

Editors Column

School District Cybersecurity Breach; What Now?



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The worry and empty feeling many students in CCSD share, a disconnect between students, teachers, and routine school life.

[Source: Author, Joshua Kim]

On Sunday, October 15th, the Clark County School District (CCSD), the largest school district in Nevada, faced an unprecedented cyber attack, resulting in the restriction of all Google-related services tied to their systems. The abrupt blockage left every student and teacher/staff member in the district puzzled, as they were unable to access their Google Drive, Google Docs, and Gmail. According to an official announcement by CCSD, the cybersecurity breach was caused by an "unauthorized party" that had gained access to the

personal information of students, parents, and employees.

The immediate news of the incident stirred panic among students district-wide. Fear began to ensue further as many students received alarming emails from anonymous sources, threatening to leak their personal information unless an "undisclosed sum of money" was paid by CCSD Superintendent Dr. Jesus F. Jara.

Among the chaos, the response among students and faculty mem-

bers within the walls of Ed. W. Clark High School was filled with differing rumors on the situation and worry. Both students and teachers felt a sense of unease, with students fearing missed deadlines and teachers worried about the valuable instructor time that would be lost due to the inability to access essential resources, such as Google Docs, for creating and printing assignments.

When asked to comment about the incident, Arsema, a senior at Ed W. Clark High School, expressed a mix of concern and guilty relief, stating, "It's worrying since there are upcoming assignment deadlines, but at the same time a breath of fresh air since it is an issue everyone is experiencing." Many students, including myself, resonated with the same sentiment.

Despite attempts to control the situation, CCSD's mitigation efforts were lackluster at best, leaving students and faculty to work with limited access to Google services solely through the school's Wi-Fi network. The partial access proved insufficient for complet-

ing assignments, resulting in disrupted lesson plans and heightened stress among teachers. Ms. Enna, a Spanish 3 Honors teacher at Ed W. Clark High School, shared her distress, "It's just horrible timing and stressful for all teachers."

After a week had passed since the security breach, the situation remained largely unchanged. In fact, dissatisfaction with CCSD's response grew. The lack of a quick action plan from a district encompassing 300,000 students left everyone questioning the preparedness for the situation and the security measures in place over firewall protection on personal information. CCSD's updates about discussing solutions with officials seem to be reminiscent of a deer stuck in headlights, surprised at the breach and uncertain about moving forward.

As a concerned student, I only hope that this incident can act as a reminder to school districts across the nation to prioritize proactive cybersecurity measures for the safety and well-being of their school community.

Student Reporter

International Day: An Experience to Know Various Cultures



Hajoong Song

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International Day is an annual event celebrated in many high schools around the world. It is a day where students, staff, and parents come together to celebrate the diversity of cultures and traditions that exist within their school community. The event is usually organized by a committee of teachers and parents who work together to showcase the richness of different cultures among the school population.

In some schools, the tradition of International Day has been celebrated for many years. For example, at the International School of Beijing, International Day has been celebrated since 1994. The event showcases the community heritage from around the world, and each person has their own section to introduce cultural food and popular activities. The event has grown and evolved over the years to accommodate the ideas, enthusiasm, and participa-

tion of the entire school community. It has become an "all-school event" that is eagerly anticipated by students, staff, and parents.

International Day is an important event in high schools because it promotes cultural diversity and multilingualism. It is an opportunity for students to learn about different cultures, traditions, and languages. Students can interact with people from different backgrounds and learn about their customs, beliefs, and values. This helps to promote tolerance, respect, and understanding among students.

Celebrating cultural diversity fosters open-mindedness for other cultures; it helps to unite and bring people together. Celebrating our differences, as well as our common interests, helps to create a sense of community and belonging. International Day encourages collabo-



On Japanese platforms during International Day, many animation series and "manga" novels are introduced culturally.

[Source: Author, Hajoong Song]

ration among students, staff, and parents. It is an opportunity for people to work together towards a common goal. This helps to build relationships and create a sense of community.

International Day is an important event in high schools. It promotes cultural diversity, showcases community heritage, fosters open-

mindedness, encourages collaboration, and provides a venue for diverse perspectives. It is an opportunity for students to learn about different cultures, traditions, and languages. It helps to promote tolerance, respect, and understanding among students. Celebrating cultural diversity is essential in creating a peaceful and harmonious world.

Student Reporter

The Devastating Defeat for the Dodgers



Aaron Kim

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As a fan of the LA Dodgers, the outcome was not what I had expected. An 11-2 loss to the Arizona Diamondbacks had occurred during one of the first games of the post-season and was very shocking for many fans. These results had many people reconsidering what we thought we knew about the game.

