

FUTURE IN FOCUS

The wait is over. Phase 1 sparks momentum in rebuilding project.

EDITOR'S LETTER

Dear Reader.

My whole high school career, I've heard rumors about a new Upper School being constructed. It made sense — the campus is clearly aged, with popcorn ceilings and wooden architecture characteristic of the mid-20th century. But I'll be honest — I never quite believed it would happen. At the very least, I thought action would not be taken until long after I'd graduated.

But, I was wrong. Made official by Mr. Eades on a fateful Tuesday in assembly, the school is moving forward with plans to completely rebuild the campus. I sat in awe while talking to Mr. Eades about the plans — I can't help but be jealous of future generations of Falcons! From the expanded Upper School campus to upgraded athletics facilities, arts facilities and added green spaces, I believe the transformation will make Kinkaid one of the most impressive high school campuses not only in Houston or even Texas, but in the whole country. I cannot wait to return as an alum and enjoy the beauty.

I hope you enjoy all of the content surrounding the new campus in this issue. With 5 articles spanning 12 pages regarding this one topic, in addition to countless content online and on social media, our team has gone all-out to cover this historic event. Please make sure to follow us on Instagram at @thekinkaidfalcon and keep up with our online content at thefalcon.kinkaid.org.



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Goodbye, Harrison House

The Harrison House, which housed the development office, the parents' association, and other administrative services, is now legendary

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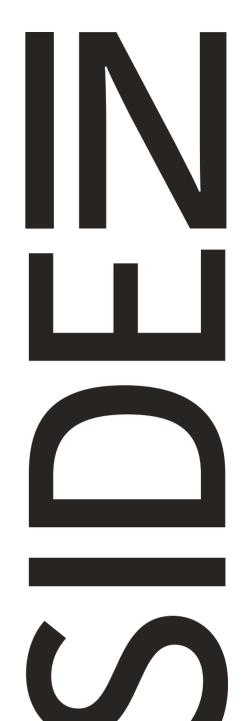
Lighting up lunch time

Five students work to bring the Upper School together during midday Electric Lunch Band performance

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Dancers perform for a cause

Country music leads students to their positions on a grassy field as onlookers select auction items for fundraiser



ON THE COVED

A new place to call home

School leaders launch project to rebuild the Upper School and improve other facilities

> Senior George Kinder is featured on a sign outside the Harrison House demolition site.

> > Photo by Sarah Xu Cover photo by Sarah Xu



GOODBYE, HARRISON HOUSE

Advancement headquarters is first to go

Story by Eshaan Mani and Josh Sweetland Designed by David Liu

While most of the campus seemed serene, loud bangs and squeals came from the north-central section of Kinkaid as bulldozers and construction workers piled up debris from the recently destroyed Harrison House.

The Harrison House, which housed the Advancement Office, the parents' association and other administrative services, was razed Oct. 10.

Its demolition marked the first major step in the construction of new buildings across campus, which includes one to be erected on the Harrison House site during Phase One.

"In preparation for Phase Two, the new building will be designed to temporarily hold over 75 percent of Upper School classes, and those classrooms, along with a technologically advanced 'learning village' of temporary classrooms, will provide both a larger and upgraded learning environment for our current students," Head of School Mr. Jonathan Eades wrote in a Sept. 8 email to the school community.

In addition to the building that will replace the Harrison House, construction of the new Upper School will begin and is estimated to end in early 2026.

Then, the building on the Harrison House site will be used to expand space for Lower School classes and student support programs

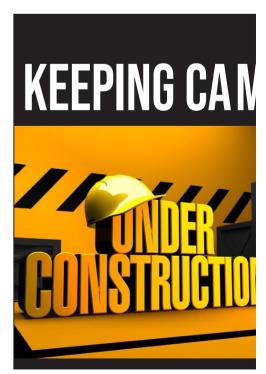


on the first floor and to consolidate several all-school administrative offices on the second floor.

According to school archivist Mr. John Rovell, the Harrison House served as the residence of two heads of school, Mr. John Cooper and Mr. Glenn Ballard.

Mr. Ray Reason, a building operator who has worked at Kinkaid for over 40 years, said formerly, there was no on-campus security staff and the back gate to the school was left open for Mr. Ballard to close before he retired each night. Students would sneak through the gate before it was closed and toilet paper the front lawn of the Harrison House, leaving Mr. Ballard irate.

With the coming of Dr. Don North in 1996, the Harrison House was transformed into an office complex after the residence of the head of school first moved across the street, and then to a house adjacent to campus on Stillforest Street.









A construction worker carries remaining bricks from the site where the Harrison House once stood. The Harrison House was used for different activities after serving as the home of two heads of school, but in recent years it was primarily used as office space for the Advancement Office and administrative functions. The rubble left in the wake of the Harrison House's demolition marked a new era.

AMPUS SECURE



- All construction
 workers have
 passed a security
 background check
- Added staff help to screen and guide construction vehicles at entry/exit points
- Security fencing is in place around the perimeter of the construction areas
 - Security cameras are in place to cover the construction area and all entry/exit points

UPPER SCHOOL GOES ALL IN

Plans unveiled for new facilities

By Camron Baldwinvand Matthew Berman

Taylor McMullen, a senior, launches herself into a pirouette as music courses through the Katz Performing Arts Center's dance studio.

The dance studio, like many other facilities used by Upper School students, will be seeing an upgrade — that has finally arrived.

"We're getting an additional arts studio, an additional dance studio with dressing rooms, a new theatre teaching space, a new film room and a large ensemble music rehearsal space," Mr. Scott Lambert, director of Visual and Performing arts, said. "The vast majority of the Student Life building is becoming VPA."

These plans and additional ones to entirely remodel the current Upper School and upgrade the athletics facilities were unveiled on Oct. 18 — dubbed All In Day by Mr. Eades — to the student body after a year of fundraising.

"We've talked to our

closest supporters, trustees, former trustees, and those that have been longtime larger donors to the school," said Mr. Tom Moore, the director of Advancement. "We've raised \$91 million in a little over a year."

Due to the long "quiet phase," the plans for the new building have been years in the making to get trustees and donors an idea of the scope of the "All In" project.

"It's been over three years of planning, the

whole process takes a long time," Mr. Moore said. "It's taken a long time to do that because the school leaders need to plan first, see if the community wants to support the project, do a feasibility study and then from there, and set a working fundraising goal."

By All In Day, the school determined that the \$91 million of quiet phase money that the board raised over a year was enough to go public for the last \$34 million of Kinkaid's

"TODAY, WE GO ALL IN"

by Camron Baldwin

On a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday leading up to the Oct. 18 assembly, a film crew dotted the campus

The crew members spent that time collecting footage for a campaign video that was to be presented to the Upper School student body at the All In assembly.

Students received official campaign T-shirts and were asked to wear them to the assembly. The school also created a website, allin.kinkaid. org for the project.

"I had noticed the crews and wondered what they were for," Ellie Metha, a sophomore, said. "The video and the shirts made it all feel grand to me."



