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Low University Enrollment

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Inside the conference room of the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, a painful decision was made. According to the New York Times, the rural college, some two-and-a-half hours away from the University of Wisconsin's Milwaukee campus, is facing a \$4.5 million debt and plunging high school graduation rates in the area around the school. To make up for that loss, the Stevens Point campus is cutting their liberal arts programs and eliminating faculty and degrees to make room for more career-focused majors, such as those in business and education.

"The higher-ed climate has changed profoundly and it's not going back to normal," Greg Summers, senior administrative officer of Stevens Point said.

In Southern California, the opposite situation is occurring.

"It seems like colleges around in our communities seem like they're flourishing," teacher Julie Eyre said. "It's harder to get into the programs that are impacted... there's a lot of students that are going to community colleges."

Even colleges such as San Diego State University Imperial Valley turned away more than half of their applicants this year.

Suspension Rates in California High Schools Decrease

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California student suspension rates have gone down over the last seven years. According to the the California Department of Education, from 2011-2012 to 2017-2018, the number of students suspended has declined about 45 percent with 327,857 fewer students being given a suspension.

Suspension data has become more available recently as more focus has been put on suspensions. According to the Los Angeles Times, suspensions can be costly and may even lead to students dropping out of school.

Some students agree that decreasing suspensions will have a positive effect.

"I think this is a great development; In terms of rehabilitation, I don't really see the point of taking students away from school," senior Aung Kyaw said. "If you

think about it, [it is] counter effective." Alhambra High School has also managed to decrease the number of suspended

students over the last few years. In the 2016-2017 school year the total number of suspensions was 16. The number dropped to 10 for the 2017-2018 school year.

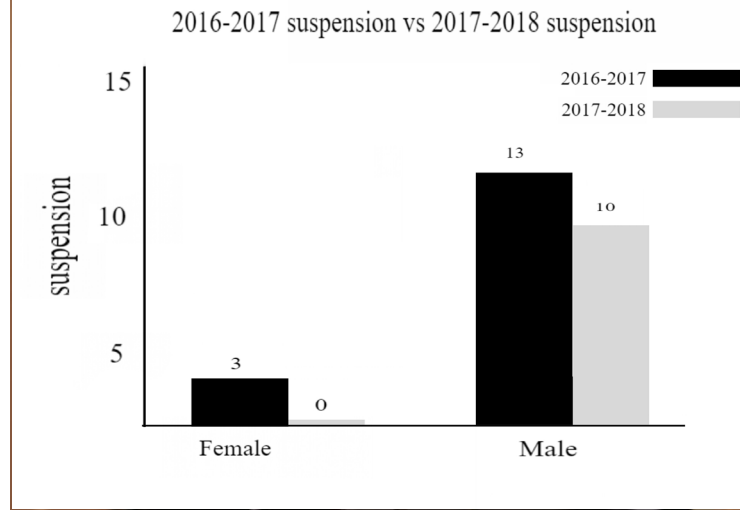
The Los Angeles Times reports that some districts are using "restorative justice" programs in an attempt to keep students in the classroom. This has received mixed reviews from teachers; however, these policies have reduced the number of suspensions drastically.

According to Assistant Principal of Student Employee Welfare Caroline Botros, the most common reason for suspension is being in possession of a controlled substance. If the offense is severe enough, it could even lead to expulsion where the student is permanently removed from the school.

Typically, there are more boys who get suspended than girls.

"If we look at gender, it was 13 [boys suspended in 2016-2017] compared to 10 [in 2017-2018]... for females it was 0 compared to 3," Botros said.

Despite the lower number of suspensions state-wide, there are still "alarming levels of lost days of instruction" according to EdSource, especially for African American students and those with special needs. Although black students make up only 6 percent of the student population in California, they have received almost 20 percent of the suspensions. The suspension rate for Hispanic and Latino students is 5.2 percent and it is 1.2 percent for Asian students.



Harrasment in Fast Food

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Awareness of sexual harassment in the workplace has recently spread further, including to the fast food sector. Several female McDonald's employees in California and Florida recently spoke up about harassment including unwelcome hugging, back rubs, spanking and purposeful brushing up against them. These victims included a 15-year-old girl.

"It is important that everyone is safe," senior Charlotte Alais said. "It's a basic human right."

Low wage workers are among those at the highest risk for sexual harassment because their bosses are of lower status, according to The Atlantic.

"You will hear us today," McDonald's worker Adriana Alvarez said during a recent strike. "We will not stay silent any more."

