

ST. TERESA'S ACADEMY

the dart

volume 70 ★ issue 1 ★ 18 august 2010

The start of the 2010-2011 school year marks the beginning of the next chapter in STA history. From new technology to the construction of a chapel, to a different scheduling system . . .

CHANGE
is in the
AIR

photo illustration by **KIRSTY MCGHIE**

PowerSchool system alters scheduling

New student management system forces changes in scheduling, not unstructured

story by **MORGAN SAID**
editor-in-chief

As a part of St. Teresa's "Going Global" campaign, the administration has purchased a new student management system called PowerSchool. Unlike the old system, SASI (Schools Administrative Student Information), which was hosted by the school's server, PowerSchool is hosted by Pearson Learning Solutions, allowing STA to branch out into a web-based environment, said principal of academic affairs Barbara McCormick.

However, PowerSchool cannot conduct students' schedules in a way consistent with scheduling in the past.

As opposed to each student rotating into a new class with different girls each period, students will now attend each course with the same group of people every day.

"Take Algebra II, there might be three different sections, but each of those sections remain the same group of girls that attend each day, no matter what time of day they go," McCormick said. "Which is similar to college life, because when you go to a course, you'll go with a cohort of students, at least through that course."

According to McCormick, the administration initially believed that PowerSchool could shuffle students within each course, but after purchasing the system, found that to be untrue.

"The system can't do what we had thought

it could do...in mixing up the girls," McCormick said. "It said that it could when we had purchased [PowerSchool], but when we actually put it to work, it did not come out that way."

McCormick said she has received mixed reactions from parents and students, but most of the teachers have been very positive.

"It's easier for [teachers] in their planning," McCormick said. "In the past, the same group of girls were never in the same class until seven days later, so if you tried to do a project you could never come back to that project for another seven days, so it was challenging."

Senior Lilly Kraus agrees with McCormick, but admits to initially "hating" the system due to less class variety.

"I loved STA's unique scheduling system," Kraus said. "I loved that no other school had anything close. As a freshman I met many of my now best friends as a result of the different mods and I had the chance to get to know most of the girls in my grade during my first year. I think it was one of the reasons we are close as a class...that is something that this freshman class will miss out on."

McCormick said most parents' concerns were that their daughters would no longer have frees, but PowerSchool "did not impact that at all."

According to Kraus, now that the specific changes in the students' schedules have been clarified, the system is more understandable.

Still, Kraus said, she wished PowerSchool was introduced and explained last school year.

"When putting our classes [together] in the spring, we were told that nothing was changing besides the name switch from 'mods' to 'periods,'" Kraus said. "If such a big change was

being made, it should have been explained to us during the year...after all, they are our schedules."

McCormick said the administration is looking into ways to mix students for upcoming years, much like the old scheduling system.

"We're looking at more ways in the future to create more of a rotation of the periods, so there isn't so much of a pattern," McCormick said. "Now is this year set? Yeah, because we have to start school. But can we see if we can tweak the system? That's what we'll be looking at throughout the year." ★

PowerSchool Features

In addition to the scheduling, PowerSchool also has other new features

Student and Parent Access

Both students and parents can access the teacher's gradebooks with real-time grades, attendance, comments, assignments, scores and much more, at any time during the school year

PowerTeacher

PowerTeacher is an online gradebook that teachers can access from any Internet connection to access students' grade reports

source: pearsonschoolsystems.com

compiled by
KATIE McCOMBS

Back in the Day ★ A copy of an STA schedule before PowerSchool was implemented. photo by **HANNAH WOLF**

