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# THE Gryphon

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## American Citizenship

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Kary Westphal, staff writer

Becoming an American citizen may sound like an easy process, but a student from RMSH named Abraham Balan told us differently. Abraham and his family moved to the US from Guatemala, Mexico and became American citizens.

Abraham and his family had to be interviewed by a judge and they were allowed to take the "Oath of Allegiance" in front of the judge. Now they are naturalized citizens and have the same rights and duties of a "natural" citizen.

US citizens are split up in two ways, one being a natural citizen and the other a "naturalized" citizen. If you are a natural citizen, it means that you obtained your citizenship at birth. If you are a "naturalized" citizen, then you acquired your citizenship after your birth.

Abraham told us some of the reasons why he and his family came to the US. They came because they wanted a better life. They came here because of better jobs and better educational opportunities. Abraham told us that he is very proud to be in this great nation.

The fourteenth amendment says, "All persons born or naturalized in the US, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the US and of the state wherein they reside."

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## Graduation is Coming Soon

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Amy Doughtie, managing editor

Seniors have successfully made it through twelve years of school and now are down to the last semester before graduation. But for a long time, no one was sure when graduation would be held. The Board of Education has made their decision. Because of the three days school was out due to snow, make-up days were scheduled for February 18th, Good Friday, and May 29th. Seniors will still graduate on May 24th. There has been much controversy over this. The first proposal, which was very unpopular among seniors, was to add the three days to the end of school and graduation would be on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Many complained because it messes up cruises, trips, and vacations planned for graduation presents. The board met on February 4<sup>th</sup>, and did not approve of the proposal to add the days to the end of school. They met again on February 12th and decided that students would come to school on Monday 18th. The decision has been made but remember be sure to watch your days and your grades because we want to see all of you walk across that stage.



In Memoriam  
Cassie Faith Edwards  
1983-2002