

SCOOTERS BANNED!

SAFETY CONCERNS SLOW THE ROLL

By Idris Harrison
The Eagle Eye

As of Nov. 12, scooters at Eagle Academy have been banned. Over the years, students at Eagle have been traveling to school by scooter. Although this was a convenient and fast way to get to school, teachers and students said there is nowhere to store these scooters while scholars are in their classes. Scholars who had these scooters were also seen by

others using their scooters to race down the basement halls on multiple occasions. Administrators claimed that the scooters posed a serious safety threat and after taking this all into consideration, they decided to place a ban on all scooters at Eagle.

"Scooters became a huge distraction to the work environment," Assistant Principal McCoy told The Eagle Eye. "It really was a safety issue."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



As of November, students are no longer allowed to bring scooters into school, but some have found a workaround. Photo illustration by Idris Harrison.

TECH THEFT SPREE CONTINUES, LAPTOPS ON LOCKDOWN

CALCULATOR CRIME REACHES A 2-YEAR HIGH



The laptop cart is under watch. Photo by Zachari Tonge.

By Justin Macias
The Eagle Eye

Have you seen how teachers got very strict with their computers? Students need to borrow computers but teachers won't allow students to leave their room with the computer. Many people are looking for the reason

This year, teachers are not letting students borrow computers unless they stay in their room or stay close by. Last month, we had a computer stolen from Mr. Duncan's room. He tried to look for the computer and became really frustrated and mad about it. Mr. Duncan's job is to keep the computers safe, but students are going into Mr. Duncan's room when he has stepped out and taking them without anyone's permission.

Before the crackdown, borrowing a computer was an easy thing to do. Now, even iPads are hard to come by. Mr. Duncan said students jailbreak school iPads, using them like personal devices, without being tracked. This has caused many students to lose their ability to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

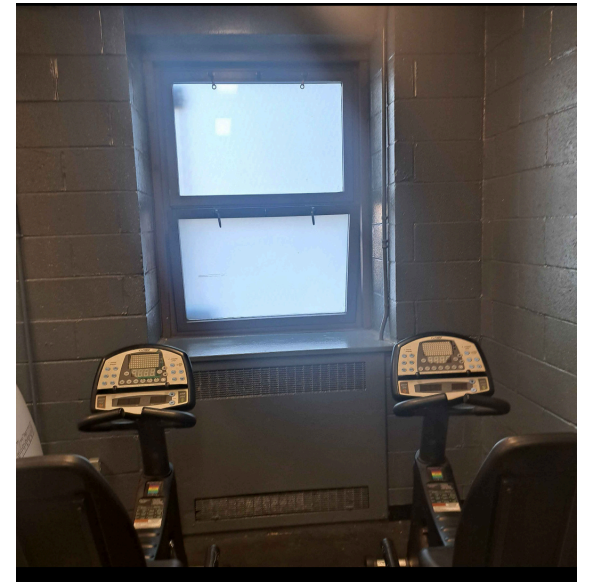
'WEIGH' TOO HOT?

STUDENTS BURN WHILE THEY BURN CALORIES

By Amari Fernandez Lindsay
The Eagle Eye

The weight room is one of Eagle Academy's most chaotic rooms. In the room, people naturally work and sweat a lot. This leads to the question: Why are there no air conditioners present inside of the room?

There is definitely space in the room, with the picture showing you where one could be. Some argue that when you sweat, your body has to accommodate for the heavy activity. Sweating is simply the way the body cools itself down, made of water,



The weight room has a window, but no A/C to be found. Photo by Amari Fernandez Lindsay.

salts, potassium, vitamins, trace minerals, proteins, amino acids and toxins. Sweat is a way that unhealthy body fat is removed. Fitness experts say a temperature between 68 to 72 degrees Fahrenheit is ideal for weight rooms.

"I don't know why there aren't any air conditioners in the weight room," assistant principal Mr. McCoy said. "We have two gyms downstairs, and last year, kids have been asking for air conditioners, and we added them."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

NEWS
THIRSTY STUDENTS FACE
BROKEN WATER
FOUNTAINS CITYWIDE
Page 3

OPINION
INEQUALITY PITS CLUBS
AGAINST SPORTS
Page 4

OPINION
WHY TEACHERS SHOULD
BE PAID MORE
Page 4

WE'RE HIRING!
MEET THE STAFF AND
JOIN THE EAGLE EYE
Page 2

The Eagle Eye

founded MMXXV

Founding staff

Rowen Alexander Idris Harrison
 Omar Bertrand Amari Lindsay
 Jaden Francis Justin Macias
 Zachari Tonge



Advisor

Tim Donnelly

Contact us:

TheEagleEyeBK@gmail.com

The Eagle Eye has landed!

