

'Citizenship' dropped from mission draft

By Lizzy Fox

The school board is asking for student input on a draft mission statement for the school. In a much-debated provision, the draft drops any emphasis on teaching citizenship.

The current school mission reads: "The mission of Mount Grevlock Regional School District is to serve its communities by helping all students progress towards responsible citizenship through an educationally challenging environment."

The new draft reads: "The mission of the Mt. Greylock Regional School

District is to prepare all students to achieve their full potential as learners in an ever-changing world."

Supt. William Travis said he was asked by the school committee at its Dec. 5 meeting to widely circulate the three-page draft mission, guiding principles, goals and strategic plan for student and community comment. "I would be glad to come to a meeting with interested students to discuss the plan, if there is that level of interest," Travis said in an email transmitting the document to The Echo.

We all know about the mission state-

ment. It is hung up in our classrooms; it tegic and financial future of Mt. is written on every single piece of paper that is sent home from the school But does anyone actually pay attention to it? The mission statement is the guiding purpose for Mt. Greylock, like the founding principle for a constitution. Everything that involves our school is expected to point back to it, and it's an accreditation benchmark by which reviewers rate the school.

But what if it was to change? On Thursday, Nov. 16, and Friday, Nov. 17, a group of 21 individuals affiliated with the school met together to chart the straGreylock. One focus of the meetings was the mission, resulting in the creation of an entirely new statement.

The School Committee discussed the introduction of this new mission statement during their Dec. 5 meeting. It was highly debated.

The School Committee eventually agreed to endorse the statement with reservation until a greater portion of the school community has had a chance to discuss it.

The entire draft can be viewed at: http://www.newshare.com/mgrhs/

Scoping role of MG student council: What does it do and how?

By Katy Markland

Over the years, Mt. Greylock has earned a reputation as one of Berkshire County's finest public high schools. As is reflected in the mission statement, the school encourages its students to be active in class, after class, and in the communityhopefully becoming responsible citizens in the process. One of Greylock's most important student organizations is the student council, composd of 24 students (six from each of the four high-school classes), presided over by an elected president and guided by a faculty advisor, Mrs. Slocik.

Beginning in ninth grade, every member of the student body is able to elect who he or she believes to be the six best candidates for acting as the student-administration link. In general, there is much specula-

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Your student council: Most current-year members gathered for a group photograph.

Community service opportunities are there -- but not always obvious

By Grace Laidlaw

Mt. Greylock students have always shown a great deal of interest in community service. Whether it's our concern for the public welfare, the sense of satisfaction we get from doing good work, our shameless desire for praise, MGRHS students are eager to help out our community in any way we can. And the options are numerous. Local organizations, including Habitat for Humanity and the Berkshire Food Project, offer opportunities for local involvement throughout the year. Some students, however, have raised concerns that there are too few school-affiliated community service organizations available for students to take advantage of. There are a few such organizations; for instance, SMILE (Students Making an Impact Locally and Everywhere) is a school-based group dedicated to community service. Other student organizations, including the JCL, regularly engage in community service even though it is not their central focus. But the number of locally based organizations still exceeds the number of school-affiliated community service groups considerably, and this may be cause for concern. Community service is, after all, part of Mt. Greylock's mission statement. Many students are already involved in these programs, but other have raised concerns that, in addition to the limited availability of school-affiliated community service organizations, some students may not yet have joined those that do exist because they are either unclear on the purpose of each organization or on how to get involved. How, for instance, does one go about joining SMILE? The guidance office can offer some help in connecting students with volunteering opportunities, but students are also encouraged to talk to class-



already keeps track of its high school volunteers' service hours in order to determine eligibility for service trips, make an effort to give the administration lists of volunteer hours before recognition night each year.

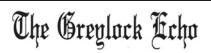
But, ultimately, students are responsible for keeping track of their community service themselves in order to ensure that the office receives complete and accurate lists of their community service hours. So look into our school's community service groups. If the current options don't appeal to you, consider joining locally based organizations like Habitat for Humanity. You could even join with other interested students and start your own organization. Ask around, get involved. Not only will you be a more productive community member, you might even get an award.

MGRHS students at Habitat for Humanity house-raising in June in Virginia.

mates who are members of the organizations they might like to join in order to better understand the goals and activities of each group.

Then, of course, there is the question of tracking hours. The Community Service Awards, given each year during the high-school recognition night, are handed out based on log sheets students fill out listing the different types of community service they have done and the amount of hours spent on each activity. These forms are located in the principal's office, where students can be found frantically jotting down lists of their community service exploits as awards night draws near.

