

Coyote Howler

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Senior Highlight: Meet the 2024 Seniors!

By Evan Cartier and Gabriel Villa

We will be interviewing graduating seniors throughout the year to help you meet the class of 2024. These students come from many different backgrounds, each with their own experiences and memories. Join us as we help these seniors share their experiences and plans for the future.



Adrian Barraza



Alyssandra Becerra



Mariah Albarez



Omar Ramos



Sarah Wood



Eli Lynn

What do you plan on doing after high school?

Adrian Barraza: "I plan on going to ENMUR or UNM."

Alyssandra Becerra: "I plan on being a travel ultrasound tech."

Omar Ramos: "I want to become an underwater welder."

What is your favorite highlight or memory from your entire high school experience?

Mariah Albarez: "Just spending time with people that you won't be able to see after school when school finishes."

Sarah Wood: "Going to Florida last year with the choir."

Eli Lynn: "My favorite highlight was playing in the state championship even though we came up short but it's still a great memory and glad I got to play in it."

As these seniors prepare to embark on new adventures, we hope to highlight the experiences and friendships made along the way.





Celebrating the Harmony of Music

By Greg DeLosSantos and Mario Zavala

As we immerse ourselves in the joy and warmth of the holiday season, we can't help but reflect on the remarkable achievements and dedication of our teachers. In this edition of our newsletter, we would like to highlight the incredible work of our Chorus Teacher, Mr. Brian Hunley.

In a recent interview, Mr. Hunley shared his passion for connecting with students through music and teaching them how to play various musical instruments.



When asked about his goals for the month, he proudly outlined the success of the choir concert held recently, not only at our school but also at other renowned venues. The melodious harmonies and breathtaking performances showcased the hard work and talent nurtured under Hunley's guidance.

Looking forward, Hunley shared his aspirations for the year. He expressed his desire to maintain the high standard set by his students in their musical performance assessment, also known as MPA.



With clear determination and a profound belief in his students' capabilities, Hunley is committed to nurturing the students of Roswell High's musical talents to even greater heights.

One of the qualities that makes Hunley such an exceptional teacher is his ability to establish genuine connections with his students. When asked about this, he explained that he keeps an open heart and mind, ensuring his students feel comfortable discussing their thoughts and concerns. By creating

this inclusive environment, he empowers his students to embrace their musical journey fully.

Roswell High has been fortunate to have Hunley grace the halls for the past ten years, as he joined our school in 2014. When asked about this milestone, he expressed gratitude for the opportunity to be a part of our community. His dedication has undoubtedly left an unforgettable mark on the hearts and minds of countless students and colleagues.

As we all cherish the holiday season, it comes as no surprise that Hunley's favorite holiday movie is the timeless classic, "It's a Wonderful Life." This heartwarming film reminds us of the inherent goodness within humanity and the significance of simple acts of kindness. Just like the movie teaches valuable lessons, so does Hunley through his music and teachings.

As we bid farewell to this eventful Fall semester, let us remember the integral role that music plays in our lives, especially during this festive period. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Hunley for his unwavering dedication to our students and for instilling in them the love and appreciation of music. We sincerely wish Hunley a successful next year of music.

Wishing you all a harmonious and joyous holiday season!





Choir Winter Concert

By Alice Samuels

The Roswell High choir along with Mountain View and Sierra Middle School had their winter concert on November 30th at Pearson Auditorium. Mountain View and Sierra Middle School were under the direction of Dr. Mark Barela-Eubank and Mrs. Joni Byers. Roswell High's choir was under the direction of Bryan Hunley. The middle school choir sang Christmas Time Again and Bidi Bidi Bom Bom. The Roswell High Beginning choir, Voces Musicales, sang Holly Jolly Christmas, Gaudeamus!, Sing with Joy!, and You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch. The advanced Treble choir, Cantus Caelum, sang Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree, Jesus, Bleibet MeineFreude, The Holly and the Ivy, and Sleigh Ride. The advanced Mixed choir and chorale sang Carol of the Bells, For Unto Us (from Messiah), O Tannenbaum, and Nuttin' for Christmas. Lastly, the show choir, Cyettes & Roadrunners, sang This Christmas, Ding-a Ding-a Ding, Noche de Paz, and Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas.