Sexual harassment has been shown to compromise the health of victims, making them subject to heart attacks, depression and anxiety.

Many workers have fast food as their first job and they are not sure what counts as typical or normal behavior from a boss or coworker.

"Oftentimes, they aren't sure if the behavior is OK or not because these are not discussions we have at school," psychologist C. Vaile Wright said. "If this is a first job and this is the culture you see, you might not know that's inappropriate."

According to USA Today, more than 76 percent of women ages 18-24 and 35 percent of men report having been sexually harassed at work.

California State Universities Will Not Raise Tuition

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This month, California State University's Chancellor, Timothy P. White, gave a pledge that they will not raise the tuition for the next incoming year. The reason as to why this pledge was given is defined by a proposal by governor Gavin Newsom relating to recent large funding for education.

"I attended a CSU school from 1997-2001 and I have watched as the cost of tuition has been raised year after year," U.S. History teacher Bryan Venti said. "I believe that it is important for a CSU education to be affordable for working class students."

This is the second year in a row that the Cal State University tuition has been frozen. The annual tuition fee with this rule put in action again will be \$5,742; however, this fee will only apply to full time

graduates who are California residents. The undergraduates who are taking six or fewer credits would pay less \$3,330.

This new budget plan aims to pull in more funding for education. Many young adults feel as if tuition is too high. Student debt is the second largest type of debt in the country, surpassing credit cards and only being topped by mortgage debt.

"Each time the cost is increased, some students get left behind," Venti said.

According to EdSource, California has the highest amount of student debt behind Texas and Florida.

"I feel that [the freeze is] going to have a positive affect on people living in California... because not everyone has the money especially these days," sophomore Laila Padilla said.

Although there are some disagreements with this tuition policy, for the most part,

residents of California are pleased with the news, due to the fact that many can now pursue a university without the burden of being buried in debt, revenue and interest.

According to CapRadio, UC Spokeswomen, Claire Doan has talked about UC tuition rates in reference to the Cal State tuition announcement. She states that while Cal State universities may be freezing their tuition, U.C. schools may not be following in their foot steps. Their tuition is in the talks of increasing, although many citizens are also hoping that this freeze will as apply to U.C. schools.

While this policy will definitely not apply to all universities across the state, it is safe to say that many California residents are eager to pursue a college education in these Cal State institutions without the worry of being burdened with debt, interests, and revenue after graduating college.

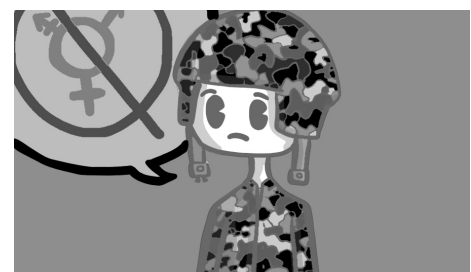
Military Transgender Ban is Passed by Supreme Court

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The Supreme court has passed the Trump Administration's request for banning transgendered people from serving in the military. The policy also states that transgendered persons serving who require procedures or hormonal treatment will be disqualified due to their inability to be deployed longer than 12 months. However, the policy has an exception in which a person who is serving prior to their transition, to still serve as long as its as the person's biological sex.

"After consultation with my gener-

als and military experts, please be advised that the United States Government



will not accept or allow Transgender individuals to serve in any capacity in the U.S. Military," President Donald Trump said. "Our military must be focused on decisive and overwhelming victory and

cannot be burdened with the tremendous medical costs and disruption that transgender in the military would entail."

Several lawyers have questioned the new policy saying that there is no need to enforce the new policy. Advocates for transgender rights are outraged, calling the ban cruel and irrational. However, they have been forced to accept the court's decision to not hear the appeals from the trial courts, which could lead to a faster decision from the administration's policy.

"I think that it's unfair because all people should be able to pursue any career options, not despite their personal preferences, but because of them," said freshman Rebecca Wu.

IN OTHER NEWS

Compiled by **BINTA DIALLO**
News Editor

-Toddler Lost in Woods 'Hung Out With Bear' For Two Days- -Loneliest Duck Killed By Dogs- - Toddler Stuck in Toy-
-Ban Robber Tears Up Note After Getting Cold Feet- -Mom Gives Family 'Toilet Tickets'- -People Marry a Rollercoaster-
-"Vampire" Boyfriend Feeds Off of Girlfriend- -Man Clings to the Hood of an SUV During High-Speed Road Rage Chase-