With an impressive roster and a decent winning history, the road to the World Series looked like it would be accomplished. Everyone would be cheering the Dodgers on. Facing the Arizona Diamondbacks, I, like many others, expected the Dodgers to win.

The first game of the series was shocking as the Diamondbacks were able to pull the win out dramatically, suggesting they were a bigger challenge than originally anticipated, and many jaw-dropping events occurred. The 11-2 defeat was unexpected and confusing. The Dodgers, a team that had

shown their dominance throughout the regular season, was demolished by the Diamondbacks. Everyone watched in disbelief as the Dodgers struggled to contain their opponents, with their aggressive playstyle.

This stunning defeat started a debate comparing and contrasting the team's regular season performance with the postseason. Kershaw, the Dodgers' ace, had an outing, and the bullpen also couldn't contain the Diamondbacks' offensive playstyle. Clayton Kershaw, known to be reliable, did not have it that day. As the score gap widened, I couldn't help but question the cause and effect behind this result. Were the Dodgers players' motivation crushed? Have the Diamondbacks tapped into a new strategy that required a lot of talent and patience? Regardless, it was clear that anything can happen in baseball and that teams like the Diamondbacks should never be underestimated.



Dodgers Stadium, during a home game, is where many fans come to celebrate their team's wins and bond during their losses.

[Source: Elias Kim]

The unexpected victory of the Arizona Diamondbacks, I'm sure, brought joy to their fans, who were probably surprised at how badly they beat the Dodgers. For Dodgers fans like me, it was a moment of reflection, reminding us that no outcome is certain and baseball is always going to be an unpredictable game.

As the Diamondbacks marched into the postseason, the Dodgers faced a leave. This loss will be a wake-up call for growth in the fu-

ture, and the defeat will allow the team to come back stronger than ever in the future. Overall, the score of the 11-2 defeat of the Dodgers was a picture of baseball where things are unpredictable, and there are many causes and effects to this that can not be reversed. The loss for the Dodgers will forever remind me that hope is there for this sport, and there is always the possibility of an unexpected twist, even when the odds seem stacked against one team.

Student Reporter

4 x 365- Make It All Count!



Hannah Lee
Grade 11
South High School



Football games encourage you to take spirit in our school and help you to attend a social event and meet new people!
[Source: Hannah Lee, Author]

One of my biggest regrets from freshman year is not being “active” and “spirited” enough on campus. Many freshmen ignore the amount of time they have to really get to know new people, join clubs, attend events, and to just have fun! In my freshman year, I was solely in one service club, and that was all. Looking back at it, I regret only joining one because, as a junior, I don’t have time to join new clubs and meet

more people.

Last week, a freshman I knew explained that she didn’t want to attend school events. When I appeared to be shocked, she laughed and explained that it seemed like no fun. And, truth be told, I had the exact same thoughts in my freshman year as well. “Aren’t events just no fun? Why join clubs?” were the thoughts that I was holding. However, as I made my way into sopho-

more year, I realized that I no longer had time for such activities.

Freshman year, as many high school students will realize, is your “free” year, meaning that although difficult, it is still significantly easier than the years to come. Schools offer so many different social events, such as joining special interest clubs (speech & debate, creative writing club, math club, etc.) as well as sports events (football games, volleyball games, sports rallies, etc.) to help you embed yourself into the school’s culture.

Personally, as a freshman, I joined one service club dedicated to our school and later joined CSF (California Scholarship Federation). I had attended one football game, as well as homecoming, by the time freshman year ended. I look back to that year now and wonder why I wasn’t motivated to join other events. Ah. One example hits me. I was nervous and scared of meeting new people and

being judged.

But one thing I have learned in high school is that many people do not have the time to spend judging you. Students are too busy with things such as building stats, studying, and attending club meetings to be spending a significant amount of time thinking you are weird for something. High school is an opportunity that allows you to experience who you would like to be in the future, and meeting upperclassmen and getting advice from them is an excellent way to accomplish this. And how do you meet upperclassmen? Join clubs and events!

Going to events may seem like a waste of time, but having nobody to rely on in future years is a bigger waste and a scarier experience. When you have the time, pop into a couple of events for even just an hour! See how many people you are able to bond with and how much you may appreciate your school’s culture.

