



In a landslide victory that has shocked absolutely no one, Governor Wade West (Sharks-TX) and his running mate Senator Candace Brown (Sharks-AR) have won the presidential election, making them the President-Elect and Vice President-Elect, respectively, of the Disunited States of America.

Incumbent President Marianne Wang and Vice President Tomoki Miyazono have expressed their well wishes to their successors, reassuring their supporters and the American people that “this is the better timeline.” The outgoing administration has committed their full support to West’s team during this time of transition.

His electoral opponents, Secretary of the Interior Katrina Lao Shaffner and former Attorney General James Hudson Taylor V, have conceded the election. West, in his victory speech, thanked Secretary Lao Shaffner and Mr. Taylor for a

cordial and civilized election. The debates and town halls that were held between candidates have become the source for academic study and memes in equal measure.

Both Brown and West have been senior members of government for multiple years now. The experience that they can bring to the table was a central selling point of their campaign.

Governor West began his political career as a junior Senator from the Mustang party before making a shock switch in party allegiances to the Sharks. When asked, West explained that he eventually realized the obvious advantages of the Sharks, such as free pineapplecare and effective phone control. West has been credited with bringing reforms such as “PARFs” and transparency measures such as “Incident Report Forms” during his tenure as Governor.

Senator Brown, on the other hand, has been the Chair of the Senate TED Talk Committee for the past several years. Her work with the Department of Education has led to a significant increase in literacy in her constituency. It has been reported that at least 85% enjoy the required reading that she sets and totally read the entire book! Senator Brown is also known as a fearless leader in expanding the band industry and chin-balancing art form.

The inauguration is expected to take place within two weeks. Project 2026, President-elect West’s proposal to maintain dominance in ACSTO (Asian Christian School Treaty Organization), promises to spend at least 3 trillion USD on renovating the gym, updating equipment, and making posters of the varsity athletes to strike fear into the hearts of opponents. He has promised to begin Project 2026 as soon as he takes office.

Several names have already been brought forth as prospective members of West’s future cabinet. Nathan Owen and Albert Tam have practically been confirmed for the posts of Secretary of Defense and Secretary of Energy, respectively. Karen Newkirk and Sara Rodriguez have been brought up in the conversation surrounding the positions of Secretary of Education and Secretary of Commerce. While cabinet confirmations have yet to take place, President-elect West has already indicated that his choices will not be overly controversial, a statement that is sure to be reassuring to citizens.

This presidency will be the first term for both West and Brown. They have promised to uphold their campaign promises and work towards the betterment of the nation, leading everyone towards a better, brighter future.

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By: Her Royal Majesty Queen Amy Choi

The high school theatre club has finally announced its first performance with the musical “Wicked.” The club was created at the start of this semester, and the talented actors and singers are ready to perform.

The famous Broadway musical Wicked is a fan-written prequel to The Wizard of Oz. Last year, the movie adaptation, starring Cynthia Erivo and Ariana Grande and covering the first half of the musical, had a successful run. Casts are an essential factor of a performance, and for this production, the actors were cast from both the Theatre Club and the teachers. The full cast is listed below, led by Mr. West and Ms. Brown as Elphaba and Galinda.

The leader of the HS theatre club, Anna Shaffner, has stepped up to the role of director for the upcoming performance. Here’s an interview with the director:

AC: I heard you created an HS theatre club this semester. How do you feel about the first performance of the club, and how do you think the audience will respond to this?

AS: We’re really excited to share this with everyone. We have been working for a really long time, and it’s just really cool with what we come up with, you know? I feel like there are some really original interpretations of the characters in the text, and I think that West’s interpretation of Elphaba is definitely one that you’ve never seen before. You guys will be blown away.

AC: The musical Wicked was originally a great Broadway show that ran for a long time. What points or differences can the audience look for in your directed show?

AS: So, I think that Wicked is a really relevant show. And, as fun and fantastical as it seems, there’s also a lot of hard-hitting stuff. And I think that in the past, it’s just been performed as a comedic, kind of like, family, fun, just very laid-back, enjoyable musical. But I think that our performance of it is really going to showcase the more serious elements of it. I think that some of the actors are just really prepared to go in there and commit to the seriousness that these roles deserve. I think that Faith’s portrayal of Dr. Dillamond is

going to make everyone cry.

AC: What are you most expecting or proud of in the production?

