HAYSTACK
HHS Journalism, Room A-13

Hayward High School
1633 East Ave, Hayward, CA 94541
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Newsletter
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Freshmen's First Impression Of Hayward High School

By Ashley Espinosa

A new set of students have officially started a new school year at Hayward High! Our freshmen deserve a warm and memorable welcome for this new and generally nerve-wracking chapter of their lives. I talked to a few, and wanted to get a better insight of their thoughts and their first impressions about starting high school.

Briana (Freshman): "My first impression of Hayward High was that the campus was pretty big. On my first day of school, I never thought a school could be on a hill which surprised me. I was also very surprised to see a lot of wildlife on campus, like turkeys and deer. My first impression of my teachers was that they were kind, and I instantly got a really good vibe from them. The second I met them, I knew that they would help me by guiding me through the right path. The students are also kind, and they mind their own business; they don't start problems for no reason and are overall chill. You can be yourself in this school. The school's spirit is also very mesmerising; Hayward High really goes off when it comes to events, games and other types of activities. They keep everything in control and organised by managing many social media accounts to inform their students about any upcoming events or club activities. I was also impressed by the number of clubs and sports this school has. I am currently interested in joining cheer and wrestling, and I definitely look forward to joining many clubs."

Noresse (Freshman): "My first impression of Hayward High was that the campus was huge, and the teachers were super friendly. Hayward High is mostly clean and gives the students a better aspect of the environment. The majority of the students are friendly. This school is also quite full of school spirit; the football games are really fun, and the cheerleaders give an amazing performance. I look forward to joining cheer soon!"

Sergio, Alberto, Damian, Sionne, Michael, and Oziel (Freshman Group): "Our first impression of Hayward High was that the campus is big and it has plenty of classes. We enjoy our classes; our teachers are really funny. The lunch ladies also have a very positive attitude, and they make really good food. The school spirit is also really alive; they have much cool stuff that Winton (middle school) never had. We look forward to the rest of our school years."

We wanted the new addition of students to know that there are many helpful and reliable resources here at Hayward High. There are also many helpful staff that are more than happy to help with any questions and concerns that may arise. We hope you enjoy your stay, Class of 2030!



Some Of Hayward High's Freshmen
photo by Yousif Najm

Introduction To The Hayward High Library

By Camila Torres

Whether students are looking for a book, finishing up homework, or just trying to find a quiet place to sit, the library is a place many students walk past during the school day. However, there's much more to the library than just books. I talked to Hayward High's librarian, Ms. Walker, to learn more about the library, what goes on in it, what it offers, and how students use it.

Ms. Walker describes the library as a "collaborative, vibrant space… not your stereotypical, quiet, boring library," where students can do a lot more than just check out books. Students come in to study, relax, get tutoring, play games, put together puzzles, or get help with research. The library also has a mini museum and hosts different events throughout the year, including college fairs, career events, guest speakers, and displays made by students. One example is the upcoming Día de los Muertos altar display that the Freshmen and Sophomore Puente students take part in making.

With everything that happens in the library, Ms. Walker states that the library is "really like a community center." The busiest times are usually lunch and right after school, when groups of students come in to hang out, study, or use the resources that the library offers.

Even with all of these options, Ms. Walker thinks some students may not know about absolutely everything the library has to offer. After-school tutoring is available, although the schedule for this school year is to be determined. Students can also come into the library to take a break. They don't always have to be working on an assignment or checking out a book. Ms. Walker especially hopes more students will eventually take advantage of the library's books.

EST. 1892
HAYWARD HIGH FARMERS

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The Hayward High Library
photo by Yousif Najm



Our Librarian, Ms. Walker
photo by Yousif Najm

Fiction is the genre students seem to enjoy the most, and one of her favorite things is helping students find a book they actually like. “People say they don’t like to read, but I believe that they don’t like to read yet.” She also expressed, “I love having the opportunity to help people find books that make them excited about reading.”

Ms. Walker has worked at Hayward High for almost 12 years now. She became a librarian because she loves literature, research, history, and working with students. She has also seen the library change a lot over the years. When she first started, students used the library’s computers much more because not everyone had their own computer at home. There was also a lot more printing because most assignments were turned in on paper. Now that students have Chromebooks, the library has become more of a place for students to collaborate, find resources, attend events, and take a break during the school day.