\$125 million campaign goal. At the time of publication, \$96 million had been raised.

"We've been very, very fortunate to have a community that has been extremely generous," Mr. Moore said. "The donations are being given not only for the current students, but also for future generations and to benefit the city of Houston."

Of the total, \$84 million of \$125 million will go towards construction of the new buildings as well as implementing infrastructure and facilities, per a document provided by the advancement team.

From there, \$10 million will be used to support new STEM and wellness facilities, courses, and resource access to students.

An additional \$10 million will be used for extended financial aid and teacher

retention programs and the final chunk of \$21 million will go towards maintenance for the new buildings, existing facilities and emergency funds.

Back in the Katz dance studios, the dancers buzz with excitement about the prospect of a new space.

"I am so excited for the new resources for the dance studio. I know everyone who does dance at Kinkaid will love it." McMullen said.

Though excitement extends throughout the Dance Company, no member of the current dance company will dance in the new studio: the project won't be finished until 2026 at the earliest, allowing the class of 2026—the current freshmen—just a few months in the new space.

"I've seen the designs and it looks really amazing," McMullen said.



Sophomore Matthew Gonzalez is filmed by the All In crew. Photo by Matthew Godinich

Behind The Scenes

Check out our digital coverage of the making of the "All In" video on thefalcon. kinkaid.org using the QR code below!



ME SOS

125 FOR THE FUTURE

How Kinkaid plans to use \$125 million to improve

Facilities to Drive
Distinction (\$84 Million)

"Create facilities that reflect and enable academic achievement" by building a new Upper School and expanding the Lower School

Annual Support for Operational Excellence (\$21 Million)

Maintain "sustainable annual support from parents, alumni, and friends" to enable agility in challenging times

Programs to Prepare Leaders (\$10 Million)

"Evolve and innovate the curriculum" with a new STEM, wellness and leadership center.

Endowment for Extraordinary Students and Faculty (\$10 Million)

> "Further expand access to a Kinkaid education to Houston's brightest young people" with need-based financial aid.

> > Campus



TEACHER'S PAST A LONG WAY FROM THE PRESENT

Doctor leaves ER to answer call of interests in math, ranching

By Jordan Roberts and Caroline Nelson

Upper School mathematics teacher, Dr. Susan Wheeler, in a previous life, pursued her first childhood dreams by moving to Texas from her home in Long Island to go to medical school.

For several years, Dr. Wheeler practiced as a cardiologist; however, her love for both math and science ultimately led her to find a job at Kinkaid as a teacher.

The medical field was always in Dr. Wheeler's mind. Her interest was in biology, more specifically the cardiovascular system. The mechanics, the flows and the ways the systems worked together made so much sense to her and ignited a passion. With interests in both math and science, she felt as if cardiology was the best fit for her.

"I always loved biology and especially loved the cardiac system, so I thought if I were to go into medicine, it would be in cardiology," Dr. Wheeler said.

Dr. Wheeler's other dream was to become a cowgirl. Originally from Long Island, New York, she easily made a decision to move to the only place in the world where one can take flight as a heart doctor and a cowgirl: Texas.

"As a child, I always wanted to be a cowgirl and also wanted to go to medical school. So, it was decided I would move to Houston, where I could learn to become both a cardiologist and a cowgirl," Dr. Wheeler said.

To this day, she still continues her passions as a cowgirl. She raises cattle and horses with her husband and three sons on a farm in Grimes County, located outside College Station. She and her family work there almost every weekend for family time away from the hectic city life.

Dr. Wheeler attended Baylor Medical School and later was on the medical faculty. She loved the benefits and improvements that cardiology could provide to people with cardiovascular diseases. Her primary interests were in a more specific subspecialty of cardiology: electrophysiology, a branch of medicine that studies the electrical properties of cells and tissues and is focused on rhythm disturbances of the heart.

"The positive impact you could make as a cardiologist is really dramatic," Dr. Wheeler said. "Cardiology is one of those fields that is always rapidly changing, and you really could do so many things to improve people's lives."

While practicing cardiology, she started her family, and she noticed how much time she was spending at the hospital away from her three children.

"I went for days, sometimes weeks, without seeing my sons," she said.

Dr. Wheeler evaluated her priorities and decided to take a leave of absence. During her leave, she became aware of a project in the mathematics department at the University of Houston that was partnering with Baylor College of Medicine Cardiology.

Soon after, she received her master's degree in





mathematics and started to substitute teach and tutor in the subject. Her son's former Spanish teacher mentioned to Wheeler that Upper School chemistry teacher, Dr. Shannon Hardie, needed coverage for maternity leave for a day in September.

Dr. Wheeler's college degree from Cornell University was in chemistry, so she was planning to substitute teach at Kinkaid for what she thought would be one day. As she was leaving on her first day, science department chair, Dr. Sonia Clayton stopped to talk with her and asked her to stay until Thanksgiving.

As one can assume, the rest is history.

Dr. Wheeler has been a beloved math teacher with a unique background, inspiring and instilling passions within her students.

"She is a very nice human being, and I truly enjoy having conversations with her, whether it's about math, or any other life subject, but I especially have a soft spot for her horses," said senior Camille Solé.

From top left: Dr. Susan Wheeler, who teaches math in the Upper School, rides a horse and greets others, including a baby goat, on her family farm near College Station. Dr. Wheeler practiced cardiology before she joined the faculty at Kinkaid.

Photos courtesy of Dr. Susan Wheeler

STUDENTS PROMOTE ETHUSIASM, "HYPE" AT FOOTBALL GAMES

By Will Burba and Eva Humble

Most fall Fridays, students have one thing on their minds—football games.

The student section always brings a fun atmosphere for everyone to enjoy.

Kinkaid's student section is led by senior students, nicknamed "yell leaders" by the student body.

Yell leaders are involved in leading chants to hype up the student section during games, and the entire school at all-school pep rallies.

This year's yell leaders — seniors George Kinder, Jared Laskin, Hunter Masterson and Will Swanson – were chosen by the yell leaders of the year prior as usual.

Swanson said "being able to be at the front of the student section right there with everyone" is why he enjoys being a yell leader.

The yell leaders and the student

section have notably impacted the success of the team this year.

On Oct. 14, Kinkaid and Episcopal School of Dallas faced off on Segal Field. With two seconds left on the clock, the Kinkaid Falcons and ESD Eagles were tied 14-14. ESD had the ball on the Falcon's 12-yard line, and the yell leaders immediately took charge: hyping up the student section.

Soon after, the stands began to rumble as students jumped, screamed and cheered on the defending champions. The ESD kicker missed the kick, sending it wide left and sending the game into overtime. It ended in Kinkaid scoring a touchdown and winning the game.

"(The student section) had a big impact on the ESD game," Masterson said. "I think the crowd noise had an effect on the kicker missing the game winning field goal at the end,"

In addition to leading the student section, yell leaders work with members of the events committee to put together fun games and activities for the allschool pep rallies for the homecoming football game and the big rivalry game between Kinkaid and St. John's.

