

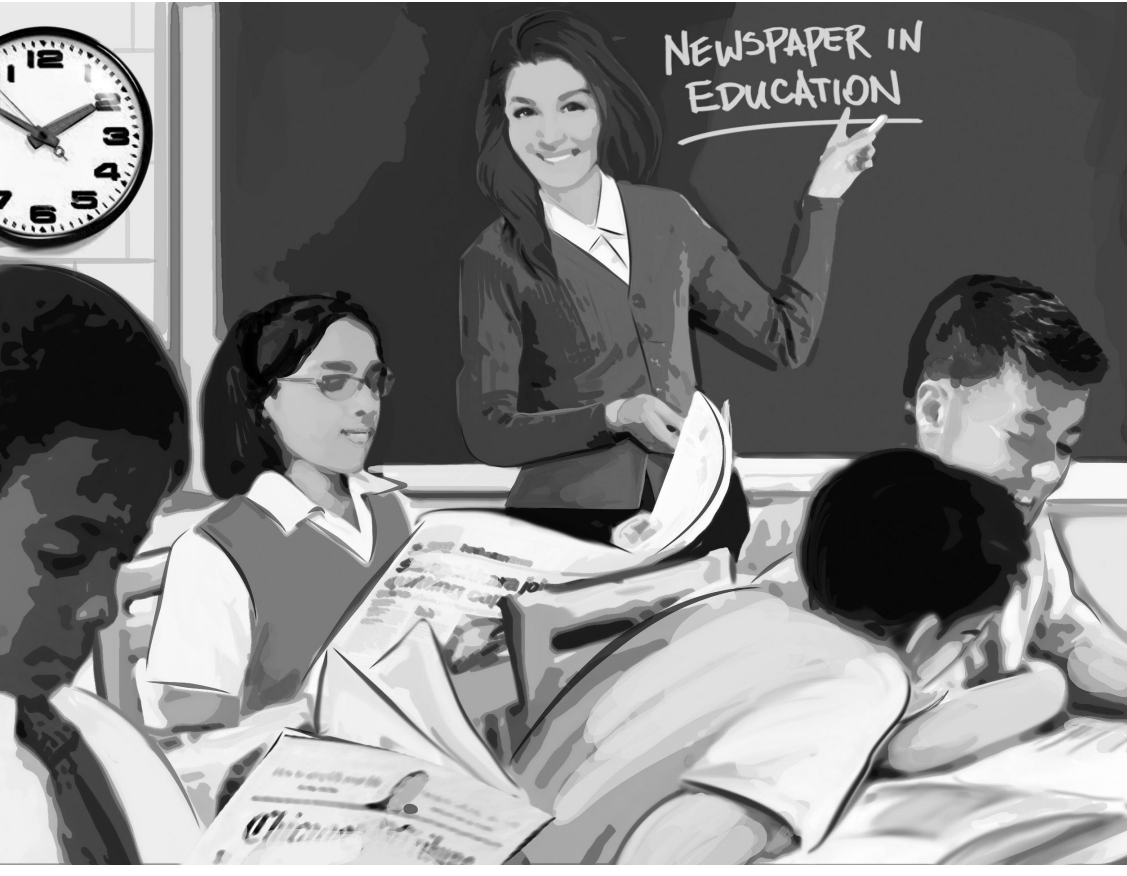
Spencer County Students



sound off

PART 2

April 24, 2018



Classrooms Need More Comfortable Flex Seating

BY ALAINA RUST

LINCOLN TRAIL ELEMENTARY

GRADE 5

We have chairs in my classroom that are very uncomfortable. The chairs are very hard and not flexible. I wish I could stretch my legs out and lean back a little more. Some kids have stability balls which are a little more comfortable and flexible. I still would like to have another option of seating.

One day at school I read a Newsela article which talks about a classroom with couches and bean bags that replaced desks. This was called flex seating. I first thought "How could this help kids improve

in school?" As I kept on reading it said that the seating improved students test scores because it helped the students focus.

I feel that flex seating would help kids concentrate because you are sitting on soft things such as bean bags and little couches. When a student is comfortable and relaxed it is easier to pay attention and do one's personal best. When I get a good sleep at night in my comfortable bed, I can better concentrate at school because I am well rested and relaxed. If I sleep in a hard bed or on the floor, it is harder to concentrate at school because I am tired and irritable.

