

What does it mean to be a 6th grader? You have to switch from elementary to middle school, which can be overwhelming. Luckily, we got to welcome awesome sixth graders into our Bobcat community! We want to give a spotlight to some 6th graders. Let's see how they're doing with this transition to their new environment.

For our first 6th grade spotlight, we will hear from Claire Boman. When asked, "What do you like about Bob Miller?" she answered with, "Everyone is just so nice, and...the teachers are super nice and I don't know any mean teachers."

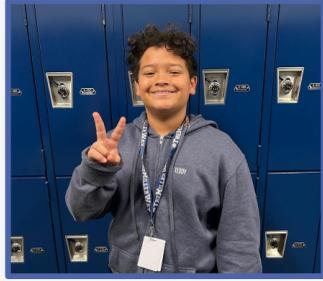
We also asked Theo Patterson what the biggest adjustment was from elementary to middle school and he said, "All the different teachers, and the amount of work you get. It's stressful."

We also asked Mason Leavitt if he would like to see anything in upcoming events at the school and he said in upcoming events he would like more outside visitors to come to the school.

We want to tell all the 6th graders that this year may be a hard transition but you will get used to it and eventually you won't have to worry about any of the stress this year caused. Eventually you will be an 8th grader and you'll have so many more opportunities, but in order to get there, you have to learn from your 6th and 7th grade mistakes.



Claire Boman poses for her interview.



Theo Patterson holds up a peace sign while posing for his interview.



Mason Leavitt poses for his interview.



Harlee Jameson smiles while posing for her interview.

# Middle of Middle School: 7th Grade Spotlight!

Everyone will have to experience 7th grade at some point in their life. In this stage of middle school, you experience a bunch of changes in your life. Everyone is still trying to figure out who they are, and you feel like there's so much going on around you. For some people, 7th grade was their worst year. For others, they say they would do anything to relive that year. My journalism team and I pulled aside a few 7th graders for interviews about their experience in 7th grade. Zakariya Meslem states that "I like 7th grade better than 6th grade because it's easier and I have more experience." Along with Zakariya, we also interviewed Harper Long. According to her, she says: "I like it because I have more classes than I did last year, which is harder, though. But I get more time with my friends. It's also harder because you have to wake up earlier, especially since I have an early bird." It looks like 7th grade will be an interesting year for them—one more grade to go and they're off to high school. Goodluck, 7th graders!

## Fantastic and Fun Flag Football

Have you ever been to a Bob Miller flag football game? If you haven't, then you're missing out on an opportunity to view "games of greatness." We interviewed a player on the girls flag football team—Brooklyn Werber—to ask a few questions about her experience with flag football. Werber has been playing flag football since she was 8 years old. She states that her 15 year old brother was her inspiration since he, similarly, plays football at his high school. Additionally, she said flag football has always been a fun experience for her throughout her years of playing. Along with Werber, we interviewed a player on the boys team, Cash Clawson, to also see his experience with flag football. When we asked Clawson if he enjoyed being on the school team he said: "Yes, I love being on the team. I get to hangout with my friends from school and we get to ride the bus together."

When we asked Cash if he enjoyed being on the school team he said: "Yes, I love being on the team. I get to hangout with my friends from school and we get to ride the bus together."

Clawson has been playing flag football since he was four years old, and states that he will continue to play throughout his school career. Both players are compelling and driven to play on their team. Consider going to one of the games to see them and other players in action!



The girls football team runs during a play in the October 3 game against Del Webb.

## Start With Hello Spirit Week

At Bob Miller Middle School, staff and students strive to promote inclusion and support for everyone through entertaining events that anyone can enjoy, such as the first Spirit Week of the year, "Start With Hello Week." Organized by Bob Miller's L.E.A.D Class, this recent week consisted of school decorations through the hallways and four days worth of prompts for dressing up, including Tuesday's walk together and wear your favorite shoes, Wednesday's "Be a team player and wear a jersey," Thursday's "Unite with Colors: Wear white, green, or yellow to represent your fellow grade students," and Friday's activity "Get comfy and be yourself by wearing pajamas." This allows students to share their interests through their clothing, while also being an engaging way to celebrate the new school year- with the Start With Hello theme. Of course, this theme was meant to encourage other students to meet new people and create new connections by just starting with "Hello!" As one of the many spirit weeks to come, what difference do these spirit weeks actually make? After conducting a couple of interviews and collecting responses over several days, we have the answer.

