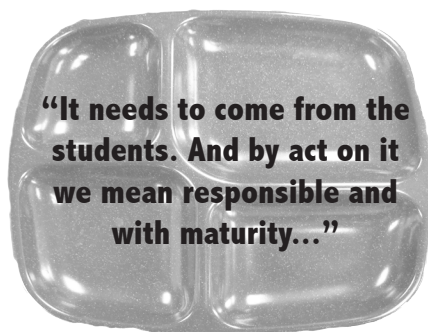


what goes on, and be able to give their input so that we can get to work on making it happen because that is [StuCo]'s job."

Hall said that for change to happen, it must come respectfully from the student body to Stubblefield or StuCo.

"It needs to come from the students. And by act on it we mean responsibly and with maturity. For example, write up a petition and bring it to Student Council, Stubblefield or come up with an idea in which we could make eating in the courtyard a privilege, but also respect the other teachers and faculty in the school," Hall said.



StuCo has been working on suggestions and compromises to help make the lunch policies more enjoyable for the student body.

"One idea [StuCo] presented Stubblefield was that if we, as the students, talk to and find enough teachers who are willing to give up their lunches to come supervise the courtyard for these last few months of good weather we could eat outside," Hall said.

Hall believes that a close relationship between the student body and StuCo can help foster discussion about the ways the policies can be changed.

The student perspective: Phoebe Frazier

Junior Phoebe Frazier, a student who goes to the library frequently during lunch, feels that the new lunch policies have affected the way she does her assignments during the lunch period.

"Lunch used to be a time when me and some of my friends could talk about our homework while eating lunch, so it was a way to get ideas about homework," Frazier said.

Frazier argued that before the new policies, the library was a good place for doing homework because there was more space and the food helped the students do their assignments.

"Eating and doing homework can stimulate the brain, so [eating in the library] makes sense. There

is more space in the library than the lunch room so you can spread your books around and work on homework and eat lunch where they wanted at the same time," Frazier said.

Although Frazier agreed that "the school is much cleaner," she said that taking away the rights of students was not the correct response.

"Students would have definitely kept the school clean. We could be this clean and still have lunch in the library," Frazier said.

Frazier noted that the administration did not integrate the new lunch policies effectively and instead pushed too much change on the student body without warning.

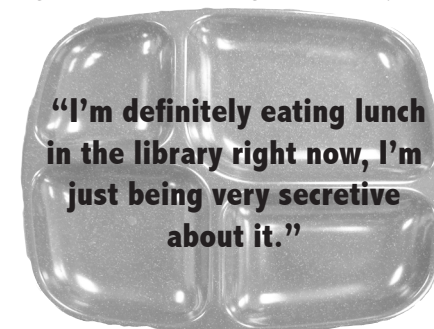
"[The office] did too much at once. There should have been a warning, or a year of change saying 'if you can't keep the library and the courtyard nice and tidy, then we will not have lunch in the library anymore' than just banning all food from the library," Frazier said.

Bringing in sack lunches is a compromise Frazier suggested to allow food in the library because many students with after school activities have to choose between eating lunch or doing homework instead of doing both.

"[The administration] could change it back to the way it used to be, or only allow students to have sack lunches so that people can throw it all away. I think not being able to eat and do homework might even stress kids out more because they don't have enough time for after school activities, so they use lunch to get homework done," Frazier

said. "It's stressful to pick which is more important, lunch or homework, and if students are doing an after school activity, they need to nourish their bodies while getting their work done."

Frazier indicated that the student body has not accepted the new policies well, and the policies will only introduce new problems of students sneaking food and having unhealthy diets.



"I think our student body doesn't like being told what we can and can't do, especially with something we have been doing for a while. Change doesn't ever end well with the student body," Frazier said. "Students will sneak food and continue to do it until they get caught, or just not eat, which will end badly for some students."

Frazier has gotten around the rules by hiding her sandwiches inside her bag.

"I'm definitely eating lunch in the library right now, I'm just being very secretive about it," Frazier said.

Ram Sivakumar
• News editor •



Students eat lunch on the sidewalk in front of the school due to the lack of space caused by the new lunchroom policy. Photo by Vinnie Garimella