



Tillo



Tales



Saltillo Football Aims for Winning Season

The Saltillo High School football team is fresh into their 2018 season under new head coach, Ryan Summers. During the interview the team discussed some of their goals and aspirations. When asked Landon Olive, offensive lineman, about his feelings concerning the upcoming season he replied, "I feel great about the upcoming season. I believe we can be a great team!" Confidence is key, knowing that the players are going into this year with a positive mindset and a desire to win is very encouraging.



When on the subject of the new coaches on staff Olive had only positive things to say. "I love the new coaches..." he replied, "I'm so glad that I have Coach Rankin as my offensive line coach, he is most definitely making me better." We then caught up with, senior, John Mark Reese and asked his opinion on how the team's practices were going this year. Reese admitted, "Practice honestly has been the toughest since I have been in high school". Braham Rinehart, sophomore, also gave us his perspective of the team's

practices, "Every practice has a purpose. It is very intense at times", said Rinehart. As the season progresses and the competition becomes more fierce, these challenging practices will definitely benefit the team.

Senior, Landon Olive, commented on who he believed the team's toughest opponent of the season is, he replied, "In my opinion our biggest competition is either West Point or Olive Branch". Having a schedule full of many difficult non-conference and conference teams, the coaches are instilling the importance of drive and determination into their players. The team's winning attitudes and their desire to achieve greatness, along with the dedication of their coaches and fans, ensure that the Tigers undoubtedly have the potential to succeed this season.



-Emma Crouch and Karsyn Owens

Basketball

Saltillo girls basketball has had its ups and downs over the past 5 years. The program has drastically changed and improved over the course of those years. Some of the changes have been because of the new talent coming to Saltillo every year, but the most drastic change has been the coaches.

The girls basketball team is coached by Titus Goree and Carly Rhudy. Both coaches have a passion for the game and the athletes. Rhudy is pushing “every player playing to the best of our abilities each game”. Both coaches have set many goals such as, for the team to “stand out defensively”(Rhudy), and “.. to never settle”.

The girls made the first round of the playoffs last season. This season they are expected to make it even farther into the playoffs. All of the players are hopeful and the coaches are optimistic. “I do believe we will make it to Jackson! We just have to all show up and be ready to play every game”(Rhudy)



-Grace McFarling



Band

The Saltillo High School Band has been through many changes over the past few years. The rising expectations that Mr. Hill, the head band director, has and requires are pushing the band to be better than ever. "... it is way different than middle school band because of all the hours and intensity that goes in to make our show perfect," says Ethan Dunn, freshman trombonist. There are 96 members in the band. "I feel like the band is going down a very positive road," says Neely Rial, a junior clarinet, "especially having lost so many people and having a young band; we're doing pretty well and moving pretty quick."



Many hours are put into marching band through rehearsals, after school practices, football games, and competitions. The band is expected to learn where to go, what to music to play, and how to look while playing. During October, a band member's week comprises of around 24 hours of band practices or events. These hours are a positive influence on the person, since they are working towards a common goal with their peers and getting to experience the gratification of seeing their hard work come to fruition.



-Lexi Douglas and Erin Dunn

Cross Country

The cross country program at SHS has a prolonged streak of dominance in 5A competition. The girl's team has won three straight state championships. The boys last won in 2015 but have run very well since and were just edged out during the 2017 5A championships. The head coach of the Saltillo Tigers is Charles Covington.



There are great expectations for success this season. Coach Charles Covington on his expectations for the-season," It's gonna be a challenge. But if we run well, I believe we can win them both." The Tigers first race is September 1st, and they expect to start their season off their season with a victory.

This year's squads are poised to make another run towards the state championship. The combination of great coaching and the determination to win are what have created this storied program. Good luck to the Tigers this upcoming season and bring another championship back to Saltillo.



-Miracle Rutherford and Lexi Griggs

Fitness

Many would agree that physical exercise is very important part of staying healthy. But just how many students actually get the exercise they need? Students were asked a series of questions to get their opinion of exercise, and whether they do it or not.

