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El Dorado County Youth Commission



2015-2016 Commissioners

Corinn Biglin	Pleasant Valley Middle School	District I
Aubrey Carr	El Dorado High School	District II
Mackenzie Mazen	Charter University Prep	District II
Grace LeCuyer	Union Mine High School	District III
Alyssa Ogletree	Union Mine High School	District III
Sargun Saluja	Oak Ridge High School	District IV
Eric Silverino	Pleasant Grove Middle School	District IV
Tiffany Wong	Virtual Academy	District V
Brendan Hunter	Union Mine High School	District V
Yesenia Garcia	El Dorado High School	Clerk of the Board

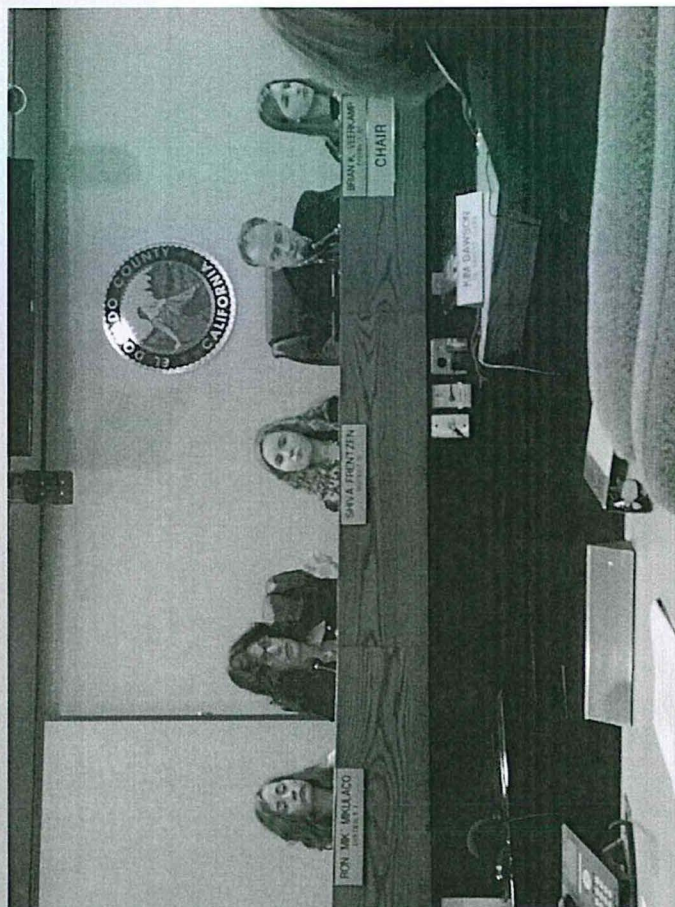
2015-2016 Overview

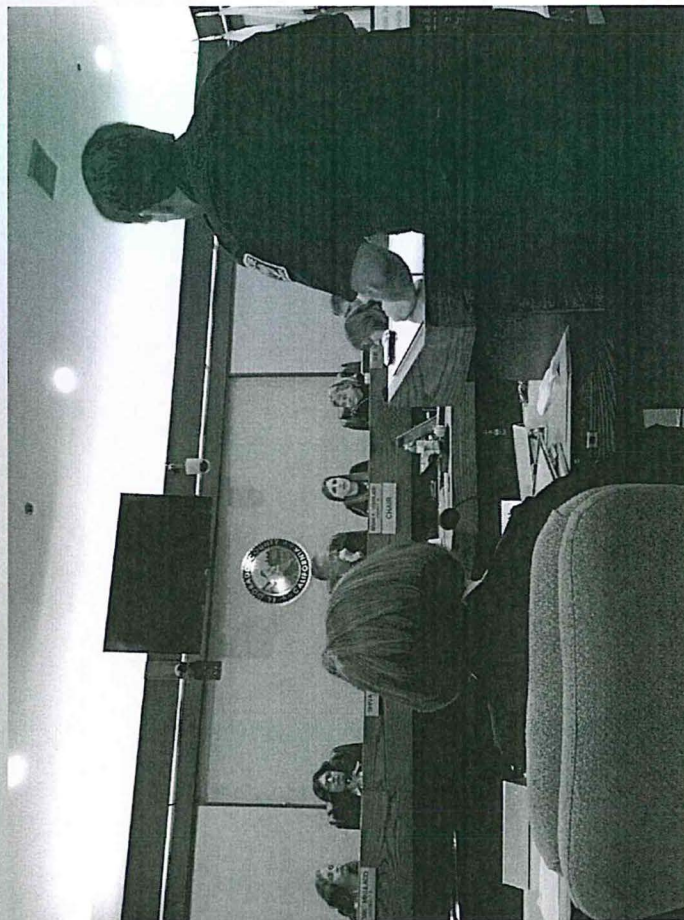
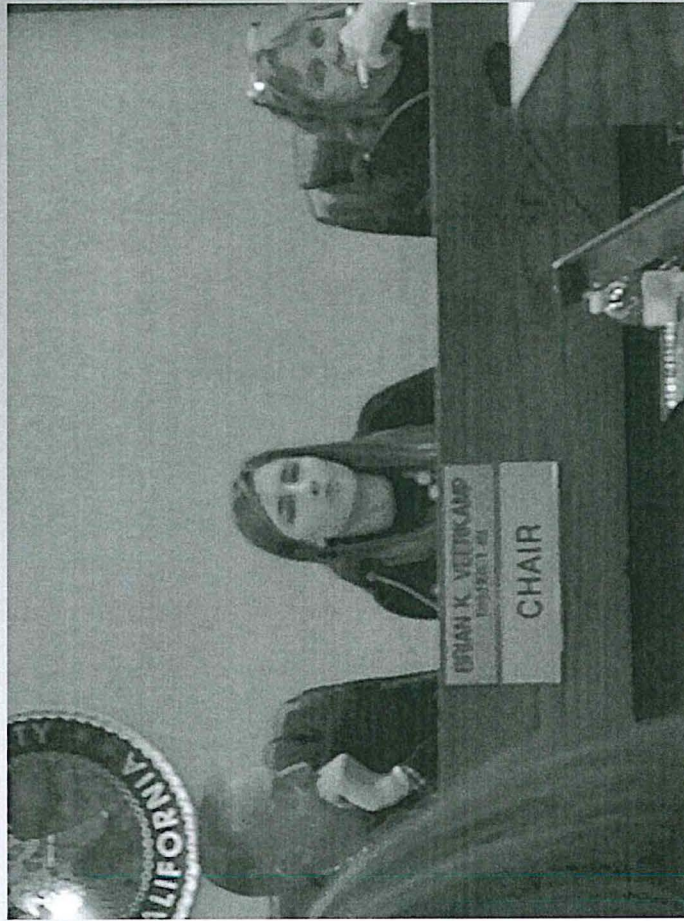
- Participate in Shadow Day with the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors.
- Study of the 2014-2015 Senior Survey to select this year's area of focus.
- Host a Pasta Dinner for the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors and the El Dorado County Office of Education Leadership Team.
- Participate in the PhotoVoice Project with the El Dorado County Health & Human Services Agency.

Shadow Day

Each year the Shadow Day experience is very enlightening. We have the opportunity to observe, and participate in, the governing of our County. What we observed this year is the balance of: listening to the residents of El Dorado County, meeting the needs and interests of its citizens, short and long term planning goals, budgeting, oversight of county organizations and projects, and leadership. We learn so much from our Supervisors, as well as appreciate their sincere interest in the County's youth.







2015-2016 Area of Focus

We studied the Senior Survey that was taken by 561 high school seniors last year.

