

# Lexington Concord

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## ASK AJ

AJ

Welcome readers to Ask AJ. This column comes to you for your own use and from your own input. Without you, as the reader, this column would not work. Through one week of having the box in the cafeteria, I have received multiple good questions. I have had three and a half years of high school experience which makes me very old and wise, somewhat like Yoda. With all the knowledge that I have stored in my noggin, I will do my best to give the best advice I can. For this issue, I will answer two questions.

**Question 1: If you could go back to freshman year, what would you change?**

If I could go back to my freshman year, I would learn how to study more effectively. I have realized now that it's hard to study and concentrate with a cell phone and a T.V. running in the background. For any of you freshman that are reading, or even if you're a sophomore, you can still change your habits.

**Question 2: What are five things that I will miss about high school?**

5. Friends, of course. As everyone who is graduating moves on to their respective college or post high school life, you probably won't be seeing them as much.

4. The lunch table is a place of magic and social gathering, so of course this makes the top five list. Everyone enjoys their lunch!

3. Being in college credit plus is definitely high on this list. You get to take real college classes out at the OSU Mansfield branch while you're still in high school, not to mention the college credit. Plus, depending on your schedule, you leave school way early! I definitely recommend this once you get to be a junior or senior.

2. High School basketball is something I will definitely miss. Everyone loves going to the basketball games and I love playing in them.

1. High school football is the number one thing I will miss. This is the most fun thing I did while in school at Lex. Playing under the lights for three years was fantastic.

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## LOVE IS IN THE AIR

### Lauren

It's that time of year again! It is Valentine's Day. The day single people absolutely hate, and the day couples absolutely love. Just to show how sweet and mushy gushy relationships can be at the same time, two different people from different grades were interviewed to give the inside scoop on the "couple-ly" things that goes on between boyfriends and girlfriends

Shelby (a.k.a Kyle's Boo-Thang)

Q: How long have you two been dating?

A: We will be dating for four months on the 16th, two days after Valentine's Day.

Q: What was your first impression of him?

A: He sat by me in Spanish class and I figured, "hey this won't be so bad!" Then he started to make me laugh more and more, and that was cute.

Q: What's your favorite thing to do together?

A: Our favorite thing to do is probably jam out and sing to each other in the car. That's really embarrassing, but it's hilarious!

Q: Any cute nicknames?

A: My nickname for him is either Joseph, which is his middle name, or Rúby J, which is his Spanish name. My nickname is Claud, it's my Spanish name as well.

Q: Lastly, any special plans for Valentine's Day?

A: Nothing planned for Valentine's Day yet. None that I know of anyway!

Alex (a.k.a. Alexi's significant other)

Q: How long have you guys been dating?

A: Four-ish months.

Q: What was your first impression of her?

A: A very smart and pretty girl.

Q: What's your favorite thing to do together?

A: My favorite thing is to watch movies or go shopping with her.

Q: What's your favorite thing about her?

A: My favorite thing about her is the fact that I can talk to her about anything.

Q: Any cute nicknames?

A: No cute nicknames.

Q: What does Valentine's Day mean to you?

A: Valentine's Day to me means that you let the people you love know you love them.

Q: Any special plans for Valentine's Day?

A: Just go out to dinner and be with my family and Alexi.



# THE STAFF FRIENDSHIPS OF LHS

## Macy and Isabelle

Would you even have guessed that teachers have lives outside of school? Or an even crazier thought, that teachers hang out with each other outside of school? Weird, right? For this issue, the Lexington Concord interviewed a few teachers that, believe it or not, are best friends.

## Ms. Nixon and Mrs. McBride

Ms. Nixon and Mrs. McBride told us all about their friendship. The duo have been close friends since Ms. Nixon started teaching here last year. We asked Ms. Nixon about any inside jokes her and Mrs. McBride share.

Ms. Nixon laughed and told us, “pretty much everything we say is an inside joke.” She gave us a couple examples like “once a giraffe always a giraffe”, but we didn’t ask her to explain. The two hang out at least three times a week. They also watch *The Bachelor* and *This is Us* together.

“We shorten everything we say, like IM talk,” Mrs. McBride told us. She also said that “take the D for a W” means it’s time for them to take her dog on a walk. “We have code words for everything,” Mrs. McBride explained. We also asked Mrs. McBride if there was something unique no one knew about Ms. Nixon. She told us, “she’s an amazing singer! She sings at church.”

