

# HSAS COMMON SENSE: CURRENT EVENTS RELEASE

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## Global Events: Canadian PM Justin Trudeau Resigns

*Theodore Cacy, Grade 11, News Editor, and Jack McCurry, Grade 12, Staff Writer*

- Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced his resignation as leader of the Liberal Party on January 6th. He will remain Prime Minister until his successor is chosen.
- Along with his resignation, Trudeau suspended the Canadian Parliament until March 24.
- Trudeau has been leader of the Liberal Party for 11 years and Prime Minister of Canada for 9 years, serving three terms.
- He is the latest of many incumbents worldwide recently driven out by rising voter dissatisfaction.
- Trudeau faced multiple setbacks in recent weeks, including threats from United States President-elect Donald Trump to impose heavy tariffs on Canada. He also threatened to annex the country as America's 51st state.
- Opinion polls reveal that Trudeau has also been losing popularity among Canadians due to issues including inflation and soaring immigration. Some of Trudeau's key allies and cabinet members have also resigned in the past few weeks.
- The Conservative Party, led by Pierre Poilievre, is leading over the Liberal Party by a 20-point margin and is expected to win the general election that will be held on or before October 20th.

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## American Events: Trump's Cabinet

*Kaela Glaser, Grade 11, Staff Writer, and Mollie Kuritzky, Grade 12, News Editor*

- President-elect Donald Trump's cabinet picks have been drilled on their policies on women's rights, tax cuts, and climate change, as the Senate confirms candidates before Trump takes office.
- Most candidates are long-time Trump supporters, including Vivek Ramaswamy, Marco Rubio, Dr. Mehmet Oz, and Elon Musk.
- Trump's pick for Secretary of Defense, Pete Hegseth, is a nominee who has drawn particular scrutiny for his past comments stating that "women, absolutely, straight up, should not be permitted to serve in combat." Hegseth also faces allegations of inebriation in the workplace and adultery.
- Trump's choice for Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services is Robert F. Kennedy Jr., a former presidential candidate with very controversial views on health. Some of his most notable positions are that vaccines cause autism and that chemicals in the water supply can make kids transgender.

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## Miscellaneous Events:

*Adam Ripp and Maya Brener, Grade 12, Editors-in-Chief*

- On January 15, 2025, Israel and Hamas approved a ceasefire agreement intended to end ongoing hostilities, facilitate the exchange of Israeli hostages and Palestinian prisoners, and allow international aid into affected areas. The ceasefire took effect on January 19.
- On January 9, 2025, the Supreme Court denied President-elect Donald Trump's request to halt his sentencing in a New York criminal case related to hush money payments.
- On January 16, 2025, Blue Origin launched New Glenn, its massive reusable rocket designed for heavy-lift missions, into space for the first time, demonstrating the company's capabilities in competing with SpaceX and advancing commercial space exploration.

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