For these pep rallies, the entire school community gathers in Melcher Gym to participate in the chants and games led by the yell leaders who dress in themed, playful costumes to stand out and entertain the crowd

Yell leaders and events committee members also work to incorporate various members of the community, includin the dance company, fall sports team captains and faculty.

"Our goal in the pep rally is to keep up the energy to make the whole community feel involved," Kinder said.





Scenes from home football games show how hype students are to support the Falcons during themed-dress games such as superheroes, founding fathers (right) and camo (below). Photos by David Shutts



MOVIE REVIEW

ARE WE WORRIED DARLING?

Olivia Wilde's fresh, psychological thriller successfully executes next-level concept

Story and design by Chloe Wilson

IN THE DISTORTED WORLD of

1950s stepford wives, the star couple of "Don't Worry Darling" Jack and Alice — portrayed by Harry Styles and Florence Pugh — are surrounded by perfection: perfect neighbors and friends, perfect job, perfect routine.

All couples in the experimental town of Victory live their lives like the two hands of a clock — moving rhythmically and questioning nothing.

No one suspects foul play because in the idyllic town of Victory nothing is out of place.

The perfection remains untainted until Alice's subconscious begins to fight back against the restraints of the simulation.

Scoring a disappointing 38% on moving rating site Rotten Tomatoes, director Olivia Wilde's sophomore film received a great deal of backlash upon its release in late September.

Viewers were dissatisfied with the overarching theme of Wilde's work, wanting more from the "deflated" ending and wanting significantly less screen time from global artist Harry Styles.

Without a doubt, there will always be pieces of each film that are received poorly by the general public. Despite the hate, the cinematography, screenplay, storyline and movie as a whole were an enjoyable watch.

Working on the same plane as "The Truman Show," "The Matrix" trilogy and "Get Out," "Don't Worry Darling" brings a slightly twisted take on psychological thrillers — standing alone while still sharing some of the same unique choices.

In all these films, the music amplifies the moment, giving viewers a sense that there is a silent story happening in correspondence with the story of the protagonist.

Wilde's film did not disappoint in this category.

Mesmerized by the period pieces or the orchestral scores, the instrumentals built up feelings of "what next," cued appropriate gasps and breath holding and welcomed exhales and sighs of relief.

The story connected in a way similar to pulling thread through fabric, piecing together all the components of the storyline like they were a dress. No scene was taken for granted when trying to uncover the premise of the story.

From the sequence with Jack letting Alice take the wheel — something she cannot do on her own — to the montage of Alice completing her daily housekeeping tasks, it is obvious that there is only one person in each couple's relationship with agency: the

Moments like the morning medley
- with the women cooking and
sending their husbands off to work
in a clocklike, by-the-book manner
- further illustrate the submissive
nature of the wives to their dominant
busbands

Wilde and her team do an exquisite job at sneaking these defining moments in without being too seen, creating a strong backbone for the plot and direction of the film.

It may require viewers to have a full circle moment to grasp the meaning behind the story, but in reflection, it is easy to see the compactness of each scene and the cinematic genuis behind each choice.



HALLOWEEN IN STYLE

Upper School hosts first student costume contest in the quad

By Madison Burba Photos by Kimetris Baltrip



Junior Meredith Lobb entertains the crowd while showing off her Jim Jones costume during the contest. She won the most original category.



Seniors Mia Abello and Kate Consoli dress as Poppy from the movie "Trolls" and "The Lorax" from the Dr. Seuss movie of the same name.



Other contestants watch sophomore Bennett Bowman and junior Rayya James dance in Buccee's outfits.



Freshman Sage Barreto won best overall and scariest categories for her vampire costume.



Friends Bailey Metclaf, senior, and Byron Qi, a junior, won Best Duo in their Squid Game costumes.



Seniors Lexie Paul and Max De la Rosa dressed as Daphne and Fred from "Scooby Doo."



Junior Caroline Schillaci Schillaci won the funniest costume category for her portrayal of Sue Sylvester from the TV sitcom, "Glee."



Freshman Michayah Robinson dressed as pirate Jack Sparrow.



It's 1958.

Dwight Eisenhower is in the Oval Office. Alaska and Hawaii have yet to enter the union. The St. Louis Hawks beat the Minneapolis Lakers in the NBA Finals. And The Kinkaid School moves from the Richmond campus to its location in Piney Point.

Since that relocation, Kinkaid's Upper Schoolers have been learning in the same building constructed more than 60 years ago. But, that will change.

Recognizing the need for change, Head of School Mr. Jonathan Eades formally announced a plan to rebuild the Upper School as well as improve other facilities on campus.

"The classrooms are from 1957 and the first students moved in in 1958," Mr. Eades said. "This building is well past its useful life."

Construction on the new Upper School is expected to be completed by January 2026, as part of a more than three-year project to upgrade facilities.

One of the key qualities of the new Upper School can be summarized in one word: space. Plans for the new building aim to optimize space inside and outside the classroom.

"Square footage will probably be one of the first things people notice," Mr. Eades said. "The classrooms right now are 425 square feet, which is pretty small — the Upper School population ...was about 400. Now, we have 630 students. So when we're done, the classrooms will be about 650 square feet."

Mr. Eades said that classrooms will be better equipped to handle the modern style of teaching found in most courses — dynamic and collaborative as opposed to the lecture-based instruction characteristic of the mid-20th century. The classrooms will also be outward-facing, allowing for natural light and views of campus.

Outside of the over 50% increase in classroom square footage, plans include adding more space for leisure, which starts with green spaces in the middle of the campus.

"There are going to be two acres of green space," Mr. Eades said. "In Houston, Texas, that is unheard of."

During the COVID-19 pandemic years, outdoor tents were installed around campus

in an attempt to create more socially distant dining spaces. Unexpectedly, the tents proved to be a popular leisure space for students and faculty, so administrators plan to incorporate a similar concept into the new campus.

"We're building three structures that are indoor-outdoor structures," Mr. Eades said, "so these will be good academic structures — classes will meet out there; they'll be wired with the latest technology, but [students] can also hang out."

"I am really excited for the added green space because I love hanging out outside, especially after being locked up inside all day," said freshman Kate St. Julian.

There will be plenty of room for leisure indoors as well. Students stand to gain two separate locations, a new student center and a senior center. The idea is that ninth, tenth and eleventh graders will spend their time in the student center, while seniors have an area to themselves.

"To my knowledge, we will be the only school in Texas with a student center for seniors and a separate one for ninth, tenth and eleventh graders," Mr. Eades said. "There



are tons of places for students to gather and collaborate, which y'all just don't have a lot of right now. Our attitude is that y'all work hard. We want y'all to be able to play hard, too."

Because students will have spaces for socializing, the library, renamed the learning commons, will be a quiet place for studying and will be "significantly larger" than the current Moran Library, Mr. Eades said.