Students interviewed were initially asked if they thought physical exercise was important and why they think this way. An 11th grader named Paul McCrary said, "Yes, because it's healthy." Dylan McCrary, another junior, agreed saying, "Yes, I don't know, it's just logical to exercise and be active." Paul was then asked if he exercised and he responded, "No, I don't exercise at all." When faced with the same question Dylan answered, "Yes."



Why is it that, although people agree physical exercise is important, little do people actually do it? We asked our interviewees whether or not they thought physical exercise should be mandatory for students at school. Dylan said, "No, I don't think so, I don't see the point."

Paul

answered similarly with, "No, because some people may not be fit for it." Paul's last statement

brings an interesting point to light and the reason we may need mandatory exercise. We have

become so complacent with our health that we've let being out of shape become a normal

thing.

With current rates of obesity, finding a better way to take care of ourselves may be found with starting in the school system.

-Tyler Meeks and Matthew Maggard

The Covington Trail

Coach Covington, the cross country coach, has made such a big impact for our school that the parents of a couple runners decided to name the cross-country trail after him. Coach Covington began teaching at Saltillo High School in 1984, and became the cross-country coach in 1988. He has won 19 state championships since he started coaching. Dena Buse and Angela White thought of the idea to dedicate the trail to Coach Covington. We asked each of them why they wanted to name the after Coach Covington. Mrs. Buse responded, “We named the trail after Coach Covington because of the many years of hard work, state titles the team has won, and how well he maintains the XC trail, as well as the students he inspires on a daily basis. We just wanted to show him how much he means to us.” Mrs. White had a very similar response, “Coach Covington made that trail. He has put so much of his time in making XC the great program that it is today. We just wanted to honor him for all his hard work and it just seemed fitting to name the trail in his honor.”

We then asked how they raised money for the archway. Mrs. Buse said, “ We sold Belk Charity Day tickets and had a ‘blue jeans to name the trail day’ that most of the employees participated in, but most of the money was total donations from the community and past XC runners and students because that is how many lives he has touched.” Several donations were made by the people in the community to help fund the archway. There was also help from local businesses to help build it. When we asked Mrs. White who participated in building the archway she said, “Many people helped. Precision Machine and Metal made the metal arch and Mike Jackson laid the brick for the columns.” The Covington Trail is the newest addition to Saltillo High School that is dedicated in honor of Coach Covington, who has been the cross-country coach for 20 years.



-Matison Hurt and Emma Cate Sparks

School Traffic



There have been many speculations as to why things changed with the parking lot at Saltillo High School. When asked about the amount of parking spaces, assistant principal, Andy Brooks, stated that “We have spoken to the LCS central office about expanding student parking in the past and have been told it is not possible due to lack of funds. We will continue to apply for this to be done.”

In the recent years, Guntown Middle, Saltillo Primary, and Saltillo Elementary have always been able to ride the bus from SHS to school and have been able to be picked up from the high school, however it has changed this year. Coach Brooks

says that the reason for this is, “The decision was based on the overwhelming volume of traffic on campus the last couple of years. The situation has been much improved compared to years past. For example, the afternoon traffic is clearing campus before buses are leaving. Previously we’ve still had student and car rider traffic backed up waiting on the buses as they exit campus. Also, we have eliminated a lot of the car rider traffic in the student parking lot that was impeding students leaving campus. There were also safety concerns that have been eliminated due to the changes made.”

-Reagan Smith and Avery Watts

FBLA

What is FBLA?

What do they do?

FBLA stands for Future Business Leaders of America. FBLA is a school club where members take place in competitive events and help the community. One fundraiser FBLA does is a carwash in September. They also put on the Homecoming Dance in October.



Community Service

FBLA serves the community in various ways. “We collect Red Cross Care Kits to donate to the American Red Cross” says Mrs. McFarling (FBLA sponsor). During Christmas time FBLA collects baskets for the elderly spending Christmas in nursing homes. During the spring FBLA raises money for the March of Dimes and also reads to children at Saltillo Primary. “We partner with the Jr. Civitans to

celebrate our veterans on Veterans Day” (McFarling).

Competitions

There are several competitive events that FBLA members compete in. “There are several types of competitions. There are three types of competitive events:

Individual, Team, and Chapter” (McFarling). Competitions take place during three Leadership Conferences.

