

The Howl



Semester Tests: A Story of Success and Change at Shelby

By: Kaylee Appley and Emma Taylor

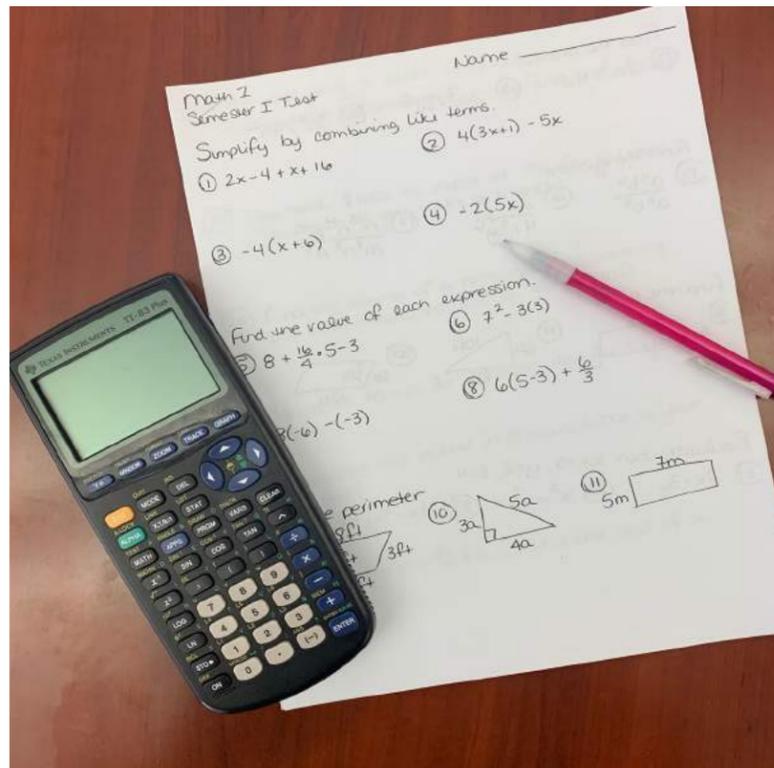
Over the past few years, the policy for semester testing has changed multiple times. Currently in the Shelby High School Student Handbook, it states, "Semester grades will be calculated by using up to forty five percent of the student's first quarter grade, up to forty five percent of the student's second quarter grade, and at least ten percent of the student's semester exam or project." With so many changes throughout the years, students have been left confused about the tests and whether or not they are actually a representation of all they have learned throughout the semester.

Senior student, Baylen Moss, said the weight of the test depends on each teacher with some tests being worth 10 percent of his final grade. Skyler Martin, who is a senior student, has also experienced semester tests in a multitude of classes and for several years now. She said the tests were a accurate representation of what her classes taught her throughout the year or at least "as good as you can get it," she said.

The students have a lot of ideas about changing the tests, so they best suit both students and faculty. Kolby Lohr said, "Most schools have it so that if you have an A in the class, you don't have to take the test, so I think that's a good idea." Avery Hoover agrees with Lohr, saying, "I would make it so if you had an A in the class, you didn't have to take that class's test."

An article in the Washington Post by Jay Mathews, explains the benefits of alternatives to testing, like projects, or pushing students to take national exams such as Advanced Placement exams (AP tests) and International Baccalaureate exams (IB tests) In Montgomery Alabama, students are given the option to complete a project or take national exams instead of a comprehensive teacher made exam. "In my experience, exams motivate students to review what they have been taught, a key to the learning process. But I believe the Montgomery experiment is worth a try because it could lead more students to take a different set of final exams that are much better than those the school system is abandoning."

This year, Kristi Calvery, the new high school English teacher, and Superintendent Elliot Crump, have made efforts to change semester testing protocol in Advanced Placement Lan-



gauge Class. As an incentive, the AP Language and Composition students have been given the opportunity to be exempt from their comprehensive exam in the last semester if they take the AP Language Exam in place of the traditional test, Calvery said.

