



# The Panther Press

February 2022 Issue

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## Master"Peace" Mainstage

The Master"Peace" Mainstage gave the new year a fantastic start. This was Master"Peace"'s first showcase in a long time. Too long for us. The event was held on the evening of January 28th at Sheldon High School's Performing Arts Center. Seats were filled to the brim with support; friends, family, and many more roared and cheered for the performers throughout the show. A variety of dances and performances were held on stage during the event. The practice and hours of sweat the team put in bore their fruit tonight, giving everybody a spectacle to view. Seeing the performance all put together and ran without a hitch brought joy to not only the fans but the dancers who toiled to make it happen; the dedication sure paid off. Overall, the energy in the theater was amazing, the lighting in itself was a work of art, and the choreography was stellar. Master"Peace" hopes to keep entertaining our community in the future, so be sure to attend their next performance soon to come! For now, here are some excellent pictures of the show.



## Lunar New Year Celebrations

Lunar New Year was a success! Florin has always boasted a wonderful scene of diversity and a myriad of cultures that all share this campus. We stepped up our display of pride earlier in the month with various celebrations for Lunar New Year. From the 1st to the 4th of February, there were four days of lunchtime activities and events for all to participate in this Asian cultural holiday. Day one saw the photo booth, where students could take their photos in front of a decorated backdrop. Day Two was for red envelopes. Students wrote down their best wishes and put them inside decorative red envelopes. That day, these envelopes were hung across the trees toward the front of the campus for all to gaze at in awe. Day Three was Lion Dance. Asian Club's Lion Dance team performed in the quad during lunch for the school. Thank you to the team for how hard they've worked to put this together! Day 4 was Cultural Dress Up Day. Students wore their cultural attire for the day to represent their cultural background. In the end, we were all proud to see the clothing students used to show off Florin's diversity. That day, Lion Dance team went to Florin Elementary to perform. They gave the young kiddos there a celebration they're sure to remember for a long time.



# Sports

By **Mario Perez**, Athletics Commissioner

**Tuesday, Feb. 1st:** Men's Soccer was scheduled to play at home against Natomas High in a match sure to deliver! After the thrilling back and forth game and a ton of fast and intense plays, our Panthers took home the win. The final score was 2-0!



Women's Varsity Soccer played against Natomas High School today in an away contest. The final score was 13-2 in a loss.

**Wednesday, Feb. 2nd:** Women's JV Basketball went against Delta High School. JV had a great game, never losing the lead throughout most of the contest. The final result was a 34-24 win for our Lady Panthers!

Women's Varsity vs. Valley High School. 49-46 loss.

Men's Varsity also played tonight against Valley. We showed on the court who was the better team tonight with a 75-71 victory over our rivals!

**Thursday, Feb. 3rd:** Women's Varsity Soccer play their last game at home this season against Johnson. Everybody on the team shared a heartfelt moment on their Senior Night, in remembrance of the last few months of dedication. The final result was a 6-1 loss.



Tonight was also the last regular-season game for Men's Soccer. They played away against Hiram Johnson for a chance to clinch a playoff appearance. After a hard-fought match where each team put on a stellar performance, our Panthers brought home the bacon, winning over Johnson 3-0!

**Friday, Feb. 4th:** All 4 basketball teams are scheduled to play at home and all except Women's JV are set to face off against Cordova. Women's JV will play against Rio Americano.

In the first game of the night, Women's JV tried to rally a victory over Rio Americano. We sealed the win at the end and gave the fans an excellent matchup. The final result was 35-29!

Next up is Men's JV, who also put on a great show, winning close by a score of 52-49 against Cordova High School.

The third game of the night saw Women's Varsity play against Cordova. In one of their most dominant displays of the season, our Lady Panthers kept the winning streak going with a 51-28 victory! They qualify for the playoffs with this win!



