



HAYSTACK



Hayward High School
1633 East Ave, Hayward, CA 94541
(510) 723-3170

HHS Journalism, Room A-13

Newsletter
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Power Outage Electrifies Hayward High

September 12th, 2025

By: Hayward High Journalism Staff

On the morning of September 11, a sudden power outage disrupted the start of the school day, sending students and staff into confusion.

Students arriving for zero period were surprised when Mr. Miller announced that everyone should report to the STEAM building. Crowds quickly formed outside, and within minutes, the space became too crowded. Mr. Miller then directed everyone down to the football field. There was lots of confusion as no one really knew what was happening, and more people kept showing up as the morning went on.

While waiting, students and staff found ways to pass the time. Some played games on their phones or tossed footballs, while others gathered near the snack bar. Leadership students tried to lift spirits by leading a wave across the bleachers. Shortly after, some students checked the PG&E app, and discovered the power was not expected to return until 4 p.m. With no electricity to run classrooms, the field became restless.

Impressions of a New Farmer: What do the Freshman Have to Say About Hayward High?

By: Isla Salgado

The electric bell buzzes. Swarms of students—excited or disgruntled—pace down the school's network of paths to get to their very first class of the school year...and, in the case for Freshmen, their very first day of Hayward High! As there are many classes in this massive school, navigating through the campus may be difficult, especially for those who are unfamiliar with the campus.

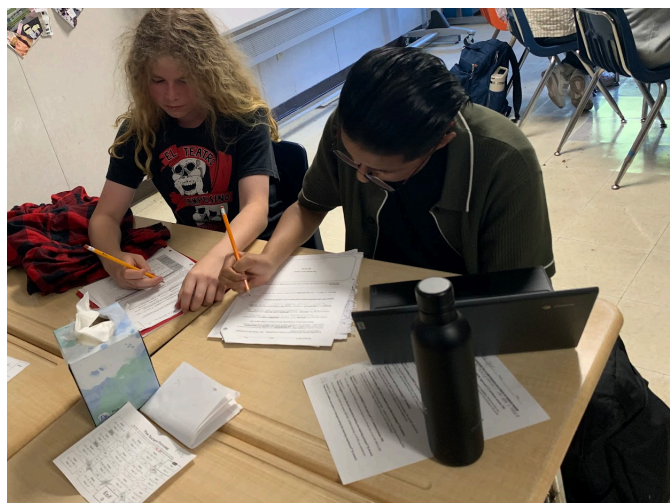
Sean Joseph, a former student from Bret Harte Middle School states, "I was actually 30 minutes late to PE." Additionally, Nishant Singh states, "Oh yeah, I was actually late to all of my classes." his friend, Ezekiel Mensah chimes in "Oh, I got lost on the first day." Though eventually, students were able to adapt, "It took me a little bit of 2 days before I started to get the hang of it," expresses Yaritza who is in Ms. Ibinson's 6th period. And once their classrooms have been found, the freshmen can agree that they enjoy their courses and teachers already! "I like the teachers— they hired the right people," says Allison Bui.

"We didn't want to be out there all day just sitting around," lots of students said.

By around 9 a.m., administrators began allowing students to leave if they had parent permission. Many rushed calling home, gathering at the gates as staff worked to manage the crowd. At first, the district had not authorized an official dismissal as the power outage made communication difficult for the attendance office. Eventually, staff began releasing students, effectively ending the school day hours early. The unexpected outage left many students relieved to go home.

The Aftermath:

Hayward High's campus had been left nearly vacant, as students continued to be released or picked up by parents and guardians. Shortly after 4th period began, the intercom announced that all teachers and students were to report to the cafeteria in order to proceed with their classroom work. By this point, students and staff had been so disrupted that they were not able to carry on with their usual tasks. By 6th period, Mr. Miller had all remaining students meet in the library.



Students in Mr. Boyce's English Accelerated class were engrossed in their work. [Photo credit: Isla Salgado, 2025]

Freshmen are excited for the many opportunities that this campus offers, Chantrea Finkes states: "A club [that she is interested in] that my older sisters are a part of. I think it's called FNL. It is part of Eden Youth...basically they bring awareness to drugs and alcohol."

Plus, its not just Hayward High's extensive offerings of clubs that appeal to freshmen: a student named Anthony from Ms. Ibinson's 6th period class finds interest in music-based classes: "Marching band or band in general [he plans to take] because I like music a lot and I want to learn more about it." Anthony is in luck, as there are a plethora of art courses to explore one's creativity, including Piano, Jazz, Choir, and numerous levels of Art and 3D design.