	Monday August 23, 2010	Tuesday August 24, 2010	Wednesday August 25, 2010	Thursday August 26, 2010	Friday August 27, 2010
8:00 AM	AdvistoryAM Jacquin, Carrie M306 7:35 AM - 7:45 AM	AdvistoryAM Jacquin, Carrie M306 7:35 AM - 7:45 AM	AdvistoryAM Jacquin, Carrie M306 7:35 AM - 7:45 AM	AdvistoryAM Jacquin, Carrie M306 7:35 AM - 7:45 AM	AdvistoryAM Jacquin, Carrie M306 7:35 AM - 7:45 AM
9:00 AM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 8:35 AM - 9:15 AM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 8:35 AM - 9:15 AM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 8:35 AM - 9:15 AM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 8:35 AM - 9:15 AM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 8:35 AM - 9:15 AM
10:00 AM	Honors Pre-Cal Hansen, Arlene D206 9:25 AM - 10:05 AM	Honors Pre-Cal Hansen, Arlene D206 9:25 AM - 10:05 AM	Honors Pre-Cal Hansen, Arlene D206 9:25 AM - 10:05 AM	Honors Pre-Cal Hansen, Arlene D206 9:25 AM - 10:05 AM	Honors Pre-Cal Hansen, Arlene D206 9:25 AM - 10:05 AM
11:00 AM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 10:05 AM - 10:45 AM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 10:05 AM - 10:45 AM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 10:05 AM - 10:45 AM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 10:05 AM - 10:45 AM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 10:05 AM - 10:45 AM
12:00 PM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 11:55 AM - 12:35 PM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 11:55 AM - 12:35 PM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 11:55 AM - 12:35 PM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 11:55 AM - 12:35 PM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 11:55 AM - 12:35 PM
1:00 PM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 12:35 PM - 1:30 PM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 12:35 PM - 1:30 PM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 12:35 PM - 1:30 PM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 12:35 PM - 1:30 PM	AP US History Whites, Craig D08 12:35 PM - 1:30 PM
2:00 PM	Honors Physics Rueschhoff, D03 1:35 PM - 2:15 PM	Honors Physics Rueschhoff, D03 1:35 PM - 2:15 PM	Honors Physics Rueschhoff, D03 1:35 PM - 2:15 PM	Honors Physics Rueschhoff, D03 1:35 PM - 2:15 PM	Honors Physics Rueschhoff, D03 1:35 PM - 2:15 PM
3:00 PM	AdvistoryAM Jacquin, Carrie M306 2:50 PM - 3:05 PM	AdvistoryAM Jacquin, Carrie M306 2:50 PM - 3:05 PM	AdvistoryAM Jacquin, Carrie M306 2:50 PM - 3:05 PM	AdvistoryAM Jacquin, Carrie M306 2:50 PM - 3:05 PM	AdvistoryAM Jacquin, Carrie M306 2:50 PM - 3:05 PM

PowerSchool Style ★ STA's new student management system, PowerSchool, that has changed the schedule, beginning this year. photo by **HANNAH WOLF**

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New day, same routine



New scheduling combats old tradition

"At St. Teresa's Academy, no two schedules are alike; each student is unique and carries a schedule created especially for her. A student leaves St. Teresa's with considerable experience in decision-making and self-direction of time." This is what the STA website states about the modular scheduling that we have had in past years.

This year, although the schedules are designed specifically for STA, they are not designed uniquely for each student. Monday, Wednesday and Friday's schedules are almost identical; Tuesday and Thursday's are as well.

This means that most days you will have class with the same people, rather than having class with different people everyday. Students will now move with the "same homogeneous group." This does not benefit the STA student. By having class with the same people almost every day, exposure to different opinions on

certain topics is limited. Students lose the opportunity to learn from more people in their grade. Educational chances will be lost because

student only has eight different classes, meaning there is less of a chance to expand from their comfort zone and interact with different people.

keep the bond among the sisterhood. According to their website, PowerSchool is "designed to accommodate...the most complex schedules," so they should be able to accommodate STA.

