

MULTIMEDIA ROOM TRANSFORMATION

NEWSCAST



Getting students out of their comfort zone is an idea every school has. West Valley not only talks about those opportunities for students, but is acting on it. The school continues to focus on the students and how to better prepare them for high school, college, and life after, with 18 different electives.

One elective making lots of noise is the Newscast Class. A multimedia room transformation is underway with a newscast setup with green screen, cameras, mics, and new desktop computers. They help write the script or improv, depending on what the team is thinking.

The West Valley TV team, better known as WVTV, is two separate classes coming together for one common goal. The first class produces with the second editing.

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When first hearing about the idea for this newscast class, Nathan Brown said he was excited. "It is really cool," said Brown. "I like being on camera. I like introducing things. I remember thinking now I get to do this for an elective, and show it at the chapel."

The class aims for a weekly video, and unveil their hard work at chapel with the video also being posted on YouTube. The class gets the student out of their comfort zone and into new roles. The teachers break down each job, helping students learn how to work together to produce their show. Allowing them ownership, as they take on their roles and handle from start to finish. There is a director calling the shots, counting down the team to going live! The script is written, but sometimes organic, as the students produce a weekly show.

Working in collaboration was another big piece that Brown was looking forward to. "I get to work with my friends," said Brown. "It really helps out because we play off each other. We have to work with one another and sometimes you just go with the flow and direction that the other person is headed in."



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After producing, next up is editing. New computers have been installed, with software to allow students to learn the entire process. A class will use the computers for cutting and editing the videos clips, adding sounds, logos, graphics, to finalize the project. While working as a group, the students come together to produce a collaborative video.

"I see excitement, I see innovation, and I see creativity," said Joseph, a teacher of the class.

"West Valley just wants to help build a young student's mind. It expands the students' knowledge. They're teaching us while we're teaching them. A few of the skills West Valley is focusing on this year is critical thinking, perseverance, and collaboration. Problem solving is another big piece and I see the students improving every day."

West Valley is continuing to refine their work, and adding more electives, as they want to offer a more complex education to all their students.

"It means a lot, what the school has done for us," said Brown. "It shows that West Valley cares about what we're going to do. What we like to do. They consider our future and interests. Most school's don't have this, so it's a blessing to be able to experience this."

