



CREC Academy of Science and Innovation

Feb 11th, 2022

Monthly Announcements

- ❖ Feb 14th - Valentine's Day
- ❖ Feb 15th - Basketball Girls Senior Night
- ❖ Feb 17th - Basketball Boys Senior Night
- ❖ Feb 18th - Dress Down Day
- ❖ Feb 21-22nd - No School (President's Day)

An Interview with The Advisor of the ASI School Newspaper

I was given the time and opportunity to interview Mr. Schlechtweg, the U.S and World History teacher here at ASI. He has been teaching for about nine years now, originally teaching his first five years at 2 Rivers before switching to ASI for his fourth year now. I decided to ask him about why he wanted to become a teacher, and his response was not what I expected to hear. Previous to teaching, he was a part of the coast guard, however, he suffered an injury leaving him unable to continue. However he still wanted, "to help people, that's what it's always been about". One of his best friends was a history teacher, and suggested that it was something he should look into. He then became determined to become a history teacher and worked hard to get to a position that could still fulfill his goal of helping people. When asked why he liked history so much, he responded saying that history is "the ultimate story." He mentioned how "people see movies, books, and stories and history is where everything had actually happened; romance, empires rising and falling, and war." I then asked what his favorite thing about teaching was, and he answered saying, "meeting the students" and how he gets to "meet 100 new kids every year and learn something new from each and every one of them". It seemed Mr. Schlechtweg has very positive experiences and opinions on his teaching career, however I wondered how COVID affected his teaching. I inquired about his opinions on COVID and the last two years of school we had. The main worry he had was the "focus of the students" and how he had sensed a lack of focus and hard work due to the pandemic. "Hard work is hard, because you have to do it when it gets difficult, when you're tired, and when you don't want to." However, putting in the hard work is what propels you to fulfill your goals, and Mr. Schlechtweg can tell you that first hand.

Written and Edited by Alice Bidoae

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

ASI Sports Scoop

Boys Basketball

The boys basketball team this year has been having a decent season with some big wins against schools like MLC, Parish Hill, and E.C. Goodwin. Sophomore Amari Cruz averages 11.9 points per game and 6.3 rebounds per game while Sophomore Amir Bolden leads the team in assists. Junior Jayden Newell-Kemp averages about 1.1 blocks per game along with Junior Nae'Shaun Roberson who averages about 8 rebounds per game. Both JV and Varsity present strong players and numbers than ever before, and even though the season did not play out as predicted, the team is undergoing a crucial rebuilding period for years to come. The boys will be having their senior night on February 17th against Civic Leadership, with JV starting at 5:30pm while Varsity will begin at 7:00pm. Make sure to go and support our boys basketball team!



Girls Basketball

The Lady Ravens have been going through their long awaited rebuilding season, finally taking a win against Achievement First on Tuesday, with a final score of 32-28. Senior Te'ijah Roberts is having her best season yet sitting at a career 610 points, becoming the all time career points leader for the Lady Ravens. Roberts averages 11.5 points per game, 4.5 rebounds per game, and 2.1 steals per game. Senior Kaylah Forde averages 2 points per game, 3.1 rebounds per game, and 1.7 steals per game. Freshman Karina Falcon averaged 4.5 points per game with 1.2 steals per game and sophomore Rose Tirado averaged 1.3 points per game. The girls senior night is going to be on February 15th against MLC at 4:15pm, so please make sure to attend and show your support!

Pop Culture and Global News



Image Source - People.com

The 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics

After much deliberation, the 2022 Winter Olympics are finally here! On Friday, February 4, 2022 the opening ceremony for Beijing Winter Olympics will take place to celebrate the athletes and many various sports played at the games. Team USA is also going to be competing this year with many returning athletes like Shaun White, Lindsey Jacobellis, and Katie Uhlaender. History is also being made again at the Winter Olympics with team Jamaica making a comeback in

bobsledding. While there is lots of excitement surrounding the Winter Olympics, there is also concern about how the Olympic committee will keep athletes safe with COVID-19, its variants, and breakouts.

She's Expecting!

Singer, fashion and makeup icon, Rihanna, is expecting her first baby with rapper ASAP Rocky. The couple took heartwarming photos in New York City with Rihanna wearing a pink coat, exposing her baby bump and her partner looking lovingly at her. The pictures were taken in Harlem, ASAP Rocky's hometown. Fans were both excited and surprised by the unexpected news as most were eager for a new album from the once dominating singer. Many have requested that Rihanna "get back in the studio," rather than starting a family, but other than that, the public are very happy for the singer and her new little family.