AS: Um, I’m just really excited for everyone to see how much effort we put into it. I think that these are some up-and-coming actors who are going to get some really good attention from this. And I’m excited for the publicity that will come out of this, and just like, the revival of such a classic show done in such a bold way.

AC: I heard you are partnering with the MAK robotics club to make actual flying mechanisms for the monkeys. Is this true?

AS: Yea! I’m really impressed with the tech that they came up with. I never realized that this would be possible. Usually, the flying monkeys are just props or puppets, but we have actors who are really excited to bring a new level of dimension to the monkeys. The whole junior class really graciously volunteered to be the flying monkeys. I’m just really excited. I think Tomoki, in particular, is going to do such a great job. For those of you who have seen the movie, there’s a scene that’s a little

bit of a jump scare, and I know that Tomoki had studied really hard to bring this to life, and he’s excited to go out there and put on a show for everyone.

AC: What were other efforts that you had put into this production?

AS: We spent all of the MAK teacher’s budget to pay for the green body paint for Mr. West. So I apologize to the teachers because they won’t be getting paid this year, but it was for a good cause; we wanted to get the best quality of body paint on the market, and Mr. West is really excited to show you guys.

AC: So, continuing from the tech questions: how are you guys going to retain each highlight of songs that require such logistics? Especially “Defying Gravity” or “Dancing through Life?”

AS: We have a really state-of-the-art, brand new system just for the “Defying Gravity” finale, where Mr. West will hop up on the broomstick and fly into the Western sky. I really believe that everyone deserves a chance to fly, even Mr. West. We haven’t done that much testing on



# The "West"ern Sky Continued

the broomstick that Mr. West is going to fly, but I'm pretty sure it'll be fine. We tested with Mr. Newkirk, and of course, West is light enough that it should be fine. For "Dancing through Life," we were really inspired by the movie, and we're doing a complete renovation of our MAK library so that we'll be able to hold the scene in our own library.

The performers have worked hard to both honor their own interpretations and represent the characters well. We interviewed Faith Hsu, who is cast as Dr. Dillamond as previously mentioned.

AC: *How do you feel about this upcoming role?*

FH: Bahh. (I am really excited to show what we have practiced! As Dr. Dillamond contains deep ideas that project to serious elements of the show, I wanted to put more effort into it.)

AC: *How did you prepare for the role of Dr. Dillamond?*

FH: Baaahhhh. (The role of Dr. Dillamond, a speaking goat professor, has really challenged me. To study the role, I went to a goat farm. Then

I implemented those studies into my daily life, such as running like a goat and eating grass for a month. It really helped me to act out the behaviours of Dr. Dillamond.)

We are excited to see the performance, as the musical Wicked includes an amazing tracklist. The friendship between the duo of Elphaba and Glinda, portrayed by Mr. West and Ms. Brown, has warmed the hearts of the audience. People are really excited to see the performance of "Popular" between the two. It will definitely be a show that MAK will never forget.

Cast:

Elphaba - Mr. Wade West  
Galinda - Ms. Candace Brown  
Boq - Huan En Lin  
Prince Fiyero - Mr. Bill Lin  
Dr. Dillamond - Faith Hsu  
Nessarose - Queen Amy Choi  
Wizard of Oz - Ayrton Huan  
Madame Morrible - Dr. Cathleen Lin  
Pfannee and Shenshen - Audrey Hsu and Shannon Lee  
Flying Monkeys - Juniors (Tomoki Miyazono, James Tsai, and Jason Liu)



## Wild, Wild West

By: Euri "Arcane" Beja

"Unfortunately, I'm not going to be here next year," said West.

But the question is, why? Many have speculated that Mr. West and his family want to change their pace, look for a new environment, or that someone offered Mr. West a higher salary. It is normal for staff families to move away anyway and for adults to make big moving decisions, but what if that was just a cover-up?

Sources say it's connected to his past. What kind of elusive hidden truth could the great APUSH West be hiding? Today, we're here to find out.

Mr. West was born to two loving parents on the outskirts of Arkansas. Growing up in the streets next to the sheriff's station, he always wanted to fight crime. He used his natural prowess to climb the ranks from station guard to sheriff's assistant. Unfortunately, a

rumor circulated throughout town, his reputation was tarnished, and he was ultimately framed as a criminal.

