

## Drivers need new roundabout



By Eli Martin  
feature editor

Before school every morning, students suffer from the poorly designed intersection at the GHS entrance.

The summer of 2024 was supposed to be when the city would begin construction on a roundabout, but this was delayed because no alternative entrance to the school exists. For students who had activities over the summer, there would have been no way to enter the school.

Because of this problem, the roundabout will not be constructed until at least 2025. This is also due to the many utility

relocations needed for this large-scale project. The largest of these movements of utilities is Duke Energy. Duke Energy is in the process of moving transmission lines to the south side of the road.

Woodmen, however, are forced to deal with the existing one entrance and exit to the high school until then. Buses full of students, cars with kids, and teachers trying to make it to school on time are all affected. GHS unlike other local schools, is placed in a poor location on a smaller, busy road. Schools like Franklin, Center Grove, and Whiteland have multiple school exits. Franklin and Whiteland are both located off U.S. highway 31. This provides the students of these high schools more accessibility to exits and

entrances to their own school.

Students constantly complain about the backed-up traffic on Smith Valley and Woodman Blvd. This traffic causes students to make stupid driving decisions as they rush before and after school.

With a new roundabout, there will be less traffic build-up and fewer cars turning into the high school. This roundabout will efficiently allow for a stable traffic flow in and out. The roundabout also keeps drivers



Students try to get to the parking lot backed up on Woodmen Blvd. Both before and after school, traffic is backed up at the light. Lily Rollings photo

safe from the awkward left and right turns into the school entrance.

GHS is in dire need of this new projected roundabout, but GHS student drivers and staff will have to suffer until further notice.

## Editorial Policy

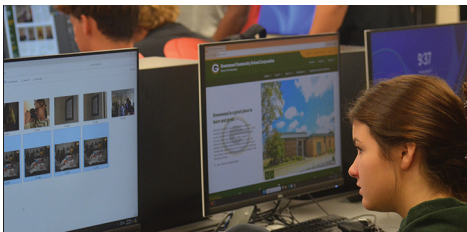
Timberlines publishes its full editorial policy in the first print issue of each school year. Then, an abbreviated version appears in each subsequent issue.

### I. Statement of Policy

Student freedom of expression is protected by the First Amendment. Accordingly, school officials are responsible for ensuring freedom of expression for all students. It is the policy of Greenwood Community High School that official, school-sponsored publications have been established as limited open forums for student expression.

Publications provide opportunities for students to exchange ideas and content that reflect areas of student interest, including topics about which there may be dissent or controversy.

GHS student journalists determine the content of official student publications. Accordingly, the following guidelines relate only to establishing grounds for disciplinary actions.



Sophomore Addy Rogers edits photos for the paper. She took English academic photos for her first weekly photo assignment. Audree Ferguson photo

### II. Official Student Publications

A. Responsibility of Student Journalists. Under the direction of a licensed journalism instructor, GHS students who work on official publications are responsible for content. These students:

1. determine the content of the publication
2. strive to produce publications based on professional standards of accuracy, objectivity and fair play

3. review material to improve sentence structure, grammar, spelling and punctuation
4. check and verify facts

### B. Prohibited Material

1. Students cannot publish matter that is obscene to minors, which is defined as material that meets both of the following requirements: First, the average person applying contemporary community standards will find the publication as a whole offensive. Secondly, the work as a whole lacks serious literary, artistic, political, social or scientific value.

2. Students cannot publish or distribute libelous material. However, under the fair commitment rule, a student may criticize school policy or the performance of teachers, administrators, school officials and other employees.

3. Students cannot publish or distribute material that will cause "a material and substantial disruption of school activities."

(a) Disruption is defined as student rioting, substantial participation in a school boycott, sit-in, walkout or other related activities. Material that stimulates heated discussion does not constitute this type of prohibited disruption.

(b) For a student publication to be considered disruptive, specific facts must exist upon which one could reasonably forecast a likelihood of immediate, substantial, material disruption to normal school activities if the material were distributed. Mere undifferentiated fear or apprehension of disturbance is not enough; school administrators must show substantial facts that reasonably support a forecast of a specific, likely disruption.