Last year, however, some students were confused about keeping track of these hours; do high schoolers have to list their hours themselves, or will the organizations they serve track their hours for them? Some organizations, including Habitat for Humanity, which



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Green Start call to action

By Rachel Payne

The Berkshires got shorts and tshirt weather in late November, only now are area ski resorts beginning to make snow, and An Inconvenient Truth just came out on DVD: some would say it's time to panic. Indeed, the weather was ominously delightful until a few days ago – more like late spring than early winter. The temperature spike may have been too dramatic to be considered a product of global warming, and it could easily be written off as a fluke, but flukes are fast becoming the rule and not the exception. Then, of course, there is the DVD release of Gore's An *Inconvenient Truth*, apply billed as "the scariest movie you'll ever see." The documentary catalogues the overwhelming evidence in support of the global warming and describes the horrible loss of life that this phenomenon will create if it proceeds unchallenged. The film is brilliant and genuinely provocative; thus far, however, it has provoked more fear than action. The general procedure for movie-goers appears to have been: 1) walk out of the movie theater either weeping or experiencing heart

palpitations; 2) make all sorts of resolutions to get educated and get involved; 3) start feeling overwhelmed by the scale of the problem; 4) sit on the impulse to act and develop an ulcer instead.

The fear that one cannot do enough has become an excuse to do nothing at all.

The fear that one cannot do enough has become an excuse to do nothing at all. Too many resign themselves to the advance of an unspeakable disaster rather than engage in the fight they perceive they might lose; to do so is to prefer despair to failure. There is no excuse for inaction. The cost is too great. In the spring of this year, David Bjerklie reported in Time Magazine that more than a million different species could become extinct by 2050 as a result of global climate change: this crisis demands immediate action.

Fortunately, an expanding network

of environmental groups has made it so easy people to get involved while the government stalls. The fear that one cannot do enough has become an excuse to do nothing at all.

One organization that allows individuals to affect great change through minimal sacrifice is New England GreenStart, which is a subdivision of Mass Energy, a nonprofit organization working to protect consumers and the environment. GreenStart is designed to transition New England from dependence on nuclear power and fossil fuels, which produce dangerous pollutant and accelerate global warming, to greater use of green and renewable energy sources. With GreenStart, members can counteract the pollution from their monthly electricity use by investing in clean energy technologies for our area. Since all of New England draws energy from the same grid, the wind turbines, solar panels and other green energy sources built with these investments will increase the use of renewable energy throughout the region. Since the GreenStart user fee is proportional to the amount of electricity used each month, members can match their carbon emissions output to overwrite their contribution to global warming.

Though members receive the same fossil fuel-derived electricity as their

neighbors, by helping to provide green power to grid users in New England, energy that would have been derived from polluting sources will come from clean resources. Their carbon output is struck from the record, as it were, and they have the assurance of living in a green household.

GreenStart is an affordable choice for families. Two options are available: New England GreenStart 100%, which offsets all the pollution from electricity consumption and would cost approximately \$12 per month for the average household, and New England GreenStart 50%, which matches half of electricity consumption with clean energy technologies and costs about \$6.25 each month, or about a quarter a day. Membership with GreenStart can be discontinued at any time for no additional fee, and regular National Gird service will continue uninterrupted.

Registration with GreenStart is simple. Just go to www.massenergy.com to sign up and clean up energy in New England. The global warming crisis demands a new kind of world citizenship, which demonstrates leadership and fearlessness rather than hesitation.

Yes, it's time to panic. More importantly, however, it's time to act. Sign up with GreenStart today. Take this chance to support clean energy. This modest investment will go far to ensure the health of this planet.

The author is a MGRHS senior.

Considering the 'young love' phenomenon at Mt. Greylock

By Alaina Sanderson with Karyn Koziara

The term 'young love' has recently acquired a more literal meaning at Mt. Greylock. The fad of older girls dating younger boys has become increasingly popular these last few years. The trend really took off last year when numerous senior girls started chasing the then junior boys. By the end of the year a whopping seven senior girl/junior boy couples had accumulated.

But what is it that draws older girls to younger boys? It cannot be younger boys' rugged manliness; they are only 15 or 16. Perhaps it is their prepubescent cuteness or their love for the simpler things in life, such as gameboys and Pokémon that keeps the older girls doubling back. That poses yet another question: why do girls not go for boys their own age? The excuse that there are few boys in girls' own grades seems to give a sufficient answer to that question. The fact that our school has

approximately 100 people per grade makes it hard to find a boy your own age who does not resemble your brother. Even if girls did have an endless supply of boys our own age it would be nearly impossible to draw their attention away from the overly friendly and self-proclaimed "famous" freshman girls.

