

Rising to Senior Year

BY SABRINA BORMAN
OPINION COPY/MODS EDITOR

As the 2025-2026 school year commences, the class of 2026 wraps up their last first week of school with their annual Senior Sunrise event on Friday, August 15. Senior Sunrise is a get-together among all of the Bay's seniors to watch the sunrise before school as a way to gain a sense of community before their last year together. Senior Jeronimo Diaz said that he was looking forward to attending this event after watching all the seniors before him experience it.

"I think Senior Sunrise is a great tradition for the start of our senior year, even though I know a lot of people may think otherwise," Diaz said. "I think it is pretty important to go and spend time with your friends, especially since it is our last year here."

The seniors attending the event were advised to come prepared with blankets and food in order to enhance their experience. Diaz said he did just that, and came as prepared as possible to ensure he made the most of his sunrise.

"I planned ahead and went to sleep early the night before because the sunrise started extremely early in the morning," Diaz said. "I organized with my friends so that we knew who was going to bring the blankets, the food and even who was bringing the camera to take pictures."

Diaz said the event was similar to what he expected, but since he went a little bit late, he felt as though it was a bit

short. Similarly, senior Valentina Hurtado said that she found it to end quicker than she anticipated. The students were advised to arrive around 6:30 a.m. and to head into the school around 7:00 a.m.

"The sky was very pretty, and the event itself was basically what I expected it to be: fun, cozy and nostalgic," Hurtado said. "It was a little shorter than I had expected, and we could not actually see

the sunrise for that long because the building was covering most of the sun."

Despite this, Hurtado said she really enjoyed the sunrise and had a lot of fun. The class officers offered donuts at the event, as well as a photo board to pose in front of to remember the moment. Hurtado said she took full advantage of these benefits.

"I had a lot of fun because I was able to spend time with my friends and

take a lot of pictures, especially since it is our last year together," Hurtado said. "I think my favorite part had to be eating the donuts that they provided."

Hurtado said she recognized the nostalgic aspect of the event and decided to go with her friend group from sophomore year, as well as some new friends. She said the event appeared to achieve its goal of bringing the senior class together, with many students enjoying the opportunity to reconnect. Senior Isabella Acosta said this is exactly what she hoped would be the outcome of the event, as one of the senior class representatives who organized it.

"We hoped that everyone would be bonding and be out there with their friends to create a wholesome senior class reunion," Acosta said. "As a representative, we had to prepare by painting boards and setting up before everyone arrived to make sure the event went smoothly."

Acosta said it was nice to have something to look forward to on the first Friday of the school year since school is usually known for being somewhat stressful. Advanced Placement (AP) Human Geography teacher and senior class adviser Lydia Lion said that this was her first Senior Sunrise and a lot went into the preparation of the event.

"We had to coordinate with the admin about when and where we were able to get on campus that early in the morning," Lion said. "It was really nice to see all the seniors together, and I think this event was a great way to open up the school year."



GOLDEN HOUR: Estefania Gonzalez and senior Ricardo Silva get their photo taken at the Senior Sunrise, celebrating the end of their last first week of high school.

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