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Where Did Homeroom Go?

by staff writer **MAGGIE LU**

School is back in session, and with it comes many new changes to our lives. This year, there has even been a change in our schedules themselves! As you may have noticed, your homeroom no longer takes place before first period. Instead, it has been moved to be a part of your second period class, and you are now required to report to first, in the beginning of the school day. But why did this happen?

According to Mrs. Marren, the Instructional Leadership Team here at Sutherland decided that these adjustments were necessary, and offer many advantages for the students. To start, the old model had recorded over 100 students late to school and who had missed the daily announcements. By moving announcements to second period, they hope this number will be reduced. In addition to this, a majority of the detentions

assigned here at school were because of excessive late arrival to homerooms. This new schedule will attempt to prevent that from happening anymore. Furthermore, this allows us to align ourselves with Mendon's schedule, which will help those who take classes over there. Lastly, it allows for an extra 20 minutes of instruction per week (I don't know if many students will be happy with this one; we'll have to see).

Obviously, with a change this dramatic, there has been a lot of debate. Will this rescheduling of homerooms truly be advantageous? What do the students and staff think? For our next issue, we will be interviewing the school community to get their opinions. Stay tuned!

A Knight's Return: New Assistant Principal Dr. Case

by staff writer **KATHERINE MOON**

With the summer heat subsided into gentle autumn air, Sutherland opened its doors to welcome students and faculty back to school. Some are new; many are returning. Dr. Sumara Case is, however, both new and returning. A Sutherland graduate and our new assistant principal, Dr. Case is more than excited to be a Knight once again.

Dr. Case is not a novice when it comes to education. With a bachelor's degree in Psychology from Allegheny College and a master's degree in Teaching and Curriculum from the U of R, she taught social studies for ten years at Olympia High School. During her time there, she earned her doctorate degree in Educational Leadership from the U of R, as well. She then spent the past seven years at Odyssey Academy as a Teacher Leader, Acceleration Coordinator, and grade level administrator, gaining leadership experience.

"Working in a high-need district, I knew that I wanted to be an educational leader very early in my teaching career," she said determinedly. She saw many opportunities for school reforms and was thrilled to find a job opening to do such at Sutherland.

Other than the administrative work, Sutherland had many other appeals for her. Currently residing in the district and with her daughters attending Pittsford schools, she has always hoped to give back to the community through her educational leadership. Furthermore, as an avid adherent of equity, culturally responsive education, and social emotional learning, she was eager to support the initiatives Pittsford is currently taking.

As an assistant principal, she hopes to understand the culture of Sutherland and learn the vision of educators in the district. She also aims to provide equitable resources for all students and remove barriers to student success.

"I am so excited to be here with you guys!" she shares. "I am here for each and every one of you to help make sure your high school experience is amazing! I can't wait to meet and get to know each of you."



Dr. Sumara Case smiles in the cafeteria.

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The Bittersweet Opening of the New YMCA

by staff writer **MICHAEL LI**



YMCA Construction Site in Pittsford

A wise man once told me, “it’s fun to stay at the YMCA,” and his words have stuck with me for years. I for one, along with many others, believe the statement above is true. For years I’ve been going to the humble Southeast YMCA nestled by East Jefferson Road, enjoying the equipment and the environment. Like every gym, it has the basics: workout equipment, fitness workshops, and even a pool. However, even though the equipment at the YMCA wasn’t particularly unique, it was still a special part of the community. The Southeast YMCA has always been cozy and inviting, with a smiling greeter welcoming whomever decided to walk through