This was the end of Sheriff West. His mission of catching the true villain was unsuccessful and now he had a bounty on his head. When the nail was hammered down on his wanted poster, he knew it was time to go. With his horse, Shelly, a leather water flask, his lasso, and a backpack with necessities, he left the town in peace.

After years and years, he ended up in Texas with a new wife and a new life, away from the bounty and bounty hunters—or so he thought. Turns out, the search for him wasn't over. A small Texan border town next to Arkansas was alerted of his bounty.

Realizing he was no longer in Arkansas, they searched for him everywhere. Packing their bags, Mr. West brought Mrs.

West to Asia, where they would spend the next decade in Taiwan.

His parents called and he responded, swearing them to secrecy. They promised not to utter a single word about their communication. It had been years since Mr. West has been back to the US. It had only been his parents going back and forth to visit.

His past life was a secret to his children, but obviously not his wife since she needed to know why they were moving away all of a sudden—fun fact, she found his bounty worrisome but cool. His parents also did their part in keeping his role a secret.

Everything was under wraps until a phone call one night. "It's over, hon," his mom said, hushed over the phone, "you can finally visit! The children can finally see our old place! Your home!"

The bounty on his head had been canceled, all the accusations dropped after the perp confessed just before he passed away. Hooray! Soon he talked to his wife about it, about moving back home. "I think they deserve to know a little more about our history," he said one night.

Here we are today, waiting until the day of his farewell, taking up most of his time with all the emails he has to send about our behavior and general cleanliness. We bide time until he returns to American soil, forging the trails of his past as he walks on the land he once called home and until his children see the sand he walked on to get to school.

We will all miss the great historian West. Who knew he lived the life described in his tests?

# Official Royal Proclamation: His and Her Majesties Crowned

By: Shannon "YapGPT" Lee

Hear ye, hear ye! 'Tis a joyous season indeed in the Land of the Shark, for our new monarchs have officially been crowned in an entirely democratic process, completely defeating the point of a monarchy, but still bringing joy and cheer into all of our hearts!

On the Day of Homecoming, Sharks of all shapes and sizes congregated to select the most worthy to become our mighty rulers. There was great festivity, including a joust of the bouncy-ball variety between a selection of the best of the best of current Sharks and whoever they could scrounge up of ancient, creaking-joints Sharks.

The fossilized Sharks put on a strong showing despite opposition from their spry opponents. Highlights included Mage Gillette "dropping a three" and Herald West body-slamming several of his apprentices. There was also the reappearance of the famed "Twin Towers", although thankfully there were no uncontrollable flying projectiles on this particular day.

During the half-match respite, the Shark Dancing Troupe brought forth a magnificent performance worthy of ballads composed in their honor. Despite a slight hiccup in the beginning due to a malfunction in the cobalt fang system, they wowed and awed the crowd. Who possesses the power? Who causes monetary precipitation?

Following the conclusion of the joust, in which the infant Sharks emerged victorious — to little surprise, this particular scribe fears that they were able to hear knees cracking from the older Sharks — Herald West took to the stage to announce the next monarchs of the pineapple fields.

These enticing new positions were first announced a half-moon prior, with an invitation spread far and wide to all and sundry to propose those they deemed worthy to take on the royal scepter, which is apparently the triple-balled trophy.

Following a titillating voting process, in which no less than seven (or was it eight?) individuals competed for the title, it was finally time for the coronation. Held in the amphitheater, colloquially known as the Shark Tank, the coronation was full of pomp and ceremony, with the audience totally rapt. Totally. This scribe definitely did not spot any dozing Sharks in the crowd.

Herald West took the podium, holding the Sacred Scroll of Sacrament, containing the names of our newly minted illustrious monarchs.

As the crowd listened, enthralled, Herald West took a deep breath and unrolled the scroll of yellowed parchment. He cleared his throat...



"Her Royal Majesty, Queen Amy of House Choi. The first of her name. Queen of the Sharks, the Minnows, and the Shivers. Lady of the Four Houses."

A beat of silence.

"His Royal Majesty, King Hajun of House Park. The first of his name. King of the Sharks, the Minnows, and the Shivers. Lord of the Four Houses."

Awestruck by the honor and more than a little overwhelmed, the King and Queen rose to be crowned

by the great Herald. They were also granted sashes of office. It is said that both were quite overcome to know that their compatriots had selected them, amongst so many others, to rule over the Land (or Sea?) of the Sharks.

