

THE CHRONICLE'S POLICY

The Chronicle is the official student newspaper of William Mason High School.

The Chronicle promises to report the truth and adhere to the journalistic code of ethics through online and print mediums.

The Chronicle is produced by students enrolled in Journalism I, II and III.

Editorials reflect the staff's opinion but do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the school administration or the Mason City School District.

The Chronicle is published monthly. Call 398-5025 ext. 33103 for information regarding advertising in *The Chronicle*. *The Chronicle* reserves the right to refuse advertising it deems inappropriate for a high school publication.

As an open forum for students, letters to the editor are welcome, but are subject to be edited for length, libel, obscenity, clarity and poor taste. Letters to the editor may be dropped off in room C103 and must be signed.

The Chronicle is a member of The Columbia Scholastic Press Association, The National Scholastic Press Association, Quill and Scroll International Honorary Society for High School Journalists and the Ohio Scholastic Media Association.

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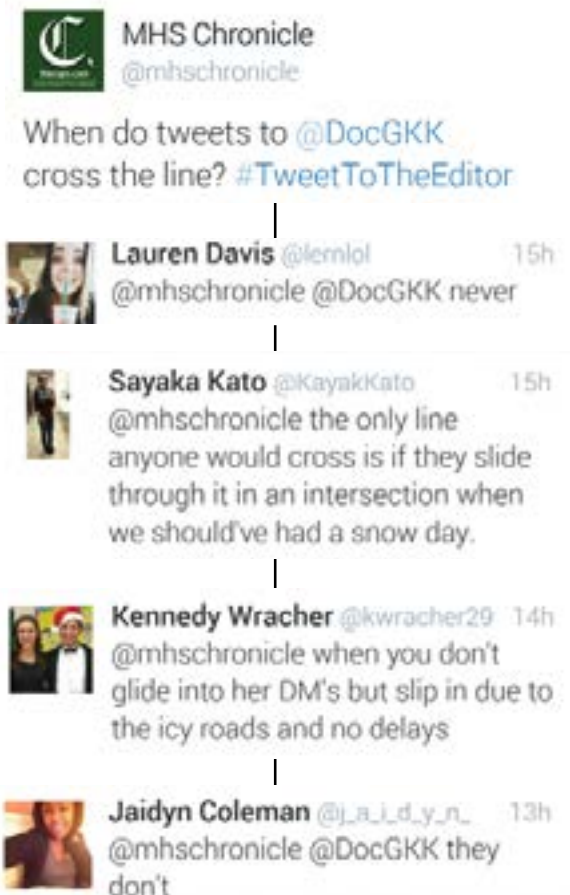
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TWEETS TO THE EDITOR



STAFF EDITORIAL

Tweets to Superintendent Gail Kist-Kline tarnish student body's reputation

Despite popular opinion, Superintendent Gail Kist-Kline is not a terrorist nor a "cover name for the Taliban."

Before Dr. Kist-Kline created her Twitter account, many of us didn't know her name, let alone what she looked like. But now, we all recognize @DocGKK, we're on a first-name basis with her and we insult her in 140 characters when we would never dare do so to her face.

The safety behind our computer screens has caused us to develop nerve and forget that those 140 characters are permanent--the language and abuse fired Kist-Kline's way would warrant a suspension if verbally aimed at another student. But many of us think that writing about a school official on a public domain is harmless. It gains us those precious favorites and retweets, so it's worth the risk of disciplinary action that rarely occurs.

Though Kist-Kline may dismiss the Twitter mania as an occupational hazard, we wonder where the line is drawn: a tweet associating her with the "Taliban" gets

taken down, but her face photoshopped on to Elsa with the caption, "The cold never bothered me anyway," gets laughs (understandably).

Each tweet, innocuous or not, received numerous retweets and favorites, making us guilty by association. We have tied our name to mockery and in doing so, parade our support. It's not surprising that high-schoolers are depicted as immature punks--we act that way. We throw fits when we attend school with an inch of snow or it's simply too cold, ignoring our own refusal to don any jacket other than a hoodie.

That snarky tweet we send during the Pledge won't release us like the bell, only shatter our already tarnished reputation. As we drop Twitter bombs, the same Kist-Kline we attack is testifying in Columbus to minimize the influx of standardized testing--but because these actions don't make for snide commentary, we let them pass by, unnoticed.

And instead of watching our mouths on social media or respecting our superintendent, we choose to take the sarcastic route, and gibe #ThanksGail.