



THE
November 2020

NORTH HOUSTON EARLY COLLEGE HS CHRONICLE

Volume 1 Issue 1

Dr. Samantha Brooks, Principal

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UPCOMING EVENTS

November 3, 2020

NO SCHOOL

Nov. 23 - Nov 27

Thanksgiving Break

December 4, 2020

Last Day of Cycle 2

December 7, 2020

First Day of Cycle 3

Dec 21. - Jan 1, 2021

Winter Break

January 29, 2021

Lady Day of First Semester

SPECIAL MESSAGE

We are living in a time of unprecedented events, a global pandemic that not only has divided us physically but made us seem powerless. Educators and staff were tasked to keep their health and our health in mind, all while in the process of keeping us on track to succeed and graduate. NHECHS is a beacon of hope and of strength, we see an obstacle and we do not turn away, we lunge at it together. In our lifetimes, we would have never imagined living in such a divisive and health conscious state. Every day is something new, something else to tackle, and with this pandemic it has become challenging. Class of 2021, like their predecessors, will lack a “normal” sendoff. Senior year is not the one they had envisioned of, however, we took it upon ourselves and made the most of it. We held a Rose Ceremony in the midst of a pandemic; a clear show of unity, hard work, and dedication. Many seniors have tasked themselves with new endeavors, as we plan our future in higher education, we focus on our legacy here at the school that made us who we are. We created a newspaper, we have become political voices, we have become mentors, we have become activists for causes we are so passionate about, all with the future in mind. That is what this school does. NHECHS builds leaders. NHECHS builds servicemen and servicewomen. NHECHS builds activists. NHECHS makes us fighters. We owe a debt of gratitude to our tremendous teachers, staff, and administration. We are and always will be RedHawk Proud!



Ernesto Flores
Editor-in-Chief



Angel Xavier Elizondo
Managing Editor



Ehulises Rodriguez
Graphic Designer



Yolanda Pineda
News Editor



Angelina Martinez
Organizations Editor



Bhakti Patel
Social Media Manager



David Lara
Sports Editor



Guadalupe Blas
Senior Editor



Nerjes Azzam
Senior Editor



Melanyn Cabrera
Senior Editor

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INSTAGRAM!**



@nhechschronicle



Ms. Feder
Sponsor

**FOLLOW US ON
TWITTER!**



@nhechschronicle

My name is John Almasi. Before teaching at NHECHS I spent thirteen years on the technical side of things in the oilfield, offshore and on land. The field was called Logging While Drilling. We did gamma ray detection, resistivity, with images for both, magnetic resonance, neutron density, and porosity, among other tools to determine what

formation we were drilling in, and what if anything was there. While there I got into management and staff development. Before that I did some management and IT work at a hospital in Florida. I'm engaged, have two children of my own (25 and 21), three step children (17, 15,11), and two grandchildren (2 and 7 months).



MR. ALMASI



MS. MORALES

My name is Clara Morales and I am joining NHECHS as an 11th grade OneGoal and 10th grade World History teacher. This is my 6th year in education, but my first year at NHECHS and with HISD. When I'm not teaching, I LOVE watching movies on the couch with my husband- we bonded over our love of superhero movies (but only Marvel,

we aren't big DC fans...hope that's okay!) We have the two most perfect dogs that are basically our children. They're both boys: A Basenji named Murdock and a Chihuahua named Foggy- they're named after the main characters in Marvel's Daredevil (our favorite Marvel comic). I'm also a lover of pizza, Yu-Gi-Oh and Sonic the Hedgehog. I'm so happy to be here at NHECHS!



MR. SIGREN

I was born and raised here in Houston, left for college, then came right back and started working in HISD as soon as I graduated. I taught at Sharpstown International School for 11 years, and now I'm excited to be at NHECHS! I love it when students get excited about something.

If we learn about something students didn't know before and they start asking a lot of questions, or if we have a passionate argument about something in class, those are the moments I enjoy most.

Hi, my name is Mrs. Dunbar and I'm excited to be joining the Redhawks family! I'm originally from Ohio and moved down to Houston about 10 years ago...right after a year of teaching English in Yokohama, Japan. This year, I am teaching reading, Business English, and am the yearbook advisor. What I love most about teaching is being able to see my

students grow in their skills and succeed in things that they didn't think were possible. I'm a big adrenaline junkie! I have been skydiving and jumped off a building and I love roller coasters. I am most excited in getting to know all of my students and the great teachers and staff that we have on campus.