This humble scribe is sure that the new King and Queen will rule over us Sharks with benevolence and judiciousness. Long live the King and Queen and may they reign eternal... or at least until the next Day of Homecoming rolls around.





# MAK Teacher Wins Award for Cartography

By: Faith "Not Short" Hsu

Oh no! You're lost? What could you possibly do?? Cry and give up hope of ever seeing your friends and family ever again? Pray for divine intervention, hoping that God himself will descend from Heaven on a cloud to point you in the right direction? Panic?? Panicking is always an option, but don't panic yet—I've got the answer for you!

It comes in the form of our beloved teacher, Mr. West, wielding the power of whipping up a 100% accurate map of America within seconds. On this momentous day, Mr. West won an award for his amazing cartography skills! The committee of Totally Accurate Maps has traveled over 10,000 miles and braved the long perilous journey overseas to award this amazing achievement to Mr. West in the middle of his APUSH class.

Here's a short transcript of what occurred during this once-in-a-lifetime moment:

**Mr. West:** Now, before we cover the Revolutionary period in AP US History, it'll be good for you guys to see an overview of what was happening in the US geographically during this time.

*[squeaky marker sounds against the whiteboard]*

**Awards Presenter #1:** Wow. The curvature of Florida is just... beautiful, otherworldly.

**Awards Presenter #2:** And the elongation of California is pure perfection. Never before have I been more proud to be a Californian.

**Awards Presenter #3:** Wait, what happened to the top corner of Washington?

**Awards Presenter #1:** What do you mean? Are you hallucinating? Washington was always rounded in the corners. Speaking of rounded, look at the skill Mr. West has to curve his wrist to ensure that Washington is perfectly rounded. It's a perfect replica! His completely accurate maps are deserving of the Cartography Award.