Due to the use of the PowerSchool scheduling system, STA has lost one of its major selling points to prospective students: STA has lost a schedule that gives girls opportunities to meet more students in their grade or from other grades and to grow closer as a community because of everyone's diverse schedules. ★

Pros and cons of the PowerSchool scheduling system

Pros

- In-class projects can be assigned more frequently
- Unstructured mods are still available
- Schedule is similar for most days which may prevent students from going to the wrong classroom

Cons

- Smaller chance of being placed in a class with friends
- Limited exposure to the other students in the course
- Major selling point for STA to incoming freshmen is now lost

compiled by **ALLISON FITTS**

of PowerSchool.

Before PowerSchool, any given student had an average of 40 different classes with 40 different groups of people each week. Now, each stu-

dent only has eight different classes, meaning there is less of a chance to expand from their comfort zone and interact with different people.

The administration should continue to work toward mixing students within each class to

The staff editorial represents the views of the *Dart* Editorial Board

7 out of 7 editors voted in support of this editorial

Right on Target?

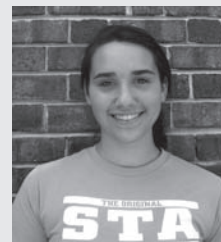
compiled by **ALLISON FITTS**

What do you think about STA's new scheduling?

"I like the old schedules better, but they're kind of the same aren't they? Are they still calling them mods?"
- Page Kemna, sophomore



"I don't like... [it]. I liked having a variety of people in classes... It's going to be... hard for incoming freshmen to meet other people in their classes."
- Alex Mediavilla, junior



"It made me feel like freshman year all over again, because I didn't know how to read it."
- Holly Grant, senior



NEW YEAR, NEW STA

Since school ended in May, many transformations are now taking place on the STA campus

Breaking ground



Gym gets a makeover

Athletic director Mark Hough answers the *Dart's* questions about the re-painting of the gym

compiled by **KATIE McCOMBS**
PR & Circulation

Why was the gym re-painted?

There were two main things that were re-painted in the gym: the stripe on the wall was painted gold and the ceiling was painted white. It was time for a change and the gym needed to be freshened up. The color scheme of maroon was replaced and the ceiling was falling apart and chipping away. The floor was also refinshed. It is usually re-waxed and stained during Christmas Break, but we wanted to change the schedule so it was fresh for the school year.



Hough

Whose decision was it?

Once the ceiling painters were here, the Booster Club decided to paint the stripe.

How much did it cost?

The paint job in the gym was donated to the school.

When was it re-painted?

The re-painting was a full summer project.

Who/what company re-painted it? Any tie to STA?

Two companies helped re-paint the gym. Stockey Brand Painting painted the stripe and Pro Window Cleaning Services painted the ceiling. Even though this was a window cleaning service, they had all the equipment to re-do the ceiling. This service had a tie to STA through the Booster Club. Mr. Garvin and Mr. Ramirez put up and rearranged banners and myself and painted anything we could reach.

Are there any other changes being made to the gym this year?

There were multiple things added to the Verheyen Room. The Wall of Champions was placed on the wall outside Verheyen and the swimming and track record boards were posted in the room. Also, the lacrosse team will now have a picture along with all the other pictures of sports in Verheyen. In the gym, the offices were re-painted and new furniture and carpets were added. The weight room will continue to be freshened up with sports pictures of alumni, mirrors, and equipment. The equipment and uniform rooms were cleaned and inventory was taken. Safety straps on the backboards were also added. In general, the gym was cleaned and freshened up and now we just need to stay on top of things.

What do you think of the new paint job?

I love the new paint job. It now looks more like a high school gym and it mirrors the school colors of black and gold. ★

2.



3.

Gould-Evans meets over summer to plan for chapel, hopes construction will be complete by 2011-2012 school year

story by **KATE ROHR**
staff writer

A groundbreaking ceremony for the new chapel is being planned for this fall, possibly on the feast of St. Teresa, according to Gould Evans design team principal Tony Rohr. He believes it is likely that the first aspect of the chapel to be built will be the expanded parking.

