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All editorials are written by the Tom Tom Staff. Letters to the editor must be signed and should not exceed 250 words in length. Those wishing to withhold his or her name must still sign it for the Tom Tom office purposes. No more than two signatures can represent a letter. Unsigned letters will not be printed.

The Tom Tom Staff reserves the right to edit lengthy material or withhold the publication of any letters. Letters may be mailed to the high school or submitted to staff members or the adviser, Michael Gordy, in room 202 throughout any school day. The Tom Tom office can be reached at (847) 838-7766.

The Tom Tom is published monthly. Annual subscriptions to the Tom Tom may be obtained by sending \$5.00 to the Tom Tom in care of ACHS. The Tom Tom is a publication of:

Antioch Community High School  
1133 South Main St.  
Antioch, IL 60002



A FORUM FOR  
PUBLIC OPINION

# editorial

## Whoa... Pull over!

# Administrators stifle standing tradition; Limousines banned from prom '02

Every May, excitement blossoms through high schools across the country. No, it's not the lovely spring air

that brings about this excitement. Prom fever infects many

juniors and seniors alike. Upon entering high school,

some students muddle through long school days, looking ahead to that one May night, a sort of high school ball for the everyday, hardworking Cinderella student. From the perfect dress or tuxedo, the corsage or boutonniere, to the limousine ride to that magical destination; anticipation grows as the evening approaches.

A tradition that allows students to flirt with adulthood is what prom has become over the years. This year, Antioch Community High School dares to break off a large piece of that tradition. On May 18, no limousines will be seen in the Antioch area.

The administration along with the faculty sponsor for

prom, have made a mandatory ruling stating that all prom attendees must take a charter bus from ACHS to the Hyatt

O'Hare, where prom is being held this year.

According to the powers behind the

mentioned ruling, the

changes are due to a need to heighten security measures, as well as eliminate limousine cancellations.

Security measures? No one will fault the school officials for their concern over the students' safety. However,

they have failed to adequately show students why limousine rides pose any more serious safety issues than, say, the possibility of contracting

botchilism poisoning from the food served at dinner...What are they going to do next, send

taste-testers to each table to protect students from that as well?

But let's really talk about safety issues. Last year bus transportation was offered to

prom attendees and guess what? One bus broke down. This then forced students to cram onto another bus where students ended up being seated three across on two seated rows.

The math isn't difficult here, and the potential for a traffic disaster was certainly present on that seriously over-crowded bus. Just think of all the deaths and injuries that could have come out of that situation, had the overpopulated bus been sideswiped by an inattentive semi driver.

Addressing the second issue handed down in the administrative prom edict,

to be more interactive with the students at large, instead of simply shackling the entire student body in an attempt to demand compliance. As for this time, the administration poorly handled a controversial issue which should have required input from the student body.

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Sure, other schools may make charter transportation to prom mandatory, but many other schools keep with the old tradition as well.”

# THE ONLY WAY TO GO...

