

THE HAST TIMES

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"THE IMPEACHMENT OF WHO? WE HAVE A GRAND CHAMPION?"

-Lucas Homco

Upon interviewing HAST student and former candidate Lucas Homco, the above quote was the first thing he had to say. Failing to acknowledge Izmael as grand champion altogether, he criticizes the actions, or lack thereof, taken through the duration of his term.

GRAND CHAMPION- THAT STILL EXISTS?

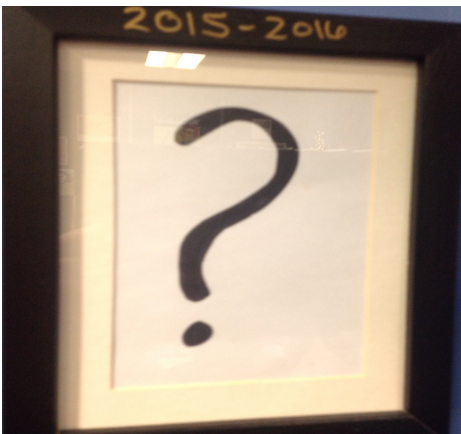
Joshua Price, Feb. 17 2016

Our current grand champion, Izmael Hernandez, seems to have faded from memory until recently receiving criticism for his poor work ethic. You may be asking yourself how this candidate won in the first place, and to answer that, it was simply the election process. When the process began, each government class had 4 candidates, the exception being 5th hour with 5, with each class assigned to a different grade level. From there, the candidates were given teams to assist with the campaigning and the creation of a portfolio. This work continued until the day of the first round of debates, when each of the candidates were to answer questions in front of their respective grade levels, and were allowed to rebuttal/respond to the answers of the other candidates.

The winner of each grade level would move on to the final round, which was similar to the first except for one detail; it was to take place in front of the entire school. These events led to the crowning of a new grand champion: Izmael Hernandez.

Back in October of 2015, the Hammond Academy of Science and Technology held its annual grand champion election process. During this process, the entire school had interest in the final four candidates. After debating it out on the stage and sending a poll out to the entire school, it was found that Izmael Hernandez was the winner and this year's grand champion. Here we are four months later, and nothing has changed. Many people either don't remember Izmael or simply refuse to acknowledge him as grand champion, or forget what being grand champion is about in the first place. Simply put, it's because if a grand champion does nothing, then they will not be acknowledged. Since the current grand champion seems to have neglected his duties, a petition has been formed calling for his impeachment.

According to Mrs. Projovic, the organizer of the annual grand champion event, the signatures on the petition must "hit the 200 mark." If this does happen, the representative in charge of the impeachment will "have to prove [their] case & he [Izmael] has the right to defend himself." If the trial does occur, it is likely to take place during Mrs. Projovic's 3rd hour Law Education class, though nothing is final yet. And if the trial were to fall in the favor of the prosecution and Izmael is impeached, the position would presumably be filled by one of the runner-up candidates after a short series of new campaigning followed by a poll. Again, this is only partially confirmed speculation and can be altered at any time.



(Within four months of receiving the status of grand champion, there remains an empty frame on the wall of Mrs. Projovic's classroom under the "Grand Champion" section for the 2015-2016 school year.)

Impeachment of Ismael Hernandez

1. Joshua Davis	33. Jacob Price
2. Samuel Rasmussen	34. Gabriela Diaz
3. Joseph Rivera	35. Green Louise
4. Mackenzie Jordan	36. Johnson Reed
5. Evette Dida	37. Michael Gomez
6. Jana Hawthorne	38. Joseph Johnson
7. Esme Hevedo	39. Alex Sosa
8. Shelley Gulevitz	40. Gabriela Gamito
9. Luke K.	41. Jasmine Barzoda
10. Keith Smith (Still my guy though)	42. Justin Rasmussen
11. Isaiah Jackson	43. Alex Ak
12. Aiyaz Posa	44. Danielle Padgett
13. David Morales	45. H.C. Warts
14. Aaron Lee	46. Anna Price
15. Destiny Hemming	47. Ashley Winkler
16. Daniel Castro	48. Bianca Reillo
17. John McCreary Andron M. Carl	49. Reema Khan
18. Dominic Romero	50. Dominic Medina
19. Michael Muzum	51. Derek Crofton

(Portion of the impeachment petition as of February 16, 2016. The petition has reached more than 70 signatures total.)

WHAT'S THE POINT?

The reason the position of grand champion exists to begin with is to provide a positive change to the student body and possibly the staff of HAST. The reason an individual should be in this position to begin with rides on their campaigning strategies and, more importantly the issues they've addressed and the plans they've created to confront and tackle those problems.

In replacing the current figure in power, those in favor of the impeachment would hope that the replacement honors the promises and plans they've proposed instead of abandoning those plans and the people they were intended to support- in other words, be the opposite of what they feel the current grand champion is; inadequate.

HOW TO BECOME PART OF THE PROCESS

The most important thing concerned students such as those reading this could do to support this cause is to simply sign the petition. For more information regarding the article or the petition, please contact the author via e-mail using the following address: jprice2@hammondacademy.org.