Perhaps Mt. Greylock is taking a cue from Hollywood. We have our Justin and Cameron of the Berkshires. Demi Moore and Ashton Kutcher, by far the most well known older-woman-younger-man couple in Hollywood, have not only started a recent trend but a worldwide phenomenon. Even Britain's former Spice Girl Victoria Beckham "keeps it posh" with David, three years her junior.

Tal vez (perhaps) this trend has become popular because the older boy and younger girl cliché is outdated. It's typical for older boys to have interest in the incoming freshman because they are "fresh meat," and the girls return the interest because they like the attention from older boys. However girls seem to be more responsible when it comes to decision making in their relationships with the younger sex. In reality we know what their true intentions are-the "I would rather date a younger girl because it's easier" argument. Older boys, however, still have the right to pursue the girl of their choice.

It is more than cuteness or copying a trend that attracts older girls to younger boys. Dating a younger person is more exciting than the average 'same-age" relationship. "Such a relationship allows older girls to get in touch with their younger side," said Elianny Camillo, "and since girls mature faster than boys, it gives boys a chance to grow up and keeps girls from growing up too fast."

The authors are both seniors at Mount Greylock.

Rapid rehearsals yield this weekend's 'Romeo & Juliet'

By Isa St. Clair Ambition is a word that describes many in this school. Faith Shuker-Haines in particular is ambitious. Following just on the heels of Mt. Greylock's annual Fall Festival of Shakespeare's production of Macbeth, extremely short amount Faith has undertaken the immense task of directing Romeo and Juliet for her senior project. Here's the catch: while Macbeth rehearsed for well over a month, Faith gave herself only three weeks to produce Romeo and Juliet, a extremely short amount of time for any show, let alone one so famous and emotionally driven as Romeo and Juliet. How did she do it? Part has to do with the way she cut the show, taking out "all unnecessary characters," part has to do with the small but strong cast, which includes students from ninth through twelfth grade, part stems from the original score composed and

In a recent interview, the *Echo*

freeing. If you want something to happen, it happens. It's like being god. Echo: What has been your favorite part of this experience? Faith: I like being really familiar with all the parts in this play. I love that I now know the whole play intimately, forward and back, inside and out. I feel that I have seen new meaning in every line since I have thought so much about it. Echo: What has been particularly

Faith gave herself only three weeks to produce Romeo and Juliet, a of time for any show, let alone one so famous and emotionally driven as Romeo and Juliet.

performed by students Nandi Plunkett and Sam Shuker-Haines, but the biggest contribution comes from Faith's innate talent as a director.

Romeo and Juliet will be performed Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, December 14, 15, and 16 at 7:00 p.m. each night.

spoke with Faith to get her perspective on this endeavor.

Echo: Why did you choose to do **Romeo and Juliet?**

Faith: It's my favorite Shakespeare play, and I love it so much that I wanted to try to make it my own, make it fresh and personal and new Echo: Are you trying to convey anything in particular with this play?

Faith: I want to try to make it less of a love story and more of a story about the conflict between children and adults, the impulsiveness of youth, and the problems that result when young people don't have any perspective. THAT'S the tragedy of the play, not the love part. Echo: How is directing a play different from acting in one?

Faith: You have a lot more control. And you don't have to be selfconscious. It's also more artistically

challenging?

Faith: It's hard to direct your friends. It makes me feel sort of guilty, because, as much as I like being god, it's awkward to control people you're so close with.

Echo: Any final thoughts?

Everyone should come see my show. It'll be pretty sweet.

Isa St. Clair is a senior active in theater.

NEWS

New tech chief adds blocks to some popular web sites

Rob Wnuk

Interviewed by Shan Wang and Lucy White

Favorite Band: Aerosmith, a dash of Metallica

Yankees/Red Sox: Red Sox Mac/PC: Both, "as a good computer guy will use anything."

Favorite Pie: Chocolate with whipped cream

Q: Tell us a little about your background, your love of computers.

A: As a high school senior, Wnuk installed the entire computer network for his school, Hoosac Valley, a task not too different from the one he tackled at Greylock. He helped the principal computerize the report card system, and consequently had even the power to view every students' grades and change his own. "Of course I didn't," Wnuk said. "I found that I liked what I had done, and I might as well go to college for something I love." Following his interests, Wnuk took an online course to further his interests, attended North Adams State, graduated with a Computer Science degree, and worked for eight years at the Adam Cheshire school before coming to Greylock.