The conferences

are: The Mississippi Northern District held at Northeast Mississippi Community College, Mississippi’s State Leadership

Conference held in Jackson, and The National Leadership Conference in San Antonio, Texas. The deadline to sign up to compete in these events and join FBLA is November 30.



-Jade Kuykendall and Haley Dean

Junior Civitan

Many people have question what Junior Civitan is. It is a club that goes out and helps people in need and helps out with the community. Kailee Byrd, a member of Junior Civitain, said “ we help people with mental and physical disabilities, plus stuff with the community.” They do things such as raise money for certain causes, take items to the homeless, clean up their community, and so many more great things.



They have also had a big change from last year. “We have branch away from a school sponsored club, so we are now at community club which allows us more leeway with stuff we need to get done for international level” , said Kailee Byrd. They have bigger goals set now that there are community club. One event that they know it’s coming up is the Veterans Day program. It will be November 10 at Saltillo City

Park. They sponsor many programs, like the Veterans Day program, and many fundraisers that venture from their home, schools, or streets in our community.

Lastly, Kaylee Bird said that their main focuses and what they plan to get out of participating in Junior Civitan is, “helping the ones who need it the most, and to get community service hours.” She proceeds to say, “Of course helping the ones who need it the most is more important and more of their goal.” At the moment, they are trying to figure out a community project that would affect the community. The people in this club enjoy the group activities, leadership, and the determination everyone put into helping others in the community.



-Sarah Kate Johnson and Emma Peters

Social Media

The idea behind social media is to share what is important to an individual online, in text or through a photo. But, what if social media has turned from a platform for joyful interaction and communication, to a home for hate and controversy? With that being said, is this online hate prevalent in Saltillo High School's teens?

Today, it seems that the online media in general is doing more harm than good. This goes for anything from news to one-on-one conversations through snapchat. Mrs. Michelle Crosby states, "From what I have seen, it is a major problem, too much information can spread too fast." Mrs. Jenny Fleming supports her by saying, "There should be a block on social media on school premises. There would be less bullying." Most teachers have a similar view on social media believing that it is doing more harm than good for Saltillo teens.



With positives and negatives towards the idea behind an online platform in schools, it may be of no help. The general consensus seems to be that social media has no place in the schools and is producing unneeded controversy.

-Bentley Stephens and Reece Phillips

CPE Mentors

Here at Saltillo High School there are many different types of classes that are available. One of them is our CPE mentoring class. This is the students way of giving back to the teachers and younger students by doing mentor work off of campus. A student will get assigned to a teacher at the Primary, Elementary, or Guntown Middle School. We interviewed five students that mentor and they have given us the inside scoop!

Mentoring at Saltillo Elementary School, we interviewed two seniors, both helping in the fourth grade; Drew Monaghan and Jackson Finch. Drew Monaghan works with Ms. Mcnutt and her class. While there, he helps with the centers, gives definitions to the words that the children have a hard time understanding, and gives them advise on how to write their assignments. "The kids always greet me with a hello and a goodbye when I leave. They make me feel very special," says Drew. Helping out Mrs. Sanders, Jackson Finch loves working with the kids. Both of these boys are sure to make an impact on the bright fourth graders at Saltillo Elementary School.



Saltillo Primary School consist of kindergarten, first, and second grade students. We interviewed three high schoolers who are helping the little ones out. When asked why she wanted to do a CPE internship, our sweet eleventh grader, Addison Finch, says, "I want to be a peditrician or a therapist, and I wanted to see if I liked working with kids to gain experience with them." She says so far she loves the experience. Working with Mrs. Easterling, Bryce Capobianco tells us, "I usually help them whenever they ask for it. I try not to over do it at times because I want them to do their best and figure some things out on their own, but I'm always more than willing to do what I can for them." He is looking forward to the rest of his time as a mentor. Last but not least, eleventh grader, Shelby Merrell wanted to give future mentors some advise. She states, "Just be prepared. You are working with children, so try to be empathetic and patient." These juniors and seniors love what they do and are happy to do it. If you want to mentor next year, contact Coach Summers.

