

Student Reporter

Mass Cancellation of Flights in 2022



Theo Lim

Grade 9
Crescenta Valley High SchoolWhile it has been pretty warm in Los Angeles, it is freezing cold in Bellingham, Washington, which can lead to a cancellation of flights.
[Source: Author, Theo Lim]

As the year 2023 approached, people traveled overseas or from state to state to see their loved ones. While people who live in relatively warm regions of the country have the option to travel by airplane, it has been a challenge for the ones who live in colder states, since

most of the flights in these places were canceled.

In the cold regions, extreme weather and severe winter storms paralyzed the airlines, being unable to operate any of their aircrafts and provide services. Mul-

tiple flights had to be canceled last minute, since parts of the vehicles had frozen. Winter storms and strong winds brought snow to the airports, closing the runway and forming sheets of ice on the body of the planes. The blurry weather also can disturb the pilot's vision when flying. For safety reasons, airlines determined that the weather conditions at the end of 2022 were not ideal for long-distance flights, so they had to delay or cancel most of them.

Regardless of the weather, more factors led to these unfortunate situations. Since 2020, due to COVID-19, airlines have been continuously decreasing the number of flights due to staffing and labor shortages. The amount of passengers dramatically increased as the holiday season came, to the point where none of the seats were available, and all flights were full. Yet, the absence rate of staff members increased, even making air-

lines offer to pay more to the ones working during the holiday.

Due to all of these factors, about 5100 flights were canceled, with some airlines having more than half of theirs being scrapped. Because of this, airlines had to come up with some solutions. The passengers were refunded in cash for their canceled flight, and some flights were rescheduled to other times when it was available.

It is difficult to predict exactly what will cause a flight to be canceled, so it is important for travelers to be aware of potential risks and factors that can lead to its happening. If one is a frequent traveler, purchasing trip insurance could be a good option, as it will protect one against unexpected situations. It is also a great idea to stay informed about current events and to stay updated with the airline or airport for any news or information, before making the plans.

Student Reporter

KR&B and K Hip-Hop Artists You Need To Add To Your Playlist

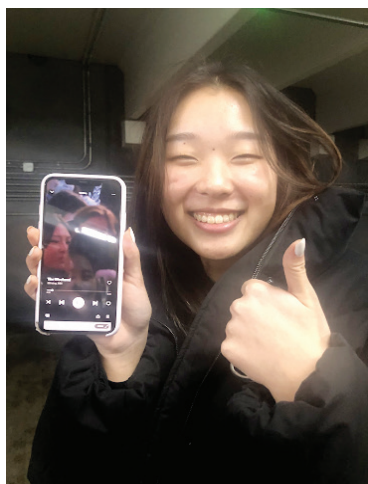


Elena Joo

Grade 11
Winston Churchill High School

When people hear the words "Korean" and "music" together, they automatically think about K-pop. However, Korean music is much broader and has many different genres included within it. Two subgenres are KR&B and K Hip-Hop. These subgenres are extremely popular, especially with younger audiences. KR&B combines the classic, soulful African-American R&B with the usually chill vibe of Korean artists. Similarly, K Hip-Hop is the combination of the New York-originated genre of Hip-Hop and the addictive talent of Korean artists.

One impressive artist's name is Junny. Junny is a singer-songwriter based in Seoul, South Korea. He has lived in Vancouver for a very long time, however, so he has even released songs fully in English. Junny has a soulful, catchy voice that allows listeners

Amanda Chung, a junior at Langley High School, holds up her favorite song by BIBI: 'The Weekend.'
[Source: Author, Elena Joo]

to fall in love with him immediately. His voice has a smooth and satisfying tone that achieves the R&B "chill vibe" that is often difficult to achieve for Korean artists. He has collaborated with some very famous and well-known Korean artists like pH-1 and Chun-

gha, and some of his most famous songs are "Thank You," "By My Side," and "Movie."

Another artist is Seo Donghyun, although better known by his stage name, "Big Naughty." He is a very talented artist that made his debut through the South Korean rap program, Show Me The Money. His voice is the most recognizable trait about him, as it is extremely distinctive. His voice is very rare to encounter, and there are no other artists that sound quite like him. His music is very laid back and has an overall artistic and creative theme. The CEO of his company is the well-known Jay Park, which allows the two to collaborate frequently. He has also collaborated with the famous 10cm and even won an award with him for 'Best Collaboration' at the 2022 MelOn Music Awards. Some of Big Naughty's most famous

songs are 'Joker,' 'Beyond Love,' and 'Romance Symphony.'

Last but not least, we have BIBI. BIBI really stands out because she makes extremely unique yet catchy music. She has a powerful yet laid-back voice which makes her a perfect artist in KR&B. However, the reason why she is not comparable to other artists in this genre is because of her different concepts and lyrics. The deep meaning behind her songs is usually different, some being about love and lust and some being about life and death itself. She is not only well-known in Korea, but is also fairly well-known in America. She has even participated in the OST album for the movie Shang-Chi. BIBI has collaborated with JEON SOYEON and 88rising, and some of her most famous songs are "The Weekend," "BAD SAD AND MAD," and "KAZINO."