By The Eagle Eye staff

Students at Eagle Academy for Young Men in Ocean Hill, Brooklyn launched the inaugural edition of the school's first-ever recurring newspaper this week. Student reporters chose to name the paper The Eagle Eye, a phrase that means "the ability to see or observe keenly."

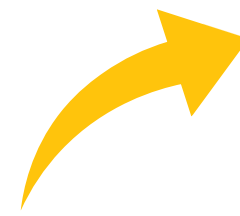
The first issue covers topics ranging from broken water fountains to an argument for higher teacher pay. The staff is looking to attract more student reporters, editors and artists for future issues, expanding the breadth and depth of coverage in the paper. The paper is always on the lookout for anyone with an eagle eye for news.



Welcome to your new newspaper, covering Eagle Academy and beyond.

'EYE' WANT YOU: JOIN THE EAGLE EYE'S NEXT ISSUE!

WRITERS, ARTISTS, SPORTS REPORTERS
 & PHOTOGRAPHERS WANTED!
 SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFO & TO SIGN UP



SCOOTER BAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

This was announced in an email sent to the student body the week prior saying "effective Tuesday November 12th 2024, scholars will no longer be permitted to enter the building while riding or carrying scooters. This decision has been made after careful consideration of safety concerns."

After this message was sent out, according to an anonymous student source Eagle, "scholars have been hiding their scooters around the block."

Ayakabi Williams, a freshman at Eagle, reacted to the rule saying, "It's horrible and one of the worst things to ever happen in Eagle."

Ayakabi went to a different middle school and expressed how he would use his scooter to get there almost everyday and now he feels bad for the other scholars who are unable to use theirs.

He predicted that now "more students would start to come to school late or not at all."

Mr. Johnson, an eighth grade living environment teacher, expressed how he was conflicted by the topic on one side,

"because students interrupt his class asking to retrieve their things." Also, if somebody touches or takes their scooter he doesn't want to be responsible for it. But he does think it is a great means of transportation because it is safe, free and you could decorate your scooter however you want to represent yourself. Another eagle scholar, Bryce Meade, a member of the junior varsity basketball team said that he knows "at least 20 people who use scooters to get to school" and that this new policy was inconsiderate.

He also suggested that the school should have a designated place to put scooters with a system designed so that people don't steal one another's items.

McCoy said the administration would be open to reconsidering the policy if students came up with a plan for safe scooter storage.

"We'll entertain the thought," he said.

Speak up!

What do YOU think of this new policy?

Do you agree with the school admin team's decision, or do you agree with the other students saying there should be a place to store the scooters?

email your thoughts to
 theEagleEyeBK@gmail.com



TECH CRIME

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

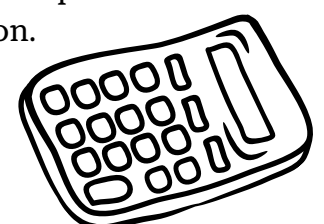
This tech theft situation has forced use an iPad when needed. Jail breaking into school devices is considered like stealing from the school.

Calculators have also been stolen throughout the years at the school. The past two years have been the peak of calculator theft, according to Mr. Bonini. Math teachers say the thefts make them feel disrespected.

Mr. Bonini said that students have taken many calculators from his class. He noted that he doesn't make enough money to buy every student their own calculator, so students instead have to buy their own calculators. That has a big impact on students: the required calculators are expensive, and some parents don't want to spend the money.

Without enough computers for everyone, some kids have to resort to using their phones, but small screens mean some students struggle to complete big work documents.

This makes it harder for teachers to teach their students and it makes it easy for students to watch their videos on their phone instead of paying attention.



STUDENTS LEFT THIRSTY AS WATER FOUNTAINS CITYWIDE REMAIN BROKEN

LEAD CONCERNS & 50-YEAR-OLD PIPES PARTIALLY TO BLAME

By Jaden Francis
The Eagle Eye

Have you noticed the lack of working water fountains in schools?

It's a problem that's frustrating for students, teachers and even parents. Water fountains are supposed to give us clean drinking water whenever needed, but thousands of them across the city are either turned off, broken, or damaged.

One big reason for this is that many schools are old and so are their water pipes. Fixing or replacing these pipes can cost a lot of money, and some schools just don't have the budget for it, according to Mr. Martinez, a school maintenance worker.

