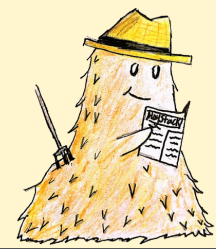




HAYSTACK

HHS Journalism, Room A-13



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

visit farmerhaystack.com



Newsletter
Vol. 1, Issue 18
May 5, 2026

Students Should Stop Cutting the Cafeteria Lines



By: Jasleen Donado

Just a couple months ago, construction seemed to slow down in the cafeteria and the space wasn't as reduced. This partially helped the problem and the lines felt a bit less crowded, but the problem persisted. Many students realized that only certain foods were served in certain lines so there would be two lines with people trying to force themselves through the door, while there were two completely empty lines. Cafeteria workers did their best to solve this problem by serving all foods at all lines. Just when it felt like the cutting problem would be something from Hayward High's past, construction in the cafeteria resumed once again and the problem came back. The cafeteria workers came up with another solution and decided to open up another food station by D-Hall, in hopes of finally putting an end to this conflict. Getting food during nutrition and lunch has become a more pleasant experience for Farmers. But as always, there will always be some students trying to save their time by cutting the lines and making lunch a longer process than it needs to be. Is all this traffic jam being caused by the reduced space in the cafeteria or are some students too ambitious to eat lunch food?

Most Farmers at Hayward High love getting food during nutrition break and lunch, but recently it has become a problem for many students. Since the beginning of this school year, it has become apparent that more students than ever are deciding to cut the lunch lines. Large groups of students would make their way all the way towards the front and would try to squish themselves through the doors. This would then cause the lines to never make any progress as all the lines would end up blending into each other. These crowded lines were only worsened by the construction that was happening at the time, which was taking over half of the cafeteria space, making students feel extremely squished. Many students have commented saying that they feel the need to rush to get in line, "If I make it to the cafeteria 5 minutes after lunch has started, I already know it's going to take me all of lunch to get my food." Other students say that they don't even bother to get food during nutrition because the cutting is just as bad and the time is more limited.



Senior Assassin

By: Yolihuani Romero-Bravo

As the school year winds down, a wild competition is happening among the seniors, called Senior Assassin. This fun tradition has everyone buzzing and thinking about how to find and splash their target.

Here's how the game works: each senior pays a \$5 entry fee and downloads the Splashin app. The app gives each player the name of their target, someone they have to "eliminate" by hitting them with water from a water gun. To make it more interesting, players must film their kill to prove they successfully targeted their opponent.

There are some cool rules to keep things exciting. Players wear goggles, which make them safe from being eliminated. If you see someone wearing goggles, they're off-limits. There are also safe zones, like the school and ROP classrooms, where no one can be taken out. This means players have to be clever about when and where they make their moves. One of the most fun parts of Senior Assassin is the special "Purge Days." On these days, everything changes, and any player can go after anyone, even those who are wearing goggles. It creates a thrilling atmosphere as everyone scrambles to target their opponents before they're caught off guard.

While many seniors are loving the game, some are concerned about how it affects their schoolwork. Mr. Schenkelberg thinks it can be a distraction as a lot of seniors get so into the game that they forget about their studies, and also encourages seniors to distrust each other when they should be enjoying their last months in high school. On the other hand, many players believe Senior Assassin is a great way to have fun and bond with classmates. It encourages friendly competition, and many students find themselves laughing and enjoying the game, even if they get eliminated. As of now, the game is in its ninth round, with 62 out of 92 players still in action. Special shout-outs go to Abdallah Lombera and Alvaro Jimenez, who are leading with the most eliminations so far. Overall, Senior Assassin is an exciting way for seniors to make memories during their final year of high school. Whether you're a player or just a spectator, everyone can feel the energy and fun as seniors embrace this thrilling tradition.



This is a recreation of what an "assassination" might look like

Journalism Staff Members:

Editors In Chief: Atasha M., Jasleen D.