-Harley Boone and Arli Cook

Freshman Transitions

The freshman students of Saltillo High School are very challenged by the new layout of our school. Of course the seniors and juniors run the show at high school as far as popularity, but Saltillo has 255 freshman that came in this year. Now the freshman have to find their spot in the school, many have already made their mark with sports. What about the others?



9th graders bring a new piece of background into the high school like: styles of learning, athleticism, and attitudes. The freshman have done many other things while in middle school. The few people I have interviewed said the like the high school's schedule more than the middle schools because of time in one class. They also said that high school seemed better than middle school for different reasons like: more freedom, less homework, and just classes in general.

The freshman are ready for a great four years and can't wait for them to be over. The ways the few freshman I interviewed were worried about high school is when, a junior or senior is in their classroom because they say it makes them nervous. Freshman can't help but wonder if they might end up in the juniors'/seniors' position, so this was one fright they had about how their four years might end up.



"Saltillo high is so welcoming, so inviting, and so comfortable that almost every person that walks through the doors believes they are about to have an amazing experience." Trinity Duncan

-Landon Nichols

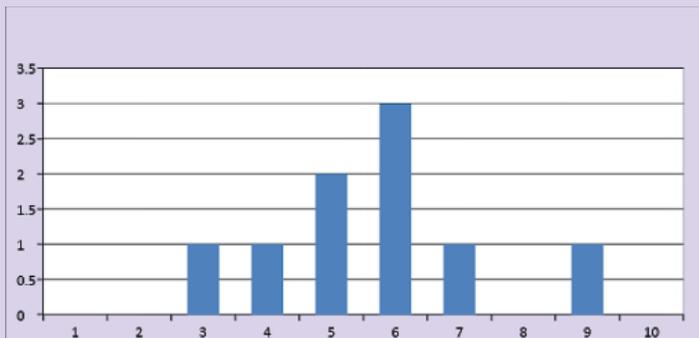
What do people think about our school lunch?

If you have ever watched a television show or a movie that takes place in a school, the show will usually make out the school lunch to be awful. Most people would agree that school lunches really are not all that great, but what do people at our school think about it? I asked nine students from the high school what they would rate our school lunch from one to ten, their favorite and least favorite meals the lunch room serves, and what they think the school can do to improve lunch in general.

The first question I asked was, "On a scale from one to ten what do you rate the school lunch and why?" The nine students I asked had a wide variety of answers ranging from a four to a nine and an average answer of six. One of the students that I asked said, "The food is good, just sometimes it is overcooked and that takes some of the flavor away." Another one of the students said,



"Sometimes good food, but not enough of it". A common complaint is the meal choices the lunch room has, and most of the students agreed that they do not like the hamburgers and the vegetable soup. The students almost all agreed that their favorite lunch choices were some kind of chicken and pizza. The final question that I asked the students were, "In your opinion, what could the lunch room do to improve over all?" and one student answered, "If there was more food and a better variety." And another student stated, "They could improve the way people go through the line." Overall I was surprised about what the nine students thought of the lunch at our school and I hope the school takes into consideration what the students said.



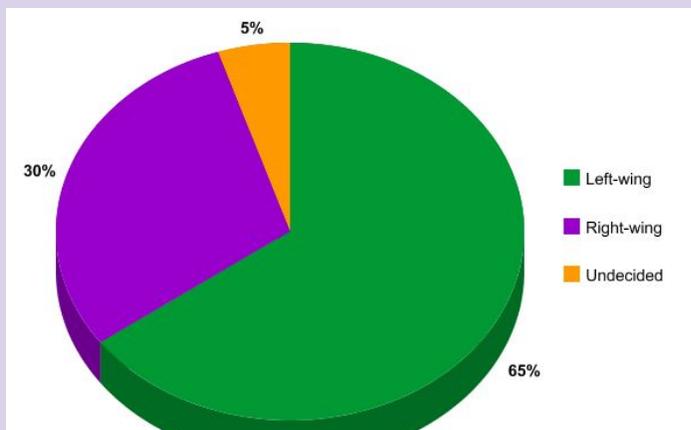
-Cade McCormick

School Politics

Politics, a subject that almost everyone has opinions on and can voice at any time or place. I took to the halls of Saltillo High School to see how our student body stands in this tumultuous space. I had five 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders take the Political Compass Test to determine where they stand in the political world. The test is composed of approximately 60 questions that, depending how you answer, will place you into one of four quadrants on a cartesian plane that most align with your political views. These four quadrants are the Authoritarian Left, Authoritarian Right, Libertarian Left, and the Libertarian Right. The authoritarians are characterized by a strong central government and limited political freedoms while the libertarians are characterized by revering political freedom and having a relatively weak central government. The left is characterized by social equality and egalitarianism and is often in conflict with the social hierarchy, while the right is characterized by conservatism and tradition which is often supportive of religion.