My teacher last year let us do flex seating, and that led me to think about that all schools should have flex seating. The comfortable,

soft furniture will make kids feel better and improve their attitude. Kids who are in a better mood and are relaxed will pay attention to learning during class and that will improve their test scores. That could help to get better grades in school too, which would overall improve the minds of the students.

The reasons I think there should be new seating in schools are... The chairs are hard, if kids were comfortable they would study better, they would also get better grades. I know that I am uncomfortable in my chair, are you in yours? If so I hope that this article did something that helped you or maybe inspired you to maybe buy a more comfortable chair, or a stability ball. Everyone deserves to be at ease with their seating!

Should South Spencer Change Its Mascot?

BY KATELYNN JAMES

SOUTH SPENCER MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Tell City Marksmen, the Tekoppel Tigers, and the South Spencer... Rebels? Our mascot, The Rebel Man, is well known across Spencer County. However, is it appropriate? Considering it is linked to Confederacy, is not a positive model, and is regularly seen doing the "Rebel Yell," it is not!

First, the real Rebels were Confederate soldiers! In our school, we are not allowed to wear any Confederate related clothing, so why is our mascot a Confederate soldier? However, it is not just our school with an inappropriate mascot. A school in Savannah, Georgia, USA, has had this issue, too. A parent of an attending student said, "This is representing hate. When you have a closed wound, you want to keep it closed." (The Orange County Register, Monique Francis) Let's have a mascot that is appropriate, not a Confederate one!

In addition, the definition of a rebel is, 'a person who resists authority, control, and convention.' Do we really want students to believe Rebels are good? When you think of a rebel, you think of a teenager, right? Well, in South Spencer, there are about 419 teens in the high school, where the term "rebel" is the most used because basketball, football, and even swimming are very popular sports around that age. When teens claim that name in a sport, they believe they are a rebel. However, a rebel is not a positive model, at all! Our mascot could be, and is, a model for most students, so we should have a positive mascot!

Lastly, but not any less importantly, what our mascot is normally seen yelling is... well, a war cry! Our mascot is not yelling any normal war cry; he is yelling the "Rebel Yell," a war cry used by Confederate soldiers to throw off the enemy. According to my research, "One of the most detailed descriptions came from J. Harvie Drew, a soldier in the 9th Virginia Cavalry. He gave this transcription of the rebel yell: Woh-Who-ey! Who-ey! Who-ey! Woh-who-ey! Who-ey!" This yell was intended to throw off the enemy. It also showed what kind of people the Confederate soldiers were---uncivilized and loud. Shouldn't mascots encourage athletes and students to be somewhat civilized?

In conclusion, South Spencer's mascot, the Rebel Man, though loved by most, is not the most appropriate of mascots. Some would agree that our original mascot, the Zebra, was more appropriate because when it was used, segregation was an issue. The zebra, because of its coloring, might have been a link to equality of all races, which is far more appropriate than a Confederate soldier is for a mascot. However, the choice is up to you. Is our mascot appropriate?

Rose are Red...

BY CODY KELLEMS

ROCKPORT ELEMENTARY

GRADE 5

Roses are red
Voilets are blue
Saw you last night at the Zoo
When people see you they yell boo
But not at me but at you

Why Schools Shouldn't Have eLearning Days

BY KAILEY GIBBS

SOUTH SPENCER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Has your school ever had an eLearning day? If so, you know they can be quite frustrating, for both students and teachers. ELearning is an assignment that you get after snow days to complete at home. When my school had an eLearning day, almost half of my grade did not finish their assignments. I think schools should not have eLearning days because many students do not have Wi-Fi connection, some

students need face-to-face time with teachers, and many students do not complete their assignments.

First off, many students enjoy hands on, face-to-face time with teachers. Talking to some people in my school, most of them learn better when they are in a classroom and are seeing lessons on a board. Not getting face-to-face time with teachers can cause students not to get good grades on their assignments. When the students get bad grades, it makes them upset and that is no fun. No one likes bad grades.

Another reason schools should

not have eLearning days is that not everyone has Wi-Fi connection. Students who do not have internet connection have to drive different places. This can be a problem if someone does not have a car to drive; he or she will not be able to get things done. Because of this, students will be trying to get everything done in class which makes some teachers upset. While talking to my friends, I learned that most of them do not have internet or they have very slow internet. This can become a problem in the future.

In addition, many students

just do not enjoy eLearning days. In my classes, most students do not finish their work or they just choose not to do it. This aggravates the teachers and causes people to miss recess. Students also do not enjoy it because it is like having extra homework. In addition, some people, like me, go to other people's houses when there are snow days. On the last snow day we had, the teachers said it would be a good day for eLearning, but since I was at my cousin's while my mom was at work, I did not complete my work.