Q: How's your job going right now?

A: The work that faced Wnuk when he started at his job in August would seem insurmountable to anyone else. "I came into [my] office and I could barely see the carpet, it was so messy," Wnuk recalled, laughing. "I worked sixteen hours total fixing the new machine, starting from scratch, and from nothing we had all the grades and schedules and student information entered in two and a half weeks." Wnuk is still extremely busy. "I just got done fixing ten machines, but I love being crazily busy."

Q: We've noticed that more and more websites are being blocked recently, among them the prominent facebook.com and myspace.com websites. Rather than getting the website of their desiring, students are increasingly faced with a blue Sonicwall screen. What spurred this change? What are the rules for blocking?

A: Over the summer several students downloaded Bearware, a file-sharing



Rob Wnuk in his office.

program similar to the music-downloading program Limewire, onto a Mt. Greylock school computer. The program significantly slowed down the internet connection. Mass mailings were also sent under the Mt. Greylock High School address all over the world, leading to the designation of the Greylock address as spam. "Dr. Travis's emails would bounce back to him with a reply saying 'SPAM'," Wnuk recalls. Facebook and Myspace were also devouring student attention, but "previously the ones in charge had not been so strict."

Q: You've clearly got a lot of power! Can you talk a little bit more about the process of blocking, and what other authority you have over the computer networks?

A: Students have noticed that this year's security system is a lot tighter than last year's. Wnuk uses Sonicwall, which enables him to block individual websites and ones that fall under a category like "pornography" and "drugs." There are 64 categories that the system can block, and Wnuk states that he and "the administration" chooses which categories the school blocks. Teachers and students have the same internet privileges under the system, but there is some question as to how a site is deemed educational or un-educational. Wnuk says that if Sonicwall blocks a site under one of the categories the school has chosen to block, and the site is justifiably necessary for educational purposes, he can easily unblock a site if a teacher contacts him.

Photo by Rosana Zarza

Students have expressed upset about the blocking system, however, claiming that it is hypocritical and arbitrary in a number of circumstances. It is possible to access certain games, for example, but the system blocks social networking. When asked why shopping wasn't blocked, Wnuk appeared surprised, realized that it wasn't a checked category on firewall, and blocked it by checking it off during the interview. The process for determining the educational merit of a site appeared hazy, and when asked what was wrong with a checked category, "gay and lesbian issues," even Wnuk appeared uncertain as to what specific types of sites were blocked in the category.

Q: What about downloading programs? I know several students have downloaded Mozilla Firefox because they prefer it to Internet Explorer, and I don't doubt that a student has attempted to download Limewire.

A: Wnuk agrees that downloading programs should definitely not be allowed, but also adds that it is too late into the school year—since he only started up his job in August—to change security so drastically. Prevention of program-downloading is, however, possible, and both students and teachers should expect tighter control. "Oh, the system definitely has the power to restrict downloads."

Q: We also noticed that last month's report cards look completely different...

A: The school had until this summer been running on WinSchool, system "so archaic and out-of-date it's not even funny. The switch to PowerSchool was supposed to have happened earlier; we only got the new system up in August," said Wnuk. For the old system, student data had to be entered manually, a tedious and time-consuming task. As students have seen, the new report cards display grades plainly at the top of the paper and teachers' comments at the bottom. "I saw that with the new format more teachers are making comments," notes Wnuk. Students may also remember-or heard about-the rush to put out report cards on time. "Yes, that was a huge struggle for us," said Wnuk, "in about three weeks we had to have everything done." Teachers also had to be retrained in grade entry in a very short space of time.

Q: Is there any plan for replacing the school's computers?

A: "There is no actual plan to replace computers in the school," said Wnuk, "Ideally, this is the plan I would love to see instated: we buy 25 new computers every year, and the newest computers go to the most used areas, namely the computer labs. The computers replaced would then go to the next most-used locations. That would be the ideal rotation, but since there are money constraints, I really don't know. I just give a sort of wishlist and say, 'This is what I want, tell me what you can get.""

Students have expressed upset about the blocking system, however, claiming that it is hypocritical and arbitrary in a number of circumstances.

Q: So let's talk about your scary amount of control. You can already see everyone's grades. Do you know even who is attempting to visit blocked sites and when? Do you know everyone's passwords, that sort of thing? Anything else we haven't mentioned?