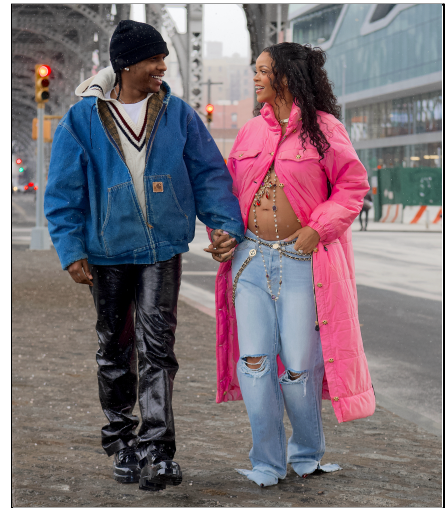


Image Source: People.com

Breaking News

Tensions Rising?! WW3?!

Russia is threatening to invade Ukraine. Citizens are scared, for this unwarranted war will cause tens of thousands of casualties. Local militias have even begun to form, training average citizens to fight in the rumored war. Many see Russia's advance into Ukraine as a challenge to the U.S., U.K., and other NATO allies. Retired Russian General, Ivashov, published a letter addressing Putin's ignorance. In this letter, he demands that Putin resign, for this war is unprovoked and threatens countless citizens, and even threatens the current state of Russia. Many other countries are getting involved, in hopes of bringing the two countries to peace. We expect to see negotiations from the two countries soon.



Image Source - YouTube.com

Sources

<https://people.com/sports/beijing-olympics-2022-by-the-numbers/#:~:text=The%202022%20Winter%20Olympics%2C%20officially,venues%20ear%20Yanqing%20and%20Chongli>

<https://www.thatsmags.com/beijing/post/34031/jamaican-bobsleigh-team-speak-exclusively-to-that-s>

Join the Newspaper!

Want to help us get the scoop? Join the newspaper club! You can either sign up to be an editor, writer, photographer, or news source to help create our monthly newspaper! For more information, talk to Mr. Schlechtweg or Alice Bidoae!

Thank You To Our Newspaper Staff

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Local News

The Past and Present of Black History Month in Connecticut

The origin of Black History Month began in 1915, half a century after the abolishment of slavery in the 13th amendment. It was shortly after this that Carter G Woodson, a Harvard historian and minister created the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, an organization that was created for the sole purpose of honoring African American achievements. That same group now known as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, founded a week long event by the name of Negro History Week, chosen specifically because of its special recognition of the birthdays of both Abraham Lincoln, the author of the Emancipation Proclamation and Frederick Douglass, a leader of the abolitionist movement. Decades later, mayors of multiple cities nation wide were celebrating Negro History Week, which led to the month long official recognition of the holiday by President Gerald Ford in 1976.

Today Black History Month celebrates other great leaders such as Harriet Tubman, Marcus Garvey, Rosa Parks and Malcolm X. However, as discussed in the recent Black History Month Roundtable Discussion hosted by Governor Ned Lamont it is clear that state legislators and leaders are calling for more recognition towards African American history. Joined by Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz, Education Deputy Commissioner Desi Nesmith, State Representative Bobby Gibson, Hartford Superintendent Leslie-Torres Rodriguez and others, Governor Ned Lamont discussed Connecticut's new implementation of African American, Black, Latino and Puerto Rican studies as an optional elective for the beginning of the 2021-2022 academic school year. However, he says that continuing forward by fall of 2022, every Connecticut high school will be required to teach this course, stating that, "this day is really, really important in terms of what it says about who we are as Americans and what it says about education." So far the outlook towards the implementation of this new course has been positive and is well respected by school leaders and parents as an appreciation for the different minority backgrounds that contribute to our American society. Student Maame Obeng from Danbury High School shares that she typically dreads Black History Month because looking around her class she felt like everybody was staring at her because she was the only African-American in her classes. However, she now seems to have a more optimistic approach to this year's recognition of the holiday knowing that her culture is going to be taught on a deeper level than she usually gets with a traditional social studies curriculum. To make sure that this new curriculum is being implemented with the necessary measures, the state's Department of Education will be completing inspections between the July of 2022 and July of 2024.