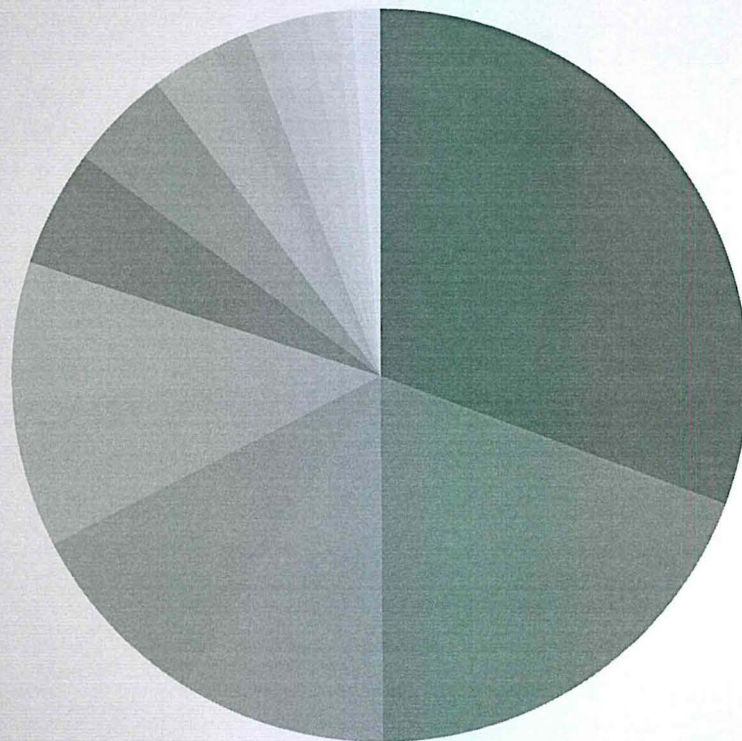
The goal of the survey was to find the areas of the most interest and/or concerns of our youth. The survey results emphasized many positives for the youth of El Dorado County. We are very proud of all that is offered, and that thousands of children are benefiting from the many, and varied, programs each year.

What we decided to focus on was Youth Services. Our county has many services directly related to youth. However, the results of the survey show that many of our youth are struggling with how, and where, to find assistance. Given that these services are part of our county, we thought that we could develop another link for our youth to find the help that they need.

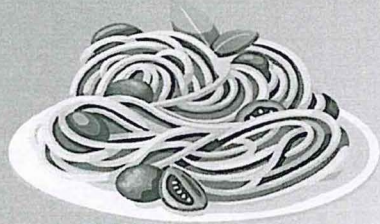
We started researching the organizations in the county that specifically assisted youth. Our goal is to develop a website through the El Dorado County Office of Education that contains these services, and links them directly to that organization. Since this is still in the development stage, next year's Youth Commission will be looking to work closely with the youth services in our county and El Dorado County Office of Education to make this website known, and user friendly.

**What are your top three concerns about
El Dorado County pertaining to youth?
Question 10**

Responses from all schools participating



Over 50% of the responses to this question are related to the well-being of our youth.



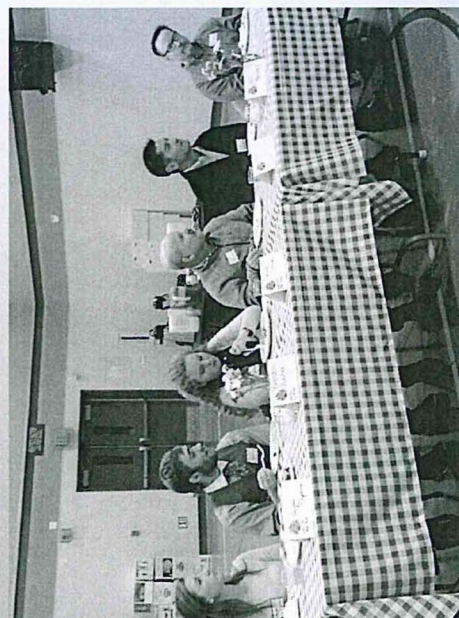
Pasta Dinner

We hosted the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors, and the El Dorado County Office of Education, to a dinner of tasty pasta dishes while we got to know each other and share ideas.

The “Italian themed” dinner was held at the El Dorado County Office of Education’s Activity Building. The baked pasta dishes were supported by the EDCOE kitchen staff with sides and beverages.

It was very helpful for us to get good advice, and insight, into how to proceed with some of the areas we were beginning to focus on.