We asked Hunley how he felt about the concert along with his thoughts on the choirs this year. When asked how he felt the concert went he said, "Overall good, there has never been a perfect concert so it is always something people strive for when they perform. It wasn't perfect but I was very

happy with it.” Hunley added that if he was able to change anything he would change the date of the concert. He wanted it to be pushed back a week so some groups could have more rehearsals to make up for missing rehearsals earlier in the year. From all of the songs of the concert Hunley noted that though it was hard to choose between all of the great songs he heard at the concert, his two favorite songs were Chorale’s Carol of the Bells and Cantus Caelum’s The Holly and Ivy. He commented that Carol of the Bells was “really great” and Holly and the Ivy he was “really happy with.”



The choir lost 21 seniors all of whom were very good singers and losing that many people always affects the program, nevertheless, he was very happy and proud of what they have this year. He added that though this year’s senior class is a lot smaller than last year they are strong singers and good leaders. He always wants to keep people around but he is happy with who he has now, and he was quite happy to see a few seniors who graduated

last year make an appearance in the crowd at the concert.

During the concert, Hunley called up nine students who made All-State this year: Yaneli Banuelas, Bailey Gladu, Stepanie Gonzalez, Sarah Wood, Serenity Youngblood, Nehemiah Gedde, Sebastian Hernandez, Abner Ordonez, and Mario Zavala. Hunley is “looking forward to these students attending All-State” and he “really likes the songs that both choirs are doing this year” he believes that “it will be a really good concert”. Nine students is the highest number of students that have been selected for All-State and Hunley is hoping to bring that number up to double digits next year.

When asked if there was anything he wanted his choir students to know he said, “what a privilege it is to make music, and let’s just keep enjoying making music.” Hunley was very proud and pleased with the concert that his students put on. He appreciated their hard work throughout the year and looks forward to the rest of the year, including their annual contest in spring. Hunley cares for his students, current and past, and wishes them his best throughout high school and beyond.

We want to thank Mr. Hunley for helping our Roswell High choirs make beautiful music every year and pushing his students to do their best.





Interview with Mrs. Baca

By Brayden Hardy and Gracie Roberts

Roswell High's latest member of the RHS Administration is Mrs. Baca. Up until last year, Baca taught Biology, and Honors Anatomy and Physiology before becoming an Assistant Principal at RHS.

When asked about her adjustment to her new role Baca replied, "it's been an adjustment but I like the job, it's a new challenge, I've learned lots of new things this semester, so it's been an adjustment."

New opportunities have risen in her new role, "the opportunities are probably just in terms of how I impact students. In the classroom, you are impacting students from a very personal level, and in this, you have to find programs and different opportunities to have an impact on students." Of course, Baca did say she greatly missed daily interactions with students.





Teacher of the Month: Mrs. Munoz

By Jaiden Wright

Mrs. Munoz has been teaching at Roswell High for 13 years and has been chosen as the December teacher of the month for RHS. She really enjoys teaching here and her students and the staff love her as a teacher.



What inspired Mrs. Munoz to become a teacher?

She wanted to be able to have the same time off as her kids did and spend time with them with that time off. She also wanted to influence her students' lives and help them to either help change or be the change.