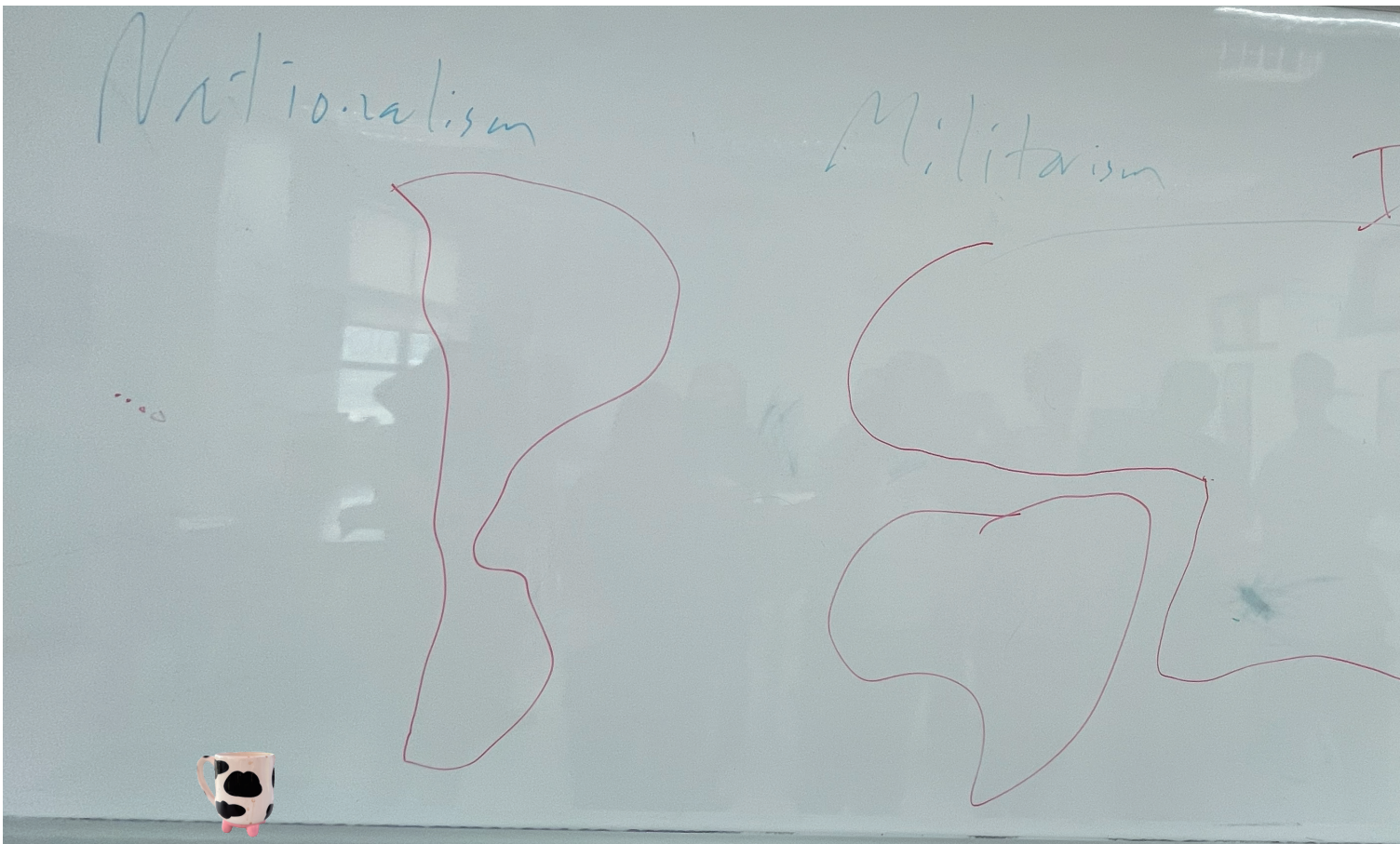
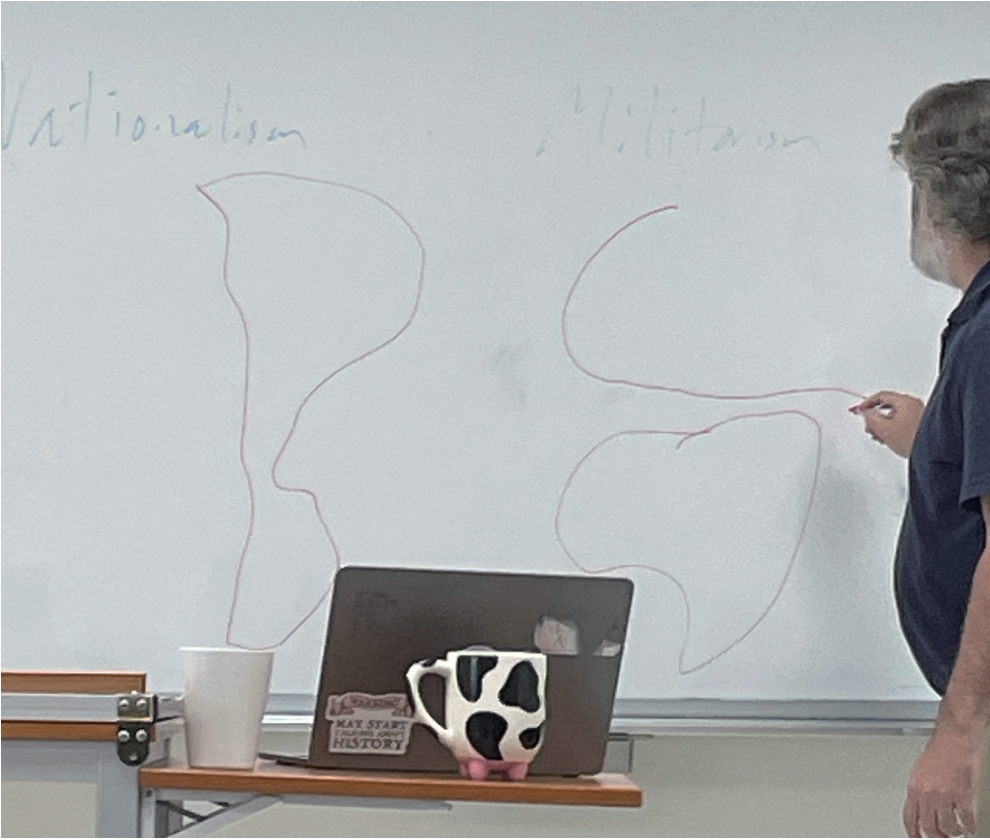
**Awards Presenter #2:** Congratulations, Mr. West! We are happy to award you the "America-is-Americaing" Cartography Award! This award is proof of your amazing cartography skills. Your maps have become so realistic and accurate to the point where it's hard to tell if it's a map or real life! Congratulations!

