

WINTER 2017/2018 ETHOS



A new view from the Boarman Discovery Center

Photo by Lily Bernstein '22

SPORTS HIGHLIGHT: TENNIS A TEAM

Farah Pahlavi, an amazing tennis player, plays for the Bullis Middle School A Team. Farah played doubles this year but also occasionally singles. She has been playing for 8 years, and those years have really paid off because she is great at tennis now. When we interviewed Farah, she said a few things about tennis and her experiences. She told us that she really enjoys playing tennis and competing against other schools and even her teammates. Farah, who absolutely loves to compete in tennis as a sport, does not want to play in college. Farah stated in the interview that the most challenging thing for her in tennis is her serving. The most favorite part of tennis for her is that she can play singles alone. Farah is again an amazing tennis player.

By Aleka Frazier and Lily Bernstein '22



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A 6TH GRADER

By Alisha Schruefer '24 and Evan Price '24

- 8:00: Class starts!
- 8:55: Long block starts! Yay!
- 10:05 Break
- 10:15: Independent Reading
- 10:40: Extra Instruction time!
- 11:00: Lunch!
- 11:30: Short Block
- 12:10: Regular Block
- 1:05: Snack! Hope it's chocolate chip muffins!
- 1:10: Last block before Athletics
- 2:00: Athletics starts!
- 3:25: End of the day!

On the first day of school, I walk into South Hall feeling nervous and excited for all the changes about to come. As I walk into my first class of the day, I realized one thing. You know the saying "real life doesn't have foreshadowing?" Well, Middle School certainly doesn't! Here is a "day in the life" of a 6th grader. Hope you enjoy!

I walk into class on Monday, Sep. 11, feeling energetic. Very energetic. I was super excited for my first day of actual, real classes! First thing, I studied my schedule. Hmm, it looked like I had geography first. Only one question: Where was geography?

I raced to class, my brain frantically trying to process the horrible things that would happen if I were caught late on the first day!! Finally, I found my class before the bell rang, sat down, and waited.

After class, I glanced at the schedule posted on the wall. It looked like C Block was in the Discovery Center. Where was the Discovery Center? Question answered: A huge, almost majestic building where the morning sun glinted off its clear windows. It was amazing!

I had already taken a tour of the Discovery Center, so I knew where my next block was. I strolled to class, not feeling the pressure of weighted time on my shoulders. It was good not to worry! Little did I know that I had more classes coming up...with way harder transitions!

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Interview with Nathan Hirschfeld '24

How do you like Bullis so far?

It's good. I like it a lot, and it's better than my old school. I especially like the rotations from class to class.

What's one of the hardest things about Middle School?

Changing for Athletics.

What do you think is something that Bullis School can improve on?

The food. Definitely the food!

What is something that you like better about Bullis than your old school?

The change in size of campus, and also the number of kids in each class.

Is there anything you like about Middle School better than Elementary School?

That we have actual sports instead of P.E.

Snack time! After a long block, I weaved my way around clustered groups of 7th and 6th graders as I walked to the snack cart. I reached out and grabbed a chocolate chip muffin, then made my way over to Assembly. At Blair Center, my friend tapped my shoulder and told me we weren't supposed to bring our backpacks! I sprinted back, feeling embarrassed. On the other hand, how was I supposed to know that on the first day of school?

At the end of lunch, I headed to my short block. This time I checked if I had all my materials. I did! After short block, it was just two regular blocks, and then Sports! I was feeling pretty good about my first day of classes. At 1:10 at the end of D Block, I was heading to Latin, but as I arrived at the door, this strange sense came upon me that I had forgotten something. That was it! My binder... I had left it at my locker! Oh shoot, I thought. As fast as I could run, I dashed back to South Hall, snatched my binder, and ran back to Blair lickety-split. As I was running, I thought that at least I wasn't in the Discovery Center! Only problem, as I got back to class, the teacher told me that I was late! I sat down to finish my last block of the day.

Time for Sports, otherwise known as Athletics! I grabbed my athletic stuff, changed, and headed down to tennis! Today we were doing our challenge matches! As I was hitting balls everywhere (including over the fence), I daydreamed about my first actual day of school. It went pretty well! I was already thinking about the weekend...and then I realized: I had to do all of this again tomorrow...on a different schedule!!

