The New Methods of Boredom aka the New Curriculum

By Gloria Baroi and Grace Wells

“Good morning class, today we are going to learn the Pythagorean Theorem, a handful of algebraic formulas and some other exciting geometric problems…” That is all us students ever remember from class because the first twenty seconds of class is all we ever listen to before we zone out. Well this year is supposed to be different. Now, Cope Eagles, my question to you is, is this year any different? This year our math and English classes have been changed and improved. Whether it is improved or the same is for you to decide.

This new curriculum is upgraded in many ways. First of all, textbooks for math and English have an online version. This enables us to have an excuse to use our electronic devices for homework. This is a great opportunity for students to use materials covered in class. Not only that, but the new curriculum challenges us more and requires us to think in ways we might never have before. The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium requires us to answer the questions given to us in a more in depth manner and makes us teach ourselves. For example, in math this year, we are going to constantly work with a partner or the class to solve problems. The will no longer be going lectures where you copy down pages upon pages of notes, but in a way where we are the teachers and explain how we came to our solutions. So, in one perspective, this new curriculum can teach us new ways to look at problems and require us to think more.

Although there are plenty of good points about this new curriculum, there are a few negative things about this. Every one of you has your own lazy side where you procrastinate or lack determination sometimes. The new textbooks require more thought and work out of you, meaning you actually have to be involved and think about each question carefully and answer it diligently. The homework and testing for the new curriculum is more difficult than what you were learning before. If you want to pass your class and move on to get good classes in the grade above, you will have to work extra hard even though it may be extremely frustrating at times. Also, the new tests will be on computers, not everyone is too great with computer skills such as typing or solving issues with the computer quickly. There is a solution in that you can just use a free typing program easily accessed on a computer or you can always talk with a skillful parent about tips and tricks for computer use. There are always difficulties in life though.

“That’s all for today class, I hope you took good notes because your finals are next week!” You won’t be hearing that anymore so hello new curriculum and goodbye to boring lectures and extensive notes.