When asked if he felt impacted by the Start With Hello Week student body Vice President, Colton Newberry, responded, "I mean, yay! It's sometimes just fun to match with others." He also agreed that the school is being positively affected by the Spirit Weeks, specifically mentioning how he has noticed the dress-up days enjoyed by many students, as well as the occasional activities paired with them. Overall, it seemed to be a great way to start off the year, as agreed by many student participants.

Of course, our school will hosted more Spirit Weeks, including the highly anticipated Winter Week and Hope Week, which are have wonderful impacts on our school with grand decorations, exciting dress-up themed prompts, and entertaining activities to go with them. All in all, these week-long activities for students, such as Start With Hello Week, that help bring students together with satisfying activities, make our school more appealing!



Dax White shows off his bright yellow jersey for Wednesday's "Be a Team Player!" Spirit Day. Photo Credit: Ms. Ford



## StuCo Officer Elections: The Whole Wrap



Student Council members pose for a photo at the Back to School Dance

In late August, Student Council held their annual officer elections. Positions available were president, vice president, secretary, and historian. Candidates spent ages preparing for this exciting week, which ended with 6 students being chosen.

Before starting, candidates needed to announce their running in order to begin campaigning. Once everyone had filled out a form, it

was decided. Five kids were running for secretary, three for historian, six for vice president, and three for president. Almost half of the student council class was running, and it was sure to be a very heated and close race.

Election week started on Monday, August 25th, where candidates came in before school armed with supplies and the posters they had been working hard on all weekend. The entire week, the students made sure their campaigns were heard far and wide, talking to students and advertising with catchy and clever slogans, like popular ones like “Don’t be Crabby, Vote for Abby!” Some candidates like Max Snyder and Colton Newberry strategized by teaming up to make a joint campaign. Meanwhile, the student body made careful decisions on who to vote for, but ultimately, the final say came down to the videos.

On Wednesday was the staff-candidate interview, with the final voting day just days away. Since staff votes are also a part of being elected, the interviews were extremely important. Candidates signed up for time slots, and would sit in front of a panel of about six staff members. These panel judges would ask questions, get answers, and then the student would be excused from the room. We were able to get an inside look on the happenings from an exclusive interview with Ms. Ford, one of the panel judges. When asked about choosing a candidate, she replied, “We gave ratings for the scores. A lot of the candidates, if not all of them, did do very well. We scored [the candidates] on a one to 10 scale, and then they averaged that out.” Finally, on August 29, 2025, the much awaited day had arrived. Teacher votes were extremely close for some positions, meaning it could be entirely up to students for certain offices.

Starting in the second period, each teacher would show the candidates’ videos, and the ballot was officially open. Videos implemented creative elements and ideas like jumping into a pool, transitions, and jokes. The entire day, candidates were extremely nervous and the feeling was amplified when voters would talk about who to vote for, like when candidate Colton Newberry said, “Really just to hear other kids, like, talking about other candidates like ‘I don’t know if I’m gonna vote for this person or this person...’ and I’m like, ‘Please, just do whatever you want, but please don’t say that in front of me.’ It was TERRIFYING.” But the real question is, what were the student voters thinking that day? “A few things I look for when choosing a candidate for elections is integrity, experience, and personal qualities of leadership,” is what an 8th grade student voter said when asked the thought process behind their votes, and what they value in a candidate..” Maliah Sams, a 6th grade voter, also replied to this question and said, “Someone that can lead the school... and will make the right decisions.”