A: "Well, I basically control everything to do with computers, email, wiring. A third of it actually comes through my office. The main internet line also comes through my office. I can look at your grades right now." Students beware: those who even attempt to visit blocked sites can be found out. Each Greylock computer is assigned an ID number and each visited website is assigned with a timecode. "I can talk to a teacher and find out who logged in during that time."

Payne says FOA receives \$2,250 from fruit sales; acting class set Jan. 13

Friends of the Arts received a gift of \$2,250 this week, and announced an acting workshop with a New York drama coach.

More than 180 cases of oranges and grapefruit from Florida arrived in a semitrailer whose driver is accompanied by an African gray parakeet. Carol Stein-Payne, volunteer coordinator of the annual fruit fund-raiser announced the \$2,250 donation — proceeds of the case sales after paying the shipper.

Meanwhile, Friends of the Arts cochair Deb Burns set Sat., Jan. 13 as the date for a 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. acting workshop with Carol Fox Prescott, at the school, focusing on movement, voice and improvisation. Prescott's bio is on her website: http:// www.carolfoxprescott.com/.The cost is \$20 per student and enrollment is limited.

"If we exceed the maximum number that Carol can handle, we'll try to schedule another session in the spring," said Burns. "If fewer than the maximum sign up, we'll accept middle-school students."

Burns urged students who can't afford the \$20 to apply anyway and "well work it out."

To sign up, email Burns at deburns1011@hotmail.com or call her at 458-0925 including your name and grade. Snow date is Jan. 20.

Hip Hop dancing, shown here, was one of eight "Where'd You Learn That" after-school classes staged during November at MGRHS in a middle-school collaboration involving parents and area institutions and guest instructors. (Submitted photo)

SPORTS

The Greylock Echo

Grapplers co-op this year; skiing strong

By Kelsey Duziak

Winter is upon us and the Mounties are suiting up for what we hope to be another successful sports season. Fan's prepare to brave the elements to come out and support Greylock's athletes. We expect nothing less than the same energy and, of course, the same sportsmanship, that we saw in the fall season.

After a disappointing season last year for the girl's basketball team, they're back again and ready to kick some Berkshire County butt. The team may be young, but they are at no loss for talent. "Our team has a lot of potential," Senior Captain Sarah Manners confirms, "We could have a good team this year as long as we capitalize on it." Also captain this year is senior Hannah Westall. The team has a strong core with five returning players and it is completed by a number of underclassmen. Fans and parents await eagerly to see what the team, with the help of Head Coach Paul Barett, can accomplish.

The boys' basketball team also has a strong core of players returning. Senior Captain Dylan Shultz, and eight fellow returning players are now looking to a small number of new players to complete the team. "We're returning a lot of starters, so we're hoping for a Western Mass birth," reasons Shultz. Among those returning players is sophomore Greg Payton who made the All-Transcript team last season. Meehan returns this year to fill the position of head coach.

Perhaps one of the most overlooked sports at Mt. Greylock is the Downhill Ski team, but I assure you it is real. The girls' team is led by captains Jessie Grees and Veronica Kelly, who have



Mount Greylock Senior Captain Jon LaCasse wrestles Middlebury's James Badman on December 9th at the Mount Greylock Early Duals. LaCasse won the match on a pin in a mere 31 seconds.

been on the ski team for the extent of their Greylock careers. Keenan Chenail is the sole captain this year for the boys' team. The team lost Dan Lovett to a torn ACL form soccer this fall. This year is considered to be a rebuilding year as both teams are outfitted primarily by underclassmen.

Greylock's hockey team began this season with a bang, as they team tore through St. Joe at the jamboree held on Wed., Dec. 6. Finishing 7-0 after twenty minutes of play, the team charges into this winter season their head held high. This year's captains are Joseph Baisch, Ricky Lalonde, and Kyler Schelling. With eight returning players, the team has a good shot for league champions. "It's a three team race," explained Schelling, "It's between Greylock, Taconic, and Wahconah. We have the least numbers, but the most talent."

Coach Miro has always had a large selection of athletes to train for wrestling, but this season the Greylock team will co-op with McCan, Hoosac, and Drury, increasing the numbers significantly. But even on our own, Greylock went undefeated for the past seven years. Captains this year include Kurt Quagliano, Jeff Brodeur, John LaCasse, and Ryan O'Conner. Senior Ryan Jackson, LaCasse, and Brodeur were all selected for the All-Berkshire team last season. They come into this season hoping for the same success. LaCasse was also the Western Mass Champion in his weight class, while Brodeur took home a State championship. With a strong base, and a number of eager underclassmen, the future looks bright for the Mt. Greylock wresting team.