Additionally, a new and improved Upper School office will be constructed to house Upper School administrators. Outside the office will be an Upper School lobby with a large staircase that will function as another leisure space.

The Upper School deans will also be given a suite, uniting all eight deans as well as the two administrative assistants in one location. Finally, an alumni center will be constructed on the south side of campus, overlooking the athletic fields.

"We're calling it the alumni center because we don't currently have one and when we have large gatherings for them, that's where we'll do it," Mr. Eades said. "But all of our organizations are going to use it — student

organizations, parents groups, etc."

The Upper School is not the only division getting an upgrade. Construction will include an expansion of the Lower School into the newly built Harrison House as well as upgrades and additions to athletics and arts facilities.

The hallmark feature of the athletic expansion is the construction of a new fieldhouse after the demolition of the Doggett Gym. The fieldhouse, which will be two stories tall, will have an indoor track as well as standard courts.

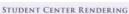
In athletics, all indoor facilities will have upgrades, including new locker rooms, coaches' offices, and a weight room and fitness center. The Melcher and Fondren Gyms will be given a "facelift," as Mr. Eades put it.

"We're not talking about the baseball field or Segal Field, but all indoor athletic facilities will either get a facelift or be brand new," Mr. Eades said.

The Visual and Performing Arts Department will also experience major upgrades as part of the Student Life building will become





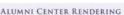


Main Photo: Pictured is a rendering of the exterior of the new Upper School.

Plans for the new building include more leisure spaces, including one for seniors, one for ninth, tenth and eleventh graders, a grand lobby and a space for alumni.

All renderings courtesy of Kinkaid's Advancement Office.







added space for its programs.

This will be made possible by the expansion, which will allow Upper School faculty currently residing in the Student Life building to move into the actual school. One major feature of the addition will be a second dance studio that will be located where counselors and other administrators currently have offices.

"The specifics of who's where and in which classroom is still to be determined, but these will all be additions," Mr. Eades said. "We aren't going to lose anything we had."

The current Upper School student body has mixed emotions. Most students acknowledge that they will have graduated and left by the time that the new campus is fully constructed.

"I'm most excited to see people I know in lower grades be able to see the Kinkaid Upper School in a whole new light," freshman Irene Pletcher said. "Even if I will only get the school for a short time, I'll be grateful to witness the process and all the work that goes into making it a whole new experience for future grades."

Despite barriers such as inflation and the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the administration is following through on construction plans, which commenced on Monday, Oct. 10 with the demolition of the Harrison House as part of Phase One.

The first phase is estimated to last approximately 15 months and is set to finish in January 2024.

While replacement of the historic Harrison House with an improved building will eventually house the advancement team and other administrative offices as well as some Lower School classes, first the building will temporarily serve as a site for the Upper School as part of Phase Two.

"We're going to build 36 to 39 classrooms out there, and it'll house about 75% of the Upper School classes," Mr. Eades said.

Plans have been set to house all Upper School classes excluding the science department.

"The science department, as well as athletic and coaching offices, will move to temporary buildings on the west side of campus," Mr. Eades said.

In Phase Two, the new Upper School will be built. This is expected to take between 18 and 24 months. Mr. Eades estimates that this new Upper School will be ready to house students in January 2026.

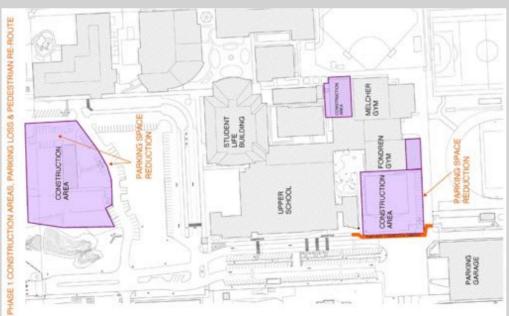
"It could be done in 18 months, but I think it'll be two years," Mr. Eades said. "Rounding up, that takes us to January 2026."

Upon completion, Phase Three, the shortest phase, will commence: this involves restructuring the newly built Harrison House so that it can serve its original purpose of housing an expanded Lower School and administration.

While the school's general contractor will undertake this process, the facilities team's roles will be significantly different than typical over the next few years.

"During the construction process several existing roles will be impacted," said Mr. Ed Jordan, director of facilities. "These changes include attendance in weekly construction meetings, ensuring school utilities are not negatively impacted and communicating construction activities are communicated to the community."

Parking factors into construction considerations

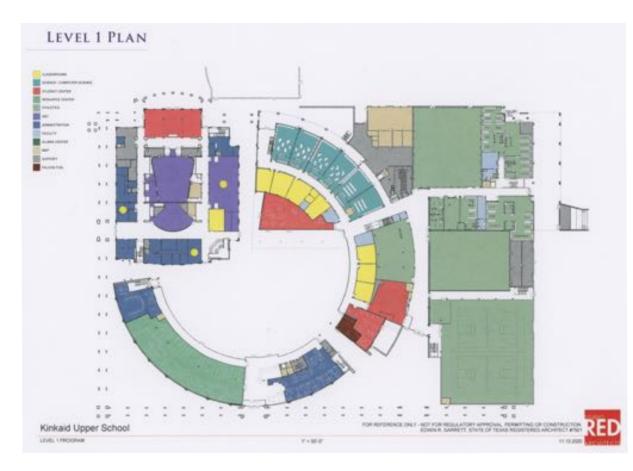


A diagram shows where parking will be reduced during Phase One of construction on campus, which began in October.

When news of a new Upper School broke, people were intrigued by how it would affect academics and athletics; however, something that many people may not have considered is its effect on parking and carpooling.

New construction means new people and new materials filing in and out of the campus, so how does this activity coincide with the already busy campus and long traffic lines in the morning and afternoon?

Julie Burris-Richardson, security manager, stated "the campus currently has around 950 total parking spaces. The number of parking spaces available for the Kinkaid community will be reduced due to construction activities planned in some parking areas



Pictured is the plans for the ground floor of the new Upper School, which includes a new site for a second coffeeshop that will function like the Falcon Fuel in the Dining and Learning Center.

and also construction workers who use some parking spaces while working on campus."

:al

She said construction take up some parking areas and construction workers may use some parking spaces while they work on campus.

"Phase One, our current phase, will last about 12 months and will only have a minor impact to carpool and pedestrian traffic. This impact will begin within the next couple of months and will require us to slightly re-route vehicle and pedestrian traffic in the area adjacent to the tennis courts next to the Fondren Gym," said Burris-Richardson.

Phase One includes the removal of the Harrison House and the construction of a new building in its place, a new power facilities building, and a new fieldhouse. This phase

will last from October 2022 to January 2024.

Later on, in Phase Two, "the entire sidewalk along the Upper School will be shifted west into what is now the east carpool lane," Burris-Richardson said.

PhaseTwo, which will go from January 2024 to January 2026, will involve the destruction and construction of the high school and gym areas.