After school that Friday, candidates waited nervously for the results to be released on the council’s Canvas page. The results would later be given to the public the following Tuesday. All their hard work had come down to this moment. Though it was a close race, and each candidate fought hard, there had to be five winners chosen. The newly elected officers were chosen as follows. For Secretary, Charlie Erickson won. For Historians, they ended up picking three candidates as it’s a large position to fill. Kali Foster, Abigail Hightower, and Kendall Hawkins were elected. For vice president, Colton Newberry arose as the final choice. And lastly, for the presidential position, Olivia Harper was elected. The competition was fierce, and everyone worked diligently. Congratulations to the winners!

## What’s New This Year At Miller?

The 2025-2026 school year at Bob Miller is well under way! To improve this school to be the best it can be, some things changed to ensure the students can obtain success and excel in their classes to the highest. But if you aren’t familiar with the school, the new policies and events can be a bit confusing to navigate. We’re here to tell you all the new things that have changed this school year! From more fun events, such as the Welcome Back Dance at the beginning of the school year, to semester exams and the brand new ROAR program that’s been added, Miller is changing and it’s doing some amazing things. There’s also plenty of new teachers that have joined our school, who are also amazing additions to our community. All of these are here just to make our school better for us, and set us up for greatness in the future.

Some fun events that have already happened this year- but are the first of their kind, are the Back to School Dance and the Multicultural Night. There was also the 25th anniversary night on October 15th, a special event just for this year to celebrate 25 years since the school’s opening. The Multicultural Night had amazing performances from clubs such as SASA (South Asian Student Association) and AAPI (Asian American Pacific Islander club), and also our performing arts: choir, orchestra, and band. “Well, I think any opportunity we have to be able to engage outside of classes is important and really valuable to our kids, and to our staff,” Mr. Wikler says. “...Anytime you guys get a chance to really just see the world and to be with each other outside of a regular class...I think those are educational experiences that are valuable too.” And it is important to learn about other cultures, so we can appreciate everyone at the school. The Multicultural Night helped us do just that; bring our community together, and learn about other cultures that shape and build our school.

Outside of fun events that the school holds, there’s also the new policies that were included. Such as the semester exams have been added; students will get a block period to complete the test. Mr. Wikler gave us some insight on the exams, so you students know what to expect when the time comes at the end of the semester to take it. “We will have blocks where you’ll go to a class, each class during that last week

of the semester, which in both cases precedes a bigger break; the winter break, and then the summer break. And you’ll sit down for a longer period, about 90 minutes to be able to take the semester exam from what you’ve learned there. It’ll count as a summative grade, so it’ll have a bigger impact on your grade. . .It’s a good practice. I think it’s important for you guys to be able to do that.” Even though the semester exams will impact your grade heavily, there is no need to stress about them too much. They are here to help us prepare for high school, and your teachers will make sure you’re prepared for it.

Another new addition to the school this school year is the ROAR program that’s been implemented. You’ve probably seen it around classrooms and heard your teachers talk about it before. It stands for Respectful, Organized, Accountable, and Resilient. When we asked Assistant Principal Mrs. Bolton about it, she said, “Those are things that, as a school community, we all came together and said that those are things that are really important to us. So emphasizing that this year on campus, and the years to come, I think, is really important for us as a school community.” This program is here to help Bobcats become the best versions of themselves and achieve their goals to the fullest.

All these new programs, policies, events, and exams help improve our school, and they helped us gain our 5-star rating from CCSD. “It’s a testament to hard work for students like you guys. . .and the hard work of our teachers. And so just being able to be here and just see the Miller magic is really the best part of my job,” Mr. Wikler states. We’re so glad to have these new things to make our school nicer for the students here. It’s important to remember that even with all these changes, one thing that never changes is that the students like you are the backbone of our school, and they’re crucial to us in order to have such an amazing school. Mrs. Bolton had said the same thing; “I have to say, without a doubt, it’s the students. The students on campus this year are amazing.”



Ms. Bolton and Mr. Wikler in their staff pictures.