The main event is here and Men's Varsity was ready to close out the 4 game series. They had the closest match this evening, having the score neck and neck throughout. In the final quarter though, Florin let out everything we had inside and put it out onto the court. In dominating fashion, we defeated Cordova with a score of 75-57!

**Tuesday, Feb. 8th:** The Women's JV Basketball played against Woodland Christian in an away contest. They lost 39-48 today.

**Wednesday, Feb. 9th:** Both Men's JV and Varsity Basketball teams played at home today while Women's Varsity played against Natomas High away.

First up was Women's Varsity and in a fast-paced and skillful game, the Lady Panthers were able to bring home the win in a close matchup! The final score was 34-30!

Next, Men's JV play. The final result was a 67-59 loss.

Men's Varsity is last up to play. Against Natomas, we let out our energy rambunctiously, evident throughout the match. We pulled off a dominant victory with a score of 82-62!



**Thursday, Feb. 10th:** After a long season, the Men's Soccer team qualified for the playoffs and hit the field against Placer High. Unfortunately, we couldn't seize the win. The final score was 5-1.

**Friday, Feb. 11th:** Our Women's Varsity Basketball team won by forfeit against Hiram Johnson. They advance to the playoffs.

Men's Varsity Basketball has an away game against Johnson. It ends in a 65-59 loss.

**Saturday, Feb. 12th:** Our young men of the Varsity Basketball team had a home game against West Campus for their final game of the regular season. This was their senior night as well. It ended with a 55-45 loss. Even so, Florin still qualifies for the Sac-Joaquin Section Division 3 playoffs and will advance to face Del Campo.

Today was also a big day for our Wrestling team. Last time, at the GSL League Champions tournament, everybody on the team put up a great performance and was able to advance to Divisionals. Two of our wrestlers, Anthony Keola (170 lbs) and Isaiah Lucas (132 lbs) placed 2nd in each of their respective weight classes, moving forward to the Sac-Joaquin Section Masters Meet. Congratulations to everybody else on the team as well, who have helped shape this program for the better.



**Wednesday, Feb. 16th:** Both Men and Women's Basketball qualified for the Sac-Joaquin Section playoffs this season. Today is the first round where Men's Basketball will face Del Campo and Women's will go up against Casa Roble.

First up was our Lady Panthers. Although we did lose this game, we have to congratulate the Women's team for their great season thus far and for reaching the playoffs for the first time in 7 years! Even though they did not win and advance, their play on the court continues to pride Florin's program. The final score was 36-29.

The Men's team faced off against Del Campo and won triumphantly. Their hard work is paying off more and more. Congratulations on this stellar playoff win that these young men pulled off, advancing to the next round with a 52-48 victory!

**Friday, Feb. 18th:** The Men's Basketball team get ready for their second-round playoff game vs. El Camino. We lost this game 65-51. Even so, we still can reflect on a fantastic season.

Two of our best wrestlers on the Wrestling team - Anthony Keola and Isaiah Lucas - compete today at the Sac-Joaquin Section Masters Meet in Stockton Arena. Top 6 places in each weight class will move on to the CIF State Championships. Unfortunately, neither of our Panthers were able to advance, bringing a close to the Wrestling season. Congratulations to these two!

**Tuesday, Feb. 22nd:** Our Varsity Baseball team play one of their first scrimmages of the year and they are scheduled to face San Juan High School. The Panthers put up one of the most dominant performances in the program's history, winning 19-1! Great job, Panthers!

**Friday, Feb. 25th:** Florin's Varsity Tennis team went up against Monterey Trail this afternoon. No scores are available

**Monday, Feb. 28th:** Men's Baseball goes away for their first regular-season bout, against Rio Linda High School. The game was pretty close as both teams were neck and neck trading runs all throughout. Our Panthers were able to clinch the win today with a final score of 10-8!

## Reader's Corner

By Moeitai Wilson

Reading is arguably one of the most important habits one can develop. Improving literacy is aligned with our values of scholarship here at school. To promote the important routine of reading, we've introduced a new series into our lineup, Reader's Corner. In this new section, we'll feature student reviews of titles available in our school library. If you find a book that piques your interest, stop by the library to check it out.

### Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe. *Reviewed By Inshrah Akhtar*

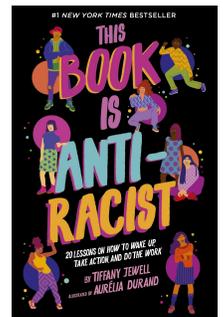
The story is set in the late 19th century and is about the culture of the Ibo and how the culture starts to fall apart after the White missionaries arrive in Africa. Okonkwo, the main character lives in Umuofia. He lives with his three wives and nine children and is grown up in a very male dominant society in which women have no role. Okonkwo holds the highest ranks in his village. Soon, when Okonkwo accidentally kills a clansman, he is forced to leave his land for 7 years. Over the course of the years, White missionaries soon start to arrive in Umuofia and also Mbanta (his mother land that he went to as a punishment). Okonkwo's oldest son soon converts to Christianity and many of his people also convert causing the Ibo culture to slowly break apart.



I disliked how in the book, women were considered very low-ranked and how a man could do anything, and still be able to get away with it. Also, in the book, domestic violence was shown to be very common in the society which I didn't like at all as even some women felt it was okay.

### This Book is Anti-Racist by Tiffany Jewell. *Reviewed By Mozghan Hazrati*

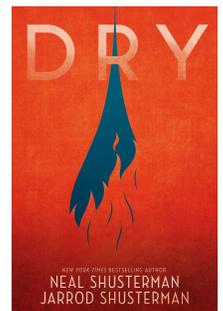
I would describe it as getting to know yourself and the world because it tells you about how you can find yourself and know who you really are. It also talks about the world, about what is going on right now in the world, what people are going through and how we can make it a better place for others and yourself.



I really liked this book because I have learned a little more about myself and how other people might see me. I have also learned what others are going through right now and trying to understand them.

### Dry by Jarrod and Neal Shusterman. *Reviewed By Kasia Love*

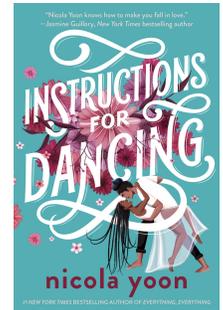
This book is definitely full of action, as it talks about drought and an Apocalypse here in California. It shows how even in the time of crisis, our human nature prevents us from coming together, especially when we need it most. This book follows Alyssa, her little brother Garret, and their neighbor Kelton, who are desperately in search of water after California has been hit with a deadly drought and runs out of water. They begin to see those who they thought were their friends and family will do anything, to survive even if that means hurting the people they love.



I really enjoyed this book and the way it presented, how troubles and the media dictate how we base our decisions and choices. I loved the way it made you feel as if you were in the book, and you were trying to survive. I would recommend it to anyone who loves a lot of action!

Instructions for Dancing by Nicola Yoon. *Reviewed By Moeitai Wilson*

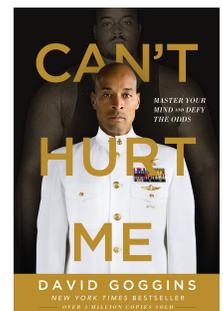
The book starts off a bit slow and it was a bit hard to continue reading. Although the beginning started off slow, if you keep reading on it gets more interesting. The protagonist is so against love that she doesn't realize that she is actually falling in love. She keeps trying to deny it, which is frustrating but addicting at the same time. Although she tries her best to deny that she's falling in love she slowly is falling into the "love trap." Which keeps you on the edge of your seat to want her to find the love she is yearning for.



I really like how realistic this book is. I actually love how Nicola wrote the book from the point of view of teenagers and their everyday life. I honestly have to say that Nicola Yoon is an amazing author and there isn't a book I've read of hers that I can consider bad.

