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## TEACHER OF THE YEAR: AN INTERVIEW WITH MRS. WESTERBY

JESSICA WEI

Ms. Westerby is one of Bunker Hill's beloved eighth grade math teachers. She's kind, patient, goes above and beyond with all she does, and has enthusiasm that makes anyone want to crack a smile. I had the opportunity to sit down with her and understand more about her passion for teaching and her students.

**What was your initial reactions when you first heard you got teacher of the year?**

I was surprised, but happy. Being named as teacher of the year is one of the highest honors an educator can receive. I was thrilled to have earned this prestigious award.

**What do you love most about Bunker Hill?**

I love my students and my colleagues. Everyone at Bunker Hill is so positive and truly cares about one another.

**How long have you been teaching?**

24 years.

**What would be your second career choice?**

Engineering or architecture

**What is the weirdest experience that happened to you during your time teaching?**

One time, there was a bird flying around in the hallway, and my co-teacher caught it with a blanket and released it outside.

**What inspired you to want to start teaching?**

When I was a little kid I loved everything about school. I knew then that I wanted to grow up to become a teacher and instill my love of learning in each of my students.

**What is some advice you'd give to students that want to become teachers?**

People may discourage you from becoming a teacher because it is not a high paying job. However, remember not all rewards are monetary. As a teacher you get the unique opportunity to not only connect with students but you also get the chance to maybe ignite a flame in a student they never knew was there. Teachers are often the inspiration for certain career choices. It is an honor and privilege to be able to have that impact on an individual.

## PENNIES FOR PASTA

GINA KLEMOWITZ AND LILY ENGELIEN

Pennies for Pasta is a fundraiser where boxes are given to each homeroom. The students and their homeroom teachers drop loose change into the box. The collected money from each homeroom benefits the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. This money helps people with leukemia and lymphoma, which are types of cancer that deal with blood cells. The winning homeroom, who donated the most money, gets a pasta party sponsored by Olive Garden. The second-place homeroom gets a pizza party. Thank you to everyone who donated to this worthy fundraiser to help people fight off cancer. Also, thanks to Mr. Cabrera and the student council for promoting this fundraiser across the school!

## THE MUSICAL

RILEY SOZIO

The “20th Anniversary Musical Extravaganza” was one of the best musicals I’ve ever seen. Put on by Ms. Dickinson and Mrs. and Mr. Appleby, it was hilarious and so much fun. I especially enjoyed scenes from Cinderella, including the iconic slipper scene where Mr. Appleby played the Evil Stepmother. The singing was beautiful and the coordination in the dancing scenes were perfect. There was great acting too. During a song from Camp Rock, I wanted to jump up and sing along to the amazing performance. The costumes were stunning and they really helped the scenes come to life. Even the production team played their part wonderfully. Everything was spot on!

In conclusion, this year’s musical was by far the best I’ve seen. It was hysterical, fun, and awesome. I give it:



## OPEN MIC NIGHT

JESSICA WEI

On Wednesday, April 25, Bunker Hill held an Open Mic Social to raise awareness for Autism. The event was free and open to donations. No matter the amount donated, you were eligible to win a door prize! There was free hot chocolate and plenty of games to keep you entertained, ranging from Jenga, to TWP rock painting, to bracelet making! There were a variety of snacks to choose from as well, such as cookies, chips, drinks and other yummy snacks. Additionally, many students performed songs. Isabelle Nutt opened with an amazing rendition of “Beautiful” by Christina Aguilera. The stunning performance was followed by several band students playing instruments and one even performing a stand-up comedy routine. All in all, the night was a fun way to let loose with friends. Thank you to Mrs. Diablosio, Mrs. Homolash, Mrs. Albanese, Mrs. Yates, Mrs. Marchese, Ms. Brodzik, Ms. Waddington, Ms. Fox, Mr. Goliszewski and all their students for putting together this wonderful event.