MRS. DUNBAR

MEET THE TEACHER

My name is Cristina (Nurse Jones) and I have been in the medical field for over 10 years and loved every minute of it. I graduated with my BSN from University of Texas at Tyler and started off my nursing career in Post Partum working with new moms and babies. Although Postpartum will always be my first love, this school nursing is pretty cool.

I have 3 beautiful children; a 15 year old girl named Destini, a 7 year old boy named Caleb and a 7 month old puppy named Arya who are my world. I like traveling, drawing, reading, crafting and anything outdoors. I am mixed with Korean, Black and Indian and I was in the marching band and played the flute in high school!



NURSE JONES

MS. BOLDEN

Hello NHECHS! My name is Ms. Bolden. I am teaching Pre-AP Biology & Anatomy & Physiology. My favorite color is Red. One of my favorite hobbies is yoga. Also, I am a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. The thing I like most about teaching is my students.

I love interacting with them, I love learning from them, I love helping them understand the content of any course and I love when they see the connection between what they are learning and their lives. My all-star cheer team won the World Championship in 2010.

ORGANIZATIONS

THE NHECHS GENTS

Ehulises Rodriguez
Gents President

In 1964, at Booker T. Washington High School, Mr. Langston Knowles founded the original GENTS organization. This organization was based upon the principles of good citizenship, high moral standards, and high academic achievement. The GENTS is open to young men who exemplify the will to improve themselves as well as their community.

Through various service projects and social activities, they established a high standing in the Houston area. The chapter of North Houston Early College High School was founded by fourteen students in the spring of 2018 with the philosophy of providing young men with opportunities for self-development and preparation for life leaders.



The NHECHS GENTS return to school for in-person learning.



Congrats to Luis Loredo as the GENT of the Month for his outstanding leadership and academic achievement.

THE NHECHS ZIA

Lizbeth Villanueva
ZIA President

ZIA is a sisterhood organization that provides opportunities and support for social, spiritual, and intellectual development. We strive to strengthen the scholarship and integrity of our members while positively impacting our community. We have participated in many community service events like the Houston Chevron Marathon, Piece through Pie, the Houston Food Bank, and many more!

We as a sisterhood have hung out to carve pumpkins, build gingerbread houses, have bonfire nights, and much more social activities!

If you are interested in becoming a part of our sisterhood, we will be having our Interest Meeting November 9th, 2020! Send a text to 832-206-8611 with your name, grade level, and student ID. Let us know why you are interested in ZIA!



The NHECHS ZIAs



NHECHS ZIAs being festive and building gingerbread houses!

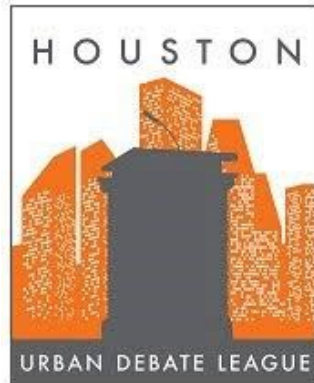
ORGANIZATIONS

DEBATE TEAM

Angelina Martinez
Debate Captain

The NHECHS Debate team competes in monthly tournaments held by the Houston Urban Debate Club. No matter how intimidating competing may sound, we as a team have a blast and invite you to join us! We have bonded over late night research for competition to taking whole boxes of donuts home from competition.

There is never a dull moment when we are all together! If you are interested in joining us, feel free to contact Angelina Martinez through Microsoft Teams or s1554831@online.houstonisd.org.



The JV & Varsity Policy Team taking home first place!



The NHECHS Debate Team taking home all of wins!

FINE ARTS PROGRAM

Yolanda Pineda
Fine Arts Program President

The NHECHS Fine Arts Program is designed to enhance the musical, creative, and expressive qualities of all students. We provide music opportunities for every student to learn the basic skills of singing, playing, and reading music.

Additionally, students can develop song repertoire, broaden their listening skills, and experience the interrelated nature of music with other cultures and content areas. We are currently offering a beginner's Women's & Men's choir, ADV Mixed choir, an Orchestral Strings class, and Music Appreciation Courses.



