



CHRONICLE 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. 33106 for information regarding advertising in *The Chronicle*. *The Chronicle* reserves the right to refuse advertising we deem 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 C106 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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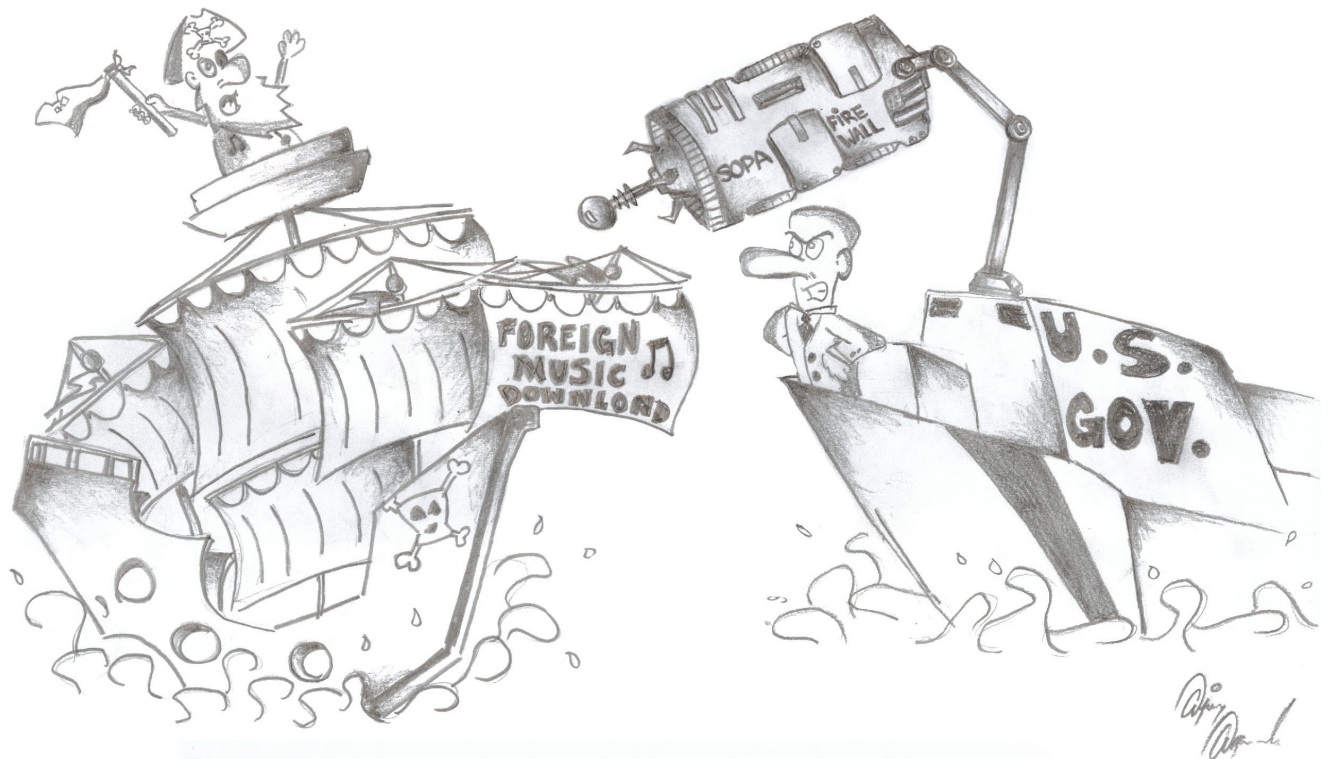
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EDITORIAL CARTOON



“You have the right to remain silent”

STAFF EDITORIAL

The School Board is facing an extremely difficult time in the near future and, despite a past record of disagreements amongst the members of the board, it is crucial that they get accustomed to working together and coming to a quick decision in the next few months.

Along with the retirement of eight-year president, Debbie Delp, the board has added two new members in the face of financial and ethical responsibility associated with the education reforms passed last year which compounds their list of potential problems.

The reforms, which include higher benchmarks for student progress and in turn, heightened pressure on teachers to reach those standards, are sure to cause some sort of dissatisfaction or confusion amongst Mason's large staff.

Also, the reforms include new standards for teachers' pay, which is sure to be a hot button topic over the course of the next few years and more so when at the beginning of next year when these reforms are implemented.

The bottom line is that the newly rearranged school board has a rocky road ahead and they need to brace themselves now for impact.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I read the article "Originality snobbery is for five year olds." I agree with this article. It's always good to think for yourself and not let others change you, but there is nothing wrong with going along with the social "norm." We can all...like similar things without stealing the idea from [an]other. When we were little, we called someone a copy-cat because they did what we did when we should [have] been happy that they liked what we did... I think having your own ideas is a good quality, but I don't think that it's fair for someone to be [unable] to do something that you already did. I think that people should be proud that they thought of something, but also be okay with others doing it. I believe that we can all feel original and be a blend of each other's ideas. That's what helps create today's culture. It's okay to feel special for discovering something new, but don't be a snob about it, just enjoy that you can share it with your peers.

Sydney Wiegel, freshman

Dear Editor,

Cursing in the hallways around others shouldn't be allowed. There are some kids in our school that really take to that kind of thing [as offensive.] I think that the article "A colorful Vocabulary" covers this topic really well. It says how some kids curse to relieve their stress. I don't agree with that. There are other ways for students to relieve their stress without offending others. If they are going to curse, they should only say it to them[selves.] Curse words can be really offensive, and there are other words to get the point across. If you are mad at someone, this doesn't mean you need to cuss them out just because you are angry with them. You can use normal words that aren't so offensive to get the main idea through to them. I find it really annoying when kids think it's cool to cuss in the hallway. I feel like they're just doing it for attention that they don't need.

Cari Nichols, freshman