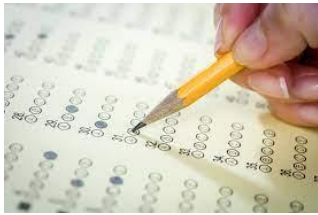

In The News

SAT Revision

On Tuesday the College Board announced that starting in 2024 the SAT will go all-digital and will be shortened from 2 hours to 3 hours. The new test is said to be easier to take, easier to give, and more relevant. It will allow more time per question, cover a wider range of reading topics, allow for calculators for all math questions, and is said to have a "less stressful test format" according to students who took the pilot exam administered in November of 2021. The changes can be credited to the pandemic along with the test's growing irrelevance.



WRT Firing Teacher

Westchester Reform Temple (WRT), one of Scarsdale's local temples, is arguably violating New York's labor law. The complaint made by Jessie Sander was filed on January 25th, 2022 with the Supreme Court of Westchester County. Sander was fired from the synagogue for views on her blog post that, to school's director and rabbi, David Levy, seemed to be "anti-Zionist." Her complaint was that the synagogue violated a state labor statute that bars an employer

for "recreational activities" by expressing her anti-Zionist beliefs from before she was hired. This news has prompted 43 Jewish scholars, rabbis, and public figures to write a letter to WRT's rabbis urging them "to reconsider your decisions."

Ukraine and Russia

Recently, concerns that Russia will invade Ukraine have surged. Over the past several months, Russia has assembled around 100,00 troops along its border with Ukraine. Russia and Ukraine tensions have been rising since 2014. Initially with the Revolution of Dignity, when violent protesters forced



out Ukraine's pro-Russian president, and later followed Russia forcibly annexing Crimea. Ukraine gained independence from

the Soviet Union 30 years ago and has had a temporary government and unprepared military. Russia sees Ukraine as a territory and one that can be used as leverage for Western powers lifting their sanctions. Russian and Ukrainian negotiations continue to discuss ceasefire conversations. President Biden had warned Russian President Vladimir Putin that he "will regret having done it," if he continues with his plan to invade Ukraine. The U.S. has long supported Ukraine's sovereignty with its internationally recognized borders and will continue to protect them if need be.

Justice Breyer

Liberal Justice Stephen Breyer, nominated by President Bill Clinton, announced his retirement from the supreme court Thursday after his nearly 28 year tenure. He plans to leave after the current



term ends and after his successor is chosen and confirmed by the Senate.

President Biden

praised him and then proceeded to promise to nominate the first black woman to the court as his replacement before the end of February. Biden plans to work very closely with vice president Kamala Harris and claims he has been looking over candidates for a year in preparation for a prospective supreme court opening.

COVID-Update

New York's mask mandate was restored Tuesday after a court ruling in which it was deemed unconstitutional and that the state had no authority to require face coverings during the pandemic. The controversy was especially confusing in school districts and although some pushed to make masks optional during the period of uncertainty, state education officials still told educators that they should continue enforcing the mandate.

January 13th, 2022

MAROON