

## In memorium of 2016 grad Sebastian Duncan



Stuart Rodgers/Trevia

On Aug. 27, Sebastian Duncan, a 2016 New Trier graduate and resident of Glenview, went kayaking with his friend in Lake Michigan at around 5 pm.

That night, the National Weather Service issued an advisory due to high winds and rough waters. Their kayaks flooded and capsized.

Duncan's friend was able to swim to shore in Lake Forest where he began knocking on doors and desperately trying to contact authorities.

The widespread search that ensued included coordination among various neighborhood police and fire departments, and a number of other agencies including the Coast Guard.

Duncan's body was found on the shores of Lake Michigan almost two weeks later on Saturday morning.

His death has greatly impacted the community.

"I remember Sebastian quite well," said Duncan's US History teacher, Spiro Bolos. In recalling a day when the class did a "Know Your Rights" activity, Bolos remembered him as "active, engaged, and fair-minded. He was also a generous leader. That's exactly how I will remember him."

"Sebastian was in my wood and metals class. He was very social and I will always remember his big smile," said teacher Joshua Wood.

"The kid was so full of love and easygoing and cared so much about others," Sebastian's father, Tony Duncan, told the Tribune.

In a statement issued prior to finding his body, the family thanked rescuers and those who searched for Duncan. "We want to express our gratitude for the outpouring of prayers, volunteer support from the community and every action being taken on his behalf."

The statement also included a message from Duncan's friend, who said that "without Sebastian's actions that night, I wouldn't be alive today."

Duncan had slipped underwater while the two were trying to swim back to the shore and did not resurface, according to a statement from the U.S. Coast Guard.

## Purpose of unisex bathrooms disregarded

### Misuse of gender neutral Bathrooms affect student use

by Julia Nagel  
and Katy Pickens

Though installation of the gender neutral bathrooms in 2015 has garnered the praise of staff and students, some worry that the bathrooms have become a popular location for misbehavior without the administration's knowledge on school property.

The privacy the gender neutral bathrooms provide has helped students that are part of the LGBT+ community feel more comfortable and included within the school setting.

"I personally only know a few non-binary people, but I know that they greatly appreciate having the option to not pick one or the other when neither fits their gender," said Junior Isabella Allada, a CTA club member.

Though the addition of these restrooms has been a positive change for LGBT+ students, some have noticed other students taking advantage of the privacy these bathrooms offer.

One common complaint is that students must choose between getting to class on time or waiting for students misusing the restroom to leave.

"There have been a lot of instances where I can't go because I know there are multiple people in there. There have been instances where I've seen people on social media, Juuling or hooking up in the bathroom," said an anonymous junior who uses the gender neutral

restrooms because of their flexible gender identity.

Even students who do not typically use the gender neutral bathrooms agreed that they were often occupied by students vaping.

"I feel like there is kind of a connotation that people might go in there to Juul," said sophomore Molly Warden.

Sophomore Katie Klaskin agreed that because there are few gender neutral restrooms, going to the bathroom could be a struggle for non-binary students when there are others occupying and misusing the bathrooms.

Klaskin said people vaping in the unisex restrooms is "something that is generally believed" to be taking place among students.

Senior Nathan Moy said that he did not believe that misuse of the bathrooms was a huge issue but he would not be surprised if that were the case.

"I might have heard of it in advisery, but I've never seen it in person," said Moy.

Because the gender neutral bathrooms are used by a relatively small portion of the student population and are not constantly monitored throughout the day, it is difficult for the administration and staff to know the extent of misbehavior in these restrooms.

"It's hard to tell because we don't even know how many people are doing it now," the anonymous student said. "People will say, oh that's not real, but I've witnessed it happen before."

Though students agree that the unisex bathrooms are a place for misbehavior, the administration has not noticed the gender neutral bathrooms being a more likely location for rule breaking.

"There haven't been many incidents that I am aware of in the gender neutral bathrooms," said Sophomore Adviser Chair Juliet Smith. "I've had one [incident], I'm sure that each adviser chair has maybe had one."

Facilities Manager and head of Physical Plant Services Steve Linke also said that staff had not noticed a difference in terms of the maintenance needed for the gender neutral and regular restrooms.

Linke said bathrooms have always been a typical location for vandalism and misbehavior on school property.

"Occasionally we've had issues with some of the out of the way bathrooms. It's been like that for years," said Linke. "We don't find any real difference between the gender neutrals and the regular bathrooms or the staff bathrooms in terms of that."

Linke explained that although there are not currently any plans to create more unisex bathrooms, it is likely that more will be created as the school continues to be updated.

"I can't say that every one of the old ones that gets renovated will have a gender neutral, but that's our goal," said Linke.

Many students support creating more gender neutral bathrooms throughout the school to ensure that non-binary students have available restrooms nearby that aren't constantly occupied.

"I feel like if they had more, then there might not be as much stigma around it," said Warden.

The student that asked to remain anonymous said, "If there were more in the new building and more in the old building, I think it would make people feel more comfortable."

## Kinesis supports RAINN in annual car wash

### Dance company raises \$1,353 and awareness for sexual assault prevention

by Alyssa Pak

On Saturday Sep. 29, Kinesis held their 18th annual car wash to support RAINN, the Rape, Abuse, & Incest National Networks.

In light of the increasing attention of the Me Too movement as well as the recent controversial charges against Associate Justice for Supreme Court Brett Kavanaugh, Kinesis' selection of RAINN is particularly relevant.

"Each year we pick a cause that hits close to home with members on the company," explained senior Victoria Werth.

RAINN, is the most prominent sexual assault organization in the U.S.

The Kinesis fundraising committee came up with four finalists, including Childhood Cancer, Foundation for Blindness, and National Suicide Prevention, before choosing RAINN.

Senior Miriam Rovin explained that when they proposed RAINN, the group unanimously voted to make the organization their cause for the wash.

"We all thought that RAINN would be a really important cause to support as young women, especially with all of the current events regarding the cause right now. RAINN works with sexual assault



This year marks the 18th annual car wash, a Kinesis tradition | Wininsky

education, prevention, and helps support survivors," said senior Abby Wilson.

Rovin shared a similar opinion, stating that, "As a group of young women, it's important that we're aware of this issue and support it."

With cars lining up one after another, the dance company was kept busy, raising a total of \$1,353 in just three hours.

Not only did they raise money for RAINN, but they also raised awareness for the association. As each customer waited for their car to be washed, the dancers explained the cause that they were fundraising for.

After the wash, the proceeds that Kinesis receives are split in two. One half of the donations benefits a charity, while the other covers costs for costumes for their end-of-year

performance.

"I love seeing all the girls come together for a cause they believe in, bonding together and working as a team," said Kinesis director Johann Wininsky. "We supervise, but they do the work."

"My favorite part about the car wash was probably advertising. It was really fun to get random people to come and show off the signs that we made," said junior Hannah Bender.

Bender said that the wash was a great way to bond with the other girls in the company, with which Wilson agreed.

"For me, the best part of the wash was working together with the company to do something for a really good cause," stated Wilson.

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