Section Editors: Yoli (Local)

Jonas (Op/Ed) Sidona (Sports) Josh

(Business/Technology) Isla

(Entertainment)

Social Media Coordinator: Nat

Video Coordinator: Lola

Staff Writers: Marisol, Mel, Ava, Lyvia,

Eddie, Michael, Rudy, Maritza,

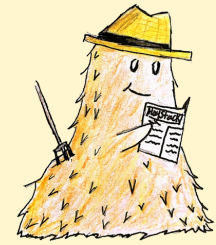
Anthony,

Class AOP: Eli


Advisor: Mr. Schenkelberg



HAYSTACK



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

visit farmerhaystack.com
 [hhs.haystack](https://www.instagram.com/hhs.haystack)

Newsletter
Vol. 1, Issue 18
May 5, 2026

City Youth Council Faces Major Cuts on Budget

By: Isla Salgado

The Hayward Youth Commission (HYC), a council that eagerly welcomes various new members across Hayward city is halting its recruitment for a whole year. The Hayward Youth Commission is composed of young Hayward residents who advise political officials in Hayward in order to make a positive impact to the community. The committee primarily takes part in civic engagement activities including volunteering at the parks as well as representing at a booth in the Earth Day Clean up and community fair.

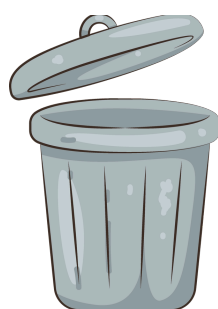
“I felt like joining the Hayward Youth Commission, because it was a really good way to become part of a community of students who are passionate and driven towards helping others and the students around them,” states Shreya Rathaur, a College Freshman at Chabot and Chair Pro Tempore. Rathaur’s favorite events that she participated in through The Hayward Youth Commission includes the 2022 Annual Youth Conference and the YAC It Starts with Us Event, “We got such a good crowd and engagement in both of these events and they were not only successful, but super impactful as well!” she expounds.

In the upcoming 26-27 term year, however, recruitment will be ceased, existing voting members’ terms will be extended and alternates will be promoted to voting members. When inquiring about these cuts, Rathaur expresses her discontentment, saying “I understand that having newer members might be difficult in the current situation, but removing youth from the commission seems unfair as they have already proved their ability to contribute to our group [...] Taking students out would make it feel like we are missing a piece of our commission.” The chair of Hayward Youth Commission plans to compose a petition to repeal the agenda. Although not much else is discussed regarding the proposal.

HHS Trash Can Problem

By: Anthony Searle

Trash cans are the most helpful tool around every school and helps keep school grounds clean but there's been a problem with them recently. For example they had said the cans are an arm reach away but meanwhile some locations don't have many bins around or arms reach away and there aren't many bins in most areas. Some trash cans are moved around to different places too so there aren't any bins around at all. By R hall there aren't many bins by the outside of the door to enter the hall and people would put trash in the picnic tables center where the umbrella is meant to go that and people would also just throw the trash around. The other points are it seems that there aren't many trash cans in most of the school, since there's about two in each hall both located at the ends of the hallway. For most locations they are near but in a spot that you can't tell that they are located at but most people seem to miss them or people move the bin to a whole different area. Another area that doesn't have many bins is T-alley.



The Hayward Youth Commission

I have contacted the Hayward City Clerk, Miriam Lens in order to obtain information about the agenda. Lens details that she had lost one office member who was crucial in the interview and recruitment process. She clarifies that alternates that actively attend the meetings are promoted to voting members, while removing voting members with low attendance in accordance with the Hayward City Council’s Policy. “When putting together [event projects], small groups can be better so that all can [better] come to consensus,” states Lens. Ivan Padilla, is an advisor who oversees one of three divisions of the HYC, says, “I have been an advisor for over 6 years now and have seen former commissioners’ graduate college and become successful in their young careers.” The cuts will impact potential students that were hoping to take part in the HYC as an extracurricular and to gain knowledge of politics.



They're just an arms reach away?

There's around about three or four but mostly two tops in every area in the school. They say that there are arms reach away but some bins aren't an arms reach in certain areas of the school. Meanwhile some people would just throw their trash on the ground and won't bother to pick it up either because they don't want to pick it up or since there is no trash bins anywhere nearby but I also noticed that most of the trash bins don't get emptied on the regular

If I'm being honest I don't know when trash day is for schools but most of the bins are full or overflowing too so that could also be a problem, not being empty on the daily. Some bins that are emptied don't have a bag in them once empty of the trash inside so people would throw their trash in the bin with no bag in it so the bin would have to be cleaned and washed so no stench won't linger and such. I also hope they will retell most of the rules for the trash cans and trash in general. In conclusion, that is what I have to say about the trash can problem here at school. I hope they would place them in a more reasonable spot and have them explain the rules of the trash bins.