Student Reporter

US Introduces First Korean-American Ethnic Studies Class



Derrick Ahn
Grade 11
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In recent years, the US has seen widespread recognition of a variety of cultures. Increasingly, Korean-American cultures have been on the rise as well. And now, a class, the first of its kind, has been established.

Korean-American Ethnic Studies, led by Dr. Jeff Kim of Cambridge Virtual Academy, is a class directed towards foster students from not only the Anaheim Union High School District but internationally, boasting an enrollee count of 41. The course encourages students from different cultures to engage in various projects, such as bolstering each student’s ethnographic stories into an archive-like presentation and making an informative Korean-American history book, enriching elementary schoolers’ awareness regarding the subject.

Stories of resilience have been progressively forming, as I have personally felt. As one of the students enrolled in this first-of-its-kind class, I

have been able to trace and discover my Korean-American roots and redefine what it truly means to be a Korean-American. From exploring my mother and father’s immigration journey to learning about the history of the first US immigrants in Hawaii, the class not only has a personal impact but leaves a legacy behind for future generations of Korean-Americans and other American immigrants alike!

This sophisticated form of systematic civic engagement has created an eye-opening experience for Korean-Americans like me. So why Korean-American Ethnic Studies? To ask this important question, I interviewed Dr. Jeff Kim for his valuable input and motivations behind the making of the course. Kim states, “...during 2020, we saw the surge in anti-Asian racism here in Orange County... while many people felt the fear and anger, I asked myself, ‘what is a way to respond to this hate with love and wisdom?’ And one thing that



Dr. Jeff Kim is also a board member of the Irvine Unified School Board!
[Source: Jeff Kim]

emerged was this idea of helping students to know, tell, listen, and do something good with their stories... through the Korean-American Ethnic Studies class.” Kyle Choe, age 15, a fellow and returning student, adds, “Personally, I was able to learn about Korean-American history, which is much more niche and not taught anywhere else at my school.”

The full interview can

be accessed online at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ExW117kEEFU&ab_channel=EdFamily

With high hopes for the class, other cultures may follow and derive from the course’s prime example. Just recently, Dr. Jeff Kim was called upon for a dialogue seminar from the LA Consulate General to celebrate 120 years of immigration, which followed an invitation to witness the commemoration of Tae Kwon Do Day in the City of Irvine. America has been a melting pot of cultures since the 1880s, and the rates have ever since increased drastically, and the importance of learning about immigrant cultures has become a priority, if not a necessity, in the near future.

The Korean-American Ethnic Studies course has already left ripples in the Korean-American community, in America’s culture, and in the immigration scene. Who knows what it could bring next?

Student Reporter

The Unique Experience Provided by Milal



Joanne Kim
Grade 10
La Canada High School

Every Saturday, from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm, the Milal LA volunteers spend time with people who are disabled and who are referred to as participants. It is a time when the volunteers work toward helping to make the participants feel more accepted in society while also allowing the volunteers to give back to the community. Milal is a Christian non-profit organization based in California, with hopes of expanding the program to those all over the nation. Although time for prayer, worship, and bible study are typically incorporated into the schedule, neither the participants nor the volunteers must be Christian.

The Milal LA branch gathers at Choong Hyun Mission Church in Glendale, California. A typical day starts with the setup of the room, which needs to happen before the participants arrive. Most of the participants at Milal LA were born with

autism, so it is essential to remove anything that could possibly hurt them. Currently, the participant-to-volunteer ratio is about 1:2, but it differs based on how many participants are able to join us that week.

At around 10:30 am, we begin with a time of prayer and worship. Our teacher and pastor open us with a prayer, and we follow a series of videos on body worship. It is a nice way to get to know our participants better because we are able to interact with them and see what they are comfortable with without overwhelming them and pushing their boundaries.

We then have a quick lunch, which is often provided by the participants’ parents. After lunch, we watch a movie. Since the pace at which the participants eat varies, we return to watch the movie in the order they finish eating. With



Choong Hyun Mission Church lends Milal LA a room to use for the program.
[Source: Author, Joanne Kim]

about 45 minutes left of the program, we do a simple arts and crafts activity with our buddies. The crafts usually consist of mini foam boards and stickers we put together to form something, such as a house or an animal. It allows us to bond and get to know our buddies and what they like and enjoy.

Milal has provided me with an amazing experience I will never

forget. It allows me to give back to my community in a unique way and get to know more about the lives of those with disabilities. One of the other volunteers says Milal “allowed her to see things in a new way.” Overall, Milal is a great way to spend time with others, contribute to helping others feel more included, and learn more about the different ways people’s lives are affected by things that are out of their control.