Can't Hurt Me by David Goggins. *Reviewed By Lianglong Huang*

Can't Hurt Me is not only a wonderful biography but a motivational masterpiece. Goggins is a former Navy Seal and ultra-endurance athlete among other amazing accomplishments. Throughout the book, we follow David Goggin's life - a turbulent story of abuse, struggle, challenge, achievement, and self-realization. From enduring his father's devilish beatings and exploitation as a young child to the racism he experienced almost daily to his internal hatred and disappointment at himself for being an obese couch potato cleaning out rats and cockroaches for a living, he had always been suffering from his internal demons. He felt trapped in these circumstances, unable to see any light in his future. But Goggins ultimately found his internal strength, the ability to "master the mind." It relates to the core message of the book, that we can all push beyond what we think our limits are - what our mind thinks we can handle - and succeed at pretty much anything we commit to and take action on. Goggins took the spark buried deep inside him, with his past trauma and failures as fuel, to become a Navy Seal, an ultra-marathon and Ironman athlete, a motivational speaker, a pull-up world record holder, and more. However, this was certainly not the result of a walk in the park. Goggins put himself into uncomfortable situations constantly and charged at tasks headfirst and pushed his body and mind to the edge to complete them. His motto "Stay Hard!" represents his attitude on life: we should all challenge and push ourselves, never settling or submitting to the limitations of our mind, and not let our past or pain hold us back in our endeavors. And he believes we should all do the same.



I loved this book. This was my second time reading it. I resonate with Goggin's desire to do extraordinary things, to be ""uncommon amongst uncommon."" Can't Hurt Me gave me a glimpse into what living such a life requires in regards to one's commitment and ability to take on challenges and endure pain. Goggin's book is written very personally, this isn't a research paper going over the science of mental toughness. Overall, I highly recommend this book to anyone who wants to live a meaningful life abundant with challenges, and thus extraordinary achievements. There wasn't much I disliked about this book. However, some may not like the explicit language that's in here.

## Mystery Teacher

Our last Mystery Teacher from our December Issue was **Mrs. Rico**, who teaches Chemistry and runs Science Olympiad and Christian Club.

This is a riddle you will have to solve. Guess the teacher described here and win **10 Panther Points**, redeemable on the Five Star Students App. The google form attached below will allow you to submit your answer up until March 18th. If it is correct, you will be rewarded with your points. Link: <https://forms.gle/a7FJ2s8JPgGUWyY88>