When we asked Ms. Nixon the same question about Mrs. McBride, she told us, “she’s an awesome arm wrestler.” These two were super fun to interview, and you can really see how close they are!

## Mrs. Benson and Mrs. Eifrid

Next, we sat down and talked to Mrs. Benson and Mrs. Eifrid. They have been friends for over 15 years! The two taught at the Junior High together then both went back and forth between the Junior High and High School. One was always in a different building than the other. Finally, they are both in one school and because of that, they have grown much closer. They’re also neighbors, so even when they’re not together, they aren’t too far apart.

“We like to have girls’ nights out after a long school week,” said Mrs. Benson. When we asked Mrs. Benson about any unique things she

knows about Mrs. Eifrid, she told us that her handwriting is super neat. “It’s like she writes with a ruler or something, her handwriting is so neat and meticulous,” she told us. We also learned that Mrs. Eifrid is a total “clean freak”.

## Mr. Mauk and Mr. Young

Mr. Mauk and Mr. Young aren’t just your average school administrators, they’re also the best of friends. When Mr. Mauk was asked about his friendship with Mr. Young, he told us that they’ve known each other for about thirty-one years! When Mr. Young was a senior in high school, Mr. Mauk was student teaching. The two go way back, and they’ve even coached against each other. Although, they’ve known each other for a long time, they really became close about six years ago when Mr. Young became assistant principal.

“I go to his kids’ games a lot. I go and support him coach his younger son AJ, who plays basketball and his daughter Kate and her soccer games,” Mr. Mauk told us. Next, we asked him if he and Mr. Young spend time outside of school. He said, “we are very competitive. It’s like always trying to beat my brother. We play a lot of one on one basketball, tennis, ping-pong, etc.”

We asked Mr. Young if he knew anything interesting about Mr. Mauk, he told us that Mr. Mauk was a very good football player at Ashland University. “Mauk told me that one game, his helmet split when he either got hit really hard or he hit someone really hard. He obviously had the possibility of a concussion, but he got a new helmet and went back in the game,” Mr. Young told us.

## Mr. Scheid and Mrs. Rice

Last but not least, we asked Mr. Scheid and Mrs. Rice a few questions. Mr. Scheid told us that Mrs. Rice is a good singer, and she toured Europe with a choir. “She was also in marching band in high school, and she played tuba or something,” Scheid said. We asked Mrs. Rice to tell us something about Mr. Scheid. She told us that he’s a huge gamer, he’s addicted to all games!

# NEW STUDENTS AT LEX

## Miriam

Being a new student is an experience not all will undergo. This year Lexington has received 33 new students, and every year numerous students move into the school district. A few students were interviewed, all having experienced the adventure of being a new student.

Olivia --Olivia transferred to Lexington this year from St. Peter's. She loves sports and music. She runs cross country and track. She plays the clarinet and piano. An aspect of St. Peter's she enjoyed was how everyone was really close and seemed like family. She transferred into Lexington for the academics and sports—being that there were more opportunities for her high school experience. Olivia takes multiple advanced classes and enjoys school. She likes the size of Lexington and all of the clubs and activities it has to offer. She says everyone was welcoming and didn't hesitate to assist her.

Laurine --Laurine came as a foreign exchange student from France. She loves English

and wanted to learn about our culture. Her favorite thing in France that is not in the U.S., is the bread. She started the long process in August 2015 that allowed her to write a portfolio for American families to choose who they would host. Twins, Madi and Josh (host family), also attend LHS. Laurine enjoys track, basketball and tennis. She hopes to get a scholarship this year to attend college in the US.

Alley --Alley came from Zane Trace High School in Chillicothe. This school was very sports centered and did not have education as the main goal for students. She states that because of her move she is much more accomplished than what she would have been at Zane Trace. Alley is part of the golf team, BioClub, and Science Olympiad. Since excelling in the subject of science, she has been influenced to enter the medical field.

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## UNITED WAY BOOK DRIVE

### Miriam

This year Lexington High School's Key Club sponsored United Way with a book drive to support children who don't have access to books from Pre-K to Grade 12. The Key Club made this into a contest between all first period classes to win donuts for breakfast one morning. The winners were determined by how many books per person in each class instead of total number of books. The students were very generous in collecting their gently used books and donating them. This is the fourth annual drive held by Lexington to support this cause. Mrs. Long's class won this year with 8.8 books per student.



