

FEBRUARY 2020

## Hockey Season Wrap—Up

BY WYATT KNIPE

The CB East Hockey team is off to a great start as they are in third place in the Continental division. The hockey team started the season off hot, winning four out of the first five games and playing in three non-league games winning two of the three including the overtime thriller against West. Led by head coach Ken Latchum and assistant coaches Mike Capps and Jim Stamper, the hockey players have improved tremendously throughout the season. Junior Shane West said, “The coaches give us so much support through the season. We may not have 25 guys on the roster but they keep making us the best we can be.” Senior Captains Max Ermigiotti, Jasen Cluckey, and Nick LoCastro provide excellent leadership for the rest of the team.



The team gathers after the first period to talk over the game plan.

The boys set goals early in the season to beat rival schools CB West and CB South and to win their division. The season started off with an easy schedule resulting in a 4-0-1 record. In the latter part of the season, they faced tough matchups but managed to come out on top, exemplified by a comeback against Souderton. The boys are fighting to keep their season alive after a loss to the “rival school” CB South. Keeping their heads high the following week, they dominated Abington 5-1 on home ice. When asked, “How do you guys get the energy to play games so late at night?” Aiden Schmidt responded, “We feed off our fans; we may only have seven students up there, but they sure bring plenty of noise with instruments and bull-horns. We love those guys.” The end stretch of the season looks easier than the earlier half of the season, so the boys can improve their seeding from 3rd with a current 4-2-2 record.



Sophomore Phil McIntyre skates down the ice with the puck.

The squad is fighting hard to keep their season alive with five regular season games left. The team will say goodbye to five Senior players: Max Ermigiotti, Jasen Cluckey, Nick LoCastro, Dan Tori, and Marc Green. The team has a strong foundation with many talented underclassmen such as juniors Chris McIntyre, Connor Keiser, and Matt Cipriano and sophomores Phil McIntyre and Sean Gorman. The future for CB East sticks and puck is very bright and every player on the team contributes significantly to each game.

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*The Patriot* is a student publication of Central Bucks High School East  
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The opinions stated in *The Patriot* do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the students, administration, faculty, or staff of Central Bucks High School East.

Interested in writing for *The Patriot*? Anyone is welcome to write. Email Mr. Bercik at [sbercik@cbsd.org](mailto:sbercik@cbsd.org). Come with ideas for articles, photographs, opinions, and more! Look for our publication on the East website.

# Humans of CB East

**Alex Panas: Select Choir, Men's Ensemble, Patriot Players, Mr. East**



**Who is your biggest role model?**

**Probably Nick Breen, that man has lead me through many endeavors. He is currently leading me through my macroeconomics class, and I would probably be failing without him.**

**What has been the best part of your high school experience?**

**Doing the fall show, *Chorus Line*. It was probably one of the best shows I've done in high school and I made a lot of friends through it.**

**What is your perfect life in ten years?**

**Having a decent job and actually being able to sustain myself.**

**What is one piece of advice that you would give to other students?**

**Don't care as much. Don't care.**

**What is the most important lesson you have learned during high school?**

**Don't take everything so seriously. Don't expect yourself to be the most top notch at everything you do.**

**Do you have any conspiracies?**

**Wyoming isn't real.**

**How would you contribute to make the world a better place?**

**Right now I wish I could help the people in Australia with the wild fires and help the wildlife.**

**What is your biggest fear?**

**Definitely clowns.**

# Humans of CB East

**Allison Gallant: President of NHS, French Honor Society, and Donation Nation**

**What has been the best part of your high school experience?**

Playing on the field hockey team because as an underclassman it made it easy to transition into high school because you get to see teammates in the hallway and say hi to them. You have a great bond with your teammates.



**What is your perfect life in ten years?**

I think I want to be some person in the business world. Maybe an entrepreneur and have my own business and also be able to travel the world.

**What is one piece of advice that you would give to other students?**

I would say get involved because it makes your experience a lot more exciting. Just having different things to do after school and getting to meet a lot of new people is really awesome.

**What is the most important lesson you have learned during high school?**

Just to get involved.

**Do you have any superstitions?**

That's pretty awkward because I don't.

**How would you contribute to the world to make it a better place?**

Volunteer wherever you can at any local volunteer organizations or start your own food drive.

**What is your biggest fear?**

Being trapped in an elevator alone because you can't get out!

# SPOTLIGHT

# FEATURES

## Head Swim Coach Secures 400th Career Win at Hatboro Horsham Meet

Head swim coach Tom Kane won his 400th career meet after the girls' swim team beat Hatboro-Horsham at home on the tenth of December.

**BY COURTNEY STERNER**

Tom Kane has been coaching the girls' swim team for forty-three years. Since starting in 1976, he has led his team to win multiple league championships, seen dozens of records made and broken, and sent countless swimmers to compete at the state competition.

However, on December tenth at a home meet against Hatboro Horsham, Kane, who is known as "TK" to his swimmers, overcame a major milestone: he obtained his 400th career win.

