

The Anchor



Dancing on despite the dilemmas By Angel Gore angelina-gore@ccaschools.

Despite all odds, the Clear Creek Amana dance team took a trip to Chicago, Illinois to compete in a Universal Dance Association (UDA) dance competition.

At the beginning of the season the CCA dance team had 8 competition members. But for the last half of the season, the team has been trying to hang on with only 6 competition members. First, it was sophomore Morgan Harris' broken foot, putting her in a boot at the prime time in the team's season. It was sad seeing a girl who worked her butt off to make it here not even get a chance to perform because of her injury. Morgan hurt

her foot at dance practice at Debut Dance studio.

After Morgan had been in a boot for a few weeks, sophomore member Oliva Greiner's health slowly started to decline. Olivia has not had the easiest run when it comes to health problems as she has struggled with varying health issues for years now. Although she was not at her best at the time of the competition in Chicago, she was encouraged enough to be put back in our Jazz dance. It was hard at first getting back into the groove again after her long absence, but she caught on quickly and we were ready to compete. Morgan's foot

had also been healing for a while, but she wasn't well enough to be able to do all of the turns, jumps, and leaps the dances required.

When we got to the competition we knew we would be against some tough competition. The schools there were double the size of CCA or more, and they were all made up of talented girls from all over the area. The team was excited to be there and ready to perform. Pre Jazz performance, the team laughed and joked waiting in line to go onstage, it was less pressure this time and the goal continued to be to have fun. The team received an 8th place trophy on the dance

they performed and the team felt great afterwards, except for teammate Greiner who was having trouble with severe chest pain as well as fainting spells. Team member Ellie Mccreadie went right to Olivia's side. After Olivia's mom and grandma came rushing to the scene, the family decided it was best to go back to the hotel ASAP to avoid any more injury. With Olivia's condition lingering in their thoughts, the team went on to dance their Prom routine, which they also received an 8th place trophy on. Overall they had a great competition despite the health scare.

Stay focused during 2nd Semester By Caroline Black caroline-black@ccaschools.org

Finding yourself burned out after winter break and the end of the first semester? Have no fear, for here is some advice to help second semester go by smoothly.

Use student support time and advisory to your advantage!

If first semester didn't go so well, and you're afraid of struggling, then get help. It's always okay to get help, no matter who says otherwise. It doesn't matter where from; ask a classmate to teach you the work, or go straight to the teacher for clarification. Students are given extra time and support so they may succeed, but one must be willing to use that time wisely in order to do so.

Set up goals and/or a plan

Organization is key for success, and figuring out what you have to do and when it must be done can help plot a course for the week. It especially helps when friends offer an invitation to go out during the week so that you may prioritize what to finish up before that day rolls around. Setting goals bring the benefit of motivation to keep on top of all the work set before you.

Collect and complete missing work as soon as possible.

Supposedly, this goes without saying, but people can get sidetracked with the work they're getting upon returning to school. Completing the homework, as well

as understanding the content, heavily impacts your grade. Even if it makes up a small percentage of the total grade, the practice will pay off when problems reappear in projects and tests.

Don't procrastinate!

It's easy to get distracted by social media, games, books, friends, and so on and so forth. As fun as they can be, sitting around won't pay the bills in the future and won't magically finish that one darn algebra problem in now. Late work may be accepted in high school, but in college this isn't the case. Setting up the habit of completing work, no matter the size of the assignment, as soon as possible will be for the best in the long run.

Find motivation!

Perhaps the most difficult task for high schoolers, having motivation to complete the tasks set before you is the essential make-or-break (decision). No amount of preparation will matter if one will not go through with it and get their assignments done on time. So where can one find this important concept? Anywhere, really. Informing your parents or teachers of what your school-related plans are can earn their assistance with keeping you on track. Forming study groups with your friends to meet after school to work isn't a bad idea either.

College, Military, Workforce?

A Perspective by Sofia MacTaggart

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Only one semester is left until the class of 2018 graduates. Some students may feel overwhelmed, not ready to let go of high school. There is no need to worry; there are several options for graduates and what they can do after high school.

The three most popular options are attending college, joining the military, or entering the workforce.

College is a great idea for those who have an idea of what they want to do. This way students are able to achieve their goals in an ideal time period. Some students may decide to take a break/gap year; this means that after graduating high school the student will either travel or work for example. Some people may feel like they are not ready to go to college. Maybe they don't know what exactly they want to do, or they know that they won't be able to take care of themselves. Joining the military is a

great option for people who fit this description. With several branches to choose from, people can find the best fit. A great way to get started with this process is by talking to a recruiter, and taking the ASVAB. Personally I can say that this is one of the best options. My dad was in the military, while traveling the world and getting his college paid for; he was able to experience a lot. Same goes for my sister who is now traveling the world and learning so many things. Those who feel as though they want to stay closer to home, still with the same benefits should consider the National Guard.

Some people may feel as though they don't want to go to college or join the military. They may feel as though they already know what they want to do and how to accomplish their goals now.

With one semester left, there is no need to fear the next step. Be open minded and evaluate all options and decide which seems right for you: college, military, and workforce.

TIPS TO HELP IN THE FUTURE

- SCHEDULE**
At the start of every semester, double, even triple, check to make sure that your schedule is 100% correct. If there are any errors, go to Mr. Hovey or Ms. Kite immediately to get them fixed.
- ON BREAK**
Fall, winter, and spring breaks are great for relaxing...but also for being productive. Any chances of getting work done that won't be due for a while or applying for scholarships and colleges would be a great use of time.
- APPLY**
For those becoming juniors or seniors next year, now would be a good time to start thinking about where you want to apply for college and any available scholarships.
- ACTS**
Similarly, it's a good idea to begin planning for ACTs if college is your next destination. Ask your advisor for any possible material you can use to prepare for them.
- HOMEWORK**
And never forget to do your homework! Even if it makes up a small percentage of your grade, the practice will help you out on projects or tests.

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