Semester testing took place on January 23rd and 24th at Shelby High School. Each of these days consisted of four periods, each an hour and a half. On the 23rd, students took tests in their first, third, fifth and seventh period classes and on the 24th, students took tests in their second, fourth, sixth and eighth periods.

Overall, the students at Shelby High School are successful on their semi annual exams, but a change led by the young students of SHS could be on the horizon for semester test protocols.



February PAWS Students have a Paws-itive Attitude About Academics

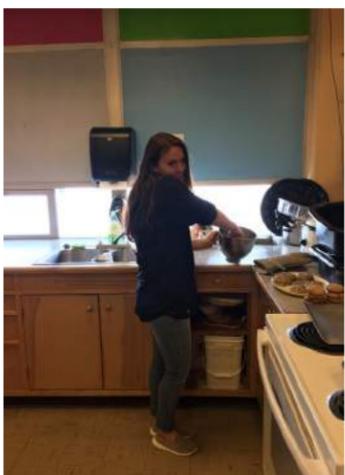
By Adria Lamb and Brianna Hurley

In January, one student from each subject was chosen as PAWS Student of the Month. This month's theme was "The Most Improved" student for each subject. Bryant Mertz for Ag Science, Abgiale Abbott for Art, Brianna Hurley for Business Education, Skylar Bake and Dillon Luly for English, Kendall Anderson for Math, Jackson Appley for Music and Science, Joseph Mitchel for Physical Education, and Avery Hoover for Social Studies.

Jackson Appley and Kendall Anderson were interviewed about their recognition. Appley said his improvements came from changing work habits. "I feel like I improved in Biology quite a bit because I started studying for quizzes." Appley's Biology teacher, Mrs. Tokerud said that "Jackson has improved his academic attitude and grade, and has an increasing interest in biology."

Anderson said that her improvements are due to Mr. Ben's teaching style and her persistence. "Probably, math, and quadratic formulas because that's what we are working on right now. I also think that I have improved because of the way Mr. Ben teaches it." Anderson's math teacher Mr. Ben commented on Anderson's attitude and morals by saying "Her persistence and patience while learning math is very impressive. She's very hard working and gets all the activities done even on her busy schedule."

Getting this award can be a huge acknowledgment and honor. Continue to work hard and congratulations to the students chosen!



Parsons and Underdahl earn Athlete of the Week

By: Tyler Larson, Taylor Schilling, Makenzie Faunce



In the month of January, two of Shelby's athletes won the award of Athlete of the Week. Junior Tanner Parsons, a new student this year is making a name for himself as a Coyote. He won the award for basketball in the second to last week of January. When asked how being athlete of the week affected him, Parsons said, "It has affected me in a good way and it shows that I've worked hard and got recognition for it". Tanner won this award for KSEN and was invited to a banquet in Great Falls.



As for sophomore Maddison Underdahl, she won the award for girls basketball in the last week of the month of January. She has been an asset as a post for the Shelby girls team this season. Underdahl was asked if she had any advice for future athletes, Maddison's response, "Work hard and just play to your full potential". Underdahl won this award for the Great Falls Tribune. For their stellar performance on the court they are rewarded with this achievement. It is a great award to receive at the high school level. They are both great teammates on and off the court. Receiving this award is a way of making a name for themselves, and making a name for Shelby High Schools.

Tourney Time In Coyote Country

By: Baylen Moss and Garrett Hansen

Basketball for the Shelby Coyotes has been very successful. The Shelby boys varsity finished the Conference season in second place behind Fairfield with 7 wins and 3 losses, and the Shelby girls varsity finished their conference with 8 wins and 2 losses in second place behind Cut Bank. We interviewed 5 different people before the District Tournaments. For the boys we interviewed Ryan VanTine and Tucker Tustian. For the girls we interviewed Kendall Anderson, Bailey Johnson, and Maddison Underdahl.

VanTine on the boy's varsity basketball team stated "that the boy's varsity practices are more mental based, so we know what we have to do to execute in the tournaments".