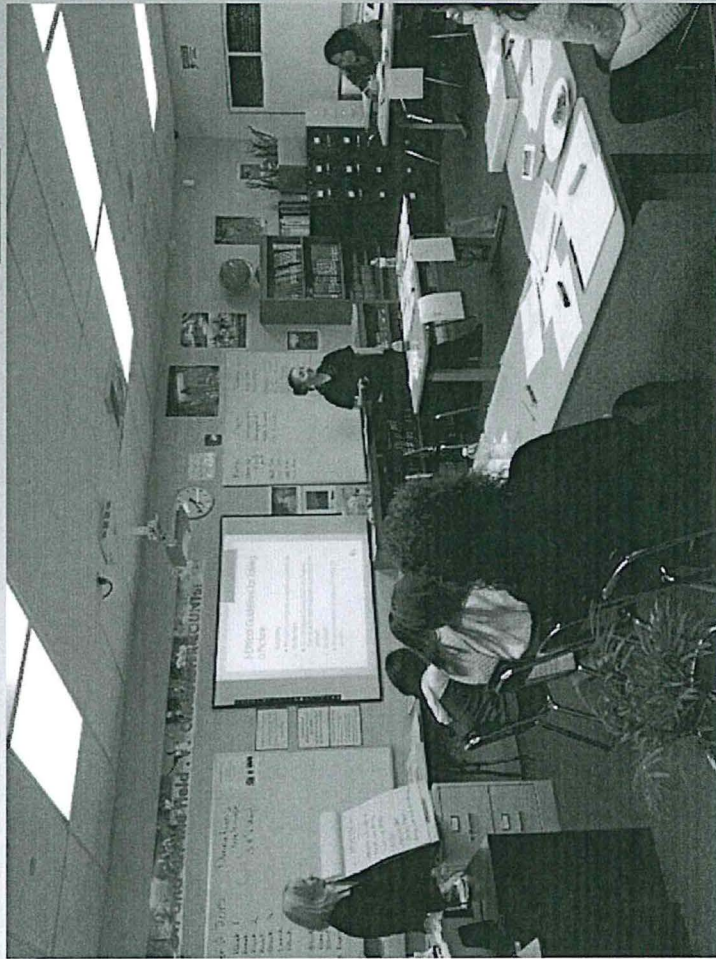
Youth PhotoVoice Workshop

We were privileged to take part in a “Health Through My Eyes” (HTME) PhotoVoice Project developed by the El Dorado County Health & Human Services Agency. The trainers were Kristine Oase Guth and Lesley Coovelis from the El Dorado County Health & Human Services Public Health Division.

PhotoVoice is the process by which youth capture and record their life experiences, and community, through photography and stories. The “HTME” PhotoVoice Interactive Workshop is specifically related to what contributes to good or poor health in El Dorado County.

PhotoVoice also includes group discussions about the photographs and what they mean. The photographs and stories are presented to the community in order to spark interest and raise awareness from the youth perspective.

The Youth Commissioners took pictures around their communities that contribute to good or poor health. These pictures and stories became the focus of discussion, and will be included in El Dorado County Health’s Community Health Assessment and Community Showcase.





My family and I have owned many different animals in the past and a few of them we adopted from a shelter similar to the ones in our county. I also think that it is great to have a place for lost animals to go, for abused animals to heal and be safe for a period of time before they are returned home or adopted out to their forever home. I believe that this facility is a huge benefit to the community and provides a great and improved standard for our county.



I am a new student driver to the county of El Dorado and I live off of this Camino Heights exit. I believe that this exit is an extreme hazard to those who live in this area as well as any who wish to get on or off at this exit. It is a prime location for an accident to occur and on several occasions I have witnessed close calls where an accident almost occurred that proves this interchange is extremely hazardous. I think that if we could find a way to improve upon this intersection it would be beneficial to all of those who wish to visit Camino Heights and travel highway 50.