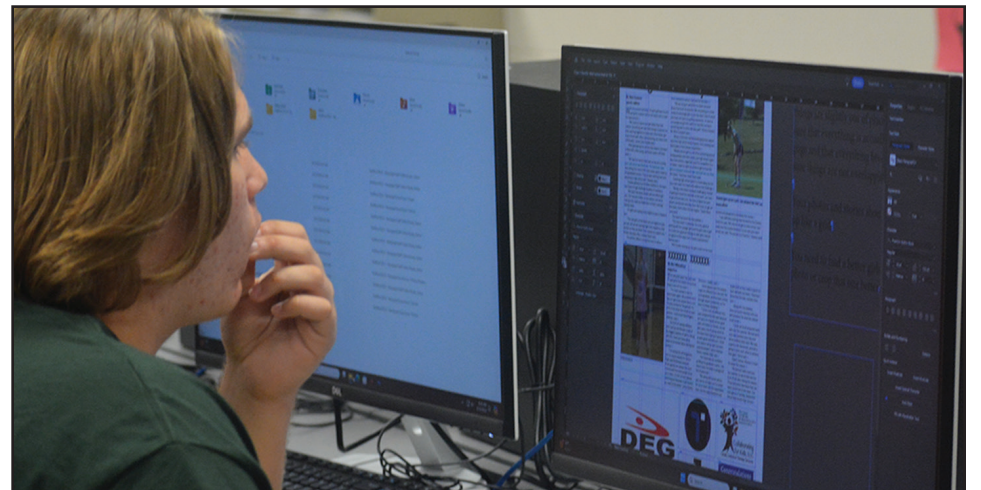
(c) School officials must protect advocates of unpopular viewpoints. The First Amendment exists to protect the minority since the majority can protect itself through sheer numbers.

(d) "School activity" means an educational student activity sponsored by the school and includes, by way of example and not by way of limitation, classroom work, library activities, physical activities, physical education, official assemblies, school athletic contests, band concerts, school plays and in-school lunch periods.

### III. Protection of Speech

School officials will not:

- ban speech solely because it is controversial
- prohibit criticism of the policies, practices and performances of teachers, the



Sophomore Alex Connor designs a sports page. Connor joined the Timberlines staff this year. Audree Ferguson photo

school itself or any other public officials.

- cut off funds to student publications because of a disagreement over editorial policy
- ban publication or distribution of material written by nonstudents
- prohibit the endorsement of candidates for office at any level

### IV. Commercial Speech

Advertising is a constitutionally protected expression. School publications may accept advertising. Acceptance or rejection of advertising is within the review of the publication staff, which may accept ads except those for products or services that are illegal to all students. Political ads may be accepted. The publication should not provide or deny space to only one side of an issue or election.

### V. Prior Restraint

Administrators review no student publications prior to distribution. The school assumes no liability for any student publication and urges all student journalists to recognize that with editorial control comes responsibility, including responsibility to strive for professional journalism standards.

### VI. Obituary Policy

Upon the death of any current student or faculty member, Timberlines will publish no less than a brief obituary. If the death being covered was the result of a suicide, policy dictates that no obituary be published.

### VII. Errors

Although the newspaper staff makes every effort to ensure accuracy, the fact these student journalists are teenagers is important to recognize. They are learning the trade. A policy to handle errors is in place. Corrections will appear in the next issue on the Opinion page.

### VIII. Circulation

Timberlines, the official student newspaper, is created by the journalism classes and distributed free of charge. On publication day, the paper is strategically placed at points throughout the school to ensure easy access for students. Likewise, copies are distributed throughout the community and via mail to other schools and subscribers. The school newspaper is also published online at [www. https://ghstimmerlines.com/](https://ghstimmerlines.com/)

### IX. Questions

Questions regarding this policy can be directed to the journalism adviser, Mrs. Denise Green, at [dgreen@gws.k12.in.us](mailto:dgreen@gws.k12.in.us).