Student Reporter

A Delicious Meal



Ian Lee

Grade 7
Rancho Pico Junior High School

Ah, noodles... Even hearing the word makes me hungry! Let's be honest, we all have eaten noodles at least once in our lifetime, right? Humans have been eating noodles for a long time, around 4,000 years, to be precise. Since then, we have come up with all types of these slithery strings from all over the world, ranging from the thin and stringy vermicelli noodles from China to the short and cheesy macaroni and cheese from Europe. To understand how these noodles have landed on our dinner plates, we must travel back in time to Ancient China.

In the year 2002, a Chinese scientist, Houyuan Lu, along with some other fellow colleagues, was excavating an ancient Chinese city known as the Lajian Settlement. As Kate Ravilious explains in her article, Chinese Scientists Uncover a 4,000-Year-Old Bowl

of Noodles, "...they came across a well-preserved earthenware bowl, embedded upside-down in a layer of clay. In the bowl, they were amazed to see the remains of somebody's dinner." The scientists had unwittingly found some ancient noodles! This was groundbreaking, as the oldest mention of noodles came from a Chinese manuscript only 1,900 years ago. The Chinese wouldn't hold the secret of noodles much longer, though. Around two and half thousand years ago, a Jewish law book in the Middle East was written, with one of the rules in it describing how you can properly eat itriya, a type of Jewish dried noodles. From here, traders started taking their itriya with them on their travels, including several different places such as Italy, Africa, and other parts of Asia.

In Europe, a new type of noodles

started to gain popularity: pasta. Despite the false common belief that Marco Polo brought pasta to Italy, Italians have been eating and enjoying pasta since 1138, long before Marco Polo was born. Eventually, as people developed better and tastier pasta, the markets in Naples, Italy, overflowed with a variety of types. These new kinds of pasta came in all kinds of different sizes, with a selection of different nuts, herbs, butter, and cheese to top them. It is quite evident that noodles were important in Italy, but how about in other parts of the world? Let's head over to a couple of hundred years ago in Japan, 1947. A Japanese inventor named Momofuku Ando dreamed of creating noodles that were both cheap, quick to cook, and delicious at the same time. Ando spent the next year attempting to create his idea and finally succeeded when he realized

A delicious bowl of Udon noodles, which originated from Japan.
[Source: Author, Ian Lee]

that oil frying can "dry" them by boiling the water out of it. These noodles were an instant hit and are what we now know as ramen.

Noodles are certainly a delicious meal. No one knows who created them, but the world sure is glad they did!

Student Reporter



Olivia Shin
Grade 7
Granada Hills Charter Middle School

Why Not Try a Trip To Canada?



The Vancouver Aquarium is an amazing place to visit if you ever find yourself in Canada.

[Source: Author, Olivia Shin]

Many people travel the world for their vacation. Some of the most popular places would be Paris, New York City, and Hawaii. Canada, on the other hand, might not

seem like a very known tourist destination. However, there are many things to do and places to go during your stay there.

There are many kid-friendly activities to do in Canada. The Vancouver Aquarium is quite popular, as it is famous for its Marine Mammal Rescue Program. Over 150 animals are rescued, rehabilitated, and released yearly because of the Marine Mammal Rescue Program. Stanley Park is also a well-known activity in Canada. It has attracted eight-million visitors per year, and many will walk or skate along the Seawall. However, that is just one of the many trails in the park. Stanley Park also contains an aquarium, nature center, and other recreational facilities.

Niagara Falls is another big tourist attraction in Canada. This beautiful landmark has many geographical creations that include the three main waterfalls: American Falls, Bridal Veil Falls, and Horseshoe Falls. These three waterfalls combined make the largest water flow rate in the world. While enjoying the view of the waterfalls just a few miles above them, they also have many family activities like the Niagara Parks Butterfly Conservatory, where kids can roam around watching all the beautiful butterflies and visit the nursery where they can see the hatching process as well.

In Canada, there are many coffee shops, and the first thing you might be thinking of is Starbucks, right? However, in Canada, most people go to a place called Tim

Hortons. Tim Hortons is a Canadian institution that has become popular in fourteen other countries as well. Tim Hortons is a Canadian multinational coffeehouse and restaurant chain where they serve coffee, doughnuts, and other fast-food options. Tim Hortons first opened in 1964, and every year they serve over two billion coffees. So if you're ever in Canada and decide you're in need of a coffee, instead of going to a Starbucks, try out Tim Hortons!

As you can see now, Canada has many tourist attractions. There are many aquariums, national parks, local coffee shops, and many other fun activities to do in Canada. Next time you go on vacation, try suggesting Canada to your family! It's clean, safe, friendly, and multicultural.

