

# back to school

A bag of popcorn, you and your favorite TV show. You're hiding in an air-conditioned room away from the scorching sun when a back-to-school commercial suddenly flashes on the screen. That sick feeling rises in your stomach and all you can think is, "Ugh."

"I started like, 'No stop!' I wanted to go back to sleep," Mckenna Haag '19 said.

She wasn't the only one thinking along those lines.

"I felt like summer went by way too fast and I was definitely not ready [to return]," Jenny Pigge '17 said.

Other students welcomed the arrival of Aug. 24.

"I was kind of excited, looking forward to senior year," Chase Platz '16 said. "I know it is one of the best years" of high school.

And once classes resumed, somehow it wasn't the same as "High School Musical."

"I expected it to be hard with a lot more homework," Maddie Ganoe '19 said. "And I thought that the people would be fighting—like one fight a week—it's nothing like the TV shows."

As far as temperatures, with heat came sweat, and with sweat came smells.

"You can't focus when you're really hot ... sweat is just dripping off your face while you're sitting," Tia McBride '16 said. "You're more focused on [sweat] not getting everywhere than paying attention in class."

Gradually, the last-minute study cram became more a part of students' daily routines.

"I'm less of a procrastinator because I've realized the difficulty level of sophomore year," Tyler Thomasson '18 said. "I have to up the ante."

—By Alyson Kuennen & Barbara Nagueza



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**six** Lounging around, seniors David Breno, Mason Bertelli and Matthew Ruppenkamp eat lunch Aug. 31. **seven** Back to school was anything but ordinary for Julie Kennedbeck's math students Aug. 24. Dressed as a pirate, she took her classes on an "adventure" to the courtyard where they solved the problem of their "sinking ship." **eight** Popcorn 'n' candy. Kasey Baller '17 and Madison Brenner '17 fill goody bags for new teachers at a 1440 meeting Sept. 16. "[1440] is a way to make a difference and volunteer," Brenner said. "It is a fun way to meet new people and do fun activities." **nine** Oh Heck Week. Mason DeGrazia '18 and Breanna Rinker '18 recall the first week of school in the courtyard after school Sept. 16. "We get to see a lot of people from last year and we get to do crazy things," DeGrazia said. **ten** As a breathless zombie, Madi Wehmeyer '18 rests after school in the courtyard at a Zombie Club meeting. **eleven** On top, Micaela Gravelin '17 climbs the net at Wickham playground Sept. 16. "Sometimes it's kind of fun to just take a break and play on the new structures," Gravelin said.



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10 back to school

11

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