"This will provide room for faculty and students to park when the construction messes up the site," Rohr said.

The design team - consisting of architects, engineers, contractors, school administrators, and many contributors - has been working on the final details of the project throughout the summer.

STA's Face Lift ★ 1. The gym was re-painted over the summer. Photo by **EMILY McCANN** 2. The building plans for the new chapel are under-way. Photo Courtesy of **TERESIAN ARCHIVES** 3. The new school layout stands in the front hall of the Donnelly Building. Photo by **MADALYNE BIRD** 4. The interior chapel layout also is displayed in the front hall of the Donnelly building. Photo by **MADALYNE BIRD** 5. The new help desk is located on the third floor of Donnelly in the old Latin room. Students will now help the STA community if a laptop needs repair. Photo by **KIRSTY McGHIE**

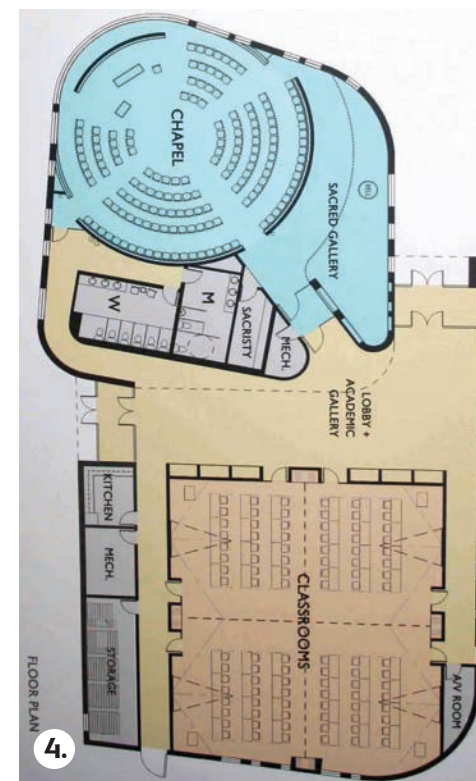
According to Rohr, they've been working closely with Zahner, the world-famous metal fabricators, on the design of the lace and how it will attach to the chapel.

"The team has also focused on the new technology classrooms, working with audio-visual consultants about the capabilities of the new classroom environments.

"We visited with STA principals and toured the new Staley High School to learn about their technology and laptop checkout program," Rohr said.

According to Rohr, the team is very excited about the project and hopes for the construction to be completed by the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year.

"This project has roused the interest of everyone who's touched it," Rohr said. "Many of the lead members of our architecture and engineering team have daughters at STA, and we all care about it very much." ★



4.

Students should not be responsible for laptop repair

an opinion by



ALLISON FITTS
story poster

With the mailing of schedules and issuing of laptops, these last few weeks of summer have been stressful for many STA students. Much of this laptop confusion is meant to be dealt with at the Help Desk, one of the many additions to the STA community this year.

Located in the old Latin room on the 3rd floor of Donnelly, this desk will serve as technological support for students and teachers, primarily concerning the new laptops. From what I have said so far, you would think 'Hey, this is just what I need to help me get used to my new laptop.' However, what if I told you that students who are just as confused and nervous about our new laptops will be the ones "helping" us?

A message was sent out via Moodle this summer inviting students to add "Help Desk" as a replacement for another class. In this new class, students are responsible for checking out equipment, creating tutorials, and setting up

equipment for special events and teachers. A student taking "Help Desk" must participate 4 times a week and will earn a 1/2 computer science credit for their work. The Moodle invitation also mentioned that all of the students' responsibilities will be taught to them.

However, there are no prerequisites that need to be met to enroll in the class. Of all the classes that a student can take here at STA, this should be the one with prerequisites. Other classes revolve around the individual student. "Help Desk" gives a few students responsibility for the whole school's laptop problems. The Help Desk is a necessary addition to STA, especially during our transition into 21st century technology.