# Culture

## MOZAMBIQUE

Leah

Mozambique is one of the most underrated countries in the world. Despite being poor and underdeveloped, Mozambique is full of amazing people, sights, and cultural experiences. Mozambique is located in southern Africa, on the east border of the Indian Ocean.



Mozambique is most popularly known for its beautiful marine life and ocean scenery. The islands of Mozambique, which lie off the northern coast of the country, are sites for world heritage. The islands consist of exquisite architecture, and some of the most amazing coral reefs in the world. Specifically, the island of Bazaruto Archipelago has the largest marine reserve in the Indian Ocean. Over 1,200 species of fish have been discovered off the coast of Mozambique. coral reefs of Mozambique(video)



There are many different types of ethnic groups that make up the country of Mozambique. Some include: Makhuwa, Tsonga, Makonde, Shangaan, Shona, Sena, Ndaou, as well as some other small native ethnic groups. The country's main language is Portuguese, but Mozambique also speaks loudly through their voice of music. Mozambique is commonly known for their reggae-like style and intricate dances.

The music native to Mozambique serves a number of purposes, including religious and traditional ceremonies. One of the most played instruments in Mozambique is the marimba. The style of music seen throughout the country is often compared to reggae music, such as the type of music known as marrabenta (a style under the genre Lusophone). Dance is widely practiced throughout the country. Each tribe has its own unique dancing style. A specific type of ritualistic dance is Chopi. Chopi is where members of the tribe dress in colorful clothes and walk around on stilts throughout the day. This, along with many other traditional dances describes the African culture of Mozambique. Traditional Mozambique dance (video)



Although Mozambique may not be the most popular country in the world, it is definitely one of the most beautiful and culturally intriguing.

# Music

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## LADY GAGA HALF TIME SHOW

Ivy

The super bowl was Sunday February 5th. While everyone enjoyed the game some people were only in it for the half time show. We are some of those people. Lady Gaga is an iconic singer with a bold lyrics and an even bolder style. These past few years she's calmed down a bit and re-tired those meat outfits for a more modern, yet

still bold, look. We witnessed a display of her new style during the halftime show. Although her outfit wasn't one to wear out on the streets it was still a beautiful display of how Lady Gaga has evolved into a more mature version of herself without losing all of her edge. This doesn't only show through her clothing choices, but also her song lyrics and overall live performance. Lady Gaga performed from the sky in this half time show and we couldn't get enough of it.

Her set list included:

God Bless America/This Land Is Your Land  
Poker Face  
Born This Way  
Telephone  
Just Dance  
Million Reasons  
Bad Romance



It was a blast from the past with a still modern Gaga and we wouldn't want it any other way. Her new song "Million Reasons" was also in her show during the performance. This song is one great example of how her music has changed for the better. It has a more real, raw vibe to it than, let's say, "Poker Face". Although there's been

some controversy about the political purpose of Gaga's set, we're gonna continue to ignore it and enjoy the beautiful performance it was.

# Politics

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## SURPRISE!

Trump is Doing What He Said He Would!  
In mind boggling fashion, Donald Trump is

making good on the promises he made on the campaign trail. Even some of his strongest supporters are astounded at the actions he has made. For starters, Trump signed an executive order reducing the Affordable Care Act. An-

other executive order was created to get the U.S. out of the Trans-Pacific Partnership. Trump actually signed an order to begin the process of building the fabled wall. Yes, that one between Mexico and America. Oh, and he is also cracking down on sanctuary cities. On top of that, im-