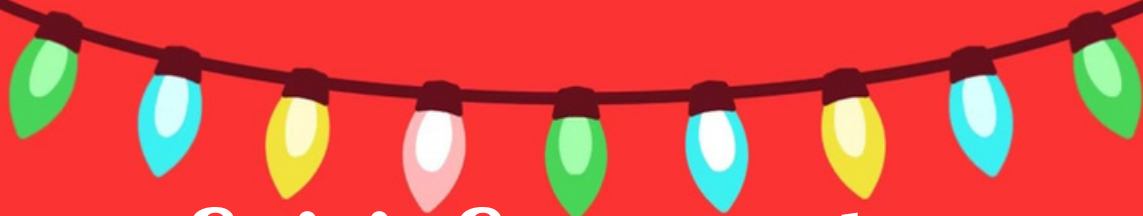
What does Mrs. Munoz do to make her kids feel comfortable in her classroom?

She is goofy with fantastic humor that never fails to make her students laugh. In her classroom,

she tries her best to get to know the students, Taking an interest in what they like in order to make the classwork that they do and the time they spend there more enjoyable.

Why does Mrs. Munoz enjoy teaching at Roswell High School?

She has been teaching here for a great amount of time now. She loves working with the students and her fellow staff. She likes working with the students especially because she feels like she can connect with them to build a good relationship and rapport with them.



Spirit Spectacular

By Eliana Chavez

On November 18, 2023, three Charlie's Angels had a chance to perform in the Spirit Spectacular at Disney World in Orlando Florida. In the summer, the Charlie's Angel dance team attended a home camp with the National Dance Alliance. During this camp, the NDA staff pays attention to every girl for different qualities. The qualities include technique, spirit, and showmanship. If they see all these qualities a dancer is chosen as an All American Nominee. You then later try out to be on the team filled with dancers and cheerleaders from around the United States. Four girls were chosen: Isabella Garcia, Charlize Rodriguez, Eliana Chavez, and Kaitlyn

Holloway. Holloway was unable to attend due to an injury.

While their schedules were very busy for all of them. There were uniform checks, optional placement tryouts, and two practices before their performance. Before arriving to Florida it was expected for everyone to have learned and known the dance by arrival. Practices were held to help clean up any errors and to make needed changes. There were almost 1,000 cheerleaders and dancers who attended. There were two groups for all the athletes, Team Mickey and Team Minnie. The girls were put into Team Mickey, which was the first parade. Free days were also given to the participants to visit all the parks.



When asked what Isabella Garcia's favorite thing about the whole experience was, she replied, "meeting new people and interacting with the younger kids." Charlize Rodriguez stated that her favorite thing was, "being able to perform and meeting a bunch of new people." This was a great time for all of them and was a wonderful new experience for the program.



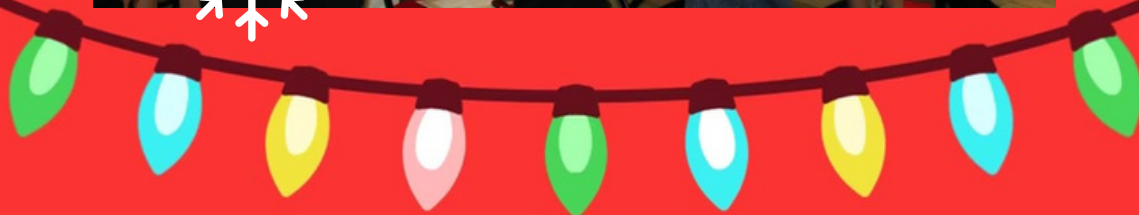
National Honor Society!

By Kaelynn Medellin

The National Honor Society is a club that recognizes high school students who meet high academic standards. Multiple chapters around the world highlight leadership and service. They have involved themselves in helping out their community by working to keep Roswell beautiful and cleaning our campus.

They recently had their fall induction ceremony for the members on November 18, 2023. The induction ceremony is a special occasion where each member is honored with a certificate for their achievements and has a candlelight pledge. Members were arranged in alphabetical order and seated in rows. Mia Mata and the other officers talked about each candle and lit each one. They were then called one by one, where they received a certificate and took a picture. They received their

certification, lit the members' candles, and said the pledge. The total number of members was 37, most of who, were inducted that night.