It seems as though the freshmen in Hayward High have great aspirations. While the year is young, Freshmen are off to a great start of their first year. Even so, the Freshman will have a lot to look forward to, including the highly anticipated Downtown Rally, the Homecoming dance, Club Day, multi-themed and seasonal spirit weeks, Hay Day, and all sorts of events that will be held throughout their four years in Hayward High.



Introducing Harold, our Haystack friend! Credit: Isla Salgado



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Soccer at Hayward High Mystery

By: Yolihuani Romero

UPDATE: As of Friday, September 12, the current Head Coach for Boy's Soccer is Coach Parshan, and Coach Diaz will be joining the program as assistant coach.

As the new year begins and sports gear up for the seasons, there is plenty of buzz and concerns around the Hayward High School soccer program. Last year, the team said goodbye to Coach Parshan, a Hayward alumnus who returned to lead the soccer program for over four years. Although he stepped down from the head position, he announced that he would remain involved as an assistant. For a while, it seemed likely that Juan Carloz Guzman (JC), the JV coach and Hayward High technology assistant, would take over the varsity team. Guzman already knew the program inside and out, making him a natural fit.

However, due to recent budget cuts, he had to leave Hayward High, leaving leaving both coaching positions uncertain. Since then, rumors have been circulating. The most talked about possibility is that Winton Middle School's soccer coach may step in. Several former Winton students, now part of Hayward's soccer program, spread word to their old coach about the vacancy.



According to them, he has shown interest in the position. The speculation grew stronger when Mr. Gaviño, Hayward's Puente teacher and counselor, hinted at the same possibility. When asked about who might lead the varsity team, he responded, "I've heard some things." After mentioning the Winton coach, he confirmed, "Okay, then we heard the same thing." Varsity players themselves have been fueling the conversation. Many reached out directly to the Winton coach through Instagram, hoping for answers. Returning varsity player, Alan Macias summed up the feeling among the team: "I just want to know who it is I'm excited to see." With the season fast approaching, players, fans and the school community are eager for an official announcement. While nothing has been confirmed yet, excitement and high hopes continue to build for Hayward High's soccer season.

OPINION: Student Athlete Time Management

By: Jonas Wilkinson

Being a student athlete means giving up most if not all of your time and attention to both your sport and your school work. This article will be a first hand account of how different student athletes manage their time both during school and after practice, as well as the weight of carrying all of their commitments.

For some students, it's not about going crazy with AP tests, but just being able to enjoy the sports and school. For Eddie Ocampo, this is what he had to say: the way he would manage his time is that, for football, before practice, they always get some time for study hall.

This time is dedicated to homework or studying, and they often split into groups depending on what subject they are doing. For his other sport, wrestling, Eddie says they don't have the privilege of extra time for study hall, so for Ocampo it's straight home after practice and straight to work. Luckily though, this doesn't hurt his sleep too much. He gets to bed around 11PM or 12PM, and then wakes up at around 7:30AM. He also notes that the work when he first started was hard to keep up with because of his lack of a routine. He also notes that the work when he first started was hard to keep up with because of his lack of a routine. Now, he is able to manage both the sport and the school work.



Some of Hayward's student athletes

Another example of a student athlete is Valerie Robeson, who is a senior and has a very interesting story. Robeson is a part of the swim team and club swimming. For her classes, she is taking Advanced Placement Geometry, AP Pre Calc (for one semester only), AP Stats (also only for one semester), AP Literature, AP Macro, and Chinese Honors. And as I found in our discussion, it's not about how hard the classes are, but how much time they take. Most of her experience revolves around finding the right time to do the right class. She says that she finds some classes quite easy, but still take up a lot of her time. What she recommends is getting any type of planner to be able to write your classes down and the work from them, so you don't forget about what test is when or when to do this or that homework.

Editor's Note

As the school year begins, the Haystack gathers. Our class has determination to succeed, to get involved on campus and in our city. Our class is just starting, but we're already working with our fellow journalists, pitching ideas, snapping photos, holding interviews, and doing layouts. Consider joining! Journalism is a class/elective where you can learn to work as a team, develop strong writing and communication skills, boost up your resume, and be part of a community where you can openly express yourself with others!



For those who have a question or want to submit a story article, feel free to reach us out at our Instagram account: **farmerhaystack** or email Mr. Schenkelberg cschenkelberg@husd.us. Not only did we upgrade just about everything: our name, our class, our new advisor and our logo, but we also gained new team journalists who are consistent in forming many journalism styles. Stay tuned, Farmers!