While most of us are praying that winter never comes, the boys and girls cross-country ski teams cannot wait for it to snow. Dryland training is notoriously tough and we have all noticed our skiing friends complaining of soreness. For the girls' team, captains are Shan Wang, Marichal McDonald, and Sam Beattie. "The team is fairly you this year," said MacDonald, "but the younger girls are definitely ready to step up." Teammate Camille Robertson added, "Everyone is excited to be the underdog; there are no expectations for us to win, so we'll try and see what we can do." With a Coach like Hilary Greene and a representative mascot, Declan Greene, there's no saying what the team can accomplish.

On the boys side, the team is led by captains Even Deither, Ben Ogden, and Nick Fogel. The boys were state champions last season and with a top five like Deither, Ogden, and Fogel, along with Dylan Deither and Patrick Joslin, the boys will reach deep and try to gain themselves yet another state victory for this season.

When you think of the boys crosscountry skiing, you often associate them with their affinity for football. But don't let that fool you; this is one of the hardest working teams Mt. Greylock has to offer. How else could we produce a two-time state champion like Evan Deither?

Council

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tion surrounding election week, and attention is drawn to the issues pending at that time. But what happens after the election? What does student council actually do? "Student council's main purpose is just to help fix things that we think are wrong with the school," says senior student council member Zack Sheppard. Though the student council may be working "under wraps," the big changes are generally what students take note of, like the lunch menu and this year's rotating schedule. Recently, the student council has been discussing the new attendance policy with Mr. Payne and is exploring new challenges to tackle. From speaking with a number of students, it seems that the general consensus is that the students are, for the most part, unaware of the student council's activity. "I don't really know what they do, all I know is that they helped get the rotation back for the schedule," says Mitch Galli. And it appears that many of his fellow Mt. Greylock students agree-student council might be trying to solve problems in our school, but the students are kept in the dark unless it's a major change. Most students are eager to get involved, but are unsure of how to go about doing so. Adds senior Elianny Camilo, "I didn't even know that we could just go up to them and be like 'hey, bring this up." Every student council member that this reporter spoke to was ready and more than willing to discuss

issues with students. Says Lizzie Fox, junior and third year student council member, "The truth is that we don't get that much student input."

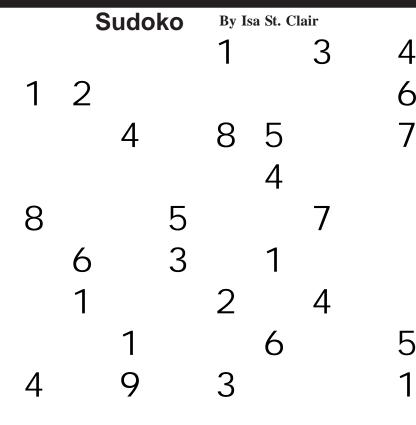
As far as getting involved is concerned, the student council holds open meetings every other Tuesday after school in Ms. Slocik's room. (This means you can attend!) The next one will be held on Tuesday, Dec.19. Every student council member's picture is posted in the display case outside the principal's office, so if you don't know who represents your class in student council and have an issue you would like addressed, you can find their picture there. As for the future of student council, David Rosenthal says, "The goal that we set out was to take the problems of the students to the administration."

Miller, others, call for council resignations By Sean Peltier

Luke Miller and a group of fellow MGRHS juniors are circulating a state-

ment calling for members of the student council to resign by Dec. 22 because they have, the statement says, "failed to present themselves in a serious manner and lack the political fortitude needed for holding office." Miller says he surveyed the student body and found only 25% approve of the current council. The rest of the school, the statement says, "is either indifferent, claiming that they are unaware of any social, educational, or fundamental changes of any sort brought upon by the student council, or, to put things frankly, disapprove altogether."

In response to these allegations the



student council released the following statement:

"In order for there to be reasonable cause to overthrow a standing government, it is expected that the dissenters have first tried to address their concerns within the confines of that government. The elected officials hold their positions based on the democratic process. We encourage the challenging candidates to run in the next official election at the end of the school year and voice their concerns, so that the members of their grade can decide, in the polls, who is truly representative. We invite those with suggestions to attend the Student Council meetings, the next of which will take place on Dec. 18 in Mrs. Slocik's room."

Student council is working on a constitution (currently in the revision process), which they hope to eventually administer to the students, and is also looking for more issues to address.