# The Welcome Back Dance



Charlotte Bridell and Melia Klemke

Student Council held the Welcome Back Dance, the event that easily rose to the top of many student's lists. Thanks to the exciting aspect of a middle school dance, a new experience to many people, many sixth graders were the first in line to get tickets. There was a photo booth, a snack stand, and a DJ. Since the widely popular movie, *K-pop Demon Hunters* had just come out many of the songs played were from that movie. One student interviewed, Kasen Ortega, says that they "played like a lot of 2000's."

One of the best activities for many people interviewed was the dancing. "A lot of people really got into it and it was fun," responds Sophia Diestra, a StuCo member that worked the event.

We also asked Ortega and Diestra, if they hung out with their friends, or if they hung out with people they didn't know. "And we were just hanging out, and having fun, it was a really good dance," Ortega states. "I hung out with my friends, it was a really social event, I even talked to some new people," answers Diestra.

Another question we asked was, "Did any of the chaperones join in, and if they did what did they join in to?" 3 out of the 4 students interviewed said no, but Diestra had good insight into this. "Multiple students started a dance circle, so some staff members joined in." Finally, Aarya Prasanna, the first student interviewed, answered our question of, "What was the majority of grades at the dance, and why do think that is?" with, "I assume that there were more sixth graders because seventh and eighth graders may have already gone, and sixth graders were more excited." Overall, the Welcome Back Dance was certainly a hit, and hopefully, it will encourage some more students to partake in school events.

-Charlotte Baker



A group of Miller students lift up a friend at the Welcome Back Dance!



Students pose at the photo booth, designed by Student Council.



A crowd of people await the exciting performances for Cultural Night.



A conga line breaks out during the first dance of the school year.

It was a dark and stormy night –  
(Wait, no scratch that)  
(Where's the tape?)  
(Ow! It fell on my foot!!!)

(We're rolling!) The Miller Thriller was a good time—more than that, an afternoon to remember. Counting down till Halloween, Miller prepared for the time of their lives as The Student Council of 2025 brought back the timeless Halloween classic, The Miller Thriller. That 28th of October, teachers, staff, Student Council and press teams wore themselves down running around setting up before the hordes of students could arrive. Staples of the Miller Thriller include the snacks, the dance, and of course, the haunted house. This year, StuCo took up a little spin on the "Haunted House", and turned it into a show for the ages.

Of course, before we jump into the antics and details, we have to review the line. The Haunted House line was noticeably the biggest eyecatcher of the event, with students lined up from the main entrance of the 200s hallway, all the way around the garden, to the bench against the SSC wall. Many students expressed annoyance with the extended waiting time, but several interviews showed that albeit the irksome line, their biggest concern was getting into the haunted house as soon as possible! We asked a student what they were feeling about the people running out screaming and he responded with, "It hurts my ears." (Duquesne Sears).

Once entering, students would be led into the fitness lab, through the fog with their beaten up—or already dead—tour guide. Even the bravest horror fanatics felt a bit uneasy entering. As required for all haunted attractions, this was a collage of all kinds of creepy students and repulsive special effects, including fake blood, screaming, clowns, conjoined twins, and at least one person who just seemed...off. The majority of students ran out screaming, but as soon as they could catch a breath, they would quickly dissolve into laughter. "The haunted house was funny because my friend tried to pull my shirt when he got jumpscared and dragged me over and we both fell," said one student between tears of laughter. His friend promptly added, "I tripped over a lot of things, I kinda fell because I was terrified."

Olivia Harper, 8th grade Student Council president, was an important part of preparation. One of our interviewers was fortunate enough to hold a conversation with Olivia, providing a deep look into what goes behind the scenes of the Miller Thriller.

"What would you say was the hardest part out of all of it?" our reporter asked.

"The actual event is definitely the easiest part, and the hardest part is probably during school the day of. From 4th to 6th period, all the StuCo kids are working non-stop to put everything up before the final bell. It takes a lot longer than you would think," Olivia responded.

"What was your absolute favorite part of setting up?"