Tustian said, "that he liked to play Fairfield because they are really competitive and the atmosphere is just great".

Anderson on the girls var-

sity basketball team said, "that the team that she liked to play was Cut Bank because their our biggest competition and they bring a lot of energy making them fun to play against".

Johnson added "there are a lot of good teams in our boys varsity district, so it's gonna be a big challenge, but I think our boys can do it".

Underdahl finished her interview by adding "I think we will do really well. We've been doing really good this year, so districts will be a good time".

In the end the boy's varsity ended up placing 4th in Districts, and they are going to the Divisional Tournament on February 28 - March 2. Unfortunately, the girls varsity did not make it to Divisionals, but there is always next year. Good Season this year Yotes!!!!!!



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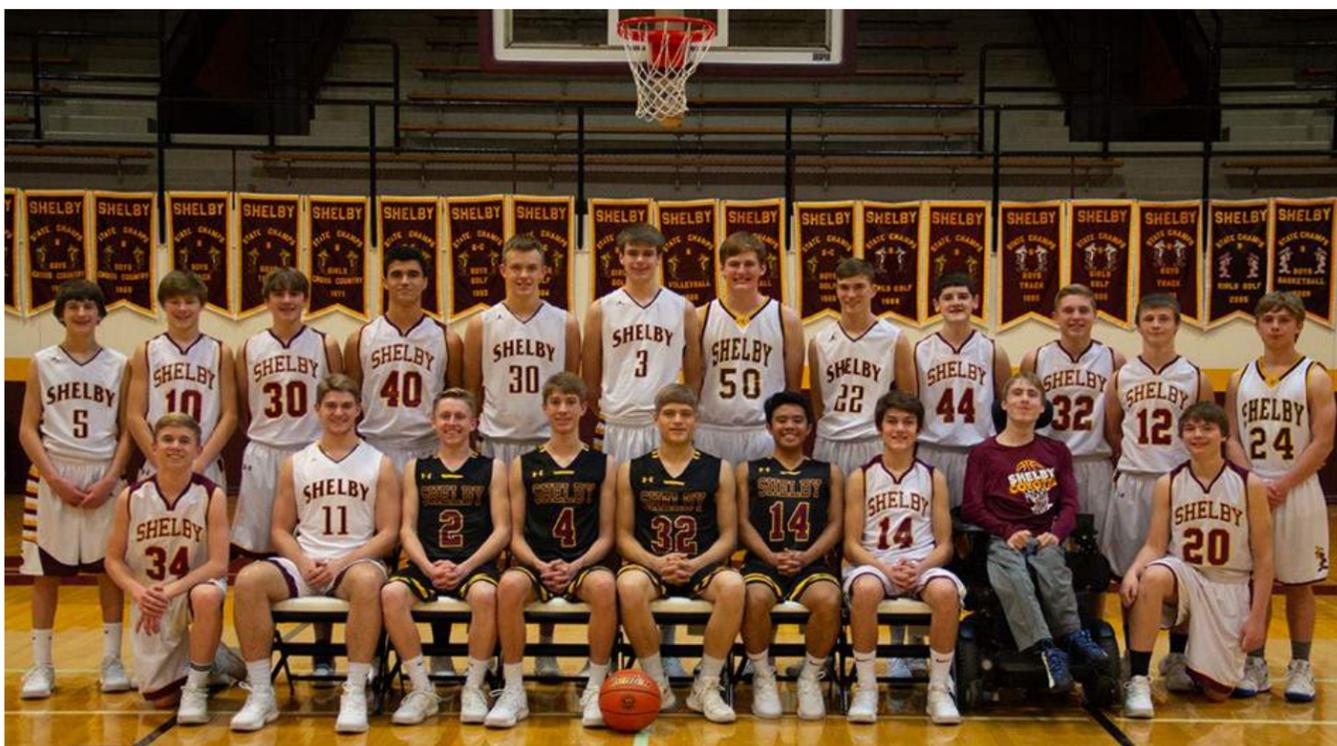


Photo credit: Wendy Reynolds