The Advanced Choir at the Texas Renaissance Festival!

CLIMATE ACTIVISM

Nerjes Azzam
CAC President

The NHECHS Climate Activism Club (CAC) is a newly introduced organization on our campus. It serves as a way to get students involved in environmental activism as it is a topic not widely talked about. One of their main goals is to have students reach out to their state and local representatives and demand change. CAC also hopes to collaborate with other youth-led activist groups

Houston in the future. The club's sponsor is Mr. Sigren who is the new Principles of Government/ Model UN teacher.

In the first November meeting, students will be interviewed for officer positions and the club as whole will begin working on emailing our state senators, representatives, and district judges to ask that they act on climate change

TIP: Bring a friend to our next meeting, all are welcome!

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Nerjes Azzam
NHS President

The National Honor Society (NHS) is a nationwide organization for high school students in the United States. Selection is based on four criteria: scholarship, leadership, service, and character. NHS works towards being involved in our school and local community. November is National Epilepsy Awareness Month. We encourage NHS members to send in a picture wearing the designated color for this month which is purple.

Please send any and all pictures to our historian, Jacob Castro, to his email: jacobhistorian2020@gmail.com. NHS would like to recognize two students for the month of October.

Diana Trochez
being the first to turn in her dues

Ernesto Flores
taking initiative and starting the Newspaper Club



STUDENT COUNCIL

Mr. Sigren
Sponsor

Student Council is a group of student leaders who collaborate with students and staff to positively impact their school and the community it serves. These student leaders serve as a voice for the student body, working to bring awareness to issues that the NHECHS student body wants to address with campus, district, and community leaders. Student council can, but not limited to, organize activities for their grade level, organize

activities for the whole student body, discuss issues on campus that are important to the student body, and meet with campus, district, and community leaders to bring awareness to issues important to NHECHS students! Applications closed October 22, but if you are interested in helping student council feel free to contact Mr. Sigren through Microsoft Teams or jsigren@houstonisd.org



NHECHS YEARBOOK

Yolanda P. & Ashley V.
Editors-in-Chief

Yearbook is a group that gives students experience in print media publishing. This group works toward the completion of the annual NHECHS Yearbook. Being on Yearbook allows students to experience photography, computer design, and writing creatively that combine to create a yearbook that captures the memories of our school year. In terms of ways you can help our yearbook staff, if you've got great photos of school events, or of you and your friends just having fun, please share them with us!

If you are interested in uploading and sharing photos for the 2020-2021 NHECHS yearbook, search for "Balfour Image Share" on your mobile devices' app marketplace. Once you have downloaded the app, create an account using your name, email, and our project number: **123373**. Check your email for a confirmation code. Lastly, enter the confirmation code, select a username & password to complete your registration! The photos submitted must be school appropriate, and the more photos you share, the better our yearbook will be for everyone!

SCIENCE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Jose Alvarado
SNHS President

Hello fellow NHECHS students, I hope you are enjoying the school year thus far, whether that be virtual or in-person. If you or someone you know enjoy the thrill of science and all its mysteries yet to be uncovered, look no further than the Science National Honor Society. We are a group of highly motivated STEM students who share the same passion to push the norms here at NHECHS and we are looking for like-minded individuals to join us in this great adventure

If you are interested, details about the application process will be posted soon. Until then, stay adventurous and determined!



SNHS members at the Johnson Space Center



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Handwritten Birthday Cards for Children: Birthday Bash Box

The Birthday Bash Box Team would love your help in celebrating children in low-income families by making handwritten Birthday Cards. You are welcomed to create as many birthday cards as you would like; however, please make sure your decorations are appropriate for children.

When the card(s) are complete, you must contact the Birthday Bash Box team at 832-598-5276 or Volunteer@BirthdayBashBox.org to schedule a drop off time.

Tutoring Kids in Latin America: SynYouth

If you are a fluent in English and are comfortable with having a conversation in Spanish, then you are perfect for tutoring/teaching kids in Latin American basic English skills

Classes are taught 1-on-1 via Zoom weekly for an hour. You will also be provided straightforward grammar lessons, simple vocabulary lists, and engaging activities for you and the student.