Interview with Maestro Renzo Maggi

By Calla O'Neil '22, Elizabeth Martin '24 and Nathan Chen '24

We had the pleasure of hosting famous sculptor Renzo Maggi earlier this year. He touched our hearts and inspired not only those in art classes, but everyone here at Bullis. A few members of Ethos had the amazing opportunity to interview Maestro Renzo Maggi. Here is a written version of the interview:

The Artist and his Process:

Can you tell us a little about your childhood? When did you decide to become an artist?

I decided to become an artist at a very young age - 5 years old.

What is the most rewarding part of your job?

The most rewarding part of my job is expressing my thoughts into my work and also working with my hands.

What other projects are you currently working on? What ideas do you have for future projects?

I am working on a family portrait. I have many sculptures in mind that I would want to make in the future.

How did you become interested in sculpting?

My dad was a sculptor, and the area I grew up in had many marble quarries.

Who influenced you? And who's your favorite artist?

A lot of artists influenced me, and I have a lot of favorite artists. One of them is Bernini.

Where do you find inspiration for your work?

I find inspiration in beauty and nature, poems, ancient Greek sculptures.

Could you describe your artistic process - what techniques, tools, and materials do you use? Is there a specific type of marble that you prefer?

I start with a clay model then create my sculpture. I like to use Mt. Altissimo marble.

What happens to your sculptures when they're done?

I sell them and keep them. I sell them to friends. My clients become my friends.

His Favorite Pieces:

Do you have a favorite sculpture that you have made? Could you tell us what it is and why it is your favorite?

I love all of them. It's like a father who has children, I can't pick a favorite!

Do you have other favorite pieces of art?

Bernini's Apollo and Daphne (among others)

More about Maestro Maggi himself:

What's your favorite food?

My favorite food is ravioli from Tuscany.

Do you have any other favorite hobbies?

I love fishing on sea, I do not have much time to do it though.

Of all the places you have traveled, where is your favorite and why?

Bullis School is my favorite place because the students here are like one big family.

Is there anything else you would like to share with us?

Thank you. I am leaving a piece of me here at Bullis.

The New Edition to Our Community

By Sasha Hanson '22, Vivian Carmel '22, and Demi Fragoyannis '22

This summer our school broke ground on a marvelous, top of the line building, named after our Head of School. The Gerald L. Boorman Discovery Center includes a variety of advanced technology for excelling in the STEM field, a cafe, a school store and spacious classrooms. We interviewed two staff members to share their thoughts on the new building.

Interview with Ms. Simpson

What role do you play as a faculty member?

I am the 8th grade math teacher, 8th grade coordinator, as well as a soccer coach for middle school.

What do you see as most useful in the new stem building?

The automatic technology including lights, projector, and windows changing technologies.

Where do you find yourself spending the most time in the new building?

I find myself spending most of my time in my classroom, located on the first floor.

Interview with Ms. Priddy

What is your most asked question?

"Where is the bathroom?" is the most common asked question from parents and new students that enter the building.

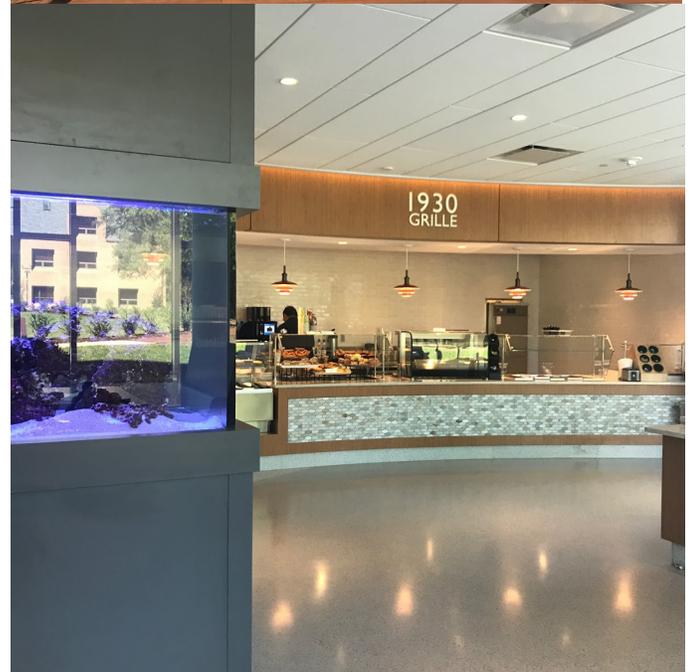
From what you have heard about the cafe what would you rate it from 5 being the best and 1 being the worst?