Key Club

By Jayla Rubio and Quetzaly Rodriguez

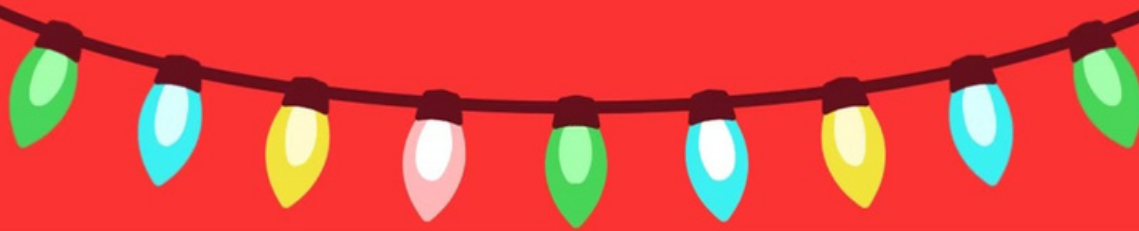
Key Club is an amazing organization that encourages students to get involved in their community and make a positive impact. It is essentially the youth coming together to help those in need.

Roswell High's Key Club is led by advisor, Ms. Sandoval, who provides guidance and mentorship for the students. Key Club's President is Neveah Barraza, Dakota Mediano is Vice President, Brisa Ruiz is the Secretary, and other officers include Antonyis Balbino, Kevin Carbajal, and Mia Mata.

Key Club has made a large impact this school year with over 400 hours of community service

already logged. The club has spent time conducting community cleanups, hosting blood drives, volunteering at the Science and Art Festival, assisting at food distributions at Waymaker Church, working at the Salvation Army, and will be finishing up their semester volunteering at the annual Rio Hondo Wrestling Tournament hosted by RHS. This group of students hope to make a difference in Roswell through their service and certainly have already made a difference this year.