There is not any date restriction! If you are interested, sign up at www.synyouth.org/tutor-sign-up

COVID-19 Notes of Encouragement

Write notes of encouragement and United Way of Greater Houston will share your messages with essential grocery store and delivery workers, healthcare providers, homebound kids and seniors, and nonprofit frontline workers.

You also have the choice to upload a photo of a homemade sign or card on the same virtual note form!

You can submit your sweet notes or photos at <https://www.unitedwayhouston.org/about/volunteers/notes-of-encouragement>

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Below you will find several programs that are open for students to apply too. These programs are a good way for students to participate in extracurriculars and summer programs outside of school. Not only do these programs look good on college applications, they provide unforgettable experiences and insight.

USC Bovard Scholars

Deadline

January 15, 2021

More information:

<https://bit.ly/3eJuz99>

BAFTX Junior Achievers Award

Deadline

January 31, 2021

More information:

<https://bit.ly/3p78QNd>

Alexander Hamilton Scholars

Deadline

January 27, 2021

More information:

<https://bit.ly/2U7HLeB>

Bank of America Student Leaders

Deadline

January 29, 2021

More information:

<https://bit.ly/358FhTz>

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The NHECHS community would like to congratulate the students below for receiving their first scholarship. We are extremely proud of these students for putting in the hard work to find ways to make college more affordable.

Citgo Distinguished Scholar

Ernesto Flores

Pride Houston Scholarship

Bryan Hernandez

College Board Opportunity Scholarship Winners

Lizbeth Villanueva

Anthony Galindo

Bhakti Patel

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Each month, a student is selected to receive the "Student of the Month Award" for their amazing hard work and leadership in the NHECHS community. Congratulations to the following students for receiving the award for the month of September and October. Keep up the good work!



September

Angelina Martinez

October

Peter Jackson



SOCIAL MEDIA TEAM

Congratulations to our new social media team led by intern Angel Xavier Elizondo. The social media team will be in charge of our schools online presence.



Angel Xavier Elizondo



Angelina Martinez



Kimberly Leyva



Andrea Alvarez

SPECIAL SHOUTOUTS

Congratulations to the following seniors who were selected as Questbridge Finalists as well as the students who were selected as Posse Finalists.

Questbridge Finalists

Angelina Martinez

Melanyn Cabrera

Gabriela Perez

Jose Alvarado

Nerjes Azzam

Daisy Nieto

To learn more about QuestBridge

<https://www.questbridge.org/>

Posse Finalists

Angel-Xavier Elizondo

Sarisma Valdivia

Nerjes Azzam

To learn more about Posse

<https://www.possefoundation.org/>

THE LAKERS WON THE 2020 NBA FINALS

David Lara
Sports Editor

The Los Angeles Lakers have defeated the Eastern Conference champions Miami Heat 4-2. This has been the first NBA championship win in 10 years and this is the franchise's 17th title. They now tie the Boston Celtics with 17 franchise titles.



Lebron James and Anthony Davis After Game 7 of beating the Miami Heat)

NFL EXCLUSIVE

Alexander Precella
Junior Editor

The Houston Texans like most seasons, have been having a rough season. They are now 1-5 and the Texans lost in overtime against the Tennessee Titans and on Sunday October 25th they face off against the legendary Aaron Rodgers and the

Prayers go out to Dallas Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott suffering with the unfortunate event of a compound right ankle fracture and dislocation in week 5 against the New York Giants. The top 5 teams on week 6's standings are the Kansas City Chiefs 5-1 Baltimore Ravens 5-1 Pittsburgh Steelers 5-0 Seattle Seahawks 5-0 Tennessee Titans 5-0

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL (MLB) UPDATES

October 1st kicked off the start of the MLB playoffs. Tampa Bay Rays and the Houston Astros went all the way to the ALCS to fight for a spot in the World Series. Tampa Bay 4-3 beat Houston in game 7. In the NLCS the Atlanta Braves fell short 1 game after being beaten in game 7 by a comeback from the LA Dodgers 3-4. The LA Dodgers and Tampa Bay Rays are both in the World Series. The Dodgers won the first game of the World Series, 8-3, but fell short in game 2, letting Tampa Bay tie the series 1-1.