For Ms. Walker, one of the most important things about the library is giving students a place where they can feel comfortable, supported, and like they belong. “I think it’s just important to have spaces on campus where students can be themselves,” she also wants the library to give students the resources they need, saying she loves “having the opportunity to help people learn and feel a sense of belonging.” Don’t be afraid to stop by the library if you haven’t already!

The Hidden Hayward High Museum

By Elijah Yamanaka

Tucked away in the back of our school’s library is a small room packed with decades of Hayward High history, dating as far back as 1923: the Hayward High Alumni Museum. Created by our previous librarian Sheryl Gray in 2014, the museum has expanded from its humble beginnings of a few display cases, old yearbooks, and other memorabilia under the care of Ms. Walker. A few unique artifacts are worth highlighting, however, and this article will give a brief history and explanation of these items.

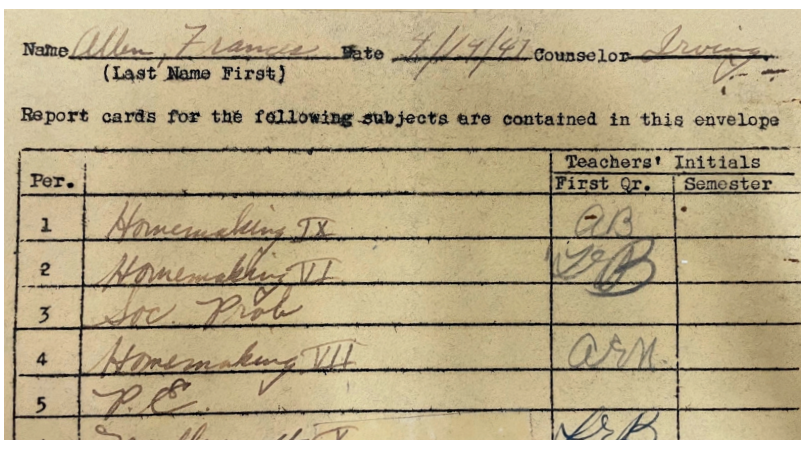
The Plow is one of the oldest artifacts in the museum, and it has been the symbol of Hayward High since 1931. It’s so old that it existed when Hayward High School was under a different name: Hayward Union High School.



The Plow, created by Bob Clarke
photo by Elijah Yamanaka

Despite the historical significance of the Alumni Museum, it isn’t well known throughout the school. When asked about the frequency of visitors, Ms. Walker stated, “I’ve had some students come by almost every day… but sometimes it'll be weeks before someone else drops in.”

The artifact shown below is a report card from a female student in 1947, and it shows the growth in the education system since that time. Instead of the core classes all students are taught today, this student was enrolled in three courses focused on homemaking and one course on needlecraft. It gives a glimpse into the expectations of women during this time period, that they were educated in a way that gave them a single path in life as opposed to the opportunities that are given to them today.


Name Allen, Frances Date 7/14/47 Counselor Irving
(Last Name First)

Report cards for the following subjects are contained in this envelope

Per.		Teachers' Initials First Qr.	Semester
1	Homemaking IX		
2	Homemaking VI		
3	Soc. Prob		
4	Homemaking VII		
5	P.E.		

75+ Year Old HHS Report Card
photo by Elijah Yamanaka

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The DTR Sophomore Class Uniform
photo by Elijah Yamanaka

Down Town Rally has been a core part of Hayward High's identity, a tradition stretching back over a century still practiced today. The rally uniform shown in the image stands as a reminder of that, and when asked about a potential significant item from today, Ms. Walker provided this: "It would be nice to have a modern jersey or cheer outfit, or band or color guard outfit—some piece of DTR would be good."

The Hidden Hayward High Museum is quite fascinating. If you are interested in learning more about our school's history, don't hesitate to check it out!

Farmer Pride At Hayward High

By Daisie Rivas

When it comes to bringing energy, spirit, and pride to Hayward High, no other group can do it quite like them: Farmer Pride, Hayward High's very own cheerleaders! Representing all grade levels, there are three cheer teams: Freshman, Junior Varsity (sophomores), and Varsity (juniors and seniors)! These student-athletes work hard to keep the spirit up all year long. You can catch them on game days doing rallies in front of B Hall during lunch or on the track during games, bringing the spirit.

The Hayward High cheer team doesn't only bring the fun; they are also scholars. Last year, Varsity had an average GPA of 3.41, and they also serve the community! They are actively involved in local Hayward events, such as their recent performances at the Downtown Street Festival and the backpack giveaway, with more events coming up this school year.

