

# Staff Editorial

On March 20, 2018, District 99 voted in favor of a multi-million dollar facelift to the DGS campus. Dubbed the “Master Facility Plan,” highlights of this design promised major renovations to the auditorium and the main school entrance, as well as a new learning commons.

On paper, these overhauls seem like a desirable upgrade to DGS, causing little inconvenience to students other than the construction of a temporary A hallway.

On paper, that is.

In reality, the issues concerning construction extend beyond the assembly of a few plywood walls in this hallway.

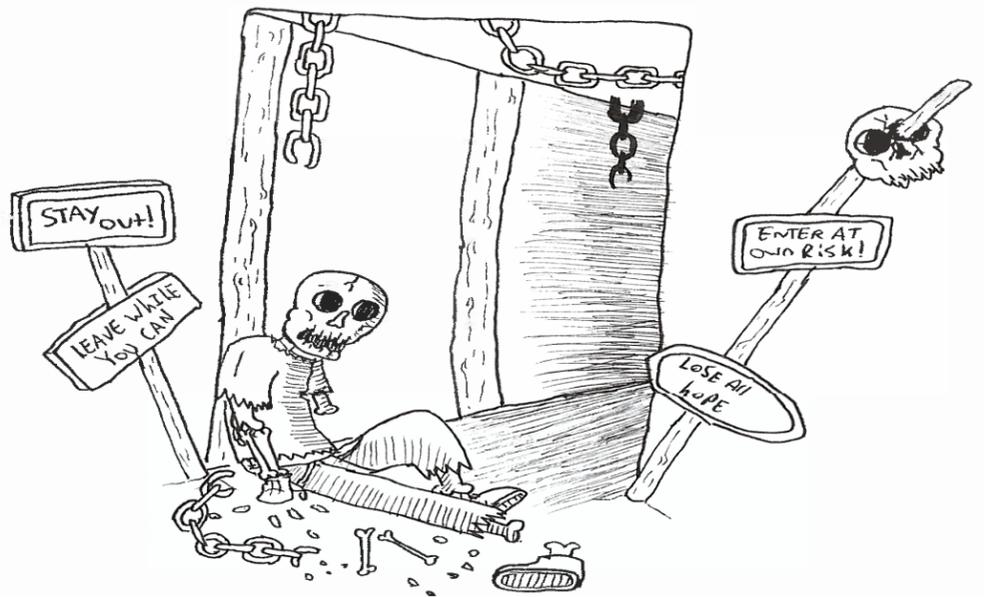
At the moment, upperclassmen seem underwhelmed—primarily with senior parking. DGS campus parking is a privilege seniors look forward

to, but this year it’s more problematic than anything else. The relocation of the main entrance has re-routed traffic patterns, as everyone must now enter through the west events entrance, which is a primary entrance upperclassmen utilize to access the senior lot.

This is a change from years past, as a secondary pick-up and drop-off line was located at the former main entrance, allowing for less congestion and more effective pedestrian safety precautions.

Current construction disturbances are not limited to before and after school hours. If you haven’t already heard (which is unlikely), classroom environments are disrupted by the ongoing work done during the school day. Teachers often have to raise their voice and students lose

THE NEW A HALLWAY



Graphic by Elliot Sheets

their focus, especially in classrooms located in the C hallways.

Some believe the construction disturbances are worth these inconveniences, especially when considering the promising campus upgrades.

While we think the renovated campus will be met with praise when completed, that does not

dismiss the current challenges that have resulted from the construction. The purpose of the “Master Facility Plan” is to enhance the student experience, so why is our comfort and convenience sacrificed for the sake of its completion?

A few minor repairs could ease the construction disruptions. Adequate pick-up and drop-off line

signage and clarification would alleviate traffic congestion. Additionally, during assessment days, students in the areas of the school where construction noise is especially distracting would benefit from being relocated to other quieter in-school environments.

Just some constructive criticism.

# School spirit needs to skyrocket

By Alyssa Deplaris,  
Social Media Director

Mustang school spirit is struggling.

Out of 3,000 individuals at DGS, I think our school is capable of improving our school spirit by wearing spirit wear, attending activities and events and having the most hyped fan sections; however, students do not take advantage of this opportunity. Our school spirit is struggling, and students are not uplifting their peers in sports and activities to the extent they could be.

DGS has come a long way over the past ten years by growing school spirit. My sociology teach-

er told our class students used to never wear blue on Fridays or wear senior shirts. However, there is still progress to be made on behalf of students.

In comparison to other school’s fan sections, DGS does not set the tone for our school. Many fan sections at other schools consist of loud cheering, bright costumes and tons of students overflowing the stadium stands.

I consistently notice students at the DGS football games on their phones and not in the present moment. Technology creates a major distraction for people at sporting events. People are so consumed with their phones by tak-

ing pictures and snapchatting that paying attention to the action is no longer a top priority.

Seriously DGS, sometimes the student section looks like people are still stuck in their first period class. If students actively cheer and show engagement at events, players will feel the positive energy radiating from the stands, creating motivation to play their best.

I think it is also important to recognize that most sports and activities are forgotten about and hardly ever noticed. DGS allows all students free admission into all school events, which proves there is no excuse to not support our

peers and athletes.

I understand the fan section for a girl’s badminton meet will not be as large as a football game, but I think students are capable of attending more events that exist.

Some students do not enjoy attending sports and activity events, but there are many other ways individuals can involve themselves in the DGS community. Students can actively participate in spirit dress-up days and wear blue on Fridays in order to represent the pride of being a DGS Mustang.

I recognize that the saying “you are only in high school once” is very cliché,

but I know I will never be cheering in a high school student fan section after high school. I think my peers and I should make the most of the minimal time we have to represent this school.

DGS school spirit can continue to increase if students are actively engaged at sporting events, supporting peers through different sports and activities and participating in spirit wear.

I hope at the next home football game I see students cheering so loud that the bleachers are shaking and demonstrating the contagious spirit that DGS should have.



DGS senior students show bright school spirit at the first home game by participating in the neon night theme.

Photo by Alyssa Deplaris



Graphic by Elliot Sheets