"Some of these pipes are over 50 years old," he said.

Replacing them costs about \$1,000-\$3,000 per fountain. Over 5,700 water fountains in NYC schools have lead levels

above the safety limits, according to a 2021 report from the City Comptroller's Office. And less than 10% of those water fountains were repaired.

Another issue is health and safety. Schools like Stanley M. Makowski Early Childhood Center in Buffalo have water fountains that contain lead levels exceeding federal limits.

No one wants kids drinking unsafe water, but just turning off the fountains doesn't really solve the problem. During the COVID-19 pandemic, many schools shut off water fountains completely to stop germs from spreading.

While some schools got fancy and installed water bottle stations, not all schools could afford them. This leaves students in a tough spot. If they forget their water bottles or don't have money for vending machines, they might go the



A broken water fountain at Eagle in January. Photo by Tim Donnelly.

the whole day without enough water. This can make it harder to concentrate and learn during class.

"Every kid deserves clean and safe water at school," said Sarah Thomson, a well known health advocate that has been working to improve water quality in public schools.

Access to clean water is a basic necessity that every student should have. Hopefully, schools will find a way to repair or replace broken fountains so that everyone can stay healthy and hydrated.

In conclusion, ensuring access to clean and safe water in schools is a crucial step toward protecting students' health and promoting a supportive learning environment.

“Some of these pipes are over 50 years old.”
-Mr. Martinez, maintenance worker



Important upcoming dates

Boss Move Mondays
Every Monday

Feb. 17-21
February break

Feb. 26
6-11th grade picture makeup day

March 6
Snow tubing trip

March 9
Daylight Saving Time begins

March 20
First day of Spring

March 21: End of marking period 1

'WEIGH' TOO HOT?



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
But I never really thought about that."

But *should* you want an air conditioner in the weight room? There is some debate over the topic.

Air conditioners are placed in spots to prevent sweating and keep everyone in a relative area cold. Some people think not sweating as much means you won't experience nearly as much change compared to a room without air conditioning.

However, there have been shown to be pros and cons to both, as stated on Onlymyhealth.com.

Pros of an air-conditioned gym:

- **Less exhaustion:** Working out in the heat can tire your body out, and run the risk of heat stroke.
- **Preventing dehydration:** Air conditioning prevents excess sweating, which can help lead to higher endurance during a workout.
- **More focus:** Heat can be a distraction during a gym session.



Cons:

- **Suffocation:** Indoor gyms often have limited ventilation, and air conditioning can lead to a stuffy atmosphere and poorer air quality.
- **Dependency:** Relying on air conditioning can make it harder to adapt to outdoor conditions.

In conclusion, the lack of air conditioning in the weight room might be due to the fact that no one really asked about it. For change, you can always ask the administration for there to be an air conditioner.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Share your thoughts on anything in this issue of the paper, or anything else that's going on at the school.

Send letters to the editor to:
TheEagleEyeBK@gmail.com



COMIC



By Amari Fernandez Lindsay

Opinion

PAY THE TEACHERS MORE MONEY

TEACHERS SAY CURRENT PAY DOESN'T MATCH THE COST OF LIVING IN NEW YORK CITY

By Omar Bertrand
The Eagle Eye

Teachers play a prominent role in shaping the future of our generation. They are responsible for educating and bringing up the minds of the future. And as a result of all their hard work, they are still underpaid, and often unappreciated? I believe it's time to bring awareness to this issue and ensure that they receive the proper compensation they deserve.

"Most teachers in this school go above and beyond for the students so we can shape the minds of the future generation," math teacher Mr. Bonini said. "The extra money would help us, because when we have extra cash, we can worry less about expenses and focus more on the lesson or task at hand."

Teachers told The Eagle Eye that higher pay would allow them more time to focus on students.

"I personally take time out of my own day to help scholars during my free time with extra work, and or give them a place to relax during lunch and play ping pong club," Bonini said.

First and foremost, higher salaries for teachers would directly benefit the students and the quality of their education. More times than not, when people are paid more, they are more likely to produce better work. So when they are provided more income, they would not only be better motivated to work, but also will help the kids learn better, and more effectively.

Additionally, competitive salaries can attract teachers

with more talent to the teacher profession, ensuring that kids are being taught by the best and brightest.

