

Opinion: Keep the PDA to a minimum

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“I see public displays of affection (PDA) almost everywhere I go. Just yesterday, I saw a couple having a full blown make out session in the middle of the hallway—like, really people? School is neither the time nor place for that,” junior Lauren True said.

In Rutherford County, the school policy regarding PDA states hand holding is the only contact permitted. Although this policy is used to maintain order and prevent sexual conduct, Riverdale High School students beg to differ. Students feel they should have more freedom when it comes to this matter; after all, it is their life.

Junior Karina Patel said, “I agree with the policy, but I don’t understand why hugging and kissing aren’t allowed in school. Typical couples like to show affection and I see no reason to penalize them for it. The only thing I’m against is the immensely physical stuff that is disturbing to watch.”

The immensely physical stuff—the swapping spit between two faces—is what students frequently see. Junior Justin Sorrow says, “I hate running into a couple engaged in excessive PDA; it makes awkward situations. But even though I hate it, I don’t mind if teachers don’t say anything—they aren’t our babysitters and it’s just as awkward for them as it is for us.”

Patel has a different outlook. “Teachers need to enforce the policy more. By not enforcing it, students believe they can do as they please when that’s not the case. Also, students should have enough decency to respect others and stop,” she says.

Obviously, this policy causes disagreement with students, but it was placed in action with good intentions.

The main point is students need to be considerate of others and follow the PDA policy. Yes, students should be able to have more freedom, but as of right now the policy is as follows: hand holding is the limit. Save the make out sessions for outside of school, it’s definitely a better time and place than giving a show for students in the hallway.