Sadly, they are not taking any more girls this year, but you can try out next year around spring, with no experience needed! The people on these teams can become your new best friends, and you won't be alone when navigating academics because of their study halls. The captains are also very helpful when it comes to learning dances, cheers, and stunts.

Don't be afraid to show your pride if you love Hayward High. Let's go, Farmers!

Farmer Pride often posts updates on Instagram as well, so keep up with them by following @haywardhighcheer.



A Few Of Our Hayward High Cheerleaders
photo by Daisie Rivas

Is AI A Good Resource To Use In School?

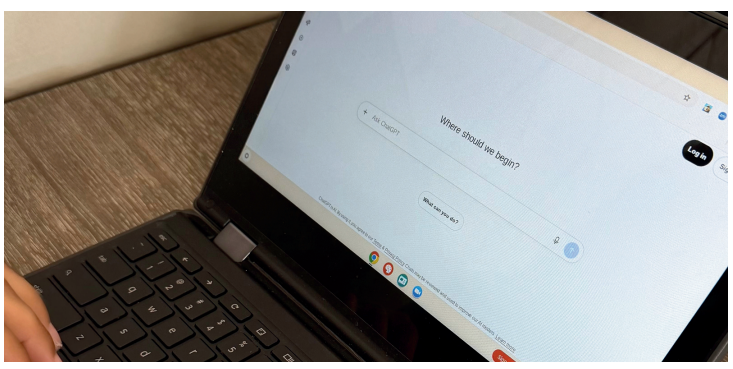
By Mai'loni Thompson

Students sometimes think AI can be an easier resource for school because they can quickly get an answer. AI is a fast resource, but it's not always right. AI can make mistakes too. My friend Dahnay said, "Just because AI gives you an answer does not mean the answer is automatically correct, so you should still check the information."

Students can also start losing important learning skills if they depend on AI too much. Dahnay also said in our interview, "Some people have AI do every assignment for them, and they are not really learning the information themselves. AI should be used to help students learn, not just to do all of their work for them."

Students should not depend on it for every assignment. If you use AI to help you learn, it can be useful, but if you use it to do everything for you, you are only hurting your own learning. AI should be used as a tool to support students, not replace the work they need to do themselves.

Overall, some students think AI is a good resource for learning because it can help with notes, studying, and understanding things they are confused about. It can also help students come up with ideas and learn information in different ways.



ChatGPT Start Page
photo by Camila Torres

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What Is The YEP Credit Recovery Program?



What A Student Would Typically
Look Like While Enrolled In Cyber High
photo by Ashley Espinosa

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Journalism Class of 2027

By Jayden Jean-Louis

Cyber High and the YEP Credit Recovery Program are for students to have an opportunity to recover credits from classes they have failed during the regular school year. The programs are made to help students complete the work and tests they need in order to stay on track for graduation or meet the college A-G requirements with a C- or better. The program begins in late October, continues throughout most of the school year, and ends in May.

To apply, students need to meet with their counselor during drop-in hours. After speaking with their counselor, students then have to complete an online credit recovery application. The counselor gets an email asking them to complete the request and select the course that is needed.

Once that is complete, the student gets an email showing that they have been placed on the waiting list. A confirmation email is then sent to the parent or guardian.

Most credit recovery programs happen after school and use computer-based instruction. The program can also have links to different websites and learning tools that can help students understand certain concepts. Since students can work at their own pace, the program can reduce some of the stress that struggling students may face in regular classes. Food is also provided to students in the cafeteria.

One student I interviewed, named Juan, said the program is useful for students who need another opportunity to meet certain eligibility requirements. "Sometimes you understand some work better when you can go at your own pace," Juan explained. "It also helps knowing you have another chance to earn the credits you need."

Attendance is also very important. Students who have three absences can be dropped from the program, and two tardies can count as one absence. Students who are dropped must have perfect attendance at Hayward High before rejoining the program.

Overall, Cyber High and the YEP Credit Recovery give students another chance to improve their grades, recover credits, and move toward the end goal of graduation.

Advisor's Note

Welcome back to the Haystack! The students in Journalism this year have been working hard to get our school news platform up and running for the 2026-2027 school year. One of our class priorities this year is to elevate student voice - we want to hear from you! Please reach out to any Journalism student, our Instagram account, or my email at **cschenkelberg@husd.us** if you have a story idea, something we've missed, a Letter to the Editor, or some written or visual art you'd like to have published! Looking forwards to to good year, and good luck to everyone at DTR!
– Mr. Schenkelberg