However, instead of having students solve our laptop troubles, the school should hire a full-time "Help Desk" moderator. We have a Testing Center moderator and a Silent Study moderator, so why not a Help Desk moderator? I am not saying we need to enlist the help of an entire Geek Squad, but acquiring a computer trained professional would be to the benefit of students, teachers, and laptops. ★

What: The help desk class is a class that will teach students to help the community with school related technology problems

Where: The help desk is located on the 3rd floor of Donnelly in the old Latin room

Why: Students will be able to help with technology and equipment questions, especially concerning netbooks

How: Students will create tutorials, hold mini-workshops during activity and give one-on-one lessons

compiled by **NIKKI RODRIGUEZ**
blog poster



5.

FALLING into FALL SPORTS

STA got serves

Tennis team welcomes seven new players, hopes to continue last year's state victories

story by **ALLISON FITTS**
story poster

Number of girls: Thirty girls tried out for 22 positions.

Qualifications needed to make team: "We are looking for great kids and good tennis players," head coach Meghan Parrott said. "Enthusiasm is also very important."

Goals: Parrott said she would love to see state finishes for the team again this year, but she also knows that the key to doing that is taking the season one step at a time.

Freshmen: "I'm excited about the incoming class' abilities," Parrott said. "I think [the freshmen] class will really contribute to the team."

Seniors: "My seniors this year are a diverse group but all great kids," Parrott said. "I am really looking forward to what [the seniors] will do on and off the court." ★



Swing it ★ Sophomore Mickey Redlingshafer hits a forehand during tennis tryouts last week. Redlingshafer was on the varsity team last season. **photo by CELE FRYER**

Golf aims for team focus, leadership

With only one senior, golf team looks forward to rebuilding rather than winning state banners

story by **ALLISON FITTS**
story poster

Number of girls: Twelve spots were available, but only eleven girls tried out for the team.

Qualifications needed to make team: "After four days of qualifying, the lowest twelve total scores make the team," senior Madalyne Bird said.

Goals: "I'm hoping that at least a couple of the girls make it to state," Bird said. "I want the girls to focus on their games and mechanics rather than scores and what place they finish. This year will be about them playing to the best of their potential."

Freshman: "Five freshman tried this year and all of them have potential," Bird said.

Seniors: Bird will be the only senior on the team this year. ★

We've got spirit

With tryouts last April, the STA Dance Team had time off until they reunited for camp in July. The team of 12, including four new faces, trained for weeks prior to camp for their upcoming performance.

They had team meetings about maturity and professionalism and also held team bonding. Their hard work paid off when they earned the leadership award and second place overall at camp.

compiled by **KATIE McCOMBS**

Freshmen bump volleyball teams' state chances

Promising underclassmen, team ambition to help volleyball team reach ultimate goal: state

story by **ALLISON FITTS**
story poster

Number of girls: Sixty four girls tried out for the freshman, JV and varsity volleyball teams.

Qualifications needed to make team: "Players need to be in shape, easily coached ...and have an intense yet optimistic attitude on and off the court, creating great dynamics within each team," senior varsity player Samantha Scheuler said.

Goals: "The whole focus and singular goal for this volleyball season is to be a state contender..These aspirations should be evident in every practice and game as we keep our eye on reaching that championship court in November," Scheuler said.

Freshmen: "I've already decided that the freshmen are the strongest class of incoming volleyball players I've seen in my time in the program," Scheuler said. "They have height and talent."

Seniors: The only two seniors are Scheuler and Victoria Godfrey. "I can speak for both of us when I say how excited we are about the season," Scheuler said. ★

XC paces for new season



With tryouts ending, fall practice starting, the cross country team is ready for the 2010 running season

story by **ALLISON FITTS**
story poster

Number of girls: More than 50 girls tried out for the team.