You could argue that eLearning days are much better than going to

school. You could also say that eLearning is easier than actual work. I think not because many students do not have internet connection, like hands on support, and/or just do not want to do their work.

I think teachers, principals, and school board members should consider not having eLearning days because of Wi-Fi connection, no hands on support, and most students do not enjoy eLearning days and do not complete their assignments. If you do not enjoy eLearning days, say something to your teachers and get something done!

My Favorite Flower

BY BIANCA BANNISTER

LUCE ELEMENTARY

GRADE 4

My favorite flower is a rose. One reason my favorite flower is a rose is because it is my middle name. They can also be rainbow, they are my favorite. My opinion is that baby blue is the prettiest rose ever. The rose is the only flower that has thorns. They have those thorns because it protects them from getting eaten by animals. Majority of roses form bushes or grow by climbing

over other vegetation. The color of the rose usually depends on its species. Roses can be found in different shades of white, yellow, pink, orange, blue, purple and red. One cool fact about roses is that there are over 100 species of them. The rose also grows into a fruit. The fruit is called a Rose Hip. It is shaped like a berry and most are red in color but you can also find it in black or dark purple but it is really rare. One last cool fact about the rose is they can grow really tall. The tallest record rose bush stands at 23 feet and 7 inches tall. I also like roses because I know so much about them.

Respect

BY JAY LITTLE

LINCOLN TRAIL ELEMENTARY

GRADE 6

Should all people use Respect? Do you use Respect? It can be hard to show Respect but it can be as easy as walking or talking. It is the best thing that you can think of.

I think that respect should be given to everybody no matter who they are or what their skin color is. Old, young all people want respect. Why don't we give it to them, it can't be hard. Life ain't hard, but respect is. All of you reading this should have respect for each other, no matter where you are. I have a test for you, ask 32 people how their

day has been and just smile.

On The Hope Line, there are some really good facts like "Respect is the sense of worth or personal value that you attach to someone. Does that mean that if I give respect to you you will give it back to someone else. It sounds easy but all people do not make it that way. I have not always given respect to others. But now others don't always give it to me and that has changed my ways. I was sad when people talked about me in bad ways. It was the worst feeling in my life. But now I know that it hurts others and I think you should give it to another for you don't get this happening to you.

So now will you give respect? We all have it so just give it to someone else to make them feel good and for they will do it back.

Cleaner Roads

BY BAILEY KRAMER

LINCOLN TRAIL ELEMENTARY

GRADE 5

We need cleaner roads to keep our earth clean. Have you ever drove down the road and seen all the trash on the sides? People are littering on the roads everywhere and not keeping it in their cars. The litter will cost you a fine of possibly thousands of dollars.

Also it will pollute the air with bad smells. It could harm or kill people, animals, trees, wildlife and plants. There will not be any good air in the atmosphere and there will not be any fresh water to drink. I would start helping if I were you because it is horrible out here. Just picking up a little a day will be a big help for our community. But stay on the grass when you do it though or you could get ran over by a car. No one wants that at all. So please help clean the roads. If we don't help they will

be worse than they are now. We can't have bad looking roads we just can't. If we do have cleaner roads we could be a very messy place to live. I hope we can make it much cleaner than it is now. So instead of throwing trash out the window keep it in your car.

We don't need trash in the grass or road. It can do bad damage to pipes in ditches if they get full. I think it would be better if we just stop littering because it really can do bad damage to wildlife. I don't think it is a good idea to litter it just makes me mad when I see it.

I want a nice town not a nasty town full of trash. We need to make a change to the environment. It is getting worse by the days. Stop littering please just stop. It's horrible when people do that. I can't even know why it is happening but it is. I don't even like it at all. I want something done fast and quickly.

So if you want to help clean the roads then go out and do it when you can. We want a good clean place to live.

NEWS

The newspaper is a great resource for information. It can be used by schools to get accurate and up-to-date news. It aids students in finding information on every subject. Every class can benefit from the information provided in the daily newspaper. The newspaper is a great resource for information. It can be used by schools to get accurate and up-to-date news. It aids students in finding information on every subject. Every class can benefit from the information provided in the daily newspaper. The newspaper is a great resource for information. It can be used by schools to get accurate and up-to-date news. It aids students in finding information on every subject. Every class can benefit from the information provided in the daily newspaper.