Written and Edited By: Jasmine Carby

Advice Column and School Announcements

Counseling with Carese

Hello students and staff of ASI, Happy February! Congratulations on making it through the hectic time we call midterms, and just like that, our first semester is complete. Before you know it, the school year will be coming to an end. Try not to lose your drive now, but finish strong; we are almost there!

Today, I want to discuss scholarships, which grant money that is used to pay for education and does not have to be repaid. They broaden students' access to opportunities and make pursuing higher education less of a financial burden. There are an array of scholarships available for students of different backgrounds, majors, hobbies, and more. There are renewable scholarships that can be reused for multiple years or scholarships that are awarded once. As a student, it is your responsibility to take the initiative to research and find scholarships for you. There is too much money at the tip of your fingers; do not pass it up. No, you will not win every single scholarship and that is okay. The ones you do receive add up very quickly and every cent is worth it. Seniors especially, start now, but it is not too early for freshman, sophomores, and juniors. Though most scholarships cater to high school seniors and college students, you can still begin your research early and possibly find chances for younger scholars.

The main concept I wish to instill in students is to take advantage of every opportunity you can. Unfortunately, many students pass up money for schooling because they are unaware of all that is available to them. After finishing college, the goal is to be debt-free or close to it, and scholarships can be a large factor in achieving that goal. Remember to research and even reach out to guidance counselors as they are experts in this category! Good luck on your scholarship journey!

Until next time, Carese

Boys Volleyball Club

Mr. Lance and Mr. Person will be running a boys volleyball club during the third session of clubs which runs from March 28th to May 26th. This year the sport needs to start off as a club and hopes for having a boys varsity volleyball team will come next year. If you wish to participate in boys volleyball, make sure to sign up for the third session of afterschool clubs. It's for 9-12th grade and there needs to be enough interest to make this an official club and to make it an official sport for next year! See Mr. Lance if you have any remaining questions!

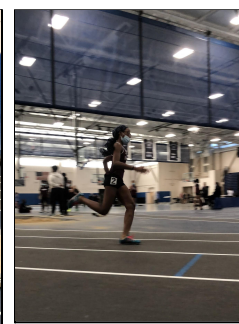
Multimedia Journalism Workshop

There is a free opportunity for those 16 years and older who are interested in journalism to participate in C-HIT's 2022 high school multimedia journalism workshop! It will be back on campus the week of July 18th in the summer and will be on the UConn campus. It is a great opportunity for students interested in journalism to improve their reading and writing skills and to learn from professionals who work in the journalism field. You will have the chance to develop your own stories through videos, articles, photography, and/or podcasts. The workshop is free for students and here is where you can register!

<http://c-hit.org/c-hit-to-host-2022-summer-multimedia-journalism-workshop-at-uconn/>

Indoor Track and Field

Indoor Track and Field had quite the season this year with many new athletes kicking off their first-ever high school meets. Starting off with the jumping and throwing events for Championships, Seniors Thalia Cameron and Imane Fahmi took home second and third place for shot put, both setting a personal record. For men's varsity long jump, sophomore Malachi Simmonds secured third place for innovation along with Freshman Davinci Prado placing in top ten overall. For women's varsity long jump, Freshman Natalia Torres placed fourth overall, with Freshman Lydia Crespo and Senior Mya Saylor placing in top ten. For women's varsity high jump, Freshman Elyse Joseph won second place along with Natalia Torres, Lydia Crespo, and Mya Saylor placing in top ten overall.



Looking at the running and sprinting events, Freshman Natalia Torres ran an 8.36 in the 55-meter dash, leading her to a personal record and qualifying for the finals. For the women's 600 meters, Natalia placed third with a personal record time of 2:03.04 seconds. For the women's 55 meter hurdles, Senior Mya Saylor won second place with a season record time of 10.17 seconds. For the women's 300 meters, Elyse Joseph, Senior Carese Davis, and Senior Anayah Owens placed top 11 overall, allowing them to all set personal records. States are currently coming up, and athletes Natalia Torres and Mya Saylor have all qualified in their events. Make sure to show support so they can finish strong!

February Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Valentine's Day!! <3	15 Basketball Girls Senior Night	16	17 Basketball Boys Senior Night	18 Dress Down Day	19
20	21 No School (President's Day)	22 No School	23	24	25	26
27	28					