Although the South is known for its sweet tea and hospitality, it is also commonly seen as a home for right wing authoritarians. However, Saltillo High School has, within its walls, a notable amount of left-wing authoritarians and libertarians. One student named Mitchell Bennett proclaimed “I align with Marxism” which is a left-wing ideology developed by the 19th century philosopher and economist, among other things, Karl Marx. He describes Marxim as this “We are all people, as people we are equal, and this principle drives Marxism”. And, while not as strong in their faith, 6 out of the 20 that took the test aligned in the same quadrant as Marxism.

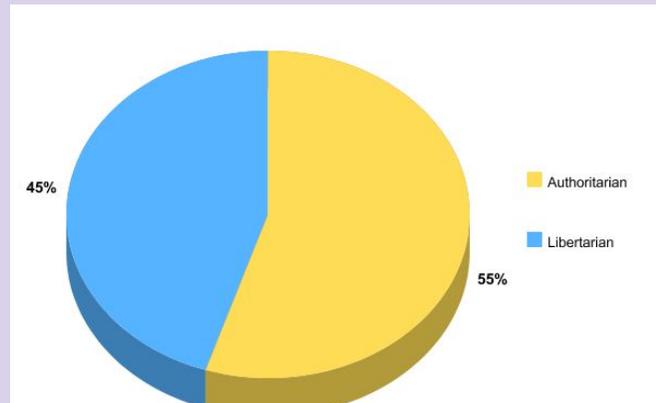
Overall, out of the 20 who took the test 11 were authoritarians and 9 were libertarians while 13 aligned with leftist ideals and 6 aligned with right-wing ideals, leaving one student in the perfect middle on the horizontal axis.



The results show, if the data is representative of the whole school, that 65% of the school agrees with left-wing ideals while only 30% of the school are right-wingers with a 5% left undecided as can be seen by the graph to the left. Also,

assuming the data is representative of the whole student body, 55% of the school has authoritarian beliefs while 45% of the school holds libertarian ideals which can also be seen by the graph to the right.

So, assuming the data is a sound and equal representation, it can be seen that the school tends to hold more left-wing authoritarian beliefs than any other. However, this may not stay the same throughout one's time in school. High-school is a place where young adults go to learn and grow and, in time, one may find that they no longer align with older ideals that they once cherished. This is completely normal and to be expected in high-school. So, while this may be an accurate representation of this year's political environment, who knows what the future may hold.



-Frankie Wilson

New Teachers



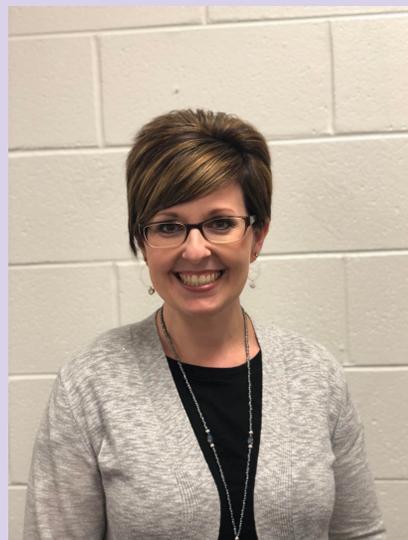
Hannah Blankenship
Special Education



Dena Buse
Secretary



Chad Cox
Special Education



Charla Creel
Health Sciences



Kayla Dillinger
Math



Patrick Dillinger
U.S. History



Karen Glover
Human A&P



Debbie Knight
Math Inclusion



Donna McCullar
Career Coach



Micheal Phillips
Security



Chris Rankin
P.E.



Erin Rowland
Math