

Out to Lunch: So many choices, so little time

Although often rushed in their daily journeys, seniors can enjoy lunch off campus, away from the school environment.

By Ricky Leung
Features Editor

The banalities of high school culminate in a year of finalities, nostalgia, and off-campus lunch privileges. However, with limited amount of time, approximately 46 minutes, choices of where to go dwindle.

The race for time, called the 46-minute dash generations before, boggles the minds of many students, including senior Maggie Link.

"Going out to lunch is often too expensive and takes too long. Going home or to a friend's house, on the other hand, is free, but there is still not much time," said Link.

Even with enough time to eat, other problems tend to confront seniors at the most inopportune moments.

"Sometimes there is traffic

going out or coming back, and you have to keep an eye on the time, so you don't run late for class," said senior Tony Curnes.

Traffic, as Curnes noted, presents an uncontrollable obstacle for seniors leaving for lunch. Some frustrated students have even gotten speeding tickets in their race against time, not to mention the traffic accidents that

"With road pavements recently and lanes being closed off, sometimes it's tough to get back on time,"

**-Tony Curnes,
Senior**

occur on Benjamin Parkway and neighboring roads. Even ever-present road construction on Westover can cause problems at the most critical minute.

"With the road pavements recently and lanes being closed off, sometimes it's tough to get

back on time," said Curnes.

Still, many seniors continue to risk being late -- because they can.

"The good thing about eating on campus is that you won't be late, but I like eating off campus just to leave, and it feels good," said senior Erica Alston.

Alston's feelings echo from other students as well.

"I never stay on campus for lunch," said Link, "because of the freedom... and all my friends go out."

However, for some seniors like Curnes, the reasoning behind driving off to lunch while the sun shines

directly overhead extends to more than just the freedom that the privilege provides.

"I go out to try different places, to have different foods every day. I have never even thought of staying on campus; I either go

home or go out," said Curnes.

Facing the dilemma between time and freedom, students must decide where they should eat.

"Some go to Juice Shop," said Link, "or someplace cheap, close, and fast, much like Wendy's."

No matter what obstacles stand in the way of the seniors, many like Link, Curnes, and Alston continue to cherish their off-campus lunch privileges, if only for 46 minutes.



Leung photo

Senior Dylan Zola often finds the time to go home or visit at a friend's house for lunch. The ease, inexpensiveness, and comfort of home appeal to many seniors during their lunches.

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