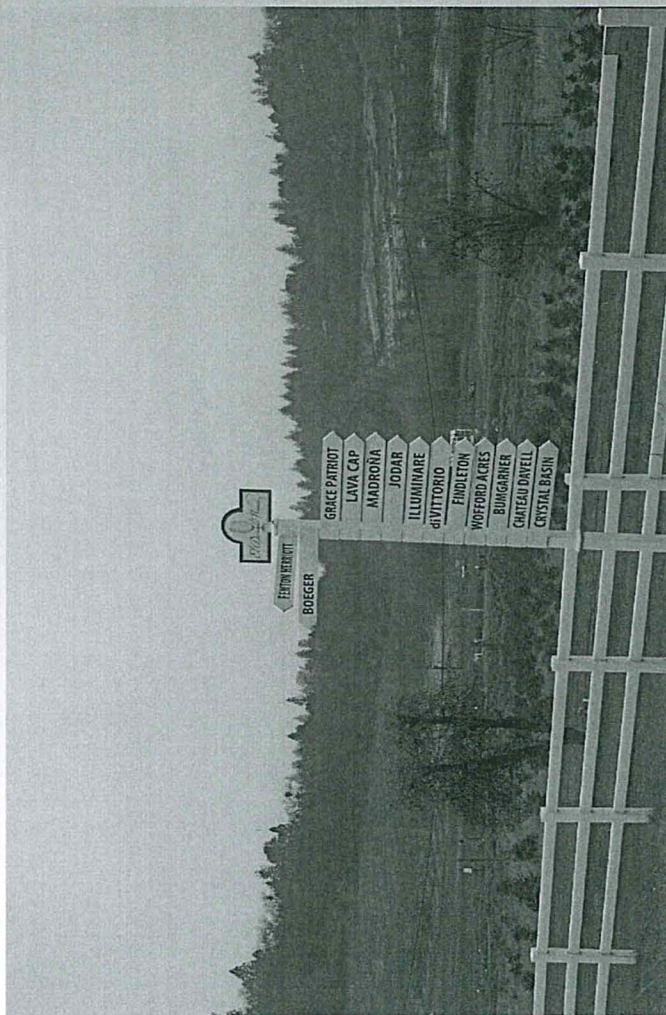
I cannot say that I am an avid biker but I loved the idea of having a walking and biking path that would have increased safety for those who bike and walk in this area. This path crosses over Weber Creek and connects the city and county. The construction was started and then stopped by Cal Trans even after all of the plans and approvals had been established. I didn't understand why this was stopped because the path would also encourage healthier habits for people. I do not understand why such a good idea was halted and what the reason was behind the decision to stop its construction.

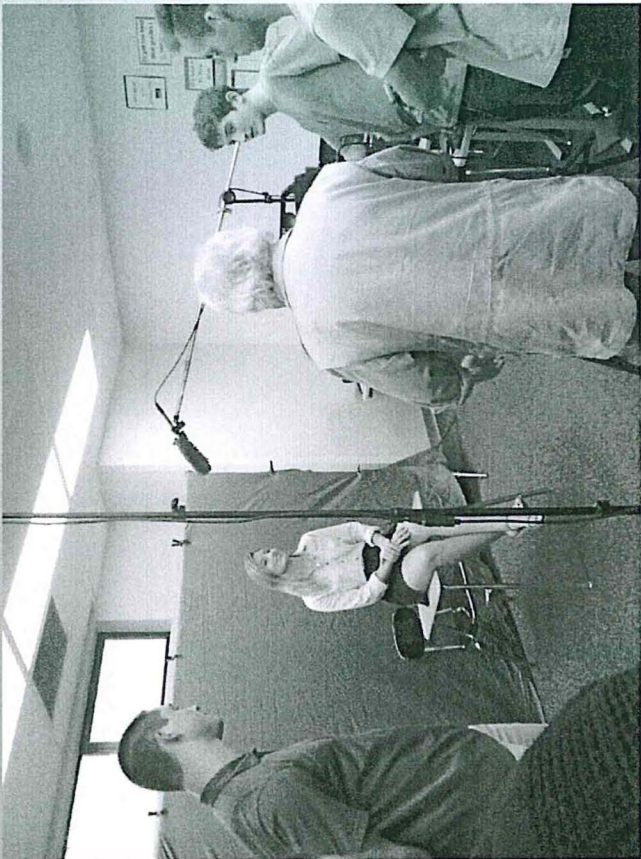
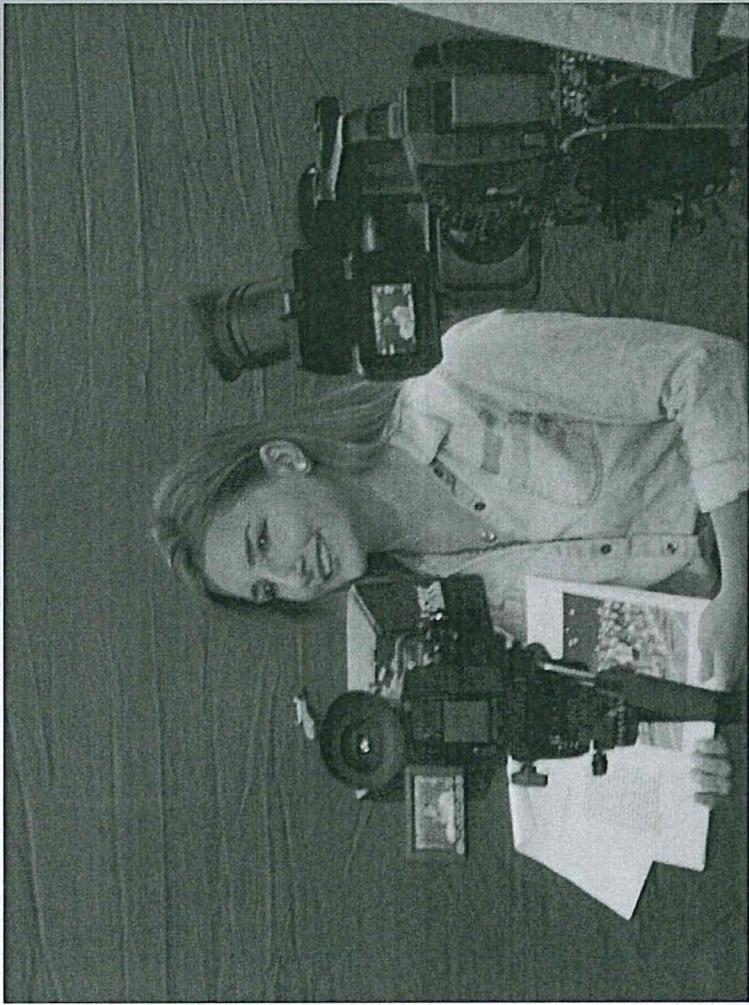