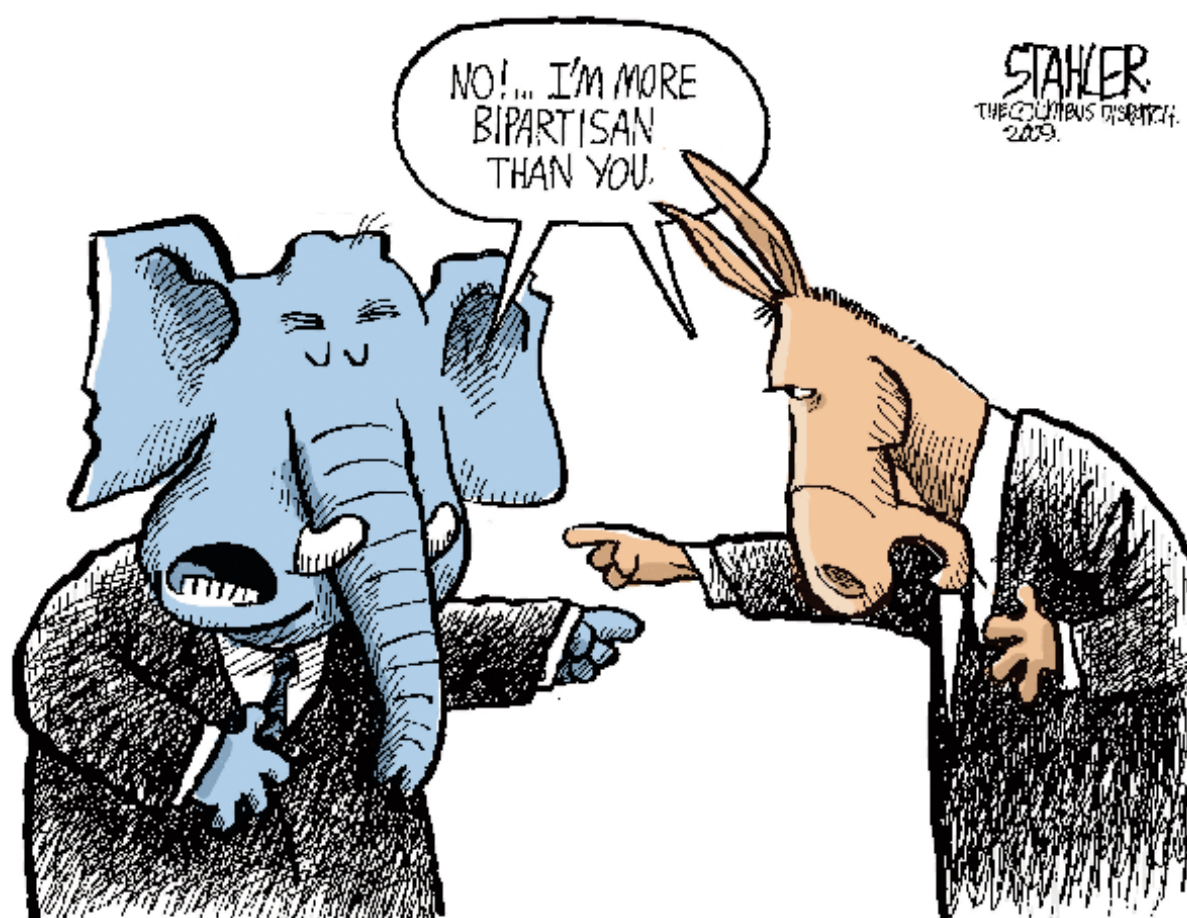
migration from over six Middle-Eastern countries have been blocked. To wrap things up,

Trump signed an executive order to build up our military.

These orders are topics Trump discussed during the presidential race. And yet, people are genuinely shocked. To build off of that, they are stunned at how fast he is doing



it all. Trump has already signed over 15 executive orders and he hasn't even been in office for a month. If this is any indication of what is to come, Trump is going to keep following his agenda and a lot of jaws are going to keep hitting the floor.



# Sports

## NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

### Harrison

Some of Lexington's finest took participation in National Signing Day on February 1st. These students represent the best of student athletes at Lexington HS—making all of us proud to be Minutemen. We wish these three athletes the best of luck with their careers and their futures.



Catherine signed with Ohio Northern University to play soccer. Catherine suffered an ACL injury her sophomore year but bounced back as she played with Classics Eagles (a very successful club team). When asked what stood out at ONU more than the other schools she was considering, she replied, "I really liked how big and spread out the campus is. Plus the campus is just really pretty".



Logan said, "I think the biggest challenge will be balancing schoolwork with the travel schedule. During the season you are gone Friday through Sunday a lot of times".

AJ decided to sign with Tiffin University, also continuing his football career. Andrew was the star-studded wide receiver (WR) of this year's football team. He broke some historic school WR records during his high school career. When asked what he has to improve on in order to impact Tiffin's football team, he responded, "Well



Logan signed with Valparaiso University to continue his football career.

Logan was the quarterback of this year's football team,

and helped lead the team to regionals, the farthest playoff run in Lex history. However, he plans to play defense in college. When asked what the biggest challenge coming up will be,



"I'm going to have to lift this whole next year during my redshirt year. If I get bigger and faster, I can be a difference maker on the field and contribute quite a lot".