Qualifications needed to make team: "The girls have to complete a 3 mile time trial in 28 minutes or less" head coach Karen Moran said. "They have more than one chance to

do it, but only have until the end of the first week of practice to meet the standard."

Goals: "I would like to see improvements at the varsity, JV and freshmen/sophomore levels," Moran said. "I want the girls to work hard for the sake of the team and run to the best of their ability."

Freshmen: Moran said it is too early in the season to be able to tell the level of talent that the incoming freshman have.

Seniors: "We have a strong group of seniors," Moran said. "We have only had 2 seniors, Addie Thompson and Laura Neenan, who have run all four years." ★

Softball starts with home-run

With an increase of participants, softball team makes cuts, aims for success, state banner

story by **ALLISON FITTS**
story poster

Number of girls: Twenty six girls tried

out for the JV and varsity teams. This is the first time in several years that enough girls have showed up that cuts needed to be made.

Qualifications needed to make team: "Athleticism and the ability to throw and catch a softball are key to making the team," senior Anna White said

Goals: "[Our goal is to] get a banner in the gym for the first time ever," White said.

"Even if it is just a district banner."

Freshmen: "There's going to be a lot of good freshmen for JV and we might have some runners for varsity," White said. "I'm excited to see what they will be able to contribute."

Seniors: "We finally have older talent on the team this year," White said. "I think now that we're seniors, we've got in our head that it's 'now or never.'" ★

Run like the wind ★ Junior Kelly O'Byrne sets her pace during Cross Country tryouts last week. O'Byrne competed as a varsity runner last season. **photo by CELIA O'FLAHERTY**

new girls on the BLOCK

compiled by **MURPHY MARX**
opinion editor

Whether they've never been here before, or they're coming back for more, the new members of the STA faculty and staff share their goals and ambitions for the upcoming school year



Marybeth Clune Compton
Development Office

Main responsibilities: overseeing capital campaign, alumnae communications, fundraising and donors
Her strategy: continuing the work that is currently going on and dedicating her energy and enthusiasm to keep momentum moving forward
Greatest challenge: "Fitting in all the things I want to do. There are so many opportunities and possibilities."
This year's plan: "Doing work that will make a difference at St. Teresa's, to the young women in the community and making a contribution to the success of young women."



Kelly McKee
Silent Study Moderator

History: Social worker for the past 15 years
Classroom expectations: All students are silent and staying on task at all times
Reasons for coming to STA: "I am an alumna, along with my mother and aunts. I just wanted a change and thought [this job] was a great opportunity."
Looks most forward to: "It absolutely takes me back to [my] youth, being on STA's campus and calling myself a star again."



Carolyn Hollstein
Spanish Department

Classes: Spanish I and II
Job History: Spanish teacher at Independence school in Wichita, KS
Teaching strategy: a demanding, but progressive curriculum that helps the student develop their language skills over time
Advice for her students: Practice vocabulary and grammar and listen to expectations
This year's plan: "I am excited to get to know about the students and to get to know the other teachers and the school environment."



Ashley Bailey
English Department

Classes: American Literature, World Literature, Contemporary Literature and Shakespeare
Job History: English teacher at Oak Park High School in North Kansas City
Teaching strategy: Letting students be in charge of themselves, but helping them make the right decisions
This year's plan: "I want [students] to have fun with learning and be willing to be open and participate and get themselves out there."



Jennifer Petree
Testing Center Moderator

Classroom expectations: A silent study environment where students can also comfortably make up missed tests
Reasons for coming to STA: "I have a daughter here. I went to school here. It just seemed the perfect place to work."
Looks most forward to: getting to know the STA students



It's a wonderful life ☺ ☹ My life sucks

Whether a stroke of luck, strange coincidence or small miracle, students recall experiences that help to make their lives simply wonderful.

compiled by **EMILY BRESETTE**
staff writer

From tripping down stairs to walking into the men's bathroom, STA students recall unfortunate moments in their everyday lives.