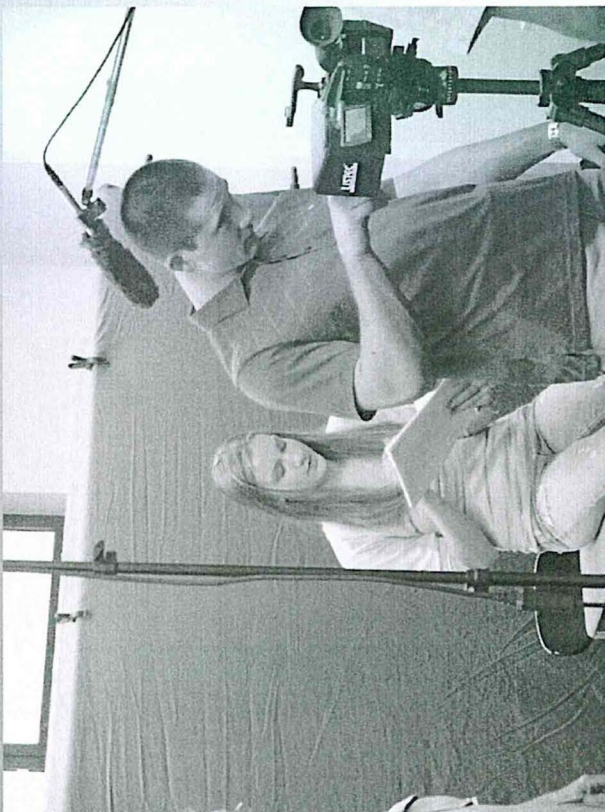
El Dorado Trail – the extension of the trail is an added benefit to the county and its citizens. It provides a safe area for biking and walking, connects various areas with the county and the city.

