



CREC Academy of Science and Innovation

May 3rd, 2021

Monthly Announcements

- ❖ May 5th - NGSS Test (11th Grade Only)
- ❖ May 9th - Mother's Day
- ❖ May 12th - End of Ramadan
- ❖ May 12-13 - Eid-al-Fitr
- ❖ May 16th - Start of Shavuot
- ❖ May 18th - End of Shavuot
- ❖ May 31st - Memorial Day
- ❖ Keep reading for AP Test Dates!

Remembering the Armenian Genocide

On April 24th, 2021, President Joe Biden became the first U.S. President to term the WWII massacre of Armenians under the then Ottoman Empire as a genocide. Previous presidents feared the use of the word "genocide" and what it could mean to Turkey who was our potential ally, however President Biden made a statement on the 106th anniversary of the massacre, remembering the horrific tragedy Armenia experienced a century ago. He stated his concern for the "atrocities" that were committed 106 years ago on this day, and wishes to move forward in his efforts in supporting global human rights (CNN, 2021). During this time, Armenia was suffering at the hands of the Ottoman Empire, which was quickly overlooked due to the immediate following of WWII. Every day survivors have to relive and remember the engraved images of what happened and continue to mourn over the ones they lost to the genocide. Many bear witness to horrific actions and were forced to relive that same feeling when this day came around. An official proclamation that was read on that day stated that from 1915 to 1923, about 1.5 million Armenians were killed in a systematic campaign that was issued by the Turkish Ottoman government (Hartford Courant, 2002). This silent holocaust will now be known as the WWII Armenian genocide, the worst out of all crimes that can be committed and will show how serious America is in supporting global human rights. The term "genocide" does not help to solve the tragic actions of the Ottoman Empire, however it gives a new light of hope to those who have suffered longer than anyone deserves to. Hopefully, we are able to continue to recognize the overlooked events in our past in order to paint our future as a more unified world.

Written and Edited by Alice Bidoae

Have the scoop? Let us know at [asi.times@gmail.com!](mailto:asi.times@gmail.com)

ASI's Sports Scoop

On April 9th, 2021, the middle school boys basketball team became the undefeated league champions with a triumphant victory over Aerospace and officially concluded their season. The basketball game was hosted here at our school with Aerospace as the visiting team. After the first tip off of the game, Aerospace was leading with six points over Innovation, however that soon ended when players Walton Franco and Adrian Ramos put in major three pointer shots that put Innovation in the lead. In the second half, Innovation played hard with Neyo Soler putting up a strong defense and players LeBron White and Ibrahim Sidik showing some tough performances with the team rebounds. Through a well fought game, Innovation came on top beating Aerospace 46-27 and were able to become league champions. The Innovation boys had an amazing and undefeated season and their coaches Brian Martin and Raul Moeremans were able to lead them to victory.



Outdoor track has officially started and many of our track athletes have been showing some promising performances at recent track meets. Sophomore Amya Ortiz has a quick 100m and 200m time of 14.26 seconds and 30.46 seconds which are in close distance to qualifying for states. Junior Tyvonn Thompson has started his track career by running a 12.56 100m race and a 25.1 200m race, while jumping 13 inches in the boys long jump. Juniors Mya Saylor, Te'ijah Roberts, Carese Davis and Moya Johnson have all been putting up strong performances and have consistently beaten their personal records in both sprinting, jumping and hurdling events. Sophomores Emmanuel Ballestas and Martin Dahlin along with freshman Bryson De La Cruz, have all shown outstanding times for the boys 800m and the boys 1600m. They, along with junior Tyvonn Thompson, make up our boys 4x400 relay team and ran a 4:28 minute race. Let's see what the rest of the season holds!



Baseball and softball has just begun, with both teams having played a couple games. Both teams show the potential for strong seasons for the month of May, and will continue their season that was long awaited for. Baseball has played three games and has produced a record of 1-2, beating Capital Prep 19-2 last Monday on April 26th. Softball has played two games as well, with a brand new team that brings some tough competition to other schools in our league. The month of May awaits as the majority of the games are to be played with seasons officially ending on May 25th. Until then, make sure to support both of our teams!

Pop Culture and Global News

The “BTS Meal”

McDonald's has announced they will be collaborating with the famous boy group, BTS on their new meal. The “BTS Meal” is said to be released on May 26 in the U.S. and eleven other countries. In total, the special meal will be launched in nearly 50 countries during May/June. The announcement shocked fans as they were not expecting BTS to “come back” with a surprise collaboration with a fast-food giant. Other artists such as Travis Scott and J Balvin have also collaborated with McDonald's in the past and were successful launches. Now to the fun part; what's in the meal? According to an article from USA Today, “The “BTS Meal” includes a 10-piece Chicken McNuggets, medium fries, a medium Coke – and, for the first time in the U.S. – Sweet Chili and Cajun dipping sauces.” The new edition sauces were inspired by popular restaurants from BTS's home country, South Korea, and many fans of both the boy group and McDonalds are excited to try this new meal.