"My absolute favorite part of setting up is making the props. We had deco days after school where members would come in and paint or build, which was fun to work with other members I usually don't get an opportunity to work with during the day. It's also cool seeing everything slowly come together."

"Was it fun watching the kids run out screaming?" our reporter inquired, moving on from set up, to the actual big show.

"Yes!" Olivia chimes. "It's always great to know that our goal was met, which is to make the haunted house fun and scary. When the kids scream, it's a good affirmation that we did it right."

"And I have to ask, on the day of your performance, did you ever mess up your role?"

"No, one specifically messed up, but we did have a couple things that went wrong in the middle. Tarps would fall down, and we would have to quickly bring a ladder in and reset in about 5 minutes before the next group came in!"

The night was full of scares and surprises, like the dance. It was decorated differently than the normal cafeteria you know and love. It had carnival posters and decorations that really showed the Halloween spirit. It had to-go on the theme—carnival games were scattered around for all to enjoy! Like hat toss and corn hole! There was even a photo booth with some scary props to mark the start of the season.

## The Miller Thriller



# Halloween at Miller



Tyler Richardson as Shrek & Isabella Britton as a pirate

At school on Thursday, we celebrated early by wearing our costumes for trick or treating before the actual holiday, due to Nevada Day.

Halloween has come and gone, along with the fun that accompanies it. So let's recap the best costumes we've seen in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade and summarize this wonderful holiday! Halloween is a holiday that originated from All Hallows Eve where people put baked goods and spices on their doorstep and dress up in costumes to cast away or please evil spirits.

Halloween is a festive season for usually younger children that dress up in costumes to seek out and accept candy from strangers!

Reflecting on this spooky holiday season, we see all the ways we can celebrate and have fun. Have a terrifying rest of your year Bobcats!

Clarity Wimmer and Ella Menchan as a crow and a scarecrow duo, and Amy Turnell portraying Alexander Hamilton.



# Celebrating Halloween

Halloween is one of the most popular holidays, quite far up the charts. We asked a variety of kids questions about this blood curdling holiday!

The very first question we asked was, "What is your favorite Halloween movie and why?" was to Alina Bostic she said, "My favorite Halloween movie is the *Nightmare Before Christmas* because the animation is really cool!" and Ethan Avery claims with much confidence, "To be honest *Hocus Pocus 2*, because modern society, plus medieval witches, is just too funny." Tim Burton's masterpiece *Nightmare Before Christmas* seemed to be one of the most popular.

Many people, especially 8th and 7th, are in a great dilemma to go trick or treating or not. One of our questions followed along with this idea nicely. "What age makes it too old to go Trick-Or-Treating, or can you never be too old?" Gianna Dizdul, sums it up nicely. "I think 18 when you turn into an adult. I think that's when you give up the trick-or-treating."

There are many aspects of Halloween that we enjoy, but the best have to be costumes, free candy, and decorations. We asked Avery our next question, "What is the best Halloween decor theme?" He said it should be, "A bunch of eyes everywhere..." This next question follows the second question above Michael Kleiner, "Would you rather go to a Halloween party or Trick or treating?" "I'd say a Halloween party, because it's more fun."

Concluding our interviews we asked this question, "Should there be a Halloween break?" This question was quite intriguing to many of our interviewees, but it may have been unanimous, the answer being, "yes" for all of our interviewees.



# Bodies Field Trip

Recently, 6th grade students and some science teachers went on a trip all about the human body, which even ties into their curriculum, says 6th grade science teacher Mrs. Avery. It's outstanding to learn so many new things about our own body that we wouldn't know about otherwise. The Bodies Exhibit, a museum located at the Luxor on The Strip, has actual human bodies on display, showcasing several exhibits and rooms. They're preserved so that you're able to see nearly every muscle, tendon, and vein in the body. It's an amazing trip for sixth graders to experience, and be able to learn something meaningful that's also exciting, hands-on, and goes with what they're actually learning in class.