Sophomore Jordan Roberts

said that she is "scared traffic will get out of hand" once the new construction starts.

However, Burris-Richardson stated Kinkaid "will still have enough daily parking for the community...The main impact is that there will be less visitor parking in the north parking lot."

Either way, it seems planning included minimizing impact on campus life.



Mr. Enrique Ambrosio, assistant facilities director, and Mr. Carter Metclaf, project coordinator, discuss the demolition of the tennis courts adjacent to parking lot outside the high school. The parking garage will be instrumental as more construction gets underway on campus.

Photo by Sarah Xu

SOPHOMORE SOB STORY

By Emerson Heath and Bennett Bowman Designed by Emerson Heath

Even after 30 months of construction on campus, the current sophomore class will not be able to experience the entirety of the new Upper School's benefits.

This year's sophomore class will graduate in May 2025, just before the new Upper School is completed in January 2026. The duration of their senior year will be in the middle of Phase Two, which includes demolishing the current high school.

"They'll be in that tweener phase." Head of School Mr. Jonathan Eades said, referring to the construction period for the Upper School's new campus.

During the building, the class of 2025 will spend their junior and senior year in between "learning villages" and the Harrison House. They will not have the luxury of having the new senior center or the ease of only having to walk a couple of feet to their next class.

The new building will hold more benefits for juniors and seniors that the class or 2025 will not be able to take advantage of.

"Soon, we're going to be the only private school in Texas that's going to have a student center for the 12th grade and the

student center for the ninth, 10th and 11th grade," Eades said.

The younger classes will be able to enter high school with more space and facilities. The current fifth-grade class will be the first class to spend all their high school years in the newly completed Upper School.

When talking about some of the most exciting aspects of the new school, Mr. Eades explained, "the new library is going to have a lot of space to hang out in."

These benefits will not be available to the current sophomore class, and some members of the class are not too enthusiastic about the construction of the new Upper School.

"I wish we could just stay in this current high school because we're not going to get to use the new building," sophomore Hayley Alexander said.

Sophomore Lili Lassoued shared similar feelings.

"It makes me sad because I came here as a new student to Kinkaid, and I won't be able to have my full Kinkaid experience due to moving and construction," Lassoued said.

However, Mr. Eades is confident that the new Harrison House and the learning villages will be an improvement. He explained, "for that temporary base, it will be an upgrade."

The temporary classrooms in the Harrison House will be 100 square feet bigger than the current Upper School classrooms. Also, the new science labs located outside by Kel's Hill will be upgraded and comparable or better than the ones Kinkaid has now.

"The Harrison House replacement and new learning spaces are going to be nicer, so I don't mind it," said Walker Wood, a current member of the class of 2025, when referring to the loss of the existing Upper School building and classrooms.

Another concern is about how classes will be farther away. Students' English, math and language classes will be in the new building, but they have to walk to Kel's Hill to go to science and the athletic locker rooms. The walk from the garage to the new building is significantly longer.

"It is too out of the way to walk that far," sophomore Maia MiQuel said. "Every morning will feel like an inconvenience."

The sophomore class is excited about the new building and the Upper School's revival, but we are just upset about the timing because they are the class that gets the short end of the stick.





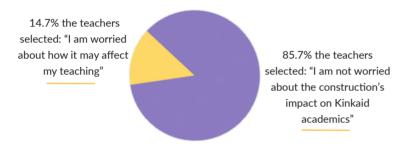




THE CLASS OF 2025 HAS TO WAIT OUT CONSTUCTION IN "LEARNING VILLAGES" AND WON'T EXPERIENCE THE BENEFITS OF NEW CAMPUS

SAMPLE OF US TEACHERS SHARE OVERALL OPTIMISM

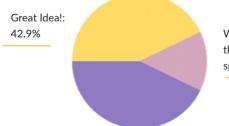




Are you excited to utilize the new building's resources?



What are your thoughts on the new learning villages?



Worried about the amount of space: 14.7%

No opinion: 42.9%

By Bennett Bowman

Not only is the student body affected by the construction of the new Upper School, but the faculty are too.

Upper School teachers will teach in the current high school building, the temporary locations, and the new building on the Harrison House site.

We asked a few faculty for their opinions and many expressed optimism about the new building's construction, saying they are not worried about the construction's impact on academics.

Even though teachers are confident about adapting to the new spaces, some of the teachers surveyed said that although they were enthusiastic about the new building, they are not looking forward to the construction process on campus.

Still, almost half of the teachers we spoke with said they think the temporary learning spaces are a great idea, which aligns with thoughts shared by the head of school.

"Y'all are gonna have a great upgrade even before the final destination," Head of School Mr. Jonathan Eades said when asked about the new learning spaces.

BATTLE FOR THE BLEACHE

There was only a single set of bleachers.

As fans for the rival team wrestled their way onto the stands, fans supporting Kinkaid squeezed between friends to fit into the flagged-off home-team sections. All in the crowd contorted their bodies as they gathered to watch the highly anticipated Kinkaid vs Episcopal game.

Tensions leading up to this rivalry game have been high for a number of years and this year was no exception. In past years, the schools have rented an extra set of temporary bleachers for the visiting team as a way of curbing the tensions and preventing any unfriendly confrontation.

However, Kinkaid administrators decided against renting the extra set this year after a 2019 game where Episcopal students broke the temporary bleachers. Kinkaid athletics made the executive decision not to rent out the bleachers for this year as a result of the 2019 incident.

"It wasn't about the money or anything. We just didn't want the safety issues with the bleachers breaking again," explained Ms. Rachel Radford, athletics administrative assistant

Temporary bleachers are meant for sedentary viewing, not the standing and jumping that enthusiastic student sections bring. Because they are not built for this sort of activity, they are easily breakable and pose a threat to the students standing on them.

Ms. Radford even noted that at that 2019 game multiple EHS students were injured.

Still, there was a large concern from members of the student body that putting the rival students on the same bleachers would pose a larger safety threat.

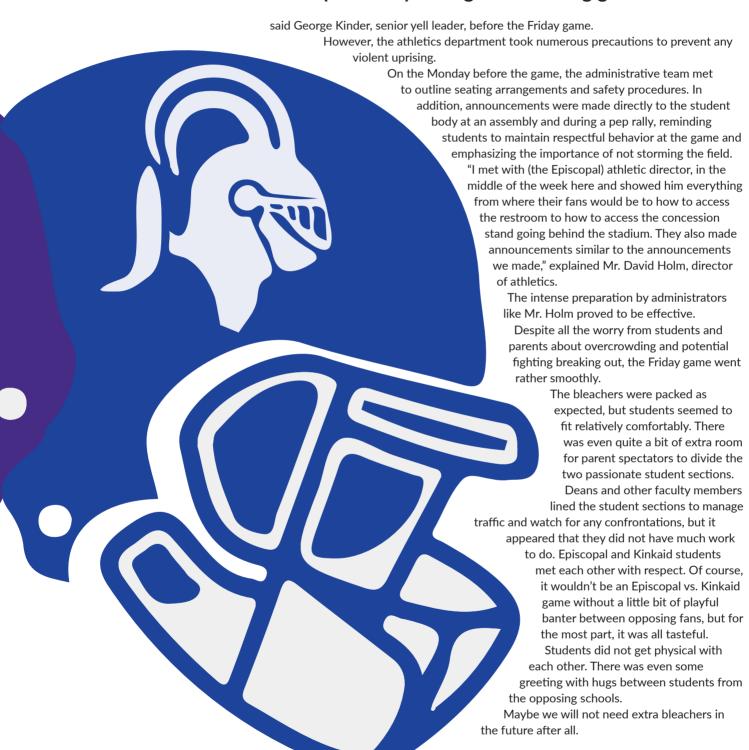
The combination of the heated rivalry and the proximity of the two schools seemed like the ideal recipe for a violent confrontation between students.

