

Student Views

We asked Trevians how they felt about Trump’s first week in office, this is what they said.....



Jordan Wilson, Senior
“His next four years in office are hard to judge by his first week.”



Connor Rooney, Sophomore
“He’s doing everything he said he would do.”



Grace Shin, Sophomore
“The wall is dumb. It’s not worth spending money on the wall.”



Meichi Yang, Sophomore
“It’s been an ‘interesting’ week.”



Sarah Quereshi, Sophomore
“There are protests every day to impeach him so I don’t think he’s doing too well.”

The March was more than a protest



by Marie O’Connor

On Jan 21, over four million activists young and old filled cities around the world to overshadow another historical event.

Despite what alternative facts may be claiming, the Women’s March on Washington had a higher attendance than the inauguration, and protests were not confined to the country’s capital.

Right here in Chicago, over 250,000 people flooded Michigan Avenue and Grant Park sporting pink knit hats and clever posters. Among the massive hoards of people, I stood with my nine-year-old sister on my shoulders, and my 83 year old grandma at my side.

This March brought out every age, gender, race, and religion walking for a common cause.

This momentous historical feat, therefore, should not be diminished by being confined to simply being a ‘protest against Trump.’

A crucial aspect that has made the Great Experiment that is America succeed is the peaceful transition of power.

This precedent set over two hundred years ago by George Washington is truly crucial to our democracy. Just as crucial is the first amendment guaranteed right to freedom of speech, and freedom of assembly.

Many skeptics of the March asked me what I hoped to accomplish by participating; questioning if I really thought I would make any difference.

To these individuals, the March was solely about the new executive administration, whereas to the millions of Marchers, it was about much, much more.

The movement has very specific goals in mind, so to those who have asked what the point of the march was, I would kindly direct you to the 4-page document titled “Guiding Vision and Defining Principles,” released before the event that clearly lays out the demands of these worldwide activists.

The minds behind this movement were focusing on the future, on issues infinitely more important than the new president.

While Trump’s election did catalyze this worldwide display, his campaign was simply a platform on which countless acts of sexism, violence, and harassment were publicized, and not the sole focus of the March.

Trump was almost the common enemy that brought together individuals from all different backgrounds to vocalize issues that actually matter.

The core value found in the “Guiding Vision and Defining Principles,” is that Women’s rights are Human Rights and Human Rights are Women’s Rights. This fact should not be disputed, however, in the past year, the rights and civil liberties of women and people of minorities have been jeopardized by the Trump campaign and administration.

What was truly incredible about this motto, was that it was expanded so that no individual was marginalized. The March stood up

for people of color, individuals of the LGBTQ community, immigrants, refugees, and any other disenfranchised person out there.

Just as women marched with abolitionists a hundred years ago, again this feminist movement is welcoming all those fighting for freedom, safety and basic human rights.

The vast array of people in the crowd, and the positivity of the rally was unmatched by anything else I had ever seen. Upon walking out of Ogilvie Transportation center, I heard a man announce, “this is the most polite rally I have ever been to.”

He wasn’t wrong, I was able to walk through crowds with my younger sister on my shoulders and my grandma leading the way, without fear that either of them would be hurt, or that our squeezing through the crowd would initiate any shoves or swears from the mass of people.

Seeing this positivity made it clear that this was no protest or angry mob, but rather a display of strength and hope.

It was a message to the new administration that we, the oppressed and marginalized, would not be kept quiet. It was a promise that this administration would be held accountable for their actions, and that the people’s response would not be ignored.



Protesters with marching with signs at the Womens March in Chicago

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Water bottles help nothing but our egos



by Bella Geroulis

Earlier in the year, I wrote an article about environmental club planning on providing Nalgene water bottles to all students and staff.

At the time, my friends and I thought the idea was awesome; one step closer to creating a more conscious and eco-friendly New Trier.

Now, more and more details about the project are being unveiled, and with each one I’m left wondering if the whole project was actually worth it.

Though every effort to make our community more environmentally friendly is a step in the right direction, the nearly \$25,000 that was spent on the water bottles seems to be a bit frivolous.

I think that the project would have been more successful if the school would have been able to stop selling plastic waste entirely, or ensure that the students would actually use the bottles.

However, I’ve seen more water bottles scattered throughout the halls than in people’s hands or backpacks.

Nobody recieved their water bottles and thought to themselves, “I should be more eco-friendly.”

The water bottle project seems to be more of a away to show that we have money to spend than it was an act of genuine enviromental concern.

As well intentioned as it might have been, we often forget that what we have and where we come from is not the norm.

While there are schools just

30 minutes away in Chicago that cannot afford basic supplies, we are taking advatange of the surplus of money for things we don’t actually need.

I’m not saying that we should be giving our money to other schools. I just think there has to be a better way to make an impact on our community and our enviroment that actually serves our larger community, not just New Trier.

I think the Nalgene act more as a way for us to say “we did something” more than they are an actual solution to the problem at hand.

If students or faculty wanted water bottles, they would have bought them. Sure, the free Nalgene send a positive message, but it’s more of a symbol of what we can do with our excess funds.

While New Trier has always committed itself to serving the greater good of its community, we also have a habit of taking what we have for granted.

Not every school has what we have or can do what we do, and most schools do not have \$25,000 laying around to fund a project that feeds our ego more than it feeds our enviroment.

I know people will argue with this, and I know that there are plenty of benefits to the Water Bottle Project. The fact that we’re talking about it and taking any sort of action towards a greener New Trier is always a positive.

We should be spending that money on something that would actually solve problems, like removing all plastic waste from our cafeteria, instead of providing a prevention.

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