

CRASHING CYMBALS During the pep assembly Sept. 21, Jim Li '21 and Annabel Hendrickson '21 play the *Fight Song* with the marching band. The assembly was held in the courtyard after first hour to get students excited about the year and about the night's festivities. The annual Gold-Out game brought awareness to pediatric cancer. "I like cymbals because it is really fun to play in front of the students and get them hyped up," Hendrickson said. "They are also fun to crash and they are really loud."

BOLD EXPLORATIONS

CLUBS/ACADEMICS



PHOTO BY PEYTON BRADY

With more than 50 clubs and 30 AP and honors courses, West academics go above and beyond. Our average ACT score of 25.7, nearly 4 points above the state average, reinforced that excellence. Twenty-one students were recognized as National Merit Semifinalists on Sept. 12, the highest for any Iowa high school. **Students continued to expand their horizons with bold explorations.**

Excellence in the arts has a long tradition for Generation West. Forty-five musicians were named to All-State with five more alternates. Theatre West presented strong stage productions, including *Miracle on 34th Street*, which reflected countless hours by cast and crew. On Sept. 18, a new diversity book club called These Books Are Lit hosted a visit by Nic Stone, who wrote *Dear Martin*. Then on Oct. 18 Marcus Theatres held a private showing of *The Hate U Give* for West students and staff. In early November, *West Side Story* won a prestigious Pacemaker award.

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