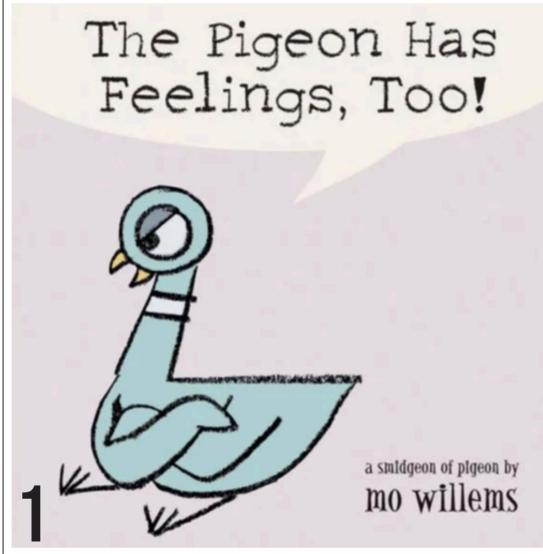
"I worry about conflict between the students since they're so close together, especially when walking to get food or to go get drinks are crossing between the student sessions,"

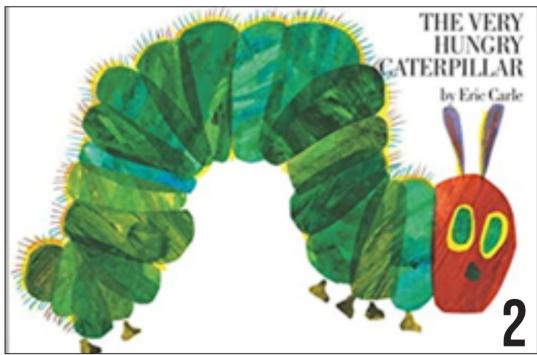


HERS

Despite concerns about tension between Kinkaid and Episcopal, the two opposing teams' fans share the stands peacefully during homecoming game







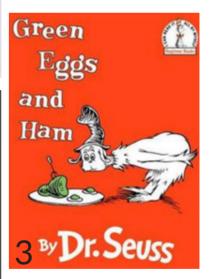
A LOOK BACK

CHILDHOO

Whether due to their art style, creative story or easy reading, children's books can cement themselves in the mind of students. With the school's annual Book Fair approaching, we decided to survey students to find out which iconic picture books reign supreme.

of books, the Pigeon series by Mo Willems. Scoring an

By Will Anderson and Harrison Lawrence Designed by Will Anderson and Rina Presley



WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE



STORY AND PICTURES BY MAURICE SENDAN

OD MEMORIES

"The Pigeon Has Feelings, Too!"

Mo Willems' pigeon book series has been published with a variety of plots that teach children lessons about topics such as social issues and jealousy. With 44.3% of respondents giving this book a 10/10, this was a clear winner.

"The Very Hungry Caterpillar"

"The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle depicts an aging caterpillar who begins to eat more food each time it sees new options. This book was given a 10 by 44% of respondents, giving it a slim second place.

"Green Eggs and Ham"

three

"Green Eggs and Ham" by Dr. Seuss is a story about a picky eater who will not try green eggs and ham even after being told he he might like it. 41.9% of respondents rated this book a 10.

"Where The Wild Things Are"

four

Lastly, coming in a close fourth place was "Where The Wild Things Are" by Maurice Sendak who uses his imagination to write about growing up in Brooklyn. This title was given a 10 by 41.4% of respondents.



A cardboard image of the Book Fair's mascot Gurple peeks from behind signs for tables that will be set up in the Olgivie Lobby. The 2022-23 fair is being moved to the lobby because of campus construction near the gym where it is usually held.

Photo by Eva Humble

Because of construction, the 2022-23 Book Fair will be downsized and moved into the Katz Building's lobby.

"The Oglivie Lobby will be converted into a bookstore with a vast selection of over 8,000 books," said Allison Wise, one of the Book Fair's coordinators.

For decades the annual Book Fair has been held in the Melcher Gym, but campus construction required a change in location.

"This year, the biggest change and challenge was the amount of space," Wise explained, "The Ogilvie Lobby is a lot smaller than the Melcher Gym."

Although the Ogilvie Lobby will be smaller, the same amount of books have been ordered and will be present during the fair.

"We will need to store books under the tables and restock as the Book Fair goes on," Wise said. "We will have most book sections downstairs, but we will also use the upstairs for our older audiences as well as our fabulous Book Fair Boutique."

Wise is working as one of three coordinators who planned to deliver the same traditional Book Fair feel.

The 2022 Book Fair partnered with the Faris D. Virani Library at KIPP Connect Houston Primary.

"Books requested by the Faris D. Virani Library are available for purchase to be delivered to KIPP Connect after the conclusion of Book Fair," Wise said.

LIGHTING UP LUI

Monkey Mind Making Music

The Electric Lunch Band is not the only student band on campus.

Juniors Evelyn Mach, Jack Denechaud and Patrick Reilly and senior Max De la Rosa make up Monkey Mind.

"The name came from posting monkey GIFs in our group chat, and Jack said 'monkey mind' randomly, and we thought it was a cool name," Reilly said.

Mach, Denechaud and Reilly formed the band their freshman year.

"We'd been hanging out a lot on weekends, and we decided it would be fun to make our own band since we all play instruments, and we're also very passionate about music," Mach said.

They asked De la Rosa to join this year as their drummer.

"He agreed, which was excellent," Mach said. "He's been a great addition to the band."

While they created the band with the intention of just jamming out for fun, they asked if they could play at an Electric Lunch last year and have been performing there since.

"I think Electric Lunch is super cool because it allows people to express themselves and share their talents with the school community," Mach said. "It brings everyone together to listen to some good music."

While the Electric Lunch Band and Monkey Mind have similar styles, they bring different elements to Electric Lunches.

"I think Monkey Mind and the Electric Lunch Band are similar in a lot of ways as we play songs in the genre of indie and rock, but I think Monkey Mind has played more classic songs, such as 'Just Like Heaven or 'My Best Friend's Girl,' " Reilly said.