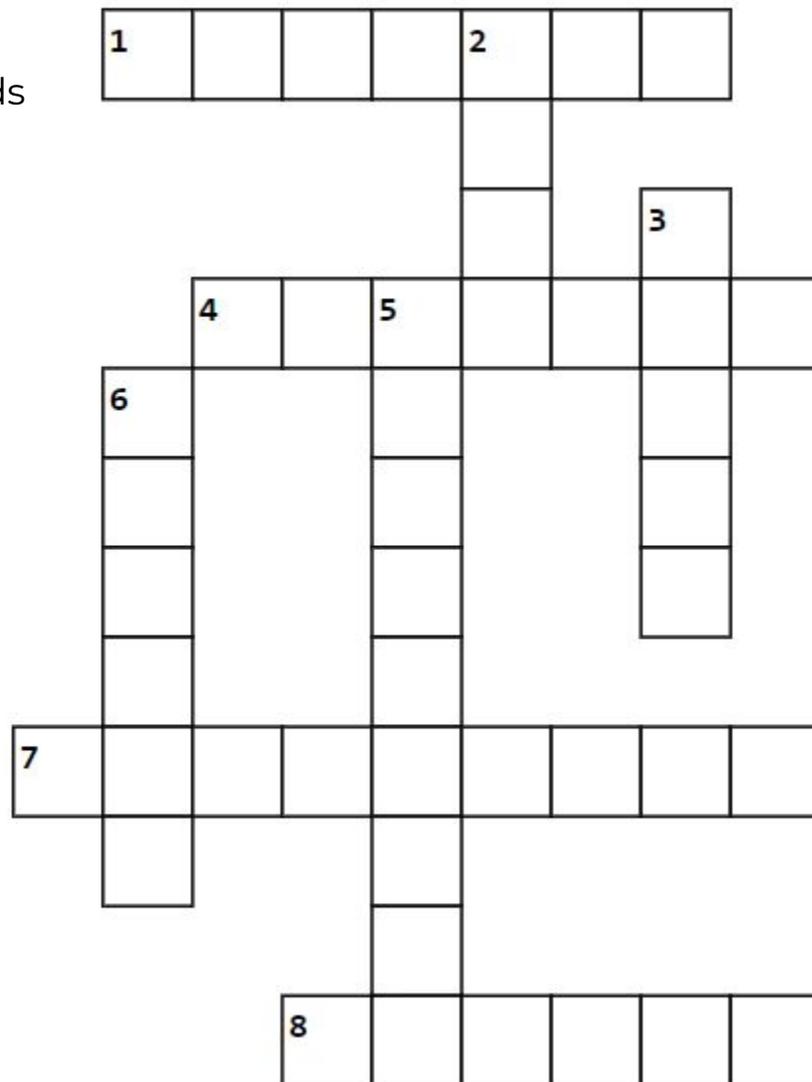
This issue's Mystery Teacher is both sweet and caring, a humoring woman with great ambition. Quirky and weird, she is a pleasure to be around too. To get to know her more, let's start from the beginning. Born in Mather Air Force Base to two parents in the Navy, she developed a great sense of responsibility and a longing for the area here, especially after moving to Texas as a young child. Her upbringing and parents also instilled in her a strong drive to pursue different goals, take on different hobbies, play numerous sports, and do it all with an unwavering determination. She would eventually move back to California a few years after leaving for the Lone Star State. Her high school life was similar to many here at Florin. She enjoyed school, friends, and a multitude of sports. Most notably, she was the starting cornerback for Sheldon High School's Powderpuff Girls Football Team. She is confident in touting her experience, saying she was "the best" in the game. Along with playing flag football, she was also a soccer player, volleyball fanatic, and wrestler; though an unforeseen circumstance prevented her from wrestling in high school. After graduating, she put her studies among her top priorities and became committed to teaching. She would go on to Sierra College, then transferred to Sacramento State (Hornets Up!) where she got her teaching credentials. While studying, her teaching career started here at Florin. For those not familiar, her classroom has the aura of a time capsule but is plastered with lots of her past students' work. Posters also line the walls, showing the kids who teach how prideful she is of them. Her varied interests are also evident. Here is just a cursory list of some: dogs, Disney, mermaids, Harry Potter, holidays, and the Pittsburgh Steelers. She is also an avid cook, baker, and crafts enthusiast. She enjoys making brownies and her favorite dish is pesto-baked chicken (This makes me hungry). Even so, with her past achievements and experiences on her belt, she is still after more. Now living in Roseville, she is currently working on her Masters in Education, with an emphasis in Special Education. She is a newlywed wife who enjoys life like no one else. Congratulations and our best wishes to you, Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_.



# Crossword Puzzle

Below is an easy crossword puzzle with answers to Random Trivia. This time, it's a bit harder, but still a walk in the park. Find all eight words and submit them using this [link](#). If you get them all correct, you'll be the recipient of **10 Panther Points** redeemable in the Five Star Students App. Submit by March 18th.

Submit the following words



## Across

1. Last name of the 7th president of the US.
4. The Union Jack is the flag of what nation?
7. The makers of the Windows Operating System are?
8. How many pounds is 5 kilograms?

## Down

2. The compound NaCl is known as \_\_\_\_.
3. How many minutes are in an hour?
5. Rubbing alcohol is known as \_\_\_\_\_ alcohol.
6. Last state to be granted statehood