4 being good, but not best

What was the most helpful thing you have done to guide someone in the correct direction?

I helped students at the beginning of the school year when new students didn't know the entire schedule and needed guidance on where classrooms were located.

Overall, the new building has been very beneficial to the Bullis community. The high-tech classroom features have helped teachers instruct students more easily and more efficiently.



WELCOME TO BULLIS, MS. HOLMAN!

By Josselyn Lee '22

How has your experience at Bullis been so far?

It's been great. I came here from teaching 5th and 6th grade - much younger students. This is my dream job. I've always wanted to teach 8th graders, and Bullis is so awesome. I mean we just built this brand new building, and I'm so impressed. I have wonderful students who are happy, polite, nice, and lovely, and I'm on the best Gold team ever! I'm very happy and pleased. I hope to work many years here.

What is your favorite part about Bullis?

I would have to say the people and the community. The fact that the teachers agree with what I like about teaching and using 21st century technology. Everyone is excited to be here. The students just make me smile! Overall, it's the people.

What subject do you teach?

I teach English in 8th grade and am also an 8th grade advisor.

Do you like working with the students here at Bullis? If so why?

I like working with the students here at Bullis because they care about the impact they make on the world. They look beyond their grade level. All of them care about their grades, and they make academic connections the Bullis Way.

Out of all the schools in the DMV, why did you choose this one?

I chose Bullis because teachers are allowed to be flexible in choosing what to teach. Teachers here are really on the cutting edge. We have all the latest equipment and technology. There are many professional development opportunities here to help me be a better teacher. Also, I enjoy the Blue/Gold team atmosphere. I love playing games. I'm very competitive. I like that community spirit. There's more than just a mascot representing everyone, but the fact is I'm on a team. It's fun. Not every school does that.

What core values do you think are the most important at Bullis?

I think a lot of them are intertwined. I learned from my college, Virginia Tech, "Ut Prosim" was the motto, "that I may serve." So I like the idea of serving something or someone. I also feel like there's integrity here also. You are responsible for everything that you do and you can change the world in so many different ways. I feel like it's a tie between values of integrity and service.

Do you have any specific goals you would like to accomplish in your first year at Bullis?

I would like to see... the Gold team win! Just kidding. I would like to make sure that all my students have learned something about writing so they can say, "I learned this and I think I'm a better writer." That's my goal by the end of the year - that every 8th grader feels that way.

Why did you decide to become a teacher?

I think that education can change the world. I feel like learning is the sure-fire way. Also, my great grandfather, my grandmother, and my mom have teaching degrees. When I was in the 9th grade, my high school science teacher told us that he was doing his dream job. I wanted to be as excited about my job as he was.

6th Grade Tree Project

By Max Klein '24

In early October, Mr. White, the sixth grade geography teacher, announced that the sixth grade would do a project concerning the trees at Bullis. The project is about how Bullis has been taking out a lot of the mature trees around campus and not replacing them. So far, we have had a few teachers come in and talk to us about the removal, and on November 30th, we started diving into the project deeply. We started finding good, reliable sources about the importance of trees. We searched through extensive databases for more pertinent information about trees. Trees are important because of how they look and help with the environment. For example, they change carbon dioxide in the surrounding areas and block out the sun in the spring and fall. When the leaves fall off, trees make it easier for the sun to pervade through and heat up the area. Near the beginning of December, we started writing our speeches to get ready for a presentation for Mr. Butland. Last week, we started practicing and writing note cards. We had planned to speak with Mr. Butland on Thursday, December 14th. However, he was unable to meet with us. Mr. Burger, head of security, took his place. We still plan to present to Mr. Butland at a later date.

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