## Why Would They Go on a Field Trip About Bodies?

The short answer is: for science, of course! The longer answer is that it relates to the sixth grade curriculum, as they are learning about the human body and metabolism. "Well, it's actually one of our Amplify units: Metabolism," says Mrs. Khachikian, a sixth grade science teacher, when asked about the field trip. ". . .It's good to show the kids that Las Vegas is not just about gambling, that there's a wealth of museums and interactive experiences they can have."

Other science teachers agreed on this, too. ". . .they get to see what happened when they weren't even around, or may not study it til later on in life. With the bodies exhibit, it covers our metabolism unit, so the kids can see how the circulatory system works. All the bodies systems work, and also, it ties into the microbiome where they're learning about themselves," Mrs. Avery, another sixth grade science teacher, told us in an interview.

The trip created a really immersive learning environment for kids who went. There were rooms in the museum for all the systems in the body, such as the circulatory system, nervous system, respiratory system, and more.

## Why do these field trips matter?

Field trips like this allow students to learn about things outside of the classroom, which can create a more engaging learning experience for them. Field trips also allow teachers to show their students things in the places around them that build on what they are learning at school. When we asked eighth grade science teacher Mrs. Hamblen, she said, "It gives them a good hands-on experience. They can see things they wouldn't be able to see in a classroom and get some out of the classroom, which is always fun." These field trips help inspire children at our school. Some students are inspired to have jobs in medical field, or become biologists because schools took field trips to educational places such as the bodies museum that they went on. This is why they are necessary to the school; they inspire so many students and their futures.



## Miller's Got Talent

Our school news station hosts a yearly contest called "Miller's Got Talent," a chance for students to showcase their hidden talents to the rest of the school. Students are encouraged to enter and submit a one minute video of their special talent, and finalists are shown on *Mornings At Miller* throughout the week. That Friday, students can fill out a voting form and choose which talent was most worthy of the grand prize - a one hundred dollar gift card. We were able to get a first hand account of the event from an interview with Charlie Page, the winner of the contest.

The first question we asked was, "What was your favorite part of participating in Miller's Got Talent?" Charlie then replied that it was probably getting to see his video played on the school news. When asked if he was nervous the day his video was shown, he stated, "I guess I was - well I wasn't really nervous but you can say I wasn't 100 percent sure I was going to win. It was cool seeing my own video and watching other students react to it though." Later in the interview, we also asked him about the talent he chose. Charlie explained that he chose to do soccer because he did the same thing in sixth grade, and he'd "felt confident" since he had been doing this his whole life.

Lastly, the question many students are wondering is, "How did you feel when you won?" Charlie replied, "I was very happy when I won since it felt like I got to redeem myself since sixth grade. I really felt all my hard work had paid off."

## South Asian Student Association Spotlight

The South Asian Student Association, or SASA, is a great, new club at BMMS. This club was created to celebrate and share South Asian culture by unifying students through music, art, food, and fun. The overall purpose of the SASA is to educate the school community on some South Asian customs while also creating a climate in which everyone feels welcome.

Throughout the year, SASA calls for cultural events surrounding major festivals and holidays like Diwali, Holi and Pongal, and students will engage in leading dances, making craft projects and sharing a brief presentation regarding what each holiday means. SASA also organizes social events and socialization with other cultural groups, unifying BMMS. Most recently SASA worked with AAPI to plan activities for their heritage month and it was very successful. The members of SASA also enjoy giving back to the community.

They have helped organize book drives and cultural showcases, as well as share fun facts about holidays and traditions during the morning announcements or on *Mornings at Miller*. Each meeting enriches different components of learning as they plan events and develop ideas for better practices within each celebration.

Several of our BMMS students shared wonderful experiences about SASA. One participant said, "This was awesome, and I was totally included in everything we did," and another said, "I wanted to join because it was something new, but now it is my favorite club, everyone is so friendly and creative." All of the teachers had good things to say about SASA bringing a positive vibe and cultural consciousness to our school.