Monkey Mind has loved performing together and is excited for the future.

"I just hope we keep playing and having fun together," Mach said. "In the end, that's really all that matters to us."



Photo by Abby Johnson

Juniors Patrick Reilly and Evelyn Mach, members of Monkey Mind, performing "My Best Friend's Girl" at Electric Lunch.

Student-led bands add music, joy to mid-day break from studies

This fall, five students worked in harmony to bring the Upper School community together.

A Kinkaid tradition since 2019, the Electric Lunch Band performed at least once a semester to give students a midday study break.

"We only had two Electric Lunches last year, and I think we can definitely have at least four this year or more," said senior Joycie Brass, band leader.

After the majority of the original band graduated in spring 2022, seniors Joycie Brass and Alex Jinnette refused to let the band dissolve during their last year of high school.

Before the school year started, the two selected senior Sam Dillon and juniors Claire Hartung and Patrick Reilly to keep the band up and running.

Though some band members are newer and younger than others, Jinnette was quick to note that he, too, is new to music. During the height of the pandemic, Jinnette purchased a drum set and created an Instagram page to help pass the time.

After school began, he was recruited to join the Electric Lunch Band.

"In the spring of my sophomore year, Carolina Weiland hunted me down in the hallway and asked me if I wanted to join," Jinnette said. "I had no idea if I wanted to at the time, and I honestly didn't know who she was, so I kinda just ignored her."

Weiland, who graduated last spring, was persistent, and she continued to ask Jinnette until he agreed.

"Finally, in the spring of my junior year I was free, so I began preparing with the band in early February," Jinnette said. "Since then, it's been awesome."

Dillon was similarly asked to join the band for her instrumental talent.

"My role as a bass player is to listen to both the guitar and the drums to be the bridge between percussion and harmony," Dillon said. "It is my job to find how percussively or melodically I need to play to make the band on a whole sound complete."

Despite having members with a variety of roles, Jinnette explained that there is no superiority within the group.

"I guess I would describe myself as a co-leader," Jinnette explained. "But I think everyone is, and there isn't much of a power dynamic in the band. It's a really relaxed environment."

Jinnette wasn't the only one to mention the laid-back atmosphere. Once the group realized their compatibility, they began rehearsing together all the time and would even meet up at each other's houses.

"We'll rehearse on the weekends and then get dinner afterwards," Brass said.

"We really just get closer from being in the band together."

Dillon feels the same.

"Our rehearsals are always really memorable," Dillon said. "I like rehearsing at Claire's because her dad has a really cool collection of guitars and a jazz bass that I get to play."

After perfecting their performances, the band expressed that attending Electric Lunch was important for the student body.

"Electric Lunch is one of the few completely student-led arts events at the school," Hartung said. "Student-led events like this are a reminder to Kinkaid students that we are capable of producing art outside of a classroom or an adult-led environment"

Electric Lunches also give students a break from the school day and allow them to relax and have fun together.

"Music can relieve stress from someone's mind or clear their head from the struggles that can happen at school," Reilly said.

Lastly, attending Electric Lunches encourages student-artists to continue to explore their talents.

"I think it's really fun to see your

classmates perform," Brass said. "I think that's why people love the musical and the play so much is because you get to see your peers doing something that they enjoy. It's great to support your peers."



The Electric Lunch Band, made up of (left to right) junior Claire Hartung, senior Joycie Brass, junior Patrick Reilly, senior Alex Jinette and senior Sam Dillon, smiles at the end of their set.

Photo by Mia Price

Students perform at Candlelighters fundraiser to aid organization's goal to aid families

By Madison Burba and Ellie Mehta Photos courtesy of Kelly Provine and Stella Hall Design by Madison Burba

DANCE COMPANY SUPPORTS EFFORT TO RAISE MONEY TO FIGHT CANCER



Country music pumped through the speakers as 10 dancers dressed in white jeans, jersey, and boots strode onto a grassy field.

Onlookers milled around the perimeter of the field, eyeing select auction items if they were not still watching the dancers move.

Kinkaid's Dance Company, DCO, performed at the Candlelighters "Lights of Courage" fundraiser, which helped raise \$540,000 for children with cancer.

Hosted at the Houston Polo Club, this event was a first for the Dance Company.

The opportunity arose thanks to DCO's lead dance mom, Mrs. Kelly Provine and her daughter Georgia Provine, who is secretary of DCO

The pair had crossed paths with Candlelighters before, participating in their yearly fundraising walk to raise money for the nonprofit.



Seniors Madison Doan, Mason Thenor, and Alice Ma in front of the fields in their polo player costumes.

In fact, the Provines have volunteered the past couple years for Candlelighters.

When Georgia Provine, a junior, saw an invitation about the gala at the Houston Polo Club, the Provines wanted to know if they could serve the Candlelighters by inviting DCO to dance.

Georgia Provine took it upon herself to contact the gala chairs to offer a performance by DCO.

Tiffany Wong, one of the chairs and a National Charity League member, loved the idea of entertainment and agreed to the Provine's idea.

Mrs. Danyale Williams, DCO dance instructor, was excited to give the dancers another chance to show off

their talents beyond campus.

"I'm glad they are getting another opportunity to perform beyond school events and that they're



getting a little more exposure. They're so talented and work really hard, so they definitely deserve it," Mrs. Williams said.

Not only was the performance an opportunity to reach wider audiences, the show also benefited children with cancer.

Candlelighters used the funds raised at the gala to support the families of children with cancer by paying medical bills, purchasing Christmas gifts and providing other support.

Knowing that the event was for such an important cause, Alice Ma, DCO president, made sure the dancers were prepared.

"I love learning new dances, so I'm excited to see how everything turns out," sophomore Elaine Chen said, as she prepared to begin rehearsals.

The dance was choreographed by Mrs. Williams to "That Kind of Night" by Luke Bryan to match the Texas cowboy chic theme of the gala and it incorporated lots of country dance moves.

"I let the dancers put in their own little flavor because it's supposed to be a fun piece of choreography," Mrs. Williams said.

One challenge the dancers faced was acquiring costumes.

"They don't want them in cowboy boots, they want them in riding boots and white jeans and jerseys,



Sophomore Bridget Gray hands out programs before the performance.

so they look like they're playing polo instead of being cowboys and cowgirls," Mrs. Williams said.

While the dancers were given jerseys to wear for their performance, many had to find polo boots on their own.

"I had to borrow mine from a friend who plays polo. Other people borrowed boots from their moms or family friends." junior Stella Hall, DCO vice president said.

The choice of the costume came from a painting of a polo player wearing a blue and yellow shirt, white jeans and black riding boots. An image from the painting was used on the invitation, auction catalog and posters for Candlelighters to tie the theme together. The painting was eventually auctioned off at the gala.

"I am touched by these students who volunteer their time to help children with cancer by dancing at the gala," Mrs. Provine said.

Hall said she was also moved.