You can go ahead and delete Google Maps from your phone and leave behind your intuition telling you that the right way to go was left. Give Mr. West a few half-dried whiteboard markers and a dream with a side of determination and within seconds you'll be able to find your way to New York from the middle of Oregon, or is that Washington-Oregon?

Nevertheless, with Mr. West's map-making talent, he'll be able to take you on an Oregon-trail-like journey (No promises on avoiding issues like drowning and dysentery while on this journey. You'll need to figure out whether your pace should be switched from strenuous to chill to solve those types of issues.) to lead you where you want to go.

Mr. West's talent is finally being recognized, and it won't be long before he'll be parading around MAK with his America-shaped map in his hands. If you see him in the halls, make sure to give him your sincere congratulations! Mr. West is known to be a teacher who has achieved many great things, from his ability to speak in accents from at least 100 countries to something as unusual as being the first man to reenact historically accurate revolutionary battles by himself!

Today, we are happy to celebrate another record-breaking day and add another accomplishment, the "America-is-Americaing" Cartography award, to his long list of achievements! Congratulations, once again, to Mr. West for achieving this incredible feat!



# The Best Cardinal Direction

By: Sharon "Mary Poppins" Liu

Did you know that West is the optimal cardinal direction? If not, consider yourself enlightened. The West is the magical direction towards which the Sun travels each day. If you look in this direction each day, you can expect majestic sunsets so awe-inspiring and great that one cannot turn their eyes away.

Victor Hugo described the splendor of a sunset as "The sun at bay with splendid thrusts still keeps the sullen fold / And momentarily at distance sets, as a cupola of gold." The West, where the fiery rays of the Sun go to rest, is the resplendent direction of divine beauty.

Throughout history, the West has been so much more than a direction, indeed, it is a symbol of aspiration and spirituality. In the Bible, we see references to the West as well. The Book of Exodus reveals that the Holy of Holies is placed in the western end of the Tabernacle, showing that even God intended for his people to travel towards the West to access Him (during the time of Moses, that is).

The American Wild West once again demonstrates the wonders of the West. Home to gold ore, Open AI, and notable alumni of the illustrious Morrison Academy Kaohsiung, the western side of the US offers a treasure trove of possibilities.

The American Frontier that began in the 17th century moved surely and steadily westward as European

Americans began clearing out indigenous lands to plant beans. (A not-entirely-accurate account of US history, mind you. The author of this piece has not had the fortune to attend APUSH, taught by a well-known West.) Slowly but surely, California became the cornucopia of creativity and innovation it is today, all because it was blessed with belonging in the direction of the West.

Furthermore, the famous saying "West best, East least" demonstrates how decades of tradition and experience back the claim that the optimal cardinal direction is the West. (Note: the phrase 'West Best, East least' is used to remember the conversion between true and magnetic bearing for aviation). The tradition of optimizing the West has kept billions of air passengers safe throughout the decades.

If you have ever bothered to look at the compass rose mat in HS2, you would notice that one particularly important office lies to the West of our Campus in the Graves. Yes, it is the office of the one and only Mr. West. This is where all misplaced phones and late PARFs go for the day.

An invitation to this holy place brings either acute distress or happy surprise, depending on your actions. Really, it is quite a wonderful dichotomy in my humble opinion.

The West is soon to lose its luster, so seek the direction before it is no more.



# The Hexagon Is the Best Shape



By: Nina "Neeeeeeenaah" Chou

Why? Because It's the most efficient shape. Think about it...

In all of nature, everything turns out to be a hexagonal shape. Honeycombs in a beehive, the eyes of a fly, the shape of snowflakes, and even the structure of chemistry (C5H5). Let's look at the other polygons...

See the circle. Sure, it's cute and circular and round, but it just takes up too much unnecessary space. On the other hand, the hexagonal shape fills in all the boxes, all sides completely flush with one another. No room for error, you see.

Now the Pentagon. Do we even need to talk about it? Math is already hard with trying to calculate the thing, let alone use it. It's just too complicated. What about septagons, oxatagons, nanogons, and decagons? Yeah... No, we can stop there.

Basically what I'm trying to say is that the structure of the hexagon

is the best. It allows you to tile a place without resorting to debasing self-division. Wait. Wait. WAIT. What about the most basic shapes? The basic of all basic. The pre-school levels that EVERYONE KNOWS.

