



UPCOMING

TEACHER DEVELOPMENT

No school for students on Thursday, April 27

PARENTS CLUB SPRING FASHION SHOW

Thursday, April 27 at 6 p.m. at Yacht Club

RAISING YOUNG MEN & WOMEN IN A CULTURE OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

Thursday, April 27 at 7 p.m. at Memorial Church

AP EXAMS

May 1-12 at First English Lutheran Church

BAND & ORCHESTRA BOOSTER MEETING

Tuesday, May 2 at 7 p.m.

PARENT CLUB MEETING

Wednesday, May 10 at 7 p.m. in the Student Union

"Behind the striking cobalts lies a greater issue."

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Saudi Arabian officials visit North classrooms to study American education

VISITORS MEET IN INNOVATION LAB | School workers discuss education with visitors from Saudi Arabia. The visitors were sent by the King to study education in different parts of the world.

By Michal Ruprecht & Syeda Rizvi
EDITOR & ASSISTANT EDITOR

Every now and then, students will see district staff popping in and out of classrooms in order to improve and evaluate teaching styles. However, on Monday, April 17, a new crowd of educators with a different goal roamed the halls.

Administrators and teachers, including Fatima Alamari, were sent by King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia as part of a national transformation effort. The plan sets goals for 2030 that will take their oil-dependent country to a higher standard of living by reforming many aspects of their society, including the education system. Educators were sent to schools in the U.S., Finland, Sweden and several other countries to observe and use as models for public education.

"They came to North specifically to learn how our teachers learn and grow together during the school year," science teacher Elizabeth Michaels said via email. "North is unique as a school because we have systems in place that allow for our teachers to identify and solve problems. This allows us to continually improve our instruction and therefore improve learning for all students."

According to U.S. News, the three countries are ranked in the top 15 in education, while Saudi Arabia is in 50th place. Each score is based on the country's public education system and the percentage of students that would consider attending a university there.

The high ranking and innovative teaching styles compelled the king to send representatives to America. Alamari and her colleagues noticed many differences like co-ed classes, mini libraries of books in classes, private classrooms for teachers, desks for each student and facilitated communication between teachers and students

"I like (North) very much. It's very big and organized," Alamari said. "This is much more bigger than our (schools). In our country, there is maybe

a maximum of 500 (students). It's not as big as this one which is 1,400. So, it's almost the same thing, same strategy, same methodology, but there are more extensions here. We have the same basic points, but here there are more extensions."

Participating teachers and administrators led school tours and seminars to discuss the techniques that the visitors noticed. English teacher Geoffrey Young was among those teachers.

"Our role was to greet and then to sit with them. So we were hosts in the sense that we made them feel comfortable here within our school," Young said. "It was also our role to explain the key features of what we as a leadership team have done in our school to enhance learning and provide a better education for students."

Two of the school's culture goals that were developed earlier this year were to promote connections with classmates and encourage collaboration. Michaels said student-teacher relationships are essential for a healthy and progressive learning environment.

"At North, we realize that no significant learning can happen without relationships," Michaels said. "The stronger the student-teacher relationship, the more students are willing to take risks, try difficult tasks and stretch their learning."

Since North was picked from a handful of schools, Michaels said the visit was an honor. She added that she would be open to another visit and show more features of the school.

"I was so impressed by our visitors. They were excited to be here, eager to learn, curious, thoughtful, friendly and considerate," Michaels said. "I was so excited to host teachers from across the world. It shows that what we do here is powerful and people outside our community are noticing."

Contributing: Alex Harring, Lindsey Ramsdell

MARCH 7
Resolution 34, sponsored by Sen. Jeff Flake, is introduced to the Senate.

MARCH 15
A Senate committee votes to present and support the bill in front of full chamber.

MARCH 23
The resolution passes through Senate and proceeds to the House.

MARCH 28
The House of Representatives passes the bill.

APRIL 3
President Donald Trump signs the resolution, and it officially becomes law.

Cable companies sell information following new legislation

By Billy Moin & Rory Angott
SENIOR ASSISTANT EDITOR & INTERN

Over the past several months, Democrats and Republicans have battled back and forth over the regulation of Internet Service Providers (ISP).

In October 2016, the Federal Communications Commission passed a new broadband privacy rule regulating what ISPs do with customers' sensitive information.

"For decades, in both Republican and Democratic administrations, federal rules have protected the privacy of the information in a telephone call," former commissioner Tom Wheeler wrote in a New York Times column. "In 2016, the FCC, which I led as chairman under President Barack Obama, extended those same protections to the internet."

Broadband is a term that simply refers to access to high-speed internet. ISPs, such as AT&T and Verizon, provide broadband service to customers. Through this connection, ISPs are able to view everything from users' browser histories to their locations while online, giving the ISPs access to a myriad of information about

their customers.

According to The Guardian, companies want to take that information and auction it off to advertising agencies, which would use it to find potential customers. Because of this power, the FCC, which is headed by five commissioners, voted 3-2 to pass the 2016 Privacy Order. In its report, the commission noted the importance of the right to privacy and that ISPs have immense power over one's personal information.

To level the playing field, the commission ordered that ISPs get explicit consent from customers before selling any information considered sensitive or confidential. This includes one's finances, health, geo-location and call detail information, as well as one's Social Security number, one's web browsing/app usage history, the content of any communications and any

information pertaining to children.

If a customer did give consent, the company would have to provide details as to what data it was collecting, how and why it was needed and to whom it went. In addition to all of this, the commission prevented companies from turning away any customers that refused to give up control of their personal information.

"The bottom line is that the information you share with your broadband provider is yours," Wheeler said in a blog posted to the FCC website. "With the FCC's new privacy protections, you will have the right to determine how it's used."

Wheeler has been outspoken on the subject, writing multiple columns and blogs about it. In his New York Times opinion piece, he also took issue with the fact that information from a

phone call would be protected, but that the same information, posted on the internet, would be vulnerable.

However, Senator Jeff Flake (R-Arizona) could not get on board with these regulations, and he introduced a Senate joint resolution that would tear down the FCC's order. Republicans strongly supported the resolution, while Democrats showed staunch opposition. This polarization became evident in the almost perfect party-line votes in both Congressional houses.

In the end, Republicans won the day, and on Monday, April 3, President Trump signed the bill into law, both reversing the order and preventing future implementations of similar rules.

A few days before Flake introduced his bill, he published a column in the Wall Street Journal. In the article, he argued that the order was overreaching and overly restrictive.

"Information generated from looking up the latest Cardinals score or checking the weather in Scottsdale is treated the same as personal health and financial data," Flake wrote.

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"Grosse Pointe Public Schools are **very ahead** of the game in preparing students."



HANNAH SPINDLER

ON CAMPUS - PAGE 9

Students line up outside of a classroom during passing time.

IN-DEPTH - PAGE 4

"Their **motive** may be to amp up their home team, encourage **victory** or **interfere** with the visiting team, but those efforts can **backfire** and hurt the team they are rooting for."

