

Life choices after high-school

By: Mary Eichhorn @maryeichhorn3

There has been an ongoing conflict in teens' lives about attending college or carrying out their lives in a different way. While college is right for some people, it may not be right for others. Many go to college and then find out that it is not a perfect fit. Some just don't have a passion for learning and waste four years of their lives that could have been spent working and earning money. Some drop out of college because they are in too much debt and don't wish to spend more effort, time, and money on college. There are many advantages and disadvantages to college. One option teens make is to take a gap year in hopes to gain clarity on the matter.

Kennedy Neff is a senior who isn't quite sure what she will do after high school yet. Neff is interested in taking a gap year in order to figure things out before jumping into anything. "I think taking a gap year is probably better, price wise, than wasting a whole year of tuition," she said.

Some people have made up their minds about wanting to go to college or not, while some aren't sure yet. Austin Grafton, for one, is sure of where he

wants to go and what exactly he wants to do. Grafton is following in his father's footsteps and becoming a construction worker after attending college at Kirkwood. "I think college depends on how they feel about it, like if you want to go to college then go, if you don't want to go to college then don't go," he said, when asked what advice he would give to someone struggling with this decision.

Making the choice about attending college is not always an easy decision because of all of the factors involved. Parents, for one, play a huge role in their child's decision with college. Some pressure their

children into attending maybe because they attended it, or they want an educated future for their child with whatever career path they choose to take. College has its ups and downs. College is a suitable choice for some people who want to find passions and want the opportunities college provides, such as studying abroad. But college can be very expensive and too far away from home for some people.

There are plenty of opportunities out there for people who do not wish to attend college, such as starting your own business, joining the military, doing an internship, or traveling. Many opportunities will happen for everyone, regardless of attending college or not.



Bethany Foster, '20, smiles for a photo with boyfriend Joey Pearson. Pearson is currently stationed in Honolulu.

International round table

By: Lucas Wendt @lucaswendtt

Xavier High School held its International Round Table for its 22nd year this year. During the round table foreign exchange students along with students from Xavier and various other schools, got to interact with each other on October 23, 2019. Three activities were going on at once in separate locations around the school, in the library, one of the world languages classrooms, and in the theater. There were four groups and four rotations throughout the day to the locations in the school.

Almost every exchange student responded with the same response when asked, "Why did you want to come to America?". Narapatr Suphakiattamchorn, senior, currently a senior at Springfield Highschool, had the answer to everyone's question, "I wanted

to come to America to improve my English skills, because I'm not very good. But I want to practice," she said. The roundtable did not just help better understanding of other countries to American students, this gave the opportunity for the exchange students talk to people with similar or different cultures. Evette Dusenayo, '20, has been going to the roundtable for two years now, including this year. "I like talking to people to maybe get to know each other," she said. Even though the students spanning from across the globe, to most of them America is still prevalent to them in their home country. Like basketball being the most common sport in Thailand, even though being invented



Evette Dusenayo and Paloma Garcia Rabanal, both '21, write their names on a world map on their country of origin.

in America. The culture of Americans including celebrities, memes, and even politics. The Area 51 meme was popular over in Germany when all that madness was going on, the Kardashians lifestyle, and of course President Trump were all talk points during the Q&A panel. This event was an amazing opportunity for students, not only from Iowa but students from around the world to socialize and ask questions about culture and education.



TIRE & AUTO CENTER

375 35th St
Marion, IA

377-7351 TIRE & AUTO CENTER

FOSTER HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING

Is pleased to support

**RESPONSIBLE JOURNALISM
& CREATIVE COMMUNICATION**

At Marion High School

Brad Nielson '73-owners-Mark Morgan '75