"The whole event was a very rewarding experience," Hall said. "We bonded a lot."

TAKING STRIDES

School to update athletics facilities

Students gather to play basketball in the Doggett Gym during its last days. The gym's area will be repurposed for a new central plant.

Below: The renderings of the new campus field house, which is one of two projects in Phase One of the construction plans scheduled for later this fall. The plans include removal of the tennis courts adjacent to the Fondren Gym to be replaced by a two-story fieldhouse that, when completed, will be more than double the size of the existing Doggett Gym and offer the Physical Education and Athletic Department a more flexible and multi-use space.

Photo by George Kinder

Rendering courtesy of Advancement Office





Story by George Kinder and Kate St. Julian Design by Sarah Xu and Abby Johnson

The smell of sweat and sound of children joyfully screaming fills the air of the gym. Pounding feet cause the ground to rumble as athletes hone their talents. Lights flash throughout the gym as the entire Upper School student body celebrates homecoming festivities.

This has been the story of the Doggett Gym for decades.

This year, the Doggett Gym will be razed and replaced by an infrastructure system that is part of the "All In" Upper School building project; however, in its prime the gym provided memories for members of the community.

Bobby Eggleston, physical education teacher and head golf coach, has been a part of the Kinkaid community for a long time and he made special memories in the Doggett Gym.

"We have had a lot of PE classes here, so many great memories of kids playing boomer ball and Star Wars. Lots of great memories of all the happiness the kids have had," Coach Eggleston said.

Although Coach Eggleston is ready to make new memories in the future, he recognizes that difficulties will arise with

scheduling PE and basketball games as the gym is taken down.

"The schedule will be tough, athletics will be more affected than anyone, especially basketball. For PE, we can use more of the tennis courts, the wrestling room and possibly the hall near the gyms," Coach Eggleston said.

The Doggett Gym has had many uses besides sports and PE. For example, it was used as a dining space during COVID to help students stay six feet apart. This was a success because it allowed students to still have social interaction.

The Doggett Gym was originally built around 1958 as the Kinkaid community





was expanding and welcoming more students to its campus.

The first purpose of the gym was supposed to be the junior gym or the girls gym, according to the school's original building plans.

Present day, the gym is used for many purposes and has become a welcoming space for everyone to grow and learn.

The gym was not named the Doggett Gym until 2013, when Leslie Doggett, a graduate of 1975, donated two HVAC units to be installed in the gym to provide air conditioning.

After the installation, the gym was named in honor of the Doggett family.

SWEET DREAM

WE GAVE A FEW COACHES AND ATHLETES A CHANCE
TO TELL US WHAT THEIR DREAM ATHLETICS FACILITIES
WOULD INCLUDE, BUT WHAT THEY WILL GET IN REALITY
ONCE CONSTRUCTION IS DONE IS STILL LIKE A DREAM

By Kate St. Julian and Sarah Xu

FANTASY

MASSAGE CHAIRS COLD TUB
SAND VOLLEYBALL COURTS

UNDERWATER TREADMILL

OAM PII

SAUNA

INDOOR TRAINING FIELD

DANCE AREA IN LOCKER ROOM

CRYOCHAMBER SMOOTHIE/SNACK BAR

REALITY

DROP-DOWN VOLLEYBALL NET

NEW WEIGHT ROOMS

INDOOR TRACK

NEW LOCKER SPACES

LOTS OF COURT SPACE

NEW FILM AND TEAM ROOMS

Teams continue legacies of

After a hard-fought season, the Falcons will compete in the Southwest Preparatory Conference Championship from Nov. 3 to Nov. 5. The competition will be in Houston for the first time in five years.

Both the boy's and girl's volleyball teams will compete at the SPC championship at Episcopal High School in the first week of November.

Under the leadership of captains senior Max De la Rosa, junior Mason Howes and junior Ryan Stubbs, the boy's volleyball team is currently fourth in SPC South with a record of three wins and five losses.

"The highlight of the season was beating St. John's in a close game on their senior night," said senior Cullen Grant, the right side hitter for boy's volleyball team.

The girl's volleyball team is currently eighth in SPC South and have one win and five losses. The captains junior Onyi Ndee and senior Edith Essandoh are optimistic about the end of their season.

"This has been the most fun team I've been a part of, we have an inseparable bond" said senior Sarah Xu.

They are practicing hard for the SPC tournament.

Both the boy's and girl's cross country teams have had great success this season.

Led by senior captains Ana Susman and Katherine Zhang, the girl's team has competed in eight meets so far.

Many members on the team have also seen great progress in their running ability. The highlight of the season has been running at the 2022 Roy Griak Invitational at the University of Minnesota. The team is currently training hard and preparing for a successful race at SPC.

The boy's cross country team had a strong season. The team has run in seven meets so far this season, and they are optimistic about their chances for success at SPC. The best part of their season has been competing in the Hoka/ McNeil Invitational 2022 in Round Rock.







Photos by David Shutts

of success, championship runs







Photos by David Shutts

The field hockey team has had a very strong season. The team's record is 10 wins and one loss. The highlight of their season was beating Wyoming Seminary 4-1 during the Max Field Hockey Invitational in Philadelphia.

"Crushing the rest of our competition has been super fun," said senior captain Hope Haynes.

The team is led by senior captains Hope Haynes, Kyle Massey, Sarah Grace Raynes and Claire Nockolds, ranking No. 2 in the nation.

The football team had a strong season. The Falcons are 4-2 in SPC and will compete for the SPC championship on Saturday, Nov. 5.

Led by senior captains Micah Bell and Johnny Griggs, the Falcons have dealt with adversity all season. After losing their starting quarterback David Capobianco at the beginning of the season due to injury, they have created advanced plays to make up for it.

"We've worked hard all year and competing in the SPC championship for the second year in a row will be really exciting," said senior Cooper Buck.

The cheerleaders had an outstanding season. Led by senior captains Maddie Holley, Audrey Lobb and Lucie Kunetka, they have captivated the student section all season.

They competed over the summer and won first place at the Universal Cheerleaders Association. During their homecoming routine, varsity cheer completed the most fulls, making Kinkaid history. A full cheerleading is a 360-degree backflip and twist.

They displayed their new routine at halftime during the St. John's vs. Kinkaid game in Rice Stadium.

Which Editor Are You? O۲ Eshaan Mani Cadividual Kalapatapu

By Cami Culbertson

The Falcon's mission is to be an accurate and reliable source of information for the Kinkaid School community by informing readers about school-related topics.

Questions or comments?

We welcome readers' feedback. Please email jaisal. kalapatapu@kinkaid.org or call (713) 243-6591 or use the form at thefalcon.kinkaid.org. Letters can be sent to: The Kinkaid School, 201 Kinkaid School Dr., Houston, TX 77024

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The Falcon is published six times a school year.

The magazine is distributed to

618 Upper School students. There are

that are available to

the Upper School community and

available for pick up in the Upper School;

there are 200

subscribers.