THE HARBINGER

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As words of the year release, revealing how people define their collective experience of 2022, here are a few of East's popular slang terms that represent our year

SCHOOL DAY

RIZZ

"HIS RIZZ NEEDS to be studied at Harvard."

The amount of times comments like these appear below TikToks of attractive men is unreal. A slang word that recently skyrocketed to popularity on TikTok, "rizz" captures that special quality that makes heartthrobs swoon-worthy in just four letters — and quickly infiltrated our halls.

Whether it's someone's smooth body language, confident eye contact or sly grin, rizz has become the choice word to describe the unspoken qualities that make us all blush.

Rizz doesn't translate to attractiveness — it encapsulates someone's ability to charm, which is separate from their looks. Example: Billy Hargrove on Stranger Things. While Steve Harrington has the same chestnut hair and dreamy eyes, he's not the one filling my For You page with TikTok edits of him seducing older women.

No, it's Billy's tousled locks, chewing gum and sideways smile that makes him so attractive. How could you describe that in one word? The boy's got rizz.

BAÑO

EAST ISN'T LIMITED to the English language. Though it originated before any of us were in high school as a way to celebrate school spirit, the "Baño" bathroom chant still thrives in 2022 — despite being banned.

If you feel your third-period classroom walls start to tremble, no need to crouch under the desk — that's not an earthquake, it's just about 30 sweaty high school boys crowding urinals and chanting "bathroom" in Spanish. Soon, everyone will shuffle out in silence like it never happened. Back to third hour.

This is baño.

But you won't just see the word in texts during passing periods — at games and pep assemblies, we make sure every other school can hear one of our most coveted, East-specific terms. As silly as it is, "baño" is ours — you won't find that one on Urban Dictionary.

BRUH

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EVER BEEN SO overwhelmed, annoyed or surprised that you're speechless? I've got the word for you.

The versatile phrase "bruh" encapsulates laughter, disappointment, disgust and everything in between.

"Bruh" works as a reaction for basically any situation. While the word could be confusing over text, context clues help to understand exactly what your friend means.

While nothing contains the same variety

of emotions as "bruh," similar phrases include: "oh come on," "are you kidding?" and "seriously?" But you won't get the exact message across without using the B-word.

Got a C on your Calc final? Bruh. Won the lottery? Bruh. Friend made a politically incorrect joke that you can't laugh at but have to acknowledge? Bruh.

Basically, if you don't have the brain power to come up with a creative reply, this word is a reliable fall-back that will suffice as a response to almost anything.

ROWDINESS

GAME TONIGHT. 7 p.m. Rowdiness? Mandatory.

Part of a frequent phrase used in the Pep Club GroupMe, "rowdiness" is East's favorite expression for above-and-beyond school spirit in the student section. Decking out in blue spiritwear and body paint (ignoring clothing stains), chanting louder than the home team and rushing the court after a win are all methods of flaunting our enthusiasm at games.

And rowdiness isn't just for sports. In chant-filled pep assemblies, Lancer Day and academic events like the AP Physics 2 cardboard regatta, students from every grade show up to cheer for friends with borderlineobnoxious support. But that's what this word means — the maximum amount of passion for your school. And we have plenty of it here.