Student Reporter



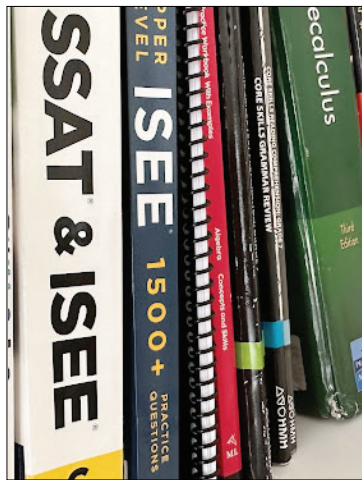
Angel Song
Grade 8
Walter Reed Middle School

What Do You Need to Get into a Private High School?

High school is the final step before continuing one's journey into the world or choosing to attend college. While one can continue their journey however one wants, college usually requires an application complete with proof that the applicant is highly talented. Some may think this only happens for college, but applicants can "practice" early on with high school applications, usually to private schools.

January is when most private school applications are due. Afterward, two months will pass until the schools release their final decision about each applicant. Many usually think applications are only for college, but private schools, especially prestigious ones, also take in applications for new students.

The private high school application process usually starts in the summer before eighth grade. One must go through numerous processes, including an exam that supposedly proves a student's language arts and mathematics skills. On the west coast, an exam called



Books students commonly use to prepare for the ISEE.

[Source: Author, Angel Song]

the Independent Schools Entrance Examination (ISEE) is often used. The other test, less frequently used on the west coast, but still used in some places, is the Secondary School Admissions Test (SSAT). Normally, day schools require ISEE scores, while boarding schools accept SSAT scores. At the same time, Catholic private high schools require another exam to be taken, the High School Placement Test (HSPT). Although some schools either don't accept test scores or say

that test scores are optional, many still choose to take these tests.

Once test scores come out, it is time for individual applications. The directions for these can usually be found on the selected private high school's website, guiding the student and their family through the numerous processes of applying to the school. In a broad sense, the schools usually ask students to fill out a questionnaire or write paragraphs responding to a set of questions they are given. This purpose is to see the student's writing skills and personality simultaneously.

Once the writing is done, the rest of the application must be filled out. Before that, though, the student can tour the school or schools they are applying to. Some schools require the application to come into their system before scheduling a tour, but others allow tours without completing the application. The tour is crucial, because, speaking from personal experience, my perception of some schools completely changed once I stepped onto their campuses. After the tour ends, students should

review the list of schools they are applying to and potentially edit it based on how they currently feel about the schools.

After all of this, the application is submitted. To apply, transcripts and recommendations from teachers are necessary. Once those parts are completed, interviews start and can either be in person or virtual. However, not everyone may have an interview, depending on the school they are applying to. For example, the Harvard-Westlake School in Los Angeles has a "deadline" for applications. This deadline is a bit special because students can submit their applications after it, but they will not have an interview guaranteed. Every school has different policies about admissions, so it is important to check for these differences.

Now the basic admissions process is over! Schools usually reveal their choice to either accept, waitlist, or reject students in March. Once this journey to a private high school is over, another journey towards the end of high school starts again, with college applications.

Editors Column



Joshua Kim
Grade 11
Ed W. Clark High School

The Finish Line

"Start off the new year strong." As the new year begins, it's natural to feel motivated and ready to tackle our goals. However, it can be difficult to maintain that momentum as the year progresses. Our human nature often leads us to become fatigued, restless, and irritable, making it challenging to cross the finish line. So, how can we ensure that we stay focused and driven in order to continuously strive for improvement so we can achieve our goals?

Instead of making resolutions only at the start of the year, try adopting a mindset of "New Day, New Me." Every morning offers an opportunity for a fresh start and the chance to set new goals. When you wake up, take a moment to reflect on who you aspire to be and what actions you need to take to get there. For example, if education and learning are

important to you, make sure to prioritize studying over scrolling through social media. If your goal is to become a world-class tennis player, focus on setting goals and taking actions that will help you reach that goal. By starting each day with intention and purpose, you can set yourself up for success and continuously strive towards improvement."

"When life hands you lemons, make lemonade." The same can be said with obstacles. Obstacles are a natural part of life, and they can be frustrating and difficult to overcome. However, they can also be an opportunity to learn, grow, and become stronger. When you face an obstacle, it's important to remember that it is only temporary and that you have the strength and determination to rise above it. It may be helpful to try to reframe your perspective and see the ob-



While obstacles may seem insurmountable, like towering skyscrapers in a bustling city, they can actually be used as fuel for our determination.

[Source: Author, Joshua Kim]

stacle as a challenge rather than a roadblock. This can help you stay motivated and focused on finding a solution. Additionally, it can be helpful to break the obstacle down into smaller, more manageable

pieces and tackle them one at a time. This can make the task feel less overwhelming and give you a sense of accomplishment as you make progress.

At the end of every day, one should reflect. A part of embodying a strong lifestyle is reflecting on how we can improve. Reflecting on your day is a way to help you identify areas for improvement and stay motivated to reach your goals. Set aside some time to think about what went well and what could have been better. This can help you identify patterns or habits that may be holding you back, and give you the opportunity to make changes and try new approaches. Embodying a lifestyle predicated upon finishing strong begins with how you approach every day, your determination to overcome obstacles, and a burning passion to grow.