Kane was hoping that this occasion would occur in the previous season, but two extremely close losses against Hatboro Horsham and Council Rock North left the team ending the season stuck at 399 wins.

"I realized last year how close I was to getting my 400th win, but unfortunately we only got to 399. It was exciting knowing that our first win of the 2019-2020 season would be my 400th, but I knew Hatboro Horsham would be tough," Kane stated.

Last year, the girls' swim team lost to Hatboro Horsham by a narrow margin of six points, setting up this year's meet against the Hatters to be one of the most important. When the team found out the previous day that this meet would lead to their coach's 400th win, the pressure to win this meet heightened.

The final outcome? The Patriots beat the Hatters 105-80.

"I was excited about the 400th win, but mostly I was feeling really happy that we beat Hatboro because they have a really great team," Kane explained. "I was thrilled!"

Despite this exciting occasion, the swim team still has a lot of work to do, including going against sister schools Central Bucks West and Central Bucks South. Multiple swimmers are also working towards district qualifying times.



The CB East girls' swim team



Swim coach Tom Kane, also known as "TK"

The team also hopes to finish their season placing second at the league championship meet for the second year in a row. Last year—coming in behind powerhouse team North Penn—East beat out Central Bucks South and Souderton after all three teams came into the championship meet tied

As the season progresses, the CB East girls' swim team continues to work hard in hopes of achieving this desired success and extending Tom Kane's impressive list of career wins.

## History Corps and Ambassadors Club

A group of C.B. East students has been working to keep the memory of veterans alive. History Corps members have had the opportunity to interview several veterans this year, including two from the Vietnam War era and two others who served in the Cold War. History Corps members record their interviews and then prepare these interviews for submission to the Library of Congress. In doing this, they are part of a nationwide effort to preserve veterans' memories called the Veterans History Project.

Student Danika Grieser had the opportunity to interview Veteran Sigafos. She wrote about her takeaways from this interview saying, "While interviewing Veteran Sigafos, his retelling of his past through the interview by the Central Bucks East History Corps brought the impact of just thanking your veterans to light. When finishing his final thoughts in the interview, Veteran Sigafos was brought to tears while explaining the importance of saying thank you to our veterans. Throughout the interview, it was evident that Mr. Sigafos was a patriotic American proud of his 30 plus years of service for America as an Air Force officer. Mr. Sigafos had served overseas in England, South Korea, Germany, and Africa, and treasured his experiences at each location. He values his overseas experiences and believes that every American should experience time overseas as he did to understand how grateful we should be to be American."



Club members (left to right), Bryce Hudson, Austin Whitson, and Adam Hicks with Veteran Matt (second from left).



Mr. Johnson, Adam Hicks, Austin Whitson, and Bryce Hudson interview veteran (left).

Student Austin Whitson talked about his experience stating, "Getting to speak with Jack Thomas is truly one of the neatest experiences I have ever had. Getting to sit down and ask him questions about his experiences throughout life both pre-Vietnam war and post-Vietnam war and what he has gone through is something very rare that I've never gotten to do before. I would truly recommend this to anyone who has any interest in either history or wanting to enlist in the military."

This club gives students amazing opportunities that they will never forget.

## Later Start Times for CBSD Schools

BY ORLA BARTLEY



Discussions of altering the secondary school start times within the district occurred on Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> in the Central Administration Office. Though no definitive decision has been made, discussions led the committee to a deeper understanding of the benefits and disruptions that later start times cause.

Many professionals led the meeting, including Dr. Nadine Garvin, assistant superintendent for elementary education; Dr. Alexis McGloin, assistant superintendent for assessment, professional development, and educational services; and Dr. Abram Lucabaugh, assistant superintendent for secondary education.

The presentation began by comparing the Central Bucks start times to neighboring districts. Currently, the CBSD's high schools begin at 7:25 a.m. and finish at 2:30 p.m., with middle schools starting five minutes later.

Statistics presented showed most neighboring districts start at similar times. However, New Hope-Solebury School District have their secondary schools beginning at 7:50 a.m. and ending at 2:30 p.m. Thus, their day is twenty-five minutes shorter than the length of the Central Bucks' day. The idea of shortening the length of the school day is in discussion, but no confirmation on whether this is allowed has been made.

The American Academy of Pediatrics & American Academy advise that "middle schools and high schools should start no earlier than 8:30am." Their studies indicate that schools often see reduced absences and tardiness when starting later. Additionally, they state that more sleep can reduce depression and anxiety.

Although most of their research indicates beneficial changes, the committee still has multiple logistical concerns. Extra-curricular activities will be affected by later release times. The committee also worries later start times will pose conflicts with scheduling games outside of the district. Transportation and childcare would become severely impacted. Transportation funds would need to increase, as more buses may be required. Creating later start times may also conflict with family schedules.

