



giving BACK

Sophomore helps community through student council

For **Kennedy Chisolm**, 10, rigorous AP and honors classes not only challenge her academically, but teach her the skill of time management.

This skill proves useful when balancing not only her academic calendar, but the numerous extracurriculars she is involved in.

"Balancing all of it is sometimes very difficult, but I make a schedule so that I don't burn myself out," Chisolm said.

Currently Chisolm is in all honors and AP classes while also being involved in the orchestra program, rugby club, and many service organizations and clubs.

And despite her heavy load, she still finds time to serve as a leader in student council.

"With my classes, I set certain amounts of time to study. When I feel like I've done too much I stop and tell myself, 'Hey take a break and go to bed,'" Chisolm said.

Breaks like these and creating schedules help her to keep a level head. Chisolm takes rigorous and complex classes that require a large amount of time and dedication outside of school in order to succeed. Chisolm knew that despite the challenging class load, there were certain things she knew she wanted to make time for.

"I'm on the leaderboard at the East Cooper Center for Advanced Studies. Along [with] Key Club and AP Academy. These things are stressful because I have to come in early before school a lot, but I really enjoy being so heavily involved," Chisolm said.

Chisolm's significant involvement in service organizations does not stop when she leaves school. In her limited free time she helps within the community. Chisolm tutors younger students in Biology, Spanish, and Geometry.

"I do a tutoring program which I love, but again, that creates more stress and time concern," Chisolm said.

This tutoring program is one outlet that Chisolm has chosen as a way to give back. Her involvement in student council is another. In the fall, Chisolm was selected by her classmates as sophomore class president.

"I just knew I had to do something bigger. I had to be bigger. I love leading a group of people to a successful outcome," Chisolm said.

This sense of leadership and self realization is not new to Chisolm. She has known from a young age that student council is something she is interested in.

"Student council has been something I have wanted to do since I was little. In fourth grade, they introduced the idea to us and I was immediately hooked," Chisolm said.

Coming into Wando, Chisolm knew student council was how she wanted to give back to her school. This feeling of school pride and the need to give back is something she shares with fellow council member **John Hutto**, 12.

"When I got injured and couldn't play football, I felt like I wasn't really a part of Wando. This school has done so much for me and I wanted to give back so I joined the student council," Hutto said.

The opportunity to lead and give back has been provided to Chisolm and Hutto by their adviser, **Hannah Brisini**.

"This program provides students with a way to help and give back to the school that they love. Everyone on the student council is wonderful and a great team," Brisini said.

Student council leaders have many responsibilities when it comes to planning events. It becomes a project of their own; after they have completed an event the pride they feel is immeasurable.

"All of our events are a little stressful to put on but in the end I am just so happy with how they turned out and the work we've done," Chisolm said.

This pride is shared among the student council and their adviser. After all events have taken place, the work that has been put out is quite the reward.

"I love seeing them come together and put on such great events. I am so proud of the work that they do and how much they help our school," Brisini said.

**Story by Keira Firilas
Designer Charley Frost**

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