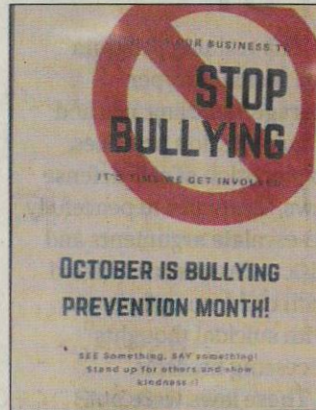


Student Column: The issue of bullying

Estrella Valencia
Granger High School

If 46.6% of students at Granger High School know someone that has experienced any cyberbullying or physical bullying, that tells community members that things need to change. That percentage was found from a survey created by GHS's University of Washington English class, answered by 410 students. There is a responsibility on parent(s)/guardians to talk to kids about the risks of bullying and what it makes people feel. Any kind of bullying is a very serious topic, people of any age can experience bullying in many ways. Bullying is defined by the National Institute of Health as, "Experiencing negative actions repeatedly and over time from one or more people."

Bullying may cause depression, low self-esteem, social exclusion, anxiety, or even self-harm. There are many ways a community can prevent bullying from happening.



Estrella Valencia
Granger High School hallway poster, November 28, 2023.

Some ways to help stop cyberbullying include protecting accounts and devices, setting time limits and discussing appropriate and inappropriate online behavior with children.

One word that describes cyberbullying in every community in the country is ruthless. People who bully other people are ruthless and like to see other people down. GHS counselor Abigail Moran said, "Bullying can happen to both genders but more so in girls just at the fact that they have issues over boys and start attacking each other online or in person and then it gets

around." Another question asked of Moran was, what is one way we can stop bullying in our schools and community. She replied, "I think our school does a good job of reinforcing that bullying is bad and it's wrong and I think just maintaining that environment will keep kids safe and feel protected." Kids should always feel safe at school and home without having to worry about what others think and should be treated with respect.

Estrella Valencia is a Granger High School senior in the English Composition 131 class taught by Ms. Stephanie King for the University of Washington.

■ **Editor's Note:** The Sunnyside Sun has partnered with Granger High School teacher Stephanie King and her senior students earning English Composition 131 credits for the University of Washington. Ms. King's students each picked a topic they viewed as being underreported, but important to them, and presented a survey to the Granger High School student body.

Student Column: Illiteracy in adults

Editor's Note: The Sunnyside Sun partnered with Granger High School. Stephanie King and her senior students are earning English Composition credits for the University of Washington. Ms. King's students each wrote a topic they viewed as being important, but important to them, and presented a survey to the Granger High School student body.

Eveny Lazcano
Granger High School

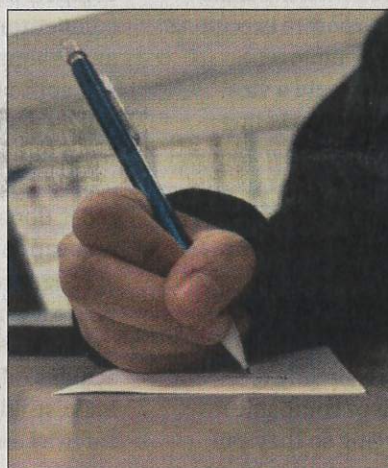
Do you know an adult that cannot read or write in any language? This was a question asked on a school wide survey conducted by the University of Washington English class in Granger, Washington. While the Granger High School has a population of 16, the illiteracy rates were affected. Illiteracy does not get talked up in the community as much as it should be, considering that the majority of the population

in Granger identifies as Hispanic or Latino with the ability to speak fluently in Spanish.

According to the data from the school wide survey, 31.8% of students know an adult who cannot read or write in any language. Given the data, almost 3 in 10 students at Granger High School personally know an adult who is illiterate.

Daisy Lopez, a Granger School District counselor, was asked what she thinks about raising awareness of illiteracy rates within the community. Lopez stated, "I think it is very important for people to read. People need to know how to be independent and take care of their own affairs. Reading is a huge part of society. There are always forms to be completed in medical offices, in our children's schools."

The city of Granger has many employment opportunities in agriculture, and many adults often work in the fields. Many students



Eveny Lazcano/ Granger High School
Granger High School student writing in UW English class Thursday November 30th, 2023.

at GHS shared that adults in their family don't have much more than a middle school or high school education; or in some cases, no education at all due to the fact that they had to enter the workforce at such a young age to financially

help their family so many years ago. With this being said, illiterate adults are then limited in their job opportunities which could take a huge toll in their life. "Some parents are open about their inability to read or write. They might say something like I tell him (the student) come to school and learn so he is not like me, and they can have a good job," stated Lopez.

The ability to read and write is very important. There are resources available to community members, but not necessarily visible. The future of the Granger community depends on the exposure of these resources, it would be unfortunate if this matter continues to be ignored.

Eveny Lazcano is a Granger High School senior in the English Composition 131 class taught by Ms. Stephanie King for the University of Washington.