

# STUDENT



## Automotive Mechanics:

### A Column by Ryan Steenhoek

The purpose of high school is to help prepare students for the real world. So why is it that schools will offer classes such as foreign language and music but not classes that teach skills that could actually help you in day-to-day life, like automotive maintenance and repair? Schools focus more on academic and fine arts programs than vocational programs such as automotive classes.

According to wrenchway.com, this may be why approximately 26% of Americans can't change a flat tire. Automotive maintenance classes should definitely be an

option for students at Pella High School.

For one, students in these classes would have job opportunities right out of high school. With the basic automotive skills that one learns from taking such classes, a student can perform the most basic services for a car care facility. This could allow one to have a well paying job through college and can even be a viable career path. There is also the opportunity to learn generic skills that can help you in

daily life, similar to a cooking class. These skills consist of, changing tires, doing a tire rotation, changing the oil, being able to diagnose issues, and much more.

One issue, some may say, is that the cost of all the equipment can be quite expensive. With proper care, however, that equipment can be used for a long time. Others may say that having automotive classes is too risky.

**“Approximately 26%  
of Americans can't  
change a flat tire.”**

There are risk factors when working with automobiles, like flammable substances and fast moving parts. But that is exactly what the class is

for, to teach one how to safely conduct proper maintenance on their vehicle.

In conclusion, if Pella High School invested in starting an auto mechanics class students would be able to learn many skills that they will be able to use for the rest of their lives. It would open a whole new career path for students right out of high school. That's why I believe that we need an auto mechanics class at Pella High School.

# OPINION



## Boys' Volleyball: A Column by Chi Crabbe

As of starting this column, we had jungle volleyball for homecoming. Everyone was super excited for the games, and all the guys were ready to spike on each other and show their dominance on the court. Volleyball is a great way to decipher who is more athletic. It takes a good vertical, coordination, and strength. So guys at lunch love seeing who can spike on each other. Not only is it a great show of athleticism, but it's also a very fun sport that doesn't take much physical contact.

Men's Volleyball is gaining tons of popularity throughout America. From crazy and funny plays found on TikTok to sad stories of volleyball players like the movie The Miracle Season, it's coming up in the ranks. Men's volleyball is the only sport within 15 years to be added to the Olympics. That's kind of a big deal. There are 26 NCAA teams in America

compared to the 7 teams they had last year. So it's definitely gaining some popularity.

Unfortunately, with the pros of the sport, also comes its cons. One of these cons that affects us the most is that it is expensive to have a boys' volleyball team. Lower level teams usually cost around \$1800, and with larger, better teams, it can cost up to \$3500. This doesn't include the time we need to practice and the price for uniforms and equipment. Money is one of the biggest problems to getting a boys' volleyball team considering all the other activities that Pella has to pay for. While a boys' volleyball team would be amazing for our school, it takes a big dip into our funds. With that being said, it's something to take into consideration.

GO DUTCH!

Page Editor: Jack Kramer

**Pella High students share their opinions on current issues both inside and outside of the school.**

"The parking at this school is horrible, and they need to change it to make it work and not be out of control. The amount of time people have to sit in traffic while still being in the parking lot is crazy. Unless you leave class early, you're bound to be stuck in the parking lot for at least 10-15 minutes."

-Junior Seth Alcorn

"Everyone should be who they want to be. LGBTQ+? That's fine. Have different color skin? That's perfectly okay. If people have problems with someone else living the way they want, they should keep quiet, and worry about their own lives

-Freshman Kenzie Kohlhaas

"I think schools should offer a few days during the year, like every couple weeks for mental health days. Or they just need to be more accepting of breaks for mental health."

-Freshman Claire Campbell

"Vita Ice. We should have a day where we get free Vita Ices or cheaper ones because the milk doesn't quench my thirst that much, and I don't want to drink only water. Everyone would be happier and buy more Vita Ices if you make them like that."

-Freshman Anaja Garner

"An issue I feel strongly about is about the school lunch schedule. On Wednesdays, I usually get school lunch, and it feels like I am walking down the hallway by myself, and then when I get down in the Cafe area both lunch lines are a mile long. You wait 20 minutes in the line and in the end you have 5 minutes to eat before I-Lead. I sometimes see how busy it is, and I leave because the line is more than a half hour long, and I just eat when I get home."

-Junior Andy Van Weelden

"My issue is that Taylor Swift is getting wayyyyyyyyyyy too much popularity. She has some great songs, but ever since her tour, all I hear about is Taylor Swift. Rhianna is better."

-Freshman Naomi Cole