Image Source - Variety

Upcoming Summer Fun!



Image Source: Six Flags

Even though we are in a pandemic, there are still lots of ways to go out and have fun with your family and friends. A popular place that is opening up this summer is Six Flags New England. The amusement park is opening in late Spring and is open to all, if you make a reservation prior. Another fun summer activity that can be done is going to the beach, which has always been open but now that summer is around the corner it will be busier than ever. As long as you follow CDC guidelines while heading to the beach, you are welcome to have a great time. Last, but not least, summer camps will be reopening. As many places start to reopen, they are adapting to CDC guidelines, ensuring that we can all have a fun-filled summer, all while staying safe from Covid.

Breaking News

The George Floyd Verdict

On April 20th, 45 year old former Minneapolis police officer, Derek Chauvin, was found guilty on all counts for the death of George Floyd. He was charged with second-degree manslaughter, along with first and second-degree murder. A crowd of BLM supporters outside of the court erupted into cheers during his conviction. Chauvin faces up to 75 years in prison when he returns to the court for his sentencing. Philonise Floyd, Floyd's brother, said, "Today, we are able to breathe again," after the verdict. Supporters of the BLM movement hope that his verdict means that things will change for the better for African Americans in the future.



Image Source: The Indian Express

Meet Our Newspaper Staff!

<u>Global News Team</u>	<u>Local News Team</u>	<u>Sports Scoop</u>	<u>Calendar and Announcements</u>	<u>Advice Column</u>
Writers Ariana Vicens Sarah Omary Jonale Walter	Writers Jasmine Carby Macyn Rosay	Writer and Editor Alice Bidoae	Calendar Lujayn Banday Announcements and Events Katherine Palombizio	Writer and Editor Carese Davis
Editors Ajae Lynch	Editors Ashley Palombizio			

Local News

Two Connecticut Universities Take the Step of Mandatory Vaccinations

With the spring semester not even over yet, colleges in Connecticut are already thinking about the fall, with many planning to have full in-person learning. Although most Connecticut universities have acknowledged giving the topic some thought, there are two in particular that have already informed it's Connecticut based student audience of its mandatory demand for student vaccinations. The first to enforce this pandemic restriction was Wesleyan University, sharing this news on April 13th, 2021, with many major features in Connecticut local headlines and newspapers such as NBC Connecticut and Hartford Courant. They stated that all students except those with medical or religious exemptions will be required to be fully vaccinated before their return to campus next fall. In order to enforce and encourage the vaccinations of their students, they are offering a Pfizer vaccine clinic in partnership with the Community Health Center for students who are currently already studying on campus. The starting date lasts for two days, April 24th and 25th for the first dose, while the ending date for the students to receive their second dose will run from the dates of May 15th through the 16th. Wesleyan reports that a total amount of 2,000 students have already registered themselves for this appointment. While they have not enforced teacher and staff vaccinations, they say that it is heavily encouraged.

Following in the footsteps of Wesleyan was Yale University, also publicly stating that they would be requiring student vaccinations for students to return in the fall. Yale University became the second school in Connecticut to publicly announce this requirement on April 19, 2021, almost a whole week after Wesleyan's release. An official announcement for the request of vaccinations is expected to come during the month of June, along with Yale's decision on whether or not the staff and faculty will be required to get the shot. The schools say that although the vaccination of students will be enforced, both Yale and Wesleyan University will require masks and social distancing in the fall. While there is no word yet if state colleges will make vaccinations mandatory, they are strongly encouraging students to get vaccinated before heading back into the classroom. In addition to Yale University, other colleges have also taken heed and notified further interest in the movement seeking further direction for their own states. These colleges include Duke, Notre Dame, Brown, Rutgers, and Northeastern University. Governor Ned Lamont says that the state will continue its mass mobile vaccinations in order to reach out to as many students as possible. His final words, "We'll find out later in the year if that's enough, and we'll be able to make some determinations later."

WESLEYAN
UNIVERSITY

Rally Against New Vaccine Bill

After a series of hours consisting of long debate, it was expected that the Connecticut state senate would give their concluding legislative approval to a bill that would terminate Connecticut school's religious exemption for mandatory coronavirus vaccinations. Under this bill, exemption from this statewide requirement would only be permitted to you if you had justified medical reasoning. The proposal was eventually cleared in the Connecticut House of Representatives after a long period of 16 hour discussion, with a vote of 90 to 53 votes with a total number of seven legislators absent. The law in itself drew big support from many Democratic house members and lawmakers, while still collecting some support from a handful amount of Republican house members joining them to progress the measure. One Democrat representative from East Hartford in support of the bill, Representative Henry Ganga said, "Because we're in the middle of a health crisis, we need to take a firm stand on the efficacy of vaccinations. We need to keep our most vulnerable residents in our decision making, always. This policy will help prevent the spread of illness and disease to those who are most vulnerable – those who have diabetes, autoimmune diseases, who make up many of our neighbors. While they cannot be vaccinated, we must do what we have to do to protect them".