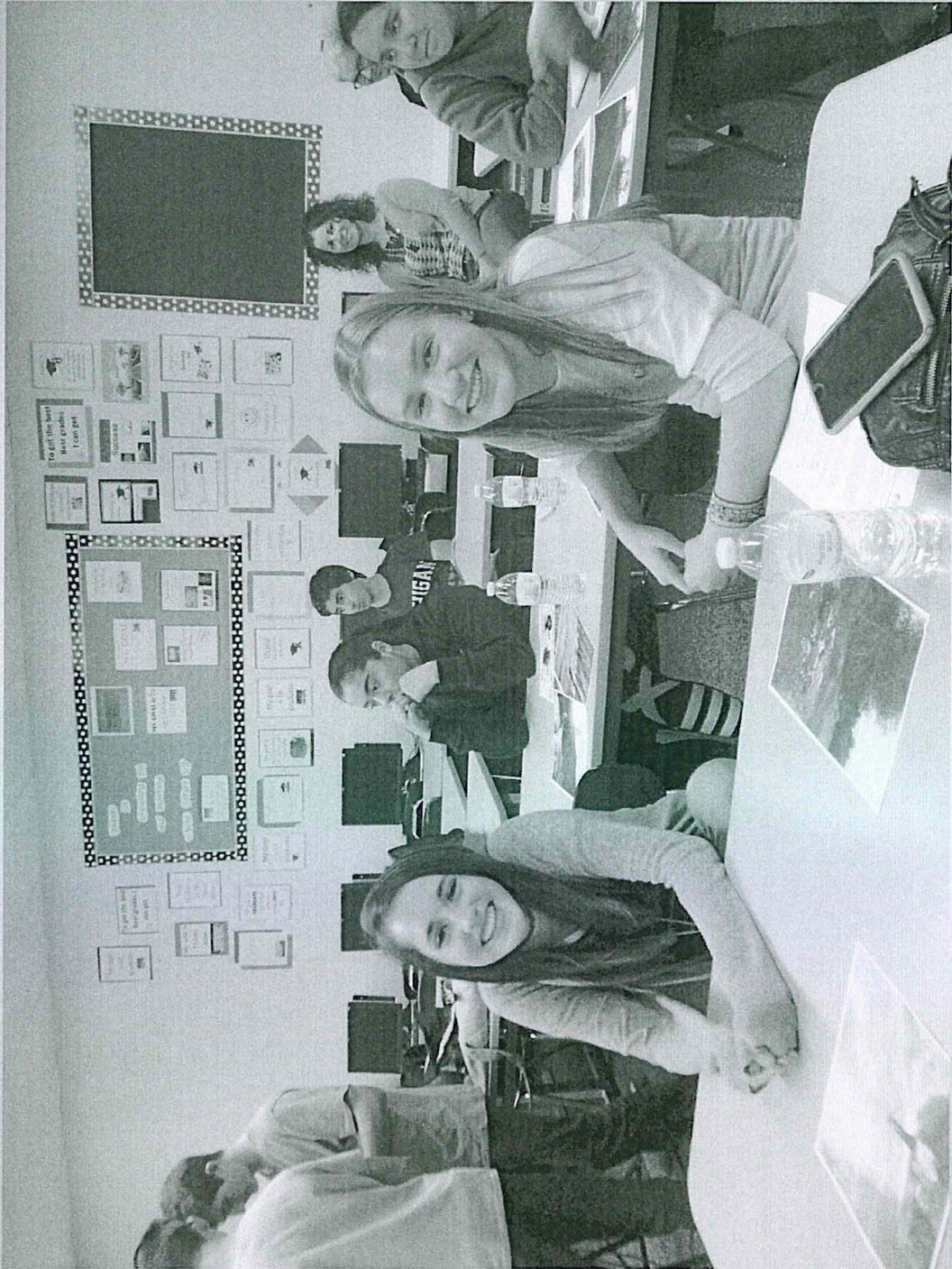


Positive: after school and extracurricular programs, especially those that promote togetherness and leadership are extremely important in keeping the youth in our community both active and involved.













The 2015-2016 year was a lot of fun. We had the opportunity to meet and share ideas with our community leaders, participate in the PhotoVoice project, and study last year's survey to help guide us in continuing to be a voice for El Dorado County's Youth.

We look forward to continuing our growth as leaders and community contributors throughout our lives.

Thank you to everyone who supported us directly or indirectly. We appreciate and value all that you do.

El Dorado County Youth Commission