

Goodbye Reading. Hello Scanners
Students Mourn Lack of Books
Zipporah Patricia

It seems as if students' focus at our temporary school has drifted from talk of independent reading books to what happened when going through the Scanners. Since the move to our borrowed school building we have adjusted to many changes with the help of the staff and teachers, but nevertheless a situation has transpired that is making learning hard.

Remember in our old building where we had this beautiful place called the Library? A space where books overflowed and we were surrounded by never ending knowledge? There, you walk into the library, request a book or have the librarian, Andrea, help you find one that would best suit you and your reading style. You sit on comfortable couches and fall into daring adventures or be swept off your feet

by knee buckling romance.

Feeling homesick yet? Join the club. The library in our new space can be summed up in one word: Vacant.

There are barely any books occupying the many shelves of the infamous "Library 1". People walk through the library as they transfer between classes. It is not a welcoming space. It feels lonely and cold without the warmth of books. "Sad, this is so sad. It makes me appreciate our old library more," Melody said describing her experience in the 7th floor space.

Here, the walls drip of depression and walking through the library to your next class puts you in a bad mood. The environment around us helps us to learn. If some cheap poster paper covers the walls with random signs strewn every which way then there is less motivation to learn. We want motivation. We want to be able to read in an environment that we feel comfortable in. People

describe the library as "gloomy", "dark" and also "the books look a thousand years old." Opening and closing one of the few book on the shelves will leave you coughing from all the dust.

Ms. Kelly, an English teacher described the depressing library system at our temporary space, "It's frustrating and infuriating because I feel like it almost unravels the hard work that's been done to make a truly dynamic reading culture. We are all trying really hard to replicate Andrea's library and our own individual libraries... It breaks my heart when a student wants a book but I know I have it and it's sitting collecting dust at our old site while it is being renovated."

Teachers deserve one big round of applause for their continual support of our reading. Things aren't the best but it's good to know that it isn't just the students who feel so infuriated when they see the library they have to deal with.

Andrea and some of the staff members have managed to save some books from East Side, but it just isn't the same. There isn't a variety to choose the most appealing one, but their efforts are greatly appreciated.