While an overwhelming majority of the house voted to pass the bill, some disagreed with its claims. One member of the house in particular being Representative Anne Dauphinais who stated that this was, "arguably the worst bill we've seen in the history of Connecticut." Governor Ned Lamont stated that if the bill were to clear both chambers, he would sign it. On Tuesday, the Senate began its debate with a crowd full of several thousand people gathered outside of the capitol to show their strong opposition to the details of the bill. The rally started off with a service of prayer, and incorporated featured appearances from nationally known critics of the vaccination legislation, one in particular being Robert F. Kennedy Jr. As citizens joined outside the capitol building in Hartford, they often shouted chants like, "kill the bill" and swore that they would remain on the capitol grounds until the Senate had voted. A minister of a non-denominational church in Hartford, Reverend Yashica Blue stated that, "This is discrimination and it goes against our First Amendment". Tara Carr, a Brookfield mother of four agreed making a similar claim in saying, "I watched my friends die to protect religious freedom and now my home state is taking it away. It's disgusting, representatives should be ashamed of themselves."



Image Source - Fox News

Counseling with Carese

Hello Students and Staff of ASI, we have already made it to May! For some students, this is a demanding time of year as Advanced Placement exams are scheduled throughout the months of May and June. AP classes require diligence and great time management to handle the course load, so hopefully you began your studying process earlier in the school year. However, there are still ways you can prepare for your AP exams.

The first and most important is don't be afraid to ask questions, that is what your teachers are here for! If there was anything you did not understand over the course of the year, the time to ask is now. Another great way to refresh your memory is through review. Going back to previous assignments and studying vocabulary are great examples. If you have a textbook, take advantage of the review sessions at the end of every chapter.

College Board offers many resources to students for preparation. If you log into AP Classroom, there are often resources like practice FRQS, multiple choice, and videos, that are specific to your AP classes. Before your actual exam, taking practice assessments will be very beneficial to helping you with your timing, and familiarizing yourself with the format of the test. You do not want to go into any AP test blindly.

Due to COVID-19, this year's testing may be different for some of you. If you are taking a virtual exam, make sure to visit College Board to see how the online platform and software will work.

Lastly, students who have received a letter from the State of Connecticut about your PSAT or SAT score, please do not take it lightly. Every year, the Board of Education sends out letters to students with scores that demonstrate the ability to take higher level classes. If you received this letter, we hope you looked into taking Advanced Placement or ECE with your teachers or guidance counselor for the 2021-2022 school year.

The night before your exam make sure to get a full eight hours of sleep, eat breakfast, and drink water! Do NOT cram the night before, it is very ineffective and will take away from you getting a good night's sleep. Until your test date, find ways to prepare yourself and don't be afraid to do a little research. In the end, preparation is your best friend! Good luck from the ASI Newspaper!

****AP Exam Test Dates Below****

AP Lit - May 5th

AP Psychology - May 11th

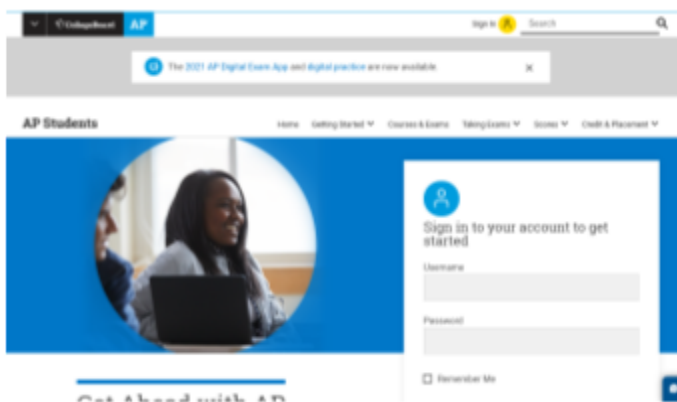
AP Environmental Science - May 27th

AP Lang - May 12th

AP Calc - May 24th

AP Computer Science - May 26th

Visit <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/> for resources.



May Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 ORTHODOX EASTER	3	4	5 CINCO DE MAYO 11TH GRADE NGSS TEST AP LIT EXAM	6	7	8
9 MOTHER'S DAY	10	11 AP PSYCH EXAM	12 EID AL-FITR AP LANG EXAM	13	14	15
16 START OF SHAVUOT	17 TAX DAY	18 END OF SHAVUOT	19	20	21	22
23	24 AP CALC EXAM	25	26 AP COMP SCIENCE EXAM	27 AP ENVIRO EXAM	28	29
30	31 MEMORIAL DAY					

Calendar done by Lujayn Banday