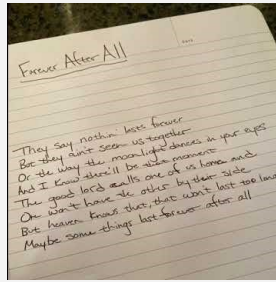


Los Angeles Dodgers
Win The World Series!

Top Songs of The Month



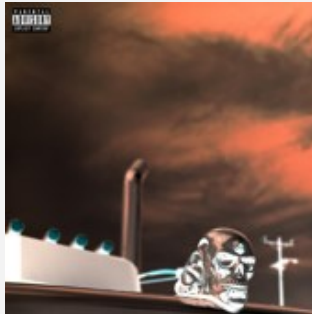
Ariana Grande
Positions



Luke Combs
Forever After All



Maluma x The Weeknd
Hawai (Remix)



Bad Bunny
Dakiti

KOREAN POP UPDATES

Melanyn Cabrera
Senior Editor

BTS made history by being the first K-pop group to consistently spend 10 weeks at No. 1 on the Billboard Artist 100 Chart. Just last week BTS placed number No.1 on the Billboard Hot 100 with the remix "Savage Love" with Jason Derulo and Jawsh 685.

This week, PENTAGON obtained their first-ever win with their most recent comeback song 'Daisy.'

Fans trended multiple hashtags on Twitter to full-heartedly celebrate their win since it was their first win after 4 years of their debut. Two days before the win, fans were informed of devastating news, the company which Pentagon was under, announced that Hui-a member would enlist in the military on December 3rd. This member would become the 2nd person from group to enlist; but fans were happy they were able to give him his first win before he enlisted.

INCREASE IN ONLINE VIDEO GAMES

Yolanda Pineda
News Editor

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, several games like *Animal Crossing*, *Call of Duty: Modern Warfare*, and *Minecraft* have become increasingly popular as a result of people staying at home. Recently a popular game, *Among Us*, exploded in popularity around mid-September and has become a viral sensation.

Whether it is through online streaming, political advertisements, and friendly matches, *Among Us* has become a significant stamp in the world of gaming and pop culture. If you haven't played already, now is the perfect time to download *Among Us* and play a fun light-hearted game that everyone needs during quarantine.

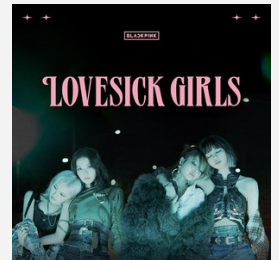


NHECHS was not The Imposter

Recent K-Pop Comebacks and Debuts!



BTS x Jason Derulo x Jawsh 685
Savage Love (remix)



BLACKPINK
Lovesick Girls



PENTAGON
Daisy



LOONA
Why Not?

CLIMATE CHANGE!

Nerjes Azzam
Senior Editor

Climate change is a topic often ignored and ridiculed. Some do not realize that the environment is changing at a rapid pace and there can be detrimental effects on this planet we call home. Given that world leaders have not stepped up to try and fix this issue, it is up to younger generations to move forward with change.

What many do not realize is that climate change affects more than just the Earth's temperature. It can impact several important sectors of society such as human health, agriculture, food security, water supply, transportation, energy, ecosystems, and many other areas. It is expected to become increasingly disruptive in the coming decades if nothing is done. Air quality in specific is going to worsen in places such as China and India. Then the question that arises, "How can we provide a cleaner environment for our future children? Will we continue to rely on technology for these said advancements?"



Students from North Houston Early College High School who attended the HYCS Climate Strike



New York climate activist groups campaigning in January 2017



Houston Youth Climate Strike Climate Vigil and Strike at City Hall

Additionally, global temperatures are rising and flooding is occurring more often, but most politicians continue dwelling in their own greed. With President Donald Trump drawing out of the Paris Agreement in 2017, his main argument remained that it was too costly and ineffective but at what cost does this planet truly come at? Throughout his two terms as president, Trump has only looked out for energy and oil companies.

Moreover, in a city like Houston where floods are so common, it is imperative we elect the right officials to represent us and take action. It is also important to introduce eco-friendly and environmental activism organizations to youth and educational institutions. By providing students with an understanding of what goes on at a local and global scale, it is easier to move forward with this climate crisis. NHECHS, specifically, is joining that movement with the NHECHS Climate Activism Club that wants to be part of the fight for a more sustainable future.