## TRUTHWITCH

SHAYLEE WOLFF

Everyone has that one friend that is basically their other half. That one friend you would do *anything* for, that you do everything with. This is a Threadsister, one’s chosen family. In “Truthwitch” by Susan Denard, Threadsisters Safi and Iseult spend all their time with each other. They grew up together and they go everywhere together. The book is about Safi and Iseult, who have to avoid Safi’s mysterious history and hide her Truthwitchery. That is a rare and highly sought after magic that allows the user to detect any lies spoken to them. If Safi gets caught for her witchery, she could be killed. After the Emperor declares Safi to be his betrothed, she is kidnapped by Prince Merik. He made an agreement with her Uncle; get Safi to safety in exchange for a trade route to be opened with the Prince’s dying Kingdom. This book is exciting and leaves readers dying to know what happens next. “Truthwitch” is one of my personal favorites, and I’m sure it’ll be one of yours too.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR STUDENTS OF THE MONTH!

### MARCH

Thomas Fields, Daniel Hillig, Ava Iawno, Gina Klemowitz, Brian Moy, Anna Tobler, Mia Bridda, Reice Kramer, Tyler Conlin, Jaxson Dunn, Emma Haley, Matthew Koerner, Tina Tran

### APRIL

Jack Canning, Emma Pikus, Emily DiRidolfo, Nicholas Lauletta, Tangim Morshed, Bailey Ratcliffe, Grace Blaney, Meghan Dodds, Meng Lin, William Quigley

## THE BULLDOG DIG

GINA KLEMOWITZ

The Bulldog Dig is an event that happens yearly for BHMS students. It is a volleyball tournament where students get to form their own teams of all their friends and compete against other groups. The players' goal is to beat everyone else to win the tournament. This year, the Bulldog Dig came out great! There were twenty teams competing for best costume, sportsmanship, and to win the tournament. In addition to the players, there were big crowds of people to watch and support their favorite teams. The students are encouraged to be creative with what they wear, and make costumes. These players were very inventive. There were angels, candy, Smurfs, 80's girls, basketball players, camouflage, and a lot more. Out of all the unique outfits, the Smurfs were chosen as the best costume. The Smurfs won for the sportsmanship category

as well. There were so many great players, but the team that won the event were The Big Baller Boys. They were the team of eighth graders who wore basketball jerseys with Nick Bachich as the captain. In summation, this event was a good opportunity to get together with friends and have a fun time. Thanks to all our teams, everyone who watched, and our PTO for organizing this enjoyable event!



## FACEBOOK “FACING” SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS FROM WHITE HOUSE

GRACE KIM

Fake news is one of the bigger topics in media today, and at the head of the controversy is Mark Zuckerberg. Donald Trump accused the creator of Facebook of being against him, claiming the social network was “anti-Trump” during the 2016 election. Zuckerberg responded saying, “Trump says Facebook is against him. Liberals say that we helped him. Both sides are upset about ideas and content that they don't like.” Most believe Facebook was a major influence in the election. Zuckerberg was unimpressed with these accusations, even saying it was “pretty crazy” to think that Facebook would be able to swing the votes of the election by that much. After the accusation made by Trump, Google, Twitter, and Facebook were all asked to testify in front of Congress in November of 2016. Some allegations claiming Zuckerberg helped Russia, even providing “Russia linked ads” on the social network. While Zuckerberg believes politicians are digging too deep into Facebook for such weak accusations, there will always be some who believe that social media is capable of winning an election all on it's own.



## CONGRATULATIONS PEOPLE'S CHOICE NOMINEES!

Abigail Aguilar	Mikaela Maxey
Alexis Beatty	Gabriella Micolucci
Anthony Boccutto	Claudia Milano
Cheyenne Coley	Sean Monaghan
Olivia Crabtree	Leann Nguyen
Jack Crawford	Madelina Nocella
Maeve Fitzgerald	Jeremiah Pratt
Emma Haley	Jacen Ranson
Rachel Inverso	Steven Seibert
Lucas Kanavel	Briana Sudler
Dominic Kern	Brandy Thompson
Alexandra King	Zachary Thompson
John Paul Landau	Tina Tran
Nicholas Lauletta	Grace Wahl
Nicholas Lausten	Lucas Weilhouwer
Anna Lee	Erin Welch
James Lombardo	Abigail Wilson
Katrina Lucero	
Edward Luckiewicz	