the doors. Upon entering the Y, one would then be greeted by an assortment of lovely sounds, whether it be the sound of water splashing around in the pool, teens jumping about in the gym, playing basketball, or the intense pickle-ball matches held by the elderly. This environment was special, something only the little Southeast YMCA could have. Unfortunately, this environment will soon be gone. Due to an inability to expand in the current location, the Southeast YMCA will be moved to a new facility. Though it’s regrettable that the community is losing the original location, which will be sold to a local church, it’s joyous that they will be gaining a newly constructed facility that is giant. The new branch of the YMCA being developed off the corner of Clover and West Jefferson Road will be called the Schottland Family YMCA, which will open on September 30th. This behemoth of a facility boasts 140,000 square feet of land that will host a plethora of services, such as a childcare, multiple gymnasiums, multiple wellness centers, an aquatics center, and an indoor track. “This will be a Y of the future and one that will be modeled nationally for its integration of health and wellness,” said George M. Romell, President of the YMCA of Greater Rochester. “We have a health epidemic in our country and our community. It is the mission of the YMCA to foster and encourage wellness and healthy living, and this new campus will allow us to do that through prevention and meeting the growing needs head on.” Stemming from these ambitions, the new Schottland Family YMCA will implement a wellness center partnered with the UR Medicine, which will provide vital medical services.

It’s a bittersweet feeling to know that the Southeast YMCA’s home environment will forever be gone, replaced by a new facility. I personally believe this must have been done to progress our community and I have high hopes for the new Schottland Family YMCA. I’m sure it will develop its charms and become just as great as the YMCA before it as it integrates into and better our community.

Spider-Man Swings in Theaters: a Movie Review

by staff writer **MAGGIE LU**

The beginning of summer brings often joy to many people around the world. Warmer weather, a break from school, and time to do all the things you usually can’t. This year, the beginning of summer brought with it some amazing movies to enjoy in theaters, one of them being Marvel’s newest installation in their series. Continuing on from the events in *Avengers: Endgame*, *Spider-Man: Far from Home* follows young Peter Parker across the world to Europe trying to enjoy a vacation with his classmates, only to find himself in the middle of a new threat that may destroy the world. Confronted with mysterious elemental monsters and conflicted, he must decide whether he wants to help save the world or just enjoy his only break, like every other normal high school student.

Unfortunately, there is not much more I can say without spoiling this action-packed movie. It is a relatively light and breezy film, a great contrast from the emotional and intense movie that was *Endgame*. There is even a little bit of romance (which some might find annoying, yet I thought it was the perfect portrayal of awkward high school relationships). However, there are still a lot of surprising moments that keep the viewers on the edge

of their seats, and one major plot twist that completely turns everything around. Getting out of my seat at the theater, I thought the movie had ended until I realized the end credits hadn't rolled; there was still so much more that was about to happen. My favorite part of this movie was not in the plot or the story, but in how Peter Parker's character was written and how well Tom Holland played the part. Usually in young adult fiction, the teenage hero/heroine is someone who is strong and mature and always knows exactly what to do. Yet if you think about it, that's not realistic at all. High schoolers trying to save the world and being active 24/7? Yeah, no. That's why I loved how relatable Peter Parker is in this movie (and in *Spider-Man: Homecoming* too but that's a different story). He's a bumbling, awkward mess who makes mistakes and I'm here for it. He's not the perfect hero, but he has a good heart and doesn't give up, which is important for people to see. I got a lot of good laughs from how relatable the characters are, and it made the movie feel so much more fun.

All in all, I think this was an amazing film and a solid addition Marvel made to their lineup of movies. If you thought *Avengers: Endgame* was truly the end, you thought wrong. Spider-Man keeps the spirit of the Avengers alive, and gives us hope for more great movies to come.

Update: Spider-Man may be removed from the Marvel Universe because of the Disney/Sony split and I'm not having it. #savespiderman



Spider-Man: Far From Home

Get Ready for Homecoming!

by staff writer **EMMI LU**

Wearing pajamas to school, dressing like a hippie, and football. What do they all have in common? Drumroll please...Homecoming! One of the biggest events of the school year is right around the corner and we're traveling back in time with a theme of decades! Of course, the football game on Friday is the focal point of the week but what is more fun than showing school spirit by putting on a disco suit or a pair of bell-bottom jeans? Fun spirit days are planned for the entire week, including:

SPIRIT WEEK (9/23-27)

MONDAY	Pajama Day (a.k.a. best spirit day ever)
TUESDAY	Meme Day (because everyone needs a little meme)
WEDNESDAY	Western Wednesday (time for some tumbleweed...)
THURSDAY	Throwback Thursday (dress your decade!)
FRIDAY	Class Colors (what's life without a little color?)