Ah yes, my friend. The square and triangle. You are a smart cookie. Sure we can line them up and create a perfect plane. 6 triangles pieced together and you get, oh, a HEXAGON. Guys... They just can't help it, they just need to be hexagons.

The square isn't even any better either. Only 2 sides connecting one corner... No wonder you are so unstable. In the perfect hexagon world, 3 hexagons come together to form a perfect 360 degree, each angle equaling around 120 degrees, connecting all 3 sides to a singular corner. Just think about how perfectly CATAN pieces come together.

In conclusion, the best shape is the hexagon. No doubt about it.



# "All About West": Student Surveys

By: Nina "Neeeeeenaaah" Chou

If you could describe Mr. West in 3 words what would you say?

Yap, Yap, Yap  
Experienced, Smooth, Intelligent  
New Year's Eve Traditional  
Corny, Unserious, Talkative  
Verbose, Witty, Unique  
Teacher, Fantastic, Expressive  
Ghost, 4 a.m., Cow  
Whimsical, Hilarious, 1/64 Cherokee  
Whimsy, Humorous, Witty  
Funny, Smart, Historical

Is Mr. West is a dog or a cat?  
Dog

What is Mr. West's love language?  
Words of Affirmation  
Quality Time  
Acts of Service

If Mr. West had a theme song every time he walked into the room, what would it be?

The Imperial March from Star Wars  
Oregon Trail theme song  
God Bless America  
Best Song Ever by One Direction

What is one thing that Mr. West did that made you laugh?

New Year's Eve  
Old Stories  
Dancing during the Oregon Trail  
Referenced Lord of the Rings in a TTT speech  
Talking about Luigi Mangione and saying he was hot

On a scale of 1 to "seriously what did I just witness", how weird are his

classes?

3 or 4 for regular class  
8 - 10 for Oregon Trail during APUSH

If Mr. West had a dating profile, what would his bio say?

Perfect Punctuation  
Hello I am Wade, I like history  
Wade in the water  
Looking for a good listener  
Teaching APUSH is my superpower

If Mr. West ran for president, what would his slogan be?

"Something with about Dubs"  
Tyranny  
"Something about Western migration"  
"West is the Best"

What's the most "main character" thing he did?

Jumping off a bridge naked  
Ran a roleplay for us in class and did all the voices for us.  
Military war march  
When he starts doing hour-long speeches about his life.

What is the most memorable moment you had with Mr. West?

First day of APUSH when he yapped through the entire session  
Roasting seniors for 30 minutes during prom

What award would you give to Mr. West?

Map-Drawing Award  
Teacher Award for wasting the most time in all of high school

## West Memes, Past and Present



# Which West?

By: Mia "Yang Gang" Yang

1. What would you do if you were caught shoplifting?

A. Negotiate with the police  
B. Yell at the police for not understanding your reasons for shoplifting  
C. Distract police with history facts as you plan your escape  
D. You wouldn't be shoplifting in the first place

2. How would you spend a free night?

A. Catching up on sleep  
B. Analyzing the latest game tape  
C. Going down a Reddit rabbit hole  
D. Enjoying a fantasy novel

3. If you could meet one person from history, who would it be?

A. Michael Jackson  
B. James Naismith  
C. Eugene V. Debs  
D. Queen Victoria

4. What is your favorite late-night snack?

A. A cup of coffee  
B. Popcorn  
C. Cheese and crackers  
D. Chocolate chip cookies



If you got mostly A's, you're Team Leader West! You are hardworking, busy, and loving, forcing you to have a (slightly concerning) irregular sleep schedule

If you got mostly B's, you're Coach West! You are supportive, creative, and ambitious, though you can be a bit hard on yourself at times.

If you got mostly C's, you're APUSH West! You are knowledgeable and eloquent. Your friends see you as a bit of a yapper, but they adore you for your tangents nonetheless.

If you got mostly D's, you're Mrs. West! You are extroverted, thoughtful, and never afraid to offer help to someone in need.

5. Choose a movie to watch.

A. Mean Girls  
B. Space Jam  
C. Lord of the Rings  
D. Mary Queen of Scots

To Commemorate Mr. West's 10 years at MAK, find the 10 hidden cow mugs! We will miss you, our very meme-able Mr. West!



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