Corcoran

I was at Gate's Barbeque last week, enjoying a nice, plump beef on bun; it's a wonderful life. But it gets better. World renowned, teen icon, rapper, and my inspiration Tech N9ne walked past me, sat down, and we enjoyed our beef on buns together. It's definitely a wonderful life.

-Collen Corcoran, senior



Wolf

The other day I was walking to my car at the zoo with my cousin on my back when I tripped. I had no arms to catch myself, and landed flat on my face. I threw up blood. I chipped two teeth. I scratched one of my fingers to the bone. I hurt my left shoulder so badly I could barely move my arm. My cheek, upper lip, and chin are now covered with scabs. My life sucks.

-Hannah Wolf, junior

GUESSES WHO?



STA teachers switch locations, adjust to new classrooms, and create new homes. Do you know which classroom is which?

1



photos by **KIRSTY MCGHIE**

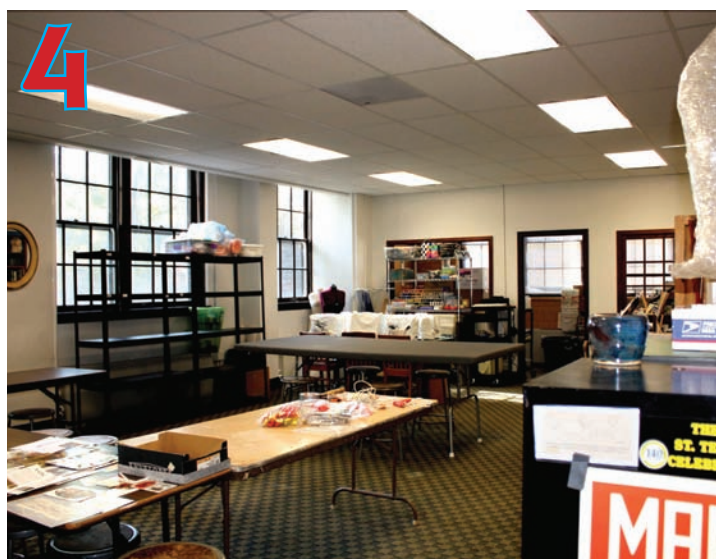


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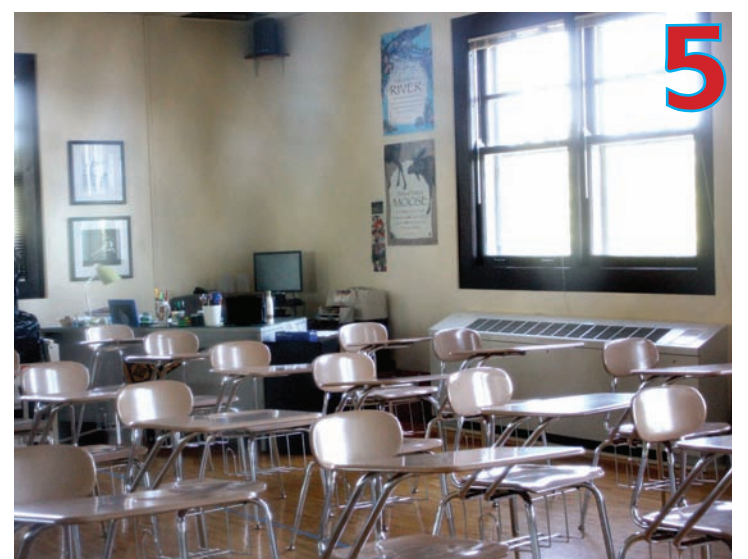


3

- a** Art room
Dibble
 - b** Publications room
Thomas
 - c** Speech/writing room
Heid/Hirner
 - d** Art room
Wallerstedt
 - e** Testing center
Petree
- ANSWERS:
1, e; 2, d; 3, b; 4, a; 5, c



4



5