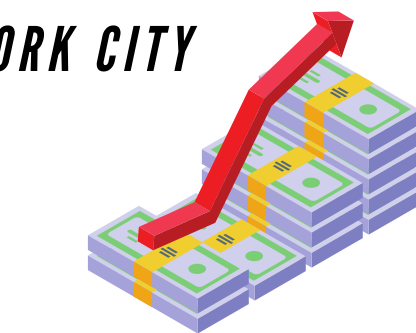
Teacher salaries nationwide are not keeping up with inflation: educators are making 5% less in today's dollars than they did 10 years ago, according to a 2024 report by the National Education Association. The report also says the average teacher salary in New York state is \$92,696, one of the highest in the country. But teachers said that data doesn't reflect real cost-of-living challenges.

"We need a raise because the amount we make doesn't line up with the amount of work and effort we put into becoming teachers," English teacher Mr. Benoit said. He said he'd like to buy property one day, but it will not be possible with his current salary.

"Prices are skyrocketing," he said.

Secondly, fair pay is crucial for teachers, as they face a lack of respect from various sides of the job. That includes: parents, students and peers at times, along with the Department of Education on occasion. Such treatment can demoralize teachers and make their already challenging job even more difficult. Raising their pay would be an important step in the right direction, as higher pay is tangible acknowledgment of their value and importance of their hard work.

"We need a raise as we must deal with kids day in and day out," Mr. Duncan, computer tech and computer science teacher, said. "Personally, I work hard, even the little



aspects of it. But we still get disrespected just for doing our jobs."

A number of teachers have to take up another job just to make ends meet. Despite their critical role in society, many teachers find themselves struggling to cover basic living expenses such as rent, utilities, groceries and transportation.

This financial strain is exacerbated by the fact that teachers frequently spend their own money on classroom supplies and resources, further stretching their limited budgets. This situation underscores the urgent need for higher salaries to ensure that teachers can live comfortably.

"We need a raise as we do multiple jobs other than just teacher: babysitter, mentor, big brothers/sisters," Mr. Polius, government teacher and baseball coach, said. "Personally, I dedicate most of my time for the students. I run the baseball team and that's a set schedule of time. But being a teacher, it's not taken into account all the time for lesson plans and the little things we have to do for the students."

In conclusion, increasing teachers' salaries is not just a matter of fairness, it is an investment in the future of our society. By ensuring that teachers are well-compensated, we can improve the quality of education, retain talented educators and ultimately benefit our students and their communities.



Broken drums and other equipment still remain in the band room. Some students feel like clubs and electives are neglected at the school. Photo by Rowen Alexander;

EAGLE INEQUALITY MAKES IT SPORTS VS. EVERYBODY

DESPITE FUNDING PROMISES, MANY EAGLE ELECTIVE PROGRAMS LACK RESOURCES

By Rowen Alexander
The Eagle Eye

Eagle Academy for Young Men at Ocean Hill is grappling with significant challenges in ensuring student elective equality in 2025. Despite its reputation for academic excellence, the school's recent initiatives to provide equal treatment between elective courses have faced numerous setbacks among student morale.

The administration's attempt to design an inclusive curriculum has fallen short and has ended up leaving some elective groups without the feeling of being needed. Some clubs, such as music, still have lots of broken instruments destroyed by those who don't appreciate the craft. Despite the so-called push to purchase more, the band has been waiting five years for new equipment.

Feedback from students indicates that the elective courses do not adequately reflect their diverse interests and needs. Many students feel that their voices were not heard during the planning process. Events like town hall that are supposed to include student opinion for what we see fit to make our school a better place for quality education and interactivity instead resulted in a curriculum that focused more on sports-based activities rather than some of the many other electives at Eagle Academy. Despite promises of increased funding, many elective programs remain under-

resourced.

"Eagle Academy would 100% benefit by diversifying their attention toward the other activities they have around the building," said Anthony Bonini, who is head of ping pong, one of the bigger clubs. Still, he stated that he "feels as though ping pong has been adequately compensated for" in reference to the time that he was willing to put into it.

Students and teachers alike have expressed concerns about the lack of necessary materials. A member of the basketball team, who wishes to keep their identity private, also said that Eagle doesn't equally attend to other activities they have around the building.

Chemistry teacher Jay Pal agreed, saying: "It's not just about sports, as other larger clubs get attention, but it's the idea that smaller clubs with fewer members will get less attention, which may not be fair to students within these smaller clubs."

The school's well-intentioned efforts have highlighted the complexities and challenges of implementing inclusive education policies.

As of the 2025 academic year progresses, it remains to be seen whether Eagle Academy can overcome these obstacles and fulfill its stated commitment to student equality.



Educators are making 5% less in today's dollars than they did 10 years ago.