CAMPAIGN CHAOS!

Angel Xavier Elizondo
Managing Editor

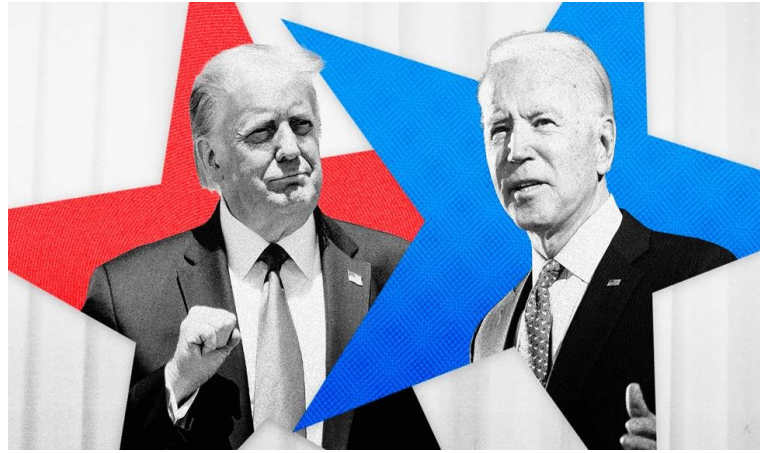
The focus on the media has shifted from everyday coverage of our President, to everyday coverage of the pandemic and the 2020 Presidential Election. "This is the most important election of our lifetimes," says every political pundit ever. I know it is cliché to say, but I 100% agree. The election gives off two polar opposite candidates, a Former Vice President who served under President Obama, and a television personality turned President of the United States. Their policies and ideas are unmatched to one another. So who is to say that there will not be any disagreements with supporters of the opposing candidates? Vice President Joe Biden and President Donald Trump participated in a Presidential Debate by the likes no one in the country would ever hope to have

endured. The candidates made a mockery of the process by which most Americans receive the candidate's views and positions from. Not to mention the upheaval brought by the special appearance of the Vice-Presidential Fly in the Vice-Presidential Debate just a week following the Presidential Debate. The Debate between the two individuals chosen to be a heartbeat away from the Presidency seemed more somber than that of the top of the ticket and brought more closure and a sense of safety that we really need at the moment.

NOTORIOUS RBG!

Angelina Martinez
Organizations Editor

Earlier last month, the nation mourned the death of a trail-blazing icon, The Honorable Ruth Bader Ginsburg. The notorious R.B.G. kicked opened multiple doors for women and honored the dignity of minorities throughout her service in the Supreme Court. The Trump Administration, however, was quick to replace her seat with Judge Amy Coney Barret this late Octo-

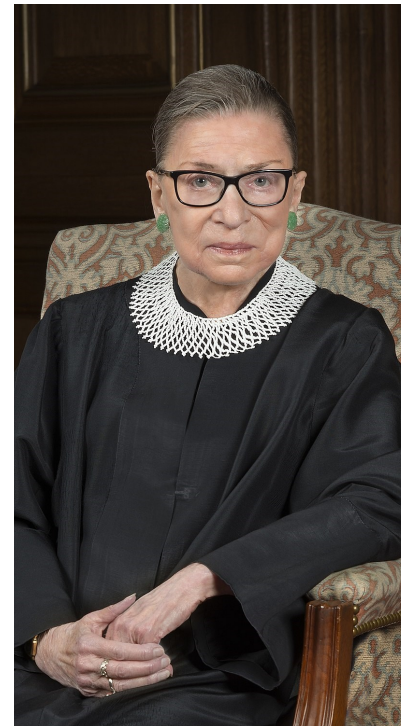


Incumbent President Donald Trump faces former Vice President Joseph Biden in the General Election



Vice President Mike Pence gets a special visit at the Vice Presidential debate

Quite the controversy was surrounded by the nomination as the Senate Republicans blocked President Obama from filling Associate Justice Antonin Scalia's seat when he died in 2016. Despite R.B.G's administration's disapproval with her replacement and tokenizing the term "NotOnRuthsWatch," the hearings for Judge Barrett began October 13th unwilling to the Senate Democrats.



Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg
(1933-2020)

NO SHORTCUTS!



NO EXCUSES!