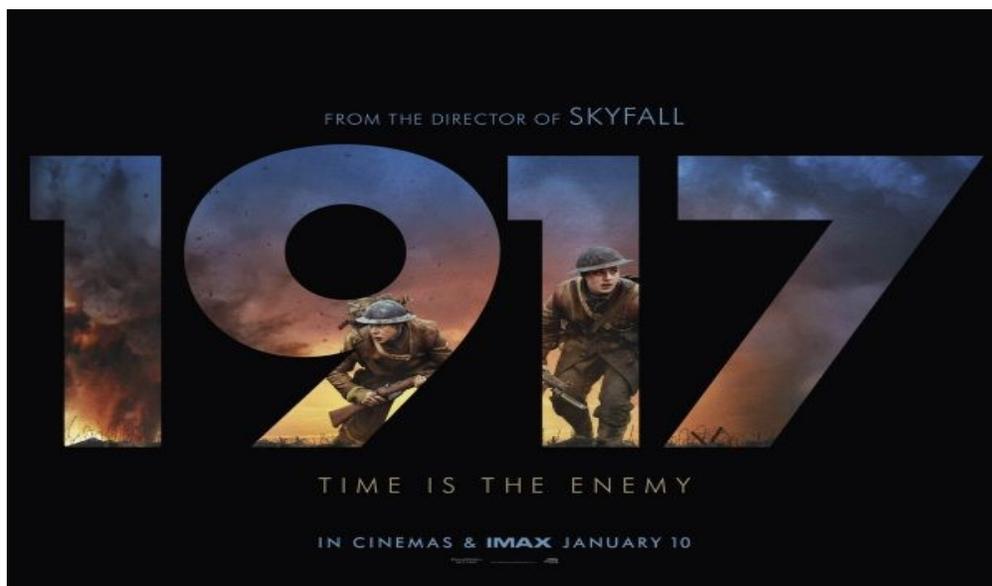
The urgency of changing start times does not seem to be a concern for Dr. John J. Kopicki, Superintendent of Schools. Kopicki states the pace the committee is taking, saying, "A thorough investigation of this matter will take time, but Board and administration are committed to exploring it fully in order to determine if it's right for our community, our students, and our schools."

# The New Movie to See: *1917*

BY ANNA VALKO and ASHLEY BURATOWSKI

*1917*, directed by Sam Mendes, has hit the theaters with stars George Mackay and Dean-Charles Chapman. Viewers are transported to World War I where they experience the story of two men, Lance Corporal William Schofield and Lance Corporal Tom Blake, with an impossible task. Millions of people have been brought to the edge of their seats when the two British soldiers are given the task of delivering a message across enemy borders. Although this is an already seemingly difficult task, they are given the burden of racing against time, and, if they fail, thousands of lives will be lost. The thrilling movie takes the viewers through back to back shocking events. With an 89% fresh score on Rotten Tomatoes, the critics have given positive reviews that could lead to *1917* winning best picture. The realistic movie brings a sense of mortality to the characters and it has been described as one of the best war films of all time.

The producers of the film took a new path to the filmmaking. When viewing the nearly two-hour long movie, viewers believe that they are watching one long, unbroken film take. This unique technique adds a sense of reality to the movie, awakening emotions in the audience and making the story line more intriguing. Make sure to get out and see the thrilling new movie, *1917*, before it leaves theaters.



REVIEWS

# Behind The Scenes at Java City

BY ELIZABETH PHILIPP

Anyone who attends East has at least tried or witnessed the swarms of kids every day getting a quick pick-me-up from our own coffee bar. Located in our cafeteria, the convenient hub is a place where teachers and students have a variety of coffee and snacking options. Muffins are hand-crafted in our own cafeteria each morning as well as salads and sandwiches. A fan favorite: warm chocolate chip cookies every morning.

Melissa Mollichella, an employee at East's Java City for three years, gives us an inside look on what it's like to work at the one and only Java City. Melissa begins her day at 6:30 am, just enough time to get the café ready for the busiest time of day. Students eagerly wait at the cafeteria doors. "I try to not look out the door, it makes it easier." Melissa's favorite part about her job is that she gets to interact with the kids every day. Melissa told us how fun and interesting her job is. "The most exciting thing that has ever happened here would have to be a prom proposal two years ago. The boy that was proposing came to me in the morning and had written 'prom?' on a cup. When his girlfriend ordered her drink, he was waiting there with flowers."

So what are most East students purchasing? Melissa informed us it is by far the Carmel Macchiato or iced coffee. Seniors Jack Williamson, Brett Villari, Jules Renaud and Elizabeth Philipp get a large creamy iced coffee almost every morning. The only problem these seniors face is the price. Although they love Java, they seem to be running out of money. "I told them to cut me off but they didn't take me seriously." Overall the feedback from students and teachers is always positive. Java City is a place where friends can hang out get coffee and treats before, during and after school. Java is basically East's personal Starbucks.



Jack Williamson enjoys his purchase from Java City.



Students love to order coffee and snacks from Java City to start the day off right.



Jules Renaud prepares her morning coffee from Java City.

# FEATURES