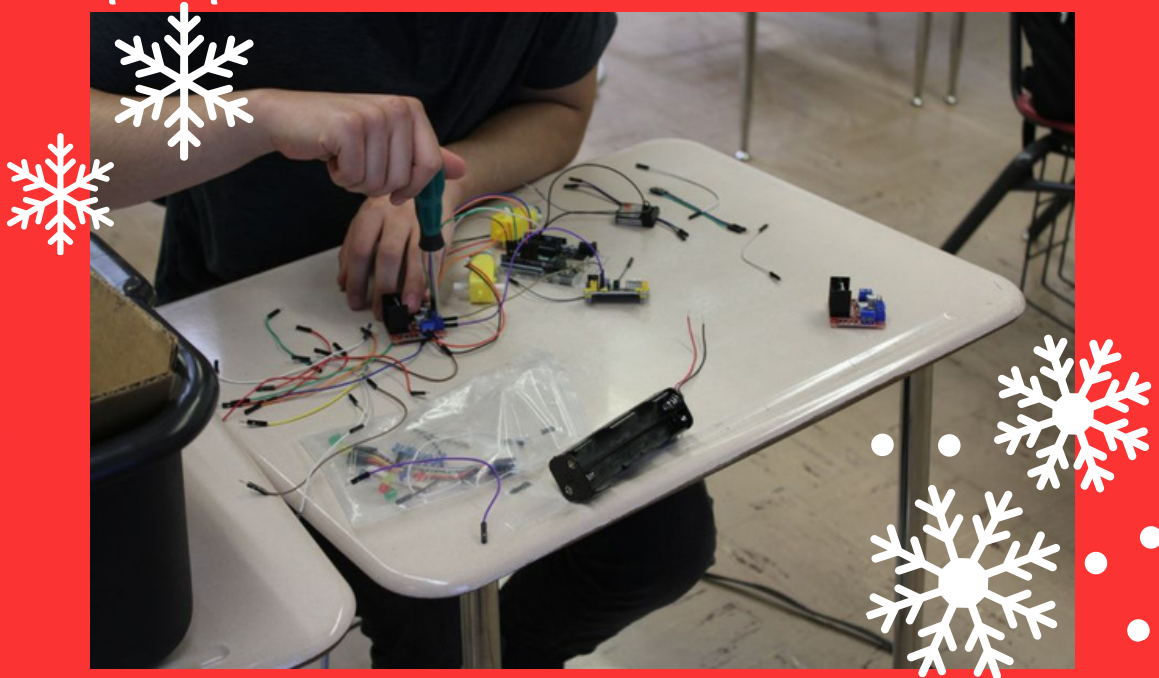




MESA Club

By Gabriel Carrillo and Skyler Dunaway

In the past and coming months the RHS MESA club has been working vigorously. MESA advisor Mr. O'Dwyer said they have been working hard on projects for upcoming competitions. The MESA club will be participating in two different competitions, Battlebots at New Mexico Tech and MESA Day at the Albuquerque Convention Center.



The Battlebots will be a fight between 3D-printed battlebots that the students have been building. Currently, they need to print their shells and finish programming, then they will go and battle other bots on April 27, 2024. After this, they will attend MESA Day on April 30, 2024, in which they will bring a small crane design they have been working on. Not only will they be scored for the

design, but they will also be put to the test of a variety of other on-site challenges, and if they score high enough, they will be eligible to go to the MESA Day USA, which will bring in the top teams of each state and compete.

After an unfortunate loss last year, this years' members' are on their A-game to win this time around. In the MESA Clubs' spare time, they have also been researching other engineering projects such as flood solutions and different robotics.



Lady Coyote Basketball

By Aalyha Reese

Lady Coyotes basketball season just began and so far the team is playing well, Coach Smith says, "this season is going to go well." Smith also says there is not one team he is excited to play, but he is excited to play everyone.

Serenity Chaves, a senior on the team is also enthusiastic about the season, "the season is going to go good." Chaves believes there have already been improvements in the energy and chemistry of the team both on and off the court. The team Serenity is the most excited to play against this season is Clovis for the district games closer to the end of the season.

Here is your chance to the Lady Coyotes in action:

- Dec 19 in Alamogordo at 6pm
- Dec 27-28 Holiday Classic Tournament at Rowell High School
- Dec 29 Holiday Classic Tournament at Goddard High School

Spanish Club Posada

By Abigail Waggoner

The Spanish Club hosted its annual Posada Event on December 7. Mr. Patoni explained the event, "It's a cultural event. It's not religious. Posada means a place to stay. It's an event where people come together to celebrate baby Jesus. It's a party at the end of the year."

The event boasted a variety of activities and food. For example, students enrolled in Spanish class learned how to make tamales, which were served at



the event, along with champurrado and other traditional Mexican dishes.

The evening included a dance from Spanish club members, a play, music, and more! In total, staff and students spent two months planning the entire event. The event had a wonderful turnout and was open to parents and all RHS students.



Teacher of the Month: Coach Lynn

By LJ Macias

Coach Lynn was Roswell High's Teacher of the Month for November. He has taught Economics at RHS for 11 years. Not only is Coach Lynn a teacher but is also the man making the calls on Friday nights for Coyote Football. As a coach, Lynn keeps his athletes in check. You will always hear him say "the best way to increase your income is through education."



He emphasizes that they are student-athletes, not athlete-students, the student always comes first. To motivate his team he created the "Good Grades" list. He checks grades every week and rewards students who have a C or better in every class with popsicles every Wednesday.

In the classroom, Coach Lynn feels the best way to keep students involved is to make things fun and light. His goal is to keep the students engaged by having financial conversations that he believes every kid has an opinion on. Coach Lynn claims "I think coaching is a form of teaching and my job is to help kids get better whether that's in economics or P.E."



RHS Wrestling

By Gabby Fajardo and Manny Iglesias

The Roswell High School Wrestling Team is composed of two coaches. The head coach, Coach Boggs, and the assistant coach Mr. Payne. This year's team roster features 11 girls and 63 boys.