The work of SASA, from colorful celebrations to impactful service learning projects to interesting cultural presentations, has led SASA to be synonymous with diversity, pride, and community at BMMS. SASA continues to grow every year to help students discover and learn to celebrate culture and connection one step at a time.

## Monster Bash

The Monster Bash was a Fundraising event for the school. You could donate money throughout two weeks and earn prizes through a raffle. To get into the event, students had to at least donate \$40. If they donated \$300 or more you got to go to a pizza party. The monster bash was full of games run by volunteers and student council from Coronado High School. There were lots of food and sweet treats. There was also a DJ playing lots of music.

After the Monster Bash a survey of all three grades was conducted on the foods eaten at the Monster Bash. 41% of students interviewed ate candy, 47% of students interviewed ate snow cones, and 53% of students interviewed ate popcorn. But by far the most popular food item was the churros with 82% of students interviewed saying they were glad to have them there. Colton Newberry (8th) set a record of eating "six churros" at the Monster Bash. The favorite games at the Monster Bash seemed to vary greatly- as there was a wide variety of games offered. However the three most popular games were the High Striker, Baseball, and in first, the Bike Race.

Out of the students interviewed, only six attended both the Monster Bash and Miller Thriller. 17% of these students said the Miller Thriller was better while 50% said the Monster Bash was better. In addition, those interviewed highly supported the addition of even more food and beverage with 93% of students interviewed wanting more food.

The Monster Bash was a fun and exciting fundraiser event. To create that fun environment, there was a lot of work to be put in. We would like to notice all those who have put in immense effort & dedication in making this event memorable. Mrs. Norman was the lead in organizing the event. We had past our original goal and we raised much more money than anticipated that we even got 21% more than expected. We are very thankful for the work Ms. Norman and everyone else gave.

-Blythe Sorenson and Landon Davis

## Alumni to Teacher

Mrs. Peterson attended Bob Miller during its first years of being open and now works as a teacher!

**Q1: Who out of all your teachers were your favorites?**

"Honestly, I don't even remember my teachers in middle school! It was 25 years ago. I do remember that the AP at the time challenged me to a pull up contest (at the time I did the most for the girls), but she broke her arm and couldn't participate."

**Q2: Which electives did you take, and which did you excel in most?**

"I took explorations in seventh grade that were art for a semester and Spanish for a semester. Spanish was not a year long elective at the time. Eighth grade I was a student aide in the health office. I excelled in English. I was in journalism in eighth grade and accelerated in English in seventh grade."

**Q3: Were you involved in any cabinets for clubs and/or student council?**

No, but I did earn the Bob Miller scholarship in eighth grade. I believe I got second place.

**Q4: What are the differences between now and then at this school?**

"Honestly, I don't remember a lot. The



school building looks the same. Mrs. Bergquist was here at the time, and so was Mr. Goldhammer my seventh grade year. The gym looks the same. The rooms were not decorated the way they are now. They were plain with the ugliest peach color walls ever. The school was brand new, literally just opened when I came. So it didn't have all the neat things it does now. Technology was very limited, everything was written by hand."

## Cross Country

Abigail Hightower was asked what her favorite part of being a part of the cross country community was, she answered with, "That's a hard one. I like how we all bonded and we would play baseball with a broom before practice." We can really see how the people on this team bonded and became close to one another as the season continued.

We also asked Rex Leavitt what kept him going when he wanted to give up.

He said, "You think about who had to pay for you to be there, and their sacrifice and that kinda drives you a little." We also asked him what he preferred, short runs or long runs? He told us, "Long because you don't really have to run as fast you just have to keep a steady pace."

Last but not least, we also interviewed Brooke Lawrence we asked her how long she has been running cross country and she said, "Two years." Knowing this we

asked what her best race was and she said, "Probably the one where I ran the 2 miles in 12 minutes."

This shows how much hard work our Miller athletes have put into their sport to be able to do these amazing feats.

Thank you to all that have put in the time and countless hours that it took to get here. Go Bobcats!!

