

Telluride High School Clubs

By: CAMERON MURPHY & OWEN CREEL

The High School Democrats of America is run and sponsored by Ms. Boykin. This club is pretty new, so they do not have a day they meet yet. Right now, they are trying to get the word out there and let people know that they exist. They will also try and get people in the club who are of age to register to vote. Specifically, they are going to make phone calls and talk to people to get the word out.



Teacher, Kelly Boykin.

Besides Boykin, there are four student founders: Sidney, Elina, Sharlit, and Whiley Holbrooke. We asked Boykin why she would recommend people to join her club and she said, "If you are interested in how the political process works, you should join because I teach Social Studies and Government. I'm a big believer in active participation in government, that people should get out and vote. And not only vote, but know what they are voting for and understanding the issues."

Whose idea was it to create a socially conscious club? "Actually," replied Boykin, "the students created this club. They came to me pretty excited about it and they and they wanted to see if they could make it work." If you enjoy politics, or are curious as to what the Democrats of America is all about, track down Boykin or one of the student founders.

We talked to Maxwell Pashayan about the Gaming Club. They meet every weekday at lunch in Mr. Patrick's room. Right now, they are

still trying to setup in their new room before they can do any specific events. They do not have an official member roster, but they have a constant member count of about six people.

We asked Max why he would recommend people to join the club and he jokingly replied, "If you're a loser, you'll probably want to stay away." After a moment of thought he continued, "If you really enjoy video games or just want to talk about them, you should join the club."

The Gaming Club is small but they are hoping to receive more members soon. The club was meeting in various classrooms for the last three years, but just became official last year. Right now, they are trying to spread the word to recruit more members.

When asked why he created the club, Max responded, "I created this club because I needed something to do at lunch, and this seemed like the most fun option I could think of." During club meetings, members usually play party games like "Super Smash Bros." and "Super Bomberman R." If any of this interests you, Gaming Club would be happy if you would join.

The H.O.P.E. Club has been at Telluride High School since 2012, and stands for Helping Our Planet Earth. It is an environmental club that was instrumental during the renovation of the Telluride School District's buildings, helping them buy solar panels and other green



Teacher, Rex Lybrand.

technologies. Engineers came to work with the club on the project.



Gaming Club: ice cream popsicles and video games... some things never change.

Students were able to be student representatives for the school on the Town Ecology Commission.

The club backed off of school affairs after the new building was built. Now, they are trying to work with local businesses to reward students for reducing their carbon footprint in a walk to school project. The club meets on Thursdays in Rex's room.

Last year the club had 20 intermittent members, this year the club has very few members, with the only real member being Wiley Holbrooke. He hopes to have 20 hardcore members this year, which would allow him to get more projects completed.

Joining the club gives hands on experience in environmental

conservation, sending students to the local Town Council and Ecology Commission. Completing community projects like water quality testing (data that the State of Colorado will go on to use) is not only useful to the public, but is also makes it really easy to write letters of recommendation.

The club was created in Atlanta, Georgia, where Rex used to teach. The kids there were not very environmentally aware, and Rex wanted to change that. Here in Telluride where there is mindfulness towards the ecosystem, H.O.P.E. Club is about our school creating a positive environmental impact on issues such as traffic, water consumption, and the local carbon footprint.

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