There are several ways to win a wrestling match. You get a point if you push your opponent out of the circle, 2 points for a takedown, 1 point for a lock, and 2-3 points for pinning your opponent on their back. One interesting factor about wrestling is that the categories don't go by age, they go by weight. Wrestling has three phases, Neutral, Defensive, and Offensive. This sport requires a lot of self-motivation, stamina, and discipline.

Coach Boggs explained, "It's (wrestling) not like a fight, it's a sport." Keegan Nichols, a standout junior wrestler, explained he wasn't a good wrestler when he started but kept going with the sport. Nichols said that he likes the sportsmanship of wrestling but also believes wrestling is a harder sport because it's you standing alone.



Nichols explained what he does when he goes through a wrestling match. He said the 1st period he's feeling it out, 2nd period he starts feeling tired and a little restrained, 3rd period he is officially tired and feels like giving up but he has the mindset to keep going and it gets him through the match.

The season is in full swing and a full match schedule can be found on the RHS website.





Roswell High's SRO

By Jorge Diaz and Zoey Garcia

Anna Romero is a School Resource Officer(SRO). Officer Romero has been with the Roswell Police Department for 5 years. Officer Romero says she loves her job, "I've been in this certain position as a SRO (school resource officer) for a year and a half now and I've gotten to know my community more by community I mean kids."

Romero wishes there were more school resource officers and had more help from law enforcement. When Officer Romero first became an SRO she was the only school resource officer for RISD Schools. She says that the easiest part about her job is being here at Roswell High, the staff and students are welcoming. However, she wishes the students knew that being a police officer is more than what they wear and the badge and gun that they hold, "we do care more than they think. We care about them here at school and what goes on in their home life as well. We are parents ourselves, we're somebody's kid, we're friends. We are more humans than robots that I feel like society has made us to believe that we're just out to get you we're really not."

Officer Romero wanted to be a SRO because when she was younger she had an encounter with

an officer that was positive and helped her work through a situation. She ultimately wants to be that experience for a student and has always wanted to help people.



Coyote Counseling

By Dayanara Vasquez and Angelique Martinez

With the spring semester right around the corner we took time to meet with RHS counselors and seek academic advice. Amber Marrujo, a counselor, believes students should take AVID, a language class, a business, and a finance class to prepare for college. Marrujo also believes students should know that time management and responsibility are most important components to navigating school.

Ralph Tellez, another counselor, also had good advice for students and believes students should take as many AP, honors, and dual credit classes as

possible. Tellez' favorite part of being a counselor is getting to get to know and talk to students.



Unprepared or Uninformed?

By LJ Macias

Becoming an upperclassman introduces so many new experiences: the promise of a career after graduation, opportunities to explore colleges, and transitioning into adulthood to the unsuspecting student body. Most students do not start planning for their future until their senior year comes around. Luckily you are not stuck yet, there is still time to plan for your future.

Roswell High has all the resources you need Josh Estrada vocalizes, "there's no way we couldn't succeed after high school" when asked about the resources available here at RHS. The counselors are a good resource to prepare you for what is next. They are possibly the best source available to everyone in the school. Noah Lynn agrees that our counselors are an excellent source we have to prepare us for college and adds that "the college fair is always fun to go to. It gives you good resources cause' you got people who know exactly what they are talking about." Having those people available to you is useful in the sense that if you want more information on a specific place they have admissions counselors that are willing to help and answer any questions you may have.

Teachers are helpful as well. Every teacher has at least a four-year degree so they know how to get to college or have connections that are helpful as well. Mia Mata emphasizes, “they’ve all been to college so they give me ideas and how it’s gonna be.” Students have been saying that we have good resources however, they need to be promoted better. Eliana Chavez-Horton points out “they don’t go to you to help you, you have to go to them” She makes it known that some people aren’t comfortable seeking out help; they need the help to be known and brought to attention. Emmanuel Iglesias states “ I only got most of my resources because I was in a college preparation class and not everybody can get in that class.”