If you aren't already excited after seeing the line-up of spirit days, there's still a lot to anticipate, such as the pep rally! With music so generously provided by Mr. Menchel and Spotify, this lively event is always a highlight with heated competitions between classes. Look forward to a football game between the upperclassmen, tug-of-war between the underclassmen, and other "secret" activities.

Double the energy of the pep-rally will be present at the football game later in the night so don't miss out! Support the Pittsford Panthers while they take on the Webster Schroder Warriors, 7 O'clock right here at Sutherland. Win or lose, there's always a reason to celebrate, and that's just what Pittsford does with the annual homecoming parade. The class of 2020 won float of the year last year with a show stopping yellow submarine. Will they have a two-year streak, or will another class take the victory? There's only one way to find out, and that's to go to the parade!

The best way to end a week like Homecoming week is with a party, and what's better than one that's free? That's right- the Homecoming dance is going to be free this year! There's food, there's music, there are Air Pods. What more can you ask for? It sounds almost too good to be true (almost) so take the opportunity to go-you won't regret it.

Homecoming 2019 is shaping up to be an awesome homecoming so have fun, and enjoy the week when cozy clothes, football games, generation float competitions, and free dances all represent the community of our school.

A Note to Incoming Freshmen

by staff writer **EMMI LU**

Congratulations! If you are reading this, it means you have survived the first few weeks of high school! Not as bad as you probably imagined it (I hope), but still quite a change from middle school. New classes, new building, and new teachers. It can all be a bit intimidating, am I right? There's no need to panic about monster teachers, or mean girls strutting down the hallways wearing pink on Wednesdays because I can personally guarantee, you won't see them at Sutherland High School. You've heard all the sayings: it takes time to get adjusted, have a balanced schedule, and I'm sure you don't want to read all the same things again. Instead, a couple of tidbits about Sutherland, and some advice from a former freshman.

Starting out, it's easy to get lost in the maze we call school. Once you've figured out how to get from class to class without being late, there's something else to know. There are a lot of staircases in Sutherland, many of which are hidden from the main walking points. They can make your commutes a lot shorter. If you ever have any free time, make sure to explore some of them! (Like the one in the music hallway!) Another good to know fact about Sutherland is that the amphitheater is an awesome spot. Whether you want to sit outside for lunch, or just relax after school, it's definitely one of the best places to be. Sutherland itself is full of surprises, with fun things to discover every day.

You know those big, beautiful holes in the wall that are designed to hold your stuff? Use them! There are some students that carry everything in their backpacks but I strongly advise against it, (unless you want to look like a turtle by senior year). The best advice I can give is probably also the cheesiest, but it's one hundred percent true. Make a strong relationship between yourself and your teachers. They will be your biggest help over your next four years. Teachers can help you with their specific subjects in department offices, or even be there to support you if the stress of school is wearing you out. I know it can be hard to believe, but teachers can actually be easy to talk to.

I hope that your freshman year is off to a good start, and continues to get better! High school may not be a total walk in the park (or more of a rollercoaster ride), but the memories you make during your years here make it all worth it.



note from the **EDITORS**

Welcome back to Sutherland High School!

We are *The Lance*, a student-run newspaper here at Sutherland. Excited to share information with our community, we cover everything from our own school events to the news around the world, from a discussion on cutting-edge research to something as funny as an "Ode to Dino Nuggets" (yes, this was an actual article we published). As the mighty lance of the Knights, we always take initiative to find new stories to write about, and we are absolutely delighted to invite you to our crew!

Whatever your passion is, there will always be a place for you in our team. We have the staff writers, who share their voice with the school and write articles to be published; the editors who lend a hand by making sure every piece is trim and clean before it hits the press; the photographers and artists whose work is showcased along with our articles; and the layout editors who stitch everything together and finalize the process.

We hope you will join us for a meeting in September. Best of luck to you this school year!

Your Editors,
Maggie Lu and